



Animal Seduction



Animal seduction is nothing like human one. It is more varied, complex and unpredictable in results, depending on the species involved. For instance, each time it approaches a female to mate, the **male praying mantis** knows it might be its last day on Earth. Still, he thinks the risk is worth it, and takes his chances on it. If the female praying mantis is in a good mood, then he gets lucky enough to get in the sack with her; if she is not, well, he gets his head bitten off. This is an extreme case, though, as the animal kingdom is rife with complex and fascinating **courtship rituals**, most of which involve offerings of gifts or dancing. One of the most sophisticated seducers of the animal world is the **bowerbird***, which – instead of just taking the female to dinner and buying her a worthless diamond – spends entire weeks arranging a **honeymoon suite** for his potential mate. This is dedication indeed...

* See the Animal of the Month

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