

Episode Seventy-One - The Formation Of the World (Our Part of the Universe)

Post by “Cassius” of May 18, 2021 at 5:31 PM

Here's a note I am making while editing this week's podcast. Around the 20 minute mark I mention that I have a hard time remembering whether the swerve was attributed by Lucretius as playing a part of the formation of worlds. As I write this I think the answer is yes, but it's interesting to correlate that with the letter to Herodotus, because in that letter Epicurus has a description of the formation of worlds but he does NOT mention the swerve. That's one part that's relatively easy to remember, because I seem to remember the commentators have a consensus that but for Lucretius and Cicero (and perhaps some other later sources, but I'm not sure) we would not know about the swerve from the letters of Epicurus himself. And it's interesting there to remember that Laertius was writing long after Lucretius and Cicero, so presumably Laertius did or should know about the swerve theory.