

### Dear Teachers,

Welcome to the *Rick Riordan Myths & Legends Resource Pack*. Whether your students are fans of Rick Riordan's previous novels or have enjoyed the two Percy Jackson films or are looking for their next exciting read, this pack will help them to explore the latest adventure, which brings the gods, monsters and characters of Greek, Roman, Egyptian and Norse mythology vividly to life. It also allows students to be creative, whether in the classroom, in the library or at home.

### WHAT IS COVERED IN THE PACK:

This pack is designed around encouraging students to **read** and **respond** to the text, offering opportunities for **creative** writing, research and group discussion.

The activities can be used independently or as a take-home task for students to complete as they read through the book, or could form the basis for a classroom activity. Where appropriate, each sheet highlights the chapters that are relevant to that activity.

### SKILLS:

The skills that students will develop from this pack include: creative writing and composition, group discussion including listening and responding constructively, and retrieving and presenting information from non-fiction texts.

### **CONTENTS:**

Introduction to Rick Riordan's series 'Which Camp?' Activity

### **GREEK GODS**

- Know your Greek gods
- Greek Life
- Lesson 1: Interviews with gods
- Lesson 2: Create a modern-day god
- Lesson 3: Plan and create a modern myth
- Lesson 4: Extract & discussion

### **ROMAN GODS**

- Know your Roman gods
- Roman Life

### **EGYPTIAN GODS**

- Know your Egyptian gods
- Egyptian Life
- Lesson 1: Writing in Hieroglyphics

### **NORSE GODS**

- Know your Norse gods
- Norse life
- Lesson 1: Design a Valhalla hotel room
- Lesson 2: Create a historical character
- Lesson 3: Design a viking weapon
- Lesson 4: Create a story using runes
- Book group discussion questions

### ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

- · Capture the flag game
- Design your flag
- Wordsearch
- Design book covers

### **About Rick Riordan:**

Before starting to write, Rick worked as a teacher, and got the idea for his Percy Jackson series of books from talking to his pupils and children about Greek mythology. The Percy Jackson books have since become some of the most popular titles for children in the last few years, and are being adapted as a series of films. Rick now concentrates on writing full-time and lives with his family in the USA.







### WHICH CAMP?

To complete this pack, you can choose to represent one of four camps – Greek, Roman, Egyptian or Norse – mirroring the worlds of Rick Riordan's electrifying series of books. In the Percy Jackson series, half-boy half-god hero Percy Jackson contests with the gods and monsters of Ancient Greece. In the explosive spin-off series, Heroes of Olympus and Trials of Apollo, we meet Percy's Roman half-blood counterparts. Readers can find the gods of Ancient Egypt waking in the modern world in Rick Riordan's third series, The Kane Chronicles. And the Norse gods are preparing for war in the fourth series, Magnus Chase.

If you have already enjoyed the novels, you can choose the camp that corresponds to your favourite Rick Riordan series. Or you can complete the quiz below to see which suits you best!

### EVERY HERO NEEDS A WEAPON. WHAT'LL YOURS BE?

- A.A pen that's a Celestial bronze sword. Surprise!
- B. A gold sword you can also throw a long, long way.
- C.A blade of metallic iron, aka Netjeri.
- D.A blade emblazoned with runes. Fancy.

### IT'S FIELD TRIP TIME. WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER GO?

- A.To see the marble statues in the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art
- B. An amphitheatre.
- C. Cleopatra's needle. Even though it's less needle, more obelisk.
- D. Anywhere you can check out some longships.

### SO, POLITICS. WHICH STYLE GETS YOUR VOTE?

- A. Everyone has a vote to decide what to do.
- B. Everyone votes for a representative; they call the shots.
- C. A king or queen rules the country.
- D.A leader appoints a commission to choose the best ones for the task.

### FIGHTING WORKS UP AN APPETITE. YOU'LL ORDER?

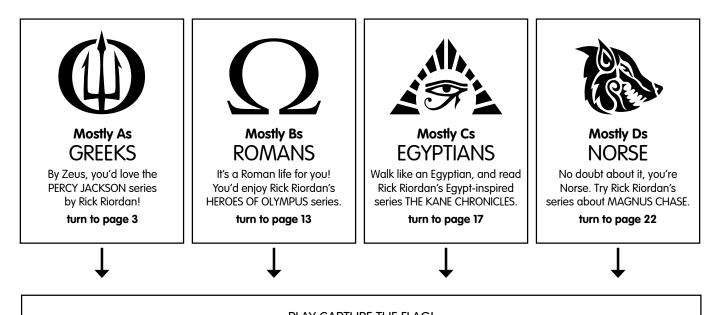
- A. Ambrosia with a side of nectar.
- R Dizza
- C. Bread, meat and fruit for dessert.
- D. Meat. And throw in some goat's milk mead.

# IF YOU HAD TO FIGHT A DEADLY MONSTER, WHO WOULD YOU PICK?

- A. Half man, half bull. Make mine a Minotaur.
- B. Storm spirits that move like . . . well, like the wind.
- C. A beady eyed griffin.
- D.A serpent with a ridged forehead and tapered snout.

### SO MANY BATTLES, NOT MUCH FREE TIME. HOBBIES?

- A. Discus.
- B. Chariot racing.
- C. Archery.
- D. Climbing mountains.



PLAY CAPTURE THE FLAG! turn to page 33





# Norse GodS







### Extract from Magnus Chase & The Sword of Summer

YEAH, I KNOW. You guys are going to read about how I died in agony, and you're going be like, 'Wow! That sounds cool, Magnus! Can I die in agony too?'

No. Just no.

Don't go jumping off any rooftops. Don't run into the highway or set yourself on fire. It doesn't work that way. You will not end up where I ended up.

Besides, you wouldn't want to deal with my situation. Unless you've got some crazy desire to see undead warriors hacking one another to pieces, swords flying up giants' noses and dark elves in snappy outfits, you shouldn't even think about finding the wolf-headed doors.

My name is Magnus Chase. I'm sixteen years old. This is the story of how my life went downhill after I got myself killed.

My day started out normal enough. I was sleeping on the sidewalk under a bridge in the Public Garden when a guy kicked me awake and said, 'They're after you.'

By the way, I've been homeless for the past two years.

Some of you may think, Aw, how sad. Others may think, Ha, ha, loser! But if you saw me on the street, ninety-nine per cent of you would walk right past like I'm invisible. You'd pray, Don't let him ask me for money. You'd wonder if I'm older than I

look, because surely a teenager wouldn't be wrapped in a stinky old sleeping bag, stuck outside in the middle of a Boston winter. Somebody should help that poor boy!

Then you'd keep walking.

Whatever. I don't need your sympathy. I'm used to being laughed at. I'm definitely used to being ignored. Let's move on.

The bum who woke me was a guy called Blitz. As usual, he looked like he'd been running through a dirty hurricane. His wiry black hair was full of paper scraps and twigs. His face was the colour of saddle leather and was flecked with ice. His beard curled in all directions. Snow caked the bottom of his trench coat where it dragged around his feet — Blitz being about five feet five — and his eyes were so dilated, the irises were all pupil. His permanently alarmed expression made him look like he might start screaming any second.

I blinked the gunk out of my eyes. My mouth tasted like day-old hamburger. My sleeping bag was warm, and I really didn't want to get out of it.

'Who's after me?'

'Not sure.' Blitz rubbed his nose, which had been broken so many times it zigzagged like a lightning bolt. 'They're handing out flyers with your name and picture.'







### KAKABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKAKA 💠 KABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKAKA

### **NORSE TEAM**

Welcome to the Norse team! In the Magnus Chase series, young hero Magnus finds himself at the Hotel Valhalla after discovering he is the son of a Norse god. The Vikings myths are true, the gods of Asgard are preparing for war. Trolls, giants and worse monsters are stirring for doomsday. To prevent Ragnarok, Magnus must search the Nine Worlds for a weapon that has been lost for thousands of years.

### KNOW YOUR NORSE GODS

In Magnus Chase & The Sword of Summer, Magnus remembers his book of Norse myths that his mum used to read to him when he was little. The gods from Norse mythology all had different powers and different symbols.

Every good hero should have a guidebook to the gods, monsters and creatures of the Viking afterlife. Here are some of the Gods who appear in Magnus Chase. Some labels are missing – choose from the ones below to complete the table.

GOD/GODDESS/MONSTER	DESCRIPTION										
Odin											
Thor	God of thunder	God of thunder									
	Goddess of love										
Monstrous wolf											
Tyr	God of law	God of law									
Mimir											
Loki	God of fire and trickery	God of fire and trickery									
	"Chooser of the slain" – handmaids of Odin, they ch	"Chooser of the slain" – handmaids of Odin, they choose who may die in battle									
Frey											
Valkyrie	God of spring and summer	God of war and death									
Freya	God of wisdom	Fenris									

### DISCUSSION

In the novels, Magnus Chase discovers that he is the demigod son of Frey. If you could be the child of one of the gods, which would you pick? Discuss this as a group. Remember to listen to the opinions of others and give your own.







### KAKABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKA 💠 KABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKAKA

### **NORSE LIFE**

Gods and monsters were important in Norse mythology and history, but the Vikings had other fascinating areas of their life. Working in pairs, select one of the following areas to research and create a factfile for your fellow group members.

- The "great" Viking invasion
- Viking food & drink
- Sailing and Viking longships
- Religious objects

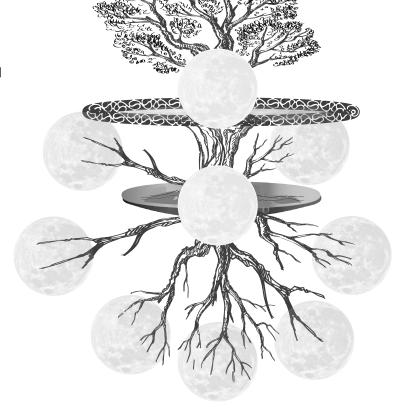
### THE NINE WORLDS

In Ancient Norse mythology, there are nine worlds, held in the branches of the "Tree of Life", Yggdrasil, which lies at the centre of the cosmos. Travel between the worlds are described in the myths, where gods and other beings sometimes interact directly with humans. There are three levels to the nine worlds - the upper level being for gods and goddesses, the middle level, or "Middle Earth" for humans, and the lower level for fire giants and demons. Some of the nine worlds are listed below. Choose one and then research it with a partner. Which world would you choose to live in and why?

- Asgard: Home of the gods
- Valhalla: Home of the fallen vikings
- Midgard: Home of the humans
- Niflheim: Home of fog and mist
- Jotunheim: Home of the giants

### **TASK**

Label the nine worlds on the tree of life, Yggdrasil



### **DESIGN YOUR FLAG**

As representatives of the Norse team, you will be participating in a game of 'capture the flag'. First, you will need to design a flag for your team. You can use whichever colours or symbols you prefer – draw it into the worksheet on page 34.







### KAKABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKA 💠 KABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKABAKAKA

### **LESSON 1: VALHALLA HOTEL ROOM**

**Objectives:** To design a Valhalla Hotel Room using creative writing

When Magnus Chase first enters his Valhalla hotel room for the first time, he is in for a surprise.

I turned in a slow circle. The suite was shaped like a cross, with four sections radiating from the central atrium. Each wing was as large as my old apartment. One was the entry hall where we'd come in. The next was a bedroom with a king-size bed. Despite its size, the room was spare and simple: a beige comforter and fluffy-looking pillows on the bed, beige walls with no artwork or mirrors or other decoration. Heavy brown curtains could be drawn to close off the space.

I remembered when I was a kid, how my mum used to make my room as no-frills as possible. I'd always found it hard to sleep indoors unless I had total darkness and nothing to distract me. Looking at this bedroom, I felt like somebody had reached into my mind and pulled out exactly what I needed to be comfortable.

The suite's fourth wing was a full kitchen and living room. At one end of the living room, a big leather couch faced a plasma-screen TV with about six different game systems stacked in the media cabinet. On the other side, two recliners sat in front of a crackling fireplace and a wall of books.

Yes, I like to read. I'm weird that way.

### **TASK**

Imagine stepping into your own Valhalla hotel room. What would you see, hear, smell (and even taste)? Remember, this is your perfect room – so it can contain all your favourite things. You could use the following template to record your ideas:

What do I see?	What do I hear?
What do I smell?	What do I taste?
What do I smell?	What do I taste?
What do I smell?	What do I taste?
What do I smell?	What do I taste?
What do I smell?	What do I taste?







### **LESSON 2:** HISTORICAL CHARACTER

Objectives: To create a historical character

Magnus Chase discovers that having friends in Valhalla is really important, especially when your (after) life depends on fighting as a team every day! Having shield brothers and sisters to watch your back certainly helps in battle, even if they do make a bit of an odd bunch.

### TASK 1

Imagine you are meeting one of your shield brothers or sisters for the first time. Who would they be and what's their name? How might they have ended up at the Hotel Valhalla? This friend could come from any time in history. You could use your knowledge of history to help make your character more interesting, or even research a new time period using books and the internet.

Some things you might want to think about:

- What historical period do they come from? (Ancient Rome, Ancient Egypt, the Victorian Age, Vikings etc.)
- Where did they live?
- What was their daily life like?
- · What was their family like?
- What might they be wearing?
- What heroic act did they perform to be chosen for Valhalla?

### TASK 2

When authors create characters for books, they often ask these types of questions to help them create a back story for each character. This helps to make their characters feel more real and interesting to the reader.

When you have completed your research, you could create a character profile for your companion, with a picture and a fact file – or you could even write about your very first meeting together at the Hotel Valhalla. (You can read more about Magnus Chase's first meeting with his companions in Chapter Eighteen.)

Character Notes		
Name:	Age:	
How did they get to Valhalla?		
What historical period do they come from?		
Where do they live?		
What was their family like?		
Likes:		
Dislikes:		







### **LESSON 3: VIKING WEAPONS**

**Objectives:** To design a Viking weapon

Vikings love their weapons. When Magnus discovers his own magic weapon for the first time, he isn't too impressed. After all, *The Sword of Summer* appears to be a sludgy stick covered in barnacles. But Magnus soon discovers that the sword can do lots of cool things. However, those cool things come with a cost.

### TASK 1

Design your own magical item to help you on your adventures. Use books and the internet to find out more about some of the legendary objects from Norse Mythology such as **Mjölnir**, **Brisingamen**, **Gleipnir**, **Gungnir**, **Gjallar** and **Dainsleif**. Record your special item in the grid below.

Ny Viking weapon/item
SK 2 wer sometimes comes with a price. Will your special item have any drawbacks? Record them here
urawbacks
TUWDUCKS







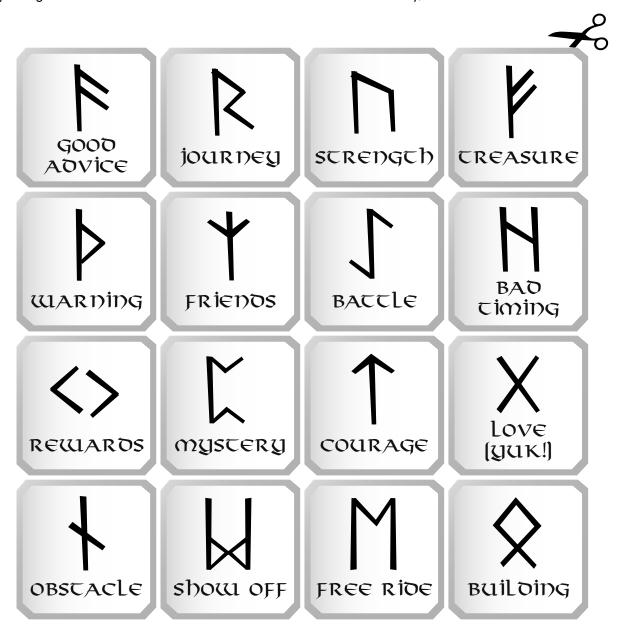
### **LESSON 4: RUNES**

**Objectives:** To design a Viking weapon

When Magnus attends his first feast in Valhalla, he encounters the Norns, a strange group of female giants who use runes to help them see the future:

### **TASK**

The Norns are ready to read your fate. What does your future hold for you? Cut out the magic runes and place inside a bag (you might want to mount them on card first to make them a bit more sturdy).







### $\phi$

Pick out three runes from the bag and place them in front of you in the order that you chose them. These runes represent your future adventure which you are about to write below! The runes provide you with a beginning, middle and an ending for your adventure. Perhaps it will involve a mystery, the discovery of some fabulous treasure, or even a big Viking battle!

Your first rune, begins your story	
Your second rune, forms middle of your story	
Your third rune, ends your story	
	(Use a blank sheet of paper if your need more space for your story)
	(Ose a plank sheet of paper if your fleed filore space for your story)







# MAGNUS CHASE & THE SWORD OF SUMMER BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### CHAPTER ONE TO CHAPTER THREE

- What have we learned about Magnus from the opening chapters alone?
- Is Magnus your typical type of hero? What qualities does he have that might help him become a hero?

### CHAPTER NINE TO CHAPTER FIFTEEN

- How has the author updated Valhalla and Norse mythology for a modern audience?
- What does Magnus's hotel room tell us about his character?

### CHAPTER TWENTY AND CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

- What opinions have we formed of Loki, Sam and Gunilla? Who do we trust/distrust and why?
- Why do you think Gunilla chose to show Asgard to Magnus?

# CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO TO CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

- How does Magnus react to seeing his dead body and what are his reasons?
- How does the author use mystery to keep the reader quessing?
- What have we learned about Hearthstone and Blitzen in these chapters? What questions would we like to ask them?

### CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE TO CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO

- What evidence is there that Sam and Magnus are growing closer as friends?
- Has our opinion of Sam changed in any way?

### CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN TO CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

- What do Ratatosk's insults tell us about Magnus' insecurities? Do we agree with the popular saying 'sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me'?
- How does Folkvanger differ from Valhalla? Which afterlife do we prefer and why?

### CHAPTER FORTY TO CHAPTER FORTY-FOUR

- What obstacles are put in the way of our heroes achieving their goal? How does this add to the tension of these chapters?
- Do we feel that Sam and the others were right to cheat in order to win the contest?

### CHAPTER FORTY-EIGHT TO CHAPTER FIFTY

- What does the perthro rune tell us about Hearthstone and his upbringing?
- What did we imagine Thor would be like? How has the author played with those expectations?

### CHAPTER FIFTY-EIGHT TO CHAPTER SIXTY

- How does Hel try to convince Magnus that his quest is futile? What does she offer him instead?
- If you were Magnus, would you have accepted Hel's offer? Was Magnus right to turn her down?
- How is the theme of memory explored in these chapters?
- Blitzen refers to the group as 'a family of four empty cups'? What does he mean – and how might each character have reason to feel like 'an empty cup'?

### CHAPTER SIXTY-THREE TO CHAPTER SIXTY-SEVEN

- What is Fenris Wolf's most powerful weapon and why?
- How does the author use the final battle to show how our heroes have grown?

### CHAPTER SIXTY-EIGHT AND SEVENTY-TWO

How do these two chapters help to provide closure to Magnus' personal journey?

### **EPILOGUE**

- What is the significance of the silver hammer pendant?
- What do we think will be the theme/focus of the next Magnus Chase adventure?







# Additional classroom activitieS







### **CAPTURE THE FLAG!**

### **EXTRACT**

Here is an extract from Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief.

That night after dinner, there was a lot more excitement than usual.

At last, it was time for capture the flag.

When the plates were cleared away, the conch horn sounded and we all stood at our tables.

Campers yelled and cheered as Annabeth and two of her siblings ran into the pavilion carrying a silk banner. It was about three metres long, glistening grey, with a painting of a barn owl above an olive tree. From the opposite side of the pavilion, Clarisse and her buddies ran in with another banner, of identical size, but gaudy red, painted with a bloody spear and a boar's head.

I turned to Luke and yelled over the noise, 'Those are the flags?'

Yeah.'

'Ares and Athena always lead the teams?'

'Not always,' he said. 'But often.'

'So, if another cabin captures one, what do you do - repaint the flag?'

He grinned. 'You'll see. First, we have to get one.'

'Capture the flag' is the game played regularly by the demigods at Camp Half-Blood. The different 'houses' form alliances, and students are heavily armed, using military tactics and fighting to capture one of two flags. Instead of a physical contest of capture the flag, as played in Camp Half-Blood, Athena the goddess of wisdom has set you a quest. In the following wordsearch, you will find the answers to all of the questions below. Complete the wordsearch as quickly as possible to capture the flag!

### CAPTURE THE FLAG: QUIZ

- 1. What is the name of Percy's magical sword?
- 2. Name the Greek, Roman and Egyptian gods of the dead.
- 3. Who is the writer of the Percy Jackson, Heroes of Olympus and Kane Chronicles books?
- 4. What are the Greek and Roman names of Percy's father?
- 5. What are the Greek and Roman names of Jason's father?
- 6. What bond do Jason and Percy's fathers share?
- 7. Which river do the gods make their solemn vows on?
- 8. What animal does Bast have the head of?
- 9. What is the name of the god who takes Carter and Sadie's father hostage?
- 10. Which monster's hair is made of snakes?
- 11. The minotaur is half man and half of which animal?
- 12. Name the Greek/Roman and Egyptian gods of medicine.
- 13. What is the name of the staff carried by Hermes in Greek mythology?
- 14. What was the name of Set's brother, whom he killed?
- 15. Jason Grace is named after the hero Jason, who led a group of heroes. What were they called?
- 16. Who were the mythological creatures who lured sailors to death with their beautiful singing?
- 17. Sekhmet, the Egyptian goddess of war, has the head of which animal?
- 18. What are the Greek and Roman names for the god of war?
- 19. After which Greek hero is Percy Jackson named?
- 20. In Greek mythology, where was the Minotaur kept?







# DESIGN YOUR TEAM FLAG







### WORD SEARCH

**RIPTIDE NEPTUNE** SET **ARGONAUTS HADES ZEUS MEDUSA SIRENS PLUTO JUPITER** BULL LION **OSIRIS BROTHERS APOLLO ARES RICK RIORDAN** STYX **SEKHMET MARS POSEIDON** CAT **CADUCEUS PERSEUS LABYRINTH** 

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### **CAPTURE THE FLAG: ANSWERS**

1. \	What is the name of Percy's magical sword?	Riptide
2. I	Name the Greek, Roman and Egyptian gods of the dead.	Hades, Pluto, Osiris
3. \	Who is the writer of the Percy Jackson, Heroes of Olympus and Kane Chronicles books?	Rick Riordan
4. \	What are the Greek and Roman names of Percy's father?	Poseidon, Neptune
5. \	What are the Greek and Roman names of Jason's father?	Zeus, Jupiter
6. N	What bond do Jason and Percy's fathers share?	They are brothers
7.	Which river do the gods make their solemn vows on?	Styx
8. \	What animal does Bast have the head of?	Cat
9. \	What is the name of the god who takes Carter and Sadie's father hostage?	Set
10. \	Which monster's hair is made of snakes?	Medusa
11.	The minotaur is half man and half of which animal?	Bull
12. I	Name the Greek/Roman and Egyptian gods of medicine.	Apollo, Sekhmet
13. \	What is the name of the staff carried by Hermes in Greek mythology?	Caduceus
14. \	What was the name of Set's brother, whom he killed?	Osiris
15.	Jason Grace is named after the hero Jason, who led a group of heroes. What were they called?	Argonauts
16. \	Who were the mythological creatures who lured sailors to death with their beautiful singing?	Sirens
17.	Sekhmet, the Egyptian goddess of war, has the head of which animal?	Lion
18. \	What are the Greek and Roman names for the god of war?	Ares, Mars
19. /	After which Greek hero is Percy Jackson named?	Perseus
20. I	In Greek mythology, where was the Minotaur kept?	Labyrinth







### **WORD SEARCH ANSWERS**

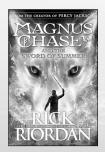
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F	Р	P	Υ	N	٧	Н	А	D	Е	S	M	Z	J	U	Р	ı	T	Е	R
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M	K	E	K	В	R/	D	P	N/	R	S	R	Е	F	D	В	Y	٧	В	D
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K	F	I	K/	E	Υ	c	H/	R	V	X	N	Z	Μ	L	L	L	_	Р	F
Υ	А	T	S	0	V/	T	<u> </u>	D	L	U	Т	S	E	K	Н	M	E	T	I
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Р	C	R	Z	0	Т	Т	٧	В	U	L	L	D	F	С	J	L	D	Е	Υ
D	С	С	N	٧	K	G	Н	Н	Q	F	U	K	R	J	R	٧	Р	Н	Μ









### MAGNUS CHASE AND THE SWORD OF SUMMER (BOOK 1)

My name is Magnus Chase. I'm orphaned and living rough on the streets of Boston. And things are about to get much worse. My day started out normally enough. I was sleeping under a bridge when some guy kicked me awake and said, 'They're after you.' Next thing I know, I'm reunited with my obnoxious uncle, who casually informs me that my long-lost father is a Norse god. Nothing normal about that. And it turns out the gods of Asgard are preparing for war. Apparently, if I can't find the sword my father lost two thousand years ago, there will be doom. Doomsday, to be precise.

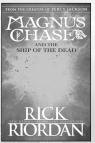
A fire giant attacking the city? Immortal warriors hacking each other to pieces? Unkillable wolves with glowing eyes? It's all coming up. But first I'm going to die. This is the story of how my life goes downhill from there . . .



### MAGNUS CHASE AND THE HAMMER OF THOR (BOOK 2)

Thor's hammer is missing again. The thunder god has a disturbing habit of misplacing his weapon – the mightiest force in the Nine Worlds

But this time the hammer isn't just lost, it has fallen into enemy hands. If Magnus Chase and his friends can't retrieve the hammer quickly, the mortal worlds will be defenseless against an onslaught of giants. Ragnarok will begin. The Nine Worlds will burn. Unfortunately, the only person who can broker a deal for the hammer's return is the gods' worst enemy, Loki – and the price he wants is very high.



### MAGNUS CHASE AND THE SHIP OF THE DEAD

Rick Riordan's Norse hero faces his greatest challenge yet in the final instalment of the series.

The third and final book in the Magnus Chase series, from the bestselling author of Percy Jackson.

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