

A Natural History Of Love Diane Ackerman

A Natural History Of Love Diane Ackerman - As in her book "A Natural History of the Senses," Diane Ackerman explores her topic in depth and with gusto. Weaving together threads of history, literature, psychology, anthropology, and biology, Ackerman creates a rich tapestry that gives the reader new insights into an aspect of life that we are often too immersed in to fully appreciate. Diane Ackerman covers the history of love from Egypt through the present, examining the origins of rituals like marriage and where love comes from. It's a pretty ambitious topic, but the delicious details in the book--like that giving a "toast" comes from medieval times when people would put actual bread in the glass and drink until the liquid was gone--make it a fascinating and extremely educational read. Only Diane Ackerman, author of A Natural History of Love-- the voluptuous companion volume to her best-selling A Natural History of the Senses-- could make it fresh." — Los Angeles Reader "Her book is a voluptuous valentine to a most exalted emotion, a lusty ballad to erotic pleasures, and an ode to romantic attachment....KIRKUS REVIEW. Beginning with an enlightening exploration of ancient Egyptian, Greek, and Roman mythologies, she moves on to a discussion of modern love, arguing that it evolved with books and literacy. In discussing Greek romances between youths and older men, Ackerman indicates that homosexual love has a natural place in the history of love.