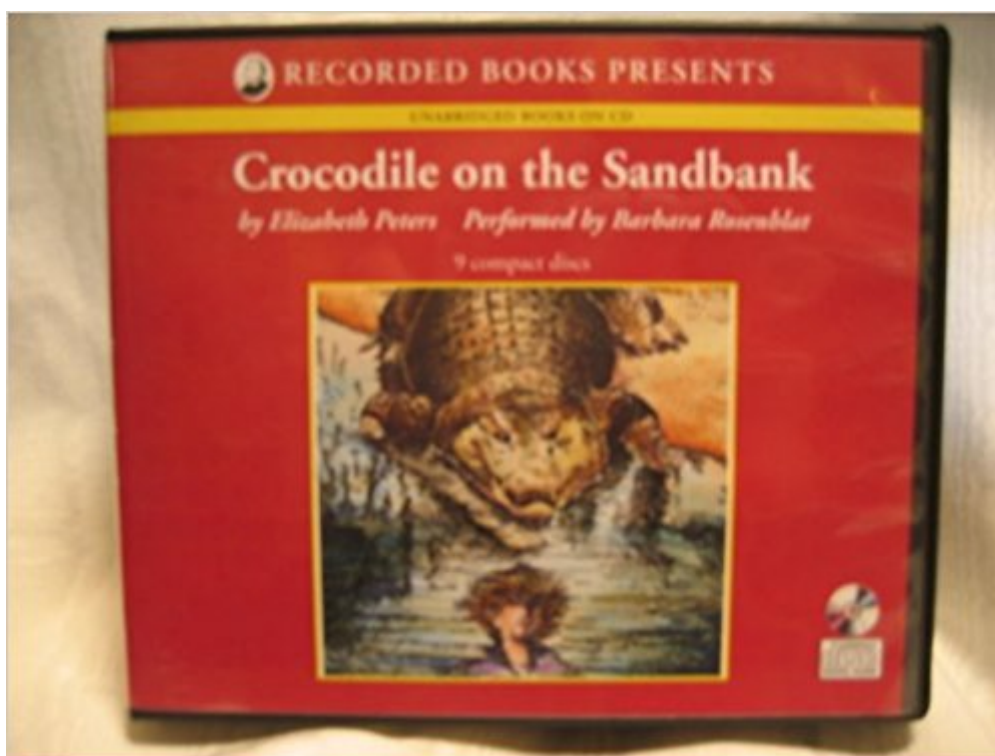


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The Crocodile On The Sandbank (The Amelia Peabody Seires, Book 1)



Synopsis

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Customer Reviews

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Amelia Peabody is a self possessed woman with independent means and a sharp mind. Upon the death of her father she decides to travel to all the places that he had studied and finds an English woman in distress in Rome. Evelyn is quickly adopted as traveling companion and the two set off for Egypt. Evelyn having been recently abandoned by an unscrupulous tutor she intended to elope with. The two women find themselves at a dig at Amarna with two archaeologist brothers and a mummy of the walking variety. Strong personalities and nice look at early Egyptology with a reasonable mystery with the mummy.

This series has been my all-time favorite for years. I own all the books in paper format, and have re-read them so many times. Now that I have a Kindle, I'm accumulating the entire series on Kindle. (As my eyes age, I find the adjustable font and the light make it so much easier to read, and also the Kindle is lighter and easier to hold.) Amelia Peabody, the main character in this series, is a Victorian

lady who is ahead of her time in her sense of independence, daring to do things that most women were intimidated by. In this first book, Amelia discovers Egypt for the first time, becomes enamored of Egyptology, and meets the irascible but admirable man who will become her husband and partner in archaeological research. The stage is set for the development of the story line across the rest of the series. To me, the most enjoyable characteristic of these books is that Amelia, although a very determined woman, has an excellent sense of humor.

As a rule I am not a reader of mysteries, but I read this book because of my interest in ancient Egypt and the world of the British Empire. Elizabeth Peters transports us to the world of late 19th century Egypt where we find General "China" Gordon battling the Muslim Mahdi at Khartoum and a young archaeologist named Flinders Petrie beginning his digs around Giza (much like Agatha Christie showed us the interwar period at archaeological digs in Iraq in "Murder in Mesopotamia")A very interesting setting and very well written

Crocodile on the Sandbank is my first book by Elizabeth Peters. I enjoyed it and would definitely read more by her. I particularly enjoyed the feel of the book - I reminded me of the movie The Mummy, which I love. Amelia Peabody is a great character, very feisty and stubborn. She seemed true to the times in her reactions which I understood, but which seemed a little overdone at times. The first half of the book moved slowly with setting up characters and setting the scene. Once the characters arrive at the archeological dig things start to pick up and the last quarter moves pretty quickly. I would read more by Elizabeth Peters and I would recommend Crocodile on the Sandbank to fans of Cozy Mysteries.

Who could meet Amelia Peabody - suffragette, proto-archeologist, intelligent know-it-all, intuitive logistician, generous, kind-hearted friend - and not love her? We meet the equally unforgettable Emerson in this novel - archeologist extraordinaire; arrogant, opinionated, intelligent, kind, romantic, socially inept. Together, they make the perfect couple, with just enough English superiority and arrogance to sail through stormy waters with tea and aplomb, but not too much to make them insufferable. Her 'memoirs' of this, her first trip to Egypt is deliciously witty - and incredibly well researched, as Elizabeth Peters has a degree in archeology and therefore really knows her stuff. It's witty, sometimes deliberately so, and sometimes because Amelia's superb inability to see herself as others see her, make one giggle and snort. Read it.

I liked this book because I am interested in Egyptology, and the book (the first of the series) is written by a well reputed Egyptologist under a pseudonym. It is a light, easy, read...like beach reading, and you learn a little about the "heretic" pharaoh.

An excellent introduction to a well-regarded series. Written by an Egyptologist, the descriptions of exploration in the late 1800's are very well done, the occasional use of real-life characters seamless, and the damsel in distress aspect well-handled. A bit wordy at times, and although the plot is fairly predictable, there is a clever twist at the end. As in far too many romance novels (One recommendation: Skip the author's summary of the character at the start, as it gives away the ending), the protagonists seem so at odds with each other for so long that the denouement is hard to accept. Still, I liked it well enough to buy the next one, and the next, and the next, so obviously there is something about the author's work that I really enjoy.

This is seriously the best series ever written. The late Elizabeth Peters turned this book, which was planned to be a one shot wonder into an endearing series which spanned two generations of her characters all because we, her fans had to have more of Amelia Peabody. Every few years I read the whole series again, just for the sheer enjoyment of it. I will miss the author and heartily recommend the "Amelia Peabody" series, start with this book and read in the order written....enjoy!

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