

# **Chapter I**

## **Introduction**

This chapter contains the introduction of the study, which consists of the following: the background of the research, identification of the problems, limitation of the problems, research question, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and object of the research.

### **1.1 Background of the Research**

Literature is a creative activity; a work of an art. A literary work is an imagination of universe created by the author after reflecting on their social context. According to Saryono (2009), literature also can record all experiences empirical-natural and non-empirical supernatural experiences; in other words, literature can be a witness and commentary on human life.

Nowadays, many well-known English literary texts can be found worldwide, so more people are becoming more interested in reading and enjoying literary works. Not only the works of our country's writers, but they also widely enjoy as the works of the world's writers. As a result, translating literary works is critical for part of our audience to experience the works of world authors. Readers will have difficulty in understanding the content and meaning of the works if there is no translation. Then the translation of literary works is essential so that many people in the world can enjoy and understand literary works. Readers will be able to discover new worlds, cultures, perspectives, values, and ideas as a result of the book.

Although translating literary works involves more than just moving words from one language to another, it is essential to portray them properly to

preserve the sense of emotion they convey. According to Nida and Taber as cited at Choliludin (2007), translators should choose the closest natural comparable, whether in the receptor language's meaning or style. To put it another way, the translation should not sound like it was translated, but it should retain the original language's meaning. Larson (1984) defined that translation involves transferring the receptor language's meaning from the source language. This is accomplished by transitioning through the semantic structure from the first language to the second language's form. It indicates that must remain consistent when being transferred, just the format varies.

Experts use many theories about translation, but these theories are often not the same as the sense or feel of the source language, so the feel produced in the target language becomes less visible. Newmark (1988) explained eight translation methods, there are; *Word-for-word translation*, the purpose of this method is to either comprehend the mechanics of the original language or to interpret a difficult text as a pre-translation procedure. *Literal translation*, the SL grammatical structures are translated into their closest TL equivalents, however the lexical terms are once more translated singly and devoid of context. This emphasizes the problems that need to be fixed before translation. *Faithful translation*, the exact contextual meaning of the original is attempted to be captured within the bounds of the TL grammatical constructs. *Semantic translation*, may translate less significant cultural words using culturally neutral third or functional terms rather than cultural counterparts, and it may also make additional minor modifications for the reader.

*Adaptation translation*, this type of translation is the most flexible, it is employed to translate literary works (comedies, poems, short stories, narratives, etc.), convert SL culture to TL culture, and rewrite the text. *Free translation*, is a component of TL Emphasis that replicates the subject matter without the form or the material without the structure of the original. *Idiomatic translation*, replicates the original's "message," but it often distorts nuances of meaning by favoring colloquialisms and idioms where they are absent from the source text. *Communicative translation*, aims to accurately capture the context of the original text in a way that the reader will find both the language and the topic acceptable and understandable. According to Bassnett (1994), while translating SL text into TL text, the translator must make sure that the two texts' surface meanings are roughly equivalent and that the SL text's structure is retained as nearly as feasible without severely distorting the TL text's structures.

Newmark (1998) stated that translation particularly in literary works, does not just involve converting the source language into the target language. Because English and Indonesian have different cultures, it is important to carefully study the norms of translation so that the reader would accept the finished work. Lefevere and Bassnett (1998) also argued that the target language's different cultural values influence translation revision and reading in some hierarchical sequence. As a result, translators frequently make an effort to "naturalize" the target culture so that it more closely resembles the reader's own cultural norms. Therefore, the translator must select the natural equivalent that most closely matches the recipient's linguistic style and meaning. Wills

(1982) defined that translation is a process that converts a written source language text into a text in the target language that is optimally equivalent.

There are three literary works: prose, poetry, and drama. In this research, the researcher will discuss one of the literary works, namely poetry. According to Waluyo (2002), poetry is a form of literary work that expresses the poet's thoughts and feelings imaginatively and it is composed by concentrating all the power of language, concentrating its physical structure and inner structure. Therefore, poetry is a form of literary work from the results of the poet's expressions and feelings in a language bound by rhythm, dimension, rhyme, the composition of lyrics and stanzas, which full of meaning.

Poetry translation is still seen as the most challenging translation of all literary genres because it can probably lose its aesthetic value. Because in poetry, there are a lot of figurative languages that can not only be translated word for word. Nida and Taber (1974) defined that the message and style of the source language should be conveyed into the target language as naturally as possible when translating. As a result, finding the most appropriate and equivalent words in translating poetry from the source language to the target language without losing the meaning or context between the two languages becomes a significant challenge for translators.

There are many theories used in the translation theory, and the researcher wants to know which translation theory that suitable for this book in translating the elements of poetry. One of these poems may have only been translated using one technique, or perhaps numerous techniques would be required to get a suitable translation. The researcher chooses some poems in *The Sun and Her*

Flower by Rupi Kaur. *The Sun and Her Flower* was originally published on October 2017. This book focuses on the world of love. The book is written in five chapters —wilting, falling, rooting, rising, and blooming. In every poem, several writings are often italicized at the bottom. The goal is to emphasize the topic of the poem in question. She wants the reader to understand the poem the way she wrote and imagined it. Then the researcher chose this book because it is such a beautiful masterpiece of recognizing the essential emotions that might be encountered in everyone's path through life. Rupi Kaur has been successful in putting her readers through situations that they have encountered before or that they have never had.

Rupi Kaur is a poet, feminist, and author from Canada. She was born on October 5, 1992 in India, and also known as “Instapoet” after becoming famous for posting his poetry online, mostly on the social media platform Instagram. Through her poetry, she broke through the barriers of stigma, etiquette, and ideals placed on women through the poems she created. Her debuted book, “*Milk and Honey*,” achieved amazing success and held the position of an international bestseller, selling more than two million copies worldwide.

The writings of Rupi Kaur has been translated into several languages, including Indonesian. For the book “*The Sun and her Flower*” which published in 2017 and becoming the object of this research, translated by Ni Made Purnamasari. She was an Indonesian writer who was born on March 22, 1989 in Klungkung, Bali. Her essays, short stories, and poems, which have appeared in a variety of newspapers, have made her well-known in the world of Indonesian literature. Her poetry book, *Bali Borneo* (2014), won as Indonesian

Poetry Day Festival award. Ni Made Purnama Sari is one of the poets who are members of the Poci Country Community, which has been published since 1993.

This researcher reviews two undergraduate theses with related topics, the similar research is already made by Ayu Sutriati from Universitas Sanata Dharma in 2019. The title of her research is "A Study of Poetry Translation Strategies and Acceptability on Ten Poems in Rupi Kaur's "Milk and Honey". In addition to her, there is a similar thesis made by Yuni Kartika from UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta in 2017. The title of her theses is "The Translation Technique of Emily Dickinson's Peom Hope of Two Indonesian Translations".

The first is Sutriati's research, she is focused on investigating the poetry translation techniques used in translating 10 poems from Rupi Kaur's "Milk and Honey" and assessing to what extent the translation of Rupi Kaur's Milk and Honey is acceptable. She used theory of poetry translation techniques proposed by Lefevere (1975) and the other theory is translation acceptability proposed by Larson (1984). The result of Sutriati's research is there are 10 poetry translations that used the literal strategy, 2 that used rhymed strategy, 2 that used blank verse strategy, 2 that used interpretation strategy, and no poetry translations that used the phonemic, metrical, or poetry into prose strategies. Additionally, the researcher claims that 3 poetry translations are inappropriate, whereas 7 poetry translations are deemed acceptable. The respondents thought that all 10 translations of poetry were acceptable.

The similarity between Sutriati's research and this research is that research focuses on translation methodologies, uses the same theory,

particularly Lefevere's (1975) seven theories of poetry translation, and employs the same research object, Rupi Kaur's poetry anthology. However, different from the book's title, Sutriarti chose Milk and Honey as her study object, while the researcher selects The Sun and Her Flowers. Afterward, there is a difference in the second focus of the two studies. Sutriarti's research focused on examining translation acceptability using Larson's theory. While the second is focus to identify how many strategies are utilized in translating each poem.

The second is Kartilka's research, she aimed to find out the differences of two translation poems from the same poem based on translation techniques. She analyzed what techniques are found in the poem "Hope" which are translated by Abdul and Wawan and How do those techniques deal with the translator results in both translation poems of Emily Dickinson's poem. Kartika's research aims to determine the differences between two translations of the same poetry using various translation methods. She analyzed the data based on theory of five techniques of literary translation proposed by Professor Amparo Hurtado Albir (2001). She analyzed what translation technique can be discovered in the poems "Hope", translated by Abdul and Wawan, and how do those techniques affect how each translator's interpretation of Emily Dickinson's poem.

According to the study's findings, neither translator employed any of the other three translation techniques: linguistic amplification (TL1: 6 data, TL2: 6 data), elision (TL1: 3 data, TL2: 1 data), or compensation (TL1: 5 data, TL2: 4 data) (TL1: 1 data). The borrowing technique was not used by any translator. Additionally, the researcher discovers a shared strategy employed by both

translators in the same line to achieve aesthetic, lyrical, and expressive value in order to draw readers in and help them readily grasp the poem.

This research and Kartika's research are similar in focusing on poetry translation techniques. The distinction is in the object of study. Kartika's research uses Emily Dickinson's poem entitled "Hope" in this study, the researcher uses twenty untitled poems in *The Sun and Her Flowers* by Rupi Kaur. The next difference is in the theory used. The researcher employs seven procedures of poetry translation proposed by Lefevere (1975), whereas Kartika employs five literary translation techniques proposed by Albir (2001). In addition, in this study, there is a further study of how many techniques are used in translating each poems of Rupi Kaur's "The Sun and Her Flowers."

## **1.2 Identification of the Problems**

Based on the explanation in the background of the study, the researcher tries to identify the problems found as follows:

1. Reading poetry in English presents a challenge for non-native English speakers, so they require an Indonesian translation of the book to comprehend its content.
2. The poetry translation is still regarded as the most challenging among other literary works due to worries that it may lose its aesthetic worth. Since not only the words but also the senses, feelings, and cultural aspects of the source language must be translated while translating poetry, the appropriate translation technique is essential to accurately translate all these elements.



3. There are numerous translation theory and technique, but not all are effectively used in translation process to create poetry translations that capture the essence of the original language.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problems**

The aim of the limitation of the problem is the discussion will be more focused on something the researcher would like to study and investigate to become clearer. To limit the analysis, the researcher will only investigate the translation techniques of some poems that consist of Rupi Kaur's book *The Sun and Her Flowers*. The original version was published on October 2017, and the Indonesian version was published on July 2019. The book is divided into five chapters: wilting, falling, rooting, rising, and blooming. The researcher will select 20 poems that are contained in the book according to seven techniques poetry translation theory proposed by Lefevere's (1975).

### **1.4 Research Questions**

Based on problem that explained above, the questions of this research are:

1. What kind of technique is used in translating Rupi Kaur's poetry anthology "The Sun and Her Flowers" according to Lefevere's theory?
2. How many techniques that is used to translating each poem of Rupi Kaur's "The Sun and Her Flowers" that analysed?

## **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The object of this research is firstly, to reveal the translation techniques in translating Rupi Kaur's "The Sun and Her Flowers" based on the theories of poetry translation by Lefevere. Secondly, to know how many translations technique that used to translating each poem of Rupi Kaur's "The Sun and Her Flower".

## **1.6 Significance of the Study**

This study is expected to have theoretical and practical implications for the strategy for translation. Theoretically, this study should help readers deepen their understanding of translation, particularly poetry translation methods that might be used for the target language.

Practically, it is expected that this research will be useful for learning more about poetry translation methods and deciding how to translate them most effectively. The findings of this study are expected to serve as a reference for:

- Translators and people who are interested in translating.

The authors expect that this research will serve as a useful resource for those interested in becoming translators or translators looking for ways to translate poetry that conform to expert theories.

- Further Researchers, the researcher hopes that readers will use this research to pursue similar research on assessing translation techniques in literary works, especially in poetry translation.

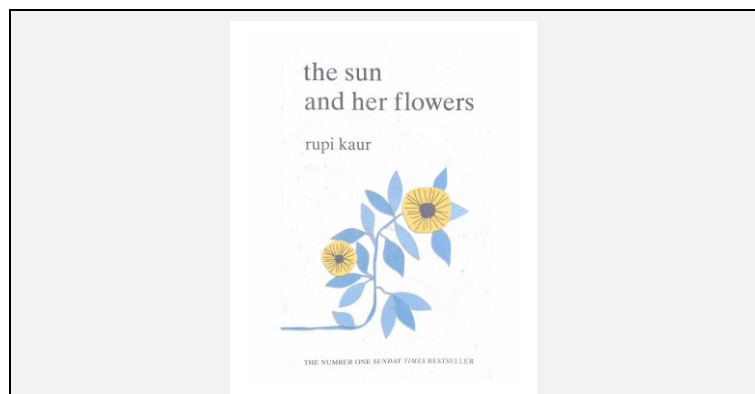
- English learners, particularly English Literature learners, need deeper knowledge about the procedures involved in translating literary works, particularly poetry. Whereas, in translating poetry, the correct approach is required so that the message provided in the source language is still delivered in the target language without compromising the poem's poetic value.

### 1.7 Object of the Research

The object of the research is both versions of Rupi Kaur's book *The Sun and Her Flowers*. The researcher chose purposively 20 untitled poems from 204 untitled poems contained in the book *The Sun and Her Flowers*.

**Table 1. Book Identity English Version**

<b>English Version</b>	
Author	Rupi Kaur
Country	United States
Language	English
Genre	Romance
Publisher	Andrews McNeil Publishing (US) Simon & Schuster (UK)
Publication date	October 3, 2017
Pages	256



**Table 2. Book Identity Indonesian Version**

<b>Indonesian Version</b>	
Author	Rupi Kaur
Country	United States
Translator	Ni Made Purnamasari
Language	Indonesian
Genre	Romance
Publisher	POP (Jakarta)
Publication date	July, 2019
Pages	256

