

Eclectic Take on Epicurean Philosophy; Earlier Origin of Some Epicurean Concepts; Method of Loci

Post by "Don" of November 26, 2023 at 5:13 PM

Revisiting the memorization and "method of loci" idea...



[Relativizing Unfinishedness: Lucretian Textuality and Epicurean Therapy](#), in J. Fabre-Serris, M. Formisano, and S. Frangoulidis (eds.), [Labor imperfectus: Unfinished, Incomplete, Partial Texts in Classical Antiquity \(Trends in Classics Series\)](#),

Over the past few centuries, scholars have often regarded Lucretius' DRN as a fascinating example of artistic non-finito, mirroring the untimely death of a...

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I found the section 2, Recursive argumentation: Lucretius' spiritual exercises, very interesting. I haven't had a chance to review the whole paper yet, but the authors take on the repetition in Lucretius was novel and compelling from what I read. The method of loci came to mind with:

Lucretius: "keep atomic laws under seal (obsignatum habere) and to "retain it in the depository of one's memory" (memori mandatum mente tenere).

I also remember reading elsewhere that some translators dismiss the repetitions in Lucretius as evidence of a work in progress. I like this scholar's take on it as an alternative perspective.

PS. I'm not overly fond of Pierre Hadot's specific term "spiritual exercise," however, I don't really have a problem with his general ideas (as far as I understand them).