

**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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Ruda Śląska, 2024

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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 César, myself (Hermann), and a sister named Marcella.

**Latin** is still the language spoken in that country; and that will 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, kmięć  
**hungarian** - węgierski, Węgier, Węgierka  
**nobleman** - szlachcic  
**illiterate** - niepiśmienny, niegramotny, analfabeta, analfabetka

**respectability** - poważanie, szacunek, przyzwoitość  
**stewardship** - zarządzanie

**latin** - łacina, Łatynos  
**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, fabuła, intrygować  
**seducer** - uwodziciel

**impetuosity** - porywczność, 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 **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 **pin**es 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 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

**tragical** - tragiczne

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

**native country** - ojczysty kraj

**intermission** - przerwa

**intricacies** - zawilość

**seclusion** - odosobnienie, zacisze

**recollections** - wspomnienie, przypomnienie, medytacja

**knit** - dzianina, robić na drutach, dziać, zrosnąć 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** - wątpliwy, niepewny, niepewnie

**harvest** - żniwa, żniwo, plon, urodzaj

**wolves** - wilk, basior, wadera, pożreć, pochłonąć

**incessantly** - nieustannie

**prowled** - grasować

**foresters** - leśnik

**livelihood** - źródło utrzymania, utrzymanie

**charcoal** - węgiel drzewny, antracyt

**smelting** - wytapianie

**habitation** - zamieszkiwanie, domostwo

**pin**es - sosna, sosnowy, piniowy

**expanse** - przestrzeń, bezkres

**beneath** - pod, poniżej

**topmost** - najwyższy

**boughs** - gałąź, konar

**descended** - zstąpił, schodzić, zejść, zniżyć

**desolate** - pustoszyć, wyludniać, wymarły, opuszczony

**live in** - mieszkać na miejscu

**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 César 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 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 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** - pelznąć, skradać się, wkradać się, przypelznąć, czubek, głupek

**heaps** - hałdy, sęta, 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

**peculiar** - osobliwy

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

**unsuccessful** - nieudany

**gladly** - chętnie

**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** - przyzwyczajając, przyzwyczać

**ill usage** - złe traktowanie, znęcanie się

**piteously** - żałośnie, rozpaczliwie

My father drew his **stool** nearer to the **hearth**, **muttered** something 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.

**stool** - stolec, taboret  
**hearth** - palenisko, ognisko domowe  
**muttered** - wymamrotać, mruknąć, mamrotać, mamrotanie  
**abuse** - nadużycie, zniewaga  
**unkindly** - nieprzyjemnie, nieuprzejmie, nieżyczliwie

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

**exertions** - wysiłek, natężenie  
**crowd round** - gromadzić się

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.

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

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

**half-an-hour** - półgodzinny (np. seans)  
**howl** - wycie, wyć  
**wolf** - wilk, basior, wadera, pożreć, pochłonąć

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

**seized** - chwycić, złapać, chwytać, łapać

We all waited (**anxiously** listening), for we thought that if he 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**?

**anxiously** - z niepokojem, z niecierpliwością  
**harsh** - szorstki, bezwzględny  
**look up to** - poważać, patrzeć na kogoś z podziwem

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.

**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

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

**amiable** - sympatyczny, przyjazny, życzliwy, przyjacielski

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 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 César, going to the door.

**long time** - długo, długi czas; stary; odwieczny

"Take care," said Marcella, "the wolves must be about now, and we 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, César," 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 **await** his coming, when we heard the sound of a **horn**. We listened- there 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 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.

**cautiously** - ostrożnie

**peeped** - zerknąć, podejrzeć, podglądać, spojrzeć

**supper** - kolacja

**venison** - dziczyzna, sarnina

**superintendence** - nadzór

**platters** - półmisek, taca

**await** - czekać, oczekiwać

**horn** - róg, klakson

**ushering in** - być w ważnym momencie, zaznaczać lub świętować ważny moment; dokonać ważnych zmian

**hunter** - myśliwy, lowca

**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

**pine** - sosna, sosnowy, piniowy

**disbelieved** - nie dowierzać, nie dawać wiary

**eager** - chętny, przejęty, podekscytowany

**disregarded** - zlekceważony, lekceważyć

**decoyed** - zwabiony, przynęta

**slacken** - zwalniać, zmniejszać prędkość, połuźnić