

Sixth, I have not in all cases followed the English translation of Freud's terms in the *Standard Edition*. It seems to be fairly well accepted now that the German *Trieb* should be translated as "drive" and not as "instinct" (see the *Standard Edition*), and I have followed this. Another difficulty I encountered in the *Standard Edition* was the translation of the word *Besetzung*. The editors of that work chose to invent a word, "cathexis." In German the word means "occupation," in the sense that an army occupies a village or that a pay toilet in use bears a sign reading "Occupied." In French the word has always been translated *investissement*, which is perhaps a bit closer to the German *Einsetzung* than it is to *Besetzung*. Thus I have opted, taking my risks, for the word "investment" rather than "cathexis." Neither translation is perfect, but in such a case I prefer to use a word that belongs to the English language.

The principal danger in translating articles by Lacan or by those who are members of his school is to become so enamored with the "text" that one renders it in what I would call anglicized French. Many of the translations of Lacan that have already appeared in English have done so, and therefore readers have found these works even more impenetrable than they are normally. I have thus decided in this translation to be scrupulously faithful to the syntax and semantics of the English language. To be truthful, had I wanted to do otherwise, the group of editors of Yale University Press would never have permitted me this peculiar self-indulgence. The reader who finds these articles lucid and intelligible should know that not only the present translator was responsible, but also Jane Isay, Matthew Gurewitsch, and one anonymous outside expert. I will even be so immodest as to single out Jane Isay, without whose vision, imagination, and persistence this book would still be an unfulfilled wish.

I have retained and expanded footnotes to the French text that seemed valuable for English readers. Notes that are bracketed are my additions.

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