## Lovebirds

Mohd Firdaus Ismail, Nor Akmar Abdul Aziz, Mohamed Daniel Mohamed Mokhtar

The romance of birds are expressed and manifested in how they impress and attract their love counterparts. The colourful males such as the peacock (Pavo cristatus) and the golden pheasant (Chrysolophus pictus) would undergo detailed grooming to ensure flawless appearance to impress the beloved in the competitive world of the wild. The males of certain species would pour their dedication and effort to build the mating court as splendid as a castle to invite the gueen of their heart such as shown by the bowerbird (Ptilonorhynchus violaceus) and the baya weaver (Ploceus philippinus). Some species such as the magpierobin (Copsychus saularis) and the red-whiskered bulbul (Pycnonotus jocosus) would compose the most beautiful love song to entertain the female that ring pleasantly to your ears. Once the long awaited females are in sight, the males would exhibit their beautiful displays and dances to impress and incite the flames of romance such as displayed by the superb bird-of-paradise (Lophorina superba) and the red-capped manakin (Ceratopipra mentalis). Community species such as the oriental white-eve (Zosterops palpebrosus) and budgerigars (Melopsittacus undulates) groom the feathers of their companion after a bath. Sometimes the show of strength is required to win the heart of the potential mate such as frequently observed in the rivalry of love among heroic male rooster (Gallus gallus). Once the love has been united, the romantic play of love such as by the lovebird (Agapornis fischeri) and the majestic swan (Cygnus sp.) would surely make us envious. Lastly the loyalty of the barn owl (Tyto alba) and bald eagles (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) that paired for life would teach you the virtue of true love.

