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Set in a fictional southern Indian village, *White Man Falling* focuses on Police Sub-Inspector R.M. Swaminthan, affectionately known as Swami. Swami is caught in a downward spiral – he suffers a stroke that leaves him all but mute; he has become a laughing stock of the town; and he can't afford the exorbitant dowries required to marry off his six daughters. He can't even manage to kill himself properly. When a white man falls from the sky and expires right in front of his wheelchair it seems another omen of disaster, but a strange sequence of events leads to Swami being revered as a holy man, and he soon becomes renowned for his mystical insights. *White Man Falling* is an absurd comedy of errors, the plot of which resembles *The Gods Must Be Crazy* recast on the subcontinent. It's a witty and occasionally lyrical novel where all progress is achieved by freak coincidence, and people fall over themselves to derive meaning from the meaninglessness.

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