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I want nothing more of big things

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I want nothing more of big things
by Jonathan Greenhouse

of theories of the universe & what lies beyond:
I want to be small again,

to think of the infinitesimal,
to ponder a grain of sand & marvel at its shape & color,

not compare it to all other grains, not be overwhelmed
by how infinite they seem.

I want to forget the past,
no longer feel its weight. I want to close my eyes

& see a black space; & when reopened, I only want to see
what's in this miniscule frame.

I want to say my name
& only hear the syllables it makes, to sit on the grass,

feel each blade, & watch the impression I've made;
how my body bends them,

the fresh soil loosening
as wind ruffles my hair. I want the sun to be reduced

to a sensation of heat, to a light by which to see
when I reopen my eyes.

I want nothing more of big things.
Give me only the small: I will seize them with relish

& take them all.