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THE STORY OF COMMUNICATION AND COMPANIONSHIP: EXPLORING  
TRAUMA AND SURVIVAL IN ANJALI MENON'S *KOODE*

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**Abstract**

*In the edited volume, Humanising Mental Health Care in Australia: A Guide to Trauma-Informed Approaches, Sandra Bloom says, "A traumatic experience, by definition, changes people. What is inspiring about the human species is how so many survivors struggle to make sense out of violence, transcending its effects, and transforming the energy of violence into something powerfully good for themselves and for their communities" (23). The present study focuses on the same, by taking as reference point the character Joshua in the Malayalam movie, Koode, directed by Anjali Menon. The film portrays the character as leading a traumatised life due to the various events and occasions that he comes across from his teenage on. The present study deals with studying Joshua as a traumatised person. Aspects of trauma which have transformed Joshua into an introvert, which he was not formerly, are discussed. The work focuses on understanding how proper communication and companionship can help man get out of the impact of trauma and be a successful survivor. There is the detailed analysis of Joshua's life after him meeting Jenny's spirit, and Sophie, for the purpose of which the ideas and thoughts propounded by the various trauma studies theorists are made use of.*

**Keywords:** Trauma, Trauma Studies, Healing, Companionship, Communication, Character Analysis, *Koode*, Malayalam Cinema.

In "Trauma Theory Abbreviated," Sandra Bloom gives a detailed observation on trauma. Psychic trauma is the condition which occurs "when a sudden, unexpected, overwhelming, intense emotional blow or a series of blows assault the person from outside.

Traumatic events are external, but they quickly become incorporated into the mind” (Bloom 2). The person is often defenceless to the unexpected assault of the traumatic condition. This inability to respond properly boosts the impact of the event and this affects the mind of the subject, at times, severely.

Studies have found out that, through repeated experience of the various events that have resulted in trauma in the form of dreams, flashbacks or nightmares, can help overcome the situation and heal the pain. This happens mainly because of two reasons: the first is that the person is trying to understand the traumatic event that happened at first and the other is, he/she is trying to convert the emotional experience to something which can be conveyed through conversations. Through this process the individual can easily shift the memory about the trauma from his/her feelings to words and easily deal with that or even forget it.

Cathy Caruth’s definition of trauma grabs attention. She talks about trauma as “an overwhelming experience of sudden or catastrophic events in which the response to the event occurs in the often delayed, uncontrolled repetitive appearance of hallucinations and other intrusive phenomena” (Caruth 11). She explains the condition of trauma as an overwhelming, extremely shocking experience which happens suddenly like an accident. Because of this the person cannot grasp or understand the event at first and as a result the person cannot respond immediately to it. But later they may recall the event, sometimes in the form of nightmares or flashbacks. She further asserts that trauma does not affect someone immediately; it affects one when he/she goes through the same events repeatedly and this feeling becomes uncontrollable.

Humans are social beings who rely or depend on others for their support and survival. From the time of birth, one goes through a series of different emotions. These emotional experiences have significance connection to both brain and body. But if one gets a wound on the mind, even if it appears negligible, it remains unhealed and the scars will remain there forever. Human brain is often stronger than physical body even though trauma affects the brain even more in a deeper sense. The brain is the part of the body which helps to repeatedly watch nightmares, and experience flashbacks. In a sense, body and brain can overcome the trauma and control the excess emotions even though trauma disrupts this balance and makes us feel uncomfortable and uncontrolled.

There are many ways to overcome and escape trauma. Narrating trauma is one such way to get relieved from a traumatised situation. The present study engages in analysing how companionship and communication serve in the process of decreasing the severity of trauma and leading a healthy life. Anjali Menon’s 2018 film *Kooda* depicts a deep understanding about the severe condition of trauma through the eyes of Joshua who was a victim of sexual harassment at the age of fifteen. He was a single child until his sister's arrival at the age of

fourteen. The film reveals that the vital and precious moment in Joshua's life was the arrival of his sister Jenny on a Christmas day. After her arrival Joshua's life was circled around his sister. The intimate bond of a brother and sister is visible in the lullaby "Minnaminniraaraaro..." (Menon 00:14:52-00:17:27). For Jenny's treatment, the family needs a huge amount of money and as a car mechanic and the only breadwinner of the family, Alosy is not able to afford it. Lilly's brother, who is bisexual, seized this situation to turn his interest in Joshua into action. From this point, Joshua confronts sexual harassment from his uncle, Darius. There is an instance in the movie which makes the above clearer to the audience. The film portrays a scene inside the train on the day Joshua bids farewell to his family, where Darius puts his hand on Joshua's shoulder. This makes the boy uncomfortable, especially when Darius presses on his shoulder and moves his hands down from there. At this moment, Joshua is frozen, unable to do anything or even understand what is happening to him (Menon 00:26:56-00:27:22). All throughout the film, Joshua's eyes act as a conveyor of his emotions.

Human eye and human psyche have great connections, both physically and symbolically. Physically, the eyes allow one understand the external world and, the sights one sees can deeply influence his/her emotions and mental states. The human psyche, in turn, influences our mind's interpretation of these visuals based on our emotional and mental states or personal experiences. Symbolically, the eyes are often referred to as the "window to the soul" as in the expressions like "face is the mirror of our mind" (Willoughby). Through the expression "eyes are the window of our soul", it states the meaning that eyes represent both awareness and reflection. The way people see themselves and others, can reveal an essential part of the psyche, such as hidden desires or fears. Likewise, human emotions and human psyche are deeply intertwined since emotions are integral parts of the psyche. The human psyche embraces the totality of the human mind, including the conscious and unconscious processes and emotional responses (Humayra).

Emotions serve as powerful reactions to both internal and external stimuli which reflect how we feel mentally and how we react to different situations, thoughts, or experiences. Feelings of anxiety, happiness and the like which suit the different stimuli often indicate a completely balanced or healthy state of the human psyche. On the flip side, the emotional responses are moulded by the psyche, with an individual's mental stability determining how they handle different situations. A person with a resilient psyche typically deals with emotions in a calm manner, while someone with unresolved conflicts may experience more severe emotional responses. Emotions also serve as coping mechanisms, indicating the urgency for the alterations or responses when one faces various obstacles. In addition, chronic or overwhelming emotions, such as prolonged sadness or anger which can

disrupt the mental health, lead to conditions of depression or anxiety, highlighting the strong connections between the emotions and psyche. By giving expression to emotions, one can reduce or balance its severity as it helps improve mental health. On the other side, suppressing emotions can lead to tension or even physical and mental ill health. Hence, expressing emotions outwardly is generally good for both emotional and physical well-being of man.

Ultimately, emotions act as windows into the internal dynamics of the psyche, impacting mental well-being and provide deeper understanding of internal struggles, desires, and fears. The human psyche directs the mental and emotional processes that determine an individual's behaviours, perceptions, and thoughts. Moreover, it plays an essential role in shaping one's responses to various experiences he/she had been through, and remains responsible for both conscious and unconscious thoughts which guide one's decision-making. In *Koode*, Anjali Menon visualises all these through Joshua.

The film primarily depicts the circumstances that lead Joshua to a severe traumatic stage and how he overcomes it. Being away from his family, he cannot convey or express anything about the situation he passes through to anyone. Had he got the opportunity to communicate his emotions to someone, he might have received the strength to overcome the situation. As a teenager, the loneliness and the terrible experiences make Joshua an introvert. Former to his leaving with his uncle, Joshua was a different person which is made clear by showing the audience the emotional intimacy he shared with his parents, Jenny, and Ashraf. Moreover, he was someone who had a lot many desires and goals to achieve.

The scene where he goes with his father to understand the mechanical construction of the train shows his desire and interest in machines and their working (Menon 00:23:40-00:24:54). As a teenager, he had great affection for mechanical works and there are instances in the movie which prove this. The scenes which show the toy train is in Alosky's room, and the coming of the train at the time when Joshua goes with Darius (Menon 00:26:00-00:27:23), indicates the collapse of his dreams and his teenage. His face reflects his anxiety on thinking what turn his life is taking at the moment and what is awaiting him. Joshua had great chaos on being away from his parents and his sister Jenny towards whom he shared great affection. But the miserable circumstances in his family prompt him to leave all of them behind and get transformed into someone burdened with the responsibility to take care of the family. This decision is the root cause for the traumatized life he gets compelled to lead further.

The first overwhelming and frightening experience Joshua had from his uncle, as mentioned beforehand, was the first step towards a drastic change in his life. "...so trauma is not locatable in the simple violent or original event in an individual's past, but rather in the

way that its very unassimilated nature—the way it was precisely not known in the first instance—returns to haunt the survivor later on” (Caruth 4). The loneliness, lesser communication, homesickness and the like play a crucial role in moulding him thus. Alosky’s words, “We can repair toys that are broken but that does not apply to people” (Menon 00:27:41-00:28:02), signify that he is aware that Joshua’s mental state. The trauma forced upon him by his uncle has immensely influential impact upon him. In the scene where Lilly holds a conversation with him, she touches him on his head and shoulder, which makes him uncomfortable as he feels like reliving the past trauma (Menon 00:29:25-00:29:35).

In the movie we see many instances which reveal that Joshua lives with barriers that make it difficult for him to mingle with others. He does not have any emotional attachment to anyone; in a sense he is unable to get attached to anyone emotionally. The conversation between Lilly and Joshua seems important. Lilly asks Joshua not to return to the gulf, but he refuses. Upon hearing this Lilly gets angry, ““What work? Your family, relatives and acquaintances are all here, then why should you be there all by yourself?”” Though there is a gush of emotional outpour, Joshua remains passive. There is not even a little bit of emotional change flashing on his face. He merely says, ““Wasn't it that way all this while?”” (Menon 00:29:32 -00:29:46) and walks away without further reactions, which shows the extent of loneliness he is experiencing, and how intensively it has affected his mind. He believes that he exists only to look after his family like an inanimate insensitive object. The visualization of the same can be seen in the conversation between Joshua and Alosky while being in the car. They discuss about buying a new car to which Joshua’s reply is, ““I work abroad to meet the family's expenses, right?”” (Menon 00:35:02-00:35:13). This reply gives the impression that Joshua considers himself as someone who exists for others’ well-being.

Some sort of change comes over Joshua’s life when Alosky hands him over the van’s key. The van was once Jenny’s ambulance when the girl was alive (00:36:30-00:36:46). Joshua feels that Jenny's spirit resides in the vehicle. Though he loved his sister, the presence of her spirit gives Joshua an eerie feeling and makes him uncomfortable.

Joshua seeks the help of alcohol to forget his problems

... people frequently turn to substances, like drugs or alcohol, or behaviours like sex or eating or even engagement in violence, all of which help them to calm down, at least temporarily. If you have never been able to really control your feelings, and you discover that alcohol gives you some sense of control over your internal states, it is only logical that you will turn to alcohol for comfort. (Bloom 4)

In another scene, Joshua experiences a nightmare. In the dream he sees Jenny in the van, which becomes so in reality. By finding her again he gets scared and refuses to believe that it is Jenny for real. Later he gets convinced that it is Jenny herself, the conviction which helps

take shape some bond between them. But Joshua perceives of this as a duty or responsibility. The past events, and the sense of loneliness and the aftermath of the harassments that he faced are the reasons why he is not able to perceive things from a positive angle. As far as he is concerned everything and everyone associated with him are out there to harm him.

As a brilliant student in the school, he too had many dreams about his studies and future. He recalls this in his conversation with Jenny's spirit. When Jenny asks why he does not have much genuine interest in his profession, Joshua says, "People study and work not because they really like it, but for their survival" (Menon 00:46:12-00:46:35). This piece of conversation makes it very clear that something is lacking in Joshua's life. He enjoys surplus repression, and gives more importance to survival, than living.

Jenny further talks about college and her love for studies, which disturbs Joshua who says that he knows nothing about college, as he had not been to one. The pain he carries in his heart when it comes to matters of studies is clearly portrayed here. Upon seeing some boys playing football, Joshua relives his memories. Here the film makes use of flashbacks to portray his schooldays and the football practice there. The use of flashbacks and the scenes help audience understand the pain in his mind (Menon 00:47:08-00:49:10).

After that Jenny asks about the time when he left for the gulf with his uncle, and whether he feared going there alone. The question silences him which shows his refusal to go through the event again. There is now the use of flashback to his football practices, when one of the boys told him to pass the ball. "Our way of remembering things, processing new memories, and accessing old memories is also dramatically changed when we are under stress" (Bloom 5). Audience sees a smile on his face at this time, which implies that after Jenny's arrival he has started creating emotional attachment at least with some people around him. Moreover, his nature as an introvert also witnesses changes.

The companionship with Jenny plays a crucial role in Joshua's life, retaining a balance in his mental state and overcoming his past traumatic condition. But the trauma remains as such in his subconscious mind. That is why he still has nightmares about the sexual harassment he suffered because of his uncle (Menon 01:00:06-01:00:14). In later scenes both Jenny and Joshua spend more time in the company of each other, thus Joshua partially escaping his traumatized existence. This is visualized through the song "Themmadithennalayi..." (Menon 01:05:53-01:09:19).

Another character of significance in *Koodeis* Sophie, who too has undergone traumatic events. The label as a divorcee too traumatises her (Menon 01:12:30-01:13:35). Jenny and Joshua hold a conversation about building up a friendship with Sophie, but Joshua says that it will not work because Sophie has so many problems. At this moment Jenny tells him, "Good friends are supposed to be with each other during tough times" (Menon

01:13:48-01:14:23). The film attempts to share the idea that good companionship always helps one break obstacles and overcome problems.

Companionship plays a crucial role in moulding the human psyche and emotional well-being. As social beings, humans always seek an emotional connection with others and these connections or relationships can deeply influence their mental health, cognitive development, and emotional stability. The most significant aspect of companionship is the emotional support it gives. Having someone to share the emotions or problems helps the person manage stress, anxiety, and other emotional and psychological obstacles. Through this support they can ease the negative feelings. It fosters a sense of safety that enhances the mental health of the person. Moreover, through emotional support, a companion can fulfil the innate human need for support, connection and belonging. Getting connected with others, one may foster a sense of belonging which is a crucial part of emotional well-being. The mental support and emotional strength one gets from a good friend or a companion through conversations can ease the intensity of the problem or situation one is going through, or may probably go through. Without this, an individual may feel isolated, which can lead to depression, anxiety, or other psychological issues. Having a close-knit connection helps soothe these feelings and provides a better foundation for a healthier mental state.

Social connections, including with friends, family, or partners, provide validation and strengthens a person's sense of identity, which is essential for mental stability and emotional strength. It also contributes to cognitive development and social interaction. Through interactions, an individual can understand different perspectives and evolve to various social dynamics. Moreover, these interactions can enhance cognitive functioning and resilience which helps the individual to overcome challenges. The psychological benefit of a good companionship expanded to prolonged mental health. Strong and enduring relationships offer continuous emotional support and stability, which can act as a safeguard against mental health conditions like anxiety, depression and so on. In the different research conducted so far, there is evidence that, people with close social bonds often experience lower stress levels. This sense of connection and stability often fosters resilience and helps the individual to cope up with life's obstacles with hope and confidence. A good companion can have a deep and positive impact on a traumatized person's life. Traumatic experience, whether emotional or physical, can strongly affect an individual's mental health intensively, leading to feelings such as depression, anxiety, isolation, mistrust on others, and the like. However, a good companion can act as a crucial element in the healing process.

One of the main advantages of a good companionship for trauma survivors is the emotional support they give. For a traumatized person, the world may feel chaotic or unsafe. In this situation the only thing they want is a steady and supportive presence which leads to

normalcy, stability, safety, and security. They experience a safe and non-judgmental zone where they feel heard and understood by a good companion. This may help them reduce their condition of trauma in a way that is less overwhelming. Through this they can overcome their difficult situation and can rebuild the trust in them. The availability of a caring and supportive companion can soothe the emotions of loneliness, fear, depression, and anxiety, which are often tied up with trauma. Many of the trauma survivors experience isolation when they feel disconnected from others. But through companionship, they can reduce these types of feelings and they may feel that there is someone to listen to their problems.

The trust and care given by a companion play significant roles in fostering resilience. While trauma can cause intense emotional scars in an individual's mind, a true and consistent companion can offer the support they want in order to rebuild their emotional and psychological strength. In some cases, with companionship, a traumatized person can reduce the symptoms associated with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) such as nightmares, flashbacks, emotional numbness, intense guilt or worry, angry outbursts, feeling “on edge,” or avoiding thoughts and situations that remind them of the trauma, by providing emotional stability and a sense of attachment. (Stubbe)

The recovery process from trauma is often complex and requires professional support. In such situations, the presence of a caring companion can be a crucial part in their recovery and healing process. They offer several advantages for a traumatized person in their emotional and psychological recovery. They can be good listeners, without becoming judgemental by helping them process their feelings and emotions (Delboy). This emotional support impacts the individual as a vital part for healing and combating the loneliness often associated with trauma. Being with them in a supportive and caring manner can foster in them a sense of belonging and alleviates the emotional burden of being alone. This connection is often powerful in reminding the person that they are not bounded by their traumatic experiences, and that they still deserve love, care, and meaningful bonds.

Rebuilding trust is a major challenge for trauma survivors. The condition of trauma can act as distrust on others and even oneself. In this case, a reliable companion can act as a key persona in restoring the trust in them. By providing consistent care, understanding and support, they help create a safe and secure environment where trust can be rebuilt. This process is a significant part in the process of healing, as it allows them to feel being in a safe and secure space. Moreover, a good and caring companion can provide the restoration of psychological safety and foster the sense of calmness that may be lost due to the traumatized experience they had. They can also offer stability and emotional support during the moments of flashbacks.

A flashback is a sudden intrusive re-experiencing of a fragment of one of those traumatic, un verbalized memories. During a flashback, people become overwhelmed with the same emotions that they had felt at the time of the trauma. Flashbacks are likely to occur when people are upset, stressed, frightened, or aroused or when triggered by any association to the traumatic event. Their minds can become flooded with the images, emotions, and physical sensations associated with the trauma and once again. (Bloom 6)

That is, at the time of distress, a caring and supportive companion can offer a calming presence which helps them stay in the present moment and can reduce the intensity of traumatic memories. With the support of a compassionate companion, the trauma survivor can regain their confidence, rebuild their self-esteem, and develop the resilience to move forward in life without fearing anything.

In *Koode*, the audience understands that like Joshua, Sophie also suffers a mild condition of trauma and severe condition of loneliness. She is portrayed in the movie as a person who is bound in chains by her family. Sophie had been experiencing physical assaults in her marriage and finally gets a divorce after which she experiences mental, physical, and emotional assaults from her own family which surely is traumatic. The instance when Sophie's father introduced her the book *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou (Menon 01:17:15-01:17:53), she asks him what the point is in just reading it. From this reply the audience understands that Sophie is leading a traumatised life where she faces oppression, societal and familial pressure, stress, and abuse. But as an independent and mature woman, she somehow handles it. But Joshua is different because he experiences trauma for the first time when he was a mere boy. At that point in his life, he was not able to resist it or handle the trauma tactfully. This makes his experience of trauma severe and intense, which reflects even in his adulthood. But its severity decreases after the arrival of Jenny and later Sophie in his life. The emotional attachment with Jenny's spirit helps him to forget the past experiences which traumatised him to a certain extent. Similarly, it may be observed that Sophie also forgets her past when she gets emotionally attached to Joshua. At this point of narration, the film introduces the role of communication among human beings who have undergone a traumatic condition.

Like companionship, communication too has a crucial role to play in the lives of traumatised people. In Joshua's case, he suffers from the traumatic experience since his adolescence. The time between adolescence and adulthood is crucial in the mental and psychological development of people. For individuals who have suffered from a chronic or long-term trauma from their teenage into adulthood, only effective communication can become a powerful tool for acting as a healing process and helps navigate the continuous

emotional and psychological challenges they go through. The process of communication with a compassionate companion helps the victims of trauma to express their emotions. Thus, they can reduce the intensity of their condition. One of the most important aspects of communication in the case of a traumatized person who has been experiencing trauma over many years is the emotional expression. The emotional and psychological growth takes place in the life of a person from adolescence to adulthood. The occurrence of traumatic experiences during this time period may affect them severely and it may leave lasting scars in the mind. One of the most essential things in the processing of traumatic experience is the ability to communicate about their feelings, fears, or struggles they pass through. If the survivor is not able to express all these emotions, then their emotions may remain dumb resulting in increased anxiety, depression, or anger. Through an open communication, the individuals can externalise their trauma, which reduces the burden of bottled-up emotions making it easier to overcome the pain inflicted upon them by the traumatic experience.

Trauma during adolescence can often lead to feelings of isolation, self-blame, or confusion about what has happened. Joshua becoming frozen when Darius pressed on his shoulder is because of this feeling (Menon 00:26:50-00:27:23). These feelings may extend into adulthood if it is not properly addressed and redressed. For a trauma survivor, getting the opportunity to share their experiences and emotions to someone and receiving mental support from others is an essential step towards the healing process. This is an important thing in adulthood. The major reason why victims of trauma lead such a life is because of the lack of opportunity to give expression to their experiences.

Another crucial role communication plays in the life of a person who leads a traumatised life is, it aides him/her in rebuilding trust upon others. Chronic trauma often affects an individual's ability to trust others, leading to difficulties in forming or maintaining relationships. In their teenage years, when trust is in the process of getting developed, trauma can make it even harder for an individual in forming healthy attachments, and these difficulties can persist into adulthood. Communication allows trauma survivors to rebuild trust, not just upon others but also upon themselves. Through conversations with a therapist or a trusted individual, they can learn to process their fears around trust, slowly develop confidence in others, and rebuild their capacity to form meaningful, supportive relationships. Over time, positive and consistent communication can restore feelings of safety and connection, which are often disrupted by trauma.

Furthermore, communication can offer a significant impact on the trauma survivors, helping them to set a healthy boundary. This may often act as a challenge for the individuals who pass through a continuous traumatic experience. With the help of therapy or supportive relationships, the survivor can learn how to set boundaries and express his/her emotional and

physical limits, which ensure their emotional well-being. Thus, the survivor can develop the skills to express emotions and needs, and fit him/herself in a healthy boundary.

Adolescence is a crucial time for the formation of identity. Passing through a prolonged trauma during this time may develop difficulty in the person to construct a stable sense of self. When these individuals move to adulthood, they may have a struggle with the sense of who they are. Talking to someone about this and receiving a supportive response from them may help the survivor to reclaim their identity and through this, they can recognize their resilience and move forward in a more empowered sense of self. In *Koode*, Joshua cannot find anyone to communicate his emotions and problems until he finds Jenny. In his adolescence he had nobody to communicate his feelings of trauma he had experienced from his uncle. Even after getting into adulthood, he cannot express his emotions to anyone, even to his family. Because of the isolation and traumatic experiences, he feels a sense of isolation and detachment even from his own parents. The instance of Alosky's entry to the scene where he was seen tired, Joshua had not shown any emotional feeling for helping him. He continues his work of washing the van instead of helping him (Menon 01:40:18-01:40:40). At this time Jenny enquires, “Do you feel love and sympathy only to the ones at the school?”, and added “... You could love your family a bit as well”. For this Joshua had replies “Ohh! As if I haven't done enough for my family” (Menon 01:40:38-01:41:42). Joshua's attitude in this context may be brought under scrutiny. He is emotionally detached from his family. He does everything for the family as if they are all part of his duty as a son. But in the scene where Joshua goes upstairs to find Alosky, he finds that Alosky is engaged in working on his toy train. At this moment the audience can see that Joshua feels an emotional attachment and love towards his father and by seeing this he becomes very happy (Menon 01:42:17-01:44:21).

Another incident of significance is when Sophie's brothers drag her from the old building to their home (Menon 01:46:28-01:47:15). Joshua is shocked at the moment and does nothing to free Sophie. When he returns home sorrowfully, Jenny tells him to follow Sophie's brothers and save her, but he does not agree with what Jenny says. At this point she asks him, “Don't you know exactly what it's like when no one is around to help you? No one stood up for you when it happened back then. Sophie is in the same situation now. Go, Brother. You definitely should” (Menon 01:47:47-01:48:48). In this scene the audience can understand the emotional state and situation Joshua passes through from his adolescence to adulthood. After this Joshua decides to help Sophie. But upon reaching there, because of the familial pressure, Sophie tells her family that she does not want to go with Joshua and this emotionally breaks him. Sophie then comes to Joshua's house. Towards the end of the scene, an open window is shown on screen (Menon 01:55:00-01:55:30), when their family comes to search for them. This scene gives a hint regarding the change that has taken place in their

lives after they decide to stay together. The image of the open window in the scene tells us that, both Joshua and Sophie had broken their chained boundaries and had gotten their freedom back. After this scene we can see both enjoying their lives with healthier mindset (Menon 01:57:10-02:01:18).

But still an element of trauma hits Joshua when he finds that Jenny has disappeared (Menon 02:17:12-02:19:12). Here the mention of companionship is heard in the conversation between Alosy and Sophie. Alosy says that his son needs a good companion now to survive the situation (Menon 02:16:45-02:20:00). In the final scenes, it is portrayed that Joshua has recovered from all his traumatic condition but the memories of Jenny and the time he had spent with her remain in his heart and he starts a new life with happiness and joy. *Koode* has thus helped in bringing to the limelight the idea that, proper communication and companionship can help people overcome trauma and bring about a transformation in their existence from asocial beings to social ones.

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