

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."

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."

...

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."

"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."

...

Christian Morgenstern,
La lupfantomo

tradukita de Bertilo Wennergren

Jen lupfantom' de famili'
meznokte iam kuris for
al tombo de la profesor'.
kaj petis pri konjugaci'.

Do diktis tiu dokta ul'
starante sur la kructabul'
dum lup' senmova kiel splinto
atentis vortojn de l' mortinto.

De "lupfantomo", simpla rekta,
tra "lupfintomo", plej perfekta,
plu "lupfontomo", iom rara,
ĝis "lupfuntomo", ho, koŝmara.

Ĉi participoj plaĉis multe
al la fantomo, kaj rezulte
ĝi petis: "Legu plu el PIV-o
pri participoj en pasivo."

La viro ĉagreniĝis tamen:
"Jam fermis mi per fin' kaj amen,
ĉar netransiraj bestoj feblas
kaj la pasiv' neniam eblas."

...

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

*Traduko de la Germana poemo "Der Werwolf" de CHRISTIAN MORGENSTERN (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 angligo 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=m%20k%C3%BChnel&search_country=DE&st=suc e%20nach%20personen&target_url=aHR0cDovLmF0dXJoYXVzLmF0L2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD02ODc4.

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

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

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Tiu ĉi angligo troviĝas en <http://bertilow.com/literaturo/lupfantomo.html>.

Sed lupfantomo pri transiro
 ja spertas pli ol eĉ vampiro.
 La lup' revenis larmokula
 al sia famili' ulula.

*Traduko de la Germana poemo "Der Werwolf" de CHRISTIAN MORGENSTERN (Kristiano Matenstelo, *1871-05-06 – †1914-03-31) en Esperanton de Bertilo Wennergren.*

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