

Leslie Costa



The Early Days Live



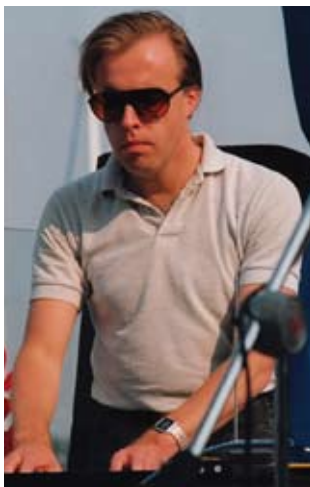
BACK IN THE GAME

If I was just a little stronger ♪ I'd tear down the walls that stand between us
 ♪ If love could last just a little longer ♪ I'd belong to the things I'm thinking of
 ♪ Time is time when you're last on line ♪ And you're waiting ♪ To be back in the game
 ♪ If I saw where this road could lead ♪ I'd burn down the miles of destiny
 ♪ The more I know the less I see ♪ I'm dazed and confused in this world of greed
 ♪ Time is time when you're last on line ♪ And you're waiting ♪ To be back in the game
 ♪ If I knew I was on my way ♪ I'd find the words to scream and shout
 ♪ Hey this time it'll be OK ♪ There's no guarantees in this world of doubt
 ♪ Time is time when you're last on line ♪ And you're waiting ♪ To be back in the game
 ♪ If you lost your dream ♪ And all you see ♪ Is the road between the strong and weak
 ♪ Just tell yourself ♪ There's a light in the distance ♪ Where all is forgotten
 ♪ And it all makes some sense ♪ Then you're back in the game
 ♪ Back in the game ♪ You're back in the game...



NO NEED TO CRY

The only way to go now is to turn around and move ahead it's alright ♪ The only thing to say now is our love is gonna get better yet ♪ Don't fight it ♪ All these changes make us feel so strange ♪ There comes a time when you should
 ♪ Drink a toast to yestday ♪ No need to cry ♪ Just hold on tight ♪ No need to cry
 ♪ Real love won't die ♪ Living in the past was something that kept the pain alive
 ♪ I was learning ♪ Got to get me feet back on the ground ♪ Live my life
 ♪ All these lessons learned ♪ Are blessings in disguise ♪ Got to believe in time
 ♪ Drink a toast to what's left inside ♪ No need to cry ♪ Just hold on tight ♪ No need to cry
 ♪ Real love won't die ♪ I'm not making promises ♪ Until I know you're mine again
 ♪ I won't let another day go by ♪ Real love won't die
 ♪ The only way to go now is to turn around and move ahead it's alright ♪ The only thing to say now is our love is gonna get better yet ♪ Don't fight it ♪ All these changes make us feel so strange
 ♪ There comes a time when you should ♪ Drink a toast to better days ♪ No need to cry ♪ Just hold on tight ♪ No need to cry
 ♪ Real love won't die ♪ No need to cry ♪ Just hold on tight ♪ No need to cry
 ♪ Real love won't die



Top left: Photo by Lisa Toto at a gig at The Stone Horse in New Canaan, CT in 1994. Left center: Mary having a good moment at a gig at The Crabshell in 1994. Bottom left: Mark playing keys in the hot sun at Crab Shell 1995, Middle: Chris & Rory jamming along at Crab Shell 1994, Middle right: Leslie & Mary offstage at Shenanigan's 1994, Bottom right: Stu playing drums and looking very studly at Crab Shell 1995.



THE GIVING TREE

He was the one in the golden sun ♪ Who ran the fields to be the chosen one
♪ All his days were filled with love ♪ She never let him down ♪ When the days
grew long he would soon be gone ♪ To find the other places he belonged ♪
Until he asked her for some wood to build ♪ His house up on the hill ♪ It's
like you and me ♪ We took a little from the giving tree ♪ Just to see that she
♪ Can't keep giving everything for free ♪ Through the years of the changing
sun ♪ She's been watching what the world has done ♪ In her anger she's been
crying out ♪ Still no one hears her now ♪ Oh and who will take the blame ♪ And
dry her tears of acid rain ♪ Somewhere the answer's covered in the dust ♪ That
part in each of us ♪ It's like you and me ♪ We take a little from the giving tree ♪
Just to see that she ♪ Can't keep giving everything for free ♪ Yeah you and me
♪ We keep taking from the giving tree ♪ Just to see that she ♪ Can't keep giving
everything for free ♪ Far away I see the images of yesterday ♪ Fill the canvas of
our lives ♪ We can save ♪ This last chance before it gets too late ♪ And pay the
price ♪ He is the one in the golden sun ♪ Who runs the fields he is the chosen
one ♪ All his days will be filled with love ♪ If he never lets her down

WISHING WELL

Baby, baby don't be cruel ♪ We've been through everything ♪ So lose your
"tude" ♪ Let's find a place to hide away tonight ♪ Sounds so easy, sounds so
nice ♪ Want to talk to you just like that night ♪ Sitting there under the moon
so bright ♪ In the summer by the sea ♪ When the mood's such a mystery
♪ Got the feeling you've been there ♪ So let's go down to the ♪ Wishing well
♪ Baby, baby don't be shy ♪ I want you so bad you just drive me wild ♪ And
if your feet won't get you there ♪ I'll pay the fare ♪ So you're looking for your
perfect love ♪ Then you say you never get enough ♪ Everybody wants what
they ain't got ♪ Baby, baby won't you set me free ♪ This time, this time I want
to have it all ♪ Sometimes I want a fantasy ♪ Baby, baby don't be cruel ♪ Will
you meet me when the mood is cool ♪ And if your feet won't get you there
♪ I'll pay the fare ♪ In the summer by the sea ♪ When the mood's such a
mystery ♪ Got the feeling you'll be there ♪ So meet me down at the ♪ Wishing
Well ♪ In the summer by the sea ♪ When the mood's such a mystery ♪ Got the
feeling you'll be there ♪ So meet me down at the ♪ Wishing Well



Top left: Leslie singing on a summer night at Crabshell in 1996, Middle left: Leslie, Mark & Chris jamming at Crabshell 1994, Bottom left: Leslie at Crabshell 1996, Top center: Leslie & Mary laughing at some silly thing playing in 98 degree heat at a pool party in July 1999. This was during the time the band was starting to reform, Top right: Rory playing intensely at Shenanigans 1996. Center: Leslie playing in a black tank top in 98 degree heat, Bottom center: Stu at an Onion Alley gig in Westport, CT 1995, Middle right: Mary, Mark & Leslie at Crabshell 1995, Bottom right: Chris live at Onion Alley 1995.

FINE LINE

You've got your way of talking ♪ When you're far from me ♪ Everybody says you love me ♪ So why don't I believe ♪ All I know is what I see ♪ And it always seems to me ♪ That the truth is a lie ♪ And a lie is a waste ♪ So all I want to say ♪ There's a fine line ♪ Between you and me ♪ I've got my way of talking ♪ And I'll never be untrue ♪ Everybody thinks I'm crazy ♪ When I say I still love you ♪ All I know is the way it feels ♪ How you always seem so real ♪ There's a crack in the glass ♪ And the glass wears a stain ♪ Bearing your name ♪ There's a fine line ♪ Between you and me ♪ You speak a fine line ♪ Everyone can see ♪ It ain't easy baby ♪ To catch the falling stars ♪ Can't heal a lifetime in a day ♪ I want to find someone ♪ Who's gonna be there ♪ Someone real ♪ I hear so many stories ♪ Now I just don't know what's true ♪ Everybody's everybodys' ♪ And I don't mean to sound cruel ♪ When I say there's a better way ♪ I'm speaking words of the wise ♪ I won't play in the game ♪ When the game is all pain ♪ Wearing your name ♪ There's a fine line ♪ Between you and me ♪ You speak a fine line ♪ Everyone can see ♪ There's a fine line ♪ Between you and me



NICE TO KNOW

If I had my way ♪ I'd love to stay ♪ Be myself and talk all night long ♪ Camouflage and make-believe ♪ Won't sell me a smile ♪ I know you're all right ♪ It's nice to know your name ♪ Got a thing for you ♪ It's nice to know your name ♪ I'm gonna make you mine ♪ Want to be your friend ♪ I'm coming 'round again ♪ Been a stone for too, too long ♪ Sing your blues and make me cry ♪ And still I'll be yours ♪ 'Til the flowers are gone, gone gone ♪ It's nice to know your name ♪ Got a thing for you ♪ It's nice to know your name ♪ I'm gonna make you mine ♪ Hey, hey hey ♪ That's what I say ♪ It's nice to know your name ♪ Got a thing for you ♪ It's nice to know your name ♪ I'm gonna make you mine



LOST LOVE

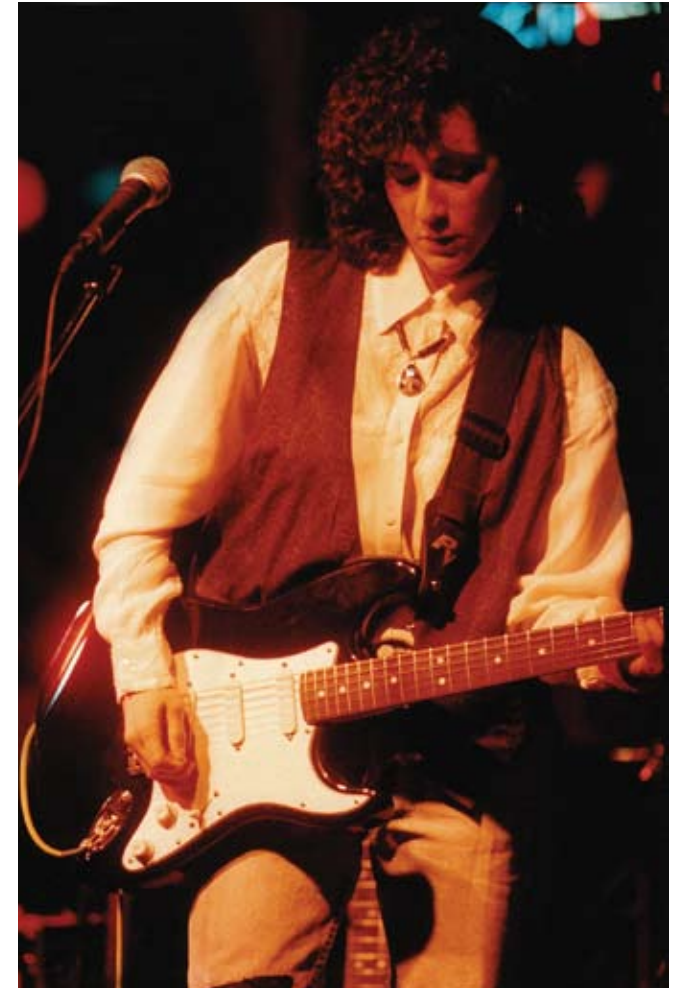
The news is out ♪ You sold your soul to them ♪ Another victim on the ten o'clock news ♪ Nobody knows just how you feel ♪ Why don't you call me and let's ♪ Talk about what's real ♪ Lost love ♪ Come home to us ♪ Won't find your answers ♪ On that stupid little bus ♪ Lost love ♪ Come on home again ♪ Your new friends are kind, the kind ♪ Who sniff the troubled, broken hearted ♪ Off the streets of Boston, Miami and New Orleans ♪ Their fancy words of persuasion over a cup of tea ♪ Leads you to their master and their twisted family ♪ Lost love ♪ Come home to us ♪ Won't find your answers ♪ On that stupid little bus ♪ Lost love ♪ Come on home again ♪ Why can't we all just be ♪ Secure with who we are ♪ Not try to change the world ♪ And let it go too far ♪ Texas, California ♪ In the hills of L.A. and Death Valley ♪ San Quentin ♪ Money, money, money, money, money ♪ Is gonna make them sing ♪ Oh, and it's the blind leading the blind ♪ Lost love ♪ Come home to us ♪ Won't find your answers ♪ On that stupid little bus ♪ Lost love ♪ Come home to us ♪ Won't find your answers ♪ On that stupid little bus ♪ Lost love, lost love



Top left: Leslie at Stone Horse 1994, Bottom left: Rory offstage at Shenanigans in Norwalk, CT 1996, Top right: Mary, Leslie & Stu at Crabshell 1994, Middle: Leslie at Crabshell 1996, Middle right: Leslie, Stu & Chris at Crabshell 1994, Bottom right: Leslie Costa & the Usual Suspects at Onion Alley 1996.

HOMETOWN GIRL

She's known as the hometown girl ♪ So satisfied in her sheltered world ♪ And feels no pain for the ones who came ♪ And tried to show her a different place ♪ Hey anywhere else is too far away ♪ It's a happy life to see those surfaced smiles ♪ Ooh with the radio on ♪ Dancing to a beat that just goes on and on ♪ She's all alone in that safe, safe life ♪ She'll never know of the world outside ♪ She's a hometown girl ♪ Too afraid to roam the earth ♪ Still she'll get her man ♪ She's always in demand ♪ In the smokey rooms of those small town dives ♪ See the losers walk the streets at night ♪ And it's good enough being out of touch ♪ Ooh with the radio on ♪ Dancing to a beat that just goes on and on ♪ She's all alone in that safe, safe life ♪ She'll never know of the world outside ♪ She's a hometown girl ♪ Ooh generations of hand-me-downs ♪ Can't be teachers of a higher ground ♪ Traditional ways can never change ♪ A hometown girl ♪ Too afraid to leave her world ♪ And she feels no gain ♪ And it's all the same ♪ Ooh with the radio on ♪ Dancing to a beat that just goes on and on ♪ She's all alone in that safe, safe life ♪ She'll never know of the world outside ♪ She's a hometown girl ♪ Hometown girl



WHEN ANGELS CRY

In the silence of my darkest night ♪ Mirrors of my life are hanging high ♪ I think of all the years that passed ♪ And how my life has changed so fast ♪ Who knows where they're going anyway ♪ Promises and expectations fade ♪ Hey I thought I could be someone ♪ Now I regret the things I've done ♪ You know I hear the angels cry ♪ They're looking down at me with angry eyes ♪ You know I hear the angels cry ♪ It's a lonely road for those who ride ♪ The hero's trail of glory and desire ♪ Yeah I'm standing here in front of them ♪ I'm fearing that will be the end ♪ You know I hear the angels cry ♪ They're looking down at me with angry eyes ♪ You know I hear the angels cry ♪ I know what's real ♪ It's the way I feel ♪ The same old dream just keeps on ♪ Going 'round and 'round ♪ If I could stop these feelings in my heart ♪ Then I'd just be somebody in the dark ♪ Cause those of us who know that love ♪ Can't be forgotten in the dust ♪ Will always hear the angels cry ♪ They're looking down at me with angry eyes ♪ You know I hear the angels cry



Top left: Leslie & Mary playing and having fun in the heat in July, 1999, Middle left: The crowd at Union Alley in summer of 1996, Bottom left: Leslie inbetween songs at Crab Shell 1995, Center: Stu at Union Alley 1996, Bottom center: Chris at Crabshell 1995, Top right: Leslie at Shenanigans in 1994, Bottom right: Mark off-stage at Crab Shell 1994.





STATE OF LOVE

I belong to your love ♪ I'm just a prisoner ♪ Who can't escape the way it was
 ♪ I kept saying to myself ♪ That I struck gold with you ♪ And wanted no one
 else ♪ This state of love ♪ Controls the things we do ♪ This state of love
 ♪ Keeps me holding on ♪ Walls of defense ♪ Were built to block the fears
 ♪ That brought on the end ♪ And I kept saying we could find ♪ A way to keep
 that magic feeling ♪ Right in time ♪ This state of love ♪ Controls the things
 we do ♪ This state of love ♪ Keeps me holding on to ♪ Wanting your love ♪
 I believed in the hope that we could ♪ Fight the storms that came ♪ The rain
 came hard ♪ So we drifted out too far ♪ I belong to your love ♪ If we stay
 together ♪ It will be better than it was ♪ And I keep saying to myself ♪ That I
 struck gold with you ♪ And want nobody else ♪ This state of love ♪ Controls
 the things we do ♪ This state of love ♪ Keeps me holding on ♪ Keeps me
 holding on to you ♪ Keeps me holding on ♪ Keeps me holding on

THE BAND:

Leslie Costa: Lead vocal, acoustic & electric guitars, **Mark Hill:** keyboards, **Rory Gordon:** Lead guitar, **Chris Goane:** Bass, **Stuart Stahr:** Drums, **Mary O'Hare:** Harmony, percussion & acoustic guitar

"SONG QUOTES AND BAND FACTS"

"Looks like another night...
Hear the same
shit in the same
spotlight"
—The Storm Behind

The band and fans still
look back and remember
all that energy
—LC

"Starting from
the beginning,
the music was always
something that we as a
band instantly got."
—LC

"My music
has always
been and
still is very
personal...
but I took
myself WAY
too seriously
back then."
—LC

"Who knows
where they're
going
anyway...
Promises and
expectations
fade"
—When Angels Cry

"Lost love...Come home to us...
Won't find your answers. on that stupid little bus"
—Lost Love

"Go on home and do your thing
cause you'd do anything"
—The Storm Behind

There is
no way to
re-create
this kind of
chemistry
with other
people.
—LC

"It's like you and me...
We take a little from
the giving tree...
Just to see that she...Can't keep
giving everything for free"
—The Giving Tree

"If I could stop these
feelings in my heart...
Then I'd just be somebody
in the dark "
—When Angels Cry

"The "drama days"
were a part of our
history that now we
can laugh at."
—LC

"And if your feet won't get you there...
I'll pay the fare"
—Wishing Well



Leslie Costa & the Usual Suspects

The Early Days *collection*

lesliecosta.com

All songs written by Leslie Costa

© ALL SONGS COPYRIGHTED 1995

Produced by: Mark Hill & Stuart Stahr

Recorded live at: Shenanigans, Norwalk, CT. May 1995

Design & art direction: Leslie Costa

Many thanks to Cindy Bevans & Cathy McArdle for always having bootleg cassette tapes for me to get some of the tunes back into the archives, Chris Roper for his amazing talent at executing the tape to digital transfer and mastering the songs so they sound fresh and professional, Stuart Stahr for his continuing support, and Walter Sidas for his help in color correcting many of the photo images as well as shooting the photo of Leslie on the train tracks, Rory Gordon & Chris Goane, Mark Hill and Mary O'Hare for their creative talent to make the music happen, to everyone who photographed us over the years. And lastly, thanks to all of our adoring fans who have supported us all these years!