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Nicola T, 22, from Croydon
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Dying mum's song is a hit



Laughing ... Jessica with Maxine

By **JOHN COLES**

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A SONG written by a dying mum for her daughter has become a radio hit.

Cancer sufferer Maxine Edgington, 47, came up with the lyrics for We Laughed after being told she had just six months to live.

She was inspired by this photo of herself with daughter Jessica, 16.

Maxine put it to music composed by star Billy Bragg — and it is now the most requested song on Jeremy Vine's BBC Radio 2 show.

It will soon be released in stores and on the internet.

Guitarist Billy said: "The response has been amazing. We hope it'll hit the charts."

WE LAUGHED

When I danced to modern music you split your sides
 Your ballet dancing medal filled me with pride
 And we laughed, we laughed
 We were happier together than with our friends
 We never believed that these days would end
 And we laughed, we laughed we laughed
 And you know no one could love you more, Whatever the future has in store I want you to remember that we laughed

Moving ... mum's lyrics

Maxine, of Portland, Dorset, wrote the lyrics in a hospice at a songwriting workshop run by Billy.

She said: "It's about a picture of Jess and me laughing and how laughter

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protects us from the pain of parting.

"Dying is not actually about me, it's about those around me. It's about their feelings, their comfort and their coping, knowing I love them and leaving nothing unsaid.

"I hope my song will help them to think about making each day a good day and to remember the laughter more than the sadness."

Her lyrics include the lines:

"When I danced to modern music you split your sides

"Your ballet dancing medal filled me with pride

"And we laughed, we laughed"

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Maxine's breast cancer is now in remission and she is a day patient at the Trimar Hospice in Weymouth, Dorset.

We Laughed is on a CD called the Rosetta Requiem by the Rosetta Life charity.

It will be available to download from Monday and from October 31 in shops. Log on to www.rosettalife.org

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