

Three eagles came by this morning to dream of chicken for breakfast.

The photo is not of good quality but I thought you might enjoy it anyway.

There is an eagle in the dead elm above the chickens.

The eagles perch over the poultry almost daily.

They only managed to kill one chicken this year and Gail took that chicken back.

She practically fought the eagle for it.

It was a fresh kill with little damage done to the bird.

Other than being dead, that is.

I cleaned it.

We had it for lunch.

The eagle left with empty talons.

Poor hunting overall, but they can still dream.

In the photo, you see netting over a portion of the chicken pasture.

The chickens are aware that the eagle is nearby.

When an eagle approaches, an alarm goes out from the first chicken to spot it.

It is a unique vocalization.

A truncated squawk with a hint of panic in it.

Instantly all the chickens head for cover under the netting or along a fence.

Eagles and other large raptors are very reluctant to attack prey when the flight path has obstructions. If they injury a wing, they will starve.

After the eagles perch and things calm down, the chickens tend to stay under the netting and the hanging cords until the big birds leave.

The chickens in the photo weigh well over five pounds.

Much too heavy for an eagle to carry off.

Maybe next year. Tom 9/15/2015

