Journey to the West: Xiyou ji and Its Translators in the Anglophone World

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Several translations of *Xiyou ji* have been produced since the novel was first introduced to the Anglophone world. Among these translations, the *Monkey* (1942) by Arthur Waley and *The Monkey and the Monk* (2006) by Anthony Yu become two major translations which are accessible to readers of English nowadays. Both of them are abridged forms of the original novel whose immense length and many religious jargons constitute a significant challenge for general readers in the Anglophone world. Due to the translators' different concerns and translation strategies, these two translations differ from each other in many aspects. This paper explores how the two translations connect to their translators' different understandings of the major message conveyed by the novel. In both cases, such an understanding is closely associated with contemporary scholarship on *Xiyou ji*. In addition, through different translation strategies the translators also demonstrate their views of cultural differences in the reception of *Xiyou ji* in the Anglophone world as well as how they deal with those differences in their translations.