CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   BACKGROUND

Nowadays, the role of translation in our daily lives has become more important. We can find it in almost every aspect of human life, for instance, in the movies, books, novels, comics, and even in formal agreement letters or treaties. There are actually several kinds of translation. But, the most popular translation would have to be on novel translations. Maybe it is because popular novels mostly come from foreign countries, such as the United States. Thus, translation is needed for the novels, because most Indonesian people cannot speak or understand English well. Therefore, translation can also be said as a means of communication, for it exchanges messages from one language to another.

Language differences can become a problem when two or more people with two different languages want to communicate with others in spoken or written form. In order to solve this problem, we can use two means of communication: interpretation and translation. The first is commonly used by people in spoken form, such as in an international seminar or a public gathering. Meanwhile the second one, which is translation, is mainly used in written forms, such as novels, or other books. Regarding the definition of translation, Newmark(1988:5) states that translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author

intended the text. So, based on the definitions above, it can be concluded that translation is basically a process of turning or rendering from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL). But, of course it does not come without any troubles or hindrances. There are actually so many obstacles encountered by most translators when they are trying to translate from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). Therefore, basic skills of translation should be possessed by all translators, whether he/she is still novice or expert, in order to create a fine and superb translation.

One of the criteria of a good translation is that it must be able to successfully convey the original meaning from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). As stated by Baker (1992:112), " *A translation may be undertaken for a variety of purposes, but the ultimate aim of a translator, in most cases, is to achieve a measure of equivalence"*.

In order to become a good translator, he/she must be able to master the ways and methods of translation, so that he/she will make a good translation as stated above. Such methods can be found in Peter Newmark's book entitled *"A Text Book of Translation"*. There, he classified the methods of translating into eight types. Namely: Word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, idiomatic, and communicative translation. In addition to Newmark's methods of translation, Larson (1984:15), adds two more

methods, they are: form-based or literal translation and meaning-based or idiomatic translation.

In Indonesia, there are a lot of well-qualified authors who write great literary works, such as novels. Although many Indonesian novels are available in the market, many interesting foreign books that can be alternatives for Indonesian readers. Unfortunately, it becomes a problem since not all Indonesian people understand foreign language, in this case English. So, one of the solutions to this problem is by translating the foreign novels into Indonesian.

Unfortunately, sometimes the translated versions from the foreign novels appear to be awkward compared to the original version. It could be caused by several factors, for instance, the translator himself or the methods and procedures used for translating them, etc. A good translation must not be read like a translation, but it should be read like a piece of original composition and should express the whole meaning of the original version.

In translating novels, for example, a translator often finds some figurative language within. Figurative language itself is a phenomenon in language. In accordance with translation, figurative language must be translated carefully to avoid misunderstanding. A concise definition regarding figurative language is a non-literal expression in language use. On more complete explanation, Rearke (1966:33) explains that:

Figurative language is language which employs various figures of speech. In general, figurative language is that kind of language which departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing persons or objects. Using figurative language is making imaginative descriptions in fresh ways.

Besides figurative language, we can also find another important element of a novel, which is dialogue. According to the wikipedia.com, dialogue is a reciprocal conversation between two or more entities. It can also be said that dialogue is a means of communication, because it exchanges information between two or more persons. Dialogues exist in novels, short stories, etc. The types of dialogues that exist in novels are called writing dialogues. It becomes one of the most important things in the novel, because without them, the story will not be completed.

Based on the observation and good criteria of translation as mentioned above, the writer chose to analyze this novel entitled "*Eldest*" by Christopher Paolini. The writer was interested in this particular novel, because it has an excellent storyline. In addition, this novel uses colloquial/daily English, so it is easier to understand for the readers of non-native speakers.

1.2 The Research Questions

This research study is intended to analyze two versions of the novel entitled "*Eldest*". The first subject is the English version of the novel as the source language; meanwhile the second subject is the translated version of the novel as the target language. The translated version of this novel is written in Bahasa Indonesia. Based

on the explanation above, the writer made three questions to be answered, they are as follows:

    a. What kinds of figurative language that are used in the dialogues of the novel entitled "*Eldest*" by Christopher Paolini?

    b. What kinds of translation methods that are used in translating the figurative dialogues in the novel entitled "*Eldest* "?

1.3   Significance of the Study

This study is intended for anybody who is interested in translation, especially for students who major in the English department. And also, this research will be beneficial for instructors or lecturers in choosing the methods that are used in translation course. In addition, it is hoped that it can contribute to the composing of the curriculum.

1.4   The Aim of the Study

This study aims at finding out the kinds of figurative language found in the dialogues within the novel, and to analyze the methods in translating the figurative language in the translated version of the novel "*Eldest*" by Christopher Paolini.

1.5   The Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study will be limited to the figurative language found in the dialogues of the original version of this novel only.

1.6   Organization of the Paper

This paper will be organized into five chapters, namely:

The first chapter that contains the introduction. It will describe the background, and also the general description of the paper.

The second chapter will talk about the theoretical foundation. It provides the basis in conducting the research problems.

The third Chapter will explain about the research method. It consists of the methodology of the research, and also the procedures in conducting the research.

The fourth chapter contains the full report of the study. It will explain about the findings and discussion.

The fifth chapter will contain the conclusion and suggestions. This last chapter of the paper will discuss about the conclusion from the writer toward the result of the research, and also the suggestions concerning the research.

1.7   Concluding Remark

This chapter has discussed the background of the research, as well as the research questions that will help the writer in conducting this research study. In the following chapter, the writer will explain about the theoretical foundation.