

For Murray Goldman



Terminal BAR

A Photographic Record of
New York's Most Notorious
Watering Hole

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The Nadelmans

My father grew up in the Lower East Side at 27 East Third Street. His mother, Minna, had two other sons after my father, Michael and Chuck.



1975
My father's childhood apartment (third floor, right side)



1974
Self-portrait



1973
Chuck Nadelman holding me



1973
Minna Nadelman



1974
Michael Nadelman

The Goldmans

My mother was born Rita Goldman, and she went to high school with my uncle Chuck in Forest Hills. She worked at the same dry-cleaning store as Minna Nadelman and was friends with my uncle Mikey when he worked at the Village Squire clothiers. It was only a matter of time before she and my father would enter a courtship.



1973
Right: A tattered photo of my grandparents that Murray kept in his wallet



Blowing out candles on my seventh birthday as my grandfather and mother watch



My maternal grandparents, Murray and Florence Goldman, lived in Rego Park, Queens, in a high-rise apartment complex across the street from my uncle Chuck. Their proximity was coincidental, but convenient nonetheless.



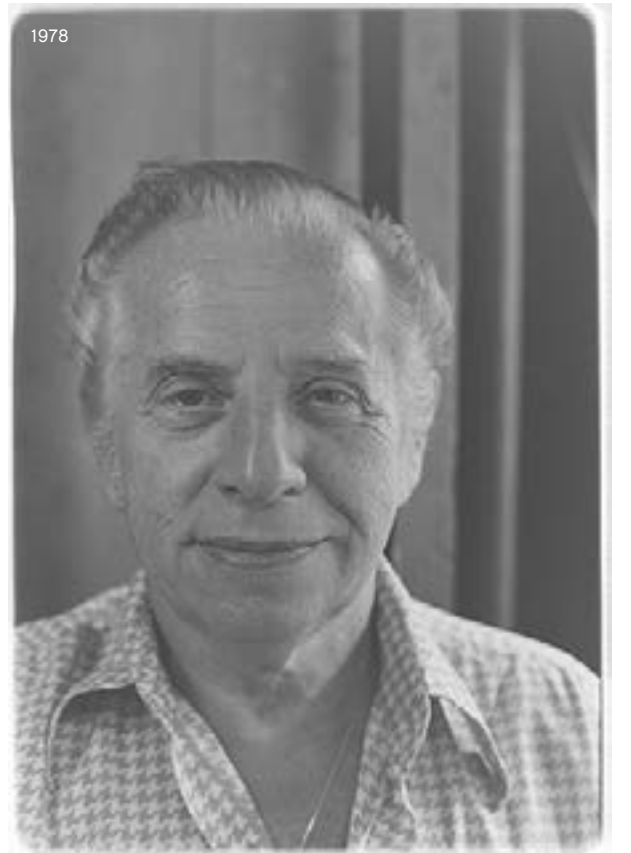
1975
My mother and me



Murray standing outside the bar

Murray Goldman

Murray Goldman bought the Terminal Bar in 1956 and worked the day shift until it closed in 1981. Everybody loved Murray. He was a sympathetic soul, and he loaned so much money and received so many bounced checks in return, you could paper the walls of the bar with them. He drank Johnnie Walker Red on the rocks.



My father told me Murray used to get his hairdo done every Friday, and they'd give him a manicure and poof his hair up so it looked like eight inches of snow on his head.



Murray mowing the Nadelman's backyard





Terminal Bar

The captions and text on the following pages were taken from interviews conducted with my father as we perused his collection of more than 2,600 photographs that he shot between 1973 and 1981.

Stefan Nadelman

1981



I was a daytime bartender, and I would open the bar up. The stools would be up from the night before, but the floor would be littered with cigarettes for the porter to mop before opening. I'd have my cup of tea and eat a roll from next door and watch all the people going to work.



1981

1977



1977



1978



1979



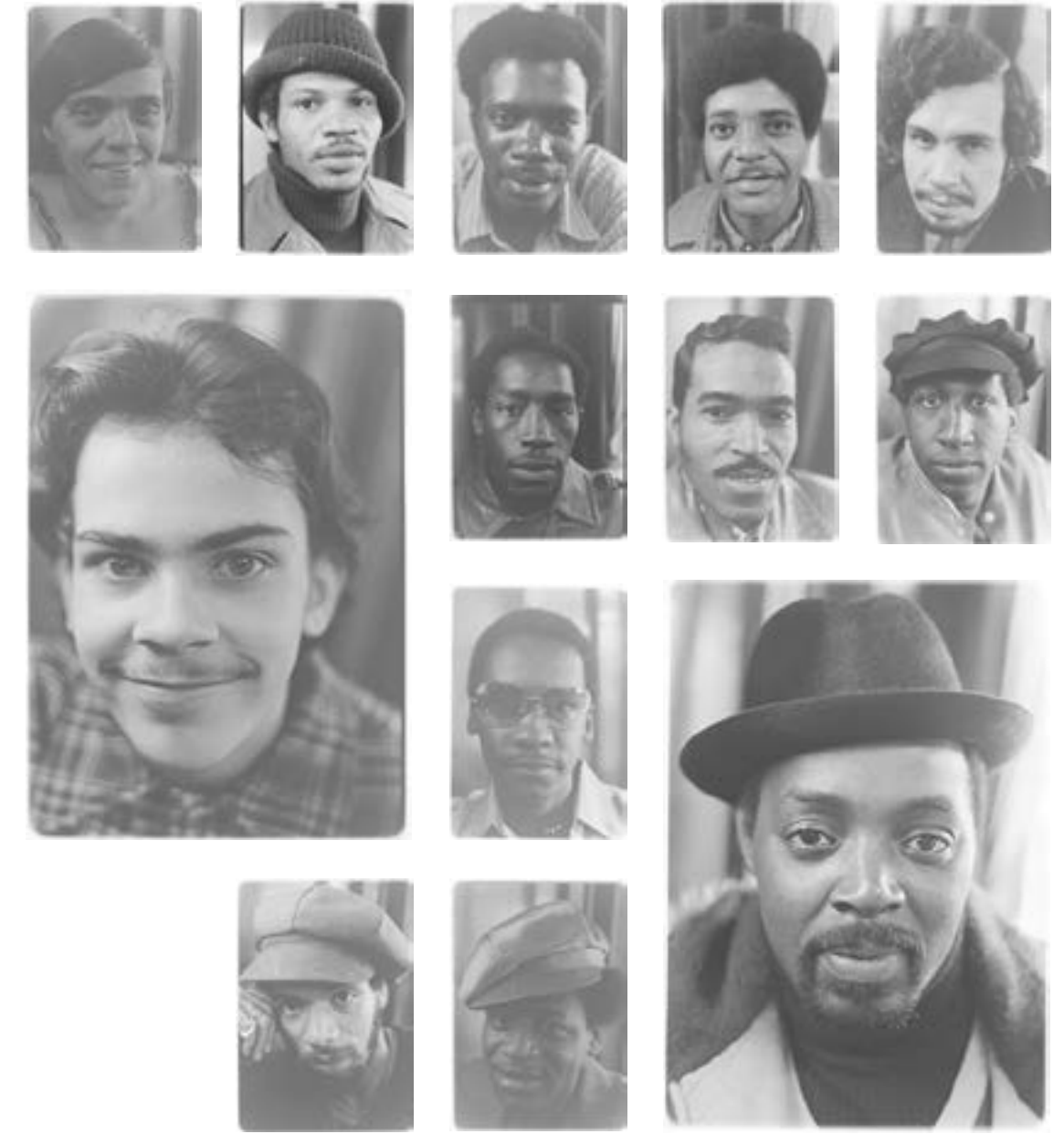
1973

There was a fluorescent light in the front corner of the bar that was placed there to make it look like, you know, a "nice bar." It had glass rods to diffuse the light, and that became my studio. I discovered that this was a good spot to shoot.



1974

You also had the light coming from the outside, which kept changing because I was shooting with available light. So sometimes it was dark, sometimes the sun was out. But that's where I started shooting all my head shots, right in the corner there.



1975

I shot people here and there and had contact sheets made at a lab on Sixth Avenue just off Fourteenth Street.

My film was 400, so I was shooting fast film. I knew from the photography classes I took that if you wanted to shoot indoors, then buy Kodak Tri-X 400 film and put your camera setting on 1600 and shoot. But when you have the film developed, tell them the film was 1600 and to develop it using Acufine, which was a chemical that was used in the process.

The other important lesson I learned in school was that the needle on the light meter needed to be a touch above the center. As long as the camera was doing that and I was focused in, I got a print.

The rest of what the school was teaching? Garbage. All I wanted to know was how to make a print.



1978



1980





Recurring Customers

All of a sudden somebody's picture would pop into my mind, and I'd say, "Gee I haven't seen that person in a long time." The next day that person would show up.... And it happened quite often at the bar because there were so many faces from all the pictures that I took.







The Regulars

Paul

Paul gave me a wood inlay picture as a gift. He drank rum and Coke. Paul owned a brownstone in Harlem. At the beginning he was leaving me five-dollar tips.



Paul's wife | 1980

The Entertainer



Princess

Princess (left) and his two brothers (below) were all beer drinkers.



Larry

Larry lived on the Lower East Side.
He drank beer.



Bill



Sandy and Bill



Joe

Strictly 25¢ beer



Duchess

Drank rum and Coke.

Jack



Jack (front). Behind, Van embraces Paul.



Sissy

She drank rum and Coke.



With Murray Goldman



The Greek

The Greek drank Budweiser. He showed up, and then he disappeared.



Malo



Malo's lover



Malo's brother



Joe



Raymond

Drank beer.

Jimmy

Drank beer.



Gypsy

He was a bartender, but not at the Terminal.



Shep



Jean



Jerry

He was a nurse.
He drank beer.

Blood

Melvin

Tex

Dottie

She was a Midtown bartender.

"Ruth Brown"

Drank beer.



Ruth Brown + HER
FABULOUS REVUE
APPEARING AT THE
TERMINAL BAR - 8th
41st St. Monday's -
Nov. 2nd + 16th Guest
Stars Also! Music
By Ditto + THE
LOVERS!!
Music at 6:00 o'clock!



Posing by the flier (left) promoting her upcoming performance at the Terminal Bar

Jimmy

Jimmy was a regular. He loved Murray, and he liked me, too. He was a cook. He drank Canadian Club out of a special little glass. He drank it straight with a little water chaser.



George



George (left) and his brothers

Blau

Blau was one of the bartender buddies of Adam (page tk)



Michael



Brooklyn

Brooklyn was a nurse.
He drank beer.



David

He was a guard at the Metropolitan Museum, and he got us advance tickets so we didn't have to wait on line for the King Tut exhibit. He was also a part-time opera singer. Nice guy, really nice. He also drank beer.



1973



This guy used to be a cop.

1976



This is the cigarette guy. He used to come in once a week to fill the cigarette machine.

1980



He was a Mohawk Indian from upstate New York, on his way to a meeting somewhere.

1977



Murray used to borrow money from him. He used to come in every Friday to collect. He never drank.

1978



He worked in the garment center and supplied his customers with plastic coverings, hangers, and all of that. He drank beer.

1980



He was a bus driver, and he used to come in and use the john every day.

1978



He worked as an elevator repairman in the Chrysler Building. He invited me up to the top floor, and I took pictures that day of the Twin Towers (opposite).

1980



1981



Charlie

He once told me that these pictures of him were going to be valuable because he was going to do something. Every time he came in, he drank something else.



1977

