Green Tea for Cancer - adapted from 50/50

DIANE ARRIVES AT ADAM'S APARTMENT

DIANE (in the doorway) So what's the big news?

ADAM

It's nothing...I'll tell you inside.

DIANE

She's not pregnant?

Adam stops, turns and looks at his mother.

ADAM

Mom!

DIANE

I know, I know, you use protection.

Adam cringes, totally mortified. He stares at her for a beat then turns and walks into the house, shaking his head. As Diane follows behind she notices some paint is chipping.

DIANE (CONT'D)

You need to talk to your landlord about painting this.

ADAM

It's fine.

DIANE

Just give me his number and I'll call him.

Diane notices an ABSTRACT PAINTING hanging on the wall above the TV.

DIANE (CONT'D)

That's new.

ADAM

Rachael made it for me...It's called "Oppression".

(correcting himself)

ADAM (CONT'D)

No - "Liberation". That one's "Liberation". "Oppression" is in the bathroom.

Diane feigns a smile, trying to seem impressed.

DIANE

Nice. So, what's the special occasion?

Adam hesitates.

ADAM

I need to tell you something. But, before I do, you have to promise me you're going to stay calm.

DIANE

Oh Adam, don't be so overdramatic.

ADAM

Mom, just promise me. Okay?

DIANE

I promise...You make me out to be some kind of irrational loon.

ADAM

Have you ever seen "Terms of Endearment"?

DIANE

Oh, Jesus, Adam...Just tell me.

Adam hesitates - Here goes nothing.

ADAM (mumbles)

I have cancer.

DIANE

What do you mean, "I have cancer"?

ADAM

I have cancer. What do you want me to say?

DIANE

When did this happen?

ADAM (reluctant)

I found out a few days ago.

DIANE

A few days ago? You waited a few days to tell me?!

ADAM

I'm sorry.

DIANE

Honey.

Adam nods. Diane's face literally crumples. She tries to compose herself.

DIANE (beat)

I'm moving in.

ADAM

What? No. Absolutely not.

DIANE

I'm your mother Adam.

ADAM

You already have enough on your plate with Dad.

DIANE

Who's going to take care of you? You can't even drive! Who's going to take you to your appointments?

ADAM

Rachael will. She's going to take care of me.

Diane is motionless for what seems like an eternity. The only indication that she's not dead is the movement of her index finger, which twitches uncontrollably.

ADAM

Mom?

Diane calmly heads to the KITCHEN Adam follows after her:

ADAM

Mom, what are you doing?

Diane lights the stove, puts up a kettle:

DIANE

I'm making you green tea.

ADAM

Please, will you come sit down?

Diane holds up the package of Green Tea.

DIANE

I saw on "The Today Show" that it reduces your risk of getting cancer by fifteen percent.

ADAM

Well -- I already have cancer.

Adam puts his arm on his mother's shoulder.

Diane hugs him and begins to weep.