

# Handselling **TIP-SHEET**

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Saint John of the Five Boroughs

EDWARD FALCO

**"Falco produces some excellent writing...." — Publishers Weekly**

**"...a cast of diverse and unusual characters, the plot twists and turns, readers don't know what to expect next...." — Booklist**

## BOOKSELLER SYNOPSIS

Avery, a senior at Penn State, doesn't know she's restless or tired of the superficiality of her college experience until she bumps in to Grant Danko, a thirty-something performance artist on campus to give a guest lecture. Their first meeting ends on a disturbing note, one that forces Avery to reexamine her life. She makes a surprising decision. Avery feels a dramatic break from her past is suddenly essential. And so she ditches everything, climbs on the back of Grant's motorcycle, and flees.

As much as this is a novel about a young woman deciding what she expects of herself, it's also the story of Grant, their families and communities, and of the forces that shaped them. And while there are heartbreaking moments, we also see how people rally to support one another and mend. In the end, Grant, startled by who he has become, must make his own life-altering choice.

As always in Falco's work, there are no easy answers. This is a powerful story about a violent, lost man and his desire for redemption. It is the story of a young woman taking her first real steps toward independence. It is the story of how, when we see ourselves for who we really are, we all have hope of becoming better than we were.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Edward Falco grew up in Brooklyn and teaches at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, where he is director of the MFA program in Creative Writing. He is the prize-winning author of several books including his new and selected stories, *Sabbath Night in the Church of the Piranha* and, most recently, the highly acclaimed novel *Wolf Point*.

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## KEY SELLING POINTS

**SAINT JOHN OF THE FIVE BOROUGHs** is a turning point for this critically acclaimed and prolific writer, a story of larger scope and vision, a more expansive tale, a more in-depth look at the questions which drive all of Falco's writing.

A novel which, as much of his work does, examines how violence and abandonment affect people and how, despite trauma, one might find hope, even redemption. It is the story of how, when we see ourselves for who we really are, we all have hope of becoming better than we were.

Falco runs the writing program at VA Tech and he is widely respected for his early work in hypertext.

His prior novel *WOLF POINT* was successful in literary and mystery markets.

Ed Falco's niece, Edie Falco, will work with hiim to promote this book.

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