



Contents

ONE / The Diagnosis

- CHAPTER 1. “Physician heal thyself” 3
- CHAPTER 2. Egalitarianism Bumps against Personal Needs 14
- CHAPTER 3. The Power of Language 24
- CHAPTER 4. Telling My People 31
- CHAPTER 5. “Lies, damn lies, and statistics” 47

TWO / The Three Hells: Surgery, Chemotherapy, Radiation

- CHAPTER 6. Biology for Artists and Linguists 57
- CHAPTER 7. The Nodes Know 67
- CHAPTER 8. Interlude. Adrift. 76
- CHAPTER 9. Pain and Mutilation 88
- CHAPTER 10. La morte, la vie 100
- CHAPTER 11. Kill My Cancer but Don’t Kill Me 113
- CHAPTER 12. Rapunzel, Rapunzel . . . 125
- CHAPTER 13. Seeing Purple Seashells and Other
Unexpected Things 136
- CHAPTER 14. Iatrogenesis 148
- CHAPTER 15. Friends, Forever 164
- CHAPTER 16. And Then They Burn You 183

THREE / Reentry and Beyond

- CHAPTER 17. Emerging 199
- CHAPTER 18. It Never Goes Away 208
- CHAPTER 19. The Road to Wellness Goes through
Monterey, California and Almaty, Kazakhstan 217
- CHAPTER 20. Restructuring a Life 229