

# The Twelve Fundamentals - Discussion on Lucretius Today Podcast

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I am not sure that Lucretius' propositions (1.) and (3.) are supported by Epicurus' writing. (1.) His first point seems to imply that there was a previous time when all particles had the same orientation (the same "down"), prior to those particles becoming entangled to generate compound things. This seems to contradict the propositions of *the temporal consistency of the universe* (EH 39.2-6, 44.6-7) and *the relativity of individual particles' orientations* (EH 60.1-12).

(3.) Epicurus' existing writing are filled with discussions about *choice, comparison, and contemplation*, but they do not seem to require the ΠΑΡΕΓΚΛΙΣΙΣ to explain. In the same way that sentience is proposed to originate from complex arrangements of insentient matter, it would be consistent to suppose that the capacity to make decisions originates from complex arrangements of choiceless matter. Given doubts on (1.), I am more prone to doubt (3.).