

Tragic heart, magic art

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So much sorrow around the heart
When muscle fails to do its part:
Spells disclosed in mystical script
Written by wires to the patient clipped
Silent echo reveals alarm
Walls that flail from thrombosed harm.
A Magician enters, mumbling a spell
Offering potions drawn from knowledge well
Atenolol, diltiazem, clopidogrel, nitroglycerin
The heart atones for patient's sins.
Until with time the walls wear thin,
Blood scarce rises past the shins
Enter the wizard with magic device.
But miracles carry a heavy price:
Chest splayed open, heart exposed
LVAD installed and chest is closed
Patient and pump enjoying life again
But quietly wondering if and when
Will magic fail and heart grow still.
Can witches brew another pill?
The fruits of science are all that save
Us from failing heart and muddy grave.

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