Beloved in Intersection: The Unspeakable Translated

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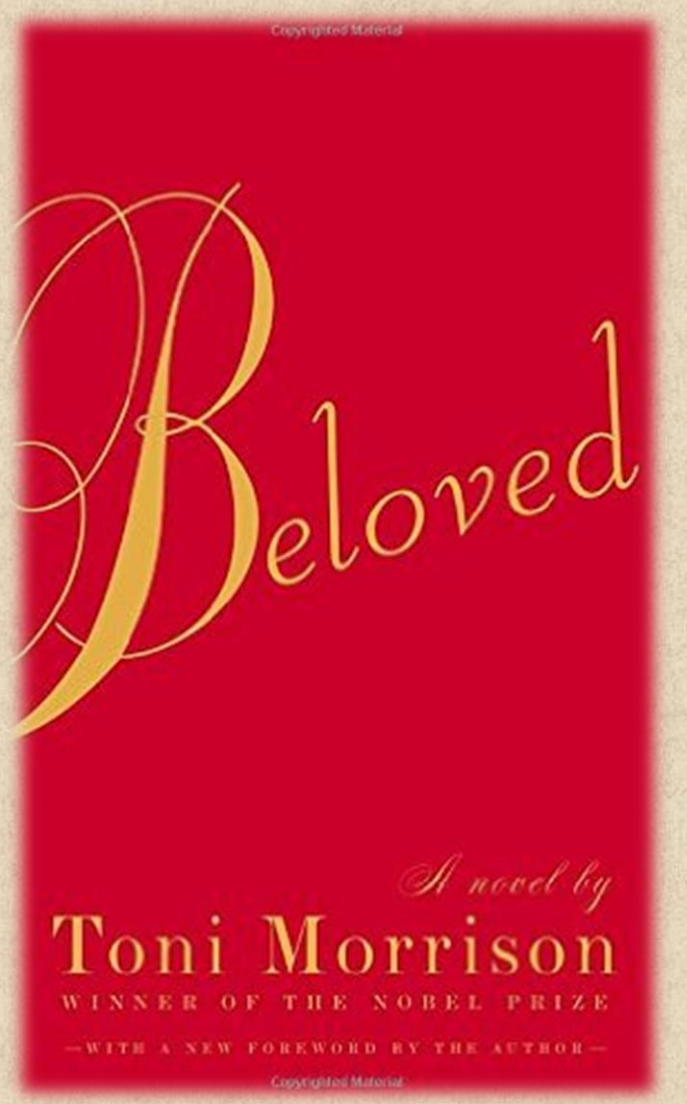
Introduction



Trauma in Literature

African History → Middle Passage → Afro-American History

Memory → "Rememory" in *Beloved* → Novel as Healing

Themes

- **Motherhood**

Slavery and Motherhood Interrelation

- **Home/Space**

Space as alive creature, haunting

- **Memory**

In Beloved memory is repressed, "Collective Amnesia"

- **Community**

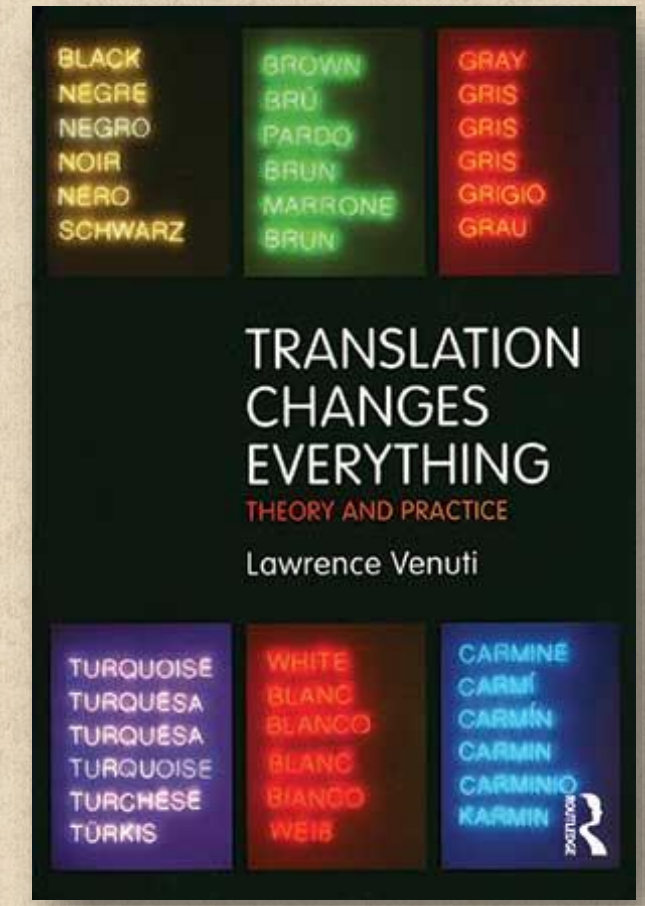
Isolation and the community of ex-slaves

Research Question

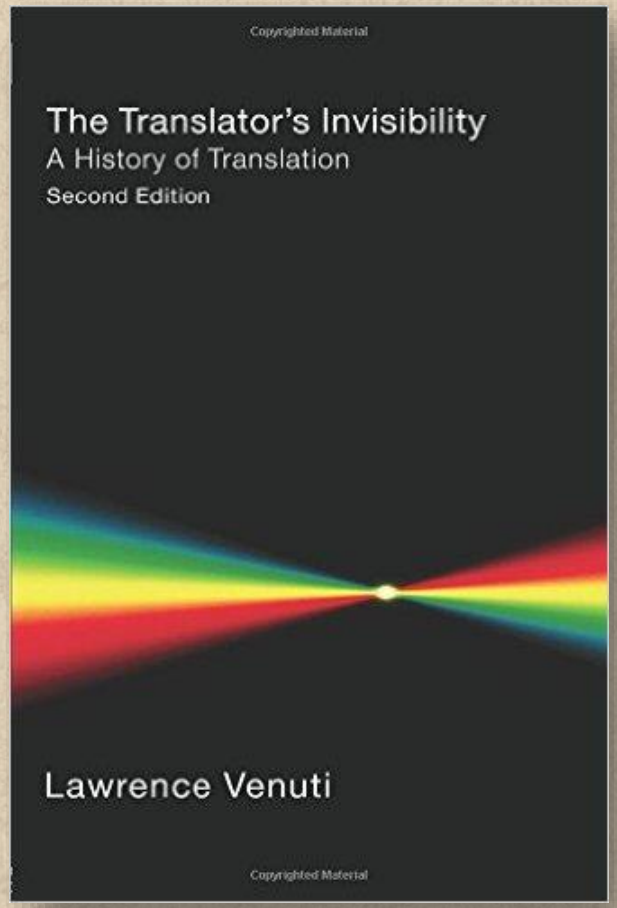
- In consideration with the historical background, linguistic features and peculiarities of the novel, is Toni Morrison's Beloved translatable into Armenian?

- What translation theories should be applied in translation of the novel and what stylistic decisions should be made?

Translation Methodology



- Translator as a “Chameleon”
- Translator’s visibility (Venuti, 1995)
- Translation as an impossible task
- Translation of *Beloved* as Poetry



Linguistic Peculiarities and Challenges

- **Syntax in Beloved**

Poetic, juxtaposition of short and long sentences

- **Availability of rhythm**

Novel as a blues song that is sad but healing

- Transfer of the African-American colloquial language and atmosphere into Armenian

- Musicality and rhythm of the original text

Example:

124 WAS SPITEFUL. Full of a baby's venom. The women in the house knew it and so did the children. (Morrison, 1988)

124-ը քինոտ էր: Լի երեխայի մաղձով: Տան կանայք դա գիտեին, գիտեին նաև երեխաները: