The Aether is not exactly conscious in the human sense, i.e., it doesn't think, reason, feel, or anything of the sort. Nor does the broader "universe". It is living nature that does that.

It is also difficult to describe these things with words. The "aether" is a connective medium of infinite potentiality. It was called "God", and is primarily the foundation upon which "everything" is built in contrast to "no-thing".

Since it's potential, the time is observed or thought over, it "molds" into something created, and therefore, it cannot be accurately described by words or with thought.

These people with the big ego just want to say that nothing else matters in the universe, but what they perceive as a "whole", that is nihilism in disguise. Clearly, the so called "Universe", manifests itself in beings, and beings are more important "than it", because "it" is basically a "no thing". But it's also the beings.

Therefore, if it is important, why the beings in it are not? Because well, they are, and this is why we have Gods and a ranking system in the universe, and we aren't monotheists like the enemy.
"Nothingness", still does remain a theoretical, philosophical, human made concept. There is no "nothingness" in nature. The closer to nothingness is the "Aether". For this reason, the 7th chakra which is the higher level of human consciousness, was also called "The Crown" and the "Boundary", because past this, humans in their present experience cannot understand. The understanding here is definitely not of an intellectual character either.

These people are clearly in no control of any "universe", and these are only bogus claims out of oversized egos. Every individual being has a part of their own consciousness, which is intertwined through the creation of the universe. The opening of this, expands consciousness. Beings like the Gods, are so super conscious that they might as well be called rightfully "Gods".

In some Freemasonic texts [some of which contain certain hidden facts], Lucifer Satan is called "omnipresent" and other similar things. The enemy constantly whines that "Satan Lucifer was the one on the side of the Most High [aka a false misrepresentation of the Aether]". This shows a supreme level of advancement, known well to the enemy.

The expansion of the consciousness past a point [not the thought of it, but the reality of it] can expand so much as to include "The world" as we humans know it.

The mystery of this in Egypt was described by the God Atum. Atum was symbolic of the deity of the "Uni-Verse", or the "Everything". In Ancient Greece, the mystical aspect of this was given to Pan, which was a God of Nature, after which Satan's modern depictions come from [Goat head and so on].

The name "Pan" denotes to the word "Everything", and literally means just that. Pan was the God whose name otherwise would be "Natural Pan" or "Pan of Nature", i.e., the everything in nature. Nature was seen as reflective manifestation of the creative force of the universe.

The Statement of Thoth has a strong alchemical character. The "Divine Triangle" is also the Triangle of the Third Eye, and the chakras of the head. The limit of one's consciousness and therefore, of one's "Universe", is their Divine Triangle. The "Universe" as we know it, is what we perceive on this level of consciousness based on this, i.e., our observation.

The feeling of "unity" with the universe, is primarily the production of the unity within man himself, from the finite consciousness, to the infinite consciousness.
This is called "the universe", and not some external thing that people have to pray towards. Monotheism and jews took this stupid belief and turned this into a deconstruction belief, to destroy polytheism.

In reality, it is beings that advance in the universe that have more value, coming out of the Aether, rather than the other way around.

The mystery of Atum is encapsulated in this question: How did the uncreated, create himself? Statements like this deal with heavy alchemical knowledge, and their meaning is understood by initiates through experiences, not the other way around.

-High Priest Hooded Cobra 666