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## DISCOVERING THE CHRONICLE OF INTER CASTE MARRIAGE:SHACKLE OF NARROW MINDEDNESS

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After so many years of Independence, Indians are still bound with the shackles of narrow mindedness as they can't accept anything crossing the so called boundaries of caste, creed and religion. Caste system, the social jeopardy, a nuisance, a venom for accelerating India, endemic in the pneuma of Indians, may date back more than 3,000 years. More than a few societal latitudinarians, having realized its can of worms, raised this voice against this demon which is not less than termite for any social order. Being allegiant adumbrative of humanness, Literature shows the evidence of abundant literary gems together with Mulk Raj Anand, Bhabani Bhattacharya, Girish Karnad, Mohan Rakesh, Vijay Tendulkar who grease their elbows to shut door on this rogue. Inter Caste Marriage, a union of two souls who belong to different caste, has been acknowledged as the culminating modus operandi to ream the narrow fancies of casteism. The burning issue of Inter-Caste or Inter- Communal Marriage is handled effectively in ***"Two States Story of My Marriage"*** where the parents of Krish and Annanya give more preference to society and rituals. The happiness of their children is secondary for them. This is a story of two youngsters who are in love but they hail to different cultures and this makes their stars against them.

Chetan Bhagat writes: ***"Love Marriage around the world is simple. Boy loves girl, girl loves boy, and they get married. But in India it's not that simple. Boy loves girl, girl loves boy. Boy's family has to love girl and girl's family has to love boy. Boy's family has to love girl's family and girls' family has to love boy's family."*** It is the country where parents are still having the remote control of their children's happiness. Krish Malhotra, a Punjabi boy and Annanya Swamiragnathan, Tamilian both meet for the very first time in IIM Ahmadabad mess. In a very short span of time they come closer and make up their mind to live and study together and go for physical pleasure. They both get a good job and they set their mindset to get married and put their efforts to get their parents' consent.

According to Chetan Bhagat ***“however independent you are, getting married without parents’ approval is not good for relationship. No doubt parents’ protesting against children marrying outside caste or religion is archaic today, still there are some honour- killing incidents in the recent times.”*** He inspires by saying that ***“If all else fails, the parents should do it for the sake of country.”***

For finding a suitable match requirements vary from person to person, from caste to caste and from religion to religion but what should be given the highest preference are the four criteria stated by Bhagat himself : ***The match should be of physical symmetry, both should be well educated, the financial situation should be profound and they should be at home in their gender jobs i.e. a boy should know how to meet family expenses and a girl should be proficient enough to keep the family appropriately.*** This is a story of Krish and Annanya who meet each other at IIM mess. Annanya is engaged in her discussion over Rasam and Sambhar.

***“What you want? The mess worker said in a heavy South Indian accent. You calling rasam not rasam. You make face when you see my sambhar. I feed hundred people.They no complain.”***(2 states pg.no 4). This is adequate for Annanya to take her anger at its heights. She feels if the people complain, the thing will be much better as they are now. But it is India where nobody bothers and have “Why should we” attitude towards everything. Krish who is witnessing each and everything, notices that both are looking at him with the intention of getting his support. He tries to produce balanced opinion by confessing that it’s no doubt disgusting but as he has been a hostler for long, he has developed taste for all this. Krish joins her on her table and introduces himself as Krish Malhotra. Annanya puts the proposal of friendship

***“I need some friends here. And you seemed like a safe –zone guy. Like the kind of guy who could just be friends with a girl, right?”***(8).

But whenever he sees her, he feels a strange feeling and that is for sure much more than friendship. Annanya’s proposal of being just friends does not sound great to him as according to him, it is like agreeing to be near a chocolate cake and never eat it or like sitting in a racing car but not driving it. Still he says yes to her proposal but it is only half hearted consent. He decides to limit his communication with her to cursory greetings every morning and casual wave at the end of the day.

He thinks ***“pretty girls behave best when you ignore them. (Of course, they have to know you are ignoring them, for otherwise they may not even know you exist.)***  
(pg no 9).

But the day when Annanya cries in the class as she can’t answer the question asked by Prof. Chatterjee, a two decade IIMA veteran. He draws a L-shaped utility curve on the black board and asks her to identify the curve. She recognizes the curve as “ the basic marginal utility curve”. But this is not enough for the professor and he demands to represent the curve

mathematically. This is, now, something which she is not aware of. Her eyes' are clearly explaining that she has no clue, anyhow she manages and replies'

***"Sir that curve shows different bundle of goods between which a consumer is indifferent. That is, at each point on the curve, the consumer has equal preference for one bundle or another."***The answer meets the failure and makes him angry. He humiliates her by putting a question mark on her economic grade. She hangs her head in shame. Krish who has taken an oath to maintain distance with Annanya, notices everything and decides to cut out his studied ignorance strategy and talks to her. Annanya is still in the state of great worry as these equations will be there in the test which is going to be held in the next week. She fears that professor will circle his name and put a D in front of her name. Noticing her fear Krish proposes her to study with him ***"Don't freak out. Listen you can study with me."***(12). In couple of days they become very close and decides to share a room. Although Krish pretends to be fine with just friend thing but somewhere it is killing him. Every time when he looks at her face, he wants to grab her face and kiss her. If he sees her talking with any guy, s hot flush starts from his stomach and reaches his face. He decides to clear his situation ***"I want us to be a couple...and this is not a proposal. I am not Mr. fourteen"*** (24). Annanya comes to him and kisses him. Of course on e thing lead to another, within the period of two weeks, they have sex. After experiencing that romantic moments, they start to think about their professions, their marriage. When Annanya asks about her future with him, he does not take it very seriously.

She hits his mentality by saying ***"How you men need so much time to think about commitment but how you need no time at all to decide when you have to sleep with the girl"*** (32) It takes few days to make him realized that now he is in love with her and proposes her in the presence of interview panel of HLL, ***"Annanya Swaminathan I, Krish Malhotra, am deeply in love with you and want to be with you always. Apart from when we go to office, of course. Will you marry me? (38)... Is that a yes? Will you be with me, always?"***

Annanya tightens her lips to hide a laugh, ***"Yes, you idiot. I will be with you."*** But this brings in its trail a big a parcel of hardships as they both hail to different caste, different culture and different states. He says, ***"...and you are South Indian, which does not help at all.Ok, its not as bad as marrying someone from another religion. But pretty close"*** (40).He expects the same kind of reactions fro her parents ***"...aren't your parents going to flip out when they find out you have Punjabi boy friend?"***(40).

As convocation is coming, it would be the best time to introduce the families to each other. Theyboth have no idea how hard it would be for both of them to get their parents' consent. Having girl friends and boyfriends is something that parents are not able to digest easily. Krish shares with her mom that there is someone, in fact a kind of special one in his life. Hearing this, her reactions is almost same as she comes to know that her son is having AIDS. In order to make her calm down he mentions the word " A good

friend.”Whenever and wherever he dares to tell about Annanya, his mom starts to talk about those silly issues that are ,of course, not of great importance. He tries to make her mom impressed by telling her that Annanya is placed in HLL, the most prestigious marketing company

*...in HLL.It’s a good job.’*

*‘HLL?’*

*‘ The company that makes Surf. And Rin and Lifebuoy and Kissan sauce.’ I named products, hoping that one of them would impress her*

*‘Kissan Jams also?’ She asked after thinking for thirty seconds.*

*‘Yes, she is in marketing. It’s the most prestigious marketing job.’*

*‘She will get free jams then?’(pg 43)*

Next morning brings with it the day for which all the students of IIM have been waiting as on this day they will get their diploma certificate, the day when they will get the fruit of their labour. Needless to say, the day also holds much more importance in Krish and Annanya’s life as the day, on one hand, will provide them their certificate and on the other, their families will come into the contact of each other. Krish introduces Annanya to his mother who is of course not so happy to meet Annanya as Annanya extends her arm to shake his mother’s hand and this modernity is not at all accepted by Kavita who are the representative of that category of the society where anything modern doesn’t go well with people. Krish’s mom is not pleased to hear again and again the name of Annanya from Krish’s mouth. Without consuming much time, Annanya’s parents also show the evidence of their presence at the venue of convocation ceremony. Both families are introduced to each other and get traumatized to know about the community of each other as the both have certain set of prejudices regarding other culture as kavita holds the opinion,

*“ These South Indians don’t know how to control their daughters. From Hema Malini to Sridevi, all of them trying to catch Punjabi men.”(pg48)*

Thinking that Gandhi Ashram would be a good start, Krish makes a plan to have a visit to Ashram along with his mother and Annanya’s parents. To show her maternal rights on Krish , his mother, without offering to anybody, puts a biscuit in Krish’s mouth. After hiring a guide, they get a view of various pictures, letters and articles that hail to Gandhi ji. On hearing about Gandhi’s Dandi March, Krish’s mother who does not want to be left behind in asking question, inquires the reason of calling its as Dandi March and this question of kavita brings in its trail a great humiliation for her as this is a quite surprising for Guide as well as everybody including Annanya’s parents that how little she knows about the greatest man in India! Finally Annanya’s parents get an opportunity to take revert the insult to Kavita as Anaya’s mother states,

*“...Something something ills knowledge Punjabi people something...intellectually, culturally zero. something something crass uneducated something.” (pg51).*

Annanya's confession of her love with Krish adds fuel to fire and contributes a lot in making the meeting a big failure as the confession is something that is not fit to be digested by the both families.

After reaching Delhi, Kavita who feels that her son should stay away from Annanya as she fears that the people of Annanya's community are master in the art of brainwash of others, starts to devote her time in searching a girl for Krish. Krish criticizes his mother attitude of picking holes in Annanya who according to Krish, is perfect to be his better half. But nothing is able to make his mother convinced as she is all set in her mind to choose a girl who is from Punjabi community and rich enough to fill her house with lots of luxuries. She puts a proposal of a girl, Dolly, whose father has six petrol pumps to his credit and the most fascinating fact of this proposal is that her father has only two daughter and in this way the both son-in-law will be able to get three gas stations. Hearing this proposal, Krish can feel only one feeling that is of shock as he is surprised to know that his mother is prepared to make him married to a girl who is not even graduate. She fixes a meeting with Pummy, mother of Dolly, who owns six car and a perfect representative of Punjabi skills of showing off as a part of her innocent conversation. The mothers of Krish and Dolly send them to Barista, a café, so that the duos can know each other in much better way. Reaching there, Dolly inquires about Annanya and shares her secret of having relationship with a boy, a resident of her locality who called a wrong number at her home and later they both start to have talks. Finally, after having a word, Dolly and Krish come on the conclusion that they are not made for each other.

Being fed up of his mother's proposals of girls and his father's harsh words for his mother and for him, Krish takes the decision of filling the blank of preferred location with the word 'Chennai' in Citibank new employee form as this will make him enabled to have his ladylove again in front of his eyes. Although this job is Citibank is not what he wants to do in his life. The ultimate goal which he wants to achieve is his desire to be writer as he shares the same thing with Dolly and Shipra Masi but for the sake of getting money to make his and his mother's life free from all types of worries in fiscal terms, he is duty-bound to continue his services in Citibank that is offering him a package of four lakh a year. To make Krish more familiar with her parents, she calls Krish to her house. Reaching there Krish notices a huge difference between Punjabi culture and south Indian culture where Punjabis are having the nature of show off in their blood, contrary to this South Indians love to lead lives in the simplest manner with all decency,

***"The sofas were simple, with cushions thinner than Indian railways sleepers had and from the opposite of the decadent red velvet sofas of Pammi aunty." (pg89)***

Like Krish's mother, Annanya's parents are also not lag behind in showing their abhor for other communities as his father feels himself unable to find out the cause of sending north Indians who are useless buggers, in his opinion, to south India. howsoever thorny this path may be, but he has firm

determination to get his beloved along with her parents' full hearted consent. Like Krish's mother, Annanya's parents are also in hunt of searching a groom that ofcourse belongs to the same community to which they hail to and this expedition leads them to consider Harish, an IIT Chennai pass out with GPA of 9.45, working in Cisco systems, a tamilian boy with no habit of ingestion and smoking, a perfect one to be the groom of any Tamilian girl. What else is needed by her parents but Annanya makes Harish compelled to say no to her by giving him hint about her virginity loss,

***"...Harish, if there is an entrance exam for virginity, you can be sure I won't top it."(Pg 129)***

This contemporary male society can expect a male to have physical relation even before marriage but these hypocrites can't even imagine that their would be wife is having something that will not provide her the certificate of virginity so is with Harish who, being failed, to accept Annanya after hearing her own words related to her virginity refuses to accept her as his bride.

The protagonist Krish put his sincere efforts to change the conservative mentality of Annanya's parents who are of opinion that Inter-caste can bring only one thing for them, denouncement in society. In spite of being very modern the duos have the dream of marriage with their parents' presence as Annanya says,

***"I wouldn't know what to do. I don't want to hurt them. I already have by choosing a Punjabi mare, but I think we can win them over. I want them to smile on my wedding day. That's how I imagined my marriage since I was a child..."(pg102)***

Similar is Krish's views who feels that these stupid biases and discrimination are the reason due to which India is so screwed up. In India, inspite of national anthem, national currency, national teams, people can't marry outside the state, outside of caste and community. Krish imagines his kids not be known as Tamilians and Punjabis but as Indians,

***"...they won't be Tamil and Punjabi. They will be Indian. They will be above all this nonsense. If all young people marry outside their community, it is good for the country."(Pg103)***

To make Krish enable to have regular access to her home, to get him comfortable with his family, Annanya convinces Krish to give IIT tuitions to her brother, Manjunathan as she feels that for the sake of IIT tuitions her parents can accept anything including Krish's regular visit to their home notwithstanding their disliking for him. This is his heart felt love for Annanya that in spite of working for so many hours in Citibank, he use to devote his four hours on regular bases to revise and prepare notes for Manjunathan. Annanya's brother Manjunathan comes off with flying colours in the IIT entrance test by dint of Krish's guidance. Even after taking this help of Krish, Annanya's father makes plea to Krish to make distance with his daughter as he feels,

***"we are simple people, we don't say much. But don't spoil her name in our community (pg 109)*** He shows his gratitude towards Krish for helping his son but makes it clear that they can't let Annanya marry with him.

This clear confession of her father can't create any bitter feeling in the heart of Krish who, after knowing that her father is in deep worry as he has to prepare a presentation of business plan, a thing that has never been done in Bank of Baroda by anybody so far, becomes concur to offer his help to prepare the presentation. He works round the clock to computerize the ledgers to make power point slides and makes him convinced to present the plan by himself as her father opines that knowledge is not for showing off and going to handover his plan to his manager Mr. Verma. Being convinced by Krish, he presents the plan and receives lots of positive reception and appreciation by the board. Krish, not only helps Annanya's father and brother but also contributes a lot in bringing to light the hidden and unnoticed talent of Annanya's mother who is blessed with a sweet voice but unfortunate enough that she can't get the platform to exhibit her talent till so far in her life. He touches her mother's heart by arranging her performance with big Carnatic singers S.P. Balasubramaniam and Hariharan. It is only the motivation from the side of Krish that makes her able to perform in front of such big celebrities, about whom, she can't even imagine in her dreams. After realizing everyone in his favour, he arranges a lunch for Annanya's marriage and confesses his feeling in front of them by telling that his love for Annanya becomes more and more with every day since that first day of IIM and this is the reason of coming to Chennai as his first posting.

***"... We thought our love is enough reason for us to get married. We thought our parents will meet at convocation and things will be smooth. Well we were wrong.(pg 182)"***

Bhagat has presented the character of Krish as a youth icon of India who in spite of his immeasurable love for his darling, does not want to marry to her without her parents' willingness.

***"... Annanya told me she had this dream of both sets of parents smiling on our wedding day. And so, I want to see if we can do that. Also I didn't think we had done anything wrong that we had to run away."(pg183)***

Krish makes an appeal to them to accept him for the sake of their daughter's happiness by taking a view of what they know of him. Having four little boxes, containing gold rings, he knelt on the floor and says,

***"I, Krish Malhotra, would like to propose to all of you. Will all of you marry me?"(pg 183)***

The compassion of his heart and dexterity of his mind win the heart of Annanya's family as her father gives approval by taking a promise to take care of his daughter still they fear about the way in which Krish's parents will react after knowing about this relationship.

But this victory of Krish and Annanya is still not complete as the consent of Krish's father is yet to be taken and that is not going to be less tough as it is in the case of Annanya's parents. Reaching Delhi, his home town, with Annanya, he tells his mother that Annanya is coming to stay at their home for weekend as she has to join her company day after, on Monday. This makes his

mother upset with him who does not hesitate in passing derogatory comments on Annanya as ,on seeing, Annanya she says,

***“I didn’t know you’ll bring extra baggage from Chennani.”(pg190).***

To bowl his mom over, he suggests her to help his mom in preparing dinner, a thing in which Annanya is not at all home in.

***“Yeah mom,why don’t you let Annanya make dinner today?”(pg 192)***

To make her impressed, Annanya also nods her head as she is willing by heart to prepare dinner for them. But like most of Punjabi mother-in-law Kavita can’t be the tolerant of this. To make the situation miserable for Annanya, she makes a long listed menu for dinner.

***“Krish likes gobi aloo.I thought we will also make black daal,raita and salad.”(192)***

Too many hours are consumed by the duos but making dinner is sounding more difficult than cracking exams. Ignorant to all this,she ignited the flame and put the vegetable on high flame, as a result all the spices have overcooked and a pungent smoke rises from the kitchen . Noticing this, his mother steps into the kitchen and starts to criticize Annanya as she meets with failure in preparing dinner. Even after putting his sincerest efforts of defending Annanya by saying that being south Indian, she is not acquainted with rotis, Krish can’t check his mother from passing humiliating remarks on Annanya as she feels that Annanya can only cook the schemes to trap her son.

***“See, this is how she will use you after marriage. She can’t even make rotis”***

***“...You are under her spell.You bring her home. You knead atta for her. You give her two frootis I had brought for guests. You are so worried about her. What about me?”(194)***

On hearing these words of his mom, he dares to confess again about his plan of marrying Annanya as this does not make any impact on his relationship with Annanya that she hails to south Indian family, it is his love, a true love,that is above all the boundaries of states. Annanya continues the discussion by saying that they want kavita to be happy about their decision. But Kavita, a typical Punjabi house wife who has suffered for years to bring his son up, wants to have a lavish wedding of her son in which she is respected by girl’s side, where she can show her tantrums of mother- in- law, where all her brothers and sisters can approve a girl. But all this will convert into mere dream at the very moment when Krish will accept Annanya as his spouse.

He wants to accompany his mother along with his ladylove at Minti’s marriage. After having a sort of discussion over it, his mother permits Annanya to go together with them with the condition that she will be introduced only as his class mate, not more than that, In spite of all the lavish and aristocratic arrangements, Minti’s father does not get success in making her in-laws happy who are ready to break the knot as the latter feels themselves cheated by the former in case of giving Hyundai Santro in place of Hyundai Accent. Minti’s father, with his turban at the feet of Duke’s parents, begs a lot to change their mind but greed of money is such a strong instinct that makes a person heartless



enough to feel any emotion, blind enough to keep his eyes closed to see the tears of girl's side. To make them agreed for marriage, Minti's relatives decides to give their jewellery to Duke's parents as a security and this step really works as Duke's parents say 'yes' to marriage by keeping the extra jeweeley as security.

Annanya who feels that such type of criminals who blackmail girls' parents on the ground of dowry and marriage deserves to be sent to jail, request Minti's parents to wait for some moments in order to give her a chance to have a word with Duke and his cousin. She makes him understand how lucky duke is in getting Minti as his wife and if he has to woo her, he can't even in his dreams have a girlfriend like her. These words of Annaya prove as eye opener for him as he realizes his mistake and say to his parents,

***““ Daddy I have kept quiet for long, no? Everything you have decided. Now whatever it is, don't spoil my marriage...Mummy, enough! And why this drama of keeping their jewellery? What do you think? I can't buy my own car?”***

***“ Mummy, enough! And why this drama of keeping their jewellery? What do you think? I can't buy my own car? (pg 215)***

These efforts of Annanya make her loved by all the relatives of Krish including Kavita as well as who feels herself in the stage of saying nothing but a yes to Annanya as on being asked about her liking for Annanya, she says,

***“ of course, I do ,beta,...her hand on Annanya's head. But there are other people too, your side of the family.”***

***“...Yes, but what adult the families liking each other? You two may be happy, but we adults have to get along with the adults from your side.” (217)***

With this, here comes a new challenge in the lives of the duos. to give a new start to the relations of adults with each other as the sour experience of Sabarmati Ashram make them convinced to accept the prejudices of their respective communities as true as any universal truth, Krish cooks a plan to make a visit ,along with his mom and Annanya's parents, to Park Hayat, Goa. Old habits die hard and so with kavita who feels herself proud in her nature of show off who on hearing the question of Krish's father from the mouth of Annanya's father, gives simply a lame excuse with all manners of showing off,

***‘Your husband didn't come?’ Annanya's mother said***

***‘No, he is not well. Doctor has told him not to travel by air.’ My mother said***

***‘There is train to Goa from Delhi,’ Annanya's father supplied.***

***‘We don't travel by train’, my mother said, lying of course. (pg 223)***

To show how large-hearted Punjabis are, she gifts a tussar silk saree which she has brought from the Assam Emporium, to Annanya's mother and expects the same from Annanya's parents but finding herself in the stage of getting nothing from her parents, she can't have control over herself and speaks in taunting way,

***“Actually, Punjabis are quite large-hearted people. We like to live well When we meet people, we give them nice gifts...we never meet anyone empty handed. Oh and meeting the boy’s side empty-handed, unthinkable.”(pg 223 )***

After visiting Born Jesus Basilica, Dona Paula, they all leave for coffee shop where Annanya parents, as instructed by Krish to win the heart of his mom, come with three bags contain three sarees for Kavita, four shirts for krish, sweets, savory snacks and Goan cashews. To break the ice Kavita intimated the conversation by discussing that how, with the passage of time, everything changes as their kids by themselves have decided to marry and the parents are meeting each other afterwards for the same reason. for the sake of continuing the discussion Annanya’s mother, Radar shares the feeling of their shock on hearing about Krish, a Punjabi boy with whom their daughter wants to get married but since they come to know about the true colour of Krish’s personality from last six months, they are OK with him in spite of his association with other group of people.

The ‘OK’ word of Annanya’s parents for Krish is too much for Kavita to be digested as she considers that Annanya parents show feel be proud of their fate in getting such a handsome, qualified Punjabi groom for their tamilian daughter. She states,

***“What Ok? You must be jumping with joy inside. Where will you find such a qualified boy like him?(pg226)***

Hearing this Annanya’s mother can’t control her self and says in return,

***“Actually,we do get qualified boys. Tamils value education a lot. All her uncles are engineers or doctors. Annanya had many matches from the USA.”(226)***

Few minutes back the venue of their meeting is witnessing silence till that extend that every single sound of cutlery clanging on the plates, the sound of even can be noticed but in the blink of eye the pin drop silence takes another shape, a shape of boisterous, overexcited storm of heated arguments.

***Yeah, but they must be all dark boys. Were they any as fair as krish?looks-wise you cannot match Punjabis,... and my brothers are also doing well says my mother, ‘ Ask Annanya what a wedding she has attended. They gave a Santro to the groom. You may have landed my son, but it doesn’t mean he has no value.’***

***‘We haven’t trapped anyone,’ Annanya’ s mother said finally. ‘He used to keep coming to our house. We are decent people so we couldn’t say no...Why should I be quiet and get falsely accused? We haven’t trapped anyone. Aren’t we suffering? We all know Krish’s father is against this. Our relatives will ask. Still we are accepting,’ Annanya’s mother said.***

***‘What are you accepting? You don’t even deserve my boy,’ my mother said.***

***Please don’t shout. We are educated people,’ Annanya’s father said. Are you saying we are not educated? My mother challenged. (226-227)***

Somehow the arguments come to an end as both' parents return to their hotel room. After few minutes, Annanya steps in the room of Krish where his mom, without any sign of regret, is enjoying her favourite soap. She tells how hurt her father is after hearing all this and makes it clear again that her family has not trapped Krish, in fact in the beginning they are quite against Krish but later on they have accepted Krish after realizing his love for their daughter so they deserve an apology from Kavita's side for which Kavita is not at all ready as she says, after Annanya's departure from the room,

***"We don't have bahu in Punjabis like that, no matter how high-profile. We keep them straight...I don't want my daughter-in-law to raise her voice or answer me back. She has to under my thumb."***(227)

To make his mom calm down, he tries to make her convinced by saying that Annanya will be for sure under his mom thumb after marriage. But being ill fated enough he can't notice that Annanya with her parents is listening to every single word of Krish and his mom. Hearing this she realizes what the hell she is going to do in her life by accepting Krish as her life partner because it's not only his mom but even Krish is also the same kind.

***"So, I will be taught to toe the line after marriage. Well done, Krish, it's not just your mother, it is you as well..."***

***I told my parents your mother will apologise. But you guys are making bigger plans."***(229)

To make everything come on normal track, to make Annanya convinced, he tries to tell her that he is manipulating the things to make her mother calm down but in spite of his genuine efforts, Annanya who has taken the decision of breaking all her relation with Krish is not in mood of hearing and saying something so she puts a full stop on discussion by telling how much she hates manipulation and manipulators even more.

Coming back from Goa, the life for Krish is no more as pleasing as it used to be in the company of Annanya who is not even having talking terms with him as she feels that Krish's mom is biased and uncompromising enough to change her alleged beliefs towards South Indians, towards girl's side as well and this judgment of his mother deserves to have all the responsibilities of changing the mind of Annanya who, at the present, wants to marry where her parents are treated equally.

One's morning is someone's night proves very exact in the case of Kavita, who is happy like never before as she thinks this 'No' of Annanya has made her son free from the web of her and her parents and now Kavita is in again on her mission of finding a suitable match for her son, needless to say the match with lots of money and luxuries to offer at the time of marriage. Being hurt enough by this selfish attitude of his mother, he shows his frustration by saying,

***"I'll marry her. No need to see her. Fine? ...what is the point of my seeing these girls? What am I supposed to check out in one hour? Her complexion? Figure-fat or slim? Is the marble in her home real? None of this matters when you have to spend your life with a person, so might as well"***

***save time. The parents should do the meeting. Whoever massages your ego more, say yes”(234)***

Even these heart touching words of krish don't get success in changing his mom's mind, contrary to this she realizes what a big blunder she has done in meeting her parents who are as dark at heart as they are in their complexion, a completely dry bread of people who are completely not a success in behaving with boy's side.

Realizing the differences that has taken birth in the relation of Krish and his mom, a thing that is too hard to be swallowed, his father investigates the problem by going deep to its roots and after finding out the reason of above stated problem, he himself goes to Annanya's parents and achieve success in getting her parents' approval by assuring them how happy Annanya will be after her marriage with Krish and as the part of his family. To Krish's surprise, Annanya calls him and shares this news with her future husband,

***‘He spent seven hours with my parents yesterday. He assured them that I would be treated like a daughter and apologized for any past misgivings.’***

***‘My dad?’ I tried for clarification.***

***‘Yeah, my parents feel so much better after meeting him. In fact, they asked me if I have a date in mind. Can you imagine...’ (pg245 )***

All is well that ends well. After so many hardships, so many narrow thinking of parents, so many biasness about the communities, finally the day comes when the duos are going to be each other for the life time, the day that has come with the victory of love over the conservative mindset of the societies, the day that has witnessed that true love can't be cramped in the narrow boundaries of the states, the day on which two states has become one. On the occasion of reception of protagonists' marriage, Annanya's father confesses,

***“...when Annanya first told us about Krish, we were quite upset. As all Tamilians know.***

***We are so proud of our own culture. We laso thought our daughter is one in millions; she will get the best of boys in our own community. Why must she go for a Punjabi boy?***

***We did our best to discourage her. We didn't treat Krish well even though he moved to Chennani for us. We even showed her Tamil boys...So why do parents object to this...It is not only about another community. It is the fact your daughter has found a boy for herself. We as parents feel disobeyed, left out and disappointed. We bring our children up from babies to adults, how can they ignore us like this? All our frustration comes out in anger. How much we hate love marriages, isn't it?***

***Actually, the choice is simple. When your child decides to love a new person, you can either see it as a chance to hate some people...you can also see it as a chance to love some more people.***

***Yes, the Tamilian in me is a little disappointed. But the Indian in me is quite happy. And more than anything, the human being in me is happy.***

*After all, we've decided to use this opportunity to create more loved ones for ourselves. (pg 225-226)*

### **Conclusion**

Bhagat shows in a very pragmatic technique, what a huge difference there is in the imaginative world of youngster, which they generate during their college years, where everything is so trouble-free to get, and the real world of life where its intricate to attain anything without any thorn of adversity. As Krish and Annanya, their days in IIM, feel that its enough for them to love each other but they are uninformed that to convert their love life into a love marriage, the couple will have a tough battle in front of them as it is easy to fight and rebel, but much harder to convince the people of world who suffer from the biasness and prejudices in the regard of caste, colour and creed. Through the delineation of Krish and Annanya's characters, he sets an example for the youth of India that they should not choose their spouse on the conservative and illogical bases. What should be the foundation of happy married life is true love only that can fetch true happiness in life and once it is achieved, caste and religion should be put on back burner. Inter-Caste and Inter- Religion marriage serve as a guiding light for social impartiality. The novel, successfully, raise a question on the frame of mind of people who possess the opinion that their kids should not go for inter communal marriages as it is against their culture and community but how can they forget that all the people, living in India have only one religion i.e Indianism. It is only due to this orthodox people that even after so many years of independence, we are standing in the opposition of Inter-caste and Inter-Religion marriage. How simple will be the life when it will be independent from the manacles of so called restrictions of religion and culture. This is the high time when youngsters should come forward in choosing their spouse on the basis of true love, not on the bases on pre set criterion of the society.

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