

Response to Pain; Positive Thinking ? Comparision with Cynics and (modern) Stoics

Post by “Cassius” of August 23, 2022 at 6:28 AM

More good material:. This Crantor was a smart guy:

Quote

philosopher by the name of Crantor, put the case *against* the dispassionate life in terms we can all recognize. Crantor was writing around 300 B.C., in a consolatory essay—that is, a kind of open letter addressed to someone recently bereaved, offering them the comforts of philosophy. Crantor’s consolation must have said, as most of these pieces do, “it’s OK to cry for a while, anyone would”—but then he turns philosopher and adds,

I cannot by any means agree with those who extol some kind of impassivity (*apatheia*). Such a thing is neither possible nor beneficial. I do not wish to be ill, but if I am, and if some part of my body is to be cut open or even amputated, let me feel it. This absence of pain comes at a high price: it means being numb in body, and in mind scarcely human. — Crantor, quoted by Cicero, *Tusc. Disp.* 3.10