



This writing prompt was developed in conjunction with Lightbox interviews with [Jericho Brown](#) and [Malachi Black](#). For more information, please see www.lightboxpoetry.com.

Writing Prompt:

In his interview, Jericho Brown writes, “I got better at praying when I figured out that the prayer is not something addressed to someone outside of myself, not even to someone I’d have to beseech for a listening ear. Prayer is much more a process of talking to the me that is within me but is greater than I am.” For this prompt, write a poem that is a prayer to yourself, to the “you within you but that is greater than you are.” You should address the mysterious, unsolvable, unknowable parts of yourself, the parts of yourself that you ponder, attempt to explore, figure out, that you worry about. The poem can take any form or go in any direction, but the first line and the last line of the poem should be identical. As you write, reflect on how your own personal or spiritual journey in the poem transforms or changes the line with which you began.