This book proposes a radical alternative to dominant views of the evolution of language, and in particular the origins of syntax. The authors argue that manual and vocal communication developed in parallel, and that the basic elements of syntax are intrinsic to gesture. They draw on evidence from areas such as primatology, anthropology, and linguistics to present a groundbreaking account of the notion that language emerged through visible bodily action, and go on to examine the implications for linguistic theory and theories of the biological evolution of language.

Written in a clear and accessible style, *Gesture and the nature of language* will be indispensable reading for all those interested in the origins of language.
GESTURE AND THE NATURE OF LANGUAGE
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DAVID F. ARMSTRONG
Gallaudet University

WILLIAM C. STOKOE
Gallaudet University

SHERMAN E. WILCOX
University of New Mexico
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David F. Armstrong, William C. Stokoe and Sherman E. Wilcox
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