The Man in the Glass

When you get what you want in your struggle
And the world makes you king for a day;
Just go to the mirror and look at yourself
And see what that man has to say.

It isn't your father or mother or wife
Whose judgement upon you must pass;
The one whose verdict counts most in your life
Is the one staring back in the glass.

He's the one you must satisfy beyond all the rest
For he's with you right up to the end.
And you've passed your most difficult task
If the man in the glass in your friend.

You may be one who got a good break
And think you're a wonderful guy.
But the man in the glass says you're only a fake
If you can't look him straight in the eye.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway of years
And get pats on the back as you pass;
But your final reward will be heartache and tears
If you cheated the man in the glass.

Author Unknown

The above poem was in one of Ted Applegate's letters during World War II. Ted wrote on the poem:
"My corporal who is now in Alaska found this poem and gave it to me."