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,

Der Werwolf

A Werewolf eines Nachts entwich
von Weib und Kind und sich begab
an eines Dorfschullehrers Grab
und bat ihn: „Bitte, beuge mich!"

Der Dorfschulmeister stieg hinauf
auf seines Blechschilds Messingknauf
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!"

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.

. . .

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."

. . .

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`*.*

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

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

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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).*

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

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=mx%20k%C3%BChnel&search_country=DE&st=suc e%20nach%20personen&target_url=aHR0cDovL d3dy5saXRlcmF0dXJoYXZlLm0L2luZGV4LnBocD9pZD02`