

**Thinking It Out**

Someone else is thinking  
out these lines

as I am thinking them  
and I should know

that it is you, but do I?  
Is it you

or someone other?  
You cannot be sure

enough to answer me  
or you would answer,

and I'd hear it  
somewhere in the poem

that I am thinking out  
as someone thinks

along with me. Who thinks  
along with me?

It could be a third  
person; someone other  
  
than the both of us  
(if you are here)  
  
could say this as I say it,  
pause this pause,  
  
attempt, indeed, this  
nearing, here, conclusion  
  
which is not the end.  
Someone has made it  
  
not the end, and was it  
you? In thinking  
  
out these lines I think  
that I am thinking  
  
less and less and finding  
more and more.

—*Robin Skelton*