SOFTWARE & TECH

Narnia The Silver Chair Cast

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Introduction: The Enduring Appeal of Narnia and The Silver Chair

The world of Narnia, crafted by the brilliant mind of C. S. Lewis, has captivated generations of readers and viewers. Among the seven books in **The Chronicles of Narnia**, *The Silver Chair* holds a unique place. It is a darker, more introspective tale, following the journey of Eustace Scrubb and his schoolmate Jill Pole as they are summoned back to Narnia on a quest to find the lost Prince Rilian. Unlike the earlier adaptations that focused on the Pevensie children, this story shifts the spotlight to new heroes and introduces some of the most memorable characters in the series: the melancholy Marsh-wiggle Puddleglum, the serpentine Queen of Underland, and the powerful but mysterious Aslan.

For fans, the question of **Narnia The Silver Chair Cast** is a topic of endless fascination. Which actors have brought these beloved characters to life? While the most famous screen version remains the 1990 BBC television serial, the story has also seen productions on stage, and rumors have swirled for years about a big-budget movie adaptation. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the cast of *The Silver Chair* across various media, examining the actors who have embodied these iconic roles, the projects that almost were, and what the future might hold for a new generation of Narnia enthusiasts.

The BBC Television Serial (1990): The Definitive Screen Cast

For many, the 1990 BBC television adaptation of **The Silver Chair** is the definitive version. Produced as part of the BBC's *Chronicles of Narnia* series, which also included *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Prince Caspian*, and *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, this serial brought the book to life with a distinctly British, low-budget charm that still resonates with fans today. The casting was crucial, and the production team assembled a group of actors who perfectly captured the spirit of Lewis's characters.

Eustace Scrubb – Played by David Thwaites

Eustace Scrubb is a central figure in *The Silver Chair*, having had a profound transformation in the previous book, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*. In this story, he is no longer the insufferably self-centered boy he once was, but a more mature and brave companion. David Thwaites was cast in the role and delivered a nuanced performance. He managed to show Eustace's lingering awkwardness while also proving his courage and loyalty. Thwaites had previously appeared in the BBC's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* as a minor character, but his turn as Eustace is what many fans remember. His chemistry with his co-stars, especially Camilla Power as Jill Pole, was natural and engaging.

Jill Pole – Played by Camilla Power

Jill Pole is the other human protagonist, a schoolmate of Eustace who is new to Narnia. She is initially timid but grows into a resourceful and determined adventurer. Camilla Power portrayed Jill with a perfect blend of wide-eyed wonder and stubborn grit. Power, who later moved into voice acting and other roles, brought a relatable

vulnerability to the character. Her interactions with the ever-pessimistic Puddleglum are among the highlights of the serial, providing both comedy and emotional depth. The dynamic between Power, Thwaites, and the rest of the cast is a key reason why this adaptation remains so beloved.

Puddleglum – Played by Tom Baker

Perhaps the most iconic casting choice in the entire BBC Narnia series was the decision to cast **Tom Baker** as Puddleglum, the Marsh-wiggle. Baker, best known for his legendary tenure as the Fourth Doctor in *Doctor Who*, brought his distinctive voice, lanky physicality, and darkly humorous delivery to the role. Puddleglum is famously pessimistic, always expecting the worst, but underneath his gloomy exterior lies a fierce loyalty and unshakeable courage. Baker's performance is a masterclass in character acting. He makes Puddleglum lovable, funny, and ultimately heroic. The scene where Puddleglum stamps on the witch's fire to break her enchantment is one of the most powerful moments in any Narnia adaptation, and Baker's delivery of the line "I'm on Aslan's side even if there is no Aslan to lead it" is unforgettable. For many, the mention of **Narnia The Silver Chair Cast** immediately brings Tom Baker's Puddleglum to mind.

Prince Rilian – Played by Jonathan Scott-Taylor

The lost prince of Narnia, son of King Caspian, is a complex character. He has been under the enchantment of the Lady of the Green Kirtle for years, believing himself to be a different person. Jonathan Scott-Taylor took on the role and had to portray both the bewitched, dutiful son of the Underland queen and the desperate, true prince struggling to break free. Scott-Taylor, who had previously starred in horror films like *The Omen*sequels, brought a regal intensity to the part. His portrayal of Rilian's torment and eventual redemption is convincing, and he shares a strong screen presence with the rest of the cast.

The Lady of the Green Kirtle (Queen of Underland) – Played by Barbara Kellerman

The principal villain of *The Silver Chair* is the Lady of the Green Kirtle, also known as the Queen of Underland. She is a serpentine sorceress who has enchanted Prince Rilian and seeks to conquer Narnia. Barbara Kellerman was cast in the role and delivered a chillingly elegant performance. Her voice is silky and menacing, and she exudes a cold, otherworldly malevolence. Kellerman's Queen is a worthy antagonist, matching the heroes' resolve with her cunning manipulation. She also played the White Witch in the BBC's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, making her a dual villain in the series, but her performance here is distinct and memorable.

Aslan – Voiced by Ronald Pickup

Aslan, the great lion and true king of Narnia, appears throughout the story, guiding Jill and Eustace with his whispered instructions. While Aslan is a CGI or animatronic lion in many adaptations, the BBC version used a combination of a puppet and the powerful voice of **Ronald Pickup**. Pickup, a highly respected classical actor, provided the voice for Aslan in all four BBC Narnia serials. His voice is deep, warm, and authoritative, perfectly capturing the majesty and kindness of the lion. Even though Aslan's screen time is limited in *The Silver Chair*, Pickup's presence is deeply felt.

Supporting Cast

The BBC serial also featured a number of excellent supporting actors:

- Richard Morant as King Caspian (the aged king, father of Rilian)
- Jack Woolgar as Glimfeather (the wise owl who helps the children)
- Kenny Ireland as Trumpkin the Dwarf (now older and grumpier)
- Geoffrey Russell as the Giant Porter at Harfang
- Warwick Davis as Reepicheep? No, Warwick Davis was not in this serial, but he played Reepicheep in the later Walden Media films. The BBC had a different actor.

Narnia The Silver Chair Cast A look at the unmade Walden Media film based on The Silver Chair, including the actors rumored for the roles and the reasons it never moved forward. Also, a look at the BBC's

The Unmade Walden Media Film: What Almost Was

After the success of the Walden Media and Disney films *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (2005) and *Prince Caspian* (2008), as well as the Fox co-production *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (2010), plans were announced for an adaptation of **The Silver Chair**. However, the project was plagued by delays, changes in studio leadership, and a shift in strategy. For years, fans speculated about who might be cast in the film, though no official casting was ever finalized. Let's look at the actors who were rumored or considered for the key roles.

Director and Development

Initially, the film was to be directed by Joe Johnston (*Captain America: The First Avenger*), but he dropped out. Later, David Yates (*Harry Potter*series) was attached to direct, but he too moved on. As of the early 2020s, the Walden Media version has been officially set aside in favor of a new Netflix adaptation (see next section).

Potential Cast Rumors

During the development period, various fan campaigns and speculative articles suggested potential names. For Puddleglum, actors like **Andy Serkis** (known for motion-capture work) or **Brian Blessed** were often mentioned, but no official offers were made. For the human children, younger, unknown actors would likely have been cast, as was the case with the previous films. The Lady of the Green Kirtle might have been a role for a major actress like **Tilda Swinton** (who played the White Witch) or **Cate Blanchett**, but again, this was purely speculative. The closest the film came to a cast was the return of some actors from *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* – **Skandar Keynes** as an older Eustace – but Keynes retired from acting, and the project eventually stalled. The **Narnia The Silver Chair Cast** never materialized for the Walden Media iteration.

The Netflix Era: A New Beginning for Narnia

In 2018, Netflix announced a major deal with the C. S. Lewis Company to develop new series and films based on **The Chronicles of Narnia**. This was met with enormous excitement, as it promised the first unified cinematic universe for the books. Among the projects planned was a series adaptation of **The Silver Chair**, which would be part of a larger Narnia television universe. While details remain scarce, fans are already speculating about the **Narnia The Silver Chair Cast** for Netflix.

Confirmed Creatives

Netflix has brought on **Coco** director **Lee Unkrich** to develop the series, though he has since stepped back. More recently, **Greta Gerwig** (director of *Barbie* and *Little Women*) has been announced to direct at least one Narnia film for the streamer. It is unclear if she will be involved in *The Silver Chair* specifically, but the entire Narnia franchise is being planned as an interconnected series. The writers' room includes notable names like **Matthew Aldrich** (*Coco*).

Fan Casting and Expectations

Until official casting announcements are made, the internet is filled with fan suggestions for the **Narnia The Silver Chair Cast**. Here are some of the most popular names that fans have proposed:

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