

# The Garland of Tranquility and a Reposed Life

Post by “Joshua” of May 18, 2025 at 1:08 AM

Dewitt's paper on this is only just over a page long, and he does point out that in Diogenes Laertius Timocrates is quoted claiming that Epicurus could not rise out of his chair.

Quote

[7] further, [Timocrates asserts] that Epicurus's acquaintance with philosophy was small and his acquaintance with life even smaller ; that his bodily health was pitiful,<sup>12</sup> so much so that for many years he was unable to rise from his chair ;

[7] τὸν τε Ἐπίκουρον πολλὰ κατὰ τὸν λόγον ἡγνοηκέναι καὶ πολὺ μᾶλλον κατὰ τὸν βίον, τό τε σῶμα ἐλεεινῶς διακεῖσθαι, ὡς πολλῶν ἐτῶν μὴ δύνασθαι ἀπὸ τοῦ φορείου διαναστῆναι

He also points out that the word ὠθεῖσθαι is "omitted by Bailey, and can only mean '*get myself pushed*'".

So he suggests something like this;

“If you [plural], and Themista in particular invite me, I can have myself pushed in a three-wheeled cart to wherever you are”

He further suggests that this is not an offer to go there quickly. Dewitt thinks that a slow and laborious journey is signified, and that Epicurus is saying he would make that journey with all its hardships for his friends.

Quote

Epicurus, however, was not a paralytic, and his conveyance was certainly "pushed."

(I have a feeling [Don](#) will enjoy that word 'certainly'...)