

Dealing With Electric Grid Disruption

Post by "Don" of May 12, 2024 at 12:42 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I do suggest at some future point that Epicureans consider getting together to produce an escape plan when the final end of the earth appears imminent (as Lucretius discusses will occur at some point) but unless some of us are extremely well positioned in a space program, we probably are just as well off leaving that for another day as well.

For some reason, this (I'm assuming) tongue-in-cheek closing paragraph has gnawed at me since I read it. Indulge me in some stream-of-consciousness to work through my nagging unease at [Cassius](#) 's light-hearted digression.

One section where Lucretius brings up the end of our world-system is in Book 5:

Quote

For, verily, those things of which we see
The parts and members to have birth in time
And perishable shapes, those same we mark
To be invariably born in time
And born to die. And therefore when I see
The mightiest members and the parts of this
Our world consumed and begot again,
'Tis mine to know that also sky above
And earth beneath began of old in time
And shall in time go under to disaster.

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The "world" again here is mundus, translating the Greek kosmos, which encompasses our world but also our world-system as encompassing the heavens and the whole little ordered shebang of our little corner of The All, *To Pan*, the universus.

[Cassius](#) suggestion that we "consider getting together to produce an escape plan when the final end of the earth appears imminent" maybe makes me uneasy as it seems like human hubris (in that we feel we could somehow escape the inevitable end of our mortal corner of the cosmos) but, I think, it wrankles me since it strikes me as yearning for immortality... maybe not personal but for our species. Everything in our infinite universe is mortal - okay, maybe not the "gods" but we'll leave that for another day. To think that we humans would be spared that mortality as

a species goes against the grain of my Epicurean understanding... I think.

In any case, again, I fully realize (I think) that [Cassius](#) was reacting to the survival theme of this thread in a light-hearted way, but I felt the necessity (LOL, pun intended... see VS09) to get my unease off my chest.