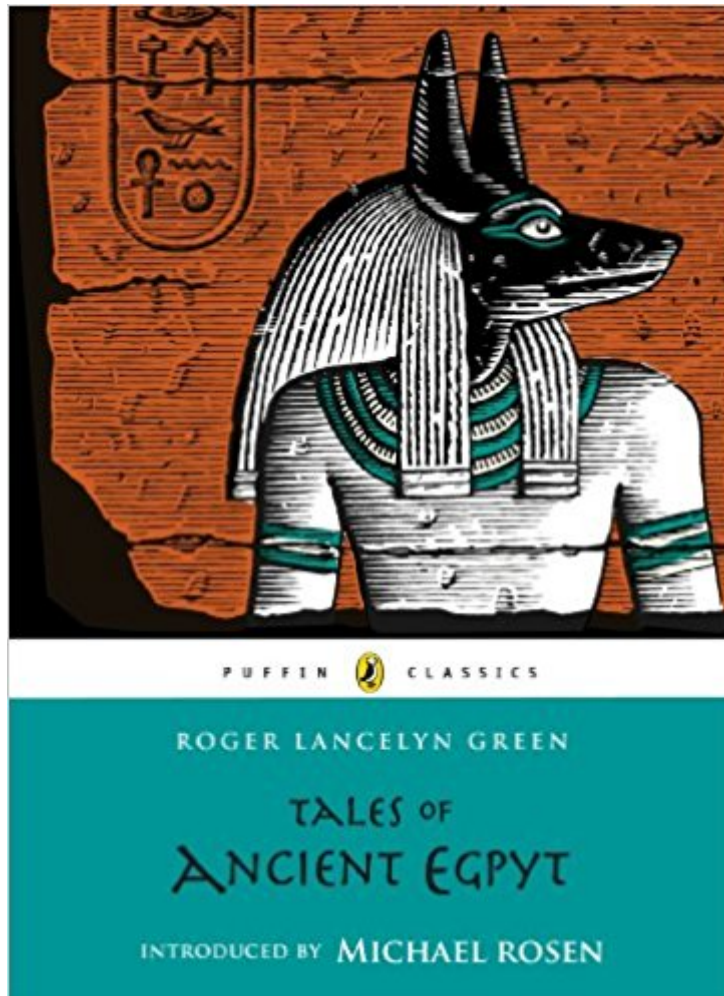




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Tales Of Ancient Egypt (Puffin Classics)



Synopsis

These stories include the great myths - of Amen-Ra, who created all the creatures in the world; of Isis, seaching the waters for her dead husband Osiris; of the Bennu Bird and the Book of Thoth. But there are also tales told for pleasure about magic, treasure and adventure - even the first ever Cinderella story.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1270 (What's this?)

Series: Puffin Classics

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books (May 12, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 014133259X

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.7 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 69 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #18,773 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books >

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

The Puffin Classics series is a perfect marriage of the old and the new. Enjoy some of the best books from the past and find out why and how they inspired some of the best writers of the present.

-- Julia Eccleshare * Lovereading4Kids *

Roger Lancelyn Green was born in 1918. He loved storytelling and was fascinated by traditional fairy tales, myths and legends from around the world. As well tales from ancient Egypt, his retellings include Greek and Norse legends, plus a retelling of Robin Hood. He died in 1987.

While I personally found the book to be incredibly interesting, my 5th grade daughter did not. I am a history buff so it held my attention while we read it for a homeschool unit on Ancient Egypt. Her

attention wandered though. The book is well written and filled with history but it may be too in depth of a topic for some kids. To break it up a bit, we combined it with other activities and books that she was more interested in. With that said, it did what I intended it to do. She learned and as a homeschool mom, I can't ask for much more than that.

This fine, orderly and balanced book is a guide to the perplexed, and a light to the intellect. Beginning with an informative prologue on 'the land of Egypt' sets the stage for the tales of the gods, to follow. The tales are narrated in such a Troubadour style that the young curious reader gets a perception for the magical images and sacred themes which keep flowing in a captivating harmony. Again and again the magical myths of Ancient Egypt proceed in an insightful methodology to include the great myths of those mysterious gods. Amen-Ra, the creator of the whole universe; of Isis, searching the waters for her slaughtered beloved husband Osiris; 'The great Queen Hatshepsut' and the 'Prince and the Sphinx'. Tales of magic start with 'The golden Lotus', but they don't end! My grandchildren Noah, 10, and Oliver, 8, were entertained and educated on a great civilization, with an appreciation of miniature but impressive illustrations. Noah enjoyed examining the map and identify locations, and the time chart. But the adventure isn't over when they reached the final page, as they got introduced to Amasis, Anubis, Hathor, and Nut.

Tales of Ancient Egypt by Roger Lancelyn Green includes several stories from the beginning to the end of ancient Egypt, told in a way that is easy for children to understand. The book is split into three sections: Tales of the Gods, Tales of Magic, and Tales of Adventure. At the end there is a Time Chart with the stories listed in the time period they are from. I definitely recommend this book to anyone interested in or studying ancient Egypt.

Get ready for some great adventure and romance that bring ancient Egypt to life! I thoroughly enjoyed all of these stories that combine Egyptian mythology with folklore and superb story telling.

Our sixth grader loved this book. His class made up skits for each chapter. Great literature and perfect for classical education.

reading this with my two young children. They love the stories and learning the ancient Egyptian mythology. I love learning who all those masked people are in Egyptian paintings and carvings.

I am certainly no expert on Egyptian mythology, so I can't say whether this collection of Egyptian myths is complete, accurate or any better or worse than any other collection of Egyptian myths. All that I can review, therefore, are the stories themselves, which is rather awkward. It's a bit like reviewing the Bible - where do you start to "critique" stories that were written thousands of years ago and which were handed down both orally and in written form for many generations? The stories are what they are. We read them not solely for the enjoyment (or lack thereof) that the stories may offer, but to understand the history and culture of our long-ago ancestors who shaped the beginnings of our civilization. The first third of the book deals with stories of the gods, beginning with Amen-Ra, the father of all gods and his creation of the world, moving through more familiar gods such as Isis, Osiris and Horus to lesser known gods such as Khnemu and Queen Hatshepsut. These I found the least engaging of the stories as they are more like brief bios of the gods, listing their notable achievements as it were. There's not a lot of narrative development or plot building. The latter two sections - tales of magic and tales of adventure - are more like stories as we know them - more dynamic characters interacting and intriguing against each other in ways that creates interesting, suspenseful plots which engage the reader. The stories of magic can be hard for Western readers to appreciate, as the Egyptians accepted magic as a given, much like we accept science. The concept of a "Ka" or double, for instance, is quite alien to Western readers, nor do we tend to fully comprehend the elaborate rituals and knowledge surrounding their treatment and experience of death. Nonetheless, these stories, like all myths and legends, connect and resonate with deeper parts of ourselves which are attuned to the universal themes and archetypes in human experience. "The Book of Thoth", for instance, presents the attraction and the danger of possessing the powerful knowledge of the gods. "Se-Osiris and the Sealed Letter" is about justice and the satisfaction of defeating an enemy. "The Tale of Two Brothers" is about the love between two brothers and the power of women to corrupt that love. "The Story of the Greek Princess" is an intriguing Egyptian take on "The Iliad". All the stories offer glimpses of Egyptian religion, government, culture, family relationships and ideas of justice and morality. As with Biblical stories, some of these views are difficult to square with Western norms and values. For instance, while there are some notable women figures - queens and goddesses - mostly women are treated as property to be bestowed as gifts of favor and/or as divisive forces who have corruptive power over men. Young readers especially need to be aware of the context of such views in the ancient world. Understanding of ancient civilizations is important for understanding our own experience in the world, as it shows us both the commonality of human experience, as well as how the world has progressed. The Egyptian empire was one of the longest lasting empires in history. Studying the best and worst of

their society can help us improve our own.

great little collection of tales. Beautifully done. I enjoyed them and my 9 year old granddaughter enjoyed them, too. Amazing how some are identical to Jewish tales of King Solomon! This book is my favorite so far in my collection of Egyptian myth books.

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