

C. S. Lewis in America, 1935-1947: Secular and Mainstream Media

(I) Lewis as Literary Scholar

- (A) *The Allegory of Love* (1936)
 - Journal of Modern History* (Roland Bainton)
 - Speculum*
 - PMLA
 - American Historical Review*
- (B) *Journal of the History of Ideas* (Arthur Lovejoy on *The Personal Heresy*)
- (C) General approval for *Preface to Paradise Lost*

(II) Author of Imaginative Works

- (A) Almost complete commendation for *Pilgrim's Regress*, *Screwtape*, *The Great Divorce*
 - W. H. Auden particularly interesting
- (B) Mostly positive notices for The Space Trilogy
 - including Lewis's first "cover" (Leonard Bacon in *The Saturday Review of Literature*)
- (C) Lewis and . . .
 - G. K. Chesterton
 - Aldous Huxley (*Brave New World*)
 - H. G. Wells ("War of the Worlds")

(III) Works of Christian Exposition

- (A) Lewis's two main contentions:
 - Defending humanity's objective moral instincts
 - As a doorway for articulating orthodox Christian faith
- (B) Varied responses
 - John Henry Holmes on *The Case for Christianity*
 - Positive notice in *The Theosophical Review*
 - Charles Hartshorne (University of Chicago) with questions
 - Chad Walsh on *The Abolition of Man and Miracles*
 - Max Otto (University of Wisconsin) with more questions
- (C) The shifting terrain of American intellectual life: from fixed truths to "truth"

(IV) General Assessments

- (A) Alister Cooke in *The New Republic*
- (B) Chad Walsh in *The Atlantic* (1946, "C. S. Lewis: Apostle to the Skeptics")
- (C) *TIME* magazine: from *Screwtape* (1943) to the cover (1947)
- (D) Clare Boothe Luce: Lewis on the silver screen?

(V) In sum: evidence of a late-Christian culture

Publication or Availability of C. S. Lewis' books in the U.S., 1935-1947*

Literary Scholarship

1936. *The Allegory of Love* (Clarendon, 1936; no separate U.S. publication until 1960)
1939. *Rehabilitations and Other Essays* (OUP, 1939; no separate U.S. publication listed)
1939. *The Personal Heresy*, with E. M. W. Tillyard (OUP, 1939; no separate U.S. publication listed)
1942. *A Preface to Paradise Lost* (OUP, Oct. 1942; no separate U.S. publication listed)
1947. As editor, *George MacDonald: An Anthology* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1946)

Imaginative Writing

1935. *The Pilgrim's Regress* (Sheed & Ward; in U.K., 1933).
- 1943, Feb. 16. *The Screwtape Letters* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1942)
- 1943, Sept. 28. *Out of the Silent Planet* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1938).
- 1944, Apr. 11. *Perelandra* (Macmillan, also Avon paperback; in U.K., 1943).
- 1946, Feb. 26. *The Great Divorce* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1946).
- 1946, May 21. *That Hideous Strength* (Macmillan; also Avon paperback, in U.K., 1945).

Christian Exposition

- 1943, Sept. 7. *The Case for Christianity* (Macmillan; in U.K., as *Broadcast Talks*, 1942)
- 1943, Oct. 26. *The Problem of Pain* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1940).
- 1944, Jan. 18. *Christian Behaviour* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1943).
- 1945, Mar. 20. *Beyond Personality: The Christian Idea of God* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1944).
- 1947, Apr. 8. *The Abolition of Man* (Macmillan; in U.K., OUP, 1943).
- 1947, Sept. *Miracles: A Preliminary Study* (Macmillan; in U.K., 1947).

A scorecard for mainstream media

Enthusiasm: *Allegory of Love*, *Preface to Paradise Lost*, *Screwtape*, *Out of the Silent Planet*, *Great Divorce*,
Mostly positive: *Perelandra*, *That Hideous Strength*, *The Case for Christianity*, *Christian Behaviour*, *Beyond
Personality*, *Abolition of Man*
Mixed: *The Problem of Pain*, *Miracles*

*From Walter Hooper, *C. S. Lewis: A Complete Guide to His Life and Works* (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1996).