

Ideas and Tips for Writers

Great Quotes
(from great writers)

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“In writing, don’t use adjectives which merely tell us how you want us to feel about the things you are describing.

I mean, instead of telling us the thing is ‘terrible,’ describe it so that we’ll be terrified. Don’t say it was ‘delightful’; make us say ‘delightful’ when we’ve read the description.

You see, all those words (horrifying, wonderful, hideous, exquisite) are only like saying to your readers, ‘Please, will you do my job for me?’”

– C.S. Lewis

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From *Letters to Children* (Collier Books, MacMillan, 1988; now available in paperback), letter from June 26, 1956.

C.S. Lewis was born Clive Staples Lewis in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1898. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, the first of the seven Chronicles of Narnia, was published in 1950. The final installment, *The Last Battle*, appeared in 1956. C.S. Lewis also wrote science fiction, and many nonfiction works about religion and philosophy. For more, visit the website Into the Wardrobe, <http://cslewis.drzeus.net>.

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