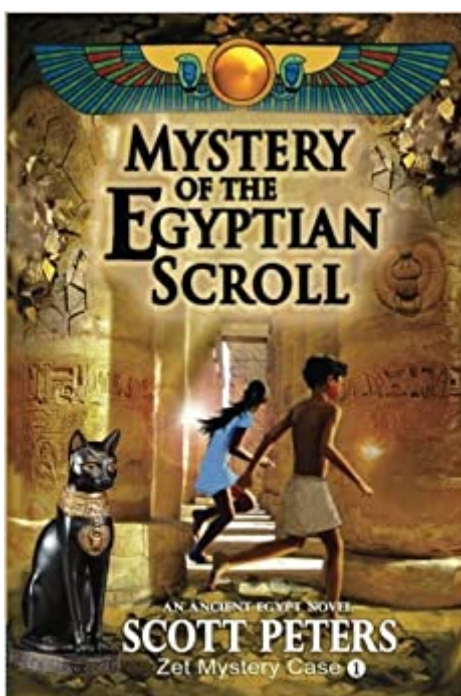


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Mystery Of The Egyptian Scroll: Secret Agent Zet Series Book 1 (Zet Mystery Case)



Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 64 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #197,291 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Ancient Civilizations #1572 in Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Historical Novel Society "Peters is such a natural and gifted storyteller, so adept at bringing the sights and sounds and smells of ancient Egypt alive, that readers of all ages will be swept along."

(The God Catcher)--Steve Donoghue, Historical Novel Society, 2012, All rights reserved

Middle Grade Fiction Finder "Action-packed"

Spike Brown, 'Escape to Molokai' "A great read" Customer "Mrs

Quiet" (Texas) "pleased to find it well edited and error free."

Q: Why do you think people love ancient Egypt? A: Most readers will agree--something magical happens the first time you hear about ancient Egypt. Maybe you see a mummy movie or visit a museum. Or, like me, a teacher hands you a mysterious worksheet at school. At that moment of discovery, a jolt grips you with intense curiosity.

Q: Fascination draws you in? A: Exactly. Who were these people? What did their strange symbols mean? How did they create such intense history and what were their daily lives like? You wonder what it would be like to walk the streets of ancient Egypt and see what they saw.

Q: What defining moment made you write about ancient Egypt? A: On a school field trip to a museum, I saw a mummy in a glass case. The mummy's fingers were poking through the wrappings. When I got over how wonderfully creepy it looked, something happened. It dawned on me that those fingers, that hand, once did normal human things; tucked a child in at night, held another person's hand, brushed hair out of eyes on windy days. All thousands of years ago. Somehow, the emotion of the person was still there in that mummy. He wasn't just an artifact. He was a person with stories to tell. I decided then and there I wanted to give life to the ancient past in a way that was fun and approachable.

Q: What message do you have for your readers? A: I know many of you are Egypt obsessed like me. Thanks for letting me share my love of ancient Egypt with you.

This book offers better than average characters and a decent, reasonably well plotted and well paced mystery/adventure, but where it truly excels is in its ancient Egyptian setting. I suspect that most middle graders have had enough of the Victorian era, or at least would be intrigued by something different. There are some interesting medieval-ish swordplay stories out there, and some interesting work set in a Native American context, or the Civil War or Revolutionary Eras, but after that the historical, not to mention foreign, venues get pretty thin. (To digress, I'm a little unnerved that the World War II, fifties and even sixties eras I actually know are starting to drift into what kids today would consider historical.) This book nails time and place. We have a pre-Christian time and fabulous and romantic New Kingdom Egypt. Scott Peters has written other works for kids that explore ancient Egypt, (and mummies!), and he has seamlessly drawn all of that scholarship into the sights, sounds, colors, and feel of his Zet mysteries. The history and description isn't ladled on or weighed down by tedious exposition but rather is introduced subtly and naturally in the context of the telling of the adventure story. As a consequence we get two kids, a brother and sister team, who are relatable and appealing and yet clearly of their time and circumstance. This is all presented in broad brushstrokes, (I wouldn't use this book as a research authority), which keeps it interesting and entertaining even while it is informative in a general and impressionistic way. The fact that there is a mystery, a theft, a conspiracy, and loads of chases just keeps the excitement and interest level high all of the way through to the satisfying conclusion. So, a very happy and rewarding find with a lot of middle grade reader appeal. A very nice book to recommend. Please note that I found this book while browsing Kindle freebies. I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.

I picked this book up from a number of months ago and it finally made it to the top of my TBR pile. Set in ancient Egypt this one had my interest from the start. Zet and Kat are a brother and sister combo who have a hard life, supporting their family while their father is away at war. Then, on a normal day just like any other, everything changes when Zet gets wind of a reward on offer to catch the thief of a mysterious scroll. That's when their lives go from selling pots at their humble market stall to being caught up in a huge mystery that threatens the very safety of the Pharaoh. I admired these kids, they both showed great respect for others and exhibited some wonderful qualities. As the mystery deepens, so too does the severity of the situation. Poor Zet and Kat just seem to sink deeper and deeper into trouble as they try to clear the name of an innocent friend. By the climax of the story there's a very real possibility that they will lose absolutely everything (which isn't

much).With opponents that seem unbeatable and tension building, Zet and Kat practically need to pull a sphinx out of a hat to put things right. Do they succeed or not? you'll need to find out for yourself.It's quite obvious from his website that Scott Peters has a great interest in Egypt. He has a lot of interesting Egyptian themed activities over there for readers who want their Egyptian adventure to go that little bit further than just reading the book.In a nutshell: This was an exciting adventure that will appeal to kids who are fans of mystery, adventure and ancient Egypt.Note: I don't claim to be a pro-reviewer, I am a reader. My reviews are based on my personal thoughts around the story that the book is trying to tell. I try to focus on the story (which is the reason I read) rather than dissect the book and pass comment on typos, writing style or structure.

I ordered this book for my great granddaughters in 4th and 6th grades. I intend to use it as a summer reading excursion for the three of us.The story is excellent and I decided to read it through. I found that most contractions are done incorrectly. I highlighted all of them intending to count them for the author. There were way to many to count. It looks as if there may be a glitch in printing and mayAdditional information: The errors have been corrected and I have sent the corrected book to the great-grands. I am impressed that the author cared enough to respond to my problems and have them fixed.

Eleven-year-old Zet and his younger sister Kat are left with the responsibility of minding the shop while their father is in a faraway land fighting for Egypt and their Pharaoh. But each week the children's earnings dwindle until they fear they won't have enough to feed themselves, their baby brother and their mother. So when a thief bounds through the market place, Zet steps up to the medjay, or police officer, to offer to help catch the thief in exchange for the reward. This brave, but foolish action soon lands Zet and his sister in trouble, so deep their very lives and the lives of their family are in peril.As Zet and his sister wind their way through the streets of Thebes, the scents and sounds and activity of the thriving commercial city come alive. They meet many people in their quest from the man who grows papyrus to make into paper, to the blind lady on the side of the road, to the merchants in the market, to the high priest of the sacred Temple of Amenopet. But they are not all as they seem. To save their family, Zet and Kat must learn who to trust, who has evil motives and what those evil motives are.It is an action-packed mystery set in an ancient land with great attention to detail. I recommend this historical novel to all middle grade readers.

What a great adventure. I started reading this book to see if my granddaughter, who will be home

schooled in the fall, would enjoy this as an add on to the Ancient Egypt studies she will be doing. I thoroughly enjoyed it as I'm sure she will too. Great job with descriptions of every day life of the people in that era.

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