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The White Tiger by Aravind Adiga: A Chapter 4 Summary Balram skips the third night of his seven-day stay in Delhi and meets with Premier Wen Jiabao on the fourth morning. He compares China and India, highlighting China's sewage systems as an example for a Great Socialist society. Balram contrasts China's modernization with India's democracy, mentioning free elections but also pointing out that he didn't know his own birthdate until election workers gave it to him on his 18th birthday. Vijay, a bus driver turned politician, appears at the Stork's compound in Dhanbad and introduces Balram to the Great Socialist. The Great Socialist humiliates the landlord and his sons, using chewing paan. Balram brings a spittoon from his Honda City car, which the Great Socialist asks Mukesh Sir to hold. The chapter focuses on class struggle in India during modernization and globalization. Adiga's novel rejects the common "exoticized" view of India, instead providing a darkly comic examination of the complications emerging during this period. Adiga uses references to Gandhi and Nehru in Balram's letter to frame Balram's perspective within India's historical context, emphasizing his connection to the nation's struggle for independence. The inclusion of these figures also serves to highlight the contrast between Adiga's narrative voice and the traditional Indian values represented by the characters. Looking back on the events that transpired during his time in Delhi, Balram concludes his story with a sense of liberation, as he reflects on having been, albeit briefly, a servant to no one. The fourth chapter begins with Balram's narrative, where he shares his fondness for chandeliers before embarking on a journey through the city with Pinky Madam, Mr. Ashok, and Mukesh Sir. As they navigate Delhi's chaotic streets, Balram describes the complexities of the system, which leaves one questioning its purpose. The group discusses taxation issues, their frustrations stemming from the Great Socialist's departure. Subsequent events unfold as they engage in shopping, with Balram waiting outside a mall before driving his masters to their new residence. However, he struggles to find solace among the other servants, who mock him, even during evening hours when they retire to their dormitory. What struck me most was Balram's account of Delhi's streets, which feature peculiar numbering systems, where houses are assigned letters and numbers without a logical pattern. This phenomenon leaves one perplexed, as the purpose of such an infrastructure appears to be unfulfilled. During his time in Delhi, Balram formed connections with other servants, particularly Vitiligo-Lips, who provided him with essential supplies before being forced to sleep in a room infested with mosquitoes. The harrowing experience took place during two nights, where the servant's harassment pushed Balram to seek refuge elsewhere. The narrative then shifts as Balram reflects on his association with Pinky Madam and Mr. Ashok, including their encounter with the President at the politics quarter. Following this, the Mongoose left Delhi by train, leaving only Pinky Madam and Mr. Ashok behind. The chapter progresses as Balram recounts his time spent with Vitiligo-Lips, where he started brushing regularly and developing a newfound appreciation for women in short skirts. The final segment of the fourth chapter commences when Balram waits ahead of Mr. Ashok and Pinky Madam at the Honda City, before being abruptly removed from the vehicle by Pinky Madam, who crashed into a child during her intoxicated state. The chapter concludes with an audience between Balram, the Mongoose, and a judge, where he is required to sign a document acknowledging his involvement in the child's death. Looking back on that long and chilly night, he couldn't help but think about his lord's reaction when he finally received his full report - a document that bluntly stated Balram's involvement in the tragic accident. The certificate clearly stated that he was indeed the one driving under the influence of alcohol, resulting in the child's untimely death. Meanwhile, Pinky Madam, who many believed to be at fault, remained conveniently out of the picture. Despite my reservations about presenting only a personal viewpoint, I find myself intrigued by the circumstances surrounding this incident. One thing that still leaves me speechless is the apparent lack of ethics displayed by his lord, who seemed to operate completely without any moral compass.

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