

I BA ENGLISH- INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH UNIT – 5

The White Tiger | Themes

Identity

Identity is explored in several ways in the novel. For many Hindu Indians, caste is a source of identity. From birth, it defines who a person is—their place in society, vocation, whom they may marry, and even with whom they can socialize comfortably. Balram's family is Halwai, the sweet-maker caste. It is one of the lower castes in the hierarchy, which includes laborers and artisans. As Balram explains, many Indians understand that caste is the equivalent to destiny: "My caste ... everyone ... who hears that name knows all about me at once." His caste is the reason Balram is given jobs in tea and sweet shops. He is expected to be good at those sorts of tasks because of his caste. Balram uses castes to explain the parts of his identity that diverge from expectations. He jokes that he is deceitful enough to have been "born into a caste of performing actors!" From his childhood, Balram has felt different. He later chooses a vocation outside of his caste. Although his driving teacher believes only someone from a "warrior caste" can be a good driver, Balram excels at the task.

Balram undergoes several identity transformations in the novel when his name is changed. Born into a poor family in rural India, Balram has no name until he goes to school. He is known just as Munna, or "boy." The name *Balram* is chosen by his schoolteacher, Krishna, because Balram is a "sidekick of the [Hindu] god Krishna." Later, a school inspector, impressed with Balram's unexpected level of intelligence, tells Balram he is the rarest of creatures, like a "White Tiger" in a brutal, dark jungle. White Tiger becomes part of Balram's identity. He carries the name into adulthood, eventually naming his first business "White Tiger Drivers," and he imagines opening a school one day to raise another generation of White Tigers.

Balram assumes other names during his time in the city. Recognizing Balram's naivete and origins, one driver calls him "Country-Mouse" because he is out of place and rather meek and innocent compared to the other drivers. The final name Balram adopts and the first name he chooses for himself marks his final transformation. He takes on his former master's name, "Ashok," after murdering

him and stealing his money. But Balram also chooses the last name "Sharma," which is a name of the Brahman, the highest caste. *Sharma* means "joy" or "shelter." Balram's identity journey can be traced through his names, from nameless boy Munna to assuming the place of a businessman in the highest caste as Ashok Sharma.

Internalized Servitude

The novel explores the theme of internalized servitude most explicitly in the metaphor of the Rooster Coop. Balram visits the market and notices in a chicken cage a mirror image of the reality of life for India's poor. The chickens, crowded together in filth just a few feet away from the blood and guts of dead birds, simply wait for their turn to be killed. They don't struggle to get away. Balram recognizes that the poor have been brainwashed by society to believe that their destinies are set by their caste, by their poverty. They believe they are born into servitude and will die in servitude. Like the chickens, they don't try to escape. The rich control the elections, and corruption has gutted any kind of social service. The police belong to the rich as well. The poor have no recourse. They can resist and be beaten to death in the street like the man who tried to vote. Or they can submit and work hard all their lives, just to die on a hospital floor with no doctors, like Balram's father. Their destiny is fixed, so they don't struggle.

The coop that imprisons the minds of the poor is "guarded from the inside." Servants try to control other servants. Balram notes how much servants enjoy making another servant call them "sir." Besides other servants, "the Indian family is the reason [people] are trapped and tied to the coop." Only someone willing to see their entire family punished would risk changing their fate.

Balram recognizes the theme of internalized servitude in the words of a Muslim poet who wrote that people "remain slaves because they can't see what is beautiful." They are unable to see any other option. At the Black Fort, which he has always found beautiful, Balram shakes off the bonds of social expectations of slavery, spitting in the eye of anyone, even a god, who would demand a life of service from him and expect him to be grateful for it. He vows to be free. He refuses to be caged in the Rooster Coop.

Light and Dark

In his letters to Wen Jiabao, a Chinese official, Balram says, "India is two countries in one: an India of Light, and an India of Darkness." Balram says areas near the

ocean are well off because the ocean "brings light" into the country. On the other hand, the poor, rural parts of the country that follow the Ganga River are known in the novel simply as "the Darkness." The river brings darkness and death. The Darkness is plagued by poverty, hopelessness, and oppression. Balram's brother, Kishan, is delighted when Balram's work with **Mr. Ashok** takes him to Delhi because it means "someone in his family was going to make it out of the Darkness." India's growing cities are like another world. Technology Balram has never seen, including his master's smartphone, astonishes him. The wealth of the city dazzles him because all he has ever known was the Darkness.

However, the "India of Light," described as the cities of Delhi and Bangalore in the novel, is really full of darkness too, as are its inhabitants. It is in the city that Balram witnesses political corruption, sexual promiscuity, and prostitution firsthand. It is also in the city that he becomes more and more like those he serves. He calls Mr. Ashok a man with a "dark fate" and his brother, Mukesh, a "dark man." Their father, nicknamed "the Stork," turns the water dark when his feet are washed. The Great Socialist, living in the India of Light, has "ruled the Darkness" for decades. In Bangalore, acting as his own boss, Balram mimics Mr.

The White Tiger

Balram's natural intelligence and integrity set him apart from his peers from an early age. On one occasion, his academic prowess so impresses a visiting **school inspector** that the official calls him a "White..."

The Rooster Coop

The Rooster Coop is Balram's metaphor for describing the oppression of India's poor. Roosters in a coop at the market watch one another slaughtered one by one, but are unable or unwilling to rebel and...

The Black Fort

Looking back on his past from his luxurious office in Bangalore, Balram imagines what the detectives and police would have found out about him had they returned to his home village of Laxmangahr

The White Tiger Summary

The White Tiger is the story of Balram Halwai's life as a self-declared "self-made entrepreneur": a rickshaw driver's son who skillfully climbs India's social ladder to become a chauffeur and later a successful businessman. Balram recounts his life story in a letter to visiting Chinese official Premier Wen Jiabao, with the goal of educating the premier about entrepreneurship in India.

Balram writes from his luxurious office in the city of Bangalore, but the story begins in his rural ancestral village of Laxmangahr. Throughout his childhood, Balram's destitute family lives at the mercy of four cruel, exploitative landlords, referred to as "The Animals": **The Raven**, **The Stork**, **The Buffalo**, and **The Wild Boar**. Despite the difficult life he is born into, Balram excels in school. His academic potential and personal integrity distinguish him from his classmates, bringing him to the attention of a visiting school inspector who nicknames him "the White Tiger," after the most rare and intelligent creature in the jungle.

Balram's parents recognize his potential and want him to complete his education, but his grandmother **Kusum** removes him from school early on so that he can work to support the family. Balram is determined to continue his education however he can. When he and his brother **Kishan** begin working in a teashop in nearby Dhanbad, Balram neglects his duties and spends his days listening to customers' conversations. He overhears one customer speaking wistfully about the high earnings and easy life that India's private chauffeurs enjoy, and begs his grandmother to send him to driving school. Kusum agrees, but Balram must promise to send home his wages once he finds a job.

His training complete, Balram knocks on the doors of Dhanbad's rich families, offering his services. By a stroke of luck, he arrives at the mansion of the Stork (one of Laxmangahr's animal landlords) one day after the Stork's son, **Mr. Ashok**, returns from America with his wife **Pinky Madam**. The family hires Balram to become Ashok's driver. In reality, Balram is more of a general servant to the family, while another servant, Ram Persad, has the privilege of driving them.

Balram learns that the Stork's family fortune comes from illegally selling coal out of government mines. They bribe ministers to turn a blind eye to their fraudulent business and allow the family to avoid paying income tax. Unfortunately, the family recently had a disagreement with the region's ruling politician, referred to as the Great Socialist. The family dispatches Ashok and Pinky to Delhi, where Ashok will distribute more bribes to make amends. When Balram learns that the couple will need a driver in Delhi, he schemes to have Ram Persad dismissed, and goes in his place.

Once in Delhi, Balram witnesses Pinky and Ashok's marriage rapidly fall apart. Pinky returns to the US and leaves her husband after she kills a young child in a drunken, hit-and-run accident. In her absence, Ashok goes out to bars and clubs, hiring a prostitute one night, and reconnecting with a former lover on another. Observing his master's gradual corruption and driving him through Delhi's seedier districts, Balram becomes disillusioned and resentful. Although Ashok is a relatively kind master, Balram realizes that whatever generosity Ashok has shown him is only a fraction of what he can afford. Ashok has no real interest in helping Balram achieve a better life, or in changing the status quo.

Balram plans to murder Ashok and escape with the bag of the money that he carries around the city to bribe politicians. In addition to the risk of being caught, Balram must contend with the logic of "the Rooster Coop": the system of oppression in which India's poor, including Balram himself, are trapped. Balram

knows that if he kills Ashok, Ashok's family will murder all his own relatives in Laxmangahr in retaliation. Balram is also held back by the arrival in Delhi of his young cousin Dharam, who Kusum sends from Dhanbad with the demand that Balram help raise him.

Balram finally resolves to proceed with the murder, using a weapon he has fashioned out of a broken liquor bottle. One day as he drives Ashok to deliver a particularly large bribe, Balram pretends that there is a mechanical problem with the car. He pulls over, convinces Ashok to kneel down and examine the wheel, then brings the broken bottle down on Ashok's head. After killing his master, he returns to Ashok's apartment, collects Dharam, and escapes with his young cousin to Bangalore.

Once Balram regains his nerves in Bangalore enough not to fear immediate capture, he begins wandering the city and listening to conversations in cafes –just as he did in the teashop in Dhanbad—to plan his next move. He soon learns that Bangalore's business world revolves around outsourcing, and that many large technology companies work on a nocturnal schedule. Balram creates a taxi company called White Tiger Drivers to bring call center workers home safely at night, and the venture is an enormous success.

By the time he sits down to tell his story, Balram is a wealthy man who keeps to himself, still fearful that one day his crime will be discovered. However, he concludes his letter to Wen Jiabao claiming that even if he is found out, he will never regret his crime: it was worth committing simply because it enabled him to experience life as a free man rather than as a servant.

The White Tiger Summary

The entire novel is narrated through letters by [Balram](#) Halwai to [the Premier](#) of China, who will soon be visiting India.

Balram is an Indian man from an impoverished background, born in the village of Laxmangarh. Early on, he describes his basic story: he transcended his humble beginnings to become a successful entrepreneur in Bangalore, largely through the murder [Mr. Ashok](#), who had been his employer. Balram also makes clear that because of the murder, it is likely that his own family has been massacred in retribution.

In Laxmangarh, Balram was raised in a large, poor family from the Halwai caste, a caste that indicates sweet-makers. The village is dominated and oppressed by the “Four Animals,” four landlords known as [the Wild Boar](#), [the Stork](#), [the Buffalo](#), and [the Raven](#). Balram's father is a struggling rickshaw driver, and his mother died when he is young. The alpha figure of his family was his pushy grandmother, [Kusum](#).

Balram was initially referred to simply as “Munna,” meaning “boy,” since his family had not bothered to name him. He did not have another name until his schoolteacher dubbed him Balram. The boy proved himself intelligent and talented, and was praised one day as a rare “White Tiger” by a visiting school inspector. Unfortunately, Balram was removed from school after only a few years, to work in a tea shop with his brother, [Kishan](#). There, he furthered his education by eavesdropping on the conversations of shop customers.

Balram feels that there are two Indias: the impoverished “Darkness” of the rural inner continent, and the “Light” of urban coastal India. A mechanism that he dubs the “Rooster Coop” traps the Indian underclass in a perpetual state of servitude. It involves both deliberate methods used by the upper class and a mentality enforced by the underclass on itself.

Balram’s father died from tuberculosis in a decrepit village hospital, where no doctors were present due to abundant corruption within all the government institutions in the Darkness. After the father’s death, Kishan got married and moved with Balram to the city of Dhanbad to work. There, Balram decided to become a chauffeur, and raised money to take driving lessons from a taxi driver.

Once trained, Balram was hired by the Stork - whom he crossed path with coincidentally - as a chauffeur for his sons, Mushek Sir (known as [the Mongoose](#)) and Mr. Ashok. Officially, Balram was the “second driver,” driving the Maruti Suzuki, while another servant, [Ram Persad](#), drove the more desirable Honda City. As a driver in the Stork’s household, Balram lived a stable and satisfactory life. He wore a uniform and slept in a covered room which he shared with Ram Persad. When Ashok and his wife, [Pinky Madam](#), decided to visit Laxmangarh one day, Balram drove them there, and thus had a chance to visit his family. They were proud of his accomplishments, but Kusum pressured him to get married, which angered him since that would cede what he saw as his upward mobility. He stormed out of the house and climbed to the Black Fort above the village, spitting from there down upon the view of Laxmangarh far below

Balram describes at length the corrupt nature of politics in the Darkness. A politician known as the [Great Socialist](#) controls the Darkness through election fraud. The Stork’s family, involved in shady business dealings in the coal industry, must regularly bribe the Great Socialist to ensure their success.

As part of these political maneuverings, Ashok and Pinky Madam made plans to go to Delhi for three months. When Balram learned that only one driver would be brought with them, he spied on Ram Persad to discover that the man was secretly a Muslim who had lied about his identity to gain employment. Once his secret was out, Ram Persad left, and Balram was brought to Delhi as the driver of the Honda City.

Balram considers Delhi to be a crazy city, rife with traffic jams and pollution, and with illogically numbered houses and circuitous streets that are difficult to navigate. Ashok and Pinky Madam rented an apartment in Gurgaon, the most American part of the city, since Pinky Madam hated India and missed New York. Balram lived in the servant’s quarters in the basement of the building. Teased and ostracized by the other servants, he nevertheless found a mentor in a fellow driver he refers to as [Vitaligo-Lips](#), since the pigment of the man's lips is affected by the skin condition vitiligo. To escape the teasing, Balram chose to live in a tiny, decrepit room swarming with cockroaches.

After a while, the Mongoose returned to Dhanbad, leaving Ashok as Balram’s sole master in Delhi. One night, a drunk Pinky Madam insisted on driving the car, and she accidentally killed a child in a hit-and-run. The next morning, the Mongoose arrived and announced that Balram would confess to the crime, and serve jail time on Pinky Madam’s behalf. Balram was terrified by the

prospect of going to jail, but was relieved when the Stork arrived and casually mentioned that they had gotten out of the incident through their police connections.

During this time, Balram's political consciousness grows more intense, and his resentment towards the upper class more violent. Much of the novel traces his growth from a meek peasant to an inflamed individual capable of murder in pursuit of his own success.

A few days later, Pinky Madam found Balram and asked him to drive her to the airport. With this abrupt departure, she ended her marriage to Ashok. When Ashok discovered that Balram took her to the airport without informing him, he furiously attacked the driver, who defended himself by kicking Ashok in the chest.

Dealing with the divorce, Ashok began to live a debauched lifestyle, frequently getting drunk and going out to clubs, while Balram cared for him like a wife. Ashok rekindled a relationship with his former lover, [Ms. Uma](#). Their relationship grew more serious, but he remained anxious about telling his family about her. Meanwhile, on his family's behalf, Ashok frequently collected large sums of money in a red bag, using it to bribe government ministers.

Balram's family sent a young male relative, [Dharam](#), for Balram to care for. Dharam is a sweet and obedient companion. One day, Balram took Dharam to the zoo, where Balram observed a white tiger in a cage.

Finally deciding to break free of the Rooster Coop, Balram fashioned a weapon from a broken whiskey bottle, and lured Ashok from the car. He rammed the bottle into Ashok's skull, and then stabbed him in the neck, killing him. He stole the red bag, filled with 700,000 rupees, and escaped with Dharam to Bangalore. In revenge for his actions, the Stork's family likely murdered all of Balram's family, though Balram remains unsure of their exact fate. Nevertheless, he chose to commit the murder knowing this was a likely outcome.

In Bangalore, Balram found great success. He launched a taxi service for call center workers, which he calls White Tiger Technology Drivers. By bribing the police, Balram was able to gain influence and make his business successful. Demonstrating how far he has come, he is able to cover up a fatal accident through

his connection to the authorities. He considers himself to be a quintessential entrepreneurial success story that represents the future of India, and presents himself as such to the Premier.

The White Tiger Characters

Balram Halwai

Born only with the name “Munna” – Boy – and by the end of the novel known as “Ashok Sharma,” Balram is the novel’s narrator and protagonist. *The White Tiger* is the story of his...

Mr. Ashok

The Stork’s son and Balram’s master. Ashok recently returned from America and has a gentler, milder personality compared to his wealthy and entitled family members. He feels disillusioned by the widespread corruption in...

Kusum

The matriarch of Balram’s family, his grandmother Kusum runs the household according to tough, traditional Indian family values. Primarily concerned with the family’s short-term financial solvency, Kusum removes her young relatives from school prematurely to... [r](#)

Pinky Madam

Ashok’s beautiful, Americanized wife. Pinky is a demanding, critical and cruel mistress to Balram. She is unhappy in India and eager to return to the US, which puts a strain on her marriage to Ashok

Wen Jiabao

The Chinese Premier to whom Balram addresses his letter and narrates his life story. Jiabao is a visiting Chinese official who expresses interest in learning the secrets of Indian entrepreneurship, so he can return to...

Vikram Halwai

Balram's father is a poor, illiterate rickshaw driver who dies of tuberculosis early in the novel. During his life, he fights to the best of his ability to fulfill his wife's wish that Balram be

Balram's Mother

Balram's mother dies when he is a young boy in Laxmangahr. Though she is a minor figure in the background of his life, Balram recounts that she had great ambitions for him, her favorite son...

Kishan

Kishan is Balram's older brother who cares for him after their father dies. Though Kishan is an influential, fatherly figure in Balram's life, Balram laments his brother's lack of "entrepreneurial spirit": in other words, his...

Dharam

Balram's young cousin, who Kusum sends to Delhi for Balram to mentor. Dharam's arrives at a crucial moment, complicating things just as Balram is devising his plan to murder Ashok and escape with his master's...

The Stork

One of the four animal landlords of Laxmangahr, father of Mr. Ashok and Mukesh Sir. He owns the river outside of Laxmangahr, and taxes any villager who fishes there or boats across it. The bulk...

The Mongoose

Ashok's brother, also referred to as Mukesh Sir. Mukesh Sir suspects that Balram is dishonest from their very first meeting, and disapproves of Ashok's lenient attitude towards his servant. Unlike Ashok who has recently returned...

Ram Persad

The Stork's "number one" family servant. Though he and Balram sleep in the same bedroom, they despise one another and compete in every aspect of their lives. When Balram first arrives, Ram Persad drives Ashok

Vijay

Balram's personal hero from his hometown of Laxmangahr. Balram admires Vijay for his ambition and entrepreneurial spirit: in particular, for his ability to swiftly and completely reinvent his identity in order to rise up in...

Great Socialist

The Great Socialist has dominated the political scene in the Darkness for as long as Balram can remember. While the Great Socialist presents himself as a populist leader serving the poor, he and his corrupt...

Vitiligo-Lips

The driver of another wealthy businessman who lives in Ashok's apartment complex. He has Vitiligo, a common, disfiguring skin disease that primarily afflicts India's poor. Vitiligo-Lips takes a liking to Balram and attempts to help...

Ram Bahadur (the Nepali)

A cruel Nepali servant in The Stork's household who torments Balram, while helping Ram Persad conceal his Muslim identity from his employers. When Balram discovers Ram Persad's secret and Ram Bahadur's role in covering...

Minor Characters

The Wild Boar

One of the four animal landlords who owns all of the fertile agricultural land around Laxmangahr. He is known for grinning predatorily at female villagers, exposing his long, curved teeth. Ashok and Pinky lunch at his house when they return to visit Laxmangahr.

The Buffalo

The greediest of the four animal landlords, known for heavily taxing rickshaw drivers who travel on his roads.

The Raven

One of the four animal landlords, known for sexually abusing shepherds who bring their animals to graze on his land.

Mr. Krishna

Balram's corrupt schoolteacher, who gives him his name. Mr. Krishna steals the funds intended to pay for school lunches because he never receives his salary.

Ms. Uma

Ashok's former lover, who he meets again after Pinky Madam's departure.

Dilip

A cousin of Balram and Kishan who travels with them to Dhanbad to find work.

The Minister's Assistant

The corrupt official who convinces Ashok to hire a Ukrainian prostitute

Anastasia

A prostitute Balram hires through Vitiligo-Lips

The Inspector

A school inspector who calls Balram “a white tiger,” establishing Balram’s sense of himself as a special person deserving of greater things.

Muslim Bookseller

A bookseller in Old Delhi.

Mohammad Asif

Balram’s employee at White Tiger Drivers, who hits and kills a cyclist. Balram uses his money to bribe his company out of any legal difficulties.

The White Tiger Quiz 1

1. Why is the Chinese Premier visiting Bangalore?
TO SPEAK AT A UNIVERSITY
TO EXPERIENCE INDIAN CULTURE
TO LEARN ABOUT ENTREPRENEURSHIP
TO DISCUSS SINO-INDIAN DIPLOMACY
2. How did Balram learn about China?
FROM A BOOK
FROM THE INTERNET
FROM GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA
FROM VITILIGO-LIPS
3. Which of the following is NOT one of Balram's "4 greatest poets"?
RUMI
MIRZA GHALIB
IQBAL
NERUDA

4. What sits above Balram's chandelier?
A HINDU ICON
A MIRROR
A LAMPSHADE
A MIDGET FAN

5. What does Balram mean by the term "half-baked"?
NAIVE
UNDERNOURISHED
UNDEREDUCATED
UNDEREMPLOYED

6. What does "Munna" mean?
CHILD
TIGER
SIDEKICK
BOY

7. Where does Balram work after he is pulled from school?
A ZOO
A CONSTRUCTION SITE
A TEA SHOP
A HOSPITAL

8. What lucky charm does Balram keep in his car?
AN EMPTY BOTTLE OF LIQUOR
A PHOTOGRAPH
A RUPEE COIN
A SMALL FLUFFY OGRE

9. What ingredient does the Mongoose hate?
PAAN
CORN

POTATOES

CHICKPEAS

10. Where do Balram and Kishan move together?

LAXMANGARH

DELHI

DHANBAD

BANGALORE

11. The Halwai caste is destined to _____.

WORK AS LANDLORDS

DRIVE RICKSHAWS

BE SWEET-MAKERS

CLEAN FECES

12. How does Balram learn to drive?

BY BEGGING RAM PERSAD TO TEACH HIM

BY OBSERVING CARS ON THE ROAD

BY PAYING A TAXI DRIVER FOR LESSONS

BY PRETENDING HE KNOWS HOW

13. What animal plagues Balram's room in Delhi?

MICE

MOSQUITOS

COCKROACHES

IGUANAS

14. What does Balram do atop the Black Fort?

KILLS A LIZARD

VOWS TO MURDER ASHOK

RECITES A POEM

SPITS DOWN AT LAXMANGARH

15. What sport does Pinky Madam play with Ram Persad?

TENNIS

CHESS

CRICKET

BADMINTON

16. How do the rich exercise in Delhi?

THEY ATTEND FITNESS CLASSES.

THEY WALK AROUND THEIR CONCRETE COMPOUNDS.

THEY RIDE BICYCLES.

THEY GO SWIMMING.

17. In the Delhi apartment sits a framed photo of _____.

A WHITE TIGER IN THE JUNGLE

THE STORK AND HIS FAMILY

CUDDLES AND PUDDLES

LAXMANGARH

What is the Great Socialist's symbol?

A RICH MAN IN CHAINS

A FIST HOLDING A SABRE

A HAMMER AND SICKLE

A PAIR OF HANDS BREAKING THEIR SHACKLES

18. Which of the following is one of Balram's duties at the Stork's mansion?

WELCOMING GUESTS

SERVING RAM PERSAD

WASHING CLOTHES

MASSAGING THE STORK'S FEET

19. Which type of alcohol does Ashok keep in his car?

WHISKEY

VODKA

BEER

WINE

20. Complete the line: "I was looking for the key for years..."

AND SOMEDAY IT WILL BE MINE.

BUT I LOST IT LONG AGO.

BUT THE ROOSTER COOP IS SEALED.
BUT THE DOOR WAS ALWAYS OPEN.

21. Which of the following is NOT a crime for which the Great Socialist has been charged?

THEFT

MURDER

RAPE

PIMPING

22. What is inside the red bag?

BRIBE MONEY

A CHANGE OF CLOTHES

BALRAM'S SALARY

IDENTIFICATION PAPERS

23. At the end of the novel, Vijay is:

DEAD

DEAD OF THE BUS COMPANY

A SUCCESSFUL, CORRUPT POLITICIAN

A CLOSE FRIEND OF BALRAM'S

24. How does Balram avoid punishment for his driver's mistake?

HE BRIBES THE DRIVER TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.

HE BRIBES THE VICTIM'S FAMILY.

HE BRIBES THE WITNESSES.

HE BRIBES THE POLICE

IMPORTANT ESSAY QUESTIONS.

Submit

- **The Cost of Globalization: Two Accounts of India**
- **Light and Darkness in The White Tiger**
- **The complex use of symbolism within Adiga's social critique, 'The White Tiger'**
- **Settings and Their Importance: The White Tiger and Native Son**

- **Equal Parts Admiration and Disgust: Balram Halwai as an Atypical Protagonist**