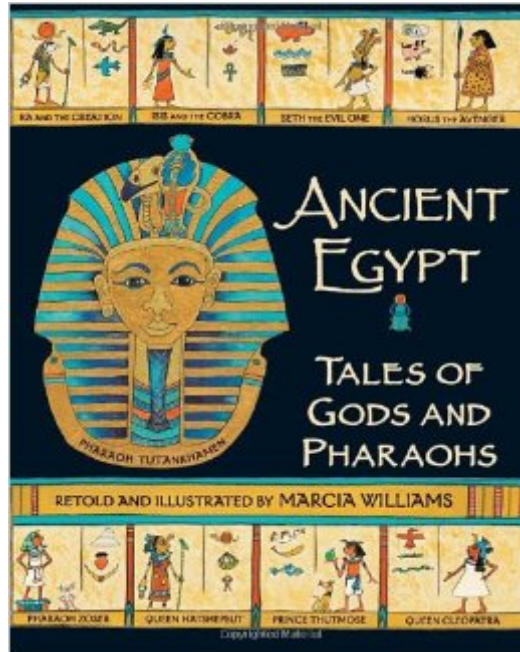


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# Ancient Egypt: Tales Of Gods And Pharaohs



## Synopsis

With compelling comic-style illustrations, a colossus's worth of facts, and dramatic fold-out spreads, Marcia Williams brings Egyptian myths to life. The stories of the Egyptian pharaohs and their ancient gods are full of mystery and adventure. In this retelling of nine tales of ancient Egypt, Marcia Williams uses her signature comic-strip style to capture the rich mythology and early history of this great civilization. Beginning with powerful Ra rising from the waters of the Nile to create the gods of the earth, sky, and rain, Ancient Egypt takes readers through the curse of King Tut's tomb and the rise of Cleopatra-- with Rami, Ra's beloved cat, highlighting Egypt's many cultural and technological advances along the way. An instantly engaging, accessible introduction to an ancient civilization, this collection of stories is sure to fascinate and inspire young Egyptologists.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 11 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #956,711 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Africa](#) #157 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor > Cartoons](#) #492 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Ancient](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

We have gotten so much information and enjoyment from Marcia Williams' signature style; this book is no exception. This overview of the mythology of Ancient Egypt also includes the reigns of some of the more important Pharaohs -- your children will have a more complete understanding of ancient Egyptian culture after reading this book. "Ancient Egypt: Tales of Gods and Pharaohs" is so entertaining, you may even forget it's educational. Beautiful illustrations, including a 4-page foldout and a 2-page foldout. Marcia Williams has an oddball sense of humor that we find very appealing.

Reason for Reading: I love mythology, Egyptian Mythology, and this series of books by Marcia Williams. Typical of Marcia Williams' books this is set up in a comic strip format with the narrative told underneath the strips and funny, comical asides coming from the characters depicted in the cartoons. The most popular tales are told here in a fairly linear order so that one story leads onto the next with the exception of jumping many years to Cleopatra at the end. The book begins with the mythology of Ra, Isis, Thoth, etc and goes on to tell the tales of famous pharaohs Hatsheput, Thutmose, Tut, Cleopatra, etc. So the book isn't entirely mythology, though myths do surround some of the Pharaohs. Williams' artwork is beautiful as usual and the book includes two spreads where the pages unfold outwards to create large panoramic scenes. One thing that is missing, from her other books, is the usual detailed framed artwork around each page; here she has simply framed each piece with what look like papyrus plants. An added plus though, is along the bottom of each page is a continuous ticker where a cat tells a running commentary on interesting facts about Egyptian life: the role of cats (of course), agriculture, mummies, inventions, etc. A gorgeous book when all said and done; the tales are a good selection for an introduction to Egyptian mythology and pharaohs.

My middle school aged sons and I are studying Egypt, including Egyptian religion and mythology, and so checked this book out from the library. Yes it is very colorful, but some of the sidebar animations detract from the main story AND I question her target audience. I mean, it's animated like it is for young children but do young children really need to be reading these stories? These are NOT family-friendly fairy tales! To prove my point, here is an excerpt from the story titled "Horus the Avenger": Seth was Pharaoh of Egypt, but the crown really belonged to his nephew, Horus. Seth decided to kill him, as he'd killed Osiris, Horus' father. Horus was still a child and guarded by his mother, Isis, on a floating island. One night, as the island bumped against the banks of the Nile, Seth crossed onto it. He took the shape of a scorpion and crawled into Horus' room where he stung him. All night Horus screamed as Isis tried to heal him, but by morning he appeared dead. The wise god Thoth comforted Isis and reassured her that she would see her son again. Horus had passed into the Duat, but only so that his father, Osiris, could prepare him to fight Seth and avenge their deaths. Horus remained with Osiris until he became a man and was ready to meet Seth in battle. Amen Ra took Horus to the land of the living in his sacred boat. Seth was ready and waiting. He charged at Horus and aimed a bolt of fire into his eyes. Horus was blinded and unable to fight back. He roared with pain and anger. It was many weeks before Horus regained his sight and could

go after Seth again. Every time Horus thought he had his enemy cornered, the wily Seth escaped. So Horus gathered a great army and chased Seth up the river Nile. When they reached the island of Elephantine, Horus saw Seth standing there in the form of a vast red hippopotamus, uttering a terrible curse. The wind raged, the waves rose, and blackness fell over Egypt. Only the boat of Horus gleamed in the darkness as the gigantic hippopotamus opened its jaws to crush him. Quickly, Horus took the likeness of a giant youth. He drew back his arm and cast a long harpoon. Horus threw it with such force that it traveled through the roof of Seth's mouth and into his brain. The red hippopotamus sank dead into the Nile, the darkness vanished, and the people of Egypt rejoiced at the victory of Horus the Avenger. Peace came to Egypt, and Horus was crowned pharaoh. . . . End of Excerpt

My daughter is a huge fan of all of Marcia Williams books. It allows her to learn about something in a format that is accessible to her age-level. The pictures are great, and the stories are laid out well. The Egyptian Mythology book is a great addition to her collection.

Since my nephew is really "into" mythology, I wanted to get him a couple of very special books for Christmas. He immediately started reading this book & the other book I'd gotten for him -- before even touching the video games he was given!

This was used for a library program on ancient Egypt for middle school aged children. The stories were interesting, the graphics colorful and the humorous comments were a hit with the 9-12 year crowd.

My son is 5 but has a high reading level and is very interested in ancient Egypt. He says: I can learn and am able to look up the names of ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses. I like the look of the book!

Both me and my 7 years old daughter enjoyed this book tremendously. The illustrations are beautiful and organized such way that one can follow three sides of the same story in one reading: the main narrative, the dialogues between protagonists of the main story and, at the bottom of each page humorous comments of the sacred cat..... My kid has fun and learns without realizing it and that is great!

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