



Egyptian Mummies: Unraveling the Secrets of an Ancient Art

Bob Brier

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Egyptian Mummies results from research done in preparation for the mummification of a human body, the first to be done in the Egyptian style in two thousand years. Through these studies, noted Egyptologist Bob Brier has unearthed the gripping stories of grave robberies and stolen mummies, the forgotten language of the pharaohs, and the tombs of the royal mummies. In an easily accessible and lively style, Brier uncovers the complete historical context of ancient Egyptian culture and offers a fascinating contemporary interpretation of it. Illuminating their mysteries, myths, sacred rituals, and hieroglyphic writing, *Egyptian Mummies* brings the ancients to life.

Egyptian Mummies: Unraveling the Secrets of an Ancient Art Details

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RunRachelRun says

My husband Steverino got this for me for my birthday or maybe it was a romantic Valentine's Gift (you can never go wrong with diamonds or a good book) because he knows my obsession with mummies. It all started in Portugal in some museum in which I being a child, turned around and looked into a glass case, and staring back at me with withered eye sockets, was... the mummy of a child. Well, that just cracked it. I've been scared and fascinated by mummies my whole darn life.

Ria says

I can't say enough how much i enjoyed this book, it had EVERYTHING, Egyptian history, the mummification process, illustrations, pictures, even a chapter at the end illustrating how mummies and Egyptian history has influenced literature in the field, movies.

I have read lots of books on Egypt and associated subjects to do with that period of history but i learnt a lot from this that hasn't been dealt with in other books, all the information is told in an informal, easy to read style but the text is not in any way in my opinion patronising to the reader.

Well worth reading if you are just starting reading about the subject as its a great introduction or it makes wonderful background reading if you have a knowledge of the issues explored.

This book has something for everyone at all levels of knowledge and understanding.

It actually led me to track down the author's companion book "Ancient Egyptian magic."

Jessi says

Brilliantly readable and deeply informative, *Egyptian Mummies* is a fascinating look into the history and process of Egyptian mummification. Brier uses the historical record created by ancient papyri and information gathered from paleopathology and archeological documents as a reference to re-create the process of mummification at its highest point. Although I was mislead slightly by the prologue - I had hoped for more discussion of his own research and experimentation - the book was a wonderful reminder of the small part of me that still wants to grow up and become an Egyptologist.

Interesting, conversational, and information-rich, Brier's book strikes the perfect balance between scholarship and literature without being sensational or needlessly macabre.

4/5 stars because I still want to know about the results of Brier's personal mummification project.

Jenny says

This book would have been better if Brier had delved further into the actual techniques of mummification and the methods used for modern embalming. Perhaps some pictures of the tools used would have enhanced

the book. I would have liked to have read more about paleopathology. I was absolutely enthralled by how so many Egyptians died from tooth decay due to sand getting into their food. Nonetheless, considering I FINALLY read this book 16 years after it was published, Brier did an excellent job compiling all of his research on mummies and mummification up to 1994. Too bad he never published his experiences (in a book) with mummifying a human body at the University of Maryland.

Megan says

Oh, Bob, how I love thee. If you have seen any of his TV series, you know he is a nerdy little guy but he knows his stuff and the book is absolutely fascinating. It even had me (briefly) consider studying the topic in grad school.

Shaina says

I had to purchase this book for my Egyptology course and one day, I just picked it up and started reading and kept going. It is an interesting book and tells you all about the mummification process in detail. Bob is an interesting guy anyway. He came to our university to speak. He also had a cool show. When it came time to sell my books I didn't sell this one or any of my Egyptology. I was raised around it and my professor was the best. He knew everything. In memory of him I kept a lot of books.

John says

really enjoyed this book even though its not my perferred period of history

Krystal Hammond says

I read this book for the first time a long time ago, and at that time I was very, very interested in mummies and knew a lot about them already. This book basically rehashed everything I already knew, and the part I was most interested in--the mummy that Brier actually made--wasn't given much "airtime." So, for me, this wasn't the greatest book. *However*, as a basic source of info on Egyptian mummies, it's pretty good.

Russell Hall says

A good summary of Egyptian Mummies. Many things have since been discovered such as Hatchepsut's Mummy, and the children of King Tutankhamun have been rediscovered and in a pitiful condition. I did see the Nat Geo special and it was good to have the background information from this book. Not too gory or horror seeking, but good science and research. I also liked the chapter on Mummy media and literature at the end. It serves as an enhanced bibliography.

