

KIRSTEN BODDAERD

Translator, Editor & Proofreader

English & Dutch

for Belgium and the Netherlands

Hi, I'm Kirsten 🙌

Translate feelings, not words

I'm hard-working, love jokes, classic sitcoms and I like giving my brain cells a good workout. So translation has turned out to be a never-ending love affair (in fact I think I'll take my laptop to my grave haha). I'm a stickler for precision and my penchant for Victorian and early 20th-century writing helps me find the right words and tone-of-voice for every job.



About me

- Grew up in a monolingual Flemish family
- English teacher believed I had no head for languages 🙄
- I met my British polyglot husband in 2001 (Reader, I married him 😊)
- I translate from French after spending 8 years working in Brussels
- I translate from German after 15 years living in the country
- I moved to Spain in the summer of 2023
- My father was an aspiring artist, so I visited lots of exhibitions and historical sites
- I also know that artworks have a decidedly technical aspect to them
- I took the plunge into medical translation around 2 years ago

All this means I translate what I sense a text wants to tell me

Fingerspitzengefühl in German 😊

I know about...

Everything 🤔 (I wish) but...

Theory of music (8 years of music lessons do that to you)

Historical trivia (who knows why the Kaiser had a paralysed arm? Me 🙋!)

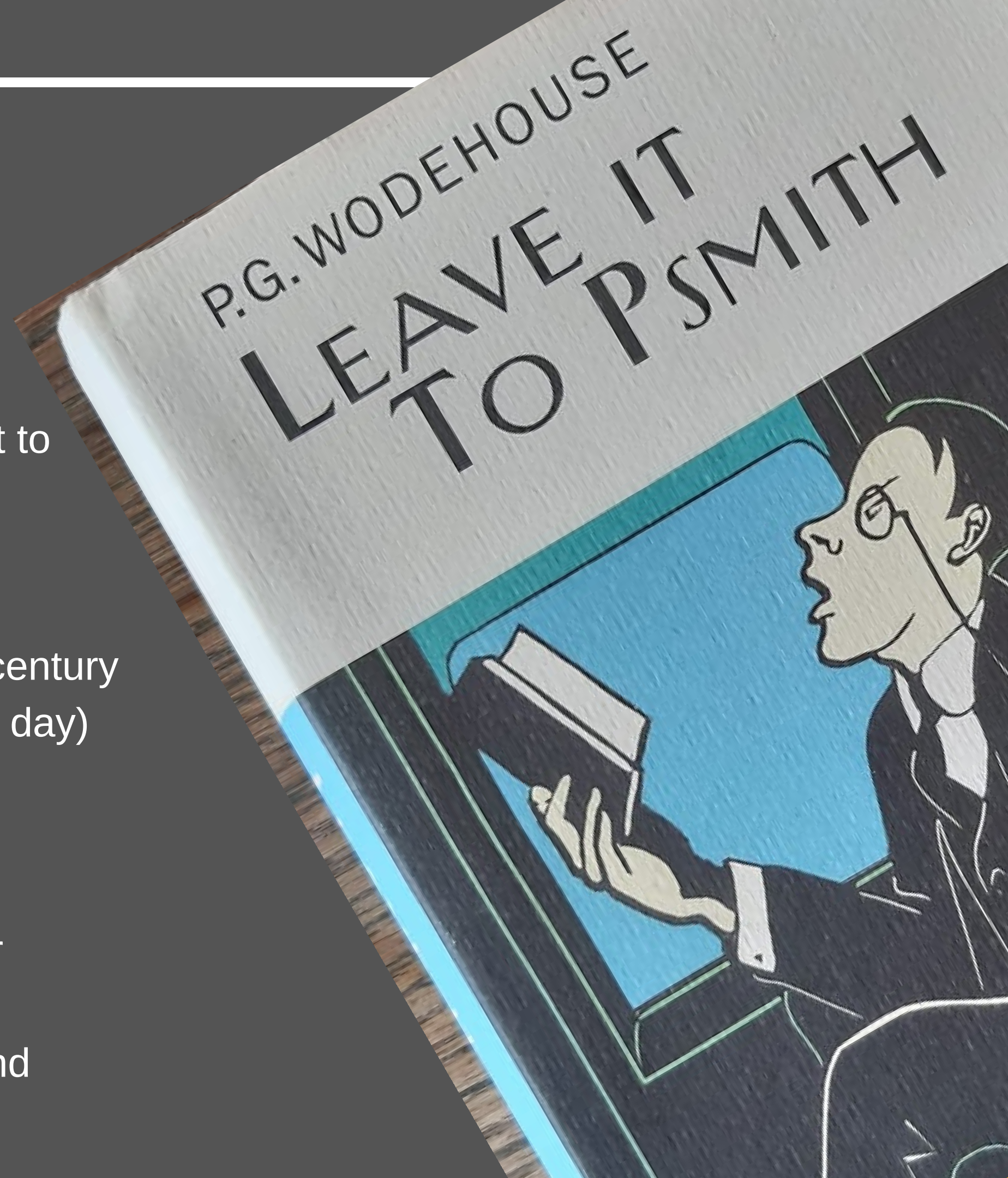
I love late 18th-century, Victorian and early 20th-century lit (give me Austen, Trollope and Wodehouse any day)


I know lots about fine arts, including techniques (tempera is nothing to do with time for me)

I know a lot about historical medicine

I know also a lot about new approaches to cancer treatment and gene therapy (fascinating)

I'm quite well-clued-up about Catholic theology and saints





What can I work on for you?

1. Arts and history
2. Medical documents for patients
3. Legal documents for consumers
4. Market research

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Arts & history

- Didactics for museums
- Magazine articles and write-ups for exhibitions
- Visitor guides for historical sites
- Audio guides
- Really modern art does **not** scare me off



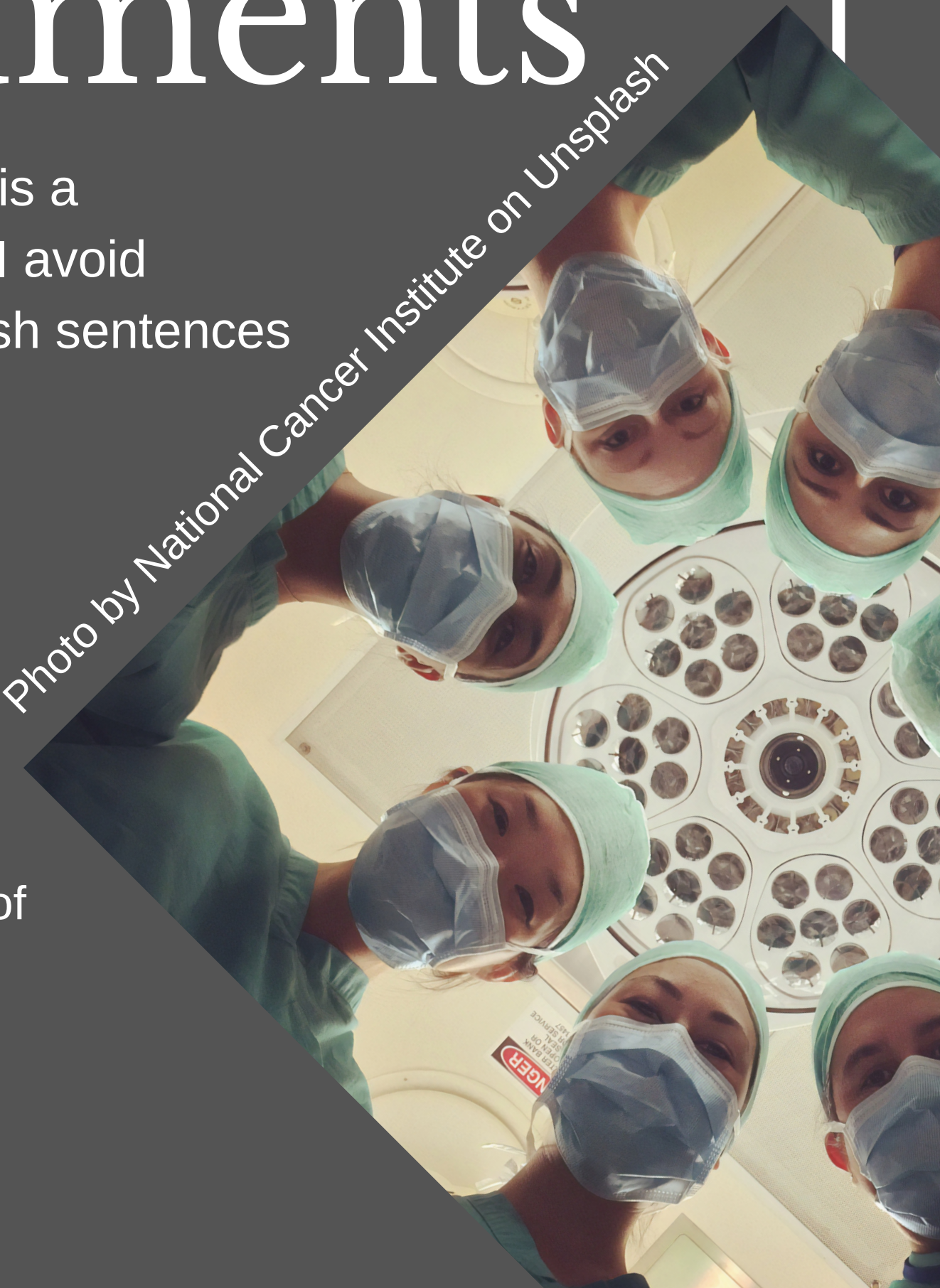
Photos by Alina Grubnyak, Joe Dudeck and Tamara Menzi on Unsplash

Medical documents

I work on everything you want patients to read. As this is a requirement for many Ethics Committees, I make sure I avoid difficult medical words, use plain language, and short-ish sentences where possible. In this area I work on:

- Informed Consent Forms (and yes, I have the templates of the Belgian and Dutch ECs on file so I can make sure your text and terminology are in line), EC communication and other clinical trial materials
- Packet inserts
- Clinical Outcome Assessments (here I make use of my 10+-year stint in survey translation to make sure patients (and clinicians!) understand your questions, even if they are not paying attention)
- Backtranslations into Dutch and English

Photo by National Cancer Institute on Unsplash



Legal documents

I'm well-versed in:

- Intellectual property, trademark and copyright
- Property leases
- Data protection (EU and US) - the words I use are always in line with the GDPR, so no incomprehensible gibberish for your customers
- Terms and conditions, terms of use and terms of service, licence agreements
- Company policies



Market research

Ever since I was a child, I've loved surveys! I always used to fill in the questionnaires I'd find on motorway restaurant tables 😊. I've also worked for the biggest market research translation company in the UK since 2008, starting back in the day before widespread machine translation, so I know a thing or two about how surveys should be written. None of that machine-translation sloppiness gets past me!

What do I offer?

1. 30+ years of practical subject knowledge
2. Several spell & grammar checks, term lists accumulated over the past 10+ years, and text expanding tools so you don't need to worry about typos in your drug or brand names
3. A list of bookmarks on my computer longer than my arm (and growing) with resources for research
4. The vast vault that is my brain and a suitably sceptical and inquisitive mind (fact checking *is* important)
5. A clean client retention track record. Indeed, I've never lost a client, unless they went bankrupt.




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Past projects

- English content for Flemish Masters in Situ
- English-language special issues for a Flemish art quarterly
- Company policies for various major US manufacturers in aluminium and healthcare
- Countless numbers of ICFs and protocol synopses
- Several Bachelor theses and academic articles about anything from media to gender transition



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Louis Reed on
Unsplash

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Thanks for reading

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