

DOCTOR

Jackie... I have to tell you... what I feared might happen has happened. Your cancer... has... spread.

JACKIE

(PAUSE) I don't even know what that means. Spread.

DOCTOR

It means we found some cells. In your lymph nodes. In three of them.

JACKIE

But the other time. You said you got it all. So you could be wrong again. One time, you say one thing, then...

DOCTOR

The other time.... That was a year ago. (PAUSE) That was a tiny lump in the breast. We radiated, we thought we had it all. We were hopeful. But there were no guarantees.

JACKIE

But we can beat it. People beat it, don't they? All the time.

DOCTOR

Every day. More and more.

JACKIE

So we'll...radiate some more?

DOCTOR

At first. Then, after awhile, some chemo.

JACKIE

That's necessary, huh?

DOCTOR

Let's take our best shot.

JACKIE

Alright. (PAUSE) Well, I guess a no-hair day beats a bad-hair day. (PAUSE) Okay... well... I have to get dressed. My ex-husband has asked me to dinner. God knows why. He was very mysterious about...

DOCTOR

Have you still not told him?

JACKIE

Why would his worry... or my children's worry ...or anyone's worry, for that matter, help the situation?...

DOCTOR

Sooner than later. You really need to.

JACKIE

You don't burden others needlessly. That's how I was raised, Doctor.

DOCTOR

Maybe at dinner tonight? Think about it. You can't do this on your own. Not this time. Just think about it. Please.

JACKIE

There is nothing to think about.

DOCTOR

Just think about it. They have to know. You have to tell them.

JACKIE.

I will think about it.