

Blossom is little girl that loves her hair, she named Grace. Blossom gets cancer and goes through chemo and loses all of her hair. She is terrified and heartbroken, but through the love and trust of her Mom, she survives and sees her friend come back.

Blossom: A Little Girl's Battle With Cancer

by SHERRY ROSSMAN RUSSELL and ALYSE RUSSELL

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WRITTEN BY SHERRY ROSSMAN RUSSELL
ILLUSTRATED BY ALYSE RUSSELL

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My little sister Sherry Russell (nee Rossman) loved to write. She told me that nature—particularly trees gave her the energy and the words for her poetry and stories. She would go out into nature and sit up against a large tree and, according to Sherry, the energy from the tree gave her the words.

Sherry gave me a copy of this story several years ago. She was amazed at herself for this story. "Donna," she said, "I wrote this story while sitting against a huge tree on the grounds of Kernan Hospital. I wrote it in about an hour. The words just flowed through me." I put the story away.

Three years ago Sherry was diagnosed with a deadly type of cancer and was gone from our lives in six months.

I pulled out the manuscript soon after we lost her, but it was too painful. Time had to pass.

In the meantime, Sherry's daughter Alyse, grew up and became an artist, but she too had to heal.

When enough time had passed, I knew that I had to share Sherry's story with little girls suffering with this disease. Perhaps this is the message from the tree to Sherry and now onto the children in need.

Alyse did all of the wonderful illustrations for this book, and her love for her Mom shows in all of them.

I am not publishing this book for any profit, but to make enough money to send copies of it to children's hospitals for distribution to children—to give them hope and make them smile. In my mind, the happy ending to Sherry's story is a message from the universe to help children.

I also want to thank my sister, Gail, for all of her love and support during this process. Love you Gail.



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