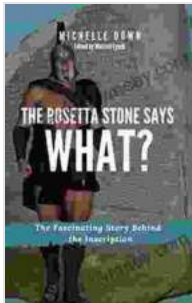


The Rosetta Stone Says What? The Fascinating Story Behind the Inscription



The Rosetta stone says WHAT? The fascinating story behind the inscription by Michelle Down

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 8461 KB

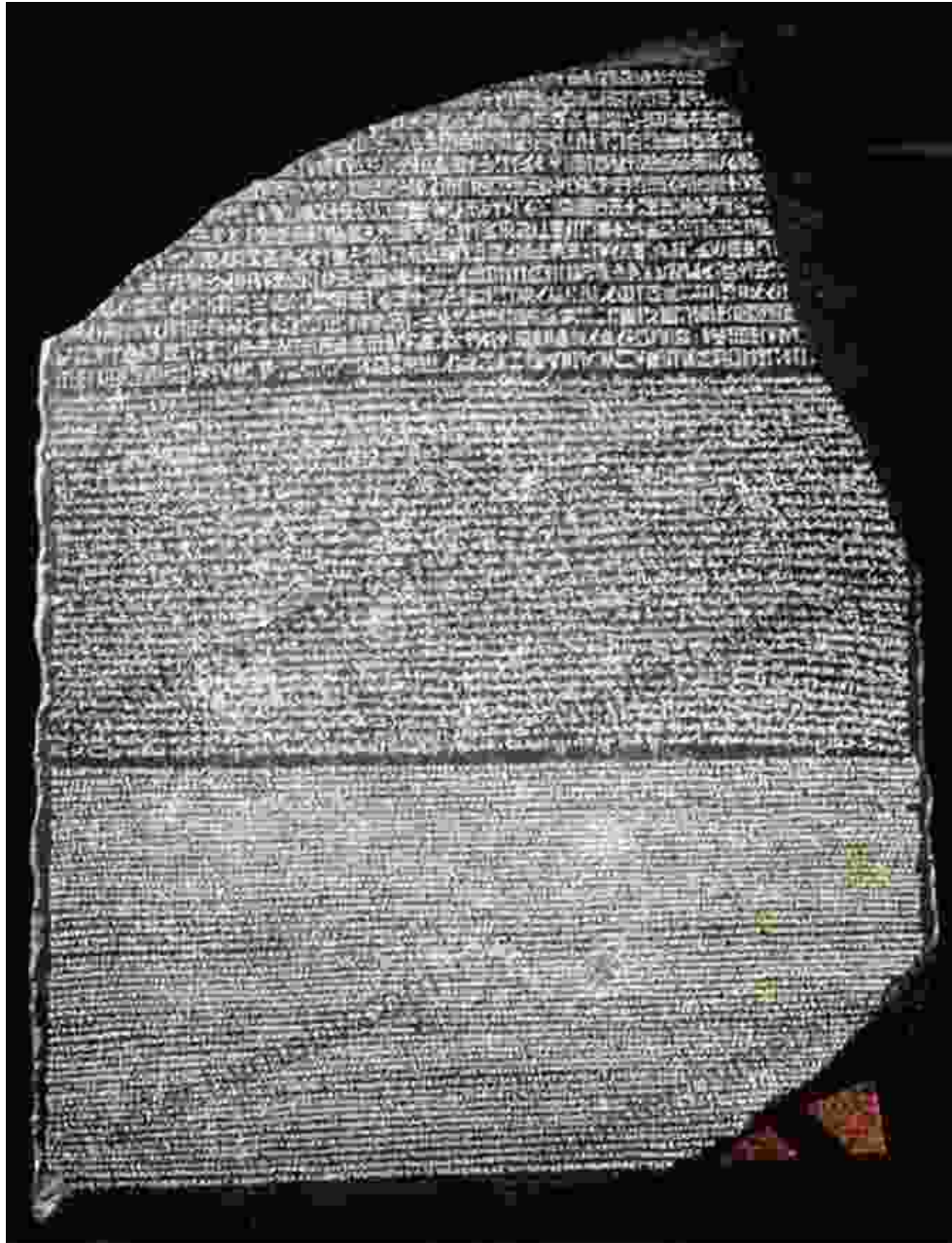
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Print length : 113 pages

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An Enduring Legacy



The Rosetta Stone is an iconic artifact that has played a pivotal role in our understanding of ancient Egypt. Carved from a single block of basalt, it bears three versions of the same decree: in Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs, Demotic script, and Ancient Greek. This remarkable inscription acted as a Rosetta Stone for unlocking the secrets of a long-lost language, shedding light on an enigmatic civilization.

Discovered in 1799 by a French soldier during Napoleon's invasion of Egypt, the Rosetta Stone quickly became the object of intense study by scholars. The Greek text, the only one that could be easily understood at the time, provided a crucial key to deciphering the other two scripts.

Heroic Efforts: Decoding the Hieroglyphs



The task of deciphering the hieroglyphs fell upon Jean-François Champollion, a French linguist and Egyptologist. With meticulous patience

and linguistic brilliance, Champollion painstakingly compared the Greek text to the hieroglyphic script, identifying similarities between the two. He realized that the hieroglyphs were not merely symbols representing objects but also represented sounds.

One key discovery was that the name of the Ptolemaic ruler Ptolemy V Epiphanes appeared in an oval-shaped symbol, known as a cartouche. By matching the Greek letters in the cartouche with the hieroglyphs, Champollion was able to establish the phonetic values of several hieroglyphic signs.

A Breakthrough Discovery: Rosetta Unveiled

THE ROSETTA STONE

KEY TO DECIPHERING HIEROGLYPHICS
WITH THE SAME DECREE IN 3 SCRIPTS.



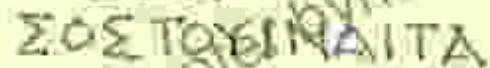
HIEROGLYPHIC



DEMOTIC



GREEK



With this breakthrough, Champollion began to unravel the complexities of the hieroglyphic script. He identified the phonetic values of more signs, and gradually, the text began to yield its secrets. By 1822, he had successfully deciphered the Rosetta Stone, opening up a new era in the study of ancient Egypt.

Champollion's achievement was nothing short of remarkable. He had unlocked the door to a lost language and, in doing so, illuminated the history, culture, and beliefs of an ancient civilization. The Rosetta Stone became a

symbol of the triumph of human ingenuity and the power of language to bridge cultural divides.

Beyond Decipherment: Expanding Our Knowledge

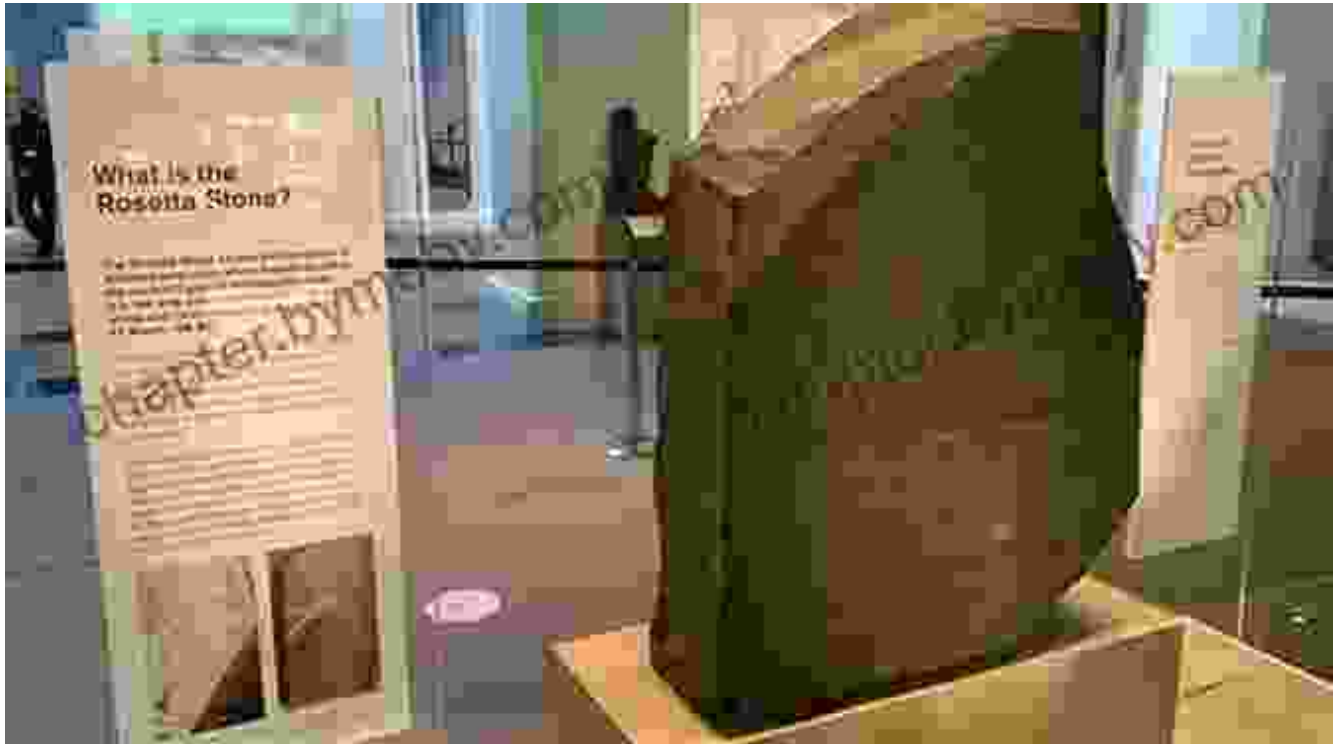


The Rosetta Stone's importance extends beyond its role in deciphering hieroglyphs. Its text provides valuable insights into the political, religious, and administrative systems of Ptolemaic Egypt. It records a decree issued by a council of priests, granting divine honors to Pharaoh Ptolemy V Epiphanes. This decree sheds light on the complex relationship between the rulers and the priestly class in ancient Egypt.

Moreover, the Rosetta Stone has provided a foundation for the study of other ancient scripts and languages. It has helped scholars decipher other

Egyptian texts, such as the Pyramid Texts and the Book of the Dead. Its contribution to the field of linguistics and epigraphy cannot be overstated.

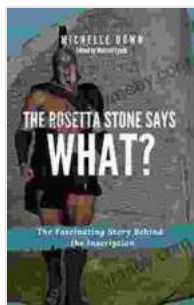
A Timeless Legacy: Preserving the Past



Today, the Rosetta Stone resides in the British Museum in London, where it is one of the most popular attractions. It stands as a testament to the human spirit's unyielding quest for knowledge and understanding. Its legacy continues to inspire generations of scholars and history enthusiasts, reminding us of the power of language and the resilience of human civilization.

The Rosetta Stone has played an inestimable role in shaping our understanding of the ancient world. Its story is a testament to the enduring power of human curiosity and the transformative impact of scientific discovery. As we continue to explore the depths of human history, the

Rosetta Stone will remain an enduring symbol of the human pursuit of knowledge and the interconnectedness of cultures across time.



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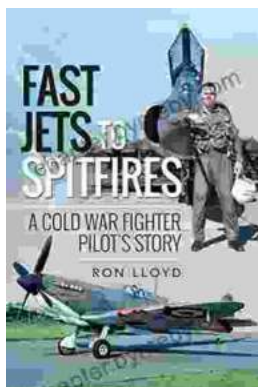
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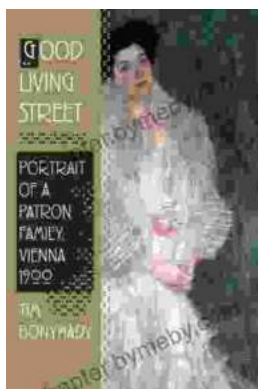
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