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## Poem

### The Lady in Pink

From the cancer patient to the surgeon  
By Rachel Brown

There was a young lady who said  
As she lay—quite exposed—in a bed  
“When poking around  
I think that I’ve found  
A lump that has filled me with dread”

So they kneaded and massaged and squeezed  
And sampled a smidgeon to freeze  
And he told her quite straight  
That her cancer was late  
But he’d cut it all out—if she pleased.

Then she said to the surgical team  
“I think that your plans are extreme  
Though you may be the best  
You are only the guest  
Of boobs owned and grown by a queen.”

But when he had done what they do  
She found that her outlook was new  
When her breast disappeared  
Her foot reappeared  
She’d a vertical view of her shoe

And she thought—now he’d done with his knife—  
She was going to get on with her life  
She said to herself,  
“I am not on the shelf  
And my girls have always looked nice”

Then said the young lady in pink,  
“The results of mastectomy stink  
Though my tits are pits  
I just love them to bits  
Can you give them a tweak, do you think?”

For Alison and Martha, and all those women who face cancer with courage and style.

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