

Episode Nineteen - All Things Are Not Made of Tiny Pieces of The Same Thing, Or Of All Things (Anaxagorus' Homoeomery)

Post by "Cassius" of July 27, 2021 at 7:40 AM

It's interesting how that little bit of natural science speculation in Lucretius (that fire could be produced by trees rubbing together) could 'spark' so much interest.

I'm trying to think of what other almost offhand comments are similarly memorable -

We've recently had that interesting comment in the middle of the discussion of using fighting animals in war, all of a sudden turning to how that same thing might have happened on some other planet elsewhere in the universe.

Maybe we'll also find something similarly memorable when we finally get to the discussion of magnetism which must be coming up pretty soon, in the first half of book six, unless I somehow missed it in what we've covered already. At any rate I am certainly looking forward to [Martin](#)'s thoughts on that section when we get to it, as even today magnetism seems almost like magic. I glanced at the wikipedia article on magnetism and it seems a lot more like 'description' rather than an explanation of the mechanism, even today, suggesting that it will be interesting to discuss what Lucretius had to say in comparison with this: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magnetism...in_of_magnetism