

The Fun Habit by Mike Rucker

Post by “Eikadistes” of February 18, 2023 at 9:32 PM

[Quote from Pacatus](#)

[Quote from Don](#)

Epicurus is not mentioned in Rucker's book, although I find his text even more Epicurean than "The Art of Frugal Hedonism."

Am reminded of the early post-apostolic Christian Justin Martyr: "Those, therefore, who lived according to reason (logos) were really Christians, even though they were thought to be atheists, such as, among the Greeks, Socrates, Heraclitus and others like them."

Well, I wouldn't want to push that too far, but still:

“What’s in a name? [That which we call a rose](#)

By any other name would smell as sweet.”

(William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*)

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Speaking of Shakespeare, in a recent dive into *DRN*, I discovered quite a few occasions where Shakespeare shamelessly appropriates Lucretian imagery. Also, the same for Chaucer, Spenser, and Wordsworth.

Outside of Shakespeare, I'm finding explicit instances of *DRN* being a source of inspiration (or the target of theft) from, at least, Rousseau, Deleuze, Nietzsche, Bergson, Santayana, Gassendi, Machiavelli, Holbach, Descartes, Galileo, Locke, Hobbes, Spinoza, Freud, Horace, Dryden, Diderot, Voltaire, Frederick II, La Mettrie, Marx, Pope, Botticelli, Virgil, Jefferson, Erasmus Darwin, Shelley, Lord Byron, Newton, Halley, Tennyson, Hume, Kant, Milton, Goethe, and Bacon. (*I'm currently getting high on the idea that Lucretius is the most significant individual poet of all.*)