Brooklyn Accents and the Paradox of Ambition in Norman Mailer and Arthur Miller

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[The] warrior, presumptive general, ex-political candidate, embattled aging enfant terrible of the literary world, wise father of six children, radical intellectual, existential philosopher, hard-working author, champion of obscenity, husband of four battling sweet wives [ultimately he married six times and had eight children], amiable bar drinker, and much exaggerated street fighter, party giver, hostess insulter ... had ... a fatal taint, a last remaining speck of the one personality he found absolutely insupportable — the nice Jewish boy from Brooklyn.

Norman Mailer, *Armies of the Night* (153)
Arthur Miller and Norman Mailer
102 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn Heights

Arthur Miller and his wife lived below the Mailer family at this address from 1944-1947.
1350 East 3rd Street, Midwood

Boyhood home of Arthur Miller and model for the house of Willie Loman in *Death of a Salesman.*
555 Crown Street, Crown Heights, Brooklyn

This is the apartment building in the middle-class neighborhood of Crown Heights where Mailer grew up. As Mailer writes, “I left what part of me belonged to Brooklyn and the Jews on the streets of Crown Heights.”
Norman Mailer finished edits of *The Naked and the Dead* here and used this building as the setting for *Barbary Shore*.
The Ovington Building, 252 Fulton Street

Originally a department store owned by the Ovington Brothers, this building served as an art colony from 1863 to 1962, when it was demolished by Robert Moses to make way for Cadman Plaza. Mailer rented a writing studio here throughout the 1950s. Its most famous resident, however, was the Soviet spy Rudolph Abel, captured in 1957.
Author Mark Noonan drinking ginger ale in Norman Mailer’s Penthouse Apartment overlooking the East River at 142 Columbia Heights.
Brando/Kazan: Down But Not Out!

A bruised and battered Terry Malloy (played by Marlon Brando) in On the Waterfront (1954) directed by Elia Kazan.
155 Willow Street.

Arthur Miller’s home in the 1950s where he wrote *A View from the Bridge* (1955) and *The Crucible* (1953)
Walt Whitman’s “Song of Myself” (1855)
Norman Mailer’s *Advertisements for Myself* (1959)