

Hilda de Windt Ayoubi and Pieter C. Muysken
**Translingualism, Translation and
Caribbean Poetry**

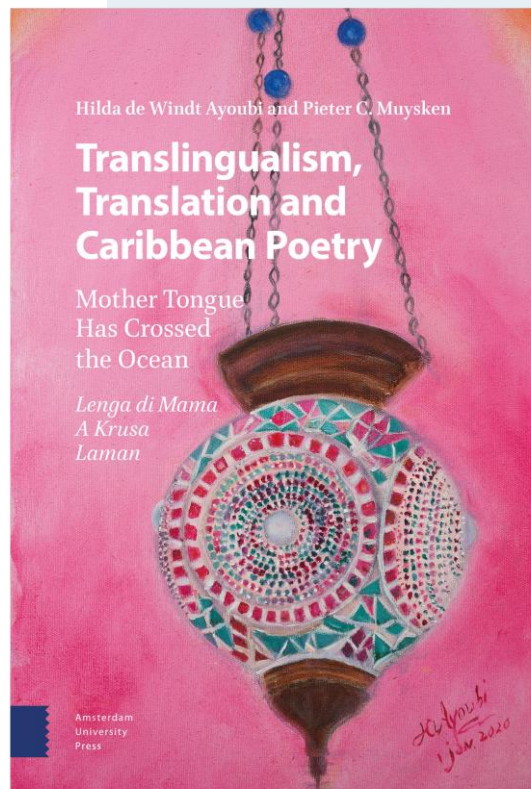
Mother Tongue Has Crossed the Ocean

Linguists estimate that around 7,000 languages exist, but many are under threat. *Translingualism, Translation and Caribbean Poetry* is a multi-language collection comprising over fifty translations of the poem 'Lenga di mama' ('Mother Tongue') by Curaçao-born poet Hilda de Windt Ayoubi, published here alongside three additional poems each providing a different perspective on the mother tongue. De Windt Ayoubi's sharp, socially charged poetry has inspired translations from across the world. Collected here for the first time, they serve to protect the native languages and cultures – particularly the minority languages – of their translators, who range from expert linguists to speakers of underrepresented languages. In his accompanying essay, Pieter C. Muysken considers the role of translation in addressing the urgent cultural concern of language loss and revitalization where he discusses bilingual translations and mass translations. Complete with maps, language profiles, interviews with the translators, and the poet's essay on Papiamentu, this collection explores the emotional, cultural and intellectual importance of language conservation through poetry and translation.

BIOGRAPHY

Hilda de Windt Ayoubi was born and raised in Curaçao. She was a secondary school teacher and a lecturer at the University of Curaçao.

Pieter C. Muysken († 2021) was born in Bolivia but grew up in the Netherlands. He was a Professor of Linguistics at the universities of Amsterdam, Leiden, Nijmegen, and Stellenbosch, South Africa.



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