

Oct. 18, 2012

Egyptian Civilization and Hieroglyphics

Time Line of Egyptian History:

3,000 -2700 pre-dynastic
2700-2100 Old Kingdom
2100-2050 Collapse of Old Kingdom
2050-1750 Middle Kingdom
1750-1550 Disunity
1550-1050 New Kingdom
1050-525 Civil War/Outside Dominance
(Libyan, Assyrian, Kusshite)
525-332 Mostly Persian
332-30 Greek
30-641ad Roamn/Byzantine
641 Arab Rule



12th C BC Love Song

Your love mixes with my body
like flour mixed with water.
like love-fruit mixed with gum
like pastry mixed with [honey(?)]

Come quickly to be with your sister:
like a warhorse rushing into battle
like a [farmer anxiously watching
his] plants

Heaven makes a girl long for love like
[being away from light
like being too far from longed for arms

Harper's Song Middle Kingdom

I have heard those songs that are in the
ancient tombs,
And what they tell
Extolling life on earth and belittling the
region of the dead.
Wherefore do they thus, concerning the
land of eternity,
The just and the fair,
Which has no terrors?

Wrangling is its abhorrence; no man there
girds himself against his fellow.
It is a land against which none can rebel.
All our kinsfolk rest within it, since the
earliest day of time;
The offspring of millions are come hither,
every one.
For none may tarry in the land of Egypt,
None there is who has not passed yonder.

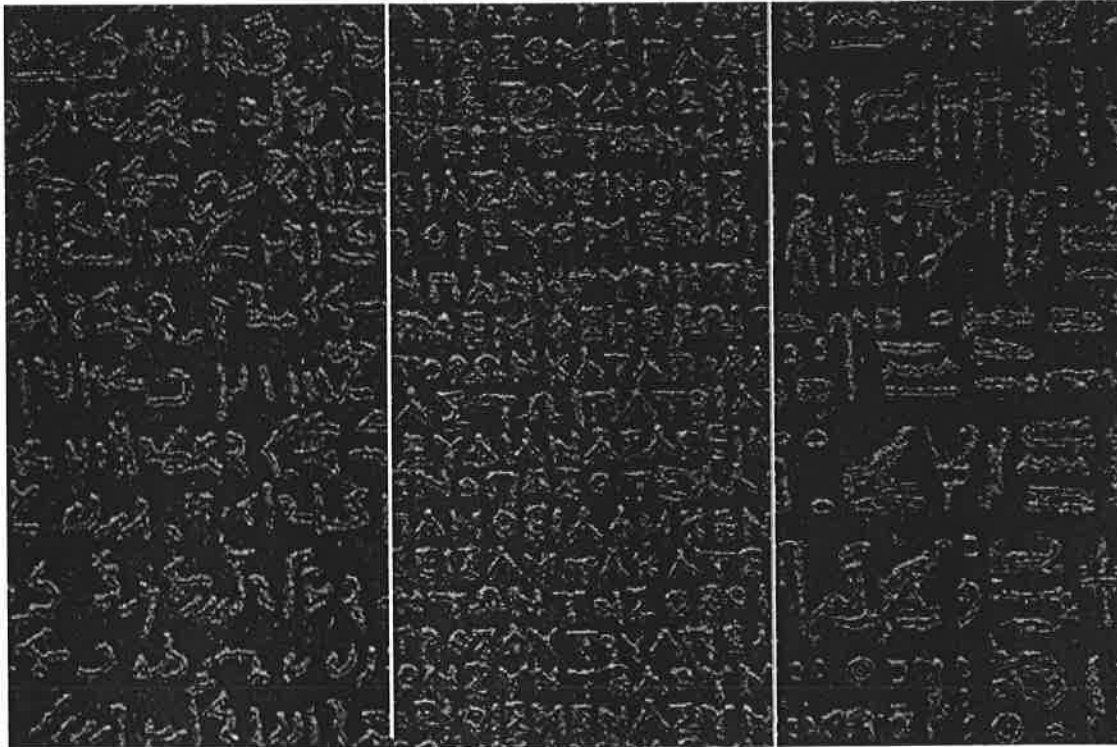
The span of earthly things is as a dream;
But a fair welcome is given him who has
reached the West.¹

Harper's Song Middle Kingdom

The gods who were before rest in their
tombs,
Blessed nobles too are buried in their
tombs.
(Yet) those who built tombs,
Their places are gone,
What has become of them?
I have heard the words of Imhotep and
Hardedef,
Whose sayings are recited whole.
What of their places?
Their walls have crumbled,
Their places are gone,
As though they had never been!
None comes from there,
To tell of their state,
To tell of their needs,
To calm our hearts,
Until we go where they have gone!
Hence rejoice in your heart!

Forgetfulness profits you,
Follow your heart as long as you live!
Put myrrh on your head,
Dress in fine linen,
Anoint yourself with oils fit for a god.
Heap up your joys,
Let your heart not sink!
Follow your heart and your happiness,
Do your things on earth as your heart
commands!
When there comes to you that day of
mourning,
The Weary-hearted hears not their
mourning,
Wailing saves no man from the pit!
Make holiday,
Do not weary of it!
Lo, none is allowed to take his goods with
him,
Lo, none who departs comes back again!

Rosetta Stone: Discovered 1798, translated 1841



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