

Yaddyra Peralta

Saint John Waiting

"If I want him to remain until I come, what's it to you?"
-John 21: 20-23

Daylight is like
the sky ablaze blue fire.

The ancient ship run aground in the harbor,
the skeletal remains cavernous:
eroded cathedral.

Rust is blood in the sun.

I wait floating over
the gentle sandbar
my mouth still
metallic and hot.

Year after year
as the water rocks me,
year after year,
the bananas.
Year of the avocado after
year of the crabs &
always & forever,
coconut bread for days.
Overabundance is like this waiting,
a curse.

A crack of thunder, a fiery wind.

The world is a piece of fruit falling.

In the hot water a slack-jawed grouper glides

as if eternity is a thing.

Yaddyra Peralta

Yaddyra Peralta is a poet who teaches writing and literature at Broward College and Miami Dade College. Her poems have been published in *Eight Miami Poets* (Jai Alai Books) and *Ghazals for James Foley* (Hinchas Press). Her work has also appeared in *Ploughshares*, *Jai Alai*, *Abe's Penny*, *Tigertail*, *The New Poet*, and *Hinchas de Poesia*. In 2013, she was a Visiting Writer at the Betsy Hotel's Writer's Room in South Miami Beach, Florida and one of six collaborative Helen M. Salzberg Artists-in-Residence at Florida Atlantic University's Jaffe Center for the Book Arts where she contributed to the collaborative artists' book *Conversation, Too* (Extra Virgin Press). She is the Assistant Director of the Palm Beach Poetry Festival and has an MFA in Creative Writing from Florida International University.