

'Lisa's Song' expresses a family's grief

By Lynn Welburn
The Star

Music has always had the ability to touch our hearts and to express our deepest emotions.

And for the family of Lisa Marie Young, the woman who went missing from Nanaimo last year, a song written about their daughter and sister does that and more. They're hoping it will keep the memory of Lisa alive and perhaps even one day lead to the clue that will bring Lisa home.

"I listen to it pretty much every day," says Lisa's mother, Joanne Young, of Lisa's Song, written and

recorded by Nanaimo talent Allison Crowe. "Listening to it makes me feel strong. Allison's a sweet, beautiful girl with a big heart and she really put her whole heart into this song."

The Young family has been giving out copies of the song, getting local radio stations to play the song and selling the single CDs at Mac's Convenience Store for \$2 each, just to pay for the cost of making copies. They're looking for more outlets to sell the CD in. "We're hoping that keeping Lisa's name out there might somehow bring in some more information," says Young. "And I hope

people listening to it will remember to keep themselves safe, to keep their family members safe if they can."

The Young family has permission from Crowe and her manager, Adrien de Plessis, to make as many copies of the song as they like. Crowe is not yet certain whether she ever will professionally record the song which she wrote when she returned to Nanaimo after touring last summer to find that her school mate Lisa had disappeared.

People can listen to the song on Crowe's website at: www.allisoncrowe.com

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Harbour City Star (Lynn Welburn) - Wednesday March 12, 2003

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"This was just Alley's immediate response when she heard about it all," says du Plessis. "She expresses herself through song and this is about her feelings.

"Alley and Lisa were in the same group of girls who had been friends since they went to high school together at Woodlands," he says. "Lisa was a big music fan and I met her through her coming to Alley's shows."

The song was recorded in Crowe's living room and while it doesn't have the quality of a professional recording, it does have something else, du Plessis says.

"There's real emotion and meaning there. What you hear is a profoundly shaken Allison in an elegiac song. It's a beautiful thing."

Crowe, he adds, doesn't want the song to be used in any exploitative way and made copies of the song available to the Young family for distribution.

"She hopes there will be some healing benefits in the song that will help people who are dealing with tragedy and loss."

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