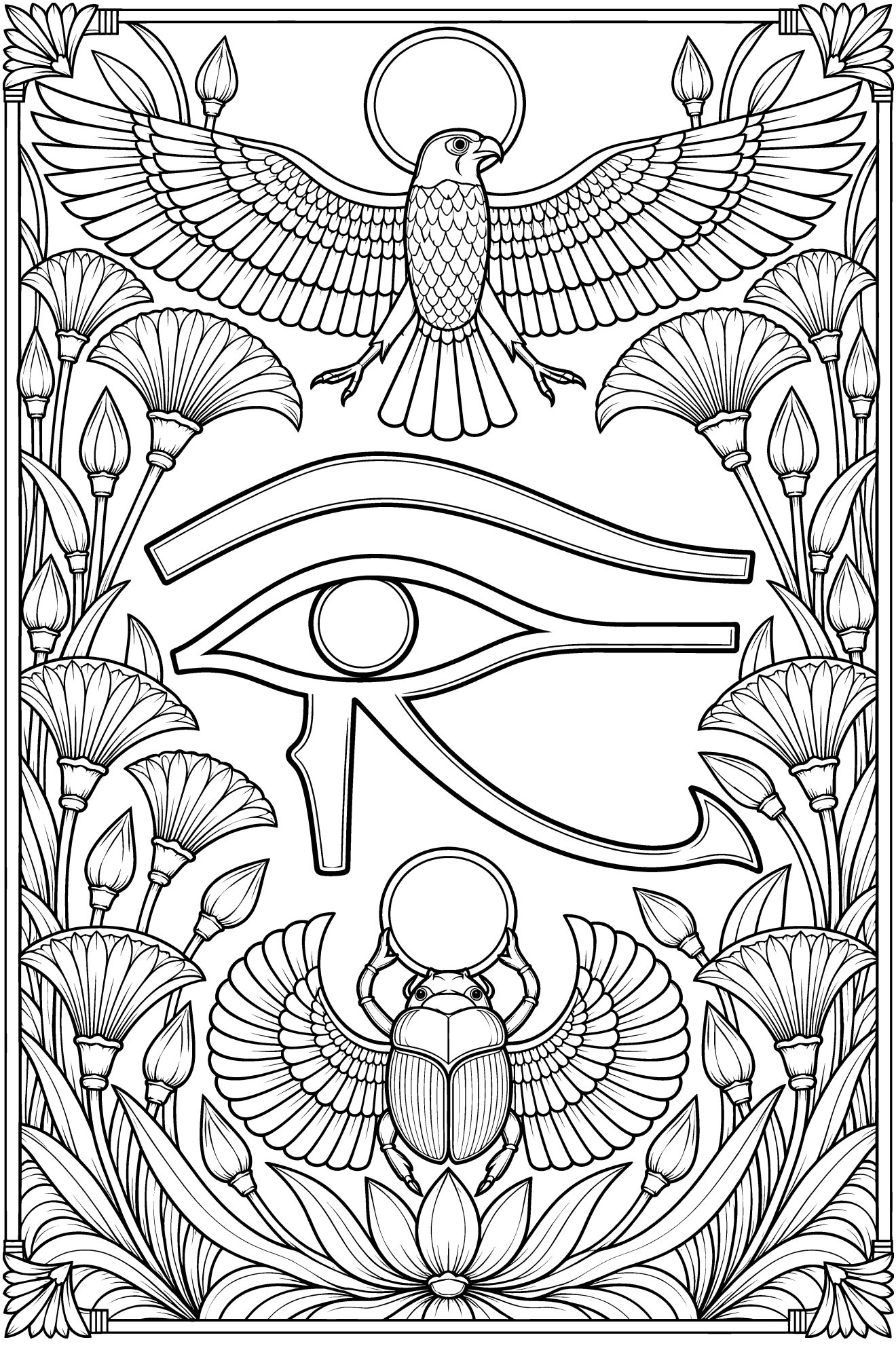
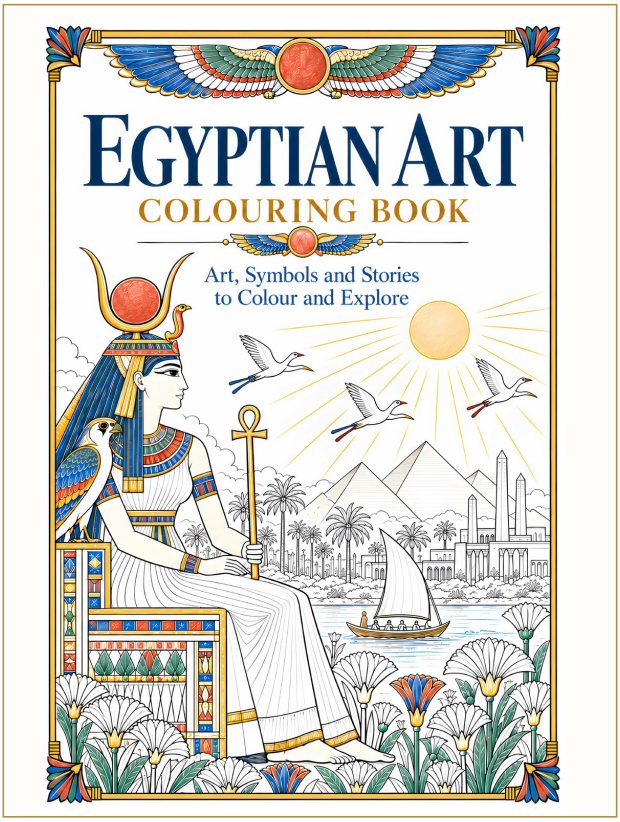


THE EYE OF HORUS

During their long fight for Egypt's throne, Set tore out one of Horus's eyes. Thoth, the god of wisdom, healed it, and the restored eye became a symbol of protection and of being made whole again. It was one of the most popular lucky charms in ancient Egypt, worn by the living and tucked into the wrappings of mummies. Horus was a falcon god, and the line and curl beneath the eye are copied from the dark markings on a falcon's face – compare it with the falcon above. Below, a winged beetle pushes the sun into the sky, another sign of renewal. You may read that each part of the eye stood for a fraction used in measuring; it is a charming idea, but most experts now doubt it. Eye of Horus charms were often made of a glazed blue-green ceramic called faience, so turquoise, deep blue and green are the most authentic colours.

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