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Considering *The Great Divorce* (Parts I and II)

[J. R. Christopher](#)

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Abstract

The author takes two approaches in this discussion of *The Great Divorce*: enumerating the medieval sources and analogues for Lewis's story, particularly *The Divine Comedy* but also other dream-visions such as *The Romance of the Rose*; and seeking out modern parallels and inspirations, such as Forster's "The Celestial Omnibus" but more importantly Tolkien's "Leaf by Niggle" and Williams's *All Hallows' Eve*.

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There are only two things more to be said about this small book. Firstly, I must acknowledge my debt to a writer whose name I have forgotten and whom I read several years ago in a highly coloured American magazine of what they call 'Scientifiction'. The unbendable and unbreakable quality of my heavenly matter was suggested to me by him, though he used the fancy for a different and most ingenious purpose. But fields, rivers, or mountains I did not see, and I got the impression that the grey town still filled the whole field of vision. 'It seems the deuce of a town,' I volunteered, 'and that's what I can't understand. The parts of it that I saw were so empty. Was there once a much larger population?' 'Not at all,' said my neighbour.

The Great Divorce. C. S. Lewis. Macmillan publishing co., inc. new york copyright (c) 1946, by macmillan publishing co., inc. The Great Divorce. 1. I SEEMED to be standing in a bus queue by the side of a long, mean street. Evening was just closing in and it was raining. I had been wandering for hours in similar mean streets, always in the rain and always in evening twilight. Time seemed to have paused on that dismal moment when only a few shops have lit up and it is not yet dark enough for their windows to look cheering. And just as the evening never advanced to night, so my walking had never ... The parts of it that I saw were so empty. Was there once a much larger population?" "Not at all," said my neighbour. parliament, with great costs for either. The latter entailed sometimes lengthy debates about a couple's intimate marital relationship in public in the House of Commons.[2]. The Matrimonial Causes

Act 1937 made divorce easier to access, particularly for women, who until then could not get a divorce merely on grounds of adultery, as men could: women needed to show more causes than adultery, such as incest, sodomy, or cruelty. Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, which sets out the basis for divorce (part i) and how the courts deal with financial issues, known as ancillary relief (part ii). Cruelty has been made irrelevant. See *Gollins v Gollins* [1964] A.C. 644. often now considered the 'nice' divorce. respondents admitting to adultery will not be

penalised financially or otherwise. The article highlights the key differences between separation and divorce to help you reach an informed decision. The biggest difference between separation and divorce is if you opt for separation rather than for divorce, your marital status stays as married. This is because unlike in divorce, your marriage is not yet terminated. You and your partner may live separately and may have child custody and child visitation orders issued by the court, however, the two of you are still husband and wife. This also means that you are not free to remarry if you are separated and can only do so once you are divorced. 2. Making decisions for one another. Spouses are next of kin, i.e. one's closest living relative.