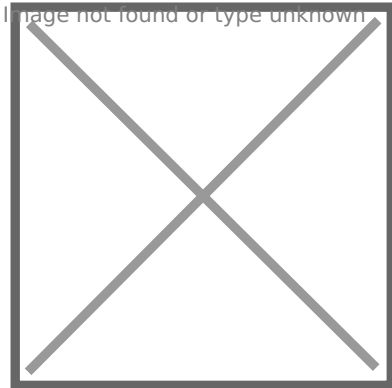


"Pleasure" and the opening line of Lucretius

Post by "Cassius" of January 11, 2023 at 10:54 AM

As far as I can tell the Latin is: Aeneadum genetrix, hominum divomque voluptas, alma Venus, caeli subter labentia signa....

Now every translation I can find uses another word, but the word is in fact VOLUPTAS which we translate as PLEASURE Correct? I know that poetic translators, and even the narrative versions, like to substitute another word, but given the philosophical significance of the issue, it seems to me that we ought to make note that the word involved is "Pleasure" which presumably is the closest Latin translation of Hedone -- rather than some euphemism. The latin dictionaries use "delight" as a second meaning, but would Lucretius have used any other word for the Greek concept we translate into English as "pleasure" if he were trying to be precise?

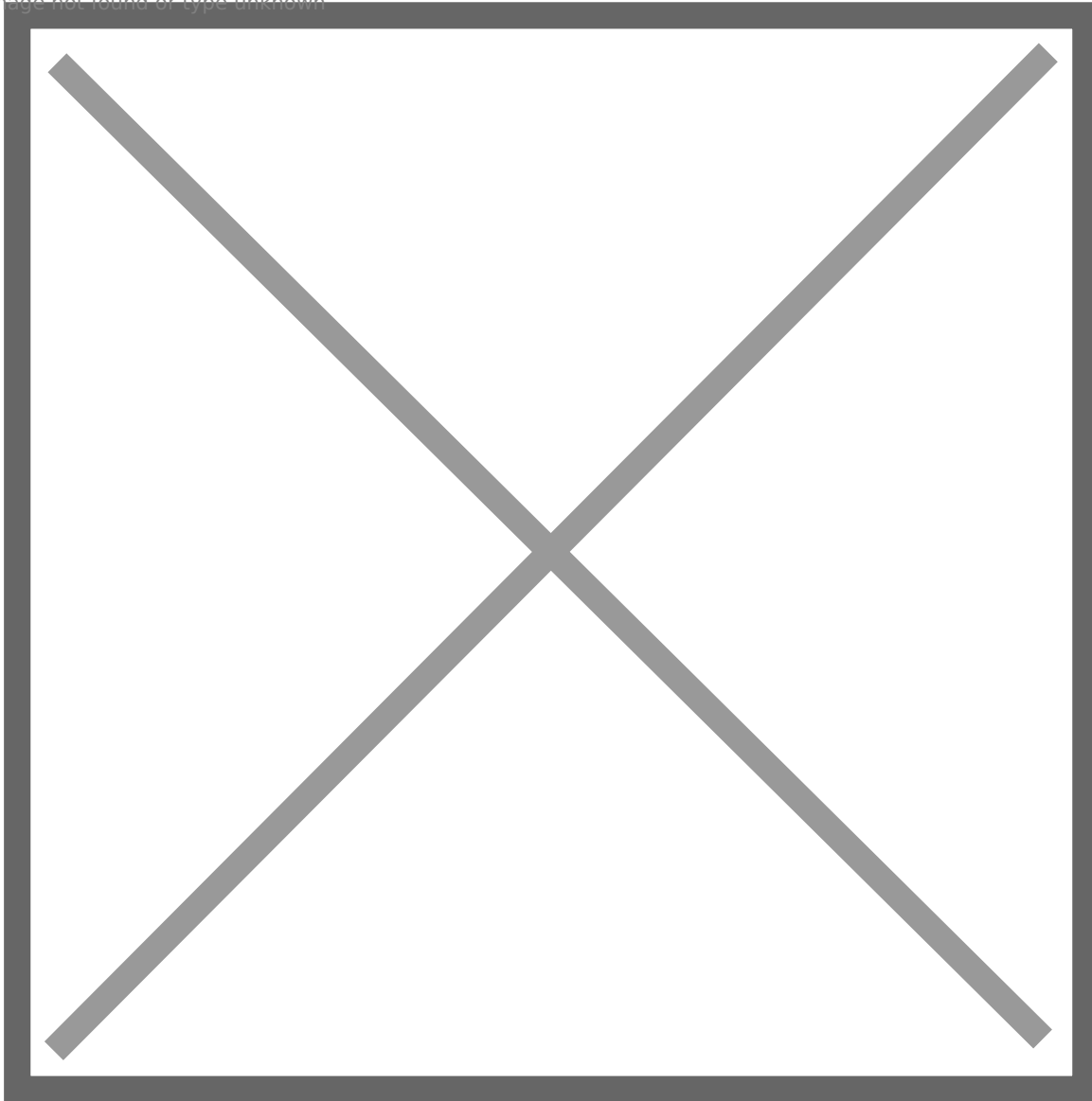


[How to say pleasure in Latin](#)

Latin words for pleasure include voluptas, delectatio, luxuriosi,, luxuriosi and delectationis. Find more Latin words at wordhippo.com!

www.wordhippo.com

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[pleasure | Etymology, origin and meaning of pleasure by etymonline](#)

PLEASURE Meaning: "source of enjoyment, pleasing quality or thing, that which pleases or gratifies the senses or the... See origin and meaning of pleasure.

www.etymonline.com

[ONLINE LATIN DICTIONARY - Latin - English](#)

Brown: MOTHER of Rome, Delight of Men and Gods, Sweet Venus; who with vital power

Munro: MOTHER of the Aeneadae, darling of men and gods, increase-giving Venus,

Bailey: MOTHER of Aeneas's sons, joy of men and gods, Venus the life-giver,

Humphries: Creatress, mother of the Roman line, Dear Venus, joy of earth and joy of heaven,

Leonard: Mother of Rome, delight of Gods and men, Dear Venus that beneath the gliding stars

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2828-pleasure-and-the-opening-line-of-lucretius/?postID=21888#post21888>

MF Smith: Mother of Aeneas' people, delight of human beings and the gods,