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978-1-107-02544-8 - The Pleasures of Reason in Plato, Aristotle, and the Hellenistic Hedonists

James Warren

Frontmatter

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## THE PLEASURES OF REASON IN PLATO, ARISTOTLE, AND THE HELLENISTIC HEDONISTS

Human lives are full of pleasures and pains. And humans are creatures that are able to think: to learn, understand, remember and recall, plan and anticipate. Ancient philosophers were interested in both of these facts and, what is more, were interested in how these two facts are related to one another. There appear to be, after all, pleasures and pains associated with learning and inquiring, recollecting and anticipating. We enjoy finding something out. We are pained to discover that a belief we hold is false. We can think back and enjoy or be upset by recalling past events. And we can plan for and enjoy imagining pleasures yet to come. This book is about what Plato, Aristotle, the Epicureans, and the Cyrenaics had to say about these relationships between pleasure and reason.

JAMES WARREN is a Reader in Ancient Philosophy at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Corpus Christi College. He is the author of *Epicurus and Democritean Ethics* (2002), *Facing Death: Epicurus and his Critics* (2004), and *Presocratics* (2007), and the editor of *The Cambridge Companion to Epicureanism* (2009) and, with Frisbee Sheffield, *The Routledge Companion to Ancient Philosophy* (2014). He has published articles on a wide range of topics in ancient philosophy.

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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

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[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107025448](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107025448)

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First published 2014

Printed in the United Kingdom by Clays, St Ives plc

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library**Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

Warren, James, 1974–

The pleasures of reason in Plato, Aristotle, and the Hellenistic hedonists / James Warren.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-02544-8

1. Plato. 2. Aristotle. 3. Epicureans (Greek philosophy) 4. Pleasure. 5. Reason. 6. Learning. I. Title.

B398.P56W37 2014

180–dc23

2014018779

ISBN 978-1-107-02544-8 Hardback

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*For Dad, in memory of Mum*

ἡδὺ πανταχόθεν ἢ φίλου μνήμη τεθνηκότος.  
Epicurus in Plutarch, *Non Posse* 1105E

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## *Acknowledgements*

I would like to thank the following people for comments on earlier versions of these chapters: Jenny Bryan, Victor Caston, Sylvain Delcomminette, Nicholas Denyer, Mehmet Erginel, Benjamin Harriman, Dhananjay Jagannathan, Georgia Moroutsou, Olivier Renaut, Malcolm Schofield, David Sedley, Oliver Thomas, Voula Tsouna, Junyi Zhao, and the anonymous readers for Cambridge University Press. I would also like to thank Michael Sharp at Cambridge University Press and Jan Chapman for her keen-eyed copy-editing.

Parts of this work have been presented to audiences in Cambridge, London, Oxford, and Paris. The reactions of the audiences on these occasions have been invaluable.

Parts of this book are based on work published elsewhere as parts of Warren 2001a, 2010, 2011a, and forthcoming b. I thank the respective publishers and editors for their permission to reuse this material. Translations of ancient texts are my own except where a translator is named.

I would like to thank my colleagues in the Faculty of Classics at the University of Cambridge and Corpus Christi College for their encouragement and advice and for covering my teaching and administrative duties during my sabbatical leave for the academic year 2012–13, particularly the members of the B Caucus in the Faculty and Marina Frasca-Spada, Thomas Land, and Emma Wilson at Corpus Christi.

I also thank my family and, most of all, Sara Owen.

*Abbreviations*

Arist.	Aristotle
<i>APo.</i>	<i>Posterior Analytics</i>
<i>De An.</i>	<i>De Anima (On the Soul)</i>
<i>De Insom.</i>	<i>De Insomniis (On Dreams)</i>
<i>De Mem.</i>	<i>On Memory</i>
<i>EE</i>	<i>Eudemean Ethics</i>
<i>GA</i>	<i>On the Generation of Animals</i>
<i>HA</i>	<i>Historia Animalium</i>
<i>MA</i>	<i>On the Motion of Animals</i>
<i>Metaph.</i>	<i>Metaphysics</i>
<i>NE</i>	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>
<i>PA</i>	<i>De Partibus Animalium (On the Parts of Animals)</i>
<i>Phys.</i>	<i>Physics</i>
<i>Poet.</i>	<i>Poetics</i>
<i>Rhet.</i>	<i>Rhetoric</i>
<i>Sens.</i>	<i>De Sensu (On Perception)</i>
<i>Top.</i>	<i>Topics</i>
Aul. Gell.	Aulus Gellius
<i>Noct. Att.</i>	<i>Attic Nights</i>
Cic.	Cicero (Marcus Tullius Cicero)
<i>Fin.</i>	<i>De Finibus</i>
<i>Tusc.</i>	<i>Tusculan Disputations</i>
Clement of Alexandria	
<i>Strom.</i>	<i>Miscellanies</i>
Damascius	
<i>In Phileb.</i>	<i>Lectures on Plato's Philebus</i>
DK	H. Diels and W. Kranz, <i>Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker</i> , 6th edition (Berlin, 1952)
DL	Diogenes Laertius, <i>Lives of Eminent Philosophers</i>

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Epic.	Epicurus
<i>Ep. Hdt.</i>	<i>Letter to Herodotus</i>
<i>Ep. Men.</i>	<i>Letter to Menoeceus</i>
<i>Ep. Pyth.</i>	<i>Letter to Pythocles</i>
<i>KD</i>	<i>Kyriai Doxai</i>
<i>Nat.</i>	<i>On Nature</i>
<i>SV</i>	<i>Sententiae Vaticanae (Vatican Sayings)</i>
Eur.	Euripides
<i>Or.</i>	<i>Orestes</i>
Euseb.	Eusebius
<i>PE</i>	<i>Praeparatio Evangelica</i>
Hom.	Homer
<i>Il.</i>	<i>Iliad</i>
<i>Od.</i>	<i>Odyssey</i>
Iambl.	Iamblichus
<i>Prot.</i>	<i>Protrepticus</i>
Lucr.	Lucretius
<i>DRN</i>	<i>De Rerum Natura (On the Nature of Things)</i>
<i>PHerc.</i>	<i>Herculaneum papyrus</i>
Plat.	Plato
<i>Gorg.</i>	<i>Gorgias</i>
<i>Phaed.</i>	<i>Phaedo</i>
<i>Phdr.</i>	<i>Phaedrus</i>
<i>Phileb.</i>	<i>Philebus</i>
<i>Prot.</i>	<i>Protagoras</i>
<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Republic</i>
<i>Symp.</i>	<i>Symposium</i>
<i>Theaet.</i>	<i>Theaetetus</i>
<i>Tim.</i>	<i>Timaeus</i>
Plut.	Plutarch
<i>Adv. Col.</i>	<i>Against Colotes</i>
<i>An Seni</i>	<i>On Whether an Old Man Should Be a Ruler</i>
<i>De Adul.</i>	<i>On Flattery</i>
<i>De An. Procr. in Tim.</i>	<i>On the Generation of the Soul in the Timaeus</i>
<i>De Aud. Poet.</i>	<i>On How to Listen to Poets</i>
<i>De Soll. An.</i>	<i>On the Cleverness of Animals</i>
<i>De Stoic. Repug.</i>	<i>On Stoic Self-contradictions</i>
<i>Lat. Viv.</i>	<i>On the Maxim 'Live Unknown'</i>

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*List of abbreviations*

<i>Non Posse</i>	<i>On the Fact That It Is Impossible to Live Pleasantly Following Epicurus</i>
<i>Quaest. Conv.</i>	<i>Dinner-party Questions</i>
<i>Quaest. Plat.</i>	<i>Platonic Questions</i>
<i>Virt. Mor.</i>	<i>On Moral Virtue</i>
Polyst.	Polystratus
<i>De irrat. cont.</i>	<i>On Irrational Contempt for Common Opinions (PHerc. 336/1150)</i>
Procl.	Proclus
<i>In Plat. Rem Pub.</i>	<i>Commentary on Plato's Republic</i>
Sen.	Seneca (the Younger)
<i>Ep. Mor.</i>	<i>Moral Letters</i>
Sext. Emp.	Sextus Empiricus
<i>PH</i>	<i>Pyrrōneioi Hypotupōseis (Outlines of Pyrrhonism)</i>
SSR	G. Giannantoni, <i>Socratis et Socraticorum Reliquiae</i> (Naples, 1990)
<i>Suda</i>	Greek Lexicon formerly known as <i>Suidas</i>
Thuc.	Thucydides, <i>History of the Peloponnesian War</i>
Usener	H. Usener, <i>Epicurea</i> (Leipzig, 1887)
Xen.	Xenophon
<i>Mem.</i>	<i>Memorabilia</i>