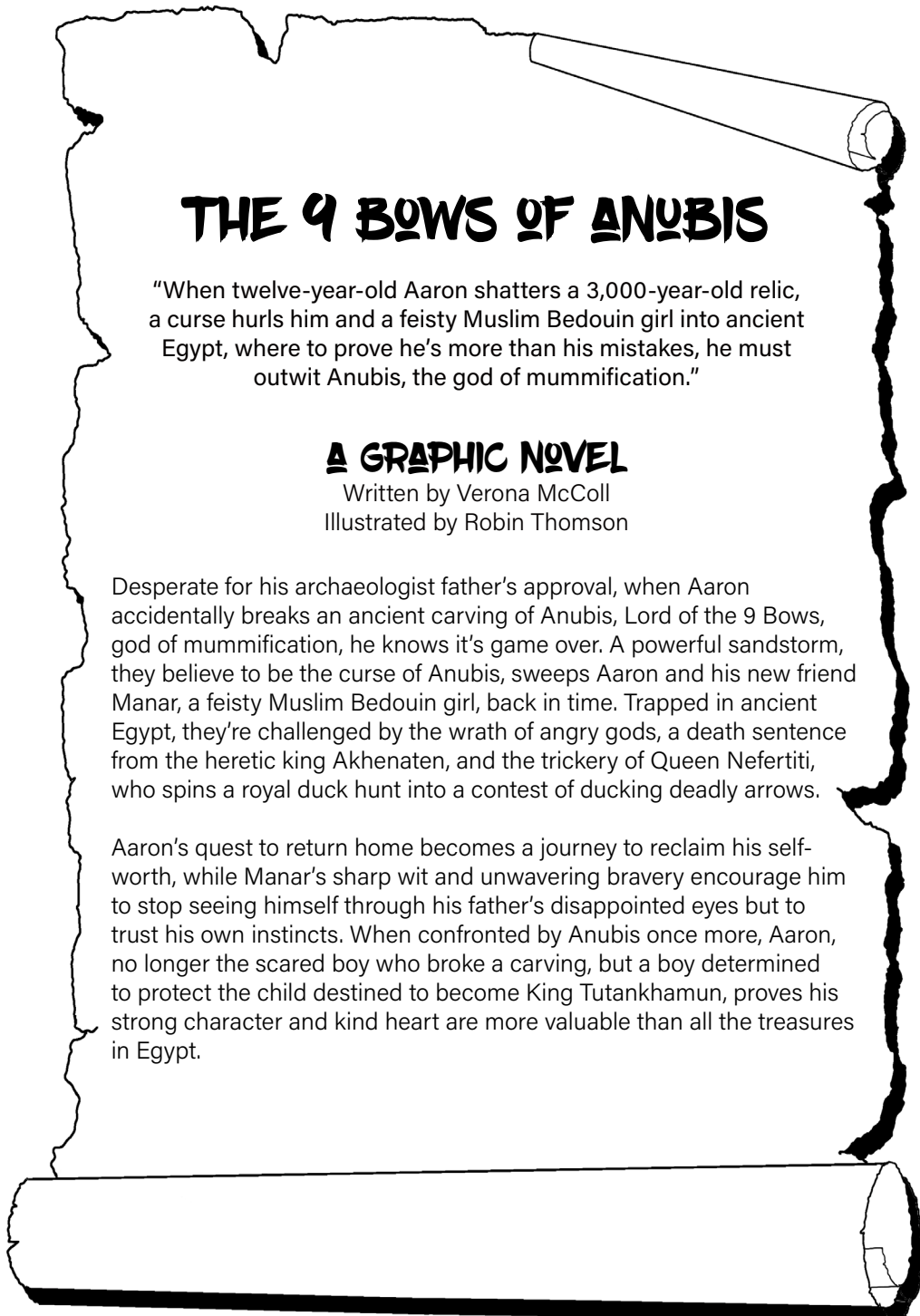




# THE 9 BOWS OF ANUBIS

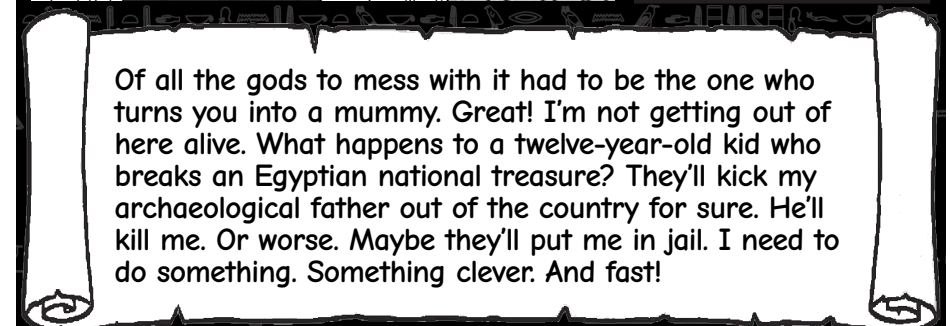
"When twelve-year-old Aaron shatters a 3,000-year-old relic, a curse hurls him and a feisty Muslim Bedouin girl into ancient Egypt, where to prove he's more than his mistakes, he must outwit Anubis, the god of mummification."

## A GRAPHIC NOVEL

Written by Verona McColl  
Illustrated by Robin Thomson

Desperate for his archaeologist father's approval, when Aaron accidentally breaks an ancient carving of Anubis, Lord of the 9 Bows, god of mummification, he knows it's game over. A powerful sandstorm, they believe to be the curse of Anubis, sweeps Aaron and his new friend Manar, a feisty Muslim Bedouin girl, back in time. Trapped in ancient Egypt, they're challenged by the wrath of angry gods, a death sentence from the heretic king Akhenaten, and the trickery of Queen Nefertiti, who spins a royal duck hunt into a contest of ducking deadly arrows.

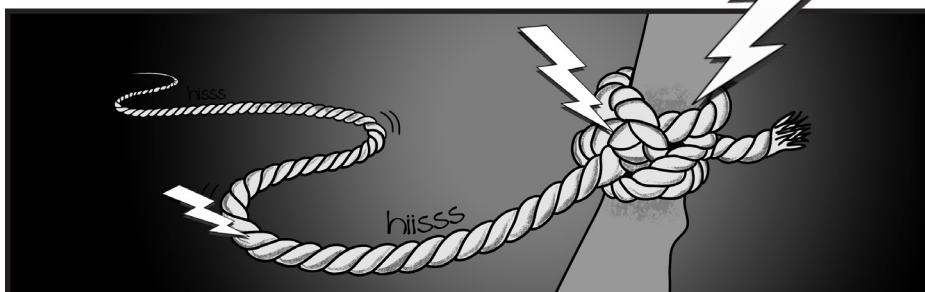
Aaron's quest to return home becomes a journey to reclaim his self-worth, while Manar's sharp wit and unwavering bravery encourage him to stop seeing himself through his father's disappointed eyes but to trust his own instincts. When confronted by Anubis once more, Aaron, no longer the scared boy who broke a carving, but a boy determined to protect the child destined to become King Tutankhamun, proves his strong character and kind heart are more valuable than all the treasures in Egypt.







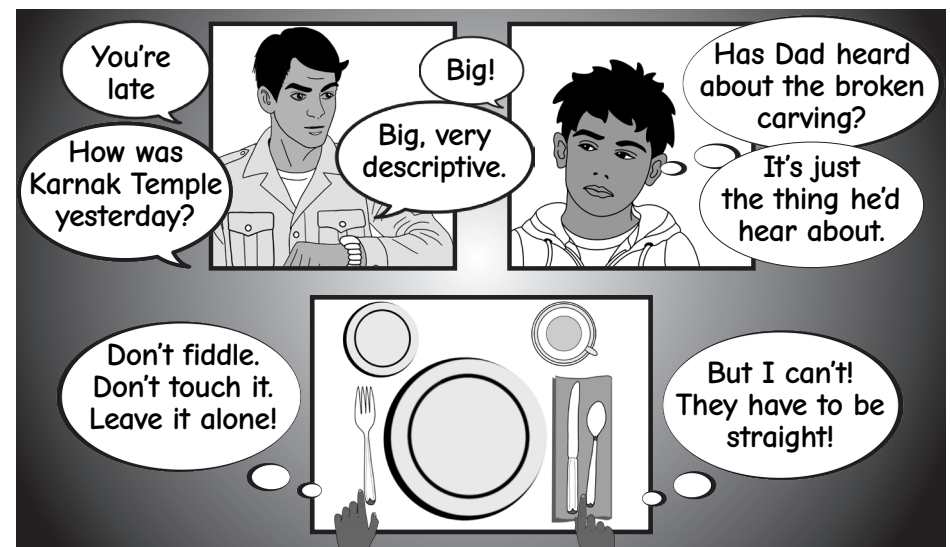
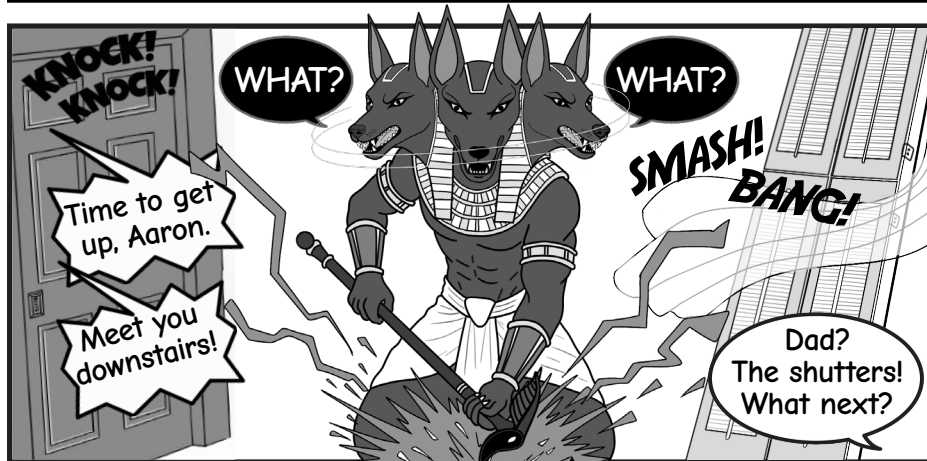
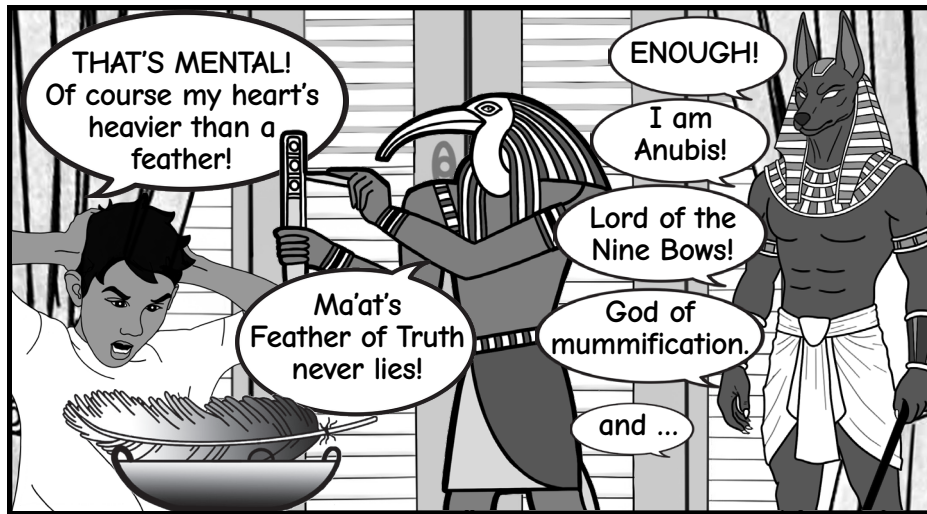
Anubis yanked me from my bed and dragged me across the room. A thick rope slithered across the floor and tied itself around my leg, bolting me upright with an electrical shock, and burnt into my ankle.

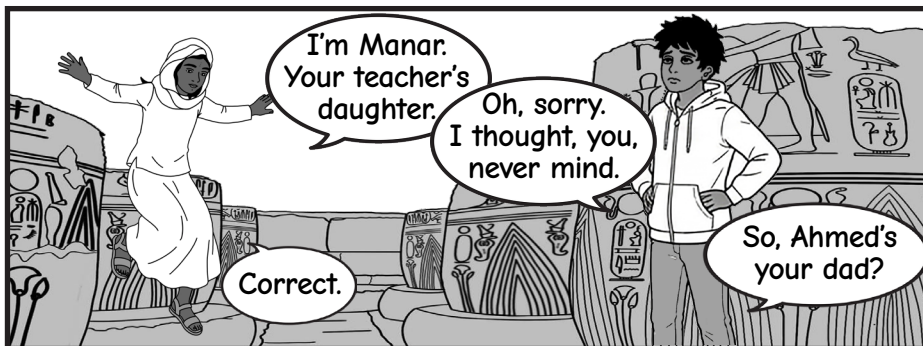


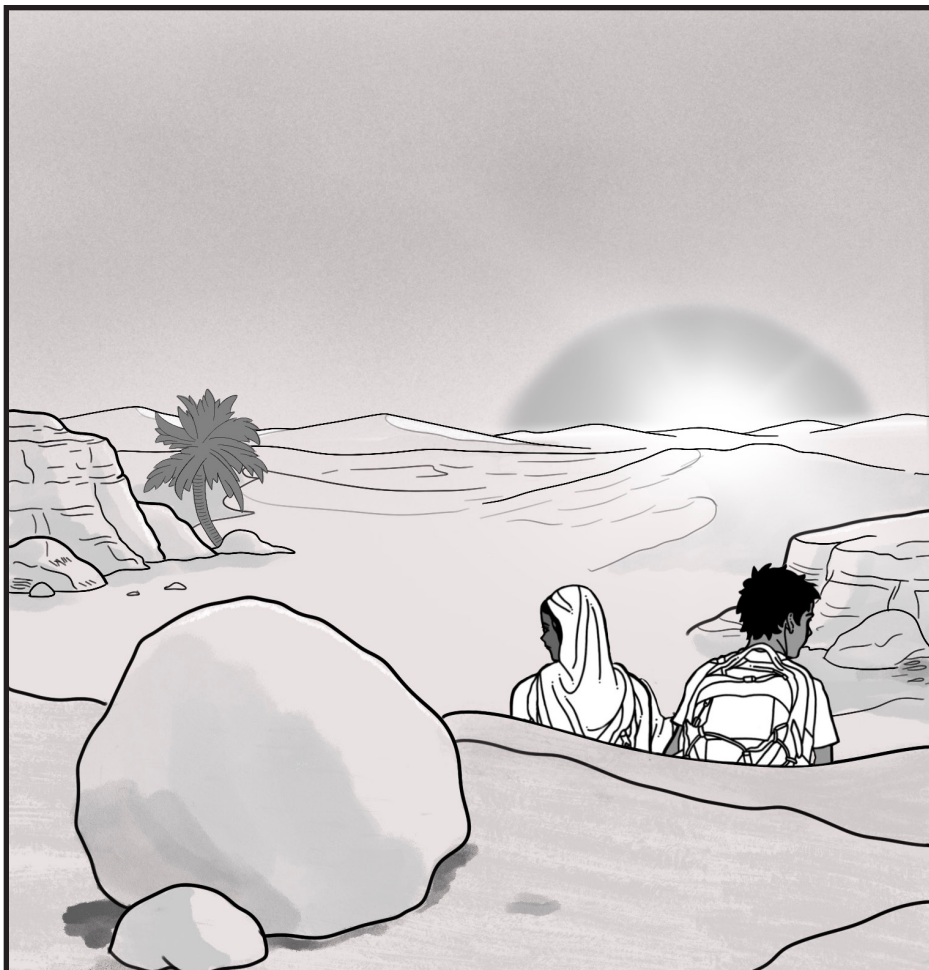
The candle lit up a winged goddess. She flapped her silver wings that screeched like talons dragged down a chalkboard. I clamped my teeth together.

"Well, intruder, thief, relic hunter disguised as a young boy," said the goddess. "What is your business in Egypt? Who sent you here to steal the treasures of Anubis? I will weight your heart against my feather of truth."









"Egypt sure has barren wasteland covered," I said, taking in the landscape.

"Other than a few metres of fertile land on either side of the Nile River, this entire country is, as you say, a barren wasteland," said Manar. "But I am Bedouin. I do not see barren. I do not see a wasteland.

Instead, I see date palms that offer delicious, sweet, and sticky treats, life-saving oases with water that gushes from the earth, and animal tracks in the sand that mean food. I see rocks with ancient messages. There are millions of colours, from bright white to dark chocolate, and more shades of yellow than have names. Where you see barren, I see life. I see home."

## THE 9 BOWS OF ANUBIS

**'THE 9 BOWS OF ANUBIS'** a middle-grade graphic novel, is the first in a four-book series, 'The Accidental Archaeologists' (written but not published), following the misadventures of Aaron and Manar as they grow up while surviving ancient civilisations.

**Format:** Approx. 120 pages, 6" x 9", 8 sequential pages included plus several highlights from other chapters in our own strong black and white graphic design reflecting an authentic Ancient Egyptian style.

**Genre:** Children's: Adventure, Historical Fiction, Time-Travel, Family Issues, Forming Friendships, Growing Up.

**Target readers:** Middle-grade, 8-12 years, fans of Percy Jackson, Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales, and the Time Chaser series.

**Creative Team:** 'Black Sheep Storytellers' comprising author Verona McColl and her cousin, artist Robin Thomson. Robin engages two live models for the protagonists to bring a lifelike quality to her subjects. Every panel drawn by hand using Procreate, Photoshop, and/or Illustrator, written in Word (ProWritingAid installed for basic editing) and formatted in InDesign.

**Social media:** With a strong social media presence, we have quizzes, translating your name into hieroglyphics, book readings, free downloads, trailers and give-aways to appeal to the middle-grade gatekeepers.

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**Digital character creation - Robin Thomson**

<https://youtube.com/shorts/cLBUQHwTeyw?feature=share>