

## **The Magician's Nephew, The Chronicles of Narnia Book 1**

**By Author, C. S. Lewis**

**Reviewed by: Ella Mae, 14**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be The Star You Are! Charity**

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After stumbling into the office of his magician uncle Andrew, Digory and his friend Polly get transported to another world by putting on magic rings. The two children go exploring and end up in the dying world of Charn, where Digory wakes the evil witch, Jadis, the Queen of Charn. When Polly and Digory try to escape, Jadis grabs hold of them and ends up in their world. The witch causes considerable chaos before Digory manages to grab ahold of her, in an effort to drag her back to her own world. Instead of taking her to Charn, Digory unintentionally takes the witch to a new world that is still being formed by a lion named Aslan. After completing the new world, Aslan sends Digory on a mission to retrieve an apple from a garden in the mountains. Digory retrieves the apple and plants it. The apple grows into a tree that protects the new land, now named Narnia. Before returning home, Aslan gives an apple from the tree to Digory, which he in turn gives to his dying mother back home.

This book is great for all ages, though I would recommend it specifically for ages 8-12. Younger children can still enjoy it as a read-aloud, though they may not grasp all the meanings without help. I enjoy that this book is an allegory of the biblical account of Creation. However, even if you do not believe in creation, this book is still an enchanting story for the whole family.

This book is appropriate for children, but here are some cautions for parents of young readers. There are a few points in the book where Digory and Polly have small arguments, though they are not mean to each other. In Charn, Digory twists Polly's arm behind her back so she cannot leave while he strikes the bell that wakes the Witch. Later, though, Digory apologizes and Polly forgives him. There are a few instances where Digory's uncle asks for or drinks whiskey, but it is only brief. Overall, this is a very enjoyable book that is well written and quite intriguing. It is the first book in a great series by C. S. Lewis, the Chronicles of Narnia.

### **Recommended Titles:**

The Prince Warriors Series, Pricilla Shirer

The Amazing Tales of Max and Liz Series, Jenny L. Cote

The Epic Order of the Seven Series, Jenny L. Cote

The Wingfeather Saga, Andrew Peterson