

Fiona Macleod

Green Branches

[ze słownikiem]

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B1

Zieleń gałęzi

Z PODRĘCZNYM SŁOWNIKIEM ANGIELSKO-POLSKIM

dla osób znających język angielski co najmniej na poziomie B1

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Green Branches

GREEN BRANCHES

In the year that followed the death of Manus MacCodrum, James Achanna saw nothing of his brother **Gloom**. He might have thought himself alone in the world, of all his people, but for a letter that **came to** him out of the west. True, he had never accepted the common opinion that his brothers had both **been drowned** on that night when Anne Gillespie left Eilanmore with Manus.

In the first place he had nothing of that inner **conviction concerning** the **fate** of Gloom which he had concerning that of Marcus; in the next, had he not heard the sound of the feadan, which no one that he knew played except Gloom; and, for further **token**, was not the **tune** that which he hated above all others-the "Dance of the Dead"-for who but Gloom would be playing that, he hating it so, and the hour being late, and no one else on Eilanmore?

It was no sure thing that the dead had not come back; but the more he thought of it the more Achanna believed that his sixth brother was still alive. Of this, however, he said nothing to any one.

It was as a man set free that, at last, after long waiting and patient trouble, with the **disposal** of all that was left of the Achanna **heritage**, he left the island. It was a grey memory for him.

The **bleak moorland** of it, the **blight** that had lain so long and so often upon the **crops**, the rains that had **swept** the **isle** for grey days and grey weeks and grey months, the **sobbing** of the sea by day and its dark moan by night, its **dim relinquishing** sigh in the calm of **dreary ebbs**, its **hollow, baffling roar** when the **storm-shadow** swept up out of the sea-one and all **oppressed** him, even in memory.

gloom - smutnieć, zaciemniać, mrok, przygnębienie
came to - przyjść
been drowned - zostać zagłuszonym; pochłoniętym (np. przez emocje, dźwięk); utonąć

conviction - skazanie, przekonanie, przeświadczenie, wyrok
concerning - dotyczące, tyczyć, dotyczyć, martwić
fate - los, dola, przeznaczenie
token - żeton
tune - melodia, stroić

disposal - usuwanie, pozbycie się, sprzedaż, załatwienie, dysponowanie
heritage - spadek, dziedzictwo, spuścizna

bleak - smętny, marny, niewesoły, ponury, przygnębiający
moorland - wrzosowiska
blight - zgnilizna
crops - uprawy, skubać, plon, zbiór, szpicruta
swept - zmieciony, zamiatać, zamieść, przemknąć
isle - wyspa
sobbing - (sob) zaszlochać, lkać, szloch, płacz, szlochanie, lkający
dim - ściemniać, ciemny, marny, słabe
relinquishing - zrzec, zrezygnować
dreary - ponury
ebbs - odpływ
hollow - wgłębienie, wklęsłość, kotlina, pusty
baffling - (baffle) pokrzyżować, zbić, wprawić, zbijający z tropu, zaskakujący
roar - ryczeć, zaryczeć, ryk
storm-shadow - cień burzy
oppressed - gnębić, ciemnić, przygniść, przytłoczyć

He had never loved the island, even when it lay green and **fragrant** in the green and white seas under white and blue skies, fresh and sweet as an Eden of the sea.

He had ever been lonely and **weary**, tired of the mysterious shadow that lay upon his folk, caring little for any of his brothers except the eldest-long since **mysteriously** gone out of the ken of man-and almost hating Gloom, who had ever borne him a **grudge** because of his beauty, and because of his **likeness** to and **reverent heed** for Alison.

Moreover, ever since he had **come to** love Katreen Macarthur, the daughter of Donald Macarthur who **lived in** Sleat of Skye, he had been eager to live near her; the **more eager** as he knew that Gloom loved the girl also, and **wished for** success not only for his own **sake**, but so as to put a **slight** upon his younger brother.

So, when at last he left the island, he sailed **southward gladly**. He was leaving Eilanmore; he was **bound** to a new home in Skye, and perhaps he was going to his **long-delayed**, long **dreamed-of** happiness. True, Katreen was not **pledged** to him; he did not even know for sure if she loved him.

He thought, hoped, dreamed, almost believed that she did; but then there was her cousin Ian, who had long **wooded** her, and to whom old Donald Macarthur had given his **blessing**. **Nevertheless**, his heart would have been lighter than it had been for long, but for two things. First, there was the letter.

Some weeks earlier he had received it, not recognizing the writing, because of the few letters he had ever seen, and, moreover, as it **was in** a **feigned** hand. With difficulty he had **deciphered** the **manuscript**, **plain** printed though it was. It ran **thus**:

"Well, Sheumais, my brother, it is wondering if I am dead, you will be.

Maybe ay, and maybe no.

But I send you this writing to let you know that I **know all** you do and think of.

So you are going to leave Eilanmore without an Achanna upon it? And you will be going to Sleat in Skye?

fragrant - pachnący, wonny

weary - zmęczony, znużony, męczący, nużyć, znużyć

mysteriously - tajemniczo, zagadkowo

grudge - uraza

likeness - podobieństwo, podobizna

reverent - pełen szacunku, pełen czci, nabożny

heed - posłuchać, baczenie, baczyć

moreover - co więcej, ponadto, skądinąd

come to - przyjąć

lived in - zamieszkać, przytulny

more eager - bardziej chętny

wished for - życzyć sobie czegoś

sake - powód, cel

slight - nieznacznie, drobny, mały

southward - na południe

gladly - chętnie

bound - (bind) odbić się, skoczyć, związać, połączyć, skok, granica, łączyć, zobowiązany

long-delayed - znacznie opóźniony

dreamed-of - wymarzony

dreamed-of - wyobrażać sobie (coś)

pledged - zobowiązał się, obiecać, złożyć zastaw, obietnica, zastaw

wooded - zabiegać o względy, uwodzić, pozyskiwać

blessing - błogosławieństwo

nevertheless - mimo to, niemniej jednak, jednakże, jednakowoż

was in - być w; być dostępnym, urzędować; być w domu lub biurze; wpłynąć (dokument)

feigned - udawać, grać, pozorować, pozować

deciphered - rozszyfrowywać, rozszyfrować

manuscript - odręczny, rękopis, manuskrypt, maszynopis

plain - zwykły, równina, zwyczajny, jasny, nieładna, gładki, wyraźny, wyraźnie

thus - w ten sposób, a zatem, tym samym

ay - tak

know all - mędrak, mądrała

Well, let me be telling you this thing.

Do not go.

I see blood there.

And there is this, too: neither you nor any man shall take Katreen away from me.

You know that; and Ian Macarthur knows it; and Katreen knows it; and that holds whether I am alive or dead.

I say to you: do not go.

It will be better for you, and for all.

Ian Macarthur is away in the **North-Sea** with the **whaler-captain** who came to us at Eilanmore, and will not be back for three months yet.

It will be better for him not to come back.

But if he comes back he will have to **reckon** with the man who says that Katreen Macarthur is his.

I would rather not have two men to speak to, and one my brother.

It does not matter to you where I am.

I want no money just now.

But put **aside** my **portion** for me.

Have it ready for me against the day I call for it.

I will not be patient that day; so have it ready for me.

In the place that I am I am **content**.

You will be saying: why is my brother away in a remote place (I will say this to you: that it is not further north than St.

Kilda nor further south than the **Mull** of Cantyre!), and for what reason? That is between me and **silence**.

But perhaps you think of Anne sometimes. Do you know that she lies under the green grass? And of Manus MacCodrum?

They say that he **swam out** into the sea and was **drowned**; and they **whisper** of the **seal-blood**, though the minister is **wrath** with them for that.

He calls it a **madness**.

Well, I was there at that madness, and I **played to** it on my feadan.

And now, Sheumais, can you be thinking of what the tune was that I played?

"Your brother, who waits his own day,

"GLOOM."

"Do not be forgetting this thing: I would rather not be playing the 'Damhsa-na-Mairbh.' It was an ill hour for Manus when he heard the

North-Sea - Morze Północne
whaler-captain - kapitan wielorybnika

reckon - myśleć, sądzić, przypuszczać, liczyć

aside - na bok
portion - porcja

content - treści, zadowalać, zawartość, zadowolony

mull - gaza, muślin, przemyśliwać, rozmyślać
silence - cisza, milczenie, uciszyć, uciszać

swam out - wypłynąć, odpłynąć
drowned - tonąć, utonąć, utopić
whisper - szeptać, szepnąć
seal-blood - przypieczone krwią
wrath - gniew, złość

madness - szaleństwo, obłąd, świr

played to - grać aby; grać

'Dan-nan-Ron'; it was the song of his soul, that; and yours is the 'Davsa-na-Mairv.'"

This letter was ever in his mind; this, and what happened in the **gloaming** when he **sailed away** for Skye in the **herring-smack** of two men who lived at Armandale in Sleat.

For, as the boat moved slowly out of the haven, one of the men asked him if he was sure that no one was left upon the island; for he thought he had seen a **figure on** the rocks, waving a black **scarf**.

Achanna shook his head; but just then his companion cried that at that moment he had seen the same thing.

So the **smack** was put about, and when she was moving slowly through the haven again, Achanna **sculled ashore** in the little coggly **punt**.

In **vain** he searched here and there, calling loudly again and again.

Both men could hardly have been mistaken, he thought.

If there were no human **creature** on the island, and if their eyes had not played them false, who could it be? The **wraith** of Marcus, **mayhap**; or might it be the old man himself (his father), risen to **bid farewell** to his youngest son, or to warn him?

It was no use to wait longer, so, looking often behind him, he made his way to the boat again, and **rowed** slowly out **toward** the smack.

Jerk-jerk-jerk across the water came, low but only too loud for him, the opening **motif** of the "Damhsa-na-Mairbh." A horror **came upon** him, and he drove the boat through the water so that the sea **splashed** over the **bows**. When he came on **deck** he cried in a **hoarse** voice to the man next him to put up the **helm**, and let the smack **swing** to the wind.

"There is no one there, Callum Campbell," he **whispered**.

"And who is it that will be making that strange music?"

"What music?"

"Sure it has stopped now, but I heard it clear, and so did Anndra MacEwan. It was like the sound of a **reed** pipe, and the tune was an **eery** one at that."

gloaming - zmrok, zmierzch
sailed away - odpłynąć
herring-smack - kuter rybacki

figure on - planować; oczekiwać
scarf - szalik

smack - uderzyć, dać klapsa, klaps, trzaśnięcie, plaśnięcie
sculled - łopatki
ashore - na brzeg, do brzegu, na lądzie
punt - grać, funt irlandzki, łódź płaskodenna

vain - próżny, daremny

creature - istota, stworzenie, stwór
wraith - upiór, widmo, zjawa
mayhap - może
bid - licytować, rozkazać, kazać, wezwać, życzyć, oferta, licytacja, polecenie
farewell - pożegnanie, pożegnalny, żegnać się, pożegnać się

rowed - wiosłować, rządzić
toward - ku, do, w stronę, w kierunku

motif - motyw
came upon - natknąć się na (coś), natrafić na (coś)
splashed - zachlapany, plusk, pluskać
bows - (bow) zginać się, uklonić się, klaniać się, kokarda, dziób, łuk do strzelania
deck - pokład (statku); piętro (w autobusie, samolocie); płyta podstawowa (adaptera, magnetofonu); zbiór {informatyka}; działka, porcja (np. narkotyku); powalić na ziemię (np. silnym ciosem); taras (z tyłu domu); talia (kart)
hoarse - chrypka, zachrypnięty, ochryply
helm - kierować, drążek sterowy
swing - huścić się, bachnąć, huśtawka, bujawka

whispered - szeptać, szeptać, szepnąć

reed - trzcina, stroik, stroikowy, trzciny, puszczalka, płoch
eery - upiorny, pełen grozy, niesamowity, przedziwny, tajemniczy

"It was the Dance of the Dead."

"And who will be playing that?" asked the man, with fear in his eyes.

"No living man."

"No living man?"

"No. I'm thinking it will be one of my brothers who was drowned here, and by the same token that it is Gloom, for he **played upon** the feadan. But if not, then-then--"

The two men **waited in breathless** silence, each **trembling** with **superstitious** fear; but at last the elder made a sign to Achanna to finish.

"Then-it will be the **Kelpie**."

"Is there-is there one of the-cave-women here?"

"It is said; and you know of old that the Kelpie sings or plays a strange tune to **wile seamen** to their death."

At that moment the fantastic, **jerking** music came loud and clear across the **bay**. There was a horrible suggestion in it, as if dead bodies were moving along the ground with long **jerks**, and crying and laughing wild. It was enough; the men, Campbell and MacEwan, would not now have waited longer if Achanna had offered them all he **had in** the world.

Nor were they, or he, out of their panic **haste** till the smack stood well out at sea, and not a sound could be **heard from** Eilanmore.

They stood watching, silent. Out of the **dusky mass** that lay in the **seaward** way to the north came a red **gleam**. It was like an eye staring after them with **blood-red glances**.

"What is that, Achanna?"

"It looks as though a fire had been lighted in the house up in the island. The door and the window must be open. The fire must be fed with wood, for no **peats** would give that **flame**; and there were none lighted when I left. To my knowing, there was no wood for burning except the wood of the shelves and the bed."

"And who would be doing that?"

"I know of that no more than you do, Callum Campbell."

played upon - wykorzystywać, wykorzystać
słabość

waited in - zostać w domu, czekając na czyjąś
wizytę

breathless - zdyszany, zapierający dech

trembling - (tremble) zadrzeć, drzeć, trząść się,
drżenie

superstitious - przesądny

kelpie - kelpie, duch wodny w postaci konia, który
topi dosiadających go jeźdźców

wile - nęcić, oszukać, fortel

seamen - marynarz

jerking - (jerk) szarpać, pchać, podrzucać,
szarpnięcie, drgający

bay - ujadać, wycie, zatoka, wnęka

jerks - szarpać, pchać, cisnąć, szarpnięcie, nagły
ruch

had in - zawierać w sobie coś

haste - pośpiech

heard from - usłyszeć, mieć od kogoś wiadomości
lub relację

dusky - mroczny, śniady, smagły

mass - gromadzić się, zbierać się, gromadzenie się,
zbieranie się, masa, tłum

seaward - od strony morza, w kierunku morza, od
lądu

gleam - lśnić, błyszczyć, poświata, poblask, błysk

blood-red - krwistoczerwony

glances - zerkać, zerknąć, rzucać okiem, rzucić
okiem, spojrzeć, pogląd, rzut oka, błyszczyć

peats - torf

flame - płomień, kochanka, kochanek, krytycyzm,
ognista czerwień, rozpalić, rozpalać