

Transcript

Het

Child of Our Time: Turning 20

Het:

It's hard for someone that's always been such a high achiever and then to suddenly fail.

So my dad came from India in the 90s. He moved to London on his own.

I'm here, in front of this camera because of that one decision that he took. And I think I'll always be grateful for that.

I think I've been really privileged the way I've been brought up. I never went through the hardships that my parents did and especially my dad, growing up.

Like heard the stories about how hard he worked.

It's mind-blowing to think, you know, it's very like typical like, you know like, I came to this country with £5 in my pocket, but that's the truth. Like he came, he built like everything that he has right now all from like scratch.

I understand why they'd want their kids to do so well because they've worked so hard to get to where they are and they want the best for their children.

I always want to succeed, I always wanted to be the best at what I do.

I think it comes from within where I want to make them proud.

I want to make sure I make it worth all the sacrifices that they made.

That's why I set myself such high goals.

Interviewer (Archive when Het is a child):

Would you rather be rich or be popular?

Young Het:

Both. I'll be both.

Het:

That's..that's a lot like me now! I want a balance of things but I do want it all as well.

I get what 8-year old Het was saying, it makes sense to me...

I want to do something that I love, as well as get the recognition for it, as well as get good pay, as well as be happy about it.

I love physics. It's sort of my first love.

I always wanted to be a physicist from like, from where I can remember and I had kind a very set goal of where I wanted to do physics, what I wanted to do.

And you get to the point where you realise that your exams are not a year away, they're actually like just a few months away.

So I've started revision. I just wake up, eat, dress, study. I do approximately 6-8 hours a day.

The pressure right now, it does like lead to thoughts where I'm like, what would happen if I didn't get the grades? But hopefully future Het will sort it out...

I keep my aspirations a bit too high sometimes I feel that, I feel like I need to do it all and I've been told several times in my life that that's not possible.

I'm struggling really like when you set yourself such high goals and then you don't meet them.

It's hard for someone that's always been such a high achiever and then to suddenly fail.

Results day was one of the worst experiences of my life.

I wasn't expecting it because I'd worked so hard. If I hadn't worked as hard as I did, then I would have accepted what had come but I knew I tried my best I'd given everything into it. I'd made a lot of sacrifices.

I just felt like my life was shattered. I couldn't really move beyond that point. I struggled to accept that I would have to go to a different University.

I'm a bit more realistic now.

I used to plan my life according to how I wanted it to be but I think I've realised I have to accept that things can't always go the way I want.

I haven't perhaps lowered my aspirations, I've become more realistic.

I decided that I'm going to try again and I took a gap year and I retook one of my subjects, Further Maths, to try and get there.

Whatever comes now, I'll go with it and I'll make the most out of it and I'm excited for what the future holds as opposed to scared.