Mentor Texts

This Mentor Text was written by a student author at 826 Valencia. It was original published in *Only When You Open Me*.

The Future is a Reflection of Yourself
Angel Flores Vazquez, age 10

The door is made of carbon fiber and it is gray with lights. It
Opens using hinges. It's in a frost and to get to it you have to find
The lights, put in the password and turn a door knob. To open it
Needs a password on a padlock and me, myself, Logan and I can go
through the door. If you're through it, it has the future and the future is
a reflection of yourself. It's how you see the future, it's a combination
of what you see as the future and your personality.

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The Obsidian Door
Zaid Rodriguez, age 9

I was wandering in the countryside of Mexico when I saw a stratovolcano named "Palunqe" that smelled like cooked fish

So I walked to the volcano.
Then I reached the top of it it.
I saw a sky-blue cross pattern door.
The obsidian frame was made of cooked fish.
Then I wondered "How can it be unlocked?"
So I looked around and I saw a carving in a cypress tree and it said "Tcūrūerār fourteen Vūézéz" which meant "Tap fourteen times in Põlõníásim, a language used by nearby tribes in the area.

The surroundings were dry, barren, everything was made of volcanic ash. Rumors say that you need seven obsidian arrowheads to unlock it.

So I scattered around the volcano and found all seven of them.

On the other side there was an island with a volcano with a house on it. So I went inside and found EVERYTHING I've ever wanted!

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Art Door
Hannah Tran, age 9

I was walking in the pastel pink and yellow flowers when I saw my door. My door was made of wood and my door looks like a painting. It also had butterflies, hearts and dots. The door handle was on the left, it was shining like a diamond. To open my door you have to whisper a magic word. I found the door in a bush of flowers. It was covered with petals blooming on the bottom. The color the door is multicolor. The flowers smelled fresh and the wind was blowing as hard as a powerful fan. The door was a little opened. I felt confident to know what my future would be. There was no one around. I was so curious I walked closer to the door. I walked in and… There was a room of ART! It was full of paint and paint brushes and a lot of drawing books and papers to draw on. And the room had a lot of lightning that shot into my eyes, I had to close my eyes for a second. It felt like a little tickle. The room also had lots of markers. THIS WAS MY DREAM ROOM AND FUTURE! And then I knew this room was for me. And then I got comfortable in the room. I smelled the strong chemicals of the paint and smells of the markers, it made my nose wrinkle. Then I started drawing and painting. I drew and drew all day. I drew random stuff like flowers, characters I made up an butterflies that I was inspired to draw by the door. The rainbow colors held on tight on my hand like they are about to fall. I felt safe and happy in my room. I think everyone should find what makes them special and happy because you can become more confident and will make you feel more better about yourself.

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All About My Door

Natali Fernanda Cruz Hernandez, age 10

My door is rainbow and so is my house. I was walking in San Francisco when I saw my door. My door is black with a design of rainbow. To open my door you have to have a magical key. To find my door you need to look for rainbow butterflies.

My door is surrounded by animals. My family and friends can go through my door. Behind my door is my bed and my T.V. and my bathroom.

When I open my door I am in Honduras. There are many blue and red little birds flying and singing by the mango trees. I will see my family from Honduras and the person I don't remember. Also, I see the stores with colorful and yummy food.