

Fuller's Translation of Eckermann's *Conversations with Goethe*:  
German Translation Theories and the Conception of Feminist World Literature

Frederick Braun, Christina Zwarg, and many others have suggested that Fuller's engagement with translation opened her a channel for not only becoming a professional writer, but also establishing a new way of writing and thinking as a woman in the nineteenth century. In my paper, I also joined the conversation, discussing Fuller's translation of Johann Peter Eckermann's *Gespräche mit Goethe in den Letzten Jahren Seines Lebens*, or *Conversations with Goethe in the Last Years of His Life*—one of Fuller's earliest works as a professional woman of letters. I reread the work not just as a collection of Goethe's interviews, but as a bildungsroman of the minor writer Eckermann. In so doing, I also attempted a comparative analysis of Eckermann's original German text and Fuller's English translation. Focusing especially on the author's "Preface" and "Introduction"—which is of great importance as a concise introduction to the modern German theories of translation, national literature, and world literature—as well as the translator's "Preface," I examined the influence of Eckermann's *Conversations* on the shaping of Fuller's literary career as a transcendentalist feminist critic.