

Christian Morgenstern,  
Der Werwolf

Ein Werwolf eines Nachts entwich  
von Weib und Kind und sich be-  
gab  
an eines Dorfschullehrers Grab  
und bat ihn: „Bitte, beuge mich!“

Der Dorfschulmeister stieg hinauf  
auf seines Blechschilds Messing-  
knauf  
und sprach zum Wolf, der seine  
Pfoten  
geduldig kreuzte vor dem Toten:

„Der Werwolf“ – sprach der gute  
Mann,  
„des Werwolfs, Genitiv sodann,  
dem Werwolf, Dativ, wie man’s  
nennt,  
den Werwolf, - damit hat’s ein  
End!“

...

Christian Morgenstern,  
Varulven

*tradukita de Sven Collberg*

En varulv lopp från fru m.m.  
en vacker afton samt begav  
sig till en bymagisters grav  
och bad: “Var snäll och konjuge-  
ra.

mig!” Byskolläraren stod upp  
på blecknamnsskyltens  
mässingknopp  
med svar till den, som satt på  
pass  
med tåligt korslagd tass på tass.

“Jag var-ulv 1:a pers. i sing.,  
du, han, hon, den, det var-ulv.  
Så  
vi voro-ulv, I voren. På  
de voro-ulv kom ingenting.”

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Christian Morgenstern,  
The Banshee (An Ap-  
proach)

*tradukita de Max Knight*

One night, a banshee slunk away  
from mate and child, and in the  
gloom  
went to a village teacher’s tomb,  
requesting him: “Inflex me, pray.”

The village teacher climbed up  
straight  
upon his grave stone with its plate  
and to the apparition said  
who meekly knelt before the dead:

“The banSHEE, in the subject’s  
place;  
the banHERS, the possessive case.  
The banHER, next, is what they call  
objective case—and that is all.”

...

Christian Morgenstern,  
The Werewolf

*tradukita de Alexander Gross*

A Werewolf, troubled by his name,  
Left wife and brood one night and came  
To a hidden graveyard to enlist  
The aid of a long-dead philologist.

“Oh sage, wake up, please don’t berate  
me,”  
He howled sadly, “Just conjugate me.”  
The seer arose a bit unsteady  
Yawned twice, wheezed once, and then was  
ready.

“Well, ‘Werewolf’ is your plural past,  
While ‘Waswolf’ is singularly cast:  
There’s ‘Amwolf’ too, the present tense,  
And ‘Iswolf,’ ‘Aewolf’ in this same sense.”

...

Dem Werwolf schmeichelten die  
Fälle  
er rollte seine Augenbälle.  
„Indessen“, bat er, „füge doch  
zur Einzahl auch die Mehrzahl  
noch!“

Varulven myste glad åt hur  
pers. hade följts av sing. och  
plur.  
“Fast”, bad han, “kan det inte ges  
ens  
en enda pers. i tempus presens?”

The banshee marveled at the cases  
and writhed with pleasure, making  
faces,  
but said: “You did not add, so far,  
the plural to the singular!”

“I know that—I’m no mental cripple—  
The future form and participle  
Are what I crave,” the beast replied.  
The scholar paused—again he tried:

Der Dorfschullehrer aber musste  
gestehn, dass er von ihr nichts  
wusste.  
Zwar Wölfe gab’s in großer Schar,  
doch „Wer“ gab’s nur im Sinular.

Bekänna måste vår magister,  
att därvidlag fanns vissa brister.  
En varulv sine imperfecto  
var contradictio in adjecto.

The teacher, though, admitted then  
that this was not within his ken.  
“While bans are frequent”, he advi-  
sed,  
“A she cannot be plurized.”

“A ‘Will-be-wolf?’ It’s just too long:  
‘Shall-be-wolf?’ ‘Has-been-wolf?’ Utterly  
wrong!  
Such words are wounds beyond all suture—  
I’m sorry, but you have no future.”

Der Wolf erhob sich tränenblind –  
er hatte ja doch Weib und Kind!  
Doch da er keine Gelehrter eben,  
so schied er dankend und ergeben.

Varulven satt med tårad lins.  
Han visste att han fanns och  
finns.  
Därtill kom också fru m.m.  
som även måste existera.

The banshee, rising clammily,  
wailed: “What about my family?”  
Then, being not a learned creature,  
said humbly “Thanks” and left the te-  
acher.

The Werewolf knew better—his sons still  
slept  
At home, and homewards now he crept,  
Happy, humble, without apology  
For such folly of philology.

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Verkinto de tiu ĉi Germana poemo estas CHRISTIAN MORGENSTERN (Kristiano Matenstelo, \*1871-05-06 – †1914-03-31).

Arg-825-1652 (2013-02-11 18:44:21)

Traduko de la Germana poemo “Der Werwolf” de CHRISTIAN MORGENSTERN (Kristiano Matenstelo, \*1871-05-06 – †1914-03-31) en la Svedan de Sven Collberg.

Arg-825-1654 (2013-02-13 17:00:43)

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Arg-825-1660 (2013-02-13 22:36:06)

Tiu ĉi angligo troviĝas en <http://bertilow.com/literaturo/lupfantomo.html>. Pri la tradukinto Max Knight vidu: [http://www.jbeilharz.de/morgenstern/morgenstern\\_poems.html](http://www.jbeilharz.de/morgenstern/morgenstern_poems.html) kaj [http://www.123people.de/ext/frm?ti=ersonensuche%20telefonbuch&search\\_term=mx%20k%C3%BChnel&search\\_country=DE&st=suc e%20nach%20personen&target\\_url=aHR0cDovL d3dy5saXRlcmF0dXJoYXVzLmF0L2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD02ODc4](http://www.123people.de/ext/frm?ti=ersonensuche%20telefonbuch&search_term=mx%20k%C3%BChnel&search_country=DE&st=suc e%20nach%20personen&target_url=aHR0cDovL d3dy5saXRlcmF0dXJoYXVzLmF0L2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD02ODc4).

Traduko de la Germana poemo “Der Werwolf” de CHRISTIAN MORGENSTERN (Kristiano Matenstelo, \*1871-05-06 – †1914-03-31) en la Anglan de Alexander Gross.

Arg-825-1657 (2013-02-13 18:39:45)

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