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A VISION OF WOMEN AS A PROTAGONIST IN PREETI SHENOY'S NOVEL

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ABSTRACT

Preeti Shenoy is one of the most talented writers of the present. She is among the best-selling authors in India; she weaves magic with her words and picture. She is an extremely talented and versatile individual. Preeti Shenoy is one of the favourite youth icons for the readers. She believes that women have equal right to demand for equality in society as men. Her female protagonists are neither dominant nor submissive; they are neither strong nor weak hearted; they are realistic.

It Happens For A Reason is a story of protagonist Vipasa (Vee). Vee decides to give up her career and have a baby at 19. Aryan her son is a cool kid. Suchi her best pal. There are lots of other interesting character in this novel like Ankush, Saurabh, Jamu Kaka, Prakash, Nimish and more.

Key Word: Protagonist

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INTRODUCTION

Preeti Shenoy is an Indian author. Consistently nominated for the Forbes List of the 100 most influential celebrities of India since 2013, she has varied interests ranging from photography and yoga to sociology. India Today has named her as 'being unique for being the only woman in the highest-selling league,' alluding to the immense popularity of her books.

Her Twitter bio used to be: "Author of five best-sellers, Artist (Portraits, Mixed media, paper-quilling), Poet, Yoga-Buff, Ex-basketball player, Blogger, Dobe-owner, Nature lover, Ted X speaker and a Mother."

Her interests are as multifarious and diverse as her several academic degrees which include an internationally recognised qualification from UK in portraiture.

DNA has described her as a 'keenly observant mind' and Times of India describes her writing as 'Excellent story telling skills'. There is simplicity in her writing that appeals to the inherent

good in all and her positivity and 'Live life to the fullest' philosophy finds a large number of takers, who follow her very popular blog.

Her pencil-portraits are life like which strike you with a realism that take you aback. She is also into paper -quilling and is a poet too. She has written for publications like Times of India, Readers Digest and many more. She has worked with under-privileged children teaching them English and Math. She has worked with several schools conducting workshops on thinking skills and creative crafts.

She also writes a regular column called 'Sex and the city' for Financial Chronicle. Read the Saturday issues to catch it

She says "Life is short. Follow your heart and chase your dreams. And yes, they will come true."

"IT HAPPENS FOR A REASON"

"It Happens For A Reason" is the sixth novel by Preeti Shenoy. It was published in 2014. It was published by Westland Ltd.

It Happens For A Reason is a one of a kind story about love, betrayal, true friendship and making unusual choices in life.

#### SUMMARY

Novel starts with the conversation between Vipasha (Vee) a young, beautiful and single 34 year old and her 15 year old son Aryan; on the low grades he got in his mock test. Vipasha is Paw-Factor where she looks after the dogs as a dog sitter and works in gym as a trainer

Her neighbour Damodar Shinde also appears in the first chapter of the novel who usually comes for rant.

Another character that shows up in the first chapter is Jamu Kaka, who is the general caretaker and he helps with the dogs; he was with them since Aryan was 21/2 year old.

In first chapter Vee also mentions about Suchi and Prakash. They are like pillars for her.

Vee always remarks Suchi is like soul sister for her who has met in boarding school with her and Prakash is Suchi's husband.

In the novel Suchi is the one who always tries to set Vipasha with someone for Vee's better future. She tries to hook Vee with Nimish, Prakash's friend who lives in U.K.

While fixing up a dinner with Nimish the story takes a turn as Vee gets into trouble as she gets a call from Ramu Kaka while Vee was at Suchi's place for dinner. When she gets back home she found that two of her dogs were dead and another three were in a bad condition then a new character Dr. Saurabh appears who is a veterinary. Ramu Kaka thinks it was his fault while cooking a lizard might have fallen down and he has served that to dogs.

Somehow other three dogs were rescued. She informs the dog's owner about the accident of which one owner Mehras gets mad at her and brings media the next day and another owner were seems not much worried.

As soon as she gets the necropsy reports she confirms that it all happened because of her neighbour Damodar Shinde who has poisoned the dogs. She was sure but she was helpless as she doesn't have the proof to file an FIR against him.

After facing the media who was brought up by one of the dog owner whose one dog died in that

accident Vee returns back home and meanwhile at home she narrates the story of her past life to Saurabh.

Vipasha tell how she met her soul sister like friend Suchi at boarding school in class 8 in Kodaikonal. Before going to her boarding school she visits Neelanjana aunty in Bangalore. Vee loves her aunt's house that she always fantasizes about living in that house and how she ended up living there owning a Paw-Factor.

Vee tells about the adventures in her school days and how she met Ankush the love of her life and fell for her and she also tells about the lifelong friend Manav. She also mention that she made love with Ankush and somehow it went wrong which get her into a life changing trouble and how she decides to end up cutting ties with her family and the father of her child, Ankush at the age of 19. Vee also tells about how it all went wrong while she was at the peak of her modelling career that she gets misfortunately get pregnant at 18 and she opted for having a baby even if her mother and the father of her child left her alone for that decision of having a child and how she started Paw-Factor and working in gym and the support that she gets from her father and her friend Suchi and Suchi's mother and Manav. Vee mentions the early days life how drastic it went for her while Aryan her son was small. She tells about the death of her mother.

Vee also mentions how Manav showed up the title of the novel as Manav had sent Vee a card which says "It Happens For A Reason".

In novel chapter 15 the present life of Vee continues. She became the headline for that accident and as a result all the other dog owners took away their dogs which made Vee to close the Paw-Factor and continue working in gym. Meanwhile after this entire incident took place Vee secretly develops a feeling for Saurabh, the quirky vet. But somehow it ended up before getting started all because of Saurabh due to his Asperger's Syndrome.

One day Vee gets a mail from Manav after ten long years through which she gets to know that her son was looking for her father as her wants to know the email id of her father as Manav and

Ankush were friends long back. Vee inquires about this with her son and it comes out to be true.

Aryan somehow manages to contact his dad through internet and as Aryan gets a mail from his dad, that he will going to sending a ticket for Aryan and Vee to visit him in Australia and in the mail Ankush also tries to regret and was feeling sorry for how it went wrong in past with Vee.

After a week Aryan gets a mail from Ankush that he will be visiting India and even in Bangalore and will be having dinner with Aryan and Vee.

Vee still having a soft corner for Ankush wants Ankush to be back but somehow she also develops a second thought that Ankush is only back for Aryan their son. So she fixed up a date with Nimish on the day Ankush was going to arrive but Ankush arrives early that morning and went Vee's home as he thought of surprising her and to prevent Vee not meeting him for the past reasons.

Vee's plan for not meeting Ankush goes in vain as she met with an accident while working in gym. At evening Aryan gets to meet his father and Ankush promises him to met next day after school. But due to some emergency Ankush left Bangalore for some days which Vee gets to know from Aryan as Ankush had sent Aryan a mail informing about the emergency.

Aryan has a school trip to Himachal Pradesh and on that day Ankush came back to Bangalore to drop Aryan to the school. After few days Vee gets a call from his father to watch the news. Thus, she gets to know that some children from Bangalore have been washed away in the Beas, his breaks her down and which made her call Ankush to inform him about the accident keeping her ego at one side. Ankush comes to her place and they decided to go to the place where this incident took place to find their son Aryan. Meanwhile, Ankush and Vee again develops a feeling for each other.

When they reach the place of accident they found no signs of Aryan, then Vee gets an unknown call from hospital it was of Aryan telling them that Aryan was somehow managed to be rescued by some villagers along with few more children.

After returning back Vee and Ankush got married. Then Vee was enrolled in two-year associate degree program in Veterinary Technology

at University of Queensland and further she qualifies as Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, whereas, Aryan studies in the Cambridge International and wants to apply to UCLA for his Bachelor Degree program.

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