

“The Secret of Roan Inish”

If you were standing in front of Van Gogh’s “Starry Night”, no matter how hard you tried you could never capture the painting in words. Some things have to be seen. So in that spirit I will keep the words to a minimum in reviewing “The Secret of Roan Inish”.

Young Fiona has lost her mother and brother and returns to her grandparents’ cottage on the wild Irish coast. Legend has it that the seals (Selkies) which dwell in the rocky coves have mythical powers. Could it be that years ago they saved her little brother Jaime who was lost at sea? One day she thinks she sees Jaime running through a field near the beach. But no one will believe her. Is she imagining things or has Jaime been living under the protection of the Selkies?

Working with legendary cinematographer Haskell Wexler, and anchored by a luminous performance by young Jeni Courtney as Fiona, director John Sayles has created a magical world that will quietly cast a spell over you.

(Amazon Prime)

