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## Bonding

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# Bonding

E. G. Friedrich, Jr., M.D.

*Doctor Friedrich, professor and chairman of the Department of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Florida College of Medicine, says "Poetry is not the usual format for a case report, but sometimes it can be effective. The enclosed story is based on fact and represents a beautiful example of courage and medical ethics."*

"The test results show cancer  
Which is rather far along.  
They also show you're pregnant  
But the timing is all wrong.

"The necessary treatment means  
The baby won't survive.  
With radium or surgery  
It can't remain alive.

"All delay is dangerous;  
You surely see the need.  
So why not sign the paper  
That allows us to proceed?"

"I never came for check-ups  
So I never would have known.  
If I hadn't gotten pregnant,  
The tumor would have grown.

"Now I know that I have cancer  
And will someday need your knife,  
But I have to keep this baby  
'Cause, you see, it saved my life!"