

## A TALE OF TWO EYES

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This tale has a simple synopsis:  
You're going to have the dropsies.  
First you'll shop 'til you drop.  
Then you'll drop 'til you plotz  
at the mercy of cataract nazis.

### A Tale of Four Meds

(1)  
It's a dandy idea to begin  
with "the tan" -- gatifloxacin.  
This is the dose  
that you'll drop the most  
with some help from your next of kin.

(2) Ilevro – a.k.a. "grey"  
is taken just once a day.  
It's the crème of the crop  
"good to the last drop"  
as tempting as lemon sorbet.

(3) Durezol's pretty in pink.  
It's almost as fancy as mink.  
It's the one that you taper  
to barely a vapor.  
But you'll have to keep track as you shrink.

(4) You don't need a script to obtain  
Refresh, Optive, or Systane.  
They'll keep your eye  
from getting dry  
and you from feeling pain.

### Days -3 to -1

Eye 1 is the first at bat.  
So get out the welcome mat.  
This three-day drill  
will test your skill  
at dropping drops like old hat.

The grey is a piece o' cake.  
Just once when you're not quite awake.  
Then forget that ol' grey  
for the rest of the day  
for everybody's sake.

Now, tan is the name of the game.  
Four times – and steady your aim  
or you'll use it all up  
and not Will's Eye nor HUP  
will be willing to take the blame.

NO PINK JUST YET– no-no.  
Just keep to the status quo.  
Yes, we told you to buy it  
but don't you dare try it  
or woe will be woe will be woe.

And remember to keep up those Tears.  
Two to four times, my dears.  
You want to get  
those eyes all wet  
as wet as that flood in Algiers.

When dropping those drops, don't be shy.  
But then again, don't be too spry.  
Don't let too much leak  
down onto your cheek  
or into the other eye.

### Days 1 – 3

(Reminder: Drops, drops everywhere but not a drop to drink.)  
Because of the Twilight Sleep  
there's a certain rule you must keep:  
From twelve o'clock  
'til you hear from the doc  
you can look at food but not leap.

Enjoy your short time in Recovery  
'cause after that time is over-y  
you'll go from op  
to even more drops.  
Now, won't that be just lover-ly?

At this point you'll find it quite fittin'  
to bring out the once forbidden.  
Grab that bottle of pink  
-- but it's not to drink.  
If it is, better think about quittin'.

You don't want to dry out your flesh  
so indulge in a pack of Refresh.  
Yes, don't forget Tears  
and not in your ears.  
That wouldn't turn out for the best.

And wait! There's more – how thrilling!  
(and more occasion for spilling.)  
More tan! More tan!  
according to plan  
whether or not you're willing.

Repeat: More tan, more tan!  
Not sin, not cos, but tan.  
Nor will we speak  
of cot or sec.  
It might task your attention span.

Now, the trick with 7, a la Sando  
(who serves as first in command-o):  
3 meals plus bedtime  
plus in-between med-time.  
It's as easy as playing the banjo.

These drops don't come from the sky  
so don't hold the bottle too high  
or the drops will land  
on your elbow or hand  
or in somebody else's eye.

#### Days 4 – 7

You've the 7-trick quite down pat.  
But 4 is now where we're at.  
3 meals plus bed  
(no in-between med)  
and that is that is that.

Still on tan, just keep it at 4.  
Not one drop lesser or more.  
Keep that up until  
you've had your fill  
and the bottle refuses to pour.

Days 8 – 11

Now you get a nice little breather  
(and I don't mean yoga, either).  
Yes, clinkety-clink –  
cut down on the pink.  
Don't be an over-achiever.

Days 12-14 (Pre-op, Eye 2)

(the return of tan)  
Have you finished the bottle for one yet?  
Sorry, but you aren't done yet.  
It's time to do  
Eye Number 2  
and hey, are you having fun yet?

Drippity drippity droppy.  
Be careful, don't be sloppy.  
Watch out that you  
drop the right hue.  
Just take it from the top-py.

(grey in both eyes)  
Grey's still a piece o' cake.  
But now it's a double-take.  
One for each eye.  
Give it a try.  
But be careful – don't make a mistake.

Now I know that refills you did get.  
But NO PINK IN EYE 2 just yet.  
You can try it, tsk, tsk  
but at your own risk  
and perhaps to your own regret.

When dropping those drops galore  
try not to look down at the floor  
or that doresol  
will land on the wall.  
'Twould make for some pretty décor.

Days 15 – 17 (2<sup>nd</sup> Op-day plus two)

(eye #1)

Here's something I know you'll enjoy.  
(I promise, this isn't a ploy.)  
we're again on the brink  
of reducing the pink.  
I said reduce, not destroy.

(eye #2)

Ah, but Eye Number 2 starts with 4.  
Than 1 it's always 2 more.  
Well, every hint  
that I can print  
will be of some help, I'm sure.

(more eye #2)

Yes, we're out of the frying pan  
but into the fire, meaning tan.  
7 times again  
(you know where and when).  
Just do the best that you can.

Days 18 – 21

7 times, with the trick, felt great.  
You were probably ready for 8.  
But now 4's the ticket.  
I know that seems wicked.  
But this isn't up for debate.

And all this time, every day  
you begin the morning with grey  
on two eyes, now  
(and you know how)  
and from separate bottles, okay?

And tears, oh, don't forget tears.  
I know, this all seems like years.  
But just go tend to it.  
There will be an end to it.  
Then we can re-start our careers.

Days 22 – 29

Rinkety, dinkety, dink.  
It's time to cut down on the pink.  
Yes, we're almost done  
with the pink in Eye 1  
and 2 is almost in sync.

Days 30 – 35

(eye #1)  
Now it's pink every other day  
And you might have used up tan and grey.  
As for tears, my dears  
I'd say it appears  
you can use them whenever you may.

(eye #2)  
There's a word from your cataract guru  
and I will deliver it to you:  
Let two pinks ooze  
but not on your shoes.  
You don't want to trip, now, do you?

Days 37 – 42

Eye 1's newly and truly homefree  
and Eye Number 2 soon will be.  
Yes, you're now at home stretch  
but keep up the Refresh.  
Aren't you glad there's no Eye Number 3?

Days 43 – 49

Pure freedom's just one week away.  
But for now, half a pink every day.  
Stick with it, don't slack  
or the clouds will come back  
and the sky will look misty and grey.

Coda

You've spent all your waking hours dropping.  
All told, you have dropped a whopping  
one hundred and forty\*.  
You're been a good sport-y  
and now it is time for stopping.

Day 50

Our tale is now told, and told true.  
No more pink, tan, grey – not even blue.  
Just the colorful fact:  
No more cataract!  
CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU !!!

\*plus residual tan and grey, plus Tears