

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Fairy tales are one of many genres of fiction in literature, and they are one of the well-known genres used by the authors of a story. “Fairy Tales or wonder tales are a kind of folktale or fable. Sometimes the stories are about fairies or other magical creatures, usually for children” (Genres of Literature, n.d.). Although fairy tales are usually written for children, they can still be read by almost everyone. Fairy tales have been rewritten by authors in different ways and in the process of this rewriting, the authors may add their own interpretation to the original story and therefore change some, if not most of the story.

Writers have their own style in writing a story to express their personality, unique voice, and their way to approach the readers (Meer, 2016). Therefore, when reinterpreting a story, they may add their own values and understanding in their writing, which creates a certain style that is different from one another. We can analyse a writer’s style by using one branch of Linguistics, namely Stylistics.

According to Stylistics (2013), “Stylistics is a study of the devices in languages (such as rhetorical figures and syntactical patterns) that are considered to produce expressive or literary style”. In other words, Stylistics is basically a study that focuses on languages devices such as repetition (rhetorical figures), and the patterns that build a sentence (syntactical patterns), that a writer uses to deliver the expressiveness and the quality of a story using his or her own style of writing. There are a lot of ways to analyse the writing style of an author, for instance by analysing the rhetorical figures used or by analysing the structure in which the writer creates the story. In this thesis, I am going to use William Labov’s (1972) theory on narrative structure.

According to Labov (1972, as cited in Toolan, 1998), a narrative consists of six elements that usually build the steps of a narrative story, or the structure. The elements are abstract, orientation, complicating action, resolution, coda, and evaluation. These elements are arranged to build the flow or the plot of the story step-by-step. Yet, not all of the elements are compulsory and have to be included in a story because writers have different styles of writing.

From all of these elements, evaluation is considered the most important element in a story, especially in Linguistics field. There are two types of evaluation: internal and external. The internal evaluation is the analysis of linguistic features in the story which contributes to the vividness of the story (Labov, 1972, as cited in Toolan, 1998, p.139), such as intensifying evaluation, among others. Meanwhile, the external evaluation is the comment from the author that is written in the story.

One of the stories that has an interesting structure is James Finn Garner’s (1994) version of the fairy tale “Rapunzel”. This story is taken from one of his

books, *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories*, which was published in 1994. This story is Garner's version of a famous fairy tale which was first written in 1812 by the Brothers Grimm. Since then, the story has been rewritten by many people in a lot of different versions. One of the most popular versions is Disney's, which also renames it *Tangled*.

I choose to analyse Garner's version of the story "Rapunzel" because I find that Garner's story is interesting in a way that it provides us with a different version from the original story, especially in terms of the plotline. In addition to this, there are a lot of linguistic features that Garner uses in the story, which makes it more intriguing to analyse as it shows his personal style.

This thesis aims at finding out how Garner structures his story of "Rapunzel" to reveal his style in writing the story. Furthermore, this thesis also aims at examining the functions of the narrative structure in the story on the readers. This study is significant for making people more aware of how the structure of a story is important to make the plot of the story flow smoothly and how the author recreates the story that have different narrative structures than the original.

(693 words)

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problems that I am going to analyse are:

1. What is the narrative structure of Garner's "Rapunzel"?
2. What is the function of the narrative structure used in Garner's "Rapunzel"?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purposes of the analysis are:

1. to find the narrative structure of Garner's "Rapunzel".
2. to find the function of the use of narrative structure in Garner's "Rapunzel".

1.4 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of five chapters. The first chapter is Introduction, consisting of Background of the Story, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, and Organization of the Thesis. The second chapter is Literature Review that consists of the discussion on the theory used in this thesis as well as the discussion of theory comparable to the main theory. The third chapter is Methods of Research, which discusses the research design, framework for analysis and data analysis. The fourth chapter of this thesis contains the discussion of the narrative structure of Garner's "Rapunzel", and the fifth chapter is the conclusion of the analysis. The thesis ends with References and Appendices.