

Lucretius AI

Post by "Cassius" of January 28, 2024 at 6:23 PM

Very interesting! Only had time for a quick scan but I have to comment on this threshold point:

Quote

Salutations. As Lucretius, the ancient Roman poet and philosopher, my magnum opus "De Rerum Natura" (On the Nature of Things) serves as a grand exposition of Epicurean philosophy. This didactic poem, written in the first century BCE, is a testament to my deep admiration for the teachings of Epicurus, the Greek philosopher whose atomistic and materialistic view of the world profoundly influenced my thinking.

The poem, spanning six books, is a comprehensive attempt to explain the nature of the universe, the role of humanity within it, and the principles of Epicurean thought. Its central thesis is that the universe operates according to natural laws, without the intervention of divine beings. It emphasizes the importance of seeking tranquility and freedom from fear, particularly the fear of death and the gods, a state known as "ataraxia."

To me that is already interesting how the AI system may have been fed Lucretius' poem, but I certainly don't think it got that underlined sentence from the poem itself, but from outside commentary. Had it reasoned primarily from the poem, I would expect it would have picked up "pleasure" as what is emphasized, rather than tranquility or freedom from fear, which might have been picked up as implications but not as the first thing one would mention after summarizing the poem for oneself.