



SEASON ONE

10 EPISODE SYNOPSIS

EPISODE ONE - PILOT - "Chivalry is Undead"

Sebastian, and his father Lord Rodrigo of Aragón, fight Moors at Malaga, save King Fernando's life and plot against the Inquisition locally led by his estranged half-brother Diego. Post-battle, Rodrigo's heart fails. Sebastian becomes Lord. He invests in Cristobal Colón's voyage as his Gypsy winemaker crafts "Royal" a delicious opium-laced vintage to hinder the King and Queen's judgement. Sebastian meets Ana, secret alchemist, and daughter of wealthy Sephardi moneylender to the Queen. He rescues Ana from the Inquisition after she misses her ship to Lisbon. After an eventful 6-day journey from the Port of Barcelona to Huesca, escorting Ana safely home, Sebastian is fully enamored. Upon their return, he is fatally stabbed in her house by Holy House thugs hired by Diego's shady colleague, Friar Francisco Agüero. The holy crooks loot homes of rich Sephardi to fund Queen's war in Granada and line their own pockets. Sebastian dies, but Ana uses Hebraic Alchemy to resuscitate him, discovering her love for him in the process.

Episode two - A KNIGHT REBORN

All have given up on Sebastian, except Ana-who uses every fiber of her being, soul, and knowledge-Astrology, serums, prayers, her own blood, and Hebraic Magic-Kabala to save him. Sebastian revives- with a blood thirst. He manages to hide this new 'addiction' from everyone except Fez, his devoted young mystic Arabic footman/valet. Fez keeps him alive with exotic tonics of boar's blood, oranges, spice, and wine. Sebastian picks up the pieces of his father's estate, sharpens his wits and knives to strike against the Crown's Inquisition. He mourns his father as he assumes the mantle of responsibility for the castle, lands, and people of his region. Overwhelmed, he prays at Lord Rodrigo's tomb side. To Sebastian's alarm, the ghost of his father's idol, Sir Geoffroi de Charny responds. Famous 14th century French knight and author of A Knight's Own Book of Chivalry, De Charny, the defining guide to honorable knighting died in 1363 beside

King Jean at the decisive battle of Portiers. De Charny advises Sebastian through the darkness ahead. Sebastian visits with Azúcar, the long-time Gitana/Indian castle winemaker and mistress of his father in the Pyrenees, to bring her the purse of gold willed to her. They discuss the chilling future in the hands of the Catholic King and Queen. Gypsies, Muslims, and Jews in Spain, and decide to secretly 'alter' and 'enhance' the rich Black Castle house wine with opium to hinder Fernando's ambition. He trains his diverse castle staff of Jews, Moors, Gypsies and Catholics to fight if necessary. Sleazy Friar Agüero leaves Aragón for Nuremberg to buy torture gear with Inquisitor General Torquemada's gold.

Episode three - THE TRAIL OF BLOOD

Sebastian discovers a secret ally/resistor in the Inquisition, Friar Miguel. They slow the Inquisitional Question process and pyres saving Jewish prisoners by drugging the Inquisitor and friars through opium/herbal laced wine. Sebastian's half-brother Inquisitor Diego unwittingly grabs the sedative barrel of wine branded 'Serenity,' samples it, naps on the job. Miguel seizes the opportunity to empty the dungeon, releasing the Jews before they can face the pyre. Ana agrees to marry Sebastian. He has not revealed his 'condition' which is increasingly difficult to hide. Queen Isabel seduces explorer Colon as a power move, in response to Fernando's fascination with Beatriz de Bobadilla. She offers him a stipend to stick around.

Episode four - EXQUISITE TORTURE

Angry with Fernando's warning to keep hands off Aragón, Isabel, 'desperate' for funds and revenge-imports Burgundian fraud, seductive man-eater Countess Charlotte of Cognac, a widow contested as inheritor to her seat in Beaune. Isabel commands Sebastian to court when Fernando is away in Seville, and tries to force a wedding to Charlotte. This goes badly. Pushy, vulgar Charlotte spies on Sebastian at Ana's baptism. Tries to blackmail him as he hunts boar. She becomes his first "kill." Sebastian discovers his unleashed temper, inherited from Rodrigo ignites blood thirst, human blood consumption accelerates his thinking, whereas animal blood boosts speed and strength. Agüero lands in Germany, the Witches Hammer authors/Inquisitors take instant dislike to him.

Episode five - FIRST BITE

Sebastian is summoned by Isabel to a court affair. Fez forgets to pack his elixir, and Sebastian finds himself dying of thirst. Urgently departing the reception to kill a wild boar for blood, Sebastian has his first [human] kill. Pushy Countess Charlotte de Cognac of Burgundy stalks him in the forest and threatens blackmail after

she finds him drinking boar's blood. Returning her body to court, with the boar as culprit, Sebastian finds King Fernando forgiving and relieved; Charlotte also had a stash of Fernando's secrets in her blackmail arsenal.

Portugal's mighty and mercurial King Joao II is wounded while jousting in the palace near the magical Algarve forest. He is 'tended' by lovely Margarita de Mendoza; psychotropic healer (and secret witch). To the displeasure of his great queen, Eleonor, Joao returns to Lisbon with his very personal physician. Agüero arrives in Nuremberg to select dungeon torture gear with Torquemada's purchase order. His hosts, "The Witches Hammer"'s authors drag him along on a demon house call to 'teach him a lesson' the debauched Agüero is possessed by the expelled evil spirit.

Returning from court, Sebastian confesses his kill to Ana, who condones it, but pressures him to only to drink animal blood until she can find a cure. Sebastian, relieved that Ana still loves him, finalizes their wedding plans. He wants two weddings: Catholic and Jewish.

To avoid arrests of Jewish, Moors, and Gitano guests in a cathedral, Sebastian plans the wedding at sea – in Spanish waters-with Catholic and Sephardi rites aboard his ship "*Blood of Aragón*." Against Sebastian's warning, Ana secretly returns to her parent's mansion in the deserted Jewish Quarter to retrieve her wedding gown, dowry, and gift for Sebastian. When Inquisitor Diego enters the premises to seize loot for the crown, Ana's trapped below in her secret cellar workroom. Diego smells incense from below. Descending, he takes a sledgehammer to the wall to crush "the Jew".

Episode six - TWO WEDDINGS ONE GOD

Ana discovers a centuries-old Alchemists' escape tunnel. Two blocks long, with bones and vermin, it leads to the street where she's intercepted by worried Fez. They return just in time to keep Ana's secret. Sebastian arrives minutes after Ana and Fez, his trip to the Pyrenees winemaker aborted by falling rocks on the steep mountain path courtesy of Rodrigo's angry ghost. On his way down the trail, Sebastian discovers a roughhouse tavern illicitly selling his own wine. This leads him to one of his would-be assassins, and a bloody sip of revenge under the stars. Back at The Black Castle, eavesdropping busybody Majordomo Esteban insults Rabbi's wife Miriam and is overheard by Sebastian who gives him an elegant tongue lashing, and severe warning.

Isabel's livid at news of Charlotte's death. This ruins her scheme for Sebastian to marry the ravenous, destitute Burgundian noble. Isabel's Burgundian maid Marie -a spy for Sebastian- offers to escort the body and source a famous relic from Beaune's cathedral for the queen's collection. Marie and Squire Pedro escort the Countess' motley entourage back to Beaune and discover the depth of Charlotte's unpopularity. Charlotte's body goes missing from her tomb, raising the possibility that she's not *quite* dead. In Nuremberg, possessed Friar Agüero goes missing. He's found in the abbey dormitory of novice nuns and shipped back to Spain. He returns to the monastery a full-blown demon. Friar Miguel takes a leave of absence from the monastery to perform the wedding. The wedding party arrives for a glorious day aboard ship navigated by Cristopher Columbus with his crew.

Episode seven - THE VALLEY OF LOVE AND DELIGHT

The wedding proceeds in the waters off the port of Barcelona. It is magical, spectacular, funny, weird, and dangerous. The wedding night is an erotic renaissance tableau, a playful game of wits and accidental truth skewed by opium-spiked wine, a food fight and uncorked passion. Sebastian's legendary self-control evaporates in a daze of abandon as they dance on ship deck, and profound, long-overdue, true love and dark confessions unfold. Devious Majordomo Esteban hands Ana's naïve maid Sara a silver pitcher of the opium spiked super-charged 'King's Own' vintage to 'loosen up the bride,' but when Columbus finds Esteban eavesdropping and self-pleasuring at the wedding suite door, he's tossed in the brig for 11 days.

During the ceremonies, Lord Rodrigo's troublesome ghost appears to Ana and Sebastian. On arrival at Lisbon, unwelcome surprise guest King Joao II comes aboard with Margarita in tow. Columbus blundered, informing the king of his arrival in advance; still trying to get royal coin and patronage from Joao for his journey. This angers Sebastian, who sees the king's covetous eye on Ana and his in-laws as pressure points. Joao commands them to visit. Their barrel of potent fine wine does not soften his will. Joao is no Fernando. Sebastian and Ana's family visit turns darkly political as Joao seeks leverage with nemesis Isabel and leans hard on Ana's father to hand over the pearl and emerald collar she pawned long ago. With the original safely in Florence, a duplicate is produced and delivered to Joao. Sebastian discerns their Lisbon coach driver is an eavesdropping royal spy; he dies by bite. Pregnant Margarita de Mendoza is sent away to 'deliver' the pearls to Isabel, and told to stay put, courtesy of Queen Eleonor.

Back in Spain, Diego carts the precious loot from the De Costa's mansion to Toledo. His highly charged visit unfolds with his mysterious crush, The Lover, revealed as a cardinal. The Lover invites Diego to stay in his well-appointed rooms featuring a personal dungeon with elegant torture devices; here Diego's taste for pain is tweaked into love. On a whim, Diego dons his Cardinal Lover's robes to stroll Toledo's streets, feeling power, admiration and respect. He steps into the Queen's unfinished cathedral by famed architect Juan Guas. Isabel is haranguing Guas over the slow progress of the royal tombs. Terrified to be caught by the queen impersonating a cardinal, Diego ducks into a pew, buries his face in prayer. Departing Isabel taps his head in benediction. Delusional Diego feels his path sanctified and sets his sights on becoming a cardinal. Hours later, he's betrayed by his lover and he narrowly escapes Toledo.

Episode eight - THE ORCHID QUEEN

Back in Spain, the honeymoon is cut short as Sebastian and Ana encounter ghostly pushback. A fake messenger brings a poison laced letter-supposedly from Fernando, Sebastian suspects fraud and Ana detects poison on the message. The fake messenger molests Pedro's teen daughter Teresa on the roof; he's caught in the act by Sebastian, separated from his head and tossed into the forest. The messenger's ghost lingers, staring at the girl's window at night. Next arrives word of Lord Rodrigo's ghost preying on the young Gitanas in Azucar's winery. 'Binding' Rodrigo's spirit temporarily in an oak tree with an Indian Sentinel snake goddess, Ana, Sebastian, Fez, Azúcar and the Cellar Master make the long trek west by coach to Asturias to seek assistance of The Orchid Queen, Spain's most powerful witch. Followed by the *Nuberu* "The Clouder"- a floating character of Asturian, Cantabrian, Galician, and northern Castilian mythology, they discover a world beyond the Orchid veil. In truth, The Witch of Asturias is actually the immortal and

legendary Queen Urraca, 12th century ruler of Spain who harnessed the mysterious power of the orchids to stay alive and well. Her court is populated by Orchid Pixies and Celtic Elves. This once-battered queen outsmarted and outlived her brutal king, to rule in her own right for 17 years; Urraca has a soft spot for women in peril. She helps rid Azúcar of Rodrigo's ghost in an elaborate spell with Ana's help. She recognizes Sebastian as a vampire and sternly warns Ana and Sebastian not to mingle their blood for the sake of the heirs they desire. As payment for 'containing' Rodrigo, Urraca keeps the Cellar Master to restore her neglected grape vines and produce a special orchid vintage.

On the return journey, Fez reveals his true identity: he is the last of the Abencerrajes, a noble Arabic family slaughtered in the famous massacre at Granada depicted in paintings as a tragic betrayal. Sebastian decides to make him a Squire before they return to Granada, as a sign that Fez is trusted in the house of Aragón. Friar Miguel accepts the offer as the Black Castle's inhouse priest: the locals fill the Chapel.

Under the slivered moon, Isabel's astronomer delivers poor news, then drops dead. The queen calls for a replacement. Enter Margarita, who inches her way into Isabel's suspicious graces with her knowledge of stars and medicine. Fate engineers Diego's return to Huesca, as his testy horse nearly collides with the Witches Hammer exorcists' wagon loaded high with Agüero's order. Diego pitches into the wagon of torture gear, falling face down on a bed of fine nails in perverse ecstasy. The Germans glances observe and acknowledge Diego's corruption; they brace themselves for what's ahead.

Episode nine - DEMONS HOLIDAY

Back in Huesca's Holy House, Diego enjoys an unexpected welcome and rushes off to arrange the dungeon as Agüero huffs and puffs, blowing the German exorcists and a brave Young Friar up to the domed ceiling to land with force on the stone floor. The rattled men rush off to strategize tackling the beast that was Agüero. The exorcists subdue him with a barrel of Laudanum-spiked wine. When he sleeps, they bind his wrists and ankles with cannabis-oiled hemp rope to sustain sleep as the ropes are rubbed.

On the long road back from Asturias, Ana feels the darkness overtake them from Isabel. She uses the protective spell given to her by Urraca; it returns whatever vibes the queen dishes out. As Isabel's gazes at the sky in her night garden a stone table inlaid with a marble map of the kingdoms of Castile and Aragón splits in two, causing Isabel a fright. She gathers her Converso Finance Ministers who inform her that the only noble who has kept his word and delivered funds is Sebastian. Isabel invites Sebastian and Ana to court. This trap fails when war takes Sebastian to Baza. Isabel charges Margarita with the health of her spoiled, frail only son, Prince Juan. Margarita hopes to escape back to Portugal before the worst.

It's been a year since Lord Rodrigo's death. Sebastian mounts a tournament honoring him-and broadcasting his loyalty to Aragón and the crown of Fernando. The king arrives with his stunning, notoriously cruel mistress Beatriz de Bobadilla, Governor of the Canary Islands, also lover of Christopher Columbus. Fernando meets Ana and invites himself to sail with Sebastian to Baza - a reminder that war approaches. He readies himself and orders Pedro to prepare the castle to protect Ana in his absence. Sebastian overhears Ana telling Sara about her narrow escape from Diego before the wedding. This reckless act infuriates him, and plants the seeds of distrust. He leaves Ana for war with a cool kiss that he immediately regrets. As Sebastian's men line up to board ship, Fernando and Beatriz arrive at the port of Barcelona to sail much to the chagrin of Columbus - he will have to endure the king and his lover together for four days.

Episode ten - EXALTATION OF THE ARROW

Diego sinks into a deeper depression post Agüero's marathon exorcism and the void of his Lover. He's still confused. This lack of leadership takes a spiritual toll on the friars. Ana sends Sebastian a note that she is with child. Sara gives it to the young Groom she's bedding. The groom rides through the night to catch Sebastian before the ship sails from Barcelona. He reaches the dock just as the caravel pulls away, and calls to Fez, who sends his falcon to grab it. The bird snatches it from the groom, but drops it, distracted by a seagull. Not to be defeated, Fez jumps in the water, retrieves the note. A grateful Sebastian applauds him and reads what is left of the message. Ana's words "undying love." The rest of the message is smeared. As the paper dries, the rest becomes legible by candlelight. But Ana suffers a miscarriage, just as a surprise visitor arrives: Urraca. Esteban takes in Urraca's oddly dated royal chainmail attire, mistakes her for a trickster. Pedro takes over, brings her to Ana. Urraca delivers the stillborn 'child' - a curious little 12-week creature with tiny fangs, long nails, and a widow's peak of black hair. After Ana holds it tenderly, Urraca takes it away to bury it.

As Miguel offers mass in the chapel for the locals, a wasted, flagellated Inquisitor Diego in stained white robe makes a rough entrance. He attempts to embarrass and shame Miguel for leaving the monastery to zero avail. The worshippers flee. Pedro accompanies his girls to the kitchen and returns to the chapel to find Esteban fellating Diego in the back pew. Esteban rides off with Diego, to the Holy House, knowing this is not what he wants, but has nowhere else to go. Urraca chastises Pedro for letting The Inquisition breach the castle. She wants to cast a protective spell over the castle; she walks through every room with Pedro, shouting a protective prayer.

Back at the Holy House, the last stage of the exorcism is in play, 'the transfer.' At the precise moment that the demon exits, it must have somewhere to go: a piglet has been secured and will be killed at the instant the demon leaves Agüero.

The men aboard Blood of Aragón watch Fez and Sebastian practice their deadly sword craft on deck. Anyone thinking to sneak up on Fez will think twice after seeing him in action. Fernando reminds Sebastian of their conversation about a single monarchy. Sebastian stalls him. The men arrive at Baza. A surprise attack is launched by the Muslim rebels, met by Fez and Sebastian who step from the tent folds to smoothly decapitate the pillaging Moors dishonorably raiding Fernando's tent. Fez catches Sebastian a cup of sustenance from a spouting neck. They move the two bodies to the next tent of the Duke of Cadiz to keep Fernando from commandeering Sebastian's. All of this is seen by a third rebel, a young man who reports back to the warlord the story of the 'blood-drinker.' Sebastian's story is out, and in Baza, it gives Spain the edge of fear they need to conquer.