

## ODI ET AMO :: A BRIEF HISTORY IN TRANSLATION

Catullus 85

*Odi et amo. Quare id faciam, fortasse requiris.  
nescio, sed fieri sentio et excrucior.*

1. I hate, and yet I love thee too;  
How can that be? I know not how;  
Only that so it is I know;  
And feel with torment that 'tis so.  
—Abraham Cowley, 1667
2. I hate, yet love: you ask how this is so.  
Who knows? But I'm in torment: that I know.  
—Robert Yelverton Tyrell, 1895
3. I hate and yet I love; perhaps you ask how this can be. I do not know, but  
that it is so I feel too well, and live in torment.  
—Charles Stuttaford, 1912
4. I hate and love. Why I do so, perhaps you ask. I know not, but feel it, and I  
am in torment.  
—Francis Warre Cornish, 1913
5. I hate and I love. Why do I do that, you are perhaps asking?  
I don't know, but I feel it happening and I am in torment.  
—John Godwin, 1999
6. I hate and I love. You ask me why? Who knows?  
But I feel it occur and I'm tortured.  
—David Mulroy, 2002
7. I hate and I love. Why do that? Good question.  
No answer, save 'I do'. Nailed, through either hand.  
—Frederic Raphael & Kenneth McLeish, 1979

