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## Beta Decay: A Physics Garden of Earthly Delights<sup>1</sup>

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From the beginning, beta decay has tormented and delighted us with puzzles and enlightenment. A significant part of our present understanding of subatomic physics has emerged from the experimental and theoretical struggle with its mysteries. We reflect on several of the epic victories in this struggle, and look ahead to where ongoing research might lead us in the understanding of fundamental symmetries and neutrinos.

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