

Monday

Dear Diary,



I just arrived in Cairo. I find I must always wear a hat because it is hot and sunny. I purchased a map of Egypt and was shocked to realize how far I must travel to get to the Valley of the Kings. My guide says that we will travel mostly by boat down the Nile River.



This is good news because most of the land in Egypt is desert and I will have to deal with all that sand soon enough. He tells me that most people in Egypt live along the river because there is a source of water and the land is fertile.



Tuesday

Dear Diary,



My boat trip has been wonderful. We have stopped in El Minya. I had dinner in a lovely restaurant. The staff was dressed like Ancient Egyptians. They wore linen kilts, sandals, and headdresses. I had a wonderful lunch of Molokhia soup which is made from a leafy vegetable, aish shams (sun bread), and rice.



Wednesday

Dear Diary,

This is my last day before I reach the Valley of the Kings! I traveled from Luxor to the Mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. There are many temples, pyramids, and statues in Egypt built for the Ancient Egyptian gods, pharaohs, or royalty. While at the temple I visited the Anubis Chapel. Anubis is the god of mummification. The ancient Egyptians had many different gods and goddesses such as Thoth who is the god of knowledge, Ra who is the god of creation, and Seth who is the god of the desert.



Thursday

Dear Diary,



I am now on my way to the Valley of the Kings. This is one of the places where the royalty of Ancient Egypt were buried in tombs. They were also buried in pyramids. The Egyptians believed that after you died you passed over to an afterlife. They believed you needed your body in the afterlife. Mummification preserved the body. Items were placed in the tombs with the mummy to be used by the person in their new life. Furniture and jewelry were placed in the tomb.



Friday

Dear Diary,

Today I am going to arrive at the tomb of the new discovery. I am excited to try to find out about the mummy! The archaeologists have already uncovered many artifacts and hieroglyphs from the tomb. I will examine them to try to get clues about the identity of the mummy. I have so many questions: Who is the mummy? Where did it live? What was person's rank? What did they like?

