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I am writing this for my best friend Celine, mother of two, who is currently living with a mother's biggest fear. That her child has cancer. The summer of 2018, her youngest child, Jordan (2yo girl) would sporadically start crying or limping on her leg for unknown reason and all we could think is maybe she fell or growing pains or pinched nerve or something. Being that her child just barley turned two in June 2018, she wasn't verbal enough to tell her mother what she actual felt or what was wrong. Celine scheduled an appointment for her to be seen, they took x-rays and blood test but everything came back normal and couldn't find a cause of what could be causing her to cry or feel hurt in her leg. As weeks went on, the same thing kept occurring, and still concerned, Celine had her reevaluated two different times and they still couldn't find an answer. She was frustrated and felt defeated knowing her little girl wasn't ok and that no one could give her a definite answer, she ordered that the hospital do an MRI on her. Once Celine received the MRI results, she was devastated. She learned that all this time that her 2yo had a 6.3cm cancerous tumor in her upper spinal column and was described by the doctors as a very rare type of cancer in such a small child. They explained to Celine that her daughter would need surgery immediately to attempt to remove the tumor and to have the family prepare for lifelong consequences including her ability to be able to eat and breathe on her own. She ended up being transported to Seattle Children's Hospital where she underwent surgery and for a more detailed prognosis. Fast forward to today, little Jordan has had chemo infusions just about every week since her surgery. Her latest MRI shows that her tumor is stable but has not made much change since the MRI three months ago. So, she will be continuing chemo until eventually the tumor will die. During this time, Jordan has been a fighter. She has her days of fatigue and weakness, but overall, she has had a small amount side effects that are for the most part manageable. The reason I am nominating Celine, is because as a young woman of two children, Jordan (2yo) and her son Ryan (7yo) she is the most selfless, caring, helping, person I have ever met. The father of her children made some bad life choices and is not in the picture at this moment. That has left Celine as a single mother of two small children. Even through everything Celine has been through and is currently going through, she never complains! She doesn't look or as for pity on her. She is very modest and for the most part will keep everything to herself. She never asks for help, ever! In fact, she is always the one offering the help. While her friends including myself, complain about our own lives and how hectic we have it, she is always the first to offer assistance. Even with everything on her plate, she will take my child from me just so I can have a mommy break, or have time to clean my house after my child has destroyed it, or even offer to keep our other friends child so that she can work at her dream job and yet she still never lets us return the favor. Several times a week we offer assistance, to help her in any way we can, whether it be cooking, cleaning, or taking her kids so she can have a minute alone, but she never accepts our offers. She always stays strong and never wants to think she is burdening anyone. She doesn't have a car of her own, she uses her relative's car, because she needs to be able to have transportation to take her child to school and to have enough room to be able pick up an extra child after school as well. She doesn't receive any help from anyone financially, she makes ends meet by making a small wage from babysitting our neighbors kid a few hours a day after school. Between everything she goes through on a daily basis, including all of her child's appointments and chemo's and illness, making time for her oldest child and making sure he is just as loved and gets just as much affection, taking care of her personal needs and emotions and yet she always makes time for everyone else, and never ask for a single thing in return or makes any complaints. She is a superhero in my book.



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