

Epicurean Idioms To Be Deciphered - "Against him who places himself with head where his feet should be."

Post by "Joshua" of October 15, 2020 at 6:08 PM

It may be difficult to get at the root of this one. I believe I have a firm enough grasp of spoken English, but even I don't know what the phrase 'head over heels' is supposed to mean. I might be doing it wrong, but for me that's the posture of common use. ☹️ 'Ass over tincups' (or sometimes 'teakettle') is even less descriptive, but does have the virtue of being more emotive.

Vestigia seems to be a critical word here, since it does not literally mean 'foot' (Latin *pes*), but footprint or, by metonymy, 'sole of the foot'.

Upon searching Google for the line itself, I find that it is the subject of some etymological paper on Lucretius.

