

Title-page

tp-ḥšb n ḥi-t m ḥ-t rḥ nt-t nb-t snk-t šti-t nb-t iw² išt grt šphr-n-tw
Accurate reckoning¹ of entering into things, knowledge of existing things all, mysteries . . . secrets all. Now was copied

šfdw pn m ḥi-t-sp 33 ibd³ 4 ḥ-[t] by-ty 'i-wšr-R'⁵
book this in year 33, month four of the inundation⁴-season [under the majesty of the] King of [Upper and] Lower Egypt, 'A-user-Ré',

dy 'nḥ m snt r šš n išt-ir m ḥiw [ny-]šw-t [Ny-mi]'t-[R']⁶ in
endowed with life, in likeness to writings of old made in the time of the King of Upper [and Lower] Egypt, [Ne-ma]'et-[Ré'] Lo

sš i'ḥ-mšw šphr snn pn
the scribe A'ḥ-mosè writes copy this.

¹ Literally: "head of reckoning," i.e. approved reckoning.

² This is a verb meaning "to be," which is sometimes used as a kind of auxiliary followed by the principal verb, in this case šphr. It is best left untranslated here.

³ There is some evidence that the word for month is to be read ibd.

⁴ The *Akhet* is the first of the three seasons of the Egyptian year. It has been generally assumed that it was the season of inundation, partly because of the meaning of a word with a similar stem and partly because of the general belief that the Egyptian year originally began with the rise of the Nile. This view is set forth above, volume 1, page 44. However, the meanings of the names of the seasons are still uncertain, and it has been suggested that the New Year may originally have been placed in October, when the inundation begins to subside and the first quickly-growing crops are beginning to germinate, and that the *Siōm*, rather than the *Akhet*, was the season of the inundation.

⁵ In proper names compounded with divine names the divine name (in this case written with the sun-disk) is usually, as a mark of honor, placed first, whether it is to be read first or not. This name appears to mean "Great-of-strength-is-Ré," but the syntax of the phrases and sentences often used as names by the ancient Egyptians, is not always clear.

⁶ This name may perhaps be rendered, "He-who-belongs-to-the-truth-of-Ré." This is the so-called "praenomen" or "throne-name" of Amen-em-hêt III (see volume 1, page 1). The name of the scribe means, "A'ḥ (the moon-god)-is-born."

TITLE-PAGE

n sⁱ w t nⁱ y m h 3 w

h p s m m w t s f d w p n m -t.3h p s 33 d bⁱ 4 .h³

m .b l -p^t b s h m n .3 h t n b n t r .b n t s n m .k t

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t i n s s -h c i w s m n h p s s n p n

y t y b (R -3 (-n s w h nⁱ y d m s n t n s s

s t .3 t .b n t w i s i t g n t

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