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**Local Poet Featured in National "Chronic Pain" Magazine**

*National magazine, "Hope Keepers", publishes work by Laura Beth Young.*

**/24-7PressRelease/** - WALDORF, MD, May 05, 2008 -- Laura Beth Young is an inspirational poet, writer, singer, and motivational speaker. When an accident left her bed-ridden with spinal damage/chronic pain at the age of twenty-eight, she felt her life was over. A new dream was birthed in Laura as she felt compelled to begin penning her emotions, ranging from desperation to an over abundance of happiness and peace.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to offer hope to those living with chronic illness, as well as anyone struggling with life's hardships", says Young. The poem published in "Hope Keepers" was written when she was feeling her life could only be joyful if her chronic spinal condition improved. Young says, "I realized that instead of my list of "If Only's....., I needed to turn my ear towards God's comfort, love, and reassurance in the midst of my pain."

Often in her darkest hours, God display's His compassion and mercy, pouring out words of consolation, understanding and joy, which Laura pens into poetry and song. Desiring to share this gift with others, Laura writes with a raw vulnerability that offers her readers comfort and a solid sense of hope.

Residing in Southern Maryland with her wonderful husband and four sons, she invites you to explore her collection of works; all created to uplift, inspire, encourage and motivate. It is her hope that people's hearts will be touched and that their spirits will be uplifted. Visit her at [www.CheerfulHearts.org](http://www.CheerfulHearts.org)

Read the poem "If Only..." at [www.cheerfulhearts.org/ifonly.html](http://www.cheerfulhearts.org/ifonly.html).

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