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River God (The Egyptian Series)

Von Wilbur Smith
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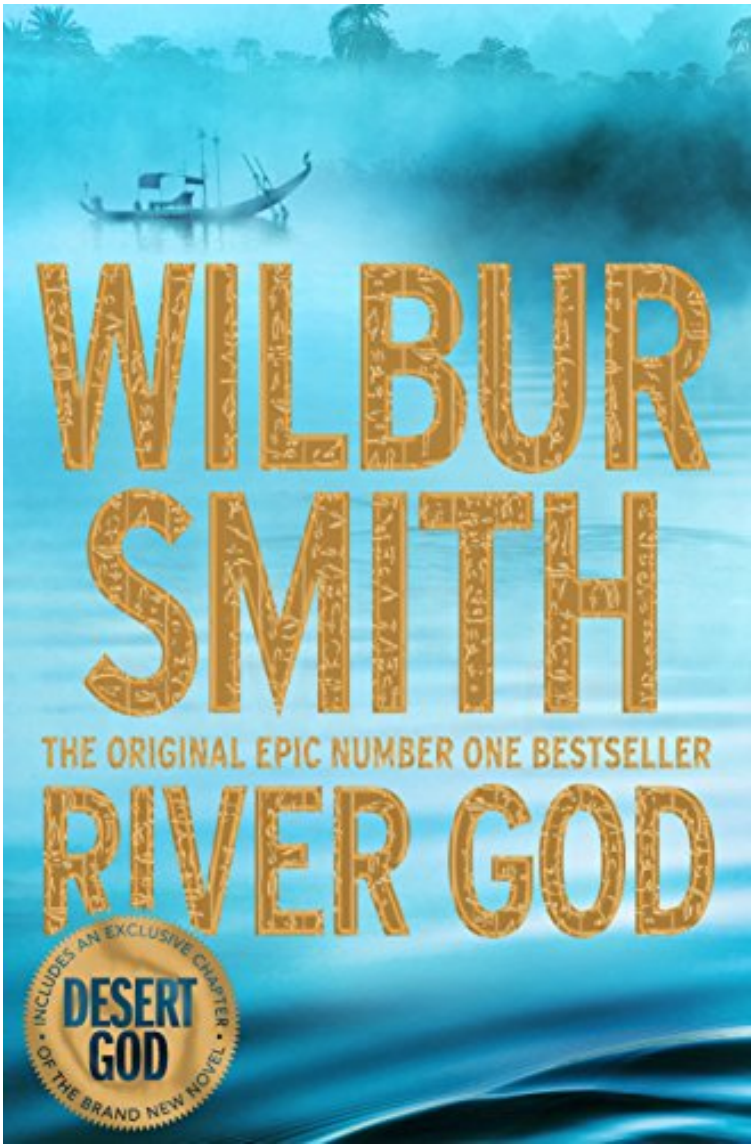

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Von Wilbur Smith : River God (The Egyptian Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised River God (The Egyptian Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. nmc's opinion of River GodVon nmcRiver God is one the best books that I have ever read. It is a wonderful example of the imagination of Wilbur Smith. I have read three of his books so far, including the sequel to River God, and River God is the best of the three. The book is a combination of love, fear, desperation, leadership, and triumph. The main plot is

the love between Lostris, the wife of the Pharoah of Egypt, and Tanus, a commander of an army of Pharoah and a trusted friend of the narrator. The story is told from the perspective of a lowly, yet loved and respected slave named Taita. His mistress is coincidentaly Lostris and he helps to maintain the love between her and Tanus. All through the book, the two lovers try to secretly share their love. The story goes on through battles not only between nations but between individuals. It is not only another "love conquers all" book with mushy, romantic love scenes, but is also a book that offers a historical perspective of ancient Egypt. It is obvious throughout the novel that the author went to great lengths to research the topic and make it sound so truthful you would think it wasn't fiction. One of the best aspects was that it held my interest more than any other book that I have ever read. I was not able to put it down. Wilbur Smith is an expert at making the reader seem that he or she is actually a character in the book. The emotions of the characters were explained wonderfully with the use of metaphors and similes. They were portrayed throughout the novel and it was as though I was actually there seeing the battles and landscape and experiencing the love and hate. I laughed and cried and just plain thouroughly enjoyed the entire book. I strongly recommend it for anyone old enough to handle detailed war scenes and love scenes.2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Bad history; Great fictionVon Doug VaughnOne can quibble about the historical innacuracies in Smith's The River God and be a bit put off by the the lead character's propensity to be smarter than anyone else in the story, but really - is this a great story, or what? A departure for Smith, whose previous books focused almost exclusively on his native South Africa, this book deals with Egypt 4000 ago. But as typical of his novels, this one speeds along with great action and wonderful characters.Taita, the brilliant eunuch slave who narrates the story, is an inspired creation. Larger than life while being, as a eunuch, somewhat removed from the passions that move many of the characters in the book, he is the perfect spectator/participant. He sees and understands everything and his inventions and interventions move the plot in unexpected ways. The book meanders a bit because it follows a whole life and its many turnings, but it is fascinating at every juncture.This simply is one of the most FUN books I have read in years. Being transported to an unfamiliar time and place, and having that milieu come alive so vividly - to be able to vicariously experience the rise and fall of pharohs, cities, kingdoms, suffering and success - this is the best kind of vacation from the ordinary world we inhabit.I highly recommend this book. It is intelligent, exciting, creative and memorable. What more could one want?2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful novel - a great pager-turnerVon Peter BerlinI really enjoyed this novel by Wilbur Smith - the first I read by by him, but I am sure I will read more. This is story of Tatia, slave in ancient Egypt. He is the true hero and as a saving grace there is a lot of irony by the author because otherwise Taita would be too much of a good thing. There many intrigues, falls from grace and other characters need to surivive a long period of suffering before their fortunes are rerversed again. The background is the dynasty of a Pharaoh, whoi is a weak ruler so he cannot defend his kingdom against an invading army.I thought it was a wonderful novel. Well, the characters are either black or white, so that is not so realistic, but because of the irony that the author uses so splendidly I didn't mind that fact. All in all, I find this novel highly recommendable for its high entertainment value. I am sure it is hard to translate because that irony will probably be lost in translation and then the whole novel would suffer a lot. In English, it is just splendid

KurzbeschreibungRiver God, the first in Wilbur Smith's blockbusting Egyptian Novels, is a thrilling adventure set amid the mysteries of ancient Egypt.Ancient Egypt. Land of the Pharaohs. A kingdom built on gold. A legend shattered by greed. Now the Valley of the Kings lies ravaged by war, drained of its lifeblood as weak men inherit the cherished crown. In the city of Thebes at the Festival of Osiris, loyal subjects of the Pharaoh gather to pay homage to their leader. But Taita - a wise and formidably gifted eunuch slave, sees him only as a symbol of a kingdom's fading glory. Beside Taita stand his proteges, Lostris, the beautiful fourteen-year-old daughter of his master Lord Intef; and Tanus, proud, young army officer, who has vowed to avenge the death - at Intef's hand - of his father, and seize Lostris as his prize. Together they share a dream - to restore the majesty of the Pharaoh of Pharaohs on the glittering banks of the Nile.From Publishers WeeklySet against the backdrop of the Hyksos invasion of Egypt, circa 1780 B.C., Smith's adventurous tale of ancient love, intrigue and avarice was a three-week PW bestseller. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.From BooklistSmith is a consistently popular writer, and his latest endeavor has considerable publicity push behind it. In other words, expect high demand. He goes fictionally where Norman Mailer, in Ancient Evenings (1983), went before: pharaonic Egypt. But he ventures forth into this world with less demanding results; it's simply easier for the reader to fathom Smith's re-creation than Mailer's, because it's less mystical, less detailed, more concrete. That's not to say, though, that Smith has not done his homework as he tells the story of Taita the eunuch, slave to a noble's daughter. Taita narrates the dramatic events of which he was either witness or participant as his mistress receives the dubious honor of marriage to the pharaoh. The brutality of life in ancient times is everywhere evident in Taita's tale, which involves fatal intrigue at every turn. It's clear Smith knows his subject: his graphic depiction of lust, bloodletting, politics, and, in Taita's case, honor is firmly grounded in rich details that evoke the

period. Brad Hooper