

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,' 'Arewolf' 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,

## El Hechicero

*tradukita de Hans Eise-neck*

Un hechicero, con espesa  
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:

"El hechiuno" le explica,  
"el hechidos" después indica,  
"el hechitres" dice al fin,  
"con eso basta ¡chiquitín!"

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."

...

The banshee, rising clammily,  
wailed: "What about my fami-  
ly?"

Then, being not a learned crea-  
ture,  
said humbly "Thanks" and left  
the teacher.

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

Arg-825-1660 (2013-02-13  
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Pri la tradukinto Max  
Knight vidu: [http://www.jbeilharz.de/morgenstern/  
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The Werewolf knew better—his sons  
still slept

At home, and homewards now he  
crept,

Happy, humble, without apology  
For such folly of philology.

El brujo se volvió muy  
triste:

"Mi cara mitad, ¿no la  
viste?"

Ya que no era sabio  
con gratitud se despidió.

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

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*Traduko de la Germana  
poemo "Der Werwolf"  
de CHRISTIAN MOR-  
GENSTERN (Kristiano  
Matenstelo, \*1871-05-06 –  
†1914-03-31) en hispana  
de Hans Eiseneck.*

Arg-825-1656 (2013-02-13  
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