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A BEAUTIFUL STORY OF THE NATURAL WORLD."

— SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE



Award-winning science writer Jennifer Ackerman investigates the endless mysteries of genetics, offering an elegant natural history of humanity as seen through the lens of our genes and cells. Combining the gifts of vision and language with in-depth knowledge, Ackerman explores the ways in which, at the most fundamental level, humans are genetically linked to every part of the natural world.

Chance in the House of Fate is a rich and often personal tour through the surprising turns of heredity, informed by the ways genetic inheritance has affected Ackerman's own life. From a younger sister's profound retardation and her mother's illness to the births of her own healthy daughters, Ackerman presents her experiences as telling touchpoints, ultimately illuminating the hidden biological connections among all forms of life.

"Tying together the famous and the forgotten, the microscopic and the vast, *Chance in the House of Fate* is a fascinating book." — *New York Times Book Review*

"Graceful, nearly lyrical... [Ackerman] proves that inquisitiveness and awe have their place among scientific observers." — *Book Page*

A LIBRARY JOURNAL BOOK OF THE YEAR

Jennifer Ackerman is the author of the book *Notes from the Shore* and is a contributor to the *New York Times*, *National Geographic*, and many other publications. She won a Bunting Fellowship and a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to write *Chance in the House of Fate*.

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