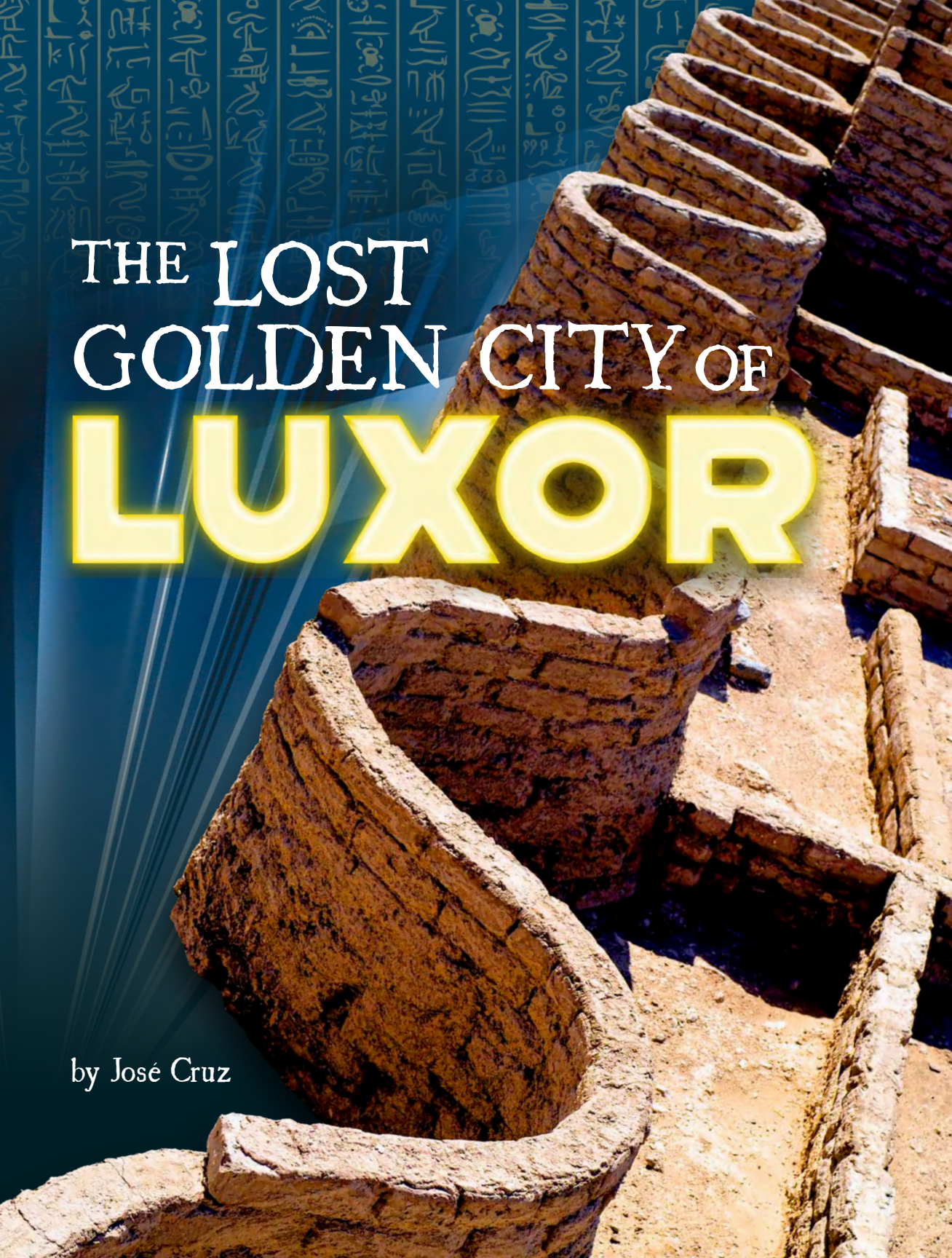




THE LOST GOLDEN CITY OF **LUXOR**

by José Cruz

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Words in **bold** are in the glossary.

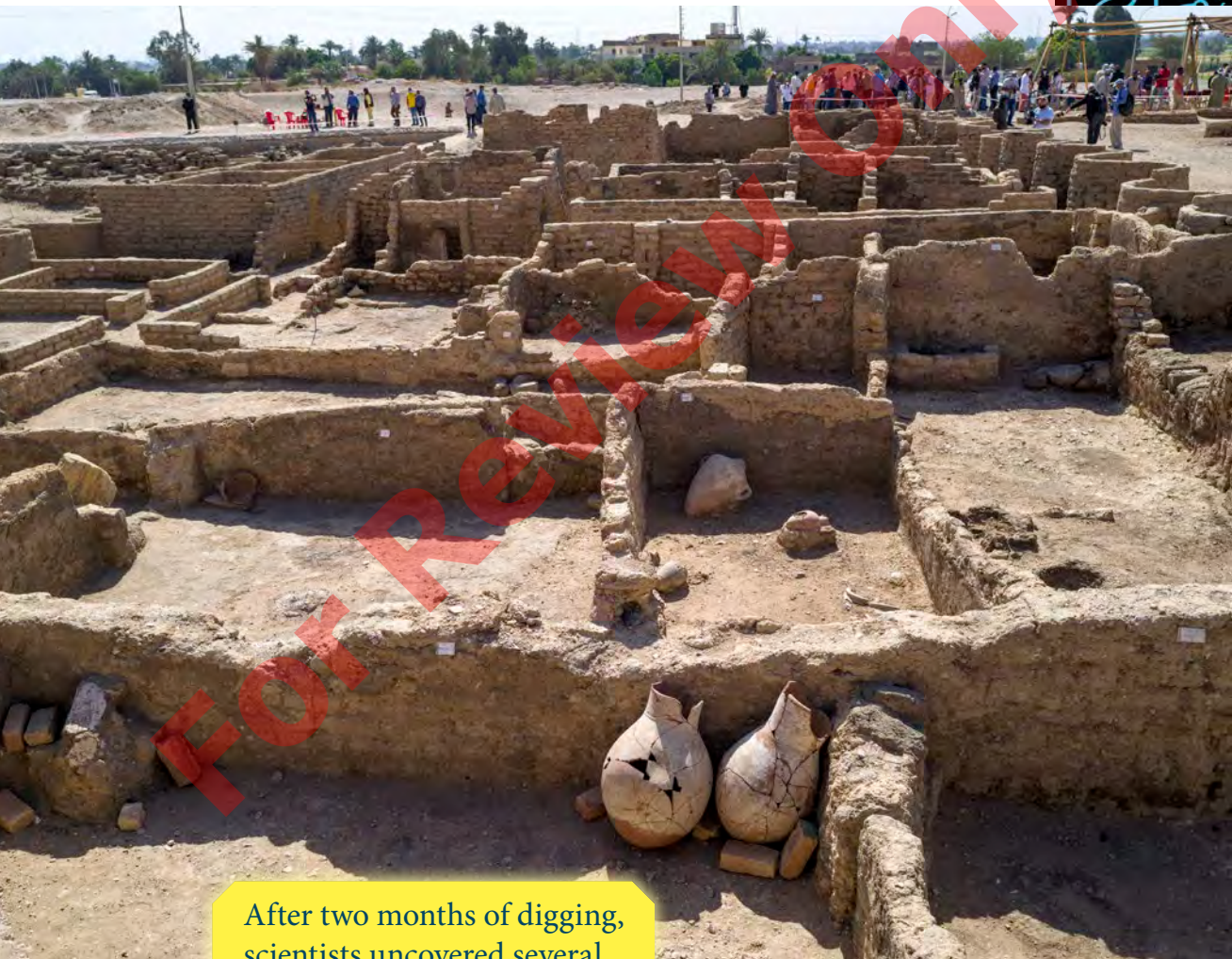
CITY IN THE SAND

Deep within the blazing sands of Egypt, an amazing discovery has been made.

Looming walls tower over a tireless team of **archaeologists**. Another wall twists around the others like a coiled snake. Workers haul away **artifacts** such as buried treasure. Although the city is thousands of years old, it seems trapped in time.

What is this incredible place? It is the lost golden city of Luxor. This 3,400-year-old **metropolis** was uncovered by modern science. Historians say it is the second-most important discovery since the tomb of Tutankhamen, the famous boy **pharaoh**.

With every grain of sand that gets removed, it is clear that history is still not settled. There is always plenty that could change the way historians understand ancient Egypt.



After two months of digging, scientists uncovered several ancient neighborhoods.



Chapter 1

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ANCIENT EGYPT

The period known as ancient Egypt began around 3100 BCE. It was during this time that Egypt became unified as a country. It was ruled by Narmer, also known as Menes. His success and power was aided by the Nile River.

Ancient Egypt was divided into Lower Egypt and Upper Egypt.



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The Fall of an Empire

Throughout the years, ancient Egypt warred. Sometimes it won. But it was also conquered. After the rise of the Roman Empire, the native religion and language of ancient Egypt began to decline. The fall of the Roman Empire and more fighting brought an end to ancient Egypt around 395 CE.

The ancient Egyptians may be gone, but their monuments, like Karnak Temple, still remain.



The ancient Egyptians lived on through the things they left behind. Pieces of history, such as pyramids and **hieroglyphic** art, are physical proof of their existence. Mummified remains have given researchers a glimpse of everyday life. In some cases, whole parts of cities have been uncovered. The lost golden city of Luxor became the latest of these when it was discovered in 2020.

What was the purpose of this city? Why was it abandoned? And, perhaps most importantly, what happened to it? Like detectives solving a mystery, a team of archaeologists and other experts are working to discover these answers.

Ancient people used stone and mud bricks to build their homes.



CITY TIMELINE

CIRCA 1386-1353 BCE: The city of Aten is built.

1336 BCE: Akhenaten abandons the city of Aten.

1934 AND 1935: French archaeologists attempt to discover Aten.

2020: Egyptian expedition begins to excavate Aten.

2021: Egyptian expedition confirms discovery.

