A 69-year-old woman underwent a coronary artery bypass procedure (allegedly on Valentine’s Day). A portable chest film obtained on the second postoperative day showed a striking radiolucent line bisecting the patient’s heart (Figure). On a follow-up film made several hours later, the line had disappeared, proving that it was an artifact and not the result of the surgeon’s knife (or Cupid’s arrow). The cause of the artifact remains a mystery.
A Broken Heart
Herbert L. Fred

Circulation. 2002;105:779
doi: 10.1161/hc0602.101547

Circulation is published by the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231
Copyright © 2002 American Heart Association, Inc. All rights reserved.
Print ISSN: 0009-7322. Online ISSN: 1524-4539

The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:
http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/105/6/779

Permissions: Requests for permissions to reproduce figures, tables, or portions of articles originally published in Circulation can be obtained via RightsLink, a service of the Copyright Clearance Center, not the Editorial Office. Once the online version of the published article for which permission is being requested is located, click Request Permissions in the middle column of the Web page under Services. Further information about this process is available in the Permissions and Rights Question and Answer document.

Reprints: Information about reprints can be found online at:
http://www.lww.com/reprints

Subscriptions: Information about subscribing to Circulation is online at:
http://circ.ahajournals.org//subscriptions/