Auslus Gellius’ *Noctes Atticae* is organized as a collection of articles, covering a broad range of topics, such as myth, grammar, etymology, etc. Traditional scholarship has tended to take the articles at face value, assuming that they were placed in no particular order and with little regard for the method of readership. More recently there has been a movement to frame the *Noctes Atticae* as a more organized body of work which invites the reader to reflect back on previous sections and look forward to later ones. In continuing with the more recent scholarship, this paper will lend support to the idea of a linear narrative by demonstrating Gellius’ interplay with two themes, Law and Philosophy, throughout the text which work to create a network of essays that provide an added layer of complexity to the work.

Previous scholarship has met the idea of an interconnected narrative from various angles. Some have identified intratexts and groupings of essays, while others have discovered overarching themes that span across essays and the book as a whole. Despite the abundance of testimony providing for a narrative structure in *Attic Nights*, no one has approached the question by exploring two of its most important themes, Law and Philosophy. By tracing these two themes from their earliest appearances to their last ones, we find that the two follow each other through the end of the work, where they meet at a conversation between a legal expert and a philosopher, demonstrating strongly that *Noctes Atticae* is in fact organized in a deliberate manner.

Bibliography


