

# 5 - The Hero Returns

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**[00:12] Cam**

The Haltina Sea of Trees that we're entering  
now is the home of the beastmen,

**[00:15] Cam**

stretching to the north and south  
on the eastern side of the continent.

**[00:19] Cam**

Verbergen, the nation of the beastmen,  
is located deep within that forest.

**[00:23] Cam**

That said, it's off limits  
for we the Haulia Tribe.

**[00:27] Liliana**

Why is that?

**[00:28] Cam**

Our whole tribe are considered sinners.

**[00:31] Cam**

The Council of Elders  
ordered our execution once.

**[00:35] Liliana**

E-Execution?!

**[00:37] Cam**

Please don't worry.

**[00:39] Cam**

We're now considered associates of the boss,  
so that order has been canceled.

**[00:43] Liliana**

What is the "Council of Elders"?

**[00:46] Cam**

It's a gathering of the leaders of each tribe,  
where they discuss and decide things.

**[00:51] Liliana**

Is it like the highest  
decision-making board of the nation?

**[00:55] Cam**

Yes.

**[00:56] Cam**

If you need to make any negotiations,

**[00:59] Cam**

you should speak to one  
of the elders, Ulfric.

**SIGN** Episode 05: The Hero Returns

**[02:49] Gahard**

Hey, Hajime Nagumo.

**[02:51] Hajime**

Huh?

**[02:52] Gahard**

Can you get me one of these vehicles?

**[02:55] Hajime**

You've got to be kidding.

**[02:57] Gahard**

It's clear you helped the  
Haulia in the incident earlier.

**[03:01] Gahard**

It wouldn't hurt if you could help me with—

**[03:03] Hajime**

Not my concern.

**[03:04] Gahard**

I'll pay you whatever you want.  
If you want women instead,

**[03:07] Gahard**

I have a daughter  
at just about the right age.

**[03:11] Yue**

Should I Lightning Wyrms him?

**[03:12] Shea**

I will crush you.

**[03:13] Kaori**

Are you playing? Are you?

**[03:16] Shizuku**

Don't expect Nagumo-kun  
to be like you, Emperor.

**[03:19] Liliana**

No! No way!

**[03:22] Gahard**

Hmm?

**[03:23] Liliana**

Oh, um, never mind.

**[03:26] Gahard**

Coming to think of it,

**[03:27] Gahard**

you looked really happy while dancing

with him, completely ignoring Baius.

**[03:31] Liliana**

N-Nagumo-san and I aren't like that! At all!

**[03:35] Liliana**

I-Isn't that right?

**[03:37] Hajime**

Yeah, that's impossible  
beyond the wildest imaginable thing.

**[03:40] Liliana**

You didn't have to go that far...

**[03:42] Hajime**

Besides, the princess is pretty  
much a married woman, right?

**[03:45] Liliana**

Oh, about that...

**[03:48] Gahard**

To be honest, our family  
is not ready for that.

**[03:52] Gahard**

If the Kingdom told us  
that they can't let their

**[03:54] Gahard**

princess marry someone  
who might die at any moment,

**[03:57] Gahard**

I have no way to counter that.

**[03:59] Gahard**

Also, with the slaves released,  
our labor force is a fraction of what it was.

**[04:02] Gahard**

In fact, it's now we the Empire  
that needs help from the Kingdom.

**[04:07] Hajime**

I see. So, the princess's wedding is off.

**[04:13] Kouki**

That's great! Right, Lily?!

**[04:15] Shizuku**

Indeed.

**[04:16] Shizuku**

I guess free romance isn't on the table,  
but at least you have time.

**[04:21] Kaori**

Yes! I'm happy for you, Lily.

**[04:24] Liliana**

Um, thank you...

**[04:25] Gahard**

And thus, Princess Liliana is up for grabs.

**[04:30] Gahard**

Hajime Nagumo, if you  
want to get her, I can help.

**[04:32] Liliana**

W-What?! Emperor, what  
are you talking about?! I don't...

**[04:34] Hajime**

And you want an airship for your services?

**[04:38] Hajime**

There's no upside for me.  
In fact, it's all downside.

**[04:42] Liliana**

What do you mean by that, Nagumo-san?!

**[04:42] Gahard**

Hey, she still is a princess, you know?

**[04:45] Hajime**

You should give up. There's nothing  
in the world that I want, for now.

**[04:46] Liliana**

Please don't ignore me! Listen to me!

**[04:49] Liliana**

Nobody's interested in hearing me talk.  
Or in me in general.

**[04:55] Liliana**

What even is a princess?

**[04:58] Gahard**

Be honest.

**[05:00] Gahard**

Every human wants something.

**[05:10] Hajime**

As you can see, what I want  
is already in my arms.

**[05:14] Hajime**

What more can I ask?

**[05:26] Shea**

How terrible...

**[05:27] Tio**

Setting fire to a forest  
is forbidden, isn't it?

**[05:30] Gahard**

Yeah, yeah, my bad.

**[05:38] Beastman A**

W-What is that?!

**[05:39] Beastman B**

Is that a new type of monster?!

**[06:04] Dog-Ear Boy**

Mom!

**[06:32] Ulfric**

Hajime Nagumo.

**[06:34] Ulfric**

What an absurd entrance you made.

**[06:38] Hajime**

Yeah, I couldn't be bothered  
to be careful. Don't worry about it.

**[06:43] Hajime**

Sorry, Kaori, could you take care of it?

**[06:51] Kaori**

Tetragrammaton.

**[07:18] Ulfric**

It's a miracle...

**[07:20] Beastman B**

Is she a goddess?

**[07:21] Beastman C**

Yes, she is the Protecting  
Goddess of Verbergen!

**[07:27] Kaori**

Stop! Please stop!

**[07:30] Tio**

And another goddess is born.

**[07:33] Tio**

Interesting how this continent worshipping

**[07:35] Tio**

a monotheistic religion  
keeps spawning so many gods.

**[07:39] Yue**

Yes.

**[07:40] Yue**

I find the in-your-face approach  
to god very agreeable.

**[07:44] Shea**

Agreeable yes.

**[07:46] Shizuku**

Kaori, how you've grown.

**[07:48] Suzu**

Shizu-Shizu, you're like her mom now.

**[07:56] Ulfric**

Master Nagumo.

**[07:58] Ulfric**

Our brethren have been released.

**[08:00] Ulfric**

On behalf of all of Verbergen, I thank you.

**[08:04] Ulfric**

And also, I must thank you for rescuing  
my precious granddaughter, Altina.

**[08:10] Hajime**

It's the Haulia Tribe that did it.  
Do keep that clear.

**[08:15] Ulfric**

I heard the stories  
from our rescued brethren too,

**[08:18] Ulfric**

but who would have thought  
the "weakest" rabbit beastmen,

**[08:20] Ulfric**

would topple the Empire...

**[08:29] Ulfric**

Living a long life pays off.

**[08:31] Ulfric**

I suppose I'm witnessing  
a historic moment right now.

**[08:51] Shea**

Father? What are you doing?

**[08:55] Cam**

Listen, my brethren!

**[08:57] Cam**

For too long, brethren,

**[08:59] Cam**

you have been suffering  
in a sea of humiliation and despair.

**[09:03] Cam**

But now, we were able to defeat the Empire.

**[09:06] Cam**

However, eternal peace is never possible.

**[09:09] Cam**

Your futures will most likely be  
threatened again, not far from now.

**[09:16] Cam**

When that happens, you will return  
to how you were until yesterday.

**[09:21] Cam**

Not just that.

**[09:23] Cam**

Even those who've avoided slavery  
might not be so lucky the next time.

**[09:29] Cam**

Is that acceptable to you?

**[09:33] Cam**

Of course not. Then what do we do?

**[09:37] Cam**

Simple.

**[09:39] Cam**

If you wish to protect those  
who stand next to you...

**[09:44] Cam**

Fight.

**[09:46] Cam**

If you wish to resist exploitation  
and despair, then rise up!

**[09:52] Cam**

If you desire to improve  
the lives of the rabbit beastmen,

**[09:56] Cam**

then fill your hearts with rage!

**[09:59] Cam**

The rabbit beastmen are not the weakest!

**[10:03] Cam**

Simply by deciding to do so,

**[10:05] Cam**

we are a race that can  
become stronger and stronger!

**[10:08] Cam**

We the Haulia Tribe proved  
that to you today!

**[10:12] Cam**

I can teach you how to fight!

**[10:15] Cam**

The Haulia welcome you any time!

**[10:23] Cam**

Boss.

**[10:25] Cam**

I'm sorry to disturb you  
during your conversation.

**[10:28] Cam**

It was the best moment  
to gather more manpower.

**[10:31] Hajime**

Y-Yeah.

**[10:32] Yue**

And thus, the gentle bunnies  
of the forest went extinct.

**[10:37] Shea**

Don't say it like that, Yue-san!

**[10:39] Ulfric**

So there's going to be more Haulias now...?

**[10:50] Zel**

Quite the attitude for a losing king!

**[10:53] Zel**

Do you think you can go home in one piece?

**[10:55] Gahard**

I hope you don't think you can kill me.

**[10:59] Gahard**

If you do, that makes the elders  
of Verbergen a bunch of total idiots.

**[11:04] Zel**

What did you say?!

**[11:05] Ulfric**

Stop, Zel.

**[11:07] Ulfric**

Gahard is here to prove that  
what the Haulia Tribe achieved

**[11:11] Ulfric**

and what the Empire swore  
is true. Don't forget that.

**[11:18] Ulfric**

Gahard, alter your attitude somewhat.

**[11:24] Gahard**

Then pick up your sword.

**[11:26] Gahard**

I, and the rest of the empire,  
only pays respect to the strong.

**[11:32] Gahard**

If you don't like my attitude,  
then force me to obey you.

**[11:38] Gahard**

I didn't lose to all beastmen.  
I don't owe respect to you.

**[11:44] Gahard**

The ones that took up the sword,  
put their lives on the line,

**[11:46] Gahard**

and proved their strength  
on the battlefield are the Haulia Tribe!

**[11:58] Hajime**

Hey, Gahard.

**[12:00] Hajime**

You're too much of a bother,  
so you can go home now.

**[12:02] Gahard**

Huh?

**[12:07] Gahard**

Hey!

**[12:07] Gahard**

You're not going to send me back  
to the Empire, are you?!

**[12:12] Gahard**

Don't you see that was about to be like,  
a historic moment between two nations?!

**[12:16] Hajime**

Centuries of differences  
and grudges aren't going

**[12:20] Hajime**

to change over a quick  
discussion here, right?

**[12:25] Gahard**

W-Well, true, but...

**[12:28] Hajime**

So yeah, go on home  
before you cause any trouble.

**[12:32] Gahard**

Hey! Don't treat me like  
a rebellious youth! Let me go!

**[12:33] Liliana**

I'm sure the emperor now  
knows how I feel, a little.

**[12:39] Gahard**

Don't forget this, Hajime Nagumo!

**[12:45] Liliana**

W-Wait! I still have business  
to take care of, as a princess!

**[12:49] Hajime**

Fine.

**[12:51] Hajime**

We'll rest now, so come find us  
when you're done.

**[12:56] Liliana**

Y-Yes.

**[12:59] Hajime**

Cam, take us to your village.

**[13:03] Hajime**

Flying Fernir with thousands  
of people on board was really tiring.

**[13:07] Cam**

Right away.

**[13:09] Ulfric**

Wait, Master Nagumo.

**[13:11] Ulfric**

We've yet to determine how to repay you.

**[13:14] Ulfric**

Could you stay with us just a moment longer?

**[13:16] Hajime**

I told you, it's the Haulia who did it.

**[13:19] Ulfric**

Of course, Cam and the others  
will be compensated accordingly.

**[13:23] Ulfric**

However, it's true that we owe  
a great debt of gratitude to Master Nagumo.

**[13:26] Hajime**

Well, if you want to feel grateful,  
you're free to do as much as you want, but...

**[13:31] Hajime**

There's nothing I want right now.

**[13:34] Ulfric**

Then at least let us accommodate you  
while you stay at the Sea of Trees.

**[13:39] Ulfric**

Altina also wants  
to thank you for saving her.

**[13:49] Hajime**

Well, if you say so, I'll take you up on it.

**[13:55] Ulfric**

Next, Cam.

**[13:57] Ulfric**

Even after being exiled,  
you fought off the invaders,

**[14:00] Ulfric**

and even forced the Empire to make a vow,  
returning our brethren to us.

**[14:05] Ulfric**

We must repay you for this.

**[14:09] Ulfric**

Obviously, nobody objects to nullifying  
the expulsion of the Haulia Tribe.

**[14:14] Ulfric**

That was already decided in a previous  
Council of Elders meeting, after the attack.

**[14:18] Cam**

I see.

**[14:20] Ulfric**

Next,

**[14:21] Ulfric**

I propose creating a new seat  
at the Council of Elders for Cam,

**[14:28] Ulfric**

the Chief of the Haulia Tribe.

**[14:32] Ulfric**

What say you, elders?

**[14:36] Ulfric**

So, what do you say, Cam?

**[14:38] Ulfric**

Would you accept a seat at the Council?

**[14:40] Cam**

Of course, I decline.

**[14:44] Ulfric**

May I ask why?

**[14:46] Cam**

Why?

**[14:48] Cam**

Well, for starters, you are mistaken.

**[14:50] Ulfric**

Mistaken?

**[14:51] Cam**

You seem to believe  
that we saved all of beastmankind,

**[14:55] Cam**

but that was just something on the side.

**[14:58] Cam**

We the Haulia Tribe are not your allies.

**[15:02] Cam**

If you cause trouble for us or our boss...

**[15:07] Cam**

Know that the blades of Haulia  
will point in your direction next.

**[15:11] Zel**

Y-You dare threaten your brethren?!

**[15:14] Cam**

We fight for the future  
of the rabbit beastmen.

**[15:19] Cam**

Just make sure you remember that.

**[15:27] Hajime**

What's taking Shea so long?

**[15:30] Yue**

She said she's going to see her family.

**[15:32] Kaori**

Are the Haulias celebrating or something?

**[15:36] Tio**

Well, nothing bad can happen, not to Shea.

**[15:41] Cam**

Please excuse my late-night visit, Boss.

**[15:44] Hajime**

What is it?

**[15:45] Cam**

I hate to bother you while you are resting,  
but could you come with me?

**[15:51] Hajime**

At this hour?

**[15:52] Cam**

Yes, I implore you.

**[15:55] Hajime**

Fine.

**[15:56] Kaori**

Oh, I'll go too!

**[15:58] Tio**

As shall I!

**[16:12] Shea**

Hajime-san.

**[16:14] Shea**

Did father do this?

**[16:16] Hajime**

Yeah. He took off, though.

**[16:20] Shea**

I didn't know he could read  
the room so well.

**[16:24] Hajime**

Is this your mother?

**[16:25] Shea**

Yes. She rests beneath this tree.

**[16:29] Hajime**

I see.

**[16:31] Shea**

"I wanted to become a hero."

**[16:33] Hajime**

Hmm?

**[16:33] Shea**

"I wanted to become someone  
who could protect my family."

**[16:36] Shea**

"Not just running and hiding.

**[16:38] Shea**

Someone who can face off against those who  
try to take our precious family away."

**[16:42] Shea**

"Someone who can protect  
everyone. A true hero."

**[16:47] Shea**

My mother's words.

**[16:49] Shea**

She had eyes and a heart  
that were always ablaze.

**[16:53] Hajime**

So that's how you were born.

**[17:00] Shea**

Everything my mother taught me was true.

**[17:04] Shea**

The world is truly a harsh place,  
but it's also very gentle at times.

**[17:09] Shea**

I found him. Let me introduce him to you.

**[17:14] Shea**

This is Hajime Nagumo,  
the person who is precious to me.

**[17:20] Shea**

And I, and my father,  
and the Haulia Tribe...

**[17:25] Shea**

We became heroes.

**[17:28] Hajime**

I thank you.

**[17:29] Shea**

Huh?

**[17:30] Hajime**

When we crawled out of the abyss,  
the two of us began our journey,

**[17:35] Hajime**

ready to take on the entire world.

**[17:38] Hajime**

I am confident that we  
would have overcome all

**[17:40] Hajime**

obstacles even if it were just  
the two of us, but...

**[17:44] Hajime**

But it wouldn't have been  
as fun as it is now.

**[17:50] Hajime**

Your daughter brought color to our journey,  
our hearts, and our lives.

**[18:00] Hajime**

I thank you for bringing  
Shea into this world.

**[18:10] Shea**

Hey, Hajime-san.

**[18:12] Hajime**

Hmm?

**[18:13] Shea**

Thank you.

**[18:15] Shea**

For everything, more than  
I can find words for...

**[18:20] Shea**

What can I do to repay you?

**[18:23] Hajime**

You just received my thanks.

**[18:26] Shea**

Those were just words.

**[18:29] Shea**

I want to repay you in a more tangible way.

**[18:33] Shea**

What can I do to make you happy?

**[18:39] Shea**

I would do anything you desire.

**[18:43] Hajime**

All you need to do is smile  
in a happy-go-lucky way.

**[18:47] Hajime**

You're our group's cheerleader, right?

**[18:49] Shea**

What do you mean, happy-go-lucky?!

**[18:52] Hajime**

Like I said, I already get a lot from you.

**[18:56] Hajime**

And it's more than enough.

**[18:59] Shea**

I don't get it!

**[19:03] Shea**

Hajime-san, can you follow me?

**[19:11] Shea**

We buried my mother here  
because this was her favorite spot.

**[19:17] Hajime**

I see. Like a secret hideout.

**[19:26] Shea**

Hajime-san, what is it?

**[19:28] Shea**

When you stare like that,  
even I get a bit embarrassed...

**[19:33] Hajime**

Hey, Shea.

**[19:34] Hajime**

Can you do me a favor?

**[19:37] Shea**

A favor?

**[19:39] Shea**

Yes, of course! Ask me anything!

**[19:42] Hajime**

Well, I just wanted to lie down for a bit.

**[19:46] Hajime**

Can I sleep on your lap?

**[19:49] Shea**

Of course, please.

**[19:51] Hajime**

Thanks.

**[19:58] Shea**

When will you fall in love with me?

**[20:02] Hajime**

Any chance you'll give up?

**[20:03] Shea**

None.

**[20:05] Hajime**

I see...

**[20:26] Hajime**

Looks like you're getting comfortable with it.

**[20:29] Hajime**

I guess your daily fights with Yue are paying off.

**[20:32] Yue**

Her specs are off the charts. She's catching up to me.

**[20:36] Kaori**

Oh, I'm still far off.

**[20:38] Kaori**

I can't win against Yue or Shea at all.

**[20:40] Shizuku**

Kaori, from my point of view,

**[20:42] Shizuku**

you've gone beyond "cheat" level. You're more like a bug.

**[20:46] Kaori**

If I'm a bug, what does that make Hajime-kun and the others?

**[20:51] Kouki**

Don't worry, Shizuku.

**[20:53] Kouki**

Once we finish a Great Labyrinth, we can get stronger too.

**[20:57] Ryutarou**

I can't wait to find out what kind of magic we can learn!

**[21:00] Suzu**

Yeah! Let's do our best!

**[21:16] Shizuku**

So this...

**[21:18] Kouki**

Is the Great Tree...

**[21:19] Ryutarou**

It's huge...

**[21:20] Suzu**

It's quite... enormous.

**[23:05] Hajime's Mother**

Hajime! Wake up already!

**[23:09] Hajime's Mother**

I knew it.

**[23:11] Hajime's Mother**

I'm sorry to make you do this every morning.

**[23:13] Hajime's Mother**

Can you help me out again?

**[23:22] Yue**

Wake up, Hajime...

**[23:24] Hajime**

Oh... Good morning, Yue.

**[23:29] Yue**

Good morning, Hajime.

***SIGN*** Episode 06: Haltina's Labyrinth

**[23:34] Hajime**

Next episode, Haltina's Labyrinth.

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Revision #1

Created 2026-01-04 20:47:23 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2026-01-04 20:48:25 UTC by whimsee