

Anticipatory Innovation -
Capitalizing on Change in
Turbulent Times

 KYLEMORE
BOOK CLUB

This Door


Isn't this the way life goes,
this corridor of doors?
Most were opened, some passed
even after glances within,
worn bare, the paint chipped away,
door handles that no longer shine.
This one or that one may never shut tightly.

You reach the one that has been sealed,
where a sign reads, "Repairs Needed!"
Your first task is to dismantle the lock,
slip off the stiff handle that's nearly frozen in place
by years of rigid answers, lessons refused.
Keeping it shut felt safer back then.
Now it is time.

The bolt is slightly jammed, fixed
into the strike plate
from repetitious protests,
each one your chance
to bet on life extended, red or black,
conservative or liberal, straight or gay—
there must be a correct way—keep-trying.

Now the seal must be broken.
Rimmed from top to bottom,
you must slip the blade into the crusted crack,
slowly but forcefully, willfully, not avoiding
the agglutinant of age. Each time the blade releases
the door, you hear it pop, loosened,
until the whole construction of your neglect
breaks free, shakes a little, startled.

The hinges, too, are tight,



Anticipatory Innovation -
Capitalizing on Change in
Turbulent Times

 KYLEMORE
BOOK CLUB

but they firmly grasp the frame,
constant over the years for upon its strength
the axis of life can move again.
The door swings open upon arms
that moved stones from tombs.
This time you are passing through,
leaving your old self behind.