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On the Trail of the Sacred Scarab





Day 9



Today, Martin and I have done nothing but argue. He's not happy that I'm wearing make-up. But I'm an archaeologist, so I must try everything the ancient Egyptians used to do!

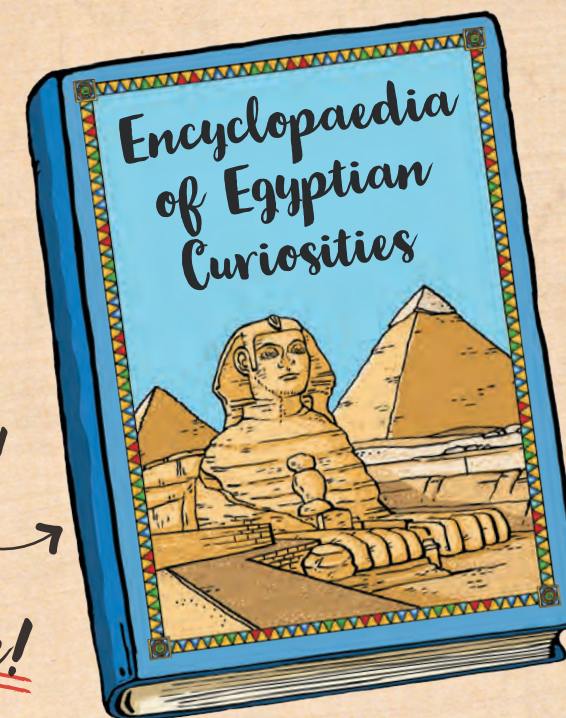
Why the make-up?

Ancient Egyptian men and women commonly wore make-up. Do you know why? For practical reasons. The make-up caught dirt from the sand that lay all around, while the green shade on the eyelids protected the eyes from the fierce sunlight.

The same day, late evening



Dad has given us AN ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF EGYPTIAN CURIOSITIES. Martin and I just can't put it down. It has told us all about the scarab, for instance. It's like having Egypt at our fingertips. You must read it!



It's on the table!



Cleopatra

Who was Cleopatra?

Queen of Egypt ruled a kingdom splendidly and turned the heads of the most influential men. She spoke seven languages and loved beautiful clothes. She dressed in the finest robes and adorned herself with jewels with the rarest precious stones and tiaras. And she wore make-up, of course!



Day 10



We're learning to read and write hieroglyphics, Egypt's oldest system of writing, which is in the form of pictures! Work out the meaning of the hieroglyphs on the table, under the slip of yellow paper.

old age | to weep | to strike | to fly
government | south | to row | to find

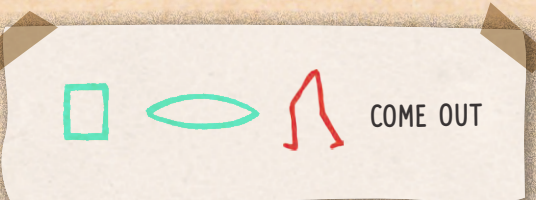
Search hieroglyphs on the table!

Decipher a word

We have read in clever books that the ancient Egyptians didn't write vowels. So a word like



was read PER or PIREH. PER meant 'house' while PIREH meant 'come out'. To recognize which word was meant, the



Egyptians had to attach an explanatory mark to the symbols already there. To 'house', for instance, it was enough to indicate a symbolized plan of a house; to 'come out' was added a picture of a leg walking. Now it was clear to everyone what was meant.

Day 11: night



It's night. Dad is asleep. By the beam of a flashlight, Martin and I are working our way through the thick books. Martin is yawning with tiredness when suddenly, on one of the pages... we discover: The Valley of the Kings - map of a tomb. Wow!

Look at the map.
It's on the table!

Valley of the Kings

The Valley of the Kings is an extensive burial ground for later dynasties of pharaohs. The rocky, deserted landscape contains a great wealth of precious archaeological findings.

Pharaoh's Tomb

We read in one of the books that after their deaths the rulers of Egypt needed lots of things.

Ushabtis

An ushabti is a special figurine with some words written on it in memoriam, intended to accompany the ruler to the afterlife and perform all duties assigned to him there on his behalf.

Oh, ushabti, if I am called to labour, come to me in haste, so that in my place you may till the fields and water the banks...

• Words 'in memoriam' •



Yes, that's it!

We have read that there were keepsakes made of the most precious stones and metals in a pharaoh's tomb. Of course! That's it! If we want to find the scarab, we must go to a pharaoh's tomb!



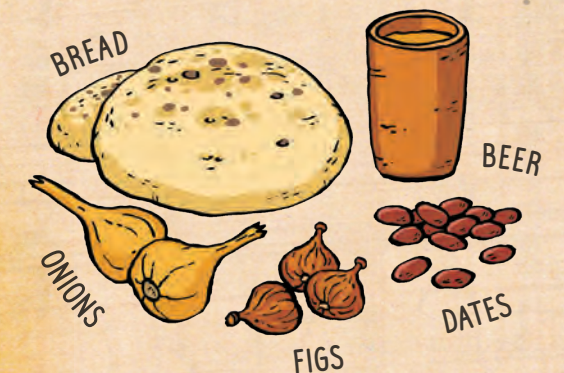
What did pharaohs eat and drink?

There was even centuries-old stale food in a pharaoh's tomb. Bread from wheat, a staple food of all Egyptians, chickpea pap, meat, milk, beer and wine, honey, honey cakes.



The people of ancient Egypt loved honey and other sweet tastes. Their teeth - which they didn't clean much - could tell us a story or two.

What did poor Egyptians eat and drink?

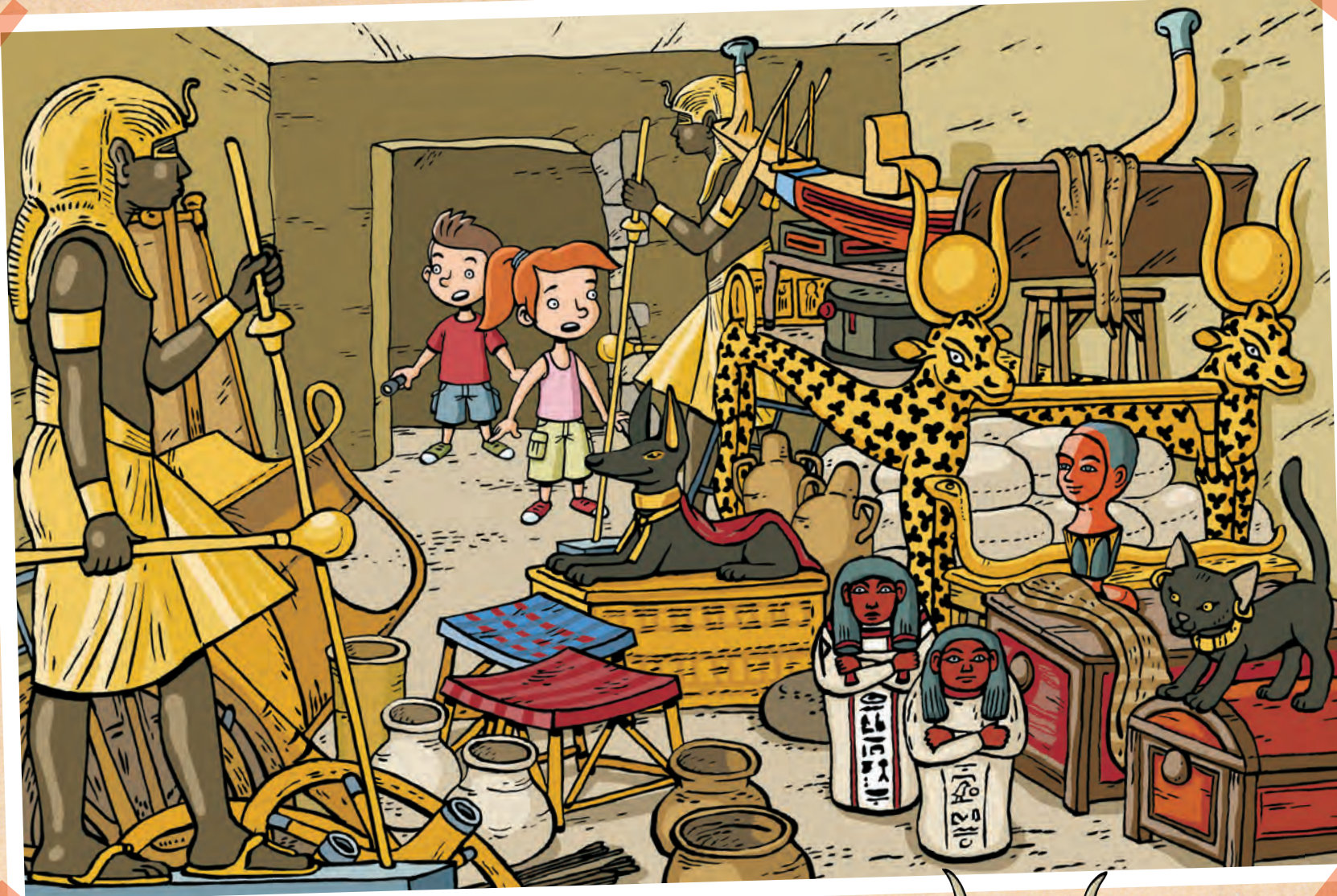


Day 12: midnight

We really need to rest, but time is short. Boom! Something just moved somewhere! The bang is followed by quiet, frightened steps. Then, for the first time, we notice a small door - in the corner. We open it. And what do we find beyond? Treasure of truly fairy-tale proportions! There is absolutely everything here. Except a scarab...

There is a black cat.
Can you see it?

Ancient Egypt and sacred animals



Cat

Worshipped for its ability to catch mice. Cats, too, were mummified.

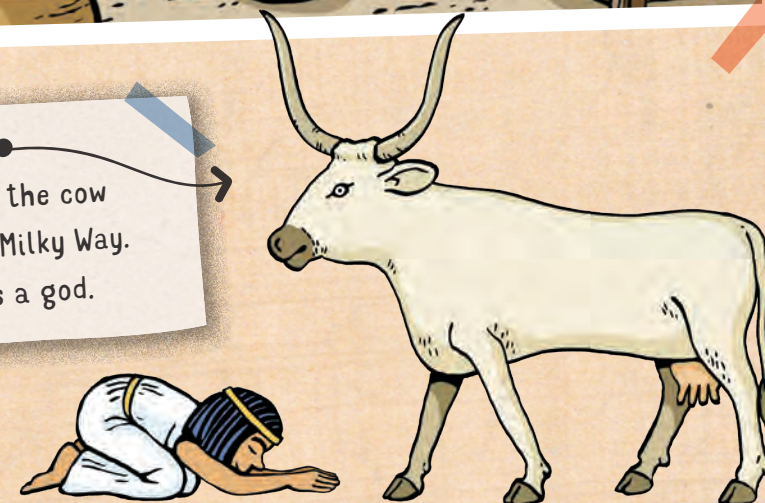
Ram

A symbol of fertility and royal power. The ram's horns were reminiscent of a royal crown.



Cow

The Egyptians believed the cow to be the creator of the Milky Way. They worshipped it as a god.



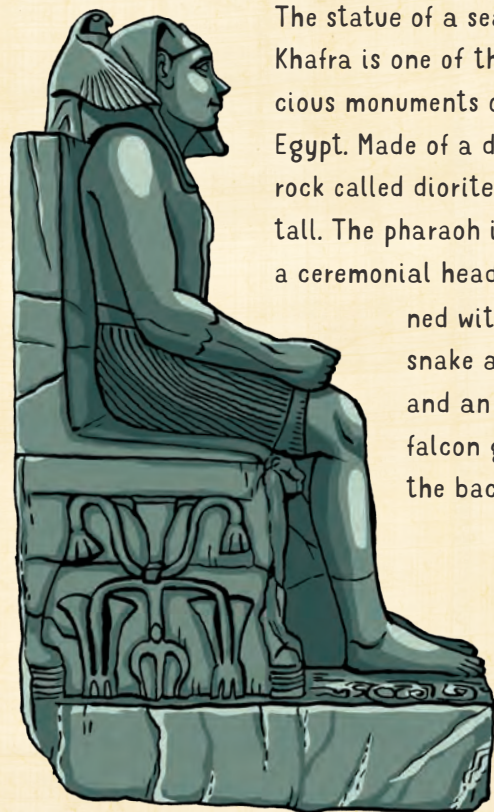


Valley of the Golden Mummies

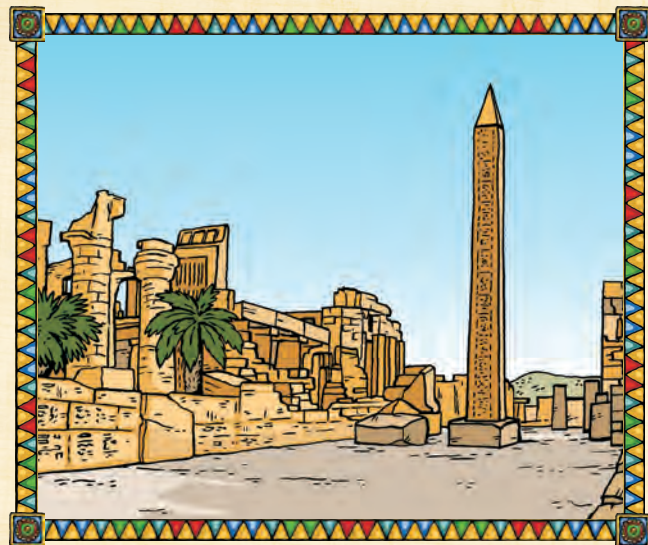
This huge burial site at Bahariya in western Egypt contains rooms with shelves on which 10,000 mummies from the 1st and 2nd centuries AD are stored. Some of the mummies are adorned with gold. The deceased are provided with a wealth of grave goods, including sculptures, jewellery and ceramic pots.



Statue of Khafra



The statue of a seated Pharaoh Khafra is one of the most precious monuments of ancient Egypt. Made of a dark-green rock called diorite, it is 170 cm tall. The pharaoh is wearing a ceremonial headdress adorned with a sacred snake at the front and an image of the falcon god Horus at the back.



Precinct of Amun-Re in Karnak

'The best place' - that's what this enclosure composed of shrines, chambers, halls, houses and a main temple was known as. It took 2000 years to build, meaning that a great many pharaohs lent a helping hand. The complex as a whole is truly gigantic! The Great Hypostyle Hall alone is supported by 134 columns.



On the Trail of the Sacred Scarab



Emma and Martin are flying to Egypt. They want to find the precious scarab and become famous archaeologists. Journey with them and experience ancient Egypt for yourself! Who were the pharaohs, and how did they dress? What was buried with them, and why were their bodies wrapped in white cloth? With this book, you will learn lots of interesting information. You will also learn to read and write hieroglyphs - the script of ancient Egypt. So, what are you waiting for?




In this book you will find:

AN ARCHAEOLOGIST'S NOTEBOOK



AN EXPLORER'S DIARY

A DOCUMENT WITH A BASIC EGYPTIAN ALPHABET OF CHARACTERS

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ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF EGYPTIAN CURIOSITIES

A MAP OF TOMB



ISBN + EAN