

TITLE & AUTHOR:

2 STATES THE STORY OF MY MARRIAGE BY CHETAN BHAGAT

INTRODUCTION:

I picked 2 States because I've always been curious about how couples in India deal with cultural differences, especially when families are super traditional. The title itself made me wonder how two people from different states manage to turn love into marriage when so many things language, food, customs are totally different. Plus, I had heard Chetan Bhagat's writing is simple, funny, and easy to relate to, so I wanted to give it a try. I expected it to be a mix of romance and drama, with some real-life problems and a good amount of humour.

SUMMARY:

2 States is about Krish, a Punjabi guy from Delhi, and Ananya, a Tamil Brahmin girl from Chennai, who fall in love while studying at IIM Ahmedabad. Everything seems perfect between them, but the real problem begins when they decide to get married. Since both of them come from completely different cultures, convincing their parents becomes the biggest challenge. Krish's family is loud, emotional, and full of drama, while Ananya's family is quiet, formal, and strict about traditions. The story shows how the couple tries to win over

each other's parents sometimes with smart ideas, sometimes with awkward situations. The book is mostly light-hearted, but it touches on serious issues like family pressure, identity, and the importance of understanding. It's written in first person from Krish's point of view and has a lot of funny and emotional moments. Overall, the story is about love, compromise, and how in India, marriage isn't just about two people it's about two families learning to accept each other.

ANALYSIS & OPINION:

What I really liked about this book was how real and honest it felt. The conversations between characters were natural, and the cultural differences were shown in a funny but respectful way. Chetan Bhagat's writing is simple, which made the book easy to read and follow. Some scenes, especially the ones where Krish and Ananya try to impress each other's families, were hilarious. Ananya really stood out to me. She was bold, smart, and didn't just go with whatever her parents said. She had her own voice and wasn't afraid to stand up for herself. Krish was also relatable he's stuck between doing what he wants and trying to make his family happy, which is something a lot of us can understand. One line that really hit me was when Krish said to his dad, "I've spent most of my life

trying to make you happy. When do I get to be happy? That moment showed how much he had bottled up inside. He later told Ananya that he had never even heard his father say he was proud of him, and that hurt him deeply. The only downside is that some parts of the story felt a bit dragged, especially the back-and-forth with the families. But overall, the emotional moments made up for it. The book shows that relationships aren't always about big romantic gestures they're about small efforts, being patient, and learning to understand not just your partner, but their entire world.

PERSONAL CONNECTION:

This book really made me think about how complicated love can be when families are involved. Even though I'm not in a relationship, I could still relate to Krish's situation trying to balance your own happiness with your parents' expectations. It's something almost every Indian student can connect with. One thing it taught me is that you can't always figure out how people will react, especially when it comes to love and tradition. Sometimes, you just have to hold on to what you believe is right and trust that things will fall into place. The story also reminded me that blood is thicker than water, but sometimes, friends or partners understand you better

than family. It also showed me that every cloud has a silver lining even if things are tough at first, they can still work out if you keep trying. After reading it, I felt more aware of how love and culture are tied together in our society. It made me appreciate the effort it takes to truly understand someone's background and values.

CONCLUSION:

Yes, I would definitely recommend 2 States to anyone who enjoys stories that are funny, emotional, and based on real life situations. It's perfect for students and young adults who want something relatable but not too heavy. The mix of cultures, family drama, and love makes it super engaging. Even if you're not a big reader, this book won't bore you. It's a light read with meaningful moments, and I think anyone who's ever dealt with family expectations will enjoy it.