

Latest Narnia Film on DVD

✖ Now available on DVD, *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian*, the new *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* opens with the two younger Pevensies—Edmund (Skandar Keynes) and Lucy (Georgie Henley)—being swallowed into a painting, transporting them back to Narnia along with their cousin Eustace Scrubb (Will Poulter). They join the new king of Narnia, Caspian (Ben Barnes) in his quest to find seven lost lords to save Narnia from a corrupting evil that resides on a dark island.

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader more than holds its own to *Prince Caspian* and *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* as a fast-paced adventure with special effects that tops its two predecessors. The first in the movie series in 3D, *Dawn Treader* makes good use of the technology with edge-of-your-seat action that features swashbuckling sword fights, a fire-breathing dragon and stomach-churning choppy seas.

Having read *Dawn Treader* to my three young boys, Alex, Andrew and Chase, I was curious to see if the screenplay stayed true to the book. Although there were several changes to the story, including the elimination of some characters, the film adapted the book well.

Especially spot-on is the portrayal by Poulter as the whiny

cousin Eustace,
who is literally transformed into an unlikely hero as the
danger heightens. His
unusual hate-love relationship with braveheart mouse
Reepicheep is funny and
touching.

Christians will be especially pleased that *Dawn Treader* does a
better
job of communicating the spiritual themes in Lewis' books than
*Prince
Caspian*, which was criticized by some for its overuse of epic
battles a la The
Lord of the Rings film series.

Dawn Treader carries several biblical messages about being
content, fighting
temptation, and redemption as a result of repentance, as well
as resisting envy,
pride and greed. Mirroring a line from the book, the movie
even has Aslan
telling Edmund and Lucy that they will not return to Narnia,
but the siblings
should learn to know him by another name in their own world.

Rated PG, *Dawn Treader* does feature some frightening images
and
sequences of fantasy action. Parents will want to exercise
caution in deciding
whether to take young children to see the movie, which has an
intense climax
that rivals strong action scenes from the Pirates of the
Caribbean film
series.

Overall, *Dawn Treader* may be the most enjoyable installment in
the
famed fantasy series. "Eustace was annoying, but funny," Alex,

9, points out.

"Dawn Treader was non-stop action."

Andrew, 7, adds: "It was the most fun Narnia movie ever."

Content Watch: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader *is rated PG. Parents with young children, be advised: intense, strong action scenes included.*

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