

**SHARON DEANE-COX – ANNELEEN SPIESSENS (eds.): The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory**

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*The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory*, edited by Sharon Deane-Cox and Anneleen Spiessens, is an ambitious and comprehensive volume that addresses the intricate relationship between translation and memory. This handbook provides a key resource for scholars across various disciplines, including translation studies, memory studies, cultural studies, and history. By bringing together an array of theoretical perspectives, methodological approaches, and case studies, this book offers a nuanced exploration of how translation shapes and is shaped by collective memory.

Throughout the book, numerous case studies provide concrete examples of the interaction between translation and memory. These case studies serve to illustrate theoretical concepts and demonstrate the practical applications of the ideas discussed in the book. By examining specific texts and translation practices, the contributors offer readers a deeper understanding of the complexities involved in translating memory.

The handbook is divided into four parts – “Translation and Memory of Trauma”, “End-Users”, “Figuring Memory and Translation”, “Future Trajectories”. Each of them presents a collection of chapters revolving around the interconnected topics of translation and memory. This review introduces one chapter from each part. The chapter selection was based on the author’s interest in the topics discussed and on methodological approaches used in them.

The first part presents six chapters. Among these, the first chapter by David Bel-

los titled “Translating Holocaust Testimony: Translator’s Perspective” draws attention not only because of the topic of the Holocaust, which is deeply rooted in the history of Slovakia as well, but also because Bellos clearly shows that translating testimonies from difficult times is no easy task for the translator either. One of the testimonies the author presents is multilingual (*Journal of Helene Berr*, 2008), which creates another layer of translation problems, and the author concludes that “even in a text that cries out to be translated and shared, there are brick walls between forms of speech, and they can never be knocked down” (21).

In the second part of the book, the pragmatic dimension of translating memory is presented. Out of the six chapters, the one by Min-Hsiu Liao titled “Reframing Collective Memory in Museums” presents a case study on how photos by John Thompson are used to re-narrate and re-interpret the history of Britain in China. With each new exhibition and intralingual translation of Thompson’s notes, the collective memory is reframed to avoid colonial ways of seeing and remembering history. On the other hand, the interlingual translation into Chinese attempts to show a British photographer who empathizes with the Chinese people – a motive that is not present in Thompson’s notes. Thus, the living memory of John Thompson is institutionally constructed.

Part three focuses on figuring memory and translation. These six chapters present translation as a distinct form of transcultural remembering. In “Collective and Corrective

Memories of a Classic: Oliver Twist's Memory in Translation", Julie Tarif explores different retranslations and reeditions, board and video games, and various other adaptations of *Oliver Twist*. Through a complex corpus analysis, Tarif shows how some themes are modified in order to include racial inclusiveness and queer representation into the collective memory.

The last part of the volume presents six chapters from areas that are ripe for future development and debate. Ruslan Mitkov explores an intersection between translation, memory, and technology in the chapter "Translation Memory Systems". Mitkov compares various translation memory systems and concludes that those based on the technology of deep learning seem to show the most promise. This finding holds true today in the age of AI and LLMs which are partly built upon the same technology of deep learning.

*The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Memory* redefines the boundaries of in-

terdisciplinary scholarship by examining the boundaries between translation and collective memory. This volume, through its varied chapters, defines the critical role of translators as mediators of cultural heritage and history. By addressing both historical and contemporary issues, the handbook fosters a deeper appreciation of the complexities involved in the translation process. For academics and practitioners alike, this book provides essential tools and thought-provoking content that will inspire ongoing dialogue in translation and memory studies.

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