

Elsa Rossi by Dr. L. Moriyama

I had just come back from a long weekend in Croatia with my boyfriend and was quite busy at work when Andre called me. He said "Dona Elsa" (Dona is how we say Lady in Portuguese) was very sick at St Mary's hospital. He invited me to join him in visiting her.

I was perplexed. Elsa had called me a few days ago. As soon as I said I was travelling, she told me it was just "something silly." "Dear, have fun on your trip and maybe call me when you are back." I had not called her when I returned to London as I was very busy. At that time it did not even cross mind that she had been in hospital for more than a week and was probably going to need emergency surgery if things did not get resolved in the next few days.

I went to the hospital with Andre. When we arrived we could not see her because she was undergoing a procedure with the nurses. Being a doctor myself I felt like talking to someone about the situation. A kind nurse explained briefly that Elsa was having intestinal obstruction and could need surgery in the next few days. I and Andre anxiously waited to talk to her for more than 30 minutes.

When we finally did, I was amazed by the good news: things had just turned better. She probably would not need the surgery. I, Andre, Elsa and her great friend Beth united in a moment of meditation and prayer thanking God for the good course things had taken.

When we finished, Elsa (still pale and very tired) thanked us many times for the visit and said how worried she had been that things could have been worse. "Laura, dear, can you imagine that I may have had to undergo an operation? That would have been horrible because I have left so many things undone this week in the organization of the Spiritist meeting..." She was not worried about herself!

I asked her why she did not explain the situation to me before. "Oh, darling, you are so busy. When you take a few days out you should enjoy yourself and not be worried about your friends. That is why I did not say a word."

When we were leaving she asked Andre to email her daughter and tell her not to worry. As I had a camera we registered this moment and I said I would send it to her daughter. She immediately said "Oh, my... Let me put some lipstick on!"

And here it goes.... Just look at this woman, full of faith and love. It could just be my perception, but don't you think she is just an amazing person and worthy of admiration?

Laura Moryama – July 2007 - London-UK

Revised by Bhav