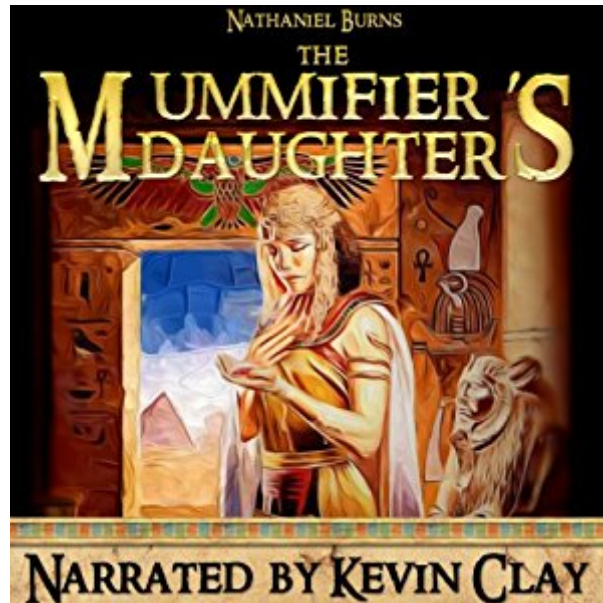


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The Mummifier's Daughter: A Novel In Ancient Egypt



Synopsis

This is Young Neti-Kerty's dream: To follow in her father's footsteps and become the first female mummifier in Thebes. Shabaka, the secretive Prefect, the Pharaoh's special envoy charged with combating crime in the capital of the Pharaoh's empire, also often makes use of Neti Kerty's special talents. With her powers of deduction and knowledge of the dead, she has already helped solve many crimes. But then the unimaginable happens. Her parents are cruelly murdered, and Neti-Kerty's small, idyllic world shatters. Together with Shabaka the Prefect, she embarks on the search for her parents' murderer. Surviving many shared adventures, they stumble upon a monstrous conspiracy... The Mummifier's Daughter carries us back to a land steeped in gods, god-kings, ritual and magic. It paints for the reader a detailed picture of Pharaonic Egypt in all its shadowed glory. Faithfully recreating one of the most remarkable eras in Egypt's history, bestselling author Nathaniel Burns weaves a shudderingly ominous tale of ancient Egypt's mysteries with a cast of characters the modern reader will recognize even though millenia have passed. So light up the incense, sit close to the light and draw back the curtains on the shadowed past with this gripping tale of love and intrigue among the living and the dead in one of history's most intriguing civilizations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“The Mummifier’s Daughter” is a great blend of historical mystery and thriller; it has a touch of romantic suspense and a large dose of vivid descriptions depicting the life of an embalmer’s

daughter in ancient Egypt. Neti is an unusual thing in ancient Egypt because her father taught her the art of embalming and preparing bodies for mummification and burial. She is familiar with biology and anatomy, and being a bright girl she grew into an apprentice for her beloved father. Her skills drew the attention of Shabaka, a Nubian police man sent by the Pharaoh to uncover the mystery behind some dodgy things going on in the busy city. Neti and Shabaka are similar in that they are outcasts, he for his Nubian heritage and she for her abilities to diagnose how a death may have occurred. Though she uses nothing more than science, she is considered a witch among the people. Their relationship grows as the story progresses, but it evolves differently than you might imagine. Without giving away the plot, I will say that I loved this book's easy tone and suspenseful pace. I was hooked by the lyrical voice the author uses to describe the ancient city and its traditions. He has a great style, and although the book isn't completely polished (there are a few spelling errors and typos), it is still a fantastic book. The characters are finely crafted and their actions are believable; I was rooting for Neti throughout the entire story and wanted to see more of her abilities as a detective. The storyline kept me hooked, especially as the story arc led to the dramatic conclusion between the characters that only thought they knew each other so well. I had a tear in my eye as Neti learned the truth of her own origins and that of her childhood friend.

I selected this book as a part of kindle unlimited, and did not actually purchase the book. I do adore Egyptian history and it intrigues me. I know it must be difficult to write a period piece with only a few pieces of the puzzle. Egyptian culture is very different than writing a story that took place in the 1800's because we have stories handed down from one generation to the next and written accounts of life then. But Egyptian culture pre-dates the English language so I wonder about how much is lost in translation, but writing to some degree. So I know the author has to fill in many blanks when writing. But for me, even in stories that take place in the 1800's the words mom, dad or postmodern variation of mommy are modern words and should not be used in period pieces. I highly doubt the word mom was used in Egyptian society and it's a deal breaker for me. While the setting of this book is described as being ancient Egyptian, everything else, including the characters were modern. Thus such a deal breaker I quit reading the book just a chapter or two into it. I highly doubt that a woman in that time era would have spoken out the way this one did. It wasn't done then, so a woman would not have spoken to any man the way this one did. *spoiler alert* the parents' hearts ripped out of their chest.... then the blood "spattered" onto the walls. Again a modern action..... in those times I think blood would have been collected and painted, rather than spattered which suggests a weapon used, but her parents' only injury was their hearts cut out of their bodies.

Another example is the abuse to the servant man. I am not saying that slave owners didn't beat their slaves, but when he flinched and the "lawyer" thinks what has this man endured to flinch from basic human contact....

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