

**AN ANALYSIS ON TRANSLATION METHOD AND QUALITY
OF PASSIVE VOICE IN *I AM NUMBER FOUR* NOVEL
BY NUR AINI**



PUBLICATION ARTICLE

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by

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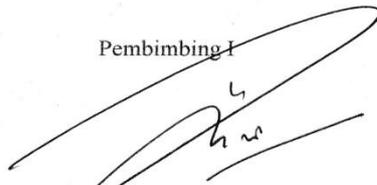
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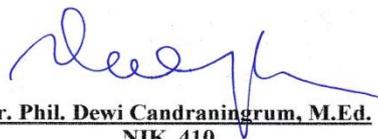
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OF PASSIVE VOICE IN I AM NUMBER FOUR NOVEL
BY NUR AINI**

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ABSTRACT

This research focuses on analyzing the passive voices found in I Am Number Four novel and its translation. The objectives are to identify the translation method of passive voice applied in I Am Number Four novel, to describe the accuracy of passive voice translation in I Am Number Four novel, to describe the readability of passive voice translation in I Am Number Four novel, and to describe the acceptability of passive voice translation in I Am Number Four novel. This research applies descriptive qualitative method. The data are the passive voices found in I Am Number Four novel and its translation. The data sources are the novel entitled I Am Number Four by Pittacus Lore in 2010 and its translation by Nur Aini in 2011, and the informant or rater. The ways to collect data are by using documentation, questionnaire and in depth Interview. The results of the research show that, firstly, there are six methods applied to the translation namely word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation. From 116 data of passive voice in I Am Number Four novel, there is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to word-for-word translation, there are 46 or 39.6% data belong to literal translation, there is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to faithful translation, there are 6 or 5.2% data belong to free translation, there are 7 or 6% data belong to idiomatic translation, and there are 55 or 47.4% data belong to communicative translation. It shows that the most dominant method which is used by the translator is communicative translation that there are 55 or 47.4% data from 116 data of passive voice in I Am Number Four novel. Secondly, the quality of translation is good. There are 111 or 95.7% data belong to accurate translation and 5 or 4.3% data belong to less accurate, there are 109 or 94% data belong to readable translation and 7 or 6% data belong to less readable, there are 115 or 99.1% data belong to acceptable translation and 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to less acceptable.

Keywords: passive voice, translation method, and translation quality.

A. INTRODUCTION

Translating one language into another language is needed to make easy the reader in understanding the content of the novel or other written forms. Munday (2001: 4-5) states “Translation is the product (the text that has been translated) or the process (the act of producing the translation, otherwise known as translating).” In translation process, there are some methods that usually used by translator to get the best result based on the purpose. Newmark (1988: 81) state “translation method is related to whole text”. So, translation method influences the result of translation. In translation, the equivalence of meaning is an important thing. The methods are used to get the equivalence. Nababan (2004: 32) states the concept of translation as the following:

Equivalence and quality are closely related concepts in translation. When translators are engaged in the translation process, they are trying to establish an equivalence relation between the source language text and the target language text. Such a relation characterizes a quality translation.

This research deals with some previous researches. The first previous study was conducted by Sambayu (2013) entitled *The Translation of Passive Voice in Harry Potter and The Prisoner of Azkaban into Bahasa Indonesia*. The Second one was conducted by Sadiyahani (2011) entitled *The Translation Of Indonesian Passive Voice Into English With Reference To “Bawang Merah Dan Bawang Putih” And It’s Translation ‘Miss Onion And Miss Garlic’*. The third one is Dewantari (2010) in her thesis “*Indonesian Passive Constructions and Their Translation into English Found in Novel “Cerita Dalam Keheningan” Into “Every Silence Has A Story”*”. The fourth one is Maslahah (2013) entitled *A Subtitling Analysis on Maxim Flouts in A Cinderella Story and The Perfect Man Movies from English into Indonesian*. The fifth one is Ardi (2010) entitled *The Analysis of Translation Techniques and Quality the Book of Asal Asul Elite Minangkabau Modern: Respons terhadap Kolonial Belanda Abad ke XIX/XX*. The sixth one is Sukirmiyadi, et al. (2014) entitled *A Study on the Quality of Abstract Translation of Dissertation from Indonesian into English*. The last one is Nofal (2011)

conducted Passive Voice as an Inimitable Linguistic Phenomenon in the Holy Qur'an.

There are some similarities of the previous studies and this research. First, the research has similarity with first until third and seventh previous studies in analyzing passive voices as subject. Second, the fourth until sixth previous studies aim to describe translation quality. It is same with the objective of this research. While there are the differences of the previous studies with this research are the first previous study conducted the research in the novel *Harry Potter and The Prisoner of Azkaban* and its translation, the second one is in the tale *Bawang Merah Dan Bawang Putih* and its translation, the third one is in the novel *Cerita Dalam Keheningan* and its translation, the fourth one is in *A Cinderella Story* and *The Perfect Man* Movies, the fifth one is the Book of *Asal Asul Elite Minangkabau Modern: Respons terhadap Kolonial Belanda Abad ke XIX/XX*, the sixth is dissertation and this research is conducted in *I Am Number Four* novel. Then, the fourth previous study described the translation quality of Maxim Flouts in *A Cinderella Story* and *The Perfect Man* Movies from English into Indonesian and the fifth one described translation quality of book *Asal Asul Elite Minangkabau Modern: Respons terhadap Kolonial Belanda Abad ke XIX/XX*, the sixth one described quality of the abstract translation of dissertation, the last is in the Holy Qur'an. This research describes translation quality of passive voices in *I Am Number Four* novel.

Passive voices in English and Indonesian are different. The differences make the translator uses some methods to get the equivalence of the text in order that the result of translation can have high quality. Thus, this study examines what the translation method of passive voice applied in *I am number four* novel is, how the accuracy of passive voice translation in *I am number four* novel is, how the readability of passive voice translation in *I am number four* novel is, And how is the acceptability of passive voice translation in *I am number four* novel.

016/IANF-26/TR-63

SL: *So I'll never be burned again?*

TL: *Jadi aku nggak akan bisa terbakar?*

The datum above belongs to be less accurate. It is because some words in source language are not translated appropriately in target language. *I'll never be burned again* is translated into *aku nggak akan bisa terbakar*. Both of them have different meaning. The word *I'll never be burned again* means that the speaker has ever been burned but it is translated into *aku nggak akan bisa terbakar* that means the speaker has never been burned and will never be burned forever. *So I'll never be burned again?* should be translated into *Jadi aku nggak akan pernah terbakar lagi?*. Thus, the meaning of the source language is less accurate in the target language.

The passive voice above is acceptable. The translation looks natural in using Indonesian grammatical. Passive voice *be burned* is conveyed to *terbakar* in the target language. Transferring the structure of sentence into Indonesian looks natural is shown by *So I'll never be burned again?* into *Jadi aku nggak akan bisa terbakar?*. Diction of the sentence also looks natural because it considers the speakers that have close relationship as friend. Hence, the datum above is acceptable translation.

From the datum above, the target language includes readable translation. It is because the text in the target language is easy to read and to understand by the reader. It is shown by the text *So I'll never be burned again?* is transferred into the target language *Jadi aku nggak akan bisa terbakar?*. So, the datum above belongs to be readable in the target language.

The translation of passive voice above uses free translation method. It is proven by *So* is translated into *Jadi*, *I'll never* is translated into *aku nggak akan bisa*, and *be burned* is changed into Indonesian *terbakar*, *again* is not translated into the target language. It shows *Jadi, I'll never be burned again* is translated into *aku nggak akan bisa terbakar* has different meaning. It should be *aku nggak akan pernah terbakar lagi*. *aku nggak akan bisa terbakar* shows about ability while *aku nggak akan pernah terbakar lagi*

shows the speaker has ever been burned before. The translator also reduces meaning *again* from the source text into target text. It makes the message from the source language is not transferred perfectly. It shows that free translation method is used here.

In conveying message from one language into another is called translation. Larson (1998:3) writes that translation consists of transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. It deals with Hatim and Munday (2004: 6) define translation as “the process of transferring a written text from source language (SL) to target language (TL)”. House (2009: 4) also states that translation is a process of replacing a text in one language by a text in another. Thus, translation is intended to understand idea or message from the source language into the target language.

Translation is related to some languages that have different culture and characteristics. Molina and Albir (2002:507) in Sutopo (2015: 34) state “Translation method refers to the way of a particular translation process that is carried out in terms of the translator’s objective, I’e., a global option that affects the whole texts”. Newmark (1988: 45) in Sutopo (2015: 34) classifies translation method into two groups. Every group consists of four methods which is the first group (word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation and semantic translation) emphasizes on source language and the second one (adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation, and communicative translation) is on target language. Translation is about transferring one language to another that considers the message of the source language that must be delivered correctly. Thus, the equivalence will be got and the translation can have high quality. There are three factors that influence the quality of translation namely accuracy, readability, and acceptability.

Lindell (1990: 28) stated that Voice is a grammatical term indicating the relationship between the subject of a sentence and the action expressed by the verb. It deals with Thomson and Martinet (1986: 263) defined that the passive of an active tense is formed by putting the verb **to be** into the same

tense as the active verb and adding the past participle of the active verb. Passive construction in English and Indonesian is different. Markhamah and Sabardilla (2013: 79) explain Indonesian passive sentence is a sentence that the verb contains passive verb. Passive verb is a verb that is signed by the use of affix *di-*, *ter-*, or the agent I/II + main verb, such as *dibawa*, *dibeli*, *terbawa*, *terbeli*, *terjatuh*.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This research implies descriptive qualitative method. The data are the passive voices found in *I Am Number Four* novel and its translation. The data sources are the novel entitled *I Am Number Four* by Pittacus Lore in 2010 and its translation by Nur Aini in 2011, and the informant or rater. The ways to collect data are by using documentation, questionnaire and in-depth interview.

By documentation, the researcher follows three steps in collecting the data such as: first, reading Pittacus Lore's *I Am Number Four* novel and finding out the passive voices. Second, finding the translation of passive voices in Nur Aini's *I Am Number Four* novel, and the last is coding the data of passive voices for example 001/IANF-4/TR-5. By questionnaire, the writer is helped by raters to give score of accuracy, acceptability and readability for measuring the quality of translation. The raters that have background study in translation give score for accuracy and acceptability and are appropriate reader to *I Am Number Four* novel give score for readability.

In depth Interview, The writer interviews the raters to get information which necessary like accuracy, acceptability, and readability. Steward and Cash in Soekanto (2003: 24) define that interview as a process of communication with a predetermined and serious purpose designed to interchange behavior and usually involving the asking and answering of question.

The last is analyzing the data. In analyzing the data, there searcher uses comparison method. The steps are as follows: identifying the translation

method of passive voice applied in *I Am Number Four* novel, describing the accuracy of passive voice translation in *I Am Number Four* novel, describing the readability of passive voice translation in *I Am Number Four* novel, describing the acceptability of passive voice translation in *I Am Number Four* novel, and drawing conclusion based on the data analysis of the passive voice found in *I Am Number Four* novel and its translation.

C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Finding elaborates translation method and quality of passive voice translation in *I Am Number Four* novel. Translation quality includes accuracy, acceptability and readability of passive voice translation.

1. The translation method of passive voice applied in *I Am Number Four* novel

From 116 data of passive voice found in *I Am Number Four* novel, the writer finds six methods applied by the translator. Those methods are word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation.

a. Word-for-word Translation

There is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to word-for-word translation from 116 data. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

085/IANF-155/TR-325

SL: *I'm invited?*

TL: *Aku diundang?*

This datum includes translation used word-for-word method. It is because the translator translated text every word without changing the form of text. It means that one word has one meaning. It can be proven word *I'm* is translated into *aku* and *invited?* is translated into *diundang?*. Thus, the datum *I'm invited?* transferred into target language *Aku diundang?* belongs to word-for-word translation.

b. Literal Translation

There are 46 or 39.6% data belong to literal translation from 116 data. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

022/IANF-38/TR-87

SL: ... *I will forever be labeled a coward.*

TL: ... *aku akan dicap pengecut untuk selamanya.*

For the datum above, the translator uses literal translation method. It is because there is difference between the grammatical construction of the source language and the target language. *I* is translated *aku*, *will* is translated *akan*, *forever* is translated *untuk selamanya*, *be labeled* is translated *dicap* and *a coward* is translated *pengecut*. It shows that the translator started translating word by word, after that the grammatical construction between source language and the target language is repaired so that the datum ... *I will forever be labeled a coward*. which is translated into ... *aku akan dicap pengecut untuk selamanya*. The difference is word *forever* in the middle of sentence is changed in the end of sentence. It can be concluded that the datum above belongs to literal translation.

c. Faithful Translation

There is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to faithful translation from 116 data. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

009/IANF-16/TR-40

SL: *Many are covered with banners supporting the football team.*

TL: *Sebagian besar loker dihiasi spanduk dukungan bagi tim football.*

The datum above belongs to faithful translation. It is because the translator maintains the original term of the source language to the target language. *Many are covered with banners supporting the football team*. is translated into *Sebagian besar loker dihiasi spanduk dukungan bagi tim football*. It shows term *football* in the source language is transferred into target language

football, there is no different between source and target language. So, this datum belongs to faithful translation.

d. Free Translation

There are 7 or 6% data belong to free translation from 116 data. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

003/IANF-2/TR-16

SL: *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.*

TL: *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun.*

The translation of passive voice above includes free translation method. Since the target language is shorter than the source language which shows the source language is not transferred completely to the target language. It is proven by *I* is translated into *Aku*, *had never been invited* is translated into *belum pernah diundang*, and *to any of the parties* is translated into *ke pesta apapun*, *at my school before* is not translated into the target language. It reduces the message because *at my school before* shows the limitation of kinds of parties meant. The source text *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.* should be translated into *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun di sekolahku sebelumnya.* in the target language. The translator also reduces meaning *at my school before* from the source text into target text. It makes the message from the source language is not transferred completely. It shows that the datum above deals with free translation method.

e. Idiomatic Translation

There are 6 or 5.2% data belong to idiomatic translation from 116 data. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

004/IANF-9/TR-28

SL: *Most of the white paint has been chipped away.*

TL: *Sebagian besar cat putihnya sudah mengelupas.*

The datum above includes idiomatic translation. Since, the translator translated idiom of the source text into common expression in the target language. It can be seen *Most of* is translated into *Sebagian besar*, *the white paint* is translated into *cat putihnya*, *has been chipped away* is translated into *sudah mengelupas*. The emphasizing on the target language is shown by idiom *chipped away* translated into common expression *mengelupas* in the target language. Thus, *Most of the white paint has been chipped away*. which is translated into *Sebagian besar cat putihnya sudah mengelupas*. belongs to idiomatic translation.

f. Communicative Translation

There are 55 or 47.4% data belong to communicative translation from 116 data. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

019/IANF-30/TR-71

SL: *You've been warned.*

TL: *Ini peringatan buatmu.*

The datum above is translated by using Communicative translation method. It is because the translator translated source language text into target language focuses on contextual meaning so that the content and message from the source language is understandable in the target language. The evidence is *You* as subject in the source language is reversed become object in the target language, verb phrase *have been warned* in the passive form is changed into noun *peringatan*, and the translator added *ini* as subject in the target language to complete sentence structure of target language. Thus, *You've been warned*. which is translated into *Ini peringatan buatmu*. belongs to communicative translation.

2. The Accuracy of Passive Voice Translation in *I Am Number Four* Novel

From 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel, the researcher found accurate and less accurate translation.

a. Accurate

There are 111 or 95.7% data belong to accurate translation.

The example of the datum analysis is as follow:

052/IANF-94/TR-204

SL: *The walls are covered with posters.*

TL: *Dinding-dindingnya ditutupi poster.*

The datum above includes accurate translation. Since the message of the source language is conveyed clearly and completely. It is shown by the source language *The walls* is translated into *Dinding-dindingnya*, *are covered with* is translated into *ditutupi*, and *posters* is translated into *posters*. It shows the translator did not do reduction meaning. The raters also give score 3 for this datum. Thus, the datum above belongs to accurate translation.

b. Less Accurate

There are 5 or 4,3% data belong to less accurate translation.

The example of datum analysis is as follow:

003/IANF-2/TR-16

SL: *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.*

TL: *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun.*

The datum above belongs to less accurate. Since there is reduction meaning in transferring message from the source language into the target language. It is supported by the rater who gives score 2. The reduction is shows by the source language *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.* translated into *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun.* Adverb phrase *at my school before* is not translated in the target language. It reduces the message because *at my school before* shows the limitation of kinds

of parties meant. The source text *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.* should be translated into *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun di sekolahku sebelumnya.* in the target language. Thus, the datum above includes less accurate translation.

3. The readability of Passive Voice Translation in *I Am Number Four* Novel

a. Readable

There are 109 or 94% data belong to readable translation. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

003/IANF-2/TR-16

SL: *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.*

TL: *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun.*

The translation above belongs to readable translation. It is because the translator used common vocabulary of the target language. The source text *I had never been invited to any of the parties at my school before.* is translated *Aku belum pernah diundang ke pesta apapun.* in the target language so that the reader does not feel confused in understanding the text. It is supported by the raters that give score 3. Thus, the datum above belongs to readable translation.

b. Less Readable

There are 7 or 6% data belong to less readable translation. The example of datum analysis is as follow:

002/IANF-2/TR-10

SL: *He is lifted off the ground.*

TL: *Dia terangkat dari tanah.*

The datum above includes less readable translation. It is because the target language above is difficult to understand. It is shown by *He is lifted off the ground.* is translated into *Dia terangkat dari tanah.* The word *terangkat* makes the reader is difficult to catch

the message. The reader needs to read more than once because there is no cause why and how it can be happened. It is why this datum belongs to less readable. It is supported by the rater who gives score 2.

4. The Acceptability of Passive Voice Translation in *I Am Number Four* Novel

From 116 data in this research, the researcher found acceptable and less acceptable translation.

a. Acceptable

There are 115 or 99.1% data belong to acceptable translation.

The example of datum analysis is as follow:

004/IANF-9/TR-28

SL: *Most of the white paint has been chipped away.*

TL: *Sebagian besar cat putihnya sudah mengelupas.*

The datum above includes acceptable translation. The raters also have same opinion so that they give score 3. The translator did shifting in transferring source text to the target one but it looks natural in the target language. *Most of* is translated into *sebagian besar*, *the white paint* is translated into *cat putihnya*, *has been chipped away* is translated into *sudah mengelupas*. There is shifting from passive *has been chipped away* into active *sudah mengelupas*. The translator considers the context of the text so that the shifting is chosen to make it natural in the target language. Thus, the source language *Most of the white paint has been chipped away*. which is translated into *Sebagian besar cat putihnya sudah mengelupas*. belongs acceptable translation.

b. Less Acceptable

There is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to less acceptable translation.

The example of datum analysis is as follow:

041/IANF-53/TR-123

SL: *Why would an entire town be abducted?*

TL: *Kenapa seluruh kota diculik?*

The datum above belongs to less acceptable translation. The rater gives score 2. It is because the translation is unfamiliar sentence in the target language that cannot be imagined by human mind. It is proven by *Why would an entire town be abducted?* is translated into *Kenapa seluruh kota diculik?*. This translation is difficult to be understood and accepted because of word “*diculik*”. According to KBBI “*diculik*” is for human not place like a town. The acceptable translation should be *Kenapa seluruh warga kota diculik?*. So that, the sentence *Kenapa seluruh kota diculik?* belongs to less acceptable translation.

In this research, there are 116 data of passive voice found in *I Am Number Four* novel. The researcher finds six methods applied by the translator. From 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel, there is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to word-for-word translation, there are 46 or 39.6% data belong to literal translation, there is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to faithful translation, there are 6 or 5.2% data belong to free translation, there are 7 or 6% data belong to idiomatic translation, and there are 55 or 47.4% data belong to communicative translation. It shows that the most dominant method which is used by the translator is communicative translation that there are 55 or 47.4% data from 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel.

The quality of translation is influenced by three factors. First is accuracy of translation. From 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel, the researcher finds 111 or 95.7% data belong to accurate translation since the message of the source language is transferred completely to the target language without any reduction and the translator chose correct diction in transferring message. There are 5 or 4.3% data belong to less accurate translation which there are the translation that has distortion and reduction meaning or some deletion meanings that make the message from the source language is not transferred correctly into the target language. So, the accurate translation is higher than less accurate translation which means *I Am Number*

Four novel has good accuracy. The result above verifies the theory of Larson (1998: 530) “accuracy refers to the precise understanding of the source language message and the transfer of the message as accurate as possible into the target language.”

Second factor is readability of translation. From 116 analyzed data of passive voice found in *I Am Number Four* novel above, the researcher finds 109 or 94% data belong to readable translation because the translation is easy to read which the translator used common vocabulary or daily utterance of the target language. The translator translated clearly without making ambiguous meaning or unfamiliar word of the text so that it can be understood easily. There are 7 or 6% data belong to less readable translation which shows that there are new or unfamiliar words and sentence that are transferred into the target language that make the reader read more than once to understand the text. So, the readable translation is higher than less readable translation which means *I Am Number Four* novel has good readability. It verifies the theory of Sakri (1993) in Nababan (1999: 63) states that readability depends on vocabulary and structure of sentence chosen by translator. It also verifies the theory of Sutopo (2015: 131) states that diction and determining of kinds of sentence will influence the level of readability of a text.

Third one is acceptability. From 116 analyzed data of passive voice found in *I Am Number Four* novel above, the researcher finds 115 or 99.1% data belong to acceptable translation which shows the source language is transferred naturally in the target language by using common expression and structure of the sentence that is used in daily life in the target language. There is 1 or 0.9% datum belongs to less acceptable translation because of unfamiliar sentence in the target language that cannot be imagined by human mind so that it is difficult to be understood and accepted. So, the acceptable translation is higher than less acceptable translation which means *I Am Number Four* novel has good acceptability. It verifies the theory of Shuttleworth and Cowie (1997: 2) states that A translation which is considered to be acceptable is the one fulfilling the requirement of „reading

as an original“ written in the target language (TL) and sound natural for the target reader rather than as „reading as the original“ in the source language (SL).

It can be concluded that from 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel, there are six methods applied to the translation namely word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation. Besides that, it has good accuracy by 111 or 95.7% data belong to accurate translation, good readability by 109 or 94% data belong to readable translation, and good acceptability by 115 or 99.1% data belong to acceptable translation. According to the scoring of translation quality level by machali (2000: 119) more than 86% include almost perfect translation. Thus, *I Am Number Four* novel has good translation quality. It verifies the theory of House (1977) “ST and TT should match one another in function. If the ST and the TT differ substantially on situational features, then they are not functionally equivalent, and the translation is not of a high quality”.

D. CONCLUSION

The results of the research show that there are six methods applied to the translation namely word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation. From 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel, the most dominant method which is used by the translator is literal translation that there are 52 or 44.8% data from 116 data of passive voice in *I Am Number Four* novel. The quality of translation is influenced by three factors namely accuracy, readability and acceptability. From 116 analyzed data the accurate translation is higher than less accurate translation which means *I Am Number Four* novel has good accuracy. The readable translation is higher than less readable translation which means *I Am Number Four* novel has good readability. The last, the acceptable translation is higher than less acceptable

translation which means almost all the data of passive voice found in *I Am Number Four* novel has good acceptability.

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