

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, I stand before you not with a story of defeat, but of opportunity and transformation. Recently, I encountered a decision--a board membership rejection. But let me share with you what I've come to believe: every closed door is merely a guidepost pointing us toward a greater path.

Rejection is not the end of our journey; it is, in fact, the spark that ignites our resilience and creativity. It offers us the chance to reflect, to grow, and to redefine our vision with bold new strokes. Just as a sculptor sees possibility in every block of marble, we too must see the potential in every setback.

We are not defined by the opportunities we miss, but rather by how we rise to create new ones. In this moment, I am inspired to broaden my horizons, to forge new partnerships, and to innovate in ways that, perhaps, I wouldn't have considered had I remained on that board. Together, let's embrace the spirit of visionary optimism. Let's trust that every challenge holds a gift of growth, and let's commit to rewriting our narratives with passion and purpose. Our greatest achievements are yet to come, born from the embers of today's challenges. Thank you.