Alex the Anything: Interest in an Abject Regress

Carl M. Shea (François Camoin)
Department of English
University of Utah

The universe is contracting. Slowly. Shrinking back down to the big bang, little pop, God's lunchtime. Just think about it, think really hard, think about what's important. Think about what's exciting, exciting. What's important, that's what exists, boils down to. Boiling down, getting smaller, contracting.

It's not though the universe is like gas – expanding. It reaches equilibrium when everything is contained within space, the space of the universe? Infinite; that's why it's expanding. Think about what's important. Think about what matters. What's it boil down to? Vapor. You can't even see it. It's practically nothing. You're pretty much nothing. In the magnitude of infinitely this is what matters.

The only reason we've come up with is some twisted individual, lurking above us like a child over a Lego set, waiting for us to displease him. We've got some other ideas which, combined, are basically a series of random elements plus a series of random events. All those really say though is: because.

So what do you do when you're pretty much nothing?

- You ask why.
- Why?
- Because.
- Why because?
- Because there is nothing else to say.
- So what do you do when you're pretty much nothing?
- Become something.