```
i never acknowledged where the obsession derived from;
maybe it was the constant worrying of my fate,
and subconsciously being situated in a predicament of overthinking everything
"will my dreams come true?"
        i shake a sphere and allow my aura to percolate through plastic — "you may rely on it"
"does he love me?"
        my professor's words slip of my brain like a bar of soap
                        why can't i ever just focus on the things that matter?
        this time i'll click a button on my screen of pixels — "yes, definitely"
"will i ever win?"
        i try to resist the urge of asking, why couldn't i just listen to my gut?
                        why did i always need someone to reassure me?
        i give in, never once overthinking the absurdness of how some
                blue dye
                        and
                            plastic
                                  and
                                      alcohol
        could give me such comfort and satisfaction, until — "ask again later"
        it's response felt dry like the sahara,
```

the dilemma was that i always asked the wrong questions everything is abstract; nothing ever would be simple as a series of yes or no questions.

why did everyone always question what i was capable of?

i can't focus on the things that mattered, because they don't matter to me i always needed someone to reassure me, because i couldn't be that someone for myself. the only person who ever questioned me, was me.

"has my only real enemy been me?" and i didn't need the orb to justify an answer i already knew — "without a doubt"

i shake the globe, vigorously — "cannot predict now"

i've always been desperate for answers — "no"

— malia shah // magic eight ball.