

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up of English Section**

### **Junior Division**

**Name of Winner: Kwan Chi Wa**

**Name of School : Pui Ching Middle School**

**Book Title : The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**

**Author : C. S. Lewis**

**Publisher : HarperCollins**

“The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” is a remarkable, spellbinding and compelling story written by C. S. Lewis, also a fascinating fairytale that caught my attention and surely many other people’s as well.

It all started with four siblings: Peter, Edmund, Lucy and Susan. They were sent to live in an old and mystifying mansion. While exploring the enormous house, Lucy stumbled upon a wardrobe. No, it was not an ordinary wardrobe, instead, it was the entrance to another world—Narnia. One by one, the other children

discovered this bizarre wardrobe, and were whisked into tornados of mess inside Narnia.

Throughout their journey, there were many difficulties and obstacles. Nevertheless, a fairytale always has a good ending. The White Witch was slain, Edmund realized his wrongdoing and returned to his siblings and Tumnus was no longer a stone statue in the castle of the White Witch. The four children were made kings and queens of Narnia and were adored and praised, although it was expected that they must go back to where they belong sooner or later. One day, while hunting for a magical white stag, they tumbled out of Narnia and back to their own world.

I must admit, as I grew older and older, I gradually lost interest in fairytales, believing that they were for immature children, and were even a waste of time.

It had been a while since I last picked up a fairytale book to read,

and it was somewhat refreshing to do so. It was astonishing how quickly this book changed my view of fairytales.

Fairytales come with lessons to learn, of course, since a fairytale is meaningless without one, and Lewis absolutely did not forget to add valuable life lessons to his story as well.

First, the book reminds about the importance of forgiveness. Forgiveness played a big role in the tale. Lucy was one of the most forgiving people in the story. In the beginning, she was the first to know about Narnia, and told the others about it. Edmund had jeered at Lucy, not believing her words. Later on, when Edmund became the second to know about the world in the wardrobe, he denied seeing it, humiliating Lucy once more. Also, he betrayed his family to abet with the White Witch. Lucy, with no hesitation, forgave him every single time. She didn't bad mouth him when he laughed at her, didn't insult him when he lied about not visiting Narnia, and didn't ignore him when he faced danger. She even suggested to save him, although

Edmund betrayed her. Forgiveness helps you be free from your anger and bitterness caused by the person who wronged you, lifting a burden off of your shoulders.

Next, the book made me understand that courage is not a mere feeling, it is the way you choose to behave or to act. Peter was one of the courageous warriors in the story. No, he was not fearless, he was actually quite the opposite, often terrified. He was afraid of Aslan when he first met him, and attempted to tell the others to approach Aslan before him. Nonetheless, he ended up leading his friends and family to Aslan, telling them to pull themselves together. When Peter encountered the wolf of the White Witch, he was described as feeling awfully sick, not superbly brave or strong. However, he still chose to attack the wolf, saving everyone by killing it. Courage is our fuel when danger rears its ugly head and challenges us, letting us commit risky actions for rewards.

Finally, the story teaches me about honesty. One of the clearer

examples was when Tumnus admitted trying to lure Lucy to the witch. He had burst into tears when Lucy asked if she could return home. He criticized himself with harsh words, feeling ashamed of himself for trying to end the life of an innocent little kid. Tumnus was remorseful and guilty of lying, as he was an honest Faun. In the end, in exchange for his honesty, Lucy saved him from being a stone stature for eternity and turned him back to himself. The outcome for lying can be serious and dreadful, and being sincere and truthful can pay off well. Being sincere builds trust and good impressions.

“The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” is undoubtedly one of the best fairytales I have ever read. Its profound and well thought life lessons have earned my respect and gained my favor, as I’m sure it has done to many other fans of this book.