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978-0-521-88413-6 - The Cambridge Companion to C. S. Lewis

Edited by Robert MacSwain and Michael Ward

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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
C.S. LEWIS

A distinguished academic, influential Christian apologist, and best-selling author of children's literature, C.S. Lewis (1898–1963) is a controversial and enigmatic figure who continues to fascinate fifty years after his death. This *Companion* is the first 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 Oxford, Cambridge, Princeton and Wheaton, among many other places of learning, analyse 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*.

Robert MacSwain is Assistant Professor of Theology and Christian Ethics at the School of Theology, the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. He is the co-editor, with Jeffrey Stout, of *Grammar and Grace: Reformulations of Aquinas and Wittgenstein* (2004), and, with Ann Loades, of *The Truth-Seeking Heart: Austin Farrer and His Writings* (2006).

Michael Ward is Chaplain of St Peter's College, University of Oxford. He is the author of *Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C.S. Lewis* (2008) and the co-editor, with Ben Quash, of *Heresies and How to Avoid Them: Why it Matters What Christians Believe* (2007).

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Contributors

Joseph P. Cassidy is Principal of St Chad's College, Durham University, and a non-residentiary canon of Durham Cathedral. His publications include 'Who's In and Who's Out' in Mark D. Chapman (ed.), *Living the Magnificat* (2008); 'Cultural and Spiritual Aspects of Palliative Medicine' with Douglas J. Davies in Derek Doyle *et al.* (eds), *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Medicine* (2005); 'The Post-Communion Prayer: Living Sacrifice', in Stephen Conway (ed.), *Living the Eucharist* (2001); 'Directing the Third Week', in David Fleming (ed.), *Ignatian Exercises. Contemporary Annotations: The Best of the Review 4* (1996); and 'The Is-ought Problem and the Ground of Economic Ethics', in Masudul Alam Choudhury (ed.), *Ethics and Economics* (1995). Dr Cassidy, for many years a Jesuit before becoming an Anglican, has also published extensively in social ethics and Central American policy analysis.

Dennis Danielson is Professor of English at the University of British Columbia. His publications include *Milton's Good God: A Study in Literary Theodicy* (Cambridge University Press, 1982; repr. 2009); *The First Copernican: Georg Joachim Rheticus and the Rise of the Copernican Revolution* (2006); *The Cambridge Companion to Milton* (Cambridge University Press, 1989; 2nd edn 1999); and *The Book of the Cosmos: Imagining the Universe from Heraclitus to Hawking* (2000). Professor Danielson has also published articles in journals such as *Mind*, *Nature*, *American Journal of Physics*, *Journal for the History of Astronomy*, and *American Scientist*.

Mark Edwards is Tutor in Theology at Christ Church and Lecturer in Patristics for the Theology Faculty in the University of Oxford. His publications include *Catholicity and Heresy in the Early Church* (2009); *Culture and Philosophy in the Age of Plotinus* (2006); *John through the Centuries* (2003); *Origen against Plato* (2002); and *Neoplatonic Saints* (2000). Dr Edwards has also published articles in journals such as *Classical Quarterly*, *Journal of Theological Studies*, *American Journal of Philology*, *Downside Review*, and *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*.

Paul S. Fiddes is Professor of Systematic Theology in the University of Oxford, where he is also Principal Emeritus and Professorial Research Fellow of Regent's Park College. His publications include *The Promised End: Eschatology in Theology and Literature* (2000); *Participating in God: A Pastoral Doctrine of the Trinity* (2000); *Freedom and Limit: A Dialogue between Literature and Christian Doctrine* (1991); *Past Event and Present Salvation: The Christian Idea*

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of *Atonement* (1989); and *The Creative Suffering of God* (1988). He has served as Chairman of the Doctrine and Worship Committee of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. In 2005 he delivered the Bampton Lectures as *Seeing the World and Knowing God: Ancient Wisdom and Modern Doctrine*. Professor Fiddes serves as series editor of *New Critical Thinking in Religion, Theology and Biblical Studies*.

John V. Fleming is the Louis W. Fairchild Professor of English and Comparative Literature Emeritus at Princeton University. His publications include *The Roman de la Rose: A Study in Allegory and Iconography* (1969); *Reason and the Lover* (1984); *An Introduction to the Franciscan Literature of the Middle Ages* (1977); *Classical Imitation and Interpretation in Chaucer's "Troilus"* (1990); and *The Anti-Communist Manifestos: Four Books that Shaped the Cold War* (2009). Professor Fleming is the former President of the Medieval Academy of America, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a member of the Guild of Scholars of the Episcopal Church.

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in *Christian Ethics* (1991); *Friendship: A Study in Theological Ethics* (1981); and *The Taste for the Other: The Social and Ethical Thought of C.S. Lewis* (1978; 2nd edn 1998, repr. 2003). Professor Meilaender served on the President's Council on Bioethics from 2002 to 2009.

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Theology: Divine Action, Passion, and Authorship (Cambridge University Press, 2010); *Pictures at a Biblical Exhibition: Theological Scenes of the Church's Worship, Witness, and Wisdom* (2010); *The Drama of Doctrine: A Canonical-Linguistic Approach to Christian Theology* (2005); *Is There a Meaning in This Text?: The Bible, the Reader, and the Morality of Literary Knowledge* (1998); *Biblical Narrative in the Philosophy of Paul Ricœur: A Study in Hermeneutics and Theology* (Cambridge University Press, 1990). Professor Vanhoozer serves on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Systematic Theology* and *Pro Ecclesia* and is the North American Consultant for the forthcoming edition of the *New Dictionary of Theology*.

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Michael Ward is Chaplain of St Peter's College in the University of Oxford. His publications include *Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C.S. Lewis* (2008); *Heresies and How to Avoid Them*, co-edited with Ben Quash (2007); 'The Tragedy is in the Pity: C.S. Lewis and the Song of the Goat', in T. Kevin Taylor and Giles Waller (eds), *Christian Theology and Tragedy: Theologians, Tragic Literature, and Tragic Theory* (forthcoming 2011); 'C.S. Lewis', in Andrew Atherstone (ed.), *The Heart of Faith: Following Christ in the Church of England* (2008); and 'Christianity and Film', in Angus J.L. Menue (ed.), *Christ and Culture in Dialogue* (1999). Dr Ward's work on Lewis's theological imagination was the subject of the BBC television documentary *The Narnia Code* (2009); a book of the same title followed (2010). His website is <www.michaelward.biz>.

Judith Wolfe is a Research Fellow at Wolfson College in the University of Oxford, and a post-doctoral fellow at the European College of Liberal Arts in Berlin. Her doctoral dissertation was on Heidegger's secular eschatology. Her publications include *C.S. Lewis and the Church*, co-edited with Brendan Wolfe (forthcoming, 2011); "'Hineingehalten in die Nacht": Heidegger's Early Appropriation of Christian Eschatology', in J.P. Manoussakis and N. DeRoo (eds), *Phenomenology and Eschatology* (2008); 'Salvation is in Suffering: Heidegger between Luther and Hölderlin', in George Pattison (ed.), *Heidegger and Religion: Colloquia of the Oxford Centre for Christianity and Modern European Thought* (2008); 'Acknowledging a Hidden God: A Theological Critique of Stanley Cavell on Scepticism', *The Heythrop Journal* 48 (2007); and "'Like this Insubstantial Pageant Faded": Eschatology and Theatricality in *The Tempest*', *Literature and Theology* 18 (2004). Dr Tønning is a former President of the Oxford University C.S. Lewis Society and is General Editor of the *Oxford Journal of Inklings Studies*, a peer-reviewed journal indexed in the MLA.

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Abbreviations

Lewis's works are cited in the notes in the following editions and with the following abbreviations:

AGO	<i>A Grief Observed</i> . London: Faber & Faber, 1966.
AMR	<i>All My Road Before Me: The Diary of C.S. Lewis, 1922–1927</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: HarperCollins, 1991.
AOL	<i>The Allegory of Love: A Study in Medieval Tradition</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1958.
AOM	<i>The Abolition of Man</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1984.
AT	<i>Charles Williams and C.S. Lewis, Arthurian Torso</i> . London: Oxford University Press.
CLI	<i>Collected Letters, Volume I</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: HarperCollins, 2000.
CLII	<i>Collected Letters, Volume II</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: HarperCollins, 2004.
CLIII	<i>Collected Letters, Volume III</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: HarperCollins, 2006.
CP	<i>The Collected Poems of C.S. Lewis</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: Fount, 1994.
DI	<i>The Discarded Image</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1964.
DT	<i>The Dark Tower and Other Stories</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: Collins, 1977.
EC	<i>Essay Collection</i> , ed. Lesley Walmsley. London: HarperCollins, 2000.
EIC	<i>An Experiment in Criticism</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1961.
EL	<i>English Literature in the Sixteenth Century, Excluding Drama</i> . Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1954.
FL	<i>The Four Loves</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1991.
GD	<i>The Great Divorce: A Dream</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1982.
GMA	<i>George MacDonald: An Anthology</i> . San Francisco: HarperCollins, 2001.
HHB	<i>The Horse and His Boy</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1980.
LB	<i>The Last Battle</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1981.
LTM	<i>Prayer: Letters to Malcolm</i> . London: Collins, 1983.

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LWW	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1982.
M	<i>Miracles: A Preliminary Study, revised edn</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1980.
MC	<i>Mere Christianity</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1990.
MN	<i>The Magician's Nephew</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1981.
NP	<i>Narrative Poems</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: HarperCollins, 1994.
OSP	<i>Out of the Silent Planet</i> . London: Pan, 1983.
OTOW	<i>Of This and Other Worlds</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: Collins, 1982.
PC	<i>Prince Caspian: The Return to Narnia</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1981.
Per	<i>Perelandra</i> . London: Pan, 1983.
PH	E.M.W. Tillyard and C.S. Lewis, <i>The Personal Heresy: A Controversy</i> . London: Oxford University Press, 1965.
POP	<i>The Problem of Pain</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1983.
PPL	<i>A Preface to Paradise Lost</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1984.
PR	<i>The Pilgrim's Regress: An Allegorical Apology for Christianity, Reason and Romanticism</i> . Glasgow: Fount, 1980.
ROP	<i>Reflections on the Psalms</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1984.
SBJ	<i>Surprised by Joy: The Shape of My Early Life</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1982.
SC	<i>The Silver Chair</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1981.
SIL	<i>Spenser's Images of Life</i> , ed. Alastair Fowler. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1967.
SIW	<i>Studies in Words</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
SL	<i>The Screwtape Letters</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1982.
SLE	<i>Selected Literary Essays</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980.
SMRL	<i>Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Literature</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1966.
THS	<i>That Hideous Strength: A Modern Fairy-tale for Grown-ups</i> . London: Pan, 1983.
TST	<i>They Stand Together: The Letters of C.S. Lewis to Arthur Greeves (1914-1963)</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: Collins, 1979.
TWHF	<i>Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold</i> . Glasgow: Collins, 1985.
UND	<i>Undeceptions: Essays in Theology and Ethics</i> , ed. Walter Hooper. London: Geoffrey Bles, 1971. Known as <i>God in the Dock</i> in the United States.
VDT	<i>The Voyage of the 'Dawn Treader'</i> . Glasgow: Fontana Lions, 1981.

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C.S. Lewis: Chronology

- 1898 Clive Staples ('Jack') Lewis born, Belfast (29 Nov.), second son of Albert and Florence Lewis, brother to Warren (b. 1895)
- 1899 Baptized by grandfather, the Revd Thomas Hamilton, St Mark's (Church of Ireland), Dundela
- 1908 Death of mother, Florence; enrolled at Wynyard School, Hertfordshire
- 1911 Enrolled at schools in Malvern; ceases to self-identify as Christian
- 1914 Begins tutelage under William Kirkpatrick, Surrey; confirmed at St Mark's, Dundela, 'in total disbelief'; outbreak of the Great War
- 1917 Matriculates at University College, Oxford; joins Officers' Training Corps; meets fellow cadet Paddy Moore and his mother, Jane Moore; serves in trenches in France as second lieutenant in Somerset Light Infantry
- 1918 Wounded in Battle of Arras; death of Paddy Moore; Lewis convalesces in hospitals in England (May–Nov.); end of the Great War
- 1919 Returns to Oxford; *Spirits in Bondage: A Cycle of Lyrics* published
- 1920 Takes First in Classical Honour Moderations
- 1921 Receives Chancellor's Prize for an English Essay
- 1922 Moves with Jane Moore and her daughter Maureen to a house in Headington, Oxford; takes First in Literae Humaniores
- 1923 Takes First in English Language and Literature
- 1924 Teaches philosophy, University College
- 1925 Elected Fellow and Tutor in English, Magdalen College, Oxford
- 1926 Meets J.R.R. Tolkien; *Dymer* published
- 1929 Becomes theist; death of father, Albert
- 1930 Moves with Warren Lewis and Jane and Maureen Moore to The Kilns, Headington Quarry
- 1931 Comes to believe 'that Jesus Christ is the Son of God'
- 1933 *The Pilgrim's Regress*; first meetings of the 'Inklings' at Magdalen
- 1936 Meets Charles Williams; *The Allegory of Love*
- 1938 *Out of the Silent Planet*
- 1939 *Rehabilitations*; *The Personal Heresy*; outbreak of war with Germany; evacuees arrive at The Kilns; Warren Lewis recalled to active service
- 1940 Maureen Moore marries, moves out of The Kilns; *The Problem of Pain*

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- 1941 First talks to Royal Air Force; *The Screwtape Letters* serialized; preaches 'The Weight of Glory' in University Church, Oxford; gives BBC radio broadcasts on 'Right and Wrong'
- 1942 Becomes President of Oxford University Socratic Club; *A Preface to Paradise Lost*
- 1943 *Perelandra*; *The Abolition of Man*
- 1944 *The Great Divorce* serialized
- 1945 End of World War II; death of Charles Williams; *That Hideous Strength*
- 1947 On cover of *Time* magazine; *Miracles*
- 1948 Elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature
- 1950 Receives first letter from Joy Gresham, née Davidman; *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*
- 1951 Death of Jane Moore
- 1952 *Mere Christianity*; meets Joy Gresham
- 1954 Elected Professor of Medieval and Renaissance Literature and Fellow of Magdalene College, University of Cambridge; *English Literature in the Sixteenth Century*
- 1955 Takes up Cambridge chair; elected Fellow of the British Academy; *Surprised by Joy*
- 1956 Secretly marries Joy Gresham in Oxford Registry Office (Apr.); Joy hospitalized with cancer (Oct.); Lewis publishes news of their wedding (Dec.); *Till We Have Faces*; receives Carnegie Medal for *The Last Battle*
- 1957 Marries Joy Gresham in Christian ceremony at her hospital bedside; her cancer goes into remission
- 1958 *Reflections on the Psalms*
- 1960 *The Four Loves*; death of Joy Lewis; *Studies in Words*
- 1961 *A Grief Observed*; *An Experiment in Criticism*
- 1963 Resigns chair at Cambridge owing to ill-health; death of C.S. Lewis (22 Nov.)
- 1964 *Letters to Malcolm*; *The Discarded Image*