



The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe / The Magician's Nephew

C.S. Lewis

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The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe / The Magician's Nephew Details

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From Reader Review The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe / The Magician's Nephew for online ebook

Matthew Mccann says

Continuing with my review of all things Narnian, the second book in the saga, even though it was the first book to be published (please see my review of 'The Magician's Nephew' where I discuss the chronology of Narnia (the published order being: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe; Prince Caspian: the Return to Narnia; The Voyage of the Dawn Treader; The Silver Chair; The Horse and His Boy; The Magician's Nephew; and The Last Battle)), I shall now review 'The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe'. This is possibly the most famous of the Narnia books.

We start with four children whose names are: Peter; Susan; Edmund; and Lucy Pevensie. They have been evacuated from London during the blitz and sent to live with Professor Kirke, whom we met in the aforementioned 'The Magician's Nephew', in his stately home. Whilst the children are exploring the house Lucy stumbles up a room which is completely empty, except for a wardrobe. With curiosity getting the better of her, she decides to open the wardrobe and step inside. In the wardrobe there are massive fur coats, however as she ventures deeper and deeper into the wardrobe, she comes across a forest, and it is snowing.

As she begins to explore her new surroundings she encounters a new character, a creature called a fawn. His name is Mr Tomnas, she befriends the fawn and they go back to his cave, where they have tea together. After some time has passed Mr Tomnas reveals that he has betrayed her to the White Witch.

I shall skip ahead in an attempt to avoid spoiling the story. After this conversation, Lucy returns home, she thinks she has been gone for hours, however, she has only been gone a few seconds. When she tries to recount her story to the others they do not believe her.

A few days go passed, and all is seemingly forgotten, when they all play hide and seek, Lucy enters Narnia again followed by Edmund, who is hoping to tease her some more. This is the start of Edmund's story. He also gets into Narnia, but instead of meeting Lucy or the fawn, he meets Queen Jadice of Narnia (also known as the White Witch), as she talks to Edmund she seems increasingly interested in the fact that he has a brother and two sisters, this is explained later in the book, but not in this review. She enchants Edmund with a hot drink (presumably hot chocolate), and Turkish delight.

When the witch disappears he runs into Lucy and they return again to 'our world'. However, when Lucy tells everyone that she has been to Narnia again and that this time Edmund was there too, he denies this and maliciously suggests that they were just playing a game and that he was only pretending to believe.

Next there unfolds a series of events which I shall not explain, but all four of the children end up in Narnia, with Peter and Susan feeling rather foolish and apologetic, and upon discovering that Edmund had been to Narnia become very angry.

They decide to visit Mr Tomnas's house but they soon discover that he has been captured by the White Witch, they resolve themselves to try and rescue him. Whilst deciding what to do, they spot a robin and decide to follow it, when the robin eventually flies away they spot a beaver beaconing to them to follow. He leads them to his dam and they have dinner, after this he talks about a number of intriguing prophecies (read the book and you will find out what they are). This inevitably includes talk of the great lion Aslan.

While they are talking, Edmund slips away determined to find the White Witch, because he believes that she is the good person.

So the three children, Mr and Mrs Beaver set out to find Aslan, because he is the only being that can save Edmund. Suffice it to say they find him, Edmund is rescued, the White Witch is defeated and the prophesies are fulfilled...

Personally I can only draw the same conclusion that I did for 'The Magician's Nephew'. Lewis, through the incredibly conveyance of his wonderful imagination, manages to make Narnia unbelievable, yet believable at the same time. Is it real or is it in the imaginations of the children he is writing about? Is he using descriptions of Narnia as a metaphor for things in the real world? I think it is real. It would be nice to think that it is.

Clara Porter says

In The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis writes about the heroic journey of the young Pevensie children. Since most people have heard of this book, most know that Peter, Susan, Lucy and Edmund Pevensie are the protagonists. The antagonist is Queen Jadis or more commonly known as the White Witch. This book is a quick read due to its short length and riveting plot that will keep you wanting more.

Many people believe that there are only three books in the Narnia series, but there are actually seven. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe is the second book. In this book, the Pevensies enter the magical land of Narnia in the midst of an evil queen's reign. Lucy, the youngest, is the first to enter Narnia. After entering, Lucy was lucky to have met Mr. Tumnus, a faun. Edmund, the second youngest, enters Narnia after Lucy and was less fortunate. He met the White Witch, who tricks and manipulates him into helping her capture his siblings. Not long after all of the Pevensies enter Narnia, they soon realize that they can defeat the White Witch. They discover that they are the kings and queens that have been prophesied to defeat her. In their journey through Narnia, they must display courage, wisdom and hope. This story is known fairly well because of the movie, but the book provides insight into the characters that allow you to understand them better.

Overall, this book is only the beginning to the Pevensie's journey through Narnia. By the end of this book you will want to read more. I give this book five stars because I thought that I knew the story from watching the movie, but reading the book made me appreciate each character's role in the story, good or bad. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe will transport you to Narnia as easily as walking through a wardrobe's door.

Monical says

The Lion (et al.,) was the first book in the series, and is a lot of fun, full of vivid imagery, good characters, excellent plot. May be a little to religious in part, but isn't "preachy." I did discover something new-- when I read this as a kid, the evil secret police wolf captain's name was "Fenris Ulf," which I always thought was a great name. In the current version (and apparently always in the English version) his name is Maugrim,

which is not so great, in my opinion. The story I unearthed was that Lewis re-edited the US version after the release of the UK version, and changed the name. The publisher didn't want to continue publishing two versions, so Maugrim is the name that stuck. (I wondered if there was something politically incorrect about "Fenris Ulf" but guess it was more of a business decision).

James Vachowski says

“The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” is a fantasy novel about the four Pevensie children: Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy. The children are sent to live in the countryside to escape the aerial bombings of London during World War II, and they end up staying at a professor’s huge, mysterious home. During a game of hide-and-seek, Lucy runs away to a beautiful old wooden wardrobe...which just happens to contain a secret entrance to a magical world called Narnia! The other children soon come with her, and they discover that the evil White Witch has cast a spell which made it winter in Narnia forever.

The Pevensie children are befriended by a series of talking animals, and they quickly begin plotting to overthrow the White Witch and her army of monsters! With the help of a lion named Aslan, the children put their bravery to the test in a struggle to save the world of Narnia. Let me warn you now, though, if you start in on this book then I guarantee you’ll end up reading all six of the other books in the Narnia series. The books are all interconnected, and I love the way that all of them follow the Pevensie children as they grow up in both the world of Narnia and back home in England.

I’ve read this book several times throughout my life, and as I got older I learned that C.S. Lewis was actually using these stories to pass along different ideas from his Christian faith. How cool is that, having a hidden message within the books! Also, I heard that Mr. Lewis was inspired to write about the winter forest setting when he was a professor at Magdalen College. He would spend his afternoons staring out the window of his office and watching the snow collect around a solitary lamppost, which he later used as the first major landmark the children see upon entering the world of Narnia!

To learn more about the books that boys like, please be sure to check out my new website at <http://booksboyslike.blogspot.com/>

Alyson says

This is a read-aloud with my children at the moment. I love the Chronicles of Narnia; I’ve read them more times than I can count, and before I discovered Jane Austen I thought them everything fiction or writing should be. (How gratifying to discover that C.S. Lewis also adored Jane Austen!)

We only go through a chapter a day so this will be "currently reading" for a long while yet; and every single chapter purely and thoroughly enjoyable in the meantime.

Alicia says

5 stars because everybody should read The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.

My only complaint is that Lewis uses the word "presently" on almost every page.

Other than that, a wonderful tale that held both me and my five year old son enraptured.

Jacoline Maes says

More like 2,5 stars.

This was okay and I liked some parts of it, I just don't really feel like reading the rest of the books right now. The stories are quite moralistic and I thought they were too convenient at times. I think I would've enjoyed this more when I was younger.

Jolanda says

And that was the first novel of the Chronicles of Narnia and its prequel. In Dutch, which is never a good idea. I bought my copy shortly after the film came out, and back then I still read all my books in translation, but I never got around to reading it. Well, I read a couple of chapters of the prequel and then stopped. Anyway, two stars for Narnia and that's really all it was, to me, it was "okay".

I didn't like the style much, perhaps that's solely to do with the translation. But other than that the story struck me as rushed and fragmentary. I didn't care much for some of the blatant sexism, either. I know it's a product of its time, but when a novel is supposed to take during WW II, you'd think that at least the first wave of feminism should have hit home with the writer. Apparently not, for Aslan tells the girls that they are not allowed on the battlefield, while apparently it is considered appropriate to let a boy of ten years old wander around on a battlefield. Fun all around.

Another thing that just didn't work for me was the very Christian message. When Aslan enters a room, he is followed by a flashing neon-sign, reading "this is supposed to be Jesus", and he is, risen from the dead and all that shit. Other things felt very reminiscent of Tolkien, like the singing to life of a world. That in itself isn't strange, perhaps, Tolkien and Lewis taught down the hall from one another, but I love myself some Tolkien and I did not care much for this novel. Then again, Tolkien's target audience is more mature and this is clearly a children's novel.

The story in itself is okay, but everything goes down too easily. I didn't for a second feel these children might fail or fear for them. They are taken by the hand, their own sense of initiative is minimal and the rewards are maximal. Who gets crowned king just for showing up and being human and therefore, apparently, superior to all other beings in Narnia? I didn't care for the characters, they're bland and flat. I can't think of anything that sets these characters apart other than Edmund being mean, Peter is supposed to be brave and what are the others supposed to be? I don't care for these children.

Another note is that this is a god awful translation. It's incredibly inconsistent. It uses "euros" and our pre-euro currency "gulden" as interchangeable terms. They're not. You don't say "gulden" on one page and "euro" on the next (this happened. Literally). Be consistent for crying out loud, it's the first lesson of writing anything.

Cassie Cox says

This is my all-time favorite book. I've read it at least 20 times, and I never tire of it. The magic of it

transports me to a place I enjoy returning year after year. The idea of walking out of my ordinary life and into something so splendidly mysterious and exciting is what makes this book so appealing, even as I age. Magical!

Skye says

It wasn't the best. It was boring

James says

As part of a Children's Book Readathon on my blog, we voted and are reading some classic young adult novels this week. Come join us! Today's review is The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe/The Chronicles of Narnia 6 Vols, the 2nd book in the Chronicles of Narnia series, by C.S. Lewis. I read this book as a child several times, then again as an adult before the movies came out. This was probably my fifth time, but it's one of my top ten all-time favorites.

Set in England during the war, 4 children are sent off to a peculiar, older man's country home for safety from German bombs. Shortly after they arrive, the youngest finds herself embroiled in a small game of hide-and-seek leading her to take refuge in a wardrobe. Eventually her siblings follow suit and they enter a magical world where mythical creatures and animals are all stuck in winter. They try to find a way out, learn they're meant to co-rule the land, and find themselves captured and in a different kind of war. I'm being vague as everyone knows the story or if they don't, I shall not ruin it for you!

C.S. Lewis as a brilliant imagination. I fall for these characters every time. I could read it repeatedly without ever being bored. I've read the whole series once before, but I'm considering doing it again. I always forget that this is actually the second book in the series, too. Aslan is one of my favorite all-time heroes. The witch is also one of my favorite enemies. Between the bonds of siblings, trusting strangers, the similarities between the war inside the wardrobe and the one in reality, this book tells so much more than the journey on the surface.

May Ling says

Very interesting to read the prequel!! I've always loved this series, but didn't realize this came first. Finally! I know how the wardrobe, the witch and all came into existence!!!

Ed says

Great. Remember second time reading this - it was snowing and I had exams on. I was really stressed about exams, and decided to go outside and sketch, and then read the Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. I had an amazing spiritual experience reading this book (and the subsequent books). It wasn't just the book. It was, also, going out and sketching and basically trying not to take the exams too seriously (at the end of the day, important as exams are, there are more important things too ...). And then this amazing spiritual experience,

involving this book. MAGICAL.

Joy Gerbode says

Although I've read this book MANY times, it's always a delightful story and I always enjoy it. I love the fantasy world that the children step into, and the adventure that awaits them there. I am awed at the beautiful way the story of the gospel of Christ is woven into this fantasy story, even though Lewis claimed that was not his intention. I especially love the way the book makes me feel: in love with a world that is more beautiful because of the imaginings of children, and awed by the great love of Jesus and His sacrificial love for me.

Milou says

Lovely as ever
