

Thomas Nail - Returning to Lucretius

Post by "Bryan" of January 14, 2026 at 10:50 AM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

Lucretius never used the word "atoms"

At every turn Lucretius is trying to translate, not transliterate, Epicurus. There are only a few exceptions (Such as homoeomeria, for which he apologizes for using only the transliteration.) To consider this translation a transformation is of course *in part* true, but Lucretius at every point, *where we have Epicurus' words on the same topic*, succeeded in producing very close translations of Epicurus' wording.

[Quote from Eikadistes](#)

H. A. J. Munro is the only author I've found who seems to consistently stick to Lucretius' neologisms

I agree it is good to follow Lucretius very closely. Otherwise it seems surprising to learn that Lucretius did not use the word "atom." For example, I use "primary-beginnings" for *přimřrdia* and "first-beginnings " for *principia*.... *but they do both mean "atom."*

[Quote from Eikadistes](#)

I made a list

This is very helpful! Thank you!