

# On the shortness of life

By Seneca



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"On the Shortness of Life" is a moral essay written by Seneca the Younger, a Roman Stoic philosopher, to his friend Paulinus. The philosopher brings up many Stoic principles on the nature of time, namely that men waste much of it in meaningless pursuits. According to the essay, nature gives man enough time to do what is really important and the individual must allot it properly. In general, time can be best used in the study of philosophy, according to Seneca.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca, often known as Seneca the Younger or simply Seneca, (c. 4 BC – AD 65) was a Roman Stoic philosopher, statesman, dramatist, and in one work humorist, of the Silver Age of Latin literature.

Translated by JW Basore



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#### On the shortness of life By Seneca Bibliography

Sales Rank: #228934 in eBooks
Published on: 2015-12-04
Released on: 2015-12-04
Format: Kindle eBook



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