



The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery

Jeff Brown (Creator) , Sara Pennypacker , Macky Pamintuan (Illustrator)

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Ancient pyramids can be flat-out dangerous!

Ever since Stanley was flattened by a bulletin board, there are places he can get to that no one else can. So when Stanley receives a letter from an archaeologist, he travels by airmail to Egypt to help find an ancient treasure deep in the heart of a great pyramid. But what if even the flattest boy on earth can't wriggle out of this dark tomb—and the terrible mess he finds himself in?

The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery Details

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Author : Jeff Brown (Creator) , Sara Pennypacker , Macky Pamintuan (Illustrator)

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Pop Bop says

An Upbeat and Well Written Addition to the Flat Stanley Shelf

These are very cool books with an interesting history. The original Flat Stanley appeared in 1964 and five more books appeared between then and 2003. When the original author, Jeff Brown, passed away in 2003, the series was converted to the "...Worldwide Adventures" line. These new books, (there are at least ten), have been written by a variety of authors.

This adventure was written by Sara Pennypacker, the well known author of the very engaging "Clementine" books. (Clementine is a cheerful, high-energy girl who always has the best intentions but whose efforts, (say, cutting the neighbor girl's hair), often end up in disaster.)

In this episode Flat Stanley is mailed to Egypt to help explore a recently discovered tomb. He's the logical choice since he can fit between cracks in the stones. There are grave robbers, skullduggery and lurking.

These books have more going for them than just the "flat" gimmick, although that is a pretty good hook. The overall vibe is one of gung-ho good-guy adventure. The deadpan acceptance by everyone of Stanley's flatness has a pretty subtle positive message. The good-guys versus bad-guys angle is always clear and crisply presented. There is a lot of dry humor and just a little bit of an arch kidding of the material in the narrative. For an early chapter book there is actually a surprisingly generous helping of interesting facts about Egypt, including tombs, hieroglyphics, the culture and geography, and so on.

So, while at one level the books are sort of silly, they are written with flair and energy and touch a lot of early readers' favorite bases. Certainly this book would be a zippy and engaging addition to the library and a nice choice to try on an early reader.

Please note that I found this book while browsing the local library's Kindle books, and downloaded it for free. I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.

Sarah Hammerton says

Having read and loved Flat Stanley as a child, I was interested to read this new adventure.

Flat Stanley suffered an unfortunate incident one night when a bulletin board fell on him and flattened him to half an inch thick. Fortunately, this saves a him a lot on travel, since he can go through the post. Because of his fame, Flat Stanley has been invited to Egypt to help a mysterious man get into one of the great pyramids, as he's the only one that can fit. However, when he arrives, he discovers that he is actually helping grave robbers to steal from the pyramid and must find a way to stop them.

This is a quick and humourous read with good moral issues raised along the way - doing the right thing, trusting your friends and being kind to your family. I would recommend it for KS1, confident readers can read alone and it would also be a good class story to read to run along a project on the Egyptians, bearing in

mind that there's not a huge amount of factual information in the story, but it gives a good flavour.

Le Huy says

This is a good book, easy to finish in short time, but the plot of it nearly the same type of another of the series.

Tisha says

Stanley goes to Egypt and his brother is jealous (as always).

Julie says

Flat Stanley books are all pretty similar, but they are great for new readers. My son read this one aloud to me.

AMY says

81 pages. Very funny story and well-written. The series is very popular at my school. Recommended for elementary kids.

Meaghan says

I read this for a paper on the representation of Ancient Egypt in children's books! It was a hoot and my reading challenge is suffering so why not include it!

There were a couple weird gender stereotypes that I didn't love but Stanley's adventures in Egypt would be pretty entertaining for target 7-10 year old readers.

Crystal says

I had a group of second graders read this book for a book club. Scholastic Book Wizard levels this 3-5 grade levels with a reading level Q, DRA 40. This seems much higher than what most of the book is written at. However, the author does use those juicy vocabulary words. Other than vocabulary, the comprehension, short chapters, and content put this at a good 1-3 grade level. I would recommend this book (and others in the series) to those young high-level readers, as this is an enjoyable, very age-appropriate, and slightly quirky book. I will be using this again in my class for guided reading groups.

Treasa says

This was such a fun book! It is more or less the same reading level as the Magic Tree House series, but it is much better written and, in my opinion, is much more interesting. The high quality of writing is actually one of the reasons I liked this book so much. (The book is actually written by Sara Pennypacker, although the author is listed here as Jeff Brown, the creator of Flat Stanley.) I knew I was going to like the book when, on page 5, I came across this exchange:

"But I *am* only half an inch thick.' Stanley sighed. 'So that's me, all right.'

"*I*,' Mrs. Lambchop corrected her son. 'That is *I*.'"

People using "I" correctly is practically unheard of in books (or anywhere) today, so I was very excited by this.

The story is fairly simple: Stanley is asked to come help with an archaeological dig in Egypt. When he gets there, he discovers that the people he is working for are not as honest as he thought. He must find a way to save the day.

I highly recommend this book. I haven't read the rest of the series, but I suspect those books are just as good.

Mary says

I reviewed this soon to be released book for HarperCollins Children's Books. What a great little book! Flat Stanley (an original Jeff Brown character of 45 years ago) is being brought back by another author using the writing style of Mr. Benson. This time the book series will be about history. Each story will have an adventure happening in a place rich with history that becomes part of the story. The book was about 85 pages which kids will like.

Patty says

Jackson's review: I love a good mystery!

Asield014 says

I like this book because I enjoy reading adventure and mystery books. I also like this book because I thought that it was interesting and fun to read. I choose 5 stars for this book because I enjoyed reading the book and I thought that it could have been a little bit of more interesting but not that much. I also think that it was still a good book.

This book really entertained me which made me want to read more of them. This book also reminded me since it talked about Egypt I remembered that we were learning and doing a project on Egypt. I also liked this book because I know some things about Egypt now so I liked it more. I also liked this book because I had

some connections to the book.

McKenzie Richardson says

For more reviews, check out my blog: [Craft-Cycle](#)

This was an okay read.

I think I was just too much in a rational mindset to enjoy this book. I can suspend my disbelief enough to accept that Stanley was flattened by a bulletin board while sleeping in the original book series. I can even pretend that you can send a flat human being through the US Postal Service. But I just can't get over the ridiculousness that Stanley's "goose disks" (flat goose bumps) would allow him to stick to walls like a starfish. He is wearing a long-sleeved shirt and pants. How does he have enough exposed skin to stick to the wall, ignoring the fact that human pores (even if flat) do not turn into suction cups? This was just too much for me. Apparently I am too much of a grown up for this part of the series. This whole thing just doesn't make sense.

The entire book was pretty ridiculous with tons of plot holes. It is a pretty typical "Egyptian" story full of treasure in secret tombs and creepy mummies. There's a fairly predictable "twist", but the story seems kind of lazy. While there are some facts about Egypt at the end of the book, the story is based on various stereotypes and misunderstandings about Egypt. Though I have not been to Egypt, I don't think anyone there says "Holy sarcophagus!" This book is based on a very basic concept of Egypt, mainly that there are really old pyramids that people try to steal from.

I actually really enjoyed the original Flat Stanley chapter book, but this one is just too ridiculous. It feels like an attempt to imitate the Magic Treehouse books, but is a complete failure. This thing makes no sense. Did not enjoy.

Trent Welbaum says

Ever since Stanley was flattened by a bulletin board, he is able to get into places that nobody else can. Stanley receives a letter from an archaeologist in Egypt letting Stanley know that he needs Stanley's help. They are looking for an ancient treasure that is hidden in one of the great pyramids, but there is only a small little hole that Stanley can fit through. Will Stanley be able to find the hidden treasure?

Lindsay says

Just used this book to support year 3 writing. They loved it! They all took a "Flat Stanley" home and had to write about their weekend adventure with Stanley. Many of them have asked for the other books in the series. Can highly recommend this book for class read.
