



### **Book Review: The White Tiger**

**Reviewed by:** Suprabh Acharya

**Roll no:** 27014

**Genre:** Novel, Mystery

**Author:** Aravind Adiga

The book “The White Tiger” by Aravind Adiga reflects the reality of modern India, a country that is traditional and is caught between globalization. The book takes the form of a story written by Balram Halwai, the “white tiger”. He narrates his own story in the book and shows the transformation from a poor villager to an entrepreneur in the city of India.

Adiga’s way of reflecting India is far from what we have romanticized it to be. He portrays the cons of India’s social landscapes along with the economic field. Adiga inspects the opposition of wealth and poverty, the educated and uneducated, freedom and enslavement, morality and corruption and many more and portrays it in the book through the struggle of Balram to become a successful individual in the society.

The narration of Balram Halwai is not only an irony towards the social order of India but also an evaluation of the capitalist economy fields. His transformation from poverty to wealth comes at the price of his moral integrity, nature of success in a society that is influenced by corruption and inequality along with the price he has to pay for the progress he makes. Balram who was born in a poor family in a society that believes in fate, breaks free from the societal pressure and asserts his free will and self-determination. This shows the contrast between destiny and free will of an individual forcing the readers to consider his actions.

Adiga explores the theme of class struggle and the vast difference in opportunities provided for the rich and poor. The concept of the societal pressure that keeps the poor trapped in their current position is a recurring constraint in our society and throughout the novel. This powerful imaginary shows the harsh reality faced by millions of people living in a society, not only in India but globally. The criticism towards the economic and social inequality extends on a global scale, which shows that the narration of Balram Halwai is not only exclusive to India but also other countries that are facing the same problem. It also represents the reality of many in developing countries who are trying to understand the unbalanced scales of power and poverty. The book “The White Tiger” is a deep message on the impact of globalization in modern society.

Adiga’s satire extends to the education system too, which is represented as a tool for maintaining the existing power structures and parties. Balram’s short and non-effective education stands as a dark reminder of the opportunities that are not available or denied to those who are born into poverty or poor society. The writing of Adiga is engaging to the readers as he criticizes the different power structures and parties of India.

The book attracts the readers to engage with the harsh effects of socio-economic inequality which is a universal reality that is still present in societies worldwide. In the novel “The White Tiger” satires the unbalanced capitalism that often ends up giving birth to corruption and social inequality in a society, neglecting the urgent need of positive considerations within the economic systems present globally. This critique dives deep into the era of economy and globalization that presents the uncomfortable and harsh realities about the society’s inborn justice. Although it is an imaginary story, Adiga’s novel is an important reminder for the people of the ongoing struggles for justice

and fair treatment for everyone in the society living together with prosperity and respect towards each other.

Adiga navigates the disloyal world of poverty and injustice, showing the desperate measures that individuals might take to escape the society or the unfaithful realm of their society's poverty. Balram's journey from the trap of poverty, through many difficult paths is a motivation and a statement of belief for the people or human spirit that is caught or trapped between survival and their ambition.

As a debut novel for Adiga, it is a piercing narrative novel that forces the readers, us, to confront the harsh realities of the society we live in. While it draws a penetrating picture for us, it is a necessary prompt for us and others to remember the continuous struggle done by others to get equity and justice in the world along with the challenges they have to face throughout their journey.

While reading the book, the reader will understand how corruption is an ordinary act between the government and people concerned with politics. The book also shows how the education system of India is not helping the poor and people in need as they should. This is also shown by The Great Socialist that is supposed to help people in need and the people that are the victims of poverty. But rather than doing what they are supposed to do, they are corrupt people who are the cause for murders, rapes, violent acts, money laundering, domination of rules and regulation and many more in the society but also are getting support from politicians and power structures are they are powerful local politicians.

In conclusion, Aravind Adiga's "The White Tiger" is a critique of present India's economic inequality and social inequality along with the universal narration of individuals trying to get through their present state and circumstances. Balram's journey in the novel, serves as a belief to the individuals that are trying to break the trap and chains of societal boundaries. Adiga's novel "The White Tiger" is a great piece of work that is an important message to readers worldwide to confront and question the reality of their government, system and capitalism. It is a must-read novel for those who are trying to understand the complexities and vast concept of the force and power that shapes the world we live in today. So, Aravind Adiga's debut novel "The White Tiger"

is more than just a story as it explores the struggle of people that are trapped between the boundaries of poverty, classism and inequality.