



The Rosetta Stone and the Rebirth of Ancient Egypt (Paperback)

By J. D. Ray

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, United States, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. In this title, you can read the Bldg Blog interview with Mary Beard about the Wonders of the World series (Part I and Part II). The Rosetta Stone is one of the world s great wonders, attracting awed pilgrims by the tens of thousands each year. This book tells the Stone s story, from its discovery by Napoleon s expedition to Egypt to its current - and controversial - status as the single most visited object on display in the British Museum. A pharaoh s forgotten decree, cut in granite in three scripts - Egyptian hieroglyphs, Egyptian demotic, and ancient Greek - the Rosetta Stone promised to unlock the door to the language of ancient Egypt and its 3,000 years of civilization, if only it could be deciphered. Capturing the drama of the race to decode this key to the ancient past, John Ray traces the paths pursued by the British polymath Thomas Young and Jean-Francois Champollion, the father of Egyptology ultimately credited with deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs. He shows how Champollion broke the code and explains more generally how such deciphering is done, as...



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