

**AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH-INDONESIAN  
TRANSLATION OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS  
FOUND IN THE NOVEL OF NICHOLAS SPARKS'  
"THE LAST SONG"**

**THESIS**



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**ENGLISH DEPARTEMENT  
PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY  
2017**

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of the  
Sarjana Sastra**



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PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY  
2017**

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### **AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH-INDONESIAN TRANSLATION OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS FOUND IN THE NOVEL OF NICHOLAS SPARKS' “THE LAST SONG”**

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Astrie Pramudia

(131210034)



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**The thesis has been approve to be examined on the that as indicated below**

**Batam, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**Yessie Aldriani, S.Pd., M.Hum.**

## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis idiom yang ditemukan didalam novel “The Last Song” oleh Nicholas Sparks dan terjemahannya dalam Bahasa Indonesia, dan untuk mengidentifikasi strategi yang digunakan oleh penerjemah dalam menerjemahkan ungkapan idiomatik dalam novel tersebut. Penulis menggunakan teori dari Seidl and McMordie (1988) dan Khak (2006) untuk menentukan jenis idiom dalam bahasa Inggris dan bahasa Indonesia, dan teori dari Mona Baker (2011) untuk mengetahui strategi untuk menerjemahkan idiom. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Dalam rangka untuk mengumpulkan data, penulis menerapkan metode observasi, yang dilaksanakan dengan Metode Simak Bebas Libat Cakap (SBLC), dengan penerapan teknik mencatat. Metode analisis data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu metode terjemahan, sebagai bagian dari metode padan. Metode padan memiliki dua teknik, yaitu teknik dasar (daya pilah terjemahan) dan lanjutan (Teknik Hubung Banding Membedakan). Untuk menyajikan hasil data, penulis menggunakan metode formal dan informal dengan pelaksanaan menggunakan teknik, yaitu teknik penggunaan kata-kata dan tanda-tanda atau simbol dalam bentuk tabel. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa idiom frase kata kerja memperoleh frekuensi tertinggi, dengan jumlah 111 dari 201 ungkapan, sedangkan idiomatik dengan penggunaan perbandingan memperoleh frekuensi terendah dengan jumlah hanya 5 dari 201 ungkapan idiomatik. Sementara itu, dalam terjemahan Bahasa Indonesia, idiom frasa memperoleh frekuensi tertinggi, dengan persentase 16 dari 24 ungkapan, sedangkan idiom kompleks dan peribahasa memperoleh frekuensi yang sama dimana masing-masing menunjukkan hanya 4 dari 24 ungkapan idiomatik. Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa terjemahan parafrasa memperoleh frekuensi tertinggi, dengan jumlah 183 dari 201 ungkapan, sedangkan strategi penerjemahan dengan menggunakan peminjaman idiom bahasa sumber memperoleh frekuensi terendah yang menunjukkan hanya 1 dari 201 ungkapan idiomatik.

***Kata Kunci: idiom, strategi menerjemahkan idiom, terjemahan.***

## ABSTRACT

*This study is conducted to identify the types of idioms found in the novel of Nicholas Sparks' "The Last Song" and their translation in Bahasa Indonesia, and to identify the strategies used by the translator in translating idiomatic expressions in the novel. The writer used the theory from Seidl and McMordie (1988) and Khak (2006) to determine the English and Indonesian idiom, and the theory from Mona Baker (2011) to know the translation strategies in translating idiom. In this study, the writer uses qualitative descriptive method. In order to collect the data, the writer applied the method of observation, with the implementation of non-participatory which is applied by note-taking technique. Data analysis methods which used in this study is translational which as the part of the identity method. Identity method has two techniques, namely the basic technique (translational competence-in-dividing) and continuance (technique to compare and to differentiate). For presenting the result of data, the writer applied formal and informal method with the implementation by the technique, namely the use of words and signs or symbols in tubular form. The findings of this study reveal that phrasal verb idiom is the highest frequently occurred, with the amount of 111 out of 201 expressions, while idioms with comparisons is the lowest frequently which found only 5 out of 201 idiomatic expressions. Meanwhile in Bahasa Indonesia translation, phrasal idiom is the highest frequently occurred, with the amount of 16 out of 24 expressions, while complex idiom and proverb idiom have the same amount which indicated 4 out of 24 idiomatic expressions per each. This research shows that translation by paraphrase is the highest frequently occurred, with the amount of 183 out of 201 expressions, while the translation strategy of borrowing the source language idiom are the lowest frequently which are indicated only 1 out of 201 idiomatic expressions.*

**Keyword: idiom, strategy in translating idiom, translation.**

## **MOTTO AND DEDICATION**

### **MOTTO**

*Do not stay in your bed, unless you can make money in bed.* (George Burns)

*Do not despair and never lose hope because Allah is always by your side* (Insya  
Allah – Maher Zein)

### **DEDICATION**

This final project is dedicated to:

My loving family, my awesome self, and those who have always supported me.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

All praise to Allah SWT the Lord is merciful and compassionate researcher who has been blessed in completing this thesis entitled “An Analysis of English-Indonesian Translation of Idiomatic Expressions Found in the Novel of Nicholas Sparks’ *The Last Song*”. The researcher would like to say thanks to her father, Mr. Prayitno, and her mother Mrs. Asnimar, for the love, inspiring and blessing given to her endlessly in taking the undergraduate program. The researcher wishes to express her gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. Yessie Aldriani, S.Pd., M.Hum. as her advisor who has contributed her ideas and time arranging this thesis.

Furthermore, the researcher would like to express her sincere gratitude to all people who involve both directly and indirectly especially to:

1. Nur Elfi Husda, S.Kom., M.SI., Rector of Putera Batam University.
2. Drs. Zakrimal, M.Si., Dean of Faculty of Putera Batam University.
3. Emil Eka Putra, S.S., M.Hum., Head of English Department of Putera Batam University.
4. All lectures of English Department for their knowledge, motivation, and suggestion during her study at Putera Batam University.
5. All of friends who are studying at Putera Batam University (esp. to Yunita, Penni, Atika, Pratikti, Anggi, Reski, Dedi, Frans etc.) which have given spirit and friendship to the researcher.

May Allah gives mercy, peace, and love for them. Amin.

Batam, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Reading interest in Indonesia is still very low compared with other Asian countries. Based on the data obtained from UNESCO, index reading interest of Indonesian citizens reached 0,001. This means that in every 1,000 people of Indonesia, there is only one person who has interested in reading (Khairunnisa, 2014).

Nevertheless, according to IKAPI (Ikatan Penerbit Indonesia) on their website (Ikatan Penerbit Indonesia, 2015), there are 29.883.822 copies of books were sold in 2014. Based on the contribution to the sales figures in 2014, children books were the highest contributor of book sales in Indonesia with total percentage of 23%. This category was followed with fiction, literature, religious, and Indonesian curriculum-based education books are in the same rank which contributed for 13%. The next is references and dictionaries which accounted for 9% and others, such as business and economics, self-improvement, social sciences, cooking, computing and internet, which contributed for 33% (Data Perbukuan Indonesia, 2015).

Nowadays, there are a lot of printed media published, such as academic books, magazines, novels, newspaper, and many others, and dominated by foreign literature. These books are written in foreign languages, usually in English. For

most college students, these are deemed more interesting because these books presents more complete information from various sources in worldwide and to support the needs of students' academic. Besides, the stories are set in foreign culture, especially the western one. It is common knowledge that western culture is often seen as the symbol of modernity which is considered as top priority nowadays. Therefore, there are so many foreign literatures, mainly written in English, translated into Indonesian to answer to the demands of Indonesian readers who don't have the skills to understand English-written literary works.

With this trend, along with the facts about Indonesia's reading interest and book production as presented above, translation becomes a very essential key in the production of Indonesian books. Translation determines the quality of Indonesian readers' reading materials, in terms of its entertainment and education aspects. Thus, it can be said that Indonesian translators shape Indonesians' ways of thinking as well as improving their knowledge in the form of rendering information and messages from foreign literature to translated books.

In shorts, translation is translating from source language (SL) to target language (TL). Translation consists of transferring without distortion the meaning of the source language into the target language. The meaning must be kept constant, even when the form of the source language changes as it is turned into the form of the target language (Larson, 1998: 181) in (Retnomurti & Imran, n.d.).

The activity of translating is very complicated, because there are some aspects which have to be considered by a translator. The translator should also understand some aspects which are related to the translation process, because the

process of translation is more than translating sentence after sentence, but the meaning must be accurate. Massoud (1988: 19-24) in (Antar & Abdellah, 2001) sets a set of criteria to determine whether a translation is good or not. The criteria are as follows: (1) a good translation is easily understood; (2) a good translation is fluent and smooth; (3) a good translation is idiomatic; (4) a good translation conveys, to some extent, the literary subtleties of the original; (5) a good translation distinguishes between the metaphorical and the literal; (6) a good translation reconstructs the cultural/historical context of the original; (7) a good translation makes explicit what is implicit in abbreviations, and in allusions to sayings, songs, and nursery rhymes; (8) a good translation will convey, as much as possible, the meaning of the original text. Therefore, in order translators have to produce a good translation, the translator must strive to fulfill these criteria.

One of the challenges in translation resides in its vocabulary. Undeniable, the translators have frequently the trouble when they want to translate a sentence or text into a language because many expressions cannot be translated word by word. Such expressions, either its phrases or sentences, have certain meaning that cannot be explained in grammar theories. This is a special feature of English language called idiom. According to The New International Webster, an idiom is the part of the distinctive form or construction of a particular language that has a specific form or style presents only in that language. (Haliday, 2007) says that an idiom in the language being described is anything for which no equivalent is found in the mother tongue. Many linguists define an idiom as an expression

which is fixed and cannot be understood literally; and its meaning cannot be found in the common dictionary.

Idioms are an important part of all languages and our everyday language use. Since idioms convey meaning quickly and enable language users express themselves more efficiently, they should be integrated into the teaching and learning process of foreign languages. Idioms are considered to be one of the hardest and the most interesting parts of the English vocabulary. Even, idioms are one of the greater problems in learning English because idioms present some of the most difficult materials for English language learners to successfully understand. Hence, mastery of idiom is very needed to facilitate communication and promote an innovative environment of social interaction. So, if the English language learners do not learn English idioms, they will never know when the other person uses it or they cannot understand what the speakers are talking about. English is a language with a vast idiomatic basis, which makes its learning very exciting and intriguing. So grasping the use of idioms is an essential part of learning English.

Idiomatic expressions are often found in novel, usually written in English-Indonesian translation, because idiomatic expressions are used in a wide variety of contexts and situations. The translators have to be careful in translating idiomatic expressions, because they need to use some different strategies to translate those expressions. According to (Hurford, 2007), idiomatic expression is multi-word phrases which that combines the literal senses of the individual words in each phrase. Translating idiomatic expression is a very difficult task for a translator.

According to (Larson, 1984) that the translator must be sure of the meaning of the idiom and then look for the natural equivalent way to express the meaning of the idiom as a whole. According to (Wright, 1999), a translator must translate the idiomatic expression as whole expression. Besides that, there are two possibilities in translating idioms, either translate the source text idiom into target text idiom, or explain the meaning.

The explanation above is the motive why the writer conducts a research about translation, especially idiomatic expression. The writer realizes that the translation of literary work is very important, considering the growing sales of the translation category. A novel entitled *The Last Song* written by Nicholas Sparks which published on 2009 is chosen to be the data source of this research due to its reputation as a best-selling novel worldwide. Besides that, the author, Nicholas Sparks as the number one of the best-selling author according to The New York Times, is one of the writer's favorite authors due to his entire novel stories which always heart-touched. In addition, this book is also adapted into a movie with the same title in 2010 with starring Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth.

Based on the explanations above, the writer wants to conduct the research entitled **“An Analysis of English-Indonesian Translation of Idiomatic Expressions in the Novel of Nicholas Sparks’ *The Last Song*.”**

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Idioms are considered to be one of the greatest problems in learning English, because they cannot translate in separately word by word. The use of

idiom is applied in an idiomatic expression. Mostly, the English language learners assume that idiomatic expression is the most difficult materials to successfully understand.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

In this research, the writer limits the research on the translation of idiomatic expression in the novel entitled *The Last Song* written by Nicholas Sparks and its translation in Bahasa Indonesia which translated by Hetih Rusli. This particularly designed in order to get the best result of the research with effective time and energy. It is also to make specific focus of the research.

### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the problems identified above, this research formulates the problems as follows:

1. What types of idioms are found in the novel of Nicholas Sparks' *The Last Song* and their translation in Bahasa Indonesia by Hetih Rusli?
2. What are the strategies used by the translator (Hetih Rusli) in translating idiomatic expressions in the novel of Nicholas Sparks' *The Last Song*?

### **1.5 Objective of the Research**

Based on the formulations of the problem, the objectives of the research are:

1. To identify the types of idioms found in the novel of Nicholas Sparks' *The Last Song* and their translation in Bahasa Indonesia which translated by Hetih Rusli.
2. To find out the strategies used by the translator (Hetih Rusli) in translating idiomatic expressions in the novel of Nicholas Sparks' *The Last Song*.

## **1.6 Significance of the Research**

### **1.6.1 Theoretical**

Theoretically, the writer hopes that this research will help readers, especially for translators and English learners to understand the types of idioms and the strategies that can be used to translate them. It can be used to be an example of translation strategy and translation analysis.

### **1.6.2 Practical**

Practically, the result of this research will be a reference for translators and English learners, to study the translation of idiomatic expressions found in literary works. In addition, this research could hopefully be one of the sources for further research in translation of literary work.

## **1.7 Definition of Key Terms**

This research used three terms related to the title that is the definition of idiom, strategy in translating idiom, and translation below:



- Idiom** : An expression whose meaning cannot be inferred from the meanings of its parts (Cruse, D. A., 1987:37) in (Heever, 2013).
- Strategy in translating idiom** : The translator must be sure of the meaning of the idiom and then look for the natural equivalent way to express the meaning of the idiom as a whole (Larson, 1984).
- Translation** : A procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text Wills (1982: 112) in (Mugalih, 2010).

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1 The Theory of Concept**

##### **2.1.1 Translation**

###### **2.1.1.1 Definition of Translation**

Translation has been defined in many ways by different experts and theorists in the field, depending on how they view language and translation. According to Wills (1982: 112) in (Mugalih, 2010), translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text. Besides, (Nida & Taber, 1982) say that translating consists of reproducing the receptor language in the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, firstly in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style.

Meanwhile, Brislin (1976: 1) in (Oududari, n.d.) defines that translation is the general term referring to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language (source) to another (target), whether the languages are in written or oral form; whether the languages have established orthographies or do not have such standardization or whether one or both languages is based on signs, as with sign languages of the deaf.

From the statements above, the writer concludes that translation involves two languages: the source language (SL) and the target or receptor language (TL or RL). An act of translating is an act of reproducing the meaning and transferring message of the SL text into that of the TL text. The aim of translation is to find the equivalent meaning of the source language expression in the target language. Thus, meaning is important in translation and it must be held constant. Furthermore, translating a literary work into another language is creating a new literary work in another language.

In this research, a translation novel is a novel that contains different language from the original text but carrying the spirit of the original text.

#### **2.1.1.2 Types of Translation**

Experts define the types of translation in different ways. According to Larson (1998: 15) in (Retnomurti & Imran, n.d.), there are two kinds of translation. The first type is form-based translation that follows the form and grammatical structure of the source text that is known as literal translation. The second type is meaning-based translation (idiomatic translation) that focuses on carrying the same meaning of the source text and convert it into target language regardless of the sentence form.

Brislin in (Mugalih, 2010) says that basically, based on the kinds of texts to be translated, there are two types of translation namely factual and literary translations. Factual translation refers to translating to convey information with precision, without involving the emotions or feelings of the translator but only based on the real facts such as translating scientific fields, reports, newspaper, etc.

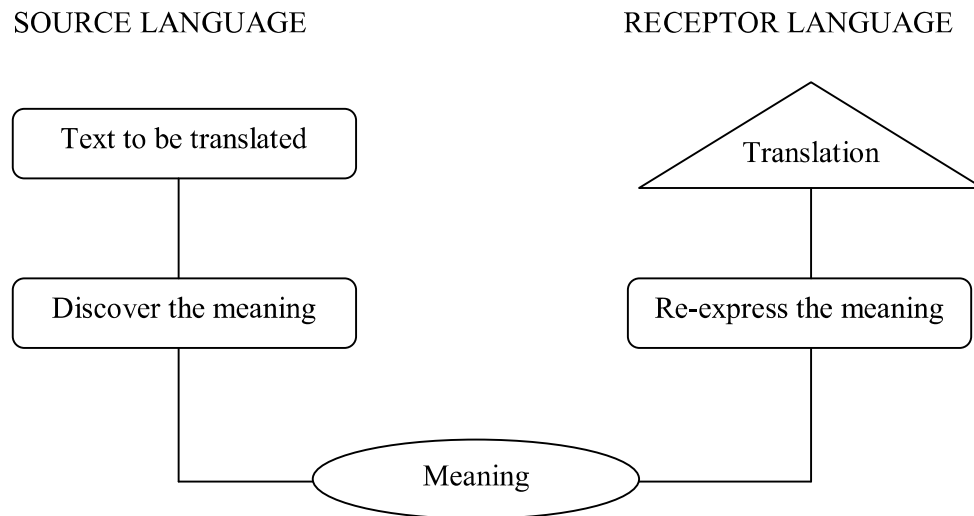
While literary translation refers to the translation of art works. In this kind of translation, the translator involves his or her emotion or feeling and it tends to be subjective, for example the translation of poems, drama, novels, etc.

Another idea about the type of translation is from (Newmark, 1988). He states that a classification of translation types includes semantic and communicative translation. Semantic translation is a translation that attempts to render, as closely as the semantic and syntactic structures of the second language allow, the exact contextual meaning. This translation puts the emphasis on the importance of staying true to the original words and phrases in source text. Semantic translation generally applies to literature, technical and scientific literature. The second type, communicative translation, is a translation that attempts to produce on its readers an effect as close as possible to that obtained on the readers of the original. To successfully affect the readers, translator must convert the culture of source language into the culture of target language. The main goal of this translation is to make readers understand the author's ideas and to make readers in both source and target language receive the same impression about the text.

House (1997) in (Tempel & Ten Thije, 2010) provides another idea of translation types that is a part of her theory of translation quality assessment. The translation types are overt and covert translation. Overt translation is a translation that shows indications that it is obviously a translation product. In overt translation, the receptors of the translation are quite overtly not being addressed. While covert translation is a second original. This translation possibly seems and

feels like it's the original text. The source text of a covert translation is not specifically addressed to a particular source culture audience.

### 2.1.1.3 Process of Translation

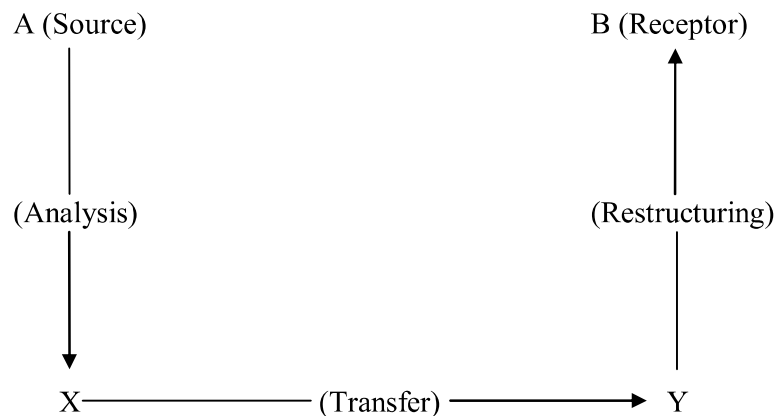


**Figure 2.1 Process of Translation by Larson (1984: 4)**

According to Larson (1984: 4) in (Ahsan, 2016) when translating a text, the translator's goal is an idiomatic translation which makes every effort to communicate their meaning of the SL text into the natural forms of the receptor language. Furthermore, he states that translation is concerned with a study of the lexicon, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the SL text, which is analyzed in order to determine its meaning. The discovered meaning is then re-expressed or reconstructed using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its cultural context.

(Nida & Taber, 1982) distinguish translation process into three stages: (1) analysis, in which the surface structure is analyzed in terms of the grammatical

relationships and the meaning of the words and combinations of words, (2) transfer, in which the analyzed material is transferred in the mind of the translator from language A to language B, and (3) restructuring, in which the transferred material is restructured in order to make the final message fully acceptable in the receptor language. The translation process can be illustrated in the following diagram.



**Figure 2.2 Process of Translation by Nida and Taber (1982: 33)**

Another theory about process of translation comes from (Newmark, 1988) who proposes that translation process begins with choosing the appropriate method approach. When an approach is chosen, translator translates the text by considering four levels: (1) the source language text level or the language level, (2) the referential level or the level of events and objects, whether it is actual or non-existent, (3) the cohesive level, and (4) the level of naturalness. The translation process then proceeds to the last step, revision procedure, which may be focused according to the situation.

#### **2.1.1.4 Strategy of Translation**

The term *strategy* is often said similar to the term *technique*. In some ways, it can be called similar because some experts use these terms with the same purpose. According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, technique is a method of doing or performing something, whereas strategy is a plan to accomplish a specific goal.

There are many translation strategies to translate a text based on many experts' statement in translation. Every translator uses different strategies to translate a text since different people may understand a word in different ways. Krings (1986:18) in (Oududari, n.d.) defines that translation strategy as translator's potentially conscious plans for solving concrete translation problems in the framework of a concrete translation task. Moreover, Venuti (1998:240) in (Oududari, n.d.) indicates that translation strategies involve the basic tasks of choosing the foreign text to be translated and developing a method to translate it.

From both of the experts' statements above, it can be concluded that translation strategy is translator's plans for solving translation problems and choosing the methods to translate the text in order to reach the translation goals.

### **2.1.2 Idioms**

#### **2.1.2.1 Definition of Idioms**

Like any other languages, English has many ways to express intent and meaning. One of them is figurative expressions. Figurative expressions often found both in literary work and daily life because it is bound to the culture.

Therefore, the presence of figurative expressions in a literary work is very natural. One of the most frequently used figurative expressions is *idioms*.

The term *idioms* has multiple definition based on the expert's idea. According to Hornby (1995: 589) in (Liu, 2012) mentions that an idiom is a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words and which must be learnt as a whole unit. Moreover, Carter (1993: 65) in (Syarfuni, n.d.) defines idioms as special combinations with restricted forms and meanings that cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of the words which make them up. Therefore, an idiom is learned and used as a single unit, and always carries figurative meaning.

In addition, Larson (1984) as cited in (Adelnia, 2011) defines an idiom as a string of words whose meaning is different from the meaning conveyed by the individual words. Larson also adds that idiom carries certain emotive connotations not expressed in the other lexical items (Adelnia, 2011). From the Larson's statements, the writer can conclude that idiom cannot be translated literally because the meaning cannot be predicted from the meaning of their constituents.

According to Meryem (2010: 11) in (Al-rfooh & Karak, 2015), an idiom is a kind of complex lexical item. It is a phrase whose meaning cannot be predicted from the meanings of the morphemes it comprises. This definition shows that idiom is a complex lexical item and its definition cannot be inferred from its parts.

(Baker, 2011) identifies the grammatical and syntactic restrictions of idioms. A speaker or writer cannot normally do any of the following with an idiom. Then she lists five items which cannot be done on idioms which are:



- (1) Addition: adding any word to an idiomatic expression would alter its meaning, or remove its idiomatic sense. For example: adding “classical” into the idiomatic expression “face the *classical* music.”
- (2) Deletion: delete a word from it. For example: deleting the word “the” into the idiomatic expression “spill beans.”
- (3) Substitution: replace its word with another. Idioms accept no replacement of words even if those words are synonyms. For example, “the long and short of it” means *the basic facts of a situation*. The adjective ‘long’ cannot be substituted by another adjective, like *tall*, despite they have nearly the same meaning.
- (4) Changing the words order: change the order of the words in it. Any changing in the order of the words of an idiom leads to the destruction of the idiom’s meaning. For instance, the order of the words in the expression “the long and the short of it” cannot be changed into “the short and the long of it.”
- (5) Changing the grammatical structure. For example: the idiomatic expression “face the music” cannot be changed into the passive form “the music was faced”.

Translating idioms is one of the most difficult tasks for translators. It involves more than the replacement of lexical and grammatical items between languages, and it may involve discarding the basic linguistic elements of the SL text. According to (Baker, 2011), the first difficulty that a translator comes across, while translating idioms, is the ability to recognize and distinguish idiomatic from

non-idiomatic usage. As a rule, the more difficult an expression is to understand and the less sense it makes in a given context, the more likely a translator will recognize it as an idiom (Baker, 2011).

From the definitions above, it can be concluded that an idiomatic expression is an expression whose meaning cannot be summed up from the literal translation. Hence, the translator needs to know historical background and familiarity with both the source and the target cultures, and having a clear idea about their different situational context.

#### **2.1.2.2 Types of Idioms**

The concept of idiom has been interpreted differently by different people. The scope of idiomatic and the view of different types of idioms are quite extensive. Since idioms differ greatly both in their character and composition, it is indeed important to provide categorizations for different types of idioms. In this research, the writer will convey some classifications of English idioms from some experts.

According to Fernando (1996, 35) in (Strakšien, 2009), idioms can be grouped into three sub-classes: pure idioms, semi-idioms, and literal idioms. Pure idiom is a type of idiom whose meaning cannot be understood by combining the meanings of the words that constitute the phrase. On the other hand, semi idiom contains at least one constituent that contributes its literal meaning to the final meaning of the idiom. If one is not familiar to a semi idiom, he is able to guess the meaning of the idiom because of the meaning of the idiom constituent. Finally, the literal idiom is less complex than the previous two and therefore is easier to

understand. This idiom's meaning is made up from the literal meaning of its parts. Even so, all expressions that belong to literal idioms are classified as idiom because they are either completely invariant or allow only restricted variation.

Moreover, (Adelnia, 2011) state that idioms can be classified into five categories, they are: (1) colloquialism, expressions of informal speech or writing; (2) proverbs, expressions that contain wisdom and truth in metaphorical form; (3) slang, highly informal words and expressions that are not considered as the standard use of language; (4) allusions, figures of speech that makes a reference to a place, event, etc, either directly or by implication; and (5) phrasal verbs, the combination of a verb and a preposition, a verb and an adverb, or a verb with both an adverb and a preposition, whose meaning is different from the original verb.

Lim defines types of idioms in different way. Lim (2004, i) in (Ahsan, 2016) say that generally speaking, English idioms consist of the following six types: (1) phrasal verb, (2) prepositional phrases, (3) idioms with verbs as keywords, (4) idioms with nouns as keywords, (5) idioms with adjectives as keywords, and (6) idiomatic pairs.

Moreover, (Seidl and McMordie, 1988) also classify idioms into the following groups:

#### 1. Key words with idiomatic uses

- 1) Adjective and adverb, ex: bad news, a big mouth, in short, it is high time.
- 2) Noun, ex: by the way, in the end.
- 3) Miscellaneous, ex: after all, how in the world, it is too bad.

#### 2. Idioms with nouns and adjectives

- 1) Noun phrases, ex: a blessing in disguise, a breath of fresh air.
- 2) Adjectives + noun, ex: a blind date, a close call, a narrow escape.

### 3. Idiomatic pairs

This kind of idiom consists of some combination. Five different types are given as follows:

- 1) Pairs of adjectives, ex: safe and sound.
- 2) Pairs of nouns, ex: flesh and blood.
- 3) Pairs of adverbs, ex: in and out.
- 4) Pairs of verbs, ex: sink or swim.
- 5) Identical pairs, ex: all in all.

### 4. Idioms with prepositions

Example: at ease, behind the scenes, in a flash, out of bounds.

### 5. Phrasal Verbs

Example: break up, go on, get out, settle down, get up.

### 6. Verbal idioms

- 1) Verb + Noun, ex: throw a party.
- 2) Verb + Prepositional, ex: keep in touch.

### 7. Idiom from special subjects

- 1) Banking, ex: standing order, blank cheque, post-dated cheque.
- 2) Business, ex: sharp practice, talk shop, go bust.
- 3) Buying and selling, ex: window-shopping, shop around, buy in bulk.
- 4) Health, illness, death, ex: poor shape, catch a cold, danger list.
- 5) Motoring, ec: red-hog, get a parking ticket, rush-hour.

- 6) Politics or government, ex: shadow.
- 7) The stock of exchange, ex: Wall Street, blue chips.
- 8) Telephoning, ex: make a call, trunk calls.
- 9) Travel, ex: short break, make a reservation.
- 10) Work and industrial relations, ex: curriculum vitae, flexitime.

#### 8. Idioms with special categories

- 1) Animals, ex: dark horse, make a beeline for.
- 2) Colours, ex: blue blood.
- 3) Number, ex: at one time, one by one.
- 4) Size, ex: run a mile.
- 4) Parts of the body, ex: catch someone's eye, blood is thicker than water.
- 5) Time, ex: make someone's day, an off day.

#### 9. Idioms with comparisons

Example: as black as coal, as dumb as a statue, to eat like a horse, to go like the wind

There are differences between the types of idioms in Bahasa Indonesia and English. English has more types of idioms than Bahasa Indonesia. In this research, the writer provides the classification based on an expert. (Khak, 1998) states that there are three types of idiom in Bahasa Indonesia with the following:

##### i. Complex idiom

##### a) Affixation

- 1) Prefix + noun or verb, ex: *mengekor, tersemat*.
- 2) Affix (combination) + noun, ex: *bersemuka, bersebadan*.

b) Reduplication, ex: *mata-mata, kuda-kuda*.

(2) Phrasal idiom

a) Verba idiom

1) Verb + noun, ex: *naik darah*.

2) Adverb + verb, ex: *sudah berpulang ke rahmatullah*.

b) Nomina idiom

1) Noun+ noun, ex: *buaya darat*.

2) Noun + adjective, ex: *kuda hitam, air besar*.

(3) Proverb (peribahasa), ex: *sambil menyelam minum air, gali lubang tutup lubang*.

### 2.1.2.3 Problems in Translating Idioms

In general, translation is not an easy task, and in particular, translating idioms makes it rather a more difficult task. Pedersen in (Benjamins & Company, 2009) argues that the translation of idioms is as difficult as it is central. Whereas, Larson (1984:143) in (Adelnia, 2011), argues that idioms should be translated with great care, so the translator must first be sure of the meaning of the idiom and then look for the natural equivalent way to express the meaning of the idiom as a whole.

The difficulty in translating idioms arises from the fact that words of an idiom should not be translated literally. “These (idioms) are never translated word for word” (Newmark, 1988). It has also been emphasized by Larson (1984:20) in (Adelnia, 2011) that the real danger comes in translating an idiom literally, since the result will usually be nonsense in the receptor language.

Moreover, (Baker, 2011) classifies problems involved in translating idioms into four sub-categories: first, an idiom may have no equivalence in the target language. Some idioms are bound to culture that do not exist in other places with different languages. Second, an idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language, but its context of use may be different. In this case, the equivalent in target language is available but is used in different situation and therefore, makes the idiom translation not applicable. The expressions in source and target language possibly have different connotations or may not be pragmatically transferable.

Third, an idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time. Unless the target language idiom corresponds to the source language idiom in form and meaning, the idiom cannot be successfully rendered in target language. Finally, the very convention of using idioms in written discourse, the contexts in which they can be used, and their frequency of use may be different in the source and target languages.

In conclusion, it can be said that some languages, especially English as the main object of this study, use a great number of idioms in both formal and informal contexts but some other languages, Indonesian, in this case, have the possibility to translate them inaccurately due to big gap between both languages and cultures.

#### **2.1.2.4 Strategies in Translating Idioms**

Since translating idioms is very difficult task for translator, there are many strategies to make it rather easy according to the experts' idea. (Akbari, 2013)

states that idiomatic and phrase logical units is not similar to the meaning of their constituents and therefore is impossible to render such units word for word. This idea is backed by (Larson, 1984) as cited in (Akbari, 2013) who believes that a literal word-for-word translation of the idioms into another language will not make sense. The form cannot be kept, but the receptor language word or phrase which has the equivalent meaning will be the correct one to use in translation. Moreover, (Wright, 1999) in (Akbari, 2013) adds that translator must translate the whole expression. In Wright's opinion, there are only two possibilities in translating idioms, either translate the source text idiom into target text idiom, or explain the meaning.

Concerning translation strategies, (Baker, 2011) offers four strategies for translating idioms:

(1) Using an idiom of similar meaning and form

This strategy involves using an idiom in the target language which conveys roughly the same meaning as that of the source-language idiom and, in addition, consists of equivalent lexical items (Baker, 2011). The example is presented below.

SL: In a little while, however, she again heard a little pattering of footsteps in the distance, and she looked up eagerly, half hoping that the Mouse had *changed his mind*, and was coming back to finish his story.

TL: Beberapa saat kemudian, sekali lagi dia mendengar suara langkah kaki di kejauhan. Alice menatap dengan penuh semangat, berharap si Tikus *berubah pikiran* dan kembali untuk menyelesaikan ceritanya.



The English idiomatic expression *change his mind* is translated into Bahasa Indonesia idiomatic expression *berubah pikiran*. According to Dictionary of American Idioms and Phrasal Verbs, *change one's mind* means to alter one's decision or opinion. The word *change* has similar meaning with *berubah* and *mind* has similar meaning with *pikiran*. According to the context of the sentence, the word *his* is optional. In conclusion, both English and Bahasa Indonesia idiomatic expression refer to the same meaning and consist of similar lexical item.

(2) Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form

This strategy uses different lexical items to express more or less the same idea. It is often possible to find an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but which consists of different lexical items (Baker, 2011). Below is the example of the paraphrase strategy. The example is presented below.

SL: It would twist itself round and look up in her face, with such a puzzled expression that she ***could not help*** bursting out laughing.

TL: Tapi, burung itu memutar dirinya dan menatap wajah Alice dengan sangat bingung sehingga Alice ***tidak dapat menahan diri*** untuk tertawa.

According to Dictionary of American Idioms and Phrasal Verbs, the idiom *could not help* means *could not prevent or avoid on doing something*. It means could not restrain, the word *restrain* refers to prevent oneself from doing something. Thus, idiomatically *could not prevent* means *tidak dapat menahan diri*. Therefore, both expressions in the source language and its translation in the

target language refer to the same meaning. In terms of form, both expressions cannot be said as equivalent. If the idiomatic expression *could not help* translated literally, it will become *tidak dapat menolong* and it will be confusing to the reader.

### (3) Borrowing the source language idiom

Just as the use of loan words is a common strategy in dealing with culture-specific items, it is not unusual for idioms to be borrowed in their original form in some contexts (Baker, 2011). Borrowing can be used for different reasons: the target language has no (generally used) equivalent, the source language word sounds "better" (more specific, fashionable, exotic or just accepted), and to retain some "feel" of the source language.

### (4) Translation by paraphrase

This is by far the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages (Baker, 2011). Below is the example of the paraphrase strategy.

SL: They all sat down *at once*, in a large ring with the Mouse in the middle.

TL: *Seketika* anggota rapat itu duduk dalam lingkaran besar, sementara si Tikus berada di tengah-tengah.

The English idiom *at once* is translated into *seketika* in the target language text. Since the translator cannot find the equivalent of the English idiom in the idiomatic form of the target language, the translator does not translate it into

idiomatic expression. The idiom *at once* means immediately or at the same time, the word *seketika* means *dengan serta merta*. The idiomatic expression in the source language text is translated based on its context which is more acceptable and understandable.

(5) Translation by omission

As with single words, an idiom may sometimes be omitted altogether in the target text. It is because it has no close equivalent in the target language, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons (Baker, 2011). The example is presented below.

SL: I shall have to ask them what the name of the country is, you know.

TL: Tapi aku harus bertanya pada mereka nama negeri ini.

It can be seen in the example above that *you know* is not realized in Bahasa Indonesia. According to Dictionary of Idioms and Phrasal Verbs, the idiomatic expression *you know* is used *to open a conversation or switch to a new topic*. The translator applies the *omission strategy* by letting the idiom *you know* be not translated to get effectiveness and considers that the readers will easily understand the meaning of the idiom.

This research will use the term strategy related to Mona Baker's theory of strategies to translate idiomatic translation. Mona Baker's view of translation strategies are applied when a translation difficulty occurs and the translator wishes to solve the problem and produce a good translation. Thus, translation strategies are the means which considers being the best in order to reach the goals.

### **2.1.3 About the Novel**

*The Last Song* is a young adult, stand-alone novel written by an American author, Nicholas Sparks. The novel is translated into Indonesian by Hetih Rusli.

#### **2.1.3.1 The Author**

**Nicholas Charles Sparks** (born December 31, 1965) is an American novelist, screenwriter and producer. He is one of the world's most beloved storytellers. All of his books have been *New York Times* bestsellers, with over 100 million copies sold worldwide, in more than 50 languages, including over 65 million copies in the United States alone. Several of his novels have become international bestsellers, and eleven of his romantic-drama novels have been adapted to film with multimillion-dollar box office grosses.

One of Nicholas Sparks' best-selling novel, *The Last Song*, debuted at number one on *The USA Today* and *New York Times Bestseller* lists. Besides, *The Last Song* movie netted profits of over \$88 million worldwide not including \$30 million from DVD sales.

#### **2.1.3.2 The Translator of the Indonesian Novel**

*The Last Song* was translated into Indonesian language by Hetih Rusli. According to her biography in internet ([www.hetihrusli.com](http://www.hetihrusli.com)), Hetih Rusli has translated so many translation projects, analysis, books all genre and about 62 fiction books. She also has worked as translator for more than 15 years and joined with Gramedia Pustaka Utama since 2000.

### **2.1.3.3 The Summary of the Novel**

*The Last Song* is the story of Ronnie Miller and the summer that she spends with her father at Wrightsville Beach. At the start of the summer, she is a rebellious 17 year old who resents her parents for their messy divorce; she is particularly annoyed that she is being forced to spend the summer with her estranged father, to whom she has not spoken in three years. She is so angry that she has abandoned the one thing that she and her father used to share in common playing the piano. She has no desire to spend the summer in North Carolina; she has no desire to get to know Will Blakelee, the good-looking beach volleyball player who literally bumps into her during her first day in the South; and she has no desire to reconnect with the father who walked away from her, her mother, and her brother. However, a run-in with the wrong crowd combined with a nest of endangered loggerhead turtle eggs results in Ronnie's unexpected maturation. The summer she initially dreaded ends up being an opportunity for her to learn about faith, family, and love.

## **2.2 Previous Research**

### **2.2.1 Lilis Susanti and Yuli Kuswardani**

This research is entitled “**Translation of Idiomatic Expression in Roald Dahl’s Short Story *Man from the South* from English into Indonesian**”. This research uses descriptive qualitative method. The aims of this research are to identify what idiomatic translation strategies are used to translate idiomatic

expressions found in this story and to find out the accuracy level of idiomatic translation of the story.

The results of this research shows that several translation strategies are applied, which include idioms of similar meaning and form, translation by paraphrase, and translation by omission. In this research, paraphrase strategy is in the most applied strategy 87.88% of the data (58 idiomatic expressions) use translation by paraphrase. This research also shows that the quality of translation of idiomatic expression translation which consists of accuracy, naturalness, and clarity is categorized as good translation. It can be seen from the results that 75% of the data are accurate, 78, 79% of the data are natural, and 78, 79% of the data are clear.

### **2.2.2 Eva Novianti**

The research is entitled **“An Analysis of the Translation Strategies of Idiomatic Expressions in Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland in its Translation by Khairi Rumantati”**. This study used descriptive qualitative research with content analysis method. The data of this study are idiomatic expressions occurring in English and Bahasa Indonesia text of Alice in Wonderland novel and sentences containing idiomatic expressions.

The objectives of this research are (1) to describe the types of idiom found in both novels; (2) to analyze the translation strategies used by the translator in translating idiomatic expressions in English text of Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland; and (3) to analyze the degree of meaning equivalence of the translation of idiomatic expressions in Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland.

The findings of this research reveal that most of the idiomatic expressions occurring in the novel are translated into non-idiomatic Bahasa Indonesia expressions (439 out of 445 cases). This study found that there are 10 types of idiom in the original novel. The highest frequency of the occurrence of types of idiom belongs to phrasal verbs, with the occurrence of 374 out of 445 cases. Meanwhile in Bahasa Indonesia translations, there are only 6 Bahasa Indonesia idiomatic expressions. Four of them belong to verbal idiom and the other 2 idioms belong to idioms with comparisons.

Most of idiomatic expressions in the source language text are translated into non-idiomatic expressions in the target text. In this research, paraphrase strategy is in the highest rank of the most applied strategy (403 out of 445 cases). It can be assumed that paraphrasing can be appropriate when there is no corresponding target language. The use of the strategy itself can influence meanings within the text. The meaning can be equivalent (complete, increase, decrease) or non-equivalent (different, no meaning). Even though the message of the text has been paraphrased, generally the meanings have reached the complete meaning. It is supported by the high frequency of complete meaning with the occurrence of 404 or 96.2%. The high degree of complete meaning implies that the translator succeeds in transferring the meaning of the idiomatic expressions as equivalent as possible and the translation can meet the readers' need for equivalent translations.

### 2.2.3 Rindang Barta Fahrizky

This research is entitled “**English-Indonesian Translation of Idiomatic Expressions in John Green’s *The Fault in Our Stars***”. The data of this research are idiomatic expressions obtained from John Green’s *The Fault in Our Stars* and its Indonesian version. The data obtained are analyzed by comparing the idiomatic expressions found in both English and Indonesian versions. The strategies applied to translate idiomatic expressions are determined and later analyzed to find out the degree of accuracy of the Indonesian version.

The aims of this research are to identify what idiomatic translation strategies are used to translate idiomatic expressions found in this novel and to find out the accuracy level of idiomatic translation of the novel.

The findings of this research reveal that the most used strategy to translate the idiomatic expressions in the novel *The Fault in Our Stars* is Paraphrase, while the least used strategy is Using Idiom of Similar Meaning and Form. This strategy is the strategy that has the highest accuracy level, yet it is the least used. This is the reason why only 233 data are unanimously rated as accurate by all raters.

Moreover, the accuracy level of this novel’s idiomatic translation is as much as 80.43%. This figure indicates that the idiomatic translation of this novel is rather good. This high degree of accuracy is caused by the substantial usage of paraphrasing. 375 out of 460 idioms are translated using paraphrasing. This strategy is very flexible it enables translator to replace source text with target text that considered to be natural and suitable even though it’s not entirely accurate. Most of the idiomatic expressions found in this novel are paraphrased into non-



idiomatic Indonesian expressions. Thus, the translation has such a high level of accuracy.

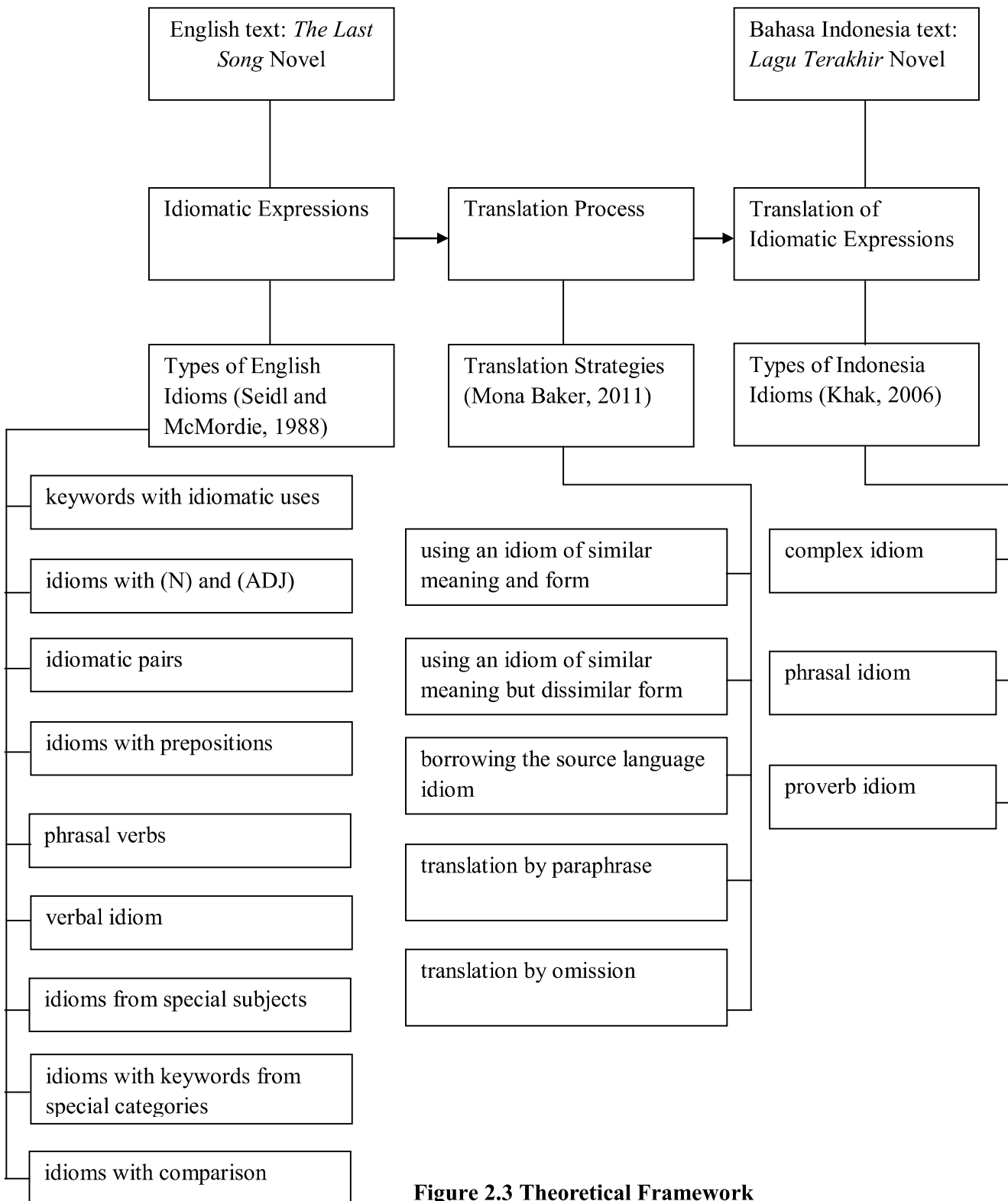
### **2.3 Theoretical Framework**

This research studies idioms, translation, strategies to translate idioms. The term translation has been defined by many experts. In summary, translation is a process of transferring a text from SL to TL by prioritizing the equivalence of meaning and the intention of the author.

The focus in this study is the translation of idiomatic expressions. According to (Hurford, 2007), idiomatic expressions is multi-word phrases which that combines the literal senses of the individual words in each phrase. Idiom is heavily affected by cultural aspects such as the history of society, culture-specific items, superstitions, etc. Therefore, translating idiom is not an easy task to do because it requires good knowledge of both language and both culture.

This research uses Seidl and McMordie's classification of English idiom to determine the types of idiom in the source text, which consisting of 9 categories: keywords with idiomatic uses, idioms with nouns and adjectives, idiomatic pairs, idioms with prepositions, phrasal verbs, verbal idiom, idioms from special subjects, idioms with keywords from special categories, and idioms with comparison. Moreover, this research uses Khak's classification to determine the type of Indonesian idiom, which consisting of 3 groups: complex idiom, phrasal idiom, and proverb. The writer chooses both of the experts' theory, because they classify the type of idiom more detailed and can be understood easily.

For the strategies to translate idiomatic expressions, the writer uses Mona Baker's theory which provides numerous strategies to overcome the difficulties in translating idioms such as: (1) using an idiom of similar meaning and form, (2) using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, (3) borrowing the source language idiom, (4) translation by paraphrase, and (5) translation by omission. The writer chooses Mona Baker's theory to determine translation strategies of idiomatic expressions, because she classifies these strategies more detailed, so can provide the solutions of the problem in translating idiomatic expressions. This research discovers what strategies are used in translating idiomatic expressions found in Nicholas Sparks' *The Last Song* by using Baker's theory of above word level translation strategies.



**Figure 2.3 Theoretical Framework**

## CHAPTER III

### METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

#### 3.1 Research Design

This study employed qualitative descriptive method. (Hoepfl, 1997) defines that qualitative research as a research that describes phenomenon in words instead of numbers or measures. Moreover, according to (Hoepfl, 1997), descriptive qualitative research concerns providing description of a phenomenon that occurs naturally without any intervention of an experiment or an artificially contrived treatment.

In addition, this research did not involve any calculation. According to (Hoepfl, 1997), claims that the data collected in qualitative research is in form of words or pictures rather than number. In addition, qualitative research concerns with process rather than the products and tends to analyze the data inductively (Hoepfl, 1997).

From the statements above, the writer concludes that qualitative descriptive is a method which the data of the research are in the form of words, phrases and clauses. This research was conducted with several stages which consist of collecting the data, classification of data, and then analyzing the data in order to find and describe the findings of the research, which were the types of idioms and the strategies used in translating idiomatic expressions.

### **3.2 Object of the Research**

In this study, the object of the research is translation which obtained from the novel entitled “The Last Song”, translated by Hetih Rusli. The sources of data were obtained from the novel entitled “The Last Song” written by Nicholas Sparks and its translation in Bahasa Indonesia which translated by Hetih Rusli. The original work was published by Grand Central Publishing in September 2009, while the Indonesian version was published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama in November 2015. The data of this study is idiomatic expressions occurring in English and Bahasa Indonesia obtained from the original work and its translation of the novel.

### **3.3 Method and Technique of Collecting Data**

Method of collecting data in this study, the writer uses observation method. The observation method was applied by thoroughly observing the source language and their translations in the target language in Bahasa Indonesia. As stated by (Sudaryanto, 1993) that observation is a method that is done by conducting a research accurately and systematically. In observation method of the research uses two continuance techniques, which consist of *Simak Libat Cakap (participatory)* and *Simak Bebas Libat Cakap (non-participatory)*. For collecting the data in this study, the writer uses the technique of non-participatory (Sudaryanto, 1993). Non-participatory is a technique performed by indirect conversation as well as conversation without face to face, but here using written language. In this technique, the writer does not involved directly. The writer just reads and

observes the types of idiomatic expressions which occurred in the original novel and its translation in Bahasa Indonesia. *Non-participatory* used in this study is applied by note-taking technique (Sudaryanto, 1993). The writer underlines and notes down the idiomatic expressions occurred in the both novel. The use of note-taking technique was to identify and classify the data, so that it was much easier to formulate the analysis.

Based on above explanation, then steps in collecting data are as follows:

- 1) An observation, which is the researcher make observation in the original novel of “The Last Song” by Nicholas Sparks and its translation in Bahasa Indonesia which translated by Hetih Rusli. This observation was made by observing and reading the idiomatic expression in the both novel.
- 2) All idiomatic expressions in the form of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences in the source language and their translations in the target language were underlined and noted down and then taken as data for the analyses.

### **3.4 Method and Technique of Analyzing Data**

Data analysis method that used in this study is identity method. Identity method is a method that determiner device is outside of language, apart from, and does not become part of the language (Sudaryanto, 1993). The identity method which used in this study is the translational method that is the determiner device is from another language (translation), (Sudaryanto, 1993). Identity method has two techniques, namely the basic and continuance technique. In the use of identity method, the basic technique which is chosen by the writer is *Teknik Pilah Unsur*

*Penentu (sorting elements technique)*, especially translational competence-in-dividing (Sudaryanto, 1993), since the objects of the discussion are idiomatic expressions in English and Bahasa Indonesia (the other language) as the determiner tool. Moreover, continuance technique that used in this study is *Teknik Hubungan Banding Membedakan (HBB)*, in English called the technique to compare and to differentiate; the technique used to describe differences in the use of idioms.

The steps that the writer takes in analyzing the data are as follows:

- 1) Collecting the data about idiomatic expressions in the both novel.
- 2) Classifying and analyzing the idiomatic expressions according to their types which proposed by Seidl and McMordie (1988: 14-267) and Khak (2006) as qualitative evidence.
- 3) Classifying and analyzing the strategies in translating idioms (from English language to Bahasa Indonesia) which proposed by Mona Baker (2011: 76-86).
- 4) Drawing a conclusion based on the data.

### **3.5 Method and Technique of Presenting Data**

(Sudaryanto, 1993) states that there are two methods of presenting the analyzed data; they are informal and formal methods. The informal refers to the method of presenting the analyzed data by using words; it means the findings can be described by using words, natural language, while the formal refers to the presentation of the analyzed data by using symbols, diagrams, figures, and tables (artificial language).

This study applied formal and informal method to present the analyzed data. The implementation of this method is applied by the technique, namely the use of words and signs or symbols in tabular form. The data were presented by categorizing the idiomatic expressions according to theory of Seidl and McMordie (1988: 14-267) and Khak (2006), and strategies in translating idioms proposed by Mona Baker (2011: 76-86), with the results of the analysis will be presented in tabular form description.