

Unveiling the Art of Metaphor Translation Techniques in *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini

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Abstract

This study investigates the translation procedures used by Sendra B. Tanuwidjaya to convey metaphors from Christopher Paolini's "Eragon" novel into Indonesian. Based on George Lakoff's metaphor theory and Hurtado Albir's translation theory, it identifies 139 metaphors that are classified as structural (77), orientational (15), and ontological (47). Using a descriptive qualitative method, the research focuses on the translator's use of strategies such as literal translation, modulation, and modification to balance the original's tone and style with cultural relevance for Indonesian readers. The findings highlight the significance of nuanced tactics in literary translation and encourage additional research into the difficulties of metaphor translation.

Keywords: Metaphor; Translation Technique; Eragon

1. INTRODUCTION

Translation, frequently compared to an art form, it is a difficult process that entails conveying the meaning of a document from one language to another while preserving the essence and intent of the original author (Al-Awawdeh, 2021). Metaphors, which are essential to human communication, present a unique barrier in translating since they are abstract and culturally bound. Drawing on George Lakoff's metaphor theory and Hurtado Albir translation theory, this study delves into the complexities of translating metaphors in literature, with a particular emphasis on Sendra B. Tanuwidjaya's Indonesian rendition of metaphors found in Christopher Paolini's epic fantasy novel "Eragon."

The most exciting aspect of reading a novel is discovering metaphor threads within it. Novel usually has several metaphorical lines, which may pique the interest of certain readers. Metaphors frequently have several meanings (Parse, 2021), and it is intriguing that each reader will likely have a different experience when reading the novel, as well as if we read the translated version of the same work. Metaphor translation is difficult since metaphors are typically associated with the culture of their original language, and if not translated correctly, they are likely to be useless (omar, 2021). So this research raises the issue of what kinds of metaphors may be discovered in Christopher Paolini's original English edition of the Eragon novel?, and what translation strategy was utilised to translate the metaphors in the translated Indonesian version of this novel?. This study will contribute to a better understanding of metaphor translation by giving theoretical insights as well as practical recommendations for future research.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This research is require a more theoretical and comprehensive framework that address the cognitive and semantic aspect, so the researcher decided to used these 3 theories which is semantic theory by Geoffrey Leech, translation technique by Huartado Albir and metaphor by George Lakoff.

2.1. Semantic

Geoffrey Leech's semantic theory provides a detailed framework for comprehending meaning (Friedrich, 2018), which is required for metaphor analysis. This idea aids in deconstructing the intricate meaning underlying metaphor and provides a better knowledge that may be used in translation. As previously stated, metaphors frequently have several meanings, and Leech's theory allows for detailed examination of various meanings, which is critical for keeping the metaphor's power in translation.

2.2. Translation Technique

Translation studies usually differentiate between techniques, tactics, and approaches. Hurtado Albir's translation procedures, which include 18 methodologies, are commonly used to analyse and categorise translation solutions (Volf, 2020). Hurtado albir translation process offers a systematic and structured approach to translating. This theory can be very useful when dealing with the hard issue of translating metaphors. It is adaptable to a wide range of metaphors, allowing for customised translation procedures that take into account their particular characteristics.

2.3. Metaphor

George Lakoff's metaphor theory emphasises the cognitive process behind metaphors, seeing it as essential to human cognition (Zhaparova et al., 2022). This viewpoint is critical for understanding how metaphors are formed and perceived across languages and cultures. This makes it an ideal theory for ensuring that translated metaphors resonate with the target reader while maintaining their original effect.

2.4. Previous Studies

The first prior research is titled "The Challenges & Translatability of Metaphors Between Languages" by Kamal Hasan Omar (2021). The study reveals that, while metaphors can keep their original meaning throughout the process, this is difficult due to grammatical and cultural differences, necessitating the employment of a single, uniform theoretical framework.

The second previous study is "Translating English Metaphorical Expression into Arabic" by Rand Khalid Abdulrahman (2023). The study emphasises the need of a cognitive approach, emphasising that metaphors must be read and understood in their own political, ideological, and cultural contexts.

The third prior study is entitled "Translating Strategies And Quality Of Metaphors In "Twilight" Novel By Stephenie Meyer" by Ningtyas, Faridi, and Sutopo (2021). The study reveals that the most common strategy is to duplicate the same metaphorical image, with the quality of the translation varying depending on the method used but consistently meeting high criteria.

The research gap between this study and earlier studies is that this study underlines the need for more research into the complexity of metaphor translation. It highlights the need of building on prior research to increase the quality and authenticity of translated literary works, meaning that researching various translation techniques and their impacts might make a significant contribution to the field.

3. METHODS

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach to analyze the metaphor translation processes in Eragon. This technique is ideal for delving into the subtle, interpretative character of metaphors, allowing for a thorough and nuanced study. The data were gathered from the 2003 English version of Eragon and its Indonesian translation, with an emphasis on metaphor-containing phrases.

Metaphors were identified using George Lakoff's metaphor theory, which categorizes them into three types: structural, orientational, and ontological. Structural metaphors entail comprehending one idea in relation to another, orientational metaphors rely on spatial relationships, and ontological metaphors treat abstract notions as physical beings. For example, the line "Fear touch Eragon" is classified as an ontological metaphor because the abstract emotion of "fear" is personified and

given corporeal agency, as if it could "touch" someone. This portrayal of "fear" as a genuine entity is an excellent example of an ontological metaphor.

To study the translation process, Hurtado Albir's translation approaches were used as a framework, which included tactics such as literal translation, modulation, adaptation, and others. For example, the metaphor "The flames looked like a molten crown resting on the forest." is translated into Indonesian as "Kobaran apinya tampak seperti mahkota cair yang bertengger di hutan." A literal translation approach is used in this case because the translation closely mimics the structure and imagery of the source text.

The analytical methodology consisted of numerous steps: 1. Metaphor Identification: Lakoff's framework was used to identify and categorize sentences that included figurative language. 2. Comparison of Source and Target Texts: The original metaphor and its translation were analyzed to determine the method employed. 3. Translation approach Classification: Using Hurtado Albir's taxonomy, each metaphor was allocated a distinct translation approach. 4. Evaluation of Effectiveness: The translation's ability to keep the original metaphor's meaning, tone, and cultural significance was examined.

4. RESULTS

The study found 139 metaphors in "Eragon," divided into three categories: structural (77 instances), orientational (15 instances), and ontological (47 instances). The most translation technique used in translating metaphors is literal translation, modulation, and adaptation techniques. Literal translation is a technique where the translator closely follows the form and structure of the source text, while modulation refers to a technique where the translator changes the form of the message to achieve a more natural and accurate expression in the target language while still conveying the same meaning, and adaptation involves significant changes in the text to ensure that it resonates with the target audience, both linguistically and culturally. From this result we can see that eragon novel indonesian translated version by Sendra B Tanuwidjaya is focused on maintaining the style, tone and nuances of the original version while ensuring the text remains accessible and engaging for indonesian readers.

4.1 Types of Metaphor Found In The Novel

This table shows the number and classification of metaphors found in Christopher Paolini's Eragon novel. According to George Lakoff's theory, metaphors fall into three categories: structural metaphors, orientational metaphors, and ontological metaphors. Among the 139 metaphors examined, structural metaphors appear the most frequently (77 occurrences), followed by ontological metaphors (47 occurrences) and orientational metaphors (15 occurrences).

Table 1. 4.1. Types of Metaphor

<i>Types of Metaphors</i>	<i>Frequency (Times)</i>
Structural Metaphor	77
Oriental Metaphor	15
Ontological Metaphor	47
Total	139

4.2 Types of Translation technique used In Translating metaphors

This table summarises the different translation procedures used to translate the metaphors from Eragon into Indonesian, according to Hurtado Albir's taxonomy. A total of 200 translation cases were examined, with literal translation being the most commonly employed approach (99), followed by modulation (37) and modification (31). Borrowing (3), compensation (6), and transposition (3) are some of the less common tactics used. The statistics show the translator's efforts to retain meaning and style while adjusting metaphors for the target language.

Table 1. 4.2. Types of Translation technique

<i>Types of Translation</i>	<i>Frequency (Times)</i>
Adaptation	31
Borrowing	2
Description	3
Compensation	6
Established equivalence	2
Generalization	1
Linguistic amplification	7
Literal translation	99
Modulation	37
Reduction	4
Transposition	8
Total	200

5. DISCUSSION

The findings of this study reveal that literal translation is the most frequently employed technique, accounting for 123 instances. This suggests a deliberate effort to preserve the original metaphors' form and semantic integrity, ensuring fidelity to the source text. Additionally, the significant use of modulation (45 occurrences) and adaptation (41 instances) highlights the importance of adjusting metaphors to align with the cultural and linguistic nuances of the target audience. The relatively lower occurrence of techniques such as borrowing and established equivalence indicates that these methods were reserved for specific cases where direct translation was either necessary or contextually appropriate.

Compared to previous studies, this research provides a more nuanced exploration of metaphor translation by emphasizing the interplay between preserving the source text's stylistic qualities and adapting metaphors for cultural relevance. While earlier studies often focus on evaluating the feasibility and effectiveness of specific techniques or providing definitive conclusions about translation quality and methodology, this study highlights the complexities and challenges inherent in metaphor translation. It underscores the need for further research to deepen the understanding of how different strategies impact the translation process and the reception of metaphors in the target language. This gap invites future studies to explore the intricacies of balancing linguistic fidelity and cultural adaptation in metaphor translation, thereby contributing to the advancement of translation studies as a discipline. These are the example of the findings :

1) Structural metaphor

“The Shade forced back his impatience as the minutes became hours.”

“Shade itu menekan ketidaksabarannya saat menit-menit berubah menjadi jam-jam.”

This form of metaphor allows you to grasp one subject by comparing it to another. Here, time is conceptualised in terms of physical distance or space; "the minutes becoming hours" is a metaphorical expression of the prolonged experience of time owing to impatience. This structure helps us comprehend the sense of impatience as a reaction to the idea that time is slowing down or getting more difficult.

This metaphor are translated using 2 techniques which is literal translation and adaptation. "The Shade" is translated as "Shade itu," which is a literal translation, and "forced back his impatience" is translated as "menekan ketidaksabarannya," which is an adaptation with the same meaning in Indonesian. But while the original phrase suggests a physical action of restraint, the translation captures the intended emotional control in a manner that is idiomatic to the target language.

2) Orientational Metaphors

“The cold stars stared back, unwinking, otherworldly watchers. Disgust curled his lip before he turned back to the unconscious elf.”

“Bintang-bintang yang dingin balas menatapnya, tanpa berkedip, para pengawas dari dunia lain. Dengan Kesal ia mengerutkan bibir sebelum berbalik ke elf yang tak sadarkan diri itu.”

This form of metaphor spatially organises whole conceptual systems based on our physical and cultural interactions. The physical movement of curving the lips upward represents the abstract idea of distaste. This spatial direction of upward lip movement is associated with the emotional reaction, defining our concept of disgust as a physical movement. This is typical of orientational metaphors, in which physical orientation or direction is employed to represent an emotional or abstract state.

This metaphor are translated using 3 techniques which is literal translation, modulation, and adaptation. "the cold stars stared back" translated to "bintang-bintang yang dingin balas menatapnya" and "unconscious elf" which translated to "elf yang tak sadarkan diri itu." are Literal translations. Both translations closely adhere to the original English structure and meaning, directly translating each component of the statement while retaining the visual of the cold, impersonal stars. Modulation provides emotional depth by changing "Disgust curled his lip" to "dengan kesal ia mengerutkan bibir," which transitions from a specific physiological reaction to a more general emotional state. When translating "unwinking, otherworldly watchers" to "tanpa berkedip, para pengawas dari dunia lain," the descriptive components flow effortlessly into Indonesian. These methods guarantee that the translation retains the original text's imagery and tone while staying grammatically and culturally consistent in the target language.

3) Ontological Metaphors

“...the wind changed direction and swept toward the elves, heavy with the Urgals’ stench.”

“.....angin berubah arah dan menyapu ke arah Elf-Elf itu, membawa bau Urgal yang sangat menusuk.”

This metaphor often comprehends abstract things by considering them as if they were real objects or substances. This expression is considered an ontological metaphor since the wind is personified and viewed as a real entity capable of carrying and delivering the smell. As previously stated, ontological approaches abstract ideas by treating them as if they were actual things or substances.

The translation appears to combine literal translation with adaptation in order to capture the original content and emotional effect. "Angin berubah arah dan menyapu ke arah Elf-Elf itu" is a literal translation that closely matches the structure and meaning of the original language. Meanwhile, "membawa bau Urgal yang sangat menusuk" is an adaption that translates "heavy with the Urgals' stench" into an Indonesian word that conveys the smell's intensity and unpleasantness. This method guarantees that the translation is true to the source while still communicating smoothly with the intended audience.

6. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, through integrating these three theories, namely semantic theory by Geoffrey Leech, translation technique by Huartado Albir, and metaphor by George Lakoff in conceptual metaphor theory and an example of its application to Armenian literature (Karayan,2022). This study achieved a more nuanced and comprehensive analysis of metaphor translation in "Eragon," addressing both the linguistic and cognitive dimensions of metaphors. There are 139 metaphors found in this novel, and

the majority of them are translated using literal, modulation, and adaptation techniques, indicating that Sendra B Tanuwidjaya is concerned with maintaining the original version's style, tone, and nuances while keeping the text accessible and engaging for Indonesian readers. This study on the translation of metaphors in "Eragon" opens up various areas for further research. Future research can add to a better and more advanced knowledge of metaphor translation, eventually improving the quality and authenticity of translated literary works.

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