

0. C.S. LEWIS and JOY DAVIDMAN GRESHAM - Story
Preface

1. DOES GOD ALLOW EVIL?
2. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA
3. THE PATH TO GOD
4. THE PATH TO FAITH
5. LEWIS and the INKLINGS
6. BROADCASTS of C.S. LEWIS

7. C.S. LEWIS and JOY DAVIDMAN GRESHAM

8. LEWIS and A GRIEF OBSERVED
9. LEGACY of C.S. LEWIS
10. MORE BACKGROUND on C.S. LEWIS

At first Jack Lewis did not have a romantic interest in Joy. She was married, had two children, and lived in America. But when Joy's husband wanted a divorce, so he could marry another woman, Joy returned to Britain permanently. Thereafter, her friendship with Jack deepened.

As a favor to his friend, Jack married Joy in a civil ceremony so she could remain in England. Almost simultaneously, Joy learned the worst possible news: She had terminal cancer. It was 1956, the year the last of the *Narnian* books was published.

Jack's relationship with Joy continued to thrive. Sick, nearly unto death, Joy married Jack again in a Christian ceremony. The wedding took place in December 1956, at her bedside in Wingfield Hospital.

Although doctors had predicted Joy's illness would soon end her life, she experienced a remarkable remission throughout 1957. She moved into The Kilns and, by the summer of 1958, was well enough to take a ten-day trip to one of Jack's favorite places in the world. The Old Inn at Crawfordsburn in County Down, where Jack had wonderful memories from his youth, now became a place he shared with his wife.

Life at home for Jack and Joy was precious, and they drew closer during long hours spent in their drawing room and sitting room. But their time was short-lived, despite Joy's unexpected remission. By the spring of 1960, her cancer returned. She did not have much time left.

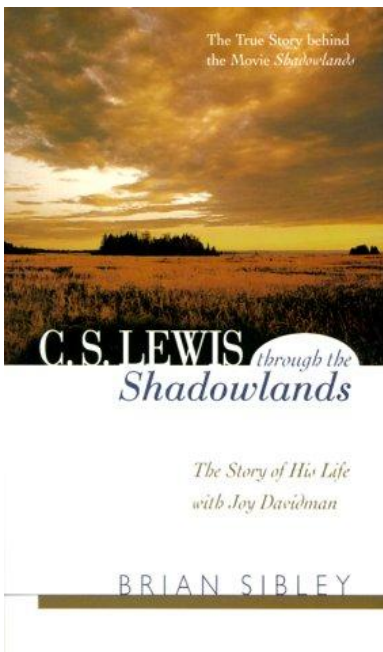
See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/C.S.-LEWIS-and-JOY-DAVIDMAN-GRESHAM-C.S.-Lewis>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/C.S.-LEWIS-and-JOY-DAVIDMAN-GRESHAM-C.S.-Lewis>

Media Stream



Shadowlands - by Brian Sibley

Image of book cover, online courtesy Amazon.com.

Interview with Ian Richardson, online courtesy BBC.

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Jack and Joy - C.S. Lewis and Joy Davidman

Image of C.S. Lewis and Joy Davidman Gresham Lewis, online courtesy Douglas Gresham "Into the Wardrobe" website.

Quoted passage - from Joy Gresham's 19 October 1956 letter to her ex-husband - included in *Out of My Bone: The Letters of Joy Davidman*, edited by Don W. King, at page 297. Online, courtesy Google Books.

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C.S. Lewis - The Kilns, His Oxford Home

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C.S. Lewis - Drawing Room at the Kilns

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C.S. Lewis - Sitting Room at the Kilns

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