

## Title and Author:

2 States : The story of My Marriage by Chetan Bhagat

## Introduction:

I chose the Book 2 states because of its reliable storyline which revolves around inter-caste marriage in India. I had heard many great things about the movie based on this book, so I was very curious to read the romance, drama and also how the author has shown the struggles of couple with different cultural backgrounds as they were from two different states. My initial expectation from book was a simple love-story, but I also hoped that it would give a strong message too.

## Summary:

This novel follows Krish Malhotra a Punjabi boy from Delhi and Ananya Swaminathan a Tamil girl from Chennai. They met at IIM Ahmedabad and fall in love with each other and decide to get married, but their journey wasn't a cakewalk. Their real struggle begins when they try to convince each other's families which were firmly against their decision because of their different culture and Tradition.

Krish's mother was a typical Punjabi Overreactive women, whereas his father is a retired army officer who doesn't have good relationship with both of them. Ananya's parents on the other hand were culturally different from Krish's parents. They are conservative south Indian parents.

This book both emotionally and humorously captures their efforts to minimize these differences and establish an affection between their families. Themes of love, family's expectations & cultural differences have played very huge role in this novel.

### Analysis and Opinion:-

According to me, one of the strongest aspects of this book are its humor and also the reliability. Chetan Bhagat's attractive writing style has made it very engaging. North India and South India's cultural differences has been shown beautifully by him. The contrast between Krish's lively Punjabi family background and Ananya's more reserved Tamil upbringing is also an integral part of the story.

Author's struggles feel realistic to me, whether its dealing with the opposition from family or balancing personal happiness and also to keep Ananya happy. Ananya feels like a standout character who is an independent, determined and not afraid to raise her opinions. Krish is also determined but still vulnerable. I think this makes him a well-rounded character.



One Dialogue which I felt most striking in this book is when Krish's mother sarcastically remarks that "Do you think we have nothing better to do than marrying outside our community?". This I think indicates the rigid mindset that many Indian traditional families hold. An indirect speech example would be when Krish confesses Ananya that his mother is not very happy about their relationship, emphasizing the societal pressure he was facing.

I felt the book was entertaining, certain Parts feel more stretched, specially when Krish tries to impress ananya's parents. At some times writing becomes repetitive, but overall the story keeps the reader curious and investing.

### Personal Connection :-

This book inspired me because it reflects the real-life challenges of intercultural relationships. It made me realize how deeply ingrained cultural biases can be and how love often has to fight against norms in the society. The novel made me remind that where there's a will, there's a way, as Krish and Ananya's wish paid off.

The way Krish went out of his way to win over Ananya's parents made me think about the lengths people go to for love. His ability to hold his ground despite numerous obstacles was inspiring.

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### Conclusion :

I would definitely recommend 2 states to anyone who enjoys contemporary romance with a touch of humor and social commentary. Its prefect for young adults and those intrested in stories that say real-life cultural challenges. While its not a literary Masterpiece, but its an easy entertaining book that many can relate to.