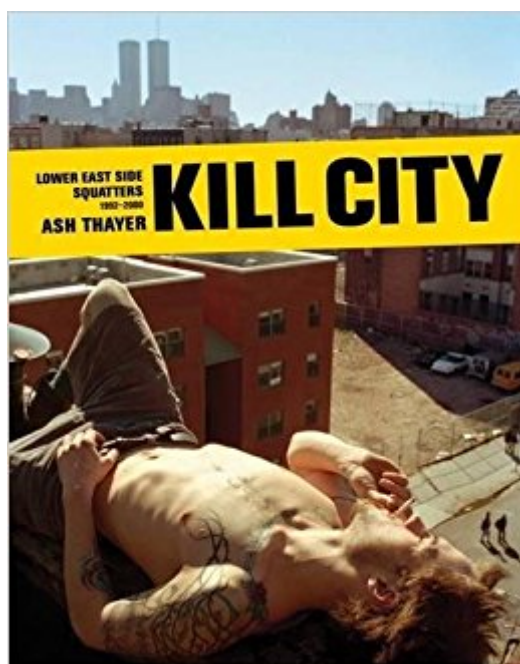


The book was found

# Kill City: Lower East Side Squatters 1992-2000



## Synopsis

After being kicked out of her apartment in Brooklyn in 1992, and unable to afford rent anywhere near her school, young art student Ash Thayer found herself with few options. Luckily she was welcomed as a guest into See Skwat. New York City in the 1990s saw the streets of the Lower East Side overrun with derelict buildings, junkies huddled in dark corners, and dealers packing guns. People in desperate need of housing, worn down from waiting for years in line on the low-income housing lists, had been moving in and fixing up city-abandoned buildings since the mid-80s in the LES. Squatters took over entire buildings, but these structures were barely habitable. They were overrun with vermin, lacking plumbing, electricity, and even walls, floors, and a roof. Punks and outcasts joined the squatter movement and tackled an epic rebuilding project to create homes for themselves. The squatters were forced to be secretive and exclusive as a result of their poor legal standing in the buildings. Few outsiders were welcome and fewer photographers or journalists. Thayer's camera accompanied her everywhere as she lived at the squats and worked alongside other residents. Ash observed them training each other in these necessary crafts and finding much of their materials in the overflowing bounty that is New York City's refuse and trash. The trust earned from her subjects was unique and her access intimate. *Kill City* is a true untold story of New York's legendary LES squatters.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: powerHouse Books; First Edition edition (March 31, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1576877345

ISBN-13: 978-1576877340

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 0.8 x 12.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #723,597 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Law >

Administrative Law > Housing & Urban Development #244 in Books > Arts & Photography >

Photography & Video > Architectural > Cities #298 in Books > Arts & Photography >

Photography & Video > Photojournalism & Essays > Photojournalism

## Customer Reviews

"Anyone wondering about the end of bohemia can consult this book, which documents its

last incarnation, at least in New York City. Few bohemians can ever have worked as hard as the squatters, who earned their homes and their lives; they were rewarded with forcible and violent eviction. Ash Thayer's remarkable pictures chronicle a time, only two decades ago, that seems impossibly distant now.

• Luc Sante, Author of "Low Life" Thayer's work here is a time capsule, a vision of a way things were, a city that once was. It reminds us that the DIY spirit is in the heart of this city. We must, against all pressures, show those who come after that there are other ways.

• Jesse Bransford, Chair, Department of Art and Art Professions at NYU "Captures a remarkable period in NYC's recent history" -The Guardian

Thayer's own experience squatting in the Lower East Side is evident in every photo. Hers was a rarefied vantage, one where the lens of an outsider would never have been welcome.

Kill City is a unique opportunity to experience New York City at a turning point, just before its last revolutionary vestiges faded away.

-The Daily Mail

Unlike most journalists and photographers, who often time gave squatters 'bad press,' Ms. Thayer was able to document the movement and her friends through a lens of intimacy that has rarely been captured.

-New York Observer

Thayer's pictures document a poignant divide between then and now, depicting a New York that's unimaginable today.

-Time Out New York

The photographs, in both hazy color and black and white, are shot with celestial lighting in a direct, candid style

-Fast Company

every so often, images or stories come along that stop us in our tracks

-Paper "fascinating" -Flavorwire

As Seen In: The New Yorker, DMSNBC, BUST, Hunger, Playground, American Photo (Best Photo Books of Spring 2015), Animal New York

ASH THAYER is a photographer and multimedia visual artist based in Los Angeles. She received her Bachelor's of Fine Arts from The School of Visual Arts, and a Masters of Fine Art from Columbia University in New York. Thayer has exhibited her work at venues including The Lawrence Miller Gallery and The Proposition Gallery in New York; the Berlin Art Fair; Kean College in New Jersey; The Museum of the City of New York; and The Chicago Art Institute. Her work is held in several public art collections including the Saatchi Gallery in London, The Chicago Art Institute, and The Museum of the City of New York. She has taught as an adjunct professor at New York University and Columbia University. She studied acting and directing at the Terry Schreiber Studio in New York, and has performed both on stage and in film.

This book, an important docu of history- is facinating. It was a time of youth and important lessons, and struggle for so many and a time where the neighborhood was raw. I love seeing Ash's tour with the book, caught her in 2 cities and was interested in the q and a as well as people's reactions to holding this book. It was like a yearbook in some cases. Made me smile.

Powerful images capture a moment in history that many won't believe happened in NYC not even 25 years ago. Opening the book was like opening a time capsule from my childhood, but it also tells a story of fighting for your rights and not conforming to the system. It will be featured on my coffee table for years to come.

For the sake of making sure everyone just goes out and buys this book, I will keep this review short (see Goodreads for my full review). This book is a stunning glimpse at a particular American subculture and thus an important part of this country's history. Thayer's eye is full of heart.

Just gorgeous. Absolutely love this book and enjoyed looking through it with my kids, who have long heard tales of my days on the LES in the 90s. Highly recommend.

Beautiful and intriguing Thayer gives a unique perspective on the covert lives of the squatter of the 90s, unseen by any else. Documented truthful to their lives and showcasing both the beauty and the squalor, it is truly an immersive experience.

Beautifully done book of a crusty time.

This is an absolutely beautiful book.

A beautiful glimpse into an important movement and time in NYC. So glad these images exist. Ash is an outstanding photographer. I hope to see more books out by her soon!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Kill City: Lower East Side Squatters 1992-2000 Side-by-Side Hockey Stars: Comparing Pro Hockey's Greatest Players (Side-by-Side Sports) Harley Loco: A Memoir of Hard Living, Hair, and Post-Punk, from the Middle East to the Lower East Side Splashes Of Joy In The Cesspools Of Life [1992 PAPERBACK] Barbara Johnson (Author) Splashes Of Joy In The Cesspools Of Life [1992 Paperback] Barbara Johnson (Author) Splashes Of Joy In The Cesspools Of Life Crimes against

Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves, and the Hidden History of American Conservation Shoot Me While I'm Happy: Memories from The Tap Goddess of the Lower East Side A Bintel Brief: Sixty Years of Letters from the Lower East Side to the Jewish Daily Forward Tenement: Immigrant Life on the Lower East Side Isaac Bashevis Singer and the Lower East Side Shoot Me While I'm Happy: Memories from The Tap Goddess of the Lower East Side (foreward by Gregory Hines) My Side of the Mountain Trilogy (My Side of the Mountain / On the Far Side of the Mountain / Frightful's Mountain) The Mortal Instruments, the Complete Collection(City of Bones/ City of Ashes/ City of Glass/ City of Fallen Angels/ City of Lost Souls/ City of Heavenly Fire) Radiocarbon Date List VII: Baffin Island, N.W.T., Canada Including Marine Dates from Adjacent Seas and East Greenland, 1992 (University of Colorado) What Doesn't Kill You Only Makes You Stronger (Except Sharks, They Will Straight Up Kill You): Composition Notebook Journal, 8.5 x 11 Large, 120 Pages College Ruled (Memory Book For School) Diabetes Diet Cookbook: Delicious Low Carb Recipes For Diabetics (Diabetes Miracle Cure, Lower Blood Sugar, Diabetes Desserts) (Diabetes Cookbook, Diabetes ... Type 2 Diabetes, Lower Blood Sugar) FrameWork for the Lower Back:Ã A 6-Step Plan for a Healthy Lower Back (FrameWork Active for Life) The Everything DASH Diet Cookbook: Lower your blood pressure and lose weight - with 300 quick and easy recipes! Lower your blood pressure without ... Boost your energy, and Stay healthy for life! The Everything DASH Diet Cookbook: Lower your blood pressure and lose weight - with 300 quick and easy recipes! Lower your blood pressure without drugs, ... and Stay healthy for life! (EverythingÃ A®) Lower Your Taxes - BIG TIME! 2017-2018 Edition: Wealth Building, Tax Reduction Secrets from an IRS Insider (Lower Your Taxes Big Time) DASH Diet: Dash Diet Recipes for Weight Loss, Lower Blood Pressure and Cholesterol Beginners Cookbook (DASH Diet, Lower Blood Pressure, DASH Diet Recipes)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)