

Born in Kansas City, Kansas, Donald Levering grew up there and in Oceanside, New York. He received his MFA from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. A former NEA Fellow, he won the Tor House Robinson Jeffers Award, selected by the late Eavan Boland; the *Carve* Poetry Prize, judged by Carmen Giménez Smith; and the *Literal Latté* Poetry Award. Levering's work has been featured on Garrison Keillor's *Writer's Almanac* podcast. His 16th poetry book, *Breaking Down Familiar* was published in 2022. Previous books include *Coltrane's God*, Runner-up in the New England Book Festival contest and *The Water Leveling With Us*, 2nd Place in the National Federation of Press Women contest. A former human services administrator, he lives in Santa Fe, where he volunteers as a US citizenship tutor and with Kitchen Angels.