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The Boatyard

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Abstract

“The Boatyard” is the story of my life as an actor living rent-free in a disused Jersey City boatyard on New York Harbor in the early Eighties. There were fourteen inhabitants, including Danny O’Brien (an amputee and ex-Con, Marine and safe cracker), a half-dozen Ukrainian immigrants living in shacks, the four Farrell brothers in a frame house, crazy Micky (who lived in and ran a Chop Shop), Danny in a blue trailer, and myself in the only boathouse. Between two small canals, the yard was near the Colgate-Palmolive Company factory where the Ukrainians worked and the yard where Danny repaired transmissions and TV sets. I would take the PATH Train over to New York for auditions and sometimes work there as a carpenter.