

Episode One Hundred Forty - The Letter to Menoecus 07 - Completion of the Letter

Post by "Cassius" of September 18, 2022 at 7:32 PM

Editing is coming along but I need to post this before I forget. In the episode Joshua brings up several references to Cassius and Brutus discussing "fate" in "Julius Caesar." I note in editing that when we discussed the second quote, about tides in the affairs of men, I don't think we quite read all that is relevant. Here's the full quote (which was from Brutus and wouldn't be understood the same way by Epicurus. The full quote really hits hard on the "fate" aspect:

Brutus:

There is a tide in the affairs of men.
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.
On such a full sea are we now afloat,
And we must take the current when it serves,
Or lose our ventures.

Which contrasts with Cassius saying:

Men at some time are masters of their fates:
The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings.