



The Lost Tomb

Kent R. Weeks

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s/t: In 1995, an American Egyptologist Discovered the Burial Site Of the Sons of Ramesses II--This Is His Story

Dr. Weeks, an Egyptologist with the American University in Cairo, draws on his own diaries, as well as those of his wife and foreman, to describe the excitement and risks that surrounded the most significant archaeological discovery of our time: the burial site of the Son of Ramesses II.

The Lost Tomb Details

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From Reader Review *The Lost Tomb* for online ebook

Pippa DaCosta says

I've always been fascinated by ancient Egypt, and I remember the news of the discovery of KV5 back in 1995. At that time, I watched a documentary with my Dad (who passed away a few years ago) about its discovery literally beneath where the tourist coaches used to unload streams of tourists who had no idea what lay beneath their feet. I've been dutifully following the progress of excavation (still ongoing today - and now the largest tomb in the Valley of the Kings). This book adds wonderful firsthand insight into the discovery.

I still check to see how the excavation is going. More chambers and wonders are being discovered with every season. The tomb of Rameses II KV5 has had me spellbound for years and long may it continue to reveal its secrets. (And, as a genre fiction writer, these discoveries make excellent story ideas! ;))

Lisa says

I first read *The Lost Tomb* in the early-to-mid 2000s, and it's long been one my favourite books about Egyptology. Luckily, I now own a copy. :D

If you knew me at all during that time, you'd know that Ramesses II was my absolute favourite pharaoh, so any book about him had to be good. So, okay, *The Lost Tomb* – which is about the rediscovery and excavation work of the tomb of Ramesses II's sons (known as KV5) – already had a lot going for it.

Not only is *The Lost Tomb* the story of the discovery of KV5 – the most significant find in the Valley of the Kings since Tutankhamun – but because of the context Weeks provides, it's also a great source on Ramesses II's life and family and archaeological practices.

But *The Lost Tomb* is just a really, really good read. You don't need to have a specialist knowledge to really get into it. Weeks is very engaging writer, and very good at explaining things without getting bogged down by the abundance of facts. For this reason, I think he's one of the best authors writing in the field.

Brandon says

Part memoir, part history lesson, part archeological treatise this book has something for everyone. A document of what is probably the greatest archeological discovery of our time is more than an academic book concerning the burial place of Ramesses II; it is also an engaging piece of narrative non-fiction written in a warm personal style that should please readers of all ages and walks of life. Kent Weeks has a writer's eye for detail and an ability to convey the tedious, laborious task of excavating an immense tomb in an entertaining and informative voice that takes the reader into a world that few of us will ever know first hand. There probably is not a writer alive who wouldn't wish to do the same. The memorable people he surrounds himself with and the celebrity he encounters after his brush with history are all described in this book as is the mapping project that preceded his discovery but I never got the feeling that Kent Weeks focus was on anything else but the tomb he was excavating. This is an academic whose meticulous approach to archeology

and love for ancient Egypt was going to lead him to a great discovery and the fluid precise writing style employs only adds the discovery.

Lauren says

One of the most fascinating archaeological finds in the 20th century is chronicled in this book. The tombs of Ramses II sons were found by Egyptologist Kent Weeks in 1995. This book is very exciting, and shows that there is still a lot to discover about the ancient world. This project has been popularized by shows on the Discovery channel and TLC.

Jose Raul says

Libro fascinante, te engancha desde el principio y no te deja hasta el final, prosa muy fluida sin entrar en tecnicismos propios de la profesión de arqueólogo, contado para todo el mundo y que poco a poco te va metiendo en la Historia de Egipto a través de esta tumba.

Recomendable 100%.

John says

An interesting book about the exploration of KV 5, the possible tomb of the sons of Ramesses II. It is scholarly enough to give you some insight into ancient Egypt; but not so scholarly that it comes across as lie a text book. Like most of these explorations it is still a work in progress and open to various theories and interpretations.

Cathy (cathepsut) says

Ancient Egypt through the eyes of someone, who loves what he is doing. And it shows in his writing. He tells us, what the Theban Mapping Project is and how it came to exist. It eventually leads him to re-discover KV5, "the greatest discovery at the Valley of the Kings since Tutankhamun". Great read, very exciting, you feel as if you are digging that tomb together with Kent Weeks and his team. And he throws in some new theories of his own on what it could all mean. Very readable, not just a dry recount of events and it wants you to read more about it all. It also gives you a nice look into the Upper Egypt of today and its people.

What makes this book even more special to me is that I met Kent Weeks briefly, while I lived in Cairo and that one of my oldest friends worked on the Theban Mapping Project with him. So I got a lot of answers to my many questions... ;-)

Marita Gayoso says

Sometimes history can be much better than fiction.

This is the wonderful story surrounding the rediscovery of KV5, the tomb at the Valley of the Kings where some of the numerous sons of Ramesses II were buried. With more than a hundred chambers this was revealed as the largest subterranean tomb in Egypt and one of the most thrilling discoveries ever. A real tale, to dream with other eras and other worlds; to admire the boldness and passion of people you wish you were like.

Eden says

The Lost Tomb begins with Kent Weeks beginnings and his interest of being an archaeologist since childhood. Needless to say, Weeks dream came true. Weeks was working on the Theban Mapping Project and the project's aim is to know the location of every tomb in the area. While working on the project Weeks and his team rediscovered KV5.

Kent Weeks goes into explaining the excavations of KV5 and the excitement surrounding it all.

I don't read nonfiction very often. I like reading fiction much better. But, I can say I really enjoyed *The Lost Tomb*. I've always had an interest in Egypt and this book has greatly renewed my interest in Egypt. *The Lost Tomb* was an exciting and interesting read. I recommend it to anyone interested in Egypt.

CharlieSz says

Great book. I've had this on my shelf for several years and finally took it down. I don't know why I waited so long. A compelling story and a fascinating time of history.

Kb says

So....this book grabbed me at the library. A happy return to non-fiction. Some parts were dry, but the detail was appreciated. Weeks (the author) truly loves being an Egyptologist and this shines through. A very interesting read: excellent, helpful description of Thebes area, the Valley of the Kings, deified pharaohs, construction of tombs, and archaeology in general. And a nice reminder of the year 1995 when KV5 and its expedition exploded in the news.

Nicky says

Well-written account of Kent and Susan Weeks' early work on the Theban Mapping Project and excavations in KV5. Still intriguing after all these years.

Sarah says

When I was a little girl I always liked to watch documentaries about Egyptian antiquities wishing one day I

can see these amazing antiquities..this book have lot of dry parts it was like reading school book but there was interesting parts and I learned lot of things about Pharaohs and there traditions.

Teddi Deppner says

Really enjoyed reading parts of this to my kids as part of their history lessons. Have seen Kent Weeks give a talk about the Theban Mapping Project at a museum in San Francisco and it was great. The book was very easy reading, and had good human interest, which I don't usually expect from scholarly types.

Steven says

Fascinating account of a great discovery by the archaeologist who made it. Enlightening to see and hear it from an archaeologist's point of view, gives me a good sense of how they think. Really lays out all that goes into conducting a dig and what happens when you find something that rocks the world. Excellent combination of memoir and science with mystery story plotting and pacing.
