

Analyzing The Boeing Astronauts From An Epicurean Perspective

Post by "SillyApe" of September 27, 2024 at 6:35 PM

I am a bit late for this, but, for me personally, it doesn't make much sense to risk one's life in such a way. Obviously, it is left to each person to do the pleasure/pain calculus in their own head and get to their own conclusions, but risking a lifetime of pleasures for one specific, pleasurable moment doesn't do it for me (even if the risk entails a lasting pleasure, such as good memories or self-confidence).

In my opinion, it is only worth risking one's life if your prospects for pleasure without the risk would be very low. For example, let's say you have a son and love him very much. If his life is in danger and you can sacrifice yourself to save him, it may be worth it, as I can't imagine a parent being able to find pleasure while knowing he/she could have saved their child, but didn't. Another example would be if you lived in a terrible dictatorship and had to choose between an oppressive existence under the dictator's government or risking your life to run away.

But, again, it is up to the individual. I myself would not join a Roman legion and go fight in a foreign land willingly, but some Epicureans of the past did that.