

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Study Guide

About the Author

C.S. Lewis, (Clive Staples Lewis) was born on 29th November 1898, in Belfast, Ireland. He was a famous British writer, and a church lay preacher. He is best known as the author of The Chronicles of Narnia, but he is also noted for his other works of fiction, such as The Screwtape Letters and The Space Trilogy, and for his non-fiction Christian books, including Mere Christianity.

As a boy, Lewis was fascinated with story-book animals, particularly Beatrix Potter's stories, and often wrote and illustrated his own animal tales. Along with his brother Warnie, he created a fantasy land inhabited and run by animals. Lewis loved to read from an early age. His father's house was filled with books.

Lewis was homeschooled until the age of 9, but after his mother died, he went to study in England. He later attended Oxford University in England. Lewis was a close friend of J. R. R. Tolkien, author of The Lord of the Rings. Both men became lecturers in English at Oxford University, and formed an informal writers' group where writers met to discuss and share ideas. He grew up in the Church of Ireland but fell away from his faith as a teenager. Lewis returned to the Christian faith at the age of 32, owing to the influence of Tolkien and other friends.

When the World War 1 broke out he fought with the British Army in France. After the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the Lewis took child evacuees from London, as part of a program to keep the children safe in the countryside, when London was being bombed. Lewis was 40 when the war began.

In 1956, Lewis married American writer Joy Davidman; she died of cancer four years later at the age of 45. Lewis died on 22 November 1963 from kidney failure, at age 64.

The story, and symbols within the story

The Wardrobe

The story begins when the four children, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy are sent away from their home in London, to the countryside, in order to be kept safe from the London bombing of World War 2. The Professor, who had opened his home to the children, was a kind old man, but his housekeeper Mrs. MacCready was a strict woman with no time for children.

The house was very large, and so were the grounds. Susan suggested that the next day they could have lots of fun playing in the grounds, but unfortunately the rain stopped them going outside, and they decided to play a game of hide and seek instead, in the enormous house.

Lucy found a large wardrobe in a spare room and chose this as her hiding place. But as she pushed her hands against the back of the wardrobe, she found herself, in a snow-covered wood.

The land of Narnia, under the rule of the White Witch

Lucy walked along a snow-covered path and was met by a faun, Mr. Tumnus, who was carrying packages. Lucy immediately thought that it must be close to Christmas, because in England, Christmas comes at a time when there is snow. Perhaps the packages were Christmas presents. But Mr. Tumnus explained that the whole of Narnia was under the rule of the evil White Witch, who banned Christmas. Narnia was now a place where it was always winter but never Christmas. (The White Witch is a symbol of Satan, to whom any celebration of the birth of Jesus is a threat.)



All Narnian creatures, including Mr. Tumnus, had a command from the White Witch, that if they ever came across a human, they must take the human to her. Mr. Tumnus invited Lucy for tea and played a lullaby on his flute, which caused Lucy to go to sleep. His original intention was to send her to sleep so that he could carry her off to the White Witch. But Lucy suddenly woke up when her tea cup dropped to the floor and broke. Mr. Tumnus had a liking for Lucy and decided that he could not hand her over to the White Witch, so escorted her along the path to the lamp post which led to the back of the wardrobe. But now Mr. Tumnus was in danger, because even the trees knew what was going on, and should anyone report that he had let Lucy go, the White Witch would turn him into stone.

Turkish Delight

Now back at the large house, Lucy reported to her sister and brothers her experience, which of course none of them believed. But the next day she managed to get Edmond to go into the wardrobe, and he too found himself in the land of Narnia. He soon met the White Witch herself, riding in a sleigh, pulled by animals and driven by one of her servants. She tempted Edmond to come and sit beside her in the sleigh by offering him some Turkish Delight. Turkish Delight is a soft jelly-like sweet that is cut into squares and covered in soft icing sugar.



Edmond course not resist the offer and enjoyed the sweets. The White Witch explained that at her headquarters, she could give him much more Turkish Delight. Edmond was asked about his siblings. He said that there were three more, and that one, Lucy, had already visited Narnia and had met Mr. Tumnus. The White Witch told Edmond to bring them to her.

The Betrayal

Back at the house the four children were playing cricket in the grounds, when the cricket ball went through a beautiful stained-glass window. Fearing Mrs. Macready, they ran inside and looked for a place to hide. The wardrobe was a good hiding place, but it was a tight fit for all four of them and they soon found themselves pushing though the back of the wardrobe and now all four of them were in Narnia.

In Narnia they were hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Beaver, who knew the evil powers of the White Witch. The animals here were either on her side, or not. The Beavers, like many other animals, were NOT. They took in the children and served tea. But soon Edmund was thinking about his task of bringing his three siblings to the White Witch, and his reward of getting more Turkish Delight. He slipped out and made his way to the White Witch's headquarters.

Symbolism of the Turkish Delight

Edmond was now a traitor. A traitor is one who decides to go and work for the other side. This happens sometimes during war, when a person might be bribed to go and work for the enemy, and share precious information about the side they were on.

In Genesis chapters 2 & 3, we read about Adam and Eve, the first man and woman created to walk and talk with God, to be friends with God, to be on God's side. They were tempted by the snake (Satan), to change sides, and to join Satan's side. How did they do this? God had told them that they could eat any fruit in the Garden of Eden, except for one. That fruit was out-of-bounds. But the snake said it would be OK. In fact, by eating the fruit they would be like God. So, they ate that fruit and were no longer on God's side. We could think of the Turkish Delight as the special fruit that Adam and Eve were tempted with, and the White Witch as the temptress.

Now in the presence of the White Witch, Edmund found that there was no more Turkish Delight. In fact, he faced her full anger, because he had come without bringing the three siblings. He was bound and thrown into a cell in chains, and there too was Mr. Tumnus who Edmund had also betrayed, by telling the White Witch that he had met Lucy, and Tumnus had allowed her to escape. Fearing for his life Edmund confessed that the three siblings were at the home of the Beavers, yet another betrayal.

The White Witch sent her team of wolves to the Beaver's home. The fox, (on the good side), came to warn them. Mr and Mrs Beaver and the three children set off, escaping the wolves, but the fox paid the price, being severely injured by the wolves. He was taken to the White Witch who turned him to stone.

Symbolism of betrayal

Adam and Eve betrayed God by changing sides. Because the whole human race descended from Adam and Eve, we are all sons or daughters of Adam and Eve. There is an unwritten law in the creation that when a person betrays God, and joins the side of Satan, then that person must pay the price of death. In the case of the human race, that betrayal is called sin. The human race must pay the price for sin. That is, eternal death, (or separation from God.)

In Narnia, there was also an unwritten law – that betrayal had to be paid for by blood. Because Edmund had betrayed the side of Good, he had to pay with his own blood.

Aslan the Lion

Now Aslan makes an appearance. Aslan, represents Jesus. The Bible speaks of Jesus being the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

"And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." (Revelation 5:5)

Like a lion, Jesus provides leadership, protection, and security to believers. The Bible calls us to depend upon the protection and guidance of Jesus, the Lion of Judah, for our salvation and future.



In the story, Aslan once ruled Narnia, but because of the rebellion of many of the Narnian creatures, the White Witch now ruled. But there was a prophecy that one day four humans would come to Narnia and they would break the rule of the White Witch and Narnia would turn back to a beautiful land of peace and harmony once again. The Winter would end, evil would be overcome and Aslan would rule again.

The White Witch knew the prophecy, so this is why she was desperate to kill the four children, so that the prophecy couldn't come true.

The Battle

In this world we are in a spiritual battle, the battle between good and evil; the battle between God's side and Satan's side. But Jesus has won the battle, and one day the devil will be defeated completely.

Christmas

Christmas is surprisingly significant in the story. It starts on Lucy's first trip to Narnia when the faun, Mr. Tumnus, explains the eternal winter in which Narnia is trapped. Lucy insists that winter isn't so bad, because Christmas is one of her favourite reasons for enjoying winter. He was unsure of what kind of creature Lucy was, having never met a human before, but he was familiar with the concept of Christmas. Mr. Tumnus explains that the Witch's curse makes it "always winter but never Christmas." The White Witch, (representing Satan), ensures that Christmas is not celebrated, because it represents the birth of Christ, her enemy, (later represented as Aslan).

Significance of Mr Tumnus's packages in Lion witch wardrobe:

The packages carried by Mr. Tumnus are a corruption of wrapped Christmas gifts that we are familiar with at Christmas. Mr. Tumnus's packages represent the White Witch's desire to control and manipulate the world, as she ensures it is always winter but never Christmas in Narnia. The packages also reflect the internal conflict within Mr. Tumnus, who is caught between his loyalty to the White Witch and his own good conscience. His compassion and

empathy for Lucy override his fear of the Witch's tyranny, leading him to betray his allegiance to the White Witch.

The symbol of Father Christmas:

In *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Father Christmas symbolizes the kindness and richness Christianity has to offer. The forever-winter that the White Witch has imposed on Narnia can be seen as the spiritual curse she has placed on mankind. But as the true King of Narnia, Aslan, approaches the land, the snow begins to thaw. On their way to meet up with Aslan, the children run into Father Christmas; he has come bearing presents for the Beavers, as well as Lucy, Susan, and Peter. The gifts he gives the three siblings are not mere toys, but “tools” that he urges them to use in the upcoming battle against the Witch.

These tools represent the “tools” needed in our battle against evil in this world. As Father Christmas departs, he wishes all the children a Merry Christmas—and then calls out, “Long live the true King.” Though Father Christmas in this instance is referring to Aslan, the true King of Narnia, his words undeniably echo Christians’ belief in Jesus Christ as the one true King, and the ultimate deliverer of his followers from sin and evil.

Chapter 10 Quotes:

It was a sledge, and it was reindeer with bells on their harness. And on the sledge sat a person whom everyone knew the moment they set eyes on him. He was a huge man in a bright red robe (bright as holly berries) with a hood that had fur inside it and a great white beard that fell like a foamy waterfall over his chest. Everyone knew him because, though you see people of his sort only in Narnia, you see pictures of them and hear them talked about even in our world—the world on this side of the wardrobe door. But when you really see them in Narnia it is rather different. Some of the pictures of Father Christmas in our world make him look only funny and jolly. But now that the children actually stood looking at him they didn't find it quite like that. He was so big, and so glad, and so real, that they all became quite still. They felt very glad, but also solemn.

“I've come at last,” said he. “She has kept me out for a long time, but I have got in at last. Aslan is on the move. The Witch's magic is weakening.”

Note that the White Witch also rides in a sledge with bells, a corrupt copy of the Christmas sleigh with bells.

Generosity Triumphs Over Greed:

C.S. Lewis contrasts characters like the White Witch, who hoards power, with those like Father Christmas, who spreads joy through gifts. Father Christmas’ appearance is a turning point in the story, symbolizing the return of generosity and goodwill. His gifts to the Pevensie children are not frivolous but purposeful, preparing them for the challenges ahead.

In today's materialistic culture, this lesson reminds us to shift our focus from consumerism at Christmas, to meaningful giving. Whether it's sharing time, resources or love, Christmas offers an opportunity to be generous, and reflect on the ultimate gift of Christ Himself.

The Gifts

Father Christmas, who gave the children gifts in the story, is a symbol of the Holy Spirit who gives us gifts. All of the gifts given to the children, Peter, Susan and Lucy, proved very useful in the battle. Lucy received a little bottle of medicine which provided healing to the sick and injured. The gift of healing is one of the gifts that a Christian can receive for use in God's service, to pray for others so that they can be healed. Peter received a sword and shield. Ephesians 6 describes the Word of God, the Bible, as the sword of the Spirit. We can use it in battle against the enemy Satan. When we quote Scripture, the devil has to flee. The shield is also mentioned in Ephesians 6 as part of the armour of God that we use to fight against the devil. It is the shield of faith. Susan received a bow and arrow, and a horn that she could blow to signal for help. The Bible tells us that the Devil uses fiery darts, or arrows, against us, but God's arrows in the hands of His servants are stronger. We can also call for help whenever we are in trouble.

Then the LORD will appear over them, and his arrow will go forth like lightning; the Lord GOD will sound the trumpet and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. Zech 9:14

The Blood Sacrifice

The White Witch had a meeting with Aslan. The unwritten law said that Edmund must die because of his betrayal. Everyone knew that this could not be avoided. However, Aslan decided upon a plan. HE would become the blood sacrifice and let Edmund go free.

This represents what Jesus did for us on the cross. He died in our place. Aslan suffered humiliation and agony, as Jesus did for us. Everyone thought that all hope was lost. With Aslan dead, there could be no restoration of the true Narnia. But how astounding it was to see Aslan come alive again after three days. This of course is symbolic of the resurrection of Jesus after three days. The splitting in two of the stone table is symbolic of the shaking of the earth that occurred when Jesus died, the darkness that fell upon the earth and the splitting of the veil in two within the temple.

In Narnia there was now one final battle, and Aslan reigned as king of Narnia once again, and the four children reigned with him. Edmund, sorry for his actions, was now forgiven, and on the side of Aslan.

The choice is ours. Do we ask Jesus to be our blood sacrifice, a total covering for our own sin, (as Aslan did for Edmund)? Or do we travel through life pleasing ourselves without submitting to God? We can never be good enough to get to heaven in our own strength, because as good as we may be, we are all sons of Adam and daughters of Eve.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Activities

Chapter 1: Lucy Looks into a Wardrobe

Vocabulary:

air raids - attacks by aircraft, especially on non-military targets

blue-bottle - a type of flying insect with a blue body

inquisitive - eager for knowledge; curious

looking-glass - a mirror

mothballs – small white balls containing chemicals to keep moths away from clothing in storage

muffler - a scarf worn around the neck for warmth

queer - strange or unusual

row - a disturbance or quarrel (rhymes with 'cow')

wardrobe - a large, cabinet-like piece of furniture which serves as a closet for storing clothing

wireless – an early type of radio, without wires or cords

Expressions:

'fallen on our feet' means 'lucky that it turned out well'

'come off it' means 'stop acting or talking that way'

'Ten to one' means 'it's very likely'

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 1.

1. Where did the children live before this story began?
2. Why were they sent away to live with the Professor?
3. Why was Edmund bad-tempered the first night at the Professor's house?3. How did the adventures begin?
4. What first made Lucy realize that something strange was happening in the wardrobe?
5. What did she think that convinced her it was safe to go on and explore?
6. What was the source of the light in the wood?

Critical Thinking

1. What is your first impression of each child's personality?
2. What do you think about Lucy's decision to enter the wood alone – was it safe, brave, foolish? Explain why you feel as you do

Chapter 2: What Lucy Found There

Vocabulary:

Tea - an English custom of having a light meal in the late afternoon

Sardines - small fish

Silenus - a figure in Greek myth having the body of a man, with the ears and tail of a horse

Nymphs - beautiful female figures in Greek myth who lived in wells or bodies of water

Dryads - beautiful female figures in Greek myth who lived inside trees

Stag - a male deer

Bacchus - the god of wine in Greek myth jollification joyful celebration

Merely - simply

Lulling - giving a sense of security, causing sleep or relaxation

Expressions:

“on my account” means “because of me”

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 2.

1. What does Mr. Tumnus’s phrase “Daughter of Eve” mean?
2. How did the faun convince Lucy to come to his cave?
3. How did he entertain her after they had eaten?
4. What happened when Lucy said she had to go?
5. What had Mr. Tumnus promised to do with Lucy?
6. What did he fear would happen to him if he failed to keep his promise?
7. Why did he decide not to keep the promise anyway?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Lucy felt comfortable in the faun’s cave?
2. Why do you think it took Lucy so long to understand the danger she was in?
3. What do you think about her behavior toward Mr. Tumnus after she realized what he had planned to do?

Chapter 3: Edmund and the Wardrobe

Vocabulary:

batty - crazy

rapped - knocked

hoax - trick

spiteful - mean and hateful

groping - feeling about in the dark

sulking – silently angry, looking unhappy

sledge – sleigh for transport over snow

Shetland ponies - very small but strong horses

Gilded - covered with a thin layer of gold rug blanket used to cover one's legs

Expressions

“pray” means “tell me”

“Hereafter” means “from now on”

“sneered and jeered” means “teased unkindly, made fun of”

“Make it Pax” means “make peace, make up after an argument”

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 3.

1. Why was Lucy surprised that her siblings hadn't been wondering where she was?
2. What did they find when they looked into the wardrobe?
3. Why didn't Lucy make up with the others by saying she had just made up the story of her adventure?
4. Why did Edmund follow Lucy into the wardrobe?
5. What was his first clue that something unusual was happening?
6. Why did he think Lucy didn't answer his call?
7. What was Edmund's first impression of the Lady on the sledge?
8. Who did the Lady say she was?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Lucy had begun to wonder whether Narnia had been a dream?
2. How would you describe the Lady on the sledge, based on what is told about her in this chapter?

Chapter 4: Turkish Delight

Vocabulary:

Son of Adam - human boy

Dominions - lands under the rule of a king or queen

Mantle - a large cloak

Turkish Delight - a kind of soft, jelly-like sweet

Courtiers - people who are not rulers but stay at a royal court

Nobles - officials of lower rank beneath a king or queen

Snappishly - in an impatient, bad-tempered way

Flushed – red face and feeling upset

Expressions:

“poor sport” means “someone who is not joining in the fun”

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 4.

1. How did Edmund feel when the queen first invited him to sit with her?
2. What did he want as he ate the Turkish Delight?
3. What was the queen especially interested in learning about his family?
4. What was unusual about this particular Turkish Delight?
5. What did the queen say she'd like to do with Edmund?
6. What was the condition for her carrying out her idea?
7. What did the queen tell Edmund about fauns?
8. How did Lucy feel about Edmund having got into Narnia, too?
9. How did Edmund feel about it himself?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think the queen changed from being angry and threatening to sympathetic?
2. Why do you think the queen seemed not to mind Edmund's forgetting his manners as he answered her questions?
3. Why do you think Edmund's opinion of the queen changed as he spent more time with her?

Chapter 5: Back on This Side of the Door

Vocabulary:

Savagely - angrily

Coolly - calmly and without concern

Logic - good reasoning, thinking things through

Spectacles - eyeglasses

Inclined - interested or likely

Trippers - tourists

Expressions:

taken aback means surprised

queer in the head means going crazy

at their disposal means available to talk to them

taking a party over the house means showing tourists around

Sharp's the word! means "Let's get away quickly!"

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 5.

1. When did Edmund decide what to do?
2. How much older than Lucy was Edmund?
3. How did Peter say Edmund had always behaved?
4. What did Peter and Susan decide to do about their concern over Lucy?
5. How did the Professor respond to their account of Lucy's story?
6. What was the main reason Susan and Peter didn't believe Lucy?
7. What did the Professor say were the only three logical possibilities?
8. What did he advise them to do?
9. What was unusual about the Professor's house?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Peter reacted as he did to Edmund?
2. Why do you think the Professor was willing to believe Lucy's story?
3. What do you think of his statement that nothing is more probable than that there could be other worlds just round the corner?

Chapter 6: Into the Forest

Vocabulary:

Camphor - a chemical used in mothballs

Bagged - stolen

Bearing - going toward

Prigs - people too concerned with nice manners

Crockery - dishes

wash-out - waste of time

premises - place, area

treason - betrayal of a ruler or government

chatelaine - female ruler of a castle

harbouring - hiding

fraternising - being friendly

larder - pantry, kitchen cupboards

Expressions:

'hang it all' is a phrase expressing dislike or frustration

'pay you out' means to get back at you

'on my account' means because of me

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 6.

1. What were the first clues that something strange was happening inside the wardrobe?
2. What did Edmund say that showed that he had been in Narnia before?
3. What did the children find at the Faun's cave?
4. Who was the chief of the secret police?
5. Why did the siblings decide not to just go home?
6. What was Peter worried about?
7. What did Edmund suggest about the robin?
8. Why did Peter decide to trust the bird?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Edmund had such a bad attitude?
2. Do you agree with the children's decision to try to rescue Mr. Tumnus? Why or why not?

Chapter 7: A Day with the Beavers

Vocabulary:

dodging - avoiding

token - something to show identity or friendship

festoons - decorations

gum boots - rubber boots

oilskins - raincoats

mortar - material used in building walls to hold things together

Expressions:

'got wind' means 'heard about'

'Merely a trifle!' means 'Nothing very special'

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 7.

1. What was unusual about the animal the children saw?
2. What did the Beaver say about the trees?
3. How did they know he was a friend?
4. How did the name of Aslan affect each of the children?
5. How long did it take to reach the Beaver's house?
6. What was Mrs. Beaver doing when they arrived?
7. What did they have for dinner?
8. Why was Mr. Beaver pleased that it was snowing again?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Edmund was reluctant to trust the Beaver?
2. Why were the others willing to trust Mr. Beaver?

Chapter 8: What Happened After Dinner

Vocabulary:

Stratagem - strategy, plan

Peddlers - people who sell things door-to-door

simple - foolish

Jinn - supernatural creatures, genies

Expressions:

'time out of mind' means 'as long as anyone can remember'

'mark my words' means 'pay attention and remember what I say'

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 8.

1. What had happened to Mr. Tumnus?
2. Why did Peter believe they had to try to help the faun?
3. Who is Aslan?
4. What did Mrs. Beaver say about anyone who could appear before Aslan and not be nervous?
5. Where were the children supposed to meet Aslan?
6. When was Edmund's absence noticed?
7. Why did Mr. Beaver say there was no point in looking for him?
8. What did Mrs. Beaver say was the only chance of saving either Edmund or the other children?

Critical Thinking

1. Do you agree with Peter's feeling that the children should try to help Mr. Tumnus? Why or why not?
2. What do you think the statement that Aslan isn't safe, but good means?
3. What would you do if someone you love did something wrong?

Chapter 9: In the Witch's House

Vocabulary:

barking - bumping

dunce - a very stupid person

turret - a small tower that is part of a castle

gloating - feeling very satisfied and superior

satyrs - a mythical creature, half man, half goat

cat-a-mountains - mountain lions

centaur - a mythical creature, half man, half horse

eerie – spooky

Expressions:

'give him the cold shoulder' means to ignore him on purpose

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 9.

1. Why hadn't Edmund enjoyed dinner?
2. When did he actually slip out of the Beavers' house?
3. What were some of the excuses he made up about the Witch in his own mind?
4. What cheered him up as he was walking?
5. How was he able to find his way?
6. What frightened him just inside the courtyard gate?
7. What silly thing did he do when he recovered from his fright?
8. How did the Witch greet him?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Edmund was determined to go to the Witch even though he knew deep down that she was evil?
2. Do you think he really believed that the stone lion was Aslan? Why or why not?
3. What do you think of the way the Witch reacted to his news?

Chapter 10: The Spell Begins to Break

Vocabulary:

Crock - a thick pottery jar or pot

Plaguey – bothersome or annoying

Frowsty - messy

sluice gate - a gate to control the flow of a river

ramped - stood threateningly with raised forelegs

cordial – medicine

Expressions:

‘Get along with you all’ means ‘All of you, calm down!’

‘What a mercy’ means ‘It’s a good thing’

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 10.

1. What was Mrs. Beaver doing while the others were bundling up?
2. What hope did she say they had?
3. Why did Mr. Beaver say they should stay down in the valley?
4. What awakened everyone from their sleep in the cave?
5. Why did Mr. Beaver rush out when he heard the noise?
6. What was Father Christmas like, and how did he affect the children?
7. List the gifts he gave to each member of the party.

Critical Thinking

1. Do you think it was wise of Mrs. Beaver to take the time to pack up supplies? Why or why not?
2. How do you feel about Aslan’s statement that battles are ugly when women fight?

Chapter 11: Aslan Is Nearer

Vocabulary:

repulsive - disgusting

gaiety – having fun; celebration

vermin - common harmful animals or pests, such as rats and mice

gluttony - excess in eating or drinking

glade - an open space surrounded by woods

alighting - landing

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 11.

1. What did the Dwarf bring Edmund to eat and drink?
2. What did the Witch order the wolf to do?
3. How did Edmund feel riding in the Witch's sledge?
4. Why did the Witch stop suddenly?
5. What did she do to the party of animals?
6. Why did the sledge stop running well?
7. What did the Witch, the Dwarf, and Edmund do when the sledge couldn't go any further?
8. What did the Dwarf say had happened?
9. How did the Witch respond to his statement?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Edmund shouted out for the Witch not to harm the animals?
2. Why do you think his heart gave a great leap when he realized the frost was over?

Chapter 12: Peter's First Battle

Vocabulary:

Kingfisher - a brightly colored bird

Thrush - a small songbird

Pavilion - a large, luxurious tent

Alsatian - a large dog, now commonly called a German shepherd

Expressions:

'velvet them' means 'hold the claws in'

'win his spurs' means 'prove his skill and bravery'

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 12.

1. What did the children understand had happened when the magic spring began?
2. Describe the Stone Table.
3. How did the Beavers and the children feel when they saw Aslan?
4. How did Lucy think Aslan's face looked?
5. What did Aslan show Peter?
6. What did Peter see after he heard the horn?
7. How did he feel, and what did he do?
8. What did Aslan send the other creatures to do?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think the children and the Beavers hesitated to approach Aslan?
2. Why do you think Peter didn't understand at first what the horn blowing meant?



Chapter 13: Deep Magic from the Dawn of Time

Vocabulary:

Ghouls - evil beings that rob graves and feed on corpses

Boggles - ugly, evil creatures

Ogres - evil giants who feed on humans

Minotaurs - creatures that are half man, half bull

Hags - evil old women, witches

Spectres - ghosts

cheek – disrespect; being cheeky

treachery - betrayal

forfeit – to give up

renounce – to make an announcement that you are giving up a title or a belief

Expressions:

‘craves audience’ means ‘wants to meet with you’

‘safe conduct’ is a guarantee of being allowed to enter enemy territory without being attacked

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 13.

1. What did the Dwarf suggest the Witch should do with Edmund?
2. What did the Witch intend to do with him?
3. How did the Witch and the Dwarf avoid being captured when Edmund was rescued?
4. What did Aslan say when he brought Edmund to his siblings?
5. How did the Witch’s appearance affect the group of Aslan’s supporters?
6. What did Mrs. Beaver notice about the meeting between Aslan and the Witch?
7. Why had the Witch come?

Critical Thinking

1. What do you think of the way the rescuers treated Edmund?
2. Why do you think Aslan said there was no need to talk about what was past?
3. Why do you think Aslan told Mr. Beaver to keep quiet?

Chapter 14: The Triumph of the Witch

Vocabulary:

campaign - a military operation

siege - a blockade of a strong place to force its surrender

groped- felt the way in the dark

leering - staring in an evil way

rabble - a disorderly crowd

whet - sharpen

pact - agreement

appeased - satisfied

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 14.

1. Why did Aslan say they had to move camp?
2. What did Aslan say about his presence in the battle that was sure to come?
3. What did the girls see when they got up in the middle of the night?
4. What did Aslan say when they asked to go with him?
5. How did the Witch's followers react to Aslan's appearance?
6. What was done to Aslan before he was put on the Stone Table?
7. How did Aslan look just before he was killed?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Aslan didn't tell anyone what was going to happen?
2. Why do you think the Witch and her followers humiliated Aslan before killing him?

Chapter 15: Deeper Magic from Before the Dawn of Time

Vocabulary:

skirling - making a high, shrill sound

vile - disgusting

stead - place

giddy - causing dizziness

slacking - slowing

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 15.

1. Why couldn't Susan and Lucy untie the ropes on Aslan's body?
2. What two things did Lucy notice after it seemed that hours had gone by?
3. What were the mice doing?
4. What sound did the girls hear, and then what did they see?
5. What had the Witch not known?
6. How did the girls feel after the wild romp with Aslan?
7. When did they reach the Witch's home?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think Edmund was determined to go to the Witch even though he knew deep down that she was evil?
2. Do you think he really believed that the stone lion was Aslan? Why or why not?
3. What do you think of the way the Witch reacted to his news?

Chapter 16: What Happened About the Statues

Vocabulary:

Grate - fireplace

prodigious - enormous

saccharine - tablet which is an artificial sweetener

bay - a deep bark

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 16.

1. What did Lucy think the Witch's courtyard was like at first?
2. What did Aslan do to bring the statues back to life?
3. How did they all get out of the Witch's courtyard?
4. What did Mr. Tumnus tell Lucy about the giant Rumblebuffin?
5. What was the change in the noise that gave Lucy an odd feeling?
6. What was happening in the center of the battlefield?

Critical Thinking

1. Why do you think the other lion was so pleased that Aslan had said "us lions"?
2. What do you think the Witch was thinking when she saw Aslan?

Chapter 17: The Hunting of the White Stag

Vocabulary:

scepter - a king or queen's staff

revelry - celebration

lurking - hiding

consorts - companions

quarry - an animal being hunted

marry - truly

foreboding - feeling that something is going to happen

signification – meaning

Expressions:

'visits of state' are visits from the officials of one kingdom to the officials of another kingdom

'worketh upon me strangely' means 'gives me a strange feeling'

Comprehension – Answer the following questions based on Chapter 17.

1. What had Edmund done that had kept the Witch from overpowering Aslan's forces?
2. What did Aslan do in the midst of the celebration?
3. What names were given to the children as they grew and changed over the years?
4. How did they happen to find the lamp post in the wood?
5. Why did they decide not to turn back at that point?
6. How did the Professor react to their story?

Critical Thinking

1. What do you think of Aslan's insistence that Lucy go and help others before she saw if Edmund was recovered?
2. Do you think Edmund should have been told what Aslan had done for him? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think the Professor advised the children not to talk too much about their adventures?

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