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Formerly India's most corrupt tourist guide, Raju—just released from prison—seeks refuge in an abandoned temple. Mistaken for a holy man, he plays the part and succeeds so well that God himself intervenes to put Raju's newfound sanctity to the test. Narayan's most celebrated novel, *The Guide* won him the National Prize of the Indian Literary Academy, his country's highest literary honor.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

R. K. Narayan (1906–2001), born and educated in India, was the author of fourteen novels, numerous short stories and essays, a memoir, and three retold myths. His work, championed by Graham Greene, who became a close friend, was often compared to that of Dickens, Chekhov, Faulkner, and Flannery O'Connor, among others.

Michael Gorra is a professor of English at Smith College. His books include *The Bells in Their Silence: Travels Through Germany* and *After Empire: Scott, Naipaul, Rushdie*.

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