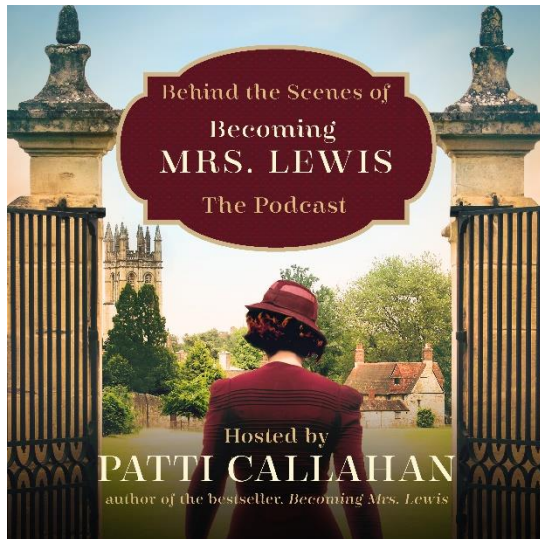


Teaser/Introduction Episode for Becoming Mrs. Lewis Script



Behind the Scenes of Becoming Mrs. Lewis – An in-depth exploration into the improbable love story of C. S. Lewis and Joy Davidman. The Stories behind the stories of the best-selling novel – Becoming Mrs. Lewis.

A podcast.

Improbable love stories fascinate us all – and C. S. Lewis and his late in life Joy Davidman had the most improbable of all. When they began a pen friendship in 1950, C. S. Lewis was an Oxford Don at Magdalen College at Oxford University. His fame as a Christian apologist after being an atheist was on the rise. Joy Davidman was an award-winning poet, novelist, ex-communist, former atheist and wife to another famous author. She was also the mother of two young sons while living in upstate New York. What an absolutely unlikely pair.

I'll be interviewing experts that deeply influenced the novel, including Joy Davidman's son and C. S. Lewis's step-son Douglas Gresham. We'll also talk to experts Dr. David and Dr. Crystal Downing; Scholar Andrew Lazo, Scholar Crystal Hurd and Dr. Don W. King of Montreat College, all of whom believe in the power of sharing the deeper stories that affected Joy Davidman, C. S. Lewis, their work, life and love.

Douglas Gresham – when we first got to the Kilns, I was still in the state where I thought English people ought to be wearing armor and riding horses and jousting every now and again. That sort of thing. And of course, when I was going to be meeting this man who was a personal friend of Aslan the great lion, and of High King Peter of Narnia and the rest, I kind of imagined

him to be this stalwart professor, not professor, a stalwart, knightly character. Probably wearing a white charger and wearing silver armor and carrying a sword. Of course he was nothing of the sort.

Dr. David Downing – He had this amazing intelligence that he could almost watch himself grieving. He seemed to be grieving and watching himself grieving.

Dr. Crystal Hurd – I think the first thing she would tell us is, "No matter who you are, no matter what your gender is, be encouraged and continue forward, and don't give up." In her relationships and her art, she learned and evolved and grew and developed.

Dr. Crystal Downing – In fact, it makes her so much like Dorothy Sayers. Sayers wanted to be known for the quality of her work, the integrity of her work. And, in fact, when people would interview her and ask information about her personal life she says, "It's not about me. It is about the integrity of the work."

Scholar Andrew Lazo – But she embodies all of those things for him, and so I think that she did what nobody else could do; I think that she loved him, but then I think that she overcame his Irish and culturally British reserve, and I think that her chutzpah, right? Her boldness from her background, and just the indefatigable nature of her personality, I think she came and got him, right? In a way that nobody else would have ever done. Don't you think?

Dr. Don W. King – "There is this deep spiritual life that she's trying to put off because she's a child of materialism, she says, as well. There's this bifurcation that we see in Joy. This material world that she believes is all that there is and yet there's this longing, this desire for meaning, almost a desire for transcendence. And I think it's worth noting that this is a pattern we see also in Lewis's life."

The novel **BECOMING MRS LEWIS** explored Joy's transformational journey and here we'll be talking about the lost and hidden backstory of her love with C. S. Lewis. When I'm at book

readings, I am astounded at how Joy's story has affected you. I am in wonder at the way she has influenced your lives. We are here to explore those subjects. Welcome to **BEHIND THE SCENES OF BECOMING MRS. LEWIS.**

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