

Ravin's Psychosocial Development in Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice?*

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Abstract

Psychosocial development is formed by 'psychology' and 'social' which consists of several stages or steps that individuals must undergo where it is rooted from the idea of Erik Erikson that individuals' lives are affected by environmental factors. The stages of psychosocial development are started from early new born until death where during this journey, individuals may also experience some conflicts that serves as a self-learning to build some psychological qualities, personal growth or even failure or maldevelopment psychological qualities. This research is aimed to analyze the psychosocial development experienced by the main character named Ravin in Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice?*. Through psychosocial development theory by Erik Erikson, this research discovered that Ravinder Singh's "*Can Love Happen Twice?*" is focusing specifically on Ravin's journey in searching for his love, or his intimacy therefore, this research specifically analyze Ravin's sixth stage of his psychosocial development (Young adulthood period; Intimacy vs Isolation). This research found several conflicts related to Ravin's intimacy such as his plan to get married with Simar, and Ravin's isolation such as his depression after Simar rejected his idea to marry her. This research also found that Ravin is able to escape from his isolation or depression and develop love or self-love through his plan to write his second bestseller book.

Key Words: Psychosocial Development, Young Adulthood, Intimacy vs Isolation, Love Relationship, *Can Love Happen Twice?*

Abstrak

Perkembangan psikososial dibentuk oleh 'psikologi' dan 'sosial' yang terdiri dari beberapa tahapan atau perkembangan yang harus dijalani individu yang berakar dari pemikiran Erik Erikson bahwa kehidupan individu dipengaruhi oleh faktor lingkungan. Tahapan perkembangan psikososial dimulai dari awal baru lahir hingga meninggal dimana dalam perjalanan ini individu juga dapat mengalami beberapa konflik yang berfungsi sebagai pembelajaran diri untuk membangun beberapa kualitas psikologis, pertumbuhan pribadi atau bahkan kegagalan atau penurunan kualitas psikologis. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis perkembangan psikososial yang dialami oleh pemeran utama bernama Ravin dalam *Can Love Happen Twice?*. Melalui teori perkembangan psikososial oleh Erik Erikson, penelitian ini menemukan bahwa *Can Love Happen Twice?* Lebih fokus pada perjalanan Ravin dalam mencari cintanya, atau keintiman oleh karena itu, penelitian ini secara khusus menganalisis tahap keenam dari perkembangan psikososial Ravin (Masa dewasa muda; Keintiman vs Isolasi). Penelitian ini menemukan beberapa konflik terkait keintiman Ravin seperti rencananya untuk menikah dengan Simar, dan isolasi Ravin seperti depresinya setelah Simar menolak idenya untuk menikahinya. Penelitian ini juga menemukan bahwa Ravin mampu melepaskan diri dari keterasingan atau depresinya dan mengembangkan cinta atau cinta diri sendiri melalui rencananya untuk menulis buku terlaris keduanya.

Kata Kunci: Perkembangan Psikososial, Dewasa Muda, Keintiman vs Isolasi, Hubungan Cinta, *Can Love Happen Twice?*

INTRODUCTION

Every development such as economic, social or psychosocial is like a long journey. As a part of journey, psychological development includes several steps or process where someone must undergo to achieve a higher step of maturity or better psychology. The major psychosocial development theme is to undergo several

steps in order to turn individual's immaturity into maturity. By simply growing old biologically does not mean that people also develop mature psychology (Hearn, 1993).

People will always have conflicts against their societies. A person's psychology is also influenced by his or her society which consists of norms, morality,

and social orders. During someone's psychological development, they may experience the social pressure. Attempting to fit properly into some society standards is common among people living in the community. A person grows from childhood to adulthood by undergoing certain processes and experiences in order to achieve his or her full potential in life. By fulfilling the potential, a person can be a better person who has more freedoms. The process of psychological development needs self-actualization (Marcus, & Herper, 2015).

Psychological development is not the only aspect which forms a person's psychological maturity. Since human beings or people generally are social creatures which means that human beings cannot live alone, they need social interactions with their family, friends, and society, so on to grow. Having social lives mainly belong to human being's needs. By having social lives, people are able to fulfil their needs, necessity, love, affection, and growth. A person in his or her social life may have also the needs for relationship, friendship, brotherhood is one of them. For instance two people who have several similarities in their interests such as same positive qualities, same liking, same physical appearance, or same social status may start a relationship, or friendship. All circumstances combined above will also influence someone's psychosocial development in a process of searching for his or her maturity (Noller, 1988).

One of the novels which talks about psychosocial development is called *Can Love Happen Twice?*. This is a romance novel which talks about how important to pursue true love is. The author of this novel is Ravinder Singh, an Indian writer who has successfully written a bestselling novel entitled, *I too had a Love Story*. The novel highlights the pain of losing someone because of death and also the process of seeking of true love. Just like other love story, the author of *Can Love Happen Twice?* also includes introduction, dating, expectations, conflicts, differences, and separation which lead to the end of relationship. Therefore, it is important for this paper to analyze this novel in the perspective of the psychosocial development of the main character named Ravin since he has undergone several process of maturity especially during his young adulthood.

Erikson's Psychosocial Development Theory

Erik Erikson is an ego psychologist developing psychosocial development theory. Erikson's psychosocial development was influenced by Freud's psychosexual development. Erikson purposes a psychosocial development theory which discusses about the nature of someone's personality development start from his or her birth to his or her old life. The theory concerns about the role of social, and cultural factors in influencing someone's personality.

In the psychosocial development theory, there are eight fundamental psychosocial stages which must be balanced by a person throughout his or her life in order to maintain healthy personality. The eight "stages" are the concept to classify the tension base on the development aspects. The stages of psychosocial development consist of the conflicts which happen in a particular sequence needed to be balanced. Each stage in psychosocial development theory is formed base on conflicts of positivity vs negativity in a certain periods of time. A person must undergoes or faces the conflicts which will lead them to be more developed personality (Newman, 2010).

The conflicts are very crucial by nature as they can make a person stronger or weaker. They also become the important factors in contributing a person's psychological development or his or her failure in psychological developments (Newman, 2010);

Stage 1 – Infancy period: Trust vs. Mistrust

The first stage of the infants' psychosocial development happens between birth and 1 year of age. In this stage a baby or an infant will develop his or her first fundamental psychology. A baby start to understand or learn that their caregivers and environments are responsive, and reliable to them. Through interaction with responsive caregivers, a baby realizes that his or her basic needs will be fulfilled. When babies are hungry, exhausted, uncomfortable, they usually will cry in a hope that their caregivers will fulfill their needs. In this case, responsive caregivers provide basic trust, meaning that babies can trust them.

If the caregivers are able to provide babies' needs, the babies will have, trust, safe and secure feelings. In the other hand, their caregivers who are irresponsible, emotionally unavailable, and refusing to fulfill the babies' needs will trigger mistrust. Inability to build trust (mistrust) will cause fear and a thought that the world is inconsistent and unpredictable. During the first stage of psychosocial development, babies develop a sense of trust when their caregivers provide responsible, care, and affection. A lack of caregiver's good attitudes will lead to mistrust.

Stage 2 – Early Childhood period: Autonomy vs. Shame

After infants' or babies understand that their caregivers and their environments are their source of security, they will enter new stage of toddlerhood which means they become toddlers to learn the sense of autonomy. Toddlers start to establish a sense of autonomy through defecation and the process of toilet training. Toddlers are expected to be able to control

and exercise the processes of “holding on and letting go.” Learning to control one's bodily functions such as toilet training develops a sense of independence which is very important to develop more control over food choices, toy preferences, and clothing selection. Toddlers who can pass this toddlerhood stage will develop feelings of autonomy whereas failure of this stage can lead to feelings of shame and self-doubt.

Stage 3 – Play Age period: Initiative vs. Guilt

In early childhood, children begin to learn about taking initiative through engaging with their environments. Children usually start to play independently away from their caregivers, use their own imaginations to awaken their sense of initiative. Children learn also to exercise their power and control over the world through social interactions. Children who can pass this stage are able to lead others whereas children who are unable to take initiative skills due to experiencing too much of disapproval will develop a sense of guilt, self-doubt, and lack of initiative.

Stage 4 – School Age period: Industry vs. Inferiority

This psychosocial development stage occurs between the ages of 5 to 11 where children start to participate in school life in order to develop a sense of “pride” when it comes to their accomplishments and abilities via some sort of social interactions at school. Parents and teachers expect children to be able to deal with new school environment apart from family life and they give children a certain set of academic demands. The accomplishments of children's academic demands will lead to a sense of competence, while failure of getting accomplishments will lead to the feelings of inferiority. The example is parents or teacher who motivate or encourage children to get good grade will help children to develop their sense of competence. Parents or teachers who give little or no encouragement or motivation will make children doubt their abilities to be successful.

Stage 5 – Adolescence period: Identity vs. Identity confusion

During this stage, teenagers learn how to develop a sense of self and personal identity. Being able to pass this stage will give teenagers' to find their identity whereas inability to pass it will cause role confusion and a weak sense of self. Personal identity will affect a person's behavior for the rest of their lives. The teenagers who explore their personal beliefs, interest or desire will perform confidently or strong self-control, whereas the teenagers who are not sure about what their beliefs and desires will develop insecurity and identity confusion.

Stage 6 – Young Adulthood period: Intimacy vs. Isolation

During this stage, young adults attempt to seek for intimate, and loving relationships with other people. Not only sexual relationships, intimacy also includes mutual relationships where each individual is able to take parts in improving deeply personal connections. Young adults who are able to fulfill their need of mutual relationship with others will develop intimacy which will give them chance to have strong relationships, whereas young adults who are not able to find their intimate, loving relationships will suffer from loneliness and isolation. Young adults build their personal relationships which are vital. Having committed relationships like marriages could be an example of successful.

In terms of learning intimacy, the young adults have to be able to balance their battle between intimacy and isolation, in order to build the strength foundation of love. Erikson believes that the crisis of love as intimacy and isolation is needed to perform better outcome. Erikson states that love is an attachment of men and women which includes sacrifice, intimacy, and some isolation too. A couple is two individuals with different identity which is bound by mutual love in form of commitment, sexual desire, compromise, rivalry, and friendship.

Stage 7 – Adulthood period: Generativity vs Stagnation/Self-absorption

Some couples who have decided to take commitment will choose to have children and exercise their nurturing sense to their children, or in some cases, they make an inspirational effort to contribute in society by doing positive things. After having a family as an adult, people generally try to do some improvements in their lives. They put all their efforts, time and resources to provide a family.

Being able to pass this stage will make them develop the feelings of usefulness and accomplishment as adults or parents, whereas adults who are not able to pass this stage will develop the feelings of uselessness or low involvement in their lives.

Stage 8 – Old Age period: Integrity vs. Despair

This final stage of psychosocial development theory is started approximately when a person turns 65 until his or her death. It is the reflection of what people have done in life during whatever they satisfy with their accomplishments or not. The fulfillment feelings of having a successful life will develop personal ego integrity. People who are regret for what they cannot achieve in their lives may undergo bitterness, or despair. Integrity is built upon the acceptance or self-realization that life is just a cycle. Wisdom occurs when a person is able to experience a sense of wholeness or fulfillment. When people grow older and older, it is obvious that they have low

productivity therefore they have a new life as a retired person. Dissatisfaction, or despair of failing to achieve things in the past often lead to depression and hopelessness among elder citizens.

Elder citizens who are able to pass this stage will have wisdom. Wisdom means that a person can express a sense of completeness when they think about their past life. Wisdom is not built only by the ego integrity, but it is formed through process of balancing the ego integrity and despair.

Table 1. 1 Erik Erikson's Psychosocial Development Stages

Age	Conflicts	Important Events	Virtue	Failure
Infancy (birth to 18 months)	Trust vs. Mistrust	Feeding	Hope	Withdrawal
Early Childhood (2 to 3 years)	Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt	Toilet Training	Will	Compulsion
Preschool (3 to 5 years)	Initiative vs. Guilt	Exploration	Purpose	Inhibition
Adolescence (12 to 18 years)	Identity vs. Role Confusion	Social Relationships	Fidelity	Repudiation
Young Adulthood (19 to 40 years)	Intimacy vs. Isolation	Relationships	Love	Distortion
Middle Adulthood (40 to 65 years)	Generativity vs. Stagnation	Work and Parenthood	Care	Rejectivity
Maturity (65 to death)	Ego Integrity vs. Despair	Reflection on Life	Wisdom	Disdain

(Steven, 1983)

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Base on this reseach paper's introduction or the background of the study, there are two research questions which will be answered in the discussion;

1. How is Ravin's psychosocial development depicted in Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice*?
2. What are the impacts of Ravin's psychosocial development on Ravin's life?

METHOD

This research uses qualitative method which will analyze the data taken from the quotations, words or

sentences in Ravinder Sighn's *Can Love Happen Twice*?. This research will also focus on analyzing the psychosocial development of a character named Ravin in the novel. Psychosocial development theory proposed by Erick H Erikson will be used to support the discussion of the psychosocial development experienced by Ravin. This research is aimed to reveal the existence of psychosocial development and its impacts on Ravin's psychology in Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice*?. Psychosocial development theory will be used for analyzing Ravin's stages of psychosocial development, and the outcome of his psychosocial development to determine whether Ravin can develop his success in each stage of psychosocial development which he undergoes. The data of this research is mainly related to any acts done by Ravin which contribute to his psychosocial development in Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice*. Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice*? will be used as the primary data in this research. The observation technique is also used to collect the data needed for the research. The data which is collected from Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice*?

DISCUSSION

Intimacy: Ravin's and Khushi's Marriage Plan

"Ravin lives in Bhubaneswar and Khushi in Faridabad. Gradually, both Ravin and Khushi get to know each other through their interaction over the phone and in online chatrooms. Soon, they fall in love." (Singh, 2011: 23)

The quotation above shows that Ravin has an opportunity to start his first love relationship with a girl named Khushi who he met online. In accordance to Erikson's psychosocial development theory, this is obvious that young adulthood age 18 to 40 look for romance relationship. The words "Soon they fall in love" indicates Ravin has built his intimacy with Khushi seriously. The intimacy is even more when Ravin and Khushi decided to get married on 13 February 2011 (Singh, 2011: 23).

Isolation: Ravin's Self-Isolation after Khushi's Death

Building an intimacy is not easy. Sometimes unpredictability can occur and destroy the intimacy. In Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice*, the similar situation also happens when Ravin has to deal with the loss of his future wife.

Five days after their engagement, the taxi which had Khushi in it had an accident which unfortunately killed Khushi (Singh, 2011: 24).

"Finding love again was not an option I ever thought of, and neither did I want to think of it." (Singh, 2011: 69)

The quotation above shows that Ravin has to deal with the fact that he is afraid to start his new relationship after Khushi's death. Not wanting to have a relationship is a sign that Ravin has to undergo his isolation. As it is stated in Erikson's psychosocial development that the factors which lead to isolation include fear of commitment, fear of intimacy, inability to open up, past relationships. This is obvious that Ravin isolates himself from finding love again due to his past relationship which is losing his girlfriend, Khushi.

"...After Khushi, how much we tried to convince him to move on. He never wanted to. We forced him..." (Singh, 2011: 151).

The quotation above shows that Ravin has difficulty in moving on from his first love Khushi. The words "He never wanted to..." indicates that Ravin has closed himself from any opportunities to start building new love relationship with another person. His attachment to Khushi who is already dead avoid him from trying to overcome his loneliness instead he is not able to move on and let himself get trapped or stuck in his self-isolation and depression.

"One day Ravin mentioned that he wasn't able to concentrate on his work and that he wasn't able to sleep properly. I could sense that he was gradually sinking into deep depression. His voice was enough to convey that to me. The next time I called him up, his mother picked up the call and I found out through her that Ravin wasn't going to office any more. He had been fired from his job. The reasons were obvious"(Singh, 2011: 153).

The quotation above shows that Ravin has been drowned into depression. According to The DSM-IV there some symptoms of depression which are irritable, low interest, insomnia, weight change, fatigue, worthless and suicidality (Rosine, 1999). Someone people can be classified for having mild, moderate, or severe depression depends on the number and severity of symptoms (Patel, 2001). Unfortunately, Ravin has some of the symptoms of the depression determined by the DSM-IV such as he is not able to concentrate, he has insomnia, and he loses his interest in working causing him to lose his job. Despite the fact that Ravin has undergone quite severe depression after the death of Khushi, he somehow manages to escape from his depression through a writing base on his experience.

"Three months later, to cope with his big loss, Ravin decided to write a tribute to his Khushi. And this is he penned down his debut novel *I Too Had a Love Story*." (Singh, 2011: 24).

The quotation above shows that Ravin's depression due to the loss of his first love is temporarily. And the way he expresses his grief through writing a book has helped him to get through his bad situations. In accordance to Erikson's psychosocial development theory that the outcome or virtue of the young adulthood stage which is love can be achieved through balancing the battle between intimacies versus isolation. The book entitled *I too Had a Love Story* which Ravin writes as a tribute to Khushi is a proof that Ravin's isolation in a form of depression can be treated positively. This book is also a new beginning transition for Ravin to start building new love relationship after he manages to escape from his depression.

Intimacy: Ravin's Romantic Relationship with Simar

Having a romantic relationship is a major event in young adulthood stage where having romantic relationships can help them to fulfill their need for intimacy. Erikson believes that there are four aspects required to build satisfied intimacy in romantic relationships which are being able to listen, support each other, share physical intimacy and share companionships with each other.

"...she stopped me and said, 'I am here only to listen to your story.'" (Singh, 2011: 69).

The quotation above describes the beginning of Ravin and Simar's relationship where Simar is genuinely interested in Ravin's story. Simar's words "...only to listen to your story." shows that she attempts to build intimacy with Ravin by getting to know him more as it is stated by psychosocial development theory that being a good listener is required to build intimacy between a couple. Simar's interest in listening to Ravin's story is also very important in the story since it becomes a catalyst to help Ravin to be more open with her instead of burying his pain of losing Khushi on his own.

"Once, when we met late after sundown, Simar shared a secret wish of hers." (Singh, 2011: 96).

The quotation above shows that the relationship between Ravin and Simar is built upon a trust where Simar has become comfortable enough to share her secret of wish to Ravin. It means that Ravin has become her lover. This is suitable with Erikson's idea of intimacy which is sharing each other support because telling wish is an act to gain support and motivation from others.

"Then I gently took her lower lip within mine and watched her closing her eyes. I kissed her passionately." (Singh, 2011: 78).

The quotation above proves that the relationship between Ravin and Simar is not just a friendship. It is more than a friendship because it includes physical intimacy. Even though the words "I kissed her passionately." do not explicitly show sexual activity but it gives enough evidence that they begin to desire each other.

"Late in the night the two of us made love in my bedroom. Outside it continued to rain." (Singh, 2011: 95). This quotation above shows that Ravin and Simar has done a sexual activity. The words "make love" means having a sexual intercourse. This also shows that their relationship includes sexual intimacy where it proves that the intimacy in their relationship is even much closer.

Companionships between Ravin and Simar is also something that Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice?* tries to highlight. One of the companionship moments the novel shows is when Ravin and Simar made a dish called jeera rice and some egg curry together (Singh, 2011: 94). The second example is when one evening, Ravin accompanied by Simar spent their time to buy presents for Simar. He wanted to give a nice formal present that Simar could always wear (Singh, 2011: 84). The third example is when Ravin and Simar spent their night together in a restaurant eating and drinking alcohol until Simar vomited and Ravin had to take care of her until she felt better (Singh, 2011: 107). Those three examples such as cooking food together, shopping together, and eating in a restaurant together are considered as companionship.

"Considering the adjustments I had made in my life to accommodate Simar's expectations, it seemed more practical for Simar and me to finalize our marriage." (Singh, 2011: 135).

The quotation above shows that Ravin and Simar enter the state of commitment in relationship. Having a commitment like a happy marriage in young adulthood psychosocial development is very important to gain or to be successful in achieving the outcome of young adulthood state which is love. The words "... finalize our marriage" indicates that this couple has done so many discussion and compromise about their lives after they get married which later it becomes one of the reasons of their breakup.

Isolation: Ravin's Depression after His Relationship with Simar Ended.

There are numerous reasons which can be risk factors of isolation which are childhood abuse, divorce or death of a partner, fear of commitment, fear of intimacy, inability to open up, past relationships.

"Three years back Khushi had left me on this day.

Three hours back Simar left me." (Singh, 2011: 149).

The quotation above states that Simar decided to end their relationship and their plan to get married on the same day of Khushi's death. This brought back Ravin's trauma about his marriage which was canceled because of Khushi's death. The words "three years back then..." shows that the main reason for Ravin's pain after he broke up is his past relationship with Khushi because he associates the end of his current relationship with his past.

He also talked about having lost in love again..." (Singh, 2011: 152).

The word "again" shows the accumulation of his previous pain and new wound. The trauma of his past leads to his second isolation or depression. The sign of Ravin's depression which is explicitly revealed in the novel is when Ravin came out of his home and ran on the streets without paying attention to the traffic while yelling at his mom, at Simar, at God, at everyone. (Singh, 2011: 154).

"“I don't want to live!” he kept shouting." (Singh, 2011: 154).

"“A truck ran over him. ”" (Singh, 2011: 154).

The quotations above show that Ravin has severe depression which causes him into thinking about ending his life. Having a suicidal thought is one of the major signs of depression. And as a result of his reckless action on the street, he was hit by a truck which makes his condition worse both physically and mentally.

Intimacy: Ravin's Friendships

Erikson states that it very important for a person to start building the close, relationships with other people. The relationship in this case does not always have to be love or romantic relationship, the friendship and work relationship also include in developing a person's psychosocial development. In Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice?* this research discovered that Ravin has already built a strong friendship with several people who care about his issue and want to help him get through his problems.

"Think about your future, think about your family back home. Get yourself a life.' Sanchit gesticulated with his hands, spreading his arms

wide open in the air, as he made an attempt to convince me." (Singh, 2011: 53).

The quotation above shows that Ravin has another friend of his named Sanchit who is very supportive to cheer him up. Being supportive is one of the signs of friendship in terms of intimacy. The fact that Sanchit knows Ravin's past indicates how close their friendship is. The words "Think about your future," shows Sanchit gives Ravin encouragement to start his new love relationship with Simar who Sanchit suspects that Ravin likes her.

"...shared his love story with us, along with his good friends Happy, Amardeep and Manpreet..." (Singh, 2011: 14).

The quotation above shows that Ravin has three good friends named Happy, Amardeep and Manpreet. His three friends are not just ordinary friends but they are close friends to each other to the point where Ravin put them as the characters in his book.

In order to build an intimacy, Erikson believes that individuals need to share some their parts of themselves with other people outside their family. Being a good listener who supports other people is one of the examples. The relationships must be mutual, meaning that a person who supports another person must also be supported by the other person.

"Manpreet and Amardeep nodded. "I had emailed Simar the online link of the radio station wherein she could hear us." (Singh, 2011: 159)

The quotation describes how close the friendship between Ravin, Manpreet, Amardeep, and Happy is. The context of the quotation above discusses about Happy's involvement in helping his friend to win over Simar's heart after she breaks up with Ravin where he must spend his time in rehabilitation center to treat his depression. Happy would not just involve in Ravin's romance relationship if he was not obviously his close friend. The words "I had emailed Simar the online link of the radio..." proves that Happy wants to show that Ravin still cares about Simar in a hope that Simar will understand Ravin's feelings. The role of friendship in Ravinder Singh's *Can Love Happen Twice?* is very vital because it can help Ravin to escape his second isolation and depression after losing his second love.

Intimacy: Ravin's and Simar's Love

It has been described that Ravin was surrounded by his good and supportive friends who always support him through good and bad. Those friends are the one who helped him to get closer to Simar by sending her the recording of their radio interview about Ravin's feelings through email so that she could listen to the real feelings of Ravin after they separated (Singh, 2011: 159).

Since Ravin was hospitalized and spending time in rehabilitation center, the strong friendship between Ravin, Happy, Amardeep, and Manpreet helped Ravin in dealing with his dreams to get back together with Simar. In this situation, it is not Ravin who initiates to complete his search for intimacy or love but his friends, Happy, Manpreet, and Amardeep.

"That very moment Simar left for Shimla. She drove back to Ravin..." (Singh, 2011: 159).

The quotation above shows that Simar still cares about Ravin by deciding to get back to meet up with Ravin. It is obvious because both were used to be a couple who shared love and intimacy. A mutual relationship occurs when both of individuals are willing to fully understand each other, the fact that Simar cares about Ravin shows that Ravin and Simar's relationship is strong and meaningful.

Psychosocial Development of Ravin's Virtue: Love

Both intimacy and isolation are experienced by Ravin. The question is "Is he successfully able to get the virtue: love or instead he is unsuccessful and develops distantiation?" In order to answer this question, it is very important to understand the context of Ravin's journey started from the beginning of the novel until the end. Unfortunately, Singh does not show the whole timeline of Ravin's life in the future after Simar decides to fix her mistake of leaving Ravin. Moreover the story focuses on Ravin's feelings where he has an emotional dependency on Simar's presence and he is haunted by his past relationship.

"Don't worry, baby, things will work out because at the end of the day we love each other." (Singh, 2011: 131).

The quotation above shows that Ravin is able to grow much stronger that he could move on from Khushi after 3 years of not wanting to have love relationship.

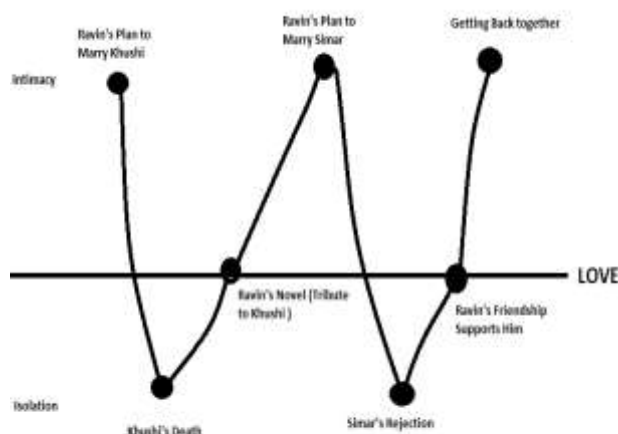
"...The Belgian summer has stayed within me and probably always will. I haven't given up. I will soon be all good and I will write another bestseller. You'll see." (Singh, 2011:156).

The quotation above shows that Ravin has mentally grown up from his previous struggle of relationship failure. The words "The Belgian summer has stayed within me..." refers to his memory in Belgium which he spent with Simar. These words also shows that Ravin has accepted that Simar left him for good. The other words "I haven't given up" in the quotation above indicate that either he no longer want to end his life or he is ready to moving on from Simar.

The words "I will write another bestseller" indicates that Ravin will use his pain as a catharsis to write another novel since writing a novel is also his method to escape from his depression after Khushi's death.

Base on the positive attitudes toward his depression expressed by Ravin above, it can be concluded that Ravin has grown certain mentality developments including love, self-love and confident. He does not show distantiation or isolation about his future even after Simar left him or he planned to kill himself. It is clear that he wants to write his second bestseller to erase his sadness and pain.

Picture 3. 1 Ravin's Psychosocial Development



Journey or Timeline

CONCLUSION

Base on the analysis of Ravin's psychosocial development in the discussion part of this research, it can be concluded that Ravin has several conflicts related to his young adulthood period or his 6th stage of psychosocial development. In accordance to Erikson's psychosocial development theory specifically the young adulthood stage, this research concludes that Ravin has undergone several conflicts of his intimacy against his isolation. This research discovered that Ravin experienced both intimacy and isolation that makes his life up and down. Planning to get married with Khushi (intimacy), the marriage is canceled due to Khushi's death which causes him to get depressed (isolation), Finding a way to cope with his depression by writing a novel, Finding new lover named Simar and planing to marry her (intimacy), Simar's rejection to his marriage proposal due to different views on life which causes his second

depression and his attempt to suicides (isolation), and Ravin's close friendships with Happy, Manpreet, Amardeep which later helps Ravin to get Simar back (Intimacy).

Young adulthood period or the 6th stage of psychosocial development begins from 18 to 40 years old. The stage which is related to intimacy versus isolation has the results which are love, or distantiation. After Ravin deals with all his conflicts of intimacy versus isolation, the research found that love is the result of his development because Ravin manages to conquer his depression of losing two women whom he loves. Ravin has developed some positive attitudes toward his depression such as love, self-love and confident. He is capable to escape from his isolation or depression. Writing his second bestseller novel is one of the ways which he planned to erase his sadness and pain after Simar left him. Therefore, Ravin is more likely to move on from Simar than developing distantiation. However, the novel reveals that in the end of the story, Simar drove back to Ravin's, meaning that the story will put them together again as a couple.

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