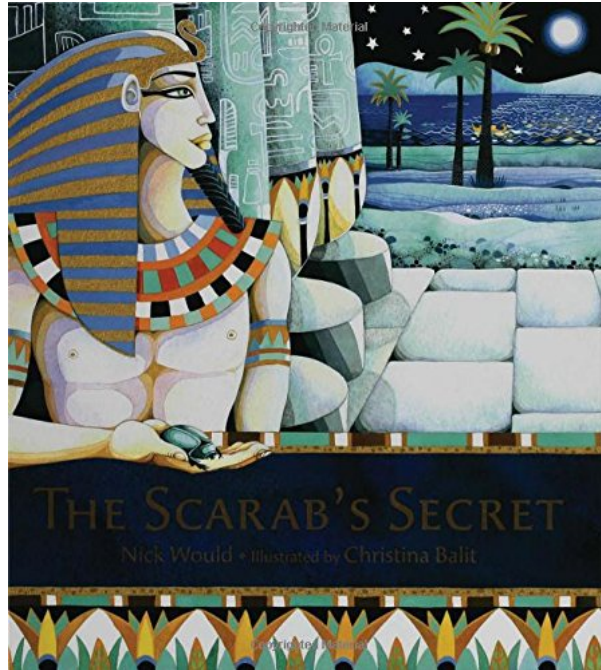
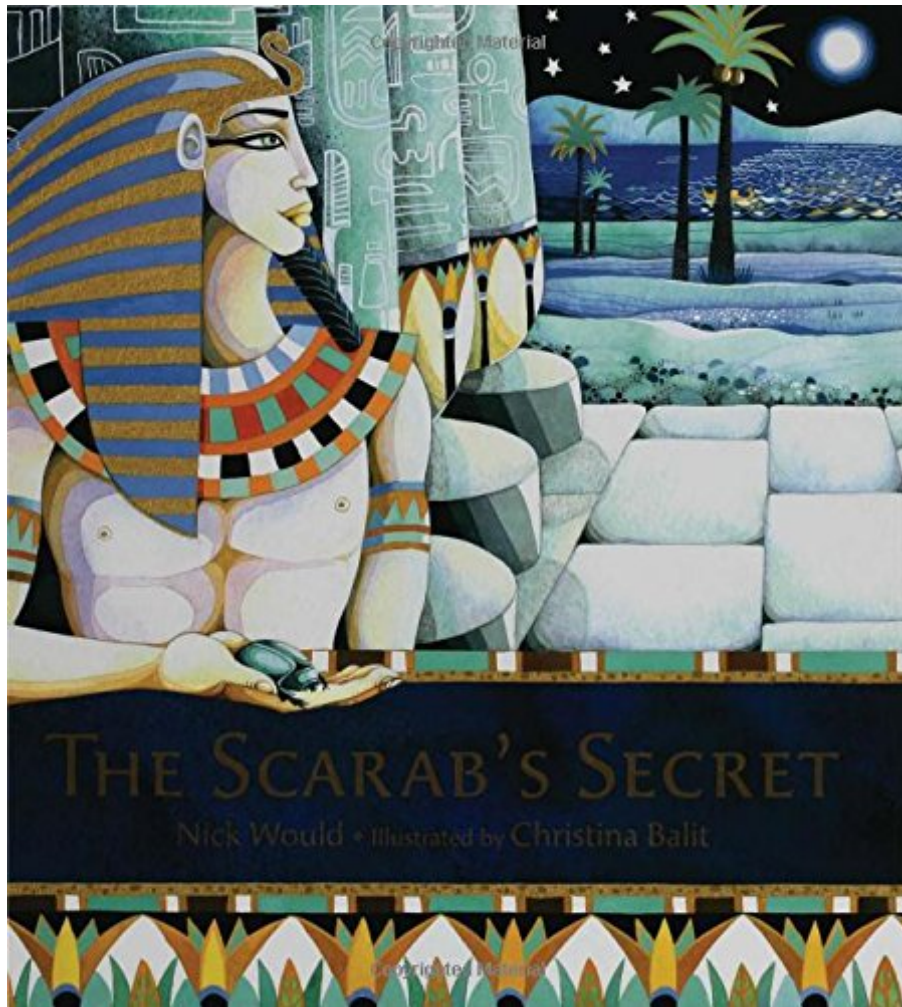


# THE SCARAB'S SECRET BY NICK WOULD



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From School Library Journal

Grade 1-4-Vivid illustrations complement this unusual tale of the bond between a prince of Egypt and a scarab beetle. Khepri the beetle (whose name means rising sun) narrates the story of why the scarab was so revered in ancient Egypt. He discovers-by happenstance or providence?-that a tomb still under construction contains a trapdoor in one of its passageways. When three workmen attempt to direct the prince into that passageway, the insect is helpless to call out and warn him. But the cautious young man is himself able to lay bare the workmen's treachery. Both beetle and prince display heightened perceptiveness, which may suggest to older readers what is not explicitly stated: that both embody, in some fashion, the sun god, Ra. Would's languid and detailed narration, more like that of a short story than a typical picture book, emphasizes how distant ancient Egypt's culture is from our own, as do Balit's long, lean bodies, skewed architectural perspectives, and vibrant Egyptian motifs and scenes. The exaggerated sharpness of line makes distant objects as focused as closer ones, almost pulling viewers into the scenes. Clothing and ornamentation, murals, the shapes of boats and pottery, masons' tools-all reflect Egyptian originals. A historical note provides information about Ra and preparations for a pharaoh's death and burial. While most youngsters may not select this book on their own, it has the narrative and artistic qualities that make for a fine read-aloud, especially in conjunction with Shirley Climo's *The Egyptian Cinderella* (HarperCollins, 1989), with Ruth Heller's beautiful illustrations.-Coop Renner, Hillside Elementary, El Paso, TX

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From Booklist

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## Review

This is a stunning book with texts an illustrations working in harmony.

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# THE SCARAB'S SECRET BY NICK WOULD PDF

The tiniest of creatures can change the fate of a great Pharaoh.

The chance meeting of Khepri, the small scarab beetle, and the powerful Pharaoh turns out to be a life altering experience for both and, ultimately, shapes the fate of the young leader. After the scarab uncovers a mysterious plot to murder the Pharaoh he is determined to put an end to it. The tiny scarab with a big heart helps the Pharaoh avert danger and saves the life of his precious ruler.

Lavishly illustrated with fifth color gold ink on the cover, this fascinating picture book elegantly depicts ancient Egypt and delivers the important message that even the smallest of creatures can make an impact. A perfect supplement to classroom studies and a great gift for Egyptophiles!

- Sales Rank: #2082989 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Walker Books for Young Readers
- Published on: 2006-05-02
- Released on: 2006-05-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.06" h x .39" w x 9.84" l, .90 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages

## Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

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Review

This is a stunning book with texts an illustrations working in harmony.

Most helpful customer reviews

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Loved it - simple story, beautiful pictures

By WeeBeaks

This is a folktale-style story of the little scarab beetle, Khepri, and his adventure with the pharaoh, saving him from death at the hands of two villains in the tale. Yep, that is the tale, and it is simple. That is not really what is great about this book, of course, though we all appreciate that an insignificant little critter saves the life of a mighty pharaoh, thus telling our kids that everyone can do great things! The illustrations in this one are awesome, colorful, detailed, reminding one of fresco paintings. The pictures detailing the interior of the buildings showed hieroglyphs, my kids of course finding the representations of ones they knew, ones we had been studying.

The pacing of and length of this tale, combined of course with the great illustrations, made this a perfect read-aloud for us. I actually used this one in co-op, so I had a group of 10 kids from pre-K to 6th grade. All of them enjoyed it immensely, saying a lot about the appeal, right? Highly recommend this one for just fun or to incorporate in your Egypt history studies.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Not That Bad!

By Texas Book Lover

While I agree that the story is somewhat weak (it is not advertised as an Egyptian myth), it is satisfactory. The important things about this book are the color illustrations by Balit - wonderfully detailed and historically accurate down to the type of tools which were most likely used to build the tombs and other buildings of ancient Egypt. Simply beautiful! Worth a look for sure, IMHO.

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Not Much of a Story-Dissapointing

By Marco Antonio Abarca

I purchased this book to read to my six year old daughter. I was hoping for a mythic story that we could

integrate into our study of Ancient Egypt. We were rather dissapointed with this book. The story revolves around a scarab beetle that saves a Prince from being caught in a booby trap. The story was not very interesting and gave us little new insight into Egyptian history. Not recommended.

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