



Banana Palace

Dana Levin

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"Images that are satisfyingly clear . . . and excitingly inexplicable." —Robert Pinsky, *Washington Post*

"Intimate and hypnotic . . . whether turning her gaze inward or outward, these poems question the moral, aesthetic, and metaphysical needs that poetry exists to fill." —*Ploughshares*

"Levin's work is phenomenological; it details how it feels to be an embodied consciousness making its way through the world." —*Boston Review*

In her newest collection, Dana Levin uses humor, jump-cut imagery, and popular culture references in preparation for the approaching apocalypse. Against a backdrop of Facebook, cat memes, and students searching their smartphones for a definition of the soul, Levin draws upon a culture of limited attention spans as it searches for greater spiritual meaning. The poems in *Banana Palace* are elliptical by design, the lines often trailing off into a white space of their own making, as if flirting with and resolving in their own isolation.

It was the most glorious thing I had ever seen.

*Cross-section of a banana under a microscope
the caption read.*

*I hunched around my little screen
sharing a fruit no one could eat.*

Dana Levin has published three books of poetry, *Wedding Day* (Copper Canyon), *Sky Burial* (Copper Canyon), and her first book, *In the Surgical Theatre*, won the APR/Honickman Award. A teacher of poetry for over twenty years, Levin splits her time between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Maryville University in St. Louis, where she serves as Distinguished Writer in Residence.

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