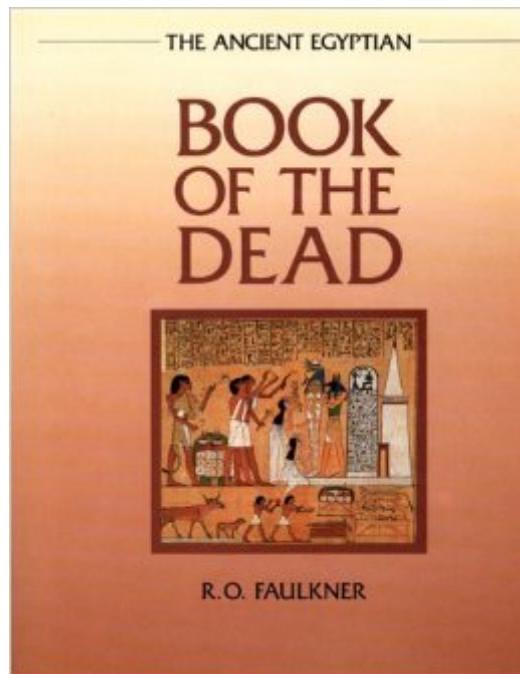


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The Ancient Egyptian Book Of The Dead



Synopsis

The Book of the Dead is the name now given to a collection of religious and magical texts known to the ancient Egyptians as The Chapters of Coming-forth by Day. Their principal aim was to secure for the deceased a satisfactory afterlife and to give him the power to leave his tomb when necessary. Copies of The Book of the Dead written on papyrus rolls were placed in the tombs of important Egyptians, each roll containing a selection of chapters. Many examples have survived from antiquity, dating mostly from c. 1500 BCE-250 BCE. In this volume, the text translated by the late Dr. R.O. Faulkner is that found in the papyrus prepared for the scribe Ani which is one of the greatest treasures in the British Museum. The vignettes are taken from the many finely illustrated copies which are preserved in the collections of the British Museum.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (18 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

1)The main thing is that not only are translations matched with vignettes (pictures of the actual pages), but the text is not British English.... it is Americanized..... This makes it very easy to understand. 2)An interesting point to the translations is that, if you know anything about the actual vignettes, the translations of not just the black text, but the red text, is well defined. 3)Helps to understand the ancient Egyptian culture and gets rid of some myths about their actual religious structure, which was less an adoration than to make the gods serve someone that proclaimed themselves worthy.

The Book of the Dead, translated by Raymond Faulkner, is thoroughly interesting and equally informative, as Mr. Faulkner translates many deceased ancient Egyptians' spellbooks for traveling through the realm of the dead. It gives a slight glimpse at some lesser-known religious characters of ancient Egypt and a small insight to the ancients' daily life. I believe this book could be read and easily understood by any level Egyptologist, as there is a helpful glossary of people (well, gods mostly), places, and things described in the spells. This is a wonderfully translated book, based on an ancient book, and good for anyone interested in ancient Egyptian life, literature, or religion.

I found the work to be highly accessible not only in the translations and the prints of the actual source texts but also in the organization, especially the table of contents. It made the following of exactly what was being done in particular sections very easy, and also allows me to go straight towards particularly interesting sections without having to page through the work.

Carol Andrews took Falkner's work and Americanized it. She also toned down the heavy Christian analysis. I find this version much easier to read. It has beautiful photographs and follows the tail of Ani as he descends into the underworld...

I found the images to be beautiful and the translation easy to understand. I think anyone who is interested in ancient Egypt would enjoy this book.

This is a fair translation accompanied by a great series of artwork. The author is careful to demonstrate parallels between the given text and the wall/sarcophagi paintings he inserts. As I say, the translation is fair--not especially interesting or poetic, but readable.

its basically the worlds oldest prayer book

Beautiful pictures!

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