

CUT OFF

- CHETAN BHAGAT

The short story “cut off” was written by Chetan Bhagat, one of the most influential writer, novelist and best-seller. He is a motivational speaker and columnist and was named one of the ‘100’ most influential people in the world by Time Magazine. Through this short novella, the author offers a perceptive assessment of engineering education in India. It makes a telling observation on the way the world is now and the mindset of society.

The story’s narrator, Gautam Arora, secured 92 percent of the possible points to win in the XII class exam. Despite receiving high grades, he was barred from entry to any reputable colleges. He became outraged about his situation and made the decision to commit suicide. At a cafe, he got along with his friend Neeraj and his girlfriend Anjali.

Gautam informed him of his situation and requested him to choose the suicide method that would be the most graceful and painless. Neeraj disagreed with his choice and urged him to use creativity and imagination. Cowards are unable to advance in life. Face the world with courage and spirit.

Gautam left the restaurant and went home. He continued to consider his acceptance to a reputable institution after supper as a result of his parents chat, but he was still unsure and decided to write a letter to the education department. He started writing the letter on the WordPad. He wrote the letter to outline the current state of the nation's deserving kids. Lack of IIMS and IITS colleges in the nation has a greater impact on students looking to enroll in undergraduate programmes. He advises that more A-Grade universities be established by the government. He saved a printout of the letter that he had taken.

Their maid arrived early in the morning, happy, and handed the sweets as her kid passed with a 42 percent. Gautam grabbed the newspaper out.

He went to the chemist shop in the afternoon and ordered copper sulphate to commit suicide. Later, he walked home to find his father discussing the advantages of attending a less well-known university with his mother. When Gautam noticed the crumpled newspaper under the pillow in his father's bedroom, he realised the true significance of his father's remarks.

The author describes the competition for admission to A-Grade universities in our nation. They will lose everything in their lives if they are not admitted. They experience stress, anxiety, and tension. Their entire existence seems to revolve around creating money. He also highlighted how, in comparison to earlier times, the relationship between parents and children are growing.