

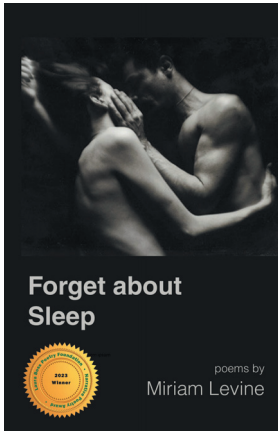
Press Release

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 Publication Information: 6 x 9 in.; 96 Pages LCCN: 2023912457 ISBN: 978-1-63045-111-0
 Publication Date: March 16 2024 Website: <https://nyq.org/books/author/miriam-levine>
 SRP (US): \$18.95 Availability: Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Bookshop, and SPD Books To the Trade: SPD Books

WINNER OF THE 2023 LAURA BOSS NARRATIVE POETRY AWARD

NYQ Books™ Announces the Forthcoming Publication of

Forget about Sleep by Miriam Levine



Ardent, intimate poems by a bold poet of sensual and spiritual life . . .

Miriam Levine's *Forget about Sleep* portrays the gifts and perils of aging as she remembers lost lovers, friends, beloved family, and celebrates treasured places and the near and dear still alive. These bold poems of sensual and spiritual life move from gritty Northern New Jersey to New England and Florida, from interior spaces to landscapes and the gardens she tends.

In the winner, *Forget about Sleep* by Miriam Levine, I found a collection suffused with the varied emotions and questions that come from a lifetime of memories—about childhood friends, adolescent romance, desire, pain, aging parents, parents of friends—about community and its relationship to the beautiful if indifferent natural world that nonetheless remains ever-open to meaning. Ultimately, the poems here trace the exquisite struggle to make meaning. Expansive and profound, *Forget about Sleep* is a triumph.

—José Antonio Rodríguez

The last line of the first poem in Miriam Levine's new book, *Forget about Sleep*, says it all: "we're not done with love." The poem's title, "Deeper, Darker" sets the context for this love. It happens in the midst of much loss. But happens it does, thanks to Levine's deep attention to the sensuous details of this world which guide her again and again back into the heart of love. There is something timeless about these poems; as if they could have been written a thousand years ago by someone who saw deeply into the world as it truly is. And yet, they were written now and speak urgently to our current moment. What more can we ask of a book of poetry?

—Jim Moore

Miriam Levine's *Forget about Sleep* is a love letter to our world, an ode to memory and all she has wistfully stored. "Such terrible things in this world," it's true, and yet Levine holds on to all that is bright—daffodils, Zebra longwings, victory gardens, the moon, and the sea. Celebratory, clear-eyed, meditative, Levine's poems are mature and honest renderings on our humanness.

—Denise Duhamel

Miriam Levine is the author of six collections of poetry, among them, *The Dark Opens*, chosen by Mark Doty for the Autumn House Poetry Prize. Other books include: *Devotion*, a memoir; *In Paterson*, a novel. Her work has appeared in *American Poetry Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Paris Review*, and *Ploughshares*. Levine, a winner of a Pushcart Prize, is a fellow of the NEA and a grantee of the Massachusetts Artists Foundation. She lives in Florida and New Hampshire with her husband John Lane.

NYQ Books™ was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc.



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