

R.K. NARAYAN

R.K. Narayan, original name Rasipuram Krishnaswami Narayanswami, (born October 10, 1906, Madras (Chennai), India — died May 13, 2001, Madras) one of the finest Indian authors of his generation writing in English

Reared by his grandmother, Narayan completed his education in 1930 and briefly worked as a teacher before deciding to devote himself to writing. His first novel, *Swami and Friends* (1935), is an episodic narrative recounting the adventures of a group of school boys. That book and much of Narayan's later works are set in the

Fictitious South Indian town of Malgudi

Among the best-received of Narayan's 34 novels are *The English Teacher* (1945), *Waiting for the Mahatma* (1955), *The Guide* (1958), *The Man-eater of Malgudi* (1961), *The Vendor of Sweets*, and *A Tiger of Malgudi* (1983).

Narayan also wrote a number of short stories collections that include *Lawley Road* (1956), *A Horse and Two Goats* and *Other Stories* (1970) etc.

In addition to works of non-fiction (chiefly memoirs), he also published shortened modern prose versions of two Indian epics, *The Ramayana* (1972) and *The Mahabharata* (1978)