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Cry the beloved

Kontakion is a Greek word meaning a hymn to a saint. *Kontakion for You Departed* was written by Alan Paton, author of the world bestseller *Cry, the Beloved Country*, as a tribute to his late wife and as an account of his own extraordinarily courageous professional and political life in South Africa. On September 7th, four days before Cape publish *Kontakion*, the Sunday Times Colour Mag are running an illustrated seven thousand word extract. Alan Paton first met his wife Dorrie in 1925 on a tennis court when she was a mischievous married woman and he was a young school-teacher. They were married after the death of her husband three years later. For fifteen years they worked together with the Liberal Party to challenge South Africa's racial conventions, sharing in the vicious reprisals for these activities. Mrs Paton died in October 1967, the year before the Liberal Party was finally destroyed. Since 1960, Alan Paton has been unable to travel abroad: his passport was confiscated when he returned home from New York after receiving the Freedom Award.