

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introduction of the research which covers the background of the study, the scope of the study, research questions, the aims of the study, the research procedures, the clarification of the terms, and the organization of the paper.

1.1. Background of the Study

People can be devoted fans of texts including novels, movies, soap operas, television series, songs, video games, and also theatre. They can be readers or viewers who feel obsessed with, or even, infatuated by those texts. They love stories because a story could stimulate them to continue enjoying its events sequences from the beginning to the very end, and it is likely that the readers would repeat it many times over.

Thwaites (2004: 118), states that the text which is structured by the sequences of events is known as narrative text. Narrative appears in many different kinds of genres and social context and portrays the events by emphasizing the movement of time. Narrative structure emphasizes and complements texts in three main ways; it introduces a times dimension to the connotation and myths, it underlines a network of social meanings by transforming events into actions performed by characters, and it adds the pleasures which go along with the story.

Moreover, Thwaites argued that pleasure is the most powerful effect which can be offered by authors to their readers and viewers. Pleasure is something that could make them endure the story until its closure, and they thereupon would be able to re-tell and rework it. A text could stimulate the readers' pleasure and make them obsessed if it does not directly provide the answers asked by the readers, but rather initiates the readers to find the answers. A text leads the readers to the questions such as, what's happening? What's going to happen next? Or who is she? Those questions provoke the readers to enjoy and continue to follow every single event on narratives.

The study of how narratives make meaning and what the basic procedures are common to all acts of story-telling is called narratology. It is a theory which helps to understand, analyze, and evaluate narratives. Peter Barry (2002: 224), states that the history of narratology centered on three main experts, Aristotle, Vladimir Propp, and Gerard Genette. The latest is the most well-known narratologist among them. Barry states that Genette improved the theory designed by Aristotle and Propp by emphasizing his theory on narration rather than on theme or plot. He focuses on the way how narrative is presented by analyzing its viewpoint and style.

Furthermore, Barry also provides a simplification of Genette's theory of Narratology. He states six basic questions about narration, which are added with some additional categories of his own. First, how is the story 'packaged'? Second, how is time handled in the story? Third, who is telling the story? Fourth, how is

the narrative focalized? Fifth, how are speech and thought represented? And sixth, is the basic narrative mode mimetic or diegetic?

Barry's simplification completely sums up Genette's theory of Narratology. It covers all the elements of narrative structure pointed out by Genette. The six questions deal with six particular areas which Genette discusses in his book *Narrative Discourse* (Barry, 2002: 231).

Narratology can be employed to analyze the narrative structure of a text. Such an analysis can be found, for example, in Peter Barry's analysis of Edgar Allan Poe's tale "The Oval Portrait" (2002: 242). Barry's analysis tries to emphasize how Narratology Theory is applied on a text by using four basic areas of the theory which are the plot/story distinction, Aristotle's Theory, Propp's Theory, and Genette's Theory. Another example is Monika Fludernik's analysis of Charles Dickens' novel "The Great Expectation" (2006: 119). Fludernik studies about the first-person narrator on the novel by analyzing the general situation of the story in which the protagonist finds himself at a significant moment in his early life.

The current study aims to analyze how a story successfully settles its narration and makes the readers addicted to it. The research subject of this study is *Madame Doubtfire*, the novel written by Anne Fine, a British author best known for her children's book, of which she has written more than 50. The novel is included to 100 Best Scottish Books of all time. The basis of analysis is to analyze the narrative technique on the story by using Gerard Genette's theory of Narratology based on Peter Barry's simplification. Thus, the narrative technique

in the novel triggers the writer's curiosity to know how the story catches the readers' attention and become one of the favourite children books of all time.

1.2 Research Questions

This study is designed to answer the following research questions:

1. How is the story narrated as evidenced in the novel?
2. How does the story construct the main character?

1.3 Aims of the Study

The result of this study is expected:

1. To uncover how the story is narrated in the novel.
2. To uncover how the story constructs the main character?

1.4 Scope of the Study

This study is limited only to analyzing how the story is narrated in the novel and how the story constructs the main character.

1.5 Methodology

1.5.1 Data Collection

The data are in the form of words, phrases, and sentences. The data are collected by reading the novel closely, then selecting the words, phrases, and sentences which serve as textual evidence that answers the research questions.

1.5.2 Data Analysis

The collected data are then categorized into narrative categories and methods of characterization. The collected data are then analyzed by using the framework of Gerard Genette's theory of Narratology.

In conducting the research the following steps have been taken:

1. Reading the novel thoroughly.
2. Selecting words, phrases, and sentences which serve as textual evidence.
3. Classifying the textual evidence.
4. Analyzing the data by applying relevant theories.
5. Interpreting data.
6. Making conclusion based on the findings.

1.6 Clarification of Terms

To avoid misunderstanding, the following is the clarification of terms used in the research:

1. Diegesis vs. mimesis: Traditionally, this oppositional pair is used to characterize the difference between telling and showing respectively, particularly in the discussion of the representation of speech and thought. (Fludernik, 2006: 151)
2. Focalization: means 'viewpoint' or 'perspective', which is to say the point-of-view from which the story is told. (Barry, 2002: 232)

3. Mode: according to Genette, is the way in which focalization is treated, defined in the category of voice as ‘Who sees?’ vs. ‘Who speaks?’ (Fludernik, 2006: 156)
4. Narrative Events: the basic units of a story, a dynamic part of the story; it changes a situation. Events combine into sequences to build up the story, which may include several sequences. (Thwaites, 2004: 123)
5. Narrative: narrative is the recounting (as product and process, object and act, structure and structuration) of one, two, or several (more or less overt) narrators to one, two, or several narrate. (Richter, 1996: 120)
6. Narratology: the science of narrative; the study of narrative structures or, simply, stories. Rooted in structuralism and stylistics narratology is the study of how narratives make meaning, and what the basic mechanisms and procedures are which are common to all acts of story-telling. Narratology is not the reading and interpretation of individual stories, but the attempt to study the nature of “story” itself, as a concept and as a cultural practice. (Onega, 1996: 3)
7. Narrator: in spoken narrative, the narrator is the person who utters the words of the story. In stories that are written down, in other words in written texts, we use the term narrator to refer to both first-person (homodiegetic) narrators and third person (heterodiegetic) narrators. (Fludernik, 2006: 158)

8. Omniscience: is godlike knowledge. It is often applied to the narrators of classical realist novels for whom there are no secrets within the created world of the novel. (Hawthorn, 2001: 158)

1.7 The Organization of the Paper

The research is organized as follows:

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter consists of background, research questions, aims of the study, scope of the study, research procedure, clarification of terms, and the organization of paper.

Chapter 2: Theoretical Foundation

This chapter consists of the theoretical foundation related to the study.

Chapter 3: Research Procedure

This chapter consists of method of the research, research procedure, subject of the research, technique of data collection and technique of the data analysis.

Chapter 4: Finding and Discussion

This chapter consists of finding and discussion of the research.

Chapter 5: Conclusion and suggestions

This chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion of the research.