"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.