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**Eagles**  
**by David M. Valadez**

Deshi: Sensei, is it not the case that our training is not for everyone?

Sensei: Perhaps that may be so.

Deshi: Why only "perhaps"?

Sensei: Who can say who will succeed in following the Way and who will falter? After all these years of transmitting, while you may believe that my eye has become more keen in determining who is who, I can only tell you that I am more convinced that I will forever remain blind to such things. I say "perhaps" because while there may be some kind of intuitive sense in what you say, there is no practicality in what you say.

Sensei: Can we truly not determine which is which?

Sensei: Perhaps.

Deshi: Is that all?

Sensei: I will tell you this. When an eaglet is born he is weak, and frail, and his plumage is hardly qualified for flight. He can barely walk, let alone entertain the idea of flying. Yet, no mature eagle will look upon him and doubt that one day he will soar at the footsteps of Heaven.

Deshi: Are we to be like the mature eagles then?

Sensei: I cannot see why we should not be thus.