

When the snow melted and the witch realised that she would not be able to get to the Stone Table fast enough, she decided to kill Edmund. She was about to cut his throat when the rescue party arrived. They saved Edmund and then they looked for the witch and the dwarf, but they couldn't find them.

Presently the centaurs and unicorns and deer and birds - they were of course the rescue party which Aslan ____ (to send) in the last chapter - all set off to go back to the Stone Table, carrying Edmund with them. But if they could ____ (to see) what happened in that valley after they ____ (to go), I think they might ____ (to be) surprised.

It ____ (to be) perfectly still and presently the moon ____ (to grow) bright; if you ____ (to be) there you ____ (to see) the moonlight shining on an old tree-stump and on a fair-sized boulder. But if you ____ (to go) on looking you ____ (to gradually begin) to think there ____ (to be) something odd about both the stump and the boulder. And next you ____ (to think) that the stump did look really remarkably like a little fat man crouching on the ground. And if you ____ (to watch) long enough you ____ (to see) the stump walk across to the boulder and the boulder sit up and begin talking to the stump; for in reality the stump and the boulder ____ (to be) simply the Witch and the dwarf. For it was part of her magic that she could make things look like what they aren't, and she ____ (to have) the presence of mind to do so at the very moment when the knife ____ (to be) knocked out of her hand. She ____ (to keep) hold of her wand, so it ____ (to be) kept safe, too.

Вскоре кентавры, единороги, олени и птицы (те самые, которых Аслан отправил спасать Эдмунда в предыдущей главе) двинулись обратно к Каменному Столу, неся с собой Эдмунда. Узнай они, что произошло в лощине после того, как они ушли, они бы немало удивились.

Было совершенно тихо. Вскоре на небе взошла луна, свет ее становился все ярче и ярче. Если бы вы там оказались, вы заметили бы в ярком лунном свете старый пенек и довольно крупный валун. Но присмотрись вы к ним поближе, вам почудилось бы в них что-то странное - вы подумали бы, например, что валун удивительно похож на маленького толстячка, скорчившегося на земле. А если бы вы запаслись терпением, вы увидели бы, как валун подходит к пеньку, а пенек поднимается и начинает что-то ему говорить. Ведь на самом деле пенек и валун были гном и Колдунья. Одной из ее колдовских штук было так заколдовать кого угодно, да и себя тоже, чтобы их нельзя было узнать. И вот, когда у нее вышибли нож из рук, она не растерялась и превратила себя и гнома в валун и пенек. Волшебная палочка осталась у нее и тоже была спасена.

Presently the centaurs and unicorns and deer and birds (they were of course the rescue party which Aslan **had sent** in the last chapter) all set off to go back to the Stone Table, carrying Edmund with them. But if they **could have seen** what **happened** in that valley after they **had gone**, I think they **might have been** surprised.

It **was** perfectly still and presently the moon **grew** bright; if you **had been** there you **would have seen** the moonlight shining on an old tree-stump and on a fair-sized boulder. But if you **had gone** on looking you **would gradually have begun** to think there was something odd about both the stump and the boulder. And next you **would have thought** that the stump did look really remarkably like a little fat man crouching on the ground. And if you **had watched** long enough you **would have seen** the stump walk across to the boulder and the boulder sit up and begin talking to the stump; for in reality the stump and the boulder **were** simply the Witch and the dwarf. For it **was** part of her magic that she could make things look like what they aren't, and she **had** the presence of mind to do so at the very moment when the knife **was** knocked out of her hand. She **had kept** hold of her wand, so it **had been** kept safe, too.

Watch the clip: [BBC 1988](#). This scene doesn't take place in the 2005 version.