## CONTENTS

1. The Story So Far	I
2. Arrival in America	5
3. The Cafeteria	Ι2
4. Prep or Freshman?	14
5. American "Football"	18
6. First Day of Classes	2.1
7. Teachers and Students	24
8. Reading Palms	28
9. Learning American English	34
10. Learning Sign Language	38
11. Being Alone in a Crowd	41
12. Cultural Abyss	44
13. Back to Photography	49
14. The Missing Bag	53
15. Progress in Classes	5 5
16. The First Thanksgiving	57
17. Strange American Traditions	64
18. The First Christmas in America	67
19. Managing Finances	74
20. The Foreign Students Group	76
21. Fort Gallaudet	81
22. Education Outside the Classroom	85
23. Seeing America	88
24. Travels in America	92
25. A Week with Hippies	96
26. Other Adventures	103
27. My First Car	III
28. Starting Graduate School	114
29. Visiting India	118
30. Plans to Return to India	т26

vi CONTENTS

31. Challenges in Teaching	129
32. Nirmala's Arrival	132
33. Setting Up Home	136
34. Acculturating Nirmala	139
35. Settling Down in America	142
36. The Four Dictionaries	148
37. Moving On	157
38. The Career Ladder	161
39. Advice—Good and Bad	164
40. Weeds Theory	166
41. Deaf President Now!	169
42. The National Conference on	
Education of the Deaf in a Time Warp	171
43. Moving up the Ladder	175
44. Terms of Impairment	183
45. Up in Smoke!	186
46. The Communication Revolution	189
47. There Is More	192
Acknowledgments	195