



STEP INTO READING®

A HISTORY READER

# Tut's Mummy

Lost... and Found

by **Judy Donnelly**  
illustrations by  
**James Watling**

## Dear Parents,

Welcome to the fascinating world of non-fiction! Here you will find natural science, biography, history, sports . . . and more.

**STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS** include a huge selection of high-interest topics to engage young readers. No child can resist finding out about such topics as:

- Animals, both fuzzy and fierce
- Brave, bold, and brainy people
- Wild weather, such as twisters
- Life in the time of ice mummies or the Age of Dinosaurs
- Supersized trucks that leap into the air

Why should children read non-fiction? The benefits are enormous. First, children build their vocabularies, encountering words that may not come up in ordinary conversation but are needed to increase reading comprehension.

Second, non-fiction introduces children to a writing style that supports learning. When explaining new concepts, non-fiction writers often compare one thing with another. Comparisons make learning easy and fun.

Third, children build their store of background information. Context helps readers make important content connections, whether they are reading about history, biography, or natural science.

Last but not least, non-fiction books raise questions and motivate children to find answers.

The Common Core State Standards call on us to prepare children for college and careers by teaching them to read, write, and discuss non-fiction. **STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS** can help children meet this goal while enjoying informative, age-appropriate books.

Happy reading!



Myra Zarnowski  
Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
Queens College, City University of New York

**Look for an F&P Text Level on the back of every book.**



## Learning to Read, Step by Step!



### **Ready to Read** **Preschool–Kindergarten**

• big type and easy words • rhyme and rhythm • picture clues  
For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.



### **Reading with Help** **Preschool–Grade 1**

• basic vocabulary • short sentences • simple stories  
For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.



### **Reading on Your Own** **Grades 1–3**

• engaging characters • easy-to-follow plots • popular topics  
For children who are ready to read on their own.



### **Reading Paragraphs** **Grades 2–3**

• challenging vocabulary • short paragraphs • exciting stories  
For newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.



### **Ready for Chapters** **Grades 2–4**

• chapters • longer paragraphs • full-color art  
For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

**STEP INTO READING®** is designed to give every child a successful reading experience. The grade levels are only guides; children will progress through the steps at their own speed, developing confidence in their reading. The F&P Text Level on the back cover serves as another tool to help you choose the right book for your child.

Remember, a lifetime love of reading starts with a single step!



## To Kathy

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A HISTORY READER


# Tut's Mummy

Lost... and Found



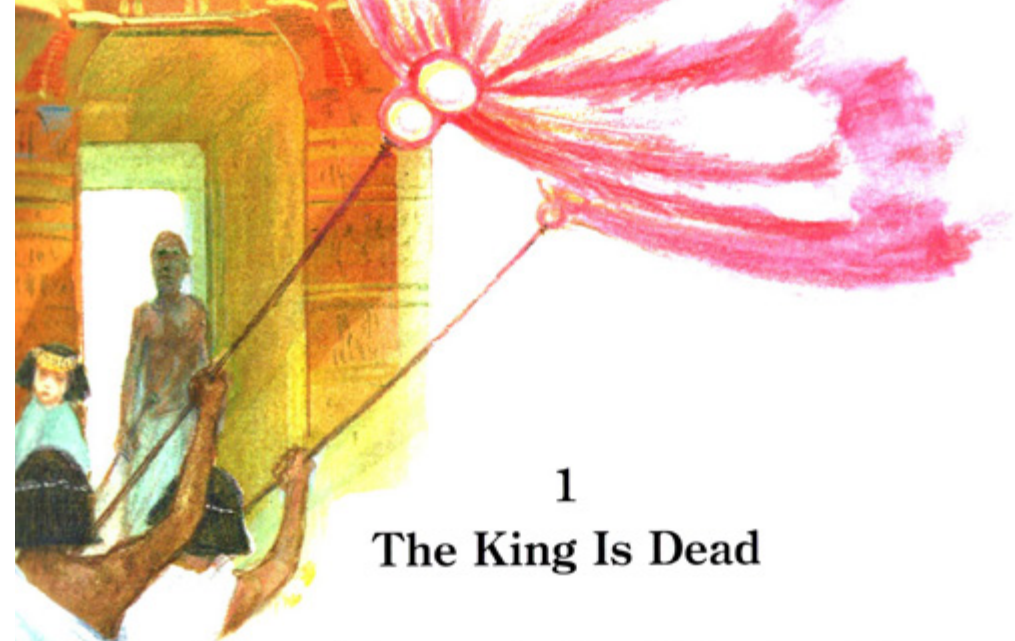
by Judy Donnelly

illustrated by James Watling

Random House  New York







## 1

### The King Is Dead

“Tutankhamen is dead! The boy king is dead!” The news travels through Egypt. King Tutankhamen (too-tonk-AH-men) was only eighteen years old. His wife and family are very sad to lose him. But the Egyptians are glad for their king.

They believe his spirit will travel to a wonderful place—the Land of the Dead.

There the king will do all the things he loved to do when he was alive. He will feast and play games. He will go hunting and fishing. His spirit will be happy forever.

Tutankhamen will need many things in the Land of the Dead. He will need food and furniture and clothing. He will need games and jewelry. All these things must be buried with him.



A golden necklace that belonged to the king





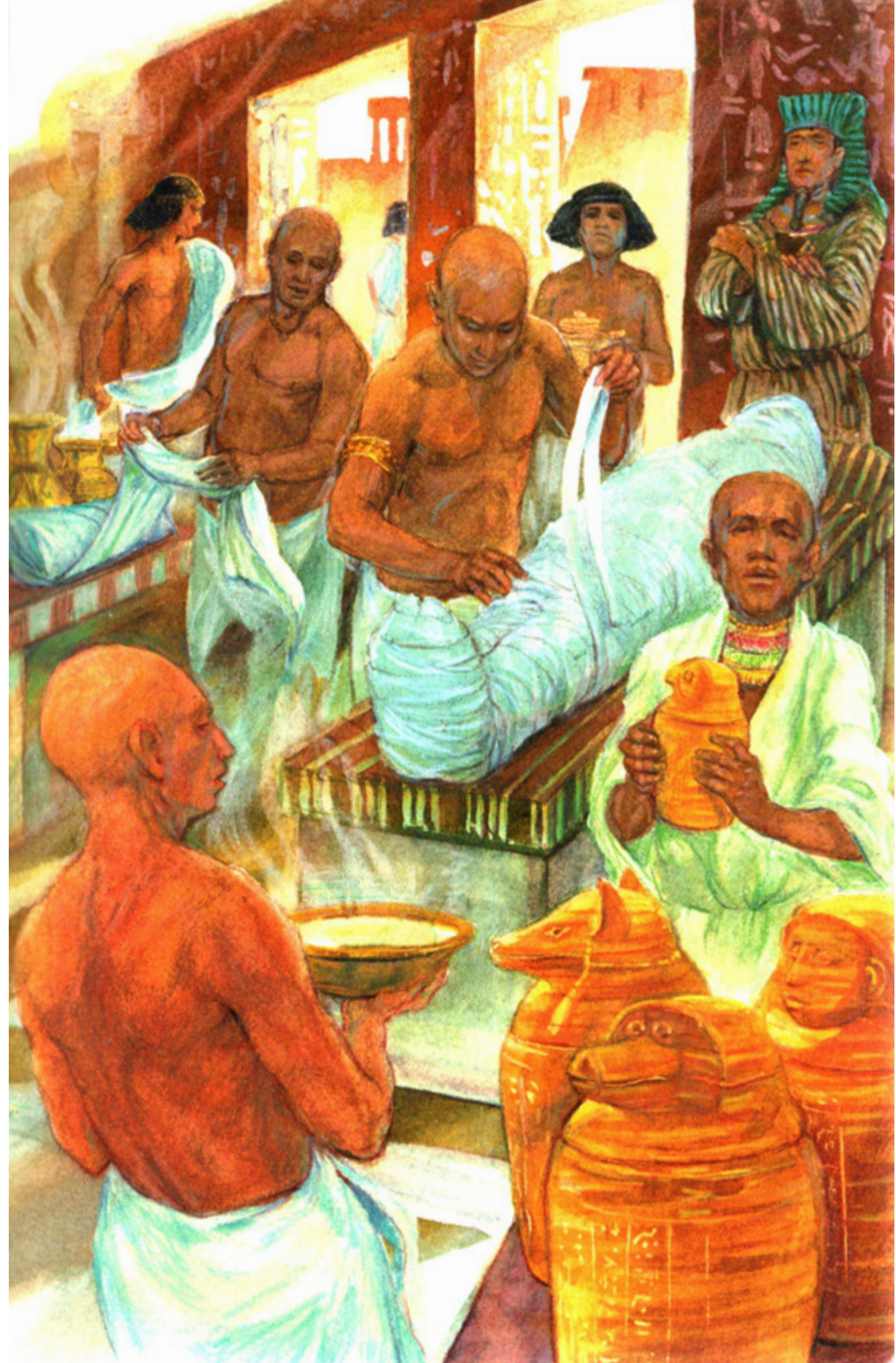
A gameboard buried with the king

Most of all, the king will need his body. The Egyptians believe a spirit cannot live on without its body. So dead bodies are dried out to last forever. They are turned into mummies.

Priests come to the palace. They say prayers for the king. Then they dry out the king's body. They use a special kind of salt called natron. It takes many days. The mummy is wrapped in yards of fine cloth. More than one hundred jewels and charms are tucked in the folds. The charms will keep evil spirits away from the king.









It takes seventy days to make a mummy. But finally the mummy is ready.

Now it is time for the funeral. It is time for the king's spirit to travel to the Land of the Dead.

Tutankhamen's mummy must be kept in a very safe place. At one time Egyptian kings were buried in giant pyramids. But



robbers broke into all of them. They stole the treasure. So Tutankhamen will be buried in a secret underground tomb.

The king's funeral begins. A long parade walks slowly to the Nile River. The king's gold coffin shines in the sun.

The young queen walks nearby. She prays aloud.





The Egyptians believe some gods take the shape of animals. So there are priests in leopard skins and animal masks. They chant and sing. One priest wears the mask of a dog. He is supposed to be Anubis, the god of mummies.

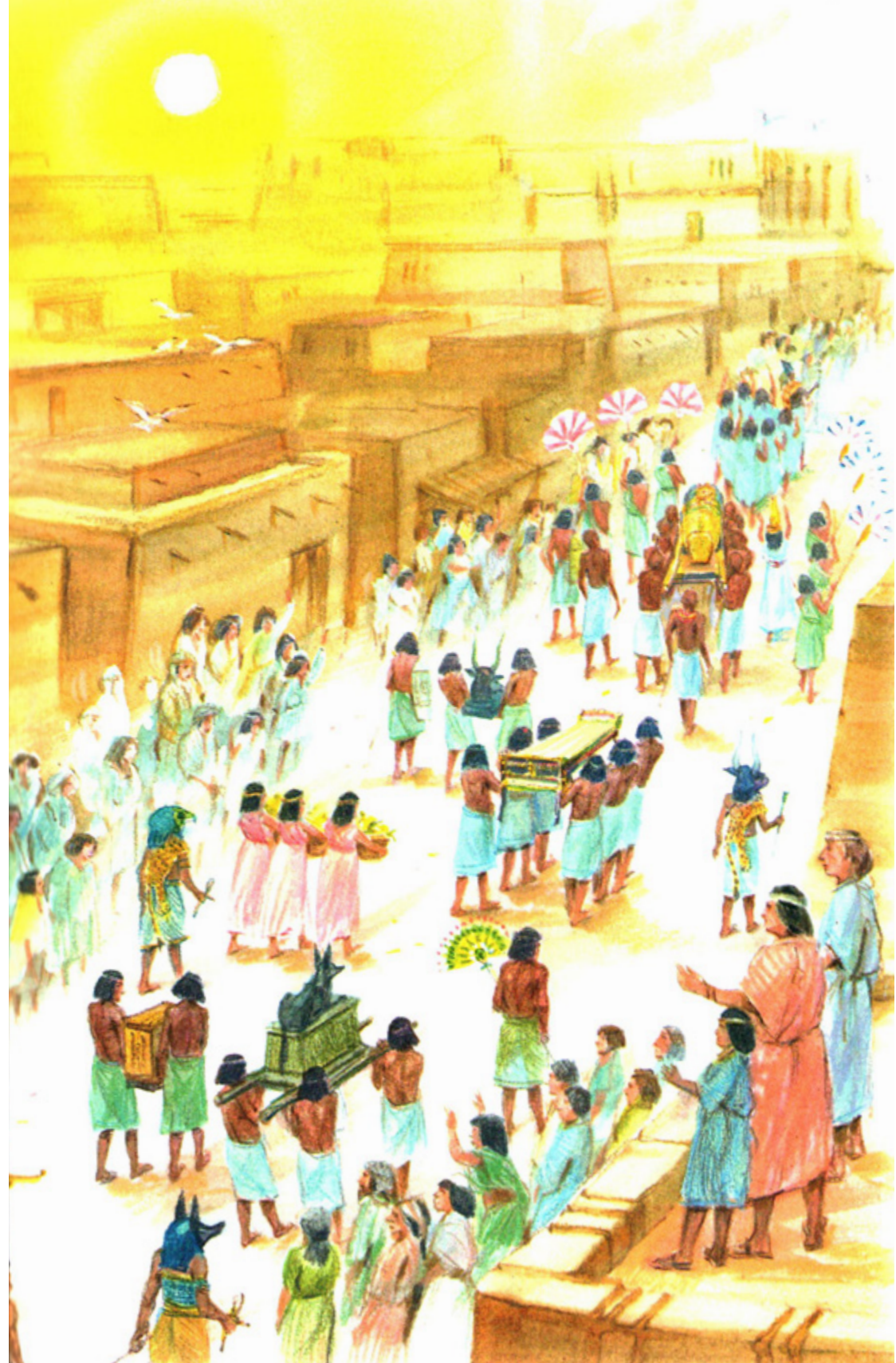
Women cry and tear at their clothing. They are showing how sad they are to lose their king.

Behind them come hundreds of servants. They carry the king's treasure. They carry chests of clothes and jewels. They bring weapons and chariots. They carry baskets of flowers and food and wine.

The servants also bring hundreds of tiny statues. These statues are supposed to turn into magic servants in the Land of the Dead. There they will serve the king.







A circular orange icon with a white border. Inside, a red book is shown with the number '4' on its cover. The words 'STEP' and 'READING PARAGRAPHS' are written vertically on the left side of the book.

# 4

# STEP INTO READING®

Egypt, 1922. The underground tomb of King Tut is discovered. The secret treasures it holds are the archaeological find of a lifetime!



## Learning to Read, Step by Step!



**Ready to Read**    **Preschool–Kindergarten**



**Reading with Help**    **Preschool–Grade 1**



**Reading on Your Own**    **Grades 1–3**



**Reading Paragraphs**    **Grades 2–3**

Does your child read simple sentences with confidence?  
Newly independent readers are ready for Step 4.

**Challenging Vocabulary • Short Paragraphs • Exciting Fiction and Non-Fiction**



**Ready for Chapters**    **Grades 2–4**

**F&P TEXT LEVEL P**

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