

Choice & Avoidance: towards a better translation for avoidance

Post by "Don" of August 16, 2024 at 9:33 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

Just gotta say to close the night, I don't like the sound or connotations of "flee" at all!



I am curious to read why.

Take your pick:

1. (*intransitive*) to [flee](#), [run](#) off, [go](#) a certain direction with [haste](#) (*often with prepositions*)
2. (*transitive*) to [flee](#), [escape](#), [avoid](#), [get away](#) from ([danger](#) or [trouble](#))
3. (*transitive or intransitive*) to [leave](#) the [country](#), go into [exile](#)
 1. (*intransitive*) to be [exiled](#), [banished](#), [driven out](#) of the country [*with [ὕπó](#) (hupó, + [genitive](#)) 'by someone'*]
 2. (*intransitive, present and imperfect*) to be in [exile](#), [live](#) in [banishment](#)
4. (*perfect*) to have [escaped](#), be [safe](#) from quotations ▼

I ****much**** prefer "flee" to "avoid". There's nothing wrong with fleeing a dangerous situation, which is what one should literally do when confronting empty desires, anxiety-producing ideas, harmful beliefs, and so on. Flee from them. Escape from them. Get away from them. There's nothing wrong with a strategic retreat. There's nothing wrong with fleeing from or escaping from a city under siege. Avoiding, to me, makes it sound like you're stepping around external threats. The threats are coming from inside the house - unsound beliefs, harmful ideas, empty desires, anxieties, and so on. Leave them behind and flee from them, get as much distance from them as possible.