

WOMEN IN SCIENCE

- 50 FEARLESS PIONEERS
WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY
RACHEL IGNOTOFSKY

HER WORK HAS GIVEN US AN
UNDERSTANDING OF
CARBOHYDRATE METABOLISM.

CODISCOVERED THE CORI CYCLE.

WON A NOBEL PRIZE IN
PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE.

"AS A RESEARCHER THE UNFORGOTTEN MOMENTS OF MY LIFE ARE RARE ONES... WHEN THE
VEIL OVER NATURE'S SECRETS SEEMS TO SUDDENLY LIFT..." — GERTY CORI

GERTY CORI

BIOCHEMIST

Gerty Cori was born in Prague in 1896. She knew from a very early age that she wanted to help people with medicine. At the University of Prague, she found her calling in biochemistry and received a doctorate in medicine. She also met Carl Cori.

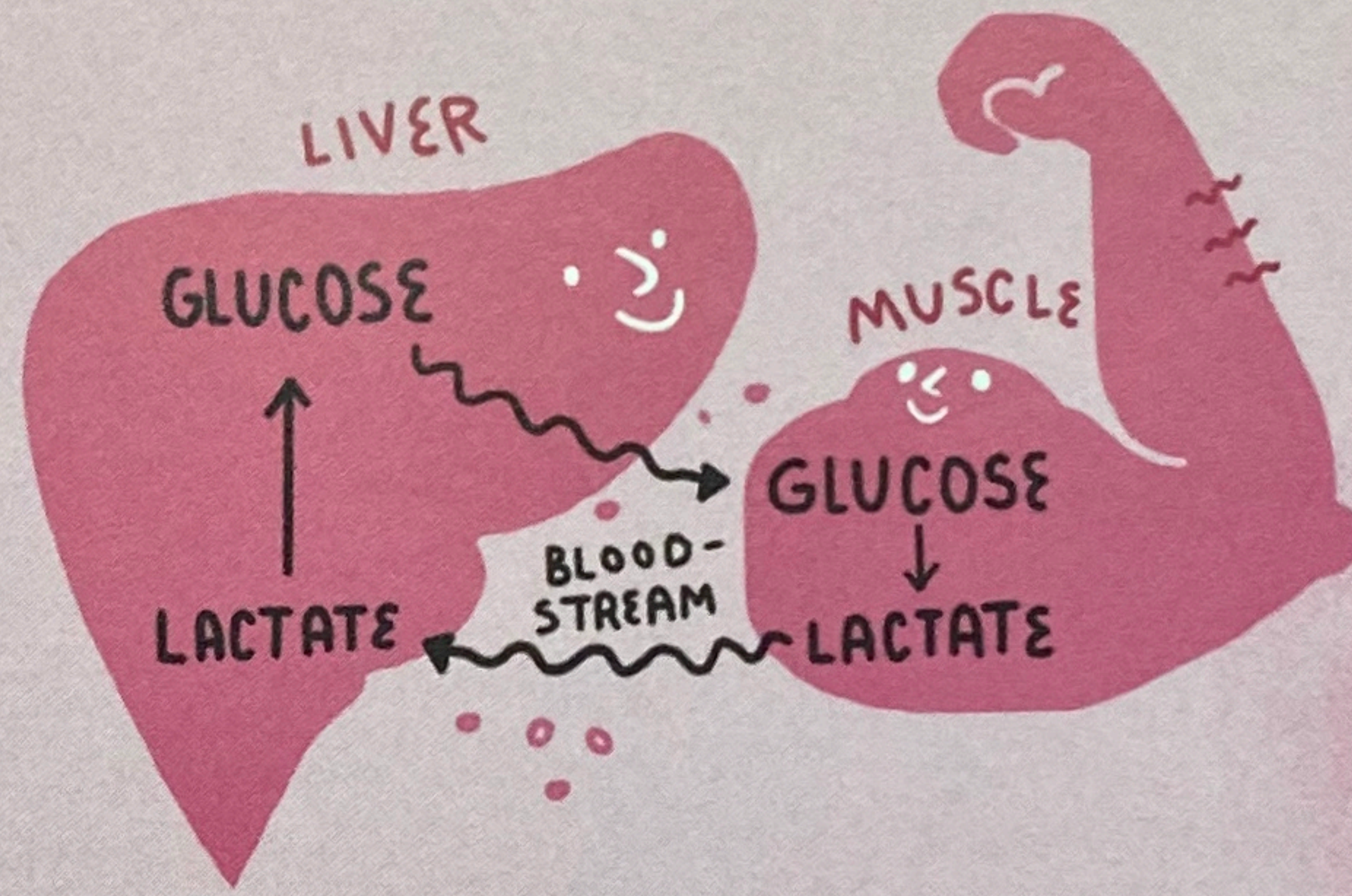
Gerty and Carl fell deeply in love and became partners in life and in science. They were so inseparable that Carl refused any job if he wasn't able to work alongside his wife. Gerty was a powerhouse in the lab, known for her speed and her attention to detail. As a team they were unstoppable. Together they left Prague to work in the United States.

Carl and Gerty's work on how the body uses energy began in Buffalo, New York. They solved the mystery of how cells use sugar for energy. They figured out how our bodies convert glucose into lactate (and vice versa), using our muscles and liver. This allows us to use energy when we exercise and store energy for later.

This process is called the Cori cycle, named for Gerty and Carl. They continued their work in their own laboratory at Washington University School of Medicine, which became a hot spot for biochemistry.

In 1947, Gerty and Carl shared a Nobel Prize for their amazing contributions to medicine.

Soon after, Gerty developed a bone marrow disease but continued to work in the lab as always. When she became too weak to get around the laboratory, Carl would carry her where she needed to go. The only thing more important to them than their work was each other. Gerty died in 1957 at age 61.



TOGETHER THE CORIS CREATED SYNTHETIC GLYCOGEN.

DEVELOPED THE FIRST SUPER COMPLICATED MOLECULE CREATED IN A TEST TUBE.

TOGETHER THE CORIS PUBLISHED 50 PAPERS IN 9 YEARS.

STUDIED ENZYMES AND HORMONES RELATED TO PROCESSING SUGAR.

FIRST AMERICAN WOMAN TO WIN A NOBEL PRIZE.

THE CORIS' LABORATORY WAS THE TRAINING GROUND FOR 6 OTHER NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS.

HELPED US TO UNDERSTAND DIABETES.