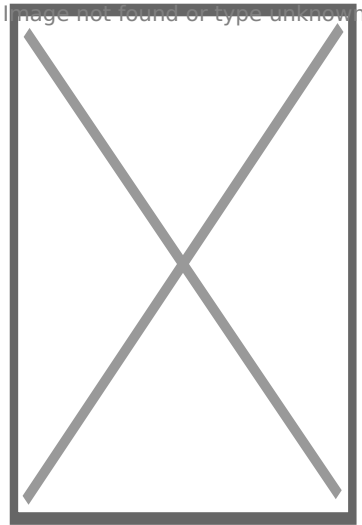


What "Live Unknown" means to me (Lathe Biosas)

Post by "Cassius" of May 13, 2023 at 7:30 PM

I am adding to this thread because the "lathe biosas" issue is coming up tomorrow in our book review of the Emily Austin "Living for Pleasure."

I wanted to add this link where the primary source for this phrase as being Epicurean is recorded - in Plutarch:

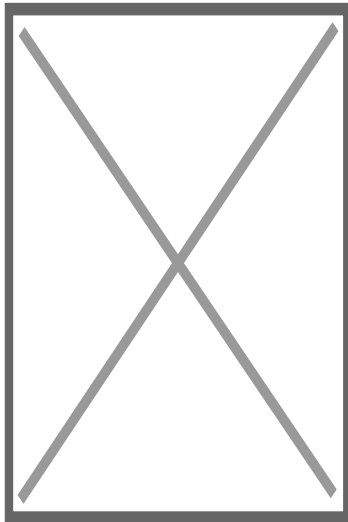


[Plutarch's Moralia in sixteen volumes. Vol.14: 1086C-1147A \[Loeb 428\] : Plutarchus / Plutarch \(46 - ca. 122\) : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](https://www.archive.org/details/moraliainfiftee14plutarchive.org)

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The essay is "Is Live Unknown a Wise Precept?" and it begins on the page at this link:

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/1469-what-live-unknown-means-to-me-lathe-biosas/?postID=23888#post23888>



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ΕΙ ΚΑΛΩΣ ΕΙΡΗΤΑΙ ΤΟ ΛΑΘΕ ΒΙΩΣΑΣ¹

1128 1. 'Αλλ' οὐδὲ ὁ² τοῦτο εἰπὼν λαθεῖν ἠθέλησεν·
Β αὐτὸ γὰρ τοῦτο εἶπεν ἵνα μὴ λάθῃ, ὡς τι φρονῶν
περιττότερον ἐκ τῆς εἰς ἀδοξίαν προτροπῆς δόξαν
ἀδικὸν ποριζόμενος·

μισῶ σοφιστὴν ὅστις οὐχ αὐτῷ σοφός.

τοὺς μὲν γὰρ περὶ Φιλόξενον τὸν Ἐρύξιδος³ καὶ
Γνάθωνα τὸν Σικελιώτην ἐπτοημένους περὶ τὰ ὄψα
λέγουσιν ἐναπομύττεσθαι⁴ ταῖς παροψίσιν ὅπως
τοὺς συνεσθίοντας διατρέψαντες⁵ αὐτοὶ μόνοι τῶν

IS "LIVE UNKNOWN" A WISE
PRECEPT?

1. But not even the author^a of the precept wished to be unknown, as he made this very statement to escape from being unknown, dishonestly courting fame as a person of no ordinary wisdom by his advice to seek obscurity :

I hate the sage who recks not his own rede.^b

Now Philoxenus^c son of Eryxis and Gnathon^d of Sicily were so excited about fine food that (it is said)