

Kathleen SW's Translation on Romantic Expressions in Nicholas Sparks' Novel, *The Notebook*

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Article History

Received : March 27th, 2023

Revised : April 18th, 2023

Accepted : May 16th, 2023

Abstract: Translation is the complex process of converting a text from one language (the source language) to another language (the target language) while preserving its semantic meaning. One of the most challenging parts of being a translator is translating literary works such as novels. The aims of the research are to analyze the types of romantic expressions appearing in Nicholas Sparks' novel, *The Notebook*, as well as the translation technique used by the translator to translate romantic expressions. The data were transcribed into extracts and analyzed using the theory of love languages and translation techniques. This research used descriptive and qualitative methods to investigate the problem. To collect the data, the researcher uses the documentation method. The findings of this research revealed that there are five types of romantic expressions and twelve of the eighteen techniques used by the translator. From those five types of romantic expressions, there are 24 expressions that represent words of affirmation, 10 expressions that represent both acts of service and physical touch, 6 expressions that represent quality time, and 3 expressions that represent receiving gifts. Meanwhile, of those twelve techniques used, 14 times are used for established equivalent; 7 times are used for linguistic amplification; 6 times are used for variation; 5 times are used for amplification; 4 times are used for both literal translation and modulation; 3 times are used for adaptation, generalization, and linguistic compression; and lastly, 1 time is used for both particularization and pure borrowing. To conclude, it was stated that words of affirmation are the most common types of romantic expressions, and receiving gifts is the least common in Nicholas Sparks' novel, *The Notebook*. Meanwhile, established equivalents are the most commonly used techniques, and both particularization and pure borrowing are the least effective ways to translate those romantic expressions.

Keywords: Translation; Romantic Expressions; Translation Techniques; Novel.

INTRODUCTION

These days, people all around the world have a greater demand for translation services from other languages or source language into other languages or target language (Ramadhan, Baharuddin, and Wardana 2021). Because translation makes it possible for everyone to communicate with people from other countries who speak other languages, it plays a crucial role in maintaining international ties among inhabitants of diverse nations. Latifah, Baharuddin, and Udin, (2022)

Translation is the complex process of converting a text from one language (the source language) to another language (the target language) while preserving its semantic meaning. Additionally, Larson (1984: 3) stated that: "Translation is transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. Meanwhile, Newmark in Fadli, Baharuddin and Wardana (2023) states that translation is the art of reproducing the process in a written language to other languages without changing its messages and statements to gain more understandable ideas in wider sight.

This is done by going from the form of the first language to the form of a second language by way of semantic structure. It is the meaning which is being transferred and must be held constant." By this definition, translators should translate a text by transferring the semantic meaning of the source

text into the target text, so it means even though the form of the source text changes, the meaning of the text is still the same.

Someone who can replace the diverse culture and language of the source language (SL) into the target language (TL) without changing the words' meanings is called a translator. However, being a translator is not easy; he or she must have wide knowledge of the source and target languages and cultures. Because of different cultures, different geographies, different beliefs, and people's worldviews, there are some concepts in the source language that do not have the same lexical equivalents in the target language. One of the most challenging of being a translator is when they translated literary works such as novels, as Hu (2000) stated "Translation of fiction is more complicated than the translation of other genres, as it deals not only with bilingual, but also bi-cultural and bi-social transference".

Nuriadi (2016) said that "Literature is an art so a literary work is a 'work of art' like a painting, statue, or graphic design in visual art" (page 25). Alternatively, Nuriadi and Sribagus (2019) define literary work as "ergocentric," meaning it exists independently, detached from the author's background and the audience's interpretation. Moreover, Nuriadi (2016:32) also said that Literature has three general genres: prose, poetry, and drama. In detail, prose is divided into two categories: fiction and nonfiction. The fiction then covers some actual works such as novels, short stories, novelettes or novellas, romances, and so forth. The work in the sense of a novel is then classified based on the story into several categories, such as detective novel, horror novel, thriller novel, adventure novel, romance novel, fantasy novel, and many others.

Nowadays, novels with romance genres are one of the most favorite literary works. In romance novels, there are some expressions that may be central to the plot, or they may serve as a backdrop to other events in the story, namely romantic expression. According to Chapman (2014) in his book *The Five Love Languages: The Secret to Love That Lasts*. There are five types of romantic expressions that can show someone's love: words of affirmation, Quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. When it comes to translating romantic expressions, it is important to consider cultural differences and attitudes towards language and expression. By understanding these cultural nuances, we can ensure that our translations accurately convey the intended meaning and emotion.

There are certain research findings associated with the study. Pamungkas (2019) from Raden Intan State Islamic University Lampung carried out this study with the intention of examining the techniques the translator used to translate "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" into English and Indonesian. The researcher chose the sample using a descriptive qualitative technique and purposive sampling. Documentation was necessary for data gathering. Data presentation, classification, comparative induction, and inference-making were the four main steps of the analytical process. The findings showed a total of 96 occurrences of various translation techniques throughout the novel.

Anggreni (2019) from Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana Salatiga performed a research project to find Culture-Specific Items (CSI) and translation techniques in the Bahasa Indonesia translation of Jojo Moyes' "Me Before You." Forty-two CSI were located using qualitative research and library analysis. According to Davies' view, the two main translation procedures used were globalization and preservation.

Those three related studies commonly have the same idea with this study especially in translation of novels. The first study discussed about translation procedure in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* novel, the second study discussed about Translation of Culture-Specific Items in Bahasa Indonesia Translation of Jojo Moyes "Me Before You", and the third is discussed about Translation Strategy Analysis Used In *The Kite Runner* Novel . However, specifically this study aims to describe what types of romantic expressions are there in *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks, and to analyze Kathleen SW's translation technique to translate romantic expressions in Nicholas Sparks' novel, *The Notebook*.

The aims of the research are to analyze the types of romantic expressions appearing in Nicholas Sparks' novel, *The Notebook*, as well as the translation technique used by the translator to translate romantic expressions. The researcher chooses this novel as an object of the research due to the researcher wanting to explore further how romantic expressions in literature are translated across different languages and cultures through this novel. Besides that, its story also has similarity with the researcher's love story.

METHOD

The main data of the research are the English version of *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks and its Indonesian version, *Buku Harian* by Kathleen SW. The data were transcribed into extracts and analyzed using theory of love languages and translation techniques. This research used descriptive qualitative types in investigating the problem. According to Bogdan and Biklen (2007), qualitative research is descriptive and data is gathered using words or sentences rather than numbers. To collect the data that are needed the researcher uses a documentation method. According to Alwasilah (2011) "Document analysis is one of the data collection techniques used in a qualitative study and it includes reading written texts or documents". Moreover, After collecting the data, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative analysis to analyze data. Miles and Huberman (1994:10) mention that "the stages of analyzing data are data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusions or verification".

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This study investigates Kathleen SW's translation on romantic expression in the one of the most popular novels by Nicholas Sparks, *The Notebook* and its Indonesian version. The researcher uses an English and Indonesian version of the novel to be analyzed. The English version consists of 197 pages published by Hachette Book Group in 1996 in New York. An Indonesian version of the novel consists of 256 pages published by PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama in 2001 in Jakarta. This study focuses on the types of romantic expressions and the translation techniques to translate the expressions.

A. Types of romantic expressions by Chapman (2014)

There were fifty-three expressions found and classified into five types of romantic expressions as mentioned by Chapman (2014) and the data were put on appendix 1. The results are shown in the table below.

Table 1. Types of romantic expressions

NO	Types of romantic expression	Quantity	Sample of expression	
			Source text	Target text
1	Words of Affirmation	24	"I don't care what my parents think, I love you and always will, We'll find a way to be together." (P.26)	"Aku tidak peduli pendapat kedua orangtuaku, aku mencintaimu, dan akan selalu mencintaimu, kita akan menemukan cara untuk selalu bisa bersama."(P.37)
2	Quality Time	6	"They met the following day, and the day after that, and they soon became inseparable.(P.18)"	Mereka bertemu lagi pada hari berikutnya, dan hari berikutnya lagi, dan tak lama kemudian mereka jadi tak terpisahkan. (P.22)

3	Receiving Gift	3	"She had given him a painting before she'd left that summer. (P.49)"	Allie pernah memberikan padanya sebuah lukisan sebelum ia pergi pada musim panas itu. (P.74)
4	Act of Service	10	"At the town dance in the tobacco barn, it was she who taught him how to waltz and do the Charleston. (P.18)"	Pada acara dansa di lumbung tembakau kota itu, si gadis lah yang mengajarnya berdansa waltz dan Charleston (P.23)
5	Physical Touch	10	"After saying good night, he kissed her for the first time.(P.18)"	Setelah mengucapkan selamat malam, ia mencium gadis itu untuk pertama kali, (P.23)
TOTAL		53		

Based on the table above, there were 53 expressions from 5 types of romantic expressions found in *The Notebook* novel. Those types were words of affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, act of service and physical touch. The most common expressions found were words of affirmation which appeared 24 times from 53 data. These expressions were marked by saying compliment words. It is commonly uttered by Noah and Allie since their first meet at The Neuse River Festival in New Bern, North Carolina until their last moment in their life at the nursing house. The second most common expressions were acts of service and physical touch. There were 10 expressions of each found from 53 data. An act of service was marked by performing actions, gestures or asking to help that made someone feel loved or cared for. Almost all of the data found was done by Noah. On the other hand, physical touch was marked by expressing love through physical touch, such as hugging, kissing, or holding hands. Both Noah and Allie have had some physical contact in their lives since the first time they met. The third was quality time, which was marked by spending time together, such as going on dates, taking a trip, or simply spending time talking and enjoying each other. There were 6 expressions from 53 data, and almost all of them were between Noah and Allie since they first met. And lastly, there were only 3 expressions of receiving gifts from the 53 data found. Which is marked by giving valued presents to someone. Allie gave her painting to Noah twice as a gift, and those paintings were very thoughtful for Noah for the rest of his life. And he only once gave something to Allie, a blue shirt as a gift.

B. Translation techniques by Molina & Albir (2002)

In this study, to analyze the translation techniques in translating romantic expressions in *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks, the writer used the theory from Molina & Albir (2002). She mentioned that there are eighteen translation techniques, namely adaptation, amplification, borrowing, calque, compensation, description, discursive creation, established equivalent, generalization, linguistic amplification, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, substitution, transposition, and variation.

Table 2. Translation techniques

NO	Translation techniques	Used (in times)	Sample of translation techniques	
			Source text	Target text
1	Adaptation	3	"I reach for her hand and take it, bony and fragile." (P.123)	Aku meraih tangannya dan menggenggamnya, begitu kurus dan rapuh. (P.187)
2	Amplification	5	"Only the summer is over, Allie, not us, We'll never be over."(P.27)	"Hanya musim panas ini yang sudah berakhir, Allie, bukan hubungan kita, Hubungan kita tidak akan pernah berakhir" (P.37)
3	Established Equivalent	14	"You're the finest young man who ever worked for me, even if you aren't Jewish." (P.29)	"Kau anak muda terbaik yang pernah bekerja untukku, meskipun kau bukan orang Yahudi."(P.42)
4	Generalization	3	"They held each other tightly," (P.36)	Mereka saling merangkul dengan erat. (P.54)
5	Linguistic Amplification	7	"I love you deeply, and I hope you know that, I've always loved you, Noah" (P.146)	"Aku amat mencintaimu, dan aku ingin kau tahu itu. Sejak dulu aku selalu mencintaimu, Noah." (P.225)
6	Linguistic Compression	3	"You are the greatest thing that has ever happened to me." (P.146)	"Kau adalah hal terindah yang pernah terjadi pada diriku." (P.226)
7	Literal Translation	4	"Noah made breakfast for Allie." (P.106)	Noah membuatkan sarapan untuk Allie. (P.159)
8	Modulation	4	"Allie surprised Noah by kissing him gently on the cheek." (P.80)	Noah terkejut ketika Allie memberinya kecupan lembut di pipi. (P.123)
9	Particularization	1	"Noah poured two cups and handed one to her." (P.48)	Noah menyeduh dua cangkir teh dan menyodorkan satu pada Allie. (P.72)

10	Pure Borrowing	1	"At the town dance in the tobacco barn, it was she who taught him how to waltz and do the Charleston." (P.18)	Pada acara dansa di lumbung tembakau kota itu, si gadislah yang mengajarnya berdansa waltz dan Charleston (P.23)
11	Reduction	2	"I think I can find something here for you, so you can get out of those clothes. It might be a little big, but it's warm." (P.91)	"Kurasa aku bisa meminjamkan pakaian padamu. Mungkin agak kebesaran, tapi toh hangat." (P.139)
12	Variation	6	"Can I bring that in for you?" (P.81)	"Mau aku bawakan itu untukmu?" (P.124)

Table 2 makes it clear that "established equivalent," which appears in a notable 14 instances, was the translator's primary tactic. This translation technique involves utilizing terms or familiar expressions from a dictionary or active language usage, ensuring equivalence in the target language. Following this, the second most utilized technique was "linguistic amplification," implemented 7 times. This approach entails incorporating linguistic elements from the source language into the target language. Subsequently, the "variation" technique was observed six times, encompassing alterations in linguistic or paralinguistic facets—such as intonation and gestures—that influence textual tone, style, and sociolinguistic nuances.

"Amplification," the fourth technique, emerged 4 times. This method involves introducing elaborative details absent in the source language. Moving on, both "literal translation" and "modulation" strategies were each employed four times. "Literal translation" involves word-for-word translation from the source language, maintaining the original structure and information. Conversely, "modulation" entails altering the translator's perspective, focus, or cognitive framework concerning the source text, potentially involving lexical or structural adjustments.

The subsequent cluster, each occurring three times, consisted of "adaptation," "generalization," and "linguistic compression." "Adaptation" necessitates replacing cultural elements from the source text with culturally relevant counterparts in the target language. "Generalization" involves translating specific source language terms into broader, neutral terms in the target language. Conversely, "linguistic compression" is a technique amalgamating linguistic elements within the target text.

The seventh technique, "reduction," manifested twice. This approach involves condensing source language information into the target language, often converting explicit data into implicit forms. Lastly, "particularization" and "pure borrowing" were each employed once. "Particularization" serves to translate general source language terms with specific target language expressions. "Pure borrowing," on the other hand, pertains to adopting words or expressions directly from another language without alteration.

CONCLUSION

This section provides the conclusion from the result that answers the research questions. The questions are about the types of romantic expressions in *The Notebook* novel by Nicholas Sparks and the translation technique used by Kathleen SW as the translator to translate those expressions into Indonesia. So, the first research question is focused on the types of romantic expressions, and the second research question focused on the translation techniques. This research found there were five types of romantic expressions in the novel, it means that all types existed in the novel based on the

theory. The most common expressions found were words of affirmation which appeared 24 times from 53 data. The second most common expressions were acts of service and physical touch, there were 10 expressions of each found from 53 data. The third was quality time, there were 6 expressions from 53 data, and almost all of them were between Noah and Allie since they first met. Lastly, there were only 3 expressions of receiving gifts from the 53 data found. Meanwhile, there were 12 from 18 techniques used by the translator. They were established equivalent used for fourteen times, linguistic amplification used for seven times, variation used for six times, amplification used for five times, literal translation and modulation used for four times, adaptation, generalization and linguistic compression used for three times, reduction used for two times and lastly particularization and pure borrowing used for only one time. Moreover, to the future researcher, there will be more romantic novels and more interesting novels than nowadays. By reading this thesis, future researchers can take some related theory or even something valuable as their references in order to make a better thesis using different kinds of romantic novels. To lecturers, this thesis may be not as good as others, however the researcher hopes there will be something that can be useful for learning material or even references to make other thesis related to this topic.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my esteemed first and second advisors at FKIP, University of Mataram, for providing me with the invaluable opportunity to conduct research within the English Language Education Study Programme. I also extend my thanks to all other contributors who have played a part in the completion of this research, even though I may not be able to acknowledge each of them individually. I wholeheartedly welcome any constructive criticism and suggestions, as they will undoubtedly contribute to the refinement and excellence of future research endeavors.

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