Giving Them What They Asked For

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Giving Them What They Asked For

I opened my chest cavity, removed one pulsing cell which I placed in a glass box and gave to them.

They poked the cell with gentle fingers, made impressions of texture and tremor, took infrared pictures, did blow ups, captured stillness.

When the cell still survived they took it home, put it in a fish bowl, and after initial amusement mostly didn't notice.

Meanwhile I leave my chest open, and, whenever asked, offer cells to others who do the same or different studies.

My job is to be lucky enough to guess what can be spared and what can not, to give and not to die.

— Batista Horton