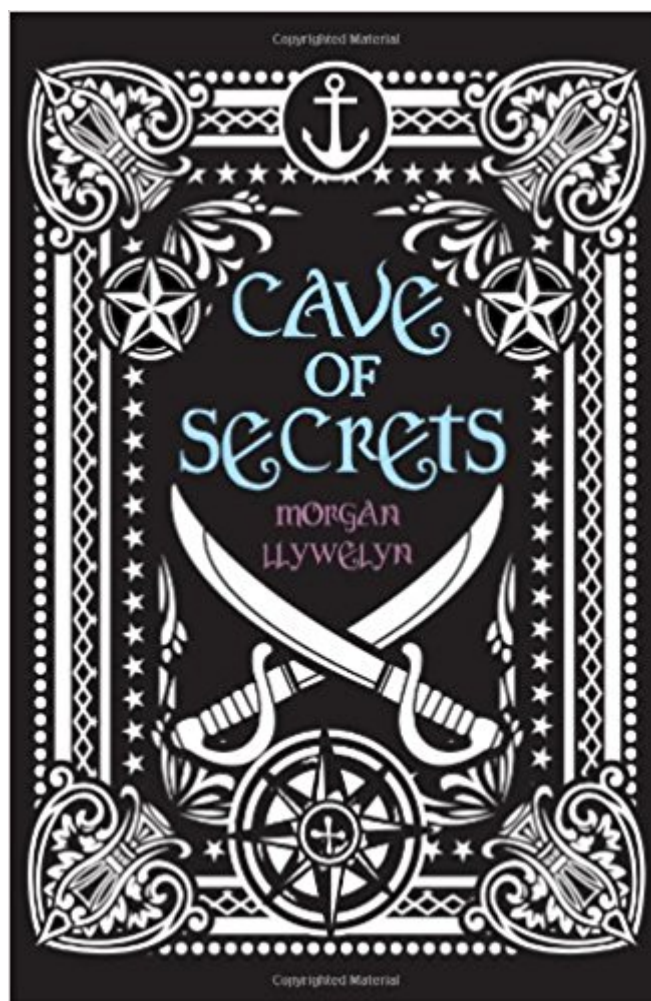


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Cave Of Secrets



Synopsis

Pirates and crooked rulers make seventeenth-century Ireland a dangerous place. When Tom feels rejected by his father, he finds a secret second family among the group of smugglers who trade in and around Roaringwater Bay. Though Tom doesn't know it, his family in the Big House is under huge pressure. His father has had savage losses in business; his mother is always sad and worried, and his sisters have no hopes for a good future. But in this day cut-throat interests control everybody and everything, friend turns into foe, and loyalty counts for nothing. From his new family, Tom learns all about boats and smuggling - and secret treasure. And then Tom discovers the best-kept secret of all .

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'offers a fascinating and imaginative insight into 17th century Ireland with the excitement and romanticism of smugglers, caves and treasure' -- parentsintouch.co.uk 'I'd recommend it for readers 10+ and definitely to those who like a smattering of history with their adventure' -- myfavouritebooks.blogspot.com 'it intrigued me' -- myfavouritebooks.blogspot.com 'well written historical novel' -- myfavouritebooks.blogspot.com 'Llywelyn has established herself as the leading writer of Irish historical novels for children' -- Books Ireland 'Dark family secrets, tangled webs of greed: you'll love this smuggling adventure story' -- Helen Corcoran, Dubray Books, Grafton St. 'Cave of Secrets is Llywelyn at her best' -- Books Ireland '(Llywelyn) skillfully weaves fiction with historical fact' -- Books Ireland 'exciting' -- Books Ireland 'exciting' -- Irish Parent Magazine 'another winner' -- Irish Parent Magazine 'a rip-roaring yarn of loyalty and betrayal, pirates and smugglers' -- Irish Independent 'gripping' -- Evening Echo For those fascinated by Irish history. --Kirkus

ReviewsUniversal and timeless plot situations, coupled with interesting characters, make this title as relevant to today's readers as if it were set in the 21st century. . . An appealing tale for a broad audience. --Voices Of Youth Advocates

Historian and novelist Morgan Llywelyn was born in New York City, but after the death of her husband and parents in 1985 returned to Ireland to take up citizenship in the land of her grandparents and make her permanent home there. After making the shortlist for the United States Olympic Team in Dressage in 1975, but not making the team itself, she turned to writing historical novels exploring her Celtic roots. The most successful of these was *Lion of Ireland - The Legend of Brian Boru*, which was published in 1980 and has sold into the millions of copies. She received the Novel of the Year Award from the National League of American Penwomen for her novel *The Horse Goddess* as well as the Woman of the Year Award from the Irish-American Heritage Committee for *Bard: The Odyssey of the Irish*. The latter award was presented to her by Ed Koch, then-mayor of New York City. Morgan is also the author of , the story of Grace O'Malley, told partly through letters from Granuaile to her beloved son. It is a thrilling tale of adventure that brings this unorthodox and inspiring historical figure to life.

What I have loved about Morgan's books over the 25 years I have been reading them is that her research into the history AND daily lives is impeccable. You see our people less as how we want them to be and MORE as they were. You come to understand that is is not as simple as neat little labels, and easy to understand phyla. Morgan helps one to understand culture and not stereotypes.

I've enjoyed most all of Morgan Llyweln's books. This one however, was some insightful history surrounded by a thin story. Pleasant enough to keep me reading to the end, but it just didn't pack the emotional excitement of the other volumes produced by this author. The story of a young boy's circumstantial meeting with smuggler's, the discovery of family relations (oops- close to a spoiler, there!) and the father's tenous financial situation all seemed a contrived way of spoon feeding the reader various historical tid-bits about life at the time. Not bad, but I've read better.

My only complaint is that ended abruptly. Otherwise, I enjoyed being faced with the moral dilemmas I related to and learned from. Always well written by Llyewellan and felt completely immersed in time period and culture.

I chose this rating because I enjoy so much the story telling of Morgan LLYWELYN. She is a master story teller of Irish lore. A good easy read for wintry nights.

Ms Llywelyn has a wonderful insight into making Irish History come to life in her novels. While reading I picture in my mind scenes from her books. I'm instantly engrossed.

Since this was written by a favorite author, I decided to give it a try. It is a good book and I enjoyed it but it is really written for a young boy's entertainment. I will pass it along to my grandson when he comes of age.

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I enjoyed this tremendously but it was too short

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