

Metrodorus project

Post by “TauPhi” of July 26, 2026 at 5:34 PM

Thank you for your kind words, [Robert](#)

[Quote from Robert](#)

The extracts refer to Leontia as his "concubine," but later say that he married her, which is interesting. I don't know much about the societal dynamics of the time...whether it would have been considered unusual, given her status. Plutarch records that Metrodorus's mother and sister rejoiced at his nuptials, so they must have been ok with his choice. I assume Leontia was the mother of his children.

Curiously, a later fragment refers to someone named "Leonteus" and asserts that this person and Metrodorus looked after each other, as well as after Epicurus--but Leonteus looks to me like a masculine name.

Leontion and Leonteus were two different people associated with the Garden. Leontion was a partner/wife of Metrodorus, whereas Leonteus was a male acquaintance of Epicurus. Leonteus was married to Themista (another female philosopher in Epicurean school).

Regarding the status - whether Leontion and Themista were courtesans is unclear. It's possible they were described as such by the enemies of Epicurean school just to defame the school itself.