

Happy Birthday, Frances Wright!

Post by "Cassius" of September 7, 2021 at 9:22 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

Approaching it as "Epicurean fan fiction" written by a teenage fan of Epicurus might allow for some leniency with her writing. With that in mind, too, it's more sophisticated than what I would initially expect from a teenager.

I suspect that you are going to have many of the same questions I did. The book is VERY maturely written, and it indicates a knowledge of details from the other ten books of Diogenes Laertius that one would expect would take years of study.

I haven't focused recently on her age when she wrote it, so I need to verify that aspect of it. Certainly at some point she was capable of writing every bit of it herself, because her later work is written in much the same style and from the same viewpoint.

But the maturity shown in AFDIA is very deep, and the younger it is postulated that she was when she wrote it, the more in my own mind it's almost certain that she had at very least "good coaching." I am not trying to take anything away from FW in these comments because she was clearly a remarkable person, but I don't want you beating yourself up Don that you're a couple of years older now than she was when this was published and you still haven't written anything comparable. 😊 For sure, neither have I! 😊

One last note is that I think it's probably an indication of something going on that she wrote such a lengthy and detailed introduction about the "anonymous" background of the manuscript.

[Quote from Don](#)

now that I know she wrote it when she was a teenager.

For sure, this is not a work by an average teenager!