

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
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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/
literaturo/
lupfantomo.html](http://bertilow.com/literaturo/lupfantomo.html).*