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Few modern writers have made their mark worldwide. Jack Lewis is one of those writers. Given the magnitude of his impact, it's fair to ask a few questions about books. Of his own writings, what was his favorite? It appears to be *Till We Have Faces*.

What books influenced C. S. Lewis? He gave an answer to that question, the year before he died. Responding to *The Christian Century*, he ranked the top ten books that influenced him the most.

George MacDonald's *Phantastes* was first, but G. K. Chesterton's *The Everlasting Man* was second. (This link will take you to a video on the "Sights and Sounds of Chesterton" and this one goes to an on-line edition of *Everlasting Man*). In fact, six months before his death, Jack Lewis said:

The contemporary book that has helped me the most is Chesterton's "The Everlasting Man."

C.S. Lewis lived a life marked with intense pain and intense happiness. His faith grew after it was tested beyond the breaking point. In other words, he lived the life of a typical human being who experiences joy and sorrow, happiness and pain.

Through it all, once he found his way back to God, Lewis came to believe that what counts most are the things which last. The things, as he said, which are eternal:

All that is not eternal is eternally out of date.

Jack's books are still not out-of-date because they focus on what counts the most in life. They help his readers "aim for heaven" and, as a necessary byproduct, help increase the quality of life on earth.

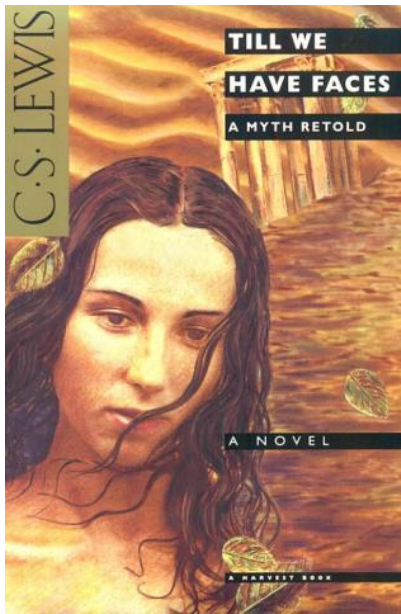
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Media Stream



Till We Have Faces - by C.S. Lewis

Image online courtesy, intothebook.net website.

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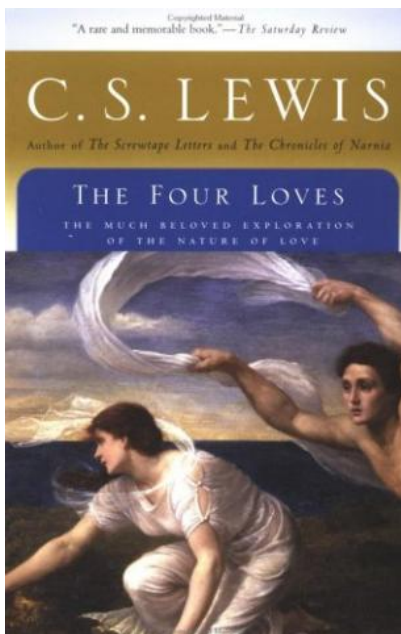
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G.K. Chesterton

Image online, courtesy the chesterton.org website.

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The Four Loves - by C.S. Lewis

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G.K. Chesterton - Sights and Sounds

Compilation of public-domain recordings.

Chesterton's recording of "[The Spices of Life](#)" is now available on CD.

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