

PLACES IN “THE BIG STORE”

Gastronom Odessa
Sidewalk café and social club

Golden Key
1067 Brighton Beach Avenue
Russian market with fancy old world candies

The National
273 Brighton Beach Avenue
Fancy restaurant with performers, fancy, gold and glamour, expensive, Russians-only, floor show, “queen for the evening” contest

Café Arbat
306 Brighton Beach Avenue
Been around forever, old guy knows everybody

Rasputin
2670 Coney Island Avenue
BYOB, drunken antics, cheap women in fake diamonds and fake tans, DJ Pushkin, owned by Zilber

Chicken masters
1204 Avenue Z
Chicken shack

Astoria Federal Savings and Loan
489 Neptune Ave

Gravesend Auto Enterprise
2522 W 3rd St

Ogoz Ozkal, Barber
189 Neptune Ave

Friendly Cleaners
8089 Avenue X

[Efin Berezhansky Barber Shop](#)
3072 Brighton 2nd St

Marina's Magic Clothing Maintenance
3085 Brighton 5th St

Super Tan
2685 Coney Island Avenue

Boardwalk Pest Control
60 Brighton 11th St

Neptune Shell service station and garage
359 Neptune Ave

[Guarino Matteo Funeral](#) Home
2625 Harway Ave

LF Auto Corporation
2831 W 8th St

The Marlboro Projects, Brooklyn, to the north

ORGANIZATSIYA

Marat Balagula, in Lewisville Federal Penitentiary in PA

Monya Elson, The Boss
Oleg Zapinakmine, Elson's bodyguard

Benjamin Nayfeld, Soviet Olympic team, picked a guy up and dropped him on his knife in front of 18 witnesses, lunatic.

Boris Nayfeld, superstitious Russians say his eyes are pure white – possessed by the devil

Vyacheslav Lyubarsky, small time jewel thief and chronic gambler

Igor Roizman, associate in charge of gas tax fraud

Detective-Investigator Kevin Turner, NYPD 60th Precinct, runner, bodyguard, and bag man
Sergeant

Sergeant Tappan Romaine, NYPD 60th precinct, bought and paid for

ZILBER'S MOB

Vladimir Zilber, shotgun wound to the face, brain damaged, sits on the boardwalk, live-in whore
Owns RASPUTIN restaurant, gaudy and expensive

Igor Porotsky, sidekick loyal to Marat, eager to bring down Balagula, runs things

Sheldon Levine, American jewish thug and informant
Emile Puzyretsky, scariest enforcer, 12 years in GULAG, loves his knife, loyal to Zilber

THE ITALIANS

"Joe Glitz" Glizia, Genovese crime family liaison with Russians
Danny pagano, soldier
Laurence Galizia, his son and a up and coming soldier

Dr. Larissa Blinkin, saved Evsei Agron's life in 1984

GOLDBERG GANG

Free wheelin outsiders, dangerous lunatics

Boris Goldberg, Israeli army veteran and gangster
David "Napoleon" Shuster, best pickpocket in Brighton Beach
Tonia Biggs, Goldberg's penthouse girlfriend

Rainbow Amusements in Brooklyn, kiddie rides
Heroin importer

CON MEN

Two Russian emigre brothers, Michael and David Smushkevich
Medical fraud, mobile wellness vans, billing Medicaid for bogus tests. Millionaires.

CRIMES

A cell phone scanner to collect cell phone numbers from cars passing on their way to JFK, 80K phone numbers

Protection/Extortion

Jewelry theft

Gambling, Off track betting scams, illegal three card monte and dice

Money laundering

Prostitution/international sex trade

Auto theft

A collection of Ukrainians and Western Russians specializes in auto theft. Younger members steal vehicles and take them to chop shops operated by older members. Stolen auto parts are used to reconstruct cars bought from salvage yards. Vehicles are often taken out of state and re-registered, or are shipped out of the country through Newark NJ, and other cities where they are sold for huge profits in Europe and Russia.

Confidence games/boardwalk grifting/short con

Drug smuggling

Counterfeiting

Credit card fraud

Insurance and Medical fraud

Fuel tax fraud

* Various fuel fraud schemes have been run by Russian and Ukrainian gangs. The operations involve the control of diesel fuel wholesale distributors and independent filling stations, watering down fuel sold to the public and skimming profits, and complex fuel tax frauds, including falsifying state and federal tax forms by means of sham companies.

WORDS TO KNOW

Shabashniki: Self-employed. Criminal entrepreneurs.

Vor V Zakone: Thieves-in-Law, career criminals with a code.

Organizatsiya: Jewish-Russian mob in Brooklyn

Fenya: Thieves' cant, secret language

Bychara: Redneck

Suka: Bitch

Mudack: Dumbass (Moo-Duck)

Yeb vas: Fuck off!

Pidar Gnoinyi: Man willingly used as a woman

Pizdetc: Utter fiasco

Prostrat: To lose, lose a game

Svoloch: bastard

Eb Tvoju Mat: I have fucked your mother

Ment: Cop (don't say it to his face unless he's tied up)

Na Khuy: To hell with it

Ne Ebet: I don't give a fuck

Khueplet: Dick-weaver

CODE OF THE VOR

- Forsake his relatives -- father, brothers, sisters...
- Not have a family of his own -- no wife, no children; this does not however, preclude him from having a lover.
- Never, under any circumstances work, no matter how much difficulty this brings; live only on means gleaned from theft. Violent crimes and sex crimes are strongly frowned upon and may endanger a *vor's* status. Arms smuggling and drug trafficking are considered a form of commerce and are therefore incompatible with the status of a thief in law.
- Help other thieves -- both by moral and material support, utilizing the commune of thieves.
- Keep secret information about the whereabouts of accomplices (i.e. dens, districts, hideouts, safe apartments, etc.).
- In unavoidable situations (if a thief is under investigation) to take the blame for someone else's crime; this buys the other person time of freedom.
- Demand a convocation of inquiry for the purpose of resolving disputes in the event of a conflict between oneself and other thieves, or between thieves.
- If necessary, participate in such inquiries.
- Carry out the punishment of the offending thief as decided by the convocation.
- Not resist carrying out the decision of punishing the offending thief who is found guilty, with punishment determined by the convocation.
- Have good command of the thieves' jargon ("Fenya").
- Not gamble without being able to cover losses.
- Teach the trade to young beginners.
- Have, if possible, informants from the rank and file of thieves.
- Not lose your reasoning ability when using alcohol.
- Have nothing to do with the authorities, not participate in public activities, nor join any community organizations.
- Not take weapons from the hands of authorities; not serve in the military.
- Make good on promises given to other thieves.