Тема: ПЕРЕВОД РАССКАЗОВ МОЛЛИ АНТОПОЛЬ НА РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК

Subject matter: Literary Text, Their Translation and Peculiarities of Their Translation.

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ABSTRACT

The present paper is devoted to the translation of short stories by Molly Antopol, a contemporary American novelist and laureate of many literary awards. It also addresses the issue of some difficulties in the translation, such as rendering multicultural elements in modern English literature, problems of adaptation of literary texts for Russian readers and, finally, a proper correlation between literal and meaningful translation of work of art.

The novels by Molly Antopol are highly valued by the critics and the
English-speaking readers. Molly Antopol’s first book, a collection of stories called “The UnAmericans” has poise and gravity. It is about the weight of family history, the obstacles that the past can impose on the present, and the fraught meaning of home. Her book was translated into many foreign languages and published in seven countries; however, it is little known among Russian readers.

The opening story, “The Old World”, portrays the travails of a lonely 63-year-old divorced man, Howard Siegel. He is attracted to a Ukrainian widow in her early 40s, Svetlana, who comes into his dry cleaning store one day. To the dismay of his “born again” Orthodox Jewish daughter, Beth, and her fiancé, Yaakov (whom she met in Jerusalem), Howard begins dating Svetlana, and, after a brief courtship, marries her. A honeymoon trip back to Svetlana’s homeland proves disastrous for the nascent relationship. Howard senses that it was as if “the moment the plane landed in Kiev, Sveta was no longer certain I belonged in her life.” As is true for many characters in this collection, Howard is desperate to achieve a sustained connection, one he can trust, but seems unable to find it.

In “The Quietest Man”, an absentee father, Tomas Novak, panics when he learns that his 24-year-old daughter, Daniela, has written a play about her family that will be produced Off-Broadway. “I knew any good parent would have been thrilled”, he says. “And I wanted to be”. But Tomas realizes that because he separated from his wife, Katka, when his daughter was 2, “she was bred on a lifetime of her mother’s tales about me”.

Antopol captures perfectly his anxious, paranoid attempts to impress Daniela, and his covert effort to get her to open up about the play he is convinced will humiliate him. Yet the story ends on a surprising and beautifully hopeful note.

“The UnAmericans” is a compassionate and brilliantly rendered debut – and for a book set largely in the past, these stories feel essential to understanding the contemporary world in which we live. They span generations and continents, and the characters – young and old, male and female, Israeli, Ukrainian, Czech, Russian and American – all share a common humanity as they struggle to make sense of the tumultuous times they live in.
The main purpose of the paper has been to explore Antopol’s work on the example of two stories from the book “The UnAmericans”, as well as to create an adequate translation of the two stories (“The Old World”, “The Quietest Man”) from English to Russian preserving all the special aspects of the author's style.

The main result of this work is the translation of Molly Antopol’s stories prepared for publishing and adapted for Russian readers.