

2. The Last Battle: What Happened That Night, How Help Came to the King, A Good Night's work

Reading schedule. We will discuss three chapters each week.

1. By Caldron Pool, The Rashness of the King, The Ape in Its Glory
2. What Happened That Night, How Help Came to the King, A Good Night's Work
3. Mainly About Dwarfs, What News the Eagle Brought, The Great Meeting on Stable Hill
4. Who Will Go into the Stable?, The Pace Quickens, Through the Stable Door
5. How the Dwarfs Refused to Be Taken In
6. Night Falls on Narnia, Further Up and Further In, Farewell to the Shadow Lands

Note: Lunch with Lewis will read, "How the Dwarfs Refused to Be Taken" for week 4

“...Up far beyond
Goes Saturn silent in the seventh region,
The skirts of the sky. Scant grows the light,
Sickly, uncertain (the Sun's finger
Daunted with darkness). Distance hurts us,
And the vault severe of vast silence;
Where fancy fails us, and fair language,
And love leaves us, and light fails us
And Mars fails us, and the mirth of Jove
Is as tin tinklin. In tattered garment,
Weak with winters, he walks forever
A weary way, wide round the heav'n,
Stoop'd and stumbling, with staff groping,
The lord of lead. He is the last planet
Old and ugly. His eye fathers
Pale pestilence, pain of envy,
Remorse and murder. Melancholy drink
(For bane or blessing) of bitter wisdom
He pours for his people, a perilous draught
That the lip loves not. We leave all things
To reach the rim of the round welkin,
Heaven's hermitage, high and lonely.”

“The Planets”

“Not that I am (I think) in much danger of ceasing to believe in God. The real danger is of coming to believe such dreadful things about Him. The conclusion I dread is not 'So there's no God after all,' but 'So this is what God's really like. Deceive yourself no longer.’”

C. S. Lewis, *A Grief Observed*

For Mr. Beaver had warned them, “He'll be coming and going,” he had said. “One day you'll see him and another you won't. He doesn't like being tied down—and of course he has other countries to attend to. It's quite all right. He'll often drop in. Only you mustn't press him. He's wild, you know. Not like a *tame* lion.”

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

“Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It would be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron's cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those who torment us for our own good will torment us without end for they do so with the approval of their own conscience.”

C.S. Lewis

Chapter 4: What Happened That Night

1. Why do you think it is the mice, the rabbit, and moles who come to Tirian?
2. How does Lewis make use of the temperature, the light, and the passing of time in this chapter?
3. What do the animals think is the reason for all that is happening? What do they think about Aslan?
4. What conclusion does Tirian come to about the Aslan in the stable?
5. What generation is Tirian from King Rilian?
6. What does Tirian do? What happens? How is Tirian impacted? How is he helped?
7. Who all is present at the dinner party? Who is absent?

Chapter 5: How Help Came to the King

1. How does Tirian talk about time and the difference between Narnia and the world of the children? How does he use time differently?
2. What do the children remember about their coming to Narnia?
3. What are we to do with Lewis' description of the Calormenes? What does “calor” mean?

Chapter 6: A Good Night's Work

1. How are the children changing. Of what benefit was their previous Narnia visit been to them now?
2. What does Jill talk when she wants to be quiet? Where do you think she learned that?
3. What happens to Jill?
4. What does Jill do for Puzzle? For Tirian?
5. How does Puzzle describe why he did what he did?
6. How have the characters changed by the end of the chapter? How has the mood changed?