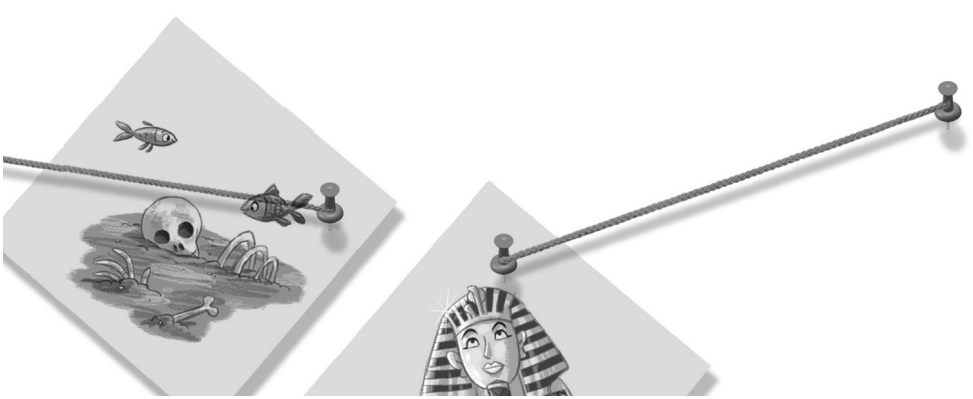
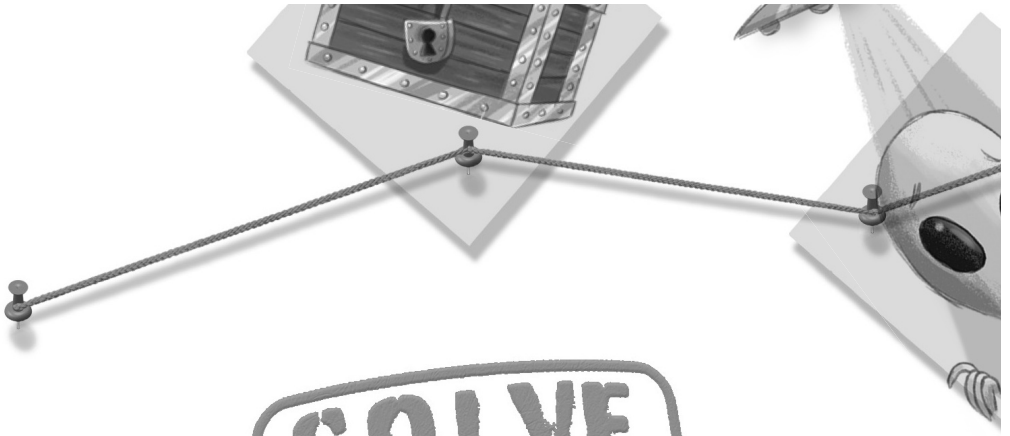

SOLVE
THE WORLD'S
GREATEST
MYSTERIES





SOLVE THE WORLD'S GREATEST MYSTERIES

MIKE RAMPTON

Illustrated by Gareth Conway

HC CB
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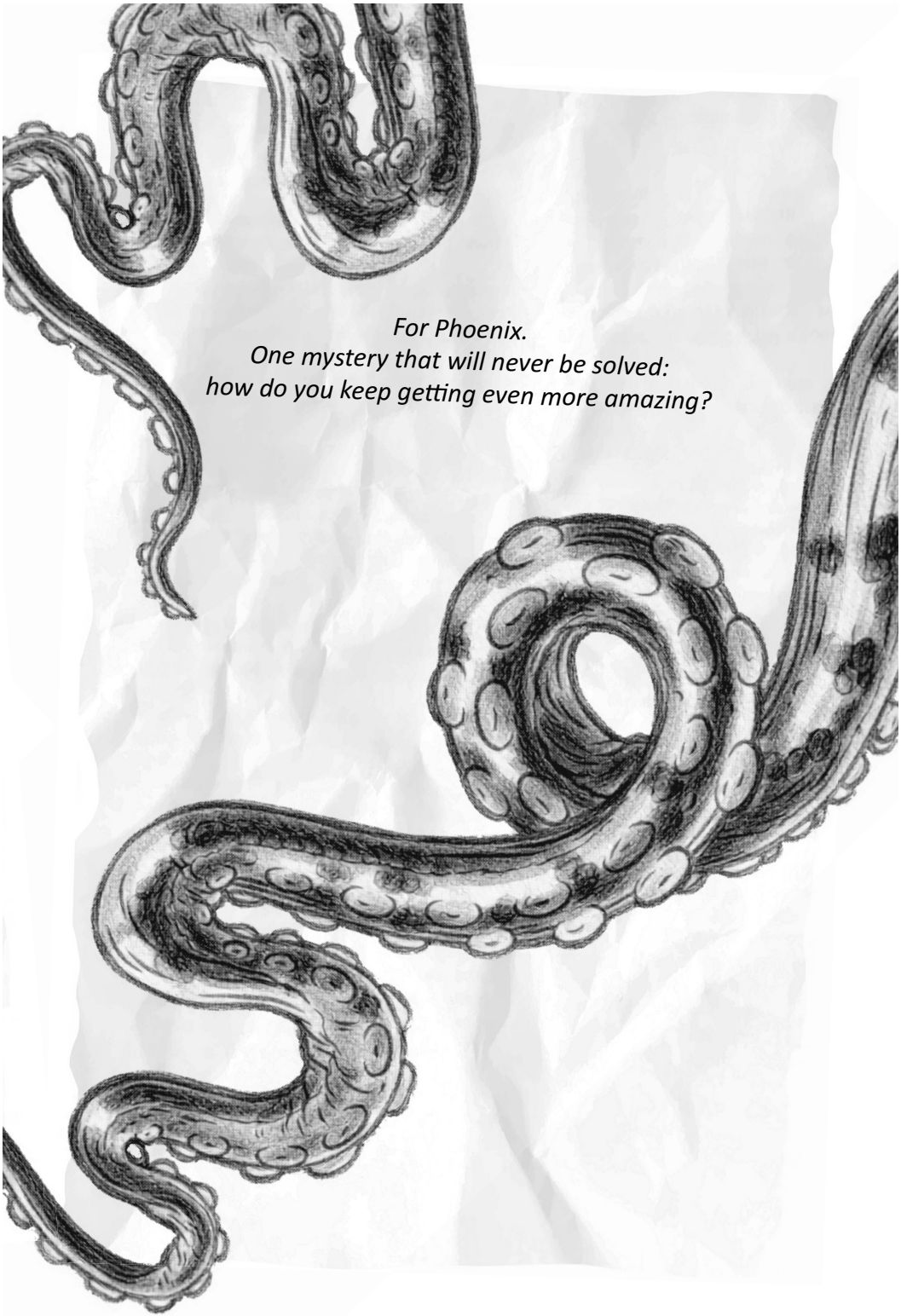
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One mystery that will never be solved:
how do you keep getting even more amazing?

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INTRODUCTION

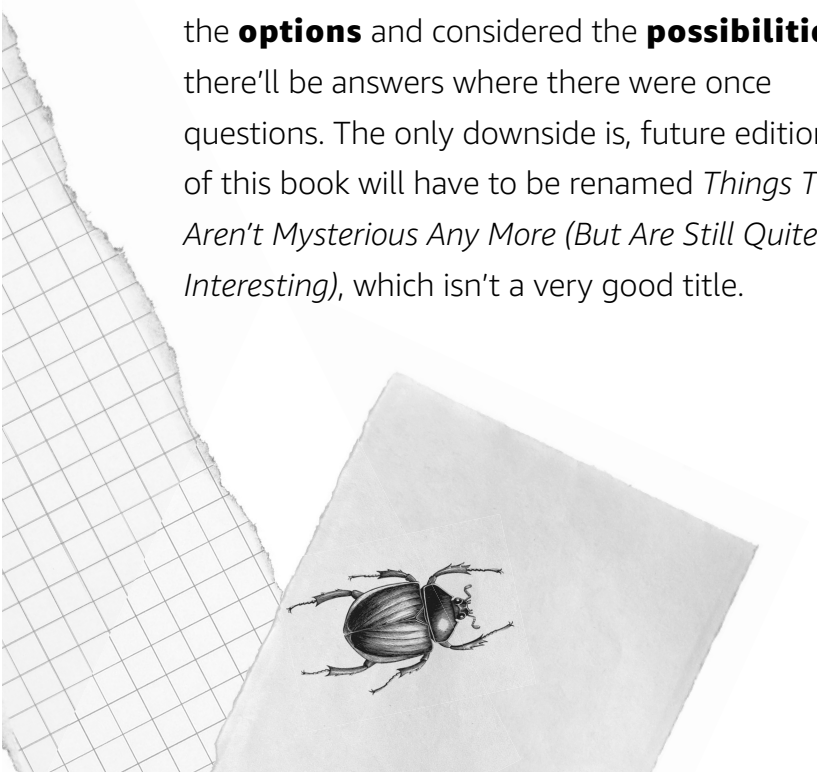
In our modern high-tech world, it can be easy to think we've figured everything out. Once upon a time, nobody knew what was over the **horizon,** and maps had **dragons** drawn on them. But now we have all kinds of fancy, futuristic technology, extraordinarily sophisticated systems and all kinds of **clever stuff.**

But some mysteries remain . . . *mysterious*. In this book are **twelve real-life enigmas from around the world** – mysteries that have perplexed some of the greatest

minds on earth for, in some cases, centuries. These are real head-scratchers, **absolute bafflers,** which fill even the brightest brains with question marks.

Until now.

Now that you – **yes, you,** the person reading this – are here, we'll have all these conundrums tidied up in no time. You've got the **brainpower** and the curiosity to get these mysteries solved. Once you've dug through the **evidence,** weighed up the **options** and considered the **possibilities,** there'll be answers where there were once questions. The only downside is, future editions of this book will have to be renamed *Things That Aren't Mysterious Any More (But Are Still Quite Interesting)*, which isn't a very good title.



In this book you will find:

The **CASE** (Important stuff enclosed!)

The **BACKGROUND** to each case.

THE MYSTERY and the different theories for you to ponder.

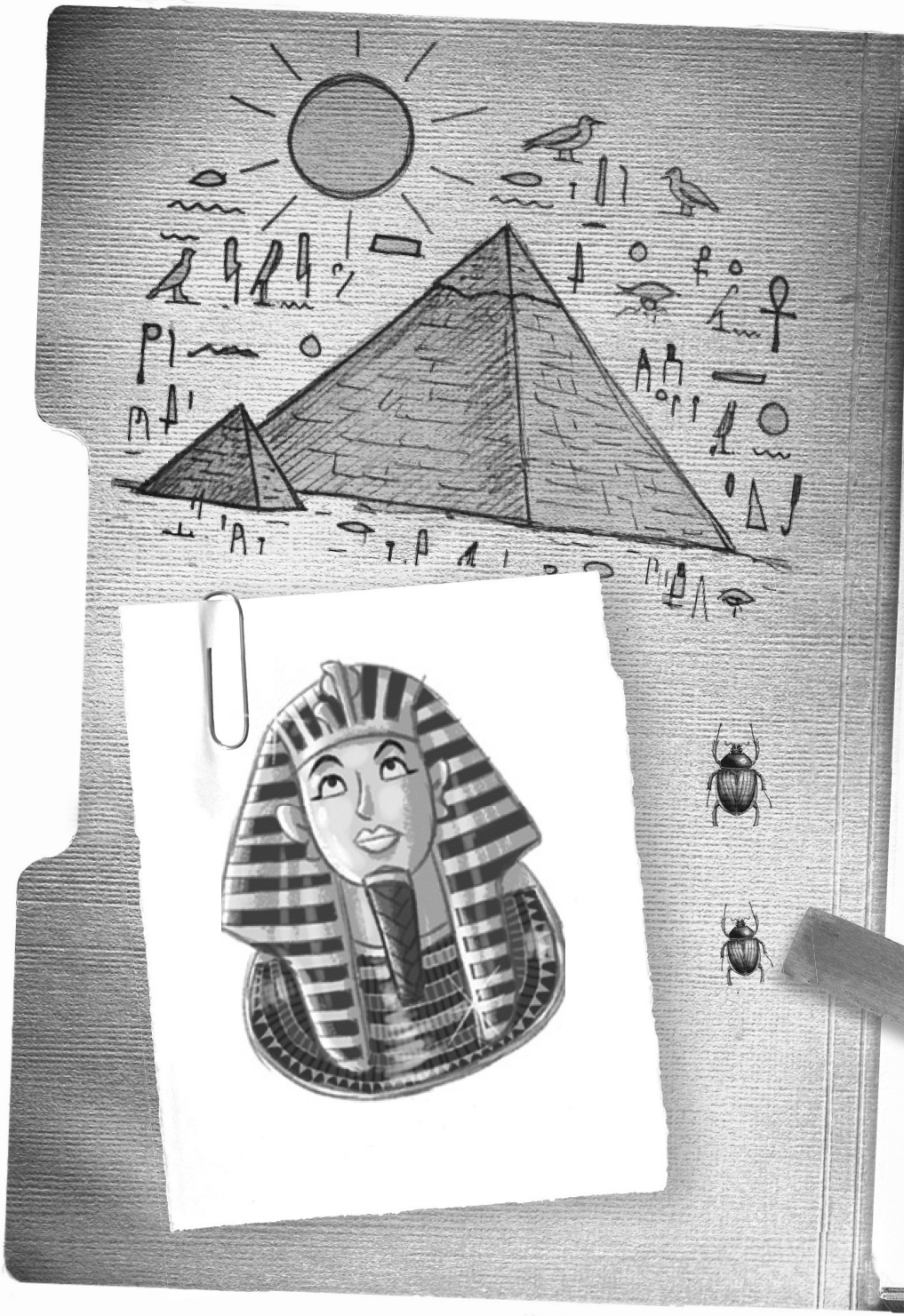
LET'S SOLVE THIS!

Multiple options to help you discover the truth!

And finally

LOVED THIS? FIND OUT MORE!

(Because if you were hooked on this case then you'll want to check out more utterly fantastic information.)








CASE 1:

The Curse of Tutankhamun

Did opening the tomb of the ancient Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun unleash a deadly curse?








Background:



In November 1922, after searching for over **seven years,** British archaeologist Howard Carter discovered the tomb of the **pharaoh Tutankhamun** in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. Tutankhamun died around **1323 BCE** (over **3,300 years ago),** in what is known as the Eighteenth Dynasty of **ancient Egypt.** Experts think he was around **eighteen** when he died, possibly from malaria, but he squeezed a lot into his short life. He became **ruler of Egypt** at **9** years old and, among other things, changed both the capital city and which gods were worshipped, both pretty big jobs **(and, in fact, he was worshipped as a god himself).**

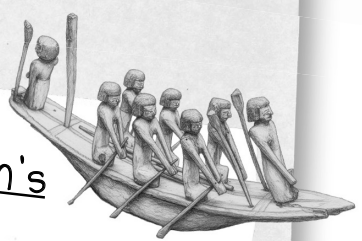
When his tomb was opened, it was found to be in an incredible condition. Some lucky coincidences had kept it **hidden** and **sealed** for centuries.

Pharaohs were often buried with a lot of valuable treasure because the ancient Egyptians believed this would be useful to them in the afterlife. Many of the tombs surrounding Tutankhamun's had been robbed of their treasures over the years, but Tutankhamun's remained completely intact. Its entrance had been covered during the construction of later tombs, and then houses were built on top of it, so it had essentially been lost, which is what kept it in such **good condition.**

The tomb was surprisingly small. This is probably because bigger, **fancier tombs** took years to build, and nobody expected Tutankhamun to die so young. It's likely that a tomb built for someone else was used instead because it was finished, but it wasn't as big as a king's tomb would normally be, so it was very full.

Before the archaeologists, led by **Howard Carter** and the man who was funding the expedition, Lord Carnarvon, could enter the burial chamber itself they had to get through an **antechamber** (a smaller outer room). This took **months,** and in February 1923, they finally entered the burial chamber. Two months later, Lord Carnarvon was **dead.**





Tutankhamun's Stuff

Tutankhamun's tomb was filled with over 5,000 fascinating objects and artefacts, including:

- His gold death mask
- Six dismantled chariots
- 413 shabtis - figures of people who would work for him in the afterlife - along with models of boats and farm animals
- A throne
- Assorted weapons, including bows, throwing sticks and boomerangs
- A dagger made out of iron from a meteorite.