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Birds of Neptune

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Birds of Neptune

Abstract

This is a film review of *Birds of Neptune* (2015) directed by Stephen Richter.

Author Notes

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Birds of Neptune
(2015)
Directed by Steven Richter



In *Birds Of Neptune* two sisters, Rachel and Mona, exist in a suspended reality of their past lives. Living alone in their childhood home, the two young adults cannot let go of the pained secrets of their past or the excellence of their deceased parents. Due to these curious circumstances the ladies see themselves in a world of supernatural workings, including fairies and rituals. We find out that after the accidental death of their younger brother the family joined a small religious group with unusual beliefs and practices (referred to as a cult in the film). While Rachel and Mona still seem affected by their experiences and traumas within this community they do not structure their lives in any particular religious manner. A dishonest stranger, Zach, connects with Mona and starts to manipulate the situation by trying to control the sisters. He realizes the lack of

confidence and control in their lives and takes advantage of their openness and lack of protection. Ultimately, Rachel overcomes her past through her connection with making music, and Mona discards Zach to be on her own. Overall, the film's mysterious mood reflects the atmospheric conditions of each level of their environment, including the house's basement, bedrooms, and living areas, as well as the beauty of the Pacific Northwest captured by the director. The setting is amplified by the spectral elements of these women's setting and displays their inner states. In the end, we can think of *Birds of Neptune* as a modern day ghost story that has realistic and longing effects. It shows how the monstrous may be developed within and our responses to it often come from our own construction of the world around us.