

Mummification of a Stuffed Bear and a Cornish Game Hen

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The Mummification of a Stuffed Bear



This stuffed bear was given the Egyptian name Baktre.



Baktre when he was alive.



The first step in mummifying is to pour palm wine over the body. White wine was used here.



The second step is to remove the brain.



The third step is to make a cut in the left side to get the organs out.



Baktre's organs were removed through the opening.



Baktre's organs were put in canopic jars and were covered with natron. Natron is a mixture of baking soda and table salt.



The next step is to put natron filled bags inside the body.



The body is then covered in natron.





Baktre was left to sit in natron for 40 days.



The bags of natron were removed.



A piece of linen was inserted to make the body lifelike.



Arms and legs were wrapped first. A piece of metal was put on the cut.



Baktre's photograph after one layer of linen wrapping.



An ankh was placed in the wrappings.



Ancient Egyptians also put scarabs and jewels in the wrappings.



Ancient Egyptians used resin to hold the wrappings in place, but we used Elmer's glue instead. Egyptians would have crossed the arms over the chest for royal mummies or tied the wrists together in front for a commoner. Baktre's arms weren't flexible enough or long enough to reach together.

After the linen wrappings were finished, Egyptians encased the mummy in a shroud and tied linen straps to hold it on.



After the organs sat in natron for forty days, linen was tied around them and they were put in canopic jars which were made to look like the four sons of the Egyptian god Horus.

| <u>Animal</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Organ</u> |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Baboon | Imset | Liver |
| Falcon | Hapy | Lungs |
| Human | Qebehsenuf | Intestines |
| Wolf | Duamutef | Stomach |

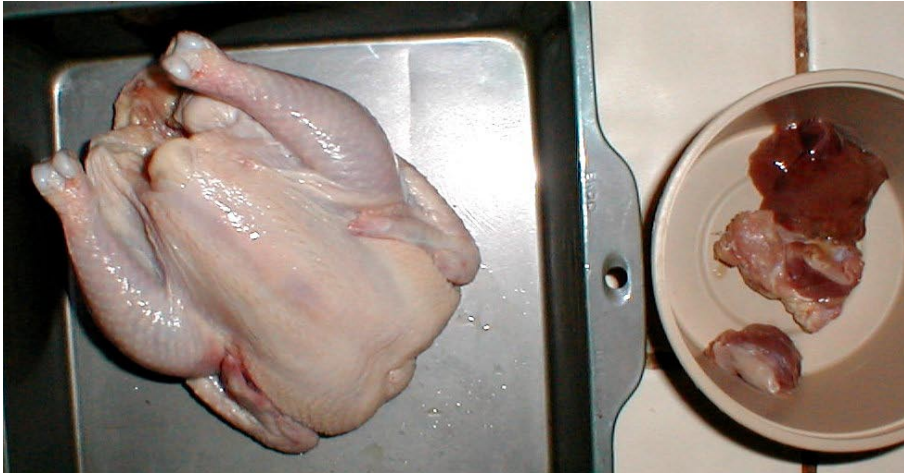
The Mummification of a Cornish Game Hen



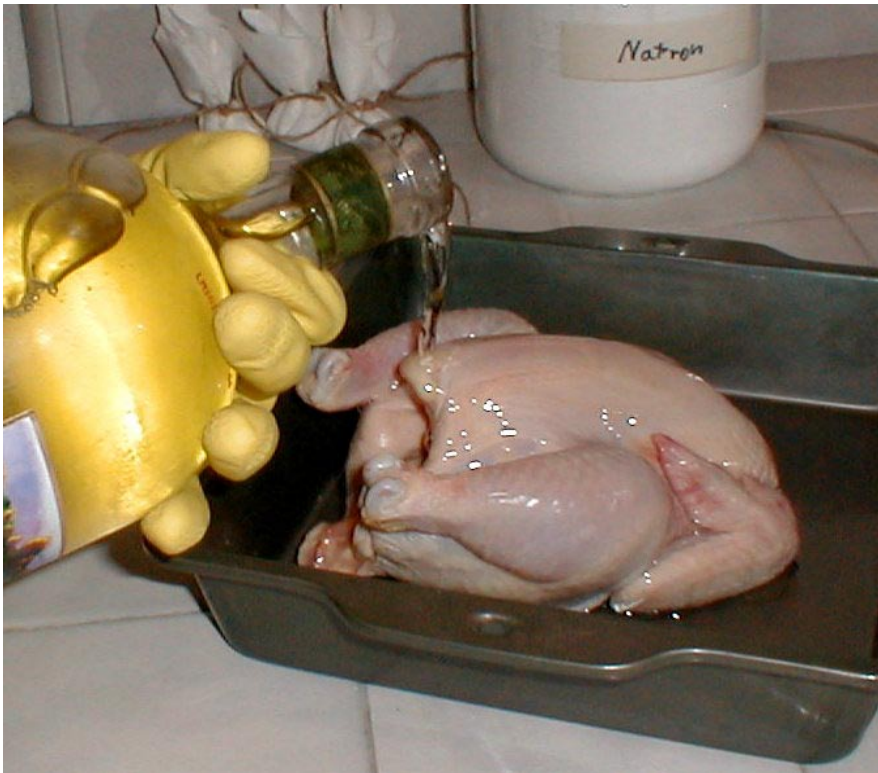
Menwi after coming home from the grocery store.



Menwi unwrapped.



Menwi with organs removed.



Menwi is washed with white wine.



Menwi with natron bags being inserted.



Menwi and her organs are being covered in natron. The natron was made with $\frac{2}{3}$ baking soda and $\frac{1}{3}$ table salt. There was some smell, but no rotting smell during the natron treatment. After two weeks her natron was changed. Menwi was almost completely dry after two weeks.



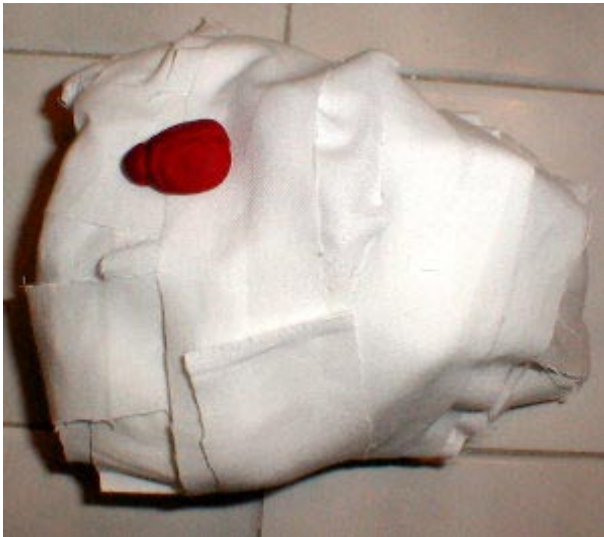
Menwi and her organs after 40 days in natron. The reason Egyptians put fragrant oils and spices on mummies was probably that mummies have a slight odor after sitting in natron. Menwi did. She was dry and hard.



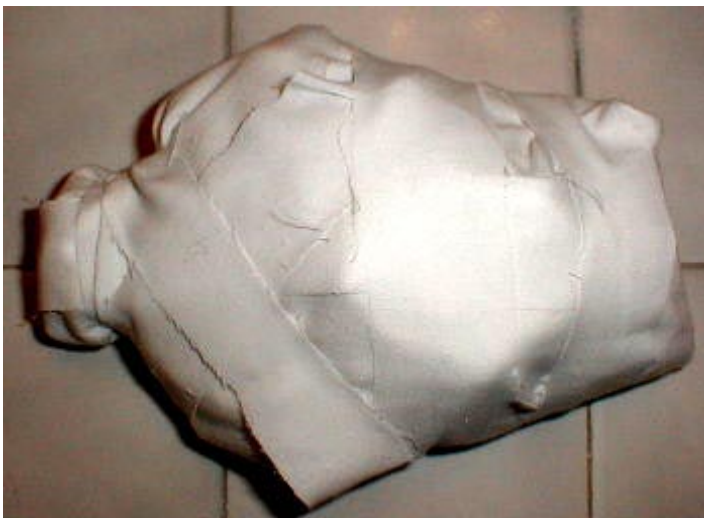
In later Egyptian times the organs were wrapped and placed back inside the body. That's what was done here.



Her wings and legs were wrapped first. The arms of a real mummy would have been repositioned during wrapping, however Menwi's wings were very stiff. It must have been difficult to move the arms of a mummy.



The scarab and the ankh were placed in the wrappings. Only the scarab is visible here.



Menwi wrapped in her shroud. When body parts were missing from a mummy Egyptians used wooden substitutes to make the final mummy look whole. Rolled linen was used here to give her a head.

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