



Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York

By Michael Brooks

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None of the world's great cities is as closely identified with its subway as New York. Its trains provide much more than just rapid transit. They give New Yorkers a powerful symbol of their metropolis, one that they use to express both their hopes and their fears for the urban future.

Subway City explores New York's transit system as both fact and metaphor. Brooks traces the development of the subway from its inception as the newest and most efficient public transportation system to its decline as an overcrowded and dangerous part of city life. The crowded cars gave Harold Lloyd material for comedy, fueled William Randolph Hearst's crusade against the Traction Trust, and convinced Lewis Mumford that the subway was a futile effort to solve the city's problems. Brooks explores films which have dramatized the dangers lurking below ground, and examines the infamous Bernhard Goetz shooting that made the subway a symbol of urban decay. More hopefully, he describes the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's station improvements and ambitious programs for Music Underground, Poetry in Transit, and Arts-in-Transit, as keys to the city's renewal.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Throughout this century, the New York City subway has represented both the successes and failure of the modern city. Brooks (John Ruskin and Victorian Architecture, LJ 4/15/87) has written an eminently readable history of the New York City subway system and its impact on residents, politicians, and, in particular, artists and authors, from the earliest subway proposals and elevated railways in the 1860s through the depression and crime of the 1970s and 1980s. The comic films of Harold Lloyd, the political machinations of William Randolph Hearst, the paintings of Reginald Marsh, and the writings of James Baldwin have all reflected the influence of the subway. Brooks illustrates his work with many reproductions of newspaper cartoons, etchings, and woodcuts, and it contains extensive notes. This book will find an audience, both general and scholarly, among readers of history and popular culture. ?Linda M. Kaufmann, Freel Lib., North Adams State Coll., Mass.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Manuel Thomas:

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York, you may enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout men. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

David Shetler:

This Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York is great guide for you because the content and that is full of information for you who all always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it details accurately using great plan word or we can say no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but difficult core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no book that offer you world throughout ten or fifteen small right but this reserve already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Hey there Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt in which?

Rose Ibarra:

Reading a book for being new life style in this year; every people loves to examine a book. When you go through a book you can get a large amount of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information in it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your study, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics, as well as soon. The Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York provide you with new experience in examining a book.

Heather Stewart:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to you is Subway City: Riding the Trains, Reading New York this guide consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer use to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some research when he makes this book. This is why this book ideal all of you.

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