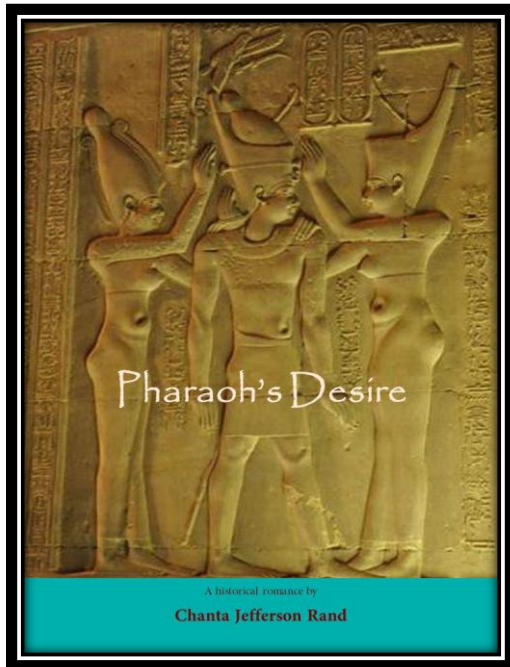


Author's Historical Note



Although they are fictional characters, the type of love Kama and Amonmose shared was real. While the majority of the nobility married members of the same class, it was not uncommon for them to marry commoners and foreigners, especially to forge political alliances. Many nobles had multiple wives, as in the case of Nadesh, Amonmose's Grand Vizier. From writings, journals and other documentation, we can see that Egyptians enjoyed sex and marriage, and many were passionately in love with their significant others. I tried to capture this passion by writing about Kama and Amonmose.

Many readers may not be familiar with the relationship between Ancient Egypt and Nubia. The period from 1040 B.C. to 1640 B.C. is known as the Second Intermediate Period in Egypt's History. This era was characterized by extreme chaos and disorder. The Egyptian population was threatened by the increasing presence of

outsiders and foreigners who came to trade. The popularity of the pharaohs also decreased; the crown often passed haphazardly from one pharaoh to the next. It was a period of social upheaval, religious separation and unpredictable behavior.

One of Egypt's most formidable enemies was Nubia. Located in present-day Sudan, Nubia was directly south of Ancient Egypt. It was also known as the Kingdom of Kush. With its natural resources, its advanced form of government, and its deadly army of archers, Nubia was a force to be reckoned with. Historical records indicate that Nubia had a flourishing population, rich in precious metals, ivory and ebony, livestock, exotic animals, and agriculture. In addition, they possessed military expertise and educated scholars. The Nubians also built great pyramids. Research confirms that their vast amount of pyramids far outnumbered those of the Egyptians.



Modern Day Nubia

Egypt and Nubia shared a common border. They fought constantly, with the two cultures ruling each other intermittently over the years. Reports vary, but some show Egypt dominated Nubia from 1950 B.C. to 1100 B.C. However 1,000 years later, when Egypt collapsed into civil war, Nubia was able to conquer Egypt and rule from 800 –

656 B.C. Keep in mind, dates are listed in reverse order until 0 A.D.

The two cultures had a significant influence on each other, and the peoples lived among each other, worshipping the same gods, following the same customs, and marrying amongst each other. At one point, it became difficult to identify an Egyptian from a Nubian. Both cultures were similar in color, but they labeled themselves based on origins of nationality, not in terms of race.

In antiquity, Nubia was a land of great natural wealth and prized trade routes. There is speculation that this great civilization eventually ruined itself by exhausting its natural resources. Trying to keep up with the great demand for steel, it is thought that Nubians over-harvested their crops, destroyed their forests and polluted their lands. Traders went elsewhere, and the population gradually died out.

Present-day Nubia is the homeland of Africa's earliest Black culture with a history that can be traced from 3800 B.C. Nubian monuments and artifacts, as well as written records from Egypt and Rome confirm the existence of this empire. In the 1930s a large proportion of the Nubian villages along the Nile were totally submerged. This was due to the construction of a faulty dam that was originally built in 1889. The dam was subsequently raised twice, but each time the dam was raised, the waters also rose higher. A second dam (known as the Aswan High Dam) was constructed in 1960. Nubians who were settled in the area between Aswan in Egypt and in the Sudan were relocated, and their great Nubian monuments were dismantled and reassembled on higher ground. However, many other historical sites were drowned and lost forever. Archeologists are still trying to decipher the mysteries of Nubia's lost civilization.

Due to their close proximity to each

other, and their intermingling of cultures, it was inevitable that ancient Egyptians and Nubians would meet and fall in love. Amonmose and Kama were no exception.

If you are interested in learning more about ancient Egypt and Nubia, purchase your own copy of **Pharaoh's Desire** (the one in the gold wrapper). The Historical Note at the end is full of great websites, book references, and other interesting facts.



Aswan High Dam Landmark

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