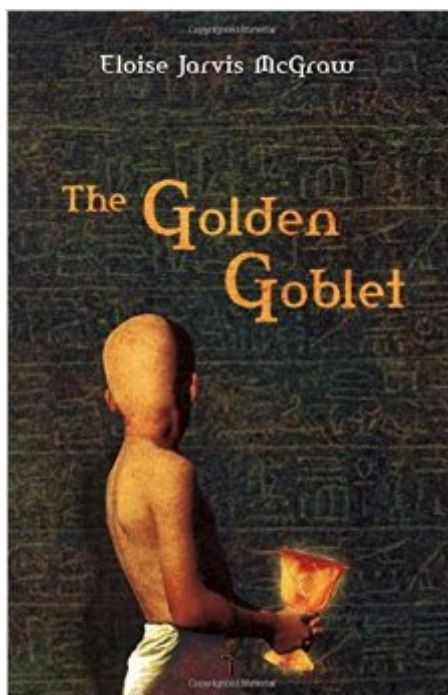


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# The Golden Goblet (Newbery Library, Puffin)



## Synopsis

A Newbery Honor Book Winner of a Newbery Honor, an exciting ancient Egyptian mystery! Ranofer wants only one thing in the world: to be a master goldsmith like his beloved father was. But how can he when he is all but imprisoned by his evil half brother, Gebu? Ranofer knows the only way he can escape Gebu's abuse is by changing his destiny. But can a poor boy with no skills survive on the cutthroat streets of ancient Thebes? Then Ranofer finds a priceless golden goblet in Gebu's room and he knows his luck and his destiny are about to change. "Exceptionally vivid, swift-paced, and stirring." "The Horn Book" An exhilarating story of the arduous fulfillment of a boy's dream . . . We are given a most worthy hero in Ranofer, one who struggles with his own fears and ideals, who smarts under his own cowardice, but who finds the power to rise to his own strength. This plus the vividly detailed setting make the book an excellent choice." "Kirkus Reviews

## Book Information

Series: Newbery Library, Puffin

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (May 6, 1986)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140303359

ISBN-13: 978-0140303353

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (173 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,630 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Ancient #4 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical #23 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Mystery & Detective

## Customer Reviews

I started reading this book aloud to my daughter, and I couldn't put it down after the first few chapters. I had to read the whole book to find out what happened to Ranofer, and to find out how he could resolve his problems with his abusive half-brother and fulfill his dreams. Reading this book really helped spark my interest in learning more about ancient Egypt. The book is beautifully descriptive, and made me feel like I was there. It really helped me see the beauty in that culture. As I read other books about ancient Egypt, I realized I had already learned and retained quite a bit about it already just by reading this children's book! I think the author really researched her subject

well. I would highly recommend this book as an educational book, or just for fun. After the first few chapters, the story does become pretty exciting, and at the end I was left wanting more.

This is a pretty good book. The story takes place during the rule Amenhotep III and Queen Tiye. It is about a young Egyptian orphan named Ranofer, the son of Thutra, a very talented goldsmith. When his father dies, Ranofer's cruel brother Gebu takes over and makes him work as a lowly laborer in a goldshop. When Ranofer finds out that Gebu is stealing gold from tombs, he and his friend Hequet set out to find answers. One night, Ranofer finds a goblet made of solid gold which bears the cartouche of pharaoh Thutmose The Conqueror. Ranofer tries to follow and stop Gebu. But little does he know that his mistakes might cost him his life. The Golden Goblet is very exciting and compelling, but it doesn't really get interesting until you are well into the book. It also has vocabulary that may be beyond the comprehension of some readers, so you may want to keep a dictionary handy. If you don't read this in school, you should definitely read it on your own.

Ancient Egypt is portrayed in the most exciting of ways in this book, including all the details: Positive elements: Ranofer has a good head. He can usually decide what is best and takes advice (though not so readily) from those who are wiser and have more experience than him. Though he has a bad attitude at first, by the third to fourth chapter it is made clear as to why this is so. With great ambitions, Ranofer is able to take advice to make himself ready to carry out those ambitions. Violent content: Ranofer's half brother is cruel to him, and beats him a few times. Ranofer is short-tempered when he meets another boy at the goldsmiths. Spiritual content: Ranofer, being an ancient Egyptian, believes in and worships many gods. He believes bone-chilling myths such as ghosts will carry away children who wander outside at night, that his father's spirit visits him, and that the dead king and queen are alive in their tomb. He prays to multiple gods, asking for the things he wishes to accomplish. Conclusion: What makes a book worthwhile? It is the ending. This story's ending is very fulfilling, leaving the reader as satisfied as can be, and ends with Ranofer looking forward to his dreams, now that he has removed all his barriers.

I bought this book for my homeschooled thirteen-year-old as we studied ancient Egypt. My son has always hated to read. In the middle of this book, he looked up at me and said, "I always hated reading, but now I like it!" The story was full of details and vocabulary words that he was able to remember for his final test! I would highly recommend this book for any kids studying ancient Egypt, or just for fun!

Young Ranofer, an orphan, lives with his half brother, Gebu, who beats and mistreats him. Ranofer discovers that there has been a thief at the goldsmith where he works. He thinks that it is Gebu's friend, Ibini, but later learns that Ibini is actually working for Gebu, who is behind the thefts. Then, one night about six months later, a hungry Ranofer ventures into Gebu's room, which is forbidden to Ranofer, for food; and he discovers a golden goblet with hieroglyphics spelling out, "Thutmose the Conqueror"! The discovery leads him to believe that Gebu is a tomb-raider. On the day of the festival when the Nile rises and makes the soil rich with nourishment, Ranofer secretly follows Gebu and Wenamon, the mason, into a tomb. But they soon discover Ranofer and start chasing him. Ranofer escapes, traps them in the tomb, and runs to tell the queen about the tomb-raiders. At first, no one believes him, but then the queen sends some people to investigate. When they find out what Ranofer has said is true, the queen rewards Ranofer with the donkey he asks for. Because I enjoy reading about Egypt, this book was fun to read. It was a good adventure and mystery. I recommend it to other people who also enjoy mysteries and adventures.

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