

Lucretius Book 1 - Opening "When Human Life..." - Elli

Post by "Cassius" of November 23, 2018 at 5:50 PM

Oh, you guys are in for a treat this Thanksgiving Day in the USA. Here is Elli with the opening of Lucretius Book 1 -

<https://soundcloud.com/cassiusamicus/lucretius-book-1-opening>

Lucretius Book I (Rolfe Humphries)

**When human life, all too conspicuous,
Lay foully groveling on earth, weighed down
By grim Religion, looming from the skies,
Horribly threatening mortal men -- a man,
A Greek, first raised his mortal eyes
Bravely against this menace. No report
Of gods, no lightning-flash, no thunder-peal
Made this man cower, but drove him all the more
With passionate manliness of mind and will
To be the first to spring the tight-barred gates
Of Nature's hold asunder. So his force,
His vital force of mind, a conqueror
Beyond the flaming ramparts of the world
Explored the vast immensities of space
With wit and wisdom, and came back to us
Triumphant, bringing news of what can be
And what cannot, limits and boundaries,**

The borderline, the bench mark, set forever.

Religion, so, is trampled underfoot,

And by his victory we reach the stars.

Post by “Eikadistes” of November 24, 2018 at 8:42 PM

SHE BEAT ME TO IT! This is one of my favorite passages, and I'm glad it's one of the first to make it to the radio (you've noticed with the recent release of my album, I'm a little behind on my projects, but am looking forward to contributing to our acoustic presentations!)

Post by “Cassius” of November 25, 2018 at 6:39 AM

There's no rule that says we can't have many versions of this selection! It is indeed one of the best - but in fact the opening of each of the six books starts out with a rousing shout-out to Epicurus, and each one would be great to record.