



Eve of the Pharaoh (Era of Shadows, #1)

R.M. Schultz

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MYSTERY, FORBIDDEN LOVE, AND GRAND ADVENTURE.

The legendary Hall of Records waits, undiscovered since ancient Egypt ...

Young Gavin Caywood's afflicted life has never involved deciphering illusions concealed in shadow and light, unearthing the dead, or exhuming sunken tombs in crocodile-infested waters. Yet Gavin often dreams of what could have been—if only a consuming disease didn't restrict his aspirations. Instead, fear caused him to pursue what others deemed appropriate, and

he committed an unforgivable mistake. But after receiving a letter from his deceased father, Gavin needs to escape.

Young Horemheb from ancient Egypt also desires to alter fate. He inspires Gavin through a lost tale that spans eons and cultures, weaving their lives together. Frightening enemies, magic, unexpected friendship, betrayal, love, and death emerge at every turn. But if either of them are to survive, they must choose between life, love, and the revealing of secrets from the ages.

Eve of the Pharaoh (Era of Shadows, #1) Details

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Author : R.M. Schultz

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From Reader Review *Eve of the Pharaoh (Era of Shadows, #1)* for online ebook

Dani Rowen says

This book grabs your attention right from the start. It starts action-packed and suspenseful and does not stop.

The characters are very engaging, especially Gavin. I adored his relatable day-dreams and felt sympathetic to his past and present emotions. Especially one of his past stories, which made me cringe when I read it, as if I was experiencing it with Gavin.

The story is creative and detailed, so that you feel as if you are there with the characters through all their adventures.

I have always loved ancient Egypt, the author really brings it to life, both in the past and in the present. The author knows his Egypt, from modern excavation sites, to the respected deities, and to the purpose of pharaohs and more.

I am excited for the next book, as this one leaves you with some cliff hangers.

I recommend this book if you are up for an adventure!

Laura Veals says

Actual Rating: 4.5/5 stars

Have you ever thought that looking to the past may help you find your future?

*“I was only one of millions, a tiny part of an infinite whole. How could I ever hope to accomplish anything?”
—Eve of the Pharaoh, RM Schultz*

Eve of the Pharaoh follows the story of two young people living parallel struggles, in search of answers and justice, while seeking to overcome large obstacles—both personal and on a larger scale. They both discover that the people in their lives may not be who they seem, at times enduring heartbreak and the sting of betrayal.

“I’m done judging by appearances,” I whispered. “I’ve seen the most beautiful thing in the entire world and the most hideous.” The dwarves’ eyebrows rose as they exchanged a glance. “They can both still hide the same insides,” I said. —Eve of the Pharaoh, RM Schultz

Enduring gut-wrenching loss and the weight of defeat, the characters take us through their own journeys, embracing change and discovering the extraordinary power one can possess to change circumstances.

“Have you seen the monarch butterfly? They float over the shimmering waters of the river, bringing vibrant

colors, beauty, and elegance to our world. But even these creatures begin life as a dark worm. They must transform within a suffocating cocoon before revealing their true magnificence.”

Overall, the flow is an interesting ping-pong style linear adventure, which provides quick movement and prevents stagnation. The end of each chapter, in the beloved style of an adventure series, leaves the reader with a cliff-hanger. As the book moves, the parallel stories increasingly switch back and forth, creating an emotional crescendo for the reader as they now are invested in both protagonists.

One aspect I struggled with was some of the vocabulary used in the historical protagonist's diary. There were occasional modern terms and slang that seemed unrealistic for a young slave at this time. While it is a 'translation' from a diary, it is unlikely that these words or vocal intonations would be used. On occasion, there were almost identical phrases or vocal timbre (both frequently have a staccato-like reaction when they realize someone is in trouble and a character's name is used followed by an exclamation mark) used between both the historical and modern main characters. While they do in fact have a parallel experience, their voices would likely not be reflected identically. I think an opportunity to create unique voices for both characters exist, which will hopefully create more distinct identities.

Lovers of adventure, history, and drama will enjoy this book.

Due to some sexually suggestive content, I would recommend it for readers older than 16.

K Lawson says

i like action/adventure and historical fiction novels and this novel was a perfect blend of both! ancient egypt is not a time period i know a lot about and this book got me interested in doing a bit more research into the time period, which was really interesting. i enjoyed the juxtaposition of the present day story alongside the past and the characters are very well written. excited for the next book!

Wendy says

This story brings the magic of ancient Egypt to life, intertwined with a modern tale of physical and self exploration and discovery-including lost monuments and tombs that are still waiting, buried. The ancient story is based on history and archaeology, and I found myself immersed in a world that I had before barely understood, one where magic and reality blend together. I found myself thinking about the story when I wasn't reading, and long after I'd read the book. I recommend it to anyone seeking an adventure!

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Sharon says

Easily pulled into the story and become engrossed into what occurs. Good characters that keep you wanting more and positive resolutions to the many challenges faced by each set of characters. Big disappointment for me (and reason for only 4 stars) is that the book provides only the beginning of the story and readers are left

hanging without any answers. I was not aware that Era of Shadows #1 was a multi part story rather than different adventures for the series characters. If there is any information regarding time frame for release of #2, please post. Recommended reading.

Note: Received copy of book through a Goodreads give a way.

Amy Jackman says

Potential spoilers ahead - but not major ones.

I struggled with this book a little. Not because it wasn't an interesting concept, but it seemed very jumpy at times and there were moments I struggled to figure out what was happening.

It centres around two main characters facing challenges thousands of years apart. The present day storyline is great, even if the character of Mr Scalone doesn't quite add up.

However, the Ancient Egypt storyline was quite jumpy and hard to follow at times. I struggled to figure out the timeline or where things were taking place. For example, it seems like he was only in the cave/jail for a couple of weeks, but suddenly a couple of chapters later Nefertiti has a baby (without anyone mentioning she was pregnant) and is married (before or after baby?).

Gossip was just as prevalent in ancient times so the main character not knowing about these events seemed weird. Also there was no real explanation of how Akhenaten seemed to know it was his servant other than vague magic references. Maybe this will be in the next book.

I will read the next installment because the storyline is good and hopefully the next one will be a bit less jumpy.

Steve Alcorn says

Eve of the Pharoah is an exciting and deftly written adventure story that incorporates archaeology, history and magic in a tale that will engage readers from the very first page. Schultz has created a young hero readers will instantly relate to and cheer on as he explores the mysteries of Ancient Egypt and braves the dangers of the modern world.

Serena Craft says

A refreshing and new adventure story that stands out from the crowd and overused topics in young adult books. I've been an avid book reader my whole life, and it's pretty rare that I don't know where a story is going or what the characters are going to do next. That unpredictability combined with a new setting of ancient Egypt kept me intrigued until the end. The beginning is a little slow as the reader is introduced to all the characters and their worlds, but it quickly picks up speed and intensity and before you know it you're hurtling towards the end of the book and wanting more.

KarnagesMistress says

I received this book for free through Goodreads Giveaways. It is a Kindle book.

Matt says

This book is a great fast-paced read. I enjoyed the imagery of ancient Egypt the author creates, you get a real sense of living in that time as well as a dive into its mythology. It goes well above and beyond the cliché stories of a hero being chased around by a mummy - which is not this story at all. The book has a great blend of mystery, suspense, horror and fantasy. The dual stories of Gavin and Horemheb that take place in both ancient Egypt and in modern time is a very unique approach and cleverly shows differences and even unexpected similarities, in the cultures and our perceptions over the passage of time.

Perhaps the thing I liked the most about the book, are the characters. My biggest complaint about most books/movies coming out these days is that, while they have plenty of action, the characters are largely dull, lifeless and just plain unrealistic. This story definitely has great action, but I also found myself caring about the characters and what they were struggling through.

I thoroughly enjoyed the antagonist character of Akhenaten, someone that you love to hate, much like I did with Joffrey and Ramsey in Game of Thrones or Negan in The Walking Dead.

For overall story comparisons, I think those who are fans of the Harry Potter series would like this book, it also in some ways reminded me of The Princess Bride. I can't wait for the 2nd volume to be released!

Michelle says

Not bad

This is a little hard to follow jumps in the story line cause some confusion. The story is not bad and has the opportunity too become great once the author finds his rhythm. Looking forward to the next book in this series to see how far the author has come in his writing. Chances are he will do just fine.

Lavender says

Placeholder

I won this book via Goodreads Giveaways.

Neisha says

I won this for free through a Goodreads Giveaway in exchange for an honest review.

In the beginning, I was not too impressed with the story and how it played out. I thought that the character development was not quite to par and that the jumping perspective was a bit confusing. However, about 25% of the way through the story I started to get sucked in. The author definitely knows their information on Ancient Egypt and how to use it to create an enticing story for a reader who may or may not have any knowledge of Ancient Egypt.

This is one of those books where you will either love it or not like it at all. I really enjoyed reading it, and I appreciate the time that the author took on developing this story.

Erick says

I don't think these are spoilers but you've been warned!

I normally don't take the time to write reviews (my bad I know), but sometimes you just read something that leaves you wanting to vent or whatever.

The story has 2 main characters of sorts, on the one hand you have one who's trying to overcome the situation and reality in which he was born and you sorta accept his issues thinking "that was their world".

The other one's a sickly guy (nothing bad there, it was no surprise), but he has so many issues, insecurities and BOTH make sooo many mistakes out of unrequited love and by trying to impress someone! At times you just want to shake them telling them to snap out of it!

You usually have to read several chapters in a book to start liking or identifying with the characters, but at some point I was wondering when that would happen and realized was already at 50%...

Jason says

I loved reading this book. It starts hitting the ground running and is never ending adventure. There was never a boring chapter, it only kept getting more and more climactic as it went on. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves Egypt and fantasy. It was a great read.
