

DAVID CRAVENS

Vengeance

an angry boy with a ragged beard
and dirty shoulder-length hair
sits in a men's home
on Meldemannstraße

he is gifted with watercolor—
paints small Viennese landscapes
that his friend Reinhold
hocks in the streets

but Reinhold cheated him today

twenty-seven years from now
when the boy is Führer
Reinhold will die in a cell
under conditions—uncertain at best

DAVID R. CRAVENS received his B.A. in philosophy at the University of Missouri, and his master's degree in English literature at Southeast Missouri State. He won the 2008 *Saint Petersburg Review* Prize in Poetry, and the 2011 Bedford Poetry Prize. His work continues to appear in a wide range of literary journals. He teaches composition and literature at Mineral Area College.