

Was Epicurus Sexually Active?

Post by "Don" of February 23, 2023 at 9:54 PM

Characteristic 2

Don translation: Epicureans generally think that the sage will never succumb to lustful desire or be overwhelmed by sexual passions.

Hicks: The Epicureans do not suffer the wise man to fall in love;

Yonge: They do not think that the wise man will ever be in love,

What is specifically being discussed here is ἐρασθήσασθαι to desire passionately, lustfully, in other words to be carried away by sexual passions (eros). Hicks's "suffer" appears overly strong. The original is more "suppose, think, expect" the sage to do this, so Yonge wins on this one. Mensch uses: they "do not think" this will happen.