

# Celebrating American Heart Month This February

WRITTEN BY THE EXPERTS AT ENI

# **Book Recommendation**

#### The Heart Healthy Cookbook for Two

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Authored by Jennifer Koslo, a registered dietitian and nutrition expert, this cookbook offers a collection of delicious, easy-to-prepare recipes specifically designed for two people. It focuses on low sodium and low-fat meals, which are key components in maintaining a healthy heart.

# Inspirational Quote

"Take care of your heart, not just as a duty to your health, but as a tribute to the life it beats for."

February is not just about expressing love through Valentine's Day; it's also a time to focus on a vital aspect of our health – our hearts. American Heart Month in February is a national effort to raise awareness about heart health and encourage everyone to adopt lifestyle choices that support cardiovascular well-being.

## **Understanding the Importance of Heart Health**

Heart disease remains one of the leading causes of death globally. However, many risk factors are preventable through lifestyle changes and health management. Understanding the importance of maintaining a healthy heart is the first step towards reducing these risks.

## **Simple Steps to a Healthier Heart**

- **Stay Active:** Regular physical activity is key to heart health. Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate aerobic exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous exercise each week.
- Eat Heart-Healthy: Incorporate a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins. Limit saturated fats, sodium, and added sugars.
- Quit Smoking: Smoking is a major risk factor for heart disease. Seek support to quit smoking for improved heart health.
- **Manage Stress:** Chronic stress can negatively impact heart health. Engage in stress-reducing activities like meditation, yoga, or hobbies you enjoy.
- **Regular Health Check-ups:** Keep track of your blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and other heart-related numbers. Regular check-ups can help in early detection and management of heart health issues.

## Conclusion

This American Heart Month, let's take meaningful steps towards improving our heart health. By making small yet impactful lifestyle changes, we can significantly enhance our cardiovascular wellbeing. Remember, a healthy heart is not just about physical health; it's about embracing a lifestyle that fosters overall well-being.

Note: If you have concerns about your heart health, please consult with a healthcare professional for personalized advice and treatment.