

## LAST STOP ON THE Z TRAIN

### Rat Pack

“Go ahead. I dare ya.”

“Yeah. You’re a lot of talk, Ivar. Let’s see if you really are descended from Vikings.”

Tweaks and Bernie pushed Ivar who proudly and often claimed to be a Norwegian rat and thus descended from the fierce rats that once sailed on Viking ships.

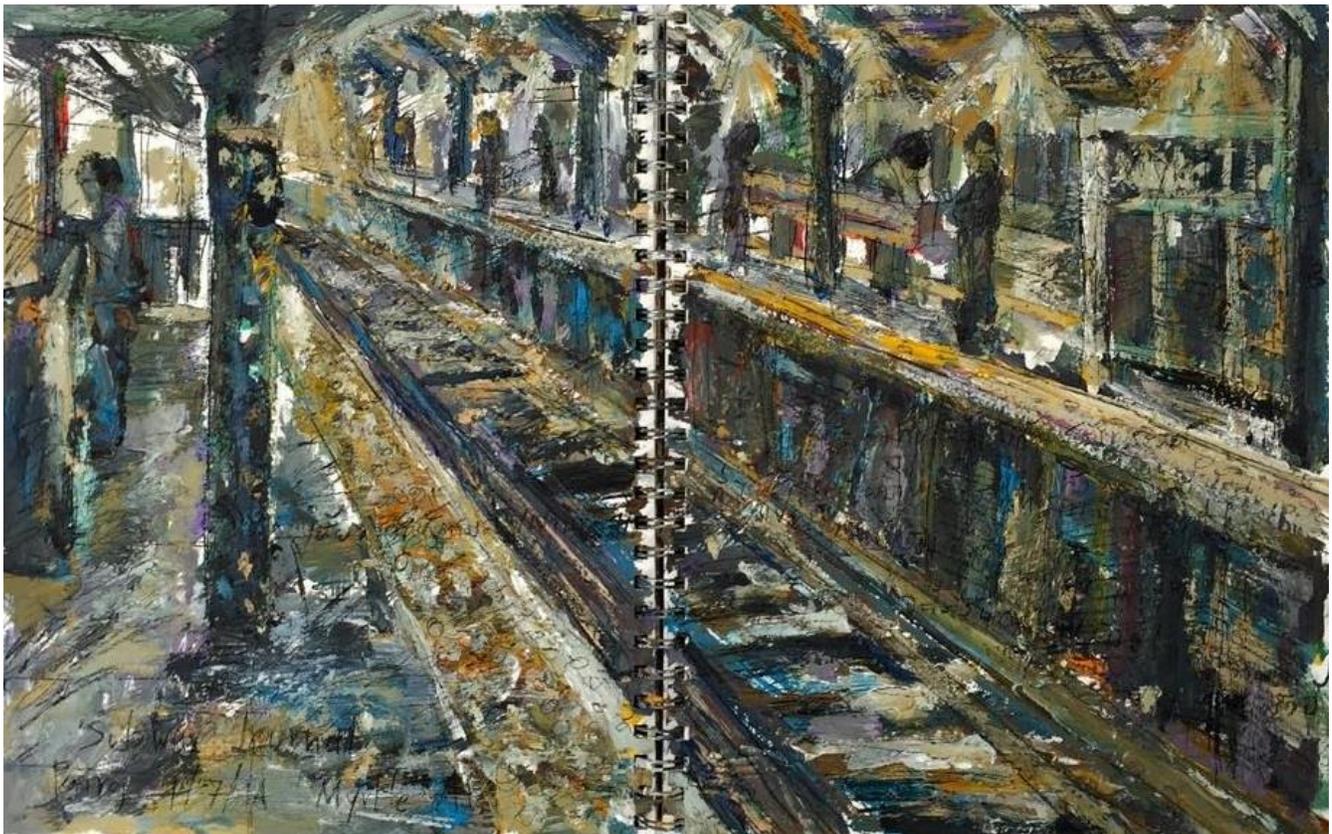
“I don’t need to prove a thing. Why don’t you do it, Bernadette?”

“I told you. You can call me Bernie or Berns, but do not call me Bernadette.”

“Ok, Berns. You think you’re so street smart. You got all the grit. You do it!”

Bernie didn’t have any pretenses. She was proud to be a regular ol’ New York City sewer rat.

“Well,” said Bernie, “if you’re not gonna do it and I’m not gonna do it. How about you, Tweaks?”



Tweaks was fairly new to the pack. He escaped from a lab and was considered a bit cuckoo by Ivar and Bernie. But they liked him and respected him.

“F-f-fine,” stammered Tweaks, a side effect of the experiments they ran on him in the laboratory. “I’ll d-d-do it.”

Ivar, Bernie and Tweaks looked through the grate. There was a perfect slice of pepperoni pizza on the platform floor. It was just waiting for them to take it. The only problem was that it was rush hour and they needed to get it before sanitation swept it up and threw it away.

Tweaks, in a fit of fury, made a mad dash toward the slice of pizza pie. People parted. Children screamed. An old woman nearly fainted and her husband fell over backward when he tried to swat Tweaks with his cane. A businessman shrieked and jumped on top of the bench. Berns and Ivar had never heard such a shrill in all their life. Everyone was screaming and jumping and falling over.

Tweaks grabbed the slice of pie, cheese still gooey. The weight of the pizza made him slow. But he was determined. He dragged that pizza slice back to the grate and disappeared from the sight of the humans.

“Good rat, Tweaks, good rat!” said Ivar.

“You the rat! You the rat!” shouted Bernie.

[Last Stop on the Z Train is available now at Amazon!](#)

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