TRANSLATION PECULIARITIES OF ALLUSIVE TITLES

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ABSTRACT:

The aim of the paper is to study translation peculiarities of allusion, specifically allusive titles in J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye". The article highlights the main strategies that were implemented by the translators. Two versions of translation are discussed in the paper. Comparative and contrastive methods have been conducted to reveal translation differences between direct and indirect translations.

Key words: intertext, allusion, allusive title

INTRODUCTION:

The interest in studying the processes of intertextual interaction in various fields of modern philology is extremely great. Speaking of intertextuality we usually mean the relationships or links that may be found among different books and texts. The problem of intertextuality is relevant at present and is in demand in many fields of knowledge, since it is based on the idea of a dialogue between various texts. [4, p. 13].

In Merriam-Webster's dictionary, it is defined as "the complex interrelationship between a text and other texts taken as basic to the creation or interpretation of the text". [9].

Different opinions on the term "intertextuality" have been . V. Chernyavskaya devides the existing opinions into two big models: broad and narrow.

Broad (literary). From the point of view of this model, intertextuality is considered as a universal property of the text, that is, it implies an understanding of any text as an intertext. The representatives of this theory are J. Kristeva, M. Bakhtin, R. Barthes, G. Gennete, M. Riffaterre, H. Bloom and others.

Narrow (linguistic). According to this model, intertextuality is a specific quality of certain texts. Among the representatives of this theory were I. Arnold, I. Ilyin, V. Chernyavskaya, Yu. Lotman and others [6: 180].

The present article bases on the second model of intertextuality, ie. the narrow model. The followers of this model and A. Bezrukov among them assume that intertextuality is manifested in the text - directly or indirectly, fixedly or dynamically, distinguishing three main types of links:

- 1) "quotes" textual links direct manifestations in the text, its relationship with other texts;
- "reminiscences" contextual connections indirect, perceived through the context, to the texts manifested in it;
- 3) "allusions" metatextual connections directly-mediated, that is, perceived directly, but through the work as a dynamic form of the text. [3, pp. 48-49]

CHALLENGES OF TRANSLATING ALLUSION IN J.D. SALINGER'S "THE CATCHER IN THE RYE":

Allusions in general and allusive titles specifically find their distinct place in many works of 20th century American and British literature. In the 20th century English literature there was a tendency among different writers and poets of making intertextual connections through allusions, quotations, epigraphs, allusive titles, etc. An increasing interest towards intertextuality is connected with both First and Second World Wars, which lead to crisis not only in economic sphere but also in literature. D. Daiches called 1920s as 'cvnical' which emphasizes the crisis of faith, the collapse of Victorian morality and the ridicule of all ideals [5, p. 49].

Despite this critical view point, the study of translation peculiarities of allusive titles opens new perspectives for interpretation.

In the scope of this article, we will focus our attention on translation peculiarities of allusion in J. D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye" and its Armenian renderings.

The novel's title alludes to R. Burns' "Comin' Thro' the Rye". It is noteworthy that there are two variants of the novel's translation. The first one is translated from Russian, i.e. we face indirect translation, and the second one is an example of direct translation, i.e. it is translated into Armenian directly from English. The indirectly translated one is rendered as "Տարեկանի արտում՝ անդունդի եզրին" by A. Ghukasyan. It can be conditioned by the fact that in Russian it is translated as "Над пропастью во ржи". It is interesting to note that the word "catcher" has been omitted in both Russian and Armenian titles. The Russian translator added the word "пропасть" and the Armenian translator did so rendering it as "անդունդ" and adding the word "tqp" which is absent in both English titles. The and Russian next transformation that we face is the addition of the word "upun" which is absent in Russian and English titles as well. It can be conditioned by the fact that the word "տարեկան" is ambiguous and the addition of the word "unun" prevents readers from misunderstanding. We can also state about the use of concretization by the translator.

The second version of the translation is entitled " Φ pųpsp uupbųuup upunuu", which is translated directly from English by A. Atabekyan. We can see the translation of the word "rye" by means of the word combination, which has the similar reasoning as in case of the first one. The interesting thing here is the translation of the English word "catcher" into the Armenian " $\Phi p l h s$ ". It can be viewed as a biblical allusion as Jesus Christ, according to M. Anokhina, is assumedly the "catcher of human souls/men". [10]. We can find it in the Bible, in particular, in the book of Luke. [see Luke, 5pp. 1-11].

It should be noted that the novel is allusive not only because of its title but also due to a lot of allusions and quotations in the text. Moreover, the title itself could not be referred to as allusive if not these parts in the text. The reader cannot understand the message hidden in the title of the novel, its connection with the contents of the book until Chapter 22 when the title is disclosed within a very small part.

You know that song 'If a body catch a body comin' through the rye'? I'd like--"

"It's 'If a body meet a body coming through the rye'!" old Phoebe said. "It's a poem. By Robert Burns."

"I know it's a poem by Robert Burns."

She was right, though. It is "If a body meet a body coming through the rye." I didn't know it then, though.

"I thought it was 'If a body catch a body,'" I said. "Anyway, I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody's around--nobody big, I mean--except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to **catch** everybody if they start to go over the cliff--I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going I have to come out from somewhere and **catch them**. That's all I'd do all day. I'd just be **the catcher in the rye** and all. I know it's crazy, but that's the only thing I'd really like to be. I know it's crazy." (2, p. 179-180)

Two versions of translation will be analyzed below. The passage is translated indirectly into Armenian by A. Ghukasyan as follows: — Գիտե՞ս, մի այսպիսի երգ կա․ «Եթե դու երեկոյան բոնել ես մեկին տարեկանի արտում․․․»

– Այսպես չէ։ Հարկավոր է ասել «Եթե մեկը կանչել է մեկին երեկոյան տարեկանի արտում»: Դա Ռոբերտ Բերնսի բանաստեղծությունն է։

– Գիտեմ, որ Բերնսի բանաստեղծությունն է։

Նա իրավացի էր։ Այնտեղ իսկապես այդպես է․ **«Եթե մեկը կանչել է մեկին երեկոյան տարեկանի արտում»։** Ճիշտն ասած ես մոռացել էի։

– Ինձ թվում էր, թե այնտեղ «**բոնել է** մեկին երեկոյան տարեկանի արտում», — Հասկանո՞ւմ ասում եմ։ _ ես, ես պատկերացնում եմ, թե ինչպես փոքրիկները երեկոյան խաղում են վիթխարի դաշտում, տարեկանի արտում։ Հազարավոր փոքրիկներ, և շուրջը ոչ մի մարդ, ոչ մի մեծ չկա բացի ինձնից։ Իսկ ես կանգնած եմ զառիթափի եզրին, անդունդի պոնկին, հասկանո[°]ւմ ես։ Ու իմ գործն այն է, որ **բռնեմ** երեխաներին, թույլ չտամ, որ սայթաքեն, անդունդն ընկնեն։ Հասկանո՞ւմ ես, նրանք խաղում են ու չեն տեսնում ուր են գնում, իսկ ես վազում եմ ու **բոնում** նրանց, որ ցած չընկնեն։ Ահա և իմ ամբողջ աշխատանքը։ Պահպանել երեխաներին տարեկանի **արտում, անդունդի եզրին։** Հասկանում եմ, սա հիմարություն է, բայց միակ բանն է, որ ես ուզում եմ իսկապես։ Երևի հիմար եմ։ [7, թ. 179-180]

Here are some peculiarities that we have observed. The sentence "If a body catch a body coming through the rye", like the title, alludes to R. Burns' "Comin' Thro' the Rye". An interesting thing here is the transformation of the word "meet" from the pre-text into "catch" in the source text, which leads to the activation of both texts. One should pay attention to the fact that the verb" catch" is used in the base form like in the alluded text (Gin a body **meet** a body...) [1, p. 119], which is another marker of the existence of an intertext.

However, in the Armenian translation it changes its form and is translated as "phubluu". Grammar substitution takes place, in particular the base form turns into second person singular form of present perfect tense in Armenian. This kind of transformation is preconditioned by the fact that this indirect5 translation, being translated from Russian. So, we can observe not only grammatical but also lexical transformations.

Of special importance is the study of the noun "body" which is repeated in source sentence twice. In the first case it is translated into Armenian as "դու" and in the second case as "մեկին". It is noteworthy that the substitution of part of speech takes place, i.e. the noun "body" in the first case becomes the personal pronoun "դու" and in the second case indefinite pronoun "մեկին".

Another interesting transformation is connected with the addition of the word "երեկոյան" in the target text translated from Russian. It can be due to the translation variant of R. Burns' poem in Russian by S. Marshak [10], in which the translator rendered the sentence "coming through the rye" as "вечером во ржи".

It is worth mentioning that the sentence "If a body catch a body coming through the rye" is repeated in the passage twice, but in case of indirect translation we face two different sentences. It can be assumed that it is because of the fact that it is a song and instead of repeating the whole sentence, the translator decided to shorten it. Therefore, the sentence "bpt nnu utuhhu pout to the translator decided to ..." is shortened into "bptunuu muptuuuh munnuu...". Another case that should be examined is the verb "meet" in the sentence "If a body meet a body coming through the rye." It is translated into Armenian as "կանչել է". This is an example of indirect translation. In this case, the base form of the verb turns into third person singular form of present perfect tense in Armenian. That variant of translation in its turn is conditioned by the use of the Russian version of the pre-text. It means that the grammar substitution takes place.

The same passage has quite a different interpretation in the direct translation done by A. Atabekyan.

- Լսել ես այն երգը. **«Եթե մեկը որսա մյուսին** տարեկանի արտում...» ...Կուզեի․․․
- «Եթե մեկը տեսնի մյուսին տարեկանի արտում», ասաց Ֆիբին։- Ռոբերտ Բըրնսի բանաստեղծությունն է։
- -Գիտեմ, որ Ռոբերտ Բըրնսի բանաստեղծությունն է։

Նա ձիշտ էր ասում։ **«Եթե մեկը տեսնի մյուսին տարեկանի արտում**»։ Ես չգիտեի։

-Խնձ թվում էր՝ **«Եթե մեկը որսա մյուսին...»,-**ասացի։- Խնչևէ, պատկերացնում էի, թե երեխաներն ինչպես են խաղում տարեկանի արտում։ Հազարավոր փոքր երեխաներ, ու շուրջը ոչ ոք չկա, ոչ մի մեծ, բացի ինձնից։ Իսկ ես կանգնած եմ ժայոի եզրին։ Ստիպված եմ **բռնել** բոլորին, որ չընկնեն ժայռից. նրանք վազվզում են ու չեն տեսնում, թե ուր են գնում, ու ես ինչ-որ տեղից պետք է դուրս գամ ու **բռնեմ** նրանց։ Իմ գործը միայն դա է։ Ես **փրկիչ եմ տարեկանի արտում։** Գիտեմ, խենթություն է, բայց միակ բանն է, որ կուզեի անել։ Գիտեմ, խենթություն է։ (8, p. 193-194)

As it was mentioned above, the word "catch" is semantically significant as it activates both the pre-text and the source text. We saw earlier that in case of indirect translation it was interpreted by means of grammar substitution. We cannot state the same about the example of direct translation, as A. Atabekyan suggests the word "npuɯl" for that word. In this case we can say that the word is rendered literarily.

The next sentence in question is "Եթե մեկը որսա մյուսին տարեկանի արտում…". It is an Armenian version of the sentence "If a body catch a body coming through the rye". The word "body" is translated as "մեկը" in the first case and as "մյուսին" in the second case. The substitution of part of speech takes place, i.e. the first "body" turns into the indefinite pronoun "մեկը" and the second "body" becomes the demonstrative pronoun "մյուսին". We can also observe the word "body" in a pair. In that case, we can say that the pair is translated with the help of reciprocal pronoun "մեկը մյուսին" in Armenian.

One should pay special attention to the following passage:

"What I have to do, I have to **catch** everybody if they start to go over the cliff--I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going I have to come out from somewhere and **catch them**". [2, p. 180]

Ու իմ գործն այն է, որ **բռնեմ** երեխաներին, թույլ չտամ, որ սայթաքեն, անդունդն ընկնեն։ Հասկանո՞ւմ ես, նրանք խաղում են ու չեն տեսնում ուր են գնում, իսկ ես վազում եմ ու **բռնում** նրանց, որ ցած չընկնեն։ (7: 180)

Ստիպված եմ **բոնել** բոլորին, որ չընկնեն ժայոից․ նրանք վազվզում են ու չեն տեսնում, թե ուր են գնում, ու ես ինչ-որ տեղից պետք է դուրս գամ ու **բոնեմ** նրանց [8,թ. 194]։

This extract can be understood metaphorically. Here the word "catch" can be understood as "rescue", i.e. it depicts the character's wish to rescue everyone, keep them from stumbling and making mistakes. So, the translator could have translated the verb "catch" as "փրկել" in Armenian instead of the word "բոնեյ".

The passage is important as it activates the title and proves the notion of "catcher of men", i.e. it depicts Christ and the translation of the word "catcher" as " ψ p ψ b Σ " suggested in the title makes sense. The author connects the passage both with the pre-text and the novel's title, disclosing the meaning of the title with the help of the following small passage from Chapter 22.

Thousands of little kids, and nobody's around--nobody big, I mean--except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff--I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going I have to come out from somewhere and catch them. That's all I'd do all day. I'd just be **the catcher in the rye** and all. [2, p. 180]

Հազարավոր փոքրիկներ, և շուրջը ոչ մի մարդ, ոչ մի մեծ չկա բացի ինձնից։ Իսկ ես կանգնած եմ զառիթափի եզրին, անդունդի պոնկին, հասկանո՞ւմ ես։ Ու իմ գործն այն է, որ բռնեմ երեխաներին, թույլ չտամ, որ սայթաքեն, անդունդն ընկնեն։ Հասկանո՞ւմ ես, նրանք խաղում են ու չեն տեսնում ուր են գնում, իսկ ես վազում եմ ու բռնում նրանց, որ Uhա զած չընկնեն։ h իմ ամբողջ Պահպանել աշխատանքը։ երեխաներին տարեկանի արտում, անդունդի եզրին։ [7, p.180]

Հազարավոր փոքր երեխաներ, ու շուրջը ոչ ոք չկա, ոչ մի մեծ, բացի ինձնից։ Իսկ ես կանգնած եմ ժայռի եզրին։ Ստիպված եմ բռնել բոլորին, որ չընկնեն ժայռից. նրանք վազվզում են ու չեն տեսնում, թե ուր են գնում, ու ես ինչ-որ տեղից պետք է դուրս գամ ու բռնեմ նրանց։ Իմ գործը միայն դա է։ Ես **փրկիչ եմ տարեկանի արտում**։ [8, p. 194] The connection between the translated title **«Φրկիչը տարեկանի արտում»** and the novel is carried out by the sentence Եu **փրկիչ եմ տարեկանի արտում**, in other words this is key sentence for the direct Armenian translation.

It is obvious that both translators used their version of the title in the text, paraphrasing it and adapting to the context.

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, we can say that the translation of intertexts, in particular allusions, needs a comprehensive approach: the translator should thoroughly study both the pre-text and the text of translation.

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