

Talent or Strategies: Y. R. Chao's Translation Philosophy Reflected in the *Alice* Duology

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Abstract

This paper argues that handy translation strategies and a proper view of the original text, instead of talent and educational background, are the major reasons for good translations, by using the example of Y. R. Chao's translations of the *Alice* duology. By reviewing and comparing existing research papers, this paper tries to identify current misunderstandings of the duology as well as of their translations. Then by applying Chao's translation philosophy (represented by the dimensions of fidelity) to the analysis of the translated poem "Jabberwocky," tentative answers to existing confusions are provided. Then problems of Chao's dimensions of fidelity are discussed. In the end, an example is presented to show how translation strategies like those of Chao's can practically lead to better translations.

Keywords

dimensions of fidelity, translation philosophy, Y. R. Chao, *Alice*, Jabberwocky