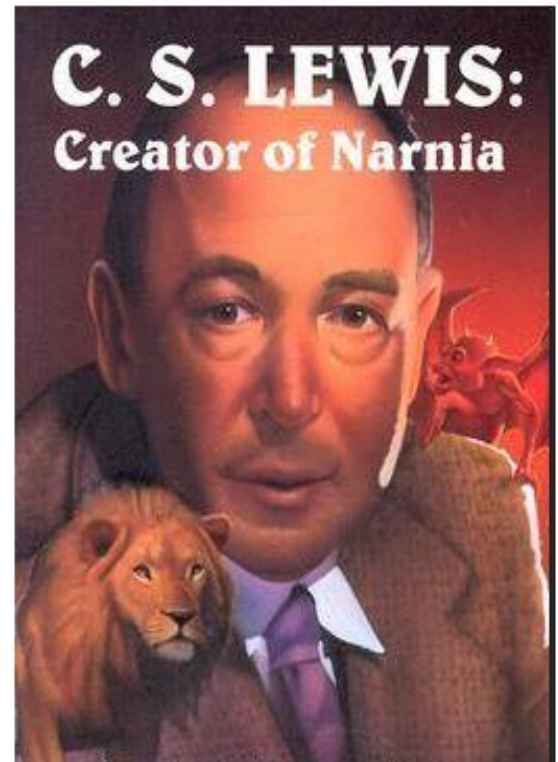


C.S. Lewis

When I was born in the Irish city of Belfast during the year 1898, I was given the name Clive Staples Lewis. However, all of my friends and family called me Jack. My father was Irish but my mother was Welsh.

During the first years of my life, I had a beautiful dog named Jacksie. Jacksie was my best friend. I loved him so much. When I was just four years old, Jacksie was hit by a car and sadly he died. After that, I told everyone that they should call me Jacksie from now.



My father's house was always filled with books. Finding a book was as easy as counting to three! As a child, I loved stories about animals. My favourite author was Beatrix Potter and her tales about Peter Rabbit.

When I grew older, I was sent to boarding school in England. However, the school closed down shortly after I arrived because the head-teacher was a bit crazy! Eventually, I went to a different English school and it was here that I gained my love for Viking and Greek myths. My love for literature grew and after I left school, I was offered a place at Oxford University.

Before I could begin my studies at Oxford, the first World War broke out and I joined the army. On my 19th birthday, I arrived in France to battle in the war and it didn't take long for me to get injured. This was a miserable time for me as I saw some of my closest friends killed. During the war, I was deeply upset and homesick. I couldn't wait to get back to Oxford to restart my studies.

I wrote my first book in 1933 called *The Pilgrim's Regress*. Most people didn't like but I was determined to keep writing. My next books were all about outer space. However, my most successful book was *The Lion*,

The Witch and The Wardrobe and my tales about the imaginary world of Narnia. The books have now sold over 100 million copies and have been translated into 41 different languages.

In 1963, I had problems with my kidneys and died in my bedroom. Afterwards, I was buried in Oxford. Since then, I have been named as one of the "Top 20 British authors since 1945" by Time magazine.