



# THE HIGHEST GOOD

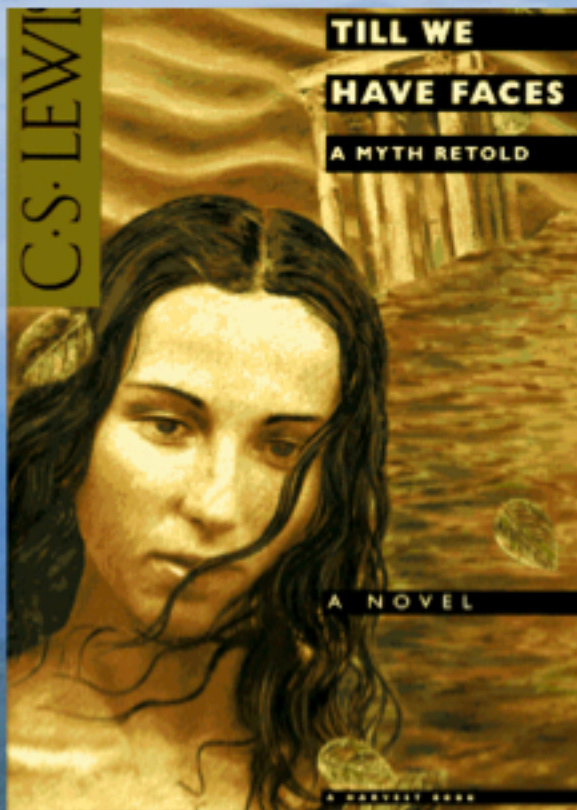
a series in the Sermon on the Mount

*Purity of heart is to will one thing*



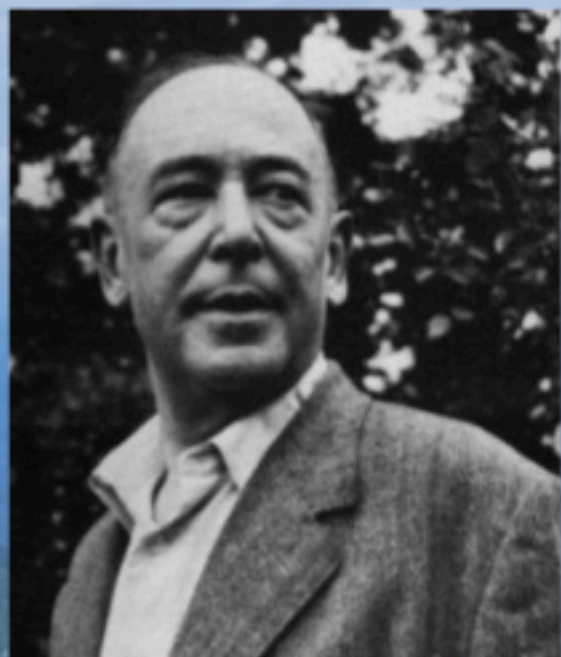
*If God is life, he who sees him  
cannot fail to see life itself.*

Gregory of Nyssa



*The sweetest thing in all my life has been the longing — to reach the Mountain, to find the place where all the beauty came from...*

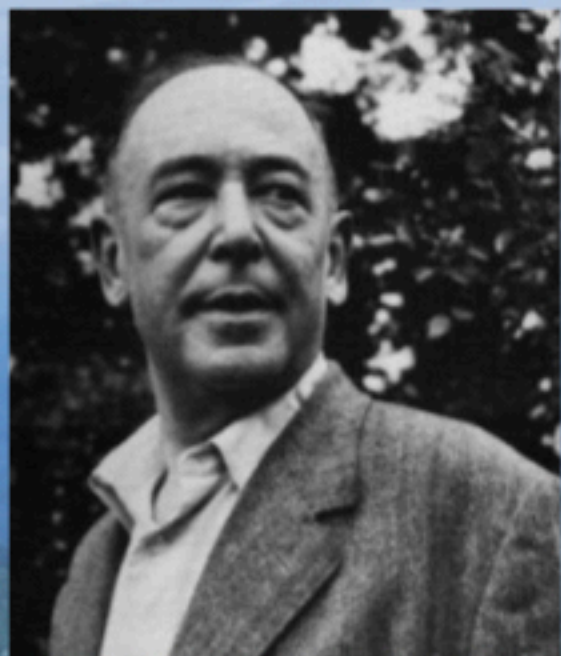
Orual



C.S. Lewis

*The books or the music in which we thought the beauty was located will betray us if we trust to them; it was not in them, it only came through them, and what came through them was longing. These things—the beauty, the memory of our own past—are good images of what we really desire; but if they are mistaken for the thing itself they turn into dumb idols, breaking the hearts of their worshipers. . . .*





C.S. Lewis

*For they are not the thing itself;  
they are only the scent of a  
flower we have not found, the  
echo of a tune we have not  
heard, news from a country we  
have never yet visited.*

*Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it  
flow the springs of life*

Proverbs 4:23

# THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Bill Keane

*Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?  
He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not lift up his soul to what is false  
and does not swear deceitfully.*

Psalm 24:3-4



*Who can say, "I have made my heart pure;  
I am clean from my sin"?*

Proverbs 20:9

*If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?*

Psalms 130:3



*Is the Lord urging us to do something beyond our nature? Has he gone beyond the limitations of human capacity by the enormity of his command?*

Gregory of Nyssa



Mary Oliver

*You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on  
your knees  
for a hundred miles through the  
desert repenting.  
You only have to let the soft  
animal of your body  
love what it loves. . . . .*



Mary Oliver

*Tell me about despair, yours,  
and I will tell you mine. . . .*



*We all have clutter in our hearts  
and that's what needs  
tidying. . .*

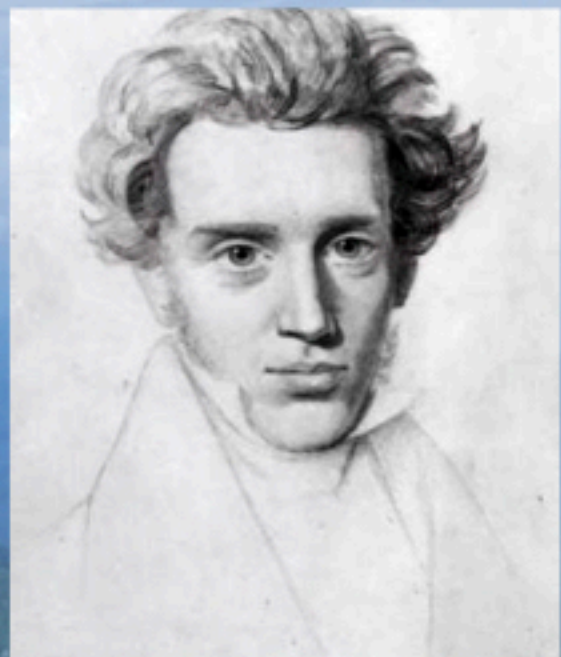
Marie Kondo

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. . . .Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3

*When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.*

1 Corinthians 13:11-12



Søren Kierkegaard

*Each man in the presence of  
God has the task of paying  
attention to himself.*





Martin Luther

*Seek God in the miserable,  
erring, and laboring ones, [for]  
that is where one sees God,  
there the heart becomes pure,  
and all arrogance lies down.*