

METER: elegiac couplet (see Catullus 70).

- 1 **tantum**: take after **vērē** (2) and translate **tantum quantum** together, "as much as," "to the extent that." Do the same with **tanta** and **quanta** in lines 3-4.
- amātam**: supply **esse**. Why is an infinitive used here? What tense and voice is it?
- 3 **ūllō . . . foedere**: = **in ūllō foedere**.
- 4 **in amōre tuō**: "in my love for you." **reperta . . . est**: the subject is **fidēs**.

---

METER: elegiac couplet (see Catullus 70).

- 2 **Lesbia . . . amat**: translate in this order: **dispeream nisi Lesbia mē amat**. \***dispereō**, **disperīre** (*irreg.*), **disperīi**, to be ruined, perish, die. **dispeream**: what mood and construction?
- 3 **Quō signō?**: "By what sign (do I know that she loves me)?" **sunt totidem mea**: "my circumstances (or signs) are entirely the same," "it's the same for me." **dēprecōr**, **dēprecārī** (1), **dēprecātus sum**, to wish someone away, try to get rid of, rebuke.
- 4 **assiduē**, continually, all the time.

## CATULLUS 87

### A Love Unparalleled

What aspect of love is Catullus discussing in the first couplet? In the second couplet? How has Catullus given the second couplet more emphasis? Why?

- 1 Nulla potest mulier tantum sē dicere amātam
- 2 vēre, quantum ā mē Lesbia amāta mea est.
- 3 Nulla fidēs ullō fuit umquam foedere tanta,
- 4 quanta in amōre tuō ex parte reperta mea est.

1. Where does Catullus use *interlocked word order* (an arrangement of two pairs of words so that one word of each pair is between the words of the other in an *abab* pattern, e.g., *Catullus candidam amat puellam*), repetition, alliteration, assonance, consonance, and hyperbole in this poem?
2. Which lines have elisions? What is their effect?
3. With what other poem(s) of Catullus has Walter Savage Landor (1775–1864) joined poem 87 in the following translation? Why did Landor join the poems together?

#### *Love's Madness*

None could ever say that she,	(Would it did!) the fault is yours.
Lesbia! was so loved by me;	I can never think again
Never, all the world around,	Well of you: I try in vain.
Faith so true as mine was found.	But, be false, do what you will,
If no longer it endures,	Lesbia! I must love you still.

---

## CATULLUS 92

### How Do I Know She Loves Me?

In this poem, as in poem 83, Catullus manages to read Lesbia's behavior in a paradoxical or contradictory way. What is the paradoxical proposition in the first couplet and how does he prove his assertion in the second couplet?

- 1 Lesbia mī dicit semper male nec tacet umquam
- 2 dē mē: Lesbia mē dispeream nisi amat.
- 3 Quō signō? Quia sunt totidem mea: dēprecōr illam
- 4 assiduē, vērum dispeream nisi amō.

1. In poem 83, Catullus was addressing Lesbia's husband. Whom is he addressing in this poem?
2. What is the new element in this poem that was not present in poem 83?
3. What may be wrong with the poet's reasoning? Why is it a dangerous mistake for anyone to make?
4. For what reasons might any two lovers verbally abuse each other as Catullus and Lesbia seem to be doing?