

Chetan Bhagat

- [Home](#)
- [Meet Chetan](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [The Books](#)
- [Press Kit](#)
- [Guest Book](#)

July 7, 2008

Sparks

Filed under: [General](#) — admin @ 7:03 pm

Hi all,

Sorry for the delay in making a new post. To compensate, I will make this a longer one. I recently visited the fantastic Symbiosis campus in Pune and gave the inaugural speech to the incoming BBA batch. Since many of you may be joining/rejoining college soon, I thought I will share this speech with you.

Otherwise, I shall be in Delhi for the OSIANS film festival. I have a session on Literature and Cinema on Sunday, July 13, 2008 at 5pm in the Siri Fort Auditorium. It is free entry, so do come if you wish to meet me. The festival also has a great selection of movies that you don't normally get to see and there are major bragging rights for weeks even if you watch one of them ("I was at OSIANS last weekend, and you? shopping at the mall again?").

Anyway, back to the speech, I decided to call it Sparks. I am pasting it below.

Till next time, love and regards - me.

Keep the Spark

Inaugural Speech for the new batch at the Symbiosis BBA program 2008

© Chetan Bhagat

Good Morning everyone and thank you for giving me this chance to speak to you. This day is about you. You, who have come to this college, leaving the comfort of your homes (or in some cases discomfort), to become something in your life. I am sure you are excited. There are few days in human life when one is truly elated. The first day in college is one of them. When you were getting ready today, you felt a tingling in your stomach. What would the auditorium be like, what would the teachers be like, who are my new classmates - there is so much to be curious about. I call this excitement, the spark within you that makes you feel truly alive today. Today I am going to talk about keeping the spark shining. Or to put it another way, how to be happy most, if not all the time.

Where do these sparks start? I think we are born with them. My 3-year old twin boys have a million sparks. A little Spiderman toy can make them jump on the bed. They get thrills from creaky swings in the park. A story from daddy gets them excited. They do a daily countdown for birthday party - several months in advance - just for the day they will cut their own birthday cake.

I see students like you, and I still see some sparks. But when I see older people, the spark is difficult to find. That means as we age, the spark fades. People whose spark has faded too much are dull, dejected, aimless and bitter. Remember Kareena in the first half of Jab We Met vs the second half? That is what happens when the spark is lost. So how to save the spark?

Imagine the spark to be a lamp's flame. The first aspect is nurturing - to give your spark the fuel, continuously. The second is to guard against storms.

To nurture, always have goals. It is human nature to strive, improve and achieve full potential. In fact, that is success. It is what is possible for *you*. It isn't any external measure - a certain cost to company pay package, a particular car or house.

Most of us are from middle class families. To us, having material landmarks is success and rightly so. When you have grown up where money constraints force everyday choices, financial freedom is a big achievement.

But it isn't the purpose of life. If that was the case, Mr Ambani would not show up for work. Shah Rukh Khan would stay at home and not dance anymore. Steve Jobs won't be working hard to make a better iPhone, as he sold Pixar for billions of dollars already. Why do they do it? What makes them come to work everyday?

They do it because it makes them happy. They do it because it makes them feel alive. Just getting better from current levels feels good. If you study hard, you can improve your rank. If you make an effort to interact with people, you will do better in interviews. If you practice, your cricket will get better. You may also know that you cannot become Tendulkar, yet. But you can get to the next level. Striving for that next level is important.

Nature designed with a random set of genes and circumstances in which we were born. To be happy, we have to accept it and make the most of nature's design. Are you? Goals will help you do that.

I must add, don't just have career or academic goals. Set goals to give you a balanced, successful life. I use the word balanced before successful. Balanced means ensuring your health, relationships, mental peace are all in good order.

There is no point of getting a promotion on the day of your breakup. There is no fun in driving a car if your back hurts. Shopping is not enjoyable if your mind is full of tensions. You must have read some quotes - Life is a tough race, it is a marathon or whatever. No, from what I have seen so far, life is one of those races in nursery school. Where you have to run with a marble in a spoon kept in your mouth. If the marble falls, there is no point coming first. Same with life, where health and relationships are the marble. Your striving is only worth it if there is harmony in your life. Else, you may achieve the success, but this spark, this feeling of being excited and alive, will start to die.

One last thing about nurturing the spark - don't take life seriously. One of my yoga teachers used to make students laugh during classes. One student asked him if these jokes would take away something from the yoga practice. The teacher said - *don't be serious, be sincere*. This quote has defined my work ever since. Whether its my writing, my job, my relationships or any of my goals. I get thousands of opinions on my writing everyday. There is heaps of praise, there is intense criticism. If I take it all seriously, how will I write? Or rather, how will I live? Life is not to be taken seriously, as we are really temporary here. We are like a pre-paid card with limited validity. If we are lucky, we may last another 50 years. And 50 years is just 2,500 weekends. Do we really need to get so worked up? It's ok, bunk a few classes, goof up a few interviews, fall in love. We are people, not programmed devices.

I've told you three things - reasonable goals, balance and not taking it too seriously that will nurture the spark. However, there are four storms in life that will threaten to completely put out the flame. These must be guarded against. These are disappointment, frustration, unfairness and loneliness of purpose.

Disappointment will come when your effort does not give you the expected return. If things don't go as planned or if you face failure. Failure is extremely difficult to handle, but those that do come out stronger. What did this failure teach me? is the question you will need to ask. You will feel miserable. You will want to quit, like I wanted to when nine publishers rejected my first book. Some IITians kill themselves over low grades - how silly is that? But that is how much failure can hurt you.

But it's life. If challenges could always be overcome, they would cease to be a challenge. And remember - if you are failing at something, that means you are at your limit or potential. And that's where you want to be.

Disappointment's cousin is frustration, the second storm. Have you ever been frustrated? It happens when things are stuck. This is especially relevant in India. From traffic jams to getting that job you deserve, sometimes things take so long that you don't know if you chose the right goal. After books, I set the goal of writing for Bollywood, as I thought they needed writers. I am called extremely lucky, but it took me five years to get close to a release.

Frustration saps excitement, and turns your initial energy into something negative, making you a bitter person. How did I deal with it? A realistic assessment of the time involved - movies take a long time to make even though they are watched quickly, seeking a certain enjoyment in the process rather than the end result - at least I was learning how to write scripts, having a side plan - I had my third book to write and even something as simple as pleasurable distractions in your life - friends, food, travel can help you overcome it. Remember, nothing is to be taken seriously. Frustration is a sign somewhere, you took it too seriously.

Unfairness - this is hardest to deal with, but unfortunately that is how our country works. People with connections, rich dads, beautiful faces, pedigree find it easier to make it - not just in Bollywood, but everywhere. And sometimes it is just plain luck. There are so few opportunities in India, so many stars need to be aligned for you to make it happen. Merit and hard work is not always linked to achievement in the short term, but the long term correlation is high, and ultimately things do work out. But realize, there will be some people luckier than you.

In fact, to have an opportunity to go to college and understand this speech in English means you are pretty darn lucky by Indian standards. Let's be grateful for what we have and get the strength to accept what we don't. I have so much love from my readers that other writers cannot even imagine it. However, I don't get literary praise. It's ok. I don't look like Aishwarya Rai, but I have two boys who I think are more beautiful than her. It's ok. Don't let unfairness kill your spark.

Finally, the last point that can kill your spark is isolation. As you grow older you will realize you are unique. When you are little, all kids want Ice cream and Spiderman. As you grow older to college, you still are a lot like your friends. But ten years later and you realize you are unique. What you want, what you believe in, what makes you feel, may be different from even the people closest to you. This can create conflict as your goals may not match with others. . And you may drop some of them. Basketball captains in college invariably stop playing basketball by the time they have their second child. They give up something that meant so much to them. They do it for their family. But in doing that, the spark dies. Never, ever make that compromise. Love yourself first, and then others.

There you go. I've told you the four thunderstorms - disappointment, frustration, unfairness and isolation. You cannot avoid them, as like the monsoon they will come into your life at regular intervals. You just need to keep the raincoat handy to not let the spark die.

I welcome you again to the most wonderful years of your life. If someone gave me the choice to go back in time, I will surely choose college. But I also hope that ten years later as well, you eyes will shine the same way as they do today. That you will Keep the Spark alive, not only through college, but through the next 2,500 weekends. And I hope not just you, but my whole country will keep that spark alive, as we really need it now more than any moment in history. And there is something cool about saying - I come from the land of a billion sparks.

Thank You.

PS: Thanks for your lovely comments. If any of the above relates to your life, do share.

121 Comments »

1.



Dear Chetan,

This is perhaps one of the most inspiring speeches(in my list at least). I love listening to the Steve Jobs's Stanford commencement speech. I will have to say, this one will surely top along with that in my list! Extremely motivational and thought provoking! This will surely make lot many ppl to rethink about wat they r doing, n what they need to do! Kudos Chetan! U Rock !

Cheers,
Deepak Salunke

Comment by [Deepak](#) — July 7, 2008 @ [9:05 pm](#)



i don't know what make me write this <http://insideme.geekybuddha.org/2008/07/1000-mistakes-of-my-14th-life.html>
kudos to CB

Comment by [shree kant](#) — July 7, 2008 @ [9:15 pm](#)



Hello Chetan, exceptional speech, it is difficult to expect any less of you, strikes a chord, it was a pleasure reading it.

Comment by [Ali](#) — July 7, 2008 @ [9:44 pm](#)



Hey Chetan I read ur book nd now ur speech, its actually very inspiring.U know nobody gives it a thought but it is really very important to live with that spark.I do live with it but they were dying but now i know how to protect them!!!! Hats off CB

Comment by [Ishita](#) — July 8, 2008 @ [12:40 am](#)



So motivating and life-changing speech! Thankyou soo much Mr. Bhagat for putting it up here. Am really not a writer but love to read ! reading your work is soo much fun ! You always write what am looking for 😊 thankyou !!
Sir i have a huge problem ! My problem is that when i know a certain person is not good , i can't fake and be good to that person(not that i make faces or say anything , am too introvert to do THAT)which is not a good thing ! This way i never trust people for anything and sometimes things can't be done alone , we need help too.
But as i read soo much about being sincere and doing what you are supposed to do , i drop them from my thoughts. Your explanation of the four THUNDER storms has taught me a good lesson and i should oblige !
Thankyou once again ! (may god fulfil all your dreams) 😊
cheers !:) (this smile for teaching me a sparkling lesson)

Comment by [shruti bhutani](#) — July 8, 2008 @ [12:45 am](#)



hi,

that was a good one. i recently finished college... finished post graduation and finally started working. suddenly i started feeling a void in life.... an empty feeling as i no more had exams to plan for, no more goal to reach.... this speech of yours inspired me to search for new goals and keep the spark alive. i will strive to go to the next level at my job , think of ways how i can improve myself in work , relationship and everything else in life.

why dont you write motivational books as well . will definitely help the youngsters.

Comment by [mridula](#) — July 8, 2008 @ [1:50 am](#)



HEy Chetan!!!

This is the first time i m writing to you and it's a great speech. I don't have words to express my feelings. As frankly speaking I have lost the Spark in my life and I m only 24 yrs of age.

I know I am not too young or so not too older but I believe something is missing. After reading your speech I am feeling to get back to my college days and bring the spark of my life back. I am an engineer and now days just working and working. Your speech makes me understand how to bring smile again in my life and I will do it. Your speech is very motivating and its true that now no one has so much time to think about it. But we have to think or else our life will be dull like mine..... so try making it beautiful.

The examples that you gave are true that Mr. Ambani or SRK has earned so much money but they are still working and inspiring others. Thanksssss alott.....

I hope that I can meet you on in Delhi on 13. Catch you there....

Take care

BBye...

Comment by Rupesh — July 8, 2008 @ [4:33 am](#)

8. 

Hi,

I am very inspired by this speech. I am currently doing my 3rd year of graduation and i know that this spark is very necessary for living (for me) and i appreciate my parents, friends, and your books for this. I have read all the 3 books and i loved them... they are great.. But i am just wondering that how can i bring that spark again in my life when i was of 15-16 years old. I want to become innocent again.....

You have inspired this young generation with your thoughts.. I thank you for giving an opportunity to read your thoughts..

Keep smiling...

Take Care...

CYa...

Comment by Junkhna — July 8, 2008 @ [11:44 am](#)

9. 

That was inspiring!

Comment by Saranya — July 8, 2008 @ [2:11 pm](#)

10. 

Inspiring indeed. When I saw your blog with comments open for everyone I was really wondering how many takes on your writing style/ books you would get but after reading this

>>>I get thousands of opinions on my writing everyday. There is heaps of praise, there is intense criticism. If I take it all seriously, how will I write? Or rather, how will I live?<<<

the thought went away quickly from my mind 😊

Keep on the good work you are doing

Comment by Sudeep — July 8, 2008 @ [8:08 pm](#)

11. 

Hey Chetan,

That was really Inspiring. Keep writing....

Comment by Avadhoot paranjpe — July 9, 2008 @ [12:13 am](#)

12. 

Hey chetan,

Thanks for giving such good speech,which can help in motivating many ho have been dissapointed after exam result.I have a very close frnd of mine who i think is much better than me in studies but unfotunately he wasnt able to find admission in good engg. coll. n i and other frnds got it, so he is quite upset now days and i find it hard to boost his mood. I known he deserved a lot better but as u said many are more lucky than v r.So after reading your speech i have found something good to tell him . thanks again n all ur book r very good.

And keep writing v will b waiting for the next book.

Comment by rakesh kumar — July 9, 2008 @ [4:14 pm](#)

13. 

Hi Chetan,

This is first time i am writing any comments. i just finished ur fist written book and now started 3 mistake. i liked ur speech it is really inspiring and more important in simple language to understand. Frankly speaking most of us lost the speak with in us so easily. I am from one of them ..but will try to keep it alive the way u told in speech. Thanks ..

Comment by Smita — July 9, 2008 @ [4:48 pm](#)

14. 

Chetan your all three books are really superb.every word you speak is really seems to be very reasonable with lots of dig thoughts.you are really a person who made people like me habitual of reading books/novels.All the very best n keep it up warm regards to your wife n love for your charming bubbly kids.

Comment by RENU — July 9, 2008 @ [7:44 pm](#)

15. 

simply beautiful..

i CRIED after i read your first book as i was so overwhelmed with emotion of the journey you took me on

cheers

Comment by Vinny — July 9, 2008 @ [8:04 pm](#)

16. 

Hello Chethan,

I have read your two books and will surely read the third book.

The spark speech is very motivational one and a perfect advice to every human.

Even after setting goal many would stop in the midway beacause of frustration, disappointments etc.

Along with setting goal, taking right actions at right time is important

thanks a ton for the spark speech.

Comment by Swetha — July 10, 2008 @ [3:20 am](#)

17. 

i was hesitant to read it initially..but read it..and what a wonderful speech it was..i kept clapping for a few seconds all alone at this 4:34 am in morning.

i will be shortly in Final yr of Engineering. I have reached the bottoms of academics, extra curricular, society's positions etc though i was President Student Council in school, Board Topper ,NDA SSB Qualified, Newspaper columnist and what not. Those 4 thunderstorms clearly made the spark die.

But its still one year left. May be things will change. Let me try once, or rather several times more.

Thank u , chetan..

Comment by [Prashant Kaushik](#) — July 10, 2008 @ [7:09 am](#)

18. 

DEAR CHETAN,

THE FPS REMINDED ME OF MYSELF WHEN I WAS DOING MY CHEM ENGG.IT IS QUIET EVIDENT THAT EVERY READER

FINDS SOME PART OF THEMSELVES IN YOUR CHARACTERS.SO YOU R A BIT TOUCHY TO EVERY READERS MIND AND HEART.

THE IGNITING SPARK (YR SPEECH) NEEDS TO ADD ONE MORE DIMENSION (MY VIEWPOINT: U MAY DISAGREE), THATS MEDITATION,AS IT HELPS TREMENDOUSLY TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS AND TO COUNTER THE STORM THREATS.

WISH U HV A GR8 TIME.

KAMAL

Comment by KAMAL — July 10, 2008 @ [4:40 pm](#)



19.

Hi chetan,

Finished reading 3 yesterday and I must say that a hint of more touching things to a real extent are coming up now. Thoroughly enjoyed the book and I must say that I was expecting a more elaborate end but truly a great work and thanks for teaching the Australian lingo. We can no better understand when Aussies swear on Indian team !!!

Waiting for your next

Rahul

Comment by Rahul lohia — July 10, 2008 @ [7:20 pm](#)



20.

Its difficult!...what u can ask!...writin whn not in my mood....leave that.....hey man wanna ask u wht happend 2 th girl whom u met in IIT.....is c ur wife?.....1 more thin,i always wanted 2 write a book,can say my chilhood fantasy.....u & circumstances did th cataletic work.....all i wanna say is tnx.....hav completed 1/4th of it.....wil talk u later.....nd yes thn i wil talk sence.....by,nd keep secretin these seductive pheromons,so tht insects like me.....can get the timely drugs dose!.....yes me addicted;)

Comment by Nitish Shubhankar — July 10, 2008 @ [7:26 pm](#)



21.

Hi Chetan,

I got your speech forwarded to me in an email and it was very inspiring, but I had a quick question for you. In your example and I quote “Basketball captains in college invariably stop playing basketball by the time they have their second child. They give up something that meant so much to them”, why should it be taken in the sense that they are not paying attention to their internal spark just to care of the family ? Why cannot it be taken the sense that you are just trying to shed more light into the lives of others whom you care about ? Shouldn't people have preferences and wouldn't it be selfish to chase your own dreams when you have other responsibilities ?

Thanks,
Jahnvi

Comment by Jahnvi Akkineni — July 10, 2008 @ [11:39 pm](#)



22.

पहली बार आपका ब्लॉग एक मित्र के कहने पर पढ़ा। अच्छा लगा। बाकी तो सब ठीक है चेतन जी लेकिन 'स्पार्क' जिसे शायद हिंदी में उत्साह कह सकते हैं, का उम्र से कोई संबंध नहीं होता। हरिशंकर परसाई जी ने [लिखा](#) है- “**यौवन नवीन भाव, नवीन विचार ग्रहण करने की तत्परता का नाम है; यौवन साहस, उत्साह, निर्भयता और खतरे-भरी जिन्दगी का नाम है; यौवन लीक से बच निकलने की इच्छा का नाम है। और सबसे ऊपर, बेहियक बेवकूफी करने का नाम यौवन है।**”

Comment by [अनूप शुक्ल](#) — July 11, 2008 @ [1:14 am](#)



23.

Hi Chetan,

I want to say something. First I agree that as we grow older spark dies. Secondly whatever you said was totally right from our point of view. But you know there are thousands of parents and relatives who kill the spark of their youths. Not just that Taare Zameen Pe way, but other too..remember sameer of FPS...he didn't want to become an IITian and yet his father forced. The result was obvious...

Well...all I want is you sud also give a word of advice to them ...those who have ruined the happiness of their life and they want to put their old thoughts to new generation.

Parijat

Comment by Parijat — July 11, 2008 @ [1:57 am](#)



24.

hello sir,

i wrote u after reading ur 3 mistakes..which made me fascinated and overwhelmed...after reading ur speech i cant xpress in words how

much i liked it.the most awesome and xceptional..speech i have ever heard or read...thank u...after reading ur speech defintely makes me more cheered up ..thanx again

Comment by SUMAN CHATTERJEE — July 11, 2008 @ [4:08 pm](#)



Hey chetan,

I just finished with 5.someone. I know its too late as the book was publised long back.I m a bit lazy when it comes to reading novels. But one of my freind forced me into this and i m just so thankful to him.Now i m dying to read rest of ur books and i will surely mail u after that.

I would like u to know what difference u have made to my life..Just a month back i was preparing for my entrance exams for masters in human resource management.It was a do or die situation as my parents would marry me somewhere if i dont get through the entrance.I lost my confidence and i stoped preparing for the exams.Then i came across 5.someone.Dont know y i got tremendous energy from that and after reading that i went for the personal interview with the faculty members.I did well in that and now i m so confident of getting admitted.

The energy that u possess certainly reflects in ur book and gets transfered to the readers.

I read ur speech and its as good as ur books.

Thanks for writing such lovely stuff!

Prachi

Comment by Prachi — July 11, 2008 @ [4:29 pm](#)



hey chetan, d speech wus quite inspiring!!thanks!!

Comment by deepu — July 12, 2008 @ [12:36 am](#)



Do not isolation means being alone ? I think it is a wrong word for your last point.

Comment by H — July 12, 2008 @ [2:16 am](#)



Loved the analogy of our lives with a pre-paid card!!! practical.. and yes, kareena's role in Jab we met, the fist half is so amazing.. whenever i feel lil dull, will not wait to watch such movies, to pep me up.. n now its gonna be ur post which will recharge the lull situation. a wonderful welcome speech for the freshers.. curious to know abt the reaction of the professors there when u actually said, bunk few classes, be naughtier n things like that... 😊 people come with high hopes thinking of campus interviews right from the day 1 of their college lives. and in the process of 4 years, we fail to get to know abt each others better, not just abt the peers but also abt our professors, other people who help us like chowkidhars, people who serve us food in the mess n so many... so these words are very essential to keep up the spark, to interact with as many people as diverse as it cud get possible,..college life is heavenly only when we know how to enjoy it thoroughly without losing the focus on our goals n the bigger picture of how we want our lives to shape up.. an amazing speech.. lukiing fwd to see many such posts for those who cannot make it there...

Comment by Anita — July 12, 2008 @ [2:39 pm](#)



hey Chetan ,

its really obvious dat i am replyin because i hav read that speech almost 10 times . one thing dat is awesum abt it is that it is inspiring and in todays world it is the need of the hour that people like u should really stand like a MISAAL as we say and preach others .

your okks are mind blowing and try to maintain ur glory thru out ur life . wat i am tryin to say is that u too maintain that spark.

this is from a 10th passed teen so please do reply kinly.

thankin you

Yours sincerely

Abhinav

Comment by [Abhinav Singh](#) — July 12, 2008 @ [7:36 pm](#)



SPARK ...! what a THEME !...i'm loosing my SPARK ...i felt but i read ur book ur blog and watch movies ...gets back me my SPARK...sir, not only prasing u but i feel that u understand wat is the Problem of youth ! Wat We Want ? Wat We Are ?....Keep Writing Sir

Comment by vishal — July 12, 2008 @ [7:51 pm](#)



Hiii Chetan,

You are sooooo different from other authors in vary many different ways.

We all (atleast I)treat you as one of my family members.

Reading your speech is sooo much fun.

Coming to this inspiring speech of yours, i would say it is an awesome one. I am sure the student buds got the message. I kinda remembered Steve Jobs speech at Stanford Graduation day, few years back. He had some 3 stories to tell. So did you have messages on 4 things which may pull you down in life! Good enough.

I have started taking life very lightly (@ the same time focussed on my goals) ever since i started reading 5.someone.

Keep writing...



Comment by Aravind — July 13, 2008 @ [2:35 pm](#)



hi chetan

read ur speech...wht to say...u know it:)

well i have not read any of ur books but m gonna do tht now...

thnx for changing lives...

Comment by vikas — July 13, 2008 @ [3:45 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

I am sure you are doing well after your new book (the three mistakes in my life) got published. But I must let you know I am upset. And this is the third time when I got upset after finishing your book. Can you guess the reason, I hope you can. Any all the best and take carez.

bye.

Comment by [Swaraj](#) — July 14, 2008 @ [1:37 pm](#)



hey!Obviously you have heard lots of this but honestly your speech was amazing.I am going to start college soon and I just faced the storms you talked about but your speech is an encouragement to become someone like you and yes the spark for which i dint have a name but now i do, thanks to u!I love you and hope you write many more books! u r simply amazing.

Comment by Zainab — July 14, 2008 @ [4:11 pm](#)



Great speech! I loved both of ur books as well.

Couldn't help but paste this speech in my blog for easy reference for myself & my friends who may need this motivation! Hope u don't mind this 😊

Comment by [Dhanashri](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [5:53 am](#)



A really inspiring speech!

The best part about it was how you clearly differentiated the 2 storms and told us how to deal with each clearly.

According to me the best part about the speech was - "Dont be serious,be sincere".It is so very true that in many instances we are very serious about what we want to do and even take so much tension,but are not sincere about it.

I would just like to add to it something my father always tells me.It is about when Shri Krishna advises Arjun at Battle.he tells Arjun not to

be bothered about the goals, but just to know what direction he has to be headed and concentrate on the duty that he must do, and not on the result.

Comment by [Aditya Nair](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [3:29 pm](#)



HI CHETAN,
I READ UR BOOKS N NOW DIS ONE...
I WONT SAY DIS IS A BEAUTIFUL PIECE OF LITERATURE, BT OF COURSE DIS IS A WONDERFUL AND A RARE PIECE OF PHILOSOPHY.....
I'VE READ SIDNEY SELDON A LOT AND HAV ALSO HEARD MUCH PRAISE..BT UR WRITING STYLE..IT SEEMS REALLY WONDERFUL.....

LUV U.....
BIBHU..

Comment by [bibhu](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [4:59 pm](#)



Dear Sir,

It was very inspiring, and is relevant for all age groups. Who says u are youth writer?

Regards,
Purnima

Comment by [Purnima](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [5:00 pm](#)



Indeed very inspiring speech and I specially like the logic behind the speech which is very straightforward to understand; not at all flooded with heavy words and complex logics which kills our on hand motivation.

God Bless you CB

Regards,
Boskey

Comment by [Boskey](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [8:12 pm](#)



Hi Chetan....

Bro, exceptional speech... I loved reading it and shared it with all my friends.. I hope u'll keep posting all ur great works like this in ur blog... Its a pleasure to hear from u so often.. I still listen to all what u said in ur BLR book release... Keep up the great work...

Comment by [Dj](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [10:52 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

Loved dat speech!!! It's so inspiring...specially at d beginning of new year at d college. It's simple, logical n practical. Things u've written abt 'isolation'....touched my heart.

Do a favour...teach dat miraculous style of explaining ur mind 2 my profs.I'll bunk less(won't stop though)...hah!!

Cheers,
Priya.

Comment by [Priya](#) — July 15, 2008 @ [10:58 pm](#)



Hi Chetan

First of all , i would like to congratulate you on your outstanding success with your three books .

I happen to across this blog .But while i was reading , i started telling myself .I wish i had across this speech ,much before .Either ways , pleasure to read the speech at this age .

Would keep this blog as part of my browser favorites .

thank you for being a youth icon and movitating thoughts

Cheers

sonali

Comment by Sonali — July 16, 2008 @ [1:49 am](#)

43.



Hey man Chetan,

your books are too perfect, man.congrats buddy.your books have changed my life(i know you wont believe).one question to ask-in the [one night @ call centre]book ,at the end whos the girl in train.....is she god or shefali.if you have time ...please send an answer on my e-mail address.thanxbye.wish you good luck.

Comment by Pranx — July 16, 2008 @ [12:09 pm](#)

44.



are you writing any more books?if not ,please write.

Comment by Pranx — July 16, 2008 @ [12:15 pm](#)

45.



Excellent speech... Hats off sir.

Comment by Rishi — July 16, 2008 @ [5:38 pm](#)

46.



Hello CB,

Thanks for the insight...

Dear i hv copied some part of Your speach — Spark and added the text on my webpage..

greetshweta.wordpress.com

My purpose is basically to keep in touch with the wonderful highlights and to share them with all my friends who visit my webpage.

if u hv any problem with that, pls let me kno, i wud delete the post from there..

Thanks & Regards,

Shweta

Comment by shweta — July 16, 2008 @ [5:42 pm](#)

47.



Hi chetan,

Inspiring speech, not only for those who are starting college but also for those who are going back to it 😊

great discussion at the OSIANS film festival, it was great to be a part of it and hear you. Also, the movie looks great (irrespective of the fact that Salman takes off his shirt)

It was great talking to you,thanks for signing the book

hope to see you again

Wishes,

Neelanjana

Comment by Neelanjana — July 16, 2008 @ [7:44 pm](#)

48.



dear chetan..u ave deliveered a great speech ..a real motivational one..!!

let d sparks remain alive fer d 2500 weeks ahead fer all my frenz...:-)

Comment by hari — July 16, 2008 @ [8:31 pm](#)



CB,

I stood up from my chair and clapped after reading this. How on earth do you come with such stuff man? I guess your spark in life is still alive and kicking. Someday, you have to post that story. For now, fabulous and keep us entertained.

cheers

Comment by [Balajee](#) — July 16, 2008 @ [9:00 pm](#)



hii chentan ur book are just fanastic ..i just wanna to knw who was that girl to whom u met in train while journey who gave u ur second book.....keep writing will be waiting 4ur next edition.....byetake care!!!!

Comment by [saumya gupta](#) — July 17, 2008 @ [1:03 pm](#)



Dear Chetan,ur way of thinking is just awesome!Three cheers 4 u man!We are all lucky to have a writer like u in our midst and that makes the USA poorer by atleast something coz they don't have Chetan Bhagat-The Voice of New India.Way to go man!

Comment by [TRIDIB](#) — July 17, 2008 @ [2:40 pm](#)



hi,
That was gr8 speech n very inspiring too.i have read ur both books MY THREE MISTAKES of my LIFE n FIVE POINT SOMEONE both books are fantastic n im in the thirsd one that is ONE NIGHT @ CALL CENTER.hope that u write more inspiring books,i just enjoyed while i was reading ur book n was having fun about IIT institute n the businessman and ur spark is fantastic with the example of jab we met .keep writing .bye.... take care n enjoy!:(

Comment by [niharika](#) — July 17, 2008 @ [9:00 pm](#)



Hi Chetan..

That's really great words...and truely inspiring...

Keep rocking and inspiring...

Comment by [Abhilash](#) — July 18, 2008 @ [5:14 pm](#)



hi chetan

really missed u out in Gurgaon.I dont know why ur every word becomes d way of my life.The innaugural speech can not get better than this.In d time when IITians ending their lives for low grading ,someone is really needed to say 'dont take ur life seriously'.And if its the Chetan Bhagat wot more can we ask for??Afterall every evil thing in life will happen at its own time but wot is important is not to kill the 'spark'inside us!ur spark enlightens the world around you & thats d why it comes out to be the responsibility.As u said 'we are not the programmed devices we're not here to only become doctors ,engineers or managers.It is well & good if we achieve that but even after that we have every right to cry, to laugh ,to love to commit the mistakes & to coeert that like a normal human being.We should never isolate ourselves from the real human world.That can be the one way of keeping our 'spark alive'
Please keep me informed on this site when u will be in Delhi or Gurgaon because someone is living on ur words!!

Santosh Rathod
MDI Gurgaon

Comment by [santosh](#) — July 19, 2008 @ [6:26 pm](#)



dude....m muvd....brilliant!

thanks so much for sharing:)

mihir

Comment by mihir gajrawala — July 19, 2008 @ [7:25 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

This is the first piece of writing of yours that I read (your speech to the BBA batch) and it was fabulous. It has interested me enough to go buy your book to be my companion for the next 10 days, on a business trip. So I am going to spend my free time with CB on this business trip and look forward to it 😊

Saif

Comment by Saif Qureishi — July 19, 2008 @ [7:49 pm](#)



thanks chetan i find you as a silent friend and u have really inspired me.....thanks once again for opening my eyes but there r a few q?????? in my mind which give me fear at the age of 26

Comment by abhinav — July 19, 2008 @ [7:52 pm](#)



simply in fact its not simple its awesome special n reallygosh i cant find words hmmm.. well u rock u rule cheers!

Comment by nishika — July 19, 2008 @ [9:21 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

Couldn't stop myself to write this. I have not yet read your 1st two books, 3 is the first one i started and haven't yet finished even half of it. Just going through the Prolouge made me so interested to start the book and I wanted to congratulate you for the amazing style of writing that you have..

I believe very strongly what you mentioned in your speech but going through every word of it multiplied my own spark..

There are times when inspite of realising whats right or wrong, inspite of knowing it all we loose out, thats when it is important to listen, read to words which brings back the shine.. As Shiv Khhera said, "Keep sharpening your saw"..

Thanks for making such a significant difference in the society specially among the young generation..

God Bless

Comment by Sparkle — July 20, 2008 @ [12:43 am](#)



hey chetan....

dis is da first time i visited ur blog...

yup da speech ws really great....n i'm more interested to knw abt ONE N8 @CALL CENTER....i jus finished da it today n i'm damn really wanna knw WS IT REAL OR NOT....!!!

plz dis may nt bother u but i'm really wanna knw....plzzz yaar plzz....

jus anw me...

Comment by riya... — July 20, 2008 @ [5:16 am](#)



Hi chetan.. tat was a great speech i must admit..its inspiring. u ve been an icon for us youth today.. u know i never shared this .. but whenever i finish your .. tears come out from my eyes.. it makes me think good, feel good about myself.. always been pleasure to read your books.. pls keep on writing books more and more..

one thing i am noticing these days is whenever u give a speech or talk in an interview u mention about the criticism u get.. tat s ok.. u dont ve to be get praised from some jerks.. here millions of youth praises u , idolises u.. u dont need them..

lots of love

bye

Comment by sharath — July 20, 2008 @ [6:59 pm](#)



hi chetan...

it is the first time i visited ur blog,the speech is really gud...m really inspired.

let me tell u last week i just completed ur book- THE 3 MISTAKES OF MY LIFE...u know this is ur first book which i read...for me this was a break from my work, people take leave to take a break from their work, but after reading your book i decided dat whenever i need a break from my work i shall read ur book...so please keep on writing books...now i am on with FIVE POINT SOMEONE..... will surely write to you after i complete the same.thankyou so much for writing these kind of inspirational books and changing the lives of people in some or the other way...cheers!

bye,
take care,
thanx.
avani.

Comment by avani — July 21, 2008 @ [1:38 pm](#)



Hi chetan,

ds is my first time, wn im visitng ur site n reading ur blog.

i found ur speech "sparks" full of inspiration.

i liked d dscrptn "four thunderstorms - disappointment, frustration, unfairness and isolation".

21st cntry youth needs an icon lk u.

keep going.....

Comment by arpit mathur — July 21, 2008 @ [1:40 pm](#)



hey chetan...

i've just finished ur novel five point someone and i just loved reading it.... i mean i enjoyed every moment i read that book..... and now i m going 2 order and read ur other 2 books one night@call centre and my 3 mistakes in life..... may i ask u a question..... IS DAT UR real life story or was it just a work of fiction?? whatever it was i just loved it

u r simply gr888888

with lots of luv
ritika.....

Comment by ritika singh — July 21, 2008 @ [1:59 pm](#)



and of course ur speech fat i just read was nice too..... i mean m going 2 leave home next year and will be heading 4 an imaginary college 4 MBA..... and i'll keep dat speech in mind [not all of it 4 sure.. :)].....

just need ur blessings

with luv
ritika....

Comment by ritika singh — July 21, 2008 @ [2:03 pm](#)



Hi Genius!

KUDOS!! You really do a great job in writing as well as in delivering speech. The need of the hour is to have an inspiring writer like you rather than a novelist. We admire your work. You indeed spark the lives of millions with your charismatic words. Youngsters of India need these inspiring and motivating words to keep them going. Good work! Keep it up!!

Nirmalakshi
Vizag

Comment by [Nirmalakshi Chinta](#) — July 21, 2008 @ [3:28 pm](#)



I loved this speech very much. Thanks for posting. Cant forgot the line
“I come from the land of a billion sparks.”

Comment by [Jayamohan](#) — July 22, 2008 @ [12:23 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

I am a media professional and a budding writer. Few years back, when I was in college, I read your second book, “One Night @ the Call Center”. That was the first time I read any of your books.

Here I'd like to share why I choose to read your book. Recommendation from a Literature friend was one of the obvious reasons, second and more solid one was, when I went through the intro, I thought...mmmhhh Chetan Bhagat- IIT-Delhi and IIM-Ahmedabad. A technical mind can write!!!...I know that sounds clichéd, well writers are critical of each others, right? I picked up the book and started reading. Until then till today...when I've just finished reading your latest book, “The 3 mistakes of my life”. I appreciate your writing. The best thing about it is that it starts and it keeps going. That happened with One Night...and now with “The 3 mistakes of my life”...also. And that has intrigued me to read your very first book, “Five Point Someone” too. I've just started it and I am liking it already.

Kudos...
Nisha Sinha

Comment by [Nisha Sinha](#) — July 22, 2008 @ [2:36 pm](#)



i am at such a point in my life, where i have to make a choice. i completed my plus two and i am to chose between colleges to enter into medicine and all the factors like money, reservations for sc st and bc... all of them count. i was so 'frustrated'. i just wanted to say thank you honourable mr. chetan bhagat for your inspiring speech now i know how to cope with the situation and i also learnt never to lose the spark and never t stop chasing my dreams and working to acheive because that means a lot for me and our country.... our country needs citizens like you... thank you sir..

Comment by [lubna](#) — July 22, 2008 @ [5:02 pm](#)



Kudos Chetan, sparkling thoughts...

I like each and every word u pen 😊

God Bless,
Vijay

Comment by [Vijay Abbigeri](#) — July 22, 2008 @ [6:29 pm](#)



Hi, read all ya books and considering tat u wrote the last one based on Ahd, shld have written u long back coz i m frm Ahd and used to stay nr. IIM's....and though i graduated frm an insti tat competes IIM's (atleast in the name)- i respect IIM's... 😊

No matter wat others mght say (critics)- i like ur work. It is real, funny and actually related to ppl. Obv lotta research goes into it...Just keep it up... 😊

And when do i see book 4?? Al the best... TC.

Comment by [Anshu](#) — July 22, 2008 @ [7:14 pm](#)



Really awesome to read.....but let me check for how many days, i can remember this lovely speech. But speech really contain the inevitable truth.....balanced comes befor succes.

Comment by [vikas](#) — July 22, 2008 @ [9:32 pm](#)



hey chetan,

i've read all of your books. you know what? i enjoy them.. but the effect sorta dies out after sometime. you have this totally edited featuring of emotions.. they strike a chord of course... but it's ephemeral.. i mean WHY CANT U JUST LET ISHAAN AND GOVIND HUG WHEN HE REMINDS HIM OF KISSING CHIMPANZEES?? I'm not some guy who's idolizing melodrama.. but why does everything have to be short?? u give expert opinions on dead bodies and crack a few nice jokes.. the rakhi brother, i loved that.. but.. i dont actually appreciate your writing. i like arundhati roy.. the novel is so poignant and has a bottled up passion that is described so humanly in all the nudity of emotions. but ur books are more like razor edge logic and nanosecond feels.. i can say your books will be bestselling.. but it's more like a quick-relax and then u gain nothing from it. that's it.. yeah i know u deal with some issue that underlies the novel. but still, u know what? your books are the opposite of romantic comedies.. yeah.. romantic comedies make you feel life should have been like this and drool over the happy moments of the protagonists.. but real life isnt like that.. and your books are very realistic, have some nice cleverly crafted moments but it appeals more to the brain than to the heart. it's just like that.. i'm not criticising or something.. this is something i always felt and wanted to tell you.. sometimes i feel jealous of you for getting all the attention from the youngsters when it's some salman rushdie or vikram seth who must get it. you are not really that foolish to believe people experience a change in their lives after they've read ur books.. i'm sorry i was pretty rude there.. i apologize. there's no feeling of being haunted by the moments captured in the book. the reality and the emotional strain experienced are all gone in a day.i've read ur interview where u say you dont write flowery prose. your novels are great.. they are like a movie-with-a-purpose with a neatly and stylishly editing work done. it would be great to know how the characters feel instead of limiting it to the description to their converstaions and the emotional-receptiveness of the readers. I hope you understand that I'm not asking for ekta Kapoor or an equal music. It's just Sidney Sheldon meets erich segal.. that should be a perfect mix.

Comment by [yuwawathy](#) — July 23, 2008 @ [7:32 pm](#)



Hello Mr Bhagat !

The last two days I have been reading two of your books one night @ the callcenter and five point someone .. I have not stopped rolling on the ground with laughter since .. I cant thank you enough for such wonderful creations of yours ..!! And your speech above is simply inspiring !!

Thanks once again for such beautiful creations !!

Cheers
Sreerekha

Comment by [Sreerekha Deb](#) — July 23, 2008 @ [8:10 pm](#)



Dear Mr. Bhagat,

First, I admit that I have never read any of your books or any other books for that matter. I completed my PG last year. The transition from college life to work life was exciting in the beginning but as you mentioned 'Thunderstroms' hit my life hard and a broken relationship made it even worse. For the past few months I was lost and it started to affect my work and my social life. I also admit, I had thought of suicide quite seriously. A mail forward from a friend was how I came across your speech and I must tell you it has made me feel a lot better.

I especially liked your quote "Don't take life seriously". Some where I had forgotten this very basic idea. Thanks a lot for reminding me the importance of life. I am 25 now, I have 1250 weekends to live and I will make sure I will enjoy each and everyone of them.

Thanks a lot.

Comment by [Mac](#) — July 23, 2008 @ [8:18 pm](#)



Dear Chetan,

I have read so many self help books..but ur speech is so easy and refreshing...thx...ur books n ur speech seems to bring spark in my life....thx a lot

Comment by [manu](#) — July 23, 2008 @ [8:22 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

I have read your all three books.

All the books are very good but I like "Five Point someone " book most.

This article is also very nice.
Keep it up & publish your next book soon plz 😊

Comment by Swapnil Patil — July 23, 2008 @ [8:55 pm](#)

83. 

Hey man!

I rarely post comments on anything but you said you read all your comments, so I thought why not give it a shot..
Firstly, I never read any of your books before, but I just picked up 3 having read so much about it. Still reading it and it's not bad - I liked how it relates to 'our' generation. (the newer one that is :P)
What I would like to know is, 1. How tough was it getting FPS published?
and 2. Aren't you worried that the mail at the beginning of 3 may start a number of copycat mails from your 'desperate'/'psycho' fans (as opposed to the normal variety) just in order to see you?

And the speech was not bad too (a bit long perhaps but definitely delivered a good message)
Keep writing, for India will *want* to keep reading,

Comment by Ashwin — July 24, 2008 @ [3:09 am](#)

84. 

Hi Chetan,

That was a wonderful speech. Liked the stuff on balanced, successful life. I almost read the stuff three times 😊 Forwarded it to my friends and almost everyone replied back saying thanks for sharing.

Best Regards,
Lee

Comment by Lee — July 24, 2008 @ [3:59 am](#)

85. 

Chetan,

Sometimes... the luck plays a very vital role, and when it plays a spoilsport, its very hard to wither these storms. I believe the spark never dies in anyone, it just gets overshadowed by other uncontrollable things in one's life. The more ambitious u are, the more chances of fading your own spark, at least that is true in this era of time. I can write a whole 100 pages on my perception on your speech, but I think I'll let the positive effects on people's minds prevail for the better of it. Majority of teens all around the world aren't even lucky to know that anything close to spark exists in them.

talk to children of Dharavi, children of Kabul, Gaza, Baghdad, J&K... You'll find more sparks per 100 children than you'll ever find elsewhere, only if we could make these children see those, this world would be a better place to live, but thank you for a noble speech, it is really awe inspiring... I would like this speech lead to an initiative like findyourspark.com.. I am willing to extend all help I can..

Cheers...
Abhinandan.

Comment by Abhinandan — July 24, 2008 @ [12:55 pm](#)

86. 

Hi Chetan,

Its really an eye opening speech... I was reliving my life through the phases you mentioned in the life of a person ...from childhood to College & now to world of running in the Rat race for striving to be better than your colleague or your friend.
All the points that you mentioned kills a spark in you i.e frustration, Unfairness & Isolation...i feel all apply on me...
Going home daily after office i have only one thing on my mind... why am i not happy even after sweating out a day of work at office... why am i not happy in doing something which earns the bread & butter for my family ??? why is it tht people see through me without even noticing tht i exist ??why i do not have the happiness that i see in my friends eyes even though we do all the same things all the way long!!!
To all these questions i did not have the answer...but now i think after reading your speech that YES, I HAVE LOST THE SPARK IN ME.....

thanks a ton for the wonderfull speech.

Cheers,
Tushar.

Comment by Tushar — July 24, 2008 @ [1:50 pm](#)



Hi chetan,

Excellent speech (Im sure u r hearing this the umpteenth time), but truly, awesome. I just finished your book (3 mistakes). Needless to say, another exceptionally great work!!!!

I truly agree with you, we need to keep the spark within us burning always. The country is in our hands and we need to keep it going. You are truly the voice of a new India.

Cheers,

Radha

Comment by Radha — July 24, 2008 @ [2:07 pm](#)



wish i could interact with u more!and that u would have made this speech public long back. nehow, never too late!

Comment by sumit — July 24, 2008 @ [2:47 pm](#)



Excellent post chetan. It is very inspiring and greatly put across. I always believed in a lot of what u have said in this speech and seeing it in print, seeing that someone else shares the same views, has made me happy.I hope this brings out a lot of sparks across the country. Truly Truly inspiring for someone who has one of those thunderstorms going on in their life right now.

Finally would like to add that even though you face a lot of criticism for the language,vocabulary that you use in your books, this post beats all that. This is better than all your writings I have read.

Comment by swetha — July 24, 2008 @ [3:27 pm](#)



I like this speech so much & i`m Print this Quote in my room
“Don` t be Serious be Sincere”

Comment by Dnyaneshwar Pradhan — July 24, 2008 @ [3:40 pm](#)



It is a marvellous write-up and truly touching our lives. The best i liked is ‘Don` t be serious be sincere’ and the real life comparisons.

Comment by Nitin — July 24, 2008 @ [4:25 pm](#)



This is EXACTLY what life is all about! beyouteafull! really appreciate your efforts man! u rock

Comment by nadeem — July 25, 2008 @ [1:45 am](#)



Dear Chetan,

This speech was really awesome. M sure that that many who heard or read this will be highly motivated and may u be the matchstick for many candles. Thanku Chetan!!

Regards,

Josh

Comment by Josh — July 25, 2008 @ [1:17 pm](#)



Dear Chetan,

I agree word by word with you, You have said all that I want to say to everyone, I just forwarded it to a hundred people who I think, would make a difference.

My every day is become a struggle. My spark dies, I will die. But also my problems with the system I am caught in also dies. The four storms are more real in my life than anywhere else.

Yes, will not take is too serious. 2500 weekends, was a spin in the perspective. I can always take out some hours and plan to make 2500 interesting targets to meet. That becomes the shield.

I have not read any of ur books. But you have given me a great spin in life. And will read ur books in return for that:)

Lekshmi

Comment by [Lekshmi](#) — July 25, 2008 @ [2:36 pm](#)

95. 

Hi Chetan,

I always wanted to read your books , but somehow one of my friend comes in between...she is a great fan of yours and has all your books...she is the one who has been promising me for quite sometime to share your books, but it never falls in place..:(

As I feel lucky today, my Boss shared this article with me. I am completely floored by your power of writing and expression. Its so simple yet have so much of depth. Great writing..and great things to learn ! Good luck !

Navneeta

Comment by [Navneeta](#) — July 25, 2008 @ [2:58 pm](#)

96. 

Dear Chetan

It was immensely pleasurable to read your lecture and very inspiring to understand the spark that you've put into each word. It reminds me of the stirring speeches of our Swami Vivekananda urging the youth and also of Churchill during wartime. I can visualise the fire and the dream that you've kindled among the Symbiosis students and am envious that i didnt get a chance at this oratory.

Though i havent read any of your books, it gives me motivation to grab one quickly in the near future! Godspeed your good work and best wishes for your future projects.

Comment by [Pravin](#) — July 25, 2008 @ [4:00 pm](#)

97. 

Dear Chetan,

Excellent speech.One can simply realize the positive aspects of life.

Wish u the best

Mohammed A

Comment by [mohammed](#) — July 25, 2008 @ [7:59 pm](#)

98. 

hi Chetan, i read all your three books one by one, and it was inspiring as well as it provided a lot of insight in many things that i was unaware of. I myself am a student of BE,in 2nd year, from IT, i really didnt know many things regarding IITS, call centres and especially the Godhra Riots. odhra happened when i was 13 years old and at that time i didnt know many things, reading your book provided a lot of information of what happened behind the scenes– even thought the book were a work of fiction. And many things regarding the IIT like the stress faced by the students, especially in the light of so many suicides committed by the IIT students.

And finally regarding the call centres, especially the 35=10 theory. I really loved it when i realised that Americans were the greatest funks in the world, and also the mind-set of Americans as compared to Indians.

Keep the good work up CONGRATS!!!

After reading One Night At The Call Centre, I realised that our country is far more beautiful than America, only it is still unexplored
THANKS GOD-BLESS

Comment by [Ralph](#) — July 27, 2008 @ [10:40 pm](#)

99. 

hi chetan, dont know whether u ll read this or not... but still saying that u r doing a gr8 job man.... 4 urself as well as 4 others... in this stressful world people need to chill out and thats exactly wat u giv them a reason to do through ur writings....

Comment by nikita gupta — July 28, 2008 @ [1:56 am](#)

100. 

Hi Chetan,

Just finished reading Five Point Someone 10 minutes ago and came across the web address on the last page, and said, 'Lets check it out!' i do and come across your speech for the students with simple but interesting concepts of the SPARK, not taking life too seriously and more! a heartwarming way of reminding us to keep smiling and having fun. Reminding me of the SPARK within me...

Thanks for the book and the speech.

Vibes and smiles,
Jes
jesikadrama@gmail.com

Comment by Jesika M — July 28, 2008 @ [2:19 am](#)

101. 

After the serial bomb blasts in Bangalore, i managed to get a day off my monotonous job on Friday 25th July 2008. I always believed i could never read novels or any book for that matter but I managed to finish all the 270 pages of FPS in 42 hrs. I just finished reading FPS and starting on your second book. Not to mention I did not buy them but redeemed them from my credit points in Citibank. I feel lucky to be the 100th person to write the comment about Spark and found the time to read all the previous comments before writing this and decided not to write anything about spark as i don't deserve to comment as others did. I am too new to the reading experience but sincerely enjoyed it for the first time. 9 years of working my ass out, i guess this is the first time i realized i have better options to kill my time than cribbing about my messed up life.

Wanted to thank you for giving me that options to forget how screwed up my life is and find some time out to revive myself. And as they say topped up with cherry, i found the spark article and feels right somewhere to read it. It for sure is motivating and hope will bring some good changes to my daily routine activities that i consider to be not heading anyways. Everyone did and i whole heartedly thank you for writing and not keeping your thoughts to yourself. Please continue the good work.

Regards,
Kapil

Comment by [Kapil](#) — July 28, 2008 @ [3:31 am](#)

102. 

Hi Chetan,

I have read all your three books and since then continuing to grow as a big fan of yours.

The best thing about your books are I can realte that with the pepole around me...probably beacuse writings are reflection of them..

Five Point Someone:

This goes to my truly admired friends...Gappu,Mote an Laloo... (thtz their nick)

One Night at the call Center:

To my CallCenter Dept colleagues

3 Mistakes of My life:

Can realate it to my friends who own their own business..the reality of Riots...

And the main reason behind me replying to this post...the Speech 'Keep the Spark!!' Actually inspired me to find time for myself of my office schedule...and Enroll myself to Japanese Language course... and thus comming across people in the school who find new inspiration everyday to learn...

You are my favorite and will allwayz be ...keep writing...Keep the Spark!!

Cheers!!!

Yours Fan
Sujata

Comment by [Sujata.G](#) — July 28, 2008 @ [5:30 pm](#)

103. 

Hi Chetan,

What a fantastic speech!!!young INDIA needs to be inspired...and your speech does just that!!! good stuff!!!

Comment by Pragati — July 28, 2008 @ [5:48 pm](#)

104.



Hi Chetan,

Want to thank you for creating this blog, in the first place, so that we all can speak to you (I purposely don't say "talk with you" as probably you don't have time to answer so many comments) and for sharing this nice speech of yours. I regret for not having visited your site earlier otherwise I might have got a chance to meet you in hyderabad during launch of your book.

Keep writing and keep sharing your thoughts here...we love to read them...and I think that number of your fans is more than that of your critics.

Comment by Shikha — July 28, 2008 @ [7:11 pm](#)

105.



Hi Chetan,

Thanks a lot for the wonderful thoughts.Your words are very inspiring and encouraging.

After reading this speech,i felt that this was the truth of my life, i did let the spark go off. And thats what was missing for a long time. Reminds me of some lines i wrote some time back:-

The games your life plays with you, or the ones you play with it.
Are nothing but the sorrows and joys, that are bitter or sometimes sweet.
The day you know what the world is, or the world knows who you are,
Is the day when you know, that you have reached far.

Far away in a deep forest, or deep a the den thats far,
You come to know that the world will,accept you only as you are.
You are the one who loves to live, or lives only the love,
You may not know who you are, then go - find it now.

Find the place where you stand, or stand where you are placed.
Wake up from the long sleep, and go - join the race.

Thanks again

Bhumika

Comment by Bhumika — July 28, 2008 @ [10:59 pm](#)

106.



Hello Chetan,

Let me tell you something straight from my heart, what I think is Apart from CRICKET and HINDI MOVIES what binds the indian young generation all over the world is CHETAN BHAGAT.

I genuinely belive you deserve the fan following and hope the SPARK article will inspire me to do something which I can cherish rest of my life.

Please do keep writing.

Regards,
Sushanta

Comment by sushanta — July 29, 2008 @ [5:04 pm](#)

107.



Dear Chetan,

Very nice article, very well explained, if everyone can understand and keep up their spark, all generations would be happy.

regards,
mintcool

Comment by mintcool — July 29, 2008 @ [5:26 pm](#)

108. 

Dear Chetan,

I really liked the speech, is really inspiring and motivating the most admirable part was the 4 thunderstorms u talked about....

I also read ur new book " The 3 mistakes.... " i liked that and added myself in the list of ur fans...

Comment by [Ashish Goswami](#) — July 29, 2008 @ [6:40 pm](#)

109. 

Chetan,

A very big hello! I have read all three of your books. And do you know what for me is common between all three of them? They all were unputtable and I HAD to read them off in one night each.. just like one night at the call centre.

And i notice that all your books revolve around friends as the main protagonists, which for me is great as I believe friendship is one of the most beautiful and important relationships. At the end of Five POint someone, you said that when you left IIT you had no idea how it would work out between the three guys.. Hari, Alok and Ryan. But you also said that you can tell now how it has.

I am interested in knowing how it all worked out between the three of you. Always wanted to since i read that sentence. Think you can let me know how it worked out?

Cheers!

Hope to hear from you soon

Comment by Gunjan Shah — July 29, 2008 @ [8:02 pm](#)

110. 

hi chetan (sir)

i am an engg studen frm chandrapur(maharastra)

sir i just wanna say this to you that the one think that u wanted indians to do

is being don b'coz if someone from chandrapur can read your novels then the whole of india will

keep going sir

you rock

Comment by liju john — July 30, 2008 @ [12:50 pm](#)

111. 

hie chetan,

dis was an excellent speech..!!

i luv readin ure books.....dey are very encouraging and lively..!!

keep writing..!!

Comment by arupri — July 30, 2008 @ [5:46 pm](#)

112. 

Chetan, till today, I haven't known about you and your books. My fried has forwarded this speech to me at 1.00PM, today. I was amazed. I forwarded the same to my friend; he in return gave me intro on your books and this website.

Your speech is great booster to all of those who want success (Balanced, successful life). My friend has suggested me to read your book, 5....someone. I will be buying that today.

SO YOU CAN ADD MY NAME IN YOUR FAN LIST..... FROM TODAY....

My best wishes to all your endeavors....

Thanks & Regards,
Seshaadri

Comment by [Seshadri](#) — July 30, 2008 @ [6:07 pm](#)



Dear Chetan,

Though i wanted to visit your website long time ago, i managed to do it today. Ofcourse, i read your speech much before visiting your website. It was very apt for the situation im in. So I felt you were talking to me through the speech. Thank you for that.

I have read the first two books. I will surely read the thrid one as you are my favourite author. I felt you connect with the readers through your writing. I was glued to the book while i was read them. I will very soon read the 3 mistakes..... and send you the sincere comments.

Can i expect your reply please? I really mean it. It would really make me very very happy.

Thank you in case you've read this bit from me. God bless you to write more and more for your readers. Good luck.

Comment by [Prathima Aileen](#) — July 30, 2008 @ [8:40 pm](#)



Chetan,

Your speech at Symbiosis Pune is hit just like your novels. Just like anybody else, I did get impressed by it. But more than that, you have done a great favour to me. I don't know why, but I always used to deny the traditional wisdom passed by indian scocity, parants etc. I am 30, married and expecting a baby soon. But I still love to play cricket with teens. I didn't use to find any answer, when aunties of my colony use to give me Isko-sharm-nahee-aati looks at me. But I couldn't help it. For many year, I used to be in sort of guilt to behave like a kid. After reading you, I realized that I was knowing how to live life without realizing that I was knowing how to live life. Your speech has boosted my confidence for what I am. Before it, I always use to think that I am a person who refuses to grow up. I still do all crap things in office which people generally expect from fresh grads. Even fresh grads look at me like yeh-uncle-ko-bahut-khujli-hai. I was always in twin mind. But Now I am really happy. Thank god, I refused to grow up. Thank god I read your speech, so that I came to that I am enjoying my life by not killing kid inside me, by not killing a teen inside me. Thanks dude!!!

Comment by [Subodh Taigor](#) — July 31, 2008 @ [1:41 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

The speech at symbiosis is very motivation. This should be shared to all the youth. Doing fantastic Job. Keep it up.

You must be busy with your new book....All the best.

Comment by [Alka](#) — July 31, 2008 @ [2:45 pm](#)



Hey chetan

Ur speech was not sum thing out this world...ur idea abt lyf r so simple makes so much sense n motivates to live lyf every day...one thing grt abt ur speech was it doesnt sound ur giving some gyaan but it just guides towards next stage of giving lyf a new meaning thanks for enlighting us....

Comment by [tushar shetty](#) — July 31, 2008 @ [8:45 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

Needless to say, all three books fundamentally exceptional.

I have always admired and talked about you for everything you are doing, I have also been inspired in certain ways by you. I was reading one of your speech The one with 'Spark', it was so thrilling thinking that I am not alone If I think somewhere that way...may be I am wrong.. It's not only I but may be million others..

Thanks for saying what you think.. and believe in.. 😊

Comment by [Pankaj](#) — July 31, 2008 @ [9:29 pm](#)



helo Chetan.. m 1 of ur biggest fans... n i luv ur books... plz rply if u're readin this...

Comment by Preeti Gupta — July 31, 2008 @ [9:36 pm](#)



Dear Chetan,

i happen to receive this speech from a friend at the time when i needed it the most...at the time i lost my spark...im glad i read this and realised it before it got too late for me...i hope the spark you have created reaches out to million others and rekindles the spark within them the way it did mine...!!

All the Best.

Warm Regards,
Shweta

Comment by Shweta Gadkari — August 1, 2008 @ [12:42 am](#)



what u said was absolutely true and the most difficult storm for achieving is the last one.because i have many goals in life but im continually compromising it for others.lemme c whether i can work out .thanks for your encouragement

Comment by shabna — August 1, 2008 @ [12:10 pm](#)



Hi Chetan,

I happened to read this at the right time... To be frank , the ” Spark” was not there in my life during my graduation period. But I realised it the time I was leaving college.. But luckily I got a chance to do my PG just after that... I did improve a lot... but I’m happy that I’m able to keep up or rather improve the “Spark” in my life once I started working.. I’m able to keep up the work life balance. ..and the speech of yours was like an icing on the cake... Thanks a lot!!! 😊

Comment by Poornima — August 1, 2008 @ [12:52 pm](#)

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