

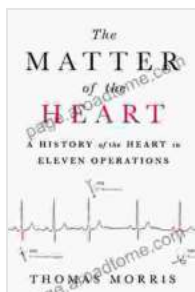
Unveiling the Enigma of the Heart: A Journey Through History in Eleven Operations

: The Heart's Enduring Legacy



From ancient healers to modern medical marvels, the heart has captivated our imaginations for centuries. As the quintessential symbol of life, love, and emotion, its history is intertwined with the relentless pursuit of knowledge and the unwavering human spirit. In "History of the Heart in Eleven Operations," acclaimed cardiothoracic surgeon and author Dr. Devi Sridhar embarks on an enthralling journey, tracing the evolution of our

understanding of the heart through the groundbreaking operations that have shaped the field.



The Matter of the Heart: A History of the Heart in Eleven Operations by Thomas Morris

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 12051 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 432 pages



Chapter 1: The Dawn of Heart Surgery



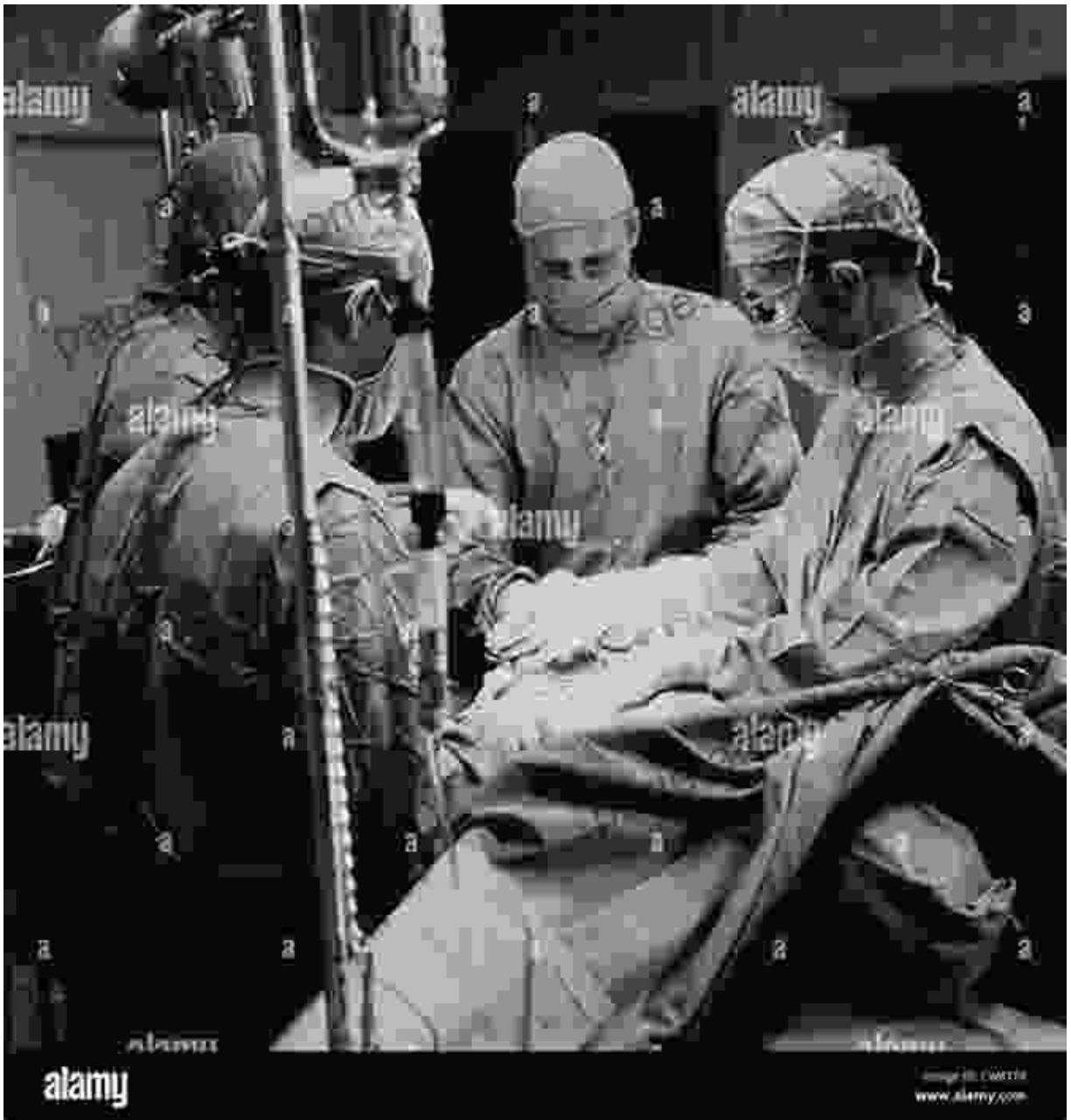
The origins of heart surgery can be traced back to ancient Egypt, where hieroglyphics depict attempts to treat wounds of the chest. In the 6th century BC, the Greek physician Alcmaeon of Croton proposed the heart as the seat of intelligence, a concept that would endure for centuries. Yet, it wasn't until the 19th century that the first successful heart operations were performed.

Chapter 2: The Pericardial Window



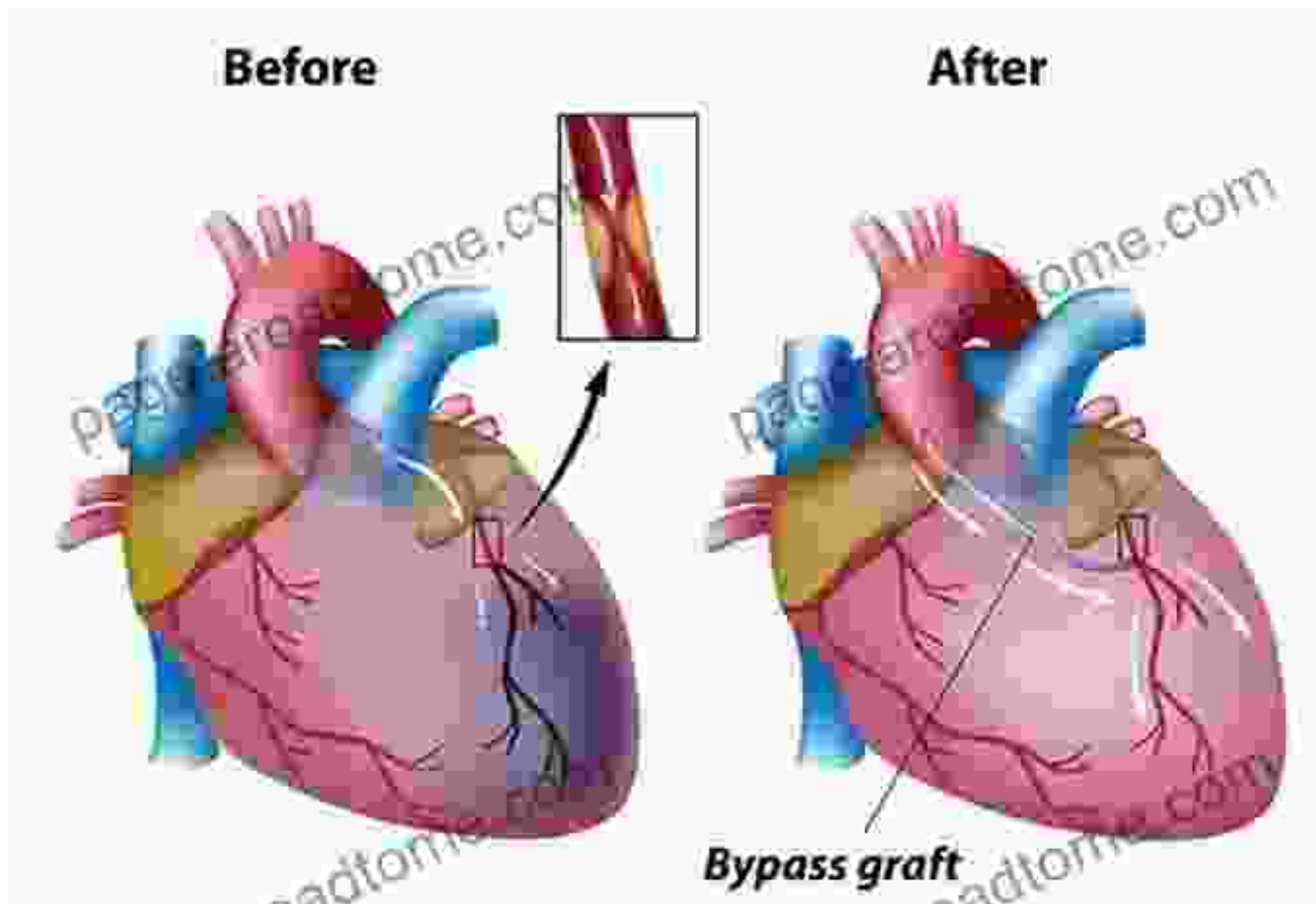
In 1896, German surgeon Ludwig Rehn performed the first pericardial window, a procedure that involves opening the sac surrounding the heart to drain fluid buildup. This pivotal operation laid the foundation for modern cardiac surgery by allowing access to the heart without directly cutting into it.

Chapter 3: The Open Heart



The advent of the heart-lung machine in the 1950s made open-heart surgery a possibility. In 1953, American surgeon John Gibbon Jr. performed the first successful open-heart procedure, ushering in a new era of cardiac interventions. The development of cardiopulmonary bypass, which temporarily takes over the functions of the heart and lungs, further revolutionized the field.

Chapter 4: The Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)



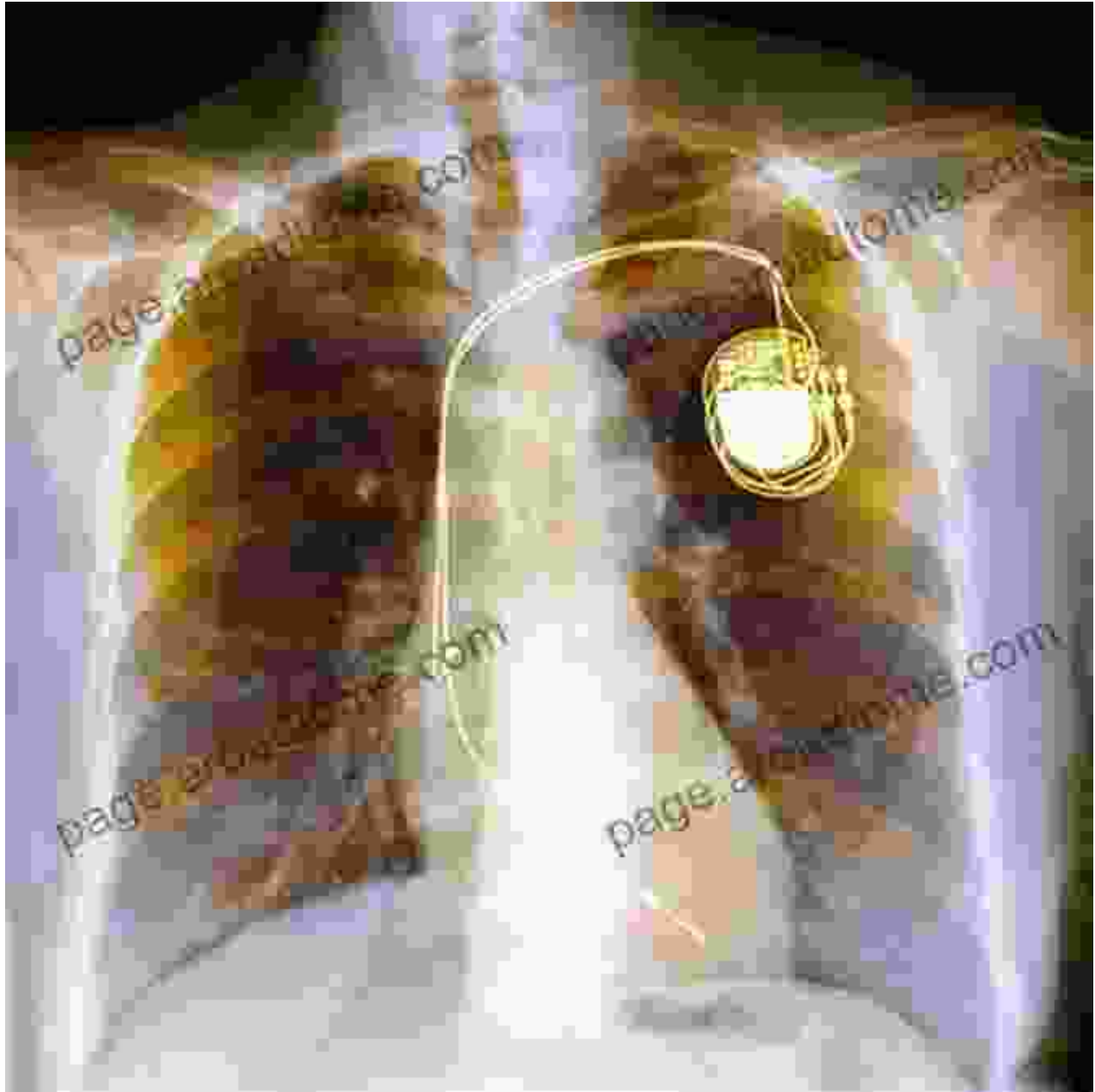
The coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) is one of the most common heart operations today. First performed in 1960 by René Favaloro, this procedure involves using veins or arteries from other parts of the body to create a new pathway for blood to flow around blocked coronary arteries. CABG has saved countless lives and improved the quality of life for millions.

Chapter 5: The Heart Transplant



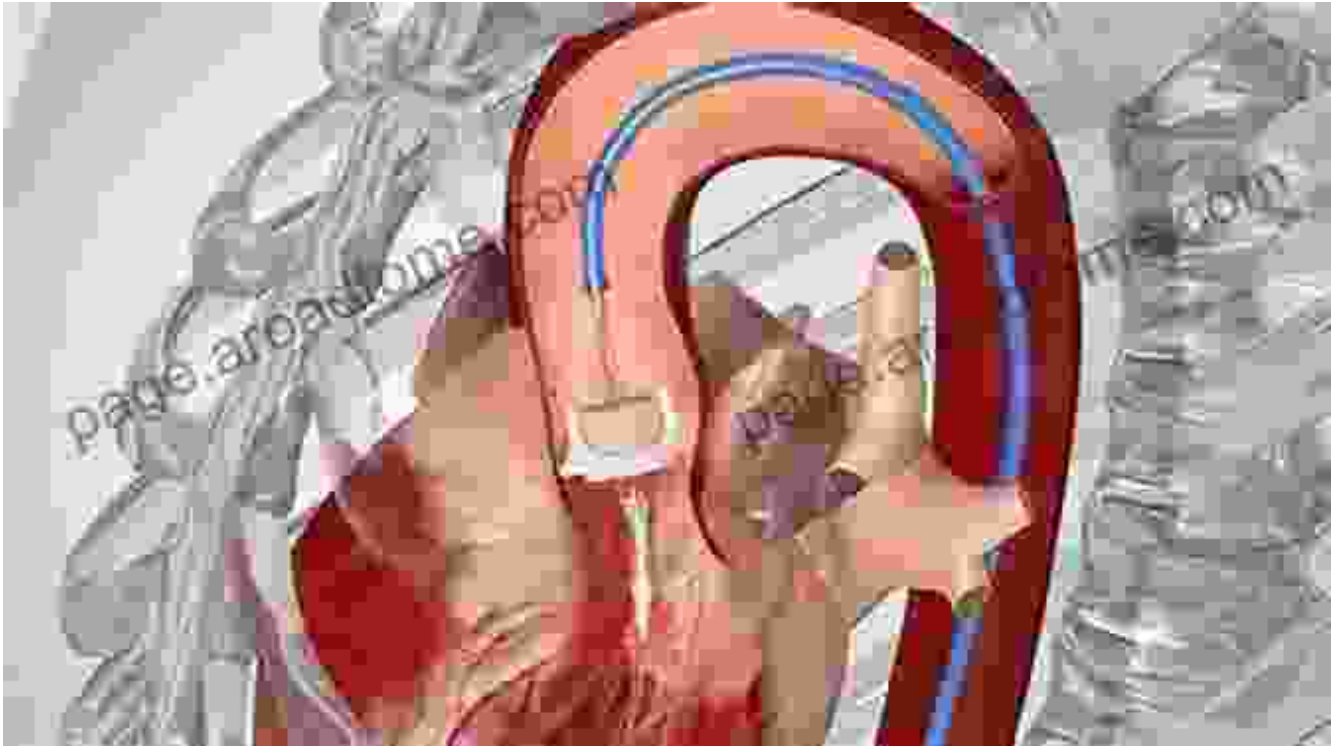
The first successful heart transplant was performed in 1967 by South African surgeon Christiaan Barnard. Despite early setbacks, advancements in immunosuppression and surgical techniques have made heart transplantation a viable option for patients with end-stage heart failure. The story of the first heart recipient, Louis Washkansky, and the ethical dilemmas surrounding organ transplantation are explored in this chapter.

Chapter 6: The Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator (ICD)



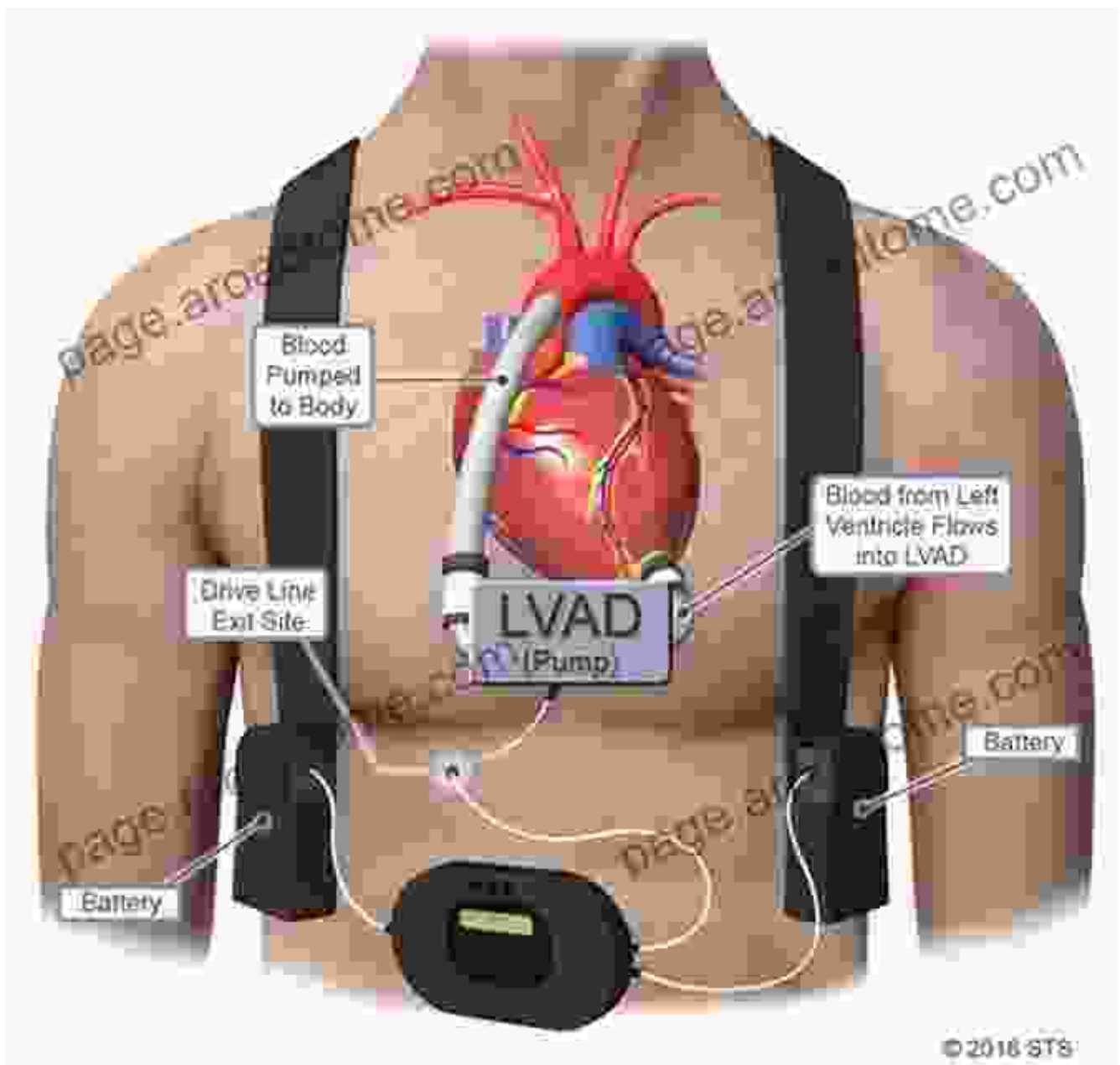
The implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) is a device that detects and treats irregular heart rhythms by delivering electrical shocks. First implanted in 1980, ICDs have proven to be life-saving for patients at risk of sudden cardiac death.

Chapter 7: The Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR)



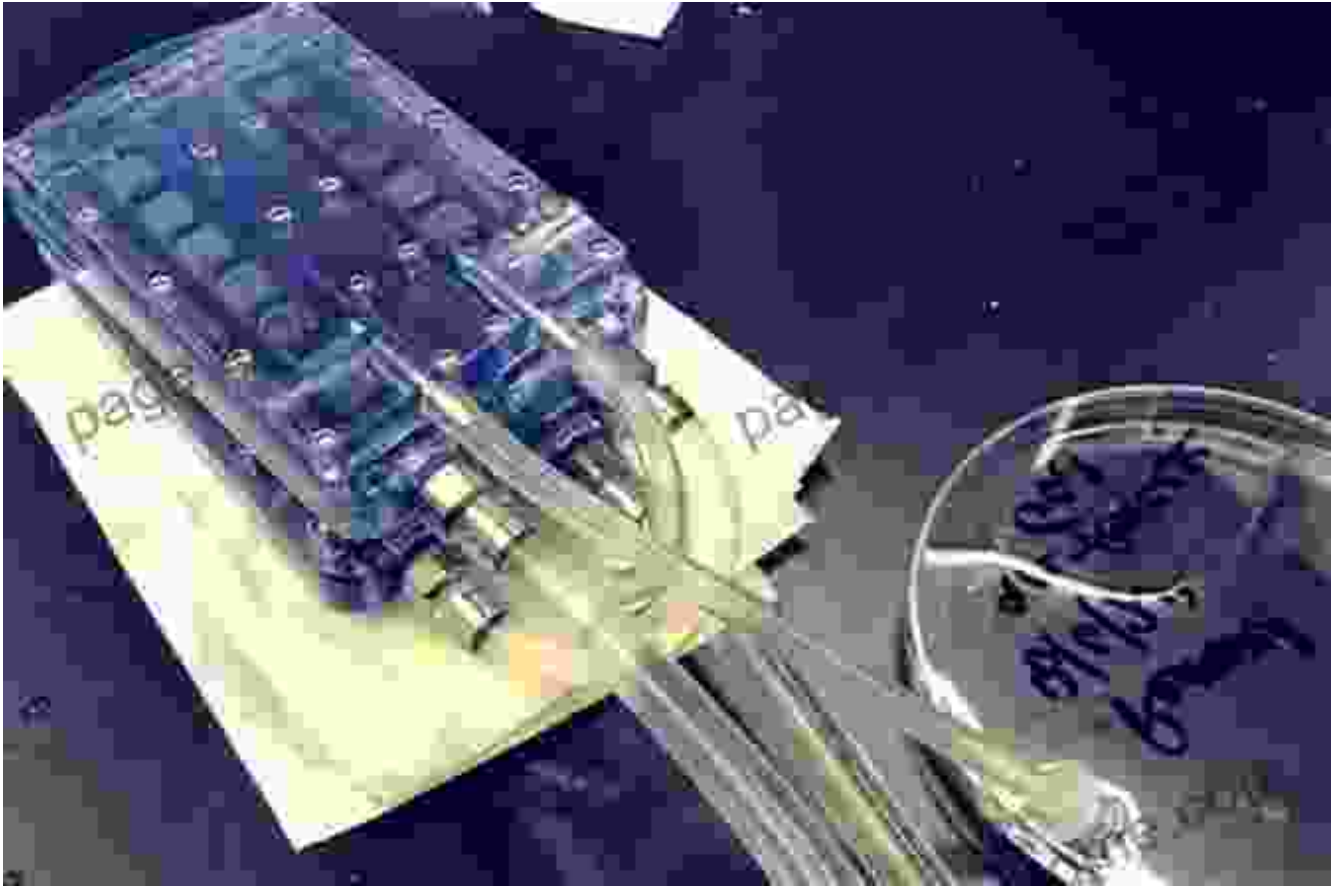
The transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) is a minimally invasive procedure that replaces a diseased aortic valve without the need for open-heart surgery. Developed in the 21st century, TAVR has become the preferred treatment option for many elderly patients with aortic valve stenosis.

Chapter 8: The Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD)



The left ventricular assist device (LVAD) is a mechanical pump that supports the function of a weakened heart. First implanted in the 1980s, LVADs have become an important bridge therapy for patients waiting for a heart transplant or recovery from severe heart failure.

Chapter 9: The Bioartificial Heart



The quest for a fully implantable artificial heart has been ongoing for decades. In 2001, the first bioartificial heart, known as the Carmat heart, was implanted in a human patient. While still in its early stages of development, the bioartificial heart holds the promise of providing a life-saving option for patients with end-stage heart failure.

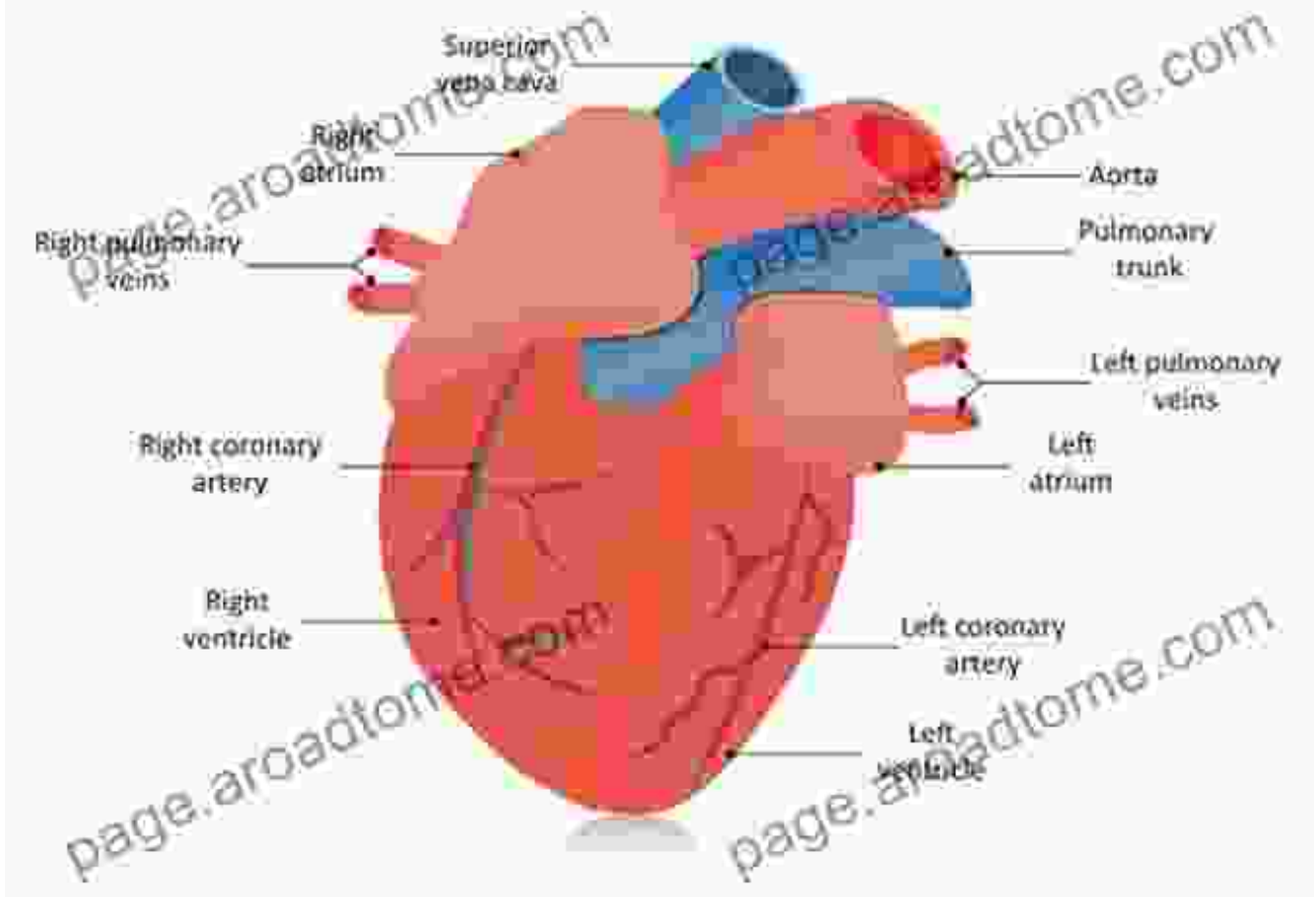
Chapter 10: The Future of Heart Surgery



The future of heart surgery holds exciting possibilities, with advances in robotic surgery, gene therapy, and tissue engineering. Artificial intelligence and machine learning are also expected to play a growing role in diagnosis, treatment planning, and surgical navigation.

Chapter 11: The Enduring Wonder of the Heart

The Human Heart

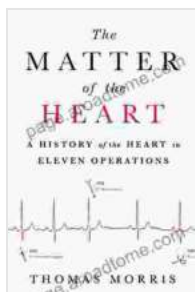


The heart remains an enigmatic symbol of life, love, and determination. Through the ages, our understanding of its complex workings has grown exponentially, thanks to the tirelessly dedicated surgeons, scientists, and researchers who have pushed the boundaries of human ingenuity.

: A Tapestry of Triumph and Humility

"History of the Heart in Eleven Operations" offers a fascinating glimpse into the transformative journey of heart surgery, from its humble beginnings to its present-day marvels. It is a story of triumph, resilience, and the indomitable human spirit. As we continue to unravel the mysteries of the

heart, let us never forget the lives touched, the pain alleviated, and the hope ignited by the extraordinary advancements in cardiac medicine.



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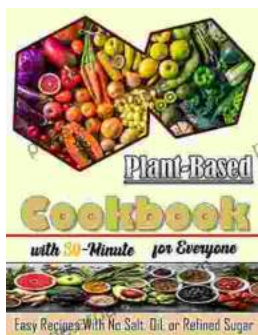
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