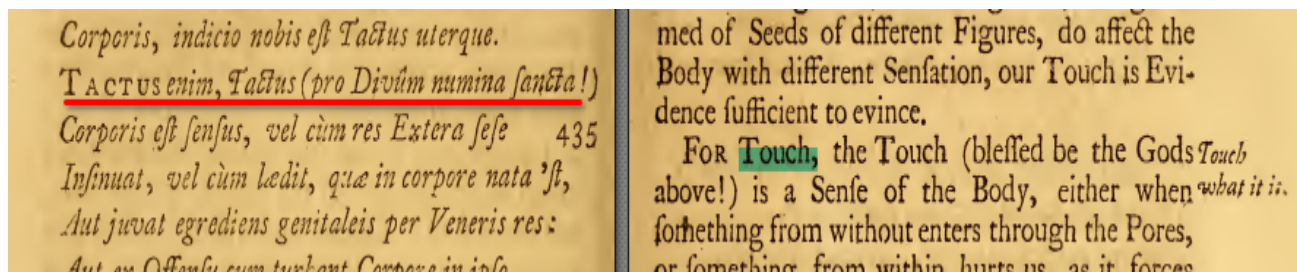


# Epicurus And Pleasure As The Awareness Of Smooth Motion

Post by "Cassius" of February 6, 2024 at 9:30 AM

It's always seemed to imply something significant that "touch" would be singled out to be exclaimed with "blessed be the gods above!" (around line 444 of Lucretius Book 2)

For Touch, the Touch (blessed be the Gods above!) is a Sense of the Body, either when something from without enters through the pores, or something from within hurts us, as it forces its way out, or pleases, as the effect of venery tickles as it passes through, or when the seeds, by striking against each other, raise a tumult in the body, and in that agitation confound the Sense; and this you may soon experience, if you strike yourself in any part with a blow of your hand. It is necessary, therefore, that the Principles of Things should consist of figures very different in themselves, since they affect the Senses in so different a manner.



[Don](#) that "pro Divinum numina sancta!" looks like a candidate to consider supplementing your "By Zeus!" 😊

Maybe better "For the Gods above are blessed!" ? or something else rather than "blessed be...."

Martin Ferguson Smith -- "For the holy gods are my witnesses that touch, yes touch, is the sense of the body....."

Also [Bryan](#) given your Latin what do you think of that sentence?

Rouse Loeb edition:

faecula iam quo de genere est inulaeque sapor. 430  
denique iam calidos ignis gelidamque pruinam  
dissimili dentata modo compungere sensus  
corporis, indicio nobis est tactus uterque.  
tactus enim, tactus, pro divum numina sancta,  
corporis est sensus, vel cum res externa sese 435  
insinuat, vel cum laedit quae in corpore natat  
aut iuvat egrediens genitalis per Veneris res,  
aut ex offensu cum turbant corpore in ipso  
semina confunduntque inter se concita sensum :

so that they can rather tickle our senses than hurt  
them ; of which kind we have now tartar of wine  
and the flavour of elecampane. Again, here are hot  
fire and cold frost toothed in different fashion to  
prick our bodily senses, as the touch in either case  
proves to us. For touch, so help me the holy power for touch is  
of God, it is touch that is the bodily sense, whether sensation.  
when a thing penetrates from without, or when hurt  
comes from something within the body, or when it  
gives pleasure in issuing forth by the creative acts

### pro divum numina sanctum

*divus, diva -um, -, divissimus -a -um* divine; blessed, saint

*numen, numinis N* divine will, divinity; god

*sancio, sancire, sanxi, sanctus* confirm, ratify; sanction; fulfill; enact; ordain; dedicate