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James Henry Breasted , ??? ???? ?????????? ?? (????? ?????), ??? ???? ???? (?????)

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Ahmed Mustafa Mubarak says

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Karla says

I picked this up at a book sale on the off-chance I might need it for fanfiction research. When I eventually came to a point in a story where I needed some detail about Ramses II and his reign, I found everything I could want without wading through a full-length biography. On top of that, I got so absorbed I ended up reading the chapters surrounding his reign to get some historical perspective.

Sometimes these older histories can be a bit dense stylistically, but Breasted wrote a really compact and clear volume with no frills of language. I wouldn't suggest reading it at length, though, because like the ancient histories by Xenophon, Thucydides, and others, the information comes so fast and furious that it can be overwhelming. But for a chapter or two at a time, it's a great self-teaching history lesson.

Belinda says

Egypt revealed

The writer gives a history of Egypt based on the research of the day. He explains some of the influences affecting the Egyptian civilization. He outlines Egypt's effect on other civilizations.

Cerebralcortex says

This work is a classic in Egyptology, and by the end of the first chapter you will know why. Breasted delves in immense detail into the political, religious, and social aspects of Egypt's ancient history. By the end I found myself wishing he would continue right up to when he had published the book in 1906. Now, yes, certain aspects of his work are dated: spelling of names, debates over chronology, and advances in archaeology will require either background cognizance of modern analyses or the desire to read further now that an excellent fundament has been set. But these are minor details in the broad brushstrokes of immaculate scholarship Breasted has laid out for the reader in eminently readable terms.

Do note that there is just an inkling of orientalism and the colonialist mindset in him. They do not though, as

far as I am concerned, detract from the usefulness of the work.

Christian Kotz says

This is a reprint of a classic book that is very well written and a pleasure to read. Being originally published in 1905 it is unfortunately outdated in some historical detail, e.g. the timeline of the Thuthmoses.

In electronic form it is also an excellent buy - I got it for less than 2\$. There are some typos, which seem to be the result of the OCR without careful editing, but these did not bother me.

I can recommend the book to newbies to Egyptian antiquities like me, but one should rely more on the general narrative than on every historical detail due to the age of the book. If in doubt I have consulted Wikipedia for a second opinion, but where I had no doubts I may have been mislead. However, rarely have I taken so much pleasure in reading an historical monography.

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Jenny says

For the serious Egyptologist, this book should be in your collection! Written by one of my favorite Egyptologists (and not just because he was from Illinois like myself and was a professor of Egyptology at Chicago's Oriental Institute), J.H. Breasted chronicles everything known about Ancient Egypt and the Near East at the time (with the exception of Tutankhamun, whose tomb had not been found yet) with the most keen and passionate eye.

Patrick says

Did not care for. Stopped about 50% through. Zzzzzzzz....

Beth Robinson says

I enjoyed the read. Breasted does a very good job drawing stories from the original sources, while still lightly

touching on what the observable facts are - or were at the time.

His admiration for some of the Pharaohs and many of their accomplishments shines through. As does his compassionate disapproval of other portions of Egyptian history. There's more opinion than in many current history books.

It was interesting reading a history written in 1905, filled with names that don't look quite right, laid out before the discovery of King Tut's tomb, among other aspects of modern scholarship.

Ahmed Wagih says

good book
