
An Analytical Study on the Endurance of Naina in Ravinder Singh's *This Love That Feels Right*

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to highlight the ‘Chick lit’ a genre of literature that focuses on female protagonists. Ravinder Singh is widely regarded as the most influential and best-selling author of romantic fiction due to his fondness for writing stories with tragic endings. *This Love That Feels Right* is his first attempt at writing, chick-lit which focuses on the protagonist's trials and tribulations. Naina Singhania, the protagonist, marries Siddarth, a prosperous entrepreneur, despite being dissatisfied with her life as a married woman. Her grandmother and father have placed restrictions on her and given her directives, making her distinct from other women of her age. Naina was ignored and disregarded by her husband, Siddarth, and was surrounded by two distinct sets of people. At the gym, she met Aarav and Manvika, two life-changing individuals. Aarav was the first male to give her ideas and sentiments equal weight to his own, and she felt connected to him and at ease in his presence. Naina fled Siddarth to prevent being with Aarav, believing it was unhealthy for her to be in a relationship with the wrong individual.

Keywords: Longing for love, Feeling alone, infidelity, Ignorance and Culture barriers

Introduction

Indian literature is the manifestation of our society. The number of Indian novels that are written by Indian authors is dealing with the romantic category that has been steadily increasing throughout the history of the Indian literary scene. The majority of the first works published by contemporary writers are in the sentimental category. These publications continued to be the most successful ones in terms of sales. Authors such as Nikita Singh, Chetan Bhagat, Durjoy Datta, Ravinder Singh, and others also fall into this category. They have launched their acting careers in writing through these sentimental works. It can be considered a widespread tendency among readers everywhere, particularly in India. This

form has been embraced by contemporary Indian authors like a fish in water. Romance novels provide to readers with a sense of approval for their own heartbreaks and failures.

Indian romantic literature has undergone a profound transformation in recent years, evolving to reflect the complexities of contemporary society while maintaining its roots in tradition. The genre serves as a mirror, reflecting the diverse experiences of love and relationships across different social strata. This article delves into the emotional landscapes portrayed in Indian romantic narratives, particularly focusing on themes of longing, infidelity, cultural barriers, and more. Additionally, we will explore the importance of diverse voices and personal narratives to provide a holistic view of love in Indian literature.

These novels are not difficult to read for the individual who is reading them. There is no difficulty with the words and expression. Therefore, it is simple to form a connection between the reader and the author. Ravinder Singh, the protagonist of his romantic tale, has already built a powerful name in the romantic category. Ravinder Singh is also known for writing heartbreaking endings to his romantic stories and is widely regarded as the most influential and best-selling author of romantic fiction. He is the author of eight different stories. In particular, his first two pieces were either autobiographical or drew inspiration from his own experience in romance. His first novel, "*I Too Had a Love Story (2008)*," and his second novel, "*Can Love Happen Twice? (2011)*," were both based on his personal experience, which has moved the emotions of millions of people. *This Love That Feels Right (2018)* was written by Ravinder Singh, who is in fact an entirely unique and different approach from his other writings. This story was his first attempt at writing in the chick-lit type. It is a heroin-centred tale that focuses on the struggles that the specific protagonist in the story faces. The topics of contemporary womanhood's intimate relationships as well as female friendships are tackled head-on in this particular literary subgenre. Naina Singhania was the protagonist of the book *This Love That Feels Right*, and she played a pivotal role throughout the story. She was living her life as if she were a bird in a golden enclosure. She pushed herself out of her suffocated or gilded, imprisoned existence in quest of the true meaning of her life.

The heroine, Naina Singhania, married a successful businessman. She was dissatisfied with her union because Naina's and Siddarth's fathers were business associates. They made all of their decisions regarding Naina and Siddarth's wedding on their own. They hadn't talked to them about anything. Naina expected it to be as she had imagined. She had not interfered in any of their decision and advancement about her marriage. She said that "I had always trusted my father and my family to make the right choice for me on my behalf. Our fathers were business friends. And as they wisely matched us, Siddarth and I transformed their business friendship into a relationship (*This Love That Feels Right-16*)".

It was like one of their businesses to them. They had no idea that it was an amalgamation of Naina's and Siddarth's ideas and feelings. As a grown lady, she had not had the

opportunity to make a choice about her own marriage. Due to the fact that she was already an adult woman, she did not have the opportunity to make a choice regarding her own matrimony. In fact, before she got married, she led a life that was both conventional and extravagant. She wished that her parents had been less overprotective of her when she was growing up. She didn't spend much time hanging out with her classmates and other students. Her weekends were typically spent with her family, either watching a movie on our home theater system or eating supper with other members of her extended family and their close acquaintances. Even though she tried hard, she couldn't live like the rest of her congregation because she was rich and lived a normal life. She kept a safe distance from romantic involvement and fascination. She was unique in comparison to other females her age. Because of the conventional expectations in her community, she did not even have the option to dress how she liked when she was at home. She has never been allowed to wear what she wants because her grandmother and her father have always placed restrictions on her and given her instructions. She expressed her emotion as such,

In our house Daadi, my fiery grandmother had reduced my choices to salwar suits. Only when I got my father to intervene, did she half-heartedly allowed me to wear jeans and other Western clothes. Although even then she was clear that I could wear my sleeveless tops, skirts and shorts only in the house and that too in the absence of male visitors (This Love That Feels Right-18).

Furthermore, she had lost the ability to choose her own route in this protective existence. It was mirrored in Siddarth and Naina's relationship with one another. She tied the knot with Siddarth, who was not her first option for a spouse but was instead chosen by their respective families. In her existence, she had, on the whole, been subjected to suffocation and suffering. She continued to have this after she got married. Naina had a lot of emotions and longings before she got married, and she wanted Siddarth to help her experience and satisfy all of those feelings and longings. Even though her married life adhered to the same traditional and conventional standards, she made an effort to break away from them. Sadly, she was unable to do so because she constantly had the sensation that she was by herself. She had the sensation of being ignored and overlooked at the same time. Siddarth, Naina's husband was a wealthy businessman who hailed from an Indian household with a traditional background. The ideals of his conventional Indian family had been passed down to him. The success of his company was constantly on his mind. He used to associate himself with successful businessmen. Since he was a successful businessman, he occasionally spent time with Naina. He had not shared an existence with her that was physically close enough. He was either working in the office or attending the cocktail gathering when he found time for his life. He was constantly in the company of architects, investors, and high-profile real estate brokers. He used to hang out with two distinct groups of individuals. One of them had a lot of money, and the other one was in a position of authority. In his opinion, except for those specific individuals, it was pointless and counterproductive to spend time with the other individuals. Simply having more money made him feel happier than anything else he could have. For example, he chose to delay his engagement by fifteen days so that he could host some of his non-resident Indian (NRI) investors who were travelling to India. It shows that

how these modern-day people are running after money. Siddharth is the replication of the present scenario, he did nothing to support or provide for his family in any way. Expect money, he accomplished nothing. However, Naina had made several efforts on her end to socialise with him on several occasions; however, his refusal to interact with her put a stop to those efforts. She was left feeling isolated because no one was there to listen to her words. She wanted to communicate all of her ideas and emotions to him, but he was unable to understand what she was saying. That was something that she had stated very clearly.

I am listening now. Tell me.... he said, his eyes still glued to the mobile screen No, you are not, 'I said pouting. He didn't react. I stood up and walked up to him. I stood behind him and put my elbows on his shoulders. 'Why did you marry me when you were already married to your business?' This was not the first time he had heard this from me. This was not the first time he had so conveniently ignored it either. (This Love That Feels Right-20)

As a result, she had the impression that she was living in a penitentiary. She was unable to communicate her feelings or find an exit from that situation. Despite the fact that she had experienced rejection and had been neglected by Siddharth, she tolerated him in order to uphold the reputation of their family and the conventional values that they held dear. During this time, she had the good fortune to run into two people at the gym; their names were Aarav and Manvika. Naina was receiving individual instruction from Aarav, who worked as a fitness instructor at the gym. Her new workout partner was Manvika, who had previously worked as a correspondent. After meeting them, Naina noticed a lot of changes taking place in her life. She was drawn to Aarav and left with a favourable impression of his caring attitude towards her. He was the first man who had ever given her ideas and emotions the same amount of consideration as his own. Whenever he spoke to her, she had the sensation of being connected to him and at ease in his presence. As a result, she decided to take their relationship to the next level, in which Siddharth was replaced by Aarav, in the hopes of finding the true significance that her existence lacked.

I was out of control. It was as if being suppressed for many years had burst a dam in me. And in that pathetic state, with my back against the wall, I screamed at him, 'I Am Done Listening To Your Inspirational Words. Stop It! It's not about training any more. It's not about my body. This Is About My Life. My Soul! God Dammit- I Love You! Love You, Aarav! Don't Leave Me. Don't Go! Say That Yo Won't Go.. Say That..Please..' (This Love That Feels Right-182)

Their combined influence in Naina's life had a significant and positive effect on her. They assisted Naina in becoming more independent in making decisions regarding her life. In fact, Aarav came into her life at the same time as the much-needed affection that she had yearned for all along. She was able to break free from the suffocating and unwelcome existence she had been trapped in with the assistance of Manvika. During their conversation, Naina and Manvika covered a wide range of subjects, including love, intimacy, relationships, and others. The exercise was an important part of Naina's life because it helped her achieve

her goals, both physically and psychologically.

In the meantime, she reflected on her interactions with Siddarth and Aarav. That aided her in coming up with an honest response from her emotions. Her connection with Siddarth had left her feeling empty. She didn't feel fulfilled because he wasn't sharing her feelings. She had experienced mutual feelings in her connection with Aarav at the same moment. It felt like the appropriate feeling for her existence. So she drew herself up to stick up for what was right. She exited his life by stating that Siddarth was a good human being as well as a good businessman, but he could not become the kind of spouse she desired. She walked away from Siddarth to avoid Aarav. She emphasised that she left because she realised it was not proper for her to be in the incorrect relationship. Extramarital relationships are not tolerated in our culture. However, it is deliberation that tubes are harmful to our culture. Ravinder Singh attempted to transform extramarital romance into love in his book, *This Love That Feels Right*, through the character of Naina. She had the impression that her feelings for Aarav were grounded in reality.

Conclusion

Indian romantic literature serves as a vital exploration of the human experience, offering rich insights into love, longing, and the cultural nuances that shape our relationships. By delving into themes of isolation, infidelity, and cultural barriers, and by embracing diverse voices and personal narratives, we can gain a more nuanced understanding of this genre. In *This Love that Feels Right*, Naina has tried to bring some meaningfulness to her relationship with Siddarth and Aarav. That helped her find an honest answer to give him from her own feelings. She had the impression that her connection to Siddarth was lack in something and did not feel meaningful. Due to the fact that he did not share her feelings, she did not experience a sense of fulfillment. During the same period of time, she experienced feelings of reciprocal attraction in her relationship with Aarav. She had the impression that it was the sensation she should have for her existence. Therefore, she mustered the strength to fight for what was morally correct. She distanced herself from him by saying that Siddarth was a decent human being in addition to being successful in business, but that he was unable to become the kind of husband she was seeking. She left Siddarth in order to avoid being with Aarav, and she did so. She emphasised that she left because she came to the conclusion that it was not healthy for her to be in a relationship with the incorrect person. Extramarital relationships are not tolerated in our culture for ethical or moral reasons. On the other hand, it is regarded as being extremely detrimental to our customs. Ravinder Singh, the author of the book titled "This Love That Feels Right," attempted to reframe the concept of an extramarital romance as love through the perspective of the main character, Naina. She had the impression that the affection she had for Aarav, which was based on their shared experience, was entirely justified.

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