



Portrayal of Adolescence in Ruskin Bond Novels

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Abstract

The Indian English novel occupies a prominent position on the international stage. In their books, a number of distinguished authors depict the Indian way of life and advocate for social causes. Ruskin Bond is one of the very few authors who have contributed to the growth and development of children and youth. Bond's fictional universe resembles the world of actual teens. Bond's works depict the progression from innocence to experience. Bond began writing his first novel during his teenage years. The autobiographical sections of Bond's works depict a person's development from childhood through adolescence in a believable manner. Bond focuses on bringing out the teens' mindset rather than relying on external forces. In his works, the primary protagonists are adolescents.

Introduction

Adolescence is the time between childhood and adulthood, and its definition has been hard to pin down for a long time. It covers different stages at different times, and people's ideas of what it encompasses can vary greatly. The teenage years are a time of physical growth and big changes in social roles. Both of these things have changed over the past century. Earlier puberty has made the start of adolescence happen faster in almost all populations, and the knowledge that people keep growing has pushed the end of adolescence well into the 20s. Today's teenagers go through puberty in a generally similar way to the way people did 100 years ago, but not earlier. At the same time, people's ideas about when adulthood starts are changing because of how long it takes to finish school, get married, and have kids. The first way that people differ from earlier times is that the differences between kids and adults are smaller than they used to be.

It could be said that the time between childhood and adulthood now takes up more of a person's life than ever before. This is happening at a time when social forces like marketing and digital media are affecting health and well-being in ways that have never been seen before. For laws, social policies, and service systems to be developmentally appropriate, they must have a definition of adolescence that is broader and more inclusive. Instead of 10–19 years old, the age range should be 10–24 years old. This is more in line with how teenagers grow and how most people think of this time in their lives. In addition, it is important to think about the period of adolescence as a time when health-related behaviors and outcomes are particularly sensitive to social context and culture.

In Indian English literature, many writers use their books to speak out about social issues. Ruskin Bond is a well-known author who focuses on the well-being of society by writing about kids and teens for both kids and adults. Adolescence is a time between childhood and adulthood when a person's mind and body grow in different ways. According to the Cambridge Dictionary, adolescence is "the time in a person's life when he or she is growing into an adult" (Peters).

portrayal of Ruskin Bond's character during adolescence

Ruskin Bond's protagonists, like Rusty and Somi in "*The Room on the Roof*," Suri and Arun in "*Delhi Is Not Far*," Ruth in "*A Flight of Pigeons*," and Kishen in "*Vagrants in the Valley*," are in their teenage years. The novel is about the author's life and is not a biography. Rusty is a lot like Ruskin, but he is not the same person. The world of *The Room on the Roof* is based on Ruskin's world as a teenager. Because of this, we should look at it as a book and not as a biography. Ruskin Bond has used both facts and fiction because his main goal is to show how an adolescent feels.

Rusty was enjoying the chaat. He ate gol-guppa after gol-guppa until his throat was almost aflame and his stomach was burning itself out. He was not very concerned about Holi. He was content with the present, content to enjoy the new-found pleasures of the chaat shop, and he said: "Well, I'll see... if my guardian doesn't come back tomorrow, I'll play Holi with you, all right?" (Bond 561).

It is one of the books that does a good job of showing how teenagers think. On the other hand, it's about how people in India and the British colony thought. Even though they live in India, Mr. Harrison and other British

people want their children to grow up to be Englishmen. With his British way of thinking, Mr. Harrison tells Rusty not to mix with Indians and to stay with his British neighbors. But Rusty's life as a teenager has nothing to do with colonization. He has no problem at all hanging out with Indian teenagers. Somi once asked Rusty to come to Bazaar. Rusty said yes, so he went to Bazaar and got home late. At first, he's afraid of being late, but later, it happens all the time. Fear leaves him because of the freedom and the company. Rusty has come to a stage where he must face the fear that his guardian will feel if he gets caught after the Holi Festival. Mr. Harrison doesn't know how to deal with the teen, so he beats Rusty badly, which makes Rusty have an emotional outburst. After all these beatings, Rusty tries his best to hide from the fear and tries out new things like smoking, drinking, and driving his uncle's car.

This way of handling teens can have a major impact on them. This is not the right way to treat them. This will cause them unnecessary problems when they grow up. This short story conveys a very important message that must be remembered by all.

In the book "Delhi is Not Far," James Bond writes about a young boy named Arun and his struggles. Arun writes in Urdu, but he doesn't make much money from it. Even though he has no money, he hopes to get to a high point in his writing career. Suraj, an orphan who doesn't have a home and is Arun's friend, lives with him. Even though they are old enough to handle all of life's problems on their own, they want to be friends with Kamala, a local prostitute.

Deep Chand, Aziz, and Seth Govind are just some of the characters in this book who have goals and plans for their careers. Arun is younger than most of the other characters in the book, but he has the same goals for his writing career. From the start of his writing career, Arun has tried to write a best-seller. He keeps writing even though he has a low income and a hard life. He could choose a different job to make more money.

He has a goal of becoming rich from his writing, and he hopes to someday write a book as successful as an American book he read called Kipling's Kim. He thinks about writing as a career because he wants to do what he likes or because he loves to do what he loves. Kamala gives him a shirt to wear to an interview when he doesn't have anything else to wear. Even though he had been chosen for an editor job at a company that paid 300 rupees, he asked Kamala and Suraj to come with him to Delhi. In this story also, one could see how

teenagers behave in a certain way and that they are stubborn about achieving their dreams. He chose to live his dream.

Like the main characters in other books, Bond won't try to be successful on his own. Instead, they'll rely on their friends to help them do better. Rusty takes care of Kishen in "The Room on the Roof" and "Vagrants in the Valley," and Somi takes care of Rusty. In "Delhi is Not Far," Arun takes care of Suraj. The teenagers in Bond's books don't have any other relationships besides friendship, but they do everything they can to help their friends succeed. Another aspect of teenagers is also discussed in the novel. It's true that teenagers can get into a lot of trouble by acting irresponsibly.

Ruth is different from Ruskin Bond's other main characters in "A Flight of Pigeons" because of the differences between boys and girls during adolescence. The way each person grows is different from that of other people. When a boy hits puberty, his growth is different from that of a girl's. This book is told from Ruth's point of view. Ruth is a girl, so she gets more girly during this phase. She doesn't want to pick a job or follow her dreams. In fact, this book doesn't say anything about her dreams. The book describes how Ruth grew up to be the person she is today. Unfortunately, this story is not very different from a lot of women's lives.

During the Rebellion of 1857, Mariam loses her husband, and a family friend, Ramjimal, takes her family into hiding. Mariam and her family are a source of reflection for British authorities. Javed Khan discovers the Mariam family hiding in the home of Ramjimal and brings them to his home. Javed Khan asks Mariam for her daughter despite being married and not being expected to be aware of Ruth's desire to wed. The girl's family must give him permission to marry her. He is repeatedly rejected by Mariam for nonsensical reasons. Mariam does not wish for her daughter, who is thirteen years old, to marry a man or ruin the life of another woman. Finally, Mariam proposes to Javed that she give her daughter if he will marry her.

In the Rebellion of 1857, Mariam loses her husband and her family is taken to hide somewhere by Ramjimal a friend of that family. Mariam and her family are a contemplation of British rulers. Javed Khan finds out the Mariam family hiding in Ramjimal's house and brings them to his house. Javed Khan asks Mariam for her daughter even though he is married and he is not intended to know Ruth's wish of getting married. He has to get permission from the girl's family to marry her. He keeps getting rejected by Mariam telling illogical reasons. Mariam does not want her thirteen-year daughter to marry a man nor spoil the life of another woman.

At last, Mariam proposes Javed she can give her daughter if the British could not break the rebellion. Unlike Javed's wish, the rebellion is started crushing. Javed Khan wants to meet Ruth for one last time. When Mariam hesitates to bring her in front of him, Ruth steps in to see him as she decides to do what she desires. That is the moment and the only bold attempt she made to host her intention.

"He gazed at me in silence for about a minute, and for the first time I did not take my eyes away from his; then without a smile or a word, he turned away and mounted his horse and rode away into the night." (124)

Throughout the novel, Ruth learns to keep quiet and refrain from expressing her ideas and desires in front of others. Mariam does not want her daughter to marry Javed, but he desires to wed her. There is no relevance to her expressing her desire. Ruth is a passive listener who hesitates to reveal her desire, regardless of whether she wants it to occur.

Conclusion

Ruskin Bond writes about teenagers who follow the phase factors. This paper tries to show what adolescence is like in the James Bond books. By looking at these books, it's clear that Bond deals with teenage characters in a positive way. The changes that happen during adolescence are caused by both mental and physical growth. People know that when teens are growing up, they need help from their family and the rest of society. Social, intellectual, and moral growth is only possible with the help of those around them. Bond pointed out in his books in a clever way that teenagers help each other grow up and that the help they get from other characters also helps them in the long run. Bond books help people understand what it's like to be a teenager. They also help teenagers understand that, in the end, their problems will be gone and their friendships will always stay with them.

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