

# Afaa Michael Weaver



Afaa Michael Weaver (阿法·迈克尔·韦弗 in Chinese, and previously Michael S. Weaver) was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, where he attended public schools. After two years of study at the University of Maryland-College Park, he later earned his BA at Regents College-University of the State of New York (now Excelsior College) and completed graduate work in creative writing at Brown University, where his focus was playwriting and theater. Weaver's early poetry was influenced by the Black Arts Movement and the poetry of Lucille Clifton. His subjects cover a broad range, including family dynamics, American history and culture, Chinese and Asian culture and philosophies, and Jewish culture and religious history. Weaver was a member of Cave Canem's first faculty at the retreat in 1997, and in 1998 he became the first "Elder" of the Cave Canem organization. His papers are held in the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University.