

Bird Notes by Rick Pyeritz

Bird Poems of Ogden Nash



The Plight of the Pelican

A wonderful bird is the pelican.
His bill will hold more than his belican.
He takes in his beak enough food for a week,
But I'm damned if I see how the helican.

The Canary

The song of canaries
Never varies,
And when they're moulting
They're pretty revolting.

The Grackle

The grackle's voice is less than mellow,
His heart is black, his eye is yellow,
He bullies more attractive birds
With hoodlum deeds and vulgar words,
And should a human interfere,
Attacks that human in the rear.
I cannot help but deem the grackle
an ornithological debacle.

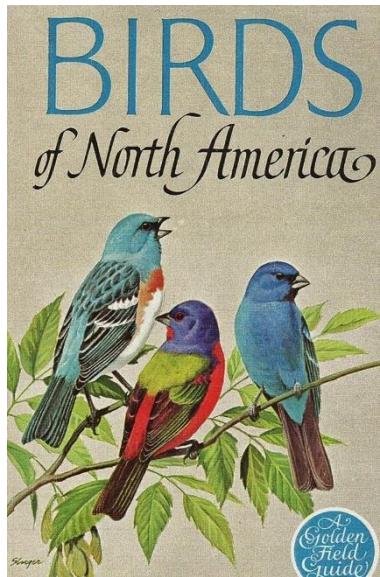
The Ostrich

The ostrich roams the great Sahara
Its mouth is wide, its neck is narra.
It has such long and lofty legs.
I'm glad it sits to lay its eggs.

The Turkey

There is nothing more perky
Than a masculine turkey.
When he struts he struts
With no ifs or buts.
When his face is apoplectic
His harem grows hectic,
And when he gobbles
Their universe wobbles.





*Up from the Egg:
Confessions of a Nuthatch Avoider*

Bird watchers top my honors list,
I aimed to be one, but I missed.
Since I'm both myopic and astigmatic,
My aim turned out to be erratic,
And I, bespectacled and binocular,
Exposed myself to comment jocular.

We don't need too much birdlore, do we,
To tell a flamingo from a towhee;
Yet I cannot, and never will,
Unless the silly birds stand still.
And there's no enlightenment so obscure
As ornithological literature.

Is yon strange creature a common chickadee,
Or a migrant alouette from Picardy?
You rush to consult your Nature guide
And inspect the gallery inside.
But a bird in the open never looks
Like its picture in the birdie books ----

Or if it did, it has changed its plumage,
And plunges you back into ignorant gloomage.
That is why I sit here growing old by inches,
Watching the clock instead of finches,
But I sometimes visualize in my gin
The Audubon that I audubin.

If you have any favorite humorous poems about our avian friends, I would appreciate hearing about them. You may email me at eapyeritz@gmail.com.