

In 2014 David Whyte wrote a piece called Solace: The Art of the Beautiful Question. He says, a beautiful question has a beautiful hunger for the right kind of nourishment. A beautiful question has a beautiful hunger for the right kind of nourishment. He talks about being sick and losing your sense of hunger – how wonderful it is when hunger returns. You’ve been starved! And when hunger and taste return the food is actually beautiful!

How interesting that 6 years after David wrote about beautiful questions and a beautiful hunger for the right kind of nourishment, the Covid infection deprived you of your sense of taste and smell.

But Covid deprived us of so much more – we were deprived of intimacy.

The 2 years of not being together here was like a long fast – or a 2 year diet! Because, when we come together here at Keepers, we literally feed each other’s souls!

I don’t know about you – but now that I’m actually here I realize I had a sensual, primal need to be here – with you – in person. It feels like gorging on friendship! And I urge you to feast today on what it means to be at Keepers - special relationships – friends and colleagues like no other! Breathe deeply! Take in the heady fragrance of our history! Drink intensely of our work together – and yes – gorge on friendship!

Now – how do you feel about 6-word stories?? You know the famous 6 word story attributed to Ernest Hemingway: For Sale: Baby shoes Never worn

I wrote a few 6-word stories for you today about how glad I am to be back in Boulder with all of you. One of them I’ve already told you: It feels like gorging on friendship!

Here’s another one: I leave Keepers a better me.

And here’s still a third one, but this story requires a bit of explanation. It’s about a dear Vistage friend of mine and yours, and some of you were here a few years ago to witness the event I’m remembering. Here’s the 6-word story, and in honor of David Whyte, it’s a beautiful question:

Will Nora stand on a table?

(Nora and friends come forward and create some 6-word stories on the spot)

Here’s your assignment for the morning: find a few Keepers friends and/or create some new friends by joining a group you don’t already know. In your threesome or foursome, find a quiet spot to feast on the food of Keeper friendship by writing a few of your own 6-word stories to share.

Express your joy at reconnecting in 6-word stories. Get beneath the armor and tap into the sensual pleasure of being together.