

Please Hear What I'm Not Saying

Don't be fooled by me.
Don't be fooled by the face I wear
for I wear a mask, a thousand masks,
masks that I'm afraid to take off, and none of them is me.
Pretending is an art that's second nature with me, but don't be
fooled, for God's sake don't be fooled. I give you the impression
that I'm secure, that all is sunny and unruffled with me, within as
well as without, that confidence is my name and coolness my game,
that the water's calm and I'm in command and that I need no one,
but don't believe me....
Beneath lies no complacency.
Beneath lies confusion, and fear, and aloneness.
But I hide this. I don't want anybody to know it.
I panic at the thought of my weakness exposed...

Finn Poem – Partial – 1966
(People Need the Lord—Words in Parenthesis PFL)