Adina's Story: Emerging from the Abyss

It feels like a lifetime ago. In 2013, my life was stolen. Nearly overnight, I shifted from a human being to a medical case study—the pain, fatigue, and distortion of time erased the person I used to be. That was the last time I recognized myself. But the hardest part wasn't just the physical agony—it was the profound grief. The loss of my health, my career, my independence, and the quiet heartbreak of being told 'everything looks fine on paper' while my life fell apart.

I was one of the fortunate ones. My family had the resources to search for answers, consult specialists, and cover out-of-pocket costs when standard insurance hit a dead end. Finally, it was a spinal tap that explained my seizure activity and dementia-like symptoms; the Lyme bacteria had invaded my brain. But, I couldn't get the timely care I needed because no doctors offered me the correct treatment. As I navigated this maze, a devastating reality became clear: My struggle wasn't just my own; it exposed the fault lines of our medical system. Health equity in Lyme disease is a silent crisis. If you live in a rural area without specialists, if you don't have thousands for out-of-pocket care, if your symptoms don't include a classic bullseye, if you don't happen to get a positive test, if your provider is not knowledgeable about tick-borne diseases, the delay isn't just frustrating—it's catastrophic. A missed diagnosis early on can mean a lifetime of disability.

I refused to let that happen to others. I turned my grief into a personal mission and, from my bed, I founded LymeTV to bridge those gaps and build the educational infrastructure I never had, so that no patient has to navigate the dark alone, and clinicians are informed about the latest research.

Our knowledge is on the cusp of a true paradigm shift. Through more modern testing methods and research into improved therapies, the answers patients desperately need are finally within reach.