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Beckett, Derrida and the event of Literature

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Acknowledgments

This book was written by someone who was not only a Ph.D. candidate but also an immigrant. While working on it I was learning to speak my new "native" language from scratch and struggled to make my entry into a culture that seemed painfully opaque. This situation no doubt influenced the choice of my topic. While it might be said of reading or writing in general that it is a migration of the mind into an unknown territory, here this kind of movement is also in focus. Philosophy's entering into a relation with literature involves a mental migration, and thereby the loss of safety of a familiar context: thought suddenly appears to be cut off from its "felicity conditions."

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