

The Magnus Protocol

**Season 1 Epilogue
"System Update"**

**Written by Jonathan Sims
Edited by Alexander J Newall**

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PUBLIC FEED ANNOUNCEMENT

Hello everybody and congratulations on making it to the end of the first Season of The Magnus Protocol!

Ahead of today's episode we thought it might be a good idea to give everyone a rundown of what to expect during the hiatus and what else we have going on in the meantime because, as always, there's a lot. Like a lot.

Okay first things first, we have a bunch of bonus content unlocked thanks to Kickstarter and Patreon backers so thank you to everyone who contributed to our horrible silliness!

Today's episode is the first of our bonus hiatus content and we're starting with the Epilogue for Season 1. This little addenda to what you've already heard is canon and I'll be honest, *pretty important to listen to for the story*, even if it isn't a full length episode.

After this we have our first Fluff episode that we have affectionately titled: "Plenty of Fish" Though technically canon, it is absolutely not essential to the plot and is guaranteed absolutely zero horror. Just a slice of O.I.A.R. life.

Then we have our first "What if" episode rather less affectionately titled: "What if everyone just listened to Colin." This is non-canon and takes a look at how things would have panned out in the story with one small but important change. We'll leave you to guess what we changed in this one.

After this we have a whole host of additional content including the Season 2 trailer and the release of our latest Rusty Fears which you'll be able to vote on with the winner getting to help write an episode of Protocol! We might even try to sneak in a Q&A and some third party recordings if you're good.

After all this you can expect a return of The Magnus Protocol for Season 2 in February 2025. We know that feels a long way off but making this show as an absolutely monumental effort and as fun as making it is, our staff have yet to volunteer to have their

weak fleshy bodies replaced by glorious chrome so we do occasionally need a break. For now.

Outside of the main feed though its busy, busy, busy with the Season 2 Premiere Preview on the way.

In terms of other bonus materials, don't worry, we are still working on all of them we are just waiting on some third party bits and bobs beyond our control. We'll update everyone on each element as soon as we are sure things are locked in so be sure to keep an eye on Kickstarter and Patreon updates.

Beyond that, I am happy to say final approvals on The Magnus Archives TTRPG developed by Monte Cook games are complete and stuff is looking very shiny and should be being printed in enormous numbers as we speak!

In a similar vein many of you will already know that we have a Magnus Protocol boardgame on the way developed by the team behind the massively popular Coup, The Resistance and Sherlock Files games. The fundraising for this project will be starting soon so make sure you head over to www.rustyquill.com/boardgame where you can register your interest for when it goes live and get first dibs on early bird goodies.

And if ALL that is still not enough for you, you greedy little content goblin, don't forget we have an entire Network of shows you can fill your boots on not to mention Neon Inkwell our in-house sister Podcast where we showcase the brightest (and darkest) new talent in Audio fiction including some familiar names too.

Whelp, that's about everything for now apart from saying Thankyou to everyone of you who helps make this possible and hoping you enjoy today's episode. Or don't. It's happening to you either way.

[Intro Theme]

ANNOUNCER
Rusty Quill Presents: The Magnus
Protocol.
Season One Epilogue

[Music]

1. INT. MANAGER'S OFFICE – NIGHT, CLEAR (LANDLINE)

GWEN sits in the big chair idly drumming her fingers on the desk. The main office door opens outside, and she freezes.

GWEN
(cautious)
Hello? Lena?

Beat. Quiet footsteps.

GWEN very quietly stands and picks up a heavy desk ornament. She heads over to the door.

Pause. Footsteps approach.

GWEN braces herself.

The door opens and someone steps inside.

ALICE
Lena we need to talk-

GWEN moves to strike only to pull up short realizing it is Alice.

ALICE
Ah!

GWEN
Ah!

ALICE shoves **GWEN** who stumbles backward dropping the desk ornament.

GWEN
Oh for Christ sake Alice-

ALICE
Gwen? What are you doing in here?

GWEN
(getting up)
I thought you were... someone else.

ALICE
Right.
(shaking it off)
Where's Lena? I need to talk to her.

GWEN walks slowly back to the desk, attempting to reassert herself.

GWEN
Lena's gone.

Beat.

ALICE
(haggard and urgent)
Gone where?

GWEN
(starting to enjoy herself)
Who's to say?

ALICE
Stop pissing around Gwen, she's not picking up her phone and this is important!

GWEN
Well then, I can't wait to hear it-

ALICE
Gwen-

GWEN
-since I'm in charge now.

ALICE
(thrown)
I- You what?

GWEN
You heard. Lena's been let go on multiple counts of negligence, incompetence, possibly even corruption.

ALICE
This isn't a fucking joke, Gwen!
Sam's...

She can't say it.

GWEN
(starting to become concerned)
What?

Beat.

GWEN
Sam's what, Alice?

ALICE
(breaking)
I don't-

Beat.

ALICE CONT.
He and Celia, they found a- thing and one of your externals was there and they...she says he...

Beat. Alice cries.

GWEN

(quiet)

Dead?

ALICE

No! ...Maybe. No - I don't know!

GWEN

**You're not making sense Alice.
Where's Celia? I'll ask her myself.**

ALICE

**She went home. She needed to be
with her baby.**

Pause. Alice is exhausted and overwhelmed.

GWEN

You're serious, aren't you?

Beat.

GWEN CONT.

...I don't know what to say.

ALICE

No. You don't.

GWEN

So, what do we do?

ALICE

**Well, I was going to talk to Lena, but
apparently, it's just your useless ass
here.**

GWEN

(enraged)

Excuse me? I am not-

ALICE

(defeated)

Save it.

Beat.

GWEN

Look, I'll admit, this is still very new to me, do you know if Lena had any sort of documentation for this sort of thing?

ALICE

What?

GWEN

You know, like a guide, a manual, That sort of thing?

ALICE

(exhausted)

No. I don't think she had a manual for this.

GWEN

I just need something that explains her role, the procedures...

ALICE

(so f***ing done)

Gwen. Please, just stop.

GWEN

Look, I know this is hard but Lena must have had a contingency for something like this. I mean, look how quickly she dealt with Colin. All we need to do is-

ALICE

(leaping up)

Oh shit! Colin!

She pulls out her phone.

GWEN
Jesus it got Colin too?

ALICE
(calling him)
What? No. He called me, just before-
He sounded in a bad way and then,
with everything, I just- I never called
him back.

GWEN
Fine, just make it quick. We've got
enough on our plate without-

Colin's phone rings distantly in the main office. It is an
uncharacteristically upbeat tune.

Beat.

GWEN
Is that...?

ALICE
Colin...

Beat. The ringtone continues.

GWEN
Maybe he came in to do some work?

ALICE
He wasn't out there when I came in.

GWEN
Maybe he just left his phone here?

ALICE
He was getting weird about them...
But then how did he call me last
night?

The ringing stops.

ALICE

Voicemail.

She hangs up, then redials. The ringtone starts up again.

ALICE

Come on.

The two of them start following the ringtone.

2. LONDON EXCLUSION ZONE – NIGHT, CLEAR (TAPE RECORDER)

The zone is quiet, though there is an oppressiveness to it that makes it clear all is not well. Wind whistles through crumbling ruins and occasionally the movement of unnatural things can be heard in the distance.

The portal opens. It sounds very unpleasant, like a wet tearing of reality, and SAM falls through with a cry, slamming into the muddy ground.

He lies there for a few moments, trying to catch his breath, but it won't come.

SAM

(weakly)

Wh-Where...

He collapses, unconscious.

3. OIAR SERVER ROOM – NIGHT, CLEAR (COMPUTER)

The ringtone is much clearer, obviously in the same room now, though it sounds like it might be inside of something.

The ringtone ends.

The door opens and ALICE and GWEN enter.

GWEN
You're sure it was in here?

ALICE
Pretty sure.
(calling)
Colin?

There is no answer.

GWEN
Maybe he's... hiding?

ALICE
Why would he be hiding?

GWEN
He's not supposed to be here,
remember? Not after the whole...
hammer thing.

ALICE
Well, his phone is, at least.

They begin to search.

GWEN
Anything?

ALICE
Nope.

They keep looking.

GWEN
Try calling again.

Alice calls again. The ringtone restarts.

GWEN
Over there....

They walk over to a server tower.

GWEN

(cont.)

**You think he left his phone on a
server rack?**

ALICE

**Well I hardly think he's hiding inside
it do you?**

Beat.

GWEN

Open it.

ALICE

(nervous)

You open it.

GWEN

**Alice, I am your manager and I am
telling you to open the- the thing.**

ALICE

**And I am telling you, not a cat-in-
hell's chance**

GWEN

**Oh for goodness sake must I do
everything myself?**

Gwen grabs a server rack and yanks.

Beat.

The phone rings loudly and vibrates across the metal board.

ALICE

(quietly)

Oh Colin...

GWEN

What are you-

GWEN screams.

[Music]

ANNOUNCER

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The series is created by Jonathan Sims and Alexander J Newall, and directed by Alexander J Newall.

This episode was written by Jonathan Sims and edited with additional materials by Alexander J Newall, with vocal edits by Nico Vettese, soundscaping by Meg Mckellar, and mastering by Catherine Rinella with music by Sam Jones. It featured Billie Hindle as Alice Dyer, Shahan Hamza as Samama Khalid, Anusia Battersby as Gwen Bouchard.

The Magnus Protocol is produced by April Sumner, with executive producers Alexander J Newall, Dani McDonough, Linn Ci, and Samantha F.G. Hamilton, and Associate Producers Jordan L. Hawk, Taylor Michaels, Nicole Perlman, Cetius d'Raven, and Megan Nice.

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Thanks for listening.

Incident Elements:

- Screaming
- Harsh Language

Transcripts available at <https://rustyquill.com/transcripts/the-magnus-protocol/>

You can find a complete list of our Kickstarter backers <https://rustyquill.com/the-magnus-protocol-supporter-wall/>

Created by Jonathan Sims and [Alexander J Newall](#)

Directed by [Alexander J Newall](#)

Written by Jonathan Sims

Script Edited with additional material by [Alexander J Newall](#)

Executive Producers April Sumner, [Alexander J Newall](#), Jonathan Sims, Dani McDonough, Linn Ci, and Samantha F.G. Hamilton

Associate Producers Jordan L. Hawk, Taylor Michaels, Nicole Perlman, Cetius d’Raven, and Megan Nice

Produced by April Sumner

Featuring (in order of appearance)

Anusia Battersby as Gwendolyn Bouchard

Billie Hindle as Alice Dyer

Shahan Hamza as Samama Khalid

Dialogue Editor – Nico Vettese

Sound Designer – Meg McKellar

Mastering Editor - Catherine Rinella

Music by Sam Jones (orchestral mix by Jake Jackson)

Art by April Sumner

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