

Q & A with "A Few Days in Athens" research article author

Post by "Kalosyni" of April 3, 2026 at 6:13 PM

Here is an interesting Q & A, but looks like the main article is behind a paywall.

Quote

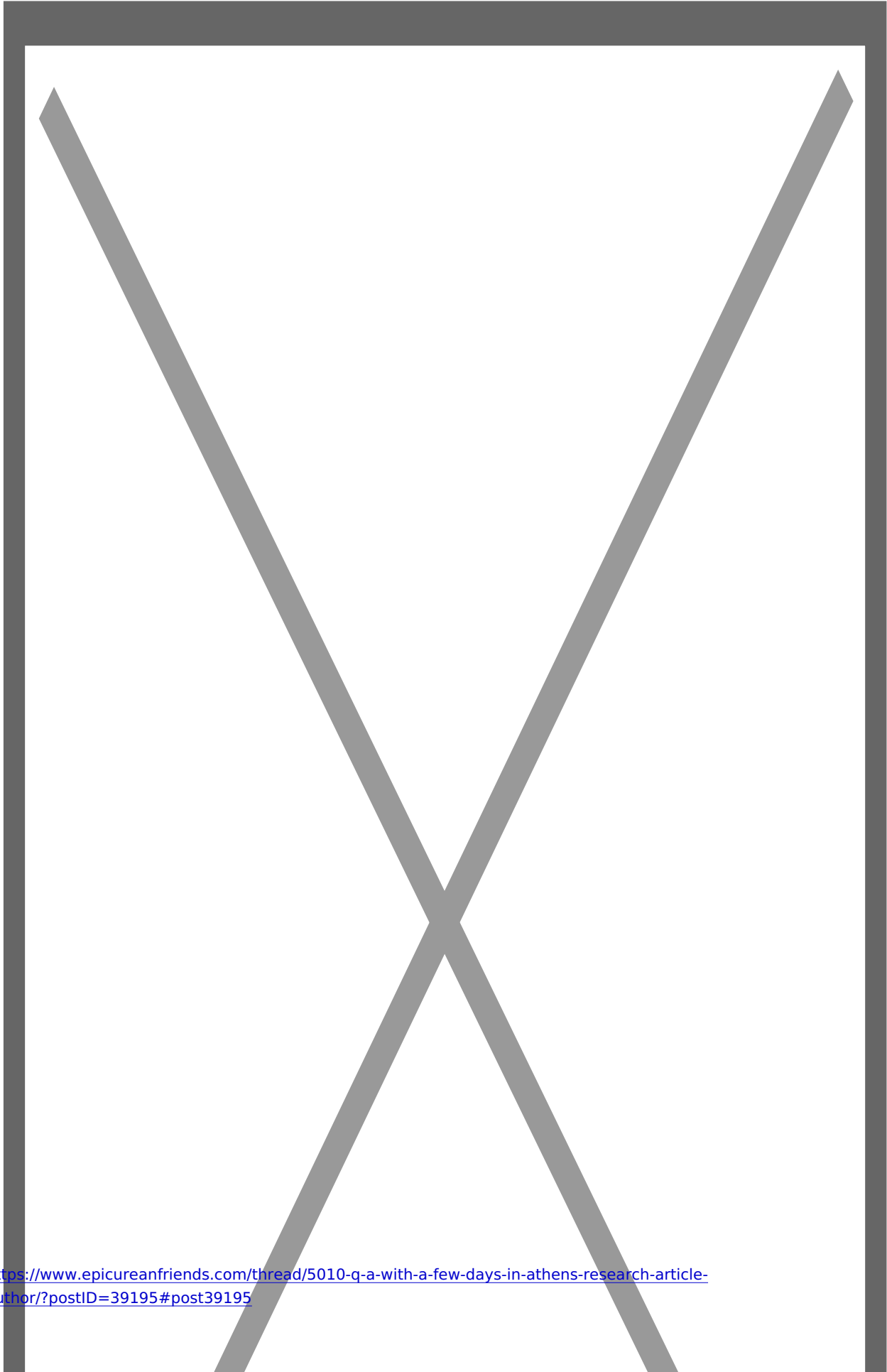
Tell us a bit about your article.

My article explores Frances Wright's defense of Epicurus in her *A Few Days in Athens* (1822). Epicurus was an ancient Athenian philosopher and a materialist, who argued for the senses and pleasure as the best gauges of virtue. Controversially, he also welcomed women as well as enslaved people to his school. Through her work on Epicurus, Frances Wright developed her own understanding of the relationship between pleasure and virtue, and this served as the basis for her feminist philosophy.

Despite its popularity in the nineteenth century, *A Few Days in Athens* has been hard to place in feminist philosophy and history. It's generically uncertain; in places, it reads like a philosophical dialogue, but it also borrows tropes from the novel. In addition, pleasure remains difficult to discuss within feminism because of its association with sex and the body. My article grapples with Wright's attempt to make pleasure central to living a virtuous life.

You can read the full Q & A here:

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<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/5010-q-a-with-a-few-days-in-athens-research-article-author/?postID=39195#post39195>

[Q&A with JoEllen DeLucia: 'Frances Wright's A Few Days in Athens' - Edinburgh University Press Blog](#)

Frances Wright redefines feminist philosophy through Epicurus's ideals of pleasure and virtue in her 1822 novel.

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