

# Episode Fifty-Seven - Taste, Smell, and The Subjectivity of the Senses

Post by "Don" of February 13, 2021 at 12:00 PM

[Cassius](#) : Your observations near the end of the Episode on the different perspectives of atoms in your hands vs seeing them as just hands seems to me to be VERY similar to the idea of the Two Truths in Buddhism: conventional and ultimate truth.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two\\_truth...ine?wprov=sfla1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two_truth...ine?wprov=sfla1)

Conventional truth describes our daily experience of the world. Hands are just hands. We go about our day interacting with the cosmos, each other, etc.

Ultimate truth from an Epicurean perspective is that "The only thing that exists is atoms and void." We are atoms and void in a particularly arrangement at this moment. Buddhism expands on that to the concept of No-self/sunyata. This idea is echoed in a way by the parable of Theseus's ship in Greek thought [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ship\\_of\\_Theseus?wprov=sfla1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ship_of_Theseus?wprov=sfla1)

There's no problem holding both these perspectives at the same time unless it provokes pain. But both perspectives *are* true.