

# C S Lewis At

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C. S. Lewis Goes to Heaven - David G. Clark  
2012-02

C.S. Lewis' novel, *The Great Divorce*, about a man who takes a bus trip from Hell to Heaven, is full of fascinating characters and conversations. *C.S. Lewis Goes to Heaven* is the first book dedicated to exploring this story, revealing many important secrets that have gone undetected since its publication in 1946. Discover how leaving a train station in the wrong direction provided Lewis a model for Hell. Learn the real names of an Impressionist painter and a famous detective writer that Lewis placed (anonymously) in Hell. With considerable detective work of his own, David Clark carefully expands ideas found in *The Great Divorce* using supporting references from Lewis' personal correspondence and other books, particularly *Mere Christianity*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *Surprised by Joy* and *Letters to Malcolm*. \* \* \* Clark looks at the story through three different lenses. First, he introduces the characters and their interactions chapter by chapter, including a brief narrative so readers new to Lewis will feel at home. Second, he reveals how even the book's landscapes convey the theology of Lewis. Then the author comes "alongside" Lewis, explaining his theological ideas and insights, showing their far-reaching implications, and providing scriptural references. By these three approaches, the astonishing grasp of Lewis' theology is revealed in accessible language. The book concludes with three appendices, including 40 pages of historical character sketches, literary references, and concepts. \* \* \*

Considering that Lewis himself thought it surpassed his classic book, *The Screwtape Letters*, it's regrettable that *The Great Divorce* has been neglected for so long. Now for the first time, there is a comprehensive guide to help readers appreciate this profound and entertaining novel, and be awestruck by the grace of God it reveals. \* \*  
\* "If you want a great guide to *The Great Divorce*, you can't do better than David Clark, who introduces readers to a host of fascinating historical and literary characters - illuminating this popular novel with theological insight and devotional delight. Clark's tour of C. S. Lewis' version of Heaven and Hell provides a truly refreshing holiday." \* \* \* Terry Lindvall, author of *Surprised by Laughter: The Comic World of C.S. Lewis Tolkien and C.S. Lewis* - Colin Duriez 2003 "This book explores their lives, unfolding the extraordinary story of their complex friendship that lasted, with its ups and downs, until Lewis's death in 1963. Despite their differences - of temperament, spiritual emphasis, and storytelling style - what united them was much stronger: A shared vision that continues to inspire their millions of readers throughout the world."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

**Grief Observed** - C. S. Lewis 2001-02-06  
Written after his wife's tragic death as a way of surviving the "mad midnight moment," *A Grief Observed* is C.S. Lewis's honest reflection on the fundamental issues of life, death, and faith in the midst of loss. This work contains his concise, genuine

reflections on that period: "Nothing will shake a man -- or at any rate a man like me -- out of his merely verbal thinking and his merely notional beliefs. He has to be knocked silly before he comes to his senses. Only torture will bring out the truth. Only under torture does he discover it himself." This is a beautiful and unflinchingly honest record of how even a stalwart believer can lose all sense of meaning in the universe, and how he can gradually regain his bearings.

C. S. Lewis's Dangerous Idea - Victor Reppert 2003-09-19

Who ought to hold claim to the more dangerous idea—Charles Darwin or C. S. Lewis? Daniel Dennett argued for Darwin in Darwin's Dangerous Idea. Offering careful, able development of Lewis's thought, Victor Reppert now champions C. S. Lewis, demonstrating that Lewis's "argument from reason" can bear up under the weight of the most serious philosophical attacks.

A Mind Awake - Clive Staples Lewis 1980  
Fragments from all of the author's more than forty books as well as material from uncollected essays.

C. S. Lewis' Letters to Children - Clive Staples Lewis 1996-06-03

Contains the text of letters that the famed author wrote to children, as he shared his feelings about school, writing, and animals, among other topics, and demonstrated his deep understanding of young people. Reprint.

**Mere Christianity** - C. S. Lewis 2009-06-02  
In the classic Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis, the most important writer of the 20th century, explores the common ground upon which all of those of Christian faith stand together. Bringing together Lewis' legendary broadcast talks during World War Two from his three previous books The Case for Christianity, Christian Behavior, and Beyond Personality, Mere Christianity provides an unequalled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear this powerful apologetic for the Christian faith.

C. S. Lewis - Roger Lancelyn Green 1979

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The Cambridge Companion to C. S. Lewis - Robert MacSwain 2010-09-09

A distinguished academic, influential Christian apologist, and best-selling author of children's literature, C. S. Lewis is a controversial and enigmatic figure who continues to fascinate, fifty years after his death. This Companion is a comprehensive single-volume study written by an international team of scholars to survey Lewis's career as a literary historian, popular theologian, and creative writer. Twenty-one expert voices from the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, Princeton University, and Wheaton College, among many other places of learning, analyze Lewis's work from theological, philosophical, and literary perspectives. Some chapters consider his professional contribution to fields such as critical theory and intellectual history, while others assess his views on issues including moral knowledge, gender, prayer, war, love, suffering, and Scripture. The final chapters investigate his work as a writer of fiction and poetry. Original in its approach and unique in its scope, this Companion shows that C. S. Lewis was much more than merely the man behind Narnia.

C.S. Lewis - A. N. Wilson 2002

Provides a documented portrait of the well-known author.

**The Problem of Pain** - C. S. Lewis  
2001-02-06

Why must humanity suffer? In this elegant and thoughtful work, C. S. Lewis questions the pain and suffering that occur everyday and how this contrasts with the notion of a God that is both omnipotent and good. An answer to this critical theological problem is found within these pages.

Letters to an American Lady - C. S. Lewis  
2014-10-22

When Lewis was 51 years old and long established at Magdalen College, Oxford, he wrote the first of this collection of letters to an American widow. She was described as a "very charming, gracious, southern aristocratic lady who loved to talk and speak well". In them are his antipathy to journalism, advertising, snobbery,

psychoanalysis, and the petty practices that sap freedoms. They identify events in his life after 1950 including his marriage to Joy Davidman and her death three years later.

**Owen Barfield on C.S. Lewis** - Owen Barfield 2011-05-01

'Owen Barfield on C.S. Lewis' is a collection of essays and lectures about the author, theologian, and literary scholar, C. S. Lewis. Barfield and Lewis were close friends for 44 years, from their Oxford days after WWI to Lewis's death in 1963. Barfield's reflections on their relationship ended only with his own passing, in his hundredth year. Barfield was instrumental in converting Lewis to theism. However, the two disagreed on many points, and it is that creative dialectic which defines and irradiates their friendship: "In an argument we always, both of us, were arguing for the truth, not for victory" (Owen Barfield). C.S. Lewis on Owen Barfield: "The wisest and best of my unofficial teachers." "Barfield towers above us all." To Walter Field: "You notice when Owen and I are talking metaphysics which you don't follow: you don't notice the times when you and Owen are talking economics which I can't follow. Owen is the only one who is never out of his depth."

C.S. Lewis: Apostle to the Skeptics - Chad Walsh 2008-12-07

That a writer of Dr. Lewis's scholarly and literary stature should publish more than a dozen books directly or indirectly defending Christianity is news; that his works should have such wide repercussions is still more significant news and merits a second thought. What does it mean when his books become best-sellers? Does the fact indicate anything about the intellectual currents of the present decade? If so, it seems time to examine more closely the exact kind of Christianity and philosophy presented in Dr. Lewis's writings, and the literary techniques that have brought him into the forefront of authors dealing with religious themes. In this book I hope to add something (though not too much) to the scanty supply of biographical information available about Dr. Lewis, but my main concern will be with his ideas, the way he presents them, and the

significance of his popularity. --from the foreword by the author

*C. S. Lewis' Little Book of Wisdom* - C.S. Lewis 2018-09-01

A USA Today bestseller! "These well-chosen Lewis quotes will inspire readers and prompt them to make their own spiritual reflections." —Publishers Weekly Novelist, poet, critic, lay theologian, and best-selling author of the 'Narnia' series, C. S. Lewis' works have become timeless classics for adults and children around the world. Here in one concise volume is the essence of his thought on subjects ranging from love and faith to ethics and morality and myth and literature that will throw open the windows of the soul and provide readers with bite-sized nuggets of wisdom and inspiration from one of the best-loved writers of the 20th century. This lovely little gift book will provide sustenance, wisdom, and hope for both believers and seekers. And, most importantly, it will provide an entry point for those unfamiliar with Lewis that will make them want to explore his fiction and nonfiction works. Selections from C.S. Lewis' *Little Book of Wisdom*: "If God had granted all the silly prayers I've made in my life, where should I be now?" "Surely arrested development consists not in refusing to lose old things, but in failing to add new things..." "Do not dare not to dare." "We are mirrors whose brightness is wholly derived from the sun that shines upon us." "I didn't go to religion to make me happy. I always knew a bottle of Port would do that. If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don't recommend Christianity."

*Second Friends* - Milton T. Walsh 2008-01-01

C. S. Lewis and Ronald Knox were two of the most popular authors of Christian apologetics in the twentieth century ... and for many years they were neighbors in Oxford. In *Second Friends*, Milton Walsh delves into their writings and compares their views on a variety of compelling topics, such as the existence of God, the divinity of Christ, the problem of suffering, miracles, the way of Love, the role of religion in society, prayer, and more. They both bring

to the conversation a passionate love of truth, clarity of thought, and a wonderful wit. Lewis and Knox both experienced powerful conversions to the Christian faith, an important aspect that Walsh covers in detail. Both wrote about their conversion experiences because they wanted to explain to others why they took that life-changing step. They each valued logical thinking, and they professed that the Christian faith should be embraced, not only because it is good, but because it is true. Reason provides the intellectual foundation of belief for both authors. For both these apologists, Christianity is much more than a doctrinal system: it is above all a personal relationship with Christ that entails romance, struggle, and loyalty. A common adjective applied to Lewis and Knox as writers was "imaginative". They saw lack of imagination as a great hurdle to faith, and they believed that imagination is a privileged path leading to a deeper apprehension of the truth. Lewis and Knox, while convinced that the Christian faith rested on sound reason and that it fulfilled the deepest human longings, also knew that God is a mystery--and so is the human heart. In the face of these twin mysteries, Milton Walsh shows that both men approached their evangelizing efforts in a spirit of humility, as he explores how they appealed to the mind, the heart, and the imagination in presenting the Christian faith.

**The Making of C. S. Lewis (1918-1945)** - Harry Lee Poe 2021-05-19

Experience C. S. Lewis's Captivating Transformation from Atheist to Christian At the end of World War I, young C. S. Lewis was a devout atheist about to begin his studies at Oxford. In the three decades that followed, he would establish himself as one of the most influential writers and scholars of modern times, undergoing a radical conversion to Christianity that would transform his life and his work. Scholar Harry Lee Poe unfolds these watershed years in Lewis's life, offering readers a unique perspective on his conversion, his friendships with well-known Christians such as J. R. R. Tolkien and Dorothy L. Sayers,

and his development from an opponent of Christianity to one of its most ardent defenders.

**C. S. Lewis a Life: Eccentric Genius, Reluctant Prophet** - Alister McGrath, E. 2016-03-01

Fifty years after his death, C.S. Lewis continues to inspire and fascinate millions. He was a towering intellectual figure, a popular fiction author, and an atheist-turned-Christian thinker. McGrath paints a definitive portrait of the life of C.S. Lewis. Mere Theology - Will Vaus 2004-03-30 Provides an exposition of the theology of C.S. Lewis, including discussion of his beliefs on God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Creation, free will, masculinity, femininity, and facets of heaven.

C. S. Lewis's Case for Christ - Art Lindsley 2005-09-01

There can be many obstacles to faith, as C. S. Lewis discovered. But he overcame them to become one of Christianity's most ardent warriors of the faith. Art Lindsley provides a readable introduction to C. S. Lewis's reflections on objections to belief in Jesus Christ and the compelling reasons why Lewis came to affirm the truth of Christianity.

*Reading the Classics with C.S. Lewis* - Thomas L. Martin 2000

With chapters devoted to various genres and the major periods of English literature, this collection leads readers to a stronger appreciation of literature and a deeper understanding of Lewis as a teacher.

**The Complete C.S. Lewis Signature Classics** - C. S. Lewis 2002-10-22

For the first time ever, these seven essential volumes by C. S. Lewis are available in a single edition. This remarkable book presents the classic works *Mere Christianity*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Great Divorce*, *The Problem of Pain*, *Miracles*, *A Grief Observed*, and Lewis's prophetic examination of universal values, *The Abolition of Man*. Beautiful and timeless, this is a vital collection by one of the greatest literary figures of the twentieth century. Lewis reached a vast audience during his lifetime, and books such as *Mere Christianity*

and The Screwtape Letters continue to be regarded as among the best spiritual writing of all time. With his uncanny grasp of human nature, Lewis offers a refreshing antidote to the modern world's consumerism and moral relativism. This new edition of his most celebrated books highlights Lewis's compassion for humanity and his relevance for the twenty-first century.

**C.S. Lewis** - Perry C. Bramlett 1996

"This book is a rich, lively, compact survey of Lewis's Christian life and lay ministry. Perry provides a wealth of practical insights for every reader. I warmly and gladly recommend this book". -Kathryn Linkskoog  
*C.S. Lewis and His Circle* - Roger White 2015  
For thirty years, the Oxford C. S. Lewis Society has met weekly in the mediaeval colleges of Oxford University. During that time, it has hosted as speakers nearly all those still living who were associated with the Inklings - the Oxford literary circle led by C. S. Lewis - as well as authors and thinkers of a prominence that nears Lewis's own. 'C. S. Lewis and His Circle' offers the reader a chance to join this unique group, with the best of traditional academic essays, thoughtful memoirs, and informal reminiscences about C. S. Lewis and his circle.

Words to Live By - C. S. Lewis 2007-04-17

C. S. Lewis is a beloved writer and thinker and arguably the most important Christian intellectual of the twentieth century. His groundbreaking children's series The Chronicles of Narnia, lucid nonfiction titles such as Mere Christianity and The Problem of Pain, and thought-provoking fiction, including The Screwtape Letters and The Great Divorce, have become trusted companions for millions of readers. Here Lewis breathes new life into words and concepts that have dulled through time and familiarity, and his writings inevitably provoke deep thought and surprising revelations. Words to Live By contains an unprecedented selection of Lewis's writings, drawing from his most popular works, but also from his volumes of letters and his lesser-known essays and poems. His works are presented in accessible selections

covering subjects from A to Z, including beauty, character, confession, doubt, family, holiness, and religion. Both a wonderful introduction to Lewis's thinking and a wise and insightful guide to key topics in the Christian life, these are truly words to live by.

**C.S. Lewis** - Roger Lancelyn Green 1994  
Chronicles the life of writer C.S. Lewis, and discusses his novels, his marriage to Joy Davidman, his family life, and other related topics.

If I Had Lunch with C. S. Lewis - Alister McGrath 2014

Looks at the ideas of C.S. Lewis on the meaning of life, friendship, the importance of stories, the Christian life, the art of apologetics, education, suffering, and heaven.

**C. S. Lewis's Mere Christianity** - George M. Marsden 2020-02-25

The life and times of C. S. Lewis's modern spiritual classic Mere Christianity, C. S. Lewis's eloquent defense of the Christian faith, originated as a series of BBC radio talks broadcast during the dark days of World War Two. Here is the story of the extraordinary life and afterlife of this influential and inspiring book. George Marsden describes how Lewis gradually went from being an atheist to a committed Anglican—famously converting to Christianity in 1931 after conversing into the night with his friends J. R. R. Tolkien and Hugh Dyson—and how his plainspoken case for Christianity went on to become one of the most beloved spiritual books of all time.

**Yours, Jack** - C. S. Lewis 2008-04-01

C. S. Lewis spent a good portion of each day corresponding with people via handwritten letters. Over his lifetime he wrote thousands of letters in which he offered his friends and acquaintances advice on the Christian life, giving away a bit of himself to each of these correspondents as he signed his notes with a heartfelt and familiar, "yours, Jack." Most of these letters are currently only available in their entirety—a collection consisting of three hefty tomes. Yours, Jack features the best inspirational readings and sage counsel culled from C. S. Lewis's letters, offering an

accessible look at this great author's personal vision for the spiritual life. This thematic selection from his letters offers the freshest presentation of Lewis's writings since his death in 1963. Yours, Jack will showcase Lewis's remarkable teachings and vision for a new generation.

**Becoming C. S. Lewis (1898-1918) -**

Harry Lee Poe 2019-11-05

During his youth, the boy who would become C. S. Lewis formed his most basic impressions and tastes regarding music, art, literature, religion, sports, friendship, imagination, education, war, and more. The issues young "Jack" Lewis wrestled with drove him toward the foundation on which his life would be built. His childhood interests, influences, longings, struggles, and even failures prepared him to engage his gifts as a writer, teacher, and friend. Lewis expert Harry Lee Poe unfolds young Jack's key relationships, hobbies, spiritual conflicts, decisions, desires, and dreams. Along the way, Poe points out where these themes reappear in Lewis's later works—bringing to life the importance of his conversion and his surprising discovery of joy.

The Christian World of C. S. Lewis - Clyde S. Kilby 1995-06

This study provides a perceptive and illuminating guide to C.S. Lewis's writings. Kilby examines Lewis's Christian works one by one, compares them with each other and with books by other authors, and elucidates the themes that recur throughout the main body of Lewis's writings.

Jack - George Sayer 1994

Over the next twenty-nine years, author George Sayer's first impression about C. S. Lewis proved true. He was interesting; but he was more than just that. He was a devout Christian, gifted literary scholar, best-selling author, and brilliant apologist. Sayer draws from a variety of sources, including his close friendship with Lewis and the million-word diary of Lewis's brother, to paint a portrait of the man whose friends knew as Jack. Offering glimpses into Lewis's extraordinary relationships and experiences, Jack details the great scholar's life at the Kilns; days at

Magdalen Colle meetings with the Inklings; marriage to Joy Davidman Gresham; and the creative process that produced such world-famous works as the classic *Chronicles of Narnia*, *Mere Christianity*, and *The Screwtape Letters*. This book is an intimate account of the man who helped—and through his works, continues to help—generations hear and understand the heart of Christianity. Book jacket.

**A Year with C. S. Lewis** - C. S. Lewis

2003-10-21

Beloved author C. S. Lewis is our trusted guide in this intimate day-by-day companion offering his distinctive and celebrated wisdom. Amidst the bustle of our daily experience, *A Year with C. S. Lewis* provides the necessary respite and inspiration to meet the many challenges we face in our lives. Ruminating on such themes as the nature of love, the existence of miracles, overcoming a devastating loss, and discovering a profound faith, Lewis offers unflinchingly honest insight for each day of the year. These daily meditations have been culled from Lewis's celebrated *Signature Classics*: *Mere Christianity*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Great Divorce*, *The Problem of Pain*, *Miracles*, and *A Grief Observed*, as well as from the distinguished works *The Weight of Glory* and *The Abolition of Man*.

Throughout this elegant daybook the reader will find poignant biographical commentary about C. S. Lewis's life that offers a remarkable portrait of Lewis in the context of his work. As each day unfolds, we embark on a path of discovery with a friend by your side. *A Year with C. S. Lewis* is the perfect companion for everyone who cherishes Lewis's timeless words.

C.S. Lewis in a Time of War - Justin Phillips 2006-01-24

C. S. Lewis is universally recognized as one of the intellectual giants of the twentieth century. A noted scholar, Lewis was able to reach a vast popular audience during his lifetime and continues to attract thousands of new readers every year. But how did Lewis first become a popular public figure? During the most desperate years of World War II, Lewis was asked by the British

Broadcasting Corporation's recently created Home Service to give radio addresses on Christianity to a nation shaken by war. The choice was controversial. At first dismissed by critics as a layman who was unqualified to tackle such weighty issues, Lewis proved to be enormously persuasive. These radio talks were eventually published as *Mere Christianity*, which now ranks as one of the great classics of religious literature. This rich chapter in Lewis's life, which deals with his love-hate relationship with the "new" medium of broadcasting, has received little attention from biographers and commentators. Yet it was Lewis's work on the radio that made him a household name. By combining narrative skill and adroitly quoting from correspondence, Phillips captures Lewis's reservations, vexations, achievements, and, finally, his enormous success. *C. S. Lewis in a Time of War* is a fascinating look at how these talks were created and the enthusiastic response they generated at a time when bombing in London caused many radio stations to be evacuated. This book reveals a rich, previously untapped vein of Lewis's life and work that will intrigue his millions of fans. [Spenser's Images of Life](#) - C. S. Lewis 2013-11-07

This book was compiled by Alastair Fowler from notes left by C. S. Lewis at his death. It is Lewis's longest piece of literary criticism, as distinct from literary history. It approaches *The Faerie Queene* as a majestic pageant of the universe and nature, celebrating God as 'the glad creator', and argues that conventional views of epic and allegory must be modified if the poem is to be fully enjoyed and understood.

*Planet Narnia* - Michael Ward 2008-01-15  
For over half a century, scholars have laboured to show that C. S. Lewis's famed but apparently disorganised *Chronicles of Narnia* have an underlying symbolic coherence, pointing to such possible unifying themes as the seven sacraments, the seven deadly sins, and the seven books of *Spenser's Faerie Queene*. None of these explanations has won general acceptance and the structure of Narnia's symbolism has

remained a mystery. Michael Ward has finally solved the enigma. In *Planet Narnia* he demonstrates that medieval cosmology, a subject which fascinated Lewis throughout his life, provides the imaginative key to the seven novels. Drawing on the whole range of Lewis's writings (including previously unpublished drafts of the *Chronicles*), Ward reveals how the Narnia stories were designed to express the characteristics of the seven medieval planets - - Jupiter, Mars, Sol, Luna, Mercury, Venus, and Saturn - - planets which Lewis described as "spiritual symbols of permanent value" and "especially worthwhile in our own generation". Using these seven symbols, Lewis secretly constructed the *Chronicles* so that in each book the plot-line, the ornamental details, and, most important, the portrayal of the Christ-figure of Aslan, all serve to communicate the governing planetary personality. The cosmological theme of each *Chronicle* is what Lewis called 'the kappa element in romance', the atmospheric essence of a story, everywhere present but nowhere explicit. The reader inhabits this atmosphere and thus imaginatively gains connate knowledge of the spiritual character which the tale was created to embody. *Planet Narnia* is a ground-breaking study that will provoke a major reevaluation not only of the *Chronicles*, but of Lewis's whole literary and theological outlook. Ward uncovers a much subtler writer and thinker than has previously been recognized, whose central interests were hiddenness, immanence, and knowledge by acquaintance.

**Symbol or Substance?** - Peter Kreeft 2019-01-30

In this engaging fictional conversation, Peter Kreeft gives credible voices to C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, and Billy Graham as they discuss one of the most contentious questions in the history of Christianity: Is Jesus symbolically or substantially present in the Eucharist? These widely respected modern Christian witnesses represent three important Western theological traditions. Graham, an ordained Southern Baptist minister who traversed the world and the

airwaves to spread the good news of salvation, represents evangelical Protestantism. Lewis, an Oxford professor, a prolific Christian apologist, and the author of *The Chronicles of Narnia*, was a member of the Church of England. Also an Oxford don, Tolkien was a friend of Lewis, the author of *The Lord of the Rings*, and a Roman Catholic. While Lewis and Tolkien likely discussed the Eucharist during their long friendship, the conversation in this book never took place—but it could have, says Kreeft, who faithfully presents the views of these three impressive men.

*The Intellectual World of C. S. Lewis* - Alister E. McGrath 2013-02-19

Marking the 50th anniversary of Lewis' death, *The Intellectual World of C. S. Lewis* sees leading Christian thinker Alister McGrath offering a fresh approach to understanding the key themes at the centre of Lewis' theological work and intellectual development. Brings together a collection of original essays exploring important themes within Lewis' work, offering new connections and insights into his theology. Throws new light on subjects including Lewis' intellectual development, the uses of images in literature and theology, the place of myth in modern thought, the role of the imagination in making sense of the world, the celebrated 'argument from desire', and Lewis' place as an Anglican thinker and a Christian theologian. Written by Alister McGrath, one of the world's leading Christian thinkers and authors; this exceptional pairing of McGrath and Lewis brings together the work of two outstanding theologians in one volume.

*The Surprising Imagination of C. S. Lewis* - Jerry Root 2015-09-01

*Narnia*, *Perelandra*—places of wonder and longing. *The White Witch*, *Screwtape*—personifications of evil. *Aslan*—a portrait of the divine. Like *Turkish Delight*, some of C.S. Lewis's writing surprises and whets our appetite for more. But some of his works bite and nip at our heels. What enabled C.S. Lewis to create such vivid characters and compelling plots? Perhaps it was simply that C.S. Lewis had an

unsurpassed imagination. Or perhaps he had a knack for finding the right metaphor or analogy that awakened readers' imaginations in new ways. But whatever his gifts, no one can deny that C.S. Lewis had a remarkable career, producing many books in eighteen different literary genres, including: apologetics, autobiography, educational philosophy, fairy stories, science fiction, and literary criticism. And while he had and still has critics, Lewis' works continue to find devoted readers. The purpose of this book is to introduce C.S. Lewis through the prism of imagination. For Lewis, imagination is both a means and an end. And because he used his own imagination well and often, he is a practiced guide for those of us who desire to reach beyond our grasp. Each chapter highlights Lewis's major works and then shows how Lewis uses imagination to captivate readers. While many have read books by C.S. Lewis, not many readers understand his power to give new slants on the things we think we know. More than a genius, Lewis disciplined his imagination, harnessing its creativity in service of helping others believe more deeply. "Truly fresh, rhetorically astute works about C. S. Lewis are rare, but this provocative new volume by Jerry Root and Mark Neal emerges at just the right time to reinvigorate Lewis scholarship beyond the clichés we continue to repeat to each other. *The Surprising Imagination of C. S. Lewis* delivers just that salvo, an ingenious, empathetic, lavishly informed elucidation of Lewis's understanding of the life of the imagination." —Bruce L. Edwards, Professor Emeritus of English and Africana Studies, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH "Our grasp of 'imagination' is such a pale and paltry thing; Neal and Root offer a much-needed corrective by illustrating Lewis's robust use of the word. The happy result is a more accurate and nuanced reading of Lewis. But there is more: through their careful work, we are graced with a rich, new vocabulary to discern and describe the many uses of creative imagination all around us." —Diana Pavlac Glyer, Professor of English at Azusa



Pacific University, Azusa, CA, author of *The Company They Keep: C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien as Writers in Community* “This fabulous book on Lewis’s imagination will delight readers new to Lewis and those who, like the authors, have been reading him for decades. It shimmers with the joy of exploration and discovery. *The Surprising Imagination of C. S. Lewis* is a reliable and inspiring guide not only to Lewis but to a treasure trove of imaginative books that fired Lewis’s own imagination. In Robert Frost’s delightful phrase, this book is the occasion for a ‘fresh think.’” —Wayne Martindale, Emeritus Professor of English, Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL “Jerry Root

and Mark Neal make excellent use of Lewis's literary criticism of other authors to show how he employed different varieties of imagination in his own works. The result is a good book about Lewis and an even better one on the capacity of imagination to enrich each of our lives every day.” —Mark Noll, Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN “For nearly four decades I have been reading books and articles in the field of Lewis studies. This volume is one of the most original and fascinating books on Lewis to appear in a long time.” —Lyle W. Dorsett, Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University, Birmingham, AL