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Expectation in C.S. Lewis' Novel *Prince Caspian*

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the development of the protagonist's expectations and his character transformation in *Prince Caspian* by C.S. Lewis, focusing on how his expectations influence his role as a leader and a symbol of justice in Narnia. Caspian's expectations stem from a naive and idealistic view of Old Narnia, inspired by magical tales of talking animals, mythical beings, and perfect harmony. However, upon learning the truth from Doctor Cornelius that Old Narnia has been oppressed by the Telmarines and that he is the rightful heir to the throne, Caspian's expectations evolve into a responsibility to restore justice and unify Narnia.This research demonstrates that Caspian's expectations undergo significant development, from a child's naive dreams to a concrete vision of leadership for Narnia. His journey is marked by challenges. His faith in Aslan and the values of Old Narnia provide moral guidance that shapes his leadership. Caspian ultimately turns his hopes into meaningful actions, characterized by courage, inclusivity, and his ability to balance idealism with the practical realities of governance. The results of this study show that the development of expectations plays a critical role in Caspian's character transformation, illustrating how aspirations can drive decision-making, resilience, and leadership. This research also offers insights into themes of responsibility, unity, and the pursuit of justice, which are not only relevant in literature but also in everyday life. Thus, this study is expected to serve as a valuable reference for literary analysis and narrative exploration in fiction.

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1. Introduction

The Chronicles of Narnia, written by C.S. Lewis, is a series of seven high fantasy novels that have captivated readers for generations. Among these, novel *Prince Caspian* stands out as a tale of rightful heirs, battles for justice, and the realization of potential and purpose. Published in 1951, novel *Prince Caspian* is the second book in the publication order of the Narnia series and the fourth in chronological order. It continues the adventures of the Pevensie siblings in the magical land of Narnia, where they encounter the titular character, Prince Caspian, whose journey from a naive boy to a rightful king forms the crux of the narrative.

The exploration of expectations is a critical theme in *Prince Caspian*. Expectations, in this context, refer to the hopes, dreams, and anticipations that characters hold at the beginning of the narrative and how these evolve or are challenged as the story progresses. For Prince Caspian, the protagonist in this novel, expectations are not merely personal aspirations but are intricately tied to his destiny and the future of Narnia itself. His initial expectations are shaped by his upbringing and the stories of Old Narnia he hears from his nurse and mentor, Doctor Cornelius. These early expectations set him on a path of self-discovery and confrontation with his tyrannical uncle, King Miraz.

Recent studies in narrative research emphasize the importance of understanding characters' goals, motivations, and responses to challenges when examining character development. Singh (2021) explains that goal-directed protagonists who encounter obstacles and attempt to overcome them form a recurring pattern in narratives, allowing readers to understand how challenges shape a character's journey. Similarly, Eekhof et al. (2022) highlight the potential of narratives to engage readers' social-cognitive abilities by encouraging them to interpret characters' thoughts, emotions, and actions. These perspectives provide a theoretical basis for examining Prince Caspian's expectations as an essential element of his characterization. His hopes for reclaiming his rightful position, restoring justice, and rebuilding Old Narnia can be analyzed through the relationship between his personal aspirations and the obstacles he encounters. Consequently, investigating his expectations offers insight into how his motivations influence his decisions, how he responds to adversity, and how his understanding of leadership develops throughout the novel.

Analyzing the protagonist's expectations in a novel serves as a key lens through which we can understand both the character and the broader narrative. Expectations reveal character's desires, fears, and motivations, offering insight into their inner world
and driving their development throughout the story. These expectations often shape the protagonist's actions and decisions, guiding the plot's progression as they strive toward or react to anticipated outcomes. Protagonist's expectations often align with or highlight the novel's broader themes, such as hope, ambition, or the consequences of idealism. These expectations can also serve as symbolic reflections of societal or personal struggles, giving deeper meaning to the narrative. By analyzing these expectations, readers can uncover the underlying psychological and thematic currents of the story, enhancing their understanding of both character and plot. Ultimately, the protagonist's expectations are central to the novel's emotional resonance.

The protagonist's expectations undergo a significant transformation throughout the novel. At first, he holds an idealized view of Narnia as a land of justice, freedom, and prosperity—a vision influenced by the legends of Old Narnia. As the story unfolds, he is forced to confront the harsh realities of leadership, war, and the complexity of human (and non-human) relationships. His expectations evolve as he moves from youthful idealism to mature realism, learning that achieving his goals requires more than just hope—it demands action, sacrifice, and wisdom.

Furthermore, the transformation of a protagonist's expectations can contribute to the deeper meaning of a literary work by illustrating the relationship between personal aspirations and lived experiences. Huang and Fung (2024) explain that readers' identification with narrative characters involves interconnected cognitive, emotional, and perspective-taking processes, enabling them to understand characters' experiences from within the story world. This perspective suggests that examining Prince Caspian's expectations can reveal not only his individual development but also the values communicated through his journey. As he encounters political conflict, uncertainty, and the responsibilities associated with leadership, his expectations are tested and reshaped by experience. His journey can therefore be interpreted as a movement from idealized hopes toward a more mature understanding of responsibility, courage, and justice. By tracing this development, the present study seeks to demonstrate how expectations function as a narrative element that connects character motivation, conflict, and transformation in C. S. Lewis' Prince Caspian.

This development of expectations is not only critical to understanding the protagonist's personal development but also provides insights into broader themes within the novel, such as leadership, justice, and moral responsibility. Through the protagonist's journey, Lewis explores how expectations shape character growth, influence decision-making, and drive narrative progression. The transformation of protagonist's expectations mirrors the

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broader theme of growth and maturation that is central to the Narnia series, where characters are often called to rise above their circumstances and fulfill their potential in the face of adversity.

Given the importance of these expectations to the character's development and the overall narrative, this research aims to delve into the nature of protagonist's expectations, tracing the development throughout the novel and examining the impact on his character arc. By doing so, this research will provide a nuanced analysis of how expectation function as a narrative in the novel of *Prince Caspian*, contributing to a deeper understanding of character development and thematic expression in literature.

This research focuses primarily on the character of the protagonist and his expectations as depicted in *Prince Caspian*. While references to other characters and events are inevitable, the primary aim is to maintain a focused analysis on protagonist's journey. The research does not encompass a comprehensive analysis of the entire Narnia series but situates *Prince Caspian* within the broader context where necessary.

Theoretically, this research is expected to provide a contribution to literary studies, provides a detailed analysis of character development through expectations, enhancing understanding of narrative devices, offers a comprehensive analysis of the protagonist, showcasing the complexity of character motivations and development.

Practically, this research is to guarantee specific lining to the researcher, provides readers a deeper understanding of *Prince Caspian*, enriching their reading experience, and helps aspiring writers understand the relationship between a character's expectations and their narrative journey.

2. Literature Review

Literature review is an important part of academic research that aims to review and analyze previous studies that are relevant to the topic discussed. There are several relevant literatures that will be discussed to provide a deeper understanding of this topic.

2.1 Protagonist

Protagonist is the character who carries the behavior of the whole story. By determining the protagonist in detail, the other characters are easy to find.

A protagonist is a supporting figure or the main performer or performer. According to Sadiman (2003: 8), the protagonist is typically the hero who has a significant impact on the plot. Typically, the hero is a good man with good qualities. According to Nurgiyantoro (2010: 178–179), the protagonist character demonstrates some traits that align with our beliefs. These characters are similar to us, have problems that are similar to ours, and approach those problems in ways that are similar to ours. The characters in a literary work are typically creations of the author's imagination, yet they play significant roles in the plot.

The protagonist is an important character in a story. Simply, the protagonist is the main character in the story. These characters drive the story. The protagonist will be the lens through which the reader sees everything. The protagonist is the character whose fate is most closely followed by the reader or audience. A novel, film, or drama may have many main characters, but may only have one protagonist or perhaps two in certain cases. When reading a novel or film, there must be a character who has the main purpose of the story and someone who opposes it. The protagonist is the character who works towards this main goal. According to Harymawan (1993), the protagonist is the main role that is the center of the story.

2.2 Expectations and Character Development in Literature

Character development theory examines how a character experiences emotional, psychological, and moral changes throughout the story. These developments are often a response to the challenges and conflicts faced by the character (Booth: 1961).

In general, expectation is in the form of abstract, invisible, but it is argued even sometimes, in the mind and made suggestions to be realized. But sometimes expectations rests on someone or something. In practice, many people try to make their expectations come true by praying or trying. Snyder (2002) states that expectation is the totality of the individual's abilities to produce pathways to achieve the desired goals, along with the motivation he has for using these pathways.

Expectations are an important aspect of character development in literature. Character expectations reflect the expectations and goals that the characters have at the beginning of the story and how they develop as the narrative progresses. According to Abrams (1999) in his book A Glossary of Literary Terms, early expectations are a key element in shaping narrative dynamics and character development. The expectations held by the characters often serve as the main motivation that drives their actions and forms the arc of the story.

Expectations not only motivate the characters but also shape their interactions with other characters and the surrounding environment. In this context, expectations are an important tool for exploring the changes and growth of characters in the story.

By understanding the character's expectations, readers can gain deeper insights into their motivations and actions throughout the narrative.

2.3 Initial Expectations

In literary works, initial expectations refer to the beliefs, assumptions, or views of the characters towards how events will develop at the beginning of the story. These expectations are usually based on previous experience, personal values, or an initial understanding of the situation. These expectations are often tested or changed as the narrative develops.

According to Abrams (1999) early expectations or initial expectations are an important element in character development and story conflict. They stated that the expectations of the characters triggered motivation and action, which in turn became the main driver in the storyline. These initial expectations often contrast with the reality the characters face, creating tension and character development.

The difference between expectations and initial expectations lies in the context of time and the development of the situation:

Expectations in general are a person's expectations, beliefs, or assumptions about the outcome or development of an event. These expectations may evolve, change, or adjust as new information or further experience arises. In a literary context, expectations can refer to the expectations that characters have for the future or the outcome of their actions, either at the beginning of the story or as the story develops.

Initial Expectation refers to the expectations or assumptions held in the early stages of a situation or story, before the character faces reality or obtains additional information. Initial expectations are often simpler or based on an incomplete understanding. In a story, these initial expectations can change significantly as the conflict or story dynamics develop.

2.2 Impact Theory

Impact theory focuses on how a character's expectations and actions affect the story, the fictional world, as well as the other characters around it (Booth: 1961). In the context of Prince Caspian, the hope that protagonist has to revive the glory of Narnia has a huge impact on the whole story and the characters.

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2.3 The Principle of Expectations in the Works of C.S. Lewis

C.S. Lewis is known for his ability to create rich fictional worlds and complex characters. In the Allegory of Love (Lewis, 1936), Lewis discusses the importance of expectations and ideals in shaping the character's journey. Although the book focuses more on medieval and Renaissance literature, the principles discussed by Lewis regarding expectations and character development can be applied to the analysis of expectations in *Prince Caspian*. Lewis argues that expectations are a powerful narrative tool that can direct character growth and provide emotional depth to a story. Expectations in Lewis's works are often closely related to moral and spiritual themes. In *Prince Caspian*, protagonist's expectations are shaped by stories about Old Narnia and a longing for justice and freedom. These expectations are the main drivers of protagonist's actions and decisions throughout the novel, and reflect the values held by Lewis in his work.

2.4 Theory of expectation

Theory of expectation formulated by Victor Vroom in 1964, is a psychological framework that explains motivation based on an individual's expectations regarding the outcomes of their actions. This theory posits that people are motivated to act in certain ways if they believe that their efforts will lead to desired results.

This theory is primarily used in the context of work and motivation, but its principles can be adapted for analyzing characters in literature. The theory focuses on the cognitive processes that drive individual decision-making and behavior, emphasizing the role of expectations in influencing outcomes.

The theory is composed of three core components: Expectation, Instrumentality, and Valence.

1. Expectation refers to the belief that effort will lead to the desired performance level. This component is influenced by factors such as self-efficacy (confidence in one's ability to perform tasks), goal difficulty (the perceived challenge of achieving the goal), and perceived control (the belief in having control over performance outcomes). In literary analysis, this can be seen in a character's initial belief in their ability to achieve a goal, which influences their motivation and actions. For instance, protagonist's belief that he can restore Narnia influences his actions and decisions at the beginning of the story.
2. Instrumentality is the belief that performing at a certain level will lead to specific outcomes. Factors influencing instrumentality include trust (confidence in the system linking performance to outcomes), clarity (understanding the relationship between performance and outcomes), and policies and procedures (formal mechanisms ensuring that performance leads to outcomes). In literature, characters assess whether their actions will lead to desired outcomes. For example, protagonist must believe that fighting for Narnia will result in the restoration of its former glory.
3. Valence refers to the value or importance an individual places on the expected outcome. This component is subjective and can vary widely between individuals based on personal goals, needs, and values. In literature, the importance of the outcome to the character shapes their motivation. The value protagonist places on restoring justice and the old Narnia drives his persistence and actions.

By using this theory, it can be gained that a nuanced understanding of how protagonist's expectations shape his actions and character development throughout the novel, providing a structured approach to analyze his growth and the broader narrative impact.

2.5 The theme of hope in fantasy literature

The theme of hope and expectation is often an important element in fantasy literature. In Fantasy Fiction: An Introduction by Armitt (2005), she explains that expectation is a core element that drives fantasy narratives. Character expectations create tension and direct the plot, while allowing the reader to emotionally engage with the character's journey.

Hope in fantasy literature often serves as a tool to explore larger themes such as justice, courage, and social change.

2.6 Expectations as a Narrative Development Tool

According to Abrams (1999), expectations also function as an important narrative development tool. In A Glossary of Literary Terms, Abrams outlines that character expectations are often used by writers to build tension and direct plot. In the context of *Prince Caspian*, protagonist's expectations not only affect his actions but also affect the overall direction of the story. Lewis's narrative uses these expectations to explore larger themes such as justice, courage, and social change.

The expectations that develop throughout the story allow the writer to explore the dynamics of the characters and their relationship with the world around them. By understanding these expectations, readers can gain deeper insights into the characters' motivations and how they interact with the challenges they face.

2.7 Related Studies on Expectation in Literature

Research on expectation in literature has been conducted in a variety of contexts and genres. For example, in *Expectations and Reality: Characters in Modern Fiction* (Smith, 2015), the author explores how character expectations affect the storyline and character development in modern fiction. This study shows that expectations are an important element that shapes character interactions and influences narrative outcomes.

Another study by Johnson (2018), *Dreams and Desires: The Role of Expectations in Children's Literature*, highlights the importance of expectations in children's literature. In this book, Johnson analyzes the various characters in children's literature and shows how their expectations shape their journey and growth. This study is relevant to understand how protagonist's expectations, as a character in children's literature, evolve and influence the overall narrative.

Furthermore, Eekhof et al. (2023) investigated how readers engage with narrative characters through cognitive and emotional processes, including empathy, identification, and perspective-taking. Their findings highlight the importance of readers' abilities to understand the inner worlds of fictional characters. This perspective provides a useful foundation for examining how Prince Caspian's expectations change as he confronts political conflict, uncertainty, and the responsibilities associated with leadership. His journey allows readers to consider the relationship between personal aspirations and the realities of achieving them. Unlike previous studies that broadly discuss character development and reader engagement, the present research focuses specifically on the nature and transformation of the protagonist's expectations in C. S. Lewis' Prince Caspian. This focus may contribute to literary studies by clarifying how expectations shape character development and communicate themes of justice, courage, and responsibility.

3. Research Method

This research needs a design that plays a role in determining how research is carried out (Asenahabi, 2019). Research design is a researcher's idea through a structured plan that shows all the main parts of a research. This research uses qualitative method to do the analysis. As Leavy (2017) states, qualitative research method is a method used to examine the

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depth of the meaning of values and sub-qualitative approaches in society as well as the meaning-making process. In simple terms, qualitative research methods are research methods used to analyze, describe and interpret emerging phenomena. Creswell (2023) strengthens the idea about the qualitative research as an analytical approach where the researcher approaches the data, uses limited frameworks and interpretations to explain the data, and catalogs information into themes. Then, Lambert and Lambert (2013: 256) explain that data collection of qualitative descriptive researches focus on discovering the nature of the specific events under research. Thus, to achieve an accurate analysis is conducted by analyzing the data notes based on the collected notes of words, phrases, and sentences.

4. Discussion

This research is divided into several parts. They are protagonist's expectations, the development of the protagonist's expectations, and the effect of the expectations to the protagonist's character.

4.1 Protagonist's Expectations

Expectations refer to the beliefs, assumptions, or views of the characters towards how events will develop at the beginning of the story. These expectations are usually based on previous experience, personal values, or an initial understanding of the situation. These expectations are often tested or changed as the narrative develops. Snyder (2002) states that expectation is the totality of the individual's abilities to produce pathways to achieve the desired goals, along with the motivation he has for using these pathways. The Protagonist's expectations in Prince Caspian primarily reflect his longing for justice, restoration of Old Narnia, and personal growth as a true king.

Protagonist's childhood fascination with the stories of Old Narnia reflects his yearning for a world of magic, equality, and harmony. These tales inspire him to dream of a better Narnia.

Prince Protagonist's journey in Prince Caspian by C.S. Lewis begins with an innocent longing for a world he believes to be nothing more than legend. As a young boy, Caspian is enchanted by the stories his Nurse tells him of Old Narnia—a time when animals could talk, fauns and centaurs roamed the land, and the great lion Aslan watched over all. These tales ignite in him a yearning for something magical and beautiful, a world far removed from the rigid, oppressive reality of his life under the rule of his uncle, King Miraz.

> "All the same, I do wish," said Caspian. "What do you wish?" asked the King.
> "I wish — I wish — I wish I could have lived in the Old Days," said Caspian. (He was only a very little boy at the time.) Up till now King Miraz had been talking in the tiresome way that some grown-ups have, which makes it quite clear that they are not really interested in what you are saying, but now he suddenly gave Caspian a very sharp look.
> "Eh? What's that?" he said. "What old days do you mean?" "Oh, don't you know, Uncle?" said Caspian. "When everything was quite different. When all the animals could talk, and there were nice people who lived in the streams and the trees. Naiads and Dryads, they were called. And there were Dwarfs. And there were lovely little Fauns in all the woods. They had feet like goats. And —"
> "…. He dreamed of Dwarfs and Dryads every night and tried very hard to make the dogs and cats in the castle talk to him. (Lewis: 22)

This longing is innocent and idealistic, reflecting a child's simple wish to escape into a magical past. He has no idea that these tales are true, or that they will one day shape his destiny.

As the protagonist grows, his world begins to change. His expectations shift from dreaming about Old Narnia to understanding its tragic reality. The pivotal moment comes when Doctor Cornelius, his tutor, reveals the truth about Narnia's history. Cornelius explains that Old Narnia—the world of talking animals and magical beings—is not just a story, but a reality that has been suppressed by the Telmarines, including Protagonist's own family. Worse still, Caspian learns that he is the rightful heir to the throne, and Miraz is a usurper who has oppressed the land and its creatures. *"It is you Telmarines who silenced the beasts and the trees and the fountains... You may help us, for I know that you love the Old Things*." (Lewis: 27). This revelation is a turning point for Caspian. He begins to see himself not just as a curious boy, but as someone with a responsibility to restore justice and reclaim the true spirit of Narnia. His expectations evolve from passive longing to active duty. For the first time, he recognizes that he has a role to play in bringing about the change he desires. Protagonist's recognition of Miraz's tyranny and his own identity as the rightful heir fuels his expectation to restore justice. *"Miraz weeded them out... all the great lords, who had known your father, died or disappeared."* (Lewis: 31). This highlights Miraz's cruelty and strengthens the Protagonist to resolve to challenge such oppression.

The Protagonist escapes from Miraz's court marks the next stage of his journey. No longer content with dreaming about Old Narnia, he sets out to find its remnants and unite them. He meets dwarfs, centaurs, and other magical beings, taking on the role of a leader for the first time. The protagonist's transitions from an idealistic dreamer to a decisive leader, embracing his responsibilities despite initial fears.

> "…. Caspian felt brave and, in a way, happy, to think that he was King Caspian riding to seek adventures…" "…We must go into the wild, we must search for others who believe." (Lewis: 33-35)

This marks his readiness to accept his destiny, viewing it as both an adventure and a duty. His expectations grow more ambitions—he not only dreams of restoring Old Narnia but also of creating a unified kingdom where Old Narnians and Telmarines can live in harmony. Caspian begins to see himself as a bridge between the two worlds, a king who can bring justice, peace, and magic back to the land.

However, the road to fulfilling these expectations is not easy. As the protagonist gathers allies and prepares for battle, he faces setbacks that test his way to the matter. Some of his plans fail, and his forces suffer losses. *"It had all failed... Yet Caspian stood firm, ready to try again."* (Lewis: 49). These challenges force the protagonists to grow. He learns that leadership is not about perfection, but about resilience and the ability to adapt. Even in the face of failure, he remains determined, showing a maturity far beyond his years.

The Protagonist's faith also plays a crucial role in his journey. The stories of Aslan and the Golden Age of Narnia, when Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy ruled as Kings and Queens, inspire him to believe in a higher purpose.

> "It was all because of Aslan... And so, they reigned for ever so long and everyone had a lovely time." (Lewis: 22)

> "Sometimes I did wonder if there really was such a person as Aslan. Yet there you are." (Lewis: 37)

This quotation shows the Protagonist's admiration for the Pevensies' reign as a model for his leadership and highlights his faith in the miraculous as a cornerstone of his expectations. This faith gives him hope and guidance, particularly during the most difficult

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moments of his journey. He believes that Aslan's presence and the legacy of the Pevensies will help him achieve his vision for Narnia.

> "Caspian, you are the true king. You have restored Old Narnia."
> "I do wish I could make the trees talk again and the beasts speak. I'd be friends with them."
> "You can be a king like the High King Peter of old, and not like your uncle."
> (Lewis: 28)

This quotation sets Peter's leadership as a benchmark for Caspian, emphasizing justice, wisdom, and inclusion.

The Protagonist's character has undergone a profound transformation. He has grown from a curious, idealistic boy into a wise and courageous leader. His expectations, once simple dreams, have evolved into actionable goals that reflect his deep commitment to justice, unity, and faith.

4.2 The Development of the Protagonist's Expectations

The expectations that develop throughout the story allow the writer to explore the dynamics of the characters and their relationship with the world around them.

The Protagonist's expectations develop dramatically throughout Prince Caspian's story. These expectations started from his innocent childhood dreams and evolved into mature goals, influenced by a sense of responsibility and resilience.

As a child, the protagonist was fascinated by the stories told by his caregivers about Old Narnia. In his shadow, he imagines a world where animals can talk, fauna roam freely, and justice is upheld under Aslan's watch. These stories sparked his desire to experience the world such in the quotation: *"I wish I could live in the past, when all the animals could talk, and there were beautiful little Fauns in all the forests."* (Lewis: 22). At this stage, The Protagonist's expectations were childish and naive, based solely on his fascination with magic. He sees Old Narnia as a fairytale world, far from the harsh reality he experienced under the rule of his uncle, King Miraz.

However, everything changes when he meets Doctor Cornelius, who reveals the truth about Narnia's past. He learned that the legend of Old Narnia was not just a story—it was a reality buried under Telmarin's rule. He also learns that Miraz has oppressed the magical creatures of Narnia and erased its rich history. More than that, he realized that he was the rightful heir to the throne, the son of Caspian IX, and that he had the responsibility to retake Narnia. *"For you are the true King of Narnia: The Tenth Caspian, the true son and heir of the Ninth Caspian."* (Lewis: 31). This revelation changed The Protagonist's expectations. Hope is no longer just an empty dream; they become a call to action. He began to see himself as a key figure in the restoration of glory, justice, and the miracle of Narnia.

After escaping from Miraz's palace and starting to gather allies among the remnants of Old Narnia, The Protagonist's expectations became broader and more practical. He realized that unity was essential—not only between the magical creatures of Old Narnia, but also between them and the Telmarins. He began to build coalitions, seeking to support from dwarves, centaurs, and fauns. *"We have to go into the wild, we have to find others who believe."* (Lewis: 35). The Protagonist's vision developed into reconciliation, where all the inhabitants of Narnia could live in peace under his leadership. However, The Protagonist's journey was not easy. As he leads his new allies, he faces battles, failures, and internal conflicts. His expectations for victory easily faded when the reality of war emerged. *"Everything has failed... But Caspian remains steadfast, ready to try again."* (Lewis: 49). Despite the failure, The Protagonist's hopes did not waver. He learned to adapt, relying on trust in Aslan and

Queen Susan's Horn to call for help. These challenges teach that leadership requires resilience, strategy, and the ability to inspire others even in the darkest of times. Caspian fulfills his expectations. With the help of Aslan and the Pevensie family, he reclaimed the throne, united Narnia Lama and Telmarin, and began a new era of peace and harmony. His hopes, which began as simple dreams, have matured into a comprehensive vision of justice, unity, and expectations.

4.3 The Impact of the Protagonist's Expectations on His Character Development

Expectation not only motivates the characters but also shapes their interactions with other characters and the surrounding environment. In this context, expectations are an important tool for exploring the changes and growth of characters in the story. Character development examines how a character experiences emotional, psychological, and moral changes throughout the story. These developments are often a response to the challenges and conflicts faced by the character.

The Protagonist's expectations are the driving force behind his transformation from a curious child to a wise and brave king. Each stage of his journey shaped his character, instilling qualities of leadership, resilience, and compassion.

At first, Caspian is a dreamer, fascinated by the stories of Old Narnia but cut off from reality. His early hopes reflect his idealism and innocence, but they also show his potential to connect with Narnia's true spirit. *"I dream about the Dwarves and the Dryad every night and try hard to get the dogs and cats in the palace to talk to me."* (Lewis: 23). This stage suggests that Caspian had a natural affinity for the magic of Narnia, even though he was unaware of his legacy.

When Caspian learns the truth about Narnia's history and his identity as the rightful heir, his hopes encourage him to take responsibility. He began to see himself as more than just a child dreaming about the past; He becomes someone with the task of restoring justice. *"Telmarin has silenced animals and trees... You can help us, because I know you love the Old Things."* (Lewis: 27). This new sense of responsibility marked a change in The Protagonist's character. He began to grow into a leadership role, driven by a deep commitment to justice and unity.

The Protagonist's leadership skills were put to the test as he faced the challenges of war. The hope is to give him the strength to survive through failures and difficulties. *"Sometimes I wonder if there really is someone like Aslan. But here you are."* (Lewis: 37). This belief not only sustains him but also inspires those around him. The protagonist learned that leadership is not about avoiding mistakes but about staying firm in the face of adversity.

The Protagonist's expectations shaped his vision of unity. He did not seek to rule Narnia alone; he struggles to unite all magical creatures and the Telmarins. His commitment to reconciliation reflects his growth into a compassionate and inclusive leader. *"You can help us, for I know that you also love the Old Things."* (Lewis: 27). The Protagonist's character has changed profoundly. He has grown from a curious child to a wise and just king who embodies the ideals of Old Narnia while pioneering a path for his future. His expectations, which were originally dreams, have become the foundation of his leadership, driving his growth into a symbol of hope and justice for all the people of Narnia.

5. Conclusion

There are several points that need to be concluded after the analysis. The Protagonist's journey in *Prince Caspian* is a rich exploration of the transformative power of expectations and how they shape personal growth, leadership, and purpose. His story begins with innocent, idealistic dreams inspired by tales of Old Narnia—a world of magic, justice, and harmony. Over time, these dreams evolve into a deeper, more purposeful mission as he learns the truth

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about Narnia's oppression, his royal heritage, and his responsibility to restore balance to the land.

The Protagonist's expectations develop from passive longings into actionable goals. Initially, he seeks to restore the magical essence of Old Narnia, but his vision expands to include unity and reconciliation between Old Narnians and Telmarines. This evolution reflects his growth from a dreamer into a decisive leader who embraces both the ideals of the past and the practicalities of governance. His faith in Aslan and the legends of the Golden Age sustain him through challenges, while his resilience enables him to overcome failures and inspire others.

The impact of The Protagonist's expectations on his character is profound. They drive his transformation into a wise, compassionate, and inclusive ruler. Through his journey, he learns the value of perseverance, the importance of unity, and the strength of moral conviction. By the end, Caspian becomes a symbol of hope and justice for Narnia, embodying the ideals of leadership that prioritize harmony, fairness, and the greater good.

The Protagonist's story serves as a powerful narrative of how evolving expectations, guided by faith and resilience, can lead to profound personal and collective transformation. His journey is not just about reclaiming a throne but about forging a better future for all of Narnia's inhabitants. This transformation underscores that leadership is not merely about power but about the courage to dream, the determination to act, and the wisdom to unify.

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