

"The Collar" portrays a man who is relaying a previous struggle he has had with his faith. The poem begins with the speaker striking a board, most likely a pulpit or altar. The physical outburst is then followed quickly by a verbal one, as the speaker declares that he "...will abroad!", or leave his current place. The speaker admits that there were things which he did treasure, but his sadness and lack of appreciation ruined each one. The speaker questions his religious commitment, which has not brought him the fulfillment he seeks.