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## Clocks and Time

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# Clocks and Time

Florence M. Zielinski

The day I retired I put my watch away.  
I also decided that clocks  
would no longer have any influence  
on my life and days.

The first year was one of bliss.  
Ah, I retired for the joy of this!  
No alarms woke me from my deep sleep,  
No stressful minutes were ticking  
to remind me of appointments to keep.

No commitments were spelled out to exact minutes  
of fleeting time with promises in it.  
My time was mine. I ruled the clock.  
But time and life delivers shocks.

I am again watching clocks and  
the clocks have gone back on the shelves.  
The alarms are set and I must follow  
where time and life sends me tomorrow.

How can I tell the appointment is now,  
or when to take the pill that is due?  
The clock dictates time and I must follow  
where time and life sends me – today and tomorrow.