

# The Rhetoric of Explanation in Lucretius' De Rerum Natura

**Post by “Pacatus” of November 21, 2024 at 4:13 PM**

Disclosure: I've never been a big fan of didactic poetry (no real justification: *de gustibus non est disputandum*). But I am getting some renewed interest here in the role that lyric verse might play in that context. Partly, I have [Kalosyni](#) to thank for that: her introduction of Omar Khayyam into Epicurean consideration a while back led me to 1) buy new copies of the Rubaiyat (kindle and paperback) to keep by my side, and 2) to explore, just a bit, Fitzgerald's steadfast belief that Khayyam – far from being a Sufi – was really an Epicurean (at least in spirit).

So now I may be finding new ways to look at Lucretius ...