

this eagle just having some midday fun by practicing its dive-bombing hunting techniques or could it actually be considering this big game as its next meal? (Figure 2).

Despite deer having great speed in the open, it was clear this one was quickly losing ground to the diving eagle. I could hardly believe my eyes. Was this Golden Eagle actually attempting to kill an animal significantly larger than itself?

This eagle finally caught up to the deer and raked its backside with its two extended back talons, apparently trying to inflict a mortal injury (Figure 3). As the photo shows (Figure 4), the hit penetrated the skin and flesh of the deer, causing the deer to almost lose its balance and bringing it to a momentary complete halt. The facial expression on the deer appeared to be one of shock (Figure 5).

