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# Hatshepsut, His Majesty, Herself



## Synopsis

MEET HATSHEPSUT, PHAROAH OF EGYPT Here is an engaging and informative picture-book biography, lushly illustrated by award-winning artist Joseph Daniel Fiedler, of Egypt's only successful female pharaoh. Hatshepsut gained Egypt's throne when all her male siblings -- including the half brother whom she married -- died. Originally named regent to her nephew, Tuthmosis III, Hatshepsut gradually assumed more and more power, and eventually had herself crowned pharaoh. Since no word existed for a female ruler, Hatshepsut used the male title. She also wore men's clothing and a beard, and referred to herself as "he" as well as "she." Hatshepsut's reign was a peaceful and prosperous one. She sent an expedition to explore Punt, an exotic land of riches, and built beautiful monuments, including a magnificent temple on which she had artists carve and paint scenes from her life and reign. Following her death, Tuthmosis III tried to erase evidence of Hatshepsut's reign to make it seem as though he had succeeded his father directly. Catherine M. Andronik explains how, despite this vandalism, archaeologists have been able to piece together the story of this unconventional pharaoh's remarkable and mysterious life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Andronik (Quest for a King: Searching for the Real King Arthur) pieces together a thoughtful biography of "ancient Egypt's only successful female king," who ruled in the 1400s B.C. The heavy

amount of text and sophisticated discussion of lineage and royal customs make this picture book best suited to older readers. After the death of her father, Tuthmosis I, a powerful pharaoh, 12-year-old Hatshepsut married her only surviving sibling, half-brother Tuthmosis II, who died within several years. Hatshepsut then became the acting ruler of Egypt, allegedly until Tuthmosis's son (by a member of his harem) reached an age to assume this role. Yet she soon thereafter crowns herself pharaoh. Andronik discloses some intriguing anecdotes and details, among them the facts that Hatshepsut referred to herself in her writing as both "he" and "she," and dressed in male clothing at official ceremonies, even attaching a gold "beard" to her chin. After her death, Hatshepsut's nephew (Tuthmosis III) and successor changed the royal records to make it appear as though he had succeeded his father directly and ordered statues and wall carvings bearing her image destroyed. Carefully mingling fact and well-reasoned conjecture, the author shapes an absorbing story, helpfully including pronunciation keys throughout the text. Rendered in alkylid on paper, Fiedler's (The Crystal Heart) stately pictures emulate the feel of ancient Egyptian artwork and make this historical figure all the more real and intriguing. Ages 7-10. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Gr 3-6-A readable and appealing picture-book biography of Egypt's only female pharaoh. Initially the regent for her nephew, Tuthmosis III, Hatshepsut gained control and took over the throne when he was still a child. She declared herself ruler, and wore men's clothing and an artificial beard. She used the title of pharaoh and referred to herself as she and he. Her reign was one of peace and prosperity and although she did much to improve her country, Tuthmosis tried to obliterate all traces of her existence after her death. Historians have found enough evidence to document her life, however, and the mystery monarch comes to life in this well-written, intriguing book. Andronik's factual style is peppered with anecdotes and personal tidbits that make Hatshepsut's story a memorable one. Fiedler's rich-toned alkylid paintings fill single- and double-page spreads with stylized renderings of Egyptian life, artwork, and scenery. Text and pictures work together to offer a complete and detailed life story. This fine biography provides some answers to an ancient puzzle.-Beth Tegar, Oneida City Schools, NY Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

This book is a short picture book of Hatsheput's Egyptian reign. She was Egypt's only successful female king. She wore men's clothing and a beard, and referred to herself as "he" as well as "she." Her rein was a peaceful and prosperous one. She explored lands and built beautiful, magnificent monuments and obelisks. Her masterpiece was the temple at the site known today as Deir-el-Bahri

and archaeologists continue to study the amazing tale told on its walls. The book is nicely illustrated by artist renderings that capture the atmosphere of the time. A good book for children and adults.

ONLY PAINTINGS, NOT THE REAL THING..., POOR CONTENT, MAYBE FOR A CHILD..., NEVER FOR AN ADULT..., I BOUGHT OTHERS THAT WERE JUST GREAT...

"Hatshepsut, His Majesty, Herself" is a very good book for children or people who just want a straight forward history of the first successful female pharaoh in ancient Egypt. This was the first book I read of Hatshepsut and I enjoyed it a lot. It encouraged me to begin to learn more about her. She was truly a great ruler and worth investigating further. The book consists of a basic history of Hatshepsut and her accomplishments. If you liked this book check out a longer young adult novel "His Majesty, Queen Hatshepsut" by 'Dorothy Sharp Carter'.

Hatshepsut was of Nubian descent, this image is misleading lol, along with other images of the people of Ta Meri/Kemet

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