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Bleecker Street

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BLEECKER STREET

Desire mapping stringencies across a stranger's chest
marked by razor burns, waistbands of designer briefs
hinting at the bulge I seek (half-eaten bagel tossed back
and forth between two thugs who loiter at a subway
stop)—the anorexic tits of a sylph-like nymph pressed
under Plexiglas. To be sandwiched like that—flat
images filling up rush hour space where commuters wait.
Nothing to lend some depth to this scene, nothing
upright as the rails snake under the city—a drag queen
singing on a train leaving town. If she is not lovely
then a lemon has no scent, no sunlight at its center,
the night no match for stiletto struts in gold lamé—
hubris poised in five-inch heels braving the sewer grates.