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# Weird Tales

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WEIRD TALES ISSUED 1st OF EACH MONTH

# Othello Time

By VINCENT STARRETT

A swallow on a sun-dial rests;  
 Time passes, and he is gone . . .  
 There was a symbol bigger than the crests  
 Of mountains; more significant than dawn  
 Rising upon a world dew-hung in space;  
 Charged with a greater import than a clock  
 Suddenly stopped, its hands before its face,  
 Or a new island risen from the sea,  
 Or an old man, dying in mystery,  
 Or a new prophet for the world to mock.

Moments of happiness are mortal too . . .  
 Inarticulate, we smile, being less wise than birds,  
 Smug in our clouding belief that what we do,  
 And what we think and say—ideas—words—  
 Have power to defeat the strangler, Time,  
 Who smothers not alone our lexicons  
 But the immortal vanities of rime.  
 Clocks, mountains, islands, prophets, thus it follows,  
 Perish with the old dawns and speeding swallows,  
 Dials of granite base, and markers of bronze.