

# **Thomas Hardy**

The Withered Arm

**[ze słownikiem]**

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**C1**

Klątwa uschniętej ręki

Z PODRĘCZNYM SŁOWNIKIEM ANGIELSKO-POLSKIM

dla osób znających język angielski co najmniej na poziomie C1

Ruda Śląska, 2024

**Wydawnictwo:**

[ze słownikiem], <https://zeslownikiem.pl>, <https://readings.world>, [Facebook.com/zeslownikiem](https://facebook.com/zeslownikiem)

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**ISBN:**

978-83-66471-61-0

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Ruda Śląska, 2024

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# The Withered Arm

## Chapter 1. A Lorn Milkmaid

It was an **eighty-cow** dairy, and the troop of **milkers**, regular and **supernumerary**, were all at work; for, though the time of year was as yet but early April, the feed lay entirely in **water-meadows**, and the cows were "in full **pail**." The hour was about six in the evening, and **three-fourths** of the large, red, **rectangular** animals having been **finished off**, there was opportunity for a little conversation.

"He do bring home his bride tomorrow, I hear. They've come as far as Anglebury today."

The voice seemed to proceed from the **belly** of the cow called **Cherry**, but the speaker was a **milking-woman**, whose face was buried in the **flank** of that **motionless** beast.

"Hav'anybody seen her?" said another.

There was a negative response from the first. "Though they say she's a **rosy-cheeked**, tisty-tosty little body enough," she added; and as the milkmaid spoke she turned her face so that she could glance past her cow's tail to the other side of the barton, where a thin, fading woman of thirty milked somewhat apart from the rest.

"Years younger than he, they say," continued the second, with also a glance of **reflectiveness** in the same direction.

Nothing more was said **publicly** about Farmer **Lodge's** wedding, but the first woman **murmured** under her cow to her next neighbour, "'Tis hard for she," **signifying** the thin worn milkmaid **aforsaid**.

"O no," said the second. "He ha'n't spoke to Rhoda **Brook** for years."

**milkmaid** - dojarka, dojka, dójka

**eighty-cow** - osiemdziesiąt krów

**milkers** - dojka, dójka, dojarz, dojarka

**supernumerary** - nadliczbowy, nadmiarowy

**water-meadows** - łąg

**pail** - wiadro, kubel

**three-fourths** - trzy czwarte

**rectangular** - prostokątny

**finished off** - wykończyć, skończyć, zakończyć coś; dobić zranionego człowieka lub zwierzę (zabić); pokonać, zwyciężyć (w sporcie); dojeść lub dopić coś, wyjść

**belly** - brzuch

**cherry** - czereśnia

**milking-woman** - dojarka

**flank** - flankować, oskrzydlać, bok, łata, flank, skrzydło

**motionless** - nieruchomy

**rosy-cheeked** - z różanymi policzkami (o osobie)

**reflectiveness** - refleksyjność

**publicly** - publicznie

**lodge** - portiernia, żeremie

**murmured** - mruknął, pomruk, mruczenie, szmer

**tis** - tak, (ti) it is - to jest

**signifying** - oznaczający, (signify) oznaczać, zapowiadać, okazać, mieć znaczenie

**aforsaid** - o którym mowa

**brook** - tolerować, znosić coś, potok, strumyk

When the milking was done they washed their **pails** and hung them on a **many-forked** stand **made of** the **peeled** limb of an **oak-tree**, set **upright** in the earth, and resembling a **colossal antlered** horn. The majority then **dispersed** in various directions **homeward**. The thin woman who had not spoken was joined by a boy of twelve or **thereabout**, and the **twain** went away up the field also.

**pails** - wiadro, kubel  
**many-forked** - z wieloma widłami  
**made of** - rozumieć coś z czegoś; sądzić o czymś  
**peeled** - obrać, obierać ze skórki, odklejać, skórka, lupina, obierki  
**oak-tree** - dąb (drzewo)  
**upright** - prawy, prostoduszny, wyprostowany, słupek, pionowo  
**colossal** - kolosalny  
**antlered** - rogaty  
**dispersed** - rozprościć  
**homeward** - do domu, ku domowi  
**thereabout** - mniej więcej, w przybliżeniu, gdzieś w pobliżu  
**twain** - dwa

Their course lay apart from that of the others, to a lonely spot high above the **water-meads**, and not far from the border of Egdon **Heath**, whose dark **countenance** was visible in the distance as they drew **nigh** to their home.

**water-meads** - łęg (las liściasty)  
**heath** - wrzosowisko  
**countenance** - oblicze, wyraz twarzy, mina  
**nigh** - bliski, blisko, niebawem

"They've just been saying down in barton that your father brings his young wife home from Anglebury tomorrow," the woman observed. "I shall want to send you for a few things to market, and you'll be pretty sure to meet 'em."

"Yes, mother," said the boy. "Is father married then?"

"Yes.... You can give her a look, and tell me what's she's like, if you do see her."

"Yes, mother."

"If she's dark or fair, and if she's tall-as tall as I. And if she seems like a woman who has ever worked for a living, or one that has been always **well off**, and has never done anything, and shows marks of the lady on her, as I expect she do."

"Yes."

They crept up the hill in the twilight, and entered the cottage. It was built of **mud-walls**, the surface of which had been washed by many rains into channels and depressions that left none of the original flat face visible; while here and there in the **thatch** above a **rafter** showed like a bone **protruding** through the skin.

**well off** - zamożny, dobrze sytuowany

She was **kneeling** down in the **chimney-corner**, before two pieces of **turf** laid together with the **heather inwards**, **blowing at** the **red-hot** ashes with her breath till the **turves** flamed. The **radiance** lit her pale cheek, and made her dark eyes, that had once been **handsome**, seem handsome **anew**.

**mud-walls** - ściany z błota  
**thatch** - pokryć strzechą, strzecha  
**rafter** - krokiew  
**protruding** - wystające, sterczeć, wystawać  
**kneeling** - klęcząc, (kneel) uklęknąć, klęczeć, klęczenie  
**chimney-corner** - wnęka na komin  
**turf** - darń, torf, wyścigi konne, terytorium  
**heather** - wrzos  
**inwards** - do środka, skryty, wewnętrzny  
**blowing at** - dmuchać na  
**red-hot** - rozgrzany do czerwoności; gorący; namiętny; najświeższy  
**turves** - żółwie  
**radiance** - blask  
**handsome** - piękny, przystojny  
**anew** - znowu, ponownie, na nowo, od nowa

"Yes," she resumed, "see if she is dark or fair, and if you can, notice if her hands be white; if not, see if they look as though she had ever done **housework**, or are milker's hands like mine."

The boy again promised, **inattentively** this time, his mother not observing that he was cutting a **notch** with his **pocket-knife** in the **beech-backed** chair.

**housework** - sprzątać, sprzątanie, prace domowe

**inattentively** - nieuważnie

**notch** - karb, nacięcie, wręb, narzaz, karbować

**pocket-knife** - scyzoryk, nożyk

**beech-backed** - bukowy

## Chapter 2. The Young Wife

The road from Anglebury to Holmstoke **is in** general level; but there is one place where a sharp **ascent** breaks its **monotony**. Farmers **homeward-bound** from the former **market-town**, who **trot** all the rest of the way, walk their horses up this short **incline**.

The next evening, while the sun was yet bright, a handsome new gig, with a **lemon-coloured** body and red wheels, was spinning **westward** along the level highway at the heels of a powerful **mare**.

The driver was a **yeoman** in the prime of life, **cleanly** shaven like an actor, his face being toned to that **bluish-vermilion hue** which so often graces a thriving farmer's features when returning home after successful **dealings** in the town. Beside him sat a woman, many years his junior-almost, indeed, a girl.

Her face too was fresh in colour, but it was of a totally different quality-soft and **evanescent**, like the light under a **heap** of **rose-petals**.

Few people travelled this way, for it was not a **main road**; and the long white **riband** of **gravel** that stretched before them was empty, save of one small **scarce-moving speck**, which presently resolved itself into the figure of a boy, who was creeping on at a **snail's** pace, and continually looking behind him-the heavy **bundle** he carried being some excuse for, if not the reason of, his **dilatoriness**.

When the bouncing gig-party slowed at the bottom of the incline **above mentioned**, the **pedestrian** was only a few yards in front. Supporting the large bundle by putting one hand on his hip, he turned and looked straight at the farmer's wife as though he would read her through and through, pacing along **abreast** of the horse. The low sun was full in her face, rendering every feature, shade, and **contour** distinct, from the curve of her little **nostril** to the colour of her eyes.

The farmer, though he seemed annoyed at the boy's persistent presence, did not order him to **get out of** the way; and thus the lad preceded them, his hard gaze never leaving her, till they reached the top of the ascent, when the farmer **trotted** on with relief in his lineaments-having taken no **outward** notice of the boy whatever.

**is in** - być w; być dostępnym, urzędować; być w domu lub biurze; wpłynąć (dokument)  
**ascent** - unoszenie się, jazda pod górę, podejście, wspinaczka  
**monotony** - jednostajność, monotonia  
**homeward-bound** - zdążający do domu; płynący do portu macierzystego  
**market-town** - miasto targowe  
**trot** - klusować, truchtać, gnać, klus  
**incline** - przechylić, skłonić, nachylać, mieć na coś ochotę, zbocze, stok

**lemon-coloured** - o kolorze cytryny  
**westward** - na zachód  
**mare** - klacz, kobyła, oślica

**yeoman** - drobny właściciel ziemski  
**cleanly** - czysty, schludny, równo  
**bluish-vermilion** - niebieskawo-cynobrowy  
**hue** - odcień  
**dealings** - (deal) transakcja, umowa, układ, porozumienie, postępowanie

**evanescent** - ulotny  
**heap** - halda, sarta, kupa, kopiec  
**rose-petals** - płatek róży

**main road** - główna droga, główna ulica  
**riband** - wstęga  
**gravel** - żwir  
**scarce-moving** - rzadko poruszający się  
**speck** - odrobina, szczypta, plamka, kropeczka  
**snail** - ślimak, osoba która wlecze się  
**bundle** - pakiet, wiązka, pęk, zawiniątko, kupa, pęczek, ryza austriacka  
**dilatoriness** - opieszałość

**above mentioned** - wyżej wymieniony  
**pedestrian** - pieszy, dla pieszych, przyziemny  
**abreast** - w rzędzie, obok siebie, na bieżąco

**contour** - kontur, izolinia  
**nostril** - nozdrze

**get out of** - wyjść, opuścić, wyjeżdżać, uciec  
**out of the way** - nieuczęszczany, niewidoczny, odległy; z drogi, odsunąć się!  
**trotted** - klusować, truchtać, gnać, klus  
**outward** - zewnętrzny, na zewnątrz



"How that poor lad stared at me!" said the young wife.

"Yes, dear; I saw that he did."

"He is one of the village, I suppose?"

"One of the neighbourhood. I think he **lives with** his mother a mile or two off."

**lives with** - żyć z (czymś), zaakceptować coś nieprzyjemnego; mieszkać z (kimś); być w związku i mieszkać razem bez ślubu

"He knows who we are, no doubt?"

"O yes. You must expect to be stared at just at first, my pretty Gertrude."

"I do, though I think the poor boy may have looked at us in the hope we might relieve him of his heavy load, rather than from curiosity."

"O no," said her husband **off-handedly**. "These country lads will carry a **hundredweight** once they **get it on** their backs; besides his pack had more size than weight in it. Now, then, another mile and I shall be able to show you our house in the distance-if it is not too dark before we get there."

**off-handedly** - bezceremonialnie, niegrzecznie; od ręki, bez przygotowania, bez przemyślenia  
**hundredweight** - cetnar  
**get it on** - zainteresować lub podekscytować się; uprawiać seks

"The wheels **spun round**, and **particles** flew from their **periphery** as before, till a white house of **ample** dimensions revealed itself, with **farm-buildings** and **ricks** at the back."

**spun round** - kręcić się w kółko; odwrócić się szybko, obrócić się  
**particles** - cząsteczki, cząstka, partykula  
**periphery** - peryferia, obrzeże, kraniec, skraj, peryferie  
**ample** - duży, obszerny  
**farm-buildings** - budynek gospodarski  
**ricks** - stóg

Meanwhile the boy had **quickened** his pace, and turning up a **by-lane** some mile and half short of the white **farmstead**, **ascended** towards the leaner **pastures**, and so on to the cottage of his mother.

**quickened** - przyspieszony, przyspieszyć, wzmóc, poruszyć  
**by-lane** - boczna droga; boczny chodnik  
**farmstead** - gospodarstwo, sadyba  
**ascended** - wspiąć, wjechać, wznosić się  
**pastures** - pastwisko

She had reached home after her day's milking at the **outlying** dairy, and was washing **cabbage** at the **door-way** in the declining light. "Hold up the net a moment," she said, without **preface**, as the boy came up.

**outlying** - na uboczu  
**cabbage** - kapusta  
**door-way** - drzwi; wejście, przejście  
**preface** - wstęp, przedmowa

He **flung** down his bundle, held the edge of the **cabbage-net**, and as she filled its **meshes** with the **dripping** leaves she went on, "Well, did you see her?"

**flung** - rzucony, cisnąć, podrzucać, rzucać, szaleństwo, przygoda, chwilowa fascynacja  
**cabbage-net** - siatka na kapustę  
**meshes** - oczka, sieć, siatka  
**dripping** - (drip) przepuszczać, ociekać, kapać, kropla, ciekący, kapiący, przemoknięty

"Yes; quite plain."

"Is she **ladylike**?"

**ladylike** - wytworny

"Yes; and more. A lady complete."

"Is she young?"

"Well, she's **grewed up**, and her ways be quite a woman's."

**grewed up** - urosnąć, dorosnąć