Whatever

The coming being is whatever being 1

Quodlibet = the term that is unthought in each transcendental conditions
the meaning of all the other transcendentals 1
whatever does not mean "it doesn’t matter which," it means "being such
that it always matters" 1
whatever being has an original relation to desire 1

singularity: being such as it is 1
whatever singularity it is not about having this or that property, or
belonging to this or that set 1
whatever being is reclaimed for its being-such 2
this singularity is whatever you want, lovable 2

love is not directed at this or that property, nor does it neglect
properties in favor of something general, it wants the loved one with
all of their predicates, it wants their being such as it is 2
he seems to suggest that the and that love transports us toward our own
taking-place, toward the Idea 2

From Limbo

persisting without pain and divine abandon = limbo 5
always already forgotten by God 6
infused with the joy with no outlet 6
in neither salvation nor perdition, neutral 6
an unsalable life cannot be subject to the norms of the Christian
religion 6

[limbo is thus, in a way, the territory that is illegible to the
state (as the invisible committee puts it)]
it is in a way a preview of life that begins on Earth after the last
day, which is to say a preview of simply human life 7

Example

relations between the individual and the universal 9

singularities can be transformed into members of a class, defined by
common property 9
the tree as both singularity and class 9
the example is the concept that escapes the antimony between the
universal and the particular 9

it is both one among others, and at the same time it stands for
all of them 10
neither particular nor universal, it is a singular object that
presents itself as such, that shows its singularity 10

being-called is the property that establishes all possible belongings 10
pure singularities communicate only in the empty space of the example —
they are not tied by any common property — they are expropriated of all
identity, so that they may appropriate belonging itself 11
they are thus exemplars of the coming community 11

**Taking Place**

ethics begins when we understand that the good consists only in the grasping
of evil 13
increase indent similarly treat consists in the taking-place of the false 13
the possibility of an appropriation of impropriety 14
the perfect has appropriated all the possibilities of evil and
impropriety 14
the transcendent is the taking-place of everything 15
God is the taking-place of entities — the being-stone of the stone 15
that the world is: this is the good 15
being irreparably in the world [is a can to Nietzsche's
discharging our strength into the world] 15
the good is just the point at which a being grasps the taking-
place that is proper to it
evile is the reduction of the taking-place of things to a simple fact
among others, a forgetting of the transcendence inherent in the very
taking-place of things 15

**Principium individuationis**

whatever is the unmistakable symbol for singularity 17
Duns Scotus leaves unthought the *quodlibet* that is inseparable from
singularity 17
*Quodlibet* is not indifference 17
*Quodlibet* is not a predicate of singularity that expresses its
dependence on common nature 17
singularity's essence is not constituted by common nature 18
the common is not the persistence of an identical essence in each single
individual 18
for Spinoza the common is: all bodies have in common to express the
divine attribute of extension 18
but what is, and cannot constitute the essence of a single case 18
commonality is thus inessential, a solidarity that does not concern in
essence 18
taking-place is the communication of singularities in the attribute of
extension; it does not unite them in essence but scatters them in
existence 19
whatever is constituted by the indifference of the common and the proper 19
whatever is the thing with all its properties 19
the human face is neither the individuation of the generic face nor the
universalization of the singular face 19
it is whatever face in which what belongs to common nature and what is
proper are absolutely indifferent 19
the passage from potentiality to act, and from common form to
singularity, is one we make over and over again back and forth 19
common and proper, genus an individual, are only the two slopes dropping
down from either side of the watershed of whatever 20
the particular and the generic become in different 20
the passage from the common to the proper is a shuttling in both
directions along the line of sparkling alternation 20
the being that is engendered on this line is whatever being 20
and the way it passes from the common to the proper back again is
called usage or ethos 20

Ease

the adjacent place 23
what is most proper to every creature is its substitutability, its ability to
be in the place of another 23
  this does not mean compensating for what the other lacks, but exiling
oneself to the other as she is 24
to offer priced hospitality in the others own soul 24
  the taking-place of every single being is always already common 24
the idea of the un-substitutability of the individual is a hypocritical
fiction 24
and unconditioned substitutability is an absolutely unrepresentative of
community 25
being whatever, being such as it is, the coming to itself of each
singularity, the multiple commonplace 25
the name of this commonplace is ease 25
ease is the space adjacent to the empty space where we can move freely
25
it is the very place of love as the experience of taking-place in
whatever singularity 25
these is the "free use of the proper," one Holderin called "the most
difficult task" 25

Maneries

A manerie is a state of things in which each thing persists as it is 27
  neither generic nor particular — an exemplary singularity 27
manner is thus whatever singularity 27
  he wants to find the etymology in manare: being in its rising forth 28
this is neither an essence nor in existence, but a manner of rising
forth, a being that is its mode of being 28
it is singular, but it is valid for all 28
in this modality of rising forth we can see a being that does not remain below
itself (which is to say does not presuppose itself as a hidden essence) but
rather exposes itself and its qualifications, neither accidental nor
necessary, but continually engendered from its own manner 28
  [i.e. whatever being]
  being engendered from one's own manner is the definition of habit 29
a manner is ethical when it does not befall us and does not found us, but engenders us 29
and this being engendered from one's own manner is the only happiness really possible for humans 29
a manner of rising forth is also the place of whatever singularity, its principle of individuation 29
it is an improperty which is assumed in appropriated as our proper being 29
this improperty, which we exposes our proper being, engenders us and makes us happy 29

**Demonic**

the possibility of not-being calls for help 31
the power to not-be is the root of evil 32
fleeing from our own impotence we construct the malevolent power that oppresses those who show us weakness 32
failing our possibility of not-being, we fall away from the only thing that makes love possible 32
creation is not the victorious struggle of a power to be against the power to not-be 32
it is rather the impotence of God with respect to his own impotence, his allowing — being able to not not-be 32
this is the birth in God of love 32

**Bartleby**

potentiality and possibility is distinct from reality 35
a potentiality to not-be or impotence 35
the being that is properly whatever is able to not-be; it is capable of its own impotence 35
potentiality to be has as its object a certain act; potentiality to not-be it is not about a simple transition from potential to act 35
it is about a potentiality that has as its object potentiality itself 36
only a power that is capable of both power and impotence is a supreme power 36
thought as the potentiality to think 36
tabula rasa 37
the unthought thought is pure potentiality 37
**Bartleby** is a scribe who chooses not to write 37
he is a writer that chooses his own potentiality to not-write 37
[generalized to an actor that chooses its own potentiality to not act]

**Irreparable**

at the end of time everything will be just like it is now, but it will be irreparable 39
things will be consigned without remedy to their being-thus; they will be precisely only their thus 39
they are thus absolutely exposed and abandoned [they are bare life] 39
in this condition both necessity and contingency have disappeared 40
necessity is the not being able to not-be 40
contingency is the being able to not-be 40
the irreparable is to not not-be 40
after the judgment we will enjoy an incorruptible fallenness, we will
enjoy the coming singularity 40

\textit{Ethics}

ethics is only possible if we have no essence, destiny 43
but we cannot freely decide whether to be or not to be 43
there is something that we are and have to be: the simple fact of our
own existence as possibility or potentiality 43
but our most proper being is also lacking in a certain sense: it can
not-be 43
and so we have and feel a debt 43
we have to exist as potentiality 44
and we feeling guilt for what we lack, for an act we have not yet
committed 44
potentiality itself is the most proper mode of human existence 44
evil consists in regarding this potentiality as a fault that must
always be repressed 44

\textit{Dim Stockings}

capitalist commodification of the human body 47
neither generic nor individual, neither God nor beast, the body became
something truly whatever 48
whatever is a resemblance without archetype, it is an Idea 48
the promise of happiness is to link together image and body in a space
where they can no longer be separated, which is to forge the whatever
body, this is the good that humanity must learn how to wrest from the
commodities in their decline 50

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\textit{Halos}

the tiny displacement, not in things, but in the space of ease between
everything and itself 54
if everything is perfect, if everything is finished forever, then
everything is dead 54
the halo is something that is added even when nothing essential can be added,
that makes it more brilliant 54-55
it is the becoming singular of that which is perfect 55
singularity is not a final determination of being but an unraveling of
its limits 56
the halo is a zone in which possibility and reality are indistinguishable 56
when a being has reached its end, it has consumed all of its possibilities, which implies that what it means to be is to have possibilities, to have the potential to become 56

**Pseudonym**

the gap between the word and the thing, the slippage of meaning, is possibility 59-60
when everything is said, there is no possibility 60
the uttered is thus vital, the ease between the name and the nickname 60

**Without Classes**

there are no longer social classes but just a single planetary petty bourgeoisie 63
it has the aptitude of refusing any recognizable social identity 63
it lives in a world of only the improper and the inauthentic 63
truth and falsity have lost meaning 63
and the absurdity of all this has lost pathos 64
they try to make their own identity in a reality that has become absolutely improper and insignificant to them 64
the final absurdity is death, the frustration of individuality, bare life 64
bare life is exterior to them 65
humanity is moving toward its own destruction in the form of a planetary petty bourgeoisie 65
but this means there is an opportunity as never before 65
instead of continuing to search for a proper identity, we must belong to this impropriety as such 65
to make being thus not an individual property but a singularity without identity, a common and absolutely exposed singularity 65
we must be—thus not in our particular biography, but rather we must be only the thus 65
only then would we enter into a community without presuppositions and without subjects 65
[appropriation, it seems, is a dead-end for Agamben]

**Outside**

whatever is the figure of pure singularity 67
it has no identity and it is not determinate 67
singularity borders all possibility and receives its determination through this bordering 67
belonging, in the sense of being—*such*, is only the relation to an empty and indeterminate totality 67
the bordering is a point of contact with an external space that must remain empty 67
a space of pure exteriority, of pure exposure 67
the outside is not another space, it is a passage to exteriority 68
*ek-stasis* is the experience of being-*within* an outside 68
[ek = out; stasis = stand … "to be or stand outside oneself, a removal to elsewhere"]

**Homonyms**

the idea of a property being distinct from the object that has it 71
the class of all the classes that are not members of themselves 71
Bertrand Russell's paradox brought to light the existence of properties that do not determine class 72
a term (shoe) can refer to every member of its extension and also to itself, so it both is and is not a member of the class it identifies 73
distinguish between a shoe and its being-called-shoe 73
a word is neither other than the thing it expresses, nor is it identical to it 74
a synonym: same name same definition 75
a homonym: same name different definition 75
single horses are synonyms with respect to the concept horse, but they are homonyms with respect to the idea of the horse 75
[he is distinguishing here between a concept (generic category) and an idea (Form)]
the idea of a thing is the thing itself 76
whatever is singularity insofar as it relates not only to the concept, but also to the idea 76
this relation does not found a new class 76
rather it is that which in each class draws singularity from its belonging to a class (its synonymy) toward a pure and anonymous homonymy 76
whatever means that which, holding itself in simple homonymy, in its pure being-called, is for this reason unnameable 76

**Shekinah**

Debord: all that is directly lived is distanced in a representation 79
human sociality is alienated 79
practical power of humans is separated from itself and presented as a world unto itself 79
lesson: capitalism directed towards the alienation of language itself 80
language is the communicative nature of humans, the logos, which is the Common 80
[here he seems to be except some idea of a *proprio*, of appropriation] and yet the spectacle pertains something like a positive possibility that can be used against it 80
knowledge and the word should not be isolated 81
we cannot separate the word from what it reveals an assign to it and autonomous consistency 81
things that are revealed and manifested are common and shareable 81
the society of the spectacle separates communicativity into an autonomous sphere 82
humans are separated by what unites them 82
language also no longer reveals anything, or just reveals the nothingness of all things 82
a constant unveiling that unveils nothing 82
no longer is power founded on a presupposed foundation 83
"the kingdoms of the earth set course... for the democratic-spectacular regime" 83
[what Badiou calls capital-parliamentarianism]
in this era, it is possible for humans to experience their own linguistic being, the very fact that they speak 83
we must bring language itself to language, carry the project of alienation from our linguistic being to completion 83
then we will be the first citizens of the community with neither presuppositions nor a state 83

Tiananmen

so what is the politics of whatever singularity, of a being whose community is mediated not by any condition of belonging but by belonging itself? 85
it's a good idea to look at Tiananmen Square, where the demonstrations had an absence of determinate contents 85
the coming politics will no longer be a struggle for the conquest or control of the state, but a struggle between the state and the non-state, which is humanity 85
a struggle between whatever singularity and the state organization 85
whatever singularities cannot form a societas, because they don't have any identity to vindicate 86
the state can only deal with people who are claiming an identity 86
it cannot tolerate singularities that do not affirm and identity, that remain merely humans co-belonging without any identity to belong to 86
the state will try to impose an identity on the whatever 86
[just like when Christianity can't deal with souls in limbo who don't have any concept of the distinction between being saved or damned]
the whatever is homo sacer 86
excluded from the human world, able to be killed without committing homicide 87
whatever singularity rejects all identity and every condition of belonging 87
it is able to be in common with others, without identity, without identity-based belonging 87
it is the principal enemy of the state 87

Appendix: The Irreparable

we no longer pay attention to ontology, and also to the relation between essence and existence 89
be irreparable, again, is things are just as they are, without remedy. Revelation reveals that the condition of the world is that it is irreparably profane.

Making the world sacred again is bullshit. The world will be saved only in so far as it is profane. Presented with a condition in which things are certainly and definitively thus, we must perceive a margin, a limbo, a remainder that cannot be contained.

A pure being-thus without any attributes. Joy and sadness, happiness and unhappiness, good and evil contain the same states of things.

The irreparable is neither an essence nor in existence, neither a possibility nor a necessity. It is not a modality of being, it is a being that is its modalities.

Thus, it is not thus, but rather it is its thus.

Being-thus is not a determination or qualification. It is rather being that is irreparably thus, it is its thus.

Thus means not otherwise, it negates all possibilities. It negates each predicate as a property. But it takes them up again as im-properties or improprieties.

Such a being is whatever existence. [Its thusness is not its own, it does not belong to it, because it is whatever].

Anaphora (a referring back) can only make sense of itself by pointing to its predicate, it's proceeding term.

We have to conceive of an anaphora that has no proceeding term, which would be an absolute thus that does not presuppose anything.

Pure being has been understood using presupposition. A non-linguistic element has been presupposed. The double meaning of the pronoun.

What needs to be conceived is a relation that is neither denotation or meaning, neither ostension nor anaphora. But rather their reciprocal implication.

Not nonlinguistic nor being in language; but rather the being-in-language-of-the-non-linguistic... The thing itself.

The exposure of being.

Existence and essence do not have a relationship of identity but of ipseity. The thing transcends toward itself, towards its own being such as it is.

“as such”-- they stipulate each other, they expose one another, they do not refer back to any presupposition.

My being-such is not this or that quality.

Being exposed is not a quality, but neither is it other than a quality. Exposure is pure relationship with language itself, with language's taking place.

Suchness is the category that remains unthought in every quality.
each being is and must be its mode of being, its manner of rising forth: being such as it is

we must investigate the as

meaning, denotation, and a third term: being-such

neither what is denoted nor what is meant

this is the meaning of Plato’s theory of ideas

exposed in its being

the being-such is the Idea

it is as if every feature were detached from a thing and then stood beside it, in the easement

it is a gnostic reading of Plato

redemption is the profanity of the profane

we can have hope only in what is without remedy

the thus is without remedy

we are saved only when we no longer want to be

in being-thus, in being our own mode of being, we are deprived of thingness, of a proper nature

we live in a world of things evacuated of meaning…when we bump into the limit of this world, then we will be able to be exposed, to grasp the being such of the world beyond good and evil

we will be able to say yes to our being-thus, which is incorruptible, eternal

yes is the name of language

yes is the power to not not-be

to be other than nothingness

language/reason [logos?] is that whereby something exists rather than nothing—it is how we have the power to not not-be

when we are thus, when we are being only our own mode of being, we are capable of the rather, of the not-not-being

when we can see something only in its being-thus, when we perceive its irreparability, that is when we love it