How to Cause the Inevitable

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Causation does not require counterfactual dependence of any kind.

1. Socrates drinking poison caused an event, his death, which was bound to happen eventually.

2. Socrates’ death was inevitable. According to the Phaedo, it was caused by him drinking poison.

(1) and (2) are true. ∴ The very same thing can both:

be inevitable and have a cause.

Causation does not require any counterfactual dependence from the cause to the effect.