

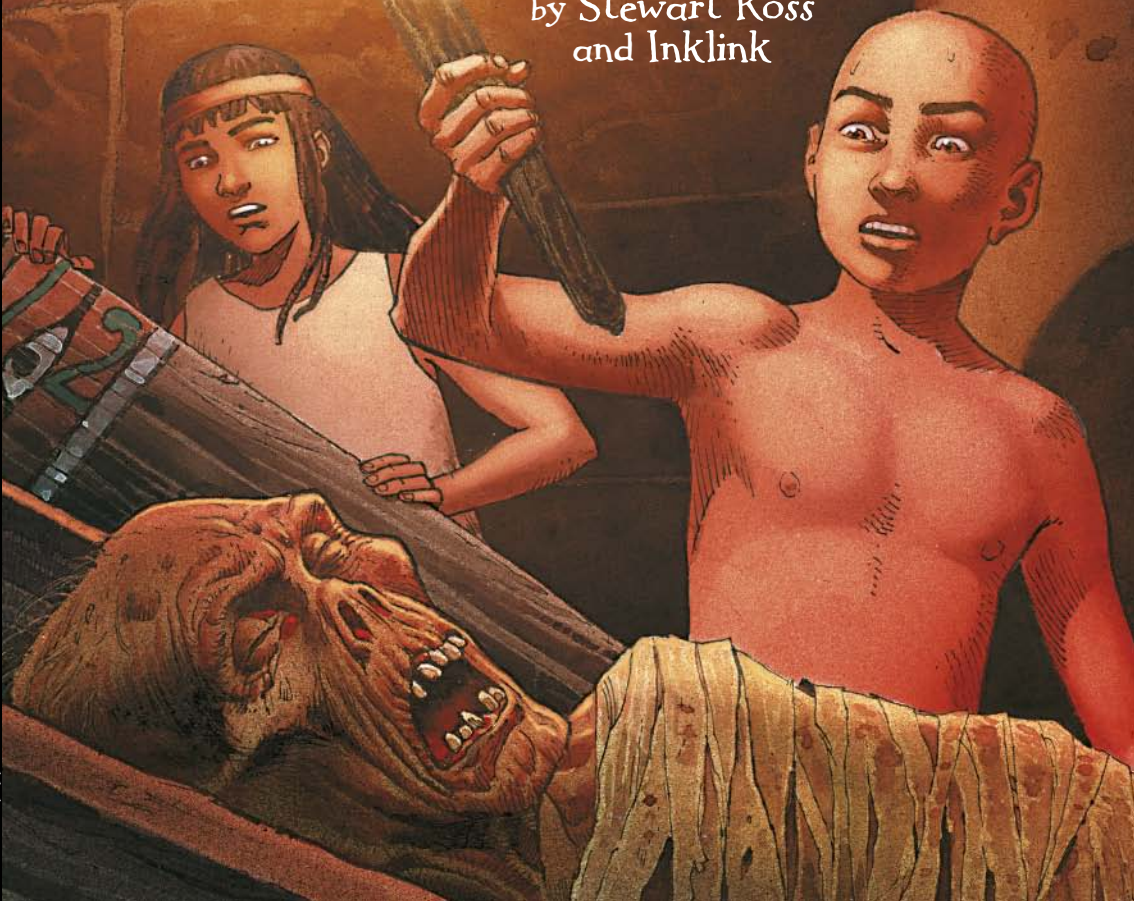


GRAPHIC READERS



CURSE of the CROCODILE GOD

by Stewart Ross
and Inklinc



A Note to Parents and Teachers

DK READERS is a compelling program for beginning readers, designed in conjunction with leading literacy experts, including Dr. Linda Gambrell, Professor of Education at Clemson University. Dr. Gambrell has served as President of the National Reading Conference and the College Reading Association, and has recently been elected to serve as President of the International Reading Association.

Beautiful illustrations and superb full-color photographs combine with engaging, easy-to-read stories to offer a fresh approach to each subject in the series.

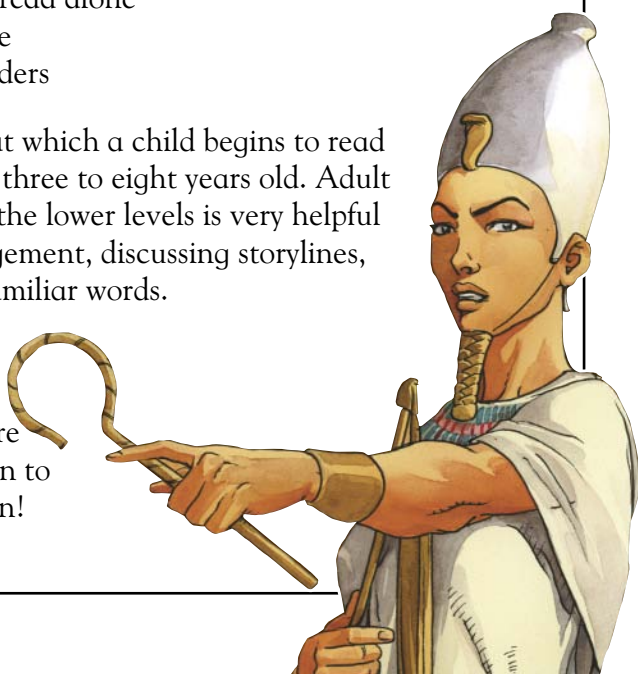
Each DK READER is guaranteed to capture a child's interest while developing his or her reading skills, general knowledge, and love of reading.

The five levels of DK READERS are aimed at different reading abilities, enabling you to choose the books that are exactly right for your child:

- Pre-level 1:** Learning to read
- Level 1:** Beginning to read
- Level 2:** Beginning to read alone
- Level 3:** Reading alone
- Level 4:** Proficient readers

The “normal” age at which a child begins to read can be anywhere from three to eight years old. Adult participation through the lower levels is very helpful for providing encouragement, discussing storylines, and sounding out unfamiliar words.

No matter which level you select, you can be sure that you are helping your child learn to read, then read to learn!



Level 3

Spacebusters: The Race to the Moon
Beastly Tales
Shark Attack!
Titanic
Invaders from Outer Space
Movie Magic
Plants Bite Back!
Time Traveler
Bermuda Triangle
Tiger Tales
Aladdin
Heidi
Zeppelin: The Age of the Airship
Spies
Terror on the Amazon
Disasters at Sea
The Story of Anne Frank
Abraham Lincoln: Lawyer, Leader, Legend
George Washington: Soldier, Hero,
President
Extreme Sports
Spiders' Secrets
The Big Dinosaur Dig

Space Heroes: Amazing Astronauts
The Story of Chocolate
School Days Around the World
LEGO: Mission to the Arctic
NFL: Super Bowl Heroes
NFL: Peyton Manning
NFL: Whiz Kid Quarterbacks
MLB: Home Run Heroes: Big Mac, Sammy, and
Junior
MLB: Roberto Clemente
MLB: Roberto Clemente *en español*
MLB: World Series Heroes
MLB: Record Breakers
MLB: Down to the Wire: Baseball's Great
Pennant Races
Star Wars: Star Pilot
Abraham Lincoln: Abogado, Líder,
Leyenda *en español*
Al Espacio: La Carrera a la Luna
en español
The X-Men School
Fantastic Four: The World's Greatest Superteam

Level 4

Days of the Knights
Volcanoes and Other Natural Disasters
Secrets of the Mummies
Pirates! Raiders of the High Seas
Horse Heroes
Trojan Horse
Micro Monsters
Going for Gold!
Extreme Machines
Flying Ace: The Story of Amelia
Earhart
Robin Hood
Black Beauty
Free at Last! The Story of
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Joan of Arc
Welcome to The Globe! The
Story of Shakespeare's Theater
Spooky Spinechillers
Antarctic Adventure
Space Station: Accident on Mir
Atlantis: The Lost City?
Dinosaur Detectives
Danger on the Mountain: Scaling the World's
Highest Peaks
Crime Busters
The Story of Muhammad Ali
First Flight: The Story of the
Wright Brothers
D-day Landings: The Story of
the Allied Invasion
Solo Sailing
LEGO: Race for Survival
WCW: Going for Goldberg
WCW: Feel the Sting

WCW: Fit for the Title
WCW: Finishing Moves
JLA: Batman's Guide to Crime
and Detection
JLA: Superman's Guide to the Universe
JLA: Aquaman's Guide to the Oceans
JLA: Wonder Woman's Book of Myths
JLA: The Flash's Book of Speed
JLA: Green Lantern's Book of
Inventions
The Story of the X-Men: How it all Began
Creating the X-Men: How Comic Books
Come to Life
Spider-Man's Amazing Powers
The Story of Spider-Man
The Incredible Hulk's Book of Strength
The Story of the Incredible Hulk
Transformers Armada: The Awakening
Transformers Armada: The Quest
Transformers Armada: The Unicron
Battles
Transformers Armada: The Uprising
Transformers Energon: Megatron Returns
Transformers Energon: Terrorcon Attack
Star Wars: Galactic Crisis
Los Asombrosos Poderes de Spider-Man
en español
La Historia de Spider-Man *en español*
Graphic Readers: Curse of the Crocodile
God
Graphic Readers: Instruments of Death
Graphic Readers: The Price of Victory
Graphic Readers: The Terror Trail
Fantastic Four: Evil Adversaries



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Designers Cathy Tincknell
and John Kelly
Senior Editor Catherine Saunders
Brand Manager Lisa Lanzarini
Publishing Manager Simon Beecroft
Category Publisher Alex Allan
DTP Designer Hanna Ländin
Production Rochelle Talary

Reading Consultant
Maureen Fernandes

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All artwork by Inklinc except the illustrations of the town, the temple and the pharaoh on page 42, the servant, marriage contract, prisoners, Chief Embalmer and Lord Ini's Palace on page 43, the pyramid, burial chamber, and the robbers on page 44, the soldiers and the House of the Dead on page 45, the priest and the temple on page 46, and the natron table on page 48 by Richard Bonson.

Discover more at
www.dk.com

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READERS



CURSE of the CROCODILE GOD

Written by Stewart Ross
Illustrated by Inklinc



CURSE OF THE CROCODILE GOD

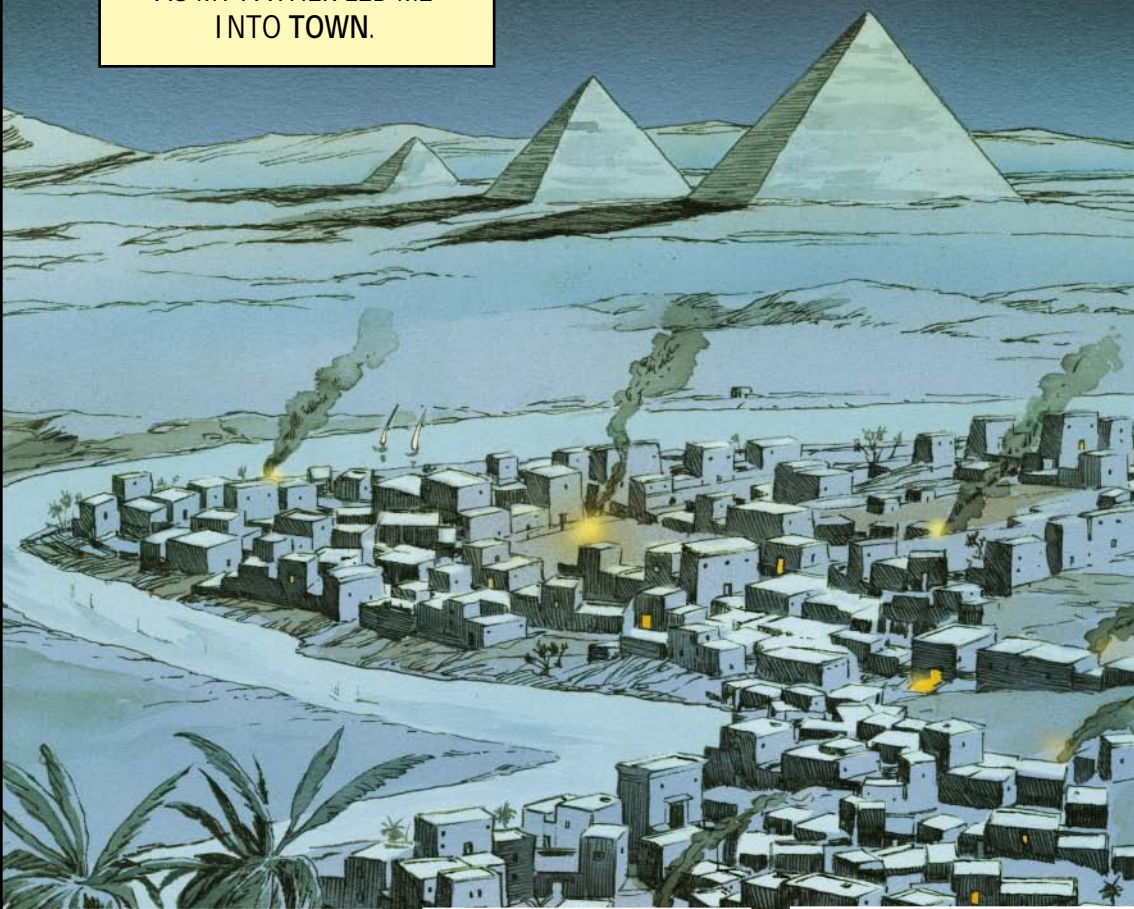
Methen's story takes place 4,000 years ago in Ancient Egypt. It is the year 1795 BCE, and the ruler of Egypt is Pharaoh Sobekneferu. Our hero and his new friend Madja live in a town near Hawara in northern Egypt. Turn to page 42 to see a map of Ancient Egypt and a timeline, then let the story begin....



"MY NAME IS METHEN, and this is my friend Madja. Our lives are in great danger!

We are caught in a fiendish plot hatched by a corrupt official. As the son of a respected priest, nothing in my life has prepared me for this. My days have been spent at scribe school, learning to read and write. Madja is a servant girl in a nobleman's court. Like me, she is 13 years old, but our paths had never crossed until the evening of the banquet at Lord Ini's palace."

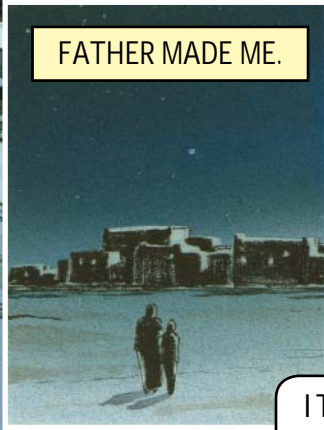
THE SILVER MOON LIT OUR
WAY ACROSS THE DESERT
AS MY FATHER LED ME
INTO TOWN.



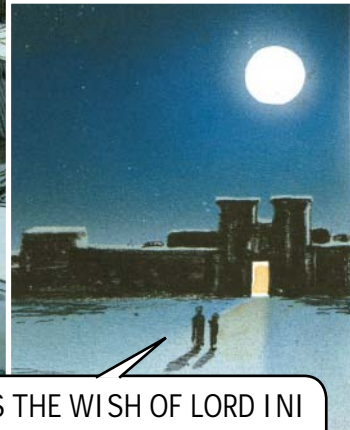
I NEVER EVEN
WANTED TO GO.



FATHER MADE ME.



IT IS THE WISH OF LORD INI
TO MEET YOU, METHEN.





WHY DOES LORD I NI HAVE POWER OVER YOU, FATHER?

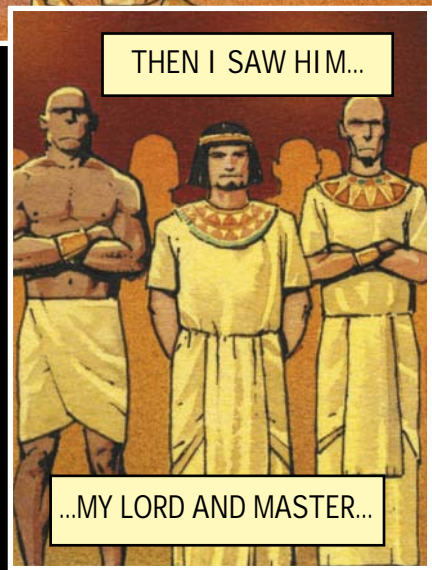


HE IS MY LORD AND YOURS, TOO, METHEN.

HE'S THE OVERSEER OF ALL THE PRIESTS IN THE SOBEK TEMPLE AND CLOSE TO THE PHARAOH.



I'D BETTER WATCH WHAT I SAY.



THEN I SAW HIM...

...MY LORD AND MASTER...

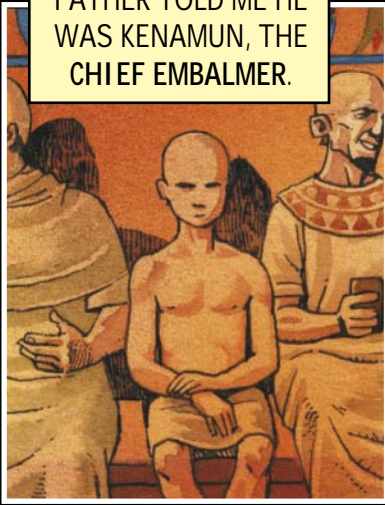


...LORD I NI.

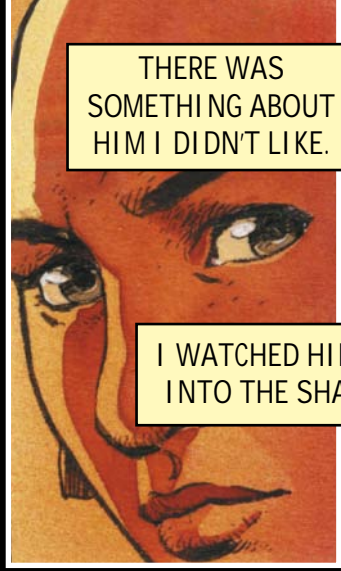
FATHER, WHO IS THAT MAN WITH LORD I NI?

SHH! QUIET!

FATHER TOLD ME HE WAS KENAMUN, THE CHIEF EMBALMER.



THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT HIM I DIDN'T LIKE.



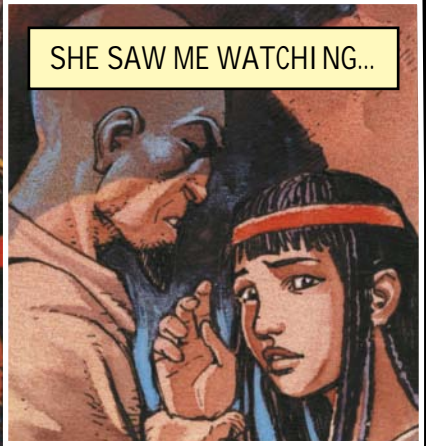
I WATCHED HIM SLIDE INTO THE SHADOWS.

HE WAS ARGUING WITH SOMEONE...



...A SERVANT GIRL.

SHE SAW ME WATCHING...



...AND HEADED TOWARD ME.



C...CAN I HELP YOU, SIR?

CAN I HELP YOU?

I CANNOT TALK NOW!





CAN YOU MEET ME TOMORROW, AFTER SUNSET?



WHERE?

THE WELL, BY THE KITCHEN GATE.

WHAT WERE YOU SAYING TO THAT SERVANT, METHEN?



NOTHING.



THE NEXT EVENING...



...I CREPT OUT.



SHE WAS WAITING FOR ME.



PSST! IN HERE!



I AM MADJA, A SERVANT AT LORD INI'S PALACE.



I AM METHEN.
WHAT IS YOUR TROUBLE?



IT IS NOT EASY TO SPEAK ABOUT. I AM BEING FORCED INTO MARRIAGE.



TO WHOM WILL YOU BE GIVEN?



I AM TO SHARE THE HOUSE OF THE CHI EF EMBALMER.



NOT KENAMUN??!!

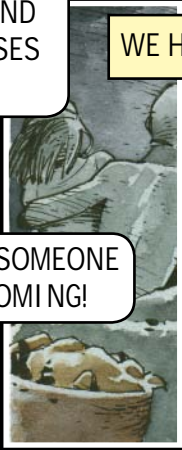
THE MAN WHOSE HANDS PULL OUT THE ENTRAILS OF THE DEAD!

HE IS SO OLD AND HE OWNS A WIFE AND THREE MISTRESSES ALREADY!

WE HID QUICKLY.

SHHH! SOMEONE IS COMING!

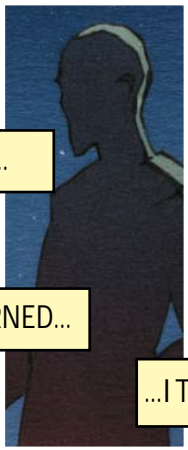
THERE WERE THREE MEN, BUT I COULDN'T SEE THEIR FACES.



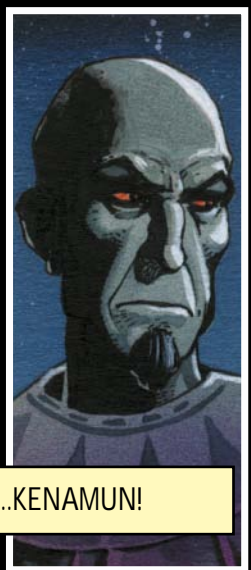
THEY CREPT OFF INTO THE MOONLIGHT.

BUT THEN...

...ONE TURNED...

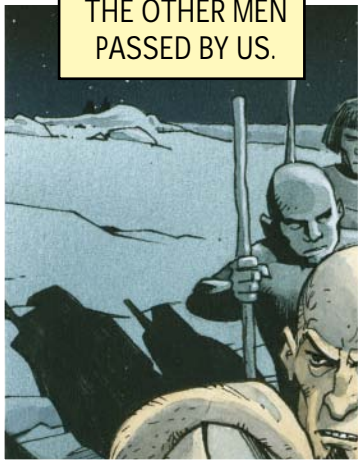


...IT WAS HIM...



...KENAMUN!

KENAMUN AND THE OTHER MEN PASSED BY US.



ONE OF THE MEN HAD A LIMP.



WE FOLLOWED THEM, KEEPING OUR DISTANCE.

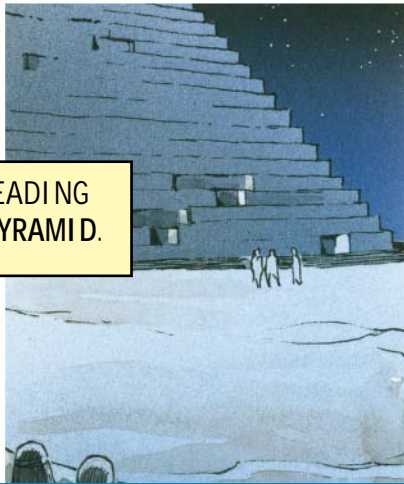
ALL THREE CARRIED WOODEN STICKS.



WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?



THEY WERE HEADING TOWARD THE PYRAMID.



THEY BEGAN TO CLIMB
UP THE PYRAMID!



USING THE STICKS...



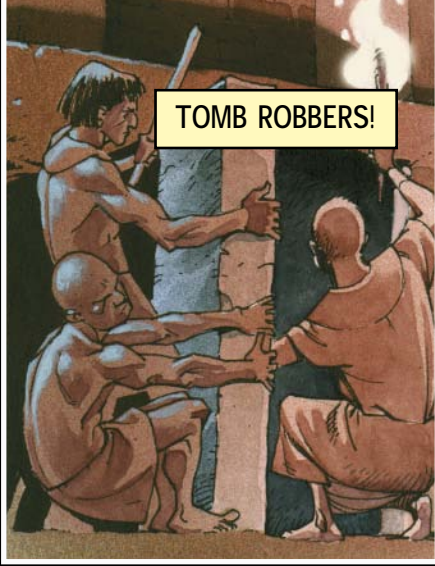
...THE MEN PRISED ASIDE
A HUGE STONE.



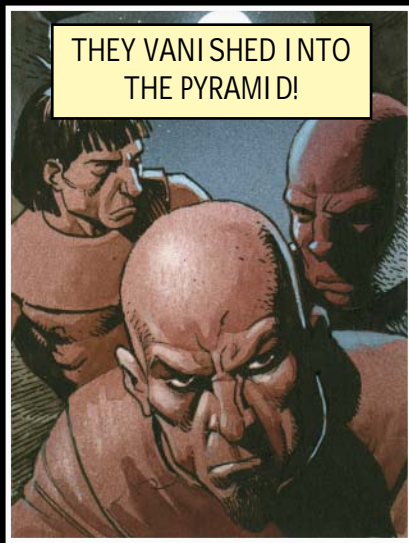
WHAT IN THE
NAME OF RA?!

METHEN,
BE QUIET!





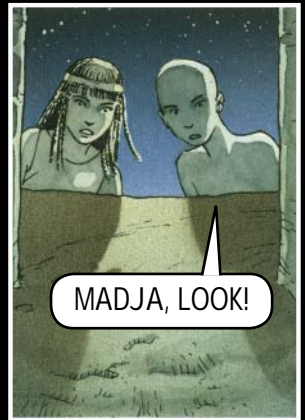
TOMB ROBBERS!



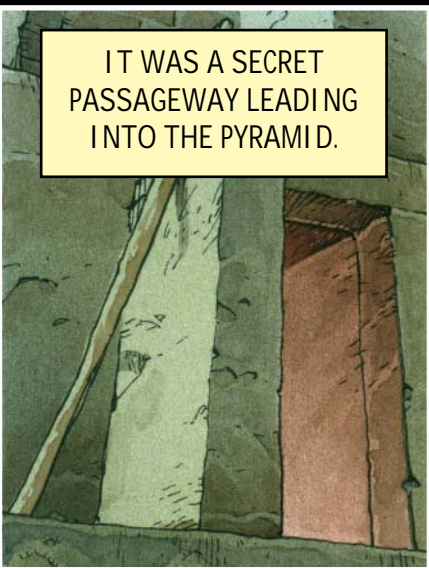
THEY VANISHED INTO THE PYRAMID!



LET'S FOLLOW!



MADJA, LOOK!



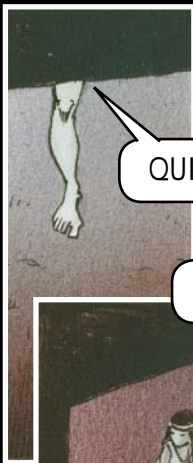
IT WAS A SECRET PASSAGEWAY LEADING INTO THE PYRAMID.



THE PASSAGEWAY WAS HOT AND DARK. THE AIR WAS STALE.



LISTEN...SOMEONE APPROACHES!

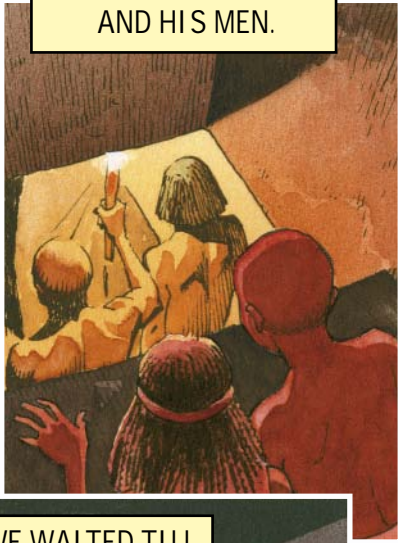


QUI CKLY! UP HERE!



DON'T MOVE!

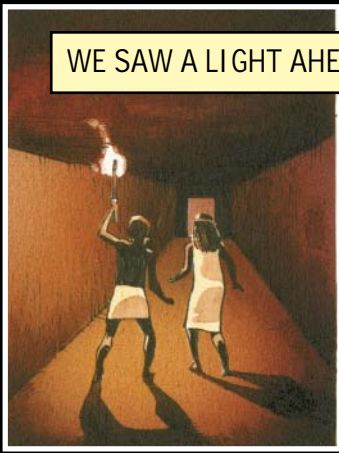
IT WAS KENAMUN AND HIS MEN.



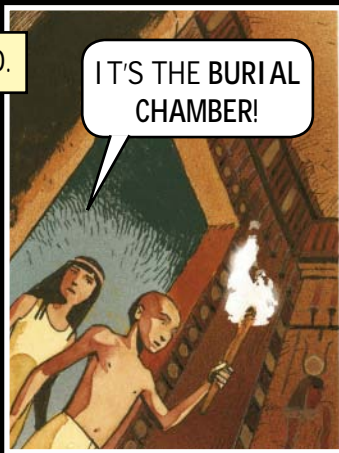
WE WAITED TILL THEY WERE PAST.

LET'S SEE WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN.

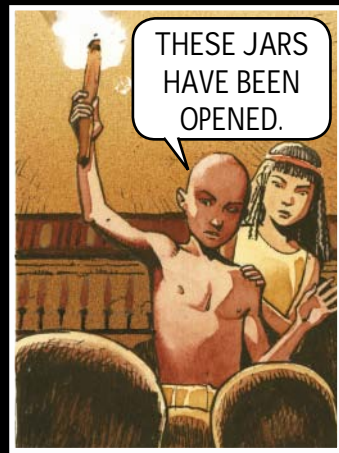




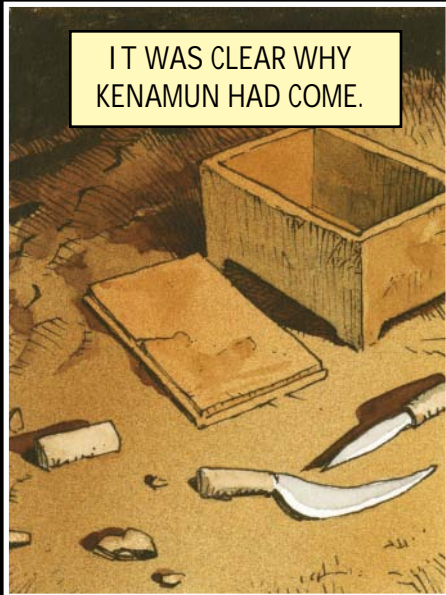
WE SAW A LIGHT AHEAD.



IT'S THE BURIAL CHAMBER!



THESE JARS
HAVE BEEN
OPENED.

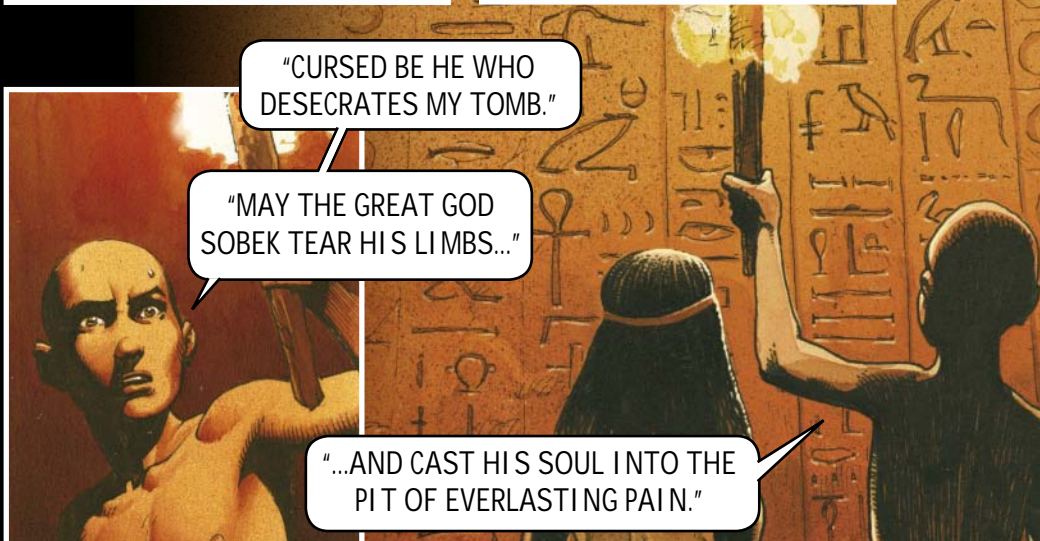


IT WAS CLEAR WHY
KENAMUN HAD COME.



IT WAS THEN THAT I SAW THE
WRITING ON THE WALL.

WHAT DOES IT SAY?



"CURSED BE HE WHO
DESECRATES MY TOMB."

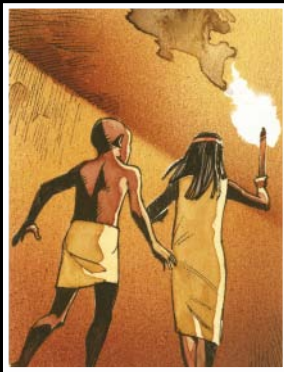
"MAY THE GREAT GOD
SOBEK TEAR HIS LIMBS..."

"...AND CAST HIS SOUL INTO THE
PIT OF EVERLASTING PAIN."



ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

WE MUST LEAVE!



TERRIFIED, WE RETRACED OUR STEPS.



THEN IT GOT WORSE.

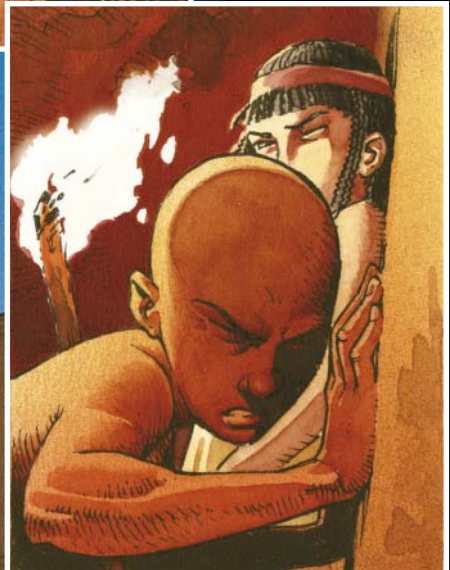


THE ENTRANCE STONE HAS BEEN PUT BACK INTO PLACE!



IT WON'T MOVE!

IT'S TOO HEAVY.





NO!



IT'S NO USE.



WE WERE TRAPPED,
BURI ED ALI VE!

WE RACED BACK TO THE
BURI AL CHAMBER.



WE'LL HAVE TO USE THE
COFFIN TO PUSH
THE DOOR OPEN .

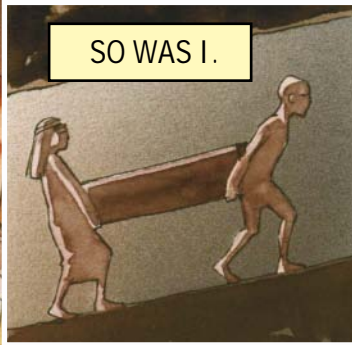


WHAT ABOUT THE
THE CURSE?

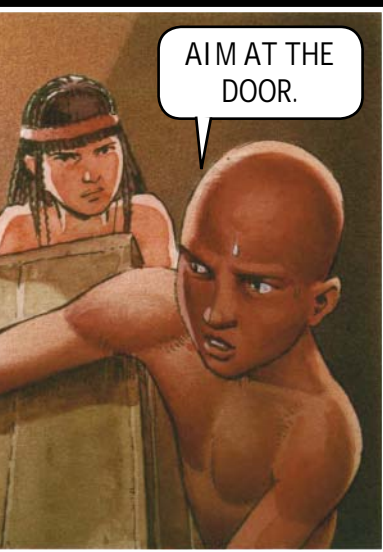


WE HAVE NO
CHOICE.

I KNEW THAT MADJA
WAS TERRIFIED.



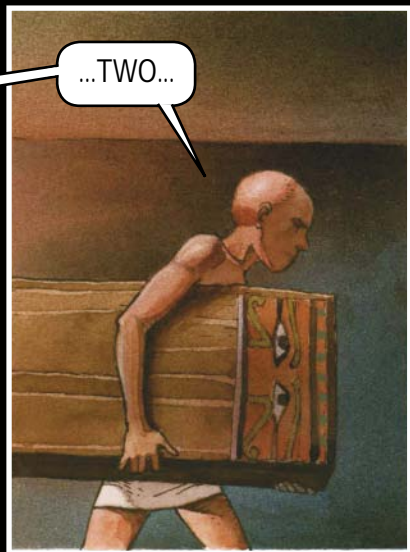
SO WAS I .



AIM AT THE DOOR.



ONE...



...TWO...



...THREE!

WE SMASHED THE COFFIN HARD AGAINST THE DOOR.



THUD!

AND AGAIN...HARDER THIS TIME!



THUD!

SUDDENLY IT GAVE WAY.



WHOOOOAH!...



OH NO!



LORD SOBEK PROTECT US!

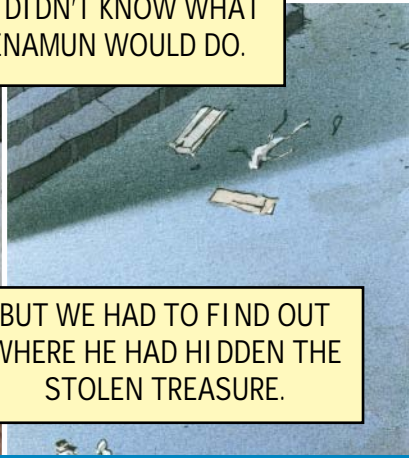


WE'VE EXPOSED KENAMUN'S SECRET ENTRANCE.

HE WILL SUSPECT HIS OWN MEN.



WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT KENAMUN WOULD DO.

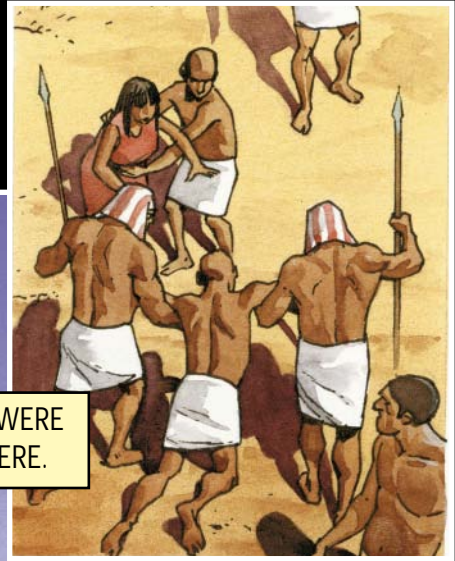


BUT WE HAD TO FIND OUT WHERE HE HAD HIDDEN THE STOLEN TREASURE.

THE NEXT DAY,
NEWS SPREAD
OF THE THEFT.



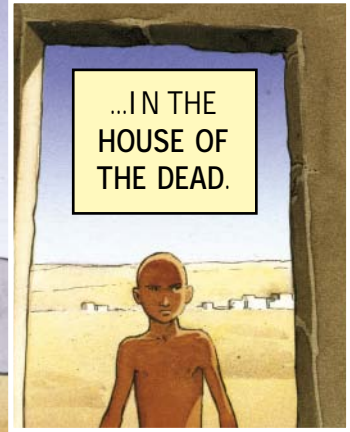
SOLDIERS WERE
EVERYWHERE.



I WAS VERY
FRIGHTENED.

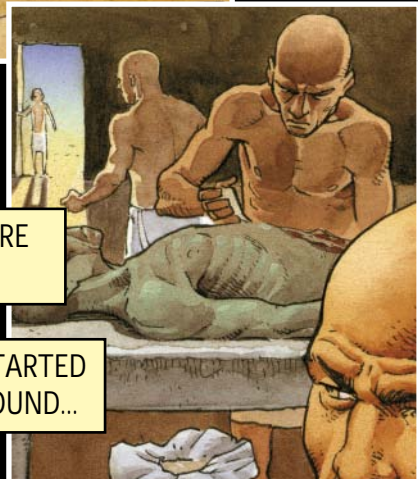
TAKING A RISK, I WENT TO
FIND KENAMUN...

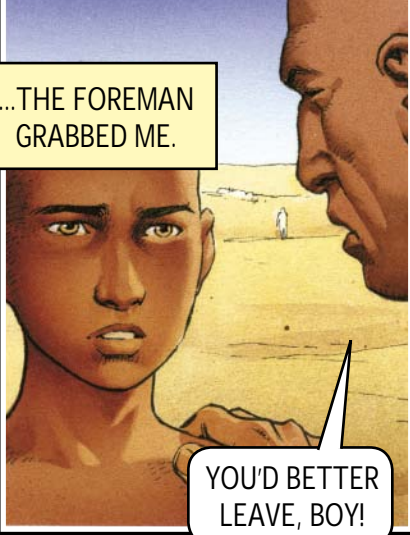
...IN THE
HOUSE OF
THE DEAD.



WHEN I GOT THERE, THEY WERE
BUSY MAKING MUMMIES.

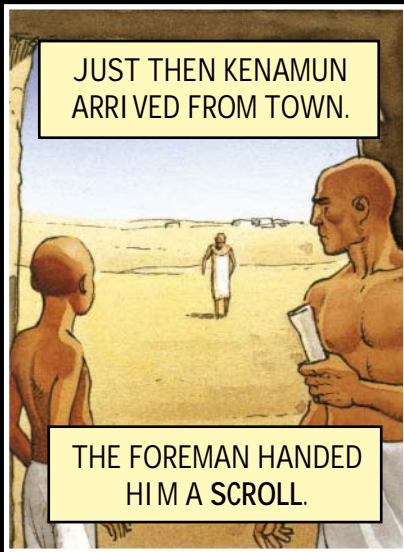
JUST AS I STARTED
TO LOOK AROUND...





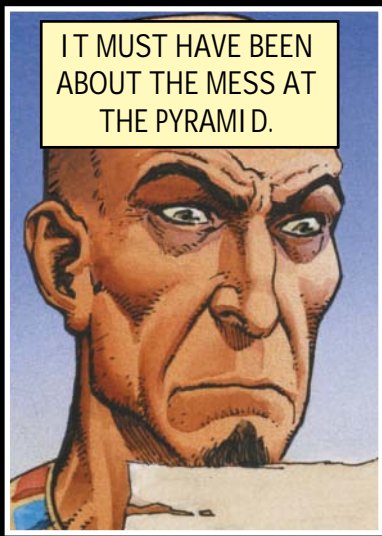
...THE FOREMAN GRABBED ME.

YOU'D BETTER LEAVE, BOY!



JUST THEN KENAMUN ARRIVED FROM TOWN.


THE FOREMAN HANDED HIM A SCROLL.




IT MUST HAVE BEEN ABOUT THE MESS AT THE PYRAMID.

KENAMUN MUST THINK THAT HIS OWN MEN...

...HAD GONE BACK FOR THEIR OWN GAIN!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, BOY?



I'LL TEACH THEM TO CROSS ME!

GET OUT!



NEXT MORNING, I WENT TO WORK WITH FATHER.

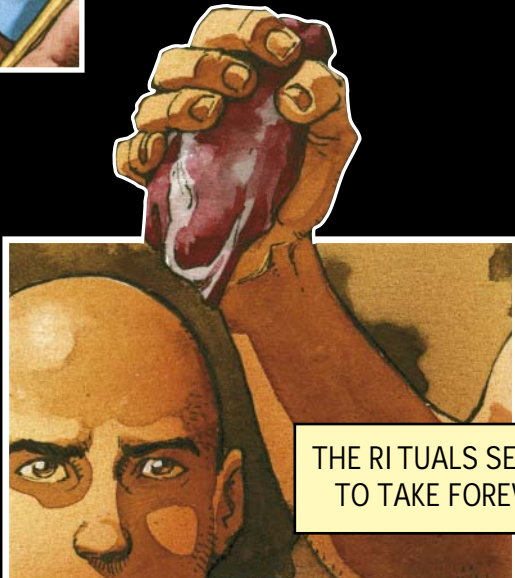
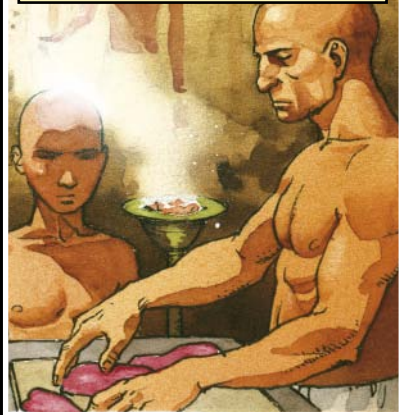
HE IS A PRIEST IN THE TEMPLE OF SOBEK.

THE CURSE OF SOBEK LAY HEAVY ON MY HEAD!

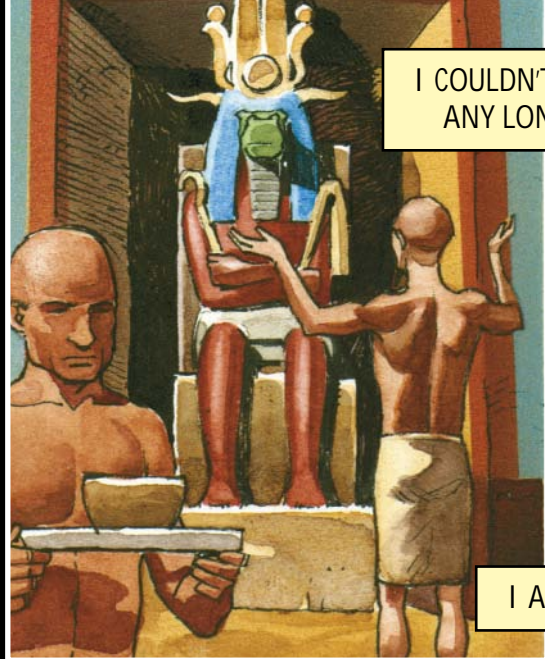


I HAD TO ASK FATHER ABOUT THE FATE OF THE PYRAMID THIEVES.

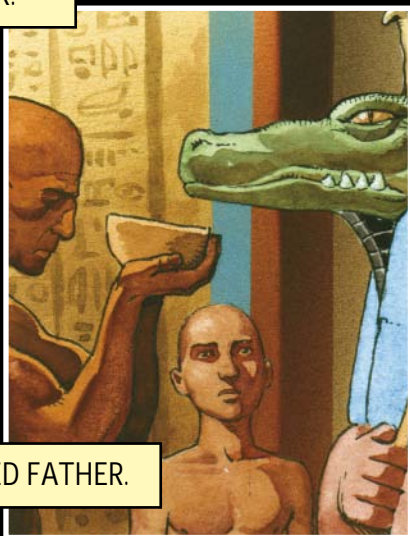
I WAITED WHILE HE PREPARED THE OFFERINGS.



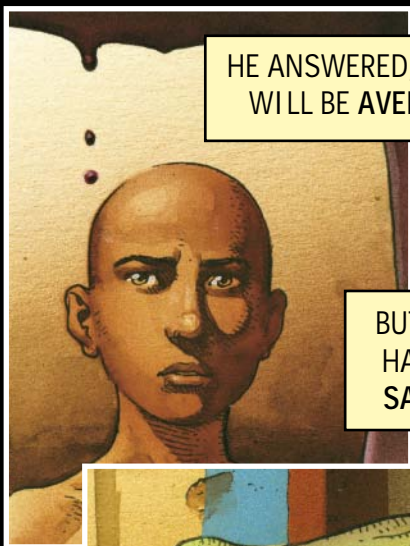
THE RITUALS SEEMED TO TAKE FOREVER.



I COULDN'T WAIT ANY LONGER.



I ASKED FATHER.



HE ANSWERED, "SOBEK WILL BE AVENGED!"

BUT MADJA AND I HAD COMMITTED SACRILEGE, TOO.



WE HOPED SOBEK WOULD HAVE MERCY ON US!

I MET MADJA THAT EVENING BY THE NILE.

WE DECIDED TO SEARCH KENAMUN'S BOAT.

THERE IT IS!

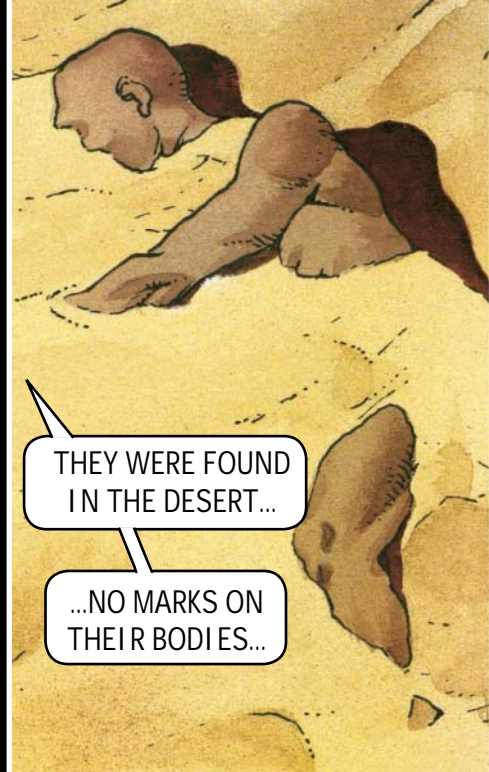
LISTEN...SOMEONE'S DOWN THERE.

TWO GUARDS WERE TALKING.

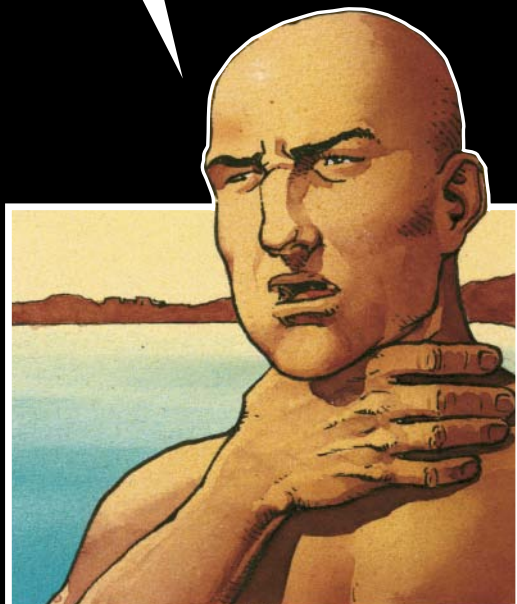
HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT NAKHT AND OLD IAHAMES WITH THE LIMP?

NO, WHAT'S HAPPENED?





...LORD INI SUSPECTS POI SON!



KENAMUN KNOWS ABOUT POI SONS!

THE GUARDS LEFT.

RI SKING ALL, WE MADE OUR WAY DOWN TO THE BOAT.



I STOOD GUARD AS MADJA STARTED TO SEARCH THE BOAT.

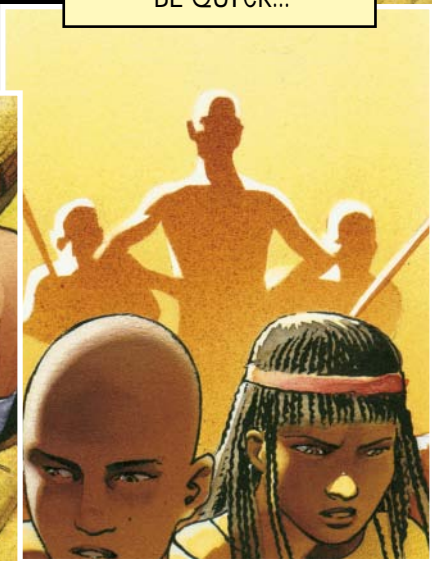


HURRY!

THERE WAS NO SIGN OF ANY STOLEN TREASURE.

I KNEW WE HAD TO BE QUICK...

THERE'S NOTHING HERE!



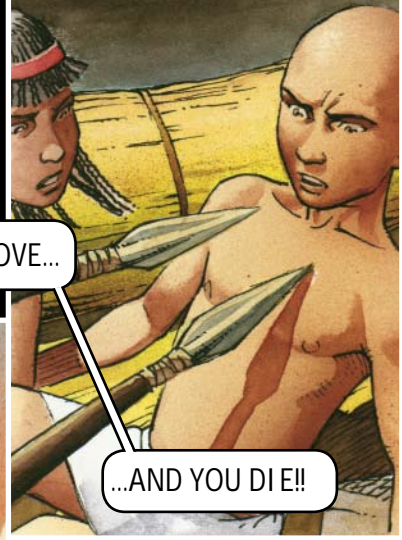
...I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW QUICK!





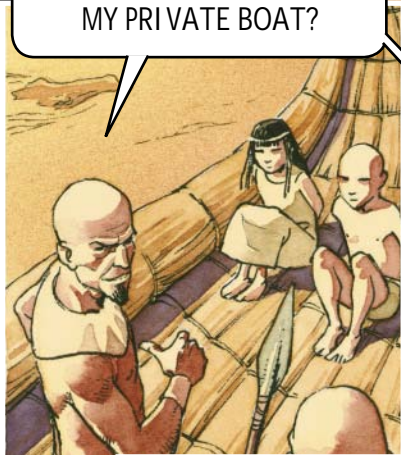
ONE SOUND...

...ONE MOVE...



...AND YOU DIE!!

NOW, WHY WOULD MY BETROTHED BE SEARCHING MY PRIVATE BOAT?



PERHAPS SHE HAS BEEN LED ASTRAY.

I WILL TEACH YOU NOT TO SNOOP INTO MY AFFAIRS!

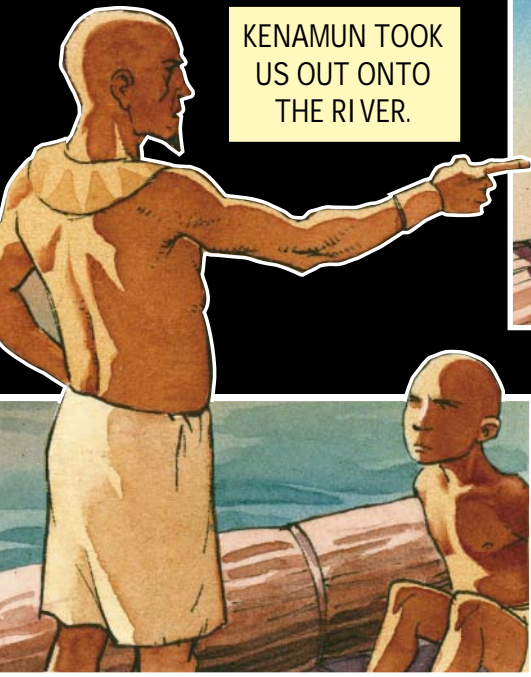
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SWIM HOME?



HA! HA!



MY BLOOD TURNED COLD.

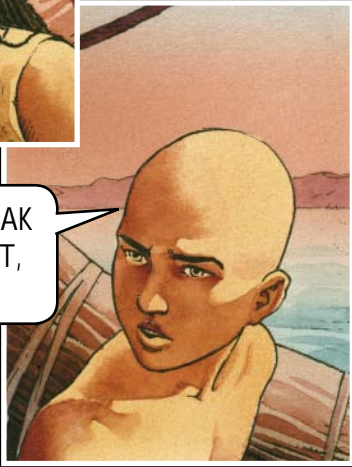


KENAMUN TOOK US OUT ONTO THE RIVER.



PLEASE FORGIVE ME, METHEN. I BROUGHT THIS UPON YOU.

DON'T SPEAK LIKE THAT, MADJA!



SILENCE!



PREPARE THE BRATS FOR THEIR SWIM!



HA! HA! HA!!



...WE THOUGHT THIS WAS LORD SOBEK'S REVENGE. BUT JUST THEN...

THE SERVANTS FORCED US TO STAND...

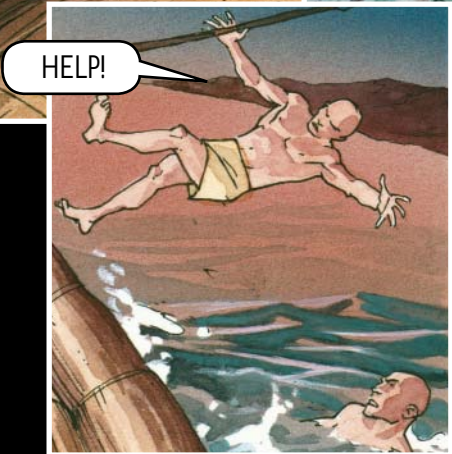
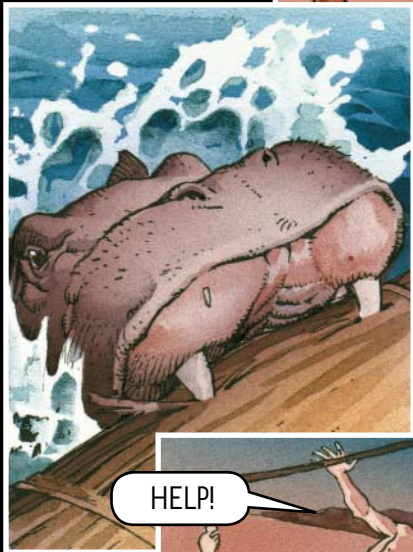


LOOK OUT,
MASTER!



HIPPOS!

AHHHHH!



HELP!

IN THE CONFUSION,
WE MADE OUR ESCAPE.



FIND THEM,
IDIOTS!



WE SWAM FOR
THE SHORE WITH
THE HIPPO RIGHT
BEHIND US.



LOOK OUT!



HURRY!

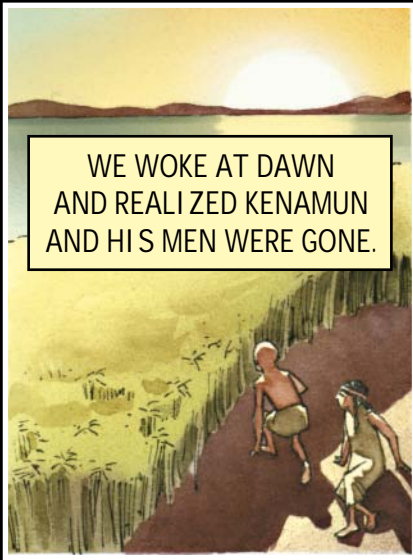


WE'RE NOT SAFE
YET—LOOK!



WE HID IN THE PAPYRUS
REEDS ALL NIGHT.





WE WOKE AT DAWN
AND REALIZED KENAMUN
AND HIS MEN WERE GONE.



WHAT SHALL
WE DO NOW?



WE MUST TELL
LORD INI.

HE WILL SAVE US.

WE RETURNED
TO THE TOWN.



THERE, WE HEADED FOR THE
PALACE OF LORD INI.

I EXPLAIN ED WHO MY FATHER WAS...

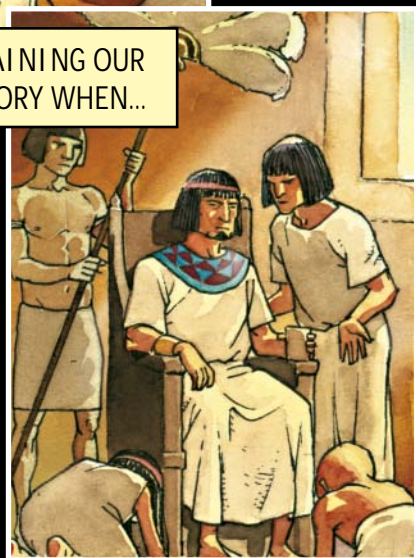


...AND WE WERE GRANTED AN AUDIENCE WITH HIS LORDSHIP.



WE WERE EXPLAIN ING OUR INCREDIBLE STORY WHEN...

...TRUMPETS BLARED AND THE DOORS WERE FLUNG OPEN.

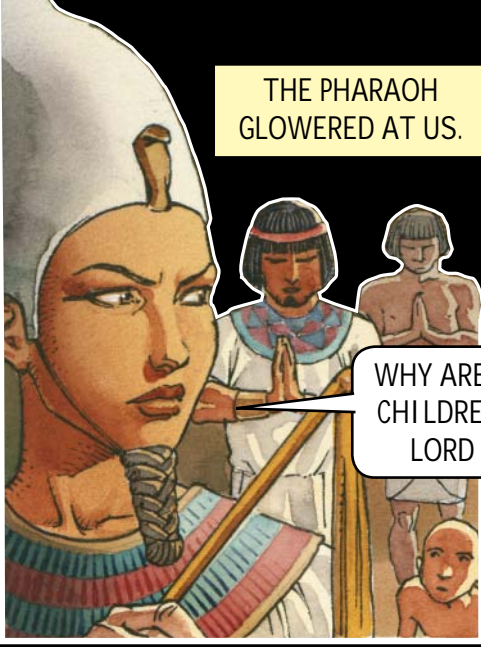


IT WAS THE PHARAOH!

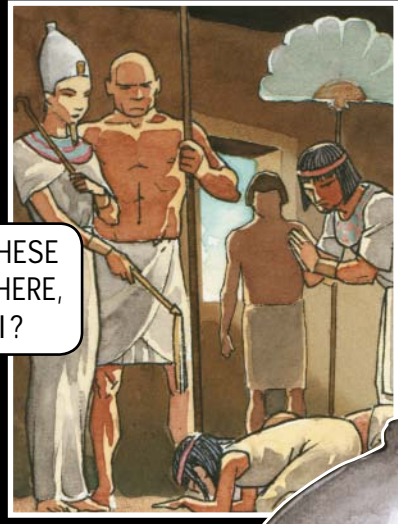


THE MIGHTY SOBEKNEFERU!

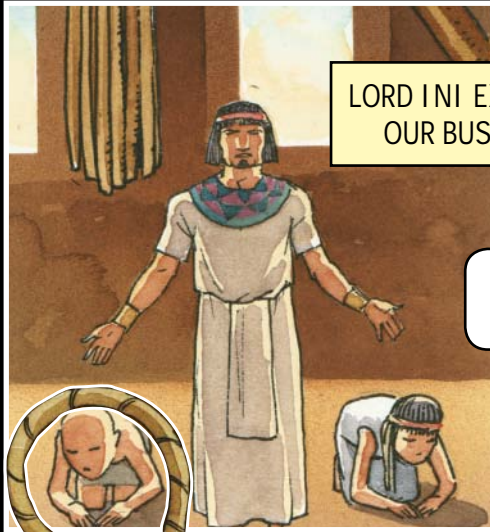
THE PHARAOH
GLOWERED AT US.



WHY ARE THESE
CHILDREN HERE,
LORD INI?



LORD INI EXPLAINED
OUR BUSINESS.




I DO NOT LIKE
WHAT I HEAR.

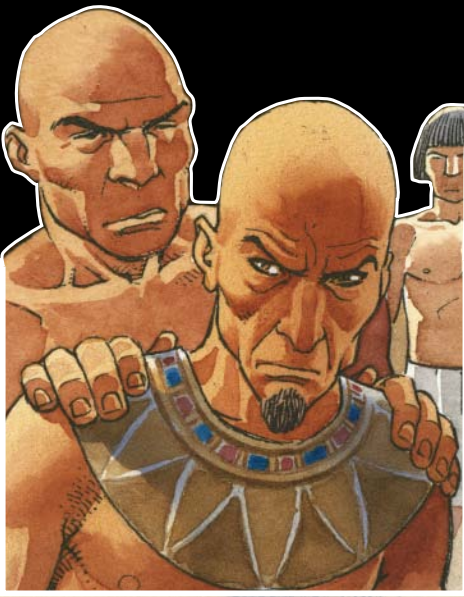


GO, BRING KENAMUN
HERE!





WHEN KENAMUN ARRIVED,
HE DENIED EVERYTHING.



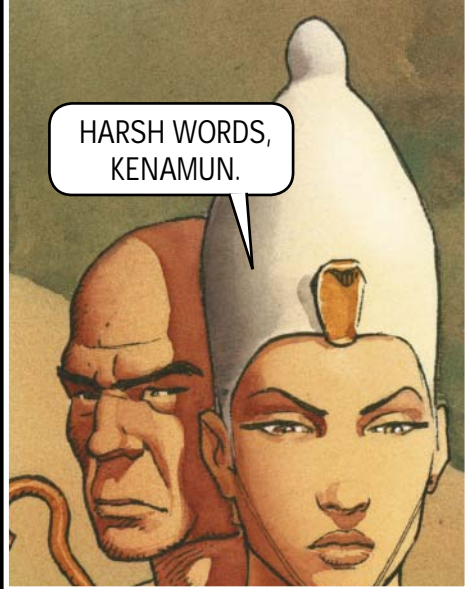
IT IS A SHAMEFUL
FALSEHOOD, YOUR MAJESTY!
WHERE IS THE EVIDENCE?

I SWEAR BY SOBEK THAT
WE ARE HONEST.

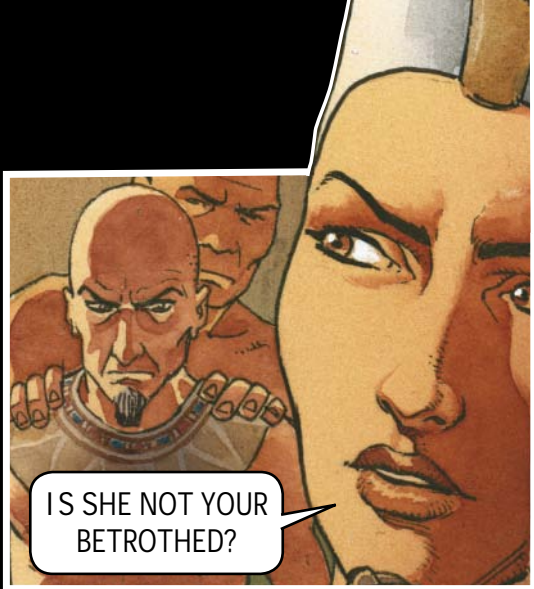
WHY WAS IAHAMES
KILLED, SIRE?

DID HE KNOW
TOO MUCH?

IGNORANT SLAVE!
SLAY HER!



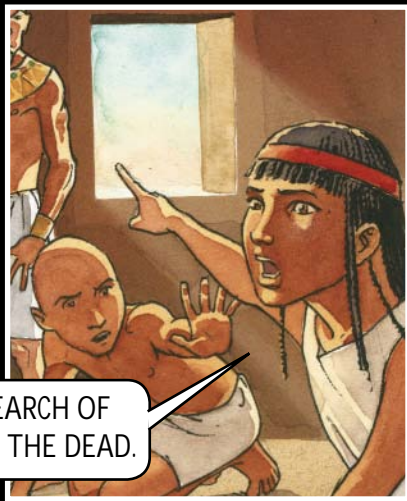
HARSH WORDS, KENAMUN.



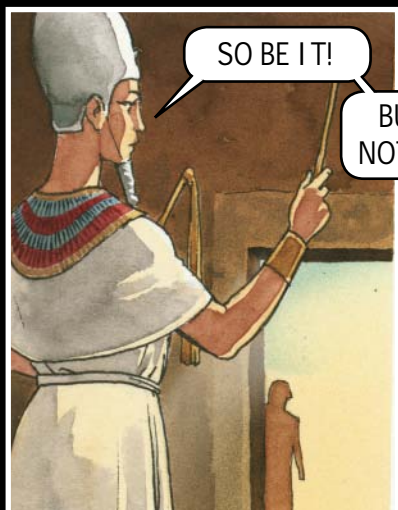
IS SHE NOT YOUR BETROTHED?



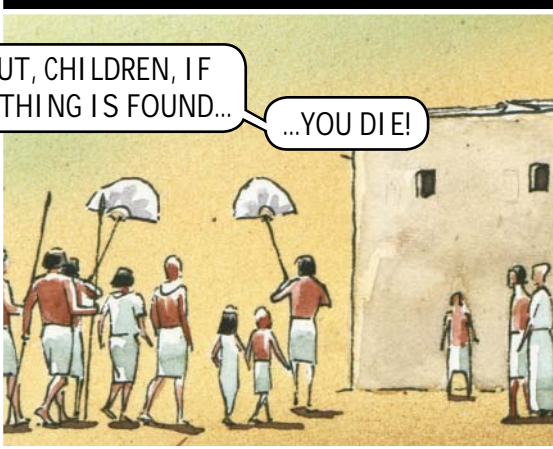
I BEG YOUR MAJESTY...



...ORDER A SEARCH OF THE HOUSE OF THE DEAD.



SO BE IT!



BUT, CHILDREN, IF NOTHING IS FOUND...

...YOU DIE!

AT THE HOUSE OF THE DEAD, THEY SEARCHED THE PILES OF NATRON...



...UNRAVELED BANDAGES...

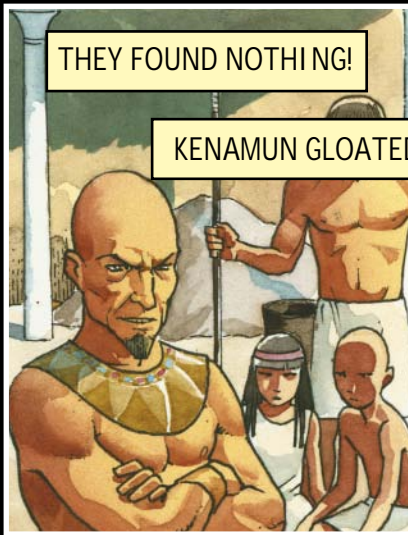


...AND OPENED POTS.

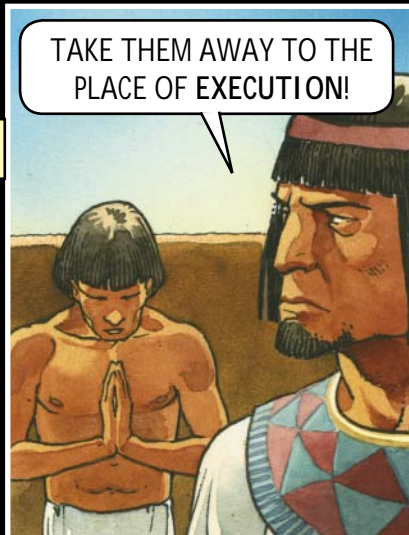


THEY FOUND NOTHING!

KENAMUN GLOATED.

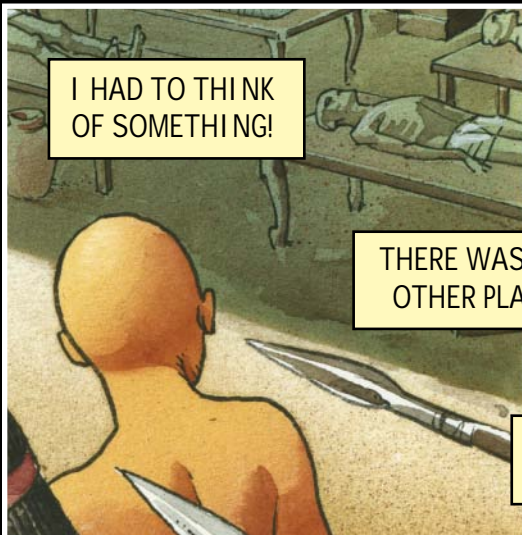


TAKE THEM AWAY TO THE PLACE OF EXECUTION!

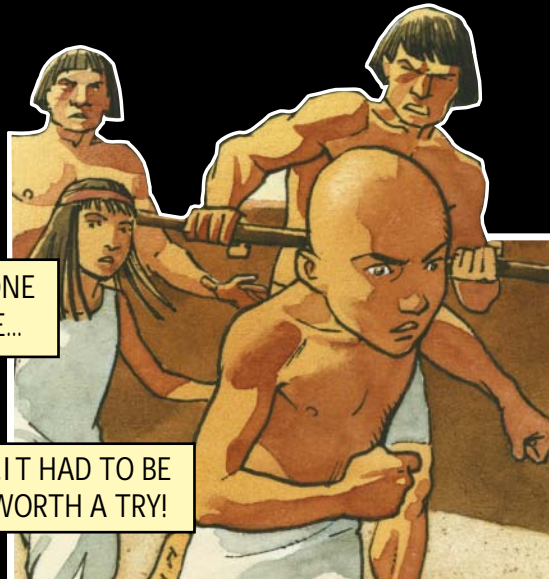


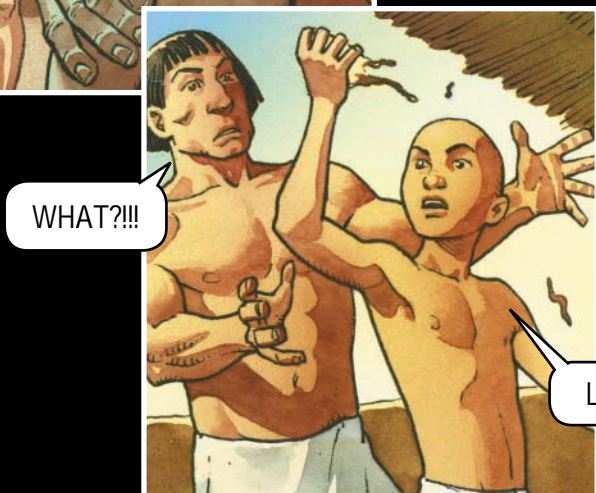
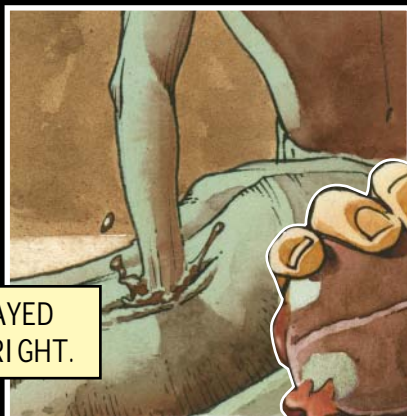
I HAD TO THINK OF SOMETHING!

THERE WAS ONE OTHER PLACE...



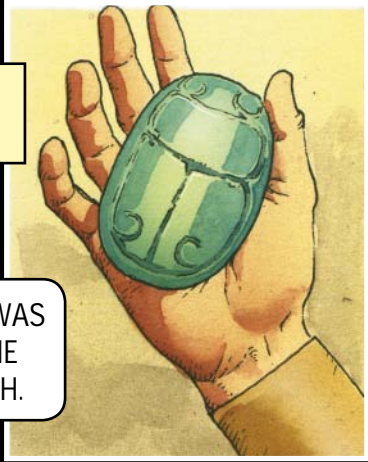
...IT HAD TO BE WORTH A TRY!







I HANDED THE PRECIOUS OBJECT TO LORD INI.



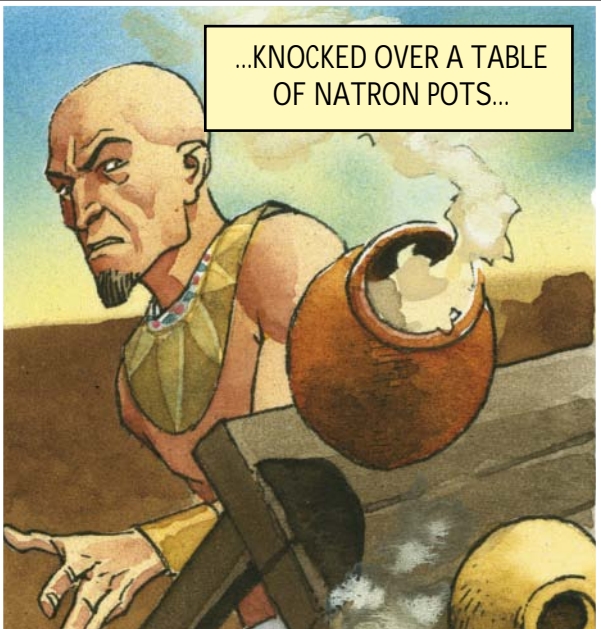
THIS AMULET WAS MADE FOR THE LAST PHARAOH.

THE SOLDIERS TURNED TO KENAMUN.

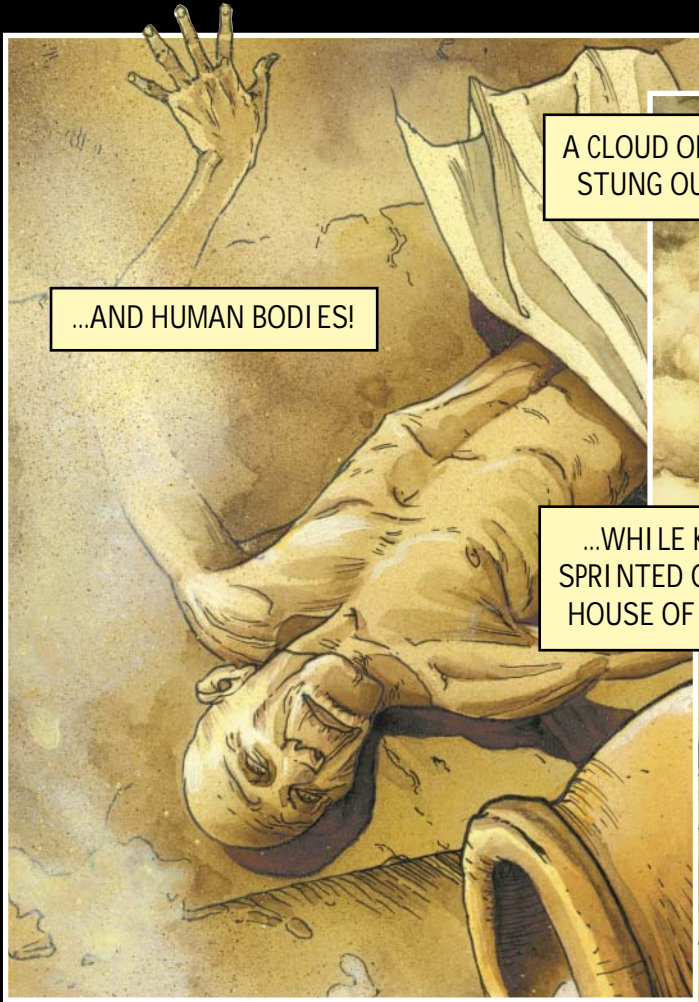


I CAN EXPLAIN...

SUDDENLY, HE PUSHED LORD INI AWAY...

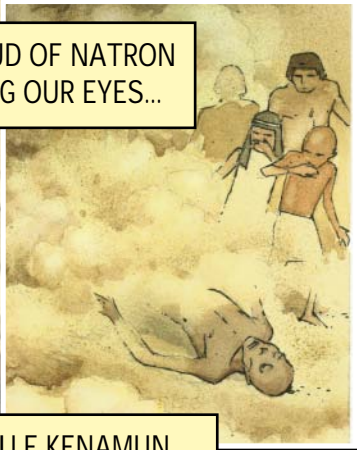


...KNOCKED OVER A TABLE OF NATRON POTS...



...AND HUMAN BODIES!

A CLOUD OF NATRON STUNG OUR EYES...

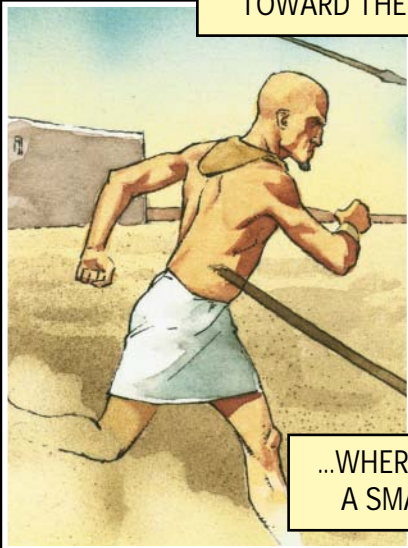


...WHILE KENAMUN SPRINTED OUT OF THE HOUSE OF THE DEAD.

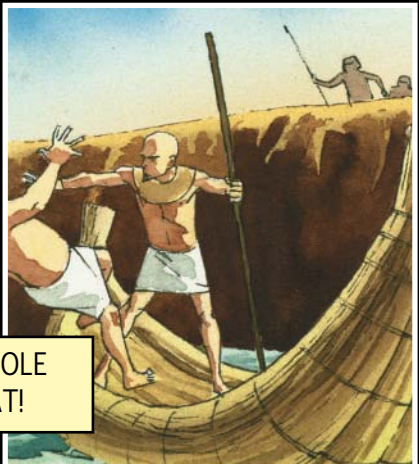


SEIZE HIM!

HE RAN AT GREAT SPEED TOWARD THE RIVER...



...WHERE HE STOLE A SMALL BOAT!





HA!

THEY'LL NEVER CATCH ME NOW!



HEY! IT'S NOT SAFE!

THE OWNER OF THE BOAT HAD BEEN MENDING A LEAK...



I'LL HAVE TO SWIM!

WHAT?!



THE CROCODILE SEEMED TO APPEAR FROM NOWHERE.



NOOOO!!!

HORUS PROTECT ME!

KENAMUN SWAM FOR HIS LIFE...



...BUT HE COULDN'T OUTSWIM THE GODS.



THE CURSE OF LORD SOBEK HAD COME TRUE!

HE'S GONE TO FACE THE JUSTICE OF OSIRIS!



THE END



King Menes unites Egypt

3100

Pharaoh Sobekneferu comes to the throne



c. 1799

Death of Pharaoh Rameses III



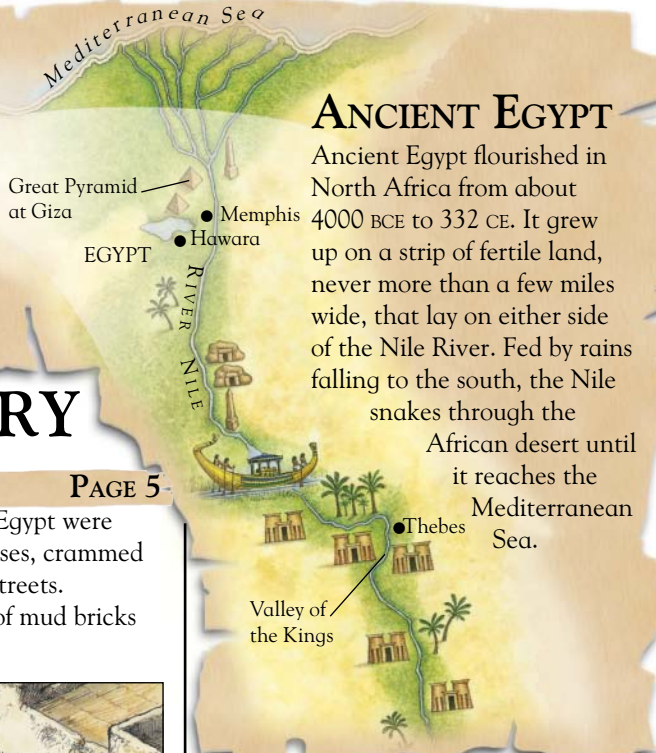
1153

3000 BCE (BEFORE COMMON ERA)

2000 BCE

YOU ARE HERE

1000 BCE



ANCIENT EGYPT

Ancient Egypt flourished in North Africa from about 4000 BCE to 332 CE. It grew up on a strip of fertile land, never more than a few miles wide, that lay on either side of the Nile River. Fed by rains falling to the south, the Nile snakes through the

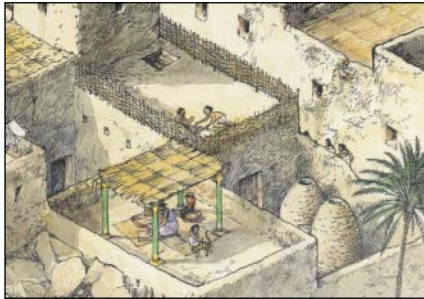
African desert until it reaches the Mediterranean Sea.

GLOSSARY

TOWN

PAGE 5

Most towns in Ancient Egypt were crowded with many houses, crammed together in unplanned streets. The houses were made of mud bricks baked in the sun.



SOBEK TEMPLE

PAGE 6

Sobek was the crocodile god. He was praised all over Egypt in temples, where priests guarded, cared for, and worshipped the god's image day and night. The priests even prepared meals for the god.

PHARAOH

PAGE 6

At the top of Egyptian society was the king called a pharaoh. He was considered a god by the Egyptians and above the normal rules of society. Most pharaohs were men, but a few women ruled Ancient Egypt at different times.



Female pharaoh
Hatshepsut

Picture of Sobek on the temple wall





410



1492



1969

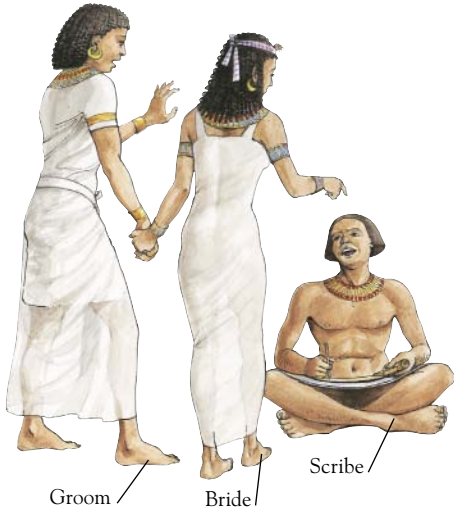
1 | CE (COMMON ERA)

1000 | CE

2000 | CE

MARRIAGE PAGE 9

Most marriages in Ancient Egypt were arranged by the girl's father and mother. Girls would marry at around 13 years of age and boys at 16. A scribe could draw up a contract giving equal rights to husband and wife.



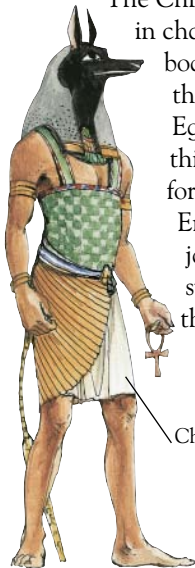
Groom

Bride

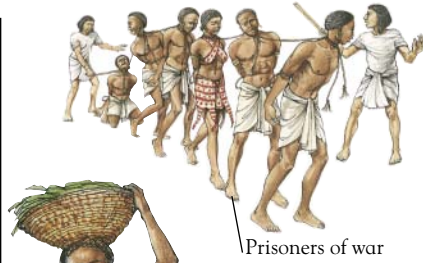
Scribe

CHIEF EMBALMER PAGE 7

The Chief Embalmer was in charge of mummifying bodies to preserve them. The Ancient Egyptians believed this helped people live forever. The Chief Embalmer wore a jackal's mask that symbolized Anubis, the god of the dead.



Chief Embalmer



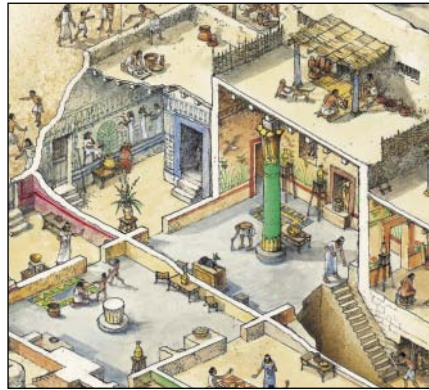
Prisoners of war

SERVANT PAGE 8

Madja is a servant who works for Lord Ini. Servants were often prisoners brought to Egypt from other countries during wars. They were made to work for rich people and had no rights or freedom.

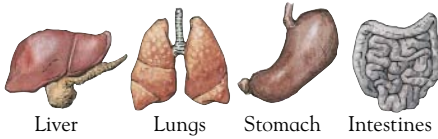


Servant



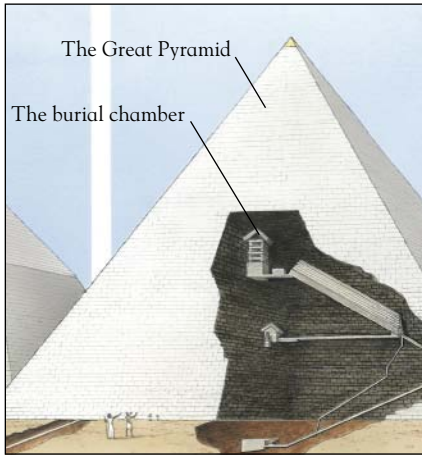
LORD INI'S PALACE PAGE 9

Lord Ini was a rich nobleman who lived in a large palace. The house was expensively decorated, and the interior walls were brightly painted with pictures of people, ducks, and lotus flowers (a type of lily).



ENTRAILS **PAGE 9**

The entrails are the internal organs of a dead person, such as the intestines. These were removed when a body was mummified and stored in special jars.

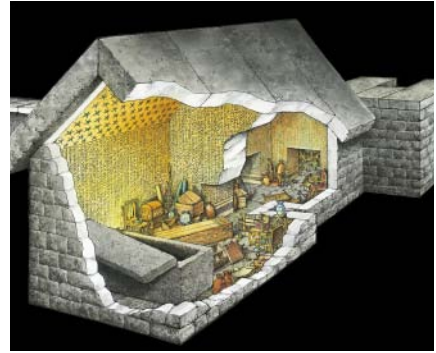


PYRAMID **PAGE 11**

The pyramids were burial tombs for the pharaohs and their queens. The biggest one ever built was the Great Pyramid built during the reign of Pharaoh Khufu (2589–2566 BCE).

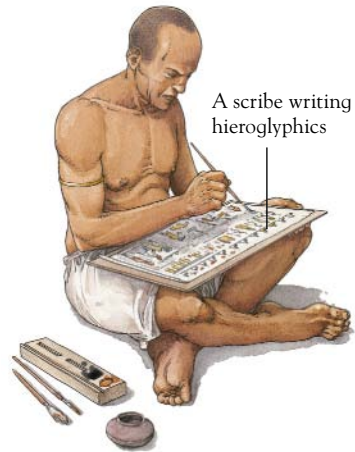
TOMB ROBBERS **PAGE 13**

The pyramids were full of valuable things that the pharaoh might need in the afterlife. Although the tombs had secret passages and rooms, they were easy for robbers to dig their way into.



BURIAL CHAMBER **PAGE 15**

The body of the pharaoh was buried in the burial chamber hidden deep inside the pyramid. Its whereabouts were meant to be a secret, but since many helped build the temple, the room was often easy for robbers to find.



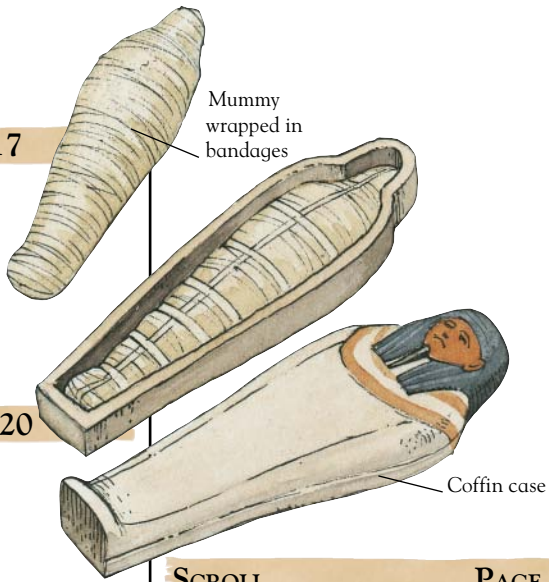
WRITING **PAGE 15**

Ancient Egyptian writing was a type of picture writing called hieroglyphics. Only scribes like Methen could read and write.



COFFIN PAGE 17

The mummy was placed in a wooden coffin case that was often shaped like a person. The coffin was often painted with pictures and hieroglyphics.



MUMMIES PAGE 20

The embalmed bodies of the dead were called mummies. After they were dried out and the organs removed, the bodies were usually wrapped in bandages.

SOLDIERS PAGE 20

Soldiers were workers forced to serve the pharaoh. They carried spears and shields but wore little armor.



Soldier

General

SCROLL PAGE 21

Scribes wrote on sheets of papyrus paper that were rolled up into scrolls. Papyrus was a plant that grew beside the Nile River.

HOUSE OF THE DEAD PAGE 20

Dead bodies were mummified in the House of the Dead in a ritual that lasted 70 days. They were dried so that they did not rot and then usually wrapped in bandages.





PRIEST PAGE 22

Priests like Methen's father performed important religious ceremonies, or rituals. They were important people in Egyptian life.

OFFERINGS PAGE 22

The priests prepared food and other offerings for the gods. Sobek, the crocodile god, was offered honey cakes and meat.

Only the priests could approach the shrine of Sobek



AVENGED PAGE 23

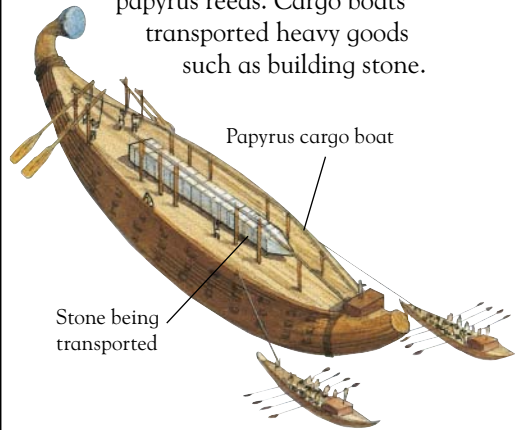
Methen's father believes the god Sobek will harm the pyramid thieves in return for their wrongdoing, which means Sobek will be avenged.

SACRILEGE PAGE 23

Offending a god is called sacrilege. Methen and Madja believe they offended the god Sobek by entering the pyramid and breaking a coffin. They believe they were cursed by him.

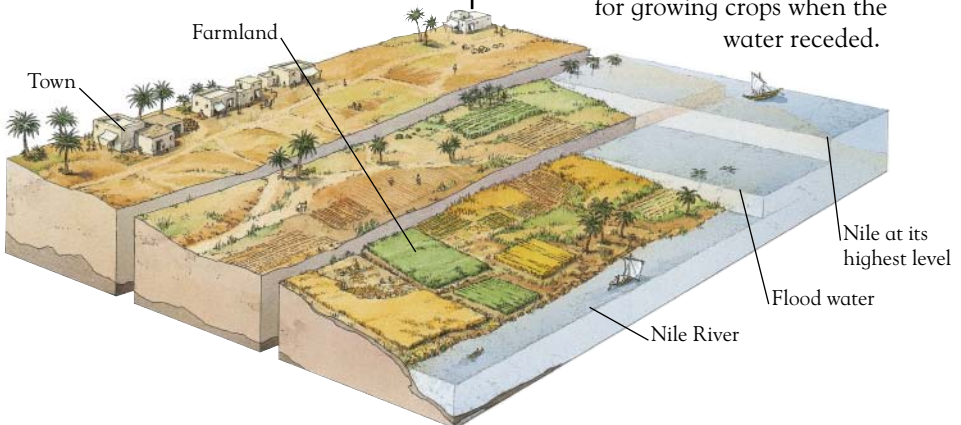
BOAT PAGE 24

Nile boats were made of bundles of papyrus reeds. Cargo boats transported heavy goods such as building stone.



THE NILE PAGE 24

The civilization of Ancient Egypt depended on the Nile River. Every year, the river flooded the surrounding countryside, making the land better for growing crops when the water receded.

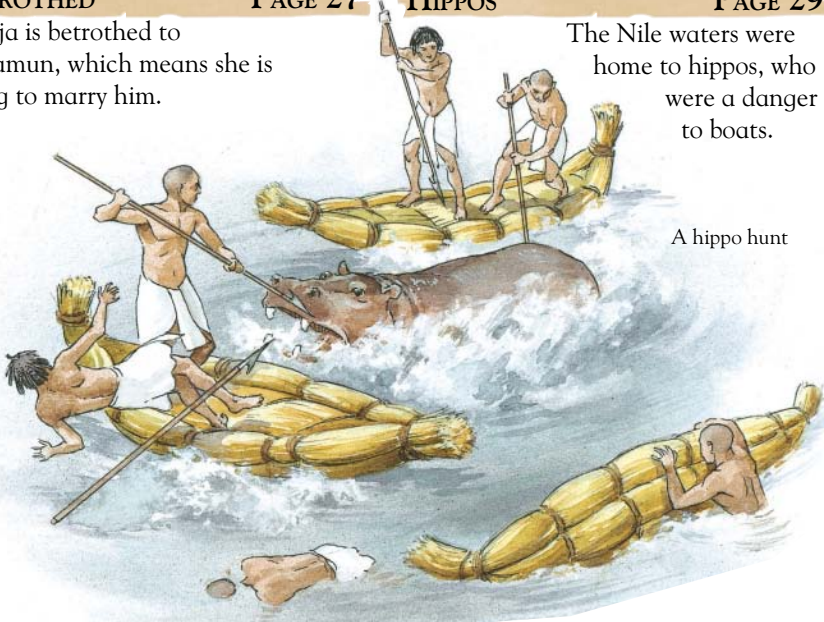


BETROTHED**PAGE 27**

Madja is betrothed to Kenamun, which means she is going to marry him.

HIPPOS**PAGE 29**

The Nile waters were home to hippos, who were a danger to boats.



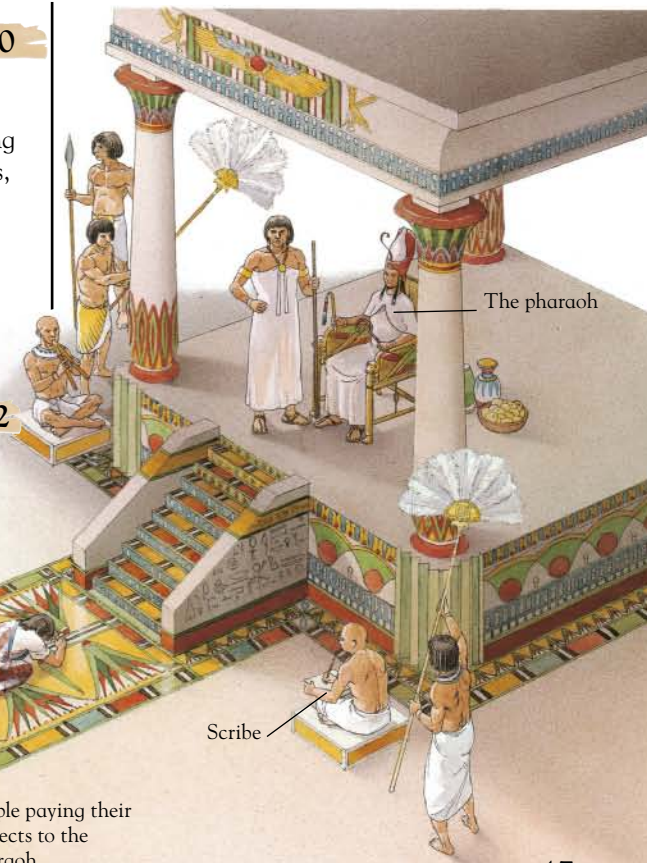
A hippo hunt

PAPYRUS REEDS**PAGE 30**

Papyrus reeds grew on the banks of the Nile. They were used for many things including boats, baskets, ropes, and paper.

**SOBEKNEFERU****PAGE 32**

The mighty Sobekneferu was a female pharaoh who reigned for about four years. Her name means "Beauties of Sobek."

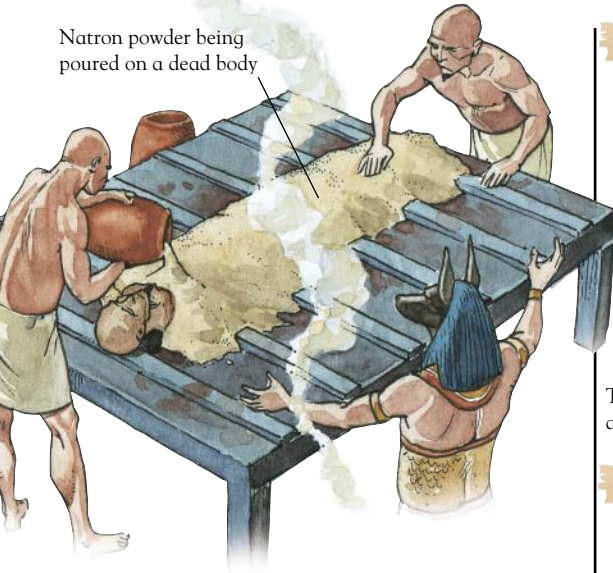


The pharaoh

Scribe

People paying their respects to the pharaoh

Natron powder being poured on a dead body



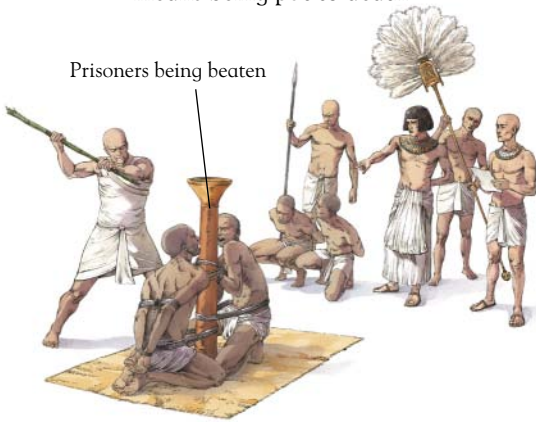
NATRON PAGE 36

Natron was a saltlike substance used to dry out dead bodies when they were being made into mummies. The white powder was mined from dry lake beds near the Nile River.

EXECUTION PAGE 36

The most common punishment in Egypt was beating, but serious crimes could be punished by execution, which means being put to death.

Prisoners being beaten



PRECIOUS OBJECT PAGE 38

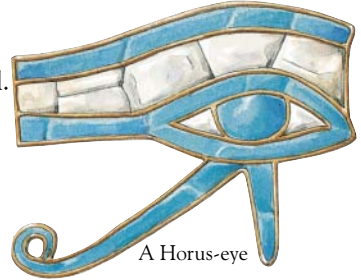
Precious objects, such as the amulet Methen found, were valuable items. They were put in the tomb in case the pharaoh needed them in the afterlife.



This necklace is a precious object

HORUS PAGE 40

Horus was an Egyptian god with a hawk's head. The Horus-eye was a symbol of healing and protection.



A Horus-eye

OSIRIS PAGE 41

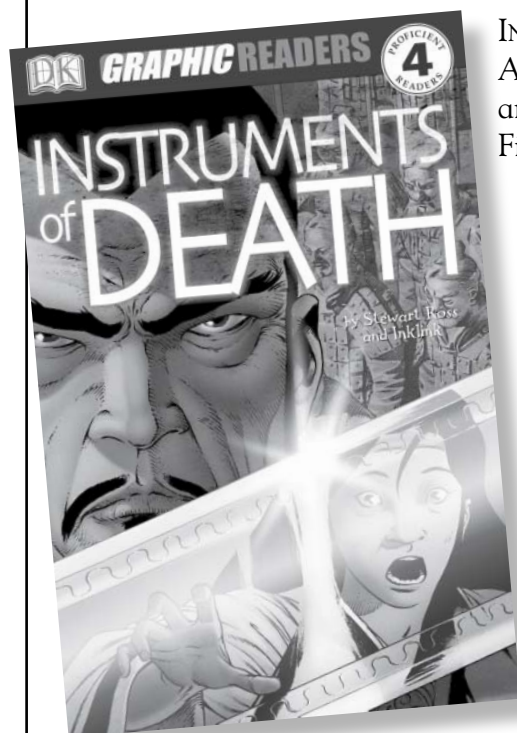
Osiris was the god of death and rebirth. He judged the dead in the Underworld. Only those who had led good lives were granted eternal life.

Osiris and his wife Isis

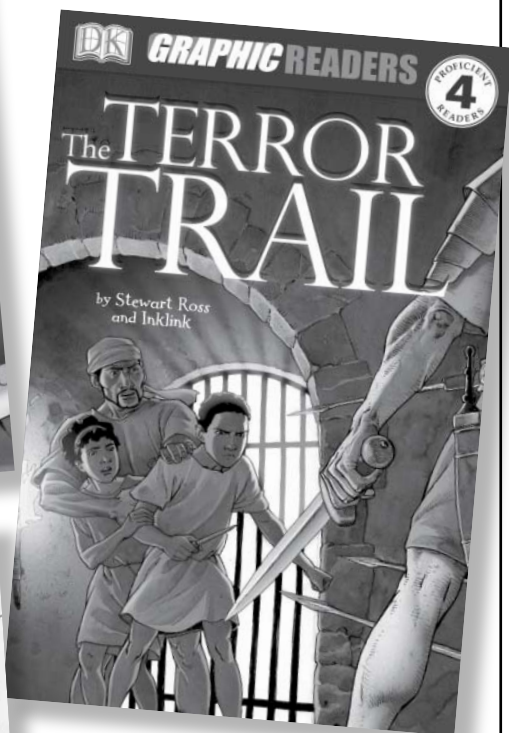


Horus

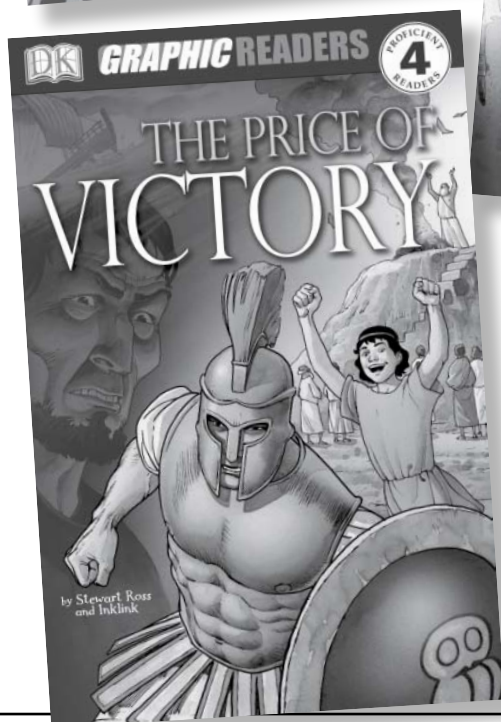
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