



C.S. Lewis: Master Storyteller

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From his earliest childhood, C.S. Lewis (1898 -1963) loved to hear and tell stories. Persuaded that stories could reveal the truth about the real world in a unique way, the literature professor would write more than thirty books, including science fiction, theology, literary criticism, and fantasy. In an era marked by two world wars, Lewis attacked tough questions about life and faith headfirst. Convinced that the story of Jesus Christ is the truest of all stories, and known for searching out the truth with honesty, clarity, and imagination, the former atheist would become one of the most influential Christians of the twentieth century.

C.S. Lewis: Master Storyteller Details

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From Reader Review C.S. Lewis: Master Storyteller for online ebook

Michelle says

This sums up so much. "Any fool can write learned language. The vernacular is the real test. If you can't turn your faith into it, then either you don't understand it, or you don't believe it."

Wren says

Enjoyed reading about his life and where his ideas for stories came from. Most fantastic is that he became a Christian despite being surrounded by people who weren't believers in Christ, and one of his most influential teachers was an atheist.

Melanie says

I've only read some of C.S. Lewis's books and have loved each of them! It was interesting to learn more about him and his life, starting with the fact that from the age of two, he insisted on going by the name of Jack. I was fascinated to learn that, at one point, he was an atheist and later became one of the greatest Christian authors of all time.

I read The Chronicles of Narnia with my children a few years ago and we found the parts that talked about that to be especially interesting. There was also background given on some of his other books, which we enjoyed learning about as well. This is an excellent book for younger readers. I'm glad I read it with them since it sparked some interesting discussions and I learned quite a bit from it, too.

Abhy Nadar says

A great book. Enjoyed reading every page of this book. It transports you successfully to that era in Ireland and England. It moves through C. S. Lewis's life at just the right pace ensuring that you are never bored. It brings to your notice so many excellent authors. Includes many insights into C. S. Lewis. Anyone should be able to read this book - Christians and non-Christians alike. If you have read Chronicles of Narnia then you should read this to know how those books came about.

Kori says

have to say the presentation here of an icon's life was not all that enthralling and since it is written for young readers, it just seems to me that this book couldn't keep the interest of them - but it is a biography and the goal is to give an accurate portrayal of the subject's life. At any rate - I learned a lot about Mr. Lewis that I didn't know before. He is shown here to be such a modest and generous person, almost too good to be true. His

books have stood the test of time and we are fortunate to have them.

Benje says

b o r i n g

Calvin Edwards says

This book was even better the second time! I loved it!

Cassandra says

This is a great book that tells a lot about C.S. Lewis's life. It was an interesting read and we learned a lot.

Margaret Chind says

Originally posted on Creative Madness Mama.

The last several weeks most nights I have been reading aloud and taking turns with my Second Grader to read *C.S Lewis, Master Storyteller* from the Christian Heroes: Then & Now series by YWAM Publishing {aff} which we were blessed to receive for review as well as a CD Unit Study Guide Curriculum. The book is also available an audiobook and eBook versions and the study guide is available as a download as well. Ours is a physical paperback and CD. The book is very good quality with a glossy cover and is the size of an average trade paperback book with just over 190 pages. **On the YWAM website you can see through ISSUU a sample of the book and some screen prints of a sample study guide.**

My own childhood was filled with knowledge of the Narnia stories written by "Master Storyteller" C.S. Lewis through BBC dramatizations that had been recorded onto VHS tapes from a PBS special. It was not until after I was married that I actually purchased an omnibus of the series and started to read and get an idea about what all the fuss was about. Within a few years, the newer movie versions started to come to theatre, then add on my own children and we have started to read the series as read aloud storytime books. In my own time, I've read quite a few of Lewis' apologetical devotionals as well as fallen in love with the use of the C.S. Lewis Study Bible also. Thus, I was delighted to start reading *Christian Heroes: Then & Now C.S. Lewis, Master Storyteller* by Janet & Geoff Benge. I had seen YWAM books and biographies mentioned on various homeschool lists over the last few years in my searching lists, but this is my first experience with

one, and I'm very happy with it and definitely plan to look into their books in the future with other characters we need to know from history.

From my own experience of words here and there I knew that Lewis was at one point in his life a staunch atheist, but I had not known until reading this with my children that he was quite a faithfilled Christian earlier in his life before he drifted away and then was influenced by a particular tutor. The prose of this autobiography is like a novel, but filled with facts and truth from youth forward and is bringing history alive for our whole family. Reading about the events in the all-boys school and then experiencing the depressions in his family surround him, and even the starting points of the first World War was powerful and educational. The writers of this book have done an incredible job. I am enjoying it, my advanced six year old is enjoying it and my four year old is enjoying the story even if not really holding on to it. She enjoys it as a story.

We have enjoyed reading *C.S. Lewis, Master Storyteller* as our bedtime story. [ETA as requested more detail from the blog tour anchor team.] As I've already mentioned, the **biography** itself was delightful. However, I'd like to also note that the **study guide** is great as well. It is filled with a plethora of information that could take this one small biography and lead toward a semester or more of study. It is a CD-Rom, which when entered into the computer provides a short trailer video blip for the series. Such as the Christian Heroes: Then & Now which features Christian examples of people in history that have stood up and provided models of a good way to live and grow the faith and fellowship in Christ. Within the CD-Rom there are PDF printables that include maps, as well as discussion points in the actual guide document. In our home, before we read *C.S. Lewis Master Storyteller* I read through the study guide and made choices of things to point out. Such as the **Key Bible Verse** (see image above) and then as we read the story and Jack's example exemplified the verse I pointed it out to my girls and we talked about it further as well as underlined the verse in AppleBlossom's personal Bible.

We used the study guide to expand the biography across the curriculum. Mainly it was a character and Bible story, but there was also imprints of geographical lessons as well as vocabulary and more. I appreciated the discussion that we were able to maintain through out our entire use of this program. What I found is that I would definitely like to continue to use YWAM products in our future homeschool especially the biographies. The study guide was good, but not absolutely fabulous as most of it was geared toward a group setting - but in that statement it would make a great resource for a Sunday School or Wednesday Bible study or some such. It is a great product.

This review was originally posted on Creative Madness Mama.

Julie says

3 1/2 stars

Molly says

Only three stars because this book drags. I read it aloud to my two boys. We are all huge fans of C.S.Lewis. It started out well, but in the middle you get the feeling the authors really had to dredge up the minutiae of his life to pad out the book.

It would have been a snappier read if it was shorter.

Having said all that, we enjoyed getting to know about his life and it was inspiring. Just not for a low attention span.

Victoria says

of course 5 stars

I'm so happy to know more about this Master storyteller

K.C says

One of my favorite nonfiction books

Christine Stobbe says

This book is about the life of C.S. Lewis: a glimpse into the world of an intensely private person. I have read other biographies of Lewis, and this one brought out some unique angles, including Lewis' extreme generosity and humility, as well as his great literary and professional success. I think the book could have been better written. I found the writing passive and wordy, hard to follow in places, with a tendency to occasionally interrupt the narrative with an aside in brackets that distracted from the current story with irrelevant information. The book was packed with facts about Lewis, but told in a dry, unengaging style, and not always in an order that made sense to me. In some places this book required effort to continue reading; yet in others, the text was interesting. The use of an omniscient narrator detracted from the book, I felt, and most of the story was "told" not "shown," which cannot always be avoided in a biography. However, I have read more engaging books from this series and these authors. For holding the attention of younger readers, this book comes up short, but for educational purposes, it is an acceptable textbook of the events of Lewis' life.

Clare Farrelly says

I enjoyed reading about the life of C. S. Lewis and finding out a few more things I did not know. The writing of this particular book was not spectacular or overly engaging, but I still enjoyed it because it was on C. S. Lewis' life. I particularly enjoyed the last half though which had things like the first names of many of his books before they were published and of course the order in which they were written and published and other things about his writing life and inspiration.

