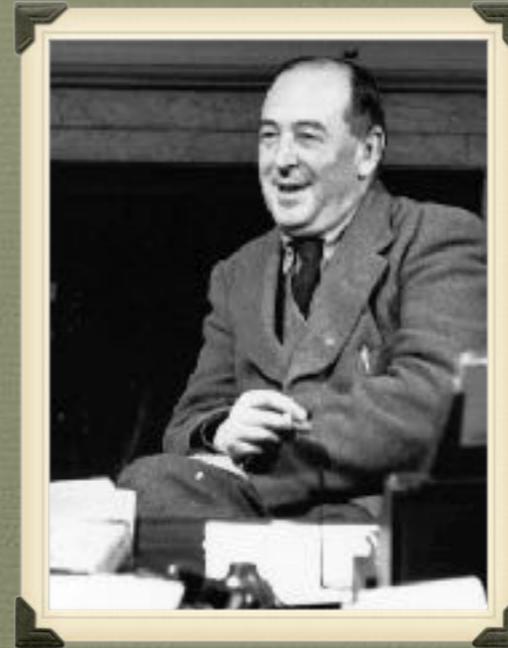


THE LAST BATTLE: QUARTER 1

DOUG OLENA + LTET.NET + JULY 8, 2018

THE LAST BATTLE

—BY CAULDRON POOL
—THE RASHNESS OF THE
KING
—THE APE IN ITS GLORY
—WHAT HAPPENED THAT
NIGHT





NARNIA



FOCUS

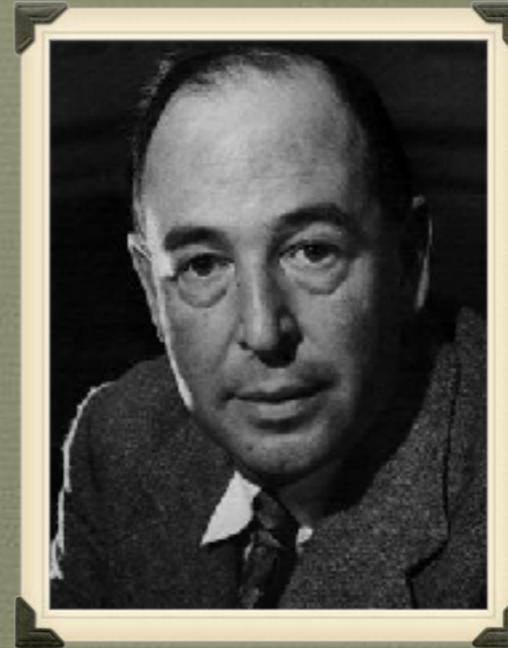
- Chapter 1: By Cauldron Pool
 - The relationship between Shift and Puzzle
 - Getting people to do things for you...
- Chapter 2: The Rashness of the King
 - Friendship
 - Outrage
 - Action

FOCUS

- Chapter 3: The Ape in its Glory
 - Aslan's orders: puzzlement
 - Escape
 - Return to judgment
- Chapter 4: What Happened That Night
 - Tied to a tree
 - The little creatures
 - Crack in the space-time continuum

THE LAST
BATTLE

BY CAULDRON POOL



BY CAULDRON POOL

- The relationship between Shift and Puzzle
 - Shift treats Puzzle as a servant, though speaks in the language of friendship.
 - Puzzle sees the relationship as friendship, though his deference to Shift carries a tone of self debasement.

It may be useful not to see this relationship as simple friendship because each sees the relationship quite differently. 1
There may be something of codependence between them, and it is friendship of a sort, but it is a corrupt friendship.

BY CAULDRON POOL

- Shift
 - Talking in the language of deference and friendship, his intent is to do as little work as he can while getting Puzzle to do it.
- Puzzle
 - Taking Shift as an equal and not a lord, Puzzle does what he does out of kindness even though it is costly and painful.
- Questions
 - Is Lewis making a comment about some character in his age, or making a general comment about relationships?

Shift acts like it is his right to get Puzzle to work for him.

BY CAULDRON POOL

- Getting people to do things for you...
- It seems clear that Shift was of greater wit and mental capability than Puzzle.

I refer to Kant again and say that those gifts are of no value without a good will to support them, and Shift didn't have that.

BY CAULDRON POOL

- Two worlds
 - In Shift's version of the world, things are bad because they are not fulfilling his every whim (no oranges or bananas).
 - In Puzzle's estimation the world was all right already.

Shift, like many agents of change, draws the world in a poor light to justify the change he desires.

Shift uses this bad state of the world to argue that Puzzle should wear the lion suit because then he could command the world in Aslan's name to better suit himself.

Thunder! Puzzle thinks it is a sign that imitating Aslan is a bad idea, while Shift says it is a sign of Aslan's approval.

THE LAST
BATTLE

THE RASHNESS
OF THE KING





THE RASHNESS OF THE KING

- Friendship
 - Tirian and Jewel the Unicorn are unlike in body, but like in mind, spirit, and intent.
 - They are vacationing together in the West of Narnia when they hear news.

Some notes about Friendship

What makes friendship admirable?

With Hagrid, “Concern for the needs of another—that is concern for the sake of that person’s needs and not just your own—seems to be a crucial ingredient in genuinely good friendships. (HP&P 41)

The desire that the friend receives benefit from the relationship as well as ourselves is one element.

Treating people merely as utilitarian is not friendship, though we are happy to use and be used by our friends.

The people we count as friends, we think of them as good people, following Kant’s dictum about a good will.

“Friendship in the fullest sense requires a shared understanding that what is good for a friend is also good for us. So when we strive for the good of a friend, we are also striving for our own good.” (HP&P 45)

“Friendship in the fullest sense offers the greatest safeguard against self-deception and the greatest encouragement to develop ourselves in the most important ways. Friendship provides ... all of us—with essential values that make life worthwhile and meaningful.” (HP&P 47-8)

THE RASHNESS OF THE KING

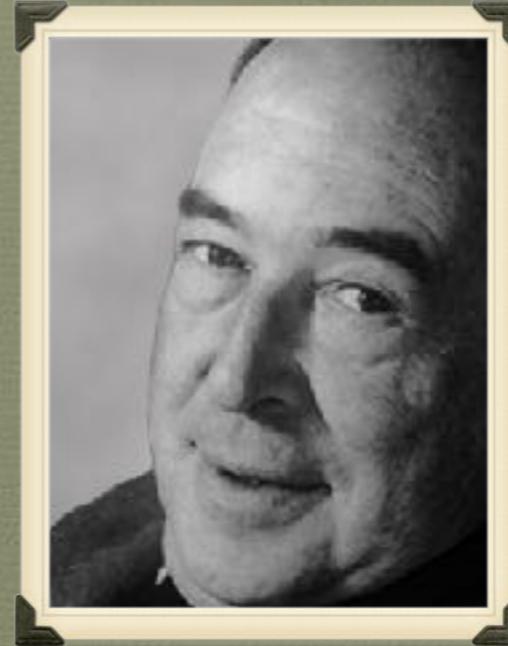
- News
 - Aslan is in Narnia. But the tales become odd, in that very few have seen him, and that those who have, have only seen him from a distance.
 - Roonwit denies that Aslan is in Narnia because the Stars haven't foretold it, and they are not liars.
 - The dying dryad shows up...

THE RASHNESS OF THE KING

- Outrage & Action
 - The talking horse is abused
 - In their outrage they slay two Calormenes.

THE LAST
BATTLE

THE APE IN ITS GLORY



THE APE IN ITS GLORY

- Aslan's orders and puzzlement
 - The horse and the rat confirmed that Aslan had given the orders.

Doubt about the appearance of Aslan makes the characters doubt the purity and truth of their actions.

In the later chapters of the book, Tirian, Scrub, and Pole find better assurance of beliefs and act from confidence instead of doubt.

THE APE IN ITS GLORY

- Tirian and Jewel make their escape only to reconsider.
- Tirian judges himself a murderer. 24-25
- They discuss the problem, and decide to turn themselves in.

Doubt certainly plays a part in this. If Tirian knew what was happening, he would have arranged a war party instead of turning himself in.

THE APE IN ITS GLORY

- Return to judgment
 - Tirian and Jewel face Shift
 - Shift puts off the problem and focusses on acquisition of more nuts.
 - The crowd of talking animals appeals to Shift to see Aslan. (read top 29)

THE APE IN ITS GLORY

- Tirian in a loud voice, “Ape, you lie. You lie damnably. You lie like a Calormene. You lie like an Ape.”
- Tirian had meant to go on with his denunciations, but the Calormenes kicked him down. Of course, Shift was outraged.

Slavery, well not really? 30

Shift said “True freedom means doing what I tell you.” 31

Tash and Aslan are the same with different names.

THE APE IN ITS GLORY

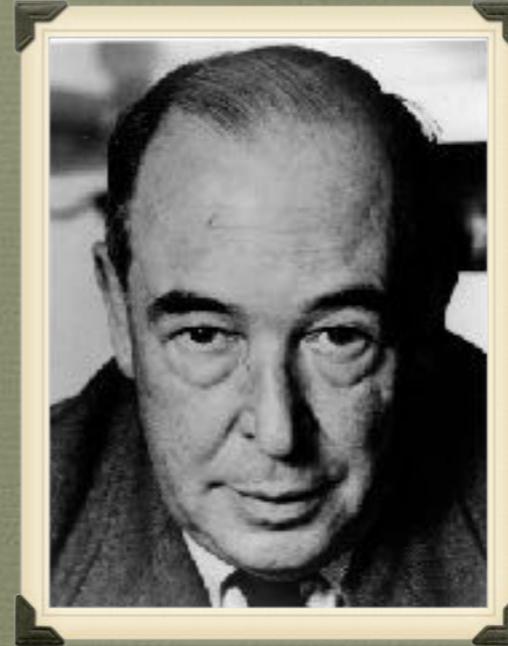
- Trousered Ape: Now Shift has donned some finery that looks ridiculous.
- I can't help but think about Lewis' characterization of people who are unable to perceive value, or are intentionally reducing human sentiment into a profane logic. (found in the book, *The Abolition of Man*)

<http://bit.ly/2MY8QeG>

“I have hitherto been assuming that such teachers as Gaius and Titius do not fully realize what they are doing and do not intend the far-reaching consequences it will actually have. There is, of course, another possibility. What I have called ... the 'trousered ape' and the 'urban blockhead' may be precisely the kind of man they really wish to produce. The differences between us may go all the way down. They may really hold that the **ordinary human feelings** about the past or animals or large waterfalls are contrary to reason and contemptible and ought to be eradicated. They may be intending to make a clean sweep of traditional values and start with a new set.... If it is the position which Gaius and Titius are holding, I must, for the moment, content myself with pointing out that it is a philosophical and not a literary position.”

THE LAST BATTLE

WHAT HAPPENED THAT
NIGHT



WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT

- The Calormenes tied him to an ash tree. They did not feed him or give him refreshment.
- After many hours passed his loyal creatures came to him, fed him, and gave him wine, then explained they couldn't let him free for fear of Aslan.

They were still convinced that Shift was telling them some truths about Aslan.

WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT

- Tirian asks the little creatures “Do you think it is really Aslan who is killing the Wood-Nymphs and making you all slaves to the King of Calormen?”
37
- They think so. But they are confused, and willing to risk getting in trouble feeding and caring for the King. But too scared to let the King go.

WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT

- Crack in the space-time continuum
 - Tirian cries out!
 - Read some of the last paragraphs.

1. He abases himself for the salvation of Narnia. He began to feel hope.
2. "Send me the helpers from beyond the world." 41-42
3. "Children! Children! Friends of Narnia! Quick, Come to me. Across the worlds I call you; I Tirian, King of Narnia, Lord of Cair Paravel, and Emperor of the Lone Islands!"
"And immediately he was plunged into a dream ... more vivid than any he had had in his life."