

Toward a New Interlinear Gloss of De Rerum Natura

Post by “Joshua” of June 5, 2021 at 4:20 PM

I tend to agree with an Amazon reviewer who found some of Stallings' choices distracting. Personally the most jarring thing for me was the way she referenced famous lines by prominent English poets. This is a very natural thing to do, but somehow the anachronism doesn't play well for me. Her effort at long lines is admirable and quite rare in English. Whitman proved that they can be made to work in this language, but they are unusually difficult to write—and that's for hexameter. I've never even tried heptameter.

I *love* Rolfe Humphries' translation, in spite of his liberties, and Charlton Griffin has become the voice of Lucretius in English for me. His delivery has a sticking power and many of the lines from that audiobook occur to me as I go through life.