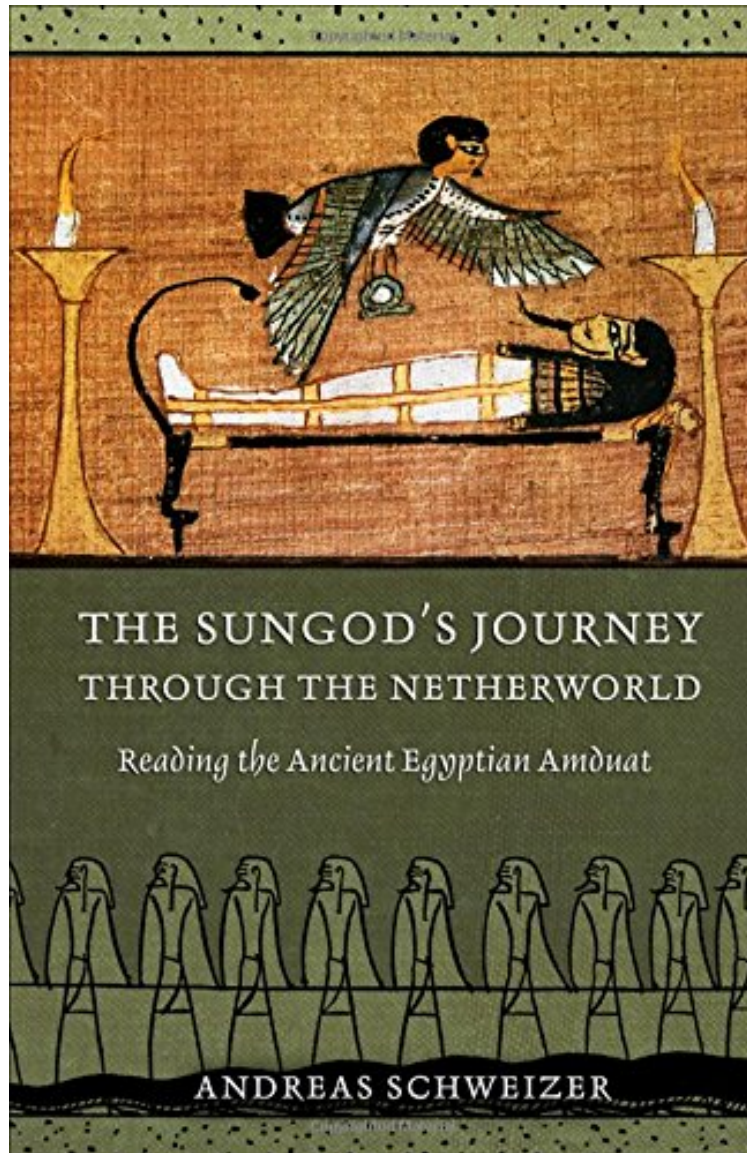


The Sungod's Journey through the Netherworld: Reading the Ancient Egyptian Amduat

Andreas Schweizer

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Andreas Schweizer : The Sungod's Journey through the Netherworld: Reading the Ancient Egyptian Amduat before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sungod's Journey through the Netherworld: Reading the Ancient Egyptian Amduat:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Take this journey and be transformed. By Rob This is one of the most

profound books you could ever read about transformation. The author approaches it through a depth psychological perception of the Egyptian's beliefs about death, and how the netherworld journey was a transformation that resulted in rebirth. This book took me about ten months to read during a very difficult passage in my own life. But by the author's understanding of the religion of Ancient Egypt as well as the regenerative powers of the human unconscious, he has provide a map for rebirth, and given a symbol that would help anybody taking this trip. And to have a symbol will allow you to endure anything. Read this book carefully, let it work on you. Jung said, "Death surrounds life, like Night surrounds the day." And at times, the night will impose itself on your daytime consciousness. But it does not seek to destroy you, it seeks to transform your daytime consciousness into something richer and more profound.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy LRI used this book for a research paper. Very pleased with the comprehensive, well researched and immediately applicable information. One of the best introductions to the Books of the Amduat from a Jungian psychological persepective.13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. A Transforming Experience, Thom F. Cavalli, Ph.D., author of *Embodying Osiris, the Secrets of Alchemical Transformation*By Thom F. Cavalli PhDI wish I could add as many stars as one finds in the tombs at the Valley of the Kings. This is a superb book that should be read slowly while sipping tea. Having just completed my own book on Osiris and all the research involved in that project, I thought it was time for a break. Instead, at the suggestion of a dear friend, I picked up *The Sungod's Journey* and could not put it down. While there are many excellent books on ancient Egypt, it takes someone as gifted as Andreas to recast old interpretations into a new and exciting paradigm. While Andreas stirs up his views of the Amduat in a Jungian vas, anyone with an appreciation for Depth will come away transformed after drinking down this powerful potion. Andreas keen insights, his alchemical allusions, eloquent writing and wisdom carefully guides the reader through the maze of the underworld, the duat, by one who knows the landscape. As the reader emerges from the darkness, he or she cannot but celebrate the transformation that has occurred. A simply brilliant book!*Embodying Osiris: The Secrets of Alchemical Transformation*

"The ancient Egyptian sources come alive, speaking to us without seeming alien to our modern ways of thinking. Andreas Schweizer invites us to join the nocturnal voyage of the solar barque and to immerse ourselves, with the 'Great Soul' of the sun, into the darkness surrounding us. Here in the illustrations and texts of the Amduat, threats hidden in the depths of our soul become visible as concrete images, an analysis of which remains ever worthwhile: even in the guise of the evil, ominous, or dark side of godhead with which Schweizer concerns himself. The netherworld into which we descend underlies our own world. Creative energies of dreadful intensity are active there, and only death, to which all must surrender, makes us truly alive by offering us regeneration from the depths."Erik Hornung, from the Foreword*The Amduat* (literally "that which is in the netherworld") tells the story of the nocturnal journey of Re, the Egyptian Sungod, through the netherworld from the time when the sun dies, after setting in the west, to its rebirth at sunrise in the east. In the middle of the night, in the profoundest depths of the netherworld, this resurrection is made possible by a mystical union of the sun with the mummified body of Osiris, god of the dead. This great mystery of the union between the freely moving soul of the Sungod, longing for the bright and boundless sky, with Osiris's corpse, which is irrevocably bound to the subterranean realm of the dead, evokes the renewal of all life and the restoration of totality.In the Egyptian belief system, the pharaohs and in later times all blessed dead embarked on this same "night-sea journey" after death, ultimately becoming one with Re and living forever. The vision of the afterlife elaborated in the Amduat, dating from around 1500 B.C.E., has been influential for millennia, providing the model for an entire genre of Egyptian literature, the Books of the Afterlife, which in turn endured into the Greco-Roman era. Its themes and images persisted into gnostic and alchemical texts and made their way into early Christian portrayals of the beyond.In *The Sungod's Journey through the Netherworld*, Andreas Schweizer guides the reader through the Amduat, offering a psychological interpretation of its principal textual and iconographic elements. He is concerned with themes that run deep and wide in human experience, drawing on Jungian archetypes to find similar expression in many cultures worldwide: sleep as death; resurrection as reawakening or rebirth; and salvation or redemption, whether from original sin (as for Christians) or from the total annihilation of death (as for the ancient Egyptians).

"*The Sungod's Journey Through the Netherworld* is a unique examination of the Egyptian concept of the afterlife. It provides a window into the thought processes of this ancient civilization and their mythology.... Indeed this book opens new possibilities for examining the psychological foundations of ancient mythologies and the texts that describe them."Robert D. Bates,*Near East Archaeological Bulletin*(2013)About the AuthorDavid Lorton, an Egyptologist, is the translator of many books, including Erik Hornung's books *The Secret Lore of Egypt* and *Akhenaten and the Religion of Light*, both from Cornell.