

Welcome Max Duboff

Post by “Max DuBoff” of July 5, 2026 at 3:19 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Thanks for the translation comment Don. The PD, on any translation, says that of all the things wisdom prepares or provides toward a blessed life, friendship is by far the greatest. Not a good and useful means among equally-good means — the single greatest one.

Friendship is, by Max's account, additive in exactly the way ice cream and a fine view of the sky are additive. More trust, more years, more depth is always better, other things being equal. If additive goods are structurally barred from contributing to a "perfect" or "complete" life, and only katastematic pleasure can clear that bar, I don't see why wisdom would single out an additive good as its single greatest tool for reaching blessedness. Does "additive" really disqualify a good from being central to the blessed life, or doesn't it?

Ahh, interesting, No, I'd say the most important thing about friendship is that it's an insurance policy against hardship, so it allows us not to be afraid about the future. It directly contributes to katastematic pleasure by removing fear for the future. Pleasant experiences with friends are nice in and of themselves, and they contribute to blessedness by providing material for antiparatattesthai (pain management).