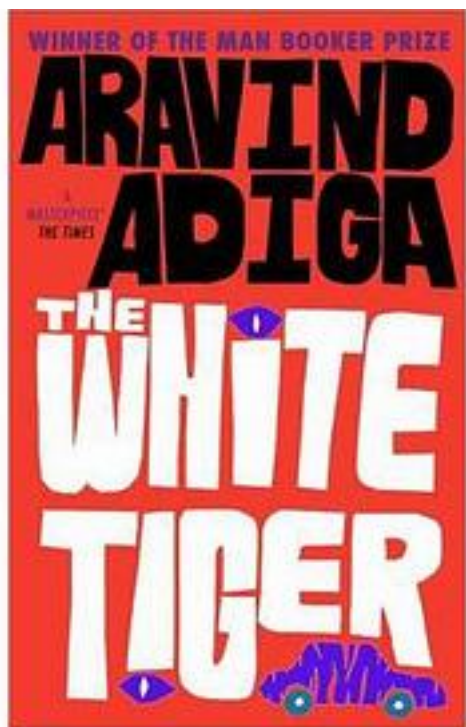


The White Tiger



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著者:Aravind Adiga (Author)

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Balam Halwai is a complicated man. Servant. Philosopher. Entrepreneur. Murderer. Over the course of seven nights, by the scattered light of a preposterous chandelier, Balam tells us the terrible and transfixing story of how he came to be a success in life - having nothing but his own wits to help him along. Born in a village in the dark heart of India, Balam gets a break when he is hired as a driver for a wealthy man, two Pomeranians (Puddles and Cuddles), and the rich man's (very unlucky) son.

Through Balram's eyes, we see India as we've never seen it before: the cockroaches and the call centers, the prostitutes and the worshippers, the water buffalo and, trapped in so many kinds of cages that escape is (almost) impossible, the white tiger. And with a charisma as undeniable as it is unexpected, he teaches us that religion doesn't create morality and money doesn't solve every problem - but decency can still be found in a corrupt world, and you can get what you want out of life if you eavesdrop on the right conversations.

DESCRIPTION

Balram Halwai is the White Tiger - the smartest boy in his village. His family is too poor for him to afford for him to finish school and he has to work in a teashop, breaking coals and wiping tables. But Balram gets his break when a rich man hires him as a chauffeur, and takes him to live in Delhi. The city is a revelation. As he drives his master to shopping malls and call centres, Balram becomes increasingly aware of immense wealth and opportunity all around him, while knowing that he will never be able to gain access to that world. As Balram broods over his situation, he realizes that there is only one way he can become part of this glamorous new India - by murdering his master. "The White Tiger" presents a raw and unromanticised India, both thrilling and shocking - from the desperate, almost lawless villages along the Ganges, to the booming Wild South of Bangalore and its technology and outsourcing centres. The first-person confession of a murderer, "The White Tiger" is as compelling for its subject matter as for the voice of its narrator - amoral, cynical, unrepentant, yet deeply endearing.

Review

"In the grand illusions of a 'rising' India, Aravind Adiga has found a subject Gogol might have envied. With remorselessly and delightfully mordant wit *The White Tiger* anatomizes the fantastic cravings of the rich; it evokes, too, with starting accuracy and tenderness, the no less desperate struggles of the deprived." Pankaj Mishra"

What makes an entrepreneur in today's India? Bribes and murder, says this fiercely satirical first novel. Balram Halwai is a thriving young entrepreneur in Bangalore, India's high-tech capital. China's Premier is set to visit, and the novel's frame is a series of Balram's letters to the Premier, in which he tells his life story. Balram sees India as two countries: the Light and the Darkness. Like the huddled masses, he was born in the Darkness, in a village where his father, a rickshaw puller, died of tuberculosis. But Balram is smart, as a school inspector notices, and he is given the moniker White Tiger. Soon after, he's pulled out of school to work in a tea shop, then manages to get hired as a driver by the Stork, one of the village's powerful landlords. Balram is on his way, to Delhi in fact, where the Stork's son, Mr. Ashok, lives with his Westernized wife, Pinky Madam. Ashok is a gentleman, a decent employer, though Balram will eventually cut his throat (an early revelation). His business (coal trading) involves bribing government officials with huge sums of money, the sight of which proves irresistible to Balram and seals Ashok's fate. Adiga, who was born in India in 1974, writes forcefully about a corrupt culture; unfortunately, his commentary on all things Indian comes at the expense of narrative suspense and character development. Thus he writes persuasively about the so-called Rooster Coop, which traps family-oriented Indians into submissiveness, but fails to describe the stages by which Balram evolves from solicitous servant into cold-blooded killer. Adiga's pacing is off too, as Balram too quickly reinvents himself in Bangalore, where every cop can be bought. An undisciplined debut, but one with plenty of vitality. (Kirkus Reviews) --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Andrew Holgate, Sunday Times

`Unlike almost any other Indian novel you might have read in recent years, this page-turner offers a completely bald, angry, unadorned portrait of the county as seen from the bottom of the heap; there's not a sniff of saffron or a swirl of sari anywhere... The Indian tourist board won't be pleased, but you'll read it in a trice and find yourself gripped.' --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Review Excerpts

"A brutal view of India's class struggles is cunningly presented in Adiga's debut.... It's the perfect antidote to lyrical India." ---Publishers Weekly Starred Review

"Balram's evolution from likable village boy to cold-blooded killer is fascinating and believable." ---Library Journal Starred Review

"An amazing and angry novel about injustice and power." ---USA Today

"Adiga's training as a journalist lends the immediacy of breaking news to his writing, but it is his richly detailed storytelling that will captivate his audience." ---San Francisco Chronicle

"John Lee delivers an absolutely stunning performance, reading with a realistic and unforced East Indian dialect. He brings the story to life, reading with passion and respect for Adiga's prose." ---Publishers Weekly Starred Audio Review

"Narrator John Lee reads with an accurate East Indian accent that will astound listeners searching for his normally stern British tone.... Lee is the quintessential narrator." ---AudioFile

作者介绍:

阿拉文德·阿迪加一九七四年出生于印度海港城市马德拉斯，后移居澳大利亚。毕业后曾任《时代周刊》驻印度通讯记者，并为《金融时报》、《独立报》、《星期日泰晤士报》等英国媒体撰稿。现居孟买。《白老虎》是其处女作。

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书评

我对印度是有特殊情感的，也不知道为什么。我在大学四年外加毕业闲适在家的一年里，独自背包去了5次印度。我能说简单的日常印地语，我亲密接触过印度社会的边缘受难者，我喜欢看一切印度人写的书和写印度的书，我对印度历史的了解远多于中国历史，我一直在努力学习印度文化相关...

真正读懂这本书不容易，往往要深入下去才能明白作者夸张而荒诞的写法背后的东西。作为小说，这本书固然有其情节方面的绝妙构思，但是，本书最重要的价值还在于其对印度社会矛盾的剖析。也许只喜欢读故事，追情节，读畅销书的人可能要失望了。从某种意义上来说，阿迪加有点像印...

抱着好奇的心开始看这本书，起初对印度北部农村的一些陋习感到好笑，渐渐地，心情变得沉重，透过小说表面戏虐的描述，我看到的是鸡笼般桎梏人性的压抑，穷苦大众也好，富商也罢，抑或高科技产业的从业人员，无不是生活在鸡笼中，耗费生命和智慧的挣扎。正如小说中提及的人们到...

白老虎的困境 书评人：苏七七 书名：《白老虎》 作者：阿拉文德·阿迪加
出版：人民文学2010年4月版
白老虎，就是孟加拉虎。是这个小说的叙事者，巴尔拉姆·哈尔维的自喻。他现在是一

个“企业家”——这是他对自己的称呼，他也是一个前茶馆、前司机，与前杀...

《白老虎》是一本非常特别的小说，曾一度让我误以为是政治性的书信体作品，因为它的封面语为：一位印度企业家写给中国总理的信。结果读过之后，发现真乃大错特错，事实上这是一本诙谐幽默风趣的虚构小说，当然虚中也有实，而它的独到之处，恰恰就在于书信体的设定上。 ...

在豆瓣开了一个专栏，主要写投资与自我管理方面，欢迎关注：<http://read.douban.com/column/93927/> 靖昀兄推荐，阅读体验很奇妙。感谢。
我估计此篇在未来会被拍成电影。
一方面里面的故事内容是虚构的；另一方面作者文笔相当生动，而本人又对印度了解得不多，看过《贫民窟...

吃人么？ 就是这样的现实。 能让人忍俊不禁看完的现实。
作者笔下形容的黑色的蛋，包不住所有人，总会有只金黄的鸟，冲破蛋壳，用碎片，释放自己。 印度有牛，有人，有牛人，有神。 只是，想到咱中国，
中国的老虎已经绝种了吧，笼子外面的，只有跳跳虎在卖萌

从没想要在豆瓣上评点什么。看了白老虎，实在是忍不住了。随便写点。
标题其实已经把我的意思表达完毕了。这段直接就算是我给阿迪加的几句吧。阿迪加啊，你这家伙年纪不大，大概不介意我称呼一声老兄吧。那么老兄，我实在是很敬佩你啊，你这玩意，给中国的触动应该不下于印度...

“印度不会发生革命，这个国家的人民仍然会在等待，等待别处过来的一场战争来解放他们。革命绝不会发生，每个人都必须创建自己的圣城”
我想这些话用来描述中国目前的现状也很准确。或许中国真的不需要改变什么，我们这些年轻人正在接受着目前的现实，试图适应这个社会。的确...

This is first book I ever read about India, which recommended by a financial theory professor. But I don't think he implies us to follow the strategy of Balram to become an "entrepreneur" by murdering his master, taking possession of his money which suppose...

真好啊，1974年出生的人，就已经能写出这么好的小说。印度真是不可小觑。有意思的是小说竟然是一个黑手起家的企业家写给中国总理的七封长信。不难看出，年轻的作者甚至认为过去的那种种姓阶级制度都比现在这样“吃人与被吃”的社会状态要幸福美满得多。就像，呵呵，其实...

开始读者本书的时候，是因为“企业家”“温总理”这几个词语而读的，其实全然无关。但是这本书并没有因此而让我失望。整本书虽然是断断续续一个礼拜才看完的，但是看得很顺。虽然书里面尽写了一些“种姓制度”“奴仆关系”“贫富差距”“政治黑暗”等等，但，真的，印度比想象...

i have been to india many times and stayed there for quite some time. i think i may have a fair view of what india may be like since in china or rest of the world, people may have two sharply contrasting points of view towards india: a giant moving fast wit...

一声低沉的咆哮吓得我立刻转过头去。一直黑狗在我身后转着圈，它的左屁股上有一块粉红色的皮肤在发亮——那是一个开放性的伤口，这只狗不停地扭动着身子，想咬那伤口，但是它的牙齿恰恰够不着。这只狗痛得快发疯了——它留着口水，企图要到那伤口，结果只是疯狂地转着毫无意义...

对于印度，我向来一无所知。《白老虎》的叙事有点儿像小说版的A Slumdog Millionaire，一个没念过多少书，出身低级种姓的人如何成为了“企业家”。陆建德的后记里说，小说的内容不可全当做真，但是其中人性的真实与隐喻的力量又怎能让人视而不见呢？（顺说，我对小陆的印象真...

13年游走印度的时候我一直有不解，跟中国相比那些不收门票的寺庙总是香火极旺当地信徒虔诚敬拜人数极多，可“以XXX神的名义向你保证”却也是商贩们讨价还价的常用语调。比如在瓦拉纳西看宗教仪式，跑过来当导游的小伙子会首先警告你尊重仪式不能拍照，而后会带你到旁边选取一个...

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