

# AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE NOVEL LOCKWOOD & CO: STREAMING STAIRCASE BY JONATHAN STROUD

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## Abstract

A figurative language is a tool that allows us to understand the boundaries of literal words and feel the beauty of words hidden in them. With figurative language, we can also understand beautiful and soul-stirring images in sentences that contain figurative language. This research discusses figurative language and translation methods in the novel LOCKWOOD & CO: THE STREAMING STAIRCASE. This research focuses on four types of figurative language which are; Simile, Personification, Hyperbole, and metaphor. This research uses a descriptive qualitative to know the use of figurative language found in sentences and translation in the novel, This is because the qualitative method is a suitable method for answering existing questions and allows the collection of data that is rich in detail and context. In this research, the writer uses the theory according to Abrams to find out the types of figurative language and Newmark's theory to find out the translation method used in the novel the writer uses.

**Keywords:** Figurative Language; Translation Method

## INTRODUCTION

Language is the way people communicate with each other. It involves speaking, writing, or using signs to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas. Through language, we can ask questions, express opinions, and understand the world around us. It's a powerful tool that shapes our relationships, cultures, and societies, allowing us to collaborate, learn, and grow together. Translation is the process of transferring meaning from an original text (source text) into the target text (target text) while maintaining the message, style, and meaning contained therein. This involves a deep understanding of both languages involved as well as the cultural and linguistic context within them. The main goal of translation is to communicate the same message as the original text into the target language so that readers or listeners can understand and feel the message conveyed without losing important substance or nuances. Translation is a craft that involves replacing written messages or statements in one language with the same message or statement in another language. (Newmark, 1988). In recent years, linguists have extensively studied the use of Figurative language in literature studies. This is because figurative language has the essence of style, figurative language has effectiveness in conveying the message we convey with a message meaning that is different from the usual message. In a special sense, figurative language can take the form of figures of speech. In recent years, linguists have extensively studied the use of Figurative language in literature studies. (Abrams M. H., 1999).

This study aims to analyze the classification of translation method limited to five methods namely translation, word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, and adaptation translation using (Newmark, 1988) as the main theory and other theories to support such (Chesterman, 2016) and (Nababan et al., 2012) The book "Lockwood & CO: The Screaming Staircase" by Jonathan Stroud was selected as the source data because the author

discovered many intriguing figurative language examples within it. By examining the translation techniques employed by the translator in rendering these figurative expressions, the aim is to comprehend how the translator overcomes cultural disparities and preserves the essence of the source language's figurative language in the target language.

According to Abrams' theory, there are many types of figurative language, such as; Simile, Personification, Hyperbole, Metaphor, Symbol, Allusion, Irony, Oxymoron, Onomatopoeia, and paradox. However in this research, the writer only focuses on 4 figurative languages, which are; Simile, Personification, Hyperbole, and Metaphor. The writer's hope for this research is that based on previous research, many have researched using different data sources, the writer hopes that there will be summary data from all research for figurative language data.

### **1. Simile**

A simile is a figurative language that compares two objects to describe something by using the connecting words "like" or "as". As stated by Abrams (1999:97), A simile is a comparison between two distinct things, explicitly indicated by the word "like" or "as". For the example:

**SL: "Its bone-white branches pressed against the bricks like the legs of giant spiders"**

**TL: "Dahan-dahannya yang seputih tulang bertumpu pada batu bata seperti kaki laba-laba raksaksa"**

### **2. Personification**

In the eighteenth century, poetic diction often used personification of abstract terms, which could sometimes become a thoughtless formula. (H. Abrams, 1999). The periphrasis in these poems, which can sometimes become stereotyped, suggests their origin in oral tradition, as seen in oral-formulaic poetry. Personification refers to the representation of an abstract. For the example:

**SL: "On the wall, the shadow flexed and undulated furiously like a snake."**

**TL: "Di dinding, bayang-bayangnnya bergoyang dan menggeliat-geliat marah seperti ular"**

### **3. Hyperbole**

Hyperbole is a rhetorical trope that involves bold overstatement, often used for serious, ironic, or comic effects, to personify abstract entities like virtues, vices, and states of mind. For the example:

**SL: "The porch had a forlorn and unused air, its corners choked with the same sodden beech leaves that littered the path and lawn."**

**TL: "Beranda depan memiliki aroma muram dan udara apak, sudut-sudutnya dijejali dedaunan pohon beech lembap sama seperti di jalan setapak dan pekarangan."**

### **4. Metaphor**

A metaphor is a form of figurative language used in literature, a metaphor is defined as a comparison that shows similarities between two different things without using connecting words such as "like" or "as" (H. Abrams, 1999). For the example:

**SL: "The blackness of the landing was a formless space."**

**TL: "Landasan yang hitam pekat terasa bagai ruang tanpa bentuk."**

Translation methods explain how the Source Language is translated, translating the Source Language into the Target Language. Newmark called V diagram (Newmark, 1988) divided into two parts. First, Translation methods prioritize source language emphasis, focusing on structure, and second, form and target language emphasis, focusing on meaning in the receiver language.

### **1. Word for Word Translation**

Word-for-word translation is a method that maintains the order of words in a sentence and uses common meanings to translate them, this method is often out of context and is used to understand source language mechanics or interpret difficult texts. For the example:

**SL: “Bones jutted like ploughshares beneath the skin.”**

**TL: “Tulang-belulang mencuat seperti mata bajak di bawah kulit.”**

### **2. *Literal Translation***

The grammatical structure in the Source Language is converted into equivalent words that can be accepted by the target language structure but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context, to identify problems to be solved. For the example:

**SL: “On my left, white banisters hung at head height like a row of giant teeth.”**

**TL: “Disebelah kiri ku, birai putih menggantung setinggi kepala seperti sebaris gigi-geligi raksasa.”**

### **3. *Faithful Translation***

A faithful translation reproduces the original meaning within TL grammatical structures, preserving cultural words and grammatical abnormality while remaining faithful to the SL writer's intentions and text realization. For the example:

**SL: “A cold weight pressed like a headstone on my chest.”**

**TL: “Beban dingin menekan seperti batu nisan di dadaku.”**

### **4. *Semantic Translation***

Semantic translation is a flexible method that balances meaning with aesthetic value, allowing for intuitive empathy with the original text. Semantic translation is that the former is more dogmatic than free translation and allows for intuitive empathy with the original. For the example:

**SL: “The big brown dog chased the cat around the house”**

**TL: “Anjing besar berwarna coklat mengejar kucing di sekitar rumah”**

### **5. *Adaptation Translation***

Adaptation translation is the 'freest' form of translation, usually used in drama and poetry. In adaptation translation, the translator will change the culture of the source language into the culture of the target language, and the text will be rewritten according to the cultural use of the reader's language. For the example:

**SL: “Break a leg!”**

**TL: “Sukses!”**

### **6. *Free Translation***

Free translation is a form of 'intralingual translation' that reproduces the original content without altering its manner or form. These translations are often long-winded and pretentious and are not translations from the source language at all. For the example:

**SL: “The early bird catches the worm.”**

**TL: “Orang yang bangun pagi mendapatkan kesempatan lebih banyak.”**

### **7. *Idiomatic Translation***

An idiomatic translation is a lively natural form, this method often distorts the original message by incorporating colloquialisms and idioms, as seen in authors like Seleskovitch and Stuart Gilbert. For the example:

**SL: “Hit the hay”**

**TL: “Pergi ke dalam mimpi”**

### **8. *Communicative Translation***

Communicative translation aims to accurately convey the original's contextual meaning, making both content and language easily comprehensible to the readership. For the example:

**SL: “Tea Gown.”**

**TL: “Gaun Pesta.”**

## METHOD

This research used a descriptive qualitative to know the use of figurative language found in sentence and translation methods in *LOCKWOOD & CO: THE SCREAMING STAIRCASE* by Jonathan Stroud from English into Indonesian. In its broadest meaning, qualitative methodology refers to research that generates descriptive data on people's own written or spoken words and observable behavior. (Bogdan & Biklen, 2007) Descriptive studies are communicated through the data; theoretical studies are communicated through concepts illustrated by data. Descriptive questions can help you understand what is important to them and the meaning they give to those things. Neil (2007) states a qualitative research involves an analysis of data such as words, pictures, sentences, or objects. An important aspect of participant observation is learning how people use language (Steven J. Taylor et al., n.d.). Therefore, this research uses a qualitative method, which is suitable for answering "why" and "how" questions and allows the collection of data that is rich in detail and context.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

The researcher presents sample data from figurative language analysis and the translation method used to determine the category of figurative language and the analysis method used. The use of figurative language in Table 1 and translation methods in the novel can be seen in Table 2.

Table 1.

No	Types of Figurative	Total
1.	Simile	35
2.	Personification	16
3.	Metaphor	14
4.	Hyperbole	3

Table 2.

No	Translation methods	Total
1.	Word for Word Translation	6
2.	Literal Translation	54
3.	Adaptation Translation	6
4.	Faithful Translation	2

### Discussion

#### 1. Simile

##### Datum 1:

**001/24/SL (LCTSS):** "Her bony wrists were tight against her side, **the fingers bent like fishhooks.**"

**001/36/TL (LCUM):** "Pergelangan tangannya yang kurus tampak kaku di sisi tubuh, **jemarinya bengkok seperti kail pancing.**"

This sentence is categorized as a simile because the author illustrates the phrase "**the finger bent**" is described as a "**fishhook**". Using the word "**like**", in this sentence the word "**like**" helps to describe an object or concept more clearly through comparison with other objects or concepts

which is more general. A simile is a figurative comparison between two essentially unlike things, recognizing common points using "like" and "as". (Abrams, 1999).

This datum is categorized as literal translation, because "**the finger bent**" was translated as "**jemarinya bengkok**" and "fishhook" was translated into "**kail pancing**". According to Oxford Learner Dictionary "**the finger**" means "*one of the four long thin parts that stick out from the hand (or five, if the thumb is included)*" and "**bent**" means "**not straight**". According to KBBI "**jemari**" means "*ujung tangan atau kaki yang beruas-ruas, lima banyaknya*" and "**bengkok**" means "*menyimpang dari garis lurus, berkeluk*". It shows in the sentence "**the finger bent**" means a physical condition where a person's fingers are not straight or can also have a figurative meaning depending on the context, in the target language "**jemarinya bengkok**" refers to fingers that are not straight, but curved or not parallel. The grammatical structure in the Source Language is converted into equivalent words that can be accepted by the target language structure but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context, to identify problems to be solved (Newmark, 1988).

## 2. Personification

### Datum 2:

**009/19/SL (LCTSS):** "... the knocking growing ever louder and **the cold biting at my skin.**"

**009/28/TL (LCUM):** "... bunyi ketukan semakin nyaring sementara **udara dingin menggigit kulit.**"

This datum is categorized as a personification because the sentence "**the knocking grew ever louder and the cold biting on my skin.**" shows inanimate objects that can carry out human activities. The author personifies the word "**the cold**" by providing human activity that makes the cold air come alive. According to the Oxford Learner Dictionary "**bite**" means "*to use your teeth to cut into or through something*", in this context the author wants to describe if cold air begins to spread throughout the body and it feels colder and colder. Personification is poetic diction that often uses personification of abstract terms, which could sometimes become a thoughtless formula. (Abrams, 1999. p.121).

In this sentence, the translator used the free translation method, because In this sentence "**the knocking grew ever louder and the cold biting at my skin**" is translated into "**bunyi ketukan semakin nyaring sementara udara dingin menggigit kulit.**". With the word "**and**" the author wants to show that these events occurred simultaneously, this is because the word "**and**" was translated by the translator as "**sementara**" which should be translated as "**dan**". The translator uses his language to translate by using "temporary" sentences in the target language. Free translation is a form of 'intralingual translation' that reproduces the original content without altering its manner or form. These translations are often long-winded and pretentious and are not translations from the source language at all (Newmark, 1988. p.46).

## 3. Metaphor

### Datum 3:

**015/19/SL (LCTSS):** "**The blackness of the landing was a formless space ...**"

**015/28/TL (LCUM):** "**Landasan yang hitam pekat terasa bagaikan ruang tanpa bentuk ...**"

This datum was categorized as a metaphor because of the clause "**The blackness of the landing was a formless space**", in the word "**landing**" the author compares it with "**formless space**". According to the Oxford Learner Dictionary "**landing**" means "*the area at the top of a set of stairs where you arrive before you go into an upstairs room or move onto another set of stairs.*" The author describes the situation as pitch black when Lockwood walked up the stairs. It is known that the upper part of the house has no light at all, and also the events that occur in the



novel are at night. A metaphor is a form of figurative language used in literature, a metaphor is defined as a comparison that shows similarities between two different things without using connecting words such as “like” or “as”. (Abrams, 1999. p.119).

This datum used literal translation, because "**The blackness of landing**" is translated into "*landasan hitam yang pekat*". According to the Oxford Learner Dictionary “**landing**” means “*the area at the top of a set of stairs where you arrive before you go into an upstairs room or move onto another set of stairs*”, and according to the Oxford Learner Dictionary “**formless**” means “*without a clear or definite shape or structure.*”. This shows that if there is a structural shift in the translation, this structural shift occurs when there is a class translation equivalent in the target language of an item from the source language that is different from the original item in the target language. The grammatical structure in the Source Language is converted into equivalent words that can be accepted by the target language structure but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context, to identify problems to be solved (Newmark, 1988. p.46).

#### 4. Hyperbole

##### Datum 4:

**020/17/SL (LCTSS):** “Halls, landings, and staircases are **the arteries** and airways of any building.”

**020/12/TL (LCUM):** “Lorong, landasan, dan undakan adalah **nadi** dan saluran udara di setiap bangunan.”

This datum was categorized as hyperbole because, in the sentence "**Halls, landings and staircases are the arteries and airways of any building.**". The author uses the word "**artery**" to describe that apart from being air passages, halls, landings, and staircases are the main roads and the only access to each building. According to Oxford Learner Dictionary "**artery**" means “*any of the tubes that carry blood from the heart to other parts of the body.*”.

This exaggerates the statement in conveying the author's message. Apart from that, the choice of the word "**artery**" also has an implicit meaning, the author describes that halls, landings, and staircases are the most important access points in the building. Hyperbole is a rhetorical trope that involves bold overstatement, often used for serious, ironic, or comic effects, to personify abstract entities like virtues, vices, and states of mind. (Abrams, 1999. p.149).

This datum used literal translation, because "**of any building.**" is translated into "*di setiap bangunan.*" this clause translates the Target Language to the Source Language by changing the construction of the target language. according to the Oxford Learner Dictionary “**of**” means “*belonging to something: being part of something: relating to something*” and according to KBBI “**di**” means “*kata depan untuk menandai tempat.*”. The sentence "**of any building.**" itself means “*dari setiap bangunan*”, translated by the translator as “*di setiap bangunan*”. It showed that the shift happened in the translation. The grammatical structure in the Source Language is converted into equivalent words that can be accepted by the target language structure but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context, to identify problems to be solved (Newmark, 1988. p.46).

## CONCLUSION

In this study, researchers analyzed four types of figurative language and also the translation methods used in the novel Lockwood & CO: The Screaming Staircase. The results of this research concluded that 66 forms of sentences used four types of figurative language that we wanted to examine. There were 54,5% similes, 22,7% personification, 4,6% hyperbole, and 18,2% metaphor. The novel Lockwood & CO: The Screaming Staircase is dominated by similes because in this novel similes are used to describe objects or situations. The writer tries to

describe something by comparing the object with other objects. It can be concluded that the importance of figurative language in this novel helps readers imagine the context of the story. Then in this research, the researchers found translation methods: literal translation (14), word-for-word translation (0), faithful translation (23), free translation (10), and adapted translation (19). The translation method used in this novel is dominated by literal translation, this is because the translator tries to understand the reader.

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