

From monsters to mediators: The evolution of the theme of altruism in early robotic science fiction texts Siglé, J.A.

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#### Biography

Jan Sigle, born in 1984 in Pretoria, South Africa, emigrated to the Netherlands in 2004 to pursue a tertiary education at Leiden University. From 2005 to 2009 he completed the *BA in English Language and Culture* program with full marks for his final thesis. His thesis explored the role of consciousness in Daniel Keyes' science fiction novel *Flowers for Algernon* (1966), which he subsequently presented at a conference in Groningen in 2010. From 2010 to 2012, he completed the *Research MA in the Study of Art and Literature* with cum laude and was a finalist for the Best Thesis Prize at Leiden University in 2012. His thesis performed a posthumanist analysis of contemporary science fiction cinematic representations of humanoids. From 2013 to 2014, he worked full-time as an English teacher at a college of higher education. In 2016, he pursued his PhD as an external candidate at Leiden University. From 2015 to 2017, he worked as a part-time lecturer at Leiden University teaching two courses (BA level) and guest lectures (BA and MA levels). In 2018, he presented at a conference at Birkbeck, University of London. He works as a freelancer in academia, proofreading and copyediting.