

The Duet of the Author and the Translator: Looking at Style through Shifts in Literary Translation

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ABSTRACT

This is a report on a study proposing a flexible, easily replicable method for looking at the translator's style in literary translation. Four literary English-language narrative texts and their Finnish translations are analysed to identify and categorize recurring patterns of optional translation shifts, with emphasis on non-semantic aspects. It is argued that the recurring patterns of optional choices made by the translator represent features of the translator's personal 'style', 'voice', or (local and global) 'strategies', which constitute a 'translator profile'.

KEYWORDS: literary translation, translation shifts, translator's profile, translator's style, translator's voice.