

# THE GOLDEN THRONE OF KING TUT

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Now on display in National Museum of Egypt in Cairo, the 3,340 year-old artistic masterpiece of Pharaoh Tutankhamun and his wife Ankhesenamun portrayed on facing back of the king's throne chair was discovered by archaeologist Howard Carter in 1922.

I was stunned beyond words when I first saw it in 1971, and every time I've seen it since, I'm shocked into the same state of awe. It's not simply the sheer beauty of the blue lapis lazuli, the red carnelian, the silver and the solid gold plate, nor the breathtaking skill of artistry. It's that the scene is so profoundly, so touchingly human. As she gently rubs oil on to his arms, they are looking into each other's eyes with the tenderness of love.

This is not some God-King high and mighty ruler and haughty Queen far above their lowly subjects, but a very human man and wife in love. This golden throne speaks to us from 33 centuries ago that back then people were people like us. Our connection to history is our common humanity. I hope someday you will be able to see the Golden Throne of King Tut in Cairo, and be in awe of it for yourself. (*Glimpses of Our Breathtaking World #168* photo ©Jack Wheeler)

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