

Epicurus vs Aristotle: the Role of Reason vs Sensation Seeking?

Post by “Joshua” of December 11, 2025 at 10:36 AM

In fairness to Cicero, he is writing specifically in the context of *courage*. Livy's mythical story of the [Lacus Curtius](#) in the Roman Forum might shed some light on what he meant by the phrase;

Quote

The most popular story (~362 BCE), and also the one Livy deemed most likely, was a myth glorifying the nation: Rome was endangered when a great chasm opened on the Forum. An oracle directed the people to throw into the chasm “that what constituted the greatest strength of the Roman people,” and doing so would make the Roman nation last forever. After various things had been dropped into the ravine without result, a young horseman named Marcus Curtius (again, of the Curtia gens) saved the city by realizing that it was *virtus* that the Romans held most dear. In full armour on his horse, he jumped into the chasm whereupon the earth closed over him and Rome was saved.