

Episode Sixty - Dreams and the Mind's Use of Images

Post by "Godfrey" of March 1, 2021 at 7:18 PM

From the Melville translation of Lucretius, line 907:

"Next, in what way sleep floods the limbs with peace..."*

The asterisk links to this footnote:

"sleep: sleep is a puzzling phenomenon, much discussed by ancient (and modern) scientists and philosophers: see especially the treatise On Sleep and Waking included in the so-called 'Parva Naturalia' of Aristotle (453b ff.). For the Epicurean view, compare the comment preserved in Letter to Herodotus66 (fr. 311), and fr. 325, with Diogenes of Oenoanda fr. 9."

From the Inwood and Gerson translation of the letter to Herodotus there is this footnote to paragraph 66:

"Scholion: 'Elsewhere he says that it is also composed of very smooth and very round atoms, differing quite a bit from those of fire. And that part of it is irrational, and is distributed throughout the rest of the body, while the rational part is in the chest, as is evident from [feelings of] fear and joy. And that sleep occurs when the parts of the soul which are distributed through the whole compound are fixed in place or spread apart and then collide because of the impacts. And semen comes from the entire body.' "

Unfortunately I can't tell if/where Herodotus66 falls in the excerpt above in post #7. Also, I'm guessing that Diogenes of Oenoanda fr. 9 is what Charles read in the podcast.