

Brief Encounter with the Taos Institute

March 2019



Found in Translation

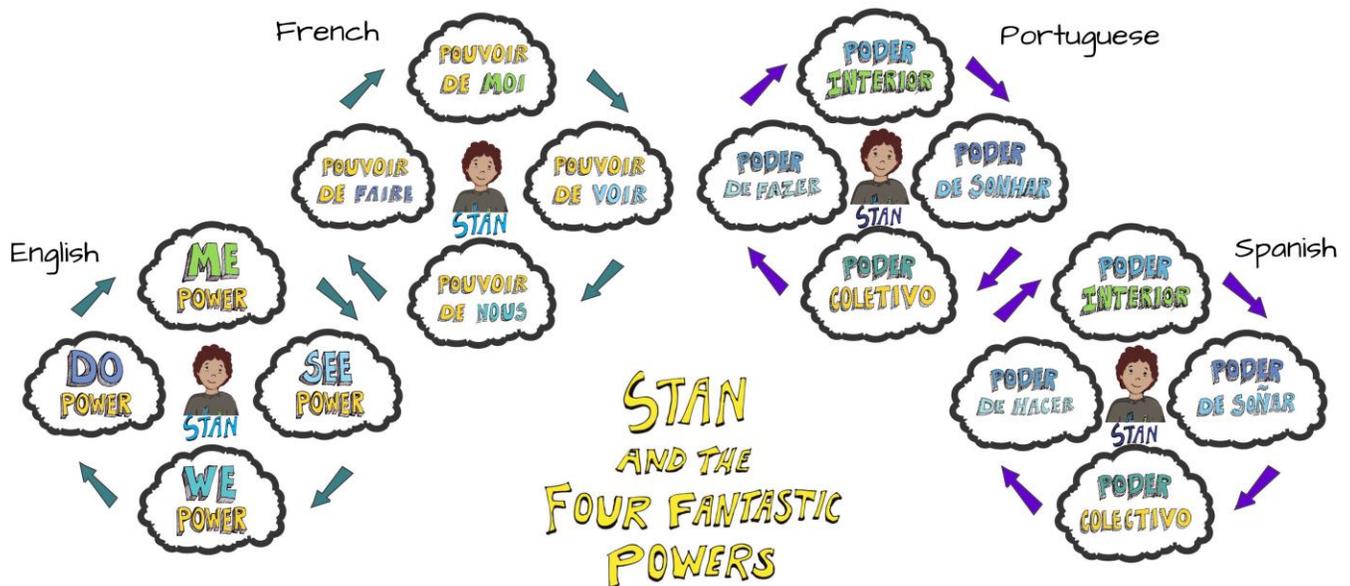
by Marge Schiller, Taos Institute Associate, author, consultant, and grandmother

We know about when things are lost in translation. In this Brief Encounter, I wonder what are some things to be found in translation?

Here are two compelling examples of what can be found in translations of language and generational translation. Both examples provide opportunity to find deeper, richer, and clearer meaning.

The first Appreciative Inquiry Book for children **Stan and the Four Fantastic Powers** has been translated from the original English version to French, Spanish and Portuguese. Here is the 4D model of DISCOVER -DREAM -DESIGN AND DESTINY (or Deliver, or Deploy- other words that have been used to describe an AI process).

THE APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY 4D CYCLE



STAN AND THE FOUR FANTASTIC POWERS: THE FIRST EVER APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY BOOK FOR KIDS
The English Version is available from www.taosinstitute.net or Amazon



This illustration is a translation from a multi-generational team. Each translation has been read by at least one man, one woman, and some children to hear from different ears and to see through different eyes.

First, thanks to illustrator Stefanie Rudolph and translators Kristian Sgorla, Alexandria Arnold and Elsa Hallak. Translations began when Larissa Loures of Brazil helped the authors of STAN and the FOUR FANTASTIC POWERS see that words clear and understandable for 8 to 10 year olds are clear and understandable for all of us. We saw the value of using simple children's stories to communicate with adults. While this is not a new idea, it is a useful and powerful one to remember.

Second, meaning changes depending on generational context. Now that I am in my 80's my metaphors - even my words and phrases - are very different than those of people in other age groups.

There is language translation but there is also generational translation. One of the joys of youth is making up new words and giving old words new meanings. To be young is to be part of the 'translation generation.' The rest of us valiantly try to keep up with the current phrases and how to use them only to be told "Oh that is so last year - nobody says that anymore!"

What I have found in translation is how respectful, enriching and complex it is to build the bridges that connect cultures, languages and generations.

STAN and THE FOUR FANTASTIC POWERS by Shira Levy, Marge Schiller, Sarah Schiller and Max Schiller is available in English from Taos Institute Publishing or Amazon. We anticipate translation into additional languages.

For more on **Stan and the Four Fantastic Powers**, visit:
www.taosinstitute.net/stan-and-the-four-fantastic-powers

