

# QUICK CARD: *THE LAST BATTLE*



<i>Reference</i>	<i>The Last Battle</i> , by C. S. Lewis. ISBN: 978-0060764883
<i>Plot</i>	Using an old lion's skin as a disguise, Shift the monkey dupes Narnians into following a false Aslan, forsaking true Narnian ways and welcoming Calormene domination. Aided by Eustace Scrubb and Jill Pole, King Tirian leads a band of true Narnians into battle against the invaders and their false gods.
<i>Setting</i>	The story is set in Narnia during her last days. Foreigners threaten her borders and, unlike the old days, some Narnians aid the foreigners in their attacks, betraying their own countrymen.
<i>Characters</i>	<p>King Tirian of Narnia- (protagonist) Still a young ruler, Tirian is impetuous and hotheaded, but well-meaning and earnest. Loyal to the end, he never falters in his efforts to protect Narnia and honor Aslan.</p> <p>Eustace Scrubb and Jill Pole- (protagonists) More than a year older than they were in <i>The Silver Chair</i>, they are still young enough to be sent into Narnia to help Tirian (unlike the Pevensie children who have outgrown their adventures there). Their age helps them to adapt easily to the changes in Narnia and accept their difficult task. They give Tirian the encouragement he needs to face the end of the world.</p> <p>Shift the monkey- (antagonist) An evil old beast, he manipulates simpler animals into serving him. He dresses in a lion's skin for the express purpose of hoodwinking loyal Narnians. In so doing, he demonstrates an utter lack of faith or compunction, making a farce out of the Lord of Narnia to further his own ends.</p> <p>Puzzle the donkey- A simple, good-natured beast, Puzzle only wants to please his friend. He is ignorant of the harm that will result from his participation in Shift's schemes. He is ultimately pardoned by Aslan.</p> <p>Rishda Tarkaan- the Calormene officer conspiring with Shift to overtake Narnia. Though he spouts Calormene religion, professing unswerving devotion to their god, Tash, he truly serves no god but himself.</p> <p>The Pevensie children- The Pevensies return in this last episode to witness the end of Narnia. They appear in the very last scene of the book, only to find that they have died in a train accident in their own world and they have arrived again in Narnia, this time for good! The true Narnia, Aslan's Country, will now be their eternal home.</p>

	<p>The gods Aslan and Tash- Aslan is the Christ figure of the story, as usual. Though he plays a less active role in the plot of this piece, he guards the door to the next world when Narnia finally falls and judges between the known and the unknown, the clean and the unclean.</p> <p>In contrast, Tash is the Calormene deity. Narnians are shocked to discover that Tash is more than just a heathen myth. Just as real as Aslan, Tash is a fearsome demon ready to claim the souls of all who worship him.</p>
<i>Conflict</i>	<p>Man vs. Man/Man vs. Society – The three protagonists want to prove Shift’s treachery and convince deceived Narnians to fight for the country they love, but Shift’s manipulation is too effective and they lack a faithful army to help them fight for the truth.</p> <p>Man vs. God – As Narnians directly deny the existence of their creator and turn their hearts to the false god, Tash, they deny the testaments of their own created bodies and become enemies of the god they once loved.</p>
<i>Theme</i>	Faith; Materialism vs. Supernaturalism; Good vs. Evil.
<i>Literary Devices</i>	<p>Circumstantial Irony  Symbolism  Foreshadowing</p>