## CLEOPATRA

## PHARAOH

nce upon a time, in ancient Egypt, a pharaoh died and left his kingdom to his ten-year-old son, Ptolemy XIII and to his eighteen-year-old daughter Cleopatra.

The two had such different ideas on how to run the country that soon Cleopatra was kicked out of the palace and a civil war broke out.

Julius Caesar, the emperor of Rome, traveled to Egypt to help Cleopatra and Ptolemy find an agreement. "If only I could meet Caesar before my brother does," Cleopatra thought "I could convince him that I'm the better pharaoh." But she had been banished from the Palace. The guards would have blocked her at the entrance.

Cleopatra asked her servants to roll her up inside a carpet and to smuggle her into Caesar's rooms. Impressed by her daring, Caesar restored Cleopatra to the throne. They became a couple and had a son. Cleopatra moved to Rome but then Caesar was killed, so she went back to Egypt.

The new Roman leader, Marc Antony, had heard a lot about this strong Egyptian queen and wanted to meet her. This time, she arrived on a golden barge, surrounded by precious jewels and silk.

It was love at first sight.

Cleopatra and Marc Antony were inseparable. They had three children and loved each other to the end of their lives.

When Cleopatra died, the empire ended with her. She was the last pharaoh to rule Ancient Egypt.

69 B.C.-AUGUST 12, 30 B.C.

