



MAGNUS CHASE EPISODE 6

Written by

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Based on Magnus Chase: Sword of Summer by Rick Riordan

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EPISODE 6: I FISH FOR A GOD

EXT. RIVERBANK - DAY

MAGNUS
How do you feel?

Elizabeth looks up at Magnus, her eyes glow a color of bright green. She blinks and the color dissipates. Her stomach grumbles.

ELIZABETH
Hungry.

INT. TRANSPORTATION BUILDING - DAY

The group walks in pairs, with Sam trailing last. Hearth and Blitz approach two trash bins.

MAGNUS
Guys, we're eating actual food today.

HEARTH
(sign language)
You got money?

MAGNUS
Abdel will pull through.

BLITZ
That's right!
(to Hearth)
He's got a friend at Fadlan's Falafel.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
Follow me.

INT. FOOD COURT - DAY

The group walks in pairs with Sam trailing. The court is loaded with shoppers.

ELIZABETH
What's falafel? I've never had it.

MAGNUS
It's good. Ground up chickpeas and beans. The shop always has a surplus of food. Slightly out of date pitta bread, day-old shawarma. Instead of tossing it, Abdel lets me have it.
(MORE)

MAGNUS (CONT'D)

In exchange, I help clean up the food court. I make sure us homeless folk aren't interrupting his business.

ELIZABETH

That's sweet of you.

MAGNUS

Also, he thinks my name is Jimmy.

ELIZABETH

And why would he think that?

MAGNUS

Because I lied to him.

Elizabeth gives Magnus an accusing side eye.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)

I know - it's a bad habit.

EXT. FADLAN'S FALAFEL - DAY

MAGNUS

(to Elizabeth)

Could you grab a table? I don't want to overwhelm Abdel with too many people.

ELIZABETH

On it.

BLITZ

Take the Valkyrie with you!

Blitz shoves Sam forward.

INT. FADLAN'S FALAFEL - DAY

Magnus bellies up on the reception counter. Abdel's son, Amir, comes out from the kitchen wiping his apron. His black hair is slicked back.

AMIR

Jimmy! How's it going?

MAGNUS

Not bad, how's your pop, Amir?

AMIR

Doing good. He's down at our
Sommerville location. Can I get you
some food?

MAGNUS

You're the best man.

AMIR

No problem. I see you've brought
some company with you today.

Amir peeks at the food court tables. Elizabeth, Hearth, and
Blitz talk in sign language.

MAGNUS

Oh yea - I don't want you to feel
like you have to spoil us.

AMIR

Like I said, it's not a problem. I
don't know if you can tell, but we
haven't had many customers today.

His shore is so empty, a tumbleweed could roll through.
Magnus pauses for a second.

INT. FOOD COURT - FLASHBACK

Magnus is cuddled up in a corner. He watches pedestrians
come and go, eating whatever they please.

Magnus's stomach grumbles. Abdel, Amir's father, approaches
him with a plate of food. Magnus politely declines, saying
he doesn't have money. Abdel insists.

INT. FOOD COURT - FLASHBACK

Magnus and Abdel are now friends. Magnus cleans up litter.
Abdel offers him more leftovers. They chat like good
buddies.

INT. FADLAN'S FALAFEL - DAY

Back to present. Magnus's tone shifts.

MAGNUS

Hey, I should've said this sooner,
but thanks for everything. I - I
don't know what I would've done
without you and your shop.

Amir nods.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
Next time you see your pop, will
you give him that message for me?

AMIR
Of course.

INT. FOOD COURT - DAY

Sam and Magnus join the others at a table.

SAM
That was very nice of him.

MAGNUS
Doesn't get any better than Amir.

BLITZ
So what's our next plan of attack.
How do we find the sword of summer?

CLANK! The steel curtain is rolled down on the falafel shop.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
Did we just get cut off?

A small voice croaks underneath the table.

BIRD (O.S.)
I can assist with both of those
questions.

Magnus scoots backward, looking at his feet.

MAGNUS
Guys - a pigeon wants to help.

The pigeon flutters from underneath to on top of the table.
Hearth nearly falls out of his chair. Blitz grabs a fork.

BIRD
Service here can be a little slow,
but I can speed up your order. I
can also tell you where to find the
sword.

Sam hefts her axe.

SAM
That's not a pigeon.

The bird regards Sam with beady orange eyes.

BIRD

Maybe not, but if you kill me, the shop will stay closed forever and you'll never find the sword.

Magnus's eyes shoot toward the falafel shop.

MAGNUS

If you hurt Amir -

BIRD (CONT'D)

I'll bring you your food. All I want is the first bite. Do we have a deal?

BLITZ

Like we'd believe that!

MAGNUS

Fine. Bring us our food.

BIRD

Wise choice.

Immediately, the shop's steel curtain rolls upward. Amir unfreezes and heads back into the kitchen.

The pigeon takes off and disappears behind the counter. Amir doesn't seem to notice. A second later, a much larger bird flies out with a tray in its claws, dropping the food on their table.

MAGNUS

You're an eagle now?

BIRD

Here's your meal.

Steaming squares of spiced ground-beef kibbeh, a stack of lamb kebabs, yogurt dip, pitta bread, and garnished pickle wedges.

ELIZABETH

Yum.

BLITZ

That's the good stuff.

Elizabeth and Hearth reach for a slice of bread. The pigeon pecks their hands.

BIRD

Now - now. I get first pick.

Faster than a blink of the eye, the eagle sucks up every item in a tornado besides a lone pickle.

BLITZ

Hey!

Sam swings her axe at the bird, splitting the table in two. Elizabeth's eyes momentarily flicker green.

ELIZABETH

It's a giant!

The eagle burps.

MAGNUS

You bastard! You didn't even savor his food!

BIRD

Now about the sword -

Magnus draws his dagger and slices the bird. The blade sticks to its back, like superglue.

MAGNUS

What the -

Magnus tries to dislodge the dagger using his right hand, but gets it stuck to the feathers.

PIGEON

Have it your way.

The bird's wings extend abnormally wide. It launches into flight at sixty miles per hour with Magnus in tow.

EXT. MID AIR - DAY

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

Hey!

SAM (O.S.)

Stop!

Magnus crashes across tables, chairs, and potted plants. A few mortals and their children notice the chaos.

MAGNUS

Let go!

BIRD

You sure about that?

The bird blasts through the double glass doors and soars upward over Charles Street. A guy having lunch in his tenth story condo spews Cheetos as Magnus shoots past.

BIRD (CONT'D)

Heads up!

Magnus twists to avoid an AC unit.

MAGNUS

Ha! Nice try -

Magnus's shoulder crashes into a brick chimney. The bird dives down a fire escape. A metal beam hits Magnus in the forehead. He coughs blood.

BIRD

I propose an exchange. I'll tell you how to get the sword. In return, you must retrieve me an apple. Just one. Simple enough?

MAGNUS

What's the catch?

BIRD

If you don't - then you won't live to see another day.

The edge of a hotel roof bristles with barbed wire to discourage roosting birds. They skyrocket toward the spikes.

MAGNUS

Okay! No spikes!

BIRD

Say - by my troth, I agree to your terms.

MAGNUS

By my troth, I agree to your terms.

The bird clears the spikes, clipping Magnus's shoe. It circles and floats over Boston Public Library. It releases Magnus and he tumbles down the slanted roof.

MAGNUS

Wow - wow - wow!

His feet slide to the very edge of the curved red tiles, almost tasting an asphalt flavored death. The bird lands on a perch.

BIRD

That was fun. I don't go into town as much as I should. Now, we can finally chat alone.

MAGNUS

Gee - I'm blushing -

Magnus wipes blood off his face.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)

Never mind, it's just a brain bleed.

BIRD

Here's the information you need. When your sword fell into the river, the current carried it downstream. It was claimed by the goddess Ran. A lot of valuable things end up in her net.

MAGNUS

I don't know who Ran is.

BIRD

She's the goddess of the sea.

MAGNUS

Okay, how do I find her? Please don't say the sea.

BIRD

Draw her attention. Go to my friend Harald at the Fish Pier. Tell him big boy sent you and make sure you choose a special bait. If you cause enough ruckus and stir up the ocean, you can bargain for the sword and one of Idun's apples. Bring the apple to me.

MAGNUS

That's it? Sounds like a piece of cake.

BIRD

Your friends are here, that's my cue to leave. Don't forget, you swore by your troth!

The bird flaps its wings and disappears behind the Hancock Tower. Sam spots Magnus first. She spreads her arms as if to say: *what the heck are you doing up there?*

INT. FOOD COURT - DAY

Amir plops a plate of expired goodies on the table for the group.

AMIR
Here you guys go, sorry about the wait.

BLITZ
No worries kid.

SAM
Thank you very much!

Magnus bows his head. He doesn't have the energy to speak.

HEARTH
(sign language)
Thank you.

ELIZABETH
I'm starving.

As soon as Amir turns around, the group fights over the scraps. Sam folds her hands for a quick prayer.

SAM
Animals.

BLITZ
Got to be faster than that!

Magnus stuffs his mouth with pitta bread. Elizabeth engulfs a square of spiced ground beef.

SAM
I can't believe you swore by your troth.

Magnus shrugs his shoulders.

SAM (CONT'D)
You do realize if you can't fulfill that promise, you'll spontaneously combust and be trapped in the icy depths of Helheim for eternity.

Magnus stops chewing. Sam turns to Elizabeth.

SAM (CONT'D)
And you - how did you know the bird was a giant?

Elizabeth shrugs with her mouth stuffed as well.

SAM (CONT'D)
Ugh. Idiots.

EXT. PIER - DAY

A twenty foot long fishing boat is painted with the words: Harald's Deep Sea Excursions and Death Wishes. Nets and buoys fasten the sides like Christmas tree decorations.

The deck is a mess of ropes and tackle boxes. A man with a sumo-sized body sits near the dock with a pair of splattered yellow overalls. This is HARALD.

Harald looks up from the knots he is coiling. His beard glistens a color of white and blue.

HARALD
A dwarf, an elf, and three humans
waltz onto me pier. What's the
punch line?

MAGNUS
We'd like to rent your boat.

Harald ignores them.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
Big boy sent us.

HARALD
What does big boy want with the
likes of you?

SAM
That's none of your concern.

Sam reaches into her pocket and tosses a coin to Harald.

SAM
One red gold now. Five more when we
finish. Do we have a deal?

Harald sniffs the coin.

HARALD
I smell giant blood on ye.

SAM
Also none of your concern.

HARALD

Payment is sufficient, but me boat
is small. Two passengers maximum.

Blitz cracks his knuckles inside his leather gloves.

BLITZ

Look, Santa Claus -

HARALD

HUR! You look half petrified,
dwarf. I don't need another anchor
weighing me boat down. As fer
elves, you're creatures of light
and air. Both useless! Two
passengers only. Take it or leave
it.

MAGNUS

Guys - side bar please.

Magnus orders them to huddle up.

ELIZABETH

Why'd you call him Santa Claus?

BLITZ

He's a frost giant.

MAGNUS

Wait - really?

HEARTH

(sign language)

Icy hair. Big. Ugly. Yes.

MAGNUS

He's big, but you know - not giant.

ELIZABETH

Some giants look a lot like humans.
They can grow larger if they want
to or change shape into eagles,
pigeons, almost anything. How do I
know that?

SAM

You can thank Mimir for that trick.

BLITZ

Kid, I'm not letting you out of my
sight. We can't trust the giant. I
say Hearth and I -

Hearth slams a metal bucket over Blitz's head. The pail crumples to the shape of his skull.

BLITZ

Okay - maybe I'm petrifying a little bit.

Magnus turns to Elizabeth and Sam.

MAGNUS

I don't want you to fight over who gets to go with me, so why don't you play rock, paper, scissors for it.

SAM

Who said you get to go on board?

MAGNUS

Son of Frey? Sword of Summer?

Sam turns to Elizabeth and gives her the red gold.

SAM

Here - pay up when the job's finished. Good luck with him.

INT. FISHING HUT - DAY

Harald leads Magnus and Elizabeth into his wooden shack. The door opens and a waft of stench oozes out.

ELIZABETH

Ugh!

HARALD

Pick your bait, if you can carry it.

Dozens of carcasses hang from metal hooks. The smallest bait is a five foot long shrimp. Larger than human worms wriggle in a mound of dirt.

MAGNUS

(coughing)

It hurts to breathe.

HARALD

That's the smell of good voyage!
What a lovely afternoon fer a fishing trip!

MAGNUS (V.O.)
I wonder what qualifies as the
special bait.

Elizabeth observes an octopus. An eye jolts in her direction
and she yelps.

MAGNUS
Where's your biggest bait?

Harald points to a bull's head the size of a car.

HARALD
The Jotunheim cattle. I wouldn't
bother. It's been over a century
since any being has been able to
lift it -

Magnus unsheathes his dagger and slices the chain. The
bull's head hits the floor like a giant disgusting piñata.
Magnus grips the meat hook and hoists the bait like a hobo
bag over his shoulder.

Elizabeth and Harald watch with their jaws dropped.

EXT. PIER - DAY

Magnus drops the carcass onto the boat.

EXT. SEA - NIGHT

The vessel hits a swell, spraying Magnus and Elizabeth with
salt water. Harald mans the steering. No land in sight.

ELIZABETH
By the way, I can't swim.

MAGNUS
What? And you're telling me this
now!

ELIZABETH
I'm joking.

Magnus sighs in relief.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
I just wanted to lighten the mood,
but that was in bad taste.

MAGNUS
Yeah. You almost gave me a heart
attack.

HARALD
Mortals, you should cast yer bait!
We're getting close to a good
fishing spot!

Magnus goes to lift the bait, but Elizabeth stops him.

ELIZABETH
Not yet. A little further. It's
feels like we're almost there.

MAGNUS
Keep going!

HARALD
(to himself)
Damn these brats.

Harald pushes the throttle. In an overhead view of the vast sea, we watch the boat venture from dark blue to grey waters.

The air gets freakishly quiet. The waves calm as if holding their breathe. Quiet ripples hit the boat's hull. A low mist hovers above the water line.

ELIZABETH
Did you feel that?

MAGNUS
Yeah.

Magnus snags a fishing pole which would be more appropriate for pole vaulting. The line is a thick metal wire. Harald cuts the engine.

HARALD
It's too dangerous to cast here!

MAGNUS
That's the point, Harald.

Magnus fastens the line to the bait's hook. He gives the fishing pole to Elizabeth.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
Hold this for me.

Magnus heaves the bull's head overboard. He shivers.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
Bleh! Disgusting.

Harald lumbers over, carrying a metal chair. He sinks the four legs into four holes of the deck. The chair latches to the deck with steel cables.

HARALD
If I were you, human, I'd buckle
up.

Harald assists Magnus in getting strapped into the chair.
Elizabeth hands Magnus the fishing pole.

ELIZABETH
Have you ever been fishing before?

MAGNUS
Does Bassmasters the videogame
count?

INT. SEA - NIGHT

The bull's head sinks at a rapid pace, leaving a trail of blood and guts.

EXT. SEA - NIGHT

The line gives slack.

MAGNUS
Alright. We finally hit the bottom.

Magnus sets the line and reels the bait up a bit.

HARALD
How're ye this strong fer a mortal?

MAGNUS
It's a lot easier than it looks.

HARALD
Yer no mortal. Yer a once warrior
aren't ya?

Magnus stops reeling.

MAGNUS
Alright. Here we go.

Magnus lifts the fishing pole and drops it repeatedly. He swings the pole side to side.

ELIZABETH
What does that do?

MAGNUS

Jigging. You have to make the bait look more appealing. The fish will think it's still alive.

ELIZABETH

It's a severed bull's head -

MAGNUS

Shhh - I think I feel a nibble.

Magnus freezes. The line moves slightly on top of the water, but no tug.

HARALD

This might take awhile. I'll be below deck, napping.

MAGNUS

I thought for sure I -

The fishing pole suddenly jolts down like a J. The line springs taut. Our ears ring from the screeching, like the sound of a hammer against a saw blade.

The boat slants upward. The deck almost splits in two. Water rushes over the stern.

MAGNUS (V.O.)

My arms are going to be torn off!

HARALD

Ymir's blood! We're breaking apart!

Magnus grips the pole for dear life. The leather straps of the chair dig into his collar bones. Elizabeth gets thrown, her back smashing into the stern.

MAGNUS

Elizabeth!

HARALD

Give her some slack! NOW!

Magnus desperately unclips the bail. The line spirals out, steaming from friction. The boat crashes down into the stationary position.

Elizabeth raises her hand.

ELIZABETH

I'm good!

Magnus grins.

MAGNUS
I said I felt a nibble!

Harald pours buckets of water on the steaming fishing line.

HARALD
Curses! This is fine Asgardian
fluorocarbon wire! I refuse to
purchase this in the black markets
of Nidavellir! Not again!

The line stops pulling abruptly.

MAGNUS
What happened? Is it resting?

HARALD
No. It's - taunting us. This is no
sea monster.

Magnus closes the bail and inhales deeply.

MAGNUS
Light weight baby!

Magnus arches his back and tugs. The rod bends. The cable
creaks. He repeatedly heaves and cranks the reel in circles.

MAGNUS (CONT'D)
(grunting)
Hup! Hup! Hup! Hup!

ELIZABETH
Are you even pulling it up?

MAGNUS
I might be caught on a rock.

EXT. BOAT - NIGHT

Harald scans the water from the bow. A few bubbles surface.

EXT. SEA - NIGHT

Magnus sweats and shivers. His face is pale from exhaustion.

ELIZABETH
Keep going! You got this!

MAGNUS
(panting)
I don't know - how much - longer -
I can -

The boat starts lurching backward again. Elizabeth grabs the railing and peers over the hull.

ELIZABETH
What is that?

Elizabeth's eyes begin to glow green. Thousands of bubbles rise and pop from the sea.

HARALD (O.S.)
Cut the line!

Harald wobbles from the bow to the stern. He snatches a knife.

ELIZABETH
No! Magnus, reel faster!

HARALD
You can't bring that atrocity up
here! It's the -

ELIZABETH
I know!

The rod starts slipping from Magnus's hands.

MAGNUS
Help - me!

Elizabeth rushes to Magnus and assists him. They yell in pain. The bubbles dissipate. The sea darkens. Harald drops his knife in horror.

Two giant yellow eyes the size of Ferris wheels open underwater. The boat seems microscopic in comparison. The irises jolt inward, glowering at their vessel.

THE END