

## Kevante' Cash

unpredictable: how to make guava limeade  
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“i am learning that the measure of my worth / is not tied to success or failure / but in trying again and again / until clocks suspend themselves”  
– l.1-4 of “unpredictable: how to make guava limeade” (2024)

As a former anxiously attached person, I associated a lot of my identity with how I was able to show up in connections with people. Whatever my behavior or the outcome of a connection was, was how I chose to identify myself. If I behaved anxiously, I was anxious. If I behaved avoidantly, I was avoidant. If the relationship failed (whatever that meant in those given moments), I would identify myself as a failure too. My self-perception was always attached to the outcome of things.

Now, as I grow in age and life experiences, I am learning my self-worth does not have to be tied to the outcome of things, but can be placed in my immeasurable love for the Divine expressed through my religious practice of orisha worship. Through Ifa, an African Traditional Religion (ATR), I am learning how to quiet the voice in my head that wants me to believe I am unworthy of divine love, connection and everything else I desire for myself.

Through orisha worship – specifically through venerating the war god of iron, metal and labor Ogun, and ocean goddess of motherhood, fertility and nurturance Yemaya, I am learning my value is not attached to how successful or unsuccessful I am at trying new things, but in the trying itself. In the grit, determination, courage, willpower and self-possession I assume throughout the process. I am learning to de-personalize failure and see it as an opportunity to experiment, get creative, cultivate joy through dance and community and detach myself from the outcome of things, fully trusting in the Divine’s plans.

Link to Kevante’s debut pamphlet, Offerings:

<https://www.fourteenpoems.com/shop/offeringskevanteaccash>