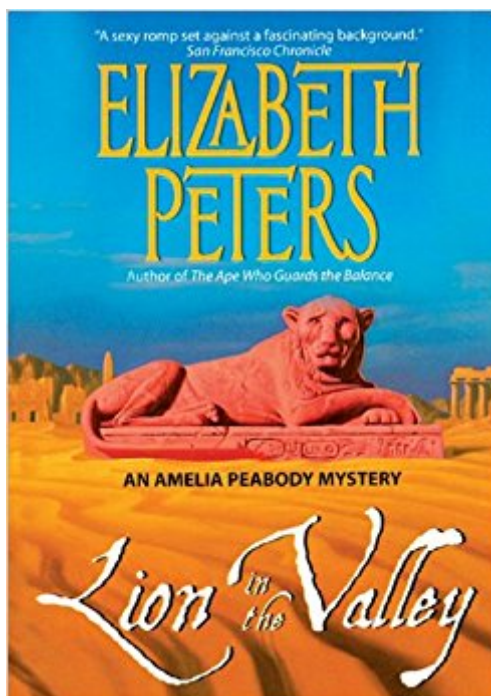




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# Lion In The Valley (An Amelia Peabody Mystery)



## Synopsis

The 1895-96 season promises to be an exceptional one for Amelia Peabody, her dashing Egyptologist husband, Radcliffe Emerson, and their precocious (some might say rambunctious) eight-year-old son, Ramses. The long-denied permission to dig at the pyramids of Dahshoor has finally been granted, and the much-coveted burial chamber of the Black Pyramid is now theirs for the exploring. Before the young family exchanges the relative comfort of Cairo for the more rudimentary quarters near the excavation site, they engage a young Englishman, Donald Fraser, as a tutor and companion for Ramses, and Amelia takes a wayward young woman, Enid Debenham, under her protective wing. But there is danger and deception in the wind that blows across the hot Egyptian sands. A brazen kidnapping attempt, a gruesome murder, and an expedition subsequently cursed by misfortune and death--all serve to alert Amelia to the likely presence of her arch nemesis, the "Master Criminal," notorious looter of the living and the dead. But it is far more than ill-gotten riches that motivate the man known as Sethos. The evil genius has a score to settle with the meddling lady archaeologist who has sworn to deliver him to justice . . . and he's got her dead-on in his sights. Replete with edge-of-the-seat suspense and scrupulous archaeological and historical detail, all delivered in Amelia Peabody's unique, wry voice, *Lion in the Valley* is a classic installment in Elizabeth Peters's beloved mystery-adventure series.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bursting with surprises, a sheer delight. --Publishers Weekly  
Peters really knows how to spin romance and adventure into a mystery. --Philadelphia Enquirer

ELIZABETH PETERS, (pseudonym for Barbara Mertz), whose New York Times best-selling novels are often set against historical backdrops, earned a Ph.D. in Egyptology at the University of Chicago. She was named Grand Master at the inaugural Anthony Awards in 1986 and Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America in 1998. In 2003, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Malice Domestic Convention. She also writes best-selling books under the pseudonym Barbara Michaels. She lives in Maryland.

I am now on book five of this series and have enjoyed them all to a "five-star" degree! The author, Elizabeth Peters, and her husband are/were Egyptologists and archaeologists. These books, written in the 70s, are set in the mid to late 1800s and early 1900s when archaeology was just beginning in Egypt. Ms. Peters has researched the culture and speech for the time period as well as the new and burgeoning world of archaeology. The result is a series which is built on historical fact, rich in information, written in a lively, delightful, cheeky style. Amelia Peabody and her husband Emerson and their son (nicknamed Ramses) are all strong personalities with their own quirks who stumble upon a mystery and adventure in each new season of digging. In the series we are only with the family during their 'seasons' in Egypt (the rest of their time in their homeland, England, is caught up each time in a few pages). I try to have the next book at my disposal before I finish whichever one I am reading at present as I seem to be addicted to Amelia and her bunch. Yes, I enjoyed this book very much but you do need to read this series in order to fully enjoy and appreciate it. Start with book one--Crocodile on the Sandbank.

Elizabeth Peters was one of the great novelists of the twentieth century. She was formally trained in archaeology and so could be counted on to be accurate in her story weaving of Egypt in the late 1800's. She didn't need to be graphic to keep her readers spell bound. It seemed that no matter how many of her books I had already read, she continued to surprise me at the end of each new book. Unfortunately, we lost her in 2013 at the age of 85, but not before she wrote one last book (in 2008) in a stroke of brilliance. As for this particular book, what can I say - the intrepid Amelia Peabody and her husband Emerson not only have to deal with inept "archaeologists", French and English officials, and a Master Criminal all getting under foot, their son (Ramses) is a terrifyingly precocious and fearless child. Chaos ensues.

Great historical mystery. Peabody & Emerson plus their son Ramses While on an archaeology dig

in Egypt the family faces several mysteries to solve before they become victims of the diabolical "Master Criminal". You will laugh along the way, & wonder why they always ignore their son when he knows all the answers. It is fun, has many twists, interesting historical perspective on archaeology at the turn of the century. You just have to love Amelia Peabody & her compassion, intuition, & relentless pursuit of truth, justice, & protection of Egyptian history.

The Emersons, including Ramses, have returned to Egypt this time excavating the pyramids they wanted last year- the one they had to be rescued from after the Master Criminal trapped them. Amelia is getting gifts from the Master Criminal while trying to right the course of some young people's lives. More exciting drama than usual. Interesting seeing all three Emersons contribute.

Love the reader for this series. Love Amelia's adventures. I do wish that the voice for Ramses was not so irritating, I quite like young Ramses and this voice for him does not do his character justice.

I love all the Amelia Peabody books. Great style, great adventures, fabulous settings and a love story. What else could you want? I also love the humor in the writing. Sometimes I find myself chuckling. It's just all around an awesome read. (Like all the other books in the series I might add.) But if you're thinking about buying this book, you probably already know what I'm talking about.

It's the 1895-96 season for archeologists in Egypt, and the Emerson family will be digging at Dahshoor, a promising site. Amelia and Emerson are accompanied by their eight-year-old son Ramses and his devoted Egyptian cat. In the last book (The Mummy Case), the Emersons tangled with the invisible leader of a vast gang of antiquities thieves, who ultimately eluded them. This season Amelia is determined to catch him. She calls him the "Master Criminal," a melodramatic term that sets Emerson's teeth on edge. Before the Emersons have left the hotel in Cairo a murder takes place, and Amelia attributes it to the Master Criminal, sometimes called Sethos, after a powerful and handsome pharaoh. The henchmen of Sethos seem legion, and those who oppose him are quickly struck down. But Amelia, armed with a parasol and a pistol, has no doubt she will triumph over this wily "master of disguise." Archeology takes something of a backseat in this book to detecting, rescuing young lovers and getting Ramses out of scrapes. Ramses is as smart and scholarly as his parents - and is constantly slipping away on his own pursuits. This might involve exploring a burial chamber, chatting up a prostitute in the old town of Cairo or "borrowing" a horse. I find this precocious child frankly unbelievable, but still endearing and amusing. This is my fourth book in the

Amelia Peabody series, and I've surrendered to enjoying all of them despite the outlandish characters and nonstop crises. Elizabeth Peters carries it all off with clever plotting and witty dialog. The frequent amatory experiences between Emerson and Amelia, alluded to in Victorian circumlocutions, add to the fun.

Amelia Peabody is a joy and the whole family is delightful to read or listen to what they are up to. Plus you will learn some information and history about Egypt.

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