H. B. Marryatt

The Were-Wolf

[ze słownikiem]

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B2

Wilkołak

Z PODRĘCZNYM SŁOWNIKIEM ANGIELSKO-POLSKIM dla osób znających język angielski co najmniej na poziomie B2

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The Were-Wolf

THE WERE-WOLF

My father was not born, or originally a resident, in the Hartz Mountains; he was the serf of an Hungarian nobleman, of great possessions, in Transylvania; but, although a serf, he was not by any means a poor or illiterate man.

In fact, he was rich, and his intelligence and respectability were such, that he had been raised by his lord to the stewardship; but, whoever may happen to be born a serf, a serf must he remain, even though he become a wealthy man; such was the condition of my father.

My father had been married for about five years; and, by his marriage, had three children-my eldest brother Ccsar, myself (Hermann), and a sister named Marcella.

Latin is still the language spoken in that country; and that will latin - lacina, Latynos account for our high-sounding names.

My mother was a very beautiful woman, unfortunately more beautiful than virtuous: she was seen and admired by the lord of the soil; my father was sent away upon some mission; and, during his absence, my mother, flattered by the attentions, and won by the assiduities, of this nobleman, yielded to his wishes.

It so happened that my father returned very unexpectedly, and discovered the intrigue. The evidence of my mother's shame was positive: he surprised her in the company of her seducer!

Carried away by the **impetuosity** of his **feelings**, he watched the opportunity of a meeting taking place between them, and murdered both his wife and her seducer.

Conscious that, as a serf, not even the provocation which he had received would be allowed as a justification of his conduct, he hastily collected together what money he could lay his hands upon, and, as we were then in the depth of winter, he put his horses to the sleigh, and taking his children with him, he set off in the middle of

were wolf - wilkołak

serf - poddany, chłop pańszczyźniany, kmieć hungarian - węgierski, Węgier, Węgierka nobleman - szlachcic illiterate - niepiśmienny, niegramotny, analfabeta, analfabetka

respectability - poważanie, szacunek, przyzwoitość stewardship - zarządzanie

high-sounding - szumnie brzmiący

virtuous - cnotliwy sent away - wysłany absence - nieobecność, absencja, brak flattered - schlebiać, (flat) pochlebić, mieszkanie, pochlebianie, schlebianie, płaski assiduities - wytrwałość, pracowitość yielded to - poddać się

unexpectedly - nieoczekiwanie, niespodziewanie, niespodzianie

intrigue - intryga, fabula, intrygować seducer - uwodziciel

impetuosity - porywczość, impulsywność, gwałtowność

feelings - (feel) czuć, doświadczać, dotykać, uczucie, wrażenie, atmosfera

provocation - prowokacja justification - usprawiedliwienie, uzasadnienie hastily - w pośpiechu, naprędce, pospiesznie, pośpiesznie sleigh - sanie

the night, and was far away before the tragical circumstance had tragical - tragiczne transpired.

Aware that he would be pursued, and that he had no chance of escape if he remained in any portion of his native country (in which the authorities could lay hold of him), he continued his flight without intermission until he had buried himself in the intricacies and seclusion of the Hartz Mountains. Of course, all that I have now told you I learned afterwards.

My oldest **recollections** are **knit** to a rude, yet comfortable cottage, in which I lived with my father, brother, and sister. It was on the **confines** of one of those vast forests which cover the northern part of Germany; around it were a few acres of ground, which, during the summer months, my father **cultivated**, and which, though they yielded a doubtful harvest, were sufficient for our support.

In the winter we remained much in doors, for, as my father followed the chase, we were left alone, and the wolves, during that season, incessantly prowled about.

My father had purchased the cottage, and land about it, of one of the rude foresters, who gain their livelihood partly by hunting, and partly by burning charcoal, for the purpose of smelting the ore from the neighbouring mines; it was distant about two miles from any other habitation.

I can call to mind the whole landscape now: the tall **pines** which rose up on the mountain above us, and the wide expanse of forest beneath, on the topmost boughs and heads of whose trees we looked down from our cottage, as the mountain below us rapidly **descended** into the distant valley. In summer time the prospect was beautiful; but during the severe winter, a more desolate scene could not well be imagined.

I said that, in the winter, my father occupied himself with the chase; every day he left us, and often would he lock the door, that we might not leave the cottage.

He had no one to assist him, or to take care of us-indeed, it was not live in - mieszkać na miejscu easy to find a female servant who would live in such a solitude; but, could he have found one, my father would not have received her, for he had imbibed a horror of the sex, as a difference of his

transpired - się wydarzyło, parować, wydychać, wydzielać, zdarzać

native country - ojczysty kraj intermission - przerwa

intricacies - zawiłość

seclusion - odosobnienie, zacisze

recollections - wspomnienie, przypomnienie, medytacja

knit - dzianina, robić na drutach, dziać, zrosnać się lived with - żyć z (czymś), zaakceptować coś nieprzyjemnego; mieszkać z (kimś); być w związku i mieszkać razem bez ślubu

was on - być włączonym (o maszynach); odbyć lub odbywać się; brać leki lub narkotyki; być na szczycie, w szczytowej formie

confines - zamknąć, umieścić, ograniczyć, ramy

acres - akr

cultivated - kultywować, uprawiać, uprawić, pielęgnować, obrabiać, obrobić

yielded - uległ, ustąpić, poddać się, dawać, przynosić, produkcja

doubtful - watpliwy, niepewny, niepewnie

harvest - żniwa, żniwo, plon, urodzaj

wolves - wilk, basior, wadera, pożreć, pochłonąć incessantly - nieustannie

prowled - grasować

foresters - leśnik

livelihood - źródło utrzymania, utrzymanie

charcoal - wegiel drzewny, antracyt

smelting - wytapianie

habitation - zamieszkiwanie, domostwo

pines - sosna, sosnowy, piniowy

expanse - przestrzeń, bezkres

beneath - pod, poniżej

topmost - najwyższy

boughs - gałąź, konar

descended - zstapił, schodzić, zejść, zniżać

desolate - pustoszyć, wyludniać, wymarły,

opuszczony

solitude - samotność

imbibed - pić

conduct **toward** us, his two boys, and my poor little sister, Marcella, evidently proved.

You may suppose we were sadly **neglected**; indeed, we suffered much, for my father, fearful that we might come to some harm, would not allow us fuel, when he left the cottage; and we were obliged, therefore, to creep under the heaps of bears'-skins, and there to keep ourselves as warm as we could until he returned in the evening, when a blazing fire was our delight.

That my father chose this **restless** sort of life may appear strange, but the fact was that he could not remain quiet; whether from remorse for having committed murder, or from the misery consequent on his change of situation, or from both combined, he was never happy unless he was in a state of activity.

Children, however, when left much to themselves, acquire a thoughtfulness not common to their age. So it was with us; and during the short cold days of winter we would sit silent, longing for the happy hours when the snow would melt, and the leaves burst out, and the birds begin their songs, and when we should again be set at liberty.

Such was our peculiar and savage sort of life until my brother peculiar - osobliwy Cćsar was nine, myself seven, and my sister five, years old, when the circumstances occurred on which is based the extraordinary narrative which I am about to relate.

One evening my father returned home rather later than usual; he had unsuccessful - nieudany been unsuccessful, and, as the weather was very severe, and many feet of snow were upon the ground, he was not only very cold, but in a very bad humour.

He had brought in wood, and we were all three of us **gladly** assisting | **gladly** - chetnie each other in blowing on the embers to create the blaze, when he caught poor little Marcella by the arm and threw her aside; the child fell, struck her mouth, and bled very much.

My brother ran to raise her up.

Accustomed to **ill usage**, and afraid of my father, she did not dare to cry, but looked up in his face very piteously.

toward - ku, do, w stronę, w kierunku evidently - najwyraźniej, ewidentnie, zauważalnie

neglected - zaniedbywać, zaniedbać fearful - przestraszony, strachliwy come to - przyjść obliged - zobowiązywać, zobowiązać creep - pełznąć, skradać się, wkradać się, przypełznąć, czubek, głupek heaps - hałdy, sterta, kupa, kopiec blazing - płonący, płonąć, palić się, ogień, płomień, pożar, wybuch, gwiazdka

restless - bez odpoczynku, niespokojny, niezaspokojony appear strange - wydawać się dziwny remorse - wyrzuty sumienia, skrucha misery - nieszczęście, męka consequent - konsekwentny, następnik was in - być w; być dostępnym, urzędować; być w domu lub biurze; wpłynąć (dokument)

thoughtfulness - troskliwość, troska burst out - wybuchnąć, krzyknąć liberty - wolność, swoboda

savage - dzikus, dziki, zdziczały, barbarzyński, niecywilizowany, brutalny, bestialski

embers - rozżarzony węgielek blaze - blask, płonąć, palić się, ogień, płomień, pożar, wybuch, gwiazdka bled - krwawić

ran to - biec do kogoś z prośbą o pomoc; włączyć do rzeczy, które lubisz; stać na coś, być wystarczającym na coś

accustomed - przyzwyczajać, przyzwyczaić ill usage - złe traktowanie, znęcanie się piteously - żałośnie, rozpaczliwie

My father drew his **stool** nearer to the **hearth**, **muttered** something | **stool** - stolek, taboret in abuse of women, and busied himself with the fire, which both my brother and I had deserted when our sister was so unkindly treated.

A cheerful blaze was soon the result of his **exertions**; but we did not, as usual, crowd round it.

Marcella, still **bleeding**, retired to a corner, and my brother and I took our seats beside her, while my father hung over the fire gloomily and alone.

Such had been our position for about half-an-hour, when the howl half-an-hour - pólgodzinny (np. seans) of a wolf, close under the window of the cottage, fell on our ears.

My father started up, and seized his gun; the howl was repeated, he seized - chwycić, zlapać, chwytać, lapać examined the priming, and then hastily left the cottage, shutting the door after him.

We all waited (anxiously listening), for we thought that if he anxiously - z niepokojem, z niecierpliwością succeeded in shooting the wolf, he would return in a better humour; and although he was harsh to all of us, and particularly so to our little sister, still we loved our father, and loved to see him cheerful and happy, for what else had we to look up to?

And I may here observe, that perhaps there never were three children who were fonder of each other; we did not, like other children, fight and dispute together; and if, by chance, any disagreement did arise between my elder brother and me, little Marcella would run to us, and kissing us both, seal, through her entreaties, the peace between us.

Marcella was a lovely, amiable child; I can recall her beautiful features even now-Alas! poor little Marcella.

We waited for some time, but the report of the gun did not reach us, and my elder brother then said, "Our father has followed the wolf, and will not be back for some time. Marcella, let us wash the blood from your mouth, and then we will leave this corner, and go to the fire and warm ourselves."

We did so, and remained there until near midnight, every minute long time - dlugo, dlugi czas; stary; odwieczny wondering, as it grew later, why our father did not return. We had no idea that he was in any danger, but we thought that he must have chased the wolf for a very long time. "I will look out and see if father is coming," said my brother Cćsar, going to the door.

hearth - palenisko, ognisko domowe

muttered - wymamrotać, mruknąć, mamrotać, mamrotanie

abuse - nadużycie, zniewaga

unkindly - nieprzyjemnie, nieuprzejmie, nieżyczliwie

exertions - wysiłek, natężenie crowd round - gromadzić się

bleeding - krwawienie, (bleed), krwawić gloomily - ponuro, mrocznie

howl - wycie, wyć wolf - wilk, basior, wadera, pożreć, pochłonąć

harsh - szorstki, bezwzględny look up to - poważać, patrzeć na kogoś z podziwem

dispute - zakwestionować, kłótnia, sprzeczka run to - biec do kogoś z prośbą o pomoc; włączyć do rzeczy, które lubisz; stać na coś, być wystarczającym na coś

seal - pieczęć (znak; urządzenie do wyciskania znaku); foka; uszczelka; plomba; zamykać, zaklejać, pieczętować; zamknąć (np. granice kraju); zakleić (np. kopertę); smażyć mięso w wysokiej temperaturze (by zachować soczystość); przypieczętować (zwycięstwo, entreaties - błaganie, usilna prośba

amiable - sympatyczny, przyjazny, życzliwy, przyjacielski

"Take care," said Marcella, "the wolves must be about now, and we cautiously - ostrożnie cannot kill them, brother." My brother opened the door very cautiously, and but a few inches; he peeped out.-"I see nothing," said he, after a time, and once more he joined us at the fire.

"We have had no **supper**," said I, for my father usually cooked the meat as soon as he came home; and during his absence we had nothing but the fragments of the preceding day.

"And if our father comes home after his hunt, Cćsar," said Marcella, "he will be pleased to have some supper; let us cook it for him and for ourselves." César climbed upon the stool, and reached down some meat-I forget now whether it was venison or bear's meat; but we cut off the usual quantity, and proceeded to dress it, as we used to do under our father's superintendence.

We were all busied putting it into the platters before the fire, to platters - pólmisek, taca await his coming, when we heard the sound of a horn. We listenedthere was a noise outside, and a minute afterwards my father entered, ushering in a young female, and a large dark man in a hunter's dress.

Perhaps I had better now relate, what was only known to me many years afterwards. When my father had left the cottage, he perceived a large white wolf about thirty yards from him; as soon as the animal saw my father, it retreated slowly, growling and snarling.

My father followed; the animal did not run, but always kept at some distance; and my father did not like to fire until he was pretty certain that his ball would take effect: thus they went on for some time, the wolf now leaving my father far behind, and then stopping and snarling defiance at him, and then again, on his approach, setting off at speed.

Anxious to shoot the animal (for the white wolf is very rare), my father continued the pursuit for several hours, during which he continually ascended the mountain.

You must know that there are peculiar spots on those mountains which are supposed, and, as my story will prove, truly supposed, to be inhabited by the evil influences; they are well known to the huntsmen, who invariably avoid them.

Now, one of these spots, an open space in the **pine** forests above pine - sosna, sosnowy, piniowy us, had been pointed out to my father as dangerous on that account. But, whether he **disbelieved** these wild stories, or whether, in his eager pursuit of the chase, he disregarded them, I know not; certain, however, it is that he was **decoyed** by the white wolf to this open space, when the animal appeared to **slacken** her speed.

peeped - zerknąć, podejrzeć, podglądać, spojrzenie

supper - kolacja

venison - dziczyzna, sarnina superintendence - nadzór

await - czekać, oczekiwać horn - róg, klakson ushering in - być w ważnym momencie, zaznaczać lub świętować ważny moment; dokonać ważnych zmian hunter - myśliwy, łowca

retreated - wycofać się, uciekać, schronienie, azyl, kryjówka, ucieczka

growling - (growl) warczeć, pomrukiwać, warczenie, pomrukiwanie snarling - warczenie

kept at - kontynuować coś (trudnego) defiance - opór

continually - nieustannie, bezustannie ascended - wspiąć, wjechać, wznosić się

inhabited - zamieszkały, zamieszkiwać, zajmować, wypełniać

well known - słynny, powszechnie znany

huntsmen - myśliwy, psiarczyk invariably - niezmiennie

disbelieved - nie dowierzać, nie dawać wiary eager - chętny, przejęty, podekscytowany disregarded - zlekceważony, lekceważyć decoyed - zwabiony, przynęta slacken - zwalniać, zmniejszać prędkość, poluźnić