A SEXUAL ODYSSEY

From Forbidden Fruit
to Cybersex

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An Insight Book

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Sex is no longer simply the perennial target of moralists intent on taking the fun out of bedtime sport. The problems and pleasures of sex have become serious studies of medical doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, sex therapists, sociologists, sexologists, demographers, and teachers. To these are added the contributions of writers described as experts in a steady stream of essays on the art of love, dating from the works of Ovid in first century Rome to the present.

If sex has a future, it is rooted in the past—more than 3.5 billion years ago when young Mother Earth cradled a microscopic form of matter endowed with the miraculous qualities we call life. The first forms of life were invisible, even if there had been eyes to see them. As the evolutionary clock ticked away—ticks measured in millions of years—diverse forms managed to survive in the harsh and dangerous young world. These microscopic organisms, still hardly big enough to cast a shadow, made an astounding discovery that was to determine the state of the living world

forever. They found that sex, that is, the transfer of genetic material between consenting microbes, gave them a leg up on survival in an ever-changing hostile environment. Sex remained a dominant force through the millennia. How we manage sex in the future is destined to change our habits, social structure, and above all, the quality of life in astonishing ways.

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