

Episode Eight-Four - Meteorology: Thunder and Lightning - Very Very Frightning Part Two

Post by "Cassius" of August 21, 2021 at 10:49 PM

I want to note that in honor of Don's comment, I supplemented the name of this podcast with his reference to the Queen song.

To further solidify my own reputation as a connoisseur of fine music, I want to give credit to the source that led me to find today (too late for this podcast) a reference to what Don reads in this episode as **"the prodigious weight of the clouds" referenced by Lucretius in line 173:**

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Nor must you think this false because the clouds, to us that stand below, seem rather broad than deep, or raised on heaps; for see how the winds will whirl along the air these rolling clouds, raised mountain-high; and on the mountain-tops the clouds, observe, are higher some than others, and piled on heaps; and, when the winds are still, the higher row will press the lower down. **Then you may judge of their prodigious weight**, and view their hollow caverns, formed as it were in hanging rocks, where in a tempest the rough winds are shut, and scorn to be confined, and roar with horrid noise, like savage beasts within their dens chained down

Here's a US Geological Survey link that testifies to that prodigious weight, which I have to admit I find amazing: https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/..._center_objects

... Which indicates that clouds can weigh as much as **551 tons!**

What exotic musical interest led me to this discovery?

None other than Paul COWSILL talking about the amazing weight of clouds on the [Cowsill Podcast, episode 22](#).

Some of you may think it's sad that I am getting meteorological tips from the Cowsills, but the really sad thing is that most of you reading this are too young to have ever heard of the Cowsills!