Happy are those ages when the starry sky is a map of all possible paths—ages whose paths are illuminated by the light of the stars.
—György Lukács, The Theory of the Novel

1. THE NOVEL AS EVENTS

The end of apartheid in South Africa in 1994 was the culmination of years of organizing, negotiating, and struggling, both overtly and covertly, within the region. In addition to being a local event, however, the end of apartheid marked the conclusion, if not the completion, of a world-historical process of postcolonial independence in the twentieth century. This wave of decolonization had begun in the wake of the First World War with revolutionary struggle in Egypt and Ireland in 1919, accelerated with the emergence of numerous nation states in the Middle East, South Asia, East Asia, and Africa in the decades following the Second World War, and drew to a somewhat belated close in the years following the fall of the Berlin Wall with Namibia securing independence from “administration”
WORKS CITED


Burger, Willie. 2000. “Also sprach Treppie: Taal en verhaal as muurpapier in Marlene van Niekerk se *Triomf* (of ‘It’s all in the mind’)” [Also sprach Treppie: Language and narrative as wallpaper in Marlene van Niekerk’s *Triomf* (or, “it’s all in the mind)]. *Literator* 21 (1): 151–53.


LIAM KRUGER is an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame. His research is broadly concerned with the relationships between cultural forms, the institutions that consecrate those forms, and the material conditions that shape those institutions. His essays have been published or are forthcoming in *Research in African Literatures, Critical Arts*, and *Modern Fiction Studies*. 