# The Team Sarcoma Initiative

International Sarcoma Awareness Week: July 18-26, 2009

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## A Moment in Sarcoma from Johanna

1 Moments in Sarcoma

Laguna Beach, California

#### **Statistics**

As a scientist when I first became ill I obsessively asked my doctors for the numbers: What is the survival rate at 2 years? 5 years? How many are alive 10 years out? The doctors gave me numbers: 80%, 30%, 65%, 72%, 20% I was possessed by the statistics Maybe this study is newer Maybe the treatment approach differed Maybe this sample was contaminated No matter the number I kept asking.

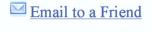
Then one day
I found the perfect answer
the one true answer
heavier than lead
lighter than air
more precious than gold

Sitting in the office of the sarcoma specialist

in a moment of grace I gazed past the doctor toward his kind-faced nurse. Tell me, Susan, I said, Is there a chance I will dance at my grandson's bar mitzvah?

Her eyes perfectly untroubled gazed back. Life is so Unpredictable, she said. Go buy a dress.

Please support International Sarcoma Awareness Week: July 18-26, 2009.





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