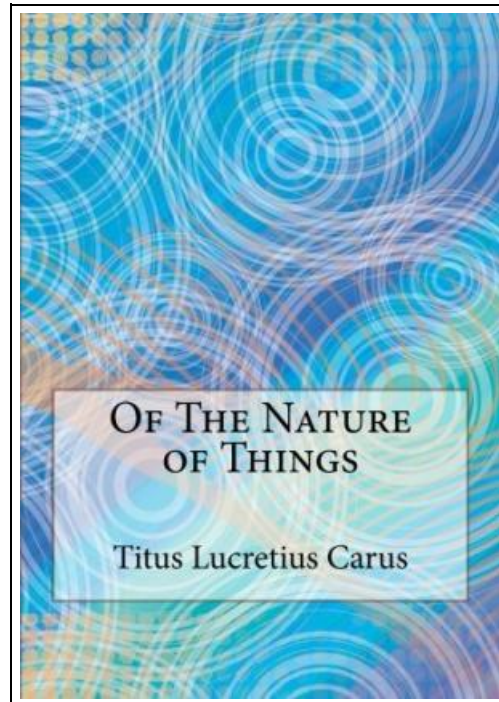


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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Titus Lucretius Carus (99 BC - c. 55 BC) was a Roman poet and philosopher. His only known work is the epic philosophical poem *De rerum natura* about the tenets and philosophy of Epicureanism, and which is usually translated into English as *On the Nature of Things*. Very little is known about Lucretius's life; the only certain fact is that he was either a friend or client of Gaius Memmius, to whom the poem was addressed and dedicated. *De rerum natura* was a considerable influence on the Augustan poets, particularly Virgil (in his *Aeneid* and *Georgics*, and to a lesser extent on the *Satires* and *Eclogues*) and Horace. The work virtually disappeared during the Middle Ages but was rediscovered in 1417 in a monastery in Germany by Poggio Bracciolini, and it played an important role both in the development of atomism (Lucretius was an important influence on Pierre Gassendi and the efforts of various figures of the Enlightenment era to construct a new Christian humanism. Virtually nothing is known about the life of Lucretius. He was probably a member of the aristocratic gens *Lucretia*, and his work shows an intimate knowledge of the luxurious lifestyle in Rome. Lucretius's love of the countryside invites speculation that he inhabited family-owned rural estates, as did many wealthy Roman families, and he certainly was expensively educated with a mastery of Latin, Greek, literature, and philosophy. Jerome tells how he was driven mad by a love potion and wrote his poetry between fits of insanity, eventually committing suicide in middle age; but modern scholarship suggests this account was probably an invention. In a letter by Cicero to his brother Quintus in February 54...



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