

Over the Rainbow

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Fiction/"Faction"

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Short Description

A look at the many colourful peoples, who make up this diverse and vibrant society, as seen through the eyes of a newspaper reporter.

Description:

Many colourful "vignettes" in this "land of great contrasts" - happy, sad and true, that was the fabric of South African life in the lead up to the historic Democratic Election of 1994. We live in a very complex country of great disparities and extremes, especially in wealth and in living standards. A land of great contradictions: a land of sunshine, a world in one country, a land of laughter in this strange and beautiful place. Much of the laughter from the very people, who have suffered the most and felt the most pain in this strange tormented place of ours. Yes, there is that sadness in the eyes of them too. So to put it simply, South Africa is just one happy, sad land...and I hope that the lives of ALL South Africans will become better in the days ahead.

In that wonderfully moving book, 'Cry the Beloved Country' by Alan Paton (I hear that the new movie is being released in a few months with a gala premiere in New York with Nelson Mandela and Hilary Clinton attending), black priest, Stephen Kumalo, the main character in this "heart-tugging" tale uttered these chilling words:

"There is only one thing that has power completely, and that is love. Because when a man loves, he seeks no power, and therefore he has power. Only strive for power if it is not at the cost of other men (people). Power corrupts. You first have to be pure and righteous first before one can attain power. I believe that love is a greater force than power.

I see only one hope for our country, and that is when white men and black men, desiring neither power nor money, but desiring only the good of their country, come together to work for it. He was grave and silent, and then he said sombrely, I have one great fear in my heart, that one day when they are turned to loving, they will find we are turned to hating."

From CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY (1948) by Alan Paton
A true visionary and even more so, a great patriot of South Africa!

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