There is nothing so mysterious about the elements of the word, after all—*bio* is from the Greek word for forms of life, as in *biology* and *biography*, and *region* is from the Latin *regere*, territory to be ruled—and there is nothing, after a moment’s thought, so terribly difficult in what they convey together: a life-territory, a place defined by its life forms, its topography and its biota, rather than by human dictates; a region governed by nature, not legislation. And if the concept initially strikes us as strange, that may perhaps only be a measure of how distant we have become from the wisdom it conveys—and how badly we need that wisdom now.