

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

There are so many text genres and one of them is fiction. Fiction is defined as “Literature in the form of prose, especially novels, that describes imaginary events and people” (Oxford Dictionaries, n.d.). In addition, fiction is divided into some types, such as fairy tales, fantasy, folk tales, tall tales, fable, adventure, mystery, historical, realistic, and science (Genres of Literature, n.d.). A fairy tale is a story specially for children that involves magical events and imaginary creatures (Collins Dictionary, n.d.). Moreover, a fairy tale can teach children an understanding of what is right or wrong, not through direct teaching, but through implication (Docherty, 2014).

One of the famous fairy tales is “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs”. This fairy tale is originally written by The Grimm Brothers. There are several versions of “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” and the most famous version is created by Disney.

In this thesis I would like to discuss “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” by Roald Dahl and he makes the story in the form of a narrative poem. Dahl is a

British novelist who was born in Llandaff, South Wales on 13th September 1916. Dahl passed away on 23rd November 1990 at the age of 74 after suffering from an unspecified infection (Roald Dahl Biography, 2018).

Dahl's works are popular, but there is a controversy concerning some of his children's books that contain harsh content. The critics and parents are concerned about his children's books, but Dahl argues that children have a cruder sense of humor than adults; consequently, they do not relate it to life and that he is merely trying to appeal to his reader (Roald Dahl Biography, 2018).

During his career, he has written nineteen children's books, some short stories, and scripts of movies. One of his works is *Revoltin' Rhymes*. It is a book that was published in 1982 and it is the first of his collection of fairy tales in the form of poems. These fairy tale poems are "Cinderella", "Jack and the Beanstalk", "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs", "Goldilocks and the Three Bears", "Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf", and "The Three Little Pigs" (Roald Dahl, n.d.).

I am interested in finding out more about Roald Dahl's narrative poem, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs", especially in analyzing its narrative structure. Narrative structure is a literary element which provides a framework that underlies the order in which a narrative is presented to the reader (Definitions, n.d.). The analysis of the narrative structure will be based on William Labov's theory. I choose "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" because it is a well-known story and Dahl's version of this poem is uniquely different from the other versions. In addition, I find there is a twist in this poem that I think makes this poem even more interesting.

Furthermore, narrative structure covers two things, which are the content of a story and the way or form that is used to tell the story. It means that the same story

can have different effects on the reader if the story is told by a different author. It is the same as when people read a story or poem, each of the reader may have a different perspective of interpreting the story.

Narrative structure is an area in Stylistics. Stylistics is a branch of linguistics that studies style; besides, it can also be defined as the study of the devices in language. Moreover, the style of each author may be different, based on the syntax, word choice, and tone (Literary Devices, n.d.). From the style of the author, the reader can easily recognize the writing of one writer because of the uniqueness in the style of writing.

This topic is significant because it can make the reader aware of Dahl's style in writing. Moreover, it will make people realize that a writing style together with the content is an important aspect, because without a distinctive style, all of the writing pieces will definitely seem boring. Hence, a writer who has his or her own style in writing should get a higher appreciation from the reader.

700 words

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problems that are going to be analyzed are:

1. What is the narrative structure in Roald Dahl's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"?
2. What are the effects of the use of the narrative structure in Roald Dahl's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" on the reader?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purposes of the study are:

1. to find out the narrative structure in Roald Dahl's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".
2. to find out the effects of the use of the narrative structure in Roald Dahl's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" on the reader.

1.4 Methods of Research

The first step is I choose a linguistic area, which is Stylistics. The second step is I decide to make an analysis of the narrative structure. The third step is I read some literary works and decide to analyze a poem that can be analyzed, which is Roald Dahl's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs". Then, I analyze the narrative structure and its effects on the reader. The last step is I write the research report.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

There are four chapters in this thesis. The first chapter is Introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research, and Organization of the Study. The second chapter is Theoretical Framework, which contains the theories that are used as the guidance to analyze this topic. The third chapter is the analysis of the narrative structure of the poem. The fourth chapter is the conclusion of the analysis. Bibliography and Appendices are provided at the end of this thesis.