



# Babel's Dawn: A Natural History of the Origins of Speech

*Edmund Blair Bolles*

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## **Babel's Dawn: A Natural History of the Origins of Speech** Edmund Blair Bolles

*Babel's Dawn* is a saga covering six million years. Like a walk through a natural history museum, Bolles demonstrates how members of the human lineage came to speak. Beginning with a scene of the last common ancestor ignoring a bird as it flies by, he guides us through generations, illuminating how it became possible for two *Homo sapiens* to not only acknowledge the songbird, but to also discuss the meaning of its song.

Tracing the rise of voluntary vocalizations as well as the first word, phrases, and sentences, Bolles works against the common belief that the reason apes cannot speak is they are not smart enough. In this groundbreaking work, Bolles purposes that we now have substantial evidence that this age-old idea can no longer stand. With concrete portrayals of living individuals interwoven with evidence, data, and theory, *Babel's Dawn* is a powerful account of a great scientific revolution

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