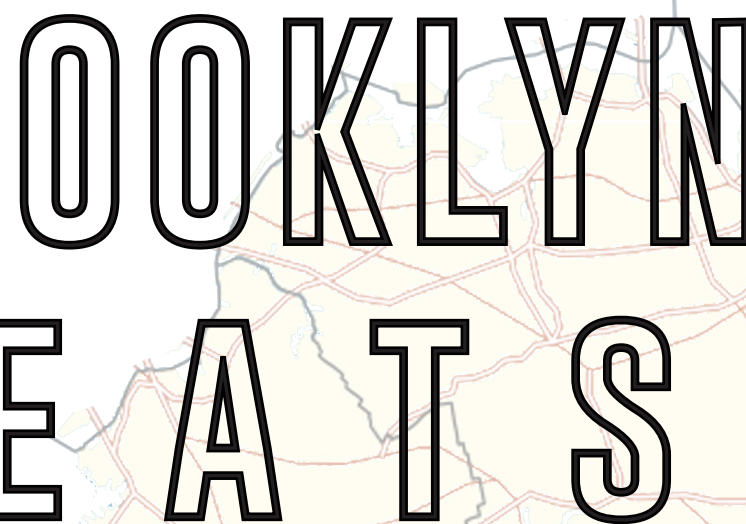


Q UOOKLYN EATS



TIMOTHY LEE - QUOOKLYN RESIDENT -
DISCUSSES EATS IN HIS HOOD.

“RIDGEWOOD, QUEENS IS A HIGHLY HISPANIC NEIGHBORHOOD. THERE ARE AT LEAST 4 TACO TRUCKS DIRECTLY OUTSIDE MY SUBWAY STATION AT ALL TIMES. THE TACOS FROM MY FAVORITE TRUCK ARE GOOD, CHEAP AND CAN BE TOPPED WITH PRETTY MUCH ANY MEAT YOU CAN THINK OF INCLUDING PORK EARS AND COW TONGUE. ON SEAMLESS, PRETTY MUCH EVERY RESTAURANT IS HISPANIC. SUPER POLLO SERVES A MEAN CHICKEN WITH RICE, BEANS AND PLANTAINS; TAQUERIA COCOYOC HAS MY FAVORITE TOSTADAS; AND NEW MEXICO PLACE HAS A MEDIOCRE BURRITO BUT IS THE QUICKEST. RECENTLY THERE HAVE BEEN MORE AMERICAN FOOD OPTIONS POPPING UP, MOSTLY IN THE FORM OF CAFES. MILK AND PULL WHICH IS STEPS AWAY FROM MY APARTMENT AND SERVES BAGELSMITH BAGELS—I GET MINE WITH CREAM CHEESE, TOMATOES, CUCUMBERS, AND A COFFEE. ONE OF MY FAVORITE RESTAURANTS IN THE HOOD, LTAUHA HAS A \$10 BURGER AND IS ONE OF THE BEST BURGERS I’VE EVER HAD. THE ONE THING I WISH THERE WAS MORE OF IS GOOD BARS TO JUST HANG OUT AT. JULIA’S HAS GOOD FOOD INCLUDING AN EXTENSIVE LIST OF ARTISANAL GRILLED SANDWICHES AND A ROTATING CHEESE PLATE AND A GOOD ATMOSPHERE, BUT ONLY SERVES WINE AND BEER—ACTUALLY THERE ARE A WEIRD AMOUNT OF WINE-ONLY BARS. THE MAIN HANGOUT SPOT IS PROBABLY THIS NEW BAR CALLED BAD OLD DAYS, BUT THE PEOPLE THERE GIVE ME THE HEEBY JEEBIES AND THE COCKTAILS AND FOOD ARE LESS THAN STELLAR. THE FOOD MENU FEATURES SUCH DELICACIES AS “SPAM SLIDERS” AND “WANGS!” IT FEELS LIKE A SPOT THAT WISHES IT WAS A COUPLE STOPS EARLIER ON THE L TRAIN. SO IF I WANT A DRINK I USUALLY JUST GET A BEER AT THE BODEGA NEXT TO MY PLACE, WHERE I CAN PICK UP A BEEF PATTY OR A BOAR’S HEAD SANDWICH. THERE’S ALSO NO GOOD OPTIONS FOR ASIAN FOOD. THERE ARE AT LEAST A COUPLE SUSHI AND CHINESE RESTAURANTS IN THE ARE BUT THEY ARE TERRIBLE. THE CHINESE RESTAURANT CLOSEST TO MY HOUSE IS CALLED “FRESH TACO” AND SERVES GENERAL TSAO’S CHICKEN ALONGSIDE

THEIR TWO DOLLAR BURRITOS. THERE ARE HOWEVER A GOOD NUMBER OF NICE BAKERIES IN THE AREA. RUDY'S HAS POLISH AND JEWISH BAKED GOODS, BUSHWICK BAKERY HAS AWESOME EMPANADAS, AND BUTTAH HAS REALLY GREAT FRENCH PASTRIES.

I DON'T THINK I'VE COOKED A SINGLE TIME IN THE PAST YEAR, BUT ON THE RARE OCCASION I DO COOK, THE GROCERY OPTIONS ARE REALLY FANTASTIC. IN WALKING DISTANCE FROM MY HOUSE THERE ARE AT LEAST 3 ORGANIC GROCERY STORES THAT ALL SQUEEZE FRESH JUICE ON SITE, A POLISH GROCERY STORE WITH FRESH MEATS, AND AN ASIAN GROCERY STORE THAT HAS THINGS LIKE LEMONGRASS AND DRAGONFRUIT. IF ALL ELSE FAILS THERE'S NOT ONE, BUT TWO FOOD BAZAARS OUTSIDE MY NEAREST SUBWAY STATION—I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY THERE ARE TWO LITERALLY BLOCKS AWAY FROM EACH OTHER.”

EDITOR: CASEY BARBER