Is the glass half empty or half full? Reflections on translation theory and practice in Brazil, by Alice Leal

Alinne Balduino Fernandes
UFSC

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Resumo

This book results from Alice Leal’s doctoral research at the Universität Wien carried out from 2007 to 2011, under the supervision of Mary Snell-Hornby. The main objective of her work is to examine the conflict between translation theory and practice in Brazil as well as “the reception of foreign theories and tendencies in the country” (p. 14), at first anchored in the works of two prominent Brazilian scholars, namely Rosemary Arrojo and Paulo Henrique Britto, and then opening up to translation studies in general. The discussion also tackles both the professionalisation of translation and the standpoints of practitioners and researchers, as in whether they have a more essentialist or anti-essentialist orientation, as well as the curricula of some higher education translation programmes in Brazil.

Biografia do Autor

Alinne Balduino Fernandes, UFSC
É professora do Depto de Língua e Literatura Estrangeiras da Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina. Suas principais linhas de pesquisa são o teatro irlandês contemporâneo escrito por mulheres, os processos interpretativos da tradução do texto teatral, a tradução como um encontro intercultural, adaptação e recepção. É a atual vice-coordenadora do NEI (Núcleo de Estudos Irlandeses) da UFSC.

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Or a pessimist, seeing the glass as half empty? Truth is, in the world we live in, both perspectives would be wrong. By the laws of physics and life your glass of life is completely full, and here’s why. According to the laws of physics, unless your glass is in a vacuum like outer space, it is impossible for it to be completely empty. Maybe you are 7,000 miles away from your Family and you get the news that your Dad has bone cancer, which just so happens to be the same type of cancer that a good friend of yours in the area has as well. As you talk with your friend you are able to receive comfort and give some as well. I do not believe in coincidence. I’ve had too many experiences to indicate to me that there is a higher power at work in my life.