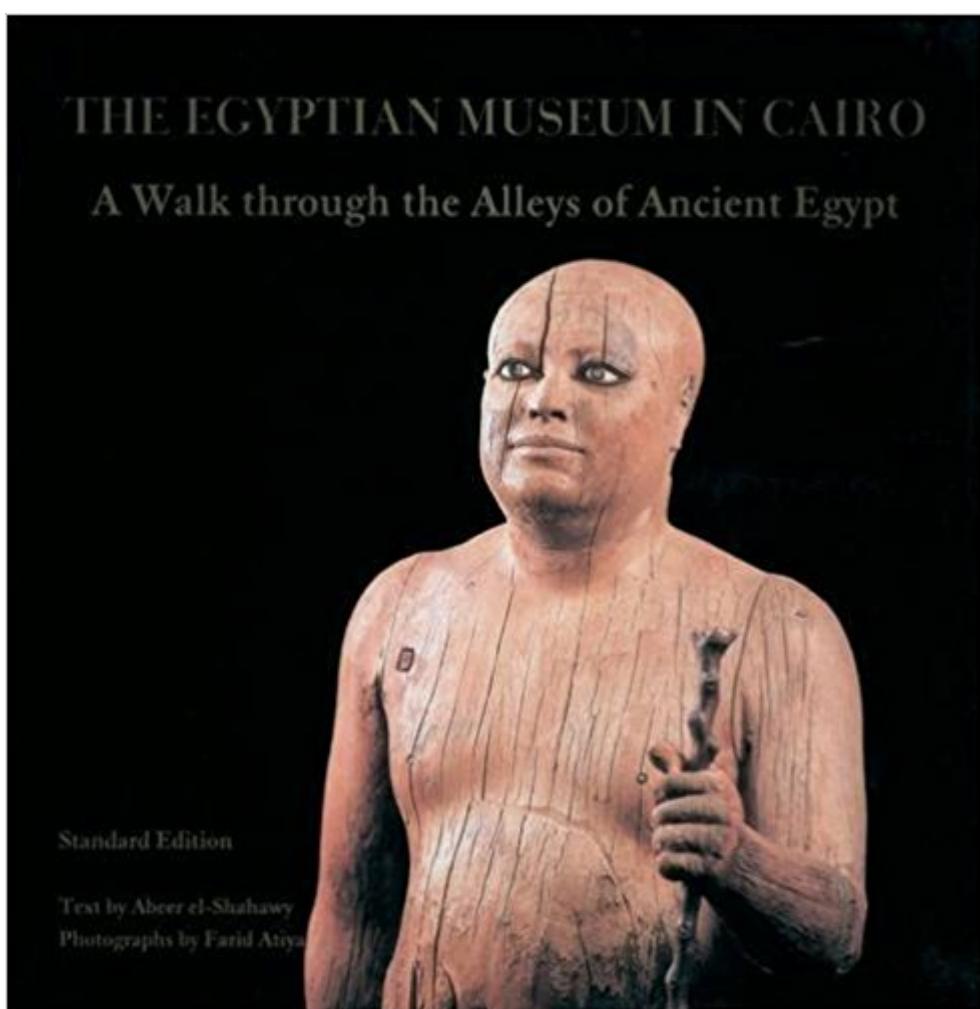


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Egyptian Museum In Cairo: A Walk Through The Alleys Of Ancient Egypt



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Synopsis

Cairo's Egyptian Museum houses the largest collection of Egyptian antiquities in the world. Some 150,000 pieces are exhibited, and another 30,000 are held in storerooms. This book carries full-color illustrations of many of the masterpieces of ancient art in the museum from the decorated vases, flint knives, and palettes of the predynastic period, through the magnificent artifacts of the pharaonic period, to the beautiful tempera portraits of the Roman period.

Book Information

Hardcover: 312 pages

Publisher: Farid Atiya Press; Standard edition (March 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9771721836

ISBN-13: 978-9771721833

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 1.1 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,444,834 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Travel > Africa > Egypt > Cairo #360 in Books > Travel > Africa > Egypt > General #1148 in Books > History > Africa > Egypt

Customer Reviews

FARID ATIYA is a writer, photographer and publisher. He is the author of many books on the Red Sea, Sinai, and the monuments of Egypt. ABEER EL-SHAHAWY is an Egyptian Egyptologist.

"Egyptian Museum In Cairo" is the latest in a long series of books, dating at least back to the 1960's, that display some highlights of the museum's holdings; the present book is 300 pages, in an 8"x8" format, and offers photographs and text for about 200 objects. Organization is chronological; each chapter includes a brief essay (2-3 pages) about the covered time period, and each photograph is accompanied by about a half page of facing text. Quality of the photographs is excellent, although too many of them are printed at 1/4 size (4"x4" vs. the full-page 8"x8"). The text is more than competent; I learned a lot from it. The author describes important features of each object with great clarity, including valuable translations of the hieroglyphs. The book includes a confusing glossary of Egyptian terms ("Akh = one of the elements of the person, representing his light") and a brief index and bibliography. It doesn't have any maps or chronology tables, and

several pages are printed upside down! But don't let that discourage you from buying or at least reading it. I also like some of the older museum guides, for example Hawass (2001), or Tiradritti (1999). Egypt is a great study, and this book is a worthy addition to that tradition.

Having been to the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, this book is great. The museum itself is pretty poorly labeled, and even with a tour you're not going to be able to remember half the things you've seen. Combine that with the fact that you can't take pictures inside of the museum, you're going to be hard pressed to really remember anything. The book itself is a masterful catalog of the amazing collection at the Egyptian Museum with stunning photographs. If you plan on going to the museum, this book will help you plan out your visit (and is cheaper from). And even if you're not able to get to Egypt, this book makes an amazing collection to your library and saves you the hassle, frustration and dealing with the heat of Egypt.

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