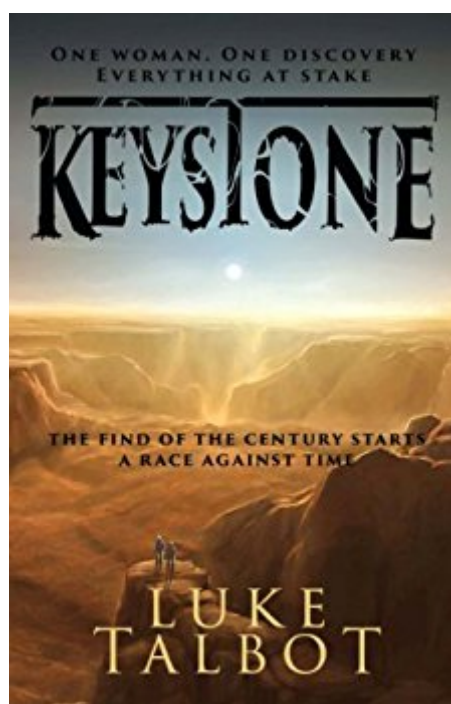


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# Keystone



## Synopsis

#1 Bestseller from debut author Luke Talbot. Get it now on special offer and see why readers across the world just can't put *Keystone* down!

**SHORT DESCRIPTION** One woman. One discovery. Everything at stake. When Gail Turner discovers an ancient library under the sands of Egypt, she hopes it will get her closer to uncovering the mystery of Queen Nefertiti. Instead, it pits her in a race for the truth against the ruthless Seth Mallus that will push humanity to the very edge of existence.

**SYNOPSIS** Something is hidden beneath the shifting sands of Middle Egypt, and its discovery will bring humanity to the edge of oblivion. Archaeologist Gail Turner stumbles upon the most incredible find in living memory, a find that the ruthless Seth Mallus will do anything to get hold of. Caught up in a web of deceit, kidnapping and murder, Gail struggles to unravel the mystery of the Amarna Stickman as the world around her descends into chaos. With startling data from NASA raising more questions than answers, she is ultimately faced with a revelation that shatters everything she thinks she knows, and who she is.

**PRAISE FOR KEYSTONE** "What a read. The first half sets things up nicely but without giving up enough to see what's coming. The second half just moved along at such a pace I had difficulty getting things like childcare and dinner done. Small nods to influences and other fictions ground the book in a reality I know and I love (in the way Tarantino refers to pop culture and even his other films). In a world of perpetual pigeon-holing and 'if you liked this you may like this' *Keystone* resists this as so much is in there. Having said that, if you insist on a comparison I'd go for a tasty mix of Clive Cussler and Arthur C Clarke, which can't be bad." -- Review

"I could not stop reading it and was totally hooked at the end which climaxed wonderfully." -- Review

"Luke Talbot's skills as a story teller bring the world of the near future to extraordinary life. Moreover, in *Gail Turner* he has created a heroine for the 21st century." -- Review

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Luke Talbot has promise as a writer. This book is full of great ideas, some very well written passages, yet doesn't feel, to this reviewer, like a complete novel. It begins in Ancient Egypt 1337 BCE, quickly shifts to the future â " June of 2036, and then jumps further into the future, which, for most of the novel, is present day. It also jumps settings from Ancient Egypt, to England, to modern America, to a spaceship traveling to Mars, to landing on Mars, and back to America, England, France and back to modern Egypt. The final part, Part 7, takes place back in Egypt, in the Winter of 2063. In fact, the Epilogue, which depicts the death of one of the major protagonists in the space of about one-half of a page, is possibly the best written paragraph in the book. I admit I cried. (Please believe me, that was NOT a spoiler.) The plot involves the discovery of evidence of a civilization on Earth, much longer ago than was thought to be the case. More evidence is found on Mars, but only a few on Earth would ever learn of that find. At the end of the text, in an "Author's Note," Luke Talbot thanks his proof readers for their efforts and his parents among them, for their struggle to remain "unbiased." Here's the problem, a better proof-reader/editor, would have likely caught the few grammatical mistakes that remain, and would, I believe, have told Mr. Talbot to go back, take his time and write a trilogy, or a space opera, or whatever. The unfortunate aspect, for me, is that this book is FULL of good ideas, and is the OUTLINE of a great story arc, but has sadly been crammed into one volume. For me, the result is choppy, and as a reader, I found it hard to become attached to any of the characters in any meaningful way.

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