

Christian Morgenstern,  
Der Werwolf

Christian Morgenstern,  
The Banshee (An  
Approach)

*tradukita de Max Knight*

Christian Morgenstern,  
The Werewolf

*tradukita de Alexander Gross*

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

One night, a banshee slunk  
away  
from mate and child, and in  
the gloom  
went to a village teacher's  
tomb,  
requesting him: "Infect me,  
pray."

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.

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

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

"Oh sage, wake up, please don't be-  
rate me,"  
He howled sadly, "Just conjugate  
me."  
The seer arose a bit unsteady  
Yawned twice, wheezed once, and  
then was ready.

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

"The banSHEE, in the sub-  
ject's place;  
the banHERS, the possessive  
case.  
The banHER, next, is what  
they call  
objective case—and that is all."

"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 Mehr-  
zahl noch!“

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 rep-  
lied.  
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 Si-  
nular.

The teacher, though, admit-  
ted then  
that this was not within his  
ken.  
“While bans are frequent”, he  
advised,  
“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 er-  
geben.

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

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 MOR-  
GENSTERN (Kristiano Maten-  
stelo, \*1871-05-06 – †1914-03-  
31).*

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

*Traduko de la Germana poe-  
mo “Der Werwolf” de CHRIS-  
TIAN MORGENSTERN (Kristia-  
no Matenstelo, \*1871-05-06 –  
†1914-03-31) en la Anglan de  
MAX KNIGHT (civila nomo: Max  
Kühnel, \*1909-06-08 – †1993-  
08-31).*

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

*Tiu ĉi angligo troviĝas en  
[http://bertilow.com/  
literaturo/lupfantomo.  
html](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%  
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term=ma%20k%C3%  
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aHR0cDovL d3dy5saXRlcmF0dXJoYXVzLmFOL2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD02ODc4](http://www.123people.de/ext/frm?ti=ersonensuche%20telefonbuch&search_term=ma%20k%C3%BChnel&search_country=DE&st=suc e%20nach%20personen&target_url=aHR0cDovL d3dy5saXRlcmF0dXJoYXVzLmFOL2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD02ODc4).*

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

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

*Tiu ĉi angligo troviĝas en [http://bertilow.com/  
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