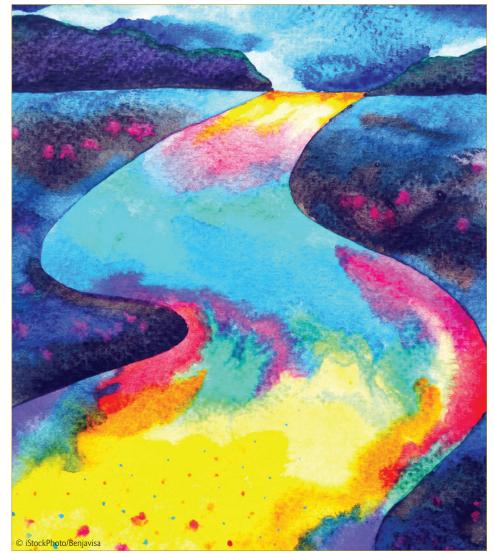
## **Reiki and Chemotherapy**

by Shannon Peck



HEN MY BEST FRIEND received a cancer diagnosis, surgery followed, and then six months of chemotherapy. All of this took great courage for her to face, including what was ahead. She took a holistic approach for support—there were an acupuncturist and a homeopath, and I was on her team as a Reiki practitioner.

After surgery, we began our healing journey together. At the hospital, I visited her regularly and gave her Reiki, which she relished and found very helpful. Another time I wrote her an email reminding her who she is and how I witness her true self:

When I call forth your Soul Self, I'm immediately in touch with your amazing joy, beauty, dignity, vibrancy, love, and immense

power! Wow! I've known all these tremendously colorful, divine energies you exude which identify you and that are always with you—as your energy field, and which cause you to read situations, and others, in powerful ways. You are amazing!

Once a week, after surgery, we met for Reiki. Neither of us knew what to expect, and we were both surprised and delighted by the power Reiki brought forth, awakening us both to her true self. Through Reiki, we could continually identify her soul as more compelling than her medical experience. This aspect is something she highly valued.

Being considered a cancer patient under medical care tended to redefine her and remove her primary identification as a soul. However, whenever we came together for Reiki, there was always powerful information that came forth from her soul, which took over and reestablished itself. She found this to be very healing. It also gave her hope.

It surprised me that from the beginning, and throughout this process, I became a channel of intuition, much like a seer. Each session, as I worked

with many Reiki symbols, they gave me spiritual visions of her true self, which she always verified as profoundly and powerfully accurate. The symbols led us, each presenting themselves when they wished for me to use them. Their intelligence was amazing.

After giving her Reiki, we each shared what we had experienced, fascinated by each other's experience, far beyond the body, yet including visions of her physical well-being. She always felt rested, peaceful, helped, and energized as well.

Often, while away from her, I sent her distant Reiki. Even then, I received visions of her well-being, which came through using the symbols. These were gifts. Every week was

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different. At one point, while I was giving Reiki at her feet, I saw a powerful white light shooting up from her feet and straight out of her body through her crown chakra. It was like a jet stream of light. I marveled.

Another time, I sensed an energetic eggshell dome enveloping her, much like a cocoon. I could see how in her life, she was being protected in a cocoon to re-think her role in a primary relationship, one which had become toxic. During her entire process of chemo, she was being transformed, which caused her to have more autonomy and self-care. She and I were in total sync, as though we were of one mind.

I gave her a small blue lapis stone to assist her throat chakra, to help her speak up. She shared that she often held the stone and felt it was causing her to speak up for herself and to become more of her own person.

I saw her changing. Early on, she felt guided to relocate to be in a place where she could better heal without outside influences. Her daughter came from a substantial distance to give her love and total care, and this was a powerful experience for her. Her daughter's love and support aided enormously with her healing, constantly enabling her to feel strong, loved, encouraged, and hopeful.

I watched my friend, who is profoundly spiritual, joyous, and wise, come more and more into her spiritual power. She was changing. Even though she was having chemotherapy, she was becoming stronger! We even felt that before chemo, she was dying, without knowing it. And that since cancer, she was coming back to life, to self-government, no longer giving away her power. This process was key to her healing.

We acknowledged that by re-directing her life as a spiritual soul, she was taking charge and even directing the chemotherapy to be healthy for her. It amazed us. It felt as though Reiki was in charge, leading the way.

Of all the symbols, I felt most guided to use Holy Fire<sup>®</sup> III. I often used other Reiki symbols to accompany it, but the Holy Fire<sup>®</sup> symbol was a powerhouse healer doing its job of cleansing, purifying, and healing. It was also awakening us to higher levels of spiritual awareness, which were profound.

I grew as a Reiki practitioner. For example, discovering that my healing intention, combined with the power of Holy Fire<sup>®</sup>, made my hands too hot to touch her even though she laid on my table with two blankets! We both preferred when I held my hands over her body rather than on her body; that it was equally powerful. Also, sometimes I would be at one part of her body, and yet I felt Holy Fire<sup>®</sup> energy working on other parts at the same time. I felt like a student of its energy. I had much to learn. It was guiding us both. And it showed its power to address everything that came up, week after week.

Once during a Reiki session, as I was standing over my dear friend's stomach area, a gigantic Mother Mary swept in, hovering over the place where the surgery had taken place. We both felt her. Often, we cried from being so overwhelmed by gratitude for all that was happening, which felt so powerfully healing. Sometimes when I beamed Reiki energy from a distance, I felt her entire body was pure golden light, radiant. It was astounding.

During the vast time having chemotherapy, she held good energy. She lost negligible weight, and I could feel her vibrancy. Towards the end of chemo, she felt depleted, but even then, she felt the power of Reiki with her, restoring her. And, we continued to have powerful visions, even deeper, with an understanding of her healing process.

I can hardly believe how powerfully Reiki acted to help redefine her life and how it aided her healing throughout chemotherapy. Now, she's free of chemo treatments and getting stronger by the day. The most delightful surprise, looking back, is that she tells me what her Reiki treatments have meant to her, supporting her very soul to live, and even thrive, through it all. We continue doing Reiki treatments weekly as she returns to homeostasis, and yet, she returns renewed, as a person who has grown and expanded immensely in her soul!

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