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功能主义目的论指导下的《圣诞小镇日记》
翻译报告

A Report on the Translation of *SantaLand Diaries*
in the Perspective of Skopostheorie

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摘要

功能主义目的论以凯瑟琳娜·雷斯、汉斯·威密尔、贾斯塔·赫兹·曼塔莉和克里斯蒂安·诺德等人为代表，是德国当代最具影响力的翻译理论。目的论学者以行为理论为基础，提出翻译是有明确目的的跨文化的人类交际活动，是多种因素交互作用的译文生产活动。

目的论突破了传统的强调“以源文本为中心”的“对等”理论，提出翻译的参与者、外界因素以及译文目的都极大地影响着翻译行为。翻译纲要正是由翻译的参与者、外界因素以及译文目的这三方面要素组成。威密尔提出了翻译三原则，分别是目的原则、连贯原则和忠实原则。诺德又在此基础上补充了“功能加忠诚”原则。雷斯提出的以翻译为导向的文本功能分类法极具指导意义。诺德对文本功能分类做了补充，最终将文本功能类型分为参考型、表情型、操作型和寒暄型四大类。目的论的翻译策略包含文献策略和工具策略两大类。译者通过对翻译纲要和源文本的分析，明确翻译原则，确定译文类型，并最终选择合适的翻译策略。

《圣诞小镇日记》是美国当代知名作家戴维·塞达里斯创作的幽默小品文。译者以功能主义目的论为指导，从翻译目的、翻译原则、文本分类及翻译策略等几方面展开分析，进而得出结论：译文应是表情型文本，要突出讽刺功能；保留幽默小品文的文本风格；翻译采取文献翻译策略，以目的原则为首要准则，连贯原则优先于忠实原则，同时兼顾“功能加忠诚”原则。

最后，本文从阐释、文本功能、文化距离、文本效果四个角度对功能主义目的论视野下的文学翻译实践作了详细分析。

关键词：功能主义目的论；翻译策略；文学翻译；幽默；《圣诞小镇日记》
汉译

Abstract

Skopos theory (German: *Skopostheorie*) is the most influential contemporary translation theory in Germany. The representative scholars are Katharina Reiss, Hans J. Vermeer, Justa Holz Manttari and Christian Nord. On the basis of the theory of behavior, Vermeer proposes the theory that translation is a cross-cultural communication activity with a clear purpose, and that translation is a productive activity, influenced by the interaction of multiple factors. The Skopos theory breaks through the traditional “equivalence-based theories of translation” that holds the source text as the center of the translation with its focus on the importance of the three aspects: the participants, the external factors and the purpose of the target text. Vermeer puts forward three translation rules, including Skopos rule, coherence rule and fidelity rule. On the basis of Vermeer’s theory, Nord adds the principle of “function plus loyalty”. The model of translation-oriented text function put forward by the functionalists can be divided into four categories: the referential function, the expressive function, the appellative function and the phatic expression type. Skopos theory includes two translation strategies, which are documentary strategy and instrumental strategy. Through the analysis of the translation rules and the source text, the translator can define the translation principles, determine the type of the target text, choose and apply the appropriate translation strategies.

“*SantaLand Diaries*” is a humorous essay written by contemporary American writer David Sedaris. With Skopos theory as its theoretical framework, the translation analysis is first carried out from the following aspects which include the translation purpose, the translation principles, text function models and source text. Then in translation practice, in order to achieve the expressive function, especially the ironic effect and retain its humorous style, the translator chooses documentary translation as the strategy while holding the Skopos rule as the most important rule and coherence rule superior to fidelity rule. The principle of “function plus loyalty” is given consideration as well. Finally this thesis concludes by making a detailed analysis of the literature translation practice in the light of Skopos theory from four aspects: the interpretation between the relationship of the source text and target text, the text function of the target text, cultural distance between the source culture and the target culture, and the effect of the target text.

Key words: Skopostheorie; translation strategy; literary translation; humor; a translation of *SantaLand Diaries*

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第一章 概述

1.1 资料来源

《圣诞小镇日记》是美国当代作家戴维·塞达里斯(David Sedaris)的幽默小品文,作品中充满机智和幽默,以批判的态度和夸张的手法,反映人性特点,剖析社会状况,这些正是讽刺类文学的特点。讽刺文学的历史源远流长,主要形式有诗、戏剧、小说和小品文等。林语堂曾撰文论幽默:“幽默本是人生之一部分,所以一国的文化,到了相当程度,必有幽默的文学出现。”(1994:12)。可见,幽默不仅是个人心态和智慧的体现,同时,它也是一个民族的文化所不可忽略的组成部分。“幽默反映了特定的社会群体在各历史时期的文化特点。”(佟晓梅,2007)在当代,幽默无处不在,从文学到戏剧、从艺术到影视娱乐,幽默成为人们最常用的表达方式之一。戴维·塞达里斯被评为美国当代最杰出的幽默大师之一,文笔温和幽默,不乏智慧,他的作品映射人性特点和社会问题,引人思考,具有时代代表性和文学价值。

1.2 作者简介

戴维·塞达里斯是美国当代著名的幽默作家,以诙谐的机智嘲讽、尖锐的社会批判闻名。在他的文章里,他用讽刺和幽默反映人性,用文化隐喻和所谓的政治正确性剖析社会问题。塞达里斯擅长撰写诙谐散文、幽默小品文,已出版《甩不掉的尴尬》(*When You Are Engulfed in Flames*)、《冰上假日》(*Holidays on Ice*)、《说得美》(*Me Talk Pretty One Day*)等多部作品集,获得瑟伯幽默文学奖,并两次获得格莱美奖提名,被称为美国当代“最搞笑的作家”。

1.3 译文内容概述

《圣诞小镇日记》讲述一位 33 岁的中年男人为了编剧梦想奔赴纽约,最终却因生活所迫沦落至梅西商场扮演圣诞精灵的故事。主人公以日记的口吻记录下扮演精灵的工作经历。

文章一开篇首先提到主人公去应聘 UPS 快递公司的司机助理,当被问到应

聘该职位的原因时，他回答“因为喜欢 UPS 的制服颜色”。这份工作当然因此落空。一个憨傻落魄的中年男人的形象便也跃然纸上。

主人公自称最看不起穿着奇装异服的派单员，自己却穿上了绿色的女式天鹅绒灯笼裤扮演起精灵。他将参与电视剧《只此一生》的编剧当作自己至高的梦想，却发现许多“精灵”就是该剧的演员。主人公中年失业，落魄不堪，却同情起其他在经济危机中失业的“精灵”。他本坚信人各不同，每个人有各自的独特性，最后却发现大众行为相似地仿佛“事先拿到了一模一样的剧本”。主人公还遇到沉浸在圣诞老人角色中无法自拔的扮演者，他对父母们无视孩子的哭泣、孩子们被迫挂着眼泪假笑而感到不可思议，又对参观者们的种族歧视司空见惯。主人公每天的遭遇都映射着一种社会现象，每个角色都能找到某种人性的对应，哪怕只是在梅西的圣诞小镇里扮演精灵，作者就已写尽世间百态，看尽世界和人心。

第二章 源文与译文

2.1 英文源文

SantaLand Diaries

I was in a coffee shop looking through the want ads when I read, "Macy's Herald Square, the largest store in the world, has big opportunities for outgoing, fun-loving people of all shapes and sizes who want more than just a holiday job! Working as an elf in Macy's SantaLand means being at the center of the excitement..."

I circled the ad and then I laughed out loud at the thought of it. The man seated next to me turned on his stool, checking to see if I was a lunatic. I continued to laugh, quietly. Yesterday I applied for a job at UPS. They are hiring drivers' helpers for the upcoming Christmas season and I went to their headquarters filled with hope. In line with three hundred other men and women my hope diminished. During the brief interview I was asked why I wanted to work for UPS and I answered that I wanted to work for UPS because I like the brown uniforms. What did they expect me to say?

"I'd like to work for UPS because, in my opinion, it's an opportunity to showcase my substantial leadership skills in one of the finest private delivery companies this country has seen since the Pony Express!"

I said I liked the uniforms and the UPS interviewer turned my application facedown on his desk and said, "Give me a break."

I came home this afternoon and checked the machine for a message from UPS but the only message I got was from the company that holds my student loan, Sallie Mae. Sallie Mae sounds like a naive and barefoot hillbilly girl but in fact they are a ruthless and aggressive conglomeration of bullies located in a tall brick building somewhere in Kansas. I picture it to be the tallest building in that state and I have decided they hire their employees straight out of prison. It scares me.

The woman at Macy's asked, "Would you be interested in full-time elf or evening and weekend elf?"

I said, "Full-time elf."

I have an appointment next Wednesday at noon.

I am a thirty-three-year-old man applying for job as an elf.

I often see people on the streets dressed as objects and handing out leaflets. I tend to avoid leaflets but it breaks my heart to see a grown man dressed as a taco. So, if there is a costume involved, I tend not only to accept the leaflet, but to accept it graciously, saying, "Thank you so much," and thinking, You poor, pathetic son of a bitch. I don't know what you have but I hope I never catch it. This afternoon on Lexington Avenue I accepted a leaflet from a man dressed as a camcorder. Hot dogs, peanuts, tacos, video cameras, these things make me sad because they don't fit in on the streets. In a parade, maybe, but not on the streets. I figure that at least as an elf I will have a place; I'll be in Santa's Village with all the other elves. We will reside in a fluffy wonderland surrounded by candy canes and gingerbread shacks. It won't be quite as sad as standing on some street corner dressed as a french fry.

I am trying to look on the bright side. I arrived in New York three weeks ago with high hopes, hopes that have been challenged. In my imagination I'd go straight from Penn Station to the offices of "One Life to Live," where I would drop off my bags and spruce up before heading off for drinks with Cord Roberts and Victoria Buchannon, the show's greatest stars. We'd sit in a plush booth at the tony cocktail lounge where my new celebrity friends would lift their frosty glasses in my direction and say, "A toast to David Sedaris, the best writer this show has ever had!!!"

I'd say, "You guys, cut it out." It was my plan to act modest.

People at surrounding tables would stare at us, whispering, "Isn't that...? Isn't that...?"

I might be distracted by their enthusiasm and Victoria Buchannon would lay her hand over mine and tell me that I'd better get used to being the center of attention.

But instead I am applying for a job as an elf. Even worse than applying is the very real possibility that I will not be hired, that I couldn't even find work as an elf. That's when you know you're a failure.

This afternoon I sat in the eighth-floor SantaLand office and was told, "Congratulations, Mr. Sedaris. You are an elf."

In order to become an elf I filled out ten pages' worth of forms, took a multiple choice personality test, underwent two interviews, and submitted urine for a drug test. The first interview was general, designed to eliminate the obvious sociopaths. Doing

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