**Some Long Quotes From *Dark Days* To Choose From**

**I. Rich Rubell, Amtrak official:**

“People residing in the tunnels are experiencing a lot of health difficulties. There are respiratory conditions from living in cool dank conditions; asthma I know was prevalent amongst a few individuals…vermin and disease…and of course the danger of living close to high-speed trains…. We’ve had two fatalities there in the course of the year: One woman froze to death from exposure, and another individual was struck by a train. It is absolutely a dangerous, horrendous living situation.”

**II. Ralph, tunnel dweller:**

“They said they were going to try and get us housing or shelter or something else. I don’t know what that something else is. I don’t want to go to a shelter…. They’re going to steal all my clothes. They’re going to steal everything I got. Drugs—it’s infected with drugs. What they should do is leave us down her until they get housing, and when they get housing, they ship us out. But not just take us out of here.

**III. Julio, tunnel dweller:**

“I mean, we’re over here, down here, by ourselves, my friend. Like family, all right? Now you’re going to break up the whole family, all right? Huh? And it’s not worth it, man. It’s not fair to us. I mean, they got to have something at least. If you’re going to construct down here, put some of us to work…for us to get something out of it. Because this has been our home for over three years—for me. Imagine all the people that been down here for twenty years.

**IV. Mike Harris, advocate for the homeless:**

“Our first response…was to immediately go to court. Previous to Amtrak’s decision to evict people out of the tunnel, we had just sued Amtrak on the grounds that they cannot throw people out of Penn Station…. So when we found out that Amtrak was going to come in [to the tunnel shantytowns], immediately we thought ‘law suit,’ because we knew we had to stop them from throwing people out of the tunnel who had called it their home for ten, fifteen, twenty-five years…. On our part—on the civil liberties part—we were pretty confident…we had to go to court. We would have won. It was crystal clear: violation of people’s rights.”