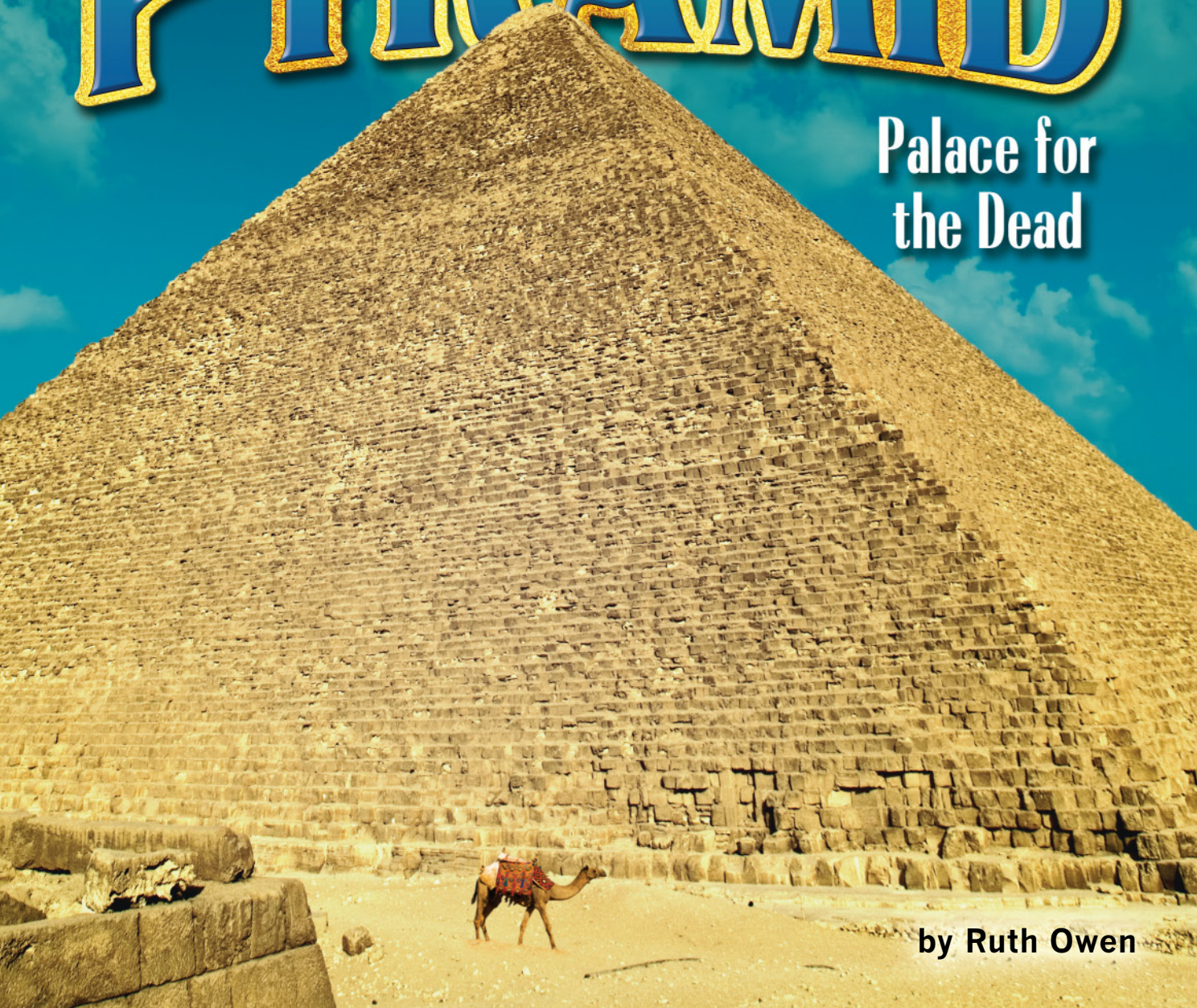




THE GREAT PYRAMID

Palace for
the Dead



by Ruth Owen

[Intentionally Left Blank]



THE GREAT PYRAMID

Palace for the Dead



by Ruth Owen

Consultant: Dr. Angela McDonald
Subject Specialist and University Teacher—Archaeology, Classics, and Egyptology
Centre for Open Studies, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

Cover and Title Page, © Danita Delimont/Shutterstock, © Pius Lee/Shutterstock, and © Nemeziya/Shutterstock; 4–5, © Sol90Images; 6–7, © Dan Breckwoldt/Shutterstock; 8, © Dorling Kindersley/Getty Images; 9T, © De Agostini/Getty Images; 9B, © Murat Hajdarhodzic/Shutterstock; 10L, © mangojuicy/Shutterstock; 10R, Public Domain; 11, © Dudarev Mikhail/Shutterstock; 11TL, © De Agostini/Getty Images; 11TR, © De Agostini/Getty Images; 12–13, © Jose Antonio Penas/Science Photo Library; 14, © Jose Lucas/Alamy; 15, © Sol90Images; 16, © Danita Delimont/Alamy; 17T, © Sebastian Grant/Shutterstock; 17B, © Peter Horree/Alamy; 18, © Reuters/Alamy; 19, © Kenneth Garrett/Getty Images; 20, Public Domain; 21T, © Ruby Tuesday Books; 21B, © Baloncici/Istock Photo; 22T, © Arco Images GmbH/Alamy; 22B, © Pius Lee/Shutterstock; 23L, © De Agostini/Getty Images; 23R, © De Agostini/Getty Images; 24, © Kenneth Garrett/Getty Images; 25, © Patrick Chapuis/Getty Images; 26, © Kokhanchikov/Shutterstock; 27, © Patryk Kosmider/Shutterstock; 28, © Patrick Chapuis/Gamma-Rapho/Getty Images; 29, Public Domain; 31, © Dudarev Mikhail/Shutterstock.

Publisher: Kenn Goin

Editor: Jessica Rudolph

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker

Photo Researcher: Ruby Tuesday Books Ltd

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Owen, Ruth, 1967- author.

Title: The Great Pyramid : palace for the dead / by Ruth Owen.

Other titles: Egypt's ancient secrets.

Description: New York, New York : Bearport Publishing, 2017. | Series:

Egypt's ancient secrets | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2016054069 | ISBN 9781684020232 (library)

Subjects: LCSH: Great Pyramid (Egypt)—Juvenile literature.

Classification: LCC DT63 .O94 2017 | DDC 932—dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2016054069>

Copyright © 2017 Bearport Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc.,

45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10010.

Printed in the United States of America.

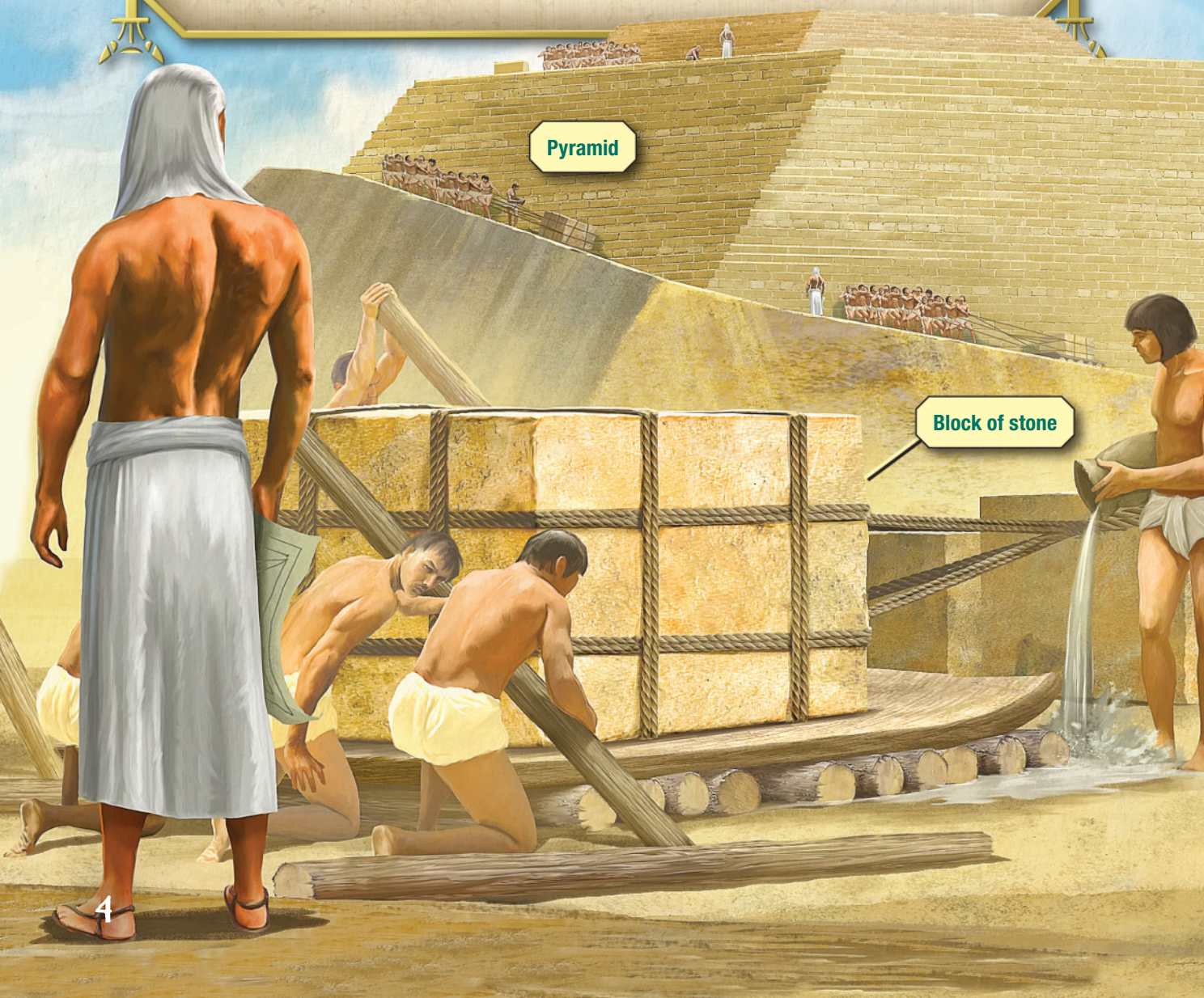
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Contents

Built for Eternity	4
A Giant Pyramid	6
A Tomb for a King	8
Construction Begins	10
Moving the Stones	12
Inside the Pyramid	14
The Builders' City	16
Living and Dying	18
Khufu's Last Journey	20
The Missing Mummy	22
The Mysterious Shafts	24
A Secret Chamber?	26
Egypt's Ancient Secrets	28
Glossary	30
Bibliography	31
Read More	31
Learn More Online	31
Index	32
About the Author	32

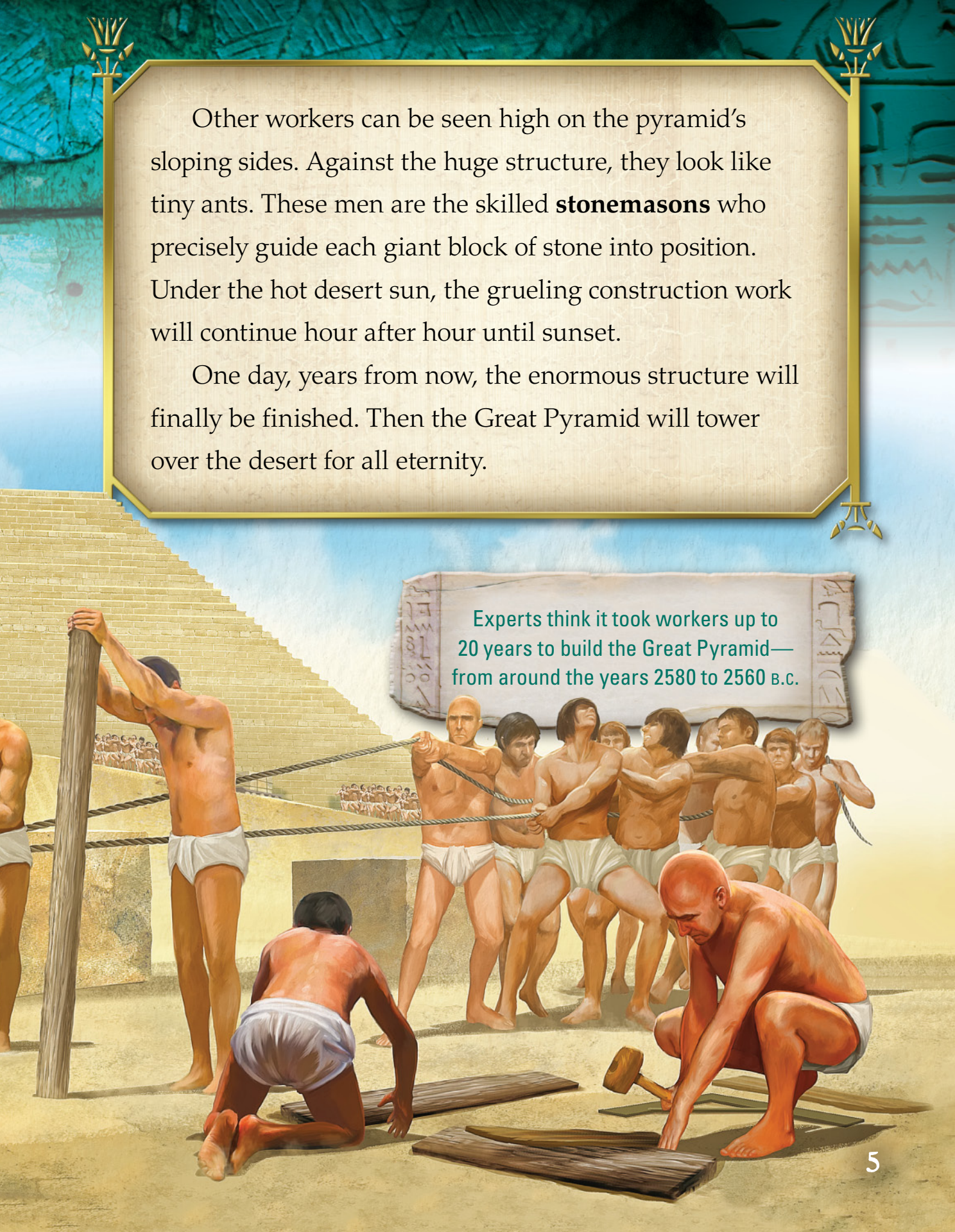
Built for Eternity

The year is 2570 B.C. It's early morning on a rocky desert plain in Egypt. As the sun rises, thousands of workers hurry toward a giant, half-completed **pyramid** that looms in the sky like a mountain. Soon, teams of men are pulling on ropes to haul huge blocks of stone toward the pyramid. The men are **chanting** as they work.



Other workers can be seen high on the pyramid's sloping sides. Against the huge structure, they look like tiny ants. These men are the skilled **stonemasons** who precisely guide each giant block of stone into position. Under the hot desert sun, the grueling construction work will continue hour after hour until sunset.

One day, years from now, the enormous structure will finally be finished. Then the Great Pyramid will tower over the desert for all eternity.

An illustration depicting the construction of the Great Pyramid of Giza. In the background, the massive stone structure rises against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a group of muscular, shirtless men, presumably workers, are engaged in various tasks. One man on the left is pulling a thick rope attached to a large stone block. A group of men in the center are also pulling on ropes. In the foreground, two men are working with wooden planks; one is kneeling and the other is crouching, using a mallet. A large, rectangular stone block with hieroglyphs is positioned above the group of men pulling ropes. The scene is set in a desert environment with sand on the ground.


Experts think it took workers up to 20 years to build the Great Pyramid—from around the years 2580 to 2560 B.C.

A Giant Pyramid

The Great Pyramid of Giza is one of the largest human-made structures on earth. Built from about 2.3 million blocks of limestone, the pyramid's base covers an area the size of ten football fields! When the pyramid was first built, it stood 481 feet (147 m) tall—the height of a 40-story building. At some time in its past, however, the tip of the pyramid was removed. Now it's 455 feet (139 m) tall.

The Great Pyramid is on the west bank of the Nile River, in the city of Giza. It stands across the river from Egypt's capital city of Cairo.





Today, around 4,500 years after it was built, the Great Pyramid is battered by time, but it still stands. So how were the ancient Egyptians able to build this huge structure without the use of high-tech tools—and what was its purpose?

The Great Pyramid is gigantic. Each of its four sides is 756 feet (230 m) long—the length of two football fields. Some of the blocks of stone that were used to build the pyramid weigh 1 ton (0.9 metric ton). Others weigh up to 50 tons (45 metric tons)—as much as a truck!



The Great Pyramid's four sides perfectly face north, east, south, and west. **Egyptologists** think that ancient **astronomers** used the stars to pinpoint the four directions and position the pyramid.