

Intratextuality and Translation

Theoretical framework and examples

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Intratextuality vs. Intertextuality

“every text is an intertext; other texts can be perceived within it at various levels, in various forms which may be more or less clearly discerned: the texts of earlier culture and those of its contemporary context. Every text is a new construction of past quotations”

(Roland Barthes, “Texte (théorie du)”, in *Encyclopaedia Universalis* 17 (1996), 998)

Intertextuality

The whole field of relationships between one text and another which are visible to readers.

Hypo-text, hyper-text / intertext

Intertext

- Not an autonomous sign structure
- Parts of it refer to external texts -> it is not delimited - > it cannot be read in only one way
- It has got a twofold coherence: (a) *intratextual* (internal coherence of the text), and (b) *intertextual* (relation to other texts)

Intratextuality

All possible ways of internal coherence, organization, structure of the text that the reader is aware of

- Critical tool of a synchronic reading of the text
- An ideological apprehension - subjectivity

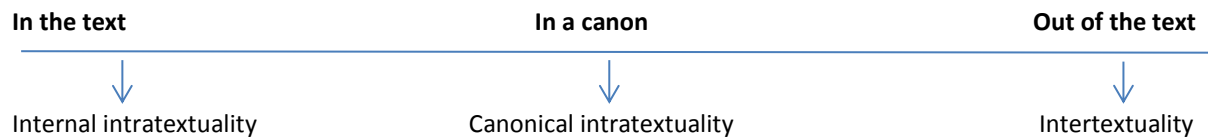
The part and the whole

- Intratextual approaches focus on the details as well as to the big picture and esp. to the ways these details interrelate and construct the whole
- The meaning of the text lies behind this interrelation

"Reading intratextually means looking at the text from different directions (backwards as well as forwards), chopping it up in various ways, building it up again, contracting and expanding its boundaries both within the *opus* and outside it."

(Alison Sharrock and Helen Morales (eds.), (2000). *Intratextuality. Greek and Roman Textual Relation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 5)

The range of intratextuality



Various intratextual phenomena

- Paratext (“the sum of various signs that introduce, frame, present, interrupt or conclude an existing text.··· The paratext generally carries out the function of accompanying or framing another text”
- Re-lecture
- Multiple interpretations
- Allusions through the use of similar vocabulary and motifs

Intratextuality & Translation

- Highlight the intratextual connections through the translation
- Uniformity in the translation of the interconnected parts
- The contribution of exegesis and of a synchronic reading of the biblical text
- The subjective of such a reading / translation

The case of Mk 9:14-27

- Context: after the transfiguration narrative – between two announcements of the Messiah’s death and resurrection
- Exorcism with some particular Markan features
- In the synoptic parallels these features and their intratextual significance is absent

Mk 9, 26-27

²⁶ καὶ κράξας καὶ πολλὰ σπαράξας ἐξῆλθεν· καὶ ἐγένετο ὡσεὶ νεκρός, ὥστε τοὺς πολλοὺς λέγειν ὅτι ἀπέθανεν. ²⁷ ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς κρατήσας τῆς χειρὸς αὐτοῦ ἤγειρεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀνέστη.

Intratextual connections

- The two announcements of Jesus’ death and resurrection that function as a narrative framework to the miracle
- The rising of Jairus’ daughter (5:35-43)
- The angel’s proclamation at the empty tomb (16:6)

The theological implications

- the abrupt ending of Mark – the absence of the resurrected Lord
- the deductive style of Mark
- the implicit proclamation of Jesus’ resurrection in the gospel