

**Hebrew Poetry in the Bible:  
A Guide for Understanding and for Translating**  
by Lynell Zogbo and Ernst Wendland. 2000. Reading: UBS.

**From the preface:**

...in many parts of the world, much of Old Testament poetry has been translated like any other portion of Scripture. Some translators have arranged their translation into lines to give the impression of poetry, but this does not ensure that the beauty of the Hebrew forms is expressed.

This book is meant as a practical guide for the translator with limited or no background in Hebrew. Its main purpose is to convince translators that, in certain contexts, rendering biblical poetry as poetry in their own language is a worthy goal. It suggests ways translators can compare the stylistic techniques of the Hebrew text with those in their own language. In this way they can try to create the same poetic effect in their translations. It points out typical problems that Old Testament translators face and suggests ways to set out the text that will help the reader.

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