

A red-tinted photograph of a couple embracing, with the text overlaid. The couple is in the center, with the woman's arms around the man's neck. The background is filled with leaves and branches, creating a natural, organic feel. The text is in a white, serif font, centered and stacked vertically.

A  
NATURAL  
HISTORY  
OF  
LOVE

DIANE

ACKERMAN

AUTHOR OF THE NATIONAL BESTSELLER  
A NATURAL HISTORY OF THE SENSES

ACCLAIM FOR

Diane Ackerman's  
A NATURAL HISTORY OF LOVE

“By turns playful, serious, poetic and scientific, Ackerman has drawn upon a vast variety of sources to create a compelling compendium of that great intangible, love.”

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*Jaguar of Sweet Laughter: New and Selected Poems*

*A Natural History of the Senses*

*Reverse Thunder*

*On Extended Wings*

*Lady Faustus*

*Twilight of the Tenderfoot*

*Wife of Light*

*The Planets: A Cosmic Pastoral*

Diane Ackerman

## A NATURAL HISTORY OF LOVE

Diane Ackerman was born in Waukegan, Illinois. She received her B.A. from Pennsylvania State University and an M.F.A. and Ph.D. from Cornell University. Her poetry has been published in many leading literary journals, and in the books *The Planets: A Cosmic Pastoral* (1976), *Wife of Light* (1978), *Lady Faustus* (1983), *Reverse Thunder: A Dramatic Poem* (1988), and *Jaguar of Sweet Laughter: New and Selected Poems* (1991).

Her works of nonfiction include, most recently, *A Natural History of Love* (1994); *The Moon by Whalelight and Other Adventures Among Bats, Crocodilians, Penguins, and Whales* (1991); *A Natural History of the Senses* (1990); and *On Extended Wings* (1985), a memoir of flying. She is at work on a second book of nature writings, *The Rarest of the Rare*.

Ms. Ackerman has received the Academy of American Poets' Lavan Award, and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rockefeller Foundation, among other recognitions. She has taught at several universities, including Columbia and Cornell, and she is currently a staff writer for *The New Yorker*.

*A* Natural  
History of  
*Love*

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DIANE ACKERMAN



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*For George,  
whose heart is bright as summer*

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