

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Translating idioms requires extra knowledge of the translator. It is due to the fact that the system of one language might be different from that of another language, especially in the use of expression like idioms. Idioms in one language, in fact, may not have an equivalent in another language. Secondly, the meaning of the idiom cannot be traced from its lexical items. Therefore, it is crucial to apply the appropriate strategy in translating idioms. It aims to produce an acceptable translation in the target language.

The following quotations may support the discussion above:

- (1) SL: (18/Eng/13) Forks was literally my personal *hell on Earth*.
TL: (18/Ind/39) Secara harfiah, Forks adalah *nerakaku di bumi*.
- (2) SL: (52/Eng/70) *Right on cue*, the waitress appeared with our drinks and a basket of breadsticks.
TL: (52/Ind/181) *Pucuk dicinta ulam tiba*, si pelayan muncul membawa minuman kami dan sekeranjang roti Prancis.
- (3) SL: (32/Eng/23) Possibly my crippling clumsiness was seen as endearing rather than pathetic, casting me as *a damsel in distress*.
TL: (32/Ind/67) Mungkin kecanggunganku dianggap menarik dan bukan menyedihkan, membuatku kelihatan seperti *cewek yang sedang kesusahan*.
- (4) SL: (35/Eng/30) Jessica made me aware of another event looming *on the horizon*.
TL: (35/Ind/83) Jessica membuatku menyadari satu masalah lagi.

In the sentence numbered (1), the idiom *hell on Earth* is translated as *nerakaku di bumi* in Indonesia. The source language idiom is translated into the target language with roughly the same lexical items. It means that it is possible to translate the English idiom into Indonesian idiom with similar meaning and lexical items. In the numbered (2), an idiom *right on cue* is translated as *pucuk dicinta ulam tiba*. In this case, the idiom is translated into the Indonesian idiom with totally different lexical items to convey meaning naturally. Next, the idioms numbered (3) and (4) are *a damsel in distress* and *on the horizon* respectively. The idiom *put on a good show* is translated by paraphrase as *cewek yang sedang kesusahan* in Indonesian. While, the idiom *on the horizon* is omitted in the Indonesian translation.

In relation to its meaning, translating idioms may be of crucial problem.

The given examples may clarify the discussion:

(5) SL: (68/Eng/105) Our relationship couldn't continue to balance, as it did, *on the point of a knife*.

TL: (68/Ind/262) Hubungan kami tak bisa berlanjut secara seimbang, seperti layaknya hubungan *di ujung tanduk*.

(6) SL: (48/Eng/63) I was anxious to get out of town so I could stoop glancing over my shoulder, hoping to see him appearing *out of the blue* the way he always did.

TL: (48/Ind/164) Aku benar-benar tak sabar lagi ingin meninggalkan kota supaya bisa berhenti menoleh kebelakang, berharap melihatnya muncul *tiba-tiba* seperti yang selalu dilakukannya.

In the sentence numbered (5) the idiom *on the point of a knife* is translated as another idiom in Indonesian, that is, *di ujung tanduk*. In this case, to convey the meaning of the source language idiom in the target language, the Indonesian

idiom which has roughly the same meaning is used. Besides, the rendering is considered as a faithful translation as it conveys the source language message and expresses the message naturally in target language. It is implied that to find the equivalent of an idiom, translating it to another idiom in target language is possible. While, in number (6), *out of the blue* is translated as *tiba-tiba*, a non-idiom expression in Indonesian. It happens because there is no similar idiom found in Indonesian. So, using a non-idiom expression is the alternative solution to transfer the meaning naturally in Indonesian.

The phenomenon stated above catches the researcher's attention to conduct an analysis on the translating of English idioms into Indonesian.

1.2 The Reason of Choosing the Topic

There are plenty of problems in translating English idioms into Indonesian. At first, those two languages, especially their idioms, have different system. Therefore, it is not easy to find the equivalent of an idiom in other languages. In connection with those problems, some translators, particularly the beginner ones, often misinterpret the English idioms. Therefore, translating English idioms into Indonesian is considered challenging and interesting to discuss. Besides, Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* as the source of the data contains various idioms which are translated differently. Hence, the topic is regarded relevant to discuss in a research.

1.3 The Statement of the Problem

In connection to the topic of the discussion, the researcher formulates the two basic problems to be analyzed. The problems are as follows:

1. What are the strategies used to translate the English idioms found in *Twilight* into Indonesian?
2. What is the fidelity of those English idioms renderings in Indonesian?

1.4 The Objective of the Study

To get a deeper and clearer understanding on the topic discussed, this research tries to answer the two questions as stated above:

1. To judge the strategies used to translate the English idioms found in *Twilight* into Indonesian.
2. To search the fidelity of those English idioms renderings in Indonesian.

1.5 The Scope of the Study

Limiting the scope of the study is important to make the discussion run well. Translation might be analyzed through many scopes. Here, the study only discusses the translating of idioms. Translating idioms discussed here comprises only the strategies and the fidelity. The strategies used to translate the idioms are the ones proposed by Mona Baker. While, the fidelity intended in this study covers faithful and unfaithful translation.

1.6 The Significance of the Study

It is hoped that this research may contribute some advantages and provide valuable information for not only the researcher but also the readers. Reading this work, the readers are expected to get a better knowledge about the topic, namely the translating of English idioms into Indonesian. Theoretically, it may improve the readers' understanding and competence on the study of language, especially translation. Practically, this research is expected to encourage other researchers to conduct further researches on the topic more comprehensively.