Rhetorical scholars continue to recognize the relevance that Kenneth Burke’s writings—especially those on the importance and nature of language—retain in the face of a changing social world. However, these insights are no less relevant given the changes in research in the natural sciences. First, I offer a rereading of Burke’s later theory of the body, his action/motion pair. Following this, I explore the rhetorical implications of the dialectical relationship Burke posits between the body (the "biological" or “nonsymbolic”) and symbol-use—arguing that action is, in an important sense, productive of its nonsymbolic ground, motion. Read in this way, Burke’s theory of the body allows us to develop a critical appreciation for what I term the naturalizing of the symbolic, the writing of action into our terms for motion.