

Karen's Story:

My mother has some kind of dementia, most likely Alzheimer's, and is slowly losing herself. She knows she is losing herself, and that is painful to witness. She is scared and sometimes in need of anti-psychotic medicines because she can get violent and verbally abusive. She was a brilliant person, could speak 2 languages well, and a third to a lesser extent. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College, with honors and cum laude. She taught elementary school in three countries, and in a variety of schools. Now she barely recognizes me and my spouse. She sometimes thinks her spouse, long dead, is still alive, and sometimes thinks her mother and father are alive. This disease is terrifying.