

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains a brief introduction of the study. It consists of the background, the statement of the problem, aims of the study, significance of the study, research methods, clarification of terms and the organization of paper.

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Nowadays, society has a strong urge to fulfill their needs towards information. They seek information from around the world to satisfy their needs. Moreover, the presence of globalization and technological advances help the society to get information from around the world. However, language barriers have become an obstacle in getting the information. Brisset (cited in Venuti, 2000, p.333) affirms that translation is a dual-act of communication which involves both source text and target text. Hence, translation plays an important role as the media of communication and helps society to fulfill their needs towards information.

Translation can be defined as a process of transferring meaning from source language (SL) to target language (TL) (Larson, 1984, p.3; Newmark, 1988, p.5), and it specifically deals with written text (Munday, 2008, p.5). In other words, the meaning is still the same but the form of source language may change in the target

language. Thus, translation consists of studying lexicon, grammatical structure, communication studies, and cultural context both source language and target language (Larson, 1984, p.3).

When translators translate a text, they use several methods or strategies in translation. Newmark (1988) identifies several strategies that can be classified into two categories. The first strategy is source language oriented. It is word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation and semantic translation. Then second strategy is target language oriented. It is communicative translation, idiomatic translation, free translation, and adaptation. In line with Newmark (1988), Venuti (2010) also identifies other methods which are used by translators. They are foreignization and domestication. Foreignization refers to the process of pressuring on domestic values to register the linguistic and cultural difference of a foreign text. Meanwhile, domestication refers to the process of change of a foreign text to target-language cultural value.

The process of translation may change the structure of the source text. In addition to the structures, the process also changes other aspects of the text such as ideology or world view manifested in the text and voice especially in narrative. The changes of ideology have been demonstrated by several scholars. For examples, Mason (2010) conducted a study by investigating the traces of systematic ideological shifts in the language used in a text about Mexican history and translation. Meanwhile, Nornes (2010) investigated the way in which Paul Rotha's work on

documentary film was imported and received by Japanese theory of cinema. Baker (2010) conducted a research by using the concept of framing on several translations, for example Arabic translation of Samuel Huntington's *The Clash of Civilizations*. The change of voice especially in translated narrative has been demonstrated by Hermans (2010). He investigated the translator's voice in *Max Havelaar* novel by Multatuli published in 1860. It is originally written in Dutch, and it was translated into English, French and Spanish. The study discovered three kinds of discursive presence of the translator's voice and it also discovered ideology underlying the translated texts.

Hermans (2010) affirms that the translated narrative discourse contains second voice or in his term 'translator's voice'. This voice may be identified directly in the text; however, it may be hidden behind the narrator of the narrative text. The degree of visibility of the translator's voice depends on the translation strategies which are used in certain situation or cases. Hermans (2010, p.198) has identified several situation or cases in which the translators manifest their voice in the texts. Those cases are texts' orientation towards an implied reader, cases of self-reflexiveness and self-referentiality and case of 'contextual overdetermination'.

As globalization and technical advances overtly invade the world by providing a large and various amount of information, the obstacle concerning language barriers is considered to be unnecessary. Thus, the needs of translation have been increasing and later causing the product of translation significantly intensifying.

The abundance numbers of translation product especially in novels contain different voices which do not merely came from the author in nature. The product of translation may consist of more than one voice including the voice of the author or the translator. Readers may not realize the discursive presence of the translator's voice, however, the translator's voice does exist.

The present study investigates the discursive presence of the translator's voice in translated narrative. It specifically examines *The Sorceress: The Secret of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel* (United States: Delacorte Press, 2009), a novel by Irish author Michael Scott and translated into Indonesian language by Mohammad Baihaqi (Indonesia: Matahati, 2010). The novel tells about magical adventure of 15-years-old twins named Josh and Sophie Newman and a spouse named Nicholas and Perenelle Flamel in battling against dark elders who want to conquer the world by bringing back their golden age and making human as their slave and food. The present study analyses the strategies used by the translator and how the translator contribute his voice in the translated text.

## 1.2 Statement of Problem

The present study is guided by the following questions:

1. In what strategies does the translator contribute his voice in translating Michael Scott's *The Sorceress: The Secret of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*?

### 1.3 Aims of the Study

Based on the questions above, the study aims to:

1. Reveal the strategies which are used by the translator to contribute his voice.

### 1.4 Significance of the Study

This study has three essential significances. The first is a potential to enrich the finding of previous research. It was expected to add new information, knowledge and understanding about the translator's voice in translated narrative. Then, this study was also expected to provide good practical guidance for other translators in translating narrative text. Finally, the study is expected to be a guidance for readers and researchers in analyzing the translator's voice in translated narrative.

### 1.5 Research Methods

#### 1.5.1 Research Design

This study is conducted within qualitative approach and descriptive method to describe and interpret data. According to Fraenkel and Wallen (1993, p.380), qualitative research deals with the analysis of the qualitative relationship, activities, situations or materials. The present study deals with data in a form of text. Hence, qualitative approach is a proper method to be applied in the study. As mentioned by Walliman (2011, p.130), qualitative approach emphasizes words rather than number. In regard to analyzing the data, this study employs content analysis. As proposed by



Hancock (2002, p.17), content analysis is a step to categorize the data, for purposes of classification, summarization and tabulation.

### 1.5.2 Data Collection

The present study conducted several steps in collecting the data which includes setting the boundaries for the study, identifying the purposefully selected files and indicating the type of the data to be collected (Creswell, 2003, p.187-188). The data were collected from a novel entitled *The Sorceress: The Secret of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel* by Michael Scott and its Indonesian version which is translated by Mohammad Baihaqi. The data did not cover every part of the novel; rather, it covered the beginning part, the middle part as well as the last part of the novel. It was purposively chosen to represent the whole novel and to simplify the study. As stated by Creswell (2003), choosing participants or sites purposively helps the study in understanding the problem and research questions. Due to the study mostly deals with narrative textual analysis, the data of the study are in the form of words, phrases, clauses and sentences.

### 1.5.3 Data Analysis

After the data had been collected, they were analyzed by using content analysis method. Content analysis consists of two levels of analysis; they are descriptive level and interpretative level (Hancock, 2002, p.17). The first step is a close reading of both source text and target text to get the gist of the story and it was done to get a glimpse of discursive presence of the translator's voice in the translated

text. The next step is to identify and label the data based on Hermans' (2010) framework on the translator's voice in the translated narrative. Then the data were analyzed based on the frameworks of Hermans (2010) and Venuti (2010) in order to answer the research questions. After analyzing the data, the data are presented by using narrative passage to convey the findings. And the last step is to make an interpretation of the data.

### 1.6 Clarification of Terms

In order to avoid ambiguity or confusion, there are terms that should be clarified.

1. Voice : "Voice refers to the speech or other overt means through which events and existents are communicated to the audience" (Chatman, 1978, p.153).
2. Translator's Voice : It is an "index of the translator's discursive presence" where he/she has "to come out of the shadow and directly intervene in a text which the reader had been led to believe spoke only with one voice" (Hermans, 1996, p.27)
3. Foreignization : Foreignization deals with the process of pressuring on domestic values to register the linguistic and cultural difference of a foreign

text. It can help reader in understanding expressions or terms of foreign languages and enrich vocabularies in target language and culture (Venuti, 2010).

4. Domestication : In contrast to foreignization, domestication associates with the process of changes of a foreign text to target language cultural value. Domestication can make the translated text natural and smooth (Venuti, 2010).
5. Narrative : It refers to the series of events, real or fictitious, that are the subjects of the discourse, and their several relations of linking, opposition, repetition, etc (Genette, 1987).

### 1.7 Organization of the Paper

The paper of the study is organized into five chapters. The first chapter is *Introduction* and it deals with an introduction of the study. It consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, aims of the study, significance of the study, research method and organization of the paper. The second chapter is *Literature Review* and it involves theoretical review and previous studies which are related to the study. The next chapter is *Research Methodology*. This chapter describes all steps and procedures of the study. The fourth chapter is *Findings and Discussion* which describes collected data, analysis and discussion of findings. The last chapter is



*Conclusion and Suggestion.* This last chapter contains the interpretation towards the result of the research in the form of conclusion and suggestion in accordance with the study.

