

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# *Surviving a real-life hyper-inflation dystopia*

Novel reveals human impact of Zimbabwe's societal collapse when billion-dollar banknotes were not enough to buy food

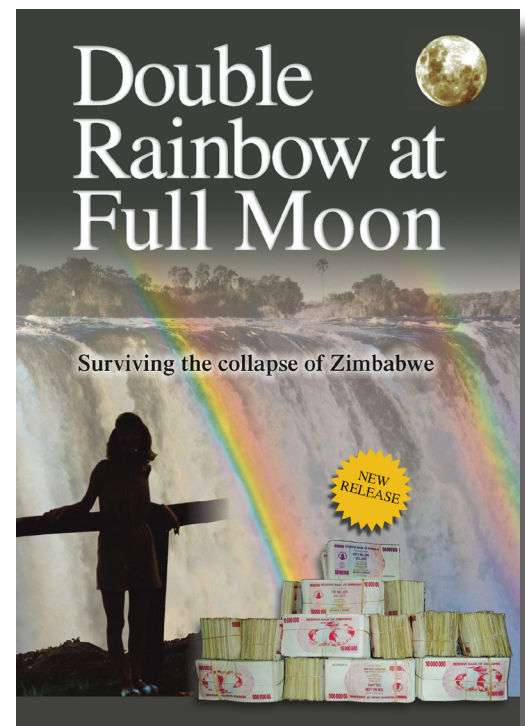
(Victoria, BC) – In B.A.K. Sim's new novel, ***Double Rainbow at Full Moon***, Bodie and Clyde return to Zimbabwe in 2007, but the good times are all gone. With the country totally isolated, they experience shortages of food, water and electricity, endless line-ups for gas when available. With the highest inflation in the world, possibly ever in history, people have to resort to suitcases and wheelbarrows, just to carry the money! The banking system is collapsing and only by trading on the black market are people able to feed themselves.

Clyde tries to sell the factory before it is forcefully taken over by the government. In his efforts he has encounters with diamond smugglers, gold dealers, arms traffickers and other shady people. In the end he survives by producing ox-drawn carts as the clock has been turned back to the Middle Ages. When the election in spring 2008 draws near, the same violence that shook the country in year 2000 with mass killings of white farmers, breaks loose again. Against all odds, people find solutions across racial, religious and cultural lines.

***"Double Rainbow at Full Moon"*** is beautifully written – an important contribution to history and politics," says university administrator and editor Margaret Spark. "A powerful saga, told with humour and compassion, capturing common life during troubled times, bringing out the best and the worst in people."

This debut novel describes the experience of living on the edge, barely managing day by day, close to basic human instincts during times of extreme adversity. Readers feel the grip of a ruthless government whose fifth brigade is trained by North Korea. One feels the helplessness of citizens in such catastrophic conditions. Yet, through it all, the author captures the dignity of the African people, the flora and the fauna, the beauty and traditions, the everlasting heritage.

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## INTERVIEW TOPICS

- What compelled you to write this book?
- What and who is causing Zimbabwe's economic woes?
- How do people cope?
- What should we be learning about how inflation could impact our lives here?

## CONTACT

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## About the author – B.A.K. Sim

B.A.K. Sim is a Danish author (one of her names BODIL is also a Danish Oscar award). She has settled down in Victoria, on Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada with her Canadian husband after having lived most of her adult life abroad. Many of her friends and colleagues know her as Dila. She has lived the life of a celebrity and served as an international diplomat. She has rubbed shoulders with international dignitaries, royalty and celebrities. Zimbabwe was the foreign country that came closest to her heart as she lived there for 22 years, but she loves all 10 countries she has lived in.

***Double Rainbow at Full Moon* is available through Amazon.com and selected bookstores**

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**"Double Rainbow at Full Moon** is a human and economic thriller," says author B.A.K. Sim. "And it is a wake-up call to the Western world about rising inflation and economic mismanagement. I wanted to explain the consequences on our daily lives with a money system reaching such gigantic figures, and bring this close to home, even though the story is happening in a remote African country ruled by a dictator. The money system was quickly flipping from trillions to quadrillions, and we all had to be re-educated and understand how many zeroes after that with quintillions going up to sextillions!"

"B.A.K. Sim's eloquent descriptive writing draws you into a thrilling yet unnerving and astonishing journey in Zimbabwe during the financial collapse, rampant hyper-inflation and the dependence on the black market and a .38 caliber for survival, ultimately ending with a harrowing escape," says Phyllis Campanello, C.H.A., of San Francisco, CA.

"One starts reading the newspaper in a new way, grasping that our own governments have no possibility of balancing our budgets with such gigantic and incomprehensible numbers," says B.A.K. Sim. "Makes you wonder, are we in North America and Europe on that same route of disaster?"

**Double Rainbow at Full Moon** by B.A.K. Sim, published by Agio Publishing House (Victoria, BC), is available in trade paperback edition (ISBN 978-1-897435-90-8; \$14.95), Kindle edition (ISBN 978-1-897435-91-5; \$9.99) and ePub ebook edition (ISBN 978-1-897435-94-6; \$9.99). A Danish language edition is planned for later this year.

"A wonderful book creating a vivid picture of the downfall of a beautiful country, and how this has resulted in a catastrophic lack of food, law and order. Well worth reading." -- A. Crawshaw, MA, Cand. phil., Copenhagen University, Denmark