



Positivity in Chetan Bhagat: An Essential Credential

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ABSTRACT

Bhagat suggests that it is your life and none has the right to take a decision on your behalf. You better know about your potential. The simple thing required that one should have in life, is a positive attitude towards things or situation in life. Bhagat is known to have the endless positive energy. Krish in *2 States* makes it clear that there are positive thoughts somewhere in people's heads all the time. But somehow, even one negative thought will crowd them out. Maybe it is an evolutionary mechanism so they can focus on the problem at hand rather than rejoice in all things wonderful. But it makes life a bitch, as good memories have to make space for the next pain in the neck item. And what does one gain by losing sleep? Enjoy every moment of your life as it is not going to repeat. You are not watching any movie that can be reversed or forwarded as per the need of the hour. Always try to be happy – this is the message that Bhagat is trying to spread through his creative writings. Govind in *The 3*

Mistakes of My Life praises his friends as they are full of enthusiasm and energy to live a fuller life.



Life is a riddle that comes with certain challenges, but with a clear vision of optimism or pessimism towards things or situations one has to confront with. The present article will try to explore the helpful hand of Chetan Bhagat, a prominent writer of the modern era under the circumference of the biggest challenge of negativity that prompts the youngsters for taking wrong decisions in life; where it makes the life of others a hell too. Suicidal tendencies over little failures have become very common among youngsters these days. Bhagat as he is known for his positivity, he rejects the idea of committing suicide and gives logical reasons why one should not commit suicide:

I didn't do it for two reasons. One, I had a casual chat with the aunty next door about copper sulphate, and my knowledgeable aunty knew about a woman who had died that way. She said it was the most painful death possible – all your veins burst and you suffer for hours. This tale made me insides shudder. Second, on the day I was to do it, I noticed a street dog outside my house being teased by the neighborhood kids as he haunted for scraps of food. Nobody loved him. It would make no difference to the world if the dog wasn't there. And I was pretty sure that its chemistry score would be awful. Yet the dog wasn't trotting off to the kirana store. He was only interested in figuring out a strategy for the next meal. And when he was full, he merely curled up in a corner with one eye opened, clearly content and not giving a damn about the world. If he wasn't planning to die any time soon, what the hell I was ranting about? (WYIW 100-101)

Being a role model for the youth, Bhagat explores that sometimes it happens in life that your relatives and family do not support you but your friends really do and they are ready to serve you with a positive frame of mind helping you out of the trouble with every possible plan with both physical and psychological cooperation. Hari explains how shocked Alok seems when Ryan offers him his help: "I could tell he was shocked to see Ryan, yet somewhere deep down, like he felt his savior was there". (FPS 93) In friendship, people are ready to offer the biggest sacrifice. Thus, it helps one leading a very happy life having good friends in life.

He actually wants to convey the positive idea that it is up to them what they want to do in life. The poor Gopal in *Revolution 2020* is craving to get a seat in some good institution, but fails. It does not mean that he doesn't have any potential at all. He opens an engineering institution and provide job to people than to have a job itself: "Money, status and power – however evil people may say these are – get you respect in life. A few years back I was begging at career fairs for an admission. Today, hundreds of stood up to attention when I arrived." (R2020 207) The boy projected the same idea as it was projected in *Five Point Someone*: "The last guy in the class always found it hardest to get a job." (FPS 254) Bhagat gives the same sense of idea as conveyed in the novel, "You guys can't lose heart." (FPS 254) He in the end of the novel, *Five Point Someone*, conveys the idea through the speech of Prof. Cherian when he projected two valuable ideas projecting Indian values suggesting probable solutions:

One, believe in yourself, and don't let a GPA, performance review or promotion in a job define you. There is more to life than these things – your family, your friends, your internal desires and goals. And the grades you get in dealing with each of these areas will define you as a person. Two, don't judge others too quickly. I thought my son was useless because he didn't get into IIT. I tell you what, I was a useless father. It is great to get into IIT, but it is not the end of the world if you don't. (FPS 261)

Think positive and good for all is the result of his dispersed meditation. He is a beacon of positive energy with all time motivating quotations delivered time to time. He says that mere waiting for the destiny to come with all happy moments is useless rather it will depend on who are the actions: "Destiny is always there. You have to follow you path and work to the best of your ability." (Facebook) He is a youth icon as he speaks their heart and represents them all through his creative writings and personal interviews. He is a man who speaks straight forwardly on the issues of the youth interest. They find clear indication of his mirthfulness when Hari, the narrator, says that "only girls can look hot in their nightclothes: Alok for instance, looks like a terminally ill patient in his torn vest and pajamas." (FPS 28) The writer suggests prominently that one should not relax waiting for the luck to be good or bad, but should give the hundred percent of the potential even in ordinary tasks.

Bhagat is a great master of positive relativity that is an integral part of today's day to day life. Sometimes people are caught in such a plight that they find it hard to communicate with even their closest mates. It is of no importance to tame ego in relationships and kill the peace and happiness keeping oneself as an egoist. One should realize the fact that nothing in life is permanent whether it is love or hate; or something else. Govind knows that he is going to commit a blunder by having a relationship with the sister of Ishaan who is an intimate friend. He has a sense of regret or remorse for the misconduct he has done: "I didn't know why, but I had tears in my eyes. Maybe I felt scared. Maybe because no one had held me like that ever that asked if I was ok. Maybe because I never knew it would be possible for me to feel like this. Maybe because I had betrayed my best friend. I normally never cried, but with so many reasons at the same time, it was impossible not to." (T3MML 202)

Today, life has entangled relation in the society that needs to be understood. Money has become the biggest value in the modern life where one has to struggle hard to cater the need of the routine life belongings. The need is to have a positive attitude to fill the stirred lines in relationships. Aarti in *Revolution 2020* is worried for Raghav: "I am scared for Raghav. I hope he doesn't fail in life." (R2020 202) Bhagat wants to convey that negative ideas may come to your mind, but don't let them overpower the personality completely. One should have a positive thinking in life despite the most adverse situational expansion. In *One Night @ the Call Center*, the old Military uncle feels sorry for his rigidity and accepts his fault rejecting his strict attitude towards life: "I fought with them and moved out. But I was wrong. It is there life, and I have not right to judge them by my outdated value. And I need to get rid of my inflated ego and go to the US to see them and talk it out." (R2020 205)

Bhagat always depicts all his character with a clear ray of hope as the result of the positive attitude towards life. In *One Night @ the Call Center*, Shyam describes: "I guess somewhere within him was a die-hard optimist who really thought Bakshi would listen to him." (ON@CC 166) It is a natural tendency of the common man that he wants to live a life of the others. He finds it quite easy that others are enjoying their lives and his own life is a hell. People are sometimes in an illusion with the idea that others are enjoying their lives and they are making hell of their own. Ryan mocks Hari when he says: "[He] may not live for others, but he wants to be like others? Confused, I tell you." (FPS 217)

Bhagat is a beacon of positive energy that helps the readers to face the global challenges bravely. He is a man who never talks about breaking or damaging. When Shyam and Priyanka were having problems in their relationship and it was on the point of break up, Bhagat still sheds positive light: "Well I just thought we could do it in a pleasant manner. We can still be friends, right?" (ON@CC 161) He is a creator. He wants the readers to find the rays of hope even out of the most adverse situation of life. He wants us to gain actual knowledge and get efficiency and quality in our work. In *Five Point Someone*, Hari says: "It is about knowledge. [a]nd making the most of the system, even if it has flaws." (FPS 237)

Bhagat is of the view that the youth should run after talent and originality, the success will follow behind. But the challenge is striking from them being busy with mere formalities. If they pay full attention and give their hundred percent to originality and doing something valuable without thinking about the idea of loss or profit, the effort will certainly pay for it: "Ironically, Mark never cared about making money when he founded Facebook. His main motivation was to do something innovative, entrepreneurial and, most importantly, cool. At one point in the film, he states, 'Money, or the ability to make money, doesn't impress anyone around here.'" (WYIW 16) The writer suggests through his long cherished dispersed meditation that "When you have a bad boss, you can't say anything." (ON@CC 78) He actually notices the situations very carefully. He explains how women are

expertise in handling different situations at the same time: "Women do this so well: a few seconds ago she was squealing in excitement over Ganesh, now she was whispering in concern over Anuj." (ON@CC 82) In *The 3 Mistakes of My Life*, Govind get reply as nothing from Vidya. Bhagat bewares the youngsters: "A girl's 'nothing' usually means a lot." (T3MML 79) It may be strange but quite natural to have interaction for the opposite sex. He explores that girls are the best topic switchers in the world. Having a fine one with can have better comfort for the discomforts in the mind. Aarti is in relationship with Raghav, but still she gives too much time to Gopal. It is somehow difficult to understand the nature of a woman: "That's what human relationship is about – selective sharing and hiding of information to the point of crazy confusion." (R2020 184)

Bhagat suggests that it is your life and none has the right to take a decision on your behalf. You better know about your potential. The simple thing required that one should have in life, is a positive attitude towards things or situation in life. Bhagat is known to have the endless positive energy. Krish in *2 States* makes it clear that there are positive thoughts somewhere in people's heads all the time. But somehow, even one negative thought will crowd them out. Maybe it is an evolutionary mechanism so they can focus on the problem at hand rather than rejoice in all things wonderful. But it makes life a bitch, as good memories have to make space for the next pain in the neck item. And what does one gain by losing sleep? Enjoy every moment of your life as it is not going to repeat. You are not watching any movie that can be reversed or forwarded as per the need of the hour. Always try to be happy – this is the message that Bhagat is trying to spread through his creative writings. Govind in *The 3 Mistakes of My Life* praises his friends as they are full of enthusiasm and energy to live a fuller life. He elaborates: "They are the only people, I see with passion. I like being with them." (T3MML 30)

The youth should not lose their temper rather they should be ready to accept the challenge for the ideal state in life. Krish blames his parents for their rude behavior and thus loses his temper. The angry state of mind may cause you the worst danger. It is the greatest challenge in the contemporary social life. So better be facing the challenges with a positive frame of mind and not as a result of the sudden impulses.

Thus it is clear that Bhagat has succeeded in gaining the huge crowd of readers on account of his being a spokesperson of their real life episodes, not only with the problems but with their probable solutions. It is the need of the modern life to have positivity in life. The life of social workers or the motivational speakers can help people in leading a balanced life.

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