

# The Last Word

By Nikki Grimes

I am a door of metaphor  
waiting to be opened.  
You'll find no lock, no key.  
All are free to enter, at will.  
Simply step over the threshold.  
Remember to dress for travel, though.  
Visitors have been known  
to get carried away.


 Illustration of a Black youth in a green t-shirt walking with an orange book in her hands. The background is black with flowers on the forefront.

Illustration by Shadra Strickland

Source: *Poetry* (March 2021)