

devotions to radical REINVENTION *a list poem by denise shanté brown*

change is my only devotion. devoted to unavoidable endings. ebbs and flows that allow my life to be tidal. sunsets and conflicts. transitions that create sacred openings. devastations disguised as setbacks. alive on the other side, i know i'm never behind. devoted to decay. soil and seeds. blooms and blossoms. stretches that carry me beyond comfort zones. devoted to "this is a living document". rewriting my bio every other day. generating new titles because I am, I am, I am, I am. devoted to multiple expressions, all at once. the risk of no one knowing exactly what i do. touching places and spaces my ancestors couldn't. their dreams intimately woven into mine - with a few major edits, remixes and creative mashups along the way. devoted to beginning again, on my own terms. holding uncertainty until it meets clairvoyance. sending sweet farewells to the person i was a year ago. i wish you a million rebirths and i love you, dearly. did you imagine who we'd become? devoted to deep breaths in different time zones. expanded languages and lineages. two, three, four looks in the mirror, just to be sure. devoted to grief becoming gardens. releasing all that is no longer relevant. new ways of being. shifts and shapes. authenticity and aliveness. trusting the many iterations of this wild and magical life. each pivot affirming radical reinvention as the greatest project i'll ever design. change might always be my only devotion.

what are you devoted to as you reinvent
who you are and what you practice?

This is an open space for you to respond with dreams, memories, declarations, repetitions, sensations.
You could explore expressions like freewriting, collaging, doodling, and beyond.

Play with these elements to create your list poem. List poems are poems that list things in relation to each other, often taking inventory of the story being told. You can also weave in conversational lines and write single words or full sentences. The last line usually lands with an unexpected twist, affirms or repeats a point, or has some deeply felt (or funny) impact. The emotional tone is up to you. Research examples, if you wish.

✦ devotions to radical reinvention
(after denise shanté) • ✦

a list poem by _____

Remember to name credit, with the title “devotions to radical reinvention
(after denise shanté)” if this poem is shared in any capacity.