

FORTUNE TELLING

When an unknown outcome gets settled in advance, and settled badly.

IN PLAIN ENGLISH

You have not tried yet, and the result is already in.

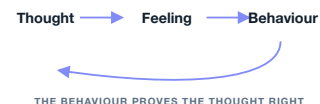
A prediction wearing the costume of a fact.

You do not know. Send the thing and let the future have a say.

THE CLINICAL NAME

Fortune telling

Forecasting with false confidence, usually in the service of avoidance. Declaring the outcome removes the discomfort of uncertainty and, conveniently, the need to act. The prediction is then never tested, so it is never disproved — and the untested prediction becomes evidence for the next one.



HOW IT RUNS *A job posting you are almost qualified for*

THE VERDICT

THE NEXT STEP

THOUGHT	"There is no point. They will not pick me."	"I do not know the odds. I know the cost of not applying."
FEELING	Flat and defeated before anything has happened.	Nervous, and moving anyway.
BEHAVIOUR	Close the tab. Tell yourself you were realistic.	Apply. Spend forty minutes, not four weeks.

THREE TOOLS

- 1 Mark it as a forecast.** Write the prediction down with a date. Check it later. You will be wrong often.
- 2 Cost the inaction.** What does not trying definitely cost, versus what trying might?
- 3 Do the smallest version.** Send one application, one message, one enquiry.

A MUSLIM LENS

"It will not happen for me" gets said with the calm of wisdom, but it is a claim about the unseen.

Al-ghayb is not yours — Only Allah knows the outcome. Certainty about it is a kind of overreach.

Istikhārah, then move — The prayer is asked for before an action, not instead of one.

Then take the means — Effort is worship. The result was never your department.

Despair of good is not humility. It is a claim you were never in a position to make.

THIS WEEK Write down one prediction you are treating as certain. Do the thing anyway and check the result.

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