“Two days later, a new semester begins. It's Moushumi's eighth semester at NYU. She is finished with classes, will never in her life take a class again. Never again will she sit for an exam. This fact delights her—finally, a formal emancipation from studenthood. Though she still has a dissertation to write, still has an adviser to monitor her progress, she feels unmoored already, somehow beyond the world that has defined and structured and limited her for so long.”

This quote shows how Moushumi thinks of her future with a lack of confidence and hope for prosperity. I believe she has inner conflicts that she is trying to escape by entering a relationship with Nikhil. Even though being in a relationship cannot cure deeply hidden insecurities of one between partners. I think this will result in the deviation of their relationship from an ideal model toward a scenario, where Nikhil would sacrifice his feelings to help Moushumi to deal with her emotional states and stress.