

## A Study of Structure of Campus Novel with the reference of *Five Point Someone*

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### ABSTRACT

Researcher has analysed the campus novel *Five Point Someone* with the reference of its structure. He covers the many various aspects or point to evaluate the structure of novel. Points are like: linear straight forward narration, very formal kind of a language has been used in the novel, prologue, letters and notice forms are used, irony, symbol, satire and allusion are also used, presents satire in the novel, author uses one novel technique. He put what he thinks in between conversation, there is essential connectivity between chapters and the narrative flows without any hurdles, the first line of the each and every chapter's is written in capital throughout the novel, there is a part in most of the chapters. Author discusses about college or something else in the first part, whereas in part two author talks about Hari and Neha, in one chapter when he changes the story he puts a proper space or double enter space in each chapter, there are three chapters in the novel on speech and author uses the dream narration. Researcher examined the campus novel with the help of these points. All in all, the narrative is reader-friendly, in the sense its form gives every detail and also presents the requisite conversations. Overall the narrative is lively, unique and interesting.

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### 1. Introduction

Indian English novelist, ChetanBhagat was born on 22nd April 1974 in Punjabi family at New Delhi. He has completed his schooling from the Army Public School at DhaulaKuan, New Delhi during 1978 to 1991 because his father was in the army. After his schooling, he has studied in the best institute of India. One is IIT Delhi, here he has completed his engineering in the Mechanical branch, and other is IIMA from here he has completed his MBA. He talks about the lives and experiences of three best friends in *Five Point Someone*. They become friends in IIT. Throughout the novel, the author describes the life of IIT students. The setting of the novel is the educational campus of IIT Delhi. After the publication of this novel a new trend can be said to begin in Indian English literature and the popularity of campus novel developed rapidly. After this novel was published by ChetanBhagat in 2004, many persons, who completed their study from IIT or in IIM, began to write about their experience of the college and as the result of this, the development of the campus novel in India got a big boost.

This novel is about three best friends and it also shows the parent's pressure on the children to get admission in good institute and get a good grade and consequently acquire a good job. This novel is sets in the IIT Delhi. This three friends are Hari, Alok and Ryan all these from the Mechanical Engineering branch. They cannot get the high GPA but they are in between five to six GPA. This novel depicts typical student activity like ragging, love affair, friendship etc. Hari is the narrator and very nicely describes education system and stress on students. This novel is about the life in IIT so it is realistic. Hari and Alok are introvert whereas Ryan is smart and extrovert student. These three friends represent the typical Indian youth's life in present scenario- they are intelligent, creative, indifferent, dejected, feeling insecurity and irresponsible.

### 2. Structure of Campus Novel Five Pont Someone

The novel is presented in third person singular narration direct speech in past tense by the omniscient narrator. It is in linear straight forward narration. Even while depicting very common aspects of campus, a very formal kind of a language has been used in the novel. For example the instance of Alok's sister's engagement confirm and three of these friend talk on, it described like this-

"They are relived more than anything I think. I just hope I get a job that pays for this damn affair. Apart from the car, there will be a function as well."

"Why don't you guys marry her off later? What is the big hurry?"

"The older she gets, the more dowry people will demand. Waiting will mean more expense later. I'm happy the deal is cut." (Bhagat 155)

Hari is the central character of the novel. He is protagonist. But the novel thing in this novel is the central character of the novel is shift through time. The thing related to college, hostel and about the friends, Ryan is in centre mostly. Hari is in centre except those parts of the novel such as love discussion in novel, Hari is the central character of the story.

A prologue is present at the beginning of the novel. Author talks about Alok's attempt to commit suicide. How does he decide to write the book on their IIT days? The novel begins with the first day in Indian Institute of Technology at Delhi and how he meets Ryan and Alok. Here he throws a light of the worst part of higher educational institute. That is ragging of fresher at the beginning of year by senior students. It describes here-

You bloody freshers, dozing away eh? Rascals, who will give an introduction?" Baku screamed. All gave introduction one by one when" Ryan said in a deep husky voice and all swung to him." "You bastards," Baku was shrieking, "Off with your clothes." (Bhagat 3)

Bhagat uses different forms in the novel to drive home his point or makes it more effective. Letters and notice forms are used in the novel. The letters are used twice in the novel.

First instance can be found in chapter twelve. This chapter is on Neha's speech. The entire chapter is a letter. This letter is written to her brother Samir by Neha. In this letter she talks about Hari. The interesting thing about this letter is Neha writes this letter to his dead brother Samir. Second time it is found in the chapter sixteen, when Hari is on his date with Neha in her house. Hari talks about some strange point about her brother's death. During this time Neha give his brother's letter to Hari which was written just before his suicide. This letter is important for Hari. When Hari has this letter; he gets the benefits or fulfills his inner desire twice. First he wants to be physical with Neha. After reading this letter, he fulfills his desire. Second time when he is on his date with Neha in Ice-cream parlour, Cherian catches him red handed. He sees the letter and read it. So Cherian has a change of heart and he forgives them. He gives a chance to complete their studies like regular students. He offers extra credit for lab work.

Notice is used by Bhagat, when Hari, Alok and Ryan were caught red handed in Cherian's office stealing the major paper. Prof uses the notice to inform the students that to call disciplinary committee on these students.

Irony, symbol, satire and Allusion are also used in the novel. Irony is presented in the novel for example; Ryan talks about the IIT system and compares with race of rat and mice. This is also a symbolic. Ryan speaks this when he throws a party for Alok's return in group. He says,

And this IIT system is nothing but a mice race. It is not a rat race, mind you, as rats sound somewhat shrew and claver. So it is note about that. It is about mindless running a race for four years, in every class, every assignment and every test. It is a race where Profs judge you every ten steps, with a GPA stamped on your every semester. Profs who have no idea what science and learning are about. Yes that is what I think of the Profs I mean what have IITs given to this country? Name one invention in the last three decades. (Bhagat 101)

Here author introduces two things one is irony and other is symbol. Ryan talks on IIT's system ironically. Here uses the word rat and mice symbolically. Rate is a symbol of intelligent people and mice is a symbol of not intelligent or a less intelligent people.

Author presents satire in the novel effortlessly. Satire on present education system load of study on student from the first day. They don't have the time to think something new or innovative. It gives more importance to CGP. This is the situation of the IIT. Satire on the present youth's thought. Hari

wants to give some fresh gift to his girlfriend Neha. He wants to give some original gift. They spend three hours of their lab session to prepare a gift for her. Hari says "We forgot about the actual assignment for the day, as we gave a damn about our grades anyway" (Bhagat 104). This describes that the college boys give more attention on girlfriend than study.

Allusion is also used in this novel 'get into the conversation', 'Angle of God', 'Adam's apple', 'Hitler cry'. Author uses biblical and historical allusions.

Author uses one novel technique. He put what he thinks in between conversation. For example "you are not that smart, you know," he said. I'd always know of Cherian's disdain for students with low grades. I didn't know he'd be so direct about it. "Sir, I know sir. I will study Harder" (Bhagat 174).

Despite the chapterization, there is essential connectivity between chapters and the narrative flows without any hurdles. The names of some chapters are repeated in the novel. For example, chapter six and chapter twenty seven have the same title "Five Point Someone." This is also the title of the novel which suggests that this is the story of the person who gets five points or something in IIT. One thing that researcher observes is that author uses the series type title of the chapter from sixteen to chapter twenty one. The titles of the chapters give in series like "The Longest Day of My Life I", "The Longest Day of My Life II", "The Longest Day of My Life III" etc. Each chapter is given a title on the base of the central idea of the chapter.

The first line of the each and every chapter's is written in capital throughout the novel like "BEFORE I REALLY BEGIN THIS BOOK, LET ME FIRST TELL..." (Bhagat 1). "THEY SAY TIME FLIES WHEN YOU ARE HAVING FUN. IN THE..." (Bhagat 12). "THE QUIZ MISHAP REINVIGORATED OUR COMMITMENT TO..." (Bhagat 25).

There is a part in most of the chapters. Author discusses about college or something else in the first part, whereas in part two author talks about Hari and Neha. He merges both the things very nicely throughout the novel. The story of college and story of Hari's love with Neha develops side-by-side and effortlessly. One notable thing of author is that he moves from one topic to another very softly. In one chapter when he changes the story he puts a proper space or double enter space in each chapter. For example

"You saw what he did. And he expected you to go with him, ha!" Ryan said "fuck you," I said

"I met Neha soon after, though I was getting sick of the ice-cream parlour, and of the sickeningly sweet strawberry flavor." (Bhagat 68)

Author uses one more variation in the novel. There are three chapters in the novel on speech like "Alok Speak", "Neha Speak" and "Ryan Speak". In all these chapters there is a discussion about the Alok, Neha and Ryan's point of view. One more variation in these chapters is that these whole chapters are written in Italicize font.

Author uses the dream narration at the end of the novel. In this he shows Hari's inner desire and his imagination. In the

dream he illustrates Cherian's change of heart and talks about Samir's death, his daughter's boyfriend, appreciate Ryan's work etc. He talks about Hari his daughter's boyfriend "My daughter found it easier to trust Hari with letter. She defined me, lied to me and ignored me just to meet him. Somewhere down the line, this perfect ten-GPA Professor standing in front of you had gone wrong. Really wrong" (Bhagat 261).

All in all, the narrative is reader-friendly; in the sense its form gives every detail and also presents the requisite conversations. Overall the narrative is lively, unique and interesting.

### 3. Conclusion

This novel is about three best friends and it also shows the parent's pressure on the children to get admission in good

institute and get a good grade and consequently acquire a good job. Structure is one of the important part of this novel. He utilises various aspect of the structure to draw the things which he desires to do, for example: linear straight forward narration, formal kind of a language, prologue, letters and notice forms, irony, symbol, satire and allusion, satire in the novel, he put what he thinks in between conversation, essential connectivity between chapters, first line of the each and every chapter's is written in capital, part in most of the chapters, in one chapter when he changes the story he puts a proper space or double enter space, three chapters in the novel on speech and uses the dream narration. All in all, the narrative is reader-friendly, in the sense its form gives every detail and also presents the requisite conversations. Overall the narrative is lively, unique and interesting.

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