

**Prospective Immigrants,
Please Note**

by Adrienne Rich

Either you will
go through this door
or you will not go through.

If you go through,
there is always the risk
of remembering your name.

Things look at you doubly
and you must look back
and let them happen.

If you do not go through,
it is possible
to live worthily,

to maintain your attitudes,
to hold your position,
to die bravely.

But much will blind you,
much will evade you,
at what costs, who knows?

The door itself
makes no promises.
It is only a door.