

Episode 295 - Plutarch's Absurd Interpretation of Epicurean Absence of Pain

Post by "Bryan" of August 16, 2025 at 2:10 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

It seems to me, the epicureans could take pleasure in the performance and not need to listen to critical analysis or music theory.

Yes, and *not only* not take part in music theory -- but also not learn to play an instrument.

P.Herc. 1578 fr. 20, Philodemus (Translated, I think, by D. Blank):

"It is typical of small-minded people with nothing worthwhile to which they can dedicate themselves, let alone which would make them happy, to toil over learning (to play music) in order to amuse themselves now and again, people who do not see the abundance of public performances or the possibility of partaking in them all the time around the city, if they want to do so, and who do not consider that our nature refuses (to listen to music) for too long and quickly tires of it."