“Bald in the Land of Big Hair”, by Joni Rodgers

Joni Rodgers writes a hilarious and intellectual story of what she went through with cancer. Most people think that a story about cancer would be depressing, but actually Joni finds ways to make it humorous and funny. Of course there were many sad times during her treatments when she couldn’t be the mother that she wanted to be. Joni, her husband, and two children are living in Houston (Land of big hair), when she finds out she has non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, which is a cancer that affects the lymph system. She realized that the day she found out she had cancer was the day she started living. Joni went through a lot of pain and frustration with her chemo treatments that made her go bald and throw up almost everything she ate. This book involves, children, sex, love, anger, prayer, illness and many other qualities that make this book interesting. I recommend this book to everyone, especially cancer patients, because it gives a lot of information about the social, physical, and medical world of cancer.

The book covers many of the medical terminology we have covered in class. Joni has to have Bone marrow transplant because of the chemo treatments she is taking. HMO insurance plan is brought up and the type they had was a Christian Science HMO, any kind of medical treatment was against their religion. Gary wanted a Biopsy as soon as possible for Joni but their HMO wouldn’t let them get passed the front desk. The cancer might not have been as bad if they could have treated it earlier, instead of going to every doctor for advice.