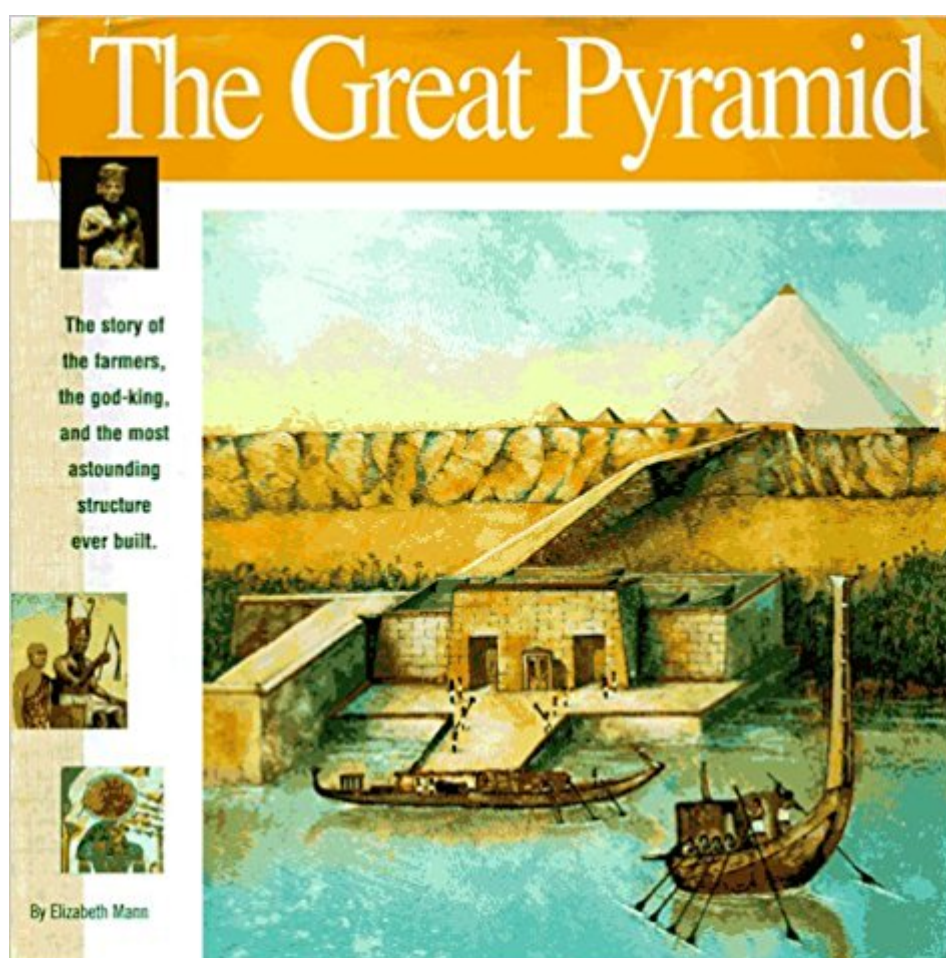


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# The Great Pyramid: The Story Of The Farmers, The God-king And The Most Astounding Structure Ever Built (Wonders Of The World Book)



## Synopsis

Nearly 50 stories high, The Great Pyramid was built more than 4,500 years ago, made from over 2,300,000 giant stone blocks and constructed by primitive farmers. Some believe aliens from outer space created it, but the true story of the Great Pyramid is even more fascinating than the speculation. A nation of farmers living on the green edge of a harsh desert had a king who was a god in life and death. Tens of thousands of farmers left their homes each year to chisel hard stone without iron tools and move 10-ton blocks up steep grades without the use of a wheel. Elizabeth Mann captures the marvel that is The Great Pyramid and the people that built it. She tells the story of a world that is strange, distant and yet poignantly human. In the process, The Great Pyramid and the Old Kingdom become more than dusty remnants of an ancient civilization; they come alive. Laura Lo Turco's shimmering paintings are a perfect visual complement to the text, combining reality with a sense of awe and mystery. Photographs of haunting 4,500-year old walls and statues let Ancient Egypt remind the young reader that these people were indeed real. Wonders of the World series The winner of numerous awards, this series is renowned for Elizabeth Mann's ability to convey adventure and excitement while revealing technical information in engaging and easily understood language. The illustrations are lavishly realistic and accurate in detail but do not ignore the human element. Outstanding in the genre, these books are sure to bring even the most indifferent young reader into the worlds of history, geography, and architecture. "One of the ten best non-fiction series for young readers." - Booklist

## Book Information

Age Range: 9 - 13 years

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Series: Wonders of the World Book

Hardcover: 48 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Books > Education & Reference > History > Middle East #491 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Ancient](#)

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-6. Two eye-catching titles that feature an informative mix of historical reproductions, striking illustrations, and clearly presented texts. Each book opens with an attention-grabbing fictional scene. The Brooklyn Bridge begins on the Fulton Ferry, where John Roebling and his son discuss the need for a more efficient method of crossing the East River. The design, step-by-step construction, personalities involved, multiple setbacks, and ultimate completion of this New York City landmark are all presented in a readable narrative, supported by diagrams and dramatic illustrations. In the first pages of *The Great Pyramid*, an enthusiastic farm boy leaves his small village to help construct the tomb of the pharaoh Khufu. The book touches briefly on the religious beliefs and social structure of ancient Egypt, while focusing on Khufu's reign and the construction and design of his 50-story monument. The full-page paintings are stunning; touched with tones of gold and textures that reflect a desert setting, they point to the mystery of this ancient civilization. Captioned, full-color photos of artifacts also enhance the well-written text. Both of these beautifully designed titles include fold-out sections that give readers a sense of the size of these structures. Although they include enough information for homework assignments, these books are a browser's paradise. Joy Fleishhacker, *School Library Journal* Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The author excels at helping children understand unfamiliar ideas, adeptly shows the evolution of Egyptian burial customs and beliefs, and presents new facts based on the latest research. (Curriculum Administrator) Finalist, Children's Books of Distinction (Hungry Mind Review) Mann does a wonderful job of entertaining young readers with fascinating stories of the history and evolution of the pyramids.... She adds little details that make the faceless people who built the pyramids suddenly take on personalities.... The text is enhanced by rich, detailed paintings and maps that bring the reader to Egypt and are mini-treasure troves of information all by themselves. Artist Laura Lo Turco has combined artistic ability with an eye for detail, further bringing the people who banded together to create the most magnificent tomb ever erected to vibrant life. (Small Press Magazine) [Starred review:] Eye-catching... beautifully designed. (School Library Journal) Mann conveys the story as adventure without ever resorting to melodrama and explores the history and architecture... in highly readable form. (Booklist)

We used this book in our homeschool studies of Ancient Egypt. This book is well written and nicely illustrated with a combination of vibrant watercolors and actual photographs. The middle of the book has a fold out panel that shows what the construction site of the Great Pyramid at Giza would have likely looked like. This book does a great job of explaining the spiritual significance of the pyramids as well as the changes in culture their construction brought to the Egyptian people. If you are looking for a book that explains exactly HOW the pyramids were built I highly suggest David Macaulay's book Pyramid. This amazing book uses hand drawn diagrams to explain how each level of the actual pyramid was built as well as the adjacent temples. AMAZING. While The Great Pyramid by Mann is easily understood by elementary students, they may need a little help understanding parts of Macaulay's. The two books together provide a thorough understanding of these archaeological wonders.

This book paired perfectly with our study of The Old Kingdom of Egypt. We loved the fold out image that details the construction of The Great Pyramid of Giza. Excellent images to bring the time alive.

I started to restudy the history of the world and this very beautifully illustrated book is one of the favorite and even indispensable in my study of the world history.

It is well written, compelling, and has beautiful illustrations. A true pleasure to use as a history lesson for my 2nd grader.

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