

GOOD FRIEND, CANCER

癌症好朋友

When my mother gets cancer for the second time, she asked if I would keep her company through her chemotherapy. And of course, I said yes. But how am I meant to cope with it all? Pam Pam uses a clean but comical style to portray the joys and sorrows of accompanying a loved one through an illness.

Despite the technical and medical wonders of the modern age, cancer remains one of humanity's biggest enemies. And while we all know the patients themselves suffer, what of their loved ones, who find themselves sudden becoming carers, struggling with negative emotions, drained by the demands upon them? They too face a long physical and emotional battle.

Good Friend, Cancer is a daughter's first-hand account of her mother's chemotherapy treatment. Finding herself now responsible for caring for her mother, she worries as she waits in the hospital that maybe her genes mean the same fate is in store for her. And she is also resentful – she has missed out on a chance to follow her dreams and travel overseas. And most of all, and most unanswerably: why her?

Graphic novelist Pam Pam's simple style and plain strokes provide a humorous look at a harsh reality and turn misfortunes into charming tales. Over the course of 18 short comics, Pam Pam examines the traditional roles of a "daughter" and the pressures of being an adult as she portrays truths about family relationships which we all recognize – even if we cannot admit to it.

Pam Pam Liu

Active as an illustrator, an independent graphic novelist and a musician, Pam Pam is also a talented animator. She often turns the dark side of life, its anger and failures, into fantastical graphic novels, but also creates true-to-life works such as *Good Friend, Cancer*. Her other works include *A Trip to Asylum* and *When My Brother was a Kid*.



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She was a resident of La Maison des Auteurs in Angoulême, France (2018-2019).

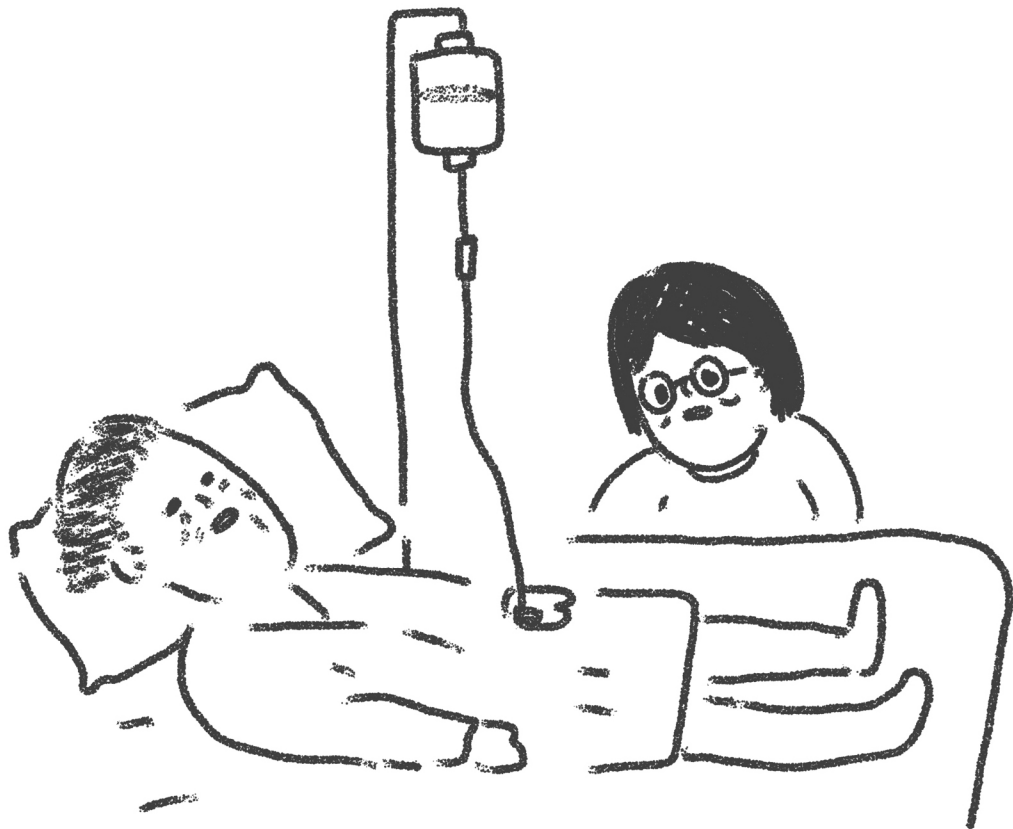
癌症
好朋友
GOOD FRIEND,
CANCER.

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2017年春末，病了一阵子的外公去世了

AT THE END OF SPRING, 2017. MY GRANDFATHER DIED OF BLOOD CANCER.



喪禮前幾天，媽媽可能看到了
外公的屍體而嚇到

MY MOM SEEMED FRIGHTENED AFTER SEEING
HER DAD'S BODY.

心是跳得好快...

睡不著...

MY HEART BEATS SO FAST...
I COULDN'T SLEEP...



我給她我平常吃的心律藥

I GAVE HER MY ANTIARRHYTHMIC DRUG

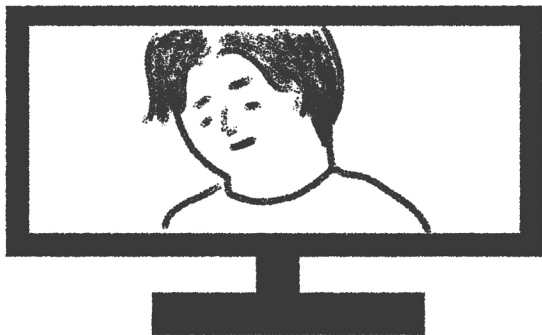
你吃完去坐著看電視

TAKE THIS, GO SIT DOWN
AND WATCH TV.



她看著電視上的
孔劉，問我：

SHE LOOKED AT GONG YOO
AND ASKED ME:



額，還好
MEH, HE IS OK



你覺得他
帥嗎？

IS HE HANDSOME
TO YOU?



我蠻喜歡

他的~...

I QUITE LIKE
HIM...

笨蛋媽媽

STUPID MOM



2007年她在看咖啡王子時就說了一樣的話

SHE ASKED ME THE SAME THING AFTER WATCHING "COFFEE PRINCE" IN 2007



！你覺得孔侑
帥嗎？

HEY! DO YOU FIND
GONG YOO HANDSOME?



那一陣子不管我說什麼，媽媽都不再笑了

MY MOM STOP LAUGHING DURING THAT PERIOD,
EVEN WHEN I TRIED SO HARD TO BEING FUNNY.



「跟你說件好笑的事
WANNA HEAR
SOMETHING FUNNY?

「！看看我！
HEY! LOOK AT
ME!

沒想到，後來真的發生了笑不出來的事

I NEVER THOUGHT SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN THAT
MADE ME STOP LAUGHING TOO.

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好朋友
GOOD FRIEND,
CANCER.

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同年夏天,和朋友去京都玩

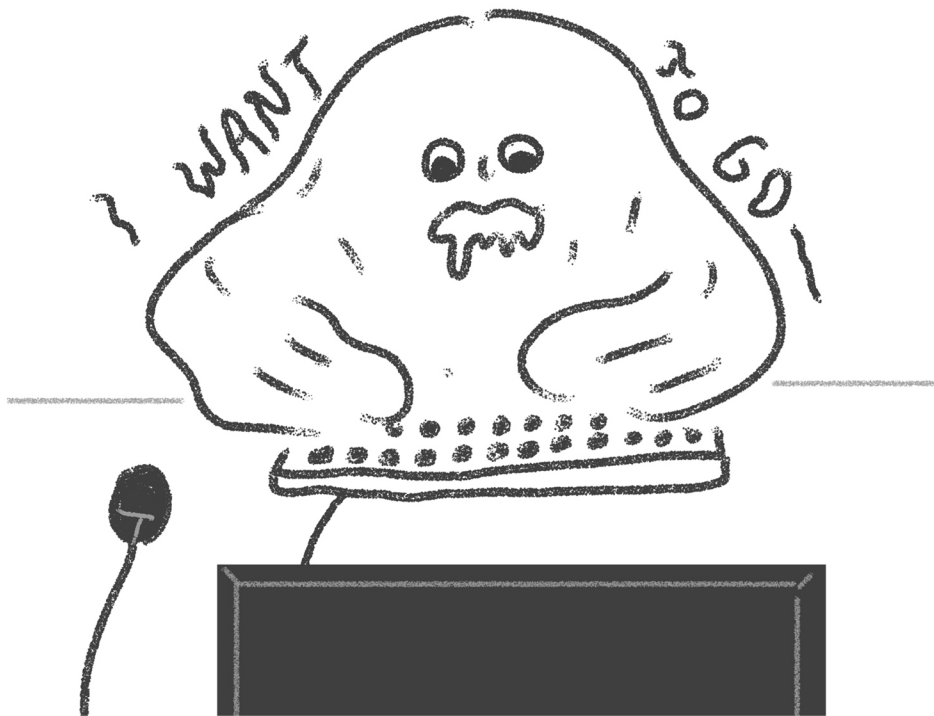
IN SUMMER 2017.

I TOOK A TRIP TO KYOTO WITH A FRIEND.



回來後開始有想去日本念文的念頭，甚至上網
找了資料

I HAD THE IDEA TO QUIT MY JOB AND
STUDY JAPANESE IN JAPAN. I HAD DONE MY RESEARCH



正作著我的白日夢時

媽媽打來了。

WHEN I WAS HAVING THIS FANTASY
MY MOM CALLED.

喂?
Hello?



上次那個切片報告
出來了，是乳癌2期，如果
之後做化療，你陪我好嗎？

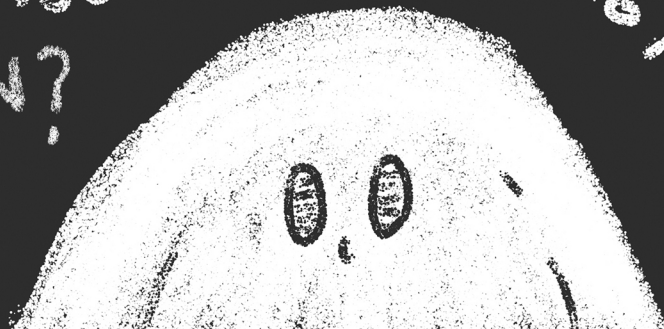
THE TEST RESULT CAME OUT. IT'S
STAGE 2 BREAST CANCER.

IF I HAVE TO DO CHE-MO,
CAN YOU GO WITH ME?



什麼又叫得癌症了
你怎麼又得癌症了
我的出國計畫
怎辦?
你沒有說過呀?

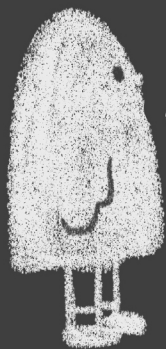
WHAT TEST? YOU NEVER TOLD
WHY DO YOU GET CANCER
WHAT ABOUT MY
PLAN?
ME.
AGAIN?



媽媽曾經在我很小的時候患了子宮頸癌。

我只記得媽媽 那時切除子宮後住院了幾天

MY MOM HAD CERVICAL CANCER WHEN I WAS
LITTLE. ALL I REMEMBER WAS WE VISITED HER AT THE
HOSPITAL AFTER SHE HAD HYSTERECTOMY.



你們有一
乖嗎？
不要打弟弟！

WERE YOU WELL BEHAVED?
DON'T PUNCH YOUR
BROTHER.




(但這次感覺沒那麼容易...)

BUT IT'S MORE SERIOUS THIS TIME

我只有說了這些

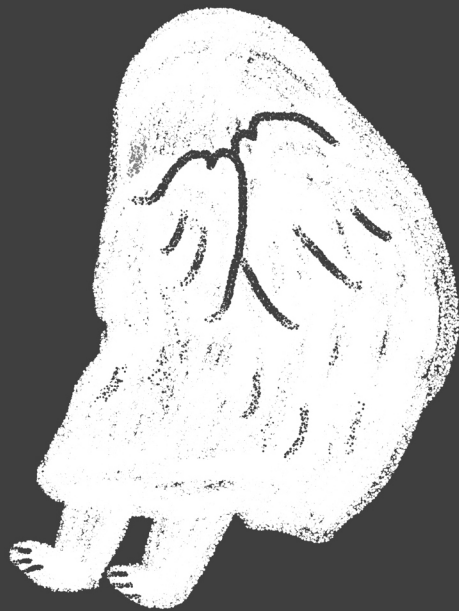
ALL I SAID TO HER WAS:



好了，
你要去再
跟我說

OK, JUST LET
ME KNOW WHEN
YOU HAVE TO GO.

因為我想立刻大哭
BECAUSE I WANTED TO CRY



如果以後我也得乳癌怎辦
我的夢想我的時間呢?

如果做了化療也沒好呢?

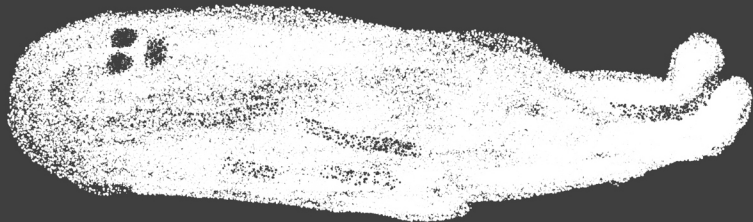
叫媽媽先別去上班了吧!

WHAT IF I GET BREAST CANCER IN THE FUTURE?

WHAT ABOUT MY DREAM AND MY TIME?

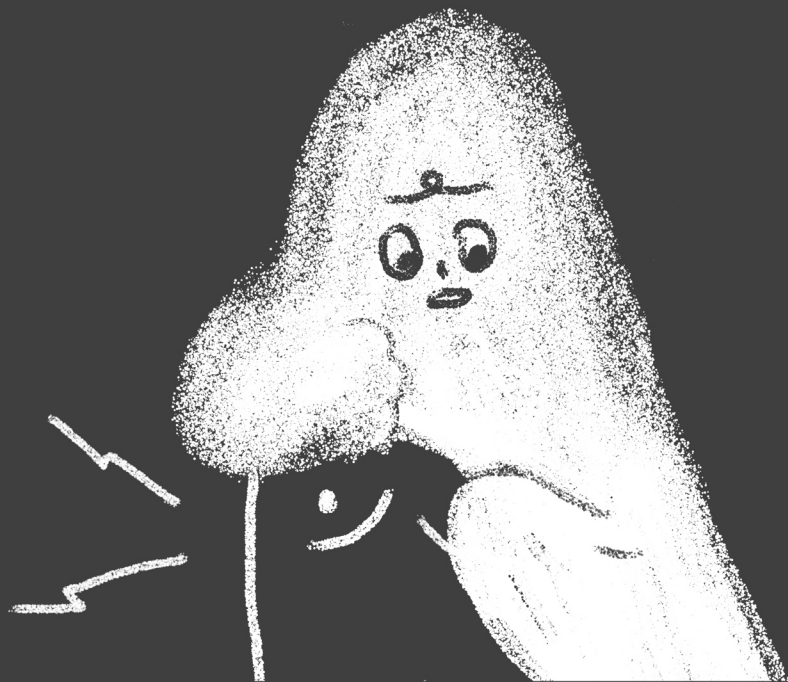
WHAT IF CHEMO DOESN'T WORK?

I SHOULD ASK HER TO QUIT HER JOB.



想著想著，胸部也跟著痛了起來。

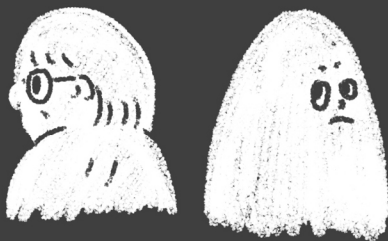
MY BREASTS ACHE
WHEN I WAS THINKING THOSE SAD THOUGHTS.



癌症
好朋友

GOOD FRIEND,
CANCER.

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我媽媽得癌症ㄟ拉!
MY MOM GOT CANCER!

我向朋友哭訴

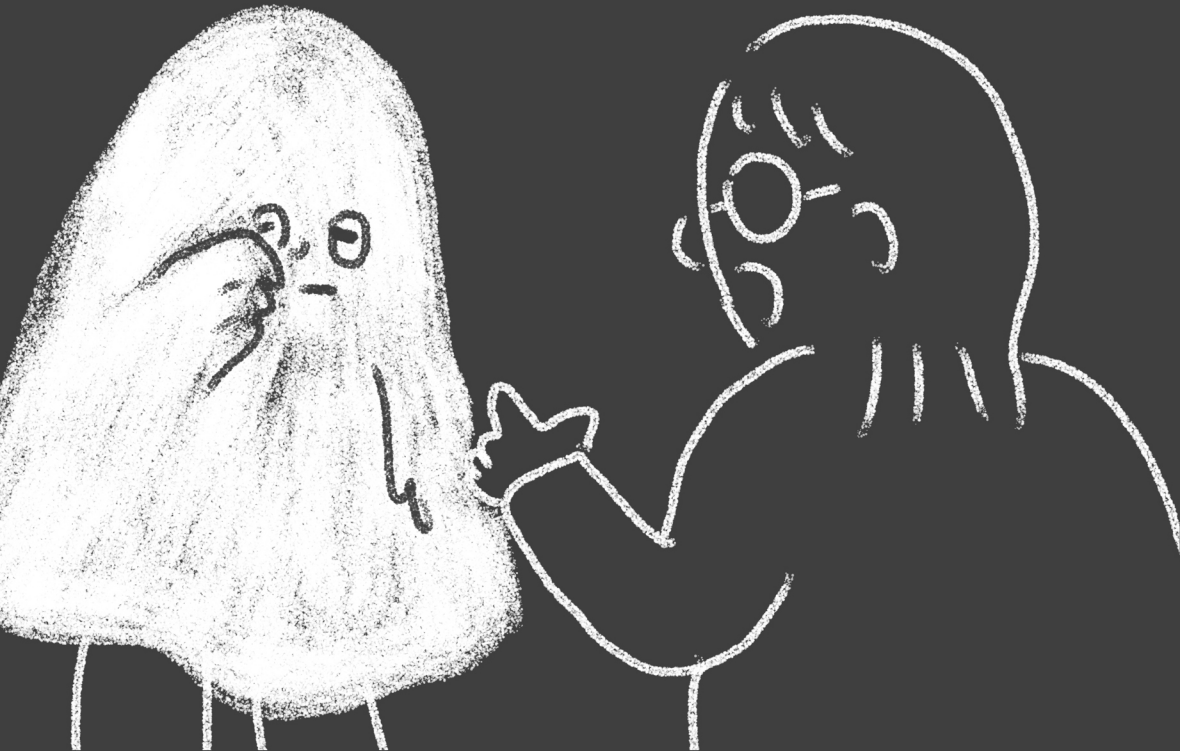
I TOLD MY FRIEND
ABOUT THIS



還是請媽媽去
大醫院吧!

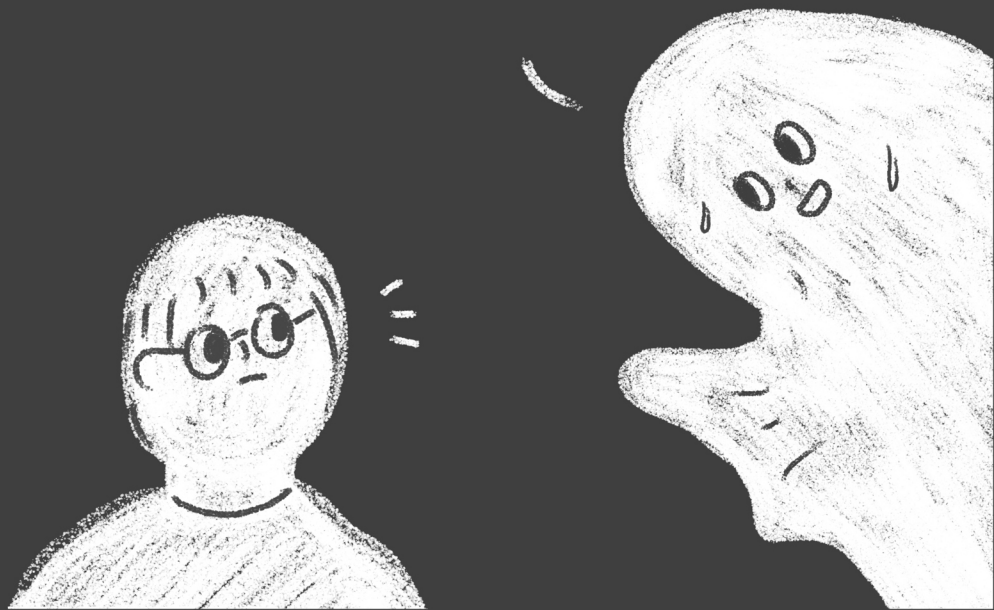
好。
OK

YOU'D BETTER TELL HER
TO GO TO A BIGGER
HOSPITAL



那個... 我的朋友是醫生的老婆嘍,
他們說去大醫院治療比較好了~
要不要考慮一下呀~

HEY! MY FRIEND IS MARRIED TO A DOCTOR!
THEY SUGGEST YOU GET TREATMENT IN A BIGGER
HOSPITAL. YOU SHOULD CONSIDER IT.



不要，我看我現在的醫生就好

NO, I'M FINE WITH THE DOCTOR I'M SEEING.

