We Go Together...

Fast forward to present day, and I feel like the ME who once stepped on that stage in *Grease*.

February 23, 2020 By Megan-Claire Chase

I'm strolling down memory lane remembering my very first audition for a musical in May 1990. It was Grease. Over 200 kids auditioned and only 30 or so were chosen. I was one of the youngest ones in the cast and was a cheerleader. Kind of fitting, huh? I had one line that always got a laugh when I sat on Doody's lap.

I was bullied a lot in the high school days and never truly fit in. I was "too different." So why am I bringing this up? Well, it reminded me of a time where I felt a part of something big and special.

I felt accepted.

I felt liked.

I felt magical.

I felt seen.

That's how I feel in cancerland. I've longed to find my place in the world. I never thought I would find this kind of acceptance for just being plain ol' ME. I've dealt with some in cancerland who are bullies and rude and who tried to bring me down and doubt myself. Fortunately, going through cancer has given me a thicker skin and made me intolerant of bullshit.

There was a time in my life pre-cancer where I didn't feel like I had any friends. I had isolated myself which is completely against my nature. I wasn't confident. I had become this anxiety ridden and insecure woman.

I can honestly say my cancer treatments not only killed the cancer, it also killed that insecurity and anxiety that had kept me stagnant from moving forward in life. It's strange that it took something life-threatening for me to realize that I been a walking zombie just going through the motions with no feeling other than despair.

Fast forward to present day, and I feel like the ME who once stepped on that stage in Grease. I'm fostering friendships both in and out of cancerland. I can honestly say I have friends locally to hang out with now, but I also have friends out of state and internationally who I can FaceTime or Skype with too. They are just as supportive and caring as the few who are here locally.

I feel confident.

I feel encouraged.

I feel loved.

I feel supported.

So, I leave you with the video of the finale in Grease — click here — because that's how I feel about all the incredible people that keep coming into my life. There is a new pep in my step. My heart is doing cartwheels. Dare I say, I'm actually having some FUN.

Until next time,

Warrior Megsie

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