

A Synopsis of *Hotheaded Saints* by Taylor Barton

*Hotheaded Saints* is a haunting tale of three lives woven together by fate. Set in the late nineties, the story unfolds in the bubbling hotbed of East Hampton; A place where hatred seethes beneath the community surface: A town where greedy A-list vacationers clash with local *Bonnackers*; A time when one tragedy in a community triggers a volcanic eruption in a paradise gone mad.

Commencing in the backyard of Laney's modest home, we find a woman struggling with infertility. With too much free time on her hands, she offers herself half-heartedly to her community as a volunteer for the fire department. Never dreaming of the challenges that her commitment will entail, Laney's efforts are rewarded and honored in miraculous ways.

Walker, struggling with unemployment due to changed fishing laws, descends deeper into a drug addiction. He takes out his pent up rage on the unwanted summer intruders. His negligence and ill-fated maneuvers, unknowingly assists a shocking murder.

Three lives collide when Skye, an unrecognized artist and wife of famous painter Dirke Turner, careens out of control. Driven to utter despair, Skye filled with self-loathing and insecurity, loses grip of her disintegrating reality and makes the mistake of mixing street drugs with her prescribed Zoloft, a deadly combination. Driven to despair from living in her husband's shadow, she takes Dirke's life and then her own. Skye commits a heinous crime, and sends an entire community off its' axis.

Laney and Walker (also neighbors) are sucked into Skye's tornado and both lives are altered in startling and unexpected ways. When confronted with the reverberations of Syke's actions, they are faced with extraordinary circumstances that transform their lives forever.

With that, the stage is set for the siege of a thriving resort community. A full-fledged riot erupts. The locals betrayed by the tabloid media, foment an insurrection and fisherman, gardeners, and electricians pummel CEO's, publishers and producers. Camps divide on either side of Montauk highway, and Route 27 becomes *The Hamptons Gaza Strip*.

Perhaps suffering under an ancient tribal curse, the East End is obliterated. Closing on a Pow wow at Shinnecock Nation, special magic grains are used to feed the flames, and a rapacious resort becomes Nirvana no more. *Hotheaded Saints* illustrates how long buried injustices flare up, and the inexorable flow of history can create a tableau of epic tragedy.