

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of The Study

Fairy tale is a story intended for children that contains a lot of fantasy characters such as dragon, elves, dwarves, magical creatures, and many more. Marcia (1993) states that a fairy tale is a story-literary or folk-that have a sense of the numinous, the feeling or sensation of the supernatural or the mysterious, it is a story that happens in the past, and a story that is not tied to any specifics. Oral version of fairy tale usually passed down by people with traditional culture, when people with more advance culture tend to pass down the story in form of written text. The advent of printing, however, set these transformations in more structured and clearly defined narrative forms, and it is their versatility that has enabled fairy-tales to span place, time, audience and narrative method (Campagnaro, 2017, p.9).

There are many fairy tales written by various authors in the world that are influenced by the culture in each origin. These fairy tales share some similar structures even though they have their own characteristics. Therefore, fairy tales are interesting to be analysed further. The fairy tales used in this

study are six stories selected from two different authors, Brothers Grimm and Giambattista Basil. Grimm is chosen in this study since he is a prominent figure in fairy tales even until today. In fact, Grimm was inspired from many authors in Europe and one of them was Giambattista Basil, which is known as the oldest author of fairy tales in Europe. In addition, the fairy tales that are chosen from these authors are Brothers Grimm's Aschenputtel, Rapunzel, and Hänsel and Gretel as well as Giambattista Basile's Cenerentolla, Petrosinella, and Nennillo and Nennella.

Giambattista Basil is a writer from Naples, Italy. His famous fairy tales are Cenerentolla, Petrosinella, and Nennillo and Nennella which are some of his collection of Neapolitan fairy tale titled *Lo cunto de li cunti overo lo trattenemiento de peccerille*, which means The Tale of Tales or Entertainment for Little Ones in English. This fairy tales collection is also known as Il Pentamerone, which he wrote when he lived in Naples until he died in 1632. In 1634 and 1636, Basile's sister, Adriana, posthumously published Basile's collection of fairy tale under the pseudonym of Gian Alesio Abbatutis, into two volumes, and later the collection was known as Pentamerone. Basile originally aimed his fairy tales for more cultured and high-educated audience, most likely the princes or nobility of the Kingdom of Naples.

Although the compilation was neglected for some times, Pentamerone managed to gain the recognition when Brothers Grimm highly recognized it

as the first national collection of fairy tale. Hence, Pentameron became an important source for Brothers Grimm as the 19th century author. While Basile's stories focus on tragedy, Brothers Grimm's stories focus on romance. In addition, the readers of Grimm's stories are middle-class families and children. Brothers Grimm uses their collection of stories not only to teach moral, social, and even religious lesson to German children, but also to teach German about German character, culture, and identity.

In 1812 until 1857, Brothers Grimm published their collection of fairy tales titled *Children's and Household Tales* which regarded as their masterpiece. The collection is separated into two volumes, which contains in total of 210 stories. Some of the stories included in their collection are the stories that well known up to this day, such as Rapunzel (Rapunzel), Hansel and Gretel (Hänsel und Gretel), and Cinderella (Aschenputtel).

While it is said that Grimms adapted their stories from Basile, each of their stories are fairly different from one and another. To understand this differentiation, the writer uses Vladimir Propp's theory of analysing fairy tale, in his book titled *Morphology of The Folktale*. Propp's analyse 100 of Russian tales that he called as a folk tale (Alaini, 2014, p.2). Out of these 100 stories, Propp found 31 Functions and 7 Dramatis Personae and Functions that exist within the tale. Although there are 31 functions in folktale, Propp states that, there is a possibility that some functions do not included in the tale.

In the previous related study by Gergana Petkova in 2009, he analyzed the application of Propp's theory in Japanese folktales, specializing in stories with human groom and magical (animal) bride. Petkova states that Propp's theory is applicable to Japanese fairy tales. However, Propp's function must be read and understood in different new way in order to be applied directly to the Japanese tales (Petkova, 2009, P. 611-612).

In 2009, Tazeen Erum published an article about history of gender ideology of Grimms's fairy tale. In her article, Erum explains that there are 3 stages in life of a female in Grimm's story, of good girl, good wife, and good mother. Erum also states that female tend to be the character with more passive action rather than male. Marcia Lieberman (1986. P.191) argues that "Cinderella plays as passive a role in her story. After leaving her slipper at the ball she has nothing more to do but stay home and wait." However, Erum states that in feminist fairy tale the character Cinderella play a more active action, as in the Cinderella version of Judith Viorst (1983), where Cinderella chooses not to marry the prince, so she tells the prince that the slippers feels a little bit too tight on her foot.

In the previous related study by Pramudana Ihsan in 2015, he analyzes the story of Sleeping Beauty by Brothers Grimm using Vladimir Propp's theory. From his study, he finds that from 31 functions in Propp's theory, only 13 that occur in the story, the functions are Receipt of a Magical Agent, Villainy, Interdiction, Absentation, Violation of Interdiction, Complicity,

Mediation, Beginning of Counteraction, First Function of the Donor, Guidance, Liquidation or Resolution, Solution, and Wedding. The other study that uses Propp's theory in Brothers Grimm's story is a study by Kus Puji Istiningdya Putri in 2008, where she use Propp's theory to analyze the story of The Twelve Dancing Princess, where she finds that, from 31 functions in Propp's theory, there are only 17 functions that occur in the story. These two studies show that, Propp's theory is applicable to the story from Brothers Grimm. However these studies only focus on analyzing the function in the story and both of the studies does not analyzing the differences and similarities from stories with similar plot.

The other study that uses Propp's theory is the study from Yeni Maulina in 2014, however the story that is use to analyze is Indonesian folktales titled Asal-Usul Pulau Halang. This study shows that, from 31 functions in Propp's theory, there are only 16 functions that occur in the story.

Through the previous related studies, the writer conducts the same study about Giambattista Basile fairy tales, Brothers Grimm fairy tales, and other fairy tales focusing on analyzing the function on each fairy tales.

1.2. Research Question

1. How are the morphological structures and sphere of actions in Giambattista's classic fairy tales?

2. How are the morphological structures and sphere of actions in Brothers Grimm's classic fairy tales?
3. To what extent Giambattista's classic fairy tales shows differences and similarities with that of Brothers Grimm's classic fairy tales, in terms of morphological structures and sphere of actions?

1.3. Purpose of The Study

The purpose of this study is to find the dramatis functions from the six chosen stories, the Sphere of Action that occurs, and the differences and similarities between Giambattista Basile's classic fairy tales and Brothers Grimm's fairy tales in terms of morphological structures.

1.4. Scope of The Study

This study focuses on analysing 31 dramatis functions and 7 Sphere of Actions of Vladimir Propp's theory in Brothers Grimm's fairy tale and Giambattista Basile's fairy tale to find the differences and similarities from the chosen fairy tales.

1.5. Significance of The Study

The writer hopes the study extends her knowledge of understanding the morphological structure of fairy tales and for readers to know the application of Vladimir Propp's theory on fairy tales. Since there are a lot of modern fairy

tales based on these old ones, the writer hopes to understand the differentiation between each of them.

