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# Sample



**Response Journal!** 



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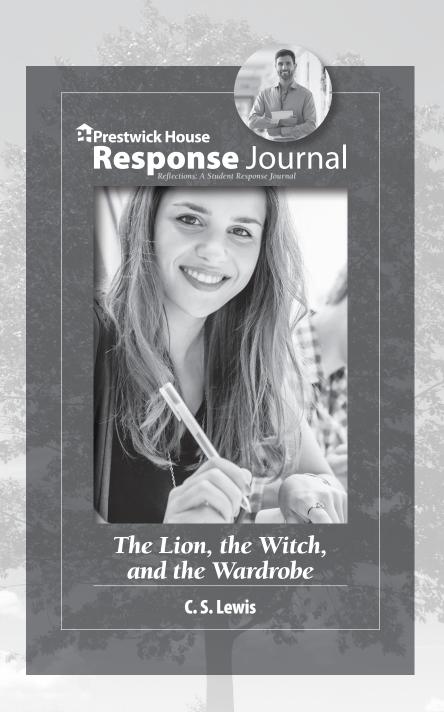
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#### Response Journal

#### To The Student

Although we may read a novel, play, or work of non-fiction for enjoyment, each time we read one, we are building and practicing important basic reading skills. In our ever-more complex society, in which reading has become more and more crucial for success, this, in itself, is an important reason to spend time reading for enjoyment.

Some readers, however, are able to go beyond basic reading techniques and are able to practice higher thinking skills by reflecting on what they have read and how what they read affects them. It is this act of reflection—that is, stopping to think about what you are reading—that this journal is attempting to encourage.

To aid you, we have included writing prompts for each section; however, if you find something that you wish to respond to in the book more compelling than our prompts, you should write about that. We hope you enjoy reading this book and that the act of responding to what you have read increases this enjoyment.

After you read the indicated sections, choose the questions to which you will respond. Keep in mind that there are no right or wrong answers to these prompts, and there is no one direction in which you must go.

### Chapter 1 - Lucy Looks into a Wardrobe

- 1. Because of the air raids, Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy are sent away from their home in London to stay with an old Professor, whom they do not know. How do you think the children feel about leaving London?
- 2. Susan is older than Lucy and Edmond. At one point she tries to tell Edmund that it is time for him to be in bed. He refuses to obey his older sister and accuses her of acting like his mother.

Describe an experience from your life, or the life of someone you know, when an older sibling tries to behave like a parent to a younger brother or sister. Why do you suppose older siblings sometimes act this way?

- 3. The professor's house is very large with many long passages and many empty rooms. Peter is delighted with the house, but Lucy is a little bit frightened. How do you think you might feel about living in a large, ancient house like the one described in the book?
- 4. The children all speculate on what kinds of animals or birds might be on the property. Some critics believe that the choice of animal or bird each child makes also reveals something about the character of the child.

For example, Peter hopes there will be eagles on the grounds. An eagle is a regal bird that suggests to the reader that Peter may have high morals and leadership abilities.

Lucy hopes there are badgers, Edmund wants foxes, and Susan hopes there are rabbits. What do you think these animals might reveal about the personality or character of Lucy, Edmund, and Susan?

#### Chapter 2 - What Lucy Found There

8. Mr. Tumnus assumes that Lucy is the Daughter of Eve and that she comes from the country of Spare Oom and the city of War Drobe. Lucy tries to correct him but cannot seem to find the words. Write a dialogue between Lucy and Mr. Tumnus in which she tries to correct his misconceptions. Consider whether or not he has made a mistake when he calls her a Daughter of Eve.

The dialogue might begin as follows:

Mr. Tumnus: I was not a very good student in school, so I do not remember a country called Spare Oom. No matter.

Lucy: Spare Room, is it not a country. It ...

- 9. Lucy agrees to go with Mr. Tumnus to his home. Today children are taught not to talk to strangers and certainly not to accompany them anywhere. If you were Lucy's mother, what would you say to her about her decision to go with Mr. Tumnus? Use incidents from your own life, or incidents that you have heard or read about, to support your ideas.
- 10. Lucy notices the titles of the books in Mr. Tumnus' home. What do these titles reveal to the reader about Mr. Tumnus? If a stranger were to come to your home, what book titles might he or she notice? What do you think these titles reveal about your family?

#### Chapter 4 - Turkish Delight

- 21. At first, the Queen raises her wand as if she plans to harm Edmund in some way. Then she changes her mind and invites him into her sledge. Why do you suppose she does this?
- 22. When the Queen invites Edmund into her sledge, he "dare[s] not disobey" and gets into the sledge. What else could he have done? Rewrite the last three paragraphs on page 36. In your version, have Edmund behave as you might have in the same situation.
- 23. The Queen gives Edmund a hot drink and some candy called Turkish Delight. While he is eating, Edmund talks freely to the Queen. He reveals to the Queen that Lucy was helped by a Faun. Write an angry letter from Mr. Tumnus, to Lucy, complaining about Edmund's behavior.
- 24. One of the important concepts of Christianity is that man has free will to decide whether or not he is going to follow good or evil. In your opinion, to what extent does Edmund have free will to resist the evil Queen?
- 25. When the Queen offers to make him King one day, she also offers to make his brother a Duke and his sisters Duchesses. However, Edmund is a greedy, selfish boy who does not think his siblings deserve these honors. Write about a person from life, from your reading, or from television, who is also greedy and selfish, even with his or her own family.

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#### Chapter 6 - Into the Forest

- 33. Edmund unwittingly reveals to the others that he has been in Narnia before when he tries to direct the children to the correct position of the lamppost. As Edmund's mother, write a letter to Edmund explaining why it is important for him to tell the truth.
- 34. The White Queen uses her magic to change the weather, so that in Narnia is it always winter, but there is never Christmas. Why do you suppose she does this?
- 35. Peter and the others decide to trust the Robin. Edmund does not agree. He points out that the Robin could be working for the White Queen. Peter evaluates the Robin by instinct, but Edmund is using logic. Think about the reasons you trust or do not trust people in your life. How do you decide whether or not to trust someone? Do you use logic or instinct?