11 John of the Goats

- Classification: The Magical Wish / Clever Looping Tasks
- The Narrative Arc: Seán, an eccentric goat-herd who rides his puck-goat backward, catches a magical trout that bargains for its life by promising to grant any request made in God's name. When a wealthy young lady mocks his strange riding style, Seán casually wishes that her laughter "makes her heavy," causing a magical pregnancy. Outraged, her father uses a newborn child's touch to identify Seán, sealing him and the lady away in a divided wooden chest cast into the ocean. Stranded on Sheep's Island, Seán uses his remaining trout-wishes to trap a predatory island master in exhaustive, never-ending household loops to win his family's safety.
- Folklore Elements & Motifs:
  - The Thankful Beast: A captured animal trading magical favors for its freedom.
  - Infinite Tasks: Binding a foe by cursing them to perform a chore until sunrise.
- Thematic Core: The ultimate triumph of an outcast using supernatural backing to protect his family from the wealthy and powerful.
- Key Quote: "I appeal to God and to the word of the trout that you spend the night putting the bolt on the door."