



The Eye of Horus

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Hired by the Egyptology department of a Denver museum to create displays for an exhibit, medical illustrator Kate McKinnon encounters an intriguing enigma: the mummy of a young woman who lived thirty-three centuries ago, her ribs broken, one hand shattered, and a man's skull between her legs.

With the aid of radiologist Max Cavanaugh, employing the latest forensic and medical imaging techniques, Kate starts to unravel the millennia-old puzzle. And as the mummy's remarkable secrets come to light, a parallel story begins to unfold of a young girl born into a nest of vipers in an age when godlike pharaohs reigned in unimaginable splendor. Suddenly Kate finds herself on a twisting path leading her deeper into the shadows of ancient Kemet...and ever closer to the shocking revelations of a crime so staggering its horrific power remains undiminished by the relentless passage of time.

The Eye of Horus Details

Date : Published July 3rd 2001 by HarperTorch (first published 2000)

ISBN : 9780380802234

Author : Carol Thurston

Format : Paperback 414 pages

Genre : Mystery, Historical, Historical Fiction, Fiction, Northern Africa, Egypt

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From Reader Review The Eye of Horus for online ebook

Becki says

This is one of the books I come back to when I'm out of other things to read. I rarely come across anything I'd like to read multiple times, even other books I've loved, so this one stands out for me. It's like a favorite movie you watch when you're sick at home and need something comfortable and familiar.

Caitlin Hudnall says

Wow, I am just shocked to see so many low-star reviews for this book!

I read A LOT, and have been reading since before I can remember, but this is my first book review. I just felt I had to step in and give Carol praise! This is THE best book I have ever read--my top favorite since I picked it up over 10 years ago.

The story lines of past and present are so wonderfully interwoven and heartwrenching, that you can't help but be drawn in. Maybe it helps that I have a thing for Egyptology, haha! But it's such a beautiful story, with such feeling put into the characters, that I can't ever forget this read. The only book I have ever cried over. I just wish that Carol had written more books...it's torture that she wrote such an amazing story and stopped at just one!

Darklysewn says

Loved how this progressed, and the details that went into describing things as the story progressed. the ending left me wishing for more though.

Brooke says

old blog...

The Eye of Horus was one of those "I randomly picked this book off of the fiction shelf" finds, that claimed to be a "novel of suspense" on the front cover. By picking a book about which I knew nothing of the author, I took the risk of getting a crappy writer, and I wouldn't say she was the best. I can't even remember her name. The plot and scope of the book was great. It had tons of nerdy information and speculation about Ancient Egyptian dynasties and religion and medicine, etc. The story centers around the character of Aset/Tashat, whose mummy is x-rayed in a museum and found to have a whole bunch of broken bones, something mysterious wrapped around her left hand, and a male skull between her legs. Pretty intriguing stuff. So there are two stories, shifting back and forth between the modern characters who are trying to piece together Aset's story (and meanwhile fall in love and suffer an interminably long period of sexual frustration). The second story is from the point of view of Senakhetenre, an innovative physician who lived during the 18th dynasty, who saves Aset's life when she is a little girl from a fever. This was definitely the juiciest of the two stories. Saving Aset, who is the daughter of the high priest who is currently fucking Nefertiti -who is Aset's mother and also the wife of the ex-pharaoh, wins Senakhetenre the position of house physician to the high priest's family and servants. The story becomes very complex, with palace intrigue and

many people wanting to kill Aset simply for being Nefertiti's daughter and being alive. Senakhetenre cares for her like a daughter, which makes it really fucked up when she turns 15 and is all budding and they wind up getting married and escaping North up the Nile and have a really hot sex scene on the boat on their wedding night. I guess if you want to know about the quivering members of Egyptians, this is your book. Anyway, I wouldn't call it a novel of suspense, but it is a good mystery and is especially interesting if you have a nerdy interest in Egyptian culture and mummies.

This book could have been a million times better, however, if the author knew how to introduce characters. I was frustrated often because she wouldn't describe what the people looked like. Sometimes not at all, or at other times she would wait several chapters before mentioning the main character's hair color. Also, I think the complexity of the Egyptian court intrigue and all the names and pseudo-names that people went by then (everybody seemed to have at least two names) demanded some more explanation and planning than she provided, and got to be confusing. The English major in me kept thinking about how it could have been so much better, but it was still entertaining.

Nikki says

I've had this book on my bookshelves for probably going on a decade. When I finally got around to reading it after so long I discovered I had already begun it at some point as there was a bookmark in the book at around 10 pages. This should have tipped me off-I clearly did not care to continue years ago, then entirely forgot I ever started the book. Nikki now agrees with Nikki years ago--this book was dull, so very very dull.

A mystery surrounding a real Egyptian mummy written in fictional form with present-day and Ancient Egyptian storylines? Sounds like a winner, especially for someone who adores all things Ancient Egyptian. But the writing made the book so very boring and made me want to take a nap instead of reading each time I picked it up (and I never fall asleep reading). The characters are uninteresting and dully written. The book could have been much shorter had the unnecessary ramblings been omitted. Thurston's writing style even made Ancient Egypt uninteresting and I did not care for the voice of the physician at all. I wish the Ancient Egyptian side of the story had been told from a different perspective.

Overall, I gained nothing from reading this book (including enjoyment) and I feel as though I need to read a really good Egyptian book to get this bad taste out of my mouth.

Natalie says

I wish I could give this book two and a half stars- because that's what it really deserves. It was interesting, but rather hard to follow at some points. The back and forth between Tenre/Aset and Kate/Max made the book engaging, and was probably the only reason I had the will to finish it. The Kate and Max relationship was slightly confusing- the reader is made to believe they were a couple before they actually became one. I was under the impression that Kate and Cleo were best friends- which proved to be untrue- and the reason why Kate was fired by Dave is still very unclear to me. Tenre and Aset's relationship was definitely less confusing, but their world was moreso. Thurston would bring a slew of characters into the story without describing who they were or what relationship they had to the main ones, and you're left sifting through the strange Egyptian names trying to figure out who's who and why they're important. People do things without rhyme or reason, with very little explanation of why. The history seemed accurate, and there's no doubting this author's imagination, but when it comes to writing about relationships, her skills are seriously lacking. I wouldn't recommend this to anyone but those who really enjoy reading Egyptian historical fiction, and enjoy

watching procedural dramas like Bones. Otherwise, leave this one in the dust.

SJuhl4 says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I wish the author would do more. While I gravitate toward Egyptian themes (among others) this was a good mystery. She had good character depth and enough clues to keep you reading without giving away the punch. Very good read.

Barbara ★ says

I gave this book three hours and finally gave up after 150 pages (of 408) as I found it too boring to continue. Well I guess it's not really boring per se, but I just didn't care about any of the characters and couldn't force myself to read any further.

There are two cojoined storylines: one is Kate and Max trying to identify a mummy and how she mysteriously died. The science of this is fascinating as is the budding romance between them. The other is the life and times of the mummy (in life, of course). This part is interesting too but too drawn out and tedious. I got to the point where I just didn't care enough to continue. The incest and female mutilation in the Egyptian society was just too disturbing to read about.

I expected a mystery thriller and this is more the life and times of an Egyptian princess not wanted by her mother (the queen) and her physician who is also her best friend which is kinda creepy considering she is 6 and he is over 30. Yuk.

Marilyn says

I wanted to like this. Basically, I found it boring. A few times the forensics and the knowledge of the ancient Egyptian physicians in the story piqued my curiosity. Frequently the conversations were confusing, as to who said what, and at times I felt like I had missed something important in the dialog. I didn't care for the characters. Quite frankly, I found them annoying. The author should stick to journalism and forget novel-writing.

Roseanne says

Possibly my favorite novel EVER.

I've read this book more times than I can remember and I swear, ever time I read it, I am swept away by the mystery waiting to be solved, the passion in both the past and present story-lines, the fascinating portrayal of daily life for a doctor in ancient Egypt during political turmoil, the sweet innocence that Kate epitomizes while learning to not only love but also learning about her disability.

Was a well-rounded story fleshed out nicely with character arcs, story-lines that keep you captivated, and worlds written so you feel you could walk down the street using all senses! Highly Recommend!

Tani says

I was surprised to find that I actually enjoyed the modern day portion of this book more than I did the portion that dealt with Egypt. I'm not quite sure why, but the character of Aset/Tashat grated on my nerves a bit. I also was not entirely convinced by the ending idea that linked the two times.

That said, I did enjoy this book quite a bit. I thought that both the mystery and the technological aspects of the story were done quite well. I also enjoyed the romance between Max and Kate and the Egypt that Thurston writes about is nothing if not intriguing. This is one that I definitely don't regret reading.

Deb says

I just finished a list of historical fiction featuring Egypt, Rome and Greece and rediscovered this novel. It parallels the story of a forensic sculptor building the face of a mummy and the story of the the mummy as she was in real life. Therefore, you already know things did not end well for her and you can watch the development of her story and compare it to the speculations of the present day people trying to piece her story together. She is, in the story, the last daughter of Nefertiti, who is portrayed very negatively. In addition I just finished Moran's Nefertiti, which gives a more fully developed picture to add to the context.

Chloe says

I really, really wanted to like this book. Everything about the plot and settings drew me in. Forensic science, museums, ancient Egypt, court intrigue, murder, and a little bit of love are all the perfect makings of a rollicking read, right? Wrong. For starters, the book is simply too long. The story took too much time to get through, and a lot of editing would have been appreciated. By the time I was 300 hundred pages in, I was more than ready to read the conclusion. Part of the problem stemmed from the really terrible characters. The scenes set in Ancient Egypt were confusing, and I often had trouble understanding who was who and what exactly was going on. The writing was also too clunky, and characters (especially Kate and love interest Max in the modern-day chapters) were constantly spouting big blocky paragraphs of forensic and Ancient Egyptian trivia. It's one thing to fill a book full of interesting facts, it's another to have every character sound like an encyclopedia every single time they open their mouth. (view spoiler) Characters like Dave and Cleo were never fully fleshed out, and I thought that Dave in particular was written rather one-dimensionally. Egyptian characters such as Pagosh, Mena, and Ramose were mysteries to me, and their motives weren't explained much either (contributing to my difficulty in caring much about them). However, I could have forgiven all of the above, all the badly written dialogue and weak characterizations if it weren't for one thing: the romance. (view spoiler) It's a shame that this "novel of suspense" ended up so disappointing, because it had such an intriguing premise.

Ivana says

Jeden z prvých románov, ak nie vôbec prvý s dvomi časovými líniami - teda pre mňa, nie všeobecne :-)
Pamätám si, ako sa mi to páčilo, bola som na strednej škole, je to naozaj dávno. Egyptská línia sa pekne

prelínala s tou sú?asnou, postupne sa odha?ovali záhady života hlavných hrdinov, minulých aj sú?asných. Myslím, že ani po rokoch by neurazila. Ak na ?u niekde narazíte, pre?ítajte si ju :-)

Marcie says

Read it so many times it fell apart. If you like Egypt, this is a great one.
