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PINK Prayer BOOK



Edited by
DIANA LOSCIALE



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Introduction

Here in one special book are the prayers, hopes, fears and comforts of women who have had breast cancer and the families affected by the disease. The all-too-common diagnosis of breast cancer can send a woman into such a frightening place that the support of others becomes terribly important—and their prayers essential. This book can turn the “mourning into dancing” for thousands of women.

COKIE ROBERTS
ABC NEWS, NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO
AUTHOR AND BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR



Here we sit—you, the doctor, behind that big imposing desk, and me, the impatient patient, restless in my padded chair.

I have so much to do today! I really don't have time to sit here, but the nurse said you prefer to discuss biopsy results in person.

So here we sit. I must quiet my mind, pay attention. If I pay attention, this meeting will be shorter. Besides, I'm sure everything is fine, just fine...

What?

Your voice sounds so far away—what are you saying?

I have cancer? You are telling me I have cancer? I don't understand. Cancer!

No, no—it wasn't supposed to be cancer. Just a cyst, an innocuous lump...Besides, I feel fine. So this can't be true. It's not cancer.

Cancer?

Will I die? Women do die of breast cancer...

Your voice sounds so far away—what are you saying?

All these statistics you recite—what do they have to do with me? How do I know what these numbers mean? How can numbers tell you anything about my situation?

Your muted words float through space, meaningless words that seem to have nothing to do with me.

Yet I am compelled to listen.

Schedule more tests? I am very busy just now, with many obligations and responsibilities. I don't have the time...

You say we will have to wait for test results to determine treatment?

Wait? I don't want to wait!

I need to know now. I need to know right now, this minute, what this means for me, for my family. I need to know what this means, what to expect.

You say I may need surgery?

You say I may need chemotherapy?

You say I may need radiation?

Your voice sounds so far away—what are you saying?

Can you please repeat what you said about treatments?

This is too much information. I can't think about all this. I can't imagine how I could make time for all that. I am very busy just now, with obligations...and responsibilities.

Let's begin again.

You say I have breast cancer? You say this cancer is in my body, attacking my cells, trying to steal my life?

You sound so far away...

“Doctor, are you sure?”

PATRICIA CORRIGAN
SURVIVOR

O Lord,
Are you listening?
I beg your interlude.
I pray for your counsel.
I pray for your guiding hand.
Please take away this fear
 and replace it with hope.
O Holy Mother,
Who will bear this news to our own mother?
O Jesus,
Lead us out of this desert!
Teach us grace.
Hold us; hold us up
as we gather our strength.
Here is my trust in your divine wisdom
Here is my belief in the joy of you.
Please accept my prayer
Please accept my faith,
Please help my sister heal.
I cannot imagine life without her.
I cannot imagine Life without You.

JEAN A. TAYLOR
SISTER

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice!

*Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!*

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

*But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.*

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

*more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.*

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

*For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.*

*It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.*

PSALM 130

I know to hope for the best
and to expect the worst.

Can we know too much?
Is knowledge strength?

I pray for your wisdom
and for serenity.
I pray to be able to handle
whatever the future holds.

KATHY LASS
SURVIVOR

*Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith,
you will receive.*

MATTHEW 21:22

God bless our husbands
And their strong voices.

SHEILA M. CHIBNALL-TREPTOW
SURVIVOR

The times we shared
Were always fun
You made me laugh
And never run
Taught me how
To stand my ground
To pay attention
To every sound
Our lives are short
Yet we'll be remembered
As people who cared
And gave everyone shelter
From their pain and grief
You brought happiness
To a place of misery.

I will catch you
When you fall.

BRUCE A. EDWARDS
NEPHEW

Give her strength to face all the actions
she will bear,
Grant her understanding for all the unknown
she must meet,
Bring her courage in all she must battle.

Bless her with great wisdom,
Help her overcome her fears and doubts,
Let her discover her many great gifts
from within.

Heal her and embrace her
with great confidence,
Bless her with kindness and compassion,
Make her a source of energy for others.

Allow her to face each new day with joy;
offering hope to all,
With arms uplifted,
we pray for this disease to be erased
so that others may never have to suffer.

Embrace the Army of Earth Angels
dressed in Pink;

make them whole and restore them to
complete health.

JOANNE POHL
SISTER

Seek peace in your own place. You cannot find
peace anywhere save in your own self.

RABBI BUNAM

O God, thank you for the ancient, heartfelt
prayers

that run through my head,
sometimes as a plea,
sometimes as praise.

SHEILA M. CHIBNALL-TREPTOW
SURVIVOR

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?*

*The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?*

PSALM 27:1

One time our good Lord said: *All thing shall be well*; and another time he said: *Thou shalt see thyself that all MANNER [of] thing shall be well.*

DAME JULIAN OF NORWICH

Precious Jesus,
Thank you for bringing me safely
 through my struggle.
Thank you for every hard day,
 for every tear shed,
 for every difficult trial I passed, and
 for those I failed.
Each bump in the road helped mold me into
the being I have become today.
You have taught me to stand firmly
 for what is right for me.
My trials have brought me to a place where I
can love who I am, and
 for that I am thankful to you.
Tears have turned to sunshine on my face, and
 my heart is filled with love for my sisters
on this journey.

I am so thankful, Lord, that you spared my life
to help another along the way.
I know I was spared to reach out to some other
frightened soul
who has just heard the dreadful sentence.
I thank you for the chance
to say to her, "You, too, can make it."
My blessings are too numerous to count;
and I am thankful for them all.
It is with deep love and gratitude
I offer my praise to you, dear Lord.
Amen.

EVELYN STAFFORD DANIELS
SURVIVOR

For nothing will be impossible with God.

LUKE 1:37

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank you for your faithfulness,
we know you are with us always,
and I pray you will help us
through this crisis in our lives.
You are the Great Physician and
we know you love us with an
everlasting love.
Thank you for healing my daughter,
in Jesus' name, I pray.

ROCHELLE WILLIAMS
MOTHER

*Cast all your anxiety on him,
because he cares for you.*

1 PETER 5:7

Thank you
for another day of beating the odds
with a strong will,
with the perseverance to understand,
a tremendous amount of rejoicing, and
with incredible laughter and love.

RANDEE ELIZABETH KADZIEL
SURVIVOR

*For surely I know the plans I have for you,
says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not
for harm, to give you a future with hope.
Then when you call upon me and come and
pray to me, I will hear you.*

JEREMIAH 29:11–12