

# Brochure By AxA - Toronto

Post by "AxA" of February 20, 2025 at 10:20 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

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Or even ancient "clickbait" lol

That's a good joke but I wouldn't rule it out entirely.

We have the article here (professor [Gellar-Goad](#)) which argues that "The sun is the size it appears to be" was intentionally phrased as a "shibboleth" or litmus test of proper understanding.

"[Death is nothing to us](#)" is pretty similar in impact, not to mention "pleasure is the absence of pain." And we have in Diogenes Laertius that Epicurus was known to say spicy things about other philosophers.

Add to that the statement from Cicero's on the nature of the gods that "Hereupon Velleius began, *in the confident manner (I need not say) that is customary with Epicureans, afraid of nothing so much as lest he should appear to have doubts about anything.* One would have supposed he had just come down from the assembly of the gods in the intermundane spaces of Epicurus!"

So it's entirely possible that certain phrasings were intentionally presented in controversial ways to create what some people call "teachable moments" where you're shocked into looking at things in a new way.

One thing the Epicureans were not was shy, retiring, wallflowers who drew back from the first hint of controversy!

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I like this attitude of fearless playfulness. Seems to be something about the Epicurean perspective that brings out this feeling.

I like the admonition ([VS41](#)) that we must "philosophize, laugh, and manage our business" all together. Might even think of it as a triangle that needs all three sides to be maintained. Sound philosophy, prudent practical operations, and an active sense of humour. Whenever I become too dull and serious I know I've gone off somewhere.