

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a brief introduction of the study. It consists of background of the study, research question, aims of the study, methodology, significance of the study, clarification terms, and the organization of the paper.

1.1 Background of the Study

In literary texts, metaphors are considered to be one of the most important aspects that need to be included in the text. Metaphors are very important in literary texts because they can evoke readers' imagination and set certain mood to the readers (Perrine, 1963). Due to this significant role of metaphors, many literary texts such as novels or poems provide lots of metaphors to make their stories more dramatic, expressive, and vivid. However, when it comes to translation, metaphors are viewed as the most problematic expressions to translate (Newmark, 1988). There are often problems in translating metaphors. In fact, as stated before the role of metaphors in literary text is significant. Thus, it is highly necessary to translate metaphors properly in order to make the translated version of the texts as interesting, dramatic, and vivid as the original texts.

Regarding to the problem in translating metaphors, Newmark (1988) said that it occurs because metaphors involve both cognitive and aesthetic purposes. Thus, in translating metaphors, not only the meaning that needs to be taken into accounts but also the aesthetic value or style of the metaphors of the source language text. Moreover, Youssefi (1992) highlighted that one of the main problems in translating metaphors is the difficulty to discover an equivalent translation which is exactly the same as the original concept. Based on his research, problem of equivalence in translating metaphors occurs because metaphors deal with multiple meanings. Furthermore, Larson (1998) pointed out that one of the serious problems in translating metaphors occurs because the translators fail to identify the types of metaphors which are dead and live metaphors. It is proved by a study conducted by Urip (2012) which analysed

equivalent problems in translation in the novel Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi manusia*. In her study, it was found that a dead metaphor '*buaya darat*' which means 'womanizer' was translated into '*crocodile on land*' (p.23). It is believed that '*buaya darat*' is included in dead metaphors which cannot be translated literally, unlike the live metaphors.

To overcome problem in translating metaphors as mentioned above, Larson (1998) suggested that it is important to identify the types of metaphors: dead metaphors and live metaphors before deciding on how the metaphors will be translated. Dead metaphors are those which are commonly used in daily life so they are no longer understood or thought as metaphors but directly as literal expressions. Dead metaphors are simply idioms (*ibid*). For example, in English there are: 'piece of cake' or 'kick the bucket, or in *bahasa Indonesia*, there are, '*buaya darat*, or '*kambing hitam*'. Meanwhile, live metaphors are "understood only after paying special attention to the comparison which is being made" (Larson, 1998, p.274). For example, in English, the passages, such as 'she is the sun' and 'the sky is crying' or in *bahasa Indonesia*, '*kata-katanya menusuk jantungku*', '*dia adalah matahariku*' and so on. In addition, in order to translate metaphors properly and avoid mistranslation, Larson (1998) also proposed the strategies in translating metaphors which are: (1) translating metaphor by keeping its metaphorical imagery; (2) translating metaphor into simile; (3) translating metaphor by using the metaphor of the target language which conveys the same meaning; (4) translating metaphor by adding the topic and the point of similarity; (5) translating the metaphor without keeping its metaphorical imagery.

Even though there have been some studies related to metaphors translation such as studies conducted by Tobias (2009), Madsar (2010), Yanbo (2011), Khosravi (2012) and Mohaghegh and Dabaghi, (2013), these previous studies only focused on one types of metaphors either live or dead metaphors.

The present study investigated the strategies in translating dead and live metaphors from Indonesian into English in Dewi Lestari's *Supernova: Kesatria, Putri, dan Bintang Jatuh*.

1.2 Research Questions

To guide the study, the writer formulates a question as follow:

1. What strategies are used by the translator in translating dead and live metaphors in *Supernova: Kesatria, Putri, dan Bintang Jatuh*?

1.3 Aims of the study

Based on the research questions, the study aims:

1. To reveal the strategies used by the translator in translating dead and live metaphors in *Supernova: Kesatria, Putri, dan Bintang Jatuh*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, the results of the present study would enrich the knowledge in translation field on how to translate metaphors from Indonesian to English properly. Practically, this study is also significant for new translators to improve their translation skill, especially in translating metaphors from Indonesian to English.

1.5 Clarification of terms

1. Translation: “rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text” (Newmark, 1988, p.5).
2. Metaphor: “a direct comparison, explicit or implicit, between two different things” (Mezzo, 1999, p.1).
3. Dead Metaphors: “a part of idiomatic construction of the lexicon of the language” (Larson, 1998, p.274).
4. Live metaphors: “those which are constructed on the spot by the author” (Larson, 1998, p.274).

1.6 Organization of the paper

The present study is arranged into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction. This chapter gives a brief overview of the study. It consists of background of the study, research question, aims of the study, methodology, significance of the study and the organization of the paper.

The second chapter is literature review. It covers the theories that are used as the frameworks of the study such as Metaphors, translating literary works, and the strategies of translating metaphors. In addition, it also discusses the previous study related to the study.

The third chapter is the research methodology. It consists of research design, data collection, data source, and data analysis.

The fourth chapter is the result of the study. It presents the finding and discussion of the study.

The fifth chapter is conclusion. It covers briefly the result of the study and draws a conclusion based on the findings.