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Greener

You know my mom's special because she's had cancer three times. Yes, you heard that correctly: first a breast, then the skin on her face chose to revolt against her, and then the breast decided it wanted to go for round two. She always had short hair when I was growing up because it was usually in the process of growing back from some invasive medical procedure. After a while, though, she decided she liked it short and kept it that way, and I was always so overjoyed when people said we matched because of it. She didn't take the illness seriously back then. Three different years, we received huge gift baskets of pink... things. Just any and every object branded with the stupid little pink ribbons. She made us give them away every time, because she didn't really care to think about the issue that much. And neither did I, back then, because COVID-19 hadn't happened yet. My mother was no weaker than anyone else; if anything, she was stronger. But her last hospital visit released her back into the world in November 2019. By February of the next year, my whole lifestyle had changed. Because suddenly, she wasn't my mom, she was a "High Risk Individual" for contracting the disease. If she ever catches the Coronavirus, her immune system is way less prepared to handle it than mine. I've been quarantined safely away from her at college for two months now, and I rarely leave my dorm. She still doesn't see herself as vulnerable, but I secretly do. I don't know how scared my mom is of COVID, but I'm scarer.

Steps taken:

1. One thing my mom made us discard a lot were pink ribbon tee shirts people had given her to show their support. She hated having a cluttered closet, and now I understand why. I am going to streamline my wardrobe, starting with shoes. I've identified which pairs of shoes I really don't wear and will donate them to the Goodwill near me.
2. In the future, I'm going to buy less clothing online, to minimize the carbon emissions of shipping them. Because I'm also concerned with financial sustainability, my personal goal is to spend less on clothes yearly- I can't possibly have any more growing left to do, right?

