

a language older than words

A Language Older Than Words: Unlocking the Power of Nonverbal Communication in Industry

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Abstract: This article explores "a language older than words"—nonverbal communication—and its profound impact on various industries. We will examine the subtle yet powerful cues that shape interactions, influence decisions, and ultimately drive success. We'll delve into its practical applications across diverse sectors, highlighting its significance in improving efficiency, fostering collaboration, and enhancing customer relationships.

1. Introduction: Deciphering the Silent Language

Before the development of spoken and written language, humanity relied on a sophisticated system of nonverbal communication. This "language older than words" encompassed gestures, facial expressions, posture, proximity, and touch – a complex tapestry of signals conveying meaning far beyond the limitations of verbal articulation. While words can be easily manipulated, this primal language operates on a subconscious level, often bypassing conscious awareness and exerting a powerful influence on our perceptions and behaviors. Understanding this "language older than words" is no longer a niche academic pursuit; it is a critical skill for success in the modern business world.

1. The Multifaceted Nature of Nonverbal Communication

"A language older than words" manifests in countless ways. A subtle shift in posture can convey disinterest or dominance; a fleeting facial expression can reveal hidden emotions; the distance maintained during a conversation dictates intimacy and power dynamics. These nonverbal cues, often delivered unconsciously, significantly impact how messages are received and interpreted. For instance, a handshake can communicate confidence,

while a lack of eye contact might signal dishonesty or disengagement.

1. Industry Applications: Where Silent Communication Speaks Volumes

The implications of understanding "a language older than words" are far-reaching across numerous industries:

3.1 Negotiations and Sales: Skilled negotiators leverage nonverbal cues to gauge the emotional state of their counterparts, adjusting their tactics accordingly. Observing body language can reveal when a concession is likely to be accepted or when a stronger approach is necessary. Sales professionals who understand how to project confidence and rapport through nonverbal communication are more likely to close deals.

3.2 Healthcare: In healthcare, nonverbal communication is crucial. A doctor's empathetic touch or reassuring gaze can significantly impact a patient's anxiety levels. Nurses skilled in reading subtle cues can quickly assess a patient's pain or distress. The misinterpretation of "a language older than words" can have serious consequences in this field.

3.3 Human Resources: Effective hiring practices rely heavily on interpreting nonverbal signals. Interviewers can assess candidates' confidence, enthusiasm, and honesty through their body language. Moreover, understanding team dynamics and conflict resolution often involves deciphering nonverbal cues to address underlying tensions and foster collaboration.

3.4 Customer Service: In customer-facing roles, nonverbal cues play a paramount role in building trust and rapport. A friendly smile, attentive posture, and active listening (demonstrated through nonverbal engagement) create a positive customer experience, leading to increased loyalty and positive word-of-mouth referrals.

1. The Technological Advancement of Nonverbal Communication Analysis

Technological advancements are increasingly enabling the objective analysis of "a language older than words." Software capable of analyzing facial expressions, vocal tone, and body language is being deployed in various sectors. These tools can provide insights into customer satisfaction, employee morale, and even predict market trends based on subtle shifts in nonverbal behavior observed during presentations or meetings.

1. Challenges and Ethical Considerations

While the benefits of understanding "a language older than words" are undeniable, ethical considerations must be addressed. The potential for misinterpretation of nonverbal cues is significant, and reliance solely on technological analysis without considering the nuances of individual contexts can lead to inaccurate and potentially harmful conclusions. Moreover, privacy concerns surrounding the use of nonverbal communication analysis technology require careful attention.

1. Cultivating Nonverbal Intelligence: Training and Development

Improving nonverbal communication skills is achievable through targeted training and development. Programs focusing on body language awareness, active listening, and emotional intelligence can equip individuals with the tools to decode and effectively utilize "a language older than words."

1. Conclusion: Harnessing the Power of Silent Communication

"A language older than words" represents a powerful, untapped resource for industries seeking to enhance efficiency, improve communication, and foster stronger relationships. By understanding and effectively leveraging nonverbal cues, businesses can unlock a deeper level of connection, build stronger teams, and achieve greater success. As technology continues to advance, the ability to analyze and interpret nonverbal communication will become even more critical, making the study and application of this primal language an increasingly vital skill for professionals across diverse fields.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What are some common nonverbal cues to watch for in business settings? Eye contact, posture, hand gestures, facial expressions, proximity, and tone of voice are all crucial.
1. How can I improve my own nonverbal communication skills? Practice active listening, be mindful of your posture and body language, and seek feedback from trusted colleagues.
1. Are there any ethical concerns related to analyzing nonverbal cues? Yes, privacy

concerns and the potential for misinterpretation require careful consideration. Transparency and informed consent are crucial.

1. What technologies are currently being used to analyze nonverbal communication? Facial expression recognition software, voice analysis tools, and body language tracking systems are among the technologies being used.
1. How can nonverbal communication improve customer service? By demonstrating empathy, attentiveness, and sincerity through nonverbal cues, customer service professionals can build rapport and enhance the overall customer experience.
1. Can nonverbal communication be taught? Yes, training programs focusing on body language awareness, emotional intelligence, and active listening can significantly improve nonverbal communication skills.
1. What is the difference between verbal and nonverbal communication? Verbal communication involves the use of spoken or written words, while nonverbal communication encompasses all other forms of communication, such as body language and tone of voice.
1. How does nonverbal communication affect negotiations? Nonverbal cues can reveal a negotiator's true intentions, emotional state, and willingness to compromise, influencing the outcome of the negotiation.
1. Is nonverbal communication universal? While some nonverbal cues are universal, many are culture-specific. Understanding cultural differences is crucial for effective cross-cultural communication.

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a language older than words: A Language Older Than Words Derrick Jensen, 2004-03-01

At once a beautifully poetic memoir and an exploration of the various ways we live in the world, *A Language Older Than Words* explains violence as a pathology that touches every aspect of our lives

and indeed affects all aspects of life on Earth. This chronicle of a young man's drive to transcend domestic abuse offers a challenging look at our worldwide sense of community and how we can make things better.

a language older than words: *Listening to the Land* Derrick Jensen, 2004-03-01 In this far-ranging and heartening collection, Derrick Jensen gathers conversations with environmentalists, theologians, Native Americans, psychologists, and feminists, engaging some of our best minds in an exploration of more peaceful ways to live on Earth. Included here is Dave Foreman on biodiversity, Matthew Fox on Christianity and nature, Jerry Mander on technology, and Terry Tempest Williams on an erotic connection to the land. With intelligence and compassion, *Listening to the Land* moves from a look at the condition of the environment and the health of our spirit to a beautiful evocation of eros and a life based on love.

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a language older than words: *The Culture of Make Believe* Derrick Jensen, 2004-03-01 Derrick Jensen takes no prisoners in *The Culture of Make Believe*, his brilliant and eagerly awaited follow-up to his powerful and lyrical *A Language Older Than Words*. What begins as an exploration of the lines of thought and experience that run between the massive lynchings in early twentieth-century America to today's death squads in South America soon explodes into an examination of the very heart of our civilization. *The Culture of Make Believe* is a book that is as impeccably researched as it is moving, with conclusions as far-reaching as they are shocking.

a language older than words: *Louder Than Words* Benjamin K. Bergen, 2012-10-30 A cognition expert describes how meaning is conveyed and processed in the mind and answers questions about how we can understand information about things we've never seen in person and why we move our hands and arms when we speak.

a language older than words: *What We Leave Behind* Derrick Jensen, Aric McBay, 2011-01-04 *What We Leave Behind* is a piercing, impassioned guide to living a truly responsible life on earth. Human waste, once considered a gift to the soil, has become toxic material that has broken the essential cycle of decay and regeneration. Here, award-winning author Derrick Jensen and activist Aric McBay weave historical analysis and devastatingly beautiful prose to remind us that life—human and nonhuman—will not go on unless we do everything we can to facilitate the most basic process on earth, the root of sustainability: one being's waste must always become another being's food.

a language older than words: *Welcome to the Machine* Derrick Jensen, George Draffan, 2004 Jensen and Draffan look at the way machine readable devices that track our identities and purchases have infiltrated our lives and have come to define our culture.

a language older than words: *Bright Green Lies* Derrick Jensen, Lierre Keith, Max Wilbert, 2021-03-16 "This disturbing but very important book makes clear we must dig deeper than the normal solutions we are offered."—Yvon Chouinard, founder of Patagonia Works *Bright Green Lies* exposes the hypocrisy and bankruptcy of leading environmental groups and their most prominent cheerleaders. The best-known environmentalists are not in the business of speaking truth, or even holding up rational solutions to blunt the impending ecocide, but instead indulge in a mendacious and self-serving delusion that provides comfort at the expense of reality. They fail to state the obvious: We cannot continue to wallow in hedonistic consumption and industrial expansion and survive as a species. The environmental debate, Derrick Jensen and his coauthors argue, has been distorted by hubris and the childish desire by those in industrialized nations to sustain the unsustainable. All debates about environmental policy need to begin with honoring and protecting, not the desires of the human species, but with the sanctity of the Earth itself. We refuse to ask the right questions because these questions expose a stark truth—we cannot continue to live as we are living. To do so is suicidal folly. 'Tell me how you seek, and I will tell you what you are seeking,' the

German philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein said. This is the power of Bright Green Lies: It asks the questions most refuse to ask, and in that questioning, that seeking, uncovers profound truths we ignore at our peril.”—Chris Hedges, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author of *America: The Farewell Tour*

a language older than words: The Myth of Human Supremacy Derrick Jensen, 2016-08-30 In this impassioned polemic, radical environmental philosopher Derrick Jensen debunks the near-universal belief in a hierarchy of nature and the superiority of humans. Vast and underappreciated complexities of nonhuman life are explored in detail—from the cultures of pigs and prairie dogs, to the creative use of tools by elephants and fish, to the acumen of caterpillars and fungi. The paralysis of the scientific establishment on moral and ethical issues is confronted and a radical new framework for assessing the intelligence and sentience of nonhuman life is put forth. Jensen attacks mainstream environmental journalism, which too often limits discussions to how ecological changes affect humans or the economy—with little or no regard for nonhuman life. With his signature compassionate logic, he argues that when we separate ourselves from the rest of nature, we in fact orient ourselves against nature, taking an unjust and, in the long run, impossible position. Jensen expresses profound disdain for the human industrial complex and its ecological excesses, contending that it is based on the systematic exploitation of the earth. Page by page, Jensen, who has been called the philosopher-poet of the environmental movement, demonstrates his deep appreciation of the natural world in all its intimacy, and sounds an urgent call for its liberation from human domination.

a language older than words: Dreams Derrick Jensen, 2011-01-04 Jensen's furthest-reaching book yet, *Dreams* challenges the destructive nihilism of writers like Richard Dawkins and Sam Harris who believe that there is no reality outside what can be measured using the tools of science. He introduces the mythologies of ancient cultures and modern indigenous peoples as evidence of alternative ways of understanding reality, informed by thinkers such as American Indian writer Jack Forbes, theologian and American Indian rights activist Vine Deloria, Shaman Martin Prechtel, Dakota activist and scholar Waziyatawin, and Okanagan Indian writer Jeannette Armstrong. He draws on the wisdom of Dr. Paul Stamets, author of *Mycelium Running: How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World*, sociologist Stanley Aronowitz, who discusses science's lack of accountability to the earth, and many more. As in his other books, Jensen draws heavily from his own life experience living alongside the frogs, redwoods, snails, birds and bears of the upper northwest, about which he writes with exquisite tenderness. Having taken on the daunting task of understanding one's dreams as a source of knowledge, Jensen achieves the near-impossible in this breathtakingly brave and ambitious new work.

a language older than words: Strangely Like War Derrick Jensen, George Draffan, 2003 Ever since Gilgamesh cut down the ancient cedar forests of Mesopotamia, civilizations and empires have foundered and collapsed in the wake of widespread deforestation. Today, with three-quarters of the world's original forests gone and the pace of cutting, clearing, processing, and pulping ever accelerating, Jensen and Draffan lay bare the stark scenario we face unless deforestation is slowed and stopped—a scenario which will affect not only people, but the non-human fabric of life itself. *Strangely like War* is a story of corruption and killing: the genocide of indigenous peoples and the systematic destruction of our ecosystem. It is essential reading for anyone wanting to understand the relationship between deforestation and the current ecological crisis we face, and a valuable source of information for forest and anti-globalisation activists.

a language older than words: Love and Other Words Christina Lauren, 2018-04-10 After a decade apart, childhood sweethearts reconnect by chance in New York Times bestselling author Christina Lauren's touching, romantic novel *Love and Other Words*...how many words will it take for them to figure out where it all went wrong? The story of the heart can never be unwritten. Macy Sorensen is settling into an ambitious if emotionally tepid routine: work hard as a new pediatrics resident, plan her wedding to an older, financially secure man, keep her head down and heart tucked away. But when she runs into Elliot Petropoulos—the first and only love of her life—the

careful bubble she's constructed begins to dissolve. Once upon a time, Elliot was Macy's entire world—growing from her gangly bookish friend into the man who coaxed her heart open again after the loss of her mother...only to break it on the very night he declared his love for her. Told in alternating timelines between Then and Now, teenage Elliot and Macy grow from friends to much more—spending weekends and lazy summers together in a house outside of San Francisco devouring books, sharing favorite words, and talking through their growing pains and triumphs. As adults, they have become strangers to one another until their chance reunion. Although their memories are obscured by the agony of what happened that night so many years ago, Elliot will come to understand the truth behind Macy's decade-long silence, and will have to overcome the past and himself to revive her faith in the possibility of an all-consuming love.

a language older than words: *Because Internet* Gretchen McCulloch, 2020-07-21 AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER!! Named a Best Book of 2019 by TIME, Amazon, and The Washington Post A Wired Must-Read Book of Summer "Gretchen McCulloch is the internet's favorite linguist, and this book is essential reading. Reading her work is like suddenly being able to see the matrix." —Jonny Sun, author of *everyone's a little bit* when ur a little bit too *Because Internet* is for anyone who's ever puzzled over how to punctuate a text message or wondered where memes come from. It's the perfect book for understanding how the internet is changing the English language, why that's a good thing, and what our online interactions reveal about who we are. Language is humanity's most spectacular open-source project, and the internet is making our language change faster and in more interesting ways than ever before. Internet conversations are structured by the shape of our apps and platforms, from the grammar of status updates to the protocols of comments and @replies. Linguistically inventive online communities spread new slang and jargon with dizzying speed. What's more, social media is a vast laboratory of unedited, unfiltered words where we can watch language evolve in real time. Even the most absurd-looking slang has genuine patterns behind it. Internet linguist Gretchen McCulloch explores the deep forces that shape human language and influence the way we communicate with one another. She explains how your first social internet experience influences whether you prefer LOL or lol, why ~sparkly tildes~ succeeded where centuries of proposals for irony punctuation had failed, what emoji have in common with physical gestures, and how the artfully disarrayed language of animal memes like lolcats and doggo made them more likely to spread.

a language older than words: *The Disappearing Spoon* Sam Kean, 2010-07-12 From New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean comes incredible stories of science, history, finance, mythology, the arts, medicine, and more, as told by the Periodic Table. Why did Gandhi hate iodine (I, 53)? How did radium (Ra, 88) nearly ruin Marie Curie's reputation? And why is gallium (Ga, 31) the go-to element for laboratory pranksters? The Periodic Table is a crowning scientific achievement, but it's also a treasure trove of adventure, betrayal, and obsession. These fascinating tales follow every element on the table as they play out their parts in human history, and in the lives of the (frequently) mad scientists who discovered them. *The Disappearing Spoon* masterfully fuses science with the classic lore of invention, investigation, and discovery -- from the Big Bang through the end of time. Though solid at room temperature, gallium is a moldable metal that melts at 84 degrees Fahrenheit. A classic science prank is to mold gallium spoons, serve them with tea, and watch guests recoil as their utensils disappear.

a language older than words: *The Way of the Linguist* Steve Kaufmann, 2005-11 *The Way of the Linguist*, A language learning odyssey. It is now a cliché that the world is a smaller place. We think nothing of jumping on a plane to travel to another country or continent. The most exotic locations are now destinations for mass tourism. Small business people are dealing across frontiers and language barriers like never before. The Internet brings different languages and cultures to our finger-tips. English, the hybrid language of an island at the western extremity of Europe seems to have an unrivalled position as an international medium of communication. But historically periods of cultural and economic domination have never lasted forever. Do we not lose something by relying on the wide spread use of English rather than discovering other languages and cultures? As citizens of

this shrunken world, would we not be better off if we were able to speak a few languages other than our own? The answer is obviously yes. Certainly Steve Kaufmann thinks so, and in his busy life as a diplomat and businessman he managed to learn to speak nine languages fluently and observe first hand some of the dominant cultures of Europe and Asia. Why do not more people do the same? In his book *The Way of The Linguist, A language learning odyssey*, Steve offers some answers. Steve feels anyone can learn a language if they want to. He points out some of the obstacles that hold people back. Drawing on his adventures in Europe and Asia, as a student and businessman, he describes the rewards that come from knowing languages. He relates his evolution as a language learner, abroad and back in his native Canada and explains the kind of attitude that will enable others to achieve second language fluency. Many people have taken on the challenge of language learning but have been frustrated by their lack of success. This book offers detailed advice on the kind of study practices that will achieve language breakthroughs. Steve has developed a language learning system available online at: www.thelinguist.com.

a language older than words: Thirty Million Words Dana Suskind, 2015-09-08 The founder and director of the Thirty Million Words Initiative, Professor Dana Suskind, explains why the most important—and astoundingly simple—thing you can do for your child’s future success in life is to talk to them. What nurtures the brain to optimum intelligence and stability? It is a secret hiding in plain sight: the most important thing we can do for our children is to have conversations with them. The way you talk with your growing child literally builds his or her brain. Parent talk can drastically improve school readiness and lifelong learning in everything from math to art. Indeed, parent-child talk is a fundamental, critical factor in building grit, self-control, leadership skills, and generosity. It is crucial to making the most in life of the luck you have with your genes. This landmark account of a new scientific perspective describes what works and what doesn't (baby talk is fine; relentless correction isn't). Discover how to create the best language environments for children by following the simple structure of the Three Ts: Tune In; Talk More; Take Turns. Dr. Suskind and her colleagues around the country have worked with thousands of families; now their insights and successful, measured approaches are available to all. This is the first book to reveal how and why the first step in nurturing successful lives is talking to children in ways that build their brains. Your family—and our nation—need to know. *Nominated for the Books for a Better Life Award*

a language older than words: A Glorious Freedom Lisa Congdon, 2017-10-03 “The remarkable women celebrated in [this] vibrantly illustrated collection . . . offer stirring words of encouragement to any woman, of any age” (Booklist). The glory of growing older is the freedom to be more truly ourselves. With age we gain the confidence to pursue bold new endeavors and worry less about what other people think. In this richly illustrated volume, bestselling author and artist Lisa Congdon explores the power of women over the age of forty who are thriving and living life on their own terms. *A Glorious Freedom* includes profiles, interviews, and essays from women such as Vera Wang, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Julia Child, Cheryl Strayed, and many others who have found creative fulfillment and accomplished great things in the second half of their lives. Each section is lavishly illustrated and hand-lettered in Congdon's signature style.

a language older than words: *Endgame, Volume 2* Derrick Jensen, 2006-06-06 Incensed and hopeful, impassioned and lucid, this volume focuses on mankind's ability to adapt to the impending ecological revolution.

a language older than words: *Ageism Unmasked* Tracey Gendron, 2022-03-01 Why do we still tolerate stereotypes and discrimination based on age? This bold account of the history and present-day realities of ageism by a nationally recognized gerontologist and speaker uncovers ageism's roots, impact, and how each of us can create a new reality of elderhood. *Ageism Unmasked* shifts the lens, enabling us to see that we tolerate, and sometimes actively promote, attitudes and behaviors toward differently aged people that we would reject and condemn if applied to any other group. It peels back the layers to expose how cultural norms and unconscious prejudices have seeped into our lives, silently shaping our treatment of others based on their age and our own misconceptions about aging—and about ourselves. Offering an all-inclusive approach, Dr. Tracey

Gendron reveals the biases behind our false understanding of aging, sharing powerful opportunities for personal growth along with strategies to help create an anti-ageist society. Ageism Unmasked will help readers let go of our desperate need to stay young... exposing how we personally, systematically, structurally, and institutionally stigmatize being old. Ageism Unmasked will help readers appreciate both the challenges and opportunities of how we all age... showing how ageism is prejudice towards both younger and older people. Ageism Unmasked will help readers reset our expectations for getting old... providing the tools to anticipate and experience elderhood as a time of renewed meaning and purpose, empowering each of us to create our own definition of successful aging. Ageism Unmasked continues Dr. Gendron's transformative work inspiring people of all ages to embrace aging as our universal and lifelong process of developing over time — biologically, psychologically, socially, and spiritually.

a language older than words: The Language Instinct Steven Pinker, 2010-12-14 A brilliant, witty, and altogether satisfying book. — New York Times Book Review The classic work on the development of human language by the world's leading expert on language and the mind In The Language Instinct, the world's expert on language and mind lucidly explains everything you always wanted to know about language: how it works, how children learn it, how it changes, how the brain computes it, and how it evolved. With deft use of examples of humor and wordplay, Steven Pinker weaves our vast knowledge of language into a compelling story: language is a human instinct, wired into our brains by evolution. The Language Instinct received the William James Book Prize from the American Psychological Association and the Public Interest Award from the Linguistics Society of America. This edition includes an update on advances in the science of language since The Language Instinct was first published.

a language older than words: The Symbolic Species: The Co-evolution of Language and the Brain Terrence W. Deacon, 1998-04-17 A work of enormous breadth, likely to pleasantly surprise both general readers and experts.—New York Times Book Review This revolutionary book provides fresh answers to long-standing questions of human origins and consciousness. Drawing on his breakthrough research in comparative neuroscience, Terrence Deacon offers a wealth of insights into the significance of symbolic thinking: from the co-evolutionary exchange between language and brains over two million years of hominid evolution to the ethical repercussions that followed man's newfound access to other people's thoughts and emotions. Informing these insights is a new understanding of how Darwinian processes underlie the brain's development and function as well as its evolution. In contrast to much contemporary neuroscience that treats the brain as no more or less than a computer, Deacon provides a new clarity of vision into the mechanism of mind. It injects a renewed sense of adventure into the experience of being human.

a language older than words: Deep Green Resistance Derrick Jensen, Aric McBay, Lierre Keith, 2011-01-04 For years, Derrick Jensen has asked his audiences, Do you think this culture will undergo a voluntary transformation to a sane and sustainable way of life? No one ever says yes. Deep Green Resistance starts where the environmental movement leaves off: industrial civilization is incompatible with life. Technology can't fix it, and shopping—no matter how green—won't stop it. To save this planet, we need a serious resistance movement that can bring down the industrial economy. Deep Green Resistance evaluates strategic options for resistance, from nonviolence to guerrilla warfare, and the conditions required for those options to be successful. It provides an exploration of organizational structures, recruitment, security, and target selection for both aboveground and underground action. Deep Green Resistance also discusses a culture of resistance and the crucial support role that it can play. Deep Green Resistance is a plan of action for anyone determined to fight for this planet—and win.

a language older than words: English as a Global Language David Crystal, 2012-03-29 Written in a detailed and fascinating manner, this book is ideal for general readers interested in the English language.

a language older than words: House of Leaves Mark Z. Danielewski, 2000-03-07 “A novelistic mosaic that simultaneously reads like a thriller and like a strange, dreamlike excursion

into the subconscious.” —The New York Times Years ago, when *House of Leaves* was first being passed around, it was nothing more than a badly bundled heap of paper, parts of which would occasionally surface on the Internet. No one could have anticipated the small but devoted following this terrifying story would soon command. Starting with an odd assortment of marginalized youth -- musicians, tattoo artists, programmers, strippers, environmentalists, and adrenaline junkies -- the book eventually made its way into the hands of older generations, who not only found themselves in those strangely arranged pages but also discovered a way back into the lives of their estranged children. Now this astonishing novel is made available in book form, complete with the original colored words, vertical footnotes, and second and third appendices. The story remains unchanged, focusing on a young family that moves into a small home on Ash Tree Lane where they discover something is terribly wrong: their house is bigger on the inside than it is on the outside. Of course, neither Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Will Navidson nor his companion Karen Green was prepared to face the consequences of that impossibility, until the day their two little children wandered off and their voices eerily began to return another story -- of creature darkness, of an ever-growing abyss behind a closet door, and of that unholy growl which soon enough would tear through their walls and consume all their dreams.

a language older than words: *In the Land of Invented Languages* Arika Okrent, 2009-05-19 Here is the captivating story of humankind’s enduring quest to build a better language—and overcome the curse of Babel. Just about everyone has heard of Esperanto, which was nothing less than one man’s attempt to bring about world peace by means of linguistic solidarity. And every Star Trek fan knows about Klingon. But few people have heard of Babm, Blissymbolics, Loglan (not to be confused with Lojban), and the nearly nine hundred other invented languages that represent the hard work, high hopes, and full-blown delusions of so many misguided souls over the centuries. With intelligence and humor, Arika Okrent has written a truly original and enlightening book for all word freaks, grammar geeks, and plain old language lovers.

a language older than words: *The Name of this Book is Secret* Pseudonymous Bosch, 2011-12-01 I don't know how you got here but this page isn't for you. This is an extremely dangerous book with a very deadly secret. It is an alarming account of two extraordinary adventurers, a missing magician's diary, a symphony of smells and a deadly secret... If you're both curious and brave, visit www.thenameofthisbookissecret.co.uk - but remember - I warned you. Many different types of readers will thoroughly enjoy this tale including fans of Anthony Horowitz and Lemony Snicket. The book is an interesting read where many types of emotions overwhelm you such as horror, grief, mystery, anxiety the lot. Mixed with a hint of sweet satisfaction that you have finally read the story. I honestly do not know how I lived without reading the book - it baffles me. - Guardian Children's Books Shortlisted Bedfordshire Children's Book of the Year Award 2009, selected for the Premier League Reading Stars programme

a language older than words: *This Chair Rocks* Ashton Applewhite, 2019-03-05 Author, activist, and TED speaker Ashton Applewhite has written a rousing manifesto calling for an end to discrimination and prejudice on the basis of age. In our youth obsessed culture, we’re bombarded by media images and messages about the despairs and declines of our later years. Beauty and pharmaceutical companies work overtime to convince people to purchase products that will retain their youthful appearance and vitality. Wrinkles are embarrassing. Gray hair should be colored and bald heads covered with implants. Older minds and bodies are too frail to keep up with the pace of the modern working world and elders should just step aside for the new generation. Ashton Applewhite once held these beliefs too until she realized where this prejudice comes from and the damage it does. Lively, funny, and deeply researched, *This Chair Rocks* traces her journey from apprehensive boomer to pro-aging radical, and in the process debunks myth after myth about late life. Explaining the roots of ageism in history and how it divides and debases, Applewhite examines how ageist stereotypes cripple the way our brains and bodies function, looks at ageism in the workplace and the bedroom, exposes the cost of the all-American myth of independence, critiques the portrayal of elders as burdens to society, describes what an all-age-friendly world would look

like, and offers a rousing call to action. It's time to create a world of age equality by making discrimination on the basis of age as unacceptable as any other kind of bias. Whether you're older or hoping to get there, this book will shake you by the shoulders, cheer you up, make you mad, and change the way you see the rest of your life. Age pride! "Wow. This book totally rocks. It arrived on a day when I was in deep confusion and sadness about my age. Everything about it, from my invisibility to my neck. Within four or five wise, passionate pages, I had found insight, illumination, and inspiration. I never use the word empower, but this book has empowered me." —Anne Lamott, New York Times bestselling author

a language older than words: *Mrs. Dalloway* Virginia Woolf, 2023-12-16 Mrs Dalloway, Virginia Woolf's fourth novel, offers the reader an impression of a single June day in London in 1923. Clarissa Dalloway, the wife of a Conservative member of parliament, is preparing to give an evening party, while the shell-shocked Septimus Warren Smith hears the birds in Regent's Park chattering in Greek. There seems to be nothing, except perhaps London, to link Clarissa and Septimus. She is middle-aged and prosperous, with a sheltered happy life behind her; Smith is young, poor, and driven to hatred of himself and the whole human race. Yet both share a terror of existence, and sense the pull of death. The world of Mrs Dalloway is evoked in Woolf's famous stream of consciousness style, in a lyrical and haunting language which has made this, from its publication in 1925, one of her most popular novels.

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Marge Blanc, 2012

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