#### Marvel 941

#### Chapter 941: End

Lin Rui believed that, despite the strength of his attack, it should not have had much impact on Blackheart. After all, Blackheart had recently consumed a large amount of soul power, which should have increased his strength to a formidable level. This would explain why he was confident enough to fight against his father, a seasoned demon.

Hoo~

As expected, after Lin Rui spoke, a faint trace of black, ethereal energy began to emerge from the ground of the ruined area in front of him. These energies seeped up from the ground, slowly converging and eventually converging in the center of the large pit created by Lin Rui's attack, forming a swirling mass.

Lin Rui watched as the black energy coalesced and took the shape of a person. As the energy solidified, it became clear that the figure was Blackheart, who had been dispersed by Lin Rui's attack but was now fully restored.

"You!..." Blackheart began to speak but was interrupted by the sudden appearance of a fiery figure rushing up to him.

#### Boom!

As soon as Blackheart began to recover, Johnny, who had been waiting for this opportunity, rushed over and grabbed Blackheart by the neck, and slammed him to the ground. The hellfire on Johnny's body intensified, blazing even brighter.

"Hahaha~ It's no use! Your hellfire has no effect on me!" Despite being strangled by Ghost Rider and being subjected to the power of hellfire, Blackheart laughed wildly as he shouted.

"What about this?!" Upon hearing Blackheart's words, Johnny, who had transformed into Ghost Rider, narrowed his eyes and looked down at Blackheart's blood-red eyes

"Did you forget? I have no soul!" Despite Ghost Rider's actions, Blackheart continued to smile and reminded him of this fact with an unabated smile on his face.

"That was before! Just now, you consumed a large number of souls. Those souls were the ones who let go of their morals and committed heinous crimes!" Hearing Blackheart's words, Johnny's skull moved as he spoke, emphasizing his words.

Lin Rui had previously reminded Johnny that if they were unable to prevent Blackheart from absorbing the evil souls, they should look for an opportunity to use Ghost Rider's Penance Eye to defeat him.

Blackheart, who had consumed countless evil souls, would experience immense pain and eventually succumb to the power of the Penance Eye.

Upon hearing Johnny's words, Blackheart froze for a moment and fear flashed through his red eyes. The black mist then began to pour out of his body as he struggled violently, trying to break free from Johnny's grasp.

However, Johnny was not about to let this opportunity slip away. He held onto Blackheart firmly, not letting him escape in the form of black mist. No matter how much Blackheart struggled, Johnny's skull claws remained firmly clasped on his shoulders, refusing to let him go.

"Look into my eyes! Feel the pain that those souls within your body have been suppressing for a hundred years, along with the crimes they have committed!" As Blackheart struggled, Johnny stared into his eyes and shouted.

## Buzz buzz!

As Johnny spoke, a strong mental shockwave surged from his black, empty eye sockets, piercing directly into Blackheart's eyes.

"No!~~..." Blackheart shouted with horror-filled eyes as he involuntarily met Johnny's gaze.

The next moment, Blackheart, who was looking into Johnny's eyes, had lost his voice, and streaks of gray light flashed from time to time in his blood-red eyes. Under the Penance Gaze, Blackheart, who has devoured so many evil souls, is suffering the pain that those souls once inflicted upon their victims.

## Shout!

Two seconds later, Johnny released Blackheart's shoulders. At this point, Blackheart's once-red eyes were now covered with a deep layer of gray, a sign that his soul had been purged by hellfire.

## Pū!

As soon as Johnny released him, Blackheart collapsed to the ground. Lin Rui and Johnny's plan had been successful, and Blackheart, who had consumed so many evil souls, finally met his end under Ghost Rider's Penance Gaze.

# Hoo~

After Blackheart fell, the flames on Johnny's body quickly diminished and eventually disappeared entirely. He returned to his normal form as the sun rose in the sky. Johnny had been pushing the limits of his transformation and was now feeling the aftereffects.

"We did it!" Johnny, now back to normal, looked at Blackheart lying motionless on the ground and turned to Lin Rui, shouting excitedly.

"Yes, we succeeded!" Lin Rui replied with a smile, mirroring Johnny's excitement.

# Da Da Da!

At that moment, Bucky and Roxanne, who had previously been hiding outside the ruins, ran in. It was clear that they had been secretly observing the events inside and had returned now that Blackheart was dead.

# Boom!

Roxanne rushed over and threw herself into Johnny's arms. In her heart, Johnny was a great savior and the most powerful hero. Johnny, who was embracing Roxanne, was also deeply emotional. He had not expected to be able to save her.

Bucky walked slowly over to Lin Rui's side, he had observed his actions during the confrontation with Blackheart. Compared to Johnny, who ultimately used the Penance Gaze to defeat Blackheart, Bucky felt that the young man next to him was even more powerful. Bucky also sensed that something must have happened while he was unconscious the previous night.

"Let's go." After Johnny and Roxanne had their embrace, Lin Rui, who did not want to continue watching their display of affection, glanced at Blackheart's motionless form on the ground and said.

Lin Rui then turned and was about to leave the ruins of San Venganza, with Bucky and Johnny following after him.

However, just as Lin Rui and the others took a step, he and Johnny suddenly stopped and their eyes flashed with different light.

Bucky and Roxanne looked at them with puzzled expressions as Lin Rui and Johnny looked towards the exit of the ruins ahead. There, a gust of wind was blowing in their direction.

Hoo~

As the wind blew past, Bucky and the others saw a flash in front of their eyes, and an old man with a cane in his hands appeared out of thin air in front of them.

"Congratulations, Johnny, you upheld your end of the bargain." The old man looked at Johnny with a smile after appearing in front of them.

"It's you!" Johnny looked at the old man with cold eyes as he spoke.

This old man was none other than Mephistopheles, who had made a contract with Johnny for him to become Ghost Rider. Now that Johnny had dealt with the rebellious Blackheart, Mephistopheles had appeared to reclaim Ghost Rider's powers. Mephistopheles was concerned that the same fate that befell the previous Ghost Rider would also befall Johnny which means that he would also betray him.

"Now, I am here to retrieve the power that belongs to Ghost Rider. You have fulfilled your contract and it is time to get your soul back. Return to your own life and live with the one you love." Mephistopheles spoke lightly as he looked at Johnny.

### Chapter 942: Johnny's choice

Lin Rui's gaze was fixed on Mephisto from the moment he appeared, as were the gazes of the other four people present. However, Mephisto was only interested in Johnny and had only come to fulfill his contract with him.

Once Johnny completed his mission, Mephisto would reclaim the Ghost Rider energy he had given to Johnny, restore his soul, and allow him to return to a normal life.

Although Mephisto had also secretly witnessed the recent fight and recognized that Lin Rui was a formidable opponent. However, Mephisto had more important matters to attend to as the ruler of Hell and couldn't concern himself with earthly affairs.

Despite the benefits, Johnny did not immediately agree to terminate their contract with Mephisto.

As Johnny remained silent, the already frosty atmosphere became even colder. Mephisto patiently waited for Johnny's response, but the influx of icy dark energy emanating from his body indicated that he was growing increasingly displeased with Johnny's silence.

"No! I am going to own these powers and I am going o use them against you. Whenever innocent blood is spilled, you will find me there," Johnny declared, lifting his head and pointing at Mephisto with conviction in his voice.

# Hoo!!

As Johnny spoke, a cloud of hellfire burst forth from his outstretched hand, fueled by the power of the Ghost Rider. It was clear that Johnny had quickly gained control over these powers in the short time since he had become the Ghost Rider.

Upon hearing Johnny's refusal, Mephisto's face contorted with anger. The contract was signed by two people and although Mephisto deceived Johnny at the beginning, the contract between them required both parties to agree to any changes or termination, and since Johnny was unwilling, Mephisto had no way to force him to give up the Ghost Rider powers.

"You!!..." Mephisto was furious and tightly clutched the scepter in his hand, he was so angry that he was unable to find the words to express his anger.

It is not difficult for Mephisto to find someone willing to become the Ghost Rider. There are many young people in the world who are struggling and may be tempted by Mephisto's offer to sell their souls for power. However, the Ghost Rider's abilities are not something that Mephisto can simply give away to anyone. The power of Hellfire must be wielded carefully and responsibly.

"I hope we won't see each other again in the future. If we do meet again, it will be the time for me to destroy you," Johnny declared as he stared directly at the angry Mephisto.

After thoroughly understanding what the other person is and what he has become, the kindness in his heart makes Johnny prefer to live as neither a human nor a ghost. Because, like this, he has a greater effect on this world, and he will be the vanguard in punishing the wicked.

After understanding the true nature of Mephisto and the role he has taken on, Johnny's sense of justice and his inherent kindness compels him to use his powers as the Ghost Rider to punish evil and protect the innocent. He realizes that in this form, he is able to have a greater impact on the world and serve as a guardian against any wrongdoing.

"No!!!~~" Mephisto let out a roar of frustration upon hearing Johnny's resolute words and slammed the scepter in his hand against the ground.

# Boom!

In the next moment, a wave of cold dark energy rushed toward Johnny and the others. Johnny quickly grabbed Roxanne and pulled her close, while Lin Rui used his internal energy to shield Bucky. However, the dark energy passed over them without causing any significant harm.

When Johnny and the others looked up, they saw that Mephisto had vanished as mysteriously as he had appeared. It seems that after failing to reclaim the Ghost Rider powers from Johnny, Mephisto was no longer interested in continuing the confrontation.

As for whether he will attack Johnny in the future, no one knows. Of course, Johnny actually made this choice so he would be prepared to face any challenge that may come his way.

"He's gone," Johnny said, releasing his hold on Roxanne slightly and looking around to confirm Mephisto's departure.

"Blackheart's body is also gone, probably taken by Mephisto," Lin Rui added after Johnny spoke.

While Mephisto was releasing his dark energy, the body of Blackheart that had fallen behind Johnny and the others also disappeared, likely taken by Mephisto. It is not for Lin Rui and the others to speculate on why Mephisto would take Blackheart's body, and they would not concern themselves with it.

"Jackson, thank you for your help this time!" After the matter finally came to an end, Johnny looked at Lin Rui and Bucky in front of him and said in a serious tone.

The encounter with Blackheart had been a turning point for Johnny, leading to the awakening of his Ghost Rider powers and it was also his most difficult time. In addition to the guidance of the previous Ghost Rider, Carter Slade, Johnny had also relied on the support and assistance of Lin Rui and Bucky. Without their cooperation in dealing with Blackheart, Johnny was not sure how he would have managed to overcome the challenges he faced.

"That's just common sense. If Blackheart had succeeded, who knows how many innocent people would have died because of it," Lin Rui replied with a smile when he heard Johnny's words.

"Well, fortunately, we were able to stop him," Johnny said, nodding and sighing with relief.

"By the way, what are your plans for the future now that Blackheart has been defeated and Mephisto has left? Do you want to go back to being 'The Amazing Johnny Blaze'?" Lin Rui asked as they walked through the ruins.

Now that Johnny has defeated Blackheart and temporarily thwarted Mephisto's plans, he is free to return to his normal life. However, he will likely need to cooperate with the police in Rochester in their investigation of the incident. If Johnny needs any assistance, Lin Rui is willing to help in any way he can.

"Return to being 'The Amazing Johnny Blaze'? No, that was my dad's dream many years ago. Now that I've defeated that devil and achieved numerous honors in the world of extreme biking, I think maybe it's time for me, as Ghost Rider, to do something more meaningful," Johnny replied with a glint in his eyes.

"Really? Then you..." Hearing Johnny's answer, Lin Rui raised his eyebrows and didn't fully ask the question in his heart.

Because, if Johnny decides to become a knight of justice who wanders around the world and punishes the wicked from now on, then he and Roxanne will not have the life that normal people should have. Maybe Roxanne has been waiting for so many years and she won't be able to wait anymore for Johnny to change his mind. "I'm sure we'll find a way," Johnny said, looking at Roxanne in his arms and apologizing for the uncertain path that lay ahead of them.

"I believe so too," Roxanne said as she met Johnny's gaze.

## Chapter 943: Johnny's Reminder and Distinction

Half an hour later, Lin Rui and his group left the ruins of San Venganza and returned to the main road. Standing on the side of the highway that crosses the wilderness, the four of them looked back at the ruins of San Venganza one last time. In the bright morning sun, the ruined land seemed to be bathed in a sacred light.

"Johnny, I'm not sure if I'll have the opportunity to see you again in the future. I hope you would be doing well," Lin Rui said as he looked back at the ruins and then at Johnny by his side.

"Don't worry, I don't think there's anything in this world that can harm the Ghost Rider," Johnny replied with a smile after hearing Lin Rui's words.

"That's not necessarily true," Hearing Johnny's answer, Lin Rui said with a smile, and a faint aura of azure light began to surround his body.

Johnny: "..."

"Okay, it's time for us to hit the road. Johnny, are you sure you want to go back?" After making a joke, Lin Rui withdrew his internal energy radiance and then continued.

"There are some things that need to be taken care of before we can set off. Besides, I have to return Roxanne home first. Don't worry, I will take care of it." Johnny said, waving his hand to reassure Lin Rui that he was aware of the potential issues with the police.

"Well, I trust you. Then, I guess this is where we part ways. I hope we'll have the chance to drink together again when we meet," Lin Rui said, feeling that it was time to say goodbye.

"Of course, I hope you can keep up with me when we drink next time!" Johnny said with a smile, joking about Lin Rui's smaller stature.

Just as Lin Rui finished saying goodbye and was about to watch Johnny and Roxanne leave, Johnny walked close to him.

"Jackson, I have something I need to tell you, come here." Walking to Lin Rui's side, Johnny leaned closer and whispered.

"Alright." Seeing Johnny's movements, Lin Rui's eyes flashed and he nodded in response.

Johnny and Lin Rui walked a few steps away from Bucky and Roxanne, positioning themselves off to the side of the road.

"What's going on?" Lin Rui asked Johnny suspiciously after walking over to him.

"It's probably nothing, but I still feel like I should tell you. Last night, when I was angry, I used the Penance Gaze on you. It wasn't ineffective, it's just that your soul is clean. There are no sins that need to be burned by hellfire. But..." Johnny said as he looked at Lin Rui and spoke in a serious tone. "But what?" Hearing this, Lin Rui asked, growing even more puzzled.

Lin Rui couldn't help wondering if Johnny had seen that his soul actually came from another world. After all, Lin Rui didn't know what the Penance Gaze had revealed about his soul.

"But... there seems to be something else hidden deep within your soul," Seeing the change in Lin Rui's expression, Johnny finally revealed what he had seen through the Penance Gaze.

"Something else in my soul?" Lin Rui couldn't help being stunned by Johnny's answer.

There is indeed something else in Lin Rui's mind – The system. However, even the Ancient One couldn't discover the system in Lin Rui's mind. Could it be that the Ghost Rider did? But based on Johnny's expression, it doesn't seem like he found the system. Could it be something else entirely...?

"To be precise, there is another soul-like thing deep within your mind," Johnny said, giving a more precise explanation.

"Something like a soul!" Now, Lin Rui was really frightened.

Although the system is quite human-like, no matter how Lin Rui thinks about it, it couldn't have a soul. So when Johnny said that there was another soul-like thing in his mind, he had to consider the possibility.

"Thank you, Johnny!" After a moment of thought, Lin Rui looked at Johnny and thanked him sincerely.

"It's no problem, I was just worried about you. If you need help in the future, don't hesitate to ask. You know how to find me," Johnny said while patting Lin Rui on the shoulder and indicating that he had said all he needed to say.

"Don't worry, I won't hesitate to ask for your help," Lin Rui replied, grateful for Johnny's offer.

After that, Johnny and Lin Rui walked back to join Bucky and Roxanne, side by side.

After greeting Bucky, Johnny got on his motorcycle and Roxanne also said goodbye to Lin Rui and Bucky before getting on the bike with him.

Boom!

Hoo Hoo!

With the roar of the engine, Johnny drove away with Roxanne towards Rochester, leaving Lin Rui and Bucky behind on the deserted intercity highway. Johnny and Roxanne riding off into the distance looked like a heroic couple ready to wander the world.

Bucky, standing next to Lin Rui, looked at the leaving couple and asked, "Jackson, what do you think Johnny and Roxanne's life will be like in the future? Do you think Johnny's decision is the right one this time?"

If Johnny decides to utilize his Ghost Rider powers to rid the world of evil then his future may be filled with turmoil. It is not appropriate to compare Johnny's Ghost Rider to Bucky at this time. Ghost Rider is much more formidable than Bucky, as Ghost Rider is immune to ordinary technological weapons.

"Regardless of what Johnny chooses, it is his own decision and he will have to bear the consequences of his actions. I cannot determine whether or not being Ghost Rider is a burden for Johnny. After all, there is still much evil in the world and I have confidence in Johnny's ability to handle it." Lin Rui spoke in a neutral tone as he watched Johnny's leaving back.

"His own choice?" Bucky looked at Johnny and seemed to have something else on his mind upon hearing Lin Rui's response.

"We should head out as well. We can't return to Rochester so we should consider where to go next." Lin Rui turned in the opposite direction and spoke with a smile on his face. Johnny and Roxanne had already left their sight.

"Where do you want to go?" Bucky asked, not particularly concerned about their destination. He just wanted to have some time to think while they traveled.

"It doesn't matter. Let's just follow this road and see where it takes us. We'll stop at the first city we come across." Lin Rui didn't seem to have a specific destination in mind, so he simply gave a noncommittal response.

"Do you want to walk, stop the car by the side of the road, or use your personal aircraft?" Bucky asked Lin Rui after hearing his response.

When Lin Rui and Johnny reached San Venganza, Bucky noticed the Hoverboard that Lin Rui was standing on. He had never seen it before, but he knew it was a high-tech personal aircraft. Bucky never asked where Lin Rui had obtained it. If he had, Johnny would have told him that Lin Rui seemed to have conjured it out of thin air.

"Let's walk for now. We can pull over a car if we see one. And let's leave the Hoverboard here for now." Lin Rui thought for a moment before responding to Bucky's question.

# Chapter 944: S.H.I.E.L.D. Information

Although the Hoverboard is enough to carry Lin Rui and Bucky, and the speed is also very fast but Lin Rui decides to leave the Hoverboard behind because it was not produced by him and may contain a tracking device from OsCorp. He wants to continue his journey without the risk of being located and has other things he needs to take care of. And, Lin Rui has something to leave behind.

"I've been meaning to ask you something for some time now, Jackson," Bucky finally spoke, unable to contain himself any longer upon hearing Lin Rui's response.

"What?"

"Have you already recovered your memory?"

Lin Rui: "..."

After walking slowly on the side of the road for another half an hour, two people finally flagged down a self-driving jeep on this stretch of intercity highway. They smoothly got on the ride and headed toward an unknown city.

...

And when Lin Rui and Bucky decided to travel to the next city, Johnny and Roxanne were not yet back in Rochester. Before returning to Rochester, Johnny had to go to the cemetery to meet with Carter Slade, the previous generation's Ghost Rider.

As someone who has lived for over 200 years, Carter Slade could offer valuable insights and guidance for Johnny's future as the Ghost Rider.

In Rochester, Johnny and Roxanne have gone missing and Mack has provided some clues. The police and SHIELD have compiled several potential suspects based on Mack's description, but they have been unable to find any matches for the depiction of Blackheart, a devil-like figure.

However, SHIELD's Falcon has taken a particular interest in the description of another young man, even though the local police system in Rochester has not shown any response to this description.

Falcon sat in the temporary office belonging to SHIELD, staring intently at the computer screen in front of him. On the screen was a portrait of a young man that had been drawn based on Mack's description. Mack's memory was not very accurate and the description had some discrepancies, so the image produced by the system was likely different from the real person. However, Falcon felt a sense of familiarity with the image.

"Who the hell is this guy? Why does it feels like I've seen him before?" Falcon thought to himself as he continued to gaze at the portrait.

### Dī Dī Drops!

As Falcon was deep in thought, his tablet beeped to alert him to an incoming video call. He quickly grabbed the tablet and accepted the call.

"Captain..." As soon as Falcon accepted the video call invitation, Rogers' face appeared on the tablet. Falcon was surprised to see a small smile on Rogers' face, something he hadn't seen since the Siberia incident.

"Captain, what's going on?" Falcon asked, trying to hide the doubts in his mind.

"Yes, we've received some new information about the case you're currently working on," Rogers replied to Falcon's question.

"What kind of information do you have?" Falcon asked, intrigued. "I've been investigating this case thoroughly and haven't found anything so far. And the information that Mack provided seems hard to believe. I'm very interested in hearing what you have to say."

"Regarding this Johnny character, if he returns, you should stop investigating him and inform the local police that this incident has been classified as an A-level incident within our organization," Rogers said seriously in response to Falcon's inquiry.

"An A-level incident? Is he that important? Could it be..." Falcon said in surprise upon hearing Rogers' response.

An A-level incident is second only to an S-level incident within SHIELD in terms of the threat it poses to the safety of the entire earth. Based on what Falcon has investigated so far, it seems that this guy who

got angry wouldn't be enough to warrant an A-level incident. However, if what Mack said is true, then perhaps an A-level incident is still underestimating the situation.

"We can discuss the specific details when you return. For now, let's just leave the matter of Johnny be and don't worry about him whether he comes back or not. However, I do have another mission for you," Rogers said, not elaborating further in the video.

"What is the mission?" Falcon asked, still puzzled but more interested in the next mission.

"It's the young man described by the eyewitness. I hope you will do your best to find him," Rogers said.

"Understood. I'll do my best to locate him," Falcon replied.

...

As Johnny drove Roxanne back to Rochester and made his way through the city and to his house, he was relieved to find that no police cars were stopping him. However, he couldn't shake the feeling that someone was watching him.

Da Da Da ~

As Johnny and Roxanne arrived at his house and stood in front of the ruins, they heard footsteps behind them. Johnny turned to see Police Captain Dolan and Special Agent Edward approaching them. There were just the two of them, with no other special police or anyone else with them.

"Hello, Johnny, and Miss Roxanne," Captain Dolan said as he approached, giving them a friendly smile.

"Hello, Captain Dolan. We can explain what happened here," Roxanne said as she stepped forward with a worried expression on her face.

"Well, what we need now is an explanation. Should we go to the police station first or the hospital first? Your manager is still lying in the hospital, but he's doing okay," Captain Dolan said in a discussing tone upon hearing Roxanne's words.

"Uh...are you sure? You weren't...?" Roxanne looked a little uncomfortable at Captain Dolan's attitude.

"That was before, and now we know some things. So, you can go to the police station to give a statement later," Captain Dolan said quickly, waving his hand at the dumbfounded Roxanne.

"Johnny, what's going on?" Roxanne asked, walking up to Johnny and looking confused.

"Let's go see Mack first. As for going to the police station, we'll definitely cooperate," Johnny said after sizing up Captain Dolan and Special Agent Edward a few times.

"Okay," Captain Dolan said, smiling even more brightly upon hearing Johnny's answer.

Following Captain Dolan, Johnny and Roxanne went to the city hospital to see Mack, who was still bedridden. Mack was overjoyed to see them both back safe and sound. He asked about the "devil," but Roxanne brushed it off.

Anyway, in the matter of Blackheart and Ghost Rider, as long as the police do not investigate further will be classified as flame special effects and the illusion of passers-by.

#### **Chapter 945: Settles a Lawsuit Carelessly**

After visiting Mack, Johnny and Roxanne followed Captain Dolan and Special Agent Edward to the local police station to cooperate with the investigation. However, what puzzled Johnny and Roxanne was that Captain Dolan didn't treat them like suspects who had killed three victims.

Roxanne remembered that when Captain Dolan asked about Johnny's missing clues, his attitude was very tough.

"Please sit down, both of you. Here's some coffee and ice water," Captain Dolan said as he invited Johnny and Roxanne into the interrogation room, extending his hand for them to sit down and greeting them with a smile.

Confused, Johnny and Roxanne sat in the chairs in the interrogation room. However, they didn't touch the coffee or iced water on the table. Maybe Captain Dolan was just pretending to be nice to them in order to catch them off guard and get them to reveal something.

"There's no real reason for me to invite the two of you here. It's just a simple follow-up investigation. Mr. Johnny, we did find a bike with your license plate during the previous investigation, but we've ruled out your involvement as a suspect," Captain Dolan said as he looked at Johnny and Roxanne's alert expressions with a smile on his face.

After the video call between Falcon and Rogers ended, Captain Dolan had already re-discussed the situation with Rogers. No matter what the situation with Johnny is now, Captain Dolan just needs to suppress the matter and let Johnny and the others return to their normal lives. That's why Captain Dolan's attitude has changed so much.

However, the sudden change in Captain Dolan's attitude made Johnny and Roxanne, who had already made all kinds of preparations, even more suspicious.

Moreover, the clues discovered by the police had already clearly identified Johnny as the suspect, but now they suddenly changed their tune and said that he was no longer a suspect. Both of them were even more puzzled by this sudden change in attitude.

"Captain Dolan, are you sure Johnny is no longer a suspect?" Roxanne, a reporter, immediately asked questions after hearing Captain Dolan's statement.

"Yes, he is no longer a suspect," Captain Dolan replied seriously upon hearing Roxanne's question.

"Do you have any other suspects then? What about the angry guy from that night? Are you not going to continue the investigation?" Roxanne's eyes flickered as she asked Captain Dolan, not satisfied with his answer.

As a reporter, Roxanne keenly sensed that something was off about Captain Dolan's attitude and words. If the police have ruled out Johnny as a suspect, then something special must have happened.

"Uh...well..." Captain Dolan was momentarily at a loss for words under Roxanne's aggressive attitude.

"Miss Roxanne, the follow-up information on this matter is classified by the police and will not be announced to the public for the time being. If our follow-up investigation produces results that can be released to the public, we will inform you as soon as possible," Special Agent Edward said, trying to smooth things over as Captain Dolan stumbled over his words.

As a foreign affairs officer of SHIELD, Edward obviously has more experience in dealing with this situation than Captain Dolan. Moreover, the investigation team regarding Johnny has indeed been classified as an A-level incident of SHIELD, and Edward and the others really have no way to disclose anything since they don't know anything.

"I see..." Roxanne murmured after hearing Agent Edward's answer and stopped asking questions.

If the police really had a suspect other than Johnny, no matter what happened or if the police had gotten something wrong, it would be in Johnny's best interest. Therefore, Roxanne didn't intend to continue asking questions.

In fact, after the questioning, Roxanne realized that she slightly regretted it. Fortunately, the police didn't pursue the matter further.

"Well, if you have no other questions, you can sign these documents and leave," Captain Dolan said, placing some documents on the table after Roxanne quieted down.

Huh~

Johnny, who had been silent throughout this ordeal, looked at the document and picked it up to examine it. After a brief look, he saw that it was indeed a very common confession document stating their cooperation with the investigation. After confirming that there were no issues, he signed it.

Johnny signed his name first, and then Roxanne signed hers. "Alright, if you're all set, you can leave now. I won't see you off," Captain Dolan said with a smile as he took the document back.

"Well, then we'll be going," Johnny said and nodded to Captain Dolan and Agent Edward as he stood up.

Then, Johnny and Roxanne walked towards the door of the interrogation room. However, just as they were about to leave, Johnny suddenly stopped and turned slightly, saying "Thank that guy for us."

Ka~

After saying this, Johnny pulled Roxanne to open the door and left, leaving behind Captain Dolan and Agent Edward, who were looking at each other in the interrogation room.

•••

"What did he mean by that sentence just now? Does he know that SHIELD is protecting him?" Captain Dolan said with some doubt as he looked at the closed door after Johnny left.

"I don't know. Johnny probably doesn't know anything about SHIELD," Agent Edward said and he was also puzzled by Johnny's last words before leaving.

Captain Dolan and Agent Edward also left the interrogation room with an unnecessary document in his hand. In another room with one-way visible glass in the interrogation room, Falcon was sitting on a chair and staring at the room in front and one would wonder what he was thinking.

Just now, Falcon had gotten a closer look at Johnny, but he still couldn't connect Johnny to the flaming skeleton he had fought with the previous night.

"Since it's been classified as an A-level incident, then the flaming skeleton must be this Johnny. I just don't know if he has any other abilities that could pose a threat at the A-level. That level of threat can destroy at least one city!" Falcon sighed to himself as he thought about it.

Falcon stood up from his chair before Captain Dolan and Agent Edward arrived. Now that the higher-ups have already determined the nature of this incident, there must be other arrangements for the follow-up.

There's no point in Falcon staying here any longer, so it's time for him to return. This time, Falcon had come to fight a flaming skeleton and lost.

If Falcon is still interested in Johnny or the flaming skeleton, he can ask Captain Rogers for more information when he returns. Maybe he can continue to follow up on this A-level event.

In this way, thanks to SHIELD's intervention, the strange incident involving Ghost Rider and Blackheart was quietly suppressed. Johnny and Roxanne returned home safely, and they had more time to plan their future lives.

# **Chapter 946: New York Present Situation**

After leaving the police station, Johnny and Roxanne went back to their home first. Although Johnny's home was almost completely destroyed due to the continuous fighting the previous night, there were still some things inside that Johnny needed, especially the high-end bikes he had modified himself over the years.

Even if Johnny decides to become a wandering knight in the future, he can't bear to part with these bikes.

As they cleaned up the ruins, Roxanne asked Johnny what he meant by the last sentence he said when they left the interrogation room. Did Johnny know that someone was helping them behind the scenes?

"Roxanne, don't you remember what Jackson said before we parted ways? He said he could help us if we needed it when we got back," Johnny said as he picked up a charred stake.

"You mean...Jackson helped us?" Roxanne asked in surprise after hearing Johnny's words.

"It should be. I think this guy is not simple. I didn't expect that he has connections within the police department. Additionally, based on the behavior of Police Captain Dolan and Special Agent Edward, it appears that he has a significant influence within the organization." Johnny nodded as he spoke.

"If Jackson is able to provide assistance, then we won't have to worry about anything. It's clear that he is not a regular person and has many secrets." Upon hearing Johnny's explanation, Roxanne blinked and said "Oh."

"Well, I'm sure am not worried anymore. So, after we've cleaned up this place, let's leave. Roxanne, what do you think?" Johnny patted the dust off his hands as he turned to look at Roxanne and asked with a smile on his face.

"Johnny, have you really made up your mind?" Facing Johnny's inquiry, Roxanne asked hesitantly,

"Yes, I have," Johnny replied confidently.

"In that case, I will follow you!" Roxanne replied back with a hesitant smile on her face.

"Okay, that's good!" Johnny spoke with a relieved expression on his face.

The following day, Johnny and Roxanne left Rochester with all of their belongings packed. Before they departed, they visited Mack at the hospital to say goodbye. Mack was confused by Johnny's sudden departure from the team, but given the events of the past two days, he knew he had to let Johnny go.

After Johnny and Roxanne left, Falcon also returned with SHIELD's support team. There are other departments of SHIELD that would follow up and investigate Johnny further, and it's time for Falcon to go back and check everyone's recovery situation.

...

In the underground base of the Stark Industries building in New York, the consciousness projection of JARVIS was bustling around the medical room. It had been several days since the emergency caused by the invasion of the Dark Elves in London, and Tony and others who had been in the medical warehouse for several days had also shown signs of waking up. Since yesterday, JARVIS seems to be in a better mood.

## Dī Dī Drops!

Just as JARVIS was moving around Peter's medical bed, he received a message from SHIELD. SHIELD had not been in contact with Stark for a while, as Tony and the others had been seriously injured and unconscious after the last battle. However, JARVIS had sent a special message to Rogers the day before, which prompted him to send Falcon to help contain Ghost Rider's actions.

Now, Rogers had also sent a message to JARVIS. He had discovered that even though Tony was currently in a coma, his artificial intelligence's abilities to handle certain tasks were still very strong.

As an artificial intelligence, JARVIS immediately understood the contents of the message as soon as it was received: SHIELD had successfully contained the situation in Rochester, as per the information provided by JARVIS, and had classified it as an internal incident within SHIELD. However, they had not been able to locate the person they were searching for.

As for the man mentioned in this message, JARVIS knew exactly who it was. It was JARVIS who had notified Rogers about him after receiving a special message the previous day, prompting Rogers to send Falcon to Rochester. However, there was still no news about that person.

However, shortly after JARVIS received this message, another message arrived.

This time, SHIELD had finally found something. After carefully investigating Johnny's movements before his disappearance, they discovered a Hoverboard in a wilderness area. Something else had also been found inside the Hoverboard. SHIELD was now rushing back to New York with the Hoverboard.

Half an hour later, SHIELD delivered the contents of the hoverboard to the Stark Industries building. This was because only JARVIS knew how to handle the items that had been found.

"These are Mr. Jackson's belongings," JARVIS said to itself as it controlled an Iron Man suit and carefully held three glass bottles.

Upon inspection, the three glass bottles held by the Iron Man's hand were revealed to be filled with Elven Holy Spring Water. This was a substance that only Lin Rui could produce. When he left the Hoverboard in the wilderness, Lin Rui had apparently left these bottles of Elven Holy Spring Water inside.

Afterward, the Iron Man controlled by JARVIS looked at Tony, Peter, and Daredevil, who were still lying in the medical beds. After a moment of contemplation, JARVIS decided to test the three bottles of Elven Holy Spring Water. After conducting the tests, JARVIS administered the bottles to the three of them to drink.

## Dī Dī Drop~

Shortly after drinking the Elven Holy Spring Water, the physical condition of the three of them began to improve. It was originally expected that it would take a few days for them to fully recover and wake up, but now there were signs of immediate improvement. Under the watchful eye of JARVIS, the three of them gradually began to wake up and open their eyes.

...

Rogers was standing by the floor-to-ceiling windows of a high-rise building in SHIELD headquarters in Washington, looking out at the scenery outside. Since the incident in London, Rogers had often stood here, lost in thought and gazing out at the view. No one would know what he was thinking about.

### Da Da~

After a short while, Rogers heard footsteps behind him and he already knew who it was without turning around.

"Dr. Banner, have you fully recovered?" Rogers asked calmly as the footsteps approached.

The person who approached Rogers was the official member of the Avengers, Dr. Banner, who was the only one on SHIELD's side to personally join the battle during the invasion of the Dark Elves in London.

After transforming into the Hulk, Dr. Banner was able to withstand the energy impact of the Aether Particles when he hit Malekith's face. If Malekith and the others hadn't retreated in time, it's possible that Banner could have taken down their spaceships.

"Well, the Hulk wasn't injured in the first place. I just need some time to calm him down," Banner replied to Rogers' question.

### Chapter 947: News

Hulk's strength, even when under the control of Dr. Banner's consciousness, was more than enough to handle the situation at the time. After all, Malekith couldn't completely control the Aether particles.

Therefore, among those who were impacted by the Aether particle energy at the time, Dr. Banner was in the best condition after reverting back to his normal form. The only loss was another change of clothes.

"I heard Stark is awake?" Dr. Banner continued as he walked to stand beside Rogers.

"Yes, I had someone deliver some items I obtained from Rochester, and he woke up not long after. Not only Tony Stark but also Spiderman and Daredevil, who received the Recovery Serum from Stark, have all awakened," Rogers replied calmly as he continued to look out at the scenery outside the building.

"Is it the Mirage Knight? Otherwise, Stark and the others should have still had a few days before they woke up from their recovery," Dr. Banner asked curiously upon hearing Rogers' answer.

"I don't know, but based on the information provided by JARVIS, it's likely to be him. However, I don't know where he is now. Why hasn't he shown up or returned?" Rogers finally turned his gaze away from the view outside as Dr. Banner mentioned the Mirage Knight.

"It's good to have some news. It's better than having no news at all. I heard that Thor said that the Mirage Knight was sent away through a space portal in Asgard. I thought he would be wandering through the universe forever," Dr. Banner said, relieved to have some news about the Mirage Knight.

As someone who has fought against the Hulk, Dr. Banner is still very interested in this mysterious vigilante. In addition, Mirage Knight is also the leader of the League of Defenders and has the ability to make decisive contributions to the alliance of their forces.

"Yes, some news is always good. And now that Tony has awakened, our plans are getting back on track," Rogers said feeling relieved that some of the current situations were developing positively.

"By the way, has there been any follow-up to the Dark Elf's invasion this time? If it happens again, I'm worried that the earth won't be so lucky to survive it," After talking about the situation of Mirage Knight, Dr. Banner switched the conversation to his concerns about the Dark Elves potentially returning to earth.

The earth was not well-prepared for the sudden attack by the Dark Elves this time, and it can be said that the victory over them was achieved at a great cost, with the help of Asgard and all other parties. However, if the Dark Elves recover and attack again, the earth may not be ready to fully engage in a battle between interstellar civilizations.

"I don't know. I don't have much information about this invasion. However, someone else should know," Rogers replied in a deep tone to Dr. Banner's question.

"You mean Thor from Asgard? Will he come back?" Dr. Banner clearly knew who Rogers was referring to, as Thor was an alien just like the Dark Elves.

"There are other people besides him who might know. Mirage Knight might also have some information. However, besides them, I think there are some special people who have knowledge about this," Rogers replied.

"Which special people do you mean?" Dr. Banner asked.

"Do you remember those sorcerers who had magical powers?" Rogers asked.

...

Just as Tony and the others woke up early due to drinking the Elven Holy Spring Water that Lin Rui had left in the Hoverboard, Sorcerer Rick and David were practicing their daily routines in the New York Sanctum.

During the Dark Elf invasion a few days ago, the sorcerers guarding the Sanctum in London had also sent out a call for help, but apart from Wong, none of the other Sanctum sorcerers had come to their aid. The main reason for this was that the Ancient One had forbidden them from getting involved in the conflict.

The invasion of the Dark Elves itself is not within the jurisdiction of the Earth's Sorcerers. If it weren't for Odin's intervention and Malekith's plan to devour the entire Nine Realms into eternal darkness, the Ancient One would not have allowed the Sorcerers to get involved.

However, even if the Sorcerers did get involved, they would not be the main force. These kinds of events are tests for the earth and challenges for the guardians of the earth. Fortunately, the earth survived this time.

Huh~

After a slight magical fluctuation in his body, Rick ended his deep meditation. Soon after, David beside him also finished his meditation.

"David, Jack doesn't seem to be here all the time." After opening his eyes, Rick looked at David and said.

As a member of the League of Defenders, Jack spent several months learning magic at the New York Sanctum with Rick and David in order to improve his recent strength. However, when the League of Defenders needed him, he returned and has not come back since.

"Do you still expect him to guard the Sanctum for the rest of his life like us? Didn't we already know his purpose for learning magic when he came here? If the Ancient One hadn't relaxed the conditions so much, we wouldn't have accepted him either," David said lightly in response to Rick's words.

"Then we can also be considered his masters, but we don't know how he can stay away for so long without coming back," Rick said and even though he knew that what David said was true, he was still a little annoyed.

"You also know that the Dark Elf's invasion caused many of them to be seriously injured, and now he must be worried about them," David said, no longer surprised by Rick's reaction.

"I was just thinking about the news from the Ancient One..." Seeing that David hadn't understood what he was trying to say, Rick had no choice but to continue reminding him.

"You mean...looking for the talented sorcerer to inherit the role of supreme sorcerer?" Hearing what Rick said, David finally understood what Rick was trying to tell him.

Earlier today, news had come from the hermitage of the Ancient One, the supreme sorcerer in the Himalayas, shocking all the Sorcerers on earth. The Ancient One is looking for an heir.

This news was earth-shattering for the Sorcerers on earth because the current Ancient One was still in a very strong period and it was far from time for him to find an heir. However, now that the Ancient One has sent out this news, finding a magically gifted heir is the top concern of every sorcerer.

As the sorcerers who guard the Sanctum in New York, Rick and David have not taken on many apprentices and the only one they have taught recently is Jack. After thinking for a long time, Rick still felt that Jack had a chance, after all, Jack's talent is not bad.

## **Chapter 948: Decision**

After the Ancient One, the Sorceror Supreme was rumored to be looking for the next generation of Sorcerer Supreme heirs, everyone one of the Sorcerers on Earth was shocked, but apart from being shocked, they all had the same thoughts as Rick.

If they encounter a good seedling, they would certainly recommend it since the Ancient One is indeed looking for an inheritor. It would be a very honorable thing if the young sorcerer they taught could be favored by the Ancient One and eventually become the Sorcerer Supreme.

"Hmm! That's what I think! Although Jack is a bit out of shape, he still has some talent in magic," Rick said feeling a little excited that David finally understood what he was trying to say.

In fact, Jack's talent in magic is not just "some talent" as Rick said. According to the current number of sorcerers on Earth, Jack's talent should be considered very good. At least, Jack's talent is much better than that of Rick and David. Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to master so much magic in less than two months.

"Speaking of talents, Jack is really good. And he has a mutant ability of body enhancement, which also has many advantages in melee combat. However, he still has too little time to practice magic..." David said and his eyes brightening as he listened to Rick.

The news that Ancient One is looking for talented inheritors spread and it also has no age limit. Therefore, it is possible that many Sorcerers who have practiced magic for many years and are talented will also volunteer to be recommended to Ancient One. Although Jack is good, he is far from those Sorcerers.

"I think that this time Ancient One's search for an inheritor should not just be about finding someone who is better than anyone else. Otherwise, he would just hold a tournament. Why did he spread the news to us?" Rick disagreed with David's concerns.

"You're right, Rick. The inheritance of the Sorcerer Supreme is not about determining who is more powerful in magic. But if Jack wants to participate, we'll have to bring him back and let him continue practicing!" Hearing Rick's point David also thinks it makes sense. Still, they had to get Jack back first.

"Absolutely. There are plenty of people who are more talented than Jack, but that doesn't mean he shouldn't have the opportunity to come back and continue his training. I'll give him a call right now and tell him to return. Even if he isn't chosen by the Ancient One as the Sorcerer Supreme, the opportunity to spend some time at the sorcerer's hermitage in the Himalayas would be invaluable." Finally, Rick made a decision.

"You're right, David. If we had been able to spend time at the hermitage, we might be as skilled as Wang and the others now. But we can't change the past, so all we can do is focus on the present and do our best to improve our abilities. Let's make sure Jack gets the opportunity to do the same." Nodding his head, David agreed with Rick's words. Then, Rick took out his cell phone, which he rarely used, and tried to call Jack. It was uncertain whether Jack would agree to Rick and David's plan, given his personality.

...

Thor has been back in Asgard for several days. He has been eagerly awaiting news from the frontline battlefield and has been keeping an eye out for updates about the Dark Elf.

In the meantime, he has taken care of relocating the Ether Particle and has been spending his time waiting for the next opportunity to visit Earth. Today, he finally received the news he had been waiting for.

"There has been a great victory on the front line! The Asgard army, led by the second prince Loki, successfully defeated the Frost Giants. Laufey, the leader of the Frost Giants, was seriously injured and the rest of the Frost Giants have retreated to their lair." Thor stood in the palace hall with Frigga and listened to the battle report with a look of triumph on his face.

"Hahaha! I didn't expect Loki to have some tricks up his sleeve!" Thor exclaimed after the intelligence agent reported the situation on the front line.

Despite their often tumultuous relationship, Thor has always cared deeply for his younger brother Loki and has always been proud of his intelligence and resourcefulness. So when he received the news that Loki was leading the charge on the front lines and had emerged victorious, Thor couldn't hide his pride and relief.

"You and your father have always underestimated Loki," Frigga said with a proud smile on her face as she watched Thor laugh. "He has always been capable of great things, and it's heartening to see him prove it in this way."

"Haha! I'm sure Loki will be well-rewarded when Father returns from his sleep," Thor exclaimed, clearly forgetting the events that led to his own exile to Earth and the subsequent attack by the Destroyer. It seemed that Loki's victory had completely redeemed him in Thor's eyes.

"I'm sure your Father will be proud of him as well," Frigga said, her good mood clearly reflected in her words. "Now, let's go and congratulate Loki on his victory. He deserves all the recognition and praise for his efforts on the front lines."

"By the way, Mother, Loki fought the Frost Giant on the front lines and should be returning soon, right?" Thor asked, changing the subject after laughing.

Upon hearing Thor's words, Frigga's smile faded as she seemed to have anticipated what he was going to say next.

"Yes, now that the front line has been secured, Loki should be returning tomorrow," Frigga replied, maintaining a composed expression on her face.

"In that case, Mother, I'll be returning to Earth today," Thor announced as he stood up from his seat.

Thor's presence in Asgard had not been particularly helpful, and he might have gone to the front line to support Loki if the war had remained at a stalemate. However, with Loki's victory and imminent return, Thor was eager to return to the pleasant surroundings of Earth.

Furthermore, Thor feels that he has unfinished business on Earth. For instance, Lin Rui went missing in Asgard and Thor had only informed Tony of this before being sent back to Asgard after the battle. Thor believes it is his responsibility to find Lin Rui, even though he knows he will likely face reprimands from Tony and others upon his return to Earth but at this point, Thor is willing to accept any consequences.

Additionally, Jane Foster is waiting for him on Earth. The events of the past have left room for a potential reunion between Thor and Jane. Thor also misses Ben and the dogs at the pet home where he works. Without Thor's help, Ben's workload will surely increase.

"Are you really going to Earth today?" Frigga asked, her eyes fixed on Thor.

"Yes, I am," Thor replied confidently.

"Very well, I'll have Heimdall send you back to Earth," Frigga agreed.

# Chapter 949: Choice To Return To Earth

After Frigga agreed to allow Thor to return to Earth, he went to bid farewell to his close friends in Asgard, who happened to be Lady Sif and the Warriors Three. Meanwhile, Frigga began preparing a celebratory banquet to welcome Loki, whose triumph on the front line had greatly increased his reputation in Asgard.

Deep within the palace of Asgard, in Thor's own palace, Thor was busily packing up the items he wanted to take to Earth. Beside Thor, Lady Sif and the Warriors Three were watching Thor with troubled expressions on their faces.

"Thor, are you really going back to Earth again?" As Thor finished packing, Sif couldn't help but ask.

To Lady Sif and the Warriors Three of Asgard, although Thor's divine powers have not yet fully recovered, it is only a matter of time before they do. Additionally, as the crown prince of Asgard, if Thor leaves while Loki is experiencing a great victory on the front line, it will significantly damage his prestige as the crown prince of Asgard.

Only the family is aware of the secret that Loki is not Odin and Frigga's biological son, and the people of Asgard still believe that Loki is the second prince. If the second prince gains the favor of the people while the first prince, Thor, is still working to regain his powers, it will be more difficult for Thor to claim the throne in the future. As Thor's friends and subordinates, Lady Sif and the Warriors Three naturally hope for Thor to become the king of Asgard in the future.

"Sif, my father's banishment of me was actually a learning experience that I only realized after spending time on Earth. In addition, there are many things I can learn on Earth that I couldn't feel in Asgard. And there are still many responsibilities that I need to take on. Mirage Knight disappeared in Asgard and I owe it to the people of Earth to try my best to find him and provide an explanation. This is something I have to do," Thor said as he packed his belongings into a cloth bag before he looked at Sif.

"Asgard has many places where you can train. Plus, Loki will be back tomorrow. Don't you want to give him a personal lesson for lying to you?" Sif asked, still puzzled by Thor's decision.

"I've already trained in every area of Asgard except the forbidden one. As for Loki, he just likes to play pranks and has been doing so since he was a child. It's actually something I'm proud of. That's why I won't stay to celebrate with him," Thor waved his hand dismissively as he replied, understanding what Sif was trying to say.

Previously, Thor was very concerned with the throne of Asgard. He had always been stronger than Loki and was confident that, as the eldest prince, the throne would be his in the future. However, after all the experiences he has had, Thor no longer values the throne as much. To him, as long as Asgard is in good hands, anyone can be king.

"But..." Sif began to speak.

"It's okay, there's no need to say more. If you truly care about me, then wish me happiness on Earth. And I believe that I will soon fully awaken my powers," Thor interrupted Sif as he patted her on the shoulder.

Since Thor has made up his mind, Sif and the others cannot say anything further. Although Sif wishes she could go to Earth with him, she knows it is impossible for Thor to allow her to do so.

"Come on, let's go. You can see me off at the Bifrost. I won't leave without saying goodbye again," Thor said as he patted the shoulders of Lady Sif and the Warriors Three, trying to lift their mood.

Then, Thor led the way out of the palace and Sif and the others had no choice but to follow. Ten minutes later, they arrived at the Bifrost Hall, where Heimdall stood as the lone guardian.

"Heimdall, please activate the Bifrost and send me to Earth," Thor requested politely as he stood in the hall and looked at Heimdall in the center.

Click.

Without a word, Heimdall activated the Bifrost by turning the Guardian Sword inserted in the control center.

### Ка Ка Ка

The next moment, there was a sound of the mechanical rotation coming from the guardian all and a mechanical whirring sound filled the hall as a strong wave of energy converged towards it, and soon, a dazzling rainbow of light appeared above the hall and quickly enveloped Thor.

"Goodbye, my friends," Thor smiled and waved goodbye to Lady Sif and the Warriors Three standing outside as the rainbow beams descended upon him.

"Goodbye, Thor," They replied.

Rumbling

With a roar and a burst of dazzling colored light, Thor's figure instantly disappeared as he left Asgard with the Bifrost. In the universe, a rainbow light beam shot out from Asgard in the Nine Realms and headed towards Earth, located at the center of the Nine Realms.

# Whirring...

The rainbow light in the hall took a while to dissipate after Thor's departure and Sif continued to stare at the spot where he had disappeared with a peculiar expression in her eyes.

"Sif, sometimes you just have to let go," Volstagg said helplessly as he noticed Sif's demeanor.

"I know, but I can't help feeling a bit reluctant," Sif replied in a perplexed tone after she heard Volstagg's words.

"Come on, let's go. It's uncertain when he'll be back this time," Volstagg said as he patted Sif on the shoulder. He then gestured to the other two warriors to follow and they all turned to head back.

However, just as Sif was about to turn and leave, Heimdall, who had just finished the Bifrost teleportation and was standing in the center of the hall, had a sudden flash in his eyes, as if he were surprised. He then placed his hands on the Guardian Sword again.

## Click...

Sif and the others, who had turned to leave, heard the sound of the Bifrost activating again and turned in surprise to see a dazzling colored light appear in the Guardian Hall once more. However, this time the light beam shot out, clearly indicating that it was picking someone up.

## Rumbling...

The Bifrost reappeared for only two seconds before retracting and there was now an additional person standing in the center of the retracted Bifrost light. Sif and the others, who had not yet left, were a little surprised to see the blurry figure.

## **Chapter 950: Coming Back Sooner**

Huh~

As Sif and the others stared at the figure in the rainbow beam with surprise, the beam eventually dissipated and the figure's features became clearly visible. It was a tall, handsome man.

"Loki!" Sif couldn't help exclaiming when she saw a handsome guy in dark clothes and a strange helmet appearing from Bifrost.

Yes, the man who was suddenly transported back by Heimdall with the Bifrost was Loki, the Asgardian god of deceit who was supposed to be on the battlefield. It is unclear why Loki, who was expected to return tomorrow, left the triumphant army and returned alone with the Bifrost. He still appears to have the remnants of the battlefield on him.

Upon hearing Sif's exclamation, Loki glanced at them. Perhaps due to his prolonged stay on the battlefield, Loki's eyes carried the unconscious cold and sharp aura of a commander. Under Loki's gaze, Sif and the others felt the air around them drop several degrees. It seems that this battle with the Frost Giants has caused Loki to change significantly.

"Sif, is that you? Are you here to welcome me?" Loki asked, seeming to sense the discomfort of Sif and the others as he retracted the cold aura from his eyes.

In the past, Loki gave Sif and the others the impression of a sinister villain who was skilled in strength but liked to play tricks from the shadows. However, the Loki in front of them now gives off a completely different feeling. Perhaps the battlefield can truly change a person completely. At least at this moment, Loki has exuded a lot of pressure on Sif and the others, not in terms of strength but in temperament and spirit.

"Uh...Loki, we..." Volstagg was embarrassed and didn't know how to respond to Loki's words.

"I don't think you came to pick me up. I came back early this time and didn't notify anyone," Loki said with a smile, noticing the embarrassed expressions on Volstagg's and others' faces.

Regardless, Loki nodded to Heimdall, who was standing to the side. It was thanks to Heimdall that Loki was able to return early, otherwise, he would have had to arrive tomorrow with the triumphant army.

"By the way, I heard that Thor has returned to Asgard and participated in the Dark Elf's sneak attack. Has his exile penalty been lifted?" Loki asked as he walked towards the exit of the hall.

"Thor...he has already returned to Earth," Volstagg told Loki the truth upon hearing his question.

In any case, Loki would find out eventually, even if they don't tell him now. If Loki were to learn about it from someone else and not from them personally, his current prestige in Asgard might lead him to give them a hard time. It is best to be upfront and honest.

"Back to Earth again?" Upon hearing Volstagg's answer, Loki stopped in his tracks and his tone wavered.

"Well, we were just here to see off Thor not too long ago before you returned," Volstagg explained further, now that the topic had come up.

## Brush!

"Just left?" Loki whispered as he quickly turned to look at the spot where he had just been teleported.

"Loki, Thor went back to Earth this time to continue his exile penalty. I'm sure he'll come back soon," Sif tried to reassure Loki, unsure of what he thought about Thor's return to Earth.

"Continuing his exile penalty? Hehe..." Loki said with some disdain upon hearing Sif's words.

Without saying anything further to Sif and the others, Loki strode off towards the Bifrost, leaving the Warriors Three to look at each other in confusion, wondering what Loki was thinking.

The news of the return of Asgard's second prince, who has made great contributions to the front line, has not spread. It seems that Loki doesn't want others to know that he has returned early. The celebration banquet was also held as scheduled when the triumphant army returned the next day. Under the cheers of tens of thousands of Asgard soldiers, Loki stood on the high platform to accept the reward and praise from Frigga.

Of course, Thor was not present to witness this scene. While Loki wore a smile on his face as he was showered with praise on the high platform, his eyes seemed to betray a sense of unhappiness, as if something was missing. Frigga, who is perceptive, noticed this but chose not to say anything.

Upon his return, Loki accepted the plan of investigating the Dark Elves. As Malekith's plan had been foiled, it was possible that he would seek revenge. Therefore, Asgard could not let their guard down and it was advisable to intimidate the Dark Elves as a precaution.

Earth, New York, Stark Industries building.

Tony, who had awoken early due to the effects of the Elven Holy Spring Water, emerged from the medical cabin with the others. Upon waking, Tony immediately inquired about the outcome of the battle and was relieved to learn that the Dark Elf had been defeated. He then asked JARVIS for a summary of events that had occurred during his coma, with the most significant information being updated on Lin Rui.

Hoo!

Upon hearing that there was news about Lin Rui, Tony, Peter, and Daredevil all stood up excitedly from their chairs where they had been resting.

"JARVIS, is it confirmed?!" Tony asked nervously as he gazed at the light blue ball of light that was jumping up and down in front of his eyes.

"I can confirm that Mr. Jackson was present at the A-level incident that occurred in Rochester. However, I have not yet located him," JARVIS quickly responded, aware that Tony, Peter, and the others were concerned about Lin Rui's situation.

"Additionally, three bottles of Recovery Serum Potion were found in the Hoverboard that was discovered by SHIELD. It appears that Mr. Jackson had used the potion before. One of those bottles was also used to accelerate your recovery, Mr. Stark, Mr. Peter, and Mr. Matt," JARVIS added, confirming his discovery.

"That's good to hear. If it's Jackson, then he must have had a good reason for his actions. However, if he has returned to Earth after being sent away through the space portal, why hasn't he come back?" Tony said, reassured by JARVIS's words but still harboring some doubts.

"It's possible that Jackson is in some kind of trouble. JARVIS did mention an A-level incident, after all. We don't know what kind of incident it was, but it could be preventing Jackson from returning," Peter speculated, chiming in on the conversation.