



Rahat Lokum or Bird's Milk?

Interlingual subtitles
for the deaf and hard of hearing to a fantasy film

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Outline

- focus of the project
- challenges to be faced
- audiovisual material
- the project
- questions/comments

Interlingual SDH

- intralingual SDH is not the only SDH variety offered to hearing-impaired audiences (Neves 2005: 118)
- although not very common yet, “interlingual SDH is gradually gaining visibility” (Neves 2009: 152)

Focus of the project

- to examine the creation process of interlingual SDH to a fantasy film
- to investigate whether the notion of ageing of translation holds true in the case of film productions

Challenges

- interlingual SDH
- film genre
- technical constraints
 - audience's reading speed vs witty dialogues
 - choice of colours vs multiple characters
 - transcribing sounds and background music
- ageing of translation?

Audiovisual material

- Andrew Adamson's *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*
- film based on a classic fantasy novel written by C. S. Lewis in 1949
- considered classics of children's literature
- translated into over 40 languages
- first published in Poland in 1985, with Andrzej Polkowski as the author of the Polish text



Sounds

- variety and diversity of sounds, uttered throughout the film
 - e.g. sobbing, grunting, chirping, squealing, howling, snarling, screeching, yelping, moaning, groaning, growling, snorting etc.
- choosing proper equivalent
- selecting its Polish grammatical category (noun, verb or gerund)
- background music

Sounds

- sounds important for understanding the plot:
 - [mówią po niemiecku] – [speaking German]
 - [zamyka drzwi na klucz] – [locks the door]
 - [odgłos spuszczenia wody] – [flushing the toilet]

Technical issues

- multiple characters vs different colours



Technical issues



Proper names

- children's names:
 - Piotr, Zuzanna, Edmund and Łucja
 - vs Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy
- specific names of the characters:
 - Son of Adam, Daughter of Eve, White Witch, Great Cat, Sir Peter Wolfsbane
 - vs Syn Adama, Córka Ewy, Biała Czarowica, Wielki Kot, Piotr Pogromca Wilka
- geographical names:
 - Stone Table, Cair-Paravel, Lone Islands
 - vs Kamienny Stół, Ker-Paravel, Samotne Wyspy

Proper names

- Spare-Oom vs Gar-Deroba
- titles:
 - Queen Lucy the Valiant, King Edmund the Just, Queen Susan the Gentle, King Peter the Magnificent
 - vs Królowa Łucja Mężna, Król Edmund Sprawiedliwy, Królowa Zuzanna Łagodna, Król Piotr Wspaniały
- geographical names?:
 - glistening Eastern Sea, great Western Wood, radiant Southern Sun, clear Northern Sky
 - vs Iśniące Morze Wschodnie, wielka Zachodnia Puszcza, promienne Południowe Słońce, czyste Niebo Północy

Corrections?

DWARF:
KARZEŁ OR KRASNOLUD?



Corrections?

RAHAT LOKUM



OR



BIRD'S MILK?

Corrections?



Conclusions

- demanding task: the film genre required special approach towards SDH creation
- specificity of the audiovisual translation type
- focus on the transfer of non-verbal components of the film
- book translation – to be followed or not?

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Questions or comments?



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