

ESSAY ON GOODNESS IN THE EVERY DAY ●

Peter Leight

Today I'm going to be good to everybody I know, and also everybody I don't know, I'm serving everybody first, before I do anything else. Letting my lips relax, I think they're sweeter, and also softer, today I'm saying "good morning" to everybody I know and also to everybody I don't even know, or just "good," as long as it's good it doesn't matter *when* it's good or how good it is, as when you squeeze yourself in and everybody else has more room. I mean there's no reason to pretend something is good when it actually is. Picking up my hands and holding them in front of me where they can go either way, like a form of interpretation. Today I'm looking into all the cases, not thinking *it's okay the way it is*—of course it's better when everybody has a good case, if it's good it's good enough *for everybody*, and if it's not good enough I'm going to apologize right away, before it gets any worse. Sometimes I think it's only good enough if it's better than anything else, better than anything you can think of, as long as it's better there's usually something that's even better—after a while you notice it's cumulative, as in those Renaissance paintings composed of layers of varying degrees of transparency, giving the appearance of depth below the surface.