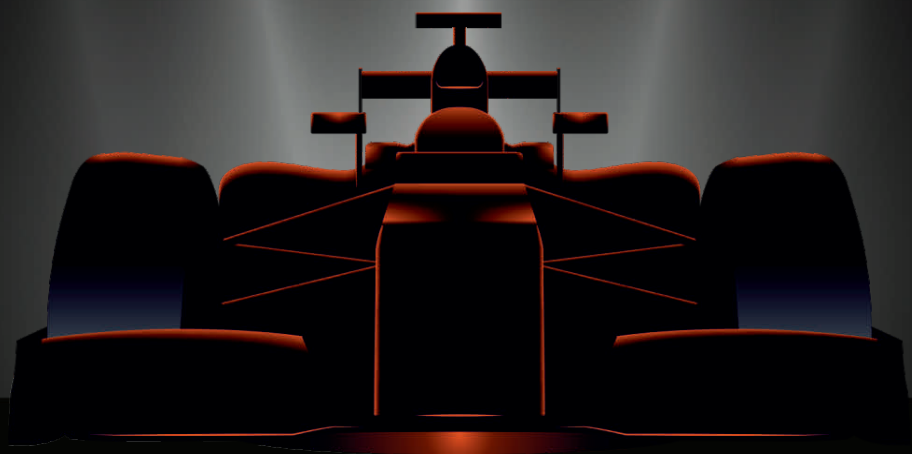


AMEY  
GUPTA



THE  
DRIVE

# The Drive

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, events and incidents are the products of the author's imagination. Any resemblance to actual persons or events, living or dead, is purely coincidental.



# The Drive

*Written by*  
Amey Gupta

*Edited by*  
Nandini Gopalan



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Dedicated to  
my grandparents



# Foreword

As Amey's physics teacher at Mallya Aditi International School, Bangalore, India, I must admit that I was hugely thrilled when he asked me to write a foreword for this book. I felt it was the least I could do for my star student. He had used the time for this literary journey when we were all locked down due to the Covid-19 pandemic. All classes had moved online and for the conscientious, this was an opportunity to do things that mattered.

The life of Jules Lorenzi, racing enthusiast and finally Formula 1 World Champion, has its share of extreme highs and devastating lows. Amey traces his life with a maturity that goes beyond his years and as you read his book, you begin to live the life of Jules Lorenzi. You are taken on an adrenaline pumping journey, detailing all the challenges and frustrations of life in the literal fast lane. Lorenzi's life could have been any of ours – it has its share of enormous successes, shattering failures, emotional highs and lows, and heartbreak. But Amey treats each of these phases with minimum melodrama but an equal amount of gravitas, involving the reader in a roller coaster



ride with Jules Lorenzi. I finished the book in one sitting and I am sure many readers will too.

When I met Amey in my Physics class last year, he seemed another of those competent students who finally do very well for themselves in the subject. I expected him to distinguish himself, but began to realize that there was more to him when he did begin to see Physics and its concepts in all phenomena around him. It is a science teacher's dream that does not happen often. So when he talks about Formula One cars or just racing cars, I am sure he is thinking centripetal (or centrifugal) forces and boy, does that gladden my heart. The purpose of my writing this foreword is to also tell readers that this young author brings to you a labour of love, directly from his passion for the subject that he loves.

Amey's protagonist, Jules Lorenzi, as I have said before, could be anyone of us. For a first novel, it has been a spectacular attempt – a moderate style, interesting and riveting. I wish him many more, hoping that this time before his next book is just his pit stop.

**M. R. Bhat**

*Teacher, Physics and Mathematics  
Mallya Aditi International School,  
Bangalore, INDIA*

# Introduction

It all started one fateful evening sixteen years ago. I was five years old, and my dad and brother took me go-karting. I remember my first thought when I saw the karts whizzing by, 'OH MY GOD, those karts are fast!' Mind you, I was only allowed in the Cadet karts at the time, which went at around seven bhp, which is extremely slow.

But when they started up the kart, and I felt the engine rev against my chair, it was pure adrenaline and love. I was the only one in a Cadet kart, so I had the whole 1.2 kilometer track to myself. Even though it was only my first time in a kart, I set the second fastest time of the month in my first five minutes.

I was barely out of the kart before I declared that I wanted one more go. I was a competitive kid, the Same as I am now, and I was peeved that someone had beaten me, even though they had probably raced many times before they set the fastest time. In my second five minutes, I beat the fastest Cadet kart time ever, and by three-tenths, which is a good amount in racing.

As the years went by, I started to improve drastically. By the time I was old enough to go in the proper karts, the