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## The Next Big Step for Nicky

Mon, 2011-10-24 08:09 — Robin Olson

It's getting late. I should get to bed. In less than 12 hours, we'll be seeing Dr. Weisman, Nicky's surgeon. I feel the same anxiety I felt before we went to see her with Bob. Bob's case was, at first, more clear cut. He HAD to have part of his liver removed or he'd die fairly soon. With Nicky, we don't even know for certain that we SHOULD open him up at all, but I still fear the same miserable results...the Vet saying; "I'm sorry, but..."

Over the weekend, one of my readers reached out to me. She worked for a great Vet in the Northeast for many years, who, according to her, was a fantastic diagnostician. She spoke to him about Nicky's case and right away he said NOT to do ANYTHING other than repeat Nicky's urinalysis in a few months. That what was the benefit of opening him up? I felt confused. I was so ready to move forward and now this...he asked us, through our CiCH friend, that we call him on Tuesday afternoon, when he had normal business hours, so we could talk to him.

Now what? Here we have Dr. Larry and Dr. Deb saying we need to open Nicky up. We have a long track record and trust both Vets, but this other Vet did bring up a good point-if it IS cancer and we cut into it, we can make it a lot worse.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. *If you rub Nicky's head, you get full belly access!*

I hate feeling conflicted about what to do. Nicky is Sam's cat. **Ultimately Sam has to decide**, but I'm definitely going to need to hear from Dr. Deb exactly why we need to do this now, instead of give Nicky more time and re-run all the tests again later.

Something else came up, too. **Nicky may NEVER have been "snap tested" for FIV+ and Feline Leukemia!** Back when Nicky was adopted he came to Sam unvetted. Sam took him to the vet and had him neutered. Did they test him then? It was 10 years ago? I wouldn't have known to test Nicky when he, Nora and Sam came to live at my house! Now I have a terrible fear of what it's going through my head...Meanwhile Nicky seems a bit down, a bit thinner, not eating quite as well as he has in the past. Is he feeling worse? **We KNOW he has a bad TOOTH on top of his other issues so maybe that's what's causing his eating problems?**



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At this point it's so hard to know. I've been down this road before and it sucks. Is this our last night with Nicky as a reasonably healthy cat? Are we losing him and this is the start of that journey?

Sam has been very stoic about how he feels about Nicky. Even though the two of them are always together and I know Sam loves Nicky, dearly, Sam isn't one to wear his emotions on his sleeve. This afternoon Sam looked glum. I asked him what was wrong. He came over to me and put his arms around me and sort of sank against me. All he could manage to say was; **"Don't let them take my cat from me."**

**My poor Sam. My poor Nicky.** I have a hard time imagining one without the other. I hope I don't have to do that any time soon. My poor boys. We'll get through this together-just like we always do. I just hope that maybe this time we luck out- whatever lucking out means. Nicky and Sam need many more years together. We just can't lose another cat. Not right now. Not so soon.

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## **Comments**

Mon, 2011-10-24 09:25 — [Bobbie](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

### **Sending prayers for Nicky, good thoughts and** <sup>[11]</sup>

much love to you and Sam. Will be thinking of you, and we have all paws crossed!

Mon, 2011-10-24 13:37 — [Janiss \(not verified\)](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

### **I feel so awful that you and** <sup>[13]</sup>

I feel so awful that you and Sam have to go through this, especially so soon after losing Bob. It is important to get a second and maybe third opinion, no matter how much you respect your vets, in a situation with such serious implications. Just remember that whatever you do for Nicky, you are doing you very best - and you can do no more than that. You, Sam and Nicky are in my thoughts.

Mon, 2011-10-24 17:44 — [Robin Olson](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

### **Thank you Janiss & Bobbie** <sup>[15]</sup>

Thank you for your good wishes during this tough time. We are doing our best for nicky and turns out we may have been onto something this morning when I insisted we push back about doing surgery today. Since Nicky had such bad teeth and a big infection in his jaw, that may have seriously effected him in other ways..it will sort out in another month when we repeat his ultrasound and probably his blood work, too. Best to you both! Robin

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