

Contemplative Isolation and Constructive Sociability in the Epicurean Tradition

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This was one of the interpretations we talked about in episode 92 of the podcast:

"As Alessandro Schiesaro pointed out, the plague episode is Lucretius' "final spiritual exercise" for the reader, who is led to see in the very textual structure of *De Rerum Natura* - from the opening hymn to Venus' creative force to the final disintegration of the *ville lumière* of Greece - the cyclical movement of nature.⁸¹"