

Dear Friend Who Was Diagnosed with Cancer,
"What do I need to know?"...



**If you think you need to call your doctor,
you need to call your doctor.**

What is normal for everyone else in regard to side effects, might not be normal for you. Know your own body and speak up if something feels wrong.



People don't know what to say. In their efforts to empathize they will say things that aren't helpful. Extend grace. Choose to laugh at awkward humanity.

You will have some friends distance themselves from you because they can't handle the changes in your life, but more people than you ever imagined will arise to fight for you, stand with you and pray for you. Forgive those who couldn't, and love both those who couldn't and who could.

Do it now. Whatever "it" is. Don't wait for someday.

Your priorities will change. You will not be the same person at the end of treatment that you are today. Trust me on this one - you will be even more amazing than you already are!



Say "I love you" often.

Every good thing you've ever believed about God you need to hold onto with both hands and DO NOT LET GO.

You will need to have conversations as a family about what you want people to know. The lines are about to get blurred about whose story this is as cancer touches everyone around you.

You are about to meet some of the most courageous people on the planet. And you, my dear, are one of them.

Watch for the blessings. They are there—just open your eyes to see them.



Learning to trust God with your life is one thing. Learning to trust God with someone you love is another. Remember this when your family drives you crazy or when they need space to fall

You are allowed to fire a doctor that doesn't click with you.