

In July 1845 Texas formally accepted an American proposal to be annexed to the United States. Already strained relations between the United States and Mexico rapidly worsened. President James K. Polk ordered General Zachary Taylor and his troops to Corpus Christi. In March 1846, under instructions, Taylor took up positions on the Rio Grande. On April 26 an American squadron of dragoons surrounded by Mexicans and unable to fight its way out surrendered. Several Americans lost their lives in the defeat.

On May 8 the Mexicans intercepted Taylor at Palo Alto but were driven back. The next day Mexicans again gave way in battle at Resaca de la Palma. In June Taylor began a march toward Monterrey, taking that city on September 25. Two months later the Americans took Saltillo and with little effort filed into Tampico.

Santa Anna now took the field against the American forces in northern Mexico, finally engaging the Americans at Buena Vista in February. Upon learning of the Mexican's design, General John E. Wool, marched from San Antonio to join Taylor's forces, abandoning his prior plans to take Chihuahua. After extremely bitter fighting Santa Anna pulled out his army, leaving Taylor in control of northern Mexico.

While Taylor pursued the enemy, Colonel Stephen W. Kearny took the "Army of the West" into New Mexico, capturing Santa Fe on August 16, 1846. Kearny then divided his forces, taking part to California and sending the remainder under Alexander W. Doniphan against Chihuahua. After General Winfield Scott captured Mexico City the two countries finally reached a settlement.

Source: Maps adapted from *The West Point Atlas of American Wars*, Volume 1, Frederick A. Praeger, 1959.

Apartments of the Amen temple and with the addition of a porch to the front portal by Thutmose III (prior to his eventual dismantling of the entire structure, to make room for his own Amen barque shrine).

This volume is indeed an outstanding example of the modern scientific publication of Egypt's monuments. It is to be presumed that at least a forthcoming second volume (this being Volume I) will deal with the textual inscriptions of the Red Chapel.

IMAGINING EGYPT
A LIVING PORTRAIT OF THE TIME OF THE PHARAOHS
written & illustrated by Mark Millmore
2007, Black Dog & Leventhal (New York); 192 pp., 100s of color illus.; hardcover, \$24.95; ISBN 1-57912-547-6

If you can afford to add just one book to your Egyptology library in 2007, make it *Imagining Egypt!* It is an amazing piece of work by a graphic artist and theatre designer who has no formal Egyptological credentials, but has nonetheless produced a volume that should be required reading for every Ancient Egypt 101 course.

As he reveals in his introduction to *Imagining*, Brit Mark Millmore has harbored a fascination for all things ancient Egyptian since the age of six, when he was introduced to the "exploits of the pharaohs" by his grandfather. After acquiring an art degree, a trip to Egypt in 1982 changed his own artwork "forever." The trip from Alexandria to Aswan also inspired him to find out all he could about the ancient Egyptians, their culture and creations. He found many of the books he studied on the subject "so esoteric they were virtually unreadable." Then in the mid-'80s, Millmore discovered ancient Egypt's self-appointed spokesperson of that time, fellow Brit John Romer, whose films and books evoking the "human dimension of ancient Egyptian society" opened a doorway for the youthful Egyptophile.

Inspired by Romer, Millmore created a website in 1996 (www.discoveringegypt.com), on which he featured his own drawings, paintings and photos of Egyptological subjects, as well as his "personal and opinionated writings about the ancient peoples of the Nile," plus computer-generated recreations of some of the ancient temples, "showing them as they might have appeared when new." Much to his surprise, the website became very popular, receiving some 15,000 "hits" per day, and generated a great deal of e-mail with questions from school kids, teachers and adults alike.

Millmore would spend up to an hour a day responding to these questions, "checking the answers in Egyptology books and rephrasing the information so that it might be understood by any curious person."

Imagining Egypt is the consequence of these inquiries and replies, the author having decided to combine his personal visions of the ancient culture and its history and achievements together in a book lavishly illustrated with his own art, photography, graphics and recreations.

The volume is organized into nine chapters following the Introduction, concluding with a Glossary and Index. The layout or design of *Imagining* is heavily dependent on sidebars, or mini-essays partitioned off from the basic flow of text. This may present a challenge for some readers, who must decide whether to read the textual narrative first and then go back and read each chapter's several sidebars, or to interrupt the narrative and deal with the sidebar texts as they are presented.

Chapter I is titled "In the Beginning — Unlocking the Wonders of Ancient Egypt" and provides a brief historical background for the Egyptological novice, with sidebars on the subjects of "The Narmer Palette," "The Mace," "The Story of Osiris and Isis" and "The Story of Horus and Seth."

Chapter II, "Kings and Queens," deals, obviously, with ancient Egyptian kingship, with a focus on several individual rulers: Pepi II, Amenemhat I, Hatshepsut, Thutmose III, Amenhotep III, Akhenaten, Tutankhamun, Rameses II, Rameses III and Cleopatra VII. The chapter's many sidebars are: "Crowns and Regalia," "The Names of Pharaoh," "The Name of Rameses II," "The Letter of Pepi II," "Nubia," "Libya," "The Hyksos," "The Land of Punt," "Megiddo," "Thoiutii Rahuhotep — How Thoutii took the town of Joppa," "Amenhotep, son of Hapu," "The Colossi of Memnon," "Monotheistic," "The Amarna Letters," "Letter of Yapahu of Gerzu," "The Hittites," "The Chariot," "The Battle of Kadesh," "Queen Nefertari," "The Sea Peoples," "Alexandria" and "Herodes Magnus."

"The Pyramids," Chapter III is subdivided into "Saqqara," "The Great Pyramid at Giza," "The Second Pyramid at Giza" and "The Third Pyramid at Giza," supplemented by the sidebars "Imhotep," "How Did They Do It?," "The Golden Lotus," "Khufu's Solar Boat," "Location of the Pyramids and "The Prince and the Sphinx."

Chapter IV, "The Temples," discusses "Cult and Funerary Temples," "The Temple of Karnak," "Luxor Temple," "Madinat Habu" (author's spelling),

"Temple of Dendara" and "Temple of Philae," benefiting from Millmore's stunning recreations. Sidebars are: "The basic layout of a New Kingdom Temple," "Hypostyle," "Coptic Church," "How Did they Do It?" and "How an obelisk might have been erected."

Chapter V is arguably the volume's best, certainly the most "fun" for the novice Egyptophile and covers "Hieratic," "The Hieroglyphic Script," "Numbers and Mathematics" and "Papyrus, the Wonder Plant." The several sidebars are "Craftsman," "Scribes," "The Rosetta Stone," "Cartouche," "How your name would have looked in ancient Egypt," "Symbolic Symbols," "Determinative Symbols," "Egyptian Language," "Word Examples," "How to Read the Names of the Pharaohs," "Pharaohs Names," "Hieroglyphic Numbers," "Fractions," "Ancient Egyptian Arithmetic," "Recovered Literature," "Papyrus," "How the Egyptian Make Papyrus Paper" and "Fun with Hieroglyphs."

"The Gods and Goddesses," Chapter VI, discusses "The Creation" and is otherwise comprised of a lot of sidebars: "Gods and Men," "The nine gods of the Great Ennead," "The Gods" (which does not, for whatever reason, include Min), "Osiris Trains His Son," "Why a Year Has 365 Days" and "The Eternal Battle of Apepi and Ra."

Chapter VII, "Daily Life in Ancient Egypt," discusses the roles of "Men and Women," "Children," "Slaves," "Costume," "Food," "Drink," "The House," "The Palace," "Games and Sport," Music and Dance" and "Calendar Systems," with sidebars including: "The Police," "The Letter of Hekanakhte," "Bread," "Herodotus," "How to Play Senet," "The Workers Go on Strike" and "Class in Egypt."

"Land of the Dead" has minimal text, being mostly sidebars: "The Mummification Process," "Natron," "The Funeral," "Coffins and Sarcophagi," "False Door," "Shabtis," "Judgment of the Dead," "The Journey of the Dead," "The Book of the Dead," "Magic Spells from the Book of the Dead," "The Realm of Duat," "The Elysian Field" and "The Valley of the Kings," with focus on KV5, KV34 and KV9.

Millmore's final chapter, IX, "The Dynasties," presents a timeline juxtaposed against brief discussions of all thirty-one dynasties (with king lists) and the Ptolemies.

A criticism of *Imagining* is that the author often presents outdated information (e.g., Hatshepsut and Senenmut were lovers, a would-be king had to marry his eldest sister — or the defunct "heiress theory"). But with all the pluses of the volume, these few errors can be overlooked.

D.Forbes

Carefully choreographed events in the world are brought to our attention through the news channels of all the news media. These are backed up with real photos and real dead people and real people who found themselves caught in the incidents, but the crux of the events have been altered to create a false reality to which the greater part of the public reacts in the exact same manner. Our mental picture of the political situation has very little grounding in fact. We are being deceived on a very large scale.

Spiritual “News”

In the spiritual situation our souls have been similarly brainwashed to see this physical realm the way we all see it. Our impression of the world is a complete fabrication. We, as spiritual entities, believe that we exist as intelligent creatures in a physical universe. But really, we exist as spiritual 'non-matter' in a spiritual-computer-projected environment called the universe. We are comatose spiritual cells, also called souls, of a comatose spiritual being. The universe is an apparition of souls' collective deceived awareness. This awareness is the spiritual public opinion of all souls. There is nothing real in what we perceive of the universe. Souls project this universe based on false information. And who do you think feeds us this false information? You will never guess! Our beloved God in ChristJehovah! I am not belittling Jehovah and Jesus Christ although, through much of the book, it may seem that way. The entire book will reveal the complete concept and thesis.

Keep On Reading

Now that you have read this far, you are obligated to read the whole book because as you go through the book it will reveal the incredibly many systems of deceit souls are buried in. This book, as you progress through it and reread it, will expand your mind, let me say for comparison, from a squashed particle of matter in the core of the earth to the open and liberated conscious of a spiritual soul free of mental garbage. The book will alter your propaganda-distorted mental picture of reality to what reality actually is. For example, I back up my contentions with progressive lists that show how the public has been led from one point to the next; from being free people in 1776 to being no more than a herd of much exploited cattle managed by the authorities; and from innocent soul to deceived soul to a soul pretending to exist in a spiritual virtual reality.