



## FROM THE BACK OF BOOK 1

# Big Words from Heartland

The glossary from the back of *The Heartbeat Mystery*, with pronunciations.

### **Alveoli** (al-VEE-oh-lye)

Tiny balloon-like sacs in your lungs where oxygen enters your blood. You have about 500 million of them!

### **Aortic valve** (ay-OR-tik)

The valve that lets blood out of your left ventricle and into the aorta. When it slams shut, you hear the DUB in the lub-DUB!

### **Aorta** (ay-OR-tah)

The biggest blood vessel in your body, carrying oxygen-rich blood from your heart out to the rest of you.

### **Atrium** (AY-tree-um)

One of the two upper rooms of your heart. The right atrium collects blood from your body; the left atrium collects blood from your lungs.

### **Capillary** (KAP-ih-lair-ee)

The tiniest blood vessels in your body—so small that red blood cells line up single-file to squeeze through.

### **Carbon dioxide** (KAR-bun dye-OX-ide)

A gas your body makes when cells use up oxygen. You breathe it out every time you exhale.

### **Hemoglobin** (HEE-moh-glow-bin)

The part of a red blood cell that grabs onto oxygen and carries it. Each red blood cell holds about 300 million of them!

### **Mitral valve** (MY-truhl)

The two-door valve between your left atrium and left ventricle. It makes sure blood flows one direction only—no backtracking!

### **Oxygen** (OX-ih-jen)

The gas your body needs to make energy. You take it in every time you breathe in.

### **Pulmonary valve** (PUL-muh-nair-ee)

The valve that lets blood out of your right ventricle and on its way to your lungs.

### **Red blood cell**

The donut-shaped (without the hole!) cells that carry oxygen everywhere. You have about 25 trillion—that's why the river looked so crowded with boats.

### **ROY G BIV**

An easy way to remember the seven colors of the rainbow: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet.

### **Tricuspid valve** (try-KUSS-pid)

The three-door valve between your right atrium and right ventricle. Tri- means three.

### **Vena cava** (VEE-nah KAY-vah)

The big vein that brings used blood back to your right atrium. The inferior vena cava (IVC) comes from below; the superior vena cava comes from above.

### **Ventricle** (VEN-trih-kuhl)

One of the two lower rooms of your heart. They squeeze hard to push blood out—the left ventricle's walls are three times thicker than any other chamber!

### **White blood cell**

A fighter cell that protects your body from germs—those are the spiky white things floating in the blood in the story.