

Posted on 07 May 2018 By Mimi Swartz

[EPUB] ? Ticker: The Quest to Create an Artificial Heart ? MOBI eBook or Kindle ePUB free

I've read many books for laypeople regarding the topic of heart transplantation and the quest for the artificial heart involving the surgeons in Houston, but this book took decades of details and made it an informative yet enjoyable read. I felt like I went along for the ride right along with them. It's impossible to truly understand and appreciate the level of dedication and skill these pioneers maintained to the bitter end. I plan to order copies for family members. This is a really hack job, and of a biography of Bud, who appears to be her close friend. The Swartz factoids mentioned, along with a raft of others in her book, may seem at odds with history and memory to me. She has many, many facts wrong, and in many cases has lied about some of her sources. Too bad. Could have been a good book.



Enjoyed reading this book Well written and insightful to the layperson Amazing view into the lives times of three great clinicians of our time DeBakey, Cooley and Frazier.Wish I could have given it one star I felt it was too focused on the Texas Heart Institute understandable considering the author and the subjects were all Texas based There is a lot of stuff going on beyond Texas, and missing that presents a somewhat one sided perspective of the artificial heart space. Most of the action in Ticker takes place in Houston, Texas Artificial heart research began there in the 1960s The 60s were a tumultuous decade, but it was also a can do time in American history and the public perception was that the artificial heart was destined to become another American success story Simultaneously, Americans were making great accomplishments in outer space travel The national media wrote features about the leading heart surgeons and made them celebrities They were compared to NASA s first astronaut team Unfortunately, the advances in artificial heart research proved to be modest at best Creating a viable mechanical heart pump, to replace the real thing, is multiple times difficult than getting a man to the lunar surface.Considering the technical subject matter, Ticker is a visceral read The first half, profiles the famous researchers DeBakey and Cooley They were super sized intellects with egos to match The earliest artificial hearts are described as large and somewhat cumbersome and the implantation of them in animals and people bordered on the inhumane These chapters are intriguing and real page turners.A presence throughout Ticker is noted heart surgeon, Dr O.H Bud Frazier His first person accounts throughout the book are an invaluable oral history of artificial heart research from its very beginnings to the present day Frazier comes off as a well grounded person He s a brilliant scientist, a workaholic and a bit of an eccentric He provided a comforting presence because, frankly, many of the patient s stories in Ticker are quite grim.The second half of the book takes place much closer to the present day and we learn that artificial heart R D has stalled somewhat, due in part to restrictive government regulations on testing in human beings The story shifts to an uncelebrated engineer, who lives half way around the globe He comes up with an ingenious idea for a pumping system and subsequently relocates to Houston He and his colleagues lobby a local, celebrity entrepreneur and his wife, to donate a large amount money for continuing research These later chapters are well written and researched but unfortunately the subjects and the subject matter is just not as engrossing as what proceeded them.Ticker is solid history for lay readers with equals parts of humanity and science. [EPUB] ? Ticker: The Quest to Create an Artificial Heart ? It Wasn T Supposed To Be This Hard If America Could Send A Man To The Moon, Shouldn T The Best Surgeons In The World Be Able To Build An Artificial Heart In Ticker, Texas Monthly Executive Editor And Two Time National Magazine Award Winner Mimi Swartz Shows Just How Complex And Difficult It Can Be To Replicate One Of Nature S Greatest Creations Part Investigative Journalism, Part Medical Mystery, Ticker Is A Dazzling Story Of Modern Innovation, Recounting Years Of False Starts, Abysmal Failures, And Miraculous Triumphs, As Experienced By One The World S Foremost Heart Surgeons,

OH Bud Frazier, Who Has Given His Life To Saving The Un Savable His Journey Takes Him From A Small Town In West Texas To One Of The Country S Most Prestigious Medical Institutions, The Texas Heart Institute, From The Halls Of Congress To The Animal Laboratories Where Calves Are Fitted With New Heart Designs The Roadblocks To Success Medical Setbacks, Technological Shortcomings, Government Regulations Are Immense Still, Bud And His Associates Persist, Finding Inspiration In The Unlikeliest Of Places A Field Beside The Nile Irrigated By An Archimedes Screw A Hardware Store In Brisbane, Australia A Seedy Bar On The Wrong Side Of Houston Until Post WWII, Heart Surgery Did Not Exist Ticker Provides A Riveting History Of The Pioneers Who Gave Their All To The Courageous Process Of Cutting Into The Only Organ Humans Cannot Live Without Heart Surgeons Michael DeBakey And Denton Cooley, Whose Feud Dominated The Dramatic Beginnings Of Heart Surgery Christian Barnard, Who Changed The World Overnight By Performing The First Heart Transplant Inventor Robert Jarvik, Whose Artificial Heart Made Patient Barney Clark A Worldwide Symbol Of Both The Brilliant Promise Of Technology And The Devastating Evils Of Experimentation Run Amuck Rich In Supporting Players, Ticker Introduces Us To Bud S Brilliant Colleagues In His Quixotic Quest To Develop An Artificial Heart Billy Cohn, The Heart Surgeon And Inventor Who Devotes His Spare Time To The Pursuit Of Magic And Music Daniel Timms, The Brisbane Biomedical Engineer Whose Design Of A Lightweight, Pulseless Heart With But A Single Moving Part Offers A New Way Forward And, As Government Money Dries Up, The Unlikeliest Of Backers, Houston S Furniture King, Mattress Mack In A Sweeping Narrative Of One Man S Obsession, Swartz Raises Some Of The Hardest Questions Of The Human Condition What Are The Tradeoffs Of Medical Progress What Is The Cost, In Suffering And Resources, Of Offering Patients A Few Months, Or Years Of Life Must Science Do Harm To Do Good Ticker Takes Us On An Unforgettable Journey Into The Power And Mystery Of The Human Heart I guess this is simply one doctor s journey towards creating an artificial heart, but it seemed like a promise of I read an excerpt from a magazine that pulled me into one man s story It was written like a novel, and I thought the patient was going to get some miraculous happy ending Instead, he was one of many patients that tried an artificial heart like device and passed away I guess that s life science, but they open the book with that story and almost never mention that patient again, and barely provide any to the story other than this Dr tried to save him at one point I almost feel like I have to spoil the ending because essentially there is none Basically their best hope is still in development and testing If it ends up being the miracle invention they want, they ll have to add to this book and properly finish it This was an interesting read, but I didn t like how the book was constructed. The author is from Huston and the book tends to make of the Texas importance in heart replacement Still a nice review of the work of surgeons in their attempts to find a solution to the failing heart Fair report on the Debakey Cooley todo. Reads like an adventure novel Ms Swartz knows her stuff and all the players A sober look at mans attempt to enter the bionic

age.

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