

The Doorway

by Jason Matthews

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As you're walking towards the doorway.

Your heart.

You feel it.

Pounding harder.

Faster.

You feel the skin

on your whole body

begin to tingle.

As you inch forward,

closer.

And closer.

To the doorway.

The silence around you...

begins...

to become so loud.

that nothing.

SCREAMING in your ears.

As you stand before the doorway,

your hand begins to tremble.

As you reach towards the handle.

As you turn...

your wrist.

You hear the lock.

Start to click.

And as you open that door before you,

I have only one question.

Do you hold your breath?

When you walk through that doorway?

Do you breathe?

as you normally would.

Do you take a breath and hold it in?

Carrying...

what was behind you through the doorway?

Or do you...

Exhale everything out.

And step through.

To take a fresh breath of air.