

PD19 And The Meaning Of No "Greater" Pleasure

Post by "Don" of August 22, 2022 at 8:54 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

Choosing natural but unnecessary *desires*

No doubt some of you will notice I didn't include those desires neither natural nor necessary. That was deliberate on my part.

Those are characterized by the scholia to [PD29](#) as:

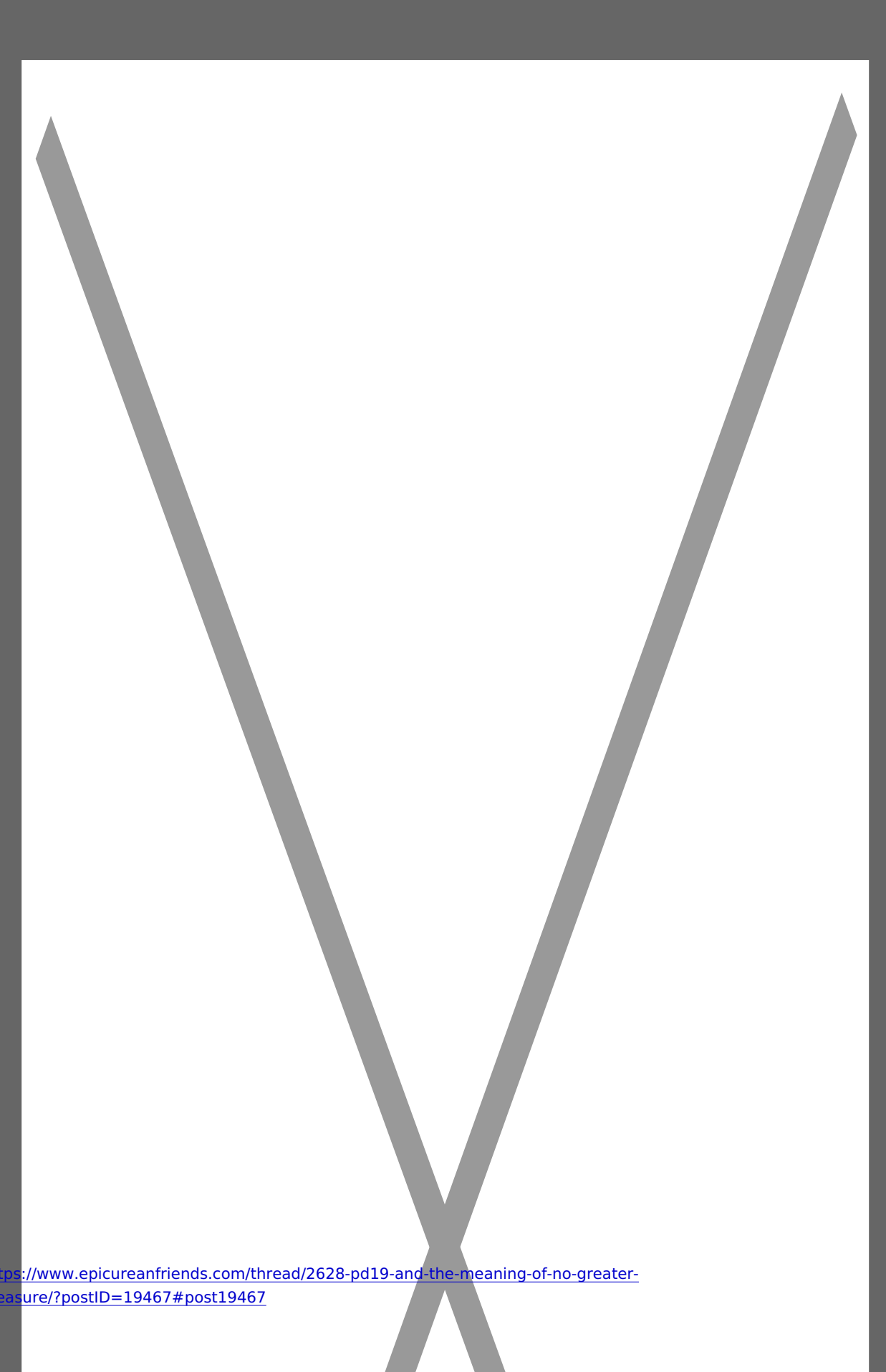
Quote

by the neither natural nor necessary he means desires for crowns and the erection of statues in one's honour

It has been conjectured that Epicureans like Cassius Longinus et al were pursuing desires that were deemed "neither natural nor necessary" in their pursuit of politics or role in the Roman Civil War. I would posit this is not necessarily the case. My take is that the situation was disturbing to him in many respects. He wasn't (necessarily) looking for "crowns and the erection of statues in one's honour." I think there are parallels with Torquatus's Epicurean justifications for his ancestor's actions.

For those unfamiliar, as I was, with Cassius Longinus:

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<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2628-pd19-and-the-meaning-of-no-greater-pleasure/?postID=19467#post19467>

[Gaius Cassius Longinus - Wikipedia](#)
en.wikipedia.org

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