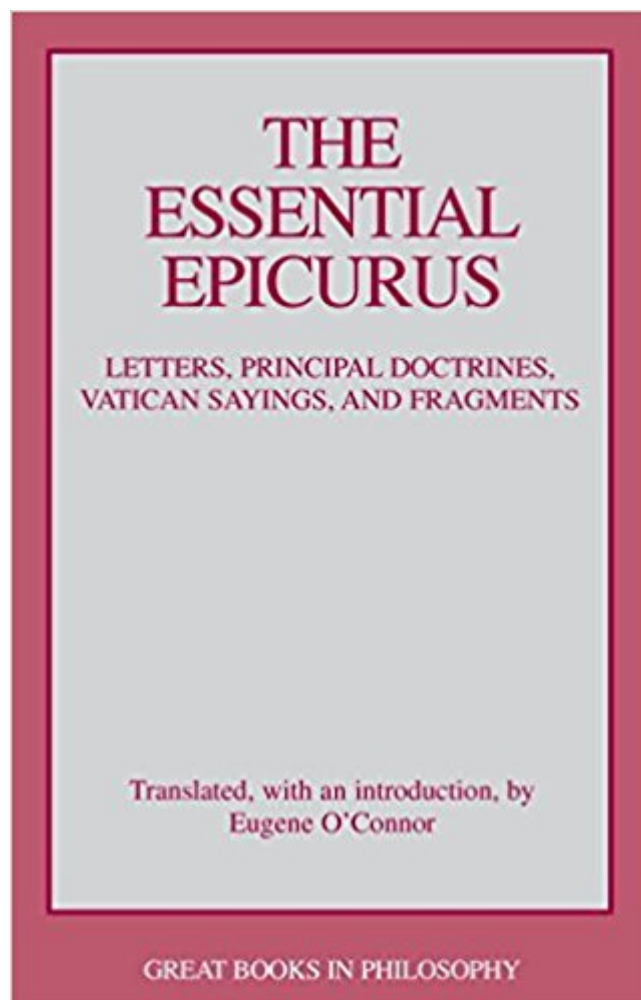




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The Essential Epicurus: Letters, Principal Doctrines, Vatican Sayings, And Fragments (Great Books In Philosophy)



Synopsis

Epicureanism is commonly regarded as the refined satisfaction of physical desires. As a philosophy, however, it also denoted the striving after an independent state of mind and body, imperturbability, and reliance on sensory data as the true basis of knowledge. Epicurus (ca. 341-271 B.C.) founded one of the most famous and influential philosophical schools of antiquity. In these remains of his vast output of scientific and ethical writings, we can trace Epicurus' views on atomism, physical sensation, duty, morality, the soul, and the nature of the gods.

Book Information

Series: Great Books in Philosophy

Paperback: 101 pages

Publisher: Prometheus Books (May 1, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0879758104

ISBN-13: 978-0879758103

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.3 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #156,854 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Individual Philosophers #347 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Greek & Roman #465 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy > History & Surveys

Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Greek

EPICURUS (341 - 271 B.C.E.) was an Athenian philosopher of the Hellenistic period, who was born on the Aegean island of Samos off the coast of present-day Turkey. At age eighteen, he moved to Athens to complete a compulsory two-year term of military service and thereafter began studying philosophy under Nausiphanes of Teos. This teacher, at the time a follower of Democritus, proved to have considerable influence on Epicurus's thinking. Nonetheless, Epicurus later criticized some of the ideas of Nausiphanes and claimed to be mainly self-taught. After this period of study, he taught briefly in Mytilene on the island of Lesbos and then founded a school in Lampsacus on the Hellespont before returning to Athens in 306 B.C.E. There he purchased a house with a garden that

became the site of a school and commune thereafter known as "The Garden." It admitted both men and women, slave and free. Located midway between the famous Athenian Stoa and the Academy founded by Plato, the school and the philosophy taught there by Epicurus attracted many students and continued to be influential for centuries after his death.

Another classic by the modern misnamed Epicurus who did not stand for eating too much or too much sex, but for loving life and preserving that love with the smaller delights to be found daily. Give it try.

Best.

Should have a selection of quotes

Good collection with interesting footnotes. This won't read like Sedaris or Lamott, but we should all read it nonetheless. This guy had it going on, and I'm glad someone wrote down what he said.

I'm more of a Stoic, but this is a good book that offers some truths to readers willing to really read into the ideas and mull them over.

Epicurus offered a way of living as we age, which seems attainable if one ages with the right attitude. Very interesting, except some passages were difficult to comprehend. Overall, Epicurus' writing makes one think.

It's a good read. A different picture of Epicurus. It has a prominent place in my library.

thank you

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