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## Mid 20th Century America Through the Words and Lens of Allen Ginsberg

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# Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century America Through the Words and Lens of Allen Ginsberg

Lily Conover



Myself seen by William Burroughs, Kodak Retina new. bought 2'2 head from Beverly hook-shop, over apartment roof lower East Side between Avenues B & C, Tompkins Park trees under new antennae. Alan Ansen, Gregory Corso & Jack Kerouac visited, Jack's The Seabearers records much of the scene, Burroughs & I edited letter-manuscripts he'd sent from Mexico & South America, Aileen Lee ("Marlow Fox" of The Seabearers) typed final drafts. Neighborhood was heavily Polish & Ukrainian, some artists, funkies, medical students, cheap restaurants like "hashbrow" corner 7th & A, rent was only 1/4 of my monthly \$120 wage as newspaper copyboy. Time of "The Green Automobile" poem to Cassidy, Fall 1953.

Allen Ginsberg



**CHEESEBURGER**  
MELTED CHEESE  
AND HAMBURGER **25¢**

**PIE** *Open fresh* **15¢**

**GOLDEN BAKED BEANS** **10¢**

**HOT CHOCOLATE** **10¢**

**HOT SOUP**  
INDIVIDUAL SERVING **20¢**

**HAMBURGER 20¢**

**HOT CHOCOLATE**

**BAKED BEANS 10¢**

**SOUP**

**CHEESEBURGER 25¢**

**TEA**

**5¢ CHEESE**





Jack Kerouac on visit to Manhattan, last time he stopped at my apartment 704 East 5th Street, Lower East Side, he then looked like his father, Corpulent red-faced W.C. Fields yawning with mortal horror, eyes closed a moment on D.M.T. visions - I'd brought some back from Millbrook where I'd recently been with Neal Cassady in Kerouac's bus, Pre-election 1964 Fall.

Alan Ginsberg



Neal Cassady & I went upstairs to attic at Millbrook estate near Poughkeepsie, big house where Tim Leary's Castalia Foundation was then experimenting with psychedelic DMT, a half hour trip. Here Neal rests with eyes closed watched over by Susan Metzner in charge of holding the vial of clear liquid, first injected. I'd driven up from N.Y. with Kerouac's Merry Pranksters in their bus, Fall 1964. Allen Ginsberg



Gregory Corso looking out his attic-room skylight 9 Rue St.-de-Cene half block from Seine off Place St.  
 Michel. He'd finished first City lights Baseline, completed Marriage & Death, began Four Poems, & was "dis-  
 mating" Death & Flowers (c. 1950-1951), see Happy Birthday of Death volume 1950-Peter O. & I  
 with Donatien 3rd floor, Paris (1957) ACORN Shindler