

THE ART OF SUBSPECIATION

The species that were,
The species that are,
The species that are to be,
Are a source of dismay,
In the present day,
To philosophers, such as we.

To cover the need
For a definite creed,
We scientists large and small,
Have developed a scheme,
Which, on the surface, would seem,
The ultimate all-in-all.

That it happened by chance,
You may see at a glance,
For it's simple as two and two;
To arrive at the point
You just measure a joint,
And look the specimen through.

Then you note in your book,
With a wisdomful look,
(It's a matter of touch-and-go)
And you give it a name,
It may all be the same,
Buteo buteo buteo.

Then you pass it along
To the ignorant throng,
With a most magnanimous air,
Then act as the sponsor,
And stand-by to answer,
For the species that isn't there.

—ARTHUR LAWRENCE BOLTON.