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**Mark Sarvas** is the founder of the popular litblog *The Elegant Variation*, which *Forbes* and *Entertainment Weekly* have named as one of the best blogs on the Web. His fiction has appeared in *Troika Magazine*, the *Wisconsin Review*, *Apostrophe*, *Thought Magazine*, and *Pindeldyboz* and as part of the Spoken Interludes and Vermin on the Mount reading series in Los Angeles. His criticism has appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, the *Three Penny Review*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. This is his first novel. He lives with his wife in Los Angeles.