

**BOOK REVIEW****Title of the Book : *A Love Life So Painful*****Author of the Book : Saransh Kumar****Genre : Fiction / Romance****Publisher : Lead Start Publishing Pvt Ltd , Bandra (East), Mumbai, India****Publication Year : 2011****Pages : 252****ISBN : 978-93-81115-41-1****Binding : Paperback****Price : Rs.250 / \$8****Language : English****Reviewed By:****Akash Satpati****Pursuing M.A. in English Literature****Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University****Purulia, West Bengal, India**

Saransh Kumar is born on October 31, 1990 in Patna, the Indian State of Bihar. He is a student of NSHM School of Hotel Management, Durgapur. He has done his schooling from St. Karen's Secondary School, Patna. This young author developed a zeal for writing from his early childhood when he was in school. His first book *Story of an Unsuccessful Hotelier*, published in the year 2010, about the life of an established Hotelier, who fails to control his personal and professional life and ultimately leads to doom. Apart from writing books, he is actively interested in writing poems, articles, cooking and sharing motivational stories, reading books and playing. Love stories have always been his passion and these have motivated him to create a world of his own. *A Love Life So Painful* is categorized in the Best-selling books of the year.

Saransh scripted this story based on the life of a person who is a celebrity chef in his professional life. It is actually author's second book. This book is divided into 35 chapters with a Prologue. Shitiz Malhotra is the central character of this fiction. Shitiz speaks the whole story of the fiction to his beloved Shadia in his last stage of life.

This romantic fiction starts with a cookery show hosted by Shitiz, a celebrity chef. But in the midst of the show Shitiz started coughing and after a few seconds blood came out from his mouth. Due to this unhealthiness he was shifted immediately to Apollo Hospital. Ultimately the doctors have confirmed that Mr. Shitiz is suffering from lung cancer. The damage to his lungs has reached the maximum level due to continuous smoking and alcohol consumption. The doctors have also assured that he will not live for more than a month.

In this painful situation, Shitiz wants to meet his 'teen-crush' Shadia, for the last time. Shadia Khan, an established doctor then came to Apollo Hospital after hearing Shitiz condition. After some conversation with Shitiz, Shadia wants to take him to her own house and ultimately she is able to do this. And she becomes his personal doctor. From then the story takes its new way.

The whole story of the fiction is actually Shitiz's life-story. In his life he faced several problems. And ultimately after overcoming all the problems, he able to stands himself as a chef. In his whole journey he is experienced with almost everything. He sees a major financial crisis in his youth, he faces several break-ups, several ups and downs in his professional life and ultimately his tragic ruin.

Actually Shitiz and Shadia both are very lonely in their respective lives. They both shares everything of their lives to each other. But in between their conversation death has always a prominency. Shitiz talks about his upcoming death and also his longings for living to Shadia and the readers at the very same time acquainted with the hard realities of life.

Except Shadia, Shitiz falls in love with Sonali but it ends in a break-up and after this he also came close to Bhargavi, a south Indian girl. On the other hand Kaajal, Shitiz's friend loves him silently until her death. She has done everything for Shitiz, even the approval of the Bank loan is also her credit. But Shitiz never understood her love. Shadia, also after denying the proposal of Shitiz in her school life, loves Nazar, a physically challenged boy. But ultimately Nazar is died brutally and their love ends in separation.

Also from Shitiz's story the reader knows about the Naxalite movement in the South-eastern part of India. And in further they also knows that Shitiz's father is also joined in the Naxalite group and atlast died horribly. In this way the story progresses. And atlast with high chest pain, Shitiz died before Shadia. He always wants to live a happy life with Shadia, but when Shadia is agrees to do that, time snatched him forever. After the next morning of Shitiz's death, Dr. Shadia, is also found dead in her house. It was reported that she was dressed like a bride and in her suicide note she stated herself as Shitiz's wife.

Flashback is the most prominent method used in this fiction, through which the author weaves the story of the novel. Except this juxtaposition of reality and romance are also a key weapon of the author.

This very book is a wonderful portrayal of a celebrity chef's tragic personal and professional life, who has everything but no time to live. Actually this book has some clear affinity with author's first book *Story of an Unsuccessful Hotelier* in which he discusses almost same kind of theme. Everything is added in small proportion in the story and therefore it is the right mix without an overdose of anything.

Shadia's sudden love for Shitiz after a long while seems out of the blue. The language is casual and the story telling too. There was several scope for better narration of the story. The cover page of the book is so beautifully designed and also at the same time thought-provoking. The binding is lucid and the price of the book is also affordable. One more impressive feature of the book is its printing quality.

I recommended this book to the readers, specially the youths who indulges themselves in the complexities of relationships and neglects the realities of day to day lives for its story and theme. The book is a must read.

**Short Bio of the Reviewer** : Akash Satpati , is now pursuing his Master's Degree (M.A.) in English Literature from Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University , Purulia , West Bengal . He has completed his Graduation with English Honours from Khatra Adibasi Mahavidyalaya , Bankura under The University of Burdwan .He has been writing both Prose and Poetry in English and his vernacular language Bengali . In this year his first collection of Bengali Poems Bish is published . His areas of interest are Diasporic Literature , Love Stories , Indian English Writing and British Literature . He has also published in International Journals .

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