

Chapter 1 : ZERO PERCENTILE MISSED IIT KISSED RUSSIA | Rupa Publications

The book 'Zero Percentile, Missed IIT, Kissed Russia' is a coming-of-age story set in the contemporary times (the chief protagonists are born Neeraj Chhibba's book successfully does that. In spite of the fact that the title as well as the summary of the story on the back page gives away the story, well almost.

Dec 23, Samir Dhond rated it liked it Preamble I read this book because Neeraj Chhibba, the author wrote to me out of blue. He communicated through E-mails and requested me if I could do a review of his maiden body of work. While I felt gut feel that I needed to pitch in and read this book, I wanted to let Neeraj know that I usually do not mince words and that I would be frank and forthright in saying what I would feel. In any case, I always post my review as soon as I am done with a book on www. This book was special Preamble I read this book because Neeraj Chhibba, the author wrote to me out of blue. This book was special because Neeraj had requested me to read it. He even went ahead and sent me a signed copy soon after. Honestly, I neither know Neeraj as a writer nor have I ever met him in person. For all practical purposes, Neeraj is one of the authors out there. However, when I received the request, I took it on because someone was seeking a review for the first time from me. It also meant I could read something different. It was about Second World War and what happened in Russia around that time. There were many references to Volgograd in that book. Coincidentally, the Hero of the Book, Pankaj lives in Volgograd as well. So there was this instant connect. I am sure they would enjoy it more than I did. It has everything Campus life, hostel days, sexual encounters, fights, and I presume that all that is inviting for a young mind. I would not be surprised if the younger generation takes up to this book. It also comes across as amateurish in nature. Details are good for visualization but for me, they are here in this book at the wrong places. For example, there is a reference in the book about the number of letters that the Hero, Pankaj writes to his parents and the number of letters that he receives from them. However, if Neeraj had elaborated a little bit on what that meant to Pankaj and to his parents, I think it would have been wonderful. Those details, and nuances of human emotions would have made this book endearing. I feel that details about sexual intercourse and bus journeys are things that could have been avoided. But then again, I guess it depends on who your intended audience is. Similarly, I did not get intrigued by the characters of Priya and Motu. He kind of comes and goes in few pages. Pankaj is in love with Priya but then what! Priya comes across as a glam doll in a commercial Hindi film. Observations I also felt that Neeraj could have been overwhelmed with emotions while writing this book. He has obviously drawn inspiration from his own experiences, thoughts and feelings. Needless to say, that is apparent in the book. The book comes across as autobiographical. Well, I am not sure if he intended it to be that way! I also felt that Neeraj wrapped up the book pretty hurriedly from chapter 24 onwards. I want to conclude this all. I personally feel that it is good to draw inspiration from personal experiences when you write something like this, however, one should preferably avoid getting carried away with emotions that might surface as you recollect all of those. The author, Neeraj seemed occupied and highly influenced in his writing by all of these emotions. I empathized with Pankaj at times because of my personal experiences of studying in the US. While the environment was totally different, I have felt homesick, lonely and hungry on many occasions and of course, there were camps there. Those aspects of the book took my down memory lane. The back cover of the book talks about the story as a fascinating journey of a young man! Well, it sure is a journey but I am not sure if it comes across as fascinating. In fact, it comes across as pages from the diary of Pankaj. Conclusion I have given it three stars considering this to be his first body of work. Neeraj has done a commendable job. Whatever may be the reason, you are tempted to flip through the pages. The book is easy on you as a reader. Certainly good if you are flying long distance and want to kill time! Read it if you like this kind of work. The book held my attention but that is because I wanted to make sure that I do justice to Neeraj by reading it with focus and in detail. Had Neeraj not requested me to do this, I would have probably scanned through the book real fast. Neeraj, I wish you the very best! I am sure we would get to read more as years roll by. And one day, when you win the "Booker", please do not forget to send me a signed copy. I am repeating myself when I say that I was confused if the book is "an autobiography" or "a novel". I am sure as Neeraj gets seasoned as a writer, he

would also master the art of storytelling. Is there any way, you can get all the misprints to get corrected in the future editions? Zero Percentile is the story of Pankaj who is the only son in a family of 2 daughters. Needless to say all he is expected to fulfill all the dreams of his family and to bring them out of their sad existence. It was then that his father decides to send him to an engineering college in Volgograd in Russia. He battles the new language, horrid climate, totally different people etc. To know how things unfold you need to read the book. The book is in flashback; Pankaj is waiting for a phone call and introspects about his life! We travel through his pre-birth days, his birth, school days moving on to present. What makes the book different is its setting. Apparently they feel that the book should be set in a place to which readers can relate to. I guess the fact that Neeraj himself has spent seven years in Volgograd is what adds to the authentic portrayal of the place. Not only that, even the school days Set in Delhi of Pankaj are described in a way that they will surely take you down memory lane. The stupid fights, childhood crush, desire to be first et. The book is a fact pace read, which entertains you and turns out to be a page turner.

Chapter 2 : Zero Percentile: Missed IIT, Kissed Russia by Neeraj Chhibba | What I have been reading

Zero Percentile is an intoxicating novel on the life and adventures of Pankaj – “seemingly not one of the children of destiny” – spanning across the vastly different countries of India and Russia.

The moment I saw the title I was convinced that it would be another goof of an IITian who strives hard and drives down. I think author has specifically chosen the title as a marketing strategy. I loved the way the author took the story from the preamble of three children to the adolescent and the adult. I do not want to comment much about the story and to spoil others. Waiting for its 2. My personal opinion is that the story narrated in the last 30 pages was first moving and inconclusive. Saubhagya Prada January 17 at Hence, I am pasting my review below. The first phase of the book has been written in a light melody. There are many incidents and upshots which you could anticipate as a reader. But, then the content of the story and streamlining is in such a way that it keeps you captivated and somehow connected with the book. The strong desire of the family to have a son after the not so desirable birth of two daughters in the family throws light on the still prevailing discrimination in the Indian society. But, as the characters suppurate with the rolling book, the fable takes a mature and serious turn. Pankaj has been reflected as a wise and productive character from the early on. But, to keep our fate in the almighty integral, he has been portrayed as a less favored child of the destiny. He meets with a fate-devastating accident and is both physically and psychologically handicapped. And, hence, shattering all his dreams to get through and study in an IIT. Henceforth, Pankaj is on altogether new journey and life takes a new meaning and has a new purpose. Pankaj becomes a part of a small clan comprising of a few Indians, Uzbeks, Srilankans, Bangladeshis along with Afghans. And then, there are Super Gods i. The first years also witnesses the growls, feuds and the junkies. There is steep deterioration in the academic performance of Pankaj, courtesy to newly developed interest in alcohol and the strong urge to lose his virginity. Destiny perhaps wanted to reflect still abrasive and tough circumstances on Pankaj. As repercussion, he is out casted and is sent back to India. Still trying to cope up with the grief, doom pronounces the demise of his father. He resolves to get out of the college with flying colors and a red degree. In this lurch, he takes on some business also to meet all the odds and ends. As the life rolls on, Pankaj is able to keep his promise to his mother of coming back to India and settling down there. The allegory ends on a positive note with things settling down back to normal and with Pankaj getting back to his childhood love Priya. The prose is even, clear and flowing, suitable for the intended audience of general masses, especially the youth. There is much to learn for such a meek price. And also, there is a hidden message in the parable – “The grass is always greener on the other side of fence. Wish you good luck for future endorsements. This is very nicely done and looks good. Thank you so much 1 Reviews jenine Its a promising attempt to write a book by an amateur author, can do a lot better in future.. After that the book is quite readable: Review will shown on site after approval Other books by Fiction.

Chapter 3 : Neeraj Chhibba (Author of Zero Percentile – Missed IIT Kissed Russia)

This is the reason for the title 'Missed IIT, Kissed Russia'. The book goes on to tell us his experience in Russia, his financial struggle and his love life. The writing is simple and straight.

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Zero Percentile: Without reading it, I know I am not going to like it. Zero Percentile is about Pankaj, a young lad who is like any other typical boy. The book starts with his birth and gives us a detailed view of how his life turns out. The story of his birth is amusing. Pankaj is the apple of the eye back home and gets a special treatment by being sent to a public school whereas his sisters have to be satisfied with going to government school. He is bright, intelligent and does well in school. He tells us about his best friends – Priya and Motu, who are with him through thick and thin. His fights in school, crush on teachers and friends, studies, election as a Head Boy and so on. His aim in life is to get into IIT and he works hard towards it. An accident quashes his hopes and he has to console himself with something else. His Dad decides to send him to Russia to study engineering. The book goes on to tell us his experience in Russia, his financial struggle and his love life. The writing is simple and straight. The book actually reads like a diary of a young man. Since the book is in first person POV, this is quite acceptable, but Chhibba could have added some more style to his writing. There are quite a few errors, as pointed by many other readers. Not only print errors, there are a few places where Pankaj contradicts himself. When he is traveling to Russia, he is clearly a non-vegetarian, but he mentions about converting from vegetarian to non-vegetarian after landing in Russia. The characters are all shallow. Pankaj himself comes across as a two dimensional character. The book reads like a last minute attempt in writing something down and getting it published. The story appears disconnected and things are introduced just to create drama. At one point of time, Pankaj is struggling to get hold of a few hundreds dollars whereas after his salesman days, he is suddenly playing with millions. In the end, it all boils down to what I took back from the book. No inspiration from the story, no memorable characters, no contemplating moments – in the end, there is nothing that I gained from this book.

Chapter 4 : Neeraj Chhibba | Official Website

Zero Percentile - Missed IIT Kissed Russia. Sp S on S so S red S – April 14, – Sometimes minding your own business is a sign of cowardness, sometimes.

Chapter 5 : Zero Percentile – Missed IIT Kissed Russia by Neeraj Chhibba

ZERO PERCENTILE:Missed IIT Kissed Russia By smitha prabhu, I had high hopes for this book after reading a few reviews. But it turned out to be limp - but for the part about Russia where you come to know about a different city and its culture, this book resembled many others written by Indian authors.

Chapter 6 : Keep on Reading: Zero Percentile - Missed IIT Kissed Russia - Book Review

Neeraj Chhibba is the author of Zero Percentile - Missed IIT Kissed Russia (avg rating, ratings, 58 reviews, published), Zero Percentile – 2.

Chapter 7 : Book Review: Zero percentile by Neeraj Chhibba - eNidhi India Travel Blog

Zero Percentile - Missed IIT Kissed Russia - Book Review Let me say it first up it is one of the better debut novels written by people on their life after Chetan Bhagat's success. Zero Percentile tells the story of Pankaj using different time-periods, Pankaj's Childhood, his teenage years and rest till late 20s.

Chapter 8 : Life beyond IIT - The Hindu

Neeraj Chhibba is one of the most celebrated new authors of India. He announced his arrival in the year with his first book Zero Percentile - Missed IIT Kissed Russia (ZP1) which went on to become a national bestseller in no time.