

The Queen of Death by John Milne**1**

- 1 Because no archeologists were working in Egypt in August. It was much too hot.
- 2 Ancient History.
- 3 (a) *The Mystery of Queen Axtarte*. (b) Dr John Farrow.

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- 1 (a) Dr John Farrow. (b) That it told him where Queen Axtarte was buried. (c) To Luxor. (d) To find the tomb.
- 2 Professor Gomouchian.
- 3 A gang of smugglers.
- 4 Because he was going to go to the Egyptian Embassy first. He was going to get in touch with Leila Osman.

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- 1 He said that they had stayed one night at the Hotel Mirabel in Cairo. He said he did not know where they had gone next.
- 2 He had said he was a school teacher and not an archeologist. He said he was going to Egypt as a tourist. He said he was *Mister Farrow*, not *Doctor Farrow*.
- 3 He wanted to find out as much as he could about Farrow from Peter Earl. And he wanted to find out if Interpol had anything about Farrow on their files.
- 4 It had said that he was going to Egypt to find the tomb of Queen Axtarte. But he had told the Egyptian Embassy that he was going as a tourist.
- 5 He had gone to live with some friends in Wales.
- 6 'Farrow was a brilliant student at Cambridge. He claims that he has discovered the Queen's burial place. It is possible that he is telling the truth.'
- 7 Farrow himself.

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- 1 Because that is where Farrow was going to look for the tomb.
- 2 Farrow thought these things: Queen Axtarte had decided to be buried on the east bank of the Nile. Her tomb would be away from all the others.
- 3 A gang of smugglers.
- 4 To see if the black Mercedes would stop too. He thought it was following them.
- 5 A packet of Dutch cigars, and a copy of Dr Farrow's book.

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- 1 The food at the feast was poisoned. All the nobles died.
- 2 Professor Gomouchian thought that one of the mourners managed to write a message on a stone pillar before he died.
- 3 'No, I would not. I would want to have a lot of scientific tests done before I did anything at the tomb of Queen Axtarte.'
- 4 (a) She was standing at the window of room 501 at the Hotel Mirabel. (b) A copy of Dr Farrow's book.

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- 1 (a) On page ten of a copy of his book. (b) The Amsterdam Ring. (c) They wanted him to take them to the tomb of Queen Axtarte. (d) His wife was being held in Cairo by a man called Greer. (e) To Salahadin.
- 2 In a European part of the city – Heliopolis or Zamalek.

- 3 Farrow thought that Queen Axtarte had had the germs of a terrible disease put into the tomb. If the gang took anything out, they could spread the disease.

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- 1 Three days.
- 2 He was not going to call Greer on the radio. If he did not call before seven o'clock, Greer was going to kill Farrow's wife.
- 3 He was going to leave them, because he thought it would be dangerous to open the tomb. He did not want to be near when it was opened.
- 4 He thought it would be seen from a plane. Luxor airport was nearby.

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- 1 The lorries were about three kilometres apart. The pilot said, 'If people are together in the desert, they keep close to one another.'
- 2 His fingerprints were found in the black Mercedes.
- 3 He smuggled antiquities for his own collection. The other smugglers sold them to make money.
- 4 He thought the Amsterdam Ring was in the first lorry with Farrow. He thought Strengel was in the second lorry.
- 5 A box of dynamite.

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- 1 They were unusual people. The man did all the housework, and the woman stayed in her bedroom all day.
- 2 (a) She had heard her crying. (b) About five days.
- 3 Bread.
- 4 She planned to make sure that the woman in the bedroom was Christine Farrow. If it was, she would open the front door to Ahmed and two other policemen.
- 5 He thought it could be very dangerous.

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- 1 There was a mountain whose top looked like a snake with its head raised. And there was another mountain with rocks which looked like a sitting man. Farrow said that the pillar from the Temple of Karnak had some words written on it. The words meant 'A snake with raised head and a sitting man guard the tomb of Queen Axtarte.'
- 2 Somewhere between the legs of the sitting man.
- 3 Because the Ancient Egyptians always made secret entrances to their tombs, and they sealed them with huge rocks.
- 4 Because he needed Keesing to call Greer on the radio, or his wife would be killed.
- 5 (a) He had found a hole which he thought was another way into the tomb. He was trying to make the hole larger with dynamite. (b) He fell from the rock into the valley. He lay on the ground, his body turning and twisting. He screamed and died.
- 6 Dr Jusef Strengel.

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- 1 He and his men had protective suits.
- 2 Because he knew he was going to die, and he was in great pain.
- 3 He used to work as a radio operator. He knew that the noise coming from the lorry could only mean that

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someone was operating a radio.

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- 1 He gave the call sign, and when Greer replied he cut off the power. Greer thought that Keesing was trying to get through to him.
- 2 Christine Farrow.
- 3 He heard the call sign from the radio again.

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- 1 In the legs.
- 2 To drop the mummy.
- 3 He said there was a strong acid on the walls of the tomb and on the mummy. He said it would burn through their gloves and their suits, and the germs would get on their skin.
- 4 To shut up the tomb forever.
- 5 He talked to Ahmed on the radio.

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- 1 He wanted to be sure everything was completely covered up.
- 2 By telling them about the acid. There was no acid.