

# *The Magicians*: Escape the pandemic to the magical land of Fillory

Issued by [Showmax](#)

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- "Harry Potter meets The Chronicles Of Narnia meets the cold, harsh realities of real life" The Verge
- "The most entrancing fantasy available on television" Salon
- "The funniest fantasy show on TV" Indiewire
- "The most sexually aware show on TV" io9
- "A fantasy show for people who love fantasy shows" AVClub
- "Without a doubt a satisfying conclusion to an amazing five-year-series" TV Fanatic



The fifth and final season of *The Magicians* is now available to binge first on Showmax. Season 5 has a 100% critics rating on Rotten Tomatoes and is “without a doubt a satisfying conclusion to an amazing five-year series,” according to TV Fanatic.

Based on the best-selling novels by Lev Grossman, *The Magicians* centres on a group of friends as they discover their magical abilities at Brakebills University and ward off evil creatures who threaten to destroy Fillory, the magical world they’ve come to know.

All four previous seasons of *The Magicians* have been nominated for Best Fantasy TV Series by the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films, while the series has an overall critics rating of 91% on Rotten Tomatoes.

Memorably described as “Harry Potter meets The Chronicles of Narnia meets the cold, harsh realities of real life” by The Verge, *The Magicians* was SYFY’s longest-running show on air when it ended this year. The cult favourite has been hailed as “the most entrancing fantasy available on television” by Salon, “the funniest fantasy show on TV” by Indiewire, “the most sexually aware show on TV” by io9, and as “a fantasy show for people who love fantasy shows” by AVClub.

[Spoiler alert] Last season, magic was saved, but at a terrible cost: the life of Quentin Coldwater (Jason Ralph), who died heroically to save his friends— and the world. Julia (Stella Maeve), Alice (Olivia Taylor Dudley), Eliot (Hale Appleman), Margo (Summer Bishil), Penny (Arjun Gupta) and their friends (and frenemies) must learn to navigate a world without him

while facing a new threat: in freeing magic, the balance tipped the other way and there's too damn much of it. As the excess builds, an apocalypse looms. Can the magicians get their sh\*t together to save the world without Q?

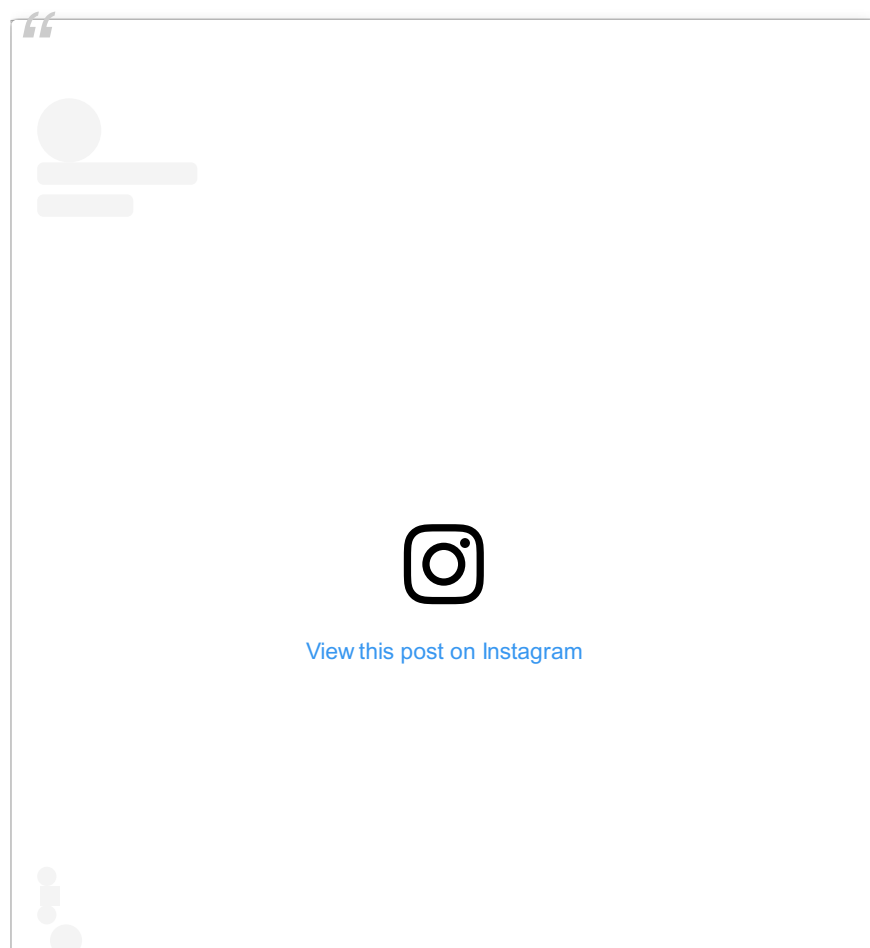
Admittedly, killing off the show's lead character in last season's finale was a controversial move. As Collider says, "To be perfectly honest, I was not looking forward to *The Magicians* Season 5. The SYFY series has long been one of my favorite shows on television, even more so when it started leaving Lev Grossman's phenomenal source material behind and began carving out its own path. But the Season 4 finale, in which the show's lead character Quentin Coldwater (Jason Ralph) sacrificed himself to save his friends and thus exited the series, broke my heart. The hero of this story, the character who so deeply drew me into the world of *The Magicians* and made me fall in love with this brash, bold fantasy series (first in the books, then onscreen), was gone. I don't mean to be dramatic, but it's hard to imagine watching one of your favorite TV shows without its leading character."

But as Vox points out, "*The Magicians* has always cheekily leaned into the idea that heroes in fantasy stories too often look like Quentin — which is to say white, male, and conventionally attractive. But most of the show's characters other than Quentin haven't fit that paradigm, and arguably Quentin himself, who was bisexual, didn't either. So killing off Quentin also functions as a kind of meta-commentary on *The Magicians*' attempts to transcend both its genre and its source material, in which Quentin remains alive through the end."

Despite their initial skepticism, Collider, like many others, was won over by Season 5. "The show's writers find compelling ways to make Quentin's death meaningful, and it results in some fascinating and ultimately forward-thinking character developments. Moreover (and maybe most importantly), *The Magicians* is still tons of fun. There are weird creatures, off-colour jokes, and plenty of fantastical twists and turns. And that's *The Magicians* Season 5's greatest triumph. That it feels at once like it's moving on from the loss of its central character, but also still feels like the same show I came to love."

While fans quickly launched [online petitions](#) to save *The Magicians*, the cast members took to social media to say their fond farewells to Brakebills University and the magical world of Fillory.

Olivia Dudley Thomas on Instagram:

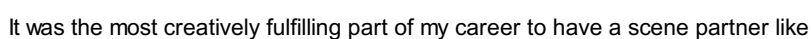




A post shared by [@oliviataylordudley](#) on Mar 3, 2020 at



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Hale Appleman love him to the moon and back and loved this photo a friend took when I shot my last scene of the show on the last night of filming with

@halebofosho it was nice way to close out the last five years. #themagicians

*A post shared by Summer Bishil (@summerybishil) on Mar 3, 2020 at 6:04pm PST*

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Arjun Gupta on Instagram:

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



*A post shared by Arjun Gupta (@arjunguptabk) on Mar 4, 2020 at 10:51am PST*

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Rick Worthy on Instagram:

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



SALUD!! All You Magicians, both old and young .. I humbly and sincerely Thank You for Believing in us .. And I thank you for your incomparable support since 2015 .. We worked SO VERY HARD making this wonderful and unique TV series about Magic week to week for 5 years .. I learned so much .. Not only about myself, but a macro-perspective on the people both within and without "The Industry" and the mechanisms of running a successful Television Program .. I have met SO many WONDERFUL fans .. At conventions 💎💎💎💎💎, airports, airplanes, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, and even walking through a mad-house of hundreds and hundreds of people in Times Square at midnight .. And they ALL say the same thing: WE LOVE THE MAGICIANS!!! Thank.you Magicians Fam, because WE LOVE YOU 💎💎💎💎💎 And we existed because of you .. THANK.YOU XOXO .. And as I write this, in honor of easily one of the BEST Characters ever in my charge, in a career of 33 years (and counting! :)), Dean Henry Fogg .. I salute you Henry .. And I sip a fine, fine Scotch in a very cool, off the grid hotel in honour of you :) .. Thanks again, and disfruta the rest of Season 5 of The Magicians .. Love You Mucho XoXo @magicianssyfy #TheMagicians #TheMagiciansFam #TADA #FromTheDeansDesk #LetsSeeSomeMagic

*A post shared by Rick Worthy (@rickworthy1) on Mar 3, 2020 at 12:18pm PST*

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When everything is up in the air globally, there's also something reassuring about committing to a show that you know has an ending, and a good one at that.

As The Atlantic wrote, "It's a story made more powerful now, given current circumstances. At a time when many of us are experiencing our own moments of sadness and anxiety, *The Magicians* series can be the escape the Fillory books were for Quentin... With so many people currently seeking out escapism in all its forms, SYFY's *The Magicians* is a fantastic binge watch, an all-consuming experience with just enough light to distract from the global pandemic."

Watch the season five trailer:

Fall under the spell of Seasons 1-5 at [www.showmax.com](http://www.showmax.com).

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