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On June 9, 1979, Daan Wesselman was born in Amsterdam. After finishing secondary school, he began studying English at the University of Amsterdam in 1997. Towards the end of his English program, Daan received a grant from the university for an extra year’s study, spent in the Sociology department taking courses in sociological theory and urban sociology – to feed an already developing interest in cities. After completing his MA in English *cum laude* in 2002, Daan decided he could do with more training in literary and cultural theory, so he decided to enroll in the UvA’s MA program in Literary Studies in 2003. Finishing this MA was interrupted by a first stint as a lecturer in his old English department. In 2005, Daan got a position as an English teacher at Tilburg University. In 2006, he decided to complete the remaining parts of his second MA program. In 2007 he rounded off his MA in Literary Studies *cum laude*, which also served as the basis for a PhD project under the supervision of prof. Ernst van Alphen at Leiden University. Daan continued to work at Tilburg University while working on his dissertation as an external PhD student at Leiden. In 2011, he received a grant from NWO which allowed him a year off work to concentrate entirely on finishing his dissertation. After completing his dissertation, he got a position as a lecturer at the Literary Studies department at the UvA, bringing him back to his alma mater once again.