

Tetrapharmakos in Philodemus's On Choices and Rejections

Post by “Godfrey” of October 6, 2024 at 1:27 AM

Understanding that it's a paraphrase, I like "boldly met." The big criticism of [PD04](#) is that it takes severe circumstances too lightly. Chronic long-term illness, terminal illness: these *must* be boldly met.

Epicurus doesn't shy away from bold language. Two phrases that immediately come to mind are "live like a god" and "I spit on..." And I don't see boldness as Stoic: one has to be rather bold to be an Epicurean and to go against the prevailing Platonic/Aristotlean/monotheistic worldview.

Even everyday pains can benefit from a bit of boldness, from being bold in living the philosophy. They tend to quietly build up, and don't just disappear on their own.

Having said this, "boldly met" and the complete haiku *is* a paraphrase. Of a paraphrase.