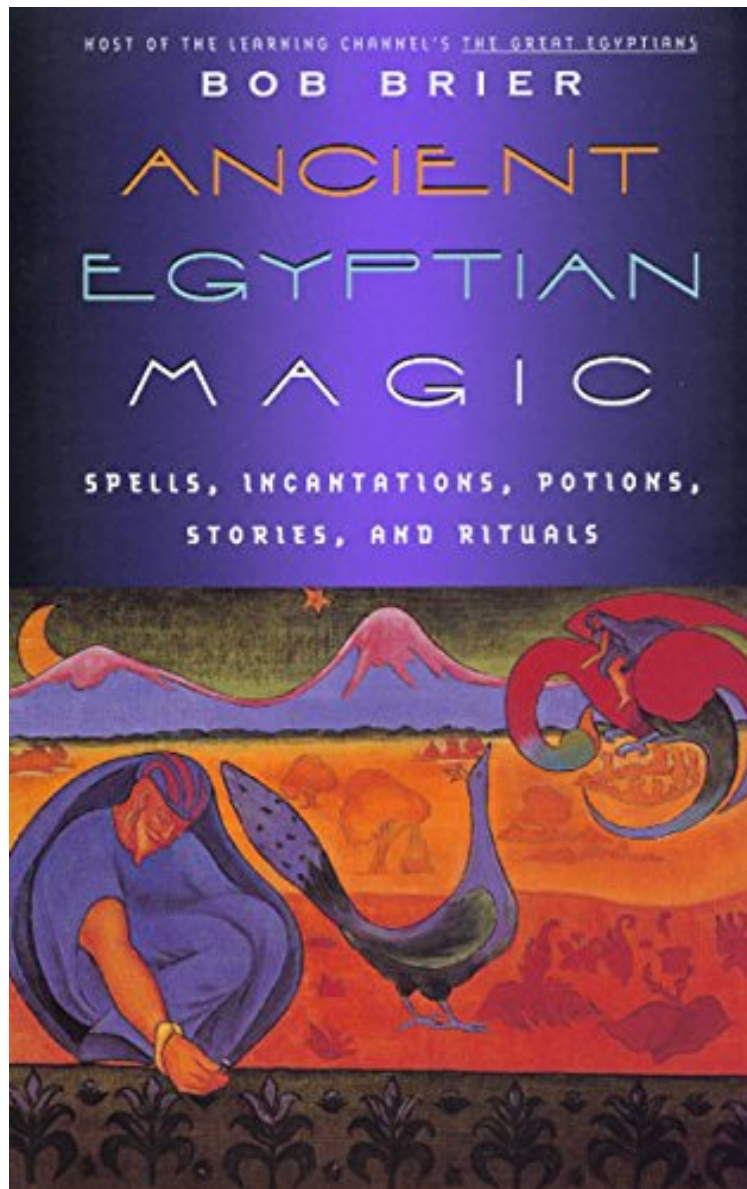


(Free) Ancient Egyptian Magic

Ancient Egyptian Magic

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Bob Brier : Ancient Egyptian Magic before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Egyptian Magic:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Worth every penny By Samael Now this is a wonderful book as a practitioner who has been studying and practicing for over 30+ years this book is one I highly recommend. no mystical charms or magic potions and an other BS just hard facts. that will help someone understand. if your starting in the

studies of Egyptology. this is a very good book to have. Also if you can get it Prof. Faulkner's coffin text. Both of them are a must.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. photos and drawings are great.By CustomerIt's interesting to read what he has to say since I hadn't heard of him up until 5 years ago. Much of what is in here seems verbatim what Budge wrote in his book on the subject, but Brier does flesh out some of the ideas and themes. The pictures, photos and drawings are great.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Review for Egyptian MagicBy M. E. SvareThis is a fabulous and accessible book for anyone. I read this for an upper division ancient religions anthropology class, and I loved it! It is written as an in-depth introductory text, and is fun to read. I highly recommend this book to anyone remotely interested in Egyptology: there is everything from the dirt on the excavation of Tut's tomb to a section of fun spells to cure various maladies.

Ancient Egyptian Magic is the first authoritative modern work on the occult practices that pervaded all aspects of life in ancient Egypt. Based on fascinating archaeological discoveries, it includes everything from how to write your name in hieroglyphs to the proper way to bury a king, as well as: Tools and training of magicians Interpreting dreams Ancient remedies for headaches, cataracts, and indigestion Wrapping a mummy Recipes for magic potions and beauty creams Explanations of amulets and pyramid power A spell to entice a lover A fortune-telling calendar These subjects and many more will appeal to everyone interested in Egyptology, magic, parapsychology, and the occult; or ancient religions and mythology.

"[A] dazzling array of age-old mysteries." -- Dallas Morning News About the Author Bob Brier is a world-famous Egyptologist who has conducted research on pyramids and tombs in fifteen countries. A senior research fellow at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University, he is the author of seven books, including *The Murder of Tutankhamen*, and hosted the *Great Egyptian* series for the Learning Channel. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Egypt had two kinds of magicians. There were trained priest -- magicians who were from established temples and who were part of the orthodox hierarchy. Then, there were what we might call "lay" magicians, untrained men who practiced magic but who were not attached to any institution. The second type was closer to our faith healers, or occultists. However, by far the great majority of magicians in ancient Egypt was of the first type -- priests of the establishment. Therefore, to know what a magician's life was like, we first will have to know his life as a priest. Today, we expect our clergy to have entered into their profession because of a deep religious commitment. In ancient Egypt, however, being a priest was merely a job, a means to making a good living and having status in the community. This may strike us as odd and perhaps even missing the whole point of a religious life, but there was a crucial difference between the function of a priest in ancient Egypt and that of a modern cleric. In our society a minister or priest is thought of as having a close one-to-one relationship with God. If he does not have strong religious convictions, the relationship is vacuous. This was not the case with the Egyptian priest. His job was primarily to be a stand-in for the pharaoh. Egypt was a theocracy -- its political ruler was a god. As a god, the pharaoh ultimately was responsible for maintaining the divine order throughout Egypt. Obviously, the king could not be present for all the ceremonies at the various temples in Egypt. He needed delegates who could take his place at temple functions. As the functions became more and more numerous -- sometimes several ceremonies each day at each temple -- the delegates became more and more numerous. This was the origin of the priesthood. Since ancient Egyptian priests were not a group of men set apart from the rest of the community by their religious commitments, they dealt with mundane matters of life much as laymen did. For instance, it was common for a priestly office to be hereditary. The father who held a particular office could pass that position down to his son, regardless of the son's religious beliefs or moral conduct. Herodotus recorded the practice: They led me into the inner sanctuary, which is a spacious chamber, and showed me a multitude of colossal statues, in wood, which they counted up, and found to amount to the exact number they had said; the custom being for every high-priest during his lifetime to set up his statue in the temple. As they showed me the figures and reckoned them up, they assured me that each was the son of the one preceding him... -- Herodotus, Book II, 143 Eventually, the priesthood became a tremendous bureaucracy numbering thousands of men. There were hundreds of temples dedicated to the various gods, and each temple was somewhat autonomous, having its own hierarchy and division of labors. However, all temples had similar offices with extreme specialization of services. Perhaps one of the most important functions of the priests was caring for the cult statues of the gods, or "oracles." (See Chapter 13, "Oracles.") Only a select few of the priests were permitted to enter each temple's holy of holies and care for the oracle (Figure 5). This involved presenting food before the god several times a day, clothing him in the morning, sealing the chamber in the evening, and so forth. These priests were called the stolists by the Greeks, because they were in charge of the clothing of the god.