

4. Who Will Go into the Stable?, The Pace Quickens, Through the Stable Door, How the Dwarfs Refused to Be Taken In

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 Nights 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, How the Dwarfs Refused to Be Taken In
5. Night Falls on Narnia, Further Up and Further In, Farewell to the Shadow Lands

“...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”

We may give our human loves the unconditional allegiance which we owe only to God. Then they become gods: then they become demons. Then they will destroy us, and also destroy themselves. For natural loves that are allowed to become gods do not remain loves. They are still called so, but can become in fact complicated forms of hatred.

C. S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*

The books or the music in which we thought the beauty was located will betray us if we trust to them; it was not in them, it only came through them, and what came through them was longing. These things—the beauty, the memory of our own past—are good images of what we really desire; but if they are mistaken for the thing itself, they turn into dumb idols, breaking the hearts of their worshippers. For they are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have not heard, news from a country we have never yet visited. Do you think I am trying to weave a spell?

C. S. Lewis, *Weight of Glory*

“A god’s voice had once shattered my whole life. They are not to be mistaken. It may well be that by trickery of priests men have sometimes taken a mortal’s voice for a god’s. But it will not work the other way. No one who hears a god’s voice takes it for a mortal’s. “Lord, who are you?” said I.

“Do not do it,” said the god. “You cannot escape Ungit by going to the deadlands, for she is there also. Die before you die. There is no chance after.”

C. S. Lewis, *Till We Have Faces*

Chapter 10: Who Will Go into the Stable?

1. What action do Jill and the Jewel take when they realize what Rishda and Ginger have done?
2. How does the story of Aslan’s anger play itself out?
3. What word from Tirian gives the children courage? Is that a good place to be?
4. What happens to Ginger after he enters the stable?
5. Whom do we meet next? What does he do and why? How does he display a kind of faith? What does his name mean?
6. What does Tirian do next?

Chapter 11: The Pace Quickens

1. What do Tirian and Poggin do to Shift? What happens to Shift?
2. What is the “only really beautiful thing that happened that night”? How so? How does Lewis make use of the word “help” and “how”?
3. What plan does Rishda make? What is his intent? Why so?
4. What seems to be the *greater infortune* of this war? How are the lines of sides blurred?
5. How does Tirian show the martial spirit? What is his counsel to Jewel? to Jill? to Eustace? What does this teach us about how to face the *greater infortune*?
6. What happens at the end? What spells their doom?

Chapter 12: Through the Stable Door

1. What happens to Eustace?
2. What happens to dwarfs?
3. How have the Calormenes changed? Why so?
4. How is the door to the stable described in these few chapters?
5. How does the mood change in the middle of the chapter? How does Lewis describe the hopelessness of the fight?
6. What does Tirian do next? What happens to Rishda Tarkaan?
7. Whom does Tirian meet next?
8. What has happened to Susan? What do you think about the “problem of Susan”?
9. What wisdom does Lady Polly offer?

Chapter 13: How the Dwarfs Refused to Be Taken In

1. How is the new country described? How are they now dressed? How are they different in that new place?
2. Is there a connection between the door in this wood and the lamp-post in Narnia?
3. What has happened to Lucy? What connection does she make? How do you think she is able to make it?
4. What turns out to have been the plan of Ginger, Rishda, and the Ape all along?
5. What has happened to Emeth and the dwarfs? Are either of them wholly present or of their right minds? Are they wholly in or out of this new place? What might Lewis be saying by this? What might Lewis be saying about true friends of Narnia?
6. What has happened to the dwarfs’ senses? And what do they end up doing to one another? What does Aslan say has happened to them?
7. What time is it now? How does Aslan use the word, “time”?