Kisisi (Our Language): The Story of Colin and Sadiki
Perry Gilmore

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<th>Format</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paperback</td>
<td>978-1-119-10157-4</td>
<td>October 2015</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>978-1-119-10156-7</td>
<td>October 2015</td>
<td>$65.50</td>
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**DESCRIPTION**

Recognized as a finalist for the CAE 2018 Outstanding Book Award!

Part historic ethnography, part linguistic case study and part a mother’s memoir, *Kisisi* tells the story of two boys (Colin and Sadiki) who, together invented their own language, and of the friendship they shared in postcolonial Kenya.

- Documents and examines the invention of a ‘new’ language between two boys in postcolonial Kenya
- Offers a unique insight into child language development and use
- Presents a mixed genre narrative and multidisciplinary discussion that describes the children’s border-crossing friendship and their unique and innovative private language
- Beautifully written by one of the foremost scholars in child development, language acquisition and education, the book provides a seamless blending of the personal and the ethnographic
- The story of Colin and Sadiki raises profound questions and has direct implications for many fields of study including child language acquisition and socialization, education, anthropology, and the anthropology of childhood
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Perry Gilmore, a sociolinguist and educational anthropologist, is Professor of Language, Reading and Culture at the University of Arizona, USA. She is also Professor Emerita, and Affiliate Faculty at the Alaska Native Language Center, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Gilmore is the author of numerous ethnographic studies and co-editor of major ethnography collections including, *Children In and Out of School: Ethnography and Education* (1982) and *The Acquisition of Literacy: Ethnographic Perspectives* (1986). Gilmore is the past President of the Council on Anthropology and Education, a major section of the American Anthropology Association.

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