CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Among many kinds of reading, fiction novels become the kind of reading most frequently read by lots of people. No matter how much the price of a novel is, people will buy it because it offers a wide selection of themes and stories. Some of them have a teenage-love theme, one's psychological condition, and so on. Nowadays, fiction novels are available in many languages, including English and Indonesian. We can easily find fiction novels in many bookstores in Indonesia.

However, in translating works of literature, especially fiction novels, the role of a translator is definitely needed. The function of a translator is to translate the source text so that the readers can understand what is written by the author. A translator must have the knowledge of literary and non-literary textual criticism, since he or she has to assess the quality of a text before deciding how to interpret and translate it (Newmark 5). It is because the target language (TL) has to have the same or similar meaning as the source language (SL). If a

translator fails to do this, the meaning and the elements of the story such as the atmosphere and the theme will be lost. In addition, understanding the meaning of each word will help the readers understand the meaning of the story as each word has a specific description which helps to reveal the story.

Generally speaking, one of the reasons why a novel is translated into many languages is because that novel has become a best-seller novel in its original country, such as J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* and Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight* in the United Kingdom. A novel becomes best-seller for some reasons such as the uniqueness of the story and the language style used by the author. The language style can become a problem for the translator in translating the novel from the original language into the target language. These days, we can easily find English novels that have been translated into Indonesian. In this case, the reason why a novel is translated is to assist the Indonesian readers who have limitations in reading and understanding those English novels.

The title of my thesis is analysis of the non-equivalent Indonesian translation of the poems in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Fellowship of the Ring*. This topic belongs to the field of translation, which is "a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language" (Newark 7). I use Hatim and Munday's theory from their book entitled *Translation: An Advanced Resource Book*.

I choose the poems in *The Fellowship of the Ring* and *Sembilan Pembawa Cincin* as the source of data because I have noticed that the Indonesian version of

the poems is quite different from the English version, both in rhyme pattern and in context.

I wonder why the translator has decided to use a different rhyme pattern, as in doing so, he seems to have written a new poem. In my opinion, this is not necessary. I believe the translator could have kept the rhyme patterns, so that the translated version will be closer to the original one. That is why, in this thesis, I have decided to preserve the original rhyme patterns in the translated poems. In doing so, I will also try to find expressions with the closest sense to the meaning or sense of word or expression used in the original version.

This topic is significant because only few people are aware that translating poems is different from translating texts, articles, books, etc. Consequently, a translator cannot always translate the sense and the form at the same time because in poems there are sound, rhyme, and double meaning which are unlikely to appear in the target language. I also find it significant because the source of data is originally written in English and then translated into Indonesian. English is considered as a world language which is widely used in communication, while Indonesian is used as a national language in Indonesia. Therefore, analysing the translation of the poems becomes worth studying.

This thesis is expected to be useful for students interested in the subject of the translation, particularly in the English Department of Maranatha Christian University because it can help them realize that a translator of an SL text should take into account the readers of the TL text. I hope that after reading this thesis, people will notice that in translating works of literature there are several process that must be completed.   (757 words)

1.2.   Statement of the Problem

Based on the topic that I choose, I would like to discuss the following problems:

1. Which is chosen by the translator in translating the poems, preserving the form or maintaining the content?

2. How can the translation be closer to the original text in terms of form and content?

1.3.   Purpose of the Study

In this thesis, I would like to show:

1. whether in translating the poems the translator chooses to preserve the form or maintain the content.

2. how the translation can be closer to the original text in terms of form and content.

1.4.   Methods of Research

To start this thesis, first, I read some of the poems in *The Fellowship of the Ring* and its Indonesian translation several times to the poems very well. Second, I compared and memorized the details found in both versions. Third, I collected the unsuitable words in the poems that show non-equivalent translation and typed them in bold. Fourth, I analyzed the difference in form and mentioned the non-equivalent translation in the Indonesian version. Fifth, I provided the more suitable translation for the non-equivalent translation. Finally, at the end of each analysis, I provided the suggestions that should be done by the translator.

1.5.   Organization of the Thesis

This thesis contains four chapters. Chapter One is the introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two consists of the theoretical framework, which is concerned with the linguistic theories used in writing this thesis. Chapter Three presents the data analysis and the findings as well as the interpretation of the findings. Chapter Four is the conclusion which comments on the findings and the interpretation. This thesis ends with Bibliography and Appendix.