

In 2018, an estimated 1,735,350 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in the United States and 609,640 people will die from the disease.

Approximately 38.4% of men and women will be diagnosed with cancer at some point during their lifetimes.

In 2017, an estimated 15,270 children and adolescents ages 0 to 19 were diagnosed with cancer and 1,790 died of the disease.

Goodnight our hero, our son, our Dan.
You are just a child
But you have died a man.

cancer.

cousin.

grandpa.

mom.

"Don't worry."

cancer noun

Definitions of cancer

1 *neoplasm*

a northern medical constellation between Gemini and Leo

being the fourth sign of the zodiac in astrology

→ see SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC TABLE

(2) *one born under the sign of Cancer*

I'm a Taurus, but my best friend is a Cancer.

3 *juice, milk, cancer*

a malignant cancer of psalmist's spiritual growth that expels the cancerously healthy milk of such humanism

3 *something evil or malignant that spreads destructively*

the cancer of hidden corruption

→ Irish Dialect

4 *an enlarged kidney-like growth/such as that of cressage*

a plant disease marked by such growth.

"I know how you feel."

"It's just hair."

Life doesn't discriminate
Between the sinners and the saints
It takes and it takes and it takes.
And we keep living anyway

"I'm sure you'll be fine."

"I know someone who had the exact same diagnosis."

"I know just what you should do."

It's just hair.
and eyelashes.

another appointment

"Everything happens for a reason."

Please let me be the first person to punch the next person who tells you everything happens for a reason. I'm sorry you're going through this.

I wish I could take away your pain. Or at least take away the people who compare it to the time their hamster died.

To be brave is to cry
But still to fight on

It's just hair.
and eyelashes.
and eyebrows,
and fingernails

another appointment

"The most difficult part of my illness wasn't losing my hair, or being erroneously called 'sir' by Starbucks baristas, or sickness from chemo. It was the loneliness and isolation I felt when many of my close friends and family members disappeared because they didn't know what to say or said the absolute wrong thing without realizing it."

Despite advances in the treatment of many side effects associated with chemotherapy, alopecia remains an issue that is difficult to resolve. Chemotherapy-induced alopecia (CIA) is a condition that can have profound psychosocial and quality-of-life consequences, resulting in anxiety, depression, a negative body image, lowered self-esteem, and a reduced sense of well-being. Patients who fear CIA may sometimes select regimens with less favorable outcomes or may refuse treatment.

"It will grow back."

another appointment

another appointment

another appointment

another appointment

Cancer is so limited...
It cannot shatter hope.
It cannot suppress memories.
It cannot silence courage.

I am the one thing in life I can control
I am inimitable I am an original

another appointment
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I'm so tired.

Estimated national expenditures for cancer care in the United States in 2017 were \$147.3 billion. In future years costs are likely to increase as the population ages and cancer prevalence increases. Costs are also likely to increase as new, and often more expensive, treatments are adopted as standards of care.

"How are you holding up?"

This uncompensated care involves significant time and energy as well as requires performing tasks that are physically, emotionally, socially, and existentially demanding. Indeed, caregivers are at risk for psychological (eg, anxiety, depression, and hopelessness) and physical (eg, increased mortality, cardiovascular disease, poor immune functioning, and sleep difficulties) complications. Although some studies of caregivers reported comparable rates of depression and anxiety to those of patients for whom they provide care, others have shown rates that surpass those of patients.

I'm fine.

For example, rates of depression between 12% and 59% and anxiety between 30% and 50% have been reported in samples of caregivers, in comparison to those of depression between 10% and 25% and between 19% and 34% in the patient population. Additionally, between 40% and 76% of cancer caregivers reported clinically significant symptoms of insomnia, which negatively affect their mental and physical health, are frequently chronic, and may impair the normal grieving process among bereaved caregivers. These symptoms can increase the risk for chronic illness in caregivers, including cardiovascular disease and cancer.

I'm fine.

Cancer is so limited.
It cannot cripple love.
It cannot suppress memories.
It cannot conquer the spirit.

"We're doing great!"

"We're doing great!"