

Melissa A. Tanaka

Japanese to English translation

melissatanaka@gmail.com

I provide polished, flowing English translations of Japanese media contents, prose, and literature. My experience spans diverse fields including manga, novels, video games, marketing, and academic texts. I am driven by a fierce dedication to character voice and stylistic integrity as well as timely delivery.

In recent years I have worked on several high-profile manga series and the novelizations of a major RPG franchise.

Curriculum Vitae

Contracted translation projects

Client: Vertical, Inc. (New York)

2017	<i>Voices from a Distant Star</i> , one-shot manga, released February 2018
2016 -	<i>Flying Witch</i> , ongoing manga series
2016 -	<i>To the Abandoned Sacred Beasts</i> , ongoing manga series, volumes 4 and on
2016 - 17	<i>BLAME!</i> , 6-volume manga series
2016	<i>Dissolving Classroom</i> , one-shot manga
2015	<i>The Gods Lie</i> , one-shot manga, released March 2016
2013 - 15	<i>Mobile Suit Gundam: The Origin</i> , 12-volume luxury edition manga series
2012	<i>5 Centimeters per Second</i> , 2-volume manga, released as omnibus June 2012

Client: Yen Press (New York)

2018	<i>Final Fantasy VII: On the Way to a Smile</i> , short story collection, forthcoming
2015 - 17	<i>The Asterisk War</i> light novel and manga series, volumes 1 through 5
2014 -	Novelizations of <i>Kingdom Hearts</i> video game series, ongoing
2013 - 15	<i>Inu x Boku SS</i> , volumes 1 through 10
2012 - 17	<i>Blood Lad</i> , 17-volume manga series
2010 -	<i>The Betrayal Knows My Name</i> , 13-volume manga series

Client: Naiway (Tokyo)

2011	A guide to <i>kaiseki</i> cuisine
2010	Script for a documentary on cherry blossom viewing spots
2010	Tourist brochures for the city of Sasebo, Japan
2010	Two academic articles on Chinese linguistics

Client: Honyaku Center (Tokyo)

2010	Sections of action video game script*
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*Details confidential at client's request.

Relevant Work Experience

C.V. Starr East Asian Library at Columbia University

9/08 - 5/09 Cataloguing Assistant

Catalog received Japanese books/periodicals and assist in various activities related to maintenance of the Japanese language collection

Shiseido Cosmetics America, Ltd.

5/06 - 7/07 Assistant Manager, International Products Marketing Department

Coordinate between offices in Tokyo and New York, translate (Japanese to English) marketing materials and directives, work with outside copywriters and assist in creation of materials and ad copy, final English check and proofreading of marketing materials

Central Park Media

8/05 - 11/05 Business Affairs Coordinator

3-month paid internship; duties included communicating with licensors, receipt of materials, database updating, and assisting in preparation of marketing materials

Education

Columbia University, New York, NY

2007 - 2009 M.A., Modern Japanese Literature

Thesis on Jun'ichirō Tanizaki's *The Key*

Trinity College, Hartford, CT

2001 - 2005 B.A., Asian Studies, Concentration in Japanese Language

Studied abroad two semesters in Kyoto; senior thesis on Amy Yamada

Awards & Certifications

2008 Distinctive Merit Award, Seventh Shizuoka International Translation Competition

2005 Japanese Language Proficiency Test, Level 2