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## The Natural History of Sex

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scarce a thread of this that has not been caught up into the subtly woven cords of human "love."

To those at all acquainted with one of the most fascinating chapters in the natural history of the year, it cannot but seem either strangely unobservant or pharisaic when men or women resent any analogy between animal love-making and their own. In the first place, because we cannot deny our lineage, even though we may not be able to point to any of its precise links; in the second place, because many of the details of sex-expression and courtship which are found elaborated here and there among the lower animals are caught up as minor elements in the higher reaches of evolution; in the third place, because it is impossible to withhold admiration for the artistic character of many animal courtships, which put man's often too rough-and-ready manners to utter shame.

That the parades and displays, the dances and songs of animals are accompanied by emotions analogous to ours, appears to most naturalists a necessary assumption, though direct proof is confessedly difficult. In many cases, apart from any immediate gratification of natural desire, the mates look as if they liked each other. They pine when they are separated, and, if they are not glad to be re-united, they have an extraordinary power of counterfeiting joy! We say, then, that in the fourth grade on the ladder of love, where the two sexes