

5. The Silver Chair Discussion Group

WK	Days	Reading Assignment	Chapter Titles
Wk 5	April 2	Chs 12, 13	12. The Queen of Underland 13. Underland without the Queen
Wk 6	April 9	Chs 14, 15, 16	14. The Bottom of the World 15. The Disappearance of Jill 16. The Healing of Harms

Do you think I am trying to weave a spell? Perhaps I am; but remember your fairy tales. Spells are used for breaking enchantments as well as for inducing them. And you and I have need of the strongest spell that can be found to wake us from the evil enchantment of worldliness which has been laid upon us for nearly a hundred years.”

C. S. Lewis, “The Weight of Glory”

“Christian theology can fit in science, art, morality, and the sub-Christian religions. The scientific point of view cannot fit in any of these things, not even science itself. I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”

C. S. Lewis, “Is Theology Poetry?”

“Ten years!” said the Prince, drawing his hand across his face as if to rub away the past. “Yes, I believe you. For now that I am myself I can remember that enchanted life, though while I was enchanted I could not remember my true self....”

C. S. Lewis, *The Silver Chair*

“If our passions, being immaterial, can be copied by material inventions, then it is possible that our material world in its turn is a copy of an invisible world. As the god Amor and his figurative garden are to the actual passions of men, so perhaps we ourselves and our ‘real’ world are to something else. The attempt to read that something else through its sensible imitations, to see the archetype in the copy, is what I mean by symbolism or sacramentalism.”

C.S. Lewis, *The Allegory of Love*

The Witch shook her head. “I see,” she said, “that we should do no better with your lion, as you call it, than we did with your sun. You have seen lamps, and so you imagined a bigger and better lamp and called it the sun. You’ve seen cats, and now you want a bigger and better cat, and it’s to be called a lion. Well, ‘tis a pretty make-believe, though, to say truth, it would suit you all better if you were younger. And look how you can put nothing into your make-believe without copying it from the real world, this world of mine, which is the only world.

C. S. Lewis, *The Silver Chair*

“But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

C. S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*

‘Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing. If that is so, I must take care, on the one

hand, never to despise, or be unthankful for, these earthly blessings, and on the other, never to mistake them for the something else of which they are only a kind of copy, or echo, or mirage.

C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

“What we are more likely to overlook is the necessity for a transformation even when the natural love is allowed to continue. In such a case the Divine Love does not substitute itself for the natural—as if we had to throw away our silver to make room for the gold. The natural loves are summoned to become modes of Charity while also remaining the natural loves they were.”

C. S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*

Questions for Chapters 12 and 13

1. What happens in chapters 12 and 13?
2. What does the enchantment do to the prince, Eustace, Jill, and Puddleglum?
3. To what does Puddleglum appeal? What does he see?
4. How does the Lady resume her attempt at enchantment?
5. What does Puddleglum do to break the enchantment and why does it work?
6. As the company sets out from the castle what happens? What do they say and do?
7. How is the prince changed as he rides out into the city?
8. What is the kind of story we are reading? Where is Aslan?