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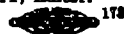
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# *The* *Dweller*

By H. P. LOVECRAFT

It had been old when Babylon was new;  
None knew how long it slept beneath that mound,  
Where in the end our questing shovels found  
Its granite blocks and brought it back to view.  
There were vast pavements and foundation walls,  
And crumbling slabs and statues, carved to show  
Fantastic beings of some long ago  
Past anything the world of man recalls.

And then we saw those stone steps leading down  
Through a choked gate of graven dolomite  
To some black haven of eternal night  
Where elder signs and primal secrets frown.  
We cleared a path . . . but raced in mad retreat  
When from below we heard those clumping feet.