

A FIELD CHECKLIST

Birds of Halconido



Every species on this list appears somewhere in the pages of *A Death on Halconido*. Carry it into the field and check off each bird as you find it among the oaks, the chaparral, and the high mountain pines.

A COMPANION LIST FROM *copleyoneal.com*



Melanerpes formicivorus
ACORN WOODPECKER

Drills “granary” trees studded with thousands of acorns and lives in cooperative family clans.

SEEN



Turdus migratorius
AMERICAN ROBIN

Often the first voice of the dawn chorus; a single pair may raise three broods in a year.

SEEN



Calypte anna
ANNAS HUMMINGBIRD

Courting males dive from 100+ feet, the tail feathers shrieking sharply at the bottom.

SEEN



Thryomanes bewickii
BEWICK WREN

A young male learns its song from neighboring rivals rather than from its own father.

SEEN



Sayornis nigricans
BLACK FLYCATCHER

Bobs its tail and rarely strays from water; builds mud nests beneath eaves and bridges.

SEEN



Euphagus cyanocephalus
BLUE JAY

Plain black at a glance, the male flares iridescent purple and bottle-green in sunlight.

SEEN





Larus californicus
CALIFORNIA GULL

Utah's state bird, honored for devouring a plague of crickets that ravaged crops in 1848.

SEEN



Aphelocoma californica
CALIFORNIA SCRUB JAY

Caches thousands of acorns—and will re-hide them if it notices another jay watching.

SEEN



Melospiza crissalis
CALIFORNIA TOWHEE

Feeds with a backward “double-scratch”; bonded pairs greet one another with squealing duets.

SEEN



Nucifraga columbiana
CLARK'S NUTCRACKER

Buries up to 30,000 pine seeds in a season and recalls the caches months later under snow.

SEEN



Corvus corax
COMMON RAVEN

Among the most intelligent of birds—it uses tools, mimics sounds, and is given to play.

SEEN



Accipiter cooperii
COOPER'S HAWK

A woodland ambush hunter, threading dense branches at speed to seize other birds.

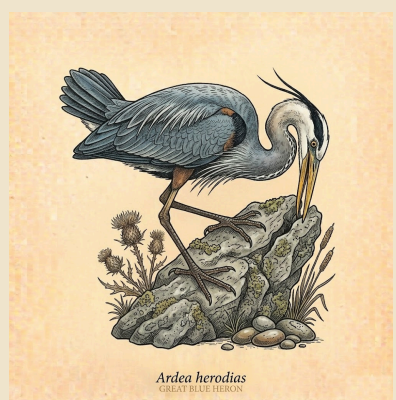
SEEN



Junco hyemalis
DARK-EYED JUNCO

The winter “snowbird,” flashing white outer tail feathers as it flushes from the ground.

SEEN



Ardea herodias
GREAT BLUE HERON

Stands motionless, then strikes; a specially kinked neck vertebra springs the lethal blow.

SEEN



Passerina cyanea
INDIGO BUNTING

Migrates by night, steering by the stars; its blue is refracted light, not pigment.

SEEN



Buteo jamaicensis
RED-TAILED HAWK

Its piercing scream is the cry Hollywood dubs over nearly every on-screen eagle.

SEEN



Cyanocitta stelleri
STELLER'S JAY

A gifted mimic that can fake a Red-tailed Hawk's scream to scatter rivals from a feeder.

SEEN



Catharus ustulatus
SPRINGER'S THRUSH

Its spiraling, flute-like song rises at dusk; it migrates by night as far as South America.

SEEN



Setophaga townsendi
TOWNSEND'S WARBLER

Winters high in Pacific canopies and cloud forests, feeding on the honeydew of scale insects.

SEEN



Cathartes aura
TURKEY VULTURE

One of the few birds with a keen sense of smell, scenting carrion on the wind from afar.

SEEN



Ixoreus naevius
VARIED THRUSH

Its eerie, single-pitched whistle haunts the damp, dim old-growth of the coastal forest.

SEEN



Twenty-one birds of the mountain. May your own list grow long.

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