

Ruth Demit [Athabascan]

I chose radiation and chemo. And . . . I had seven weeks of radiation at Providence Hospital and then . . . after I was done with that I had to wait awhile cause I was kind of, kind of of burned . . . [Radiation] wasn't painful for me, it wasn't painful. . . [But] I didn't like the radiation treatment. It's was, it's like walking into a different world. You know, it's just different language you know a lot of medical terms and

all that stuff and ..., and then they put me on a table and strapped me down stuff like that and ..., I ..., I would not, I wouldn't talk about it, and I thought well I'd be tough you know and I would just, I would not say anything and the only thing that really got me mad was ..., I was tied up on the table there and one of the technicians has seen a tear come down my face and I was so mad because I didn't like to be tied down. And ..., so they called in a social worker you know, and I thought you guys don't know what you're doing, you know just leave me alone . . . So . . . , finally, when I finally got used to it, it was almost towards the end, I finally accepted it. . . I met a lot of new friends . . . when I was going through radiation. . . I mean radiation, I had to have cab drivers who volunteered their time to ... cancer patients to pick me up from [my] home and take [me] to Providence and the majority of them were Christian.. the literature they had given me I had set it aside, it was collecting dust because I didn't want to have nothing to do with it, you know, just leave me alone, period! And ..., and there was nothing on t.v. so I reached out and picked up this book and started reading on it. And it was just like something opened my mind up, you know, and I was ready to accept it and so I cooperated. And that was shortly before the end of radiation. . . But ..., there was a lot of problems during my treatment because of my alcoholism. One time I refused to go to radiation you know, and