

action (a ~ track) **c** (1) of a timepiece or weighing device : indicating in advance of what is correct (2) : according to daylight saving time **d** : contributing to a shortening of exposure time (~ lens) **5 a** : securely attached **b** : TENACIOUS **6 a** *archaic* : sound asleep **b** of sleep : not easily disturbed **7 a** : permanently dyed **b** : proof against fading by a particular agency (sunfast) **8 a** : DISSIPATED **b** : daringly unconventional esp. in sexual matters **9** : resistant to change and esp. to destructive action (acid-fast bacteria)
syn RAPID, SWIFT, FLEET, QUICK, SPEEDY, HASTY, EXPEDITIOUS: FAST and RAPID are very close in meaning, but FAST applies particularly to the thing that moves (fast horse) RAPID to the movement itself (rapid current) SWIFT suggests great rapidity coupled with ease of movement; FLEET adds the implication of lightness and nimbleness; QUICK suggests promptness and the taking of little time; SPEEDY implies quickness of successful accomplishment; it may also suggest unusual velocity; HASTY suggests hurry and precipitousness and often connotes carelessness; EXPEDITIOUS suggests efficiency together with rapidity of accomplishment
fast *adv* **1** : in a firm or fixed manner **2** : QUICKLY, RAPIDLY **3** : RECKLESSLY, DISSIPATEDLY **4** : ahead of a correct time or posted schedule **5** *archaic* : CLOSE, NEAR

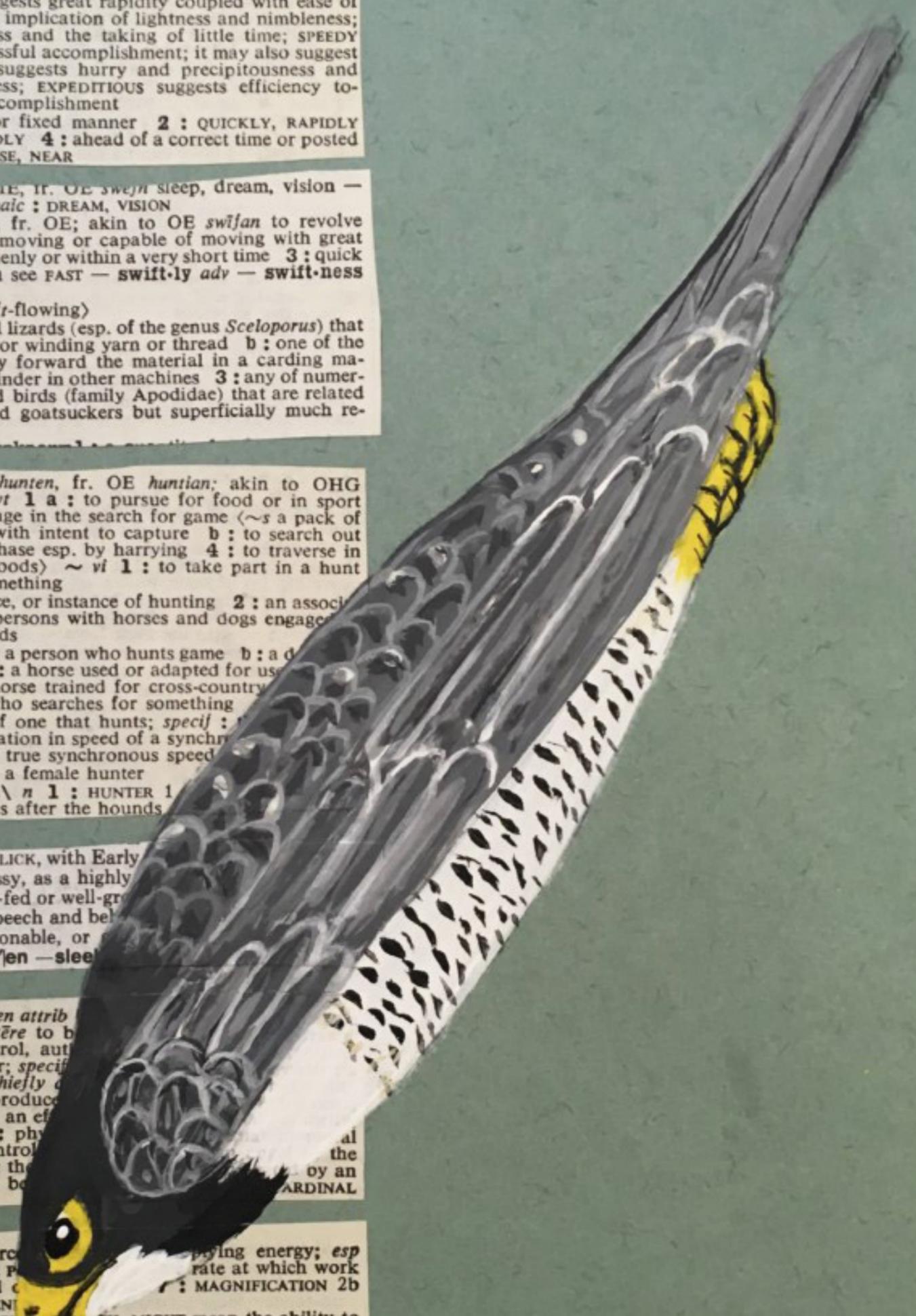
swif *en* \ 'swif(-)ən \ *n* [ME, fr. OE *swefn* sleep, dream, vision — more at SOMNOLENT] *archaic* : DREAM, VISION
swift \ 'swift \ *adj* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OE *swifan* to revolve — more at SWIVEL] **1** : moving or capable of moving with great speed **2** : occurring suddenly or within a very short time **3** : quick to respond : READY **syn** see FAST — **swiftly** *adv* — **swiftness** \ 'swif(t)-nəs \ *n*
swift *adv* : SWIFTLY (swift-flowing)
swift *n* **1** : any of several lizards (esp. of the genus *Sceloporus*) that run swiftly **2 a** : a reel for winding yarn or thread **b** : one of the large cylinders that carry forward the material in a carding machine; also : a similar cylinder in other machines **3** : any of numerous small plainly colored birds (family Apodidae) that are related to the hummingbirds and goatsuckers but superficially much resemble swallows

hunt \ 'hʌnt \ *vb* [ME *hunen*, fr. OE *huntian*; akin to OHG *hertunda* battle spoils] *vt* **1 a** : to pursue for food or in sport (~ buffalo) **b** : to manage in the search for game (~s a pack of dogs) **2 a** : to pursue with intent to capture **b** : to search out : SEEK **3** : to drive or chase esp. by harrying **4** : to traverse in quest of prey (~s the woods) ~ *vi* **1** : to take part in a hunt **2** : to attempt to find something
hunt *n* **1** : an act, practice, or instance of hunting **2** : an association of huntsmen; esp : persons with horses and dogs engaged in hunting or riding to hounds
hunter \ 'hʌnt-ər \ *n* **1 a** : a person who hunts game **b** : a dog or trained for hunting **c** : a horse used or adapted for use in hunting; esp : a fast strong horse trained for cross-country jumping **2** : a person who searches for something
hunting *n* **1** : the act of one that hunts; *specif* : HUNTING GAME **2** : a periodic variation in speed of a synchronous machine from that of the true synchronous speed
hunteress \ 'hʌn-trəs \ *n* : a female hunter
huntsman \ 'hʌn(t)-smən \ *n* **1** : HUNTER **2** : a person who manages a hunt and looks after the hounds

sleek (slēk) *adj.* [var. of SLICK, with Early ME] **1** : smooth and shiny; glossy, as a highly polished hair or fur, etc. **2** : well-fed or well-groomed (sleek pigeons) **3** : polished in speech and behavior (sleek orator) **4** : unctuous **4** : highly fashionable, or stylish (sleek dress) **5** : sleek; smooth: also **sleek'en** — **sleekly** *adv*

pow-er \ 'paʊ(-ə)r \ *n*, often attributive, fr. (assumed) L *potēre* to be able **1 a** : possession of control, authority **b** : one having such power; *specif* : a person or organization **c** : force of armed men **d** chiefly of a government **2 a** (1) : ability to act or produce an effect (2) : the power acted upon or undergoing an effect (3) : the capacity, or right **3 a** : physical strength **b** : mental efficacy **c** : political control **4** : the rank of a general, the fourth lowest rank **5 a** : the power of a number by an exponent a number is to be raised to **6** : a cardinal

NUMBER 2 **6 a** : a source of energy; esp : ELECTRICITY **b** : MOTIVE POWER **c** : rate at which work is done or energy emitted **d** : MAGNIFICATION **2b**
8 : SCOPE, COMPREHENSIVENESS
syn POWER, FORCE, ENERGY, STRENGTH, MIGHT mean the ability to exert effort. POWER may imply the ability to act or exerted, physical, mental, or spiritual ability to act or be acted upon; FORCE implies the actual and efficacious exercise of power; ENERGY applies to power expended or capable of being transformed into work; STRENGTH applies to the quality or property of a person or thing that enables him to exert force or withstand strain, pressure, or attack; MIGHT implies great or overwhelming power or strength
syn POWER, AUTHORITY, JURISDICTION, CONTROL, COMMAND, SWAY, DOMINION mean the right to govern or rule or determine. POWER implies possession of ability to wield coercive force, permissive authority, or substantial influence; AUTHORITY implies the granting of power for a specific purpose within specified limits; JURISDICTION applies to official power exercised within prescribed limits; CONTROL stresses the power to direct and restrain; COMMAND implies the power to make arbitrary decisions and compel obedience; SWAY suggests the extent or scope of exercised power or influence; DOMINION stresses sovereign power or supreme authority
power *vt* : to supply with power esp. motive power
powerboat \ -'bōt \ *n* : MOTORBOAT
power dive *n* : a dive of an airplane accelerated by the power of the engine — **power-dive** \ -'dīv \ *vb*
powerful \ 'paʊ(-ə)r-fəl \ *adj* **1** : having great power **2** : leading to many or important deductions (~ set of postulates) — **powerfully** \ -f(ə)-lē \ *adv*
powerhouse \ 'paʊ(-ə)r-'haʊs \ *n* **1 a** : an electric utility generating station **b** : a source of influence or inspiration **2** : one having or wielding great power



Peregrine Falcon

On the Rio Grande
In Santa Elena Canyon
Floating with Don Greene

The bluffs rise high above the river
That flows gently in this area,
Letting our rafts glide through
The late afternoon shadows
That provide blessed relief
From the Texas sun.

Flute music has begun,
Seeming to emanate from canyon walls,
Walls that provide the home
For the Peregrine falcon power gliding
Above through the bare blue sky,
Knifing through the troposphere,
An aerodynamic marvel,
A bird of amazing strength and grace,
A bird that epitomizes the word flight,
A grey bird that brings fear when its near,
But today it comes by to pay respects,
Pulling out of a dive in the waning light,
Offering an aerial salute to Don Greene,
A man who led all who would listen
To learn more of Earth and self,

A waterman who devoted himself to
Helping others learn and love the water.

Today, we who listened,
We who heard the flute
Are richer for it,
And though Don is no longer with us,
He remains a friend for he lives
Within my mind as a mountain of a man,
An archangel of Earth Church,
A man who made the Earth better.

Peregrine Falcon 2

On the Whooping Crane tour boat
Captained by the legendary Brownie Brown
And his good cat Hardhead.

This boat is chugging across Aransas Bay
Taking the pilgrims out to see the cranes,
It's an afternoon trip and we're all packed in
To see the whoopers before the sun wanes.

On the mike Capt. Brownie calls out the birds
Scattering before the approaching boat,
A bufflehead here, a merganser there,
The bow spray is blowing so grab a coat.

On deck Garland and I sit side by side
On this trip for our first anniversary,
An amazing drama begins to play out
Requiring a look that is more than cursory.

Capt. Brown points up and urges us to look
At the brown-grey form that is flying above
It's a peregrine he calls and all are excited
A sight to behold for me and my love.

The peregrine slows and then begins a stoop
Down toward the ducks that we have spooked,

And they quickly realize that they are the prey
And they indeed fear that their goose is cooked.

The peregrine's speed goes higher and higher
As closer to the ducks he does come
And the last duck was fleeing away so wildly
That he made a move that may seem dumb.

The duck hit the water with the peregrine close
To sinking his talons into pointed tail feathers,
But the duck dove deep to make his escape
And did not care how but instead whether.

And to this day I remember that sight
Of the peregrine chasing the horrified duck,
And I'll gladly see that scene replayed
With perseverance and a bit of good luck.