

Thursday, May 23, 2002

~*~ ***OMG, OMG, OMG - Cancellation!!*** ~*~

The surgeons office just called me and there has been a cancellation for this coming Tuesday. I am one of the patients on standby. They will go with whichever patient has all their ducks in a row!!!! Pre-op testing, etc.

I am trying to breathe!!

Jill

I have had an endoscopy and abdominal ultrasound. I need to have a physical with blood work and EKG from my PCP. That was scheduled for one week before surgery, but if I get picked, I will have to go in today or tomorrow.

Jill

I am having my pre-op tests at 2:30 today! The surgeons nurse will call me later today to let me know if I have been chosen for the Tuesday surgery date. In any event, I will have my labs in place. I figure the squeaky wheel gets the _____.

Jill

Just had my pre-op testing. Everything was fine. All we need are the results from blood and urine, but I don't expect any problems. Also, my weight is down from what it was at my consult, so I am thrilled about that. Didn't want to worry about my liver.

Hopefully I will get a positive call in the morning from the nurse to say that she picked me.

Jill

May 24, 2002

Same Post, Next Morning

Sorry everyone, I couldn't get on this site today. Don't know why. Something with the computer at work.

Anyway, I was picked. My surgery is at 9:30 Tuesday morning.

Thanks for all the good wishes.

Jill

Sunday, May 25, 2002 -

~*~ ***You All Are So Sweet, Thanks!*** ~*~

Thank you so much for all of the support and help I have received these last few months. It is so amazing to me that my virtual friends are actually interested in me and care about me.

I just looked at my hiatal hernia post and saw that Melody bumped it up just to help ME. Many, many of

you have bumped up my posts just for me because you care. I cannot tell you what that means to me. I am not used to such caring and support.

Most of my local friends haven't even given me one ounce of support or asked to help.

My neighbor Eve said that she would be too tired to feed my cats. I live in a townhouse, number 3 and Eve is in number 4, so you can see just how close in proximity we are. We share a common wall for goodness sake!!! She said she was going to have a very busy few days at work and would be too tired in the evening to feed my cats. I don't get people. I have taken care of her dogs (which is A LOT more work) when she has gone overseas.

When I first found out that surgery was gonna happen sooner, without a skipping a beat, Kymber offered to take me and stay with me. Julie and Sharie both said they want to visit me. I am so taken aback by this and so grateful to know all of you. I also know that people who are not in Los Angeles would have offered the same thing had then been close and I thank you for that.

Anyway, what I am really trying to say is that I am so touched by so many of you. Your caring words and attitudes have truly made me a better person. You are the most unselfish group of people I have ever had the fortune to meet.

I care for all of you too.

Love, Jill

jill@selkatztonkinese.com

Saturday, May 25, 2002

They Are Not Fixing My Hiatal Hernia

Apparently it will NOT be repaired. I had thought that lapbanding could not be done with a hiatal hernia. I asked the nurse yesterday and she said mine wasn't big enough and the band will pull the stomach down and it will be okay. My hiatal hernia is 6 cm. I am a bit nervous about that now.

Jill

Hi Jen~

The acid reflux and hiatal hernia are because of my weight. The nurse said that the band will "pull the stomach down" and the hernia should correct itself.

Please feel free to ask any questions at any time. You will not be a nightmare, I can assure you of that. Questions are good, the more you know, the more prepared you are.

I am actually getting the willies today as the reality is setting in pretty hard.

Jill

May 27, 2002

I am signing off now. See ya when I get back.

Much love everyone.

Jill

Tuesday, May 28, 2002

~*~ *I Am Off!* ~*~

To the hospital.

Bye.

Jill

Tuesday, May 28, 2002

Angel post *Jill* you're not gonna believe this one!!

Hey guys, well after all my worrying that her surgery was taking too long I had to feed kids and run back to the hospital just to see with my own eyes. And you'll never guess what I saw. WOW. Well first I got to meet Sharie, and what a dollbaby she is. Then we got *Jill* out of bed and she was dancing in the hallways. Now I mean literally dancing down the hallway. The nurse Peter who was walking with her had to tell her to slow down and take it easy. I was waiting for her to jump and kick her heels sideways like Fred Astaire used to. And she wanted to go another hot lap around the wing but he told her not right now. LOL But seriously she has still not pushed the pump one time. She said she is not in pain, it is just a slight bit of discomfort. The nurse hadn't come back to tell us what took so long in surgery. But the most important thing is *Jill* is doing so well. Best wishes girl for a speedy recovery. Your Angel, Kymber

Wednesday, May 29, 2002 (Still Tuesday Night - Around Midnight)

~*~ *Hello Ya'll* ~*~

Well just had a few laps around the halls of the hospital and now am standing in the hallway using the computer and checking my e-mail. I have been standing for about an hour. My doc just came by and is thrilled.

Kymber, he said the surgery was 1.5 hours, the rest of the time was in pre-op and recovery. He didn't stitch the hiatal hernia, but he removed some skin from it. Said the esophagus was where it was supposed to me and the hernia wasn't big enough to worry about. It WAS Khalili.

I am ready to go home now. I think it is about midnight here. I get some water in a few minutes.

I am being discharged before noon tomorrow!

Good night.

Wednesday, May 29, 2002 - Early Morning

Thanks for all the support. Walking the halls again.

Jill

Wednesday, May 29, 2002 - Around 8:30 a.m.

~~ Kymber, I am ready to go home ~*~*

Dr. Khalili just checked on me. I have some broth, yum, yum.

I cannot find your number again, can you call to confirm.

Jill

Wednesday, May 29, 2002 - At Home

Jerry

I feel fine today, all except the gas that has moved into my chest and shoulders.

I don't have any stitches to be removed. They sewed me on the inside and then taped my incision sites.

Jill

Thursday, May 30, 2002

Not Doing Too Well

I have had the hiccups since 6:00 last night and the only way they stop is when I throw up, which, with the band is dangerous. My stomach is empty, so foam and thick liquid come up. I had the pain medication filled and took a tiny bit, but that started my hiccups again.

This is so frustrating. Anyone have any ideas? I am so thirsty and really want some water, but that gives me uncontrollable hiccups too. I only got about 2 hours sleep between bouts of hiccups.

Jill

Not Doing Too Well

I tried some water again, but I just threw it up. I spoke to the doctor several times last night and he said this is normal, but I am hoping that someone knows what do to for it. I am supposed to call him at 9:00 this morning and then go to see him.

I am going to call Robin as soon as it is a reasonable hour on the West Coast, cause she will probably know what to do.

Jill

Not Doing Too Well

I keep trying water, but it won't stay down. I am afraid I will get dehydrated. I am craving water so badly.

Jill

Posted by Jlynn275 - Not Doing Too Well Post

Hi Jill,

Man, that sucks!! It seems like everyone has to have something after surgery huh? Are you throwing up or spitting up? Are you able to get anything down at all or just can't stomach water for some reason? I hope you get it fixed soon, let us know what happens!

Jen

I am spitting up and foam and thick liquid come up after from my gut.

I cannot get anything down.

Jill

Posted by Mooie - Not Doing Too Well Post

sorry you're having these problems - would an anti-acid help???

and maybe ice chips?? to keep your mouth moist??

I hope it goes away soon

Mooie

Posted by Cheri - Not Doing Too Well Post

Bumping in the hopes that CoffeeWench see this. She seems to be our expert on the band since most of us are rny. I hope you feel better soon, Jill.

Cheri

Not Doing Too Well

Thank you Cheri for the bump and Coffeewench post. I will call her in a few minutes. Didn't want to wake her.

I just got out of the shower and my friend is coming by to take me to the ER. They will page my doctor and hopefully give me an IV to hydrate me.

I wish I could have some water. I want some so badly, but everytime I take a little sip, I throw up. I am so worried that I might have hurt the band. With the band, especially in the beginning, you are not supposed to throw up cause it can slip. I have thrown up more than ten times so far.

Jill

Thursday, May 30, 2002

Jill is back in the hospital

This is Thursday, 4:50 PM Calif time. This is her father posting. Jill is in the emergency room at Cedars-Sinai waiting for a hospital bed. She has no phone numbers with her. She asks that KIMBER and other friends call her or visit her.

Friday, May 31, 2002

~*~ I will be in the hospital until at least Monday ~*~

I cannot drink, so IV tubes. My stomach is very swollen. I had an NG tube down my nose to my stomach for 24 hours. The worst pain you can imagine. As they were inserting it, I threw up all over the machine and floor and peed and started my period. The don't have tampons here so I have to use a pad with a washcloth holding it on. Don't know if I can get back on the puters as I am on an unfriendly floor. My doc put orders in to move me back to the 8th floor. The nurses were so bad that I couldn't get them to give me pain meds with that NG tube. Now that it is out, I am okay, just terribly thirsty.

My number is (310) 423-XXXX, I think. Jill Selkowitz.

It is not as bad as it seems now. Just a matter of waiting and seeing. I am terribly bored however. I cannot drink or even swallow my own saliva. No ice chips or anything until the swelling goes down. The band is so tight that nothing will go down, except that dang NG tube somehow made it. I have to spit out my saliva. Yuk.

KyMBER told me yall have been sending me warm wishes. Thank you. I gotta go before they hang me, these nasty nurses.

Love, Jill

KyMBER Posting

Well as I finally got a hold of *Jill* she was being reprimanded by Nurse Ratchet to stay off of the hospital computers. She told them how it was. YOU GO GURRRRRRRRL!!! Anyway, the tube is out so she can talk again. Her spirits are much better. For awhile she wanted them to take the band out. Now that the NG tube is out she is feeling better. I will try to go see her tonight. I have a very busy weekend but I will keep ya'll posted. Thanks for all the kindness to *Jill*. It does mean the world to her. Love, *Jills*

Friday, May 31, 2002

****Jill* Sounds a LOT better***

Just got off the phone with *Jill* she sounds like a different person without that NG tube down her throat. She is still thirsty and frustrated with the nursing staff but is feeling a little more optimistic. She did not damage her Lapband or stomach with all the vomiting, they just did a fluoroscopy and it looked good so she is relieved about that. The doctor said that her stomach was just really irritated and got very swollen and that it will calm down and open up with time. As for now just to be safe they're not letting her drink until Monday so she's a little bit disappointed about that, but of course they're pumping her full of IV Fluids.

Once she gets back up to her favorite floor she'll have internet access and will update you all from there...hopefully tomorrow she thinks.

Robin :-)

Saturday, June 1, 2002 - Same Post As Above

Posted by Jerry

I talked to Jill last night too. She does sound better. But VERY thirsty *S*. There was a coke commercial on TV while we were talking and she was describing it in detail to me *LOL*. And she doesn't even drink soda! Wants water really bad. She even has to spit out her saliva. She asked the doctor if she should remove the band but like I told her...she went through the surgery so give it a chance to calm down. She really should have stayed in the hospital longer then it could have been caught early and maybe her tummy wouldn't have been SO swollen. Keep her in your prayers please *S*.

Posted by CoffeeWench, Robin

Jerry, thanks for the update. I cracked up at Jill and the Coke commercial. Yesterday while I was talking to her I was drinking ice water and she asked me to describe the water in the glass, etc. I told Jill it felt like we were having phone sex hehehe. I could hear her getting all worked up!!! Maybe I could start a 1-900 number for hospital patients who can't drink and do things like crack open soda cans, clink ice in a glass and take big gulps ;-).

Gosh I'm a perv.

I'll call Jill a little later today, hoping that she's off the dreaded "4th floor from hell" and back onto the 8th floor.

And don't worry about getting wishes to Jill she elbows past those nurses and takes over their computers to do whatever the heck she pleases! :-)

Robin

Hahahahaha, thanks for the wonderful comments ya'll. Jerry, I still would kill for a Coke and Robin, that drink you had was MUCH better than phone sex! Tee hee.

Still on the forth floor and patiently waiting to move. The nursing team for today has been wonderful and I will give them great reviews. I will miss them, but I cannot take a change with the other nurses.

Also, there is this old lady by me who keeps screaming ooohhhh ooohhhh, aouhhhhh, aouhhhhh and is making me nuts. Then she falls asleep.

More later.

A thirsty girl named Jill

Saturday, June 1, 2002

Posted by Sharie

Just Talked To Jill

She sounds wonderful. She wants everyone to know she truly appreciates all of your prayers and good thoughts. Basically, the problem is, she had more swelling then most who have this surgery. She is there so they can keep her on an I.V so she does not dehydrate. She's still trying to get moved to the eighth floor. She wants everyone to concentrate their prayers are others who have had more serious problems after surgery. She's going to be just fine and has a very up beat attitude.

Sharie

Still haven't been moved. The hospital is so full.

I am so thirsty, but other than that, I feel great. Absolutely no pain around the surgery incisions.

Please know that my surgery went well and that the band is not the problem, it is just that I tend to swell easily and more than most.

Thank you for your warm wishes. I will be fine. When I am able to drink, then I can go home. I am still spitting up a lot and throwing up my saliva. I try to spit up my saliva, but sometimes I forget and swallow it, which causes me to throw up. There is a tightness in the esophagus because of the swelling, which is painful at times.

I don't feel hunger at all, just thirst. Boy, are there a lot of drink commercials on t.v. and they all look so good and refreshing.

Love to all.

Jill

Saturday, June 1, 2002 (From The Hospital)

~~ About Food ~~

You must remember that after your tummy is all healed, you will be able to eat all of your favorite foods, just in moderation. Instead of a big greasy cheeseburger, you can have a little baby greasy cheeseburger or maybe half of one with a little salad.

I have no intention of being on any kind of diet. I will still eat the foods I want, just in much smaller quantities. If I want a burger, I will order the children's meal, if I want pasta, I will pick at what I want and bring the rest home for the next meal.

I think if everyone remembers that we have had this surgery NOT to be on a diet, it will make your life a lot easier.

Also, cravings changes, so give yourselves a chance to learn and accept your new eating patterns.

Much love,

Jill

Saturday, June 1, 2002

~~ They Got Me A Bed On Eight!!! ~*~*

Yahoo, I am packing up and rolling up to room 8819. Well, actually my IV is a rolling with me a rockin and a rolling and a dancin' down the halls.

Finally!

Jill

Thanks guys. My saliva is still backing up into my esophagus and I throw it up. I hope this ends soon, as I am so thirsty.

I love my room and my nurses though. They hang out with me and let me use the puter.

Jill

Saturday, June 2, 2002

~~ Hey, CW ~*~*

My port is right above my belly button slightly stage left. I guess that is the new place of preference now. Hmmmmm.

Jill

Sunday, June 2, 2002 (Around 2:45 a.m. (Saturday Nite))

You are not going to believe this one

I just got done playing on-line Scrabble with three other players while my female nurse (we each have two assigned) and two pharmacists watched and helped. Took almost an hour. We all had fun. Hee hee. They have never seen on-line real time games with real people.

Time for bed.

Jill

Sunday, June 2, 2002

~~ Update on Me ~*~*

Still in hospital. Will be here till at least Tuesday. Hiccups have stopped, but still cannot drink and am throwing up every 15 minutes. I am very thirsty.

I am back on the 8th floor, thank goodness. Having another fluoroscopy tomorrow. Very, very bored. Haven't eaten since last Monday morning and haven't had a drink since Wednesday night.

Hope everyone is well. Thanks for your warm wishes.

Luv, Jill

I don't see an improvement as far as the throwing up. What happens is that I get a severe pain in my chest (esophagus) and then liquid comes right up and then I feel better for a few minutes.

Friday, I think (my frame of time is off), they gave me a shot of thoroazine or something sounding like that for the hiccups, but it gave me horrendous nightmares. I dreamt that my cats were taken from my house and were given to shelters and no one would tell me which ones. Some of my good friends helped too!!!! I woke up very disoriented and had to walk around a bit to shake off the confusion. Then I went back to sleep and the nightmare continued where it left off. I woke at about 5:00 a.m. and walked around again and just stayed awake for fear of more nightmares. My doc said that the medicine caused this.

The surgery itself went very well according to my doc which is why he is surprised this is happening. My organs looked great, no fatty liver or enlargement at all and no complications. My stomach incisions do not hurt at all and I am already sleeping on my stomach. My doc says that if I don't improve soon, he will have to remove the band.

I went for a walk today to the plaza for some nice fresh cool air and sunshine. It was lovely.

Oh, hahahaha, one of my night nurses has a major crush on me and has been making not to subtle passes. :) He is quite a cutie. He hangs out with me when he finishes his charts and rounds. He will be back shortly to give me a massage.

The IV has made it rounds on my arms, it is on its fifth spot because I keep getting swollen and bruised. Now it is in my hand and it hurts like a son of a biscuit! :(I also have something called Zofran running through the IV to help with the throwing up.

More later.

Luv, me

Monday, June 3, 2002

~~ By George, I Think I've Got It ~*~*

I think the problem was just figured out. I have been taking Nexium for about a year for acid reflux/hialatal hernia/GERD problems. The other scripts and over the counter drugs do not work for me. Since I have been in the hospital, I have not taken my Nexium and of course, I would be having these symptoms.

Dr. Khalili is in surgery now, but the residents just came by and I told them what I thought and they feel that the Nexium is probably the key. They will talk to Khalili after surgery and hopefully get clearance for me to take the pill.

I feel like a dork that I didn't think of this sooner. They have been giving me high dosages of Zantac and another medicine for the heartburn, which has not been working. Duh!!!!!! I knew it wouldn't work. Geez, for someone so researched, I can be a weenie!

Jill

The residents just passed by with the head of surgery and I told them I took the Nexium (I opened up the capsule and swallowed the powdered and chased it with water) anyway and I truly believe that was the cause. I also sucked on some Tums and it feels like some of the surgery gas has finally come up my chest. A liquid diet was just ordered by the chief of surgery (or whatever his title is)!!!! Wooooo hoooo, I'm gonna get chicken broth!!! Just wait till Dr. Khalili hears what I have done. He is either going to be pissed that I did not wait to take the medicine, or thrilled, and I believe he will be thrilled. He is such a nice man.

They keep asking me if I have passed gas from my tushy, but I have not and they were worried about that. Hee hee hee, I think I am fine. I am trying to get released, but to be safe, I should stay one more night, just in case. My HMO is covering, so, why not????

Back in a few. I will let you know how the broth goes.

Jill

Yum! I got an lemon Italian icee too!

They gave me so much food. I will have to bring it home, except for the Italian icee. I now have four containers of juice, cran-grape and cranberry, two jellos, two bowls of broth, two teas, Italian icee, sugar packets, tons of water. I am only allowed a couple of bites. I was still working on my lunch when my dinner arrived. All full sugar. Way cool!

Jill

Monday, June 3, 2002 - Same Thread

Well, my food is coming back up. I don't know if that is because I ate (drank) too much or that I am not used to it or if I am getting sick again.

Jill

I am using a hospital computer. The nurses are nice and let me use theirs.

Jill

I am still throwing up. After dinner I threw up three times and then a little while ago I had some juice, got a tight feeling in my chest and up it came.

I am a bit worried again.

Jill

Monday, June 3, 2002 - Posted By Kymber

Just Spoke To *Jill*

Hey guys, *Jill* sounds so good. She just had her IV taken out because it was killing her hand. She is still waiting for the Dr. to come in. She did break open the capsule of her pill and took that with some water and says she feels so much better. So hopefully this is it and she will be on the road to recovery. I'm sure she will keep us all posted. :)

Thanks for keeping track of me, my angel lady.

Jill

Monday, June 3, 2002

Robin and Wednesday

My port is above my belly button slightly to the left. Doc said this is the new place for ports.

Jill

Ya'll are so funny. I am sure they will have to move my port at some point. I have no stomach rolls at all, it is actually quite flat. I hope when I lose the weight I don't get rolls.

I thought the port went below the breast bone, but it sounds like yours is where mine is. I am swollen in that area now. Hopefully it is buried deep beneath.

I have five incisions like this:

.....O.....O
.....__

....__.....__
__..____
.....O.....

The O's are my boobies, lines are the incisions and the o is my bellybutton. The longest line is the port. Had to add cause extra spaces are not recognized.

Jill

Robin, you are adorable!!! What a cutie you are. Great photos. It looks like you bracelet is the large pendant, not the small. I was thinking about getting the small, but I am not sure if everything will fit. My doctor said to write something like:

- Gastric Banding
- Careful with NG Tube
- Use Fluoroscopy

You only have three lap scars from the WLS? I have five. My port is much closer to my belly button though.

Jill

I subscribed to MedAlert too!!! So, is your charm, the smaller or the larger one? The lady said she couldn't fit everything on my charm, so I will probably have to get the bigger one. Their service is really nice and very reasonable.

Gastroplasty With Lapband
Careful with NG Tube
Use Fluoroscopy
Allergic Sulfa
Asthma

What I would really like it to say is:

Gastroplasty With Lapband
If NG Tube Needed - Just Shoot Me
Allergic Sulfa
Asthma

Jen, there are a few people on the bandsters group who only write one liner negatives. They don't give the reason behind what they are saying, so you really need to be careful about what to believe. For instance, I have told you all everything about my experience and it turned out that a) I swell more than most and b) I needed Nexium. As you can see, the problem had nothing to do with the procedure or band, it was my body chemistry that reacts different and would have reacted this way with whichever surgery I would have selected. The girl on that site was banded three years ago and things have changed a lot. I also have the smaller port.

What Robin says is correct about the tubing. It has been changed.

No surgery is without problems and the problems are unique to each of us. There are many more problems that can happen that we may not know about yet, about how we respond to a procedure. The most important thing is to figure out which procedure is best for you.

I asked Khalili again today, why he pushed the band for me and he said that it was because it was less invasive and he can tell that I can handle the weight loss with the band. Not everyone can, they need the dumping stuff.

Jill

The surgery itself was great. I was up and walking one hour after being brought to my room.

The lack of my acid reflux medicine is what caused the rest, not a complication of the surgery. It wasn't

life threatening or anything, just a hassle and pain in the tush.

Uh oh, I feel a vomit coming on again. Running to bathroom.

Jill

Monday, June 3, 2002

Robin, I left your number at home

Doggone it. I feel weird after eating and I don't know if this is normal. I feel like I am going to toss my liquids.

Did I have too much?

Is this normal for a first meal?

Perhaps I am still swollen.

Perhaps the Nexium was not the fix.

Concerned.

Posted by Robin

Jill, email me privately and I'll send it to you.

coffeewench28@hotmail.com

Normal: gurgling, LOUD sometimes (only in the beginning), pressure as it moves through

Sometimes if something feels "stuck" I put my arms in the air. I don't know why LOL. I also kind of jump around or walk up and down stairs to help bump it through.

Robin

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

~*~ 6-4-02 Update ~*~

Just got back from my upper GI. Liquid is going down very, very slowly. Some went though the rest is caught up in the esophagus above the band.

The band did not slip, the band is not too tight. The GI doctor is consulting with my Dr. Khalili right now to figure out what to do.

One problem is that I am not a burper or a gassy person, so I have not passed any gas and barely a nice normal burp. I have had to force burps to get the air out.

They gave me some fizzy carbonation water and barely a toddler burp. I didn't say barely a baby burp, because as we know those are huge and loud and something I dream about occurring.

I walked to the GI room and will continue roaming the halls. I think I give new meaning to the term

"wandering Jew." Hee hee.

I don't know about discharge because I am not taking in calories on my own. They brought me a liquid breakfast with COFFEE!!!!!! I took a few sips of the coffee, but probably won't attempt any more since it takes so long to go through the band.

Hope everyone else is well.

Love, Jill aka The Wandering Jew

June 4, 2002

~~ I've Been Sprung ~*~*

Just waiting for my discharge papers and my friend to come get me.

Jill

P.S. Jerry, I am going to my room now.

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

>^..^< I Am Home >^..^<

Got home about half hour ago. I am feeling pretty good, taking it slowly with my liquids and jumping around to get them to go through the band of swelling.

I was able to keep some food down today, enough to be released. Tomorrow I get to have a protein shake, which I really need. Tonight I continue to only have clear liquids.

My doc says that if I am not better by next Tuesday, he will have to go in and adjust the band. Not quite sure what that means as he would decide when he looked inside to see how the swelling was caused.....or something like that.

Thank you so much for your well wishes and concerns.

Please understand that this was not a result of the band itself. I am one who swells and bruises extremely easily. I am still quite bruised from the IV from the first day in the hospital.

Lots of love, Jill

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Not Doing Great This A.M.

I am having trouble getting my liquids down and when I drink, I get the hiccups again. I have been up since 4:00 a.m. When things calmed down, I tried a little protein shake and it seems to still be stuck in my esophagus.

I spoke with my doc at 6:00 this morning and he says if it doesn't improve by tomorrow, back to OR on Friday. He is certain the band did not slip.

Jill

Thanks, Morgan. It was soooo sweet of you to call me in the hospital. It really meant a lot. My friends ignored me, but my on-line friends were really there.

I didn't have any visitors the whole six days I went in through ER. Isn't that pathetic! I was bored.

Jill

No, she didn't tell me, but I only spoke to her for a moment.

Those friends will not be coming by. I know who cares about me now and who does not. My friend Adrienne did not come to visit, but she called and did all kinds of other things and brought me home. She is a true friend. My close friend Eve and next door neighbor didn't even call, my really good friend Janet didn't take the time to visit and she drives right by the hospital on her way home. The girl that brought me in the morning, ran out so fast cause she hates hospitals, the smells and sick people. There were no smells!!!! And the sick people aren't roaming the halls anyway.

It was very sad and I was embarrassed.

Jill

None of the girls from my office called either. My bosses did though. I think when I go back to work, I will not speak too much and if they ask me about it, I have to think of a tactful way to say that if they really wanted to know, they would have called during one of the seven days I was in the hospital.

Jill

Wednesday, June 5, 2002 - Very Early Morning
Trying To Have Surgery Today

I am trying to get a hold of my doctor to see if I can go into surgery today. It really has gotten too much for me now.

I will take a shower while I am waiting for him to call me back and just plan on going to the hospital. I heard there are different size bands. Maybe I need the bigger one, or maybe this needs to come out all together and I will just have to deal with being fat.

Jill

Chances are it will be tomorrow. He will do an endoscopy first to see if something happened with my stomach. I told him to use his judgment once he gets in there and takes a look around. If he sees a problem and knows that a revision will solve the problem, he will revise, otherwise, he will remove it.

Jill

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

~~ I Have To Go To The Hospital Now For Surgery!!! ~*~*

They just called and told me to come now.

Hopefully will see ya later tonight or tomorrow!

This time I am scared.

Jill

Great, I just called the people that are available to take me and got a no. I guess I will drive myself. I am definitely moving out of this town!

Jill

Thursday, June 6, 2002

~~ Brief Update On *Jill* ~*~*

Thursday, 2:00 p.m.

Found a piece of fat was stuck in band, so they removed the band and put on new one. Upper GI proved successful, fluids went down. I am in the worst pain imaginable, have asked for drugs about six times so far. Very weak, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

This is all the writing I can handle now.

Jill, room 8822

Posted by CoffeeWench (Robin)

Awwwww Jill, I've been trying to call you all morning but the phone just rings and rings. Did they go in open or lap???

You are an amazing, strong woman you know that?? Not everyone has the perseverance to see this as far as you have. In fact, very few people. You are going to be an amazing success.

hug

Robin

In response to being asked why my phone was off

Cause I turned my phone off to sleep. I will turn it back on at 2:30 p.m. Have to attempt a walk around the floor.

J

I can't get pain meds anymore because my blood pressure dropped to 80/50 and they think it is because of

the medication.

I hurt so much. Just got back from a tiring lap around the floor.

Jill

Still in terrible pain and my blood pressure is still low, so I can't walk around. Just got up to go pee pee and thought I would post. I can barely move when I am in bed. I hope tomorrow will be better.

Jerry, I am in room 8822 at Cedars Sinai. My outgoing e-mail does not seem to be working.

Had a visit from a lady on the Bandsters list, was very nice.

I am soooooo tired, so back to bed.

Jill

Friday, June 7, 2002

Update On Me, *Jill* and Special Thanks To My Angels

Today I got out of bed myself. What an accomplishment. I am still in a lot of pain, but it is tolerable. I had a wonderful shower.

I asked the doctor more about what had happened with the band and I think I finally know the whole story.

As you know, there is some fat around the stomach. In my case, there was very little, but they move what is there and place the band. Apparently, a piece of fat slipped under the band (probably because of my throwing up or who knows). That caused a tightness and caused me to continue throwing up and spitting out and burping as nothing was going through the band.

Dr. Khalili removed the chunk of fat (that is not normally done) and placed a brand new band and port.

I am not able to stand up completely straight, but I can walk around the hospital floor. My IV was removed this morning and I am sipping chicken broth and other liquids. He may try a protein shake later on.

My BP is still low, yet he is not worried, as it has come up some, at least in a safe neighborhood.

Thank you so much Robin (CoffeeWench) and MorganC, my two self-appointed and much loved angels. They have called me just about every day and sometimes more. Sweet Robin even arranged for me to have tampons last week and sent beautiful flowers. I have even seen Robin posting to ask about me and saying how worried she is. I don't know what I would have done without the two of you. Your caring will forever be remembered.

Thank you to the rest of you as well for caring and reading my updates and posting your well wishes.

As it stands now, I will be released tomorrow. The doc said I could leave today if I wanted but preferred tomorrow, so tomorrow it is. He wants to monitor my liquids, which is great so far.

Okay, nough standing, back to my broth.

Love, Jill

Posted by Robin

You're very welcome Jill. It was my pleasure and it was fun getting to know you :-). I tried calling several times yesterday but never got through so I've tried to keep in contact via the board when I couldn't get you on the phone.

I'm so relieved they figured out what was wrong. Remember when you and I were hypothesizing all the reasons your band could be so tight and we talked about how some doctors shave the fat from the stomach and some don't?? At least the conclusion ended up being logical eh?

I'm concerned about your pain--did they do open surgery the 2nd time around or was it lap????

Will try to check in with you later tonight. I'm so glad they got you showered and that you are feeling better. The first few days after surgery are usually the worse pain wise.

And I know I speak for many people on this board when I say I am in awe of your strength and determination to not give up. You dealt with prolonged agony and pain and saw it through. You're very special.

hugs

Robin

In response to warm wishes

Aww, you are all so sweet. Thank you so much for your concern. It was a very rough ride, but finally over. I am so relieved about that.

I really need a nap. They don't let you sleep much in the hospital. :)

Jill

Saturday, June 8, 2002

~*~ I Am Home ~*~

Feeling pretty good and drinking my protein shake with no problems. Goes right down the hatch nicely.

Thanks for all the love and support.

Jill

Sunday, June 9, 2002

~*~ Guess What? ~*~

I am post-op!!!! Yahoooooooooooooooooooooo.

Just an excuse to add post-op info.

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Bioenterics Lap-Band - May 28, 2002/June 5, 2002

Dr. Theodore Khalili - Cedars Sinai Hospital

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Feeling great today. I have tried many different kinds of gourmet soups and have had no problem with anything.

I had my usual Sunday morning coffee with cream and read the paper. Then after a while, a protein drink. Had to wait for the coffee to go through me as I got full on just two cups.

I am uncomfortable, but it was a great day.

Jill

Monday, June 10, 2002

~*~ I Am Back At Work Today ~*~

Doing fine! Had my usual coffee on the way in and still sipping on it. Will start on my protein shake in a little while.

So far, so good!

Jill

Posted by Mooie

Did you have a roll in the movie "One flew over the cookoo's nest"??????? I can't believe your back at work!

You are so fricken amazing!!!!!!! soooo grateful you are feeling so wonderful!

Mooie

Thanks you guys, you are so sweet. Your support has truly helped.

Moooooooooooooooooooo, I am doing much better, but not well enough to laugh yet, so stoooooooooooo making me. Hahahaha :)

Luv you all so much.

Jill

Still kicking! Only 1 hour 45 minutes to go and then I get to go home. I am rather tired though.

Jill

Posted by Janicesings (Janice)

Jill,

Didn't anyone tell you that you just had surgery? You must be very young. You've got the advantage on me, an old broad. Ha-ha. Seriously, I am so glad that you are feeling up to working. Best of luck.

Janice (waiting for surgery approval)

I am home from work now and really whipped! I probably should have stayed off a few days more and gone back on Wednesday, but since I worked today, I kind of have to go back tomorrow.

Was so busy today too! Tomorrow is supposed to be another busy day. Maybe at lunch I will go nap in my car. I walked to the mall with my bosses and got some soup. It is about a 15 minute walk each way.

Well, off to watch my soaps.

Jill

P.S. Janice, I am 41 years old.
