

# Seania: The Thief King

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*A girl makes friends with the Pharaoh of Egypt and all things go wrong once the famous Thief King discovers their relationship.*

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# 1 - Surprise from the Past

The warm Egyptian sun bathed the great city of Egypt with warm rays of light. Most people would be wise and stay under a shaded roof or indoors, but not all people are that wise.

A girl was sitting up on a roof of a small hut. Up there she was feeling the full impact of the fiery orb. A warm breeze picked up and blew the girl's long raven black hair into her eyes. She gently took her hand and tucked the hair behind her ears and out of her face. Her emerald green eyes were full of sadness.

"Seania, will you get down from that roof and get inside before you burn. Get down for Ra's sake! I need to talk to you inside", yelled a woman from inside the hut. Seania rolled her eyes and climbed down the ladder and into the shaded house. Seania entered the sitting room and sat down in a chair near a window.

"There you are. You really shouldn't be on the roof in this heat", said a tall woman with long brown hair and hazel eyes.

"You should really listen to your sister, Seania. May is very wise when it comes to hot days like this", said a shorter woman with brown hair, highlighted with grey streaks. Seania's mother was a very protective woman and so was her sister May, but definitely less with her other sister Susan.

Susan was very good at being careless and selfish, sometimes at the same time. Susan was 18 and considered herself a "responsible" adult. She was a blonde and would live up to that name. Her blue eyes would burn with jealousy when her younger sister, Seania, would get more attention than she did. She was nothing like her older sister May.

May was a very quiet woman. Being the oldest of three, May was always looking out for her younger sisters. May was 21-years-old. She was always buried in a book or scroll. This was how she became the smartest and wisest of her family. She would supply useful information that would sometimes keep her sisters out of trouble. Her long hair would usually be tied up in some hairstyle to keep it out of her hazel eyes.

The youngest of the family was Seania. She was always last to get mostly everything that her sisters got. The weird thing about Seania was that she was completely different from her family, physically and mentally. She had raven black hair that went down to her butt and emerald green eyes. None of these qualities matched her mother or father. Her mother had brown hair like May and blue eyes like Susan. Her father had blonde hair and hazel eyes. Sometimes Seania would complain to her mother about her appearance and her mother would usually say it was some distant uncle or cousin who had those features.

Even though Seania was almost an adult she let her mind wander like a child's, always daydreaming about heroes and princesses and thieves.

"Now Seania darling, your sisters and I are going out of town and leaving you here to take care of the house. I know you may think you're not ready and I know you may not be, but you need to grow up and have responsibilities and this will be a good start," explained the parent of the household. Seania scowled at how her mother treated her. She was seventeen for Ra's sake.

"Mom, I'm not a kid anymore. I'm seventeen and almost an adult. Why do you treat me as if I were three or five? You can go off and do your little trip without any worries about the house or me. I know you think I'm lonely and don't have any friends or not ready, but I am ready and I know I can make some new friends." finished Seania with pride and determination glowing in her emerald eyes.

Seania's family trip was for Susan to pick a husband. In her family, when the daughter turns eighteen, she has the right to marry any man she pleases, but this was her family custom, so it's not like everyone

in Egypt does the same thing. May was going because she was already old enough but didn't want to pick a husband when she turned eighteen a few years ago. Seania was only seventeen so her mother wouldn't let her go with them.

"Honey I know you think you're ready and I know you will make lots of new friends, but we are going to be gone for a while and I don't want to leave you. I promise to make it up to you by bringing a nice young man back with me so you can get to know each other and when your eighteenth birthday comes around you'll have a man to marry," Seania's mother finished explaining. Her daughter just stared at her for the longest time and then got up and walked across the room to sit in a chair away from everyone else in the room.

Seania's mother kept on blabbing on about safety tips, but Seania wasn't listening.

"So you know that we have so little money and you need to spend it wisely like on food and water.

Seania. SEANIA!!!!!! "

By the shout of her mother's voice, Seania awoke from her daydreaming and glanced up a little.

"Are you listening to me? I'm going to pack and so are your sisters and then we are leaving," finished the parent. She walked into her room and started packing.

Seania just sighed and cupped her chin in the palms of her hands. "Why does this have to happen now," she thought to herself. May looked over at her and frowned.

"Hey cheer up. We'll be back and you won't be so lonely," said May with a smile. The girl smiled back at her sister and then May went to her room to pack. Seania looked out the small window next to the chair and sighed again. Her mother came out with bags in each hand. She dropped them and cleared her throat to finish her long lecture with her child.

"Now I'm taking most of the money with your sisters and I so you will have just enough to buy food for yourself until we come back."

Once that was said her mother gave her a hug and a kiss on the forehead as did her sisters. Seania watched them walk out the door and into the blazing sun. They reached the horses and rode off. Seania then went inside and sat down in the same chair she was in before. She looked down on the table next to her and sighed some more. On the table was a necklace that was shaped like a diamond. It had red on the sides and black in the middle. There was a red heart in the middle of it too.

A young boy gave her that necklace when she was only twelve years old and when she was thirteen that same boy left her and she never saw him again.

"I wish you were here right now Atem," Seania said to herself. The boy's name was Atem and she missed him dearly. Tired of gazing at the necklace that only brought her painful memories, Seania got to her feet and walked into her mother's room and opened a wooden dresser. She dug under all of her mother's clothing till she found a leather pouch and opened it. Inside were at least thirty gold pieces.

"That won't be enough to last me for at least two weeks," mumbled Seania. She thought of what to do and when an idea popped into her head she frowned.

"The only thing I can do is steal something, but that is wrong. Still if I want to survive I might as well do it." So it was decided that Seania would steal food to survive while her family was away.

As she entered the market place, Seania looked at each one of the stands of produce. The smell of fruit and other foods filled the air. Seania walked from stand to stand, looking at what each had to offer. She acted naturally so no one would suspect that she was up to something. Finally she stopped at a stand that was unoccupied and she stood there for at least two minutes before she made her move. The thieving girl took an orange from the stand and stuffed it in a leather bag she had brought with her. No one saw her do this and she knew she might get away with another fruit, but as Seania was reaching out to grab another and put it into her bag, two guards from the Pharaoh's palace turned the corner just in time to see Seania doing the horrible deed.

"Halt right there you peasant," yelled one of the guards. In sheer panic, Seania dropped the food and

ran. The two guards ran after her at increasing speed. Seania knew they would catch her and then it would be all over, but she wanted to at least try and escape from them. She turned a corner, but unfortunately it was a dead end. Seania looked back to see the guards with their spears ready to use force if needed. The poor girl knew it was all over as the guards came closer and closer. She gave up the idea of running and the guard took the opportunity to push her down and tie her hands back.

"Why did I do that, Damn I m stupid? Please help me, Ra. I promise I will never do it again for as long as I live, " pleaded Seania. She prayed as she drew nearer to the palace doors that Ra would forgive her and help her out of this horrible mess.

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A man was looking out from his balcony at the great city of Egypt. The sun beamed off his gold jewelry that hung from his neck and earlobes. On his head was a magnificent crown of gold. It glowed with great beauty. In the middle of it was an eye, but not just any eye, it was the eye of the great sun god, Ra. The man who stood before the balcony with the gold jewelry and crown with the eye of Ra was none other then the Pharaoh of Egypt himself.

His name was Atem. He had tri-colored hair that spiked out in a shape that most resembled a star. He had golden blond bangs in the front and black hair in the back with red cutting the edges. His deep violet eyes were filled with mystery. The Pharaoh sighed and turned away from his balcony. He walked over to the table beside his bed and grabbed a piece of jewelry off it.

In his hand he held a bracelet made of silver. In the center there was a diamond shaped like a heart. Atem clasped his hand over it and sighed some more, but this time there was sadness.

" I wish you were here with me, Seania," said Atem. He recalled the days with the beautiful girl he use to play with when he was young. She had long flowing black hair and the most beautiful emerald green eyes he 'd ever seen. His memories were cut short as a messenger walked in, knocking politely.

"My lord, I m sorry if I 'm interrupting anything important." The man paused and bowed respectfully. He waited patiently for a reply.

"No not at all. Please do continue, " said the Pharaoh politely.

"The commander of your guards wishes to speak to you in the grand throne room. That is all Pharaoh, " finished the man with a respectful bow. He paused again, waiting for orders.

" Thank you, and please tell him I will be there shortly. You 're dismissed," commanded the Pharaoh as he waved the man away.

"Oh yeah another day of being Pharaoh," said Atem to himself with a chuckle. " I just want something different to happen today. Please Ra, make my day more interesting." Atem smiled, slipped the silver bracelet on his wrist, and walked out of his bedchamber and into the great throne room.

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Poor Seania was thrown to the hard marble ground of the palace floor. It was cold against her cheek. Doors opened and the girl could hear footsteps.

"Your highness. What a pleasure to see you so well and happy today," said a man next to Seania.

"Ah, my good commander, what have you brought to me today that is worth my time, " asked Atem, staring at the person below him.

"Oh, yes. This girl was caught red-handed in the market today, stealing goods. Now as you know this is against the law and punishment will be made, but before you see what punishment, may I point out that we have had days in the market where a number of thieving has happened at a time, but the thief was never caught. So I think this little witch is either the thief of a number of raids or she is in league with the

head thief," finished the commander with pride in his eyes.

" I see, but you don't know if she was stealing or not. Were you there to witness this commander? " asked the Pharaoh, eyeing the girl closely.

Well no, but these men were. They said they saw her grab produce off an unoccupied stand, my lordship, " concluded the commander.

" I'm sorry my Pharaoh and promise never to do it again. Please have pity and mercy on my soul. I know that what I did was wrong, but don't punish me harshly for this," said Seania who was listening to the whole conversation with the Pharaoh and his commander.

" You will speak when spoken to," shouted the commander as he grabbed her hair and pushed her head down. She winced and glanced up at the Pharaoh. She froze as she gazed upon what she thought was a memory.

Atem froze too and stared in disbelief. In his eyes he too saw a repeat of the past, his childhood friend.

"Can it really be you, Seania?" asked Atem as he leaned forward in his throne, eyes searching for the answer in the girl's eyes.

" Can it really be you, Atem?" whispered Seania, her voice catching the commander's ear

"Didn't I just explain to you that you must hold your tongue you street rat," spat the commander coldly as he struck the poor girl. Her cheek stung with pain as she fell to the ground again.

Atem gasped as his eyes widened. He rose immediately and rushed down the small flight of steps to her. He glanced up at the guards and shouted, " Stop this at once! "The commander was speechless, as he froze in disbelief at the Pharaoh's sudden outburst.

" I'll take no more of this. Untie this woman now! I don't want you anywhere near her or her family. Is that understood?" ordered the Pharaoh.

" But your lordship I-" he was cut off by Atem who shot his hand up in silence.

" I don't want to hear anything from you commander. You have orders and I wish that you'd follow them," answered Atem, watching his commander scramble to untie Seania's bindings.

She got up and rubbed her wrists. The girl looked up at Atem and backed away slowly still in shell shock. Atem crouched down and reached a hand out, but Seania turned around and fled with mixed emotions of happiness, sadness, and confusion in her eyes.

" Wait Seania, come back," but Atem never finished. He sighed and sat back down on his throne. The commander still wide-eyed from the earlier outburst shook it off and boldly confronted the Pharaoh.

"My lordship, what do you want me to do now that the girl is gone?" asked the commander. Atem just sat rubbing his forehead in frustration. He looked at the open doors and sighed again.

" Just go back and train your men or whatever you were doing," answered Atem as he waved the soldiers away.

"Oh Ra, what am I going to do? "

## 2 - Reunited with the Past

Seania ran down the stairs that led to the entrance of the palace. Once at the bottom, Seania stopped. "What am I doing?" Seania said to herself in confusion. "I'm running away from someone I haven't seen in four years. My childhood friend, Atem. He was so nice to let me go and how do I repay him? I run away."

Seania thought some more, trying to unravel the knot of confusion in her mind. Why did she run away? Was she afraid that he was a ghost and would disappear if she lingered long? Everything was too confusing and frustrating for the poor girl. She had to make up her mind if she wanted to go and see Atem again or not.

Finally she decided and ran around to the west wall of the palace. She scanned the wall and spotted a large root looking vine hanging over the wall. Seania smiled and hurried over to the vine. Once she was on top of the wall, she got into the tree that the vine was attached to.

This tree brought back so many memories for Seania. When Atem and she were young, they would always climb over the wall and play in the market place. Seania smiled as she recalled those fond memories. She peered over into the palace garden, its flowers blooming in every color of the rainbow and reflecting the sun off their delicate petals. Pots and racks of flowers hung on standing pillars, draping over the sides. The garden was always beautiful in daytime and nighttime. Seania was about to get down when she heard a noise coming from the entrance to the garden. She ducked down into the tree and peered through the leaves at the garden below.

A man came running into the clearing and stopped to catch his breath. Seania's eyes widened with surprise to see that the man down there was Pharaoh Atem. He glanced around for a few seconds until his gaze fell back on the entrance he had just come through.

Noises echoed from the corridor, the sound of padding sandals and muffled giggling. Seania was puzzled by Atem's frantic expression. He glanced around once more and seemed to gaze right up to her. Her breath caught in her throat as he ran towards the tree.

"Did he see me already?" Seania thought, frightened. Why was she frightened? He was her friend, her best friend. It should be wonderful if he saw her. This was the back of her mind talking under all the fear. Before she knew it he hoisted himself in the tree. She pressed as far back as the trunk would allow her and closed her eyes, waiting for contact. He sat just in front of her, peering out through the twisted branches.

"I think he ran in here," said one of the three people that entered the garden. They were three women with beautiful dresses and jewelry. The sun that lit the garden reflected off the jewelry that hung from their necks, wrists, and earlobes.

"Are you sure he went in here?" asked another girl.

"Well he better be because I have to ask him if he'll marry me," stated the last of the three girls. Atem groaned and backed up a little. Seania pulled her legs to her body and watched the three girls with disgust.

"What makes you think he'll marry you, Anzu? What if he wants to marry me or Reaka," asked one of the girls.

"Yeah, Seta is right. He might marry any one of us. It might be you, Anzu, or it might be Seta, or even me," answered Reaka. Anzu grinned and let out a small chuckle.

"You girls are such fools. He won't marry you two because you don't know how to please him," explained Anzu as she took a seat next to the small fishpond. Seania's eyes narrowed and she gripped

her knees.

"What do you mean by please him?" asked Seta, puzzled.

"What I mean is you two are no competition for me. I 'm more rich and beautiful then you both combined. I 've had experience with men and know what they like. So don 't even bother trying to win Pharaoh Atem 's heart, because it' s already mine, " explained Anzu, flipping her short brown hair back with pride gleaming in her blue eyes.

Seania 's cheeks burned with anger. How could she know what men like and want? What did she mean when she said Atem 's heart was hers? And how could she call herself beautiful. All Seania saw was an ugly, lying, spoiled witch. She glanced over at the other two girls and read their expressions perfectly. They thought the same thing that Seania did.

"Let' s forget are little chat and keep looking for the Pharaoh. I know he 's in here somewhere," finished Anzu with a smirk of dominance. She stood up and walked passed the other two girls and began looking some more. Seta and Reaka snapped back to reality and began looking as well.

The girls separated across the garden and searched in all the bushes and behind the pillars. Reaka walked towards the tree and stood on her toes to peer inside. Atem quickly moved backwards and collided with Seania. She shrieked but quickly covered her mouth. He yelped as well and quickly turned around to gaze into Seania 's frightened eyes.

Atem stared bewildered at her, his mouth ajar. His eyes wandered up and down her, making sure she was real. He was about to reach out and touch her when he heard a snap. He quickly turned around and climbed up one more branch so Reaka couldn t see him. Seania was too far back to be seen. There was an echo in the corridor that caught all the girls attention.

" Did you hear that?" asked Seta, straining for the slightest bit of sound to come again.

" I think it was Atem. He' s running away again," said Reaka as she started for the entrance.

"Out of my way, low lives. I get to see him first," shouted Anzu coldly as she pushed her way to the front and ran towards the noise. Seania let out her held breath and looked up to see Atem gazing down at her fondly.

"It really is you isn' t it? " he asked softly, climbing down to the big branch she was on. Seania was lost for words. His gaze was so captivating it caused her to blush lightly, but she nodded. He reached out and gripped her hand gently, a smile forming on both their lips.

"How about we get out of this tree," he chuckled and jumped down. Reaching up, Atem lifted Seania by the waist down to his level. Seania looked deep in his eyes for what seemed like an eternity. Atem smiled back and gently brushed her cheek. Without hesitation Seania wrapped her arms around Atem 's neck and pulled him into a loving hug.

" I missed you so much, Atem," Seania whispered in his ear. " I thought you 'd forgotten about me." She pressed her face against his neck, taking in his warm scent. Atem returned the hug, burying his face in her soft hair and pulling her closer.

"How could I forget someone like you, Seania?" he laughed gently, stroking her hair. They pulled away and gazed into each other s eyes until Seania looked away, blushing again. He was so handsome since she saw him four years. He motioned for her to sit by the pond. She walked with him, still half dreaming.

"I missed you so much Seania. When my father passed on to the afterlife everything became stricter and more boring. Everyday I wished I could go back to the carefree times we spent in the market playing as little children. I had to grow up faster then I wanted to," sighed Atem. He dipped his fingers into the pond, admiring the small ripples it made.

" I 'm sorry, " Seania replied softly, also putting her fingers in the water. She twirled a design and watched the ripples melt into each other.

" Why are you saying sorry? It 's not your fault. You weren' t born into a royal family", Atem answered.

"But I feel like I can 't help you with this," she added.

"You're helping more than you know right now," Atem answered quickly, grabbing her hand. "You being here is enough for me to smile for days." Seania blushed and looked up shyly. "You know what's funny? I prayed to the gods this morning for something interesting to happen. I just didn't think that they'd bring you to me."

"Well aren't you a lucky man," Seania said with a laugh. She swiped her hand up and splashed water in his face. Atem stood up, eyes wide and jaw dropped.

"You dare soil the Pharaoh's clothes?" Atem asked jokingly.

"You're not the Pharaoh to me. You're just Atem, the boy I met ten years ago," answered Seania with a playful grin. Atem smiled widely and scooped up some water. "Oh no you don't!" shouted Seania as she ran across the garden. She glanced back at Atem and ran straight into something hard and fell on her butt.

"Ow," mumbled Seania as she looked up to see the roadblock. Icy blue eyes glared down at her. A tall man in priest robes stood before her, regaining his center of gravity. He had a small staff clutched in one hand.

"What is a peasant doing in the palace gardens?" he growled, bending down to pick up Seania by the arm.

"Wait! It's ok Seth, she's with me," Atem quickly intervened. He ran over and stood between Seania and Seth.

"Well tell her to leave, because you have more important manners to attend to. Meet me in the throne room," finished Seth as he turned around and quickly strode down the corridor.

"I'm so sorry to cut this visit short, but duty calls," Atem said sadly. "But I wish to see you later today."

He took Seania's hands in his and looked deep into her eyes. "Please?"

Seania giggled and averted her eyes shyly. "Of course. How about the market? Like old times," she offered. Atem's eyes sparkled with delight.

"Excellent. We'll meet by the jewelry stand. Where we first met," he answered. "I'll have some guards escort you out of you'd like?"

"No, that's ok. I can just leave the way I came in," Seania replied, glancing to the large tree.

"I will not have that. You will at least be escorted to the front doors. I won't have you climbing over walls and being mistaken for some thief," Atem answered, grabbing her hand and pulling her out of the garden.

"Wait, it's no trouble to . . ." but Seania didn't finish. She knew Atem wasn't going to budge and that made her smile. He still was over protective of her, even if it involved little things. "Ok I agree to go out the front doors but you have to take me there. I don't want to walk with some stranger."

Atem chuckled and gripped her hand tighter. "Of course, milady," he replied with a respectful bow. She blushed and followed him out to the front door. "Until later today," Atem said. He held her hand up to his lips and placed a light kiss on it. Chuckling at how red Seania's face was, Atem bowed once more and left to attend his duties.

Seania's heart was fluttering and waves of emotion were sweeping her off her feet, but this time the emotions were positive. She smiled widely and skipped back to her house. Seeing Atem again was almost too overwhelming and the fact that he was unbelievably handsome. So much better than the boy she met ten years ago. Even though they were seven back then she still liked the Atem she knew now. These were going to be the longest hours of the day for Seania as she waited to meet him in the market.

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Atem walked back into the palace with his heart pumping. He couldn't believe Ra reunited him with her, his long lost friend, and first love. She was so beautiful and all grown up. He smiled to himself every time



her blushing face flashed through his memory. Not looking where he was walking, Atem bumped right into Seth.

"Excuse me, milord. I was not paying attention," Seth explained as he bowed. Atem snapped back to reality and glanced up at Seth as he rose to his full height.

"I'm sorry Seth. It's my fault. What was it that you wanted to ask me about?" asked Atem politely. Seth's gaze softened and the corner of his mouth curved up in a small grin.

"I guess it can wait. You seem to have a lot on your mind. Do you want to talk about it?" he asked. Atem scratched that back of his head in thought and then smiled again.

"I wouldn't want to bore you with my personal life, Seth. Besides you seemed really keen on telling me something earlier. Let's get to it." Seth smiled and outstretched his arm down the hallway, giving Atem a direction to walk in.

"It's about the recent attention to a number of raids on the outskirts of your city. They've begun to slowly travel inwards and some are becoming dangerously close to your palace," Seth explained as they walked the halls of the palace.

"Yes it is getting quite suspicious. I'm wondering if . . . no. I don't think so," Atem pondered, stopping for a moment to collect his thoughts.

"You're not suggesting that its-"

"Maybe, but I'm not entirely sure. He hasn't been spotted for some time. Well not since my father's death at least. I wonder if he's planning something?" Atem began to walk again and the two were silent, deep in thought until they turned the corner.

"There you are!" shouted a woman as she ran towards Atem. She threw her arms around him and squeezed him tightly. Extremely confused and irritated, Atem pulled free from the embrace and looked over the woman. It was princess Anzu from before in the garden when he was running away from her. The Pharaoh frowned and sighed.

"What is it that you want milady?" Anzu smiled sweetly and then turned to Seth with a frown.

"Leave us priest. We need to be alone," she barked as she gripped Atem's hand and pulled him over. Seth bowed respectfully but shot the bratty princess an icy glare before leaving, a dark cloud of irritation looming over him. "Oh Atem I've been looking for you everywhere. This place is so big, but of course it has to be because you're the Pharaoh," she laughed, pulling him even closer.

Atem looked away, not wanting to look into her eyes, afraid that she'd paralyze him somehow with witchcraft. "What is it that you needed me for?" he growled irritated.

"Oh honey, why would you ask such a silly question like that? To spend time with you of course! So what are we going to do?" she asked, now hugging his arm. Atem hated women like this that thought he was in love with her or something. Seania was so much different than her. The thought of her made Atem smile and forget about Anzu for at least two seconds, until she tugged on his arm impatiently.

"How about we go to the marketplace. There's a new import on jewelry that I think you'll like," he said, pulling her towards the stables where the palanquin was. She smiled and followed eagerly. Hopefully once they were in the market, Atem could escape and find Seania. He did not want to spend one more minute with this brat.