

**A Comparison of Two Chinese Translations of Lewis
Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* from a
Feminist Perspective**

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Arts in Translation Studies

by

LEONG Lai San, Sharon

Supervisor: Dr LEI Lai Cheng, Victoria

University of Macau

July 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| DECLARATION | ii |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | iii |
| ABSTRACT | v |
| Chapter One Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Lewis Carroll’s Heroine..... | 1 |
| Chapter Two Literature Review | 3 |
| 2.1 The Evolving Image of Wonderland’s Alice..... | 3 |
| 2.2 Critical Opinions on Translating Children’s Literature..... | 7 |
| Chapter Three The Two Translations Selected for This Study | 9 |
| 3.1 Chao Yuen Ren, Translator of Pre-Feminist Era and His Translation..... | 9 |
| 3.2 Chen Lifang, Translator of the Feminist Era and Her Translation..... | 12 |
| Chapter Four Methodology | 13 |
| 4.1 Gender and Feminist Translation Theories | 13 |
| 4.2 Feminist Translation Strategies..... | 17 |
| 4.2.1 Supplementing | 17 |
| 4.2.2 Hijacking | 19 |
| Chapter Five Case Analyses | 21 |
| Chapter Six Conclusion | 38 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 41 |

ABSTRACT

This thesis looks at the translation of Children's Literature in the Chinese context from the feminist perspective, which is an under-investigated topic. Since the publication of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, the fantasy has been enjoyed by child readers. Lots of scholarly works attending to issues such as the idioms, wordplay, poems, Mathematics and politics have been published. However, so far discussions on Chinese translated versions of the book only focus on its wordplay and poems while the feminist aspect of the book receives little attention. In the last century, the image of Carroll's Alice has been evolving in popular culture and literature in the English-speaking world. Applying feminist translation theories, this thesis compares two translations from different periods of time to examine how the image of Alice evolves in the translations, reflecting the spirit of the age.

Keywords: Children's Literature; Translation; Feminine Ideal