

### NYC Narrative Spoken Draft

For the longest time, I'd assumed Elmhurst and Jackson Heights, my life-long stomping grounds, to be just like any neighborhood in New York. Quite frankly, it is in a traditional and literal sense, in being one of the first towns to be merged into the borough of Queens, and thus sustaining the block-grid road system the rest of the city along with inheriting its aesthetics. The brick buildings shoot far into the air above the streets, terminating at around nine or ten floors whilst the streets bustle with crowds that do still manage to make this place identifiable as part of this renowned great city of the northeastern seaboard. But, it wasn't just that that I thought was normal. I'd always thought that strolling the streets of the city and finding a Romanian 99-cent store sitting next to a Mexican restaurant, that itself also pushed up against a Chinese bakery, was normal. Maybe, for some neighborhoods, but... then comes the Japanese across the street, and the Russian-owned barbershop next to it.

That begins to push it, even for New York, but then comes my thoughts of seeing this in differing variation continue on for the next dozen blocks or so that it becomes apparent there is no place other than Elmhurst and Jackson Heights. Even more so when I thought that seeing the just-as-diverse crowds filling the streets, vending food and chatting amongst themselves in a thousand dialects I could barely begin to fathom, the smoke from open grills wafting up through the cracks of the elevated train tracks up above as a rush-hour train roars on above. It's all something that just cannot appear anywhere else.

That is what ultimately makes these two special. Unlike in the density of any other neighborhood in New York, and unrivaled in diversity, that's what Elmhurst and Jackson Heights are, and likely forever will be.

IMAGES



## Peer review-Harris

### Pros

I like he you explained it and got into depth of how u feel about the city and what was going around

Also like how u included what the city has to offer meaning like what we can get or go to stores etc

### Cons

It doesn't have a clear context or exigence meaning what you are explaining about about everything going around you but I want to hear about u like the whole first part is describing gn g the city we have to be mindful it's a 3 minute presentation

I feel as if you should work on writing a little bit about what j see and get into depth it feels as too much like it was throwing me off and we have to see who the audience is because we have to hook them