CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter focuses on the methodological aspects of the study. It comprises five sub-chapters: research method, scope of the research, data source, data collection, and data analysis.

3.1 Research Method

This study was guided by a qualitative method. It is a method that focuses on a critical reasoning behind the analysis and description of the data instead of statistical method or math logic (Mulyana, 2001). Qualitative method is appropriate for this study because the data were in the form of texts which required the researcher to investigate the data through logical reasoning. The method gave the researcher flexibility to explore the data using descriptive and interpretative analysis in which an understanding of particular individuals is necessary. This statement is supported by Creswell (2013) who stated that a qualitative research is appropriate to explore and understand the meaning of individuals or groups attributed to a social or human issue.

In addition, since the data were taken from interpretations of two individuals, two different translators, who interpreted and translated poems from Sapardi Djoko Damono, the researcher required to dig more deeply into their background using biographical analysis. Thus, it makes this study has a slight similarity to a case study. According to Creswell (1998), a case study is an inquiry strategy which requires the researcher to explore a program, activity, event, process or individual more deeply. The use of a case study, however, depends on the needs of the researcher. In this case, the researcher feels obliged to employ a case study to explore the translators’ background due to the function of a case study that allows the researcher to gain more validity regarding the interpretation if the data analysis. However, according to Stake (2005), a case study is merely a researcher’s choice of what to be studied instead of a methodological choice. It means that in this study, the use of a case study is optional.
3.2 Scope of the Research

Strategies are a common term in the field of translation. Many scholars can employ and suggest their own strategies based on their needs. However, since this study focuses on translating strategies of poems, the framework of seven strategies in translating poetry employed by Lefevere (1975) is considered to be the appropriate one.

3.3 Data Source

The data were taken from various sources. Five poems were collected from three books by two different translators: Harry Aveling and John McGlynn. Two books by Aveling entitled Black Magic Rain (1994) and Contemporary Indonesian Poetry (1975), which can be retrieved from the internet for free, and one book by McGlynn entitled Before Dawn (2012), which was given from the author to the researcher through e-mail. Two books from Aveling were chosen because the translated poems that were selected were in different books, while McGlynn translated the poems only in one book.

Those books contain selected poems from a famous Indonesian poet, Sapardi Djoko Damono, and the translation versions of them.

3.4 Data Collection

Sapardi’s poems were chosen because he is one of the leading poets in Indonesia and his poems are considered as canons. There are five poems in total collected by the researcher. The poems were selected based on a certain theme and structure. The theme is that all poems have a sense of sad hope and loneliness. In addition, those five poems were selected because each of the poem is unique in terms of structure and the rhyming pattern.

The steps in gathering the data are first, the Indonesian poems were read then were selected based on certain a theme and structure. Then, the translation versions
from both translators were collected. The poems, “Moment before Leaving”, “I See Darkness Gathering around Us” and “Sonnet X” were derived from a book entitled *Contemporary Indonesian Poetry* (1974) by Harry Aveling, while “Time is Meaningless”, and “I Wait for You” were from a book entitled *Black Magic Rain* (1994) by the same translator. In addition, the poems, “The Moment before Departure”, “I Watch the Gloom”, “Sonnet: X”, “Time is Transient”, and “As I Wait for You”, were all taken from a book entitled *Before Dawn* (2012) by John McGlynn. Those poems are the translation of the original ones: “Saat Sebelum Berangkat”, “Kupandang Kelam yang Merapat ke Sisi Kita”, “Sonnet X”, “Yang Fana Adalah Waktu”, and “Aku Tengah Menantimu”.

### 3.5 Data Analysis

After the data were collected, to answer the research questions regarding what strategies were used the most and the implications the strategies gave to the translation results, they were analyzed within five steps. The steps are as follows.

1. Reading the poems
   
   The original poems were read one by one, then each line would be read carefully and closely to grasp and understand the meaning. Similar to the first procedure, the translated poems, beginning from McGlynn versions, then Avelling versions, were also read one by one and then would also be read each line.

2. Identifying the strategies and calculating the total number

   After the poems were read, the researcher identified the strategies based on Lefevere’s (1975) seven strategies of translating poetry line by line, starting from McGlynn’s then Aveling’s. The use of dictionaries, *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia* (KBBI); Oxford Advance Learners Dictionary; and *Kamus Inggris Indonesia* by John M Echols and Hassan Shadily (2000), were involved in this step. They were used to help the researcher find the meaning for each word in either in the original poems, or in the translations results. Then, the strategies
used in each poem then were collected to see the tendency of strategies, and then the strategies from all the poems were calculated to see the overall tendency of the strategies.

3. Comparing and McGlynn’s and Aveling’s version

Once the strategies from translators were completely identified, both versions then were compared to see who used what strategies the most. Therefore, how the poems were delivered by both translators were analyzed by the researcher to investigate the implication of the employed strategies.

The comparison between the SL and the TL poems resulted in the characteristics of each translator’s versions which helped the researcher to identify the implications of the strategies employed. It is done by identifying the language style. A poet chose particular words reasonably with or without his consciousness. However, in the translated poems there might be some inequality, inappropriate translations, mistranslations, including metaphors and cultural words which might change the meaning and the forms of the poems due to the different use of strategies. During this process, componential analysis was employed. It was done by comparing the of both translations results which have similar meanings. Then, to examine whether or not the translations results were appropriate, a back translation test was applied. The categorization of which parts of the poems that should be compared was based on the lexical thematic dimension, visual dimension, and rhythmic acoustic dimension (Klarer 1998). In addition, the researcher identified the language functions. Naturally, a poem deals with two language functions: expressive and aesthetic functions. However, when a poem is translated, it cannot retain them both. It has to keep whether the expressive or aesthetic function. It is useful to identify the language function to give the researcher a description of how the strategies might result a certain translation pattern. Finally, the researcher decided which translation results were closer to the original poems based on the analysis.
4. Biographical analysis
   The biographical analysis is used as an intra-textual analysis. The use of it were presented in the discussion at chapter IV as an additional analysis in order to see if McGlynn and Aveling background of literature and translation studies affect their translation process. However, it is important to keep in mind that the biographical analysis does not deal with the translators personally. The biography about the translators were gathered from websites that interact with the translators such as websites from where the translators work.

5. Reporting the findings and presenting the conclusion
   After analyzing the data, the findings were reported, discussed and interpreted in a descriptive narrative way. Then, the conclusion and suggestions were written based on the findings and the interpretation.