

SUMMARY

Polish speculative fiction is characterized by a wide variety of genres, including science fiction, fantasy, social fiction, ironic fantasy, and post-apocalyptic literature. This diversity is reflected in the works selected for analysis in this dissertation.

The dissertation consists of six chapters, each dedicated to a distinct research issue.

The introduction presents the main objectives and methodology of the study, which is based on a comparative analysis of selected literary texts and their translations into Russian. The research employs tools from literary studies, contrastive linguistics, translation studies, discourse analysis, and intercultural communication. This approach has allowed for the identification of the most significant translation challenges and their impact on the final shape of the translated texts.

The first chapter is theoretical in nature and focuses on general issues related to speculative fiction, its subgenres, and their specific characteristics. Particular attention is paid to terminological discrepancies that make it difficult to define this literary movement unambiguously.

The second chapter examines the state of Polish speculative fiction, discussing its historical development and key authors. It also highlights thematic and stylistic features that define Polish science fiction as a unique literary phenomenon.

The third chapter explores the linguistic specificity of speculative fiction texts, with a particular emphasis on the use of neologisms, terms, and pseudo-terms that serve nominative, expressive, and cognitive functions. Special attention is given to grammatical structures that deviate from the norms of natural language, often playing a crucial role in creating the fictional world. The study examines the strategies and techniques used by translators to convey these unique linguistic features and how their choices affect the reception of the work.

The fourth chapter focuses on the markers of “otherness” and elements of the so-called “third culture.” It analyzes how linguistic and narrative elements signaling “foreignness” in the original text are rendered in the target text and their impact on its structure. Particular attention is paid to borrowings from foreign languages that shape the specificity of the fictional world. The chapter examines translation strategies used to preserve the effect of otherness, cases of cultural adaptation or neutralization of these elements in translation, and their consequences for the perception of cultural exoticism and narrative coherence.

The fifth chapter addresses the translation of proper names in Polish science fiction. Various translation strategies for rendering character names, place names, and terms specific to the fictional world are analyzed. Particular attention is given to meaningful names whose semantics significantly impact the text's interpretation. The chapter discusses dilemmas related to preserving original meanings versus adapting them and the impact of these decisions on the coherence and fidelity of the translation.

The sixth chapter focuses on the translation of substandard language elements frequently found in contemporary science fiction. Their presence often stems from an effort to mimic real-world speech, enhancing the authenticity of dialogues and narration. Vulgarisms, dialects, and slang can emphasize a character's social status, group affiliation, or temperament. At the same time, speculative fiction often employs an elevated style, archaisms, or stylization based on older language forms, making the introduction of substandard elements a deliberate stylistic contrast that enhances humor, drama, or irony. As a result, translating these elements poses a significant challenge. The chapter discusses translation strategies, including adaptation, neutralization, and maintaining the original character of the expressions.

The conducted analysis has led to conclusions regarding the impact of the specificity of Polish speculative fiction on the translation process and the strategies used by translators to preserve the unique features of the source texts.