

Episode 152 - "Epicurus And His Philosophy" Part 08 - The New Education 01

Post by "Cassius" of December 11, 2022 at 11:43 AM

In this episode near the end Kalosyni asks a question about "wonder" - and here is the excerpt from Lucretius Book 2 that I quoted (this is Humphries translation, and I need to get the line number):

Direct your mind

To a true system. Here is something new

For ear and eye. Nothing is ever so easy

But what, at first, it is difficult to trust.

Nothing is great and marvelous, but what

All men, a little at a time, begin

To mitigate their sense of awe. Look up,

Look up at the pure bright color of the sky,

The wheeling stars, the moon, the shining sun!

If all these, all of a sudden, should arise

For the first time before our mortal sight,

What could be called more wonderful, more beyond

The heights to which aspiring mind might dare?

Nothing, I think. And yet, a sight like this,

Marvelous as it is, now draws no man

To lift his gaze to heaven's bright areas.

We are a jaded lot. But even so

Don't be too shocked by something new, too scared

To use your reasoning sense, to weigh and balance,

So that if in the end a thing seems true,
You welcome it with open arms; if false,
You do your very best to strike it down.