

## The Peale, Baltimore

*Out of the Blocks* Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the *Out of the Blocks* website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>

*Out of the Blocks* is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios



Troy Cook ([00:04](#)):

My name is Troy Cook. I work at Hopkins Carry-Out. We do cheese steaks. We've been doing cheese steaks for over 40 years here.

Speaker 2 ([00:11](#)):

Exactly. What's the street address here?

Zach ([00:14](#)):

2119 East Monument Street. My name is Zach.

Speaker 4 ([00:18](#)):

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Where are you from, Zach?

Zach ([00:20](#)):

Greece.

Troy Cook ([00:21](#)):

He's just like a dad to me, really. He's always been that way.

Speaker 4 ([00:25](#)):

What kind of person is Troy? Tell me what he's like.

Zach ([00:28](#)):

Oh, no, I don't want to say. I don't want to say here.

Troy Cook ([00:33](#)):

I grew up right here in East Baltimore. Actually, I used to live a couple blocks up the street. I met my wife here 22 years ago, actually. Zach asked her, "Can I help you?" And she said, "No, I want him to help me." From then on, man, that was it, man. I went and seen her one time and never left since.