

description of conlang

the “dragon language” used in [Find me again in far off places](#) is actually my (tragedykery’s) own conlang, though the original context I made it up for (worldbuilding for a star wars oc’s homeworld) is tragically devoid of dragons. (...I should fix that.) the language is called tyambevuita, or tyambeva for short, which means “everyone-language”: the reason for this is that it’s a language spoken on the entire planet as something of a lingua franca, having originated as a contact language.

the text given here/in the (pod)fic is in the southeastern neyaqva (“emerald lands”) dialect, for no other reason than the fact that I had to choose *something*, and the neyaqvarh variety was one of the two I’d developed the most. (the fact that it’s specifically the southeastern dialect is only noticeable in the stress pattern of the word “ngalonuxamo” (dragon heart), and that choice, I admit, was purely based on vibes.)

if the formatting of the translations is funky, turning your (mobile) device to landscape orientation might help, or decreasing your font size. (unfortunately, the app seems to work the best for phones, or at least my phone, but the browser should work just fine for laptops and the like.)

for anyone interested in the linguistic typology part/grammatical overview: tyambeva is an agglutinative vso language with strong head-first and pro-drop tendencies. adverbs and adjectives aren’t separate classes, but otherwise the parts of speech are the same as in english. verbs are marked for what I tend to privately think of as “so many fucking things”: subjects, direct and indirect objects (distinguished by grammatical person and number, with an animacy distinction in the third person and an inclusivity one in the first person), tense, aspect, passivity if applicable, and, most importantly, mood—a whopping thirteen of them, to be exact. there are no noun classes and cases only occur on personal pronouns. nouns are marked for number (plural/singular) and whether or not it’s a possessum. the other parts of speech are generally not marked for anything, though in archaic tyambeva adpositions were marked for the animacy of their complements, a feature that now only persists in p-stranding constructions. in some dialects (sadly not those of neyaqva), adjectives can be used as verbs: “she blues” would mean “she is blue”, and “she blues him” would mean “she makes/turns him blue” (lovely way to describe strangling someone. or painting endeavours). in some other dialects (including those of neyaqva!), juxtaposition/zero-copula constructions are acceptable, though the grammaticality/prevalence of this can depend on whether the predicate is an np or an ap. that’s all I can think of at the moment! the descriptive grammar I have is not complete or polished enough for me to share, but feel free to ask me questions about the language! as you may already have guessed, I love talking about it <3

translations

untranslated text

berh nsyuye izru
mye berh mare ny vyathtqa wei
ca’erynwe ngalonuxamo li medhoswesi

mye fenwerui nureqa wei xa dhaniri
 af tyoru yar-hyasyftequmfau nurewaqa sigu
 xo adhu izru ntolon
 mye iylu nuruwe if kuarhiqa vou

regular translation

with these words
 and with the sky as my witness
 I swallow/devour the dragon's heart that I have stolen
 and bind my soul to yours
 so that our spirits may always be able to find each other
 walk this path together
 and rest easy at the end of it

word-for-word translation

<i>berh</i>	<i>nsyuye</i>	<i>izru</i>
with	words	this

<i>mye</i>	<i>berh</i>	<i>mare</i>	<i>ny</i>	<i>vyathtqa</i>	<i>wei</i>
and	with	sky	as	witness	my

<i>ca'erynwe</i>	<i>ngalonuxamo</i>	<i>li</i>	<i>medhoswesi</i>
I swallow/devour (it)	dragon heart	that	I stole (it)

<i>mye</i>	<i>fenwerui</i>	<i>nureqa</i>	<i>wei</i>	<i>xa</i>	<i>dhaniri</i>
and	I bind them	soul	my	to	yours

<i>af</i>	<i>tyoru</i>	<i>yar-hyasyftequmfau</i>	<i>nurewaqa</i>	<i>sigu</i>
so	always	may they be able to find each other	souls	our

<i>xo</i>	<i>adhu</i>	<i>izru</i>	<i>ntolon</i>
move (it)	path	this	together

<i>mye</i>	<i>iylu</i>	<i>nuruwe</i>	<i>if</i>	<i>kuarhiqa</i>	<i>vou</i>
and	rest	calm	at	end	its

translation with linguistic info (ipa transcription + glosses)

read as following:

1. ipa transcription
2. words broken up into morphemes
3. morphological glosses/literal translation (abbreviations below)
4. free translation

bɛɹ 'nsju.je 'ʔɪʒ.ru

berh nsyu-ye izru
 with word-PL this
 “with these words”

mje bæ 'ma.re nə 'vjaθt.qa wɛj
 mye berh mare ny vyath-t-qa wei
 and with sky as witness-NZR_{agent}-PSSM 1sge.PSSR
 “and with the sky as my witness”

,ka.ʔe'rən.we 'ŋa.lɔn.ʔu.xa.mo li me.ðɔs'we.si
 ca'eryn-we ngalon-uxamo li me-dhos-we-si
 swallow/devour-1sge.SU heart-dragon that IRR-steal-1sge.SU-PAST
 “I swallow/devour the dragon’s heart that I have stolen”

mje fɛn'we.rɔj 'nu.re.qa wɛj xa ða'ni.ri
 mye fen-we-rui nure-qa wei xa dhani-ri
 and bind-1sge.SU-3sga.DO soul-PSSM 1sge.PSSR to 2sg.PSSR-NZR_{entity}
 “and bind my soul to yours”

af 'tjo.ru jar.ɕ'a.səf.te'qum.faw nu're.wa.qa 'si.gu
 af tyoru ya(r)-hya(s)-hyfte-qum-fau nure-wa-qa sigu
 so always OPT-DYN-find-3pla.SU-REFL soul-PL-PSSM
 1sgl.PSSR
 “so that our spirits may always be able to find each other”

xo 'ʔa.ðu 'ʔɪʒ.ru 'nto.lɔn
 xo adhu izru ntolon
 move.forward path this together
 “walk this path together”

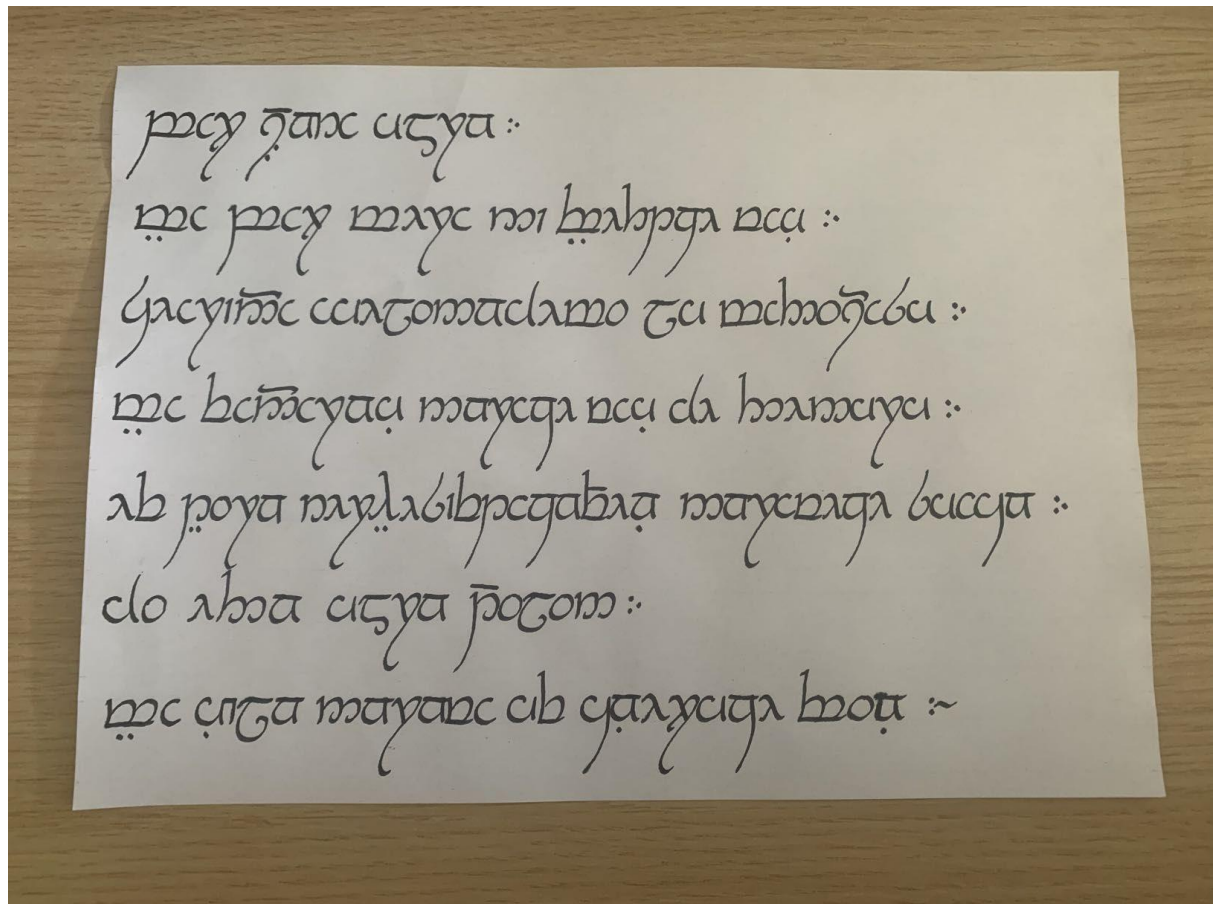
mje 'jə.lu nu'ru.we ɪf 'kwa.ji.qa vɔw
 mye iylu nuru-we ɪf kuarh-i-qa vou
 and rest serenity-AZR at end-NZR_{CONCR}-PSSM 3sgl.PSSR
 “and rest easy at the end of it”

and for fun, the goodbye at the end of the podfic(cer’s notes): :)

jar'wɛv.da 'ɛp.pat 'aθ.θo
 yar-uev-da eppat ath'o
 OPT-experience-2sg.SU rotation enjoyable
 “may you experience a good day” (formal; greeting or goodbye; can be used at any point during the day/night)

calligraphy

editing this in because I realised I might as well put this here: the image below is some calligraphy I did of the “spell” in Tolkien’s elf-script (tengwar), which I modified to suit the language (never let it be said that procrastination strategies can’t be productive!)



glossing abbreviations

abbreviation	meaning	extra info/explanation
1sge	1st person singular exclusive	“I”
1sgi	1st person singular inclusive	“you (singular) and I”. despite this technically referring to two people, it is grammatically treated as singular
2sg	2nd person singular	“you (singular)”
3pla	3rd person plural animate	“they (plural)”
3sga	3rd person singular animate	“he/she/they (singular)”

3sg	3rd person singular inanimate	"it"
REFL	reflexive	"oneself"
SU	subject	when a finite verb is not marked for a subject, a 3sga subject is assumed
DO	direct object	when a transitive finite verb is not marked for an object, a 3sg object is assumed
PAST	past tense	like english "-ed"
PL	plural	like english "-s"
PSSM	possessum	the "possessed" thing; e.g. the "hat" in "the man's hat"
PSSR	possessor	the thing "possessing" another; e.g. the "man" in "the man's hat"
IRR	irrealis verb mood	common verb mood with many uses; used here to denote a restrictive clause (i.e. of all dragon hearts, the speaker refers specifically to the one they have stolen. like the difference between "all my brothers who live in london" (not all the speaker's brothers live in london but they're referring specifically to those that do) and "all my brothers, who live in london" (the speaker is referring to all of their brothers, all of whom live in london))
OPT	optative verb mood	used for wishes, hopes, and curses. like "may" in "may you live happily ever after" or "live" in "long live the king/queen"
DYN	dynamic verb mood	used for possibility or ability, like "can" or "be able to"
AZR	adjectiviser/adverbiser	turns a word into an adverb/adjective. used here to turn the word "serenity" into "serenely"

NZR	nominaliser	turns a word into a noun. used here in two flavours: the “agent” nominaliser which is comparable to english “-er” in words like painter or dancer: doer of a verb. the other flavour is the concrete flavour (that’s conkreet baybee! (...sorry.)), used here to make the word “end(ing)” from the verb “to end”. that it’s the concrete nominaliser means that it refers to the end of a specific path, instead of referring to the quality of paths being able to end in general (like...perishability, maybe?), which would have been the case if the abstract nominaliser had been used. oh wait no I lie, there’s a third flavour used here, the “entity” flavour, which is basically equivalent to “one” in english constructions like “the [adjective] one”. tyambeva is very fond of nominalisation: I just took a look at my lexicon and counted eight (8) different suffixes that can be used as nominalisers
CONCR	concrete	as opposed to abstract