Untranslatable Words

“Untranslatable Words” is a project illustrating words of several languages which are impossible to translate. The initiator of the project is European Commission representation in Lithuania.

Sobremesa is the Spanish word that refers to the time spent after lunch or dinner socializing with the people you shared the meal with. Meals are a very important part of the Spanish culture, and the Spanish people value the time spent relaxing and chatting after finishing eating. The Catalan equivalent is sobretaula.

Litost - Czech — Milan Kundera, author of The Unbearable Lightness of Being, remarked that, “As for the meaning of this word, I have looked in vain in other languages for an equivalent, though I find it difficult to imagine how anyone can understand the human soul without it.” The closest definition is a state of agony and torment created by the sudden sight of one’s own misery.
make something worse in the process of attempting to mend or improve it. Multiple applications around computers, cake baking and relationships.

Gökotta (Swedish): To wake up early in the morning with the purpose of going outside to hear the first birds sing.

Gattara – The Italian untranslatable word describes a woman, often old and lonely, who devotes herself to stray cats. The Simpsons have this character too, known as the Crazy Cat Lady.

Házisárkány – The Hungarian untranslatable word would be literally translated as “home-dragon”. This derogatory term actually designates an impatient or ill-natured spouse.