

# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents the background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study and significance of the study.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Literature has no longer become an uncommon thing for several people in the millennial era. Reiss, T. J in the book *The Meaning of Literature*, said that “Literature is a human behaviour common to all societies, a means of communicating universally similar feelings, thoughts and so forth which crosses ages and spaces” (Reiss, 1992, p. 2). Meanwhile, Hudson, W. H (2006), said that “Literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it. Fundamentally, an expression of life through the medium of language”. It means that literature can be used for men or broadly human as the media of expression about what someone has seen, felt, thought, and experienced. Literature is a media of reflection for societies around it, because it can describe many things.

The works of literature are often used and enjoyed by people today because of its aesthetic ways of writing. Literary works always have its own kind of language that show an aesthetic writing which can gain readers’ attention, and it also carries out meaning, so the readers can enjoy it. Therefore, it is a usual thing to see strange and unfamiliar words being mentioned in a literary work with the intention of making the literary work become more aesthetic. However, when the strange words are included in a literary work, it is sometimes confusing for the readers on understanding the meaning behind the content of a literary work itself.

Therefore, the language of literature should be differentiated with the language used in general. Emzir and Rohman (2016), divides the differences of literary language and everyday language into several characteristics. Literary language use connotation, it cannot be interpreted directly and literally, homonym, often have ambiguity, expressive and can be interpreted in many perspective. Meanwhile everyday language use denotation, can be interpreted directly, structured logically with proposition, and logic (Emzir & Rohman, 2016, p. 7).

These differences of literary language and everyday language are also included as parts of literary theory named Russian Formalism. The theory which was found in around 1915 to 1930 is a theory of literature which focuses on the concept that a literary work should be enjoyed only by its form and should not be tied to another aspects. It puts the focus on the text as literature that different from the common theories of literature, that can connect a literary work with the aspects of psychology, social class, religion, politic, cultural study and others. Russian Formalists established the importance of literariness by stating that “the object of literary science is not literature, but literariness, that is, which makes a given work a literary work” (Baldick, 1996, p. 123). Thus, it can inferred that for Russian Formalists, it is not the text itself, or the text as totality, which establishes the field of literary study but certain techniques used in the text (Makaryk, 1993, p. 53).

Through this Russian Formalism, Viktor Shklovsky who was involved as one of the major figures in this movement coined the term *ostranenie* which is mostly known as the technique of “defamiliarization” or “making strange”, this issue arose because the attention of differences between literary language (poetic

language) and everyday language (ordinary language). This term is used to refer the tendency, effect or process in which familiar objects are perceived as unfamiliar or strange, which consequently, challenging and restoring automatized perceptions of the world (Rice, 1996, p. 18, as cited in Rukmi, 2008).

Literary works are often to be seen using an aesthetic style of writing, figurative languages are sometimes used in literary works to make the meaning becomes difficult to understand. It also often to see literary works appear in a completely strange and complicated form, since the use of unfamiliar words or sentences in literary work makes readers have to create their own imagination to understand the meaning of it, even sometimes, the readers need to read it for several times to get the meaning behind a literary work, because of the confusion. This artistic technique of creating unfamiliar and strange way in a literary work and presenting it to the readers to make them develop a new perception is what is called as defamiliarization.

Defamiliarization is functioned as a technique of creating a literary work to a strange form using strange words or sentences. It is meant to make a literary work to be more attractive to the readers, because of its aesthetic and unique style of writings that make the readers have to see something contained in a literary work with a new and fresh perspective. Besides, defamiliarization also differentiated between poetic language and ordinary language through the language style, poetic language with its aesthetic style of writing and ordinary language with just a regular style of writing.

Defamiliarization according to Shklovsky (1917) in the essay “Art as Technique” is defined as a technique which aims to make the readers perceive

everyday objects and words from a strange perspective. Defamiliarization is the artful aspect of a work that makes the reader alert and alive; it causes the reader to intensify the attention paid to the text, to look again at an image in an effort to take in the unexpected (Dobie, 2011, p. 35). In short, defamiliarization is a technique of creating a literary work uses unfamiliar words to make it looks strange, but still has the aesthetic and should carries out meaning for the readers.

Consequently, defamiliarization has its own effects to the literary works, the effects of defamiliarization achieved in literary works or texts are established to occur most possibly on such aspects as perception of everyday reality, language, narrative structure, or genre (Cook, 1995, p. 138, as cited in Rukmi, 2008). Applied specifically to literature, defamiliarization may possibly occur at the level of perception, language, narrative structure, or literary genre (Cook, 1995, p. 181, as cited in Rukmi, 2008). It means, because the use of defamiliarization that occur in a literary work, it can affect the readers' perception of seeing something new, the language of literary works, its narrative structure and genre.

In applying defamiliarization, Russian formalists do not only limit their study to poetry which previously draw their attention, but also to other literary works, just like short story or novel. The resolution of a story is being put in the beginning, meanwhile the exposition is being put in the end of a story, or the plot of a story is being disorganized is the basic technique to use defamiliarization in a literary work.

Roald Dahl is one of the authors who use defamiliarization in his literary works. Many of his works which mostly are children-fantasy would sound or look strange and unfamiliar for the readers, one of his notable works is the novel

named *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. The famous novel which was published for the first time in 1964 talked about the main character Charlie Bucket with the other four children who had the adventurous invitation inside the biggest chocolate factory in the town, owned by Mr. Willy Wonka. The novel was described oddly, where many characters in the novel have strange looks and actions, it also has several strange terms and phrases in the story.

In this study, the researcher was interested in finding the effects of defamiliarization in the novel *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl and to see how it establishes the literariness and aesthetic quality of the novel as a literary text based on its effects of defamiliarization. The researcher chose the novel rather than the movie because literary work is originally in a form of written text. Based on Oxford Dictionary, literature is defined as the written works, especially consider of superior or lasting artistic merit. Wellek and Warren (1993) also defines literature as written or printed works. Besides, by using the written work which is a novel, the reader could also read the whole things in the storyline through it, because either the characters, scenes or dialogues are described clearly in the text, otherwise the movie which only show specific scenes without describing it. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl is one of good examples of literary works that use defamiliarization because it is a children literature which has the adventure-fantasy genre.

In addition to it, this study used defamiliarization which is a part of Russian Formalism, it is a theory of literature which focuses only on the concept of “text as literature”, the researcher used the levels of defamiliarization by Guy Cook. Defamiliarization is chosen as the theory for this study, because during reading a

literary work, especially fiction works with fantasy genre, it is often to see the authors use strange and unfamiliar words in his or her works to make it become outstanding that causes the confusion for the readers. Therefore, defamiliarization is suitable for this study, because it also focuses on explaining strange and unfamiliar words in a literary work. Moreover, the term defamiliarization itself is still uncommon for some people, especially English Literature students.

Based on the explanation, the researcher was interested in finding and explaining the effects of defamiliarization in the novel *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl, and to see how it established the literariness and aesthetic quality of the novel based on its defamiliarization effect.

## **1.2 Problems of the Study**

Based on the background of this study, the problem of this study were formulated as the followings:

1. How does defamiliarization affect the novel *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl?
2. How do the effects of defamiliarization in the novel establish the literariness and aesthetic quality of the novel?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems, the objectives of this study were:

1. To find out how defamiliarization effects the novel *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl.
2. To find out how the effects of defamiliarization establish the literariness and aesthetic quality of the novel.

#### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

The researcher focused on this study and expected that it can be useful for the readers, especially for students of Teacher Training, Education and Language faculty, and the literature connoisseurs. Practically, this study was expected to be a beneficial reference for the next researchers who are interested in analyzing defamiliarization and the effects of defamiliarization achieved in a literary work, especially novel, and establishing the literariness and aesthetic quality of the novel based on its effects of defamiliarization. This study was also expected to be beneficial for the readers in gaining understanding about defamiliarization which was originally found by Viktor Shklovsky in a theory of Russian Formalism, as well as the levels of defamiliarization by Guy Cook.