

STORIES

Please, please
Don't tell me a story
About your friend with cancer.

I know that
You care and are concerned
But the tales from your heart only hurt.

They hate chemo:
I know that already.
They felt the flu and vomited.

They wanted to
Quit, but chose dry mouth
And lost hair and lost sleep.

But I don't
Need confirmation only
Affirmation and of a recovery.

Damn the stories
From the friends you love.
Let them hold you close, no need to talk.

—Roger Granet, M.D.