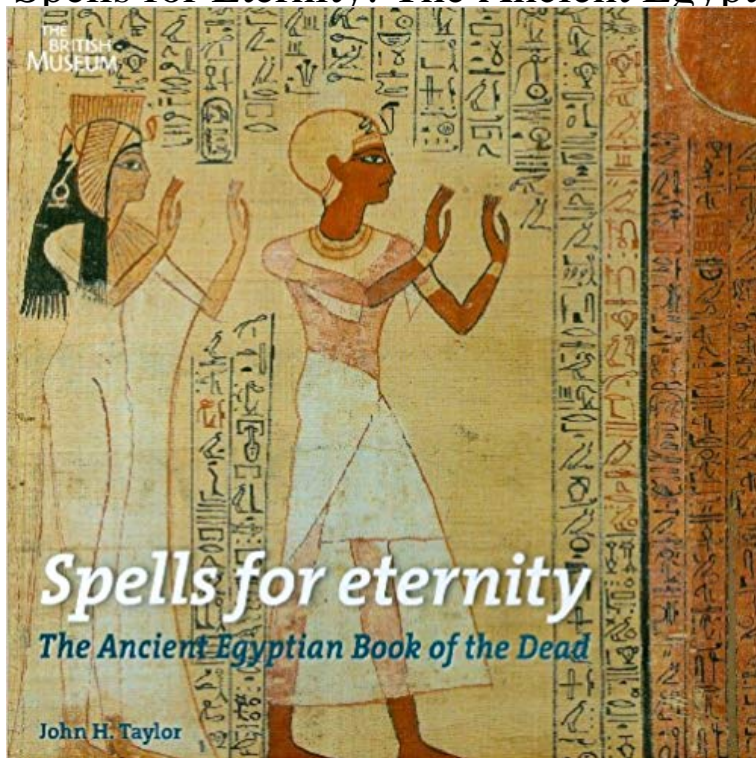


Spells for Eternity: The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead



For most ancient Egyptians, death was not an end; it was merely the entering of a new phase of being. The way to eternal paradise, however, was littered with obstacles, dangers and challenges, which could only be overcome with magical spells. Collections of these, known today as the Book of the Dead, were buried with the deceased to empower, protect and sustain him in the afterlife. Written on papyrus rolls and often beautifully illustrated, they provide a graphic and fascinating insight into ancient Egyptian funerary rituals and beliefs about the underworld. Among the known spells are those for obtaining air, food and water; for transforming your body into another form; for warding off hostile snakes and crocodiles; for preventing your heart from disclosing all your sins in a final judgement. Including details of the finely painted vignettes, this visually stunning book takes the reader on a remarkable journey from tomb to eternity. John H. Taylor is a curator at the British Museum specializing in ancient Egyptian funerary archaeology.

Spells and drawings preserved in Egyptian tomb scrolls illustrate the ancient worlds the dead person might encounter on the tortuous path to eternal bliss. The Book of the Dead is not a single text but a compilation of spells that the ancient Egyptians believed would assist them in the afterlife as they made their perilous journey toward the realm of the gods and the ultimate state of eternity. No two

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So far about 192 spells used in ancient Egypt and in the Book of the Dead are

But life for ancient Egyptians was just a segment, a very small part of the eternal

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Spell for causing a shabti to do work for a man in the realm of the dead: O shabti, allotted to me, Otherwise said: Seed of Eternity is the name of one sea is the name of the other. As for that Great God who .. Taylor, John H. (creator), Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead: Journey through the afterlife. British Museum Press

BOOK OF THE DEAD? The Book of the Dead was a collection of spells and illustrations written on the ultimate goal of every ancient Egyptian eternal life.

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