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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

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English Studies at NBU is pleased to present Volume 12!

This issue opens with six literary studies. **Barbara Miceli** examines Anaïs Nin's journal through the lens of trauma, desire, and paternal attachment, revealing tensions beneath the narrative of therapeutic incest. **Antony Hoyte-West** explores exclusion, domination, and resistance in JJ Amaworo Wilson's *Nazaré*, while **Armela Panajoti** analyses Conrad's *The Shadow-Line* as a narrative of maturation through lived experience. **Farzad Kolahjooei** applies Lacanian and Kristevan perspectives to Hawthorne's *The Hollow of the Three Hills*, highlighting guilt, abjection, and female subjectivity. **Selçuk Şentürk** investigates "gender minimalism" in Georges Perec's *A Man Asleep*, and **Kristina Yasenova** examines how sound, space, and mortality intersect in Dickens's *The Old Curiosity Shop*.

The issue also features contributions on language, education, and translation. **Georgi Niagolov, Darya Lazarenko, and Snezhina Petrova** present Escape Hamlet, a gamified approach to combining Shakespeare studies with competence-based learning. **Evgeni Stanchev** introduces MedLex-25, a diagnostic tool revealing significant gaps between receptive and productive medical vocabulary knowledge. **Stanislav Bogdanov** proposes a process-oriented reconceptualization of noticing in second-language acquisition, while **Andrej Birčák** examines the limited integration of remote interpreting into Slovak interpreter training.

In translation and media studies, **Mehmet Erguvan** analyses Turkish remakes of British television dramas as sites of negotiation between national and transnational identities. **Betül Özcan Dost** evaluates Turkish–English neural machine translation using the xCOMET-XL metric and finds substantial alignment between automated and human assessment. **Harika Karavin Yüce** explores how illustrations in translated environmental children's books contribute to ecological awareness through paratranslation.

The issue concludes with two articles addressing academic integrity in contemporary higher education. **Diana Yankova** discusses the challenges posed by AI-assisted cheating and proposes strategies for designing authentic, AI-resistant assessments. **Elena Blagoeva** examines students' perceptions of

academic misconduct and argues that lasting integrity depends not only on regulation but also on institutional culture and ethical education.

We wish you an engaging and rewarding reading experience.

Be well!