

Christian Morgenstern,
Der Werwolf

Ein Werwolf eines Nachts entwich
von Weib und Kind und sich begab
an eines Dorforschullehrers Grab
und bat ihn: „Bitte, beuge mich!“

Der Dorfeschulmeister 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,
The Banshee (An Approach)
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: “Inflect 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,
El Hechicero
tradukita de Hans Eiseneck

Un hechicero, con esposa
vino un día a la fosa
de su maestro, y al profesor
pidió: “¿Me cuentas? ¡Por favor!”

El profesor sin vacilar
subió y comenzó a hablar.
Desde allá de su letrero
se dirigió al hechicero:

...

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,’ ‘Arewolf’ in this same sense.”

...

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

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.

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

...

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!”

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

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

...

El hechicero, conmovido por lo que capta su oído, al maestro ruega, encantado, que le adjunte un quebrado.

Pero el profesor confiesa que nada sabe con certeza:
“Hay muchos hechos. Hechiceros únicamente hay enteros.”

El brujo se volvió muy triste:
“Mi cara mitad, ¿no la viste?”
Ya que no era sabio con gratitud se despidió.

...

“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:

“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.”

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

...

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

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Traduko de la Germana poemo "Der Werwolf" de CHRISTIAN MORGESTERN (Kristiano Matenstelo, *1871-05-06 – †1914-03-31) en la Anglan de MAX KNIGHT (civila nomo: Max Kühnel, *1909-06-08 – †1993-08-31).

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Tiu ĉi anglico troviĝas en <http://bertilow.com/literaturo/lupfantomo.html>. Pri la tradukinto Max Knight vidu: http://www.jbeilharz.de/morgenstern/morgenstern_poems.html kaj http://www.123people.de/ext/frm?ti=ersonensuche%20telefonbuch&search_term=max%20k%C3%BChnel&search_country=DE&st=suc e%20nach%20personen&target_url=aHR0cDovLd3dy5saXRlcmF0dXJ0YXVzLmF0L2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD020Dc4.

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