

Promising New Book ("Living For Pleasure") and Great New Article ("Are The Modern Stoics Really Epicurean?") Both By Emily Austin

Post by "Cassius" of November 19, 2022 at 7:58 AM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

Labels shape how we think, and so I don't like the word extravagant one bit:

Yes I agree.

Seems to me this is a prime example of perspective.

From the point of view of "Thank goodness she's doing better than most academics and not making Epicurus a total ascetic" the phrase *extravagant desires can adorn the tranquil life if you do them right* seems a great relief and improvement.

From the point of view of "Do we really want to convey to new readers that Epicurus thought all romantic love is an 'extravagance'?" I think the answer is clearly "No!"

So my view is to both appreciate that her wording is an improvement, while at the same time resolving that there is a lot further that she / we / all Epicurean writers needs to go to improve this wording.

The real problem here is that the Academics have Epicurean discussions in a total box and that box needs to be demolished, not just lifting the lid up around the edges.

And by the way, the ultimate aim and description of the goal is not "the tranquil life." The proper wording is "the PLEASANT life."

And she knows that. The title of the book is not "*Living For Tranquility.*"