

A refreshingly self-aware exploration of the most intimate moments in nature ...

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

More than a billion years ago, one organism shared its DNA with another, and created a new life. They had sex. It caught on ... and the world would never be the same again.

Animal life rings, bleeds and howls with sex. It's everywhere. Birds sing, flowers bloom. Lions roar and fireflies flash. A million females choose. A billion penises ejaculate (and sometimes snap off). A trillion sperm battle, block and tackle.

Sex made planet Earth sexy.

Yet there remain some big sexual questions. Why are some animals monogamous, while most are not? What's the *point* of males? Do animals fall in love? How did dinosaurs do it? And why exactly are pandas so terrible at having sex?

In this book, Jules Howard explores the wonders and peculiarities of animal reproduction. His journey takes him into a world of showy displays, suspicious rivalry, romantic courtship and devious tactics, with sperm wars, virgin births, cuckoldry, hermaphrodites, and the occasional booby-trapped vagina – the story of sex on Earth.

Does an admirable job of separating the scientific from the smutty ... highly entertaining.

BBC FOCUS

Howard writes with self-deprecating charm and genuine enthusiasm ... hubba hubba!

THE BOSTON GLOBE

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£9.99 US \$16



ISBN 978-1-4081-9343-3



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Bloomsbury Sigma, Book One
Cover design: crushed.co.uk