

The Stoic View of Creative Change (The "Wax" of Universal Substance)



“Universal nature molded universal substance as if it were wax, and made, let’s say, a horse, and then, after dissolving the horse, it reused its matter to make a tree, then a human being, and then something else, with each subsisting for only a very short time ...

Everything you see will be changed by the nature that directs the universe. It will use their substance to create more things, and then it will use the substance of these things to create still more things, in order to keep the universe forever young.”

Marcus Aurelius

Meditations, 7:23, 25