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Doors

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NOON

Along the creek girls are lifting their thin skirts and as they bend low, under their loose scoop-neck blouses the pale flesh shows. They notice you and wave, turn back again laughing, dipping their feet into the cool water. Now scarves go; they unpin their hair. On the banks the grass turns down like sheets and the sun is big and close. You can barely see them through the heat as they peel and peel away their clothes. And when they open their slender arms to you thinking they are doing this because they want to, thinking there is a choice, who can blame them for giving in this easily, or you, nearer now to yourself than ever as they pull you with them, Sister, down.

DOORS

Not ornate mahogany or quarter inch plywood, not Ghiberti’s doors, not stenciled ‘LADIES’ or ‘GENTLEMEN’ doors. Our doors reach their full height when we are 21, have you ever noticed them? Light as our shadows or bathtub rings or the nice smells our bodies have.
Think of the emergency exit. Think of the first time you used it.
You rammed head first into real air.
An enormous cat is chasing you.
Here comes a wall. Beams—your mouth full of cobwebs. It's easy to walk through walls, any wall, that wall say, into anybody's bathroom. Now we are in Minneapolis. He's shaving. She's towelling her hair. That look on his face as the lather floats lazily to the sea.

Has the rat a door?
Astronauts hurl toward that perfect door in the atmosphere. Ghosts' doors shut instantly behind them the way water fills the hole you make when you jump into the Mediterranean. Houdini's door, all the doors Freud stuck his nose into, the opera's trap door, the door you fall through at the gallow, your bikini with the orange pineapples on it, that's a door too. And the doors slamming in the eyes of your girlfriend when she sees you screwing someone else. The conservationists will love you. No need to hack up Redwood Forest. Which is not to say you ignore what a door 'means' symbolically.

These two electric eyes are yours.
This is your automatic entry into everything.