

- Secret Society Tied to the Underground Railroad Fights to Save Me
- Family Loosens Grip on New York Irish Group and Its Gilded Age Mansion
- George Santos Dodges Questions as Democrats Label Him 'Unfit to Serve'
- NYU Director Embezzled Funds for Home Renovation, Prosecutors Say
- Lamor Whitehead Arrested on Charges of Bilking a Parishioner

NEW YORK



# City Room

Blogging From the Five Boroughs

Search City Room

## METROPOLITAN DIARY

### To the Creep Who Pushed Me

BY ALISON GRAMBS OCTOBER 7, 2014 8:38 AM 48

- Email
- Share
- Tweet
- Save
- More

Dear Diary:

To the Creep Who Pushed Me On the Street:

You may think you won today.

But you didn't.

You may think that you intimidated me with that glare you gave me as I sat stunned on the ground.

But you didn't.

You may think you're tough. That hurting a woman who did nothing to you but accidentally bump into you on a crowded street somehow makes you Lord of the Streets now.

METROPOLITAN DIARY [More Reader Tales From the City >](#)

But you would be wrong.

This is New York City, pal. To survive the chaos, each of us has to decide which kind of New Yorker we want to be: the kind who deals with the crowds politely, or the kind who resorts to violence. You chose aggression, finding joy in making someone else feel weak. Vulnerable. Perhaps, you were having a bad day? Well, Mr. Creep, a lot of people are having even worse days. And yet, none of those people are going around hurting others.

I bet you're at home right now smirking to yourself because you scared a woman today. Shame on you. But if you think I'm at home right now loving N.Y.C. any less because of you, you would be wrong.

About 20 blocks after you shoved me, I had another encounter. This time a woman accidentally bumped into me. But here's the difference, Mr. Creep. I didn't shove her to the ground or curse at her. Instead, I just stepped aside and gave her a wide smile.

Guess what?

She smiled back.

I win, Mr. Creep. I win.

Read [all recent entries](#) and our [updated submissions guidelines](#). Reach us via email [diary@nytimes.com](mailto:diary@nytimes.com) or follow [@NYTMetro](#) on Twitter using the hashtag #MetDiary.

48 COMMENTS

SHARE

## More in N.Y./Region

[Go to the N.Y./Region Section >](#)

### A Secret Society Tied to the Underground...

The Black women of the United Order of Tents are scrambling to save their grand Brooklyn...

### Family Loosens Grip on New York Irish Group and...

The American Irish Historical Society had been dominated by a single family. It had planned to sell its...

### George Santos Dodges Questions as Democrats...

Democratic House leaders stopped short of calling for the resignation of Mr. Santos, a Republican, who may...

### NYU Director Embezzled Funds for Home...

Cindy Tappe was charged with sending \$3.3 million to shell companies she created, and converting some of it...

### Lamor Whitehead Arrested on Charges of...

Lamor Whitehead, famous for designer suits and jewels, had himself been the victim of a brazen armed robbery....

### New York Republican George Santos's Résumé...

Mr. Santos, a Republican from New York, says he's the "embodiment of the American dream." But he...

## Top News

[Go to the Home Page >](#)

### Release of Trump Tax Returns Could Herald New Era...

Revealing private documents risks a tit for tat with Republicans set to retake control of the House of...

### At a holiday celebration in southern...

Some asked Saint Nicholas for iPhones. Some asked for peace.

### The Miraculous Life and Afterlife of Charlene...

She died in 1959, at age 12. But for Catholics in her Louisiana community, that was just the beginning of...

PREVIOUS POST

New York Today: Trying to Catch Cuomo

NEXT POST

New York Today: A (Mostly Hidden) Lunar Eclipse

## LOOKING FOR NEW YORK TODAY?

### New York Today

New York Today is still going strong! Though no longer on City Room, New York Today continues to appear every weekday morning, offering a roundup of news and events for the city. You can find the latest New York Today at [nytoday.com](http://nytoday.com) or in the morning, on [The New York Times homepage](#) or its [New York section](#). You can also receive it via email.

## LOOKIN FOR METROPOLITAN DIARY?

Metropolitan Diary continues to publish! Since 1976, Metropolitan Diary has been a place for New Yorkers, past and present, to share odd fleeting moments in the city. We will continue to publish one item each weekday morning and a round-up in Monday's print edition. You can find the latest entries at [nytimes.com/diary](http://nytimes.com/diary) and on our [New York section](#) online.

## ABOUT

City Room®, a news blog of live reporting, features and reader conversations about New York City, has been archived. Send questions or suggestions by [e-mail](#).

### BROWSE POSTS BY BOROUGH

- Brooklyn
- The Bronx
- Manhattan
- Queens
- Staten Island