

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, by C.S. Lewis, is one of the most moving and exciting books I have ever read. Edmund and Lucy Pevensie, along with their unpleasant cousin Eustace, are transported through a painting of a ship from England to another world called Narnia, which Edmund and Lucy had visited before. They land in the sea and are taken up onto a Narnian ship, where Edmund and Lucy find their old friend Caspian, who is now King of Narnia. The three children accompany the ship and its crew on their quest through the unknown eastern seas. Caspian is seeking the seven Narnian lords who were exiled years before by his evil uncle, and also seeking to find the eastern edge of the world. The group undergoes many adventures and hardships on the islands they encounter on their quest. They do eventually find all of the missing lords, or discover how they died, and also find the end of the world. While the novel is an exciting story, it is also more than that. The ideas of faith and redemption are all through the story, making me feel that in a way the events of the story are tied in to real life.

Edmund and Lucy always have faith in Aslan, a great talking lion who represents Jesus Christ in the Narnia stories. For example, Lucy is afraid to go into the mysterious magician's mansion on one of the islands, but she has to in order to find and say the spell that will make the Dufflepuds, the invisible inhabitants of the island, visible again. She trusts Aslan to take care of her and help her, and even sees Aslan and talks with him in the mansion when she needs him most.

At the end of the story, the children and a few of the others meet Aslan in person at the end of the world, which turns out to be the entrance to Aslan's country, like heaven. He sends Lucy and Edmund back to their own world, telling them they will never come back to Narnia. When they are upset and protest about never seeing him again, he tells them that they will get to know him by another name in their own world.

Author name and book title

Your feelings about the book

Introduction includes book summary

Thesis

First point

Support from the book

More evidence from the book

The book is also full of the idea of redemption, or being saved from something bad and or changed into something good. The most moving example was on one of the islands the ship landed on, where Eustace, who had been a complaining, stealing bully so far on the journey, finds a dragon's treasure, and gets magically turned into a dragon himself because of his greed. He lets the others know what happened, and is able to help them because of his new size and strength. Later Aslan comes and meets him and tears away his dragon skin and turns him into a boy again.

Second point

In the magician's mansion, Aslan saved Lucy from giving in to the temptation to say a spell which would make her beautiful. We learn that Lucy has been jealous of her sister Susan's beauty and almost says a spell which would have made her beautiful but also would have caused a lot of destruction. At that moment Aslan shows up and corrects and comforts Lucy, saving her from making a mistake which would have ended up causing a lot of pain.

Organized evidence from the book

Although the book is full of magical events, talking animals, and exciting adventures, for me it still is very personal and real because the faith and the redemption that we see in the story are ideas that are real in my life and my world. After all, the real main character of the book is Aslan, and he is in our world as well as in Narnia. He's just known by another name here.

Conclusion restates the thesis and summarizes your thoughts