

Suggested Books & Movies

Books

Lion of Jordan: The Life of King Hussein in War and Peace
Avi Shlaim; 2007

Leap of Faith; Memoirs of an Unexpected Life
Her Majesty Queen Noor; 2003

The Development of Trans-Jordan 1929 - 1939: A History of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Maan Abu Nowar; 2004

Married to a Bedouin
Marguerite van Geldermalsen; 2008

Lawrence of Arabia: War, Deceit, Imperial Folly and the Making of the Modern Middle East
Scott Anderson; 2014

Seven Pillars of Wisdom: A Triumph: The Complete 1922 Text
T. E. Lawrence; 2011

Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell – Adventurer, Advisor to Kings, Ally of Lawrence of Arabia
Janet Wallach; 2005

Bedouin; Nomads of the Desert
Alan Keohane; 2003

1177 B.C., the Year Civilization Collapsed
Eric H. Cline; 2015

The Woman Who Would Be King: Hatshepsut's Rise to Power in Ancient Egypt
Kara Cooney; 2015

Khul-Khaal: Five Egyptian Women Tell Their Stories
Nayra Atiya; 2006

Death on the Nile
Agatha Christie; originally published 1937

Movies/TV filmed in Jordan and Egypt

Lawrence of Arabia – 1962 (Wadi Rum)
Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade – 1989 (Petra)
Red Planet – 2000 (Wadi Rum)
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen – 2009 (Wadi Rum, Petra, and Egypt)
The Martian – 2015 (Wadi Rum)
Theeb – 2014 (Wadi Rum)
The Hurt Locker – 2008 (Jordan, near the Iraq boarder)
Prometheus – 2011 (Wadi Rum)
Death on the Nile – 1978 (Nile River in Egypt)
Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer – 2007 (scenes shot in Giza, Egypt)
The Spy Who Loved Me – 1977 (various spots in Egypt)

Documentaries

Secrets: The Sphinx
2013 – Netflix
Featuring Stefanie's Egyptology professor, this 45 min. documentary present several lines of evidence about who built the Sphinx and why.

Patterns of Evidence Exodus
2014 – Netflix
Featuring several of our colleagues, this documentary proposes a controversial theory about the Exodus and when it took place. Please note that we do not support the theory give here, but there are some interesting pieces of evidence that do hold some weight as well as presenting the various interpretations and theories that we as Biblical archaeologists deal with on a frequent basis concerning biblical evidence.

The Square
2013 – Netflix
In *The Square*, named after Cairo's revolutionary Tahrir Square, director Jehane Noujaim follows half a dozen or so protesters – mostly bright, young, and secular – across a historically defining three year period. Audiences are transported to the very center of the action from the beginning; this is as close as it gets to witnessing the inner conflicts that moved the Egyptian Revolution to its latter phases. Unflinchingly documented, it captures unencumbered idealism, violence and betrayal. Please note that this documentary has disturbing and graphic content.

Building Pharaoh's Chariot
2013 – YouTube
Watch as a team of archaeologists, Egyptologists, engineers, woodworkers, and horse trainers join forces to build and test two highly accurate replicas of Egyptian royal chariots. A fascinating look at the astonishing engineering genius revealing that the Egyptian chariot created a crucial turning point in ancient military history.

Egypt (TV series)
2005 – YouTube
A BBC docudrama serial portraying events in the history of Egyptology from the 18th through the early 20th centuries. The first two episodes explore the work of Howard Carter and his quest for King Tut's tomb. The next two episodes focus on the eccentric explorer "The Great Belzoni." The final two episodes dramatize the discovery and deciphering of the Rosetta Stone.

Petra - Lost City of Stone
2015 – YouTube
Watch an archaeologist and sculptors as they team up to carve an iconic temple-tomb to find out how the ancient people of Petra built their city of stone. Meanwhile, scientists using remote sensors and hydraulic flumes uncover the vast city and its sophisticated water system.

Movies/TV Series set in Jordan or Egypt

Lawrence of Arabia – 1962
Cleopatra – 1963
Death on the Nile – 1978
The Mummy – 1999
The Mummy Returns – 2001
The Scorpion King – 2002
The Prince of Egypt – 1998
The Ten Commandments – 1956
Exodus, Gods and Kings – 2015
Agora – 2009
Kingdom of Heaven – 2005
Stargate – 1994
Queen of the Desert – 2015
Tut (TV miniseries) – 2015