Chapter Five

Summation

C. S. Lewis is a renowned writer in both literary and non-literary circles. Enormously popular and influential in his day, he is still well-known and acclaimed for his Christian apologetic works. His writings, comprising the fairy tales, science fiction, apologetics, essays and letters are lasting assets to the realm of literature. Lewis’s rich and intense imagination resulted in a series of remarkable adventure stories, both for children as well as grownups. In his writings Lewis successfully merges both form and message to create a lasting influence upon his readers. As a professor of medieval and early modern English literature at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, his writings inspired and influenced many writers like Walter Hooper, Clyde S. Kilby and Michael Ward.

There is a profound unity in the writings of Lewis. Certain themes, ideas and convictions are repeatedly found in all his works. His works point to a cosmos charged with life and meaning. The meaning that flows from his writings embodies eco-ethical relationship in all living things. The characters, events, myths and symbols all shape human attitudes toward the environment. Lewis also argued for an enchantment of the natural world, which in turn increases the spiritual value in woods and streams. All the virtues expressed through characters and events encourage a movement
toward a healthier ecology. The writer also creates other worlds through which practical applications for a sound and healthy ecology are suggested.

Lewis deserves recognition as a creative writer with a unique environmental vision. Through his works he expresses the good news that man can have an intimate and harmonious relationship with his environment and this balanced correlation will lead to the salvation of all life forms. In various ways, Lewis’s writings express his views that ecological health as well as spiritual health are in direct proportion to man’s relationship to God.

Man’s attempts towards ecological health will also contribute to averting ecological disaster. The narratives speculate on the narrow anthropocentric view as represented through certain characters. Moreover, the extent of damage that can be caused by man’s unlimited exploitation of natural resources and careless misuse of modern technology can result in deforestation, pollution and contamination of rivers, lakes and the atmosphere. By presenting events that recreate the real-life situation, made imaginatively appealing to children and adults, the writer creates an internal nature consciousness and nature-concern in his readers.

The good news is that Lewis’s works evoke a paradigm that proves the possibility of progress in man’s ecological betterment. Conservation of the natural environment will lead to man’s own preservation. The stories, myths and letters reveal that man must take responsibility for his own survival on earth. The characters, plot and events work out the strategy for this achievement.
The first chapter of the thesis presents an introduction to the early life of Lewis as a writer. The details of his childhood experiences, the character of his parents, his grandfather and the influence of his brother Warren is stated. Lewis’s boyhood experiences in writing stories and his early experiences of joy and his delight with the natural world initiated by the sight of the toy garden created by his brother are mentioned. His exceptionally rich imagination and keen observation of nature early in life shaped a mind that led to the creation of the series of adventure stories, both for children and grown-ups. Lewis’s growing appreciation for the large vistas, landscape and seascape and the wild or eerie in nature is briefly mentioned. His joy in looking at mountains, clouds and skies are expressed. Places like Belfast Lough, the Cave Hill Mountain and the meadows around Ireland are found to have inspired Lewis.

Mention is made of the writers and works that influenced Lewis’s thought immensely: G.K. Chesterton’s *The Everlasting Man*, Edith Nesbit’s *Phoenix* and George MacDonald’s *Phantastes* and *Lilith*. Lewis’s education under various teachers is briefly described. He was privileged in having excellent teachers who influenced him for good. With encouragement from his teachers he began to enjoy learning the classical languages and their literature. The study of these works broadened his mind and developed his critical faculties.

The chapter also traces Lewis’s friendship with men such as Arthur Greeves, J.R.R. Tolkien and Owen Barfield. Lewis’s formation of ‘The
Inklings’ with a group of friends including J.R.R. Tolkien, Warren, Hugo Dyson, Charles Williams, Robert Havrd, Owen Barfield, and Nevill Coghill is mentioned. Lewis was influenced by the literary ideas and religious convictions of these men. The writer’s acquaintance with Joy Davidman, his marriage to her and subsequently her painful death are also mentioned.

The chapter briefly traces the works of Lewis in chronological order to enable an overall understanding of his writings. His works are found to have received critical attention worldwide and have been analysed from various points of view. A literary survey of the criticism of Lewis’s writings is briefly outlined. The survey reveals that researchers and critics have analysed Lewis’s writings from various literary and thematic perspectives. However little analysis has been made regarding Lewis’s environmental outlook and therefore this research work is considered as unique and ground-breaking.

The thesis proposal is also stated.

The second chapter titled *The Chronicles of Narnia* closely examines the writer’s high regard for interconnectedness between man and nature. The analysis finds that before Lewis several significant writers have recognized that the disrespectful abuse of nature would ultimately lead to adverse effects on man. In fact, man is found in a position where he both fears nature and longs to subdue it for his own needs and safety. The brief survey of the origins of man’s relationship with his environment in primitive times reveals the tension between nature and culture. It is also revealed that man’s departure from his earlier relationships with nature has led to the wanton
destruction of nature. Mention is made of the men who have analysed the
detrimental factors of man’s greed in exploiting nature and recognition is
given to those who wrote to increase concern towards eco-sustenance. In
time, both writers and ecocritics voiced their concern for the safeguard of
nature. As eco-writing entered public narrative, and the world began to
acknowledge the rising importance of ecological relationship, ecoliterature
became a subject in its own right.

The analysis finds that Lewis, who is primarily recognized as
Christian philosopher, literary critic and writer of fiction, also believes in the
significance of man’s positive relationship with his environment and all living
creatures. The examination of his stories reveals the principle of
interconnectedness between man and nature worked out in the main action,
and the events leading to it. The theme of beneficial interaction with the
environment also flows through the seven stories.

The analysis finds that characters who are eco-friendly are good, kind
and selfless. On the other hand, those who hate or loathe nature, such as
Andrew Ketterley and Jadis in *The Magician’s Nephew* are unkind,
egocentric and avaricious by nature. It also finds that Aslan, the creator of
Narnia who is presented as a Lion singing a glorious song to bring into
existence the hills, valleys, rivers, mountains and all kinds of animals, plants
and other life forms is ecocentric and filled with respect for all living things.
The first king of Narnia is given a command by Aslan to be a good and loving
steward. Thus, nature-loving responsibility and stewardship is advocated
rather than self-centredness and ecological exploitation. The writer pictures imaginatively the genesis of creation in order to create a sense of respect in the readers. As a creative artist Lewis thus inculcates an environmental dimension to the creation story of the Bible, enlightening the reader’s imagination with a newly awakened perception of the organic community.

The interconnectedness of nature and man is found in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. A contrast between the children who are benevolent and those who are selfish or greedy is depicted. The kind-hearted characters walk in affinity with their environment but the others such as Edmund do not. Lucy and Tumnus show friendliness and affection to each other, but the Witch and Edmund do not have such a relationship. Each wants to use the other for his or her own benefit. As characters grow in maturity and begin to understand the value of nature they act more responsibly in their relationship to other beings with which they are interconnected. Aslan is depicted here as the supreme example of disinterestedness and true justice, who, having set the ground rules for Mercy and Justice, is powerful enough to submit to it. The name of Aslan, which epitomizes all that is paramount in nature and awakens courage or ecstasy in the three children, strangely arouses fear in Edmund. Edmund’s transformation from antipathy to empathy with the nonhuman creatures in turn initiates his fellowship with his fellow-men. Edmund ultimately acknowledges that his greediness for power and food has made him a captive of the evil Witch. He is redeemed only by the sacrifice of Aslan. The writer conveys the good news that redemption and restoration in
ecology is possible when men recognise that their evil deeds have a negative impact on nature and take responsibility to mend their ways and thus the natural environment can be restored to its healthy state. The evil Witch’s desire for power and Edmund’s pride and greed caused the squirrels and other animals to be turned into statues. She also abolished spring and summer so that it is always winter in Narnia. It is exposed that man’s selfishness and greediness can directly cause much damage to the environment. Aslan saves Narnia from the clutches of the evil Witch and restores all the statues to life again.

*The Horse and His Boy* is paradigmatic of joyful reciprocal relationships that are mutually beneficial. Readers learn that animals can offer valuable lessons in courage, companionship and courtesy. The writer creates the awareness that in creation all are equally free and individually valuable to one another. The works extol respect for nonhuman animals and encourage readers to cultivate the habit of honouring their integrity and importance on their own terms and not by the criteria of human utility. The study reveals how the two horses Bree and Hwin relate with the human masters in the adventurous travels. The presence of the Lion, contributes to the sacred nature of their journey. The sacred Lion, animals and humans are closely related proving the value of interconnectedness. As the story progresses, it is revealed that the Lion has masterminded the events of the journey in order to mould the children’s character. He is also in control of their safety and the direction of their journey all the time.
The study reveals the benefits of a reciprocal relationship between man and nature in *Prince Caspian*. The tree people, animal community and humans co-exist in a harmonious interconnected relationship without endangering the lives of one another. All give and receive help without pride or selfishness, as in an ecosystem. They join together for the good and health of Narnia in order to free the animals as well as the trees and rivers from human despotism and oppression. Ultimately the redemption of the animal and plant kingdom from the environmental hazards is celebrated.

*The Voyage of the ‘Dawn Treader’* divulges how a boy’s greedy and dragonish thoughts can turn him into a monster dragon. Similarly, Eustace’s repentance and recognition of his selfishness brings about his character transformation. He learns to respect people and animals. It also reveals that the love and care of animals like Reepicheep can be most useful in healing hurts and relationships. In other words, the analysis finds Lewis encouraging his readers to reject self-centredness and move towards interconnectedness. What is needed is community life where man and nature exist peacefully together. Lucy’s sea-voyage with her brother Edmund and her enjoyment of the sea and the sea-creatures with Reepicheep are all examples to highlight the respect the characters show for the interconnectedness between man and his environment.

The study of *The Silver Chair* reveals the development of the relationship between the children and a Marsh-wiggle, named Puddleglum. Time and again, the Marsh-wiggle’s wisdom is revealed and the children
learn to respect him. With his help the children rescue Prince Rilian from the evil monster or evil Queen. Through depicting the sacrifices performed by animals in these stories, Lewis encourages children to consider deeds of selflessness as deeds of nobility and integrity. The chapter also analyses the eco-spiritual world of Narnia where Jill and Eustace learn to trust and respect the sacred Lion Aslan and the Talking beasts. The Prince’s victory over the evil Queen conveys the message that Narnia will enjoy freedom under the rule of Prince Rilian. Trees, animals, rivers and people will live happily together as long as power-greedy men or women do not bring them into bondage.

An analysis of *The Last Battle* reveals the creation-loving Aslan juxtaposed with the deceitfully egotistical Shift, an ape. Through the character of Shift, Lewis satirizes personalities who are autocratic, and who terrorize and control others for their own greedy needs. The study also traces the anthropocentric man’s involvement in deforestation and subjugation of helpless creatures. His actions are evidence of his self-indulgence and indifference towards the natural world. The Calormen’s felling of the trees indiscriminately reveals man’s ecologically destructive actions. The chapter analyses Lewis’s representation not only of animals but also trees as speaking subjects. The wailing and pitiful moaning of the talking trees as they are ‘killed’ evoke the sympathy of the readers. The new Narnia in this novel is described as a place where nature abounds with boundless beauty. Thus
Lewis enables man to gain new perceptions of the land as having unsurpassed and infinite glory.

The analysis of *The Chronicles of Narnia* thus finds that more than anything else, Lewis succeeds in giving children an understanding of the interconnectedness of man and nature. The birds and beasts are able to talk and communicate their feelings to the human children both realistically and imaginatively. Animals like horses appear patient and understanding and are able to teach children proper behaviour. By becoming acquainted with the world of Aslan, where man’s reciprocal relationship with nature is beneficial to each one, the child readers will learn to have a beneficial eco-relationship in the real world. Serious matters are presented pleasantly because Lewis’s writing is layered with wit and humour.

The analysis of *The Chronicles of Narnia* unveils Lewis’s belief in the importance of receiving artistic texts with the imagination as well as rational intelligence. However, he also saw their value for moral teaching and inspiration. Lewis delighted in creating the stories of Narnia as they bubbled up from within him in pictures and images. He also admitted that the germination of the Narnia series began with the image of a faun carrying an umbrella, a queen on a sledge and a magnificent Lion. Thus the stories succeed in persuading child readers to believe in the land where nature and man are interrelated. The animals and their supportive eco-system with plot and story line fall smoothly into place without seeming to be unnatural because the writer is communicating his own experiences. When readers are
convinced that nature and animals are to be respected for their intrinsic worth, they will refrain from damaging them. Man’s greedy nature has to be converted to respect all living forms because they supply his needs and sustain him. Lewis promotes concepts like interconnectedness and interrelationship. His writings support values like community and cooperation. By redirecting his readers to a sense of communion with the natural world, he persuades them to work for the preservation of the land and the natural environment.

The third chapter titled The Space Trilogy finds a powerful evocation of marvellous and amazing forms of natural landscape expressed in the three science fiction novels. Lewis brings the readers to an awareness and appreciation of man’s unique place in the cosmos and his relationship to the land as well as to other species. He also guides readers to a positive expectation of extremely marvellous life-forms in other worlds. Man should learn to wonder at the splendour of other worlds and their creatures, rather than desire to subdue or conquer them for his own greed.

The analysis of Out of the Silent Planet shows that characters are placed in contrast so as to make their intentions and views more clear. The chapter dwells on the ecocentric individuals who experience a sense of wonder and enchantment for nature while the egocentric characters are self-centred and materialistic. Weston and Devine travel to another planet in space motivated by greed, while Ransom is compelled to go because he is a
prisoner of Weston and Devine. Thus Lewis’s readers are reminded to check their motives and principles for the intentions and decisions that they make.

The analysis finds Lewis creating a new awareness in his readers about space travel and life in space. A new reality of ‘heaven’ is pictured so that a re-education takes place in the minds of the readers about the splendour and greatness of space and possible life forms found there. In fact, the readers become deeply enchanted with the other worldly environment and living things present there.

The readers find that Lewis has the gift of creating strange and interesting other-world creatures. The animals found in Malacandra such as sorns, hrossa, pfifltriggi and eldils are described as having unique characteristic features. Moreover, these creatures are kind-natured although their appearance is fearful. Through the eyes of Ransom the readers can contemplate wonderful possibilities in unknown planets. By opening the mind of the readers to perceive new paradigms, the writer guides his readers to delightful encounters with creatures in outer space. It is also significant that these creatures thrive in healthy community life, producing food and breeding only as necessary. By contrast man is found to be narrow-minded, covetous and self-centred.

The study finds that the depiction of the environment in Malacandra is skilfully evoked. The natural world is both beautiful and beneficial. The study also analyses how Ransom initiates an amicable relationship with the hrossa of Malacandra, by getting accustomed with their food habits, learning their
system of farming, observing their behaviour and also communicating with them. Through character and event Lewis reveals the ecologically sound relationships maintained in Malacandra.

In *Out of the Silent Planet* Lewis has created fictional representations of life forms which are realistic and believable. Their behaviour as contrasted to the actions of Weston and Devine point to a better life and a balanced ecological relationship. In Malacandra, Ransom undergoes a kind of re-education from his encounter with creatures with a different value system. In due course, he becomes profoundly eco-sensible and receptive towards the nonhuman world. A shift in the value system is suggested through the portrayal of different values in the planet Malacandra. Value is given to life and heroic deeds. By contrast gold is considered as insignificant. The writer thus engages the readers’ attention to consider a shift in values – from materialism to character and virtues like courage, humility and sacrifice. When man accepts that he is only a humble creature equal in value to many other similar creatures in an environment which is sustaining him, he will increase in his appreciation of all life forms and refrain from damaging them.

The examination of *Perelandra* finds the theme of nature’s enchantment woven into the text. Lewis, with his creative potency, imagines a planet with a balanced and wholesome natural beauty. Ransom’s sense of wonder as he experiences each new sight and sound, as he absorbs the marvel of colour encourages the reader to feel the movement and to visualize the
copper, green and gold. Lewis’s delight in filling this other world with sensuous and romantic attractions almost overwhims the narrative.

Lewis in his recreation of Paradise creates a life quite contrary to Earth. Through the eyes of the central character the reader is enabled to survey the peculiar atmosphere in Perelandra with profound solemnity and feel overwhelmed at the refreshing air and the enticing charm of the sea and the sun. The unique idea expressed is that man ought to take from nature only so much as he needs for his own sustenance. He is discouraged from accumulating wealth. In this way Lewis advocates simplicity and moral responsibility towards nature. These are the values that men ought to observe and practice so that unnecessary destruction of the environment is avoided.

Lewis’s creation of the floating islands and a planet that has no sky invokes fresh eco-experiences in the reader who is able to delight along with the character Ransom, the enchantment of each new sight and sound. The creative artist similarly depicts many different marvels of nature in this planet which are alluring and enticing. Hence, Lewis is able to evoke novel experiences. For instance, the character Ransom is found naked but this does not appear shameful because there is no other human like him in Perelandra and the warm climate does not require clothing. Similarly, man can accommodate himself to the environment where he is placed rather than initiate steps to disturb the environment to accommodate him.

The analysis reveals the significance of man’s ethical responsibility towards other creatures. Reverence and appreciation for all living creatures,
specifically animals is illustrated in *Perelandra*. The interaction between the Green Lady and the throng of flame-coloured birds, beaver-like creatures and dolphin-like fishes that communicate with the Lady and Ransom, reveals sound ecological relationship. When the Green Lady laughs at the peculiar appearance of Ransom, the animals also join in the merriment. Lewis dwells on the Green Lady’s special relationship with all the animals. The Green Lady and the animals can understand each other and the animals are able to respond to her different needs. When she needs transportation, the fish take her from one place to another. The Lady also teaches Ransom how to travel on the fish. Thus, Lewis depicts a healthy, joyous and beneficial eco-relationship in Perelandra.

The analysis finds that the creative artist skilfully creates various sea-creatures such as mermen and mermaids. It also finds the writer imaginatively creating the sea-centaurs, sea-dragons, sea-horses and other fantastic animals employed in various kinds of play to make this other world appear fascinating and imaginatively attractive.

The chief message conveyed in this novel is Ransom’s mission on this planet. True to his name, he is called to pay the price to destroy the evil-natured Weston. Weston comes to Perelandra to provoke the Green Lady to disobey the voice of Maleldil and to ruin the ecological relationship in Perelandra. The analysis finds that Ransom is able to defeat Weston only because of his ecological wisdom. The battle between Ransom and Weston represents the war between the ecocentric man and his enemy, the egocentric
human. In this work the battle is represented as prolonged and quite terrible, dramatized with much complexity.

The analysis finds that Ransom is aided by the creatures, the natural world and Maleldil in his battle against evil. Finally he succeeds. Significantly, Ransom’s success is crowned with various eco-significant experiences. It is revealed to him that in this different planet there are mysterious creatures which are as important as man in his planet Earth. After the battle Ransom recovers with the help of the natural elements and a stream of water carries him to safety. The environment provides food, drink and rest. Lewis exposes the benefits of a balanced ecological relationship established between man and nature in a covenant relationship. The work thus plays a vital role in teaching man to value the natural world and to safeguard it because it provides him sustenance.

*That Hideous Strength* scrutinizes how the anthropocentric man’s attempt to obliterate the natural world is ultimately dethroned by the eco-centric community. It also displays the egoistic characters of N.I.C.E. who do not appreciate the wonders and benefits of nature. The chapter probes into two divergent communities, one being nature promoting and the other being materialistic. Further, it has been examined how the eco-oriented community at the Manor is constructed on the basis of mutual love and relationship among themselves as well as with the nature, whereas the N.I.C.E. at Belbury is built on egoism and hatred toward organic life or nature.
The analysis of *That Hideous Strength* reveals the theme of ecological relationship interwoven into the text as one of its themes. It appears in the love and affection that the Dimble family have for their beautiful garden and the natural surroundings. Their simple life-style, straight-forward talk and good-natured behaviour reveal them as far removed from sophistication of any kind. The novel scrutinizes how the anthropocentric man who is unwilling to see the beauty of nature attempts to obliterate the natural world. The self-centred characters of the N.I.C.E. move towards interrupting the bond between man and nature. These are men obsessed with severing man’s connection with organic life. The greediness of the members of N.I.C.E. makes them desirous of attaining power with the support of the supernatural power of the magician Merlin who is buried alive. Thus, the chapter probes two divergent communities.

The love for nature and an intense appreciation for natural environment is also analysed through the character of Jane. When Jane first travels to St. Anne’s by train, she feels the autumn sunlight growing warm on the window-pane and she smells the woods and fields from beyond the tiny station. An appreciative wonder for the natural environment is created in the readers through Jane’s experiences of nature. The environment is in tune with Jane’s character, and as she enters St. Anne’s and walks past a brick path beside a wall she is attracted by the fruit trees growing there. She discovers on her left along a mossy path, the gooseberry bushes spread on each side. Through the eyes of Jane the readers become aware of the pleasant natural
scene. It is thus found that Lewis succeeds in exploring the inexpressible beauty of nature through his narrative power.

Lewis expresses the gospel of healthy ecological relationship in his creation of St. Anne’s and its household of nature-sensitive personalities. The healthy community at St. Anne’s-on-the-Hill is a compelling model of how to live in a healthy relationship with other people. Lewis shows that the people in St. Anne’s exist in harmony with the world around them, including the agricultural landscape nearby as well as the distant forests and wilderness. Lewis urges the readers to look on the natural environment with eyes of love. The persons who live in St. Anne’s love the land, and Jane becomes aware of this when she joins Frank and Camilla Denniston on a picnic. When Jane wishes to eat inside the flat, the Denniston’s suggest having their food amidst the natural environment. Even though the weather appears to be cloudy Frank mentions that he enjoys a foggy day in a wood in the autumn. Frank, further reveals that everyone begins as a child by liking the weather but as they grow up, they begin to dislike the snowy days. On the other hand, the children and the dogs love the snow because they know what the snow is made for. All things in nature exist for man’s delight and enjoyment. Through the character of Camilla, Lewis reveals a love for the grassy fields, birch trees and fir thickets. She is a woman who admires wet cobwebs and the rich autumnal smell.

In fact, the community at St. Anne’s also welcome animals of all sorts like cats and jackdaws. They live in harmony with the creatures that dwell in
their world including wild creature such as bears and potential pests such as mice. The novel describes that Jane saw mice for the first time as they really were – not as ugly creeping things but as dainty creatures like tiny kangaroos, with their sensitive kid-gloved forepaws and their transparent ears. Lewis appreciates nonhuman animals and encourages readers to develop a deeper sense of their integrity, their wisdom and importance on their own terms – not as judged by the criteria of human utility or aesthetics. It is significantly noted that Mr. Bultitude, a bear, plays an important role in the upheaval of Belbury and in freeing all the animals tortured in the name of experimentation. The narrative highlights the fact that when these animals are freed they migrate towards St. Anne’s. Everything described about St. Anne’s reveals its recognition of the intrinsic worth of all living things in line with ethical ecology.

The novels analysed in the third chapter are the clearest expression of the writer’s gospel of ecology – the hope of a movement towards a sacred relationship with nature. The novels encourage a re-thinking and re-shaping of man’s attitude towards his environment. They stimulate an admiration for the nonhuman world and thereby promote eco-salvation. His own nature awareness is developed as a result of his frequent excursions into places of natural delight.

The fourth chapter titled *The Letters* analyses several volumes of letters for the writer’s skills in raising nature awareness in his readers. These letters express his early affinity with his natural surroundings. As a child
Lewis loved all the elements in nature and animals as well. He was overcome by the intrinsic value of each and every living thing. As he grew up he delighted in the outdoors, going for long walks in all kinds of weather.

The analysis of *Letters to an American Lady* reveals Lewis sharing his love for beauty of nature with a certain American Lady in difficult circumstances. Lewis offers sympathetic words of encouragement and also helps her financially. His letters reveal not only his keen observation of animal behaviour but also his Wordsworthian pleasure in the natural environment. He also expresses his delightful travel experiences at the Acropolis, Attica and Rhodes in Greece. His observation of the orchards, wild flowers and the natural scenery which he found there are expressed in his letters. Hence, these letters candidly demonstrate Lewis’s nature-awareness. Through expressing his own love for natural beauty and by an exuberant portrayal of nature’s influences upon him, the writer provokes his reader to a similar fascination for natural beauty.

The analysis of *Letters to Arthur Greeves* also uncovers the good news of Lewis’s ecological relationship. Various letters show his perceptions of nature to be keen and highly sensitive. He makes mention of the endless walks around the places where he lived and worked. He describes these as glorious moments in his life. The letters frequently mention specific natural scenes which caught his attention as he passed through the country lanes and valleys. Lewis’s joy in the natural environment is incorporated into his letters and reveals his vital and healthy relationship with all living things. The letters
also reveal Lewis’s enjoyment of the frost, the snow and the moonlit nights because he spent much time out of doors. This volume of letters, not only reveals his eco-conscious nature, but also communicates to his readers a desire for a much closer communion with the natural world. When man begins to communicate with the world of nature, he will gain a better understanding of it and refrain from thoughtless destruction of it.

Lewis’s *Letters to Children* unfolds the child-heart of this creative artist. The textual analysis of these letters highlights the description of various animals such as mice, rabbits and guinea pigs. Lewis never considered animals like mice as pests but endowed them with noble qualities. Reepicheep the mouse is the genesis of his creative imagination. The analysis finds that with children Lewis allows himself to be a child, enjoying pets and their curious behaviour. He shares his thoughts humorously with the children.

The analysis shows that Lewis never looked down upon children or despised them. Rather the letters reveal that he gave sincere attention to the doubts and fears that they expressed in their letters. He also encourages them by replying to them individually and by answering their questions specifically. Lewis’s responses in these letters serve to create nature consciousness in his young readers and gradually lead them into a sound ecological relationship. Raising nature awareness in young minds is vital for teaching them the value of the environment and Lewis achieves this effectively through his letters.
*Letters of Lewis* unfolds Lewis’s mind as an active observer of the nonhuman world who is not only engrossed by colour but also by smells and sounds. The analysis finds that Lewis’s habit of walking in all kinds of weather along the countryside and woods served to deepen his ecological awareness. Lewis’s attachment with the natural world is revealed in his observation of the winding valleys, rocks, hills and landscape with enthusiasm. Thus, Lewis’s natural love for animals, plants and all living things is illustrated in his letters to friends, relatives and strangers. The author’s experiences with nature, his love for animals, his admiration for the abundant glory of the environment and his experiences while on his walking tours is incorporated in his correspondences. By revealing his own sense of awareness for all the marvels of natural beauty surrounding him, Lewis initiates the readers into cultivating the same awareness for nature. All those who read his letters are motivated to share his love for and awareness of the glories of the natural world.

The analysis of *The Great Divorce* demonstrates nature consciousness in the heavenly realm. The study reveals that those who are nature loving on earth become easily adjusted to the life in heaven and the others who despise the nonhuman world on earth find the environment of heaven repelling and disgusting. The natural setting in heaven proves to be rigid and heavy to the Ghost visitors from hell. However, to the Solid Souls from Paradise, the grass is naturally soft and comfortable. The study examines how humans come to the realisation that interdependence and co-existence is essential for peace
and happiness, even in Paradise. Individuals are encouraged to surrender their self-willed independence with humility and to accept help. The power of eco-relationship and its restorative nature is magnified as Lewis watches a Ghost submit to the slaying of its lust which is in the form of a lizard sitting on a man’s shoulder. It is evident that the salvation of the Ghost leads to the raising of a new-made strong man. The relationship between the bliss-filled young man and the lizard that has now grown into a powerful Stallion is the gospel of ecology metaphorically proclaimed.

In *Till We Have Faces*, which is based on the old Greek myth of Psyche and Cupid, the interrelatedness between human beings and nature is forcefully represented through the central characters. Psyche is displayed as a character that yearns for the Grey Mountain. The Grey Mountain is depicted as an eco-symbol that represents the quintessence of ecological bliss. In spite of her sister Orual’s attempts to dissuade her from self-sacrifice, Psyche wholeheartedly offers herself as a sacrifice to the Shadowbrute on the mountain. The salvation of Psyche is achieved when the god of the Westwind redeems Psyche from the iron fetters by pulling her out of the iron girdle without hurting her and gently whirling her away to his dwelling place. In this work, the writer explores the divine nature in Psyche and her involvement in her natural environment. The chapter extols divinity and divine attributes against the backdrop of the natural environment and human relationships. Psyche’s joyous longing for the Grey Mountain and her union with the god of the Westwind points to man’s need for a joyous reunion with his
environment. Orual, who is at first blind to natural beauty, has to undergo much suffering and pain before she realises that she too is ‘Psyche’ and realises that she had been in the wrong. Thus man must recognise his alienation from nature, repent his past mistakes and move towards a communion with nature. This is the gospel of ecology expressed by Lewis’s writings.

The analysis in the fourth chapter thus finds that Lewis’s characters respond either positively or negatively to their natural environment. The correlation of nature with the human world is powerfully visualised in the lives of the nature-centred characters. It is evident from the works of Lewis that the characters who enthusiastically respond to their environment are certain to draw moral strength from it, while others do not.

The last chapter *Summation* sums up the findings of the study carried out in the previous chapters. Lewis succeeds in demonstrating the gospel of ecology in his writings. Through his writings, he highlights the significance of ecological relationship, through recognition of interrelatedness, a sense of appreciation and wonder for nature, and the character of nature awareness. Both man and nature benefit in different ways due to this relationship. In his various works the writer expressively illustrates this in the children’s stories and the science fiction trilogy. In order to achieve this, Lewis’s writings, in many ways demonstrate the negative aspects of ego-centredness in man. On the other hand eco-sensitivity and eco-consciousness increase man’s positive attitude to nature. Another significant aspect of the analysis is the writer’s
capacity to raise eco-awareness among his readers. The reading of his letters as well as many other works reveals a rare eco-wisdom arising from the writer’s intimate relationship with his environment. All of Lewis’s writings serve to enchant his readers towards the marvels and wonders to be found in all of nature. The writings of Lewis affirm the gospel of ecology as the restoration of sound eco-relationships. When readers are re-educated in the attitudes and values professed by Lewis in his writings, man will again seek to be interrelated to nature, learn to enjoy and appreciate its beauty and humbly share the environment with his fellow-creatures. Lewis’s articulation of new ways of living considers the health of habitats and human communities together.

Though Lewis belongs to the twentieth century he professes a meaningful and compatible connection between man and his environment that is constructive and beneficial not only to the current populace but also to future humanity. The present study brings to light some areas for further investigation and research. Further research can be carried out on healthy communal life in a pluralistic society as revealed in Lewis’s writings. Character reformation through environmental impact as well as the principles of sound agrarian practice may also be investigated in his works. Thus, Lewis’s works of art lend themselves to layers of interpretation and form a rich canvas for further research.