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Bob's Battle with Lymphoma: The Next Big Hurdle

Tue, 2011-01-04 17:32 — Robin Olson

Considering what's on his plate, having half a liver, lymphoma and a URI, Bob's doing well. He's no longer confined to a pen and last week he got his staples removed. A soft, downy fuzz is already growing on his belly. With winter here, I hate that his belly is so bare. I have heated cat beds for him to rest on all over the living room to keep him warm. Through all of the discomfort and pain I've put him through, it's tough to ask him to bear more. My goal is to keep him as content as possible.



©2010 Robin A.F. Olson. Dr. Weisman removes the staples. YIKES!

I'm so proud of Bob. I wish I could tell him that. I'm proud of him being a good sport about riding in the car for the long trip to the surgeon and I'm so amazed that he's been climbing two flights of stairs to come to bed at night. This morning he was ON the bed, which is a tough climb for him, yet somehow he did it. He even picks on Petunia-STILL...which for now, I'll let him be a bad boy since he only scares Petunia and that's about it. It's a sign of him being normal and I know that won't last forever.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Bob just LOVES riding in the car. Okay, maybe not so much.

Tomorrow afternoon I'm driving Bob to Wappingers Falls, NY to meet Dr Impellizeri, a Board Certified Oncologist. There we will discuss treatment options for Bob. Are there any? I've been lead to believe there are, they are well tolerated by cats and that if Bob does well we can, at least, hope for a remission for some duration.

In a way, I can't wait to get Bob on chemo. I truly believe it will help him. Although he's eating and resting a lot, he's still losing weight and I know every day we wait, the cancer has more time to grow. I want to kick that stuff in the ass and make it leave my boy alone!

As with this entire journey, there are lots more unknowns ahead. I find myself deeply appreciating every little thing, being so gentle with Bob and so loving to him. I want every day to be as good for him as I can. I know I'll have to say good bye to him one day and it could be soon or we may get six weeks or six months.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Nora (left) and Bob (right) enjoy nap time. By the way, Nora weighs 23 pounds so Bob isn't a tiny cat!

We'll see. In the meantime, Bob will go on, not knowing what's wrong with him and probably not too worried about it, either. How does an animal feel as it ages? Do they know their time is drawing to a close? For some reason, I don't think they fear that at all. I think they just take it day by day and if they live, that's great and if not, then that's okay, too.

Maybe they're more evolved than we are about such things?

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Comments

Tue, 2011-01-04 17:56 — Katnip Lounge (not verified)

Sending Bob our Love [7]

Dear Bob,
You are a Darn Fine Cat. We just wanted you to know that. We admire your ability to take surgery, illness, and now probably chemo with your trademark Bobness. Hang in there big guy, we're rooting for you to see the spring, summer, and hopefully even more than that.
Love, The Lounge Kats & Mommy Trish

Tue, 2011-01-04 18:06 — Kat (not verified)

Good luck with the [8]

Good luck with the oncologist. I too believe there is some chemo to help Bob. And I agree 100% that animals live day to day. They live in the NOW. My babies have taught me that valuable life lesson. No projections, just the moment, then the next!

Tue, 2011-01-04 21:20 — [Shelli](#) [9]

merowfs from Harlem, babe! I [10]

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I think they DO know what the deal is - which is why, in his own way, Bob is stepping up to the plate for you. He's making this choice with you, because you make him happy, and that's worth it to him.

Pretty simple, actually.

(um, a mini smooch to my Spence - although I am on the "go, Bob, go!" train, I am in NO WAY , SHAPE, OR FORM, derailing my Spencer's #1 fan train!) ;)

Wed, 2011-01-05 09:00 — [ZoeEmEffGee](#) [11]

Good luck Bob!!! [12]

Good luck Bob!!!

Wed, 2011-01-05 19:12 — Jane (not verified)

We are purraying hard that we [13]

We are purraying hard that we can keep the precious Bob with us for not days, months, but years!!! We are sending tons of love and healing vibe to you Bob!!!

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