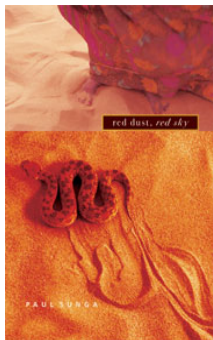


## 5. Fiction – Novel

### **RED DUST, RED SKY by Paul S. Sunga**



*Red Dust, Red Sky* is set in southern Africa during the time of official apartheid. A family originally from India lives in exile in the mountainous kingdom of Lesotho, a tiny country entirely surrounded by South Africa itself. The aftermath of the murder of a student activist at the hands of the South African police – betrayal, the struggle for redemption and years of life underground – is the basis for this powerful story. The language is beautiful, the plot riveting, the characters vivid, edgy and humorous, full of life and eccentric energy, sexual and otherwise.

The story is told by Kokoanyana, a girl growing up in the small and closed belief system of rural Lesotho. She is obsessed with discovering the story of her lost father, but the many “lies” her mother tells her to avoid the potentially dangerous truth have sensitized “Koko” to the many lies and delusions of the adults around her. This is a world of concealed facts, obscure events, and phenomena only explicable in terms of the ancestors, Shiva, and the South African Defence Force. Kokoanyana’s persistent pursuit gradually unearths pieces of the puzzle. But as the family’s political history reveals itself, the soldiers advance.

**Paul Sunga** wrote *Red Dust, Red Sky* after living and working in Lesotho for several years during the 1980s, the last years of apartheid in South Africa. He has fifteen years of international experience in Southern and Eastern Africa and Southern Asia, primarily in the areas of public health and community development.

- Coteau Books, 2007
- 304 pages, 14 X 21,5 cm
- \$21,00 Paperback