CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter contains some theories of literature and figurative language that help researcher to analyze figurative language in this novel. These reviews are expected to serve important background information to support the study and the discussion of the findings. It is divided into four subtopics: literature, novel, figurative language, types of figurative language.

2.1 Literature

When we talk about literature we will think about poetry, drama, or novel. Some of us will think how complicated sentence in literature is. Hunter and Mays (2006:2) states that literature is the human activity that takes the fuller and the most precise account of variousness, possibility, complexity, and difficulty. That is why not everybody can interpret meaning of sentences in every kind of literature.

Sometimes we don’t realize in our daily communication we usually use literary language, because literature actually comes from our everyday speech as Terry Eagleton (1996) states that Literature transforms and intensifies ordinary language, deviates systematically from everyday speech. Just as architecture is the art form that arises out of the human ability to create buildings, literature is the art form that arises out of the human ability to create language.
2.2 Novel

Novel is also part of literature, novel included in fiction literature as Holman and Harmon (1986) states, novel is used in its broadest sense to design any extended fictional prose narrative. In their book Holman and Harmon (1986) classify novel into some types they are detective novel, psychological novel, sociological novel, sentimental novel, propaganda novel, historical novel, novel of manner, novel of character, novel of incident, novel of the soil, regional novel, picaresque novel, gothic novel.

When we read a novel we must find figurative language, figurative language and novel can’t be separated because figurative also important part which built the novel and make it become more interesting. Schmidt, Bogarad, Crockett, (2006) states that every words that choosen well in short story will contribute and give impact to the language in short story, in addition short story writer often choose elements of poetic diction, images, figurative language, symbolism, allusion, and irony to create their word. It shows that figurative language also part of novel, and it is also important to be analyzed.

2.3 Figurative Language

Holman and Harmon (1986) states that figurative language is intentional departure from the normal order, construction, or meaning of words to give strength and freshness of expression, to create a pictorial effect, to describe by analogy, or to discover and illustrate similarities in otherwise dissimilar things. In simple words figurative language is a way to say something indirectly. McArthur(1992:402) explains that figurative language is that language in which
figures of speech such as metaphor and similes freely occur. He also considers a figure of speech as a rhetorical device using words in distinctive ways that achieves a special effect.

Perrine (1982) defines figures of speech as a way of saying one thing and meaning another. She argued that figures of speech should not be taken literally only and that they serve the function of giving extended meanings to words, phrases or sentences from their literal expressions. She also claimed that figures of speech can be more effective means of saying what we mean rather than direct statements.

Figurative language gives many effects in novels and creates the novel become interested to read. Layfield (2009) state some functions figurative language in novel, they are:

1. **Figurative Language Creates Mood**

   Figurative language can affect the mood of a short story. The term mood refers to the atmosphere that envelopes the reader and evokes certain feelings. While novelists are able to expound for pages to create the mood, a short story writer’s parameters are significantly condensed. Figurative language is used to draw the reader into the story quickly. For example, Edgar Allan Poe utilizes the simile "His room was as black as pitch with the thick darkness" to construct a dreadful and eerie mood in his short story "The Tell-Tale Heart."

2. **Figurative Language Develops Characterization**
Figurative language can enhance characterization in a short story. Characterization refers to how the author chooses to reveal a character’s personality, virtues and faults. Short story writers often use similes and metaphors to reveal more about their characters in fewer words. For example, in Richard Connell’s "The Most Dangerous Game," Ivan, the large bodyguard to General Zaroff, is described as "a gigantic creature." This hyperbole reveals Ivan’s large stature and force, but it is also reflective of his actions in the story, as Ivan is less human and more animalistic in nature.

3. Figurative Language Advances the Plot

Figurative language can advance the plot of a short story. Figurative language can slow the pace of the plot through lengthy descriptions and comparisons to encourage a more philosophical approach, or it can be used to create suspense and drive the storyline. For example, at the end of "The Most Dangerous Game," when confronted by General Zaroff for the final time, Rainsford responds, "I am still a beast at bay." This metaphor emphasizes the emotional state of Rainsford and foreshadows one last battle.

4. Figurative Language Enhances Everyday Language

Figurative language can elevate ordinary, everyday language. Much like figurative language enhances common language, the use of metaphors, similes and imagery adds to the reader’s experience. By utilizing figurative language, an author draws his reader into the story world he has created and encourages the reader to be an active participant -
- to feel what the characters feel, to see what they see. For example, in James Thurber’s "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," the opening paragraph, which depicts Mitty as the hero in one of his many fantastical escapes from mundane reality, describes the Commander’s voice "like thin ice breaking." Rather than merely including dialogue, the use of a simile provides the reader with a more complete picture of the scene.

2.4 Types of Figurative Language

The description of the figurative expressions below is derived from Holman and Harmon (1986), Halliday (1985), Martinich (1996), McArthur (1996), Larson (1998) and Kerf (2002), and will be presented in alphabetical order for some practices.

1. **Antithesis**

Antithesis is a construction in which words are opposed but balanced in opposition (McArthur, 1996:72).

For example:  
- a. Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice.
- b. Man proposes, God disposes.
- c. Love is an ideal thing, marriage a real thing.

2. **Euphemism**

It is the use of a mild, comforting, or evasive expression that takes the place of one that is taboo, negative, offensive, or too direct (McArthur, 1996:387).

For example:  
- a. You are becoming a little thin on top (bald).
- b. Our teacher is in the family way (pregnant).
c. He is always tired and emotional (drunk).

3. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is an exaggeration or over statement, usually deliberate and not meant to be taken literally (Larson 1998).

For example:  

a. My grandmother is as old as the hills.

b. Your suitcase weighs a ton!

c. She is as heavy as an elephant!

4. Understatement

A common figure of speech in which the literal sense of what is said falls detectably short of the magnitude of what being talked about. (Holman and Harmon 1986).

For example:  

a. “He is not too thin” while describing an obese person.

b. “It rained a bit more than usual” while describing an area being flooded after heavy rainfall.

5. Irony

Irony refers to words with an implication opposite to their usual meaning. Ironic comment may be humorous or mildly sarcastic (McArthur, 1996:532).

For example:  

a. The name of Britain’s biggest dog was “Tiny”.

b. You laugh at a person who slipped stepping on a banana peel and the next thing you know, you slipped too.

c. The butter is as soft as a marble piece.
6. Metaphor

Metaphor is a figure of speech which concisely compares two things by saying that the one is the other (McArthur, 1996:653).

For example:  
  a. My brother was **boiling mad**.
  b. The assignment **was a breeze**.

7. Metonymy

It is a word which is used for something related to that which it usually refers to (Halliday, 1985:319).

For example;  
  a. **England** decides to keep check on immigration. (England refers to the government).
  b. **The pen** is mightier than the **sword**. (Pen refers to written words and sword to military force)

8. Paradox

Paradox is a term in rhetoric for a situation or statement that is or seems self-contradictory and even absurd, but may contain an insight into life (McArthur, 1996:348).

For example:  
  a. Your enemy’s friend is your enemy.
  b. I am nobody. Truth is **honey which is bitter**.

9. Personification

Personification is the assigning of human characteristics to non-humans (Keraf, 2002).

For example:  
  a. Look at **my car. She is a beauty**, isn’t it so?
  b. The wind whispered **through dry grass**.
The flowers danced in the gentle breeze.

10. Litotes

A form of understatement in which a thing is affirmed by stating the negative of its opposite. (Holman and Harmon 1986).

For example: “She was not unmindful” means that “She gave careful attention”

11. Apostrophe

A figure of speech in which someone, some abstract quality, or nonexistent personage in directly addressed as though present. (Holman and Harmon 1986).

For example: Jane Taylor uses apostrophe in the well-known nursery rhyme “The Star”:

“Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.”

In the above nursery rhyme, a child addresses a star (an imaginary idea). Hence, this is a classic example of apostrophe.

12. Simile

Simile is a figure of speech, in which a more or less fanciful or unrealistic comparison is made, using like or as (McArthur, 1996:935).

For example: a. Rumours of his death spread like wildfire
b. She is like a fish out of water.
c. You’re not going to go storming in there like a bull in a china shop, aren’t you?.
d. Her skin is as white as snow.

13. Synecdoche

It is a figure of speech concerned with parts and wholes (McArthur, 1996:1014). For example:

a. Boots on the ground. Refers to soldiers.
b. New wheels. Refer to a new car.
c. Ask for her hand. Refers to asking a woman to marry.