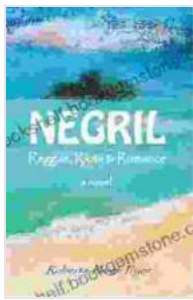


# Negril Reggae Riots: Romance, Roberta Raigh Pryor, and the Unrest in Jamaica's Tourist Paradise

Negril, a once-tranquil resort town on Jamaica's western coast, became the scene of violent unrest in 2010. The Negril Reggae Riots, as they came to be known, were sparked by a combination of factors, including a reggae festival that turned unruly, tensions between locals and tourists, and the controversial role of an American woman named Roberta Raigh Pryor.



## NEGRIL Reggae, Riots & Romance by Roberta Raigh Pryor

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 285 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 252 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## The Roots of the Unrest

Negril had long been a popular destination for tourists from around the world, drawn by its beautiful beaches, laid-back atmosphere, and vibrant reggae music scene. However, in recent years, the town had seen an increase in crime and violence, as well as a growing divide between locals and tourists.

This divide was exacerbated by the influx of all-inclusive resorts, which cater primarily to foreign tourists and often limit interaction with the local community. As a result, many Jamaicans felt that they were being excluded from the economic benefits of tourism.

## **The Reggae Festival That Went Wrong**

In February 2010, a reggae festival was held in Negril that drew a large crowd of both locals and tourists. The festival was initially peaceful, but as the night went on, tensions began to rise.

Some festival attendees complained that they were being overcharged for food and drinks, while others objected to the loud music and rowdy behavior. As tempers flared, a group of locals began throwing stones at the stage, prompting the police to intervene.

## **Roberta Raigh Pryor and the Rumors**

Amid the chaos, rumors began to spread through the crowd that Roberta Raigh Pryor, an American woman who had been living in Negril for several years, was responsible for the violence. Pryor was a controversial figure in the town, known for her outspoken criticism of the local government and her support for the Rastafarian community.

Many locals believed that Pryor had incited the violence in order to promote her own agenda. As the rumors spread, Pryor became the target of angry mobs, who vandalized her home and threatened her with violence.

## **The Police Response**

The police were slow to respond to the rioting, which gave the mobs time to spread throughout the town. By the time the police arrived in force, the

rioting had already caused extensive damage to businesses and property.

The police used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowds, but the violence continued for several hours. In the end, one person was killed and several others were injured.

## **The Aftermath of the Riots**

The Negril Reggae Riots had a lasting impact on the town's tourism industry. Many tourists were scared away by the violence, and the town's reputation as a safe and welcoming destination was damaged.

In the years since the riots, Negril has made an effort to rebuild its tourism industry. However, the scars of the riots still remain, and the town continues to struggle with issues of crime and inequality.

## **Roberta Raigh Pryor's Legacy**

Roberta Raigh Pryor left Negril shortly after the riots. She has always denied any involvement in the violence, but many locals continue to believe that she played a role in inciting the unrest.

Pryor's legacy is a complex one. She was a strong advocate for the Rastafarian community and a vocal critic of the Jamaican government. However, her actions during the riots have led some to question her true motives.

The Negril Reggae Riots were a tragic event that had a lasting impact on the town and its people. The unrest was sparked by a complex combination of factors, including tensions between locals and tourists, the influx of all-inclusive resorts, and the controversial role of Roberta Raigh Pryor.

In the years since the riots, Negril has made an effort to rebuild its tourism industry. However, the scars of the riots still remain, and the town continues to struggle with issues of crime and inequality.

### **Additional Images**





Seven Mile Beach, Negril, Jamaica



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Reggae musicians, Negril, Jamaica



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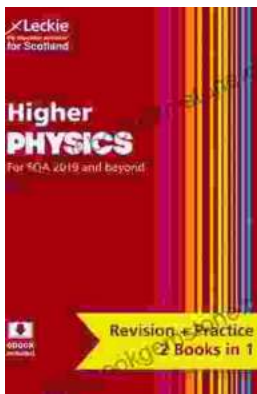






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