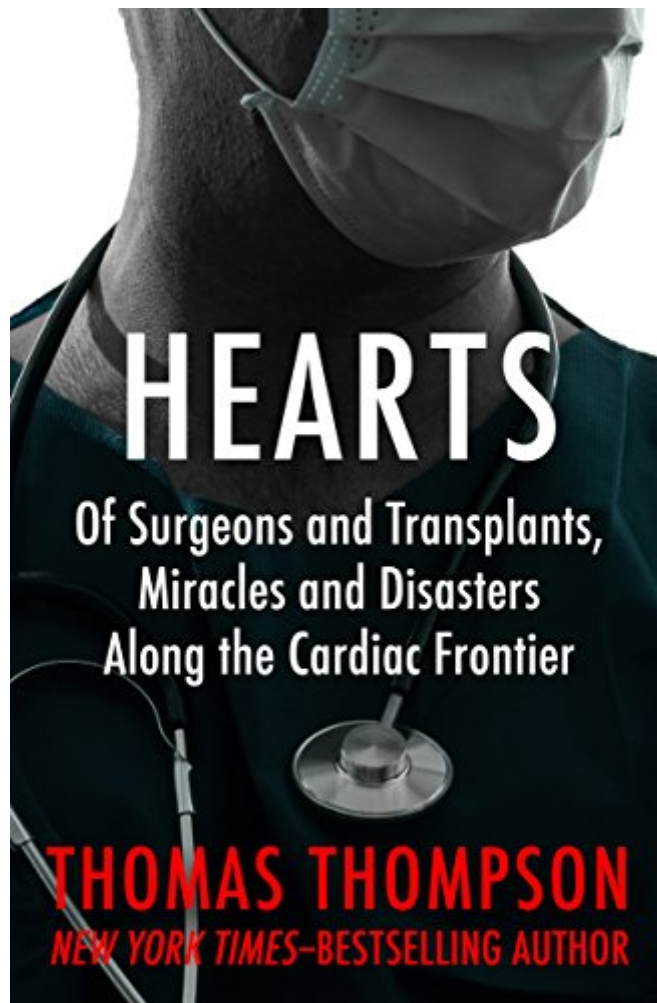




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# Hearts: Of Surgeons And Transplants, Miracles And Disasters Along The Cardiac Frontier



## Synopsis

Pioneer heart surgeons and bitter rivals: The “thoroughly engrossing” true story of doctors Michael DeBakey and Denton Cooley (The New York Times Book Review). By 1970, the Texas Medical Center in Houston was the leading heart institute in the world, home to the field’s two most distinguished surgeons: Dr. Michael Ellis DeBakey and his young and ambitious disciple, Dr. Denton Arthur Cooley. Their combined mastery in occlusive disease, coronary artery bypass surgery, angioplasty, and heart transplants was unparalleled. For years they worked across the same operating table focused on, and fighting toward, the same lifesaving goals. But what began as a personal friendship and a mutually respectful professional partnership soon deteriorated into a jealous and embittered feud. Though their discord was a cause célèbre among colleagues, it would take award-winning investigative journalist Thomas Thompson to uncover the stunning betrayals and simmering resentments that fueled one of the most famous rivalries in the history of medicine. Weaving the story of DeBakey and Cooley with the stories of patients suffering life-threatening medical conditions, Thompson paints a fascinating portrait of the risks and rewards of cutting-edge science. From devastating tragedies to miraculous breakthroughs, *Hearts* is a richly detailed and utterly “compelling” account of the turmoil and tension behind one of the greatest medical achievements of the twentieth century (Time).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When i graduated from nurng school in 1967, Methodist in HOuston wss a leader in.CV surgery My critical care instructor trained there and Dr Debakey was the bomb It is ery interesting to learn more about the programs and personalities involved.

A very thorough account of the development of cardiac surgery.

The book was as described, but I was just surprised it was dropped into an envelope and just mailed,there was no protection. Is this the new way they are doing it now????

I have read this book a couple of times before I went to medical school and again at a much later time. I can't really relate to the sociology depicted in the book as it relates to the competition between institutions and surgeons, but having spent a little time around the hospitals of the Texas Medical Center as a student, it seems both over and under stated. The transplant era section was utterly fascinating, as I observed this as a child and thus from a purely lay aspect. I was struck, as I so often am, by the level of trust we require from patients. Imagine trying to deal with the idea that someone is going to take your heart out and put another in. The surgery was (and by the way is) rather remarkable, but the book correctly points out the collaborative nature of transplant (any transplant). No matter how good the surgery is, the transplant will predictably fail if post transplant care is not adequate.In my view, one of the best ways for someone to glimpse inside that world at a very dynamic time

This was my dad's favorite book and I was with him during the research and witnessed multiple transplants. Dr. Cooley is still alive and has written a few of his own books. It may be a cable series in 2016.

I gave my old copy away to a dear friend. I was relieved to find another in the same condition. A good and readable history of an amazing era in medical history.

This is a terrific character study of two of the groundbreaking heart surgeons in medicine. This is somewhat dated but the character studies are amazing.

Living near houston and spending a good bit of time at the centers discussed in this text I find that I am able to step back a bit and take a look at what is right in front of my face. If you are preparing for a transplant it is a good idea to absorb this book and learn as much as you can, there is so much to know, and still do. This really touches close to home for me.

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