

[Set Seneca, Briefe an Lucilius I+II, Tusculum]

Senecas Briefe an seinen Freund Lucilius sind eine Einführung in die stoische Philosophie. Dabei strebt der Autor keine systematische Darstellung an; ihm geht es darum, Wege zur philosophischen Bewältigung konkreter Probleme des menschlichen Lebens aufzuzeigen. Themen wie Einsamkeit, Krankheit, der Tod berühren uns in gleicher Weise wie die Menschen vor 2000 Jahren. "Du entsinnst Dich doch noch, welche Freude Du empfandest, als Du die Toga des Knaben ab- und die des Mannes anlegtest und man Dich aufs Forum führte. Erwarte eine noch größere, wenn Du knabenhaften Sinn ablegst und die Philosophie Dich unter die Männer aufnimmt."

Seneca's letters to his friend Lucilius are an introduction to Stoic philosophy. The author is not aiming for a systematic presentation; he is concerned with showing ways of philosophically overcoming concrete problems of human life. Topics such as loneliness, illness and death affect us in the same way as they did people 2000 years ago. "You still remember the joy you felt when you took off the boy's toga and put on the man's and were led into the forum. Expect an even greater one when you shed your boyish spirit and philosophy accepts you among men."

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