Abstract
This piece includes excerpts taken from a book-length project that, more than anything else, is driven by personal crises arising from schizophrenia so common among first generation and minority academicians. My foremost goal was not to transform ethnographic practices, although the usefulness of ethnographic elements to such a project proves instructive. A merger between folkloristics and creative writing was a natural consequence of the more fundamental quest upon which I had embarked. In the effort to highlight moments in my life in which the spiritual, paired with the educational experiences occurring at a particular time, could be illuminated, I developed a hybrid form of discourse that draws upon elements of the memoir, creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and ethnography.