

# Le tradizioni della traduzione: Shakespeare e il caso *Dom Casmurro*

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## *Abstract*

*The Traditions of Translation: Shakespeare and the case of Dom Casmurro*

*The article examines the mechanism by which models – that belong to very specific cultural traditions – are transplanted and acculturated in post-colonial 19th-century Brazil. It focuses on Machado de Assis, an author who exemplified confrontation with the western canon, both ancient and modern, to illustrate how translations do not simply “transport” meaning. It thus shows how a Shakespearean simile becomes a metaphor in Dom Casmurro, through a French eighteenth-century translation. The article proposes that translations belong to diverse traditions and create other traditions, based on the reception of a given author’s poetics. Taking as a historical-cultural and theoretical backdrop a specific process within Brazilian culture, defined in the context of avant-garde Brazilian modernism as “Cannibalism”, and tracing it back to the second half of the 19th century, the study demonstrates its power as a cultural paradigm.*

**Keywords:** tradition; translation; transplant; acculturation; cultural cannibalism.