Official version

## Behind the Mask (the mask is me)

by DJ Michael & the Thunderwaves
Inspired by the poem of the same title
by Michael Wainwright, of Castleford, Yorkshire, UK
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Footsteps echo down the crowded street, Eyes locked — they stop, they stare, they read, I wear this grin like a blade in the light, Smile wide... but I ache inside.

She stares, she glares — yeah, I see her too, Fear in her eyes like she's seeing through. The joke's on her — I'm the devil in drag, Loving every tear she can't hold back.

Behind the mask — where the shadows call, A twisted grin, no face at all.

Be gone, be gone — but I can't break free,
Behind the mask...

The mask is me.

Cold wind cuts through the ghost I am, A touch like fire from a stranger's hand. Her eyes, like glass, they burn through my skin, I know she's here... She knows where I've been. Her voice, so soft — like a curse, like a prayer, Tearing through every mask I wear. I'm screaming back but there's nothing to hear. I built this prison, year after year.

Behind the mask — where the shadows call, A twisted grin, no face at all. Be gone, be gone — but I can't break free, Behind the mask... The mask is me.

Every game I played...

Every soul I stained...

Every time I laughed in the face of pain —

It carved me deep, it carved me cold,

Now the mask is all I know,

Behind the mask — where the whispers crawl, A hollow grin, no face at all.

Be gone, be gone — but she won't let go,
She sees my soul.

Behind the mask — where the whispers crawl,
A hollow grin, no face at all.

## Credits

Written and composed by DJ Michael & the Thunderwaves and inspired by a poem of the same title written by Michael Wainwright of Castleford, Yorkshire, UK. Remixed, mastered, and distributed by ThunderMusic of Digital Thunder Media Productions, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

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