

Chapter 48

The Humansphere

In *Flatland* terms the situation is this:

- In the same way that 3D *Sphere* appeared within 2D Flatland, a cross-section of 5D will appear within the 4D universe in a form that is fully part of the 4D block universe, yet still able to look down upon it dimensionally from above.
- In the *central viewpoint triad* we have already identified that consciousness, or more generally ‘aliveness’, fulfils these criteria.
- Since each expression of life as it exists within the block universe spans a lifetime, this is how a slice of 5D should appear within the whole of space-time.

Therefore:

A single cross-section of the 5th Dimension within the 4D block universe constitutes one individual lifetime.

Accordingly, from the existence of multiple 4D cross-sections of 5D in the world it is clear that somewhere there exists a 5th Dimension in its entirety which is composed of *all its stacked up cross-sections*, and yet – by the *Principle of Character*^a – bears a whole new nature. We already have a name for the character of this new dimension: we call it Life.

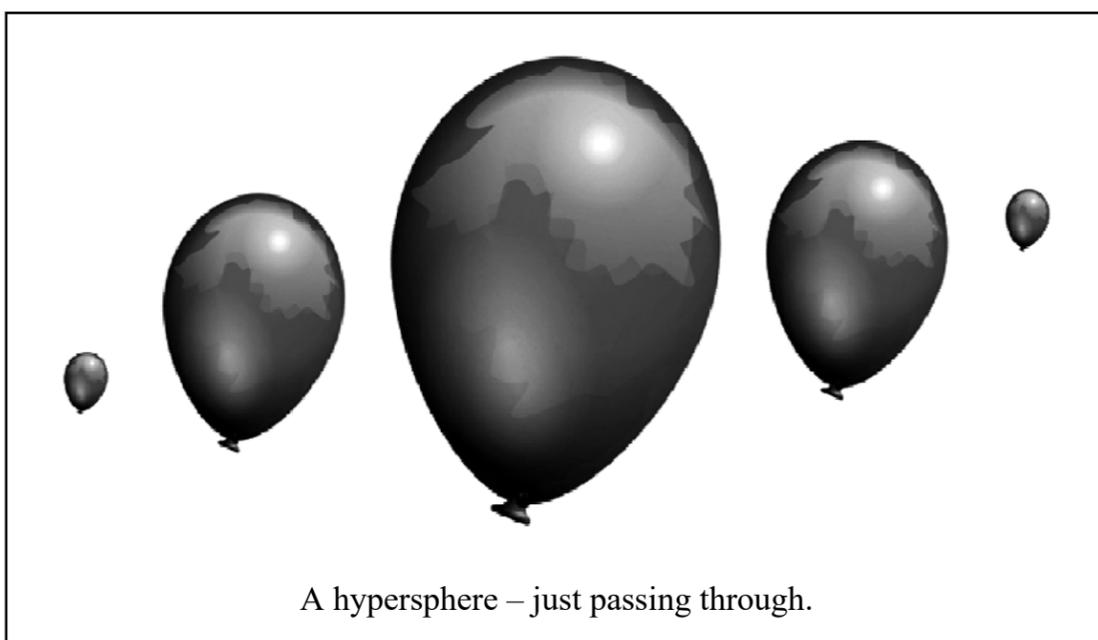
First an Embryo...

Unfortunately our *actual* physical viewpoint causes a problem, because we do not see the block universe with our eyes, making all this hard to visualise. We view it in ‘physical moment nows’, which are 3D cross-sections bearing something of the character of the 4th Dimension. A cross-section of the 5th Dimension would therefore only appear to us as *a slice of a slice*: i.e. a 4D cross-section which then appears in 3D cross-section. It’s complex, but this is how our lifetime appears at any given moment.

Although this is hard for us to process mentally, it shouldn’t hold us back because, as *Flatland* shows, we may still reason from analogy. Let's take this two-stage cross-sectioning process and break it down:

First let’s look at how 4-Dimensionality cross-sections through the 3rd Dimension. In his 1984 book *The Fourth Dimension* – released to commemorate the centenary year of EA Abbott’s *Flatland* – physicist Rudy Rucker asks the question,

‘What would you see if, right this moment, a four-dimensional hypersphere were to pass through the space near your

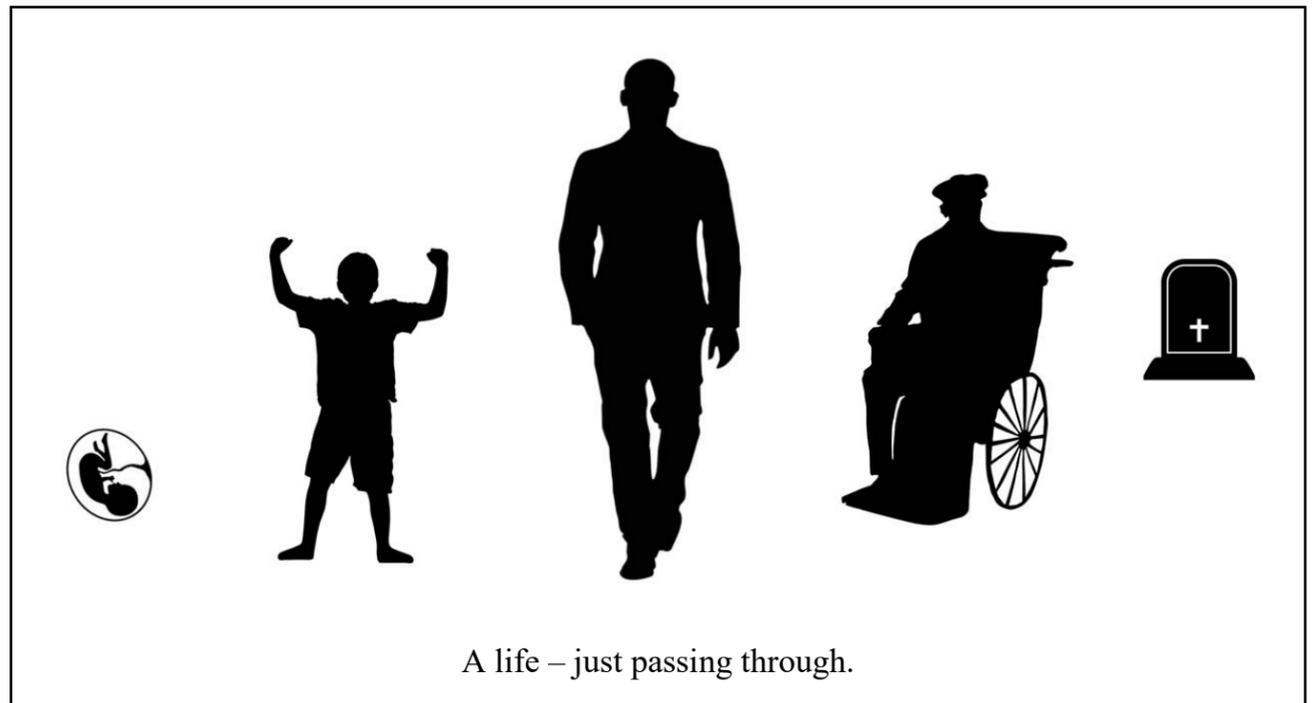


^a *The Principle of Character*: Once the stacking of a dimension is complete it assumes a whole new character. Its individual cross-sections fuse together and their discrete nature becomes indiscernible.

head? Reasoning strictly by analogy, you would expect to see first a point, then a small sphere, then a bigger sphere, then a small sphere, and then a final point that disappears. Visually, it would be much the same as seeing a balloon that is first blown up and then deflated.’^a

Now, slightly altering Rudy's original question: ‘*What would you see if a 4-Dimensional ‘humansphere’ were to pass through the space near you?*’ You would see first an embryo, then a child, then an adult, then a geriatric, and then finally a life that disappears.

Other than the fact that most human beings are not spherical in shape (neither are balloons) the appearance in the world of a whole lifetime is metaphorically identical to the inflation/deflation of a balloon. It is only a difference of materials and



timespan: flesh and blood over a matter of years, as compared with rubber and air over a matter of days.

It reminds me of the popular adage,

- At age 4, success is not peeing in your pants
- At age 12, success is having friends
- At age 17, success is having a driver’s license
- At age 20, success is having sex
- At age 35, success is having money
- At age 50, success is having money
- At age 60, success is having sex
- At age 70, success is having a driver’s license
- At age 75, success is having friends
- At age 80, success is not peeing in your pants

Very funny (especially when you hear it for the first time!) And wonderfully expressive of the indisputable reality of human experience that we come into existence and grow up, arrive at our prime, then shrink down and go out of existence^{bc}. I describe it here in human terms because we understand those best, but at a fundamental level the same basic process applies throughout the living world.

^a Rudy Rucker, *The Fourth Dimension*, Houghton Mifflin Company 1984, P18-19

^b Obviously a life might end, as we say, prematurely, but this is the result of circumstance and need not influence governing principles.

^c Many psychologists, such as Dr Nicky Hayes, now believe that mental and physical decline is not necessarily a long, drawn-out process. She writes, ‘*The general pattern seems to be that we have only a very gradual decline in our older years, and that decline can be slowed down by exercise and activity, but that eventually we reach a period of more rapid physical decline, which rarely lasts for more than about five years.*’ (*Understand Psychology*, Hodder Headline 2010, P264) However long the period is, in a general sense the principle still stands, with this final period reflected at the other end by our pre-school years.

This geometrical, ‘slice of a slice’ analogy of life is concisely expressed within the following statements which are equivalent:

- A cross-section of a 5-Dimensional hyper-hypersphere is a 4-Dimensional hypersphere, which passes through the 3-Dimensional universe in cross-sections, each of which is viewed in the moment now as a sphere at a particular stage of development.
- A cross-section of 5-Dimensional Life is a 4-Dimensional lifetime, which passes through the 3-Dimensional universe in cross-sections, each of which is viewed in the moment now as an organism at a particular stage of development.

This is clear evidence for the dimensional nature of existence.

A Slice of Life

The lifetime of a living thing is a slice of Life itself. The key is to remember that it is *the whole lifetime* that is 4D, so it is *the whole lifetime* that is the cross-section of 5D. In this way, *Flatland* geometry points directly to the conclusion that the 5th Dimension is Life.

Reflection... If life is an entity which exists within a higher dimension but passes through a lower in precisely the same way that *Sphere* passed through Flatland, could the geometry of EA Abbott's Dimensionality shed light on the nature of death itself? We might reasonably ask, ‘*Where did Sphere go when he departed Flatland? Did he cease to exist?*’ I leave the question open.

From all this we can plainly see that life itself is dimensional in a *logical rather than mystical* sense. Using Rudy Rucker’s ‘balloon’ we have arrived at the same conclusion by coming at it from both sides. The *Flatland*-derived *central viewpoint triad* does not stand alone as an isolated, logically inferred deduction linking cognition to the physical world, but is in fact backed up by the way the world is – the way we should *expect* the world to be if dimensional principles were to apply.

But there is more...