

# Mummy!

Ancient Egyptians of long ago  
liked to look after their dead.

They wrapped the body in bandages,  
from feet right to their head.

Before all this they had to hook  
the brain from up the nose.

They bashed and whisked and stirred it  
into a goo that runs and flows.

They cut the body to get inside;  
to rip out liver and lung;  
the stomach, the guts; the nasty bits -  
in canopic jars they slung.

The heart they left: Egyptians thought  
the core of mind and soul.  
It stayed in there, the kidneys too,  
and washed the body whole.

It then was cleaned with wine and spice  
and stuffed to seem like real  
they dried it out with natron salt -  
that's not the end of the deal.

That's the time for bandages;  
wrapping the mummy up tight  
with amulets, gifts and goods,  
and jewels that sparkle bright.

The mummy was laid in a sarcophagus:  
a coffin that's rather grand,  
set for the afterlife; weighing the heart;  
they're judged for the promised land.

Met by Osiris, the underworld God,  
the heart was weighed for sin -  
the heavy ones were eaten up,  
but good ones made it in!



1. What verbs describe what the Egyptians did to the brain?

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2. Which parts of the body were left inside before the mummy was washed?

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3. 'A coffin that's rather grand'. What does 'grand' mean here?

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4. Look at the final line: 'but the good ones made it in!' What do you think this means?

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