

# ON THE QUALITY OF LITERARY TRANSLATION. A TRANSLATION OF A. BARICCO'S NOVEL *SILK* INTO LITHUANIAN

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## S u m m a r y

The assessment of the quality of a literary translation is a complicated task. First of all, there is no established tradition of what criteria a translator should use when translating a literary text, or what the parameters of the assessment of translation should be. Moreover, it is difficult to take into consideration all the aspects of the literary text and to present an exhaustive assessment study on it, especially if it is a sizeable text.

The authors seek to bring their modest contribution into the field of research by presenting the latest insights of Italian scholars and critics of translation studies into the subject of quality problems of translated texts. Keeping the categories and principles in mind, the authors of the article present an analysis of the translation of A. Baricco's novel *Silk* into Lithuanian, with the focus on the choice of translation strategies.

Having discussed the issues of the assessment of the quality of literary translation and having analysed the translation strategies as applied in the novel *Silk*, such as lexical substitutions, compensation, insertions and omissions, the authors suggest that the quality of translation depends on the translator's theoretical approach to the task, i.e. his/her ability to recognize certain dominant structures in the text and to efficiently select and apply appropriate translation strategies. Though a small number of the translator's choices has not been justified from the point of view of translation strategies, the text has kept the overall characteristics – conceptual, stylistic, register and emotional ones – of the original, thus it can be stated that the translated text of the *Silk* is true to the original and is of high translation quality.