



George MacDonald  
1824-1905

“The themes of *Lilith* summarize his life – his vision of a glorious destiny for mankind is preeminent, along with his views of the need for each person’s spirit to awaken and grow. He enjoyed countering the objection that his expectations for the eternity of mankind were too good to be true by saying that they were so good that they had to be true.” – C. S. Lewis.

MacDonald’s main themes: “God is Father of all; in Christ he suffers to bring people to Himself; divine love, the ultimate power in the universe, is eternal and will not be defeated. Humanity’s destiny is to develop as spiritual beings in righteousness; their true home is in God.” – Rolland Hein

“I am reading George MacDonald’s *There and Back*...I love that writer.”  
—**Oswald Chambers**, 1906

“I have never concealed the fact that I regarded him [MacDonald] as my master; indeed I fancy I have never written a book in which I did not quote from him. But it has not seemed to me that those who have received my books kindly take even now sufficient notice of the affiliation.” ~ **C. S. Lewis**

**Works:**

**Children’s Books:** *At the Back of the North Wind*, *The Light Princess*, *The Princess and the Goblin*, *The Princess and Curdie*.

**Fantasy Novels for Adults:** *Lilith* (Janet’s all time favorite!) and *Phantastes* (the book that C.S. Lewis called the starting point of his journey toward Christianity)

**Novels (start with Michael Phillips’ edited “redactions”?):** *Malcom*, *Sir Gibbie*, *Alec Forbes of Howglen*, *Donal Grant*

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Why we don’t read the original novels much today:

*"Ye hae had mair to du wi' me nor ye ken, an' aiblins ye'll hae mair nor yet ye can weel help. Sae caw canny, my man."*

*"Ye may hae the layin' o' me oot," said Malcolm, "but it sanna be wi my wull; an gien I hae ony life left i' me, Is' gie ye a fleg."*  
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