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Lindsey: [00:00:03] Before I was diagnosed, I was still in college when I had found the tumor. All of my friends were moving into those jobs that they had lined up after graduation. They were moving into their the real world, you know, like how it's supposed to be. I didn't get that. I did not get that. I mean, I already had a job lined up after college, I was in a really serious relationship. I had a plan. And then the day of that diagnosis, I absolutely changed everything.

Maria: [00:00:43] And she called me one night, and I could tell in her voice, something was wrong, and she said, this thing has grown overnight. And she said it just a visibly grown overnight. So I knew something was wrong.

Lindsey: [00:01:05] Here you go. I'll be back. And everything happened so fast. It's really a blur like the whole process went really quickly. I was diagnosed a week later, I was in surgery. Week after that, I had another surgery, and that's when I started getting really depressed. And that's when I stopped leaving the house. And that was before I even made the decision to go ahead with the mastectomy.

Maria: [00:01:33] She's had to make decisions that women my age shouldn't have to make.

John: [00:01:37] No. It scares you as a parent when it's gone from the size for PE page to the size of a brick, and it scares you as a parent when they go to do a needle biopsy and it bends the needle and drives your heart right up in your throat.

Lindsey: [00:01:52] So I made the decision to have my breast removed. I felt like if the breast is gone completely, then I'm OK. Oh, you're water out. But the breast that had the tumor and is still there, like, I just feel completely unsafe. Yes, ma'am. How are you all doing?

Customer: [00:02:10] Good. How about yourself?

Lindsey: [00:02:12] Good. I was in a serious relationship at the time. We had been together for about eight months and he had been so completely supportive during my surgeries. He would be calling my mom if he could just check and see how I was doing. And then I called him and told him, You know, I've decided to go through with the mastectomy. That's the last time I heard from him. And so that was obviously a huge kick in the self-esteem too. I don't give a shit what guys think about my body, but I mean, at the time, I'm twenty two years old, like, that's the one thing you're thinking about.

Maria: [00:02:52] Before cancer, Lindsay was very confident, just stylish in the way she dressed and after cancer, all that changed those big baggy shirts and-

Lindsey: [00:03:03] Yeah, I took every single one of my bikinis and every single tight shirt that I had, and I put them all in the trash can.

Maria: [00:03:11] And I remember taking them out without your knowledge. I don't think it was until the track that Lindsay, truly I saw more of who she was after that, I could see a weight lifted off of her when she came home. And I can see a desire to want to move forward with her life. So I think the track did that for her, and I don't know. I don't know why it took that. Um. But I did see I saw a big difference when she came home from the track that there's the weight was gone. It's, you know, maybe I can't really move on with my life now.