

McNulty's Rare Teas... Since 1895

By T.E. Sonne

The sign "McNultys Rare Teas and Choice Coffees since 1895" beckons me back to a scent sanctuary I enjoyed 20 years ago when I lived in New York's [Greenwich Village](#). I walk into 109 Christopher and am embraced by the same welcoming smells I remember.



Large glass jars are still filled with wonderful earth tones. Burlap sacks still bulge with beans from other continents. Scales and scoops are still the tools of the trade in this haven with some of the comforts and traditions from the 19th, and 20th centuries.

McNulty's is a warm place for sniffing and shipping, but not for sitting and sipping. You may have knowledge to go, but not a warm cup of ohlong. Instead, David or Tom take time to answer questions, as you sniff and peruse different exotic teas -- greens or blacks, from Asia or [South America](#).



"There are plenty of other places to go for a quick cup to go," Tom explains. "When we tried it, the lines were so long we didn't have time to talk to customers."

I leave with some questions of my own answered, and a half-ounce of Lung Ching or Dragon Well Green Tea in the same kind of beige bags they used decades ago.

If you can't make it to this fixture on Christopher Street (between Bleecker and Hudson) for some conversation, you can still get an explanation of how different teas are grown and made, or order the global teas to your home by visiting online. Their website is a modern addition to McNulty's old world traditions. www.mcnultys.com

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