

Marvel 951

Chapter 951: The Evidence Analysis of J.A.R.V.I.S

Tony and the others turned their attention back to the pale blue ball of light after hearing Peter's words.

"The specifics of this A-level incident are still being determined based on the information that has been relayed back. It seems that neither the local police in Rochester nor Falcon from SHIELD have a complete understanding of the events that transpired," JARVIS continued, noticing that Tony and the others were looking at it expectantly.

Brush!

Before Tony and the others could ask any more questions, JARVIS projected a light directly in front of them. A decrypted message appeared on the light, providing some clarity on the situation. While the message was not particularly long and was slightly out of date, it was enough to give them a general idea of what had occurred.

"Johnny Blaze is not the murderer responsible for the victim's death. He is a person with special powers who has been cursed by demons. This incident is not as straightforward as it appears and the local police force is not equipped to handle the malevolent spirits behind it. I will work with Johnny to resolve this issue and ask that you do not interfere unless absolutely necessary. If there are no additional innocent casualties within a day, it means we have been successful. If you wish to learn more about this incident, you can refer to stories about the legendary Hell Demon and Hellfire." This was the message that JARVIS had received at the time, though it did not specify the source. It simply explained the events that were taking place in Rochester.

"Are you sure this message is accurate? Demons, ghosts, hell... is this really what happened to Jackson?" Tony asked, frowning after quickly scanning the message.

It was not surprising that he had doubts. As a scientific expert, Tony was well-versed in all kinds of high technology, but these supernatural occurrences were something he struggled to understand.

"If I am not mistaken, this is the message that was sent back by Jackson. Additionally, based on my interpretation of various stories involving teleportation, there are indeed tales of hell demons incarnating in human form in order to deceive ordinary people into signing contracts to become hell messengers. These messengers will use hellfire to deal with demonic enemies," JARVIS calmly replied to Tony's question.

"Mr. Stark, we just dealt with an alien invasion a few days ago, so it's not entirely unreasonable to think that demons might also exist. And it's not uncommon for Jackson to find himself in strange situations," Peter pointed out after seeing Tony's doubts.

While Peter also found it difficult to believe that there could really be hell and demons in this world, if Jackson said it was true, he was willing to accept it. After all, since becoming Spiderman, Peter's worldview had been constantly expanding and evolving.

"I also have some surveillance footage from the local police, as well as footage of the SHIELD team led by Falcon battling the target," JARVIS continued after Peter finished speaking.

"Alright, show me the footage. I want to see what kind of demon Jackson is talking about," Tony said, waving his hand impatiently as JARVIS mentioned the existence of a video.

Swipe Swipe~

The light that had displayed Lin Rui's message expanded rapidly, filling almost the entire space in front of Tony and the others. It was slightly concave, forming an arc. JARVIS then started playing the surveillance video of Rochester police arresting Johnny, followed by footage of Johnny transforming inside the police station.

Although the police surveillance video itself had mediocre pixelation, so the image quality was not particularly clear. However, thanks to JARVIS's post-processing, Tony and the others were able to get a clear sense of what was happening in the footage.

As Johnny was being placed in a temporary detention cell and surrounded by the gangsters, Tony and the others remained expressionless. However, a strong burst of flames suddenly erupted from the center of the group, pushing the gangsters away from Johnny.

Boom!

After the fire broke out, the police station's fire alarm system was activated and the automatic sprinkler system also reduced the clarity of the monitoring screen. Tony and the others could only see a fuzzy figure walking out of the cell surrounded by flames.

According to surveillance footage obtained by JARVIS from various locations within the police station, the flaming figure walked out of the station and got on a bike that was also on fire. The figure then arrogantly rode the bike away, leaving the police station in chaos.

"This is surveillance footage from the local police station. It is clear that the figure who stormed out of the police station in a fit of anger is Johnny," JARVIS said as the video ended and the figure rode away on the bike.

As they watched the final scene which contained a frozen image of the Ghost Rider riding away from the police station on the bike, Tony, Peter, and the others fell silent. It was clear that the video had also surprised and shocked them.

"So, can Johnny really burst into flames all over like that? It looks like the mutation ability of mutants," Tony said after a moment of silence.

"It doesn't seem to be just anger... I think I saw a skeleton..." Peter added uncertainly.

As for Daredevil, he can only rely on sound effects and can't see anything.

"It is indeed a skeleton. The video from SHIELD is much clearer," JARVIS said, represented by a few jumps of light blue light, in response to Peter's words.

Brush~

The image on the light curtain then quickly dissipated and was replaced by a video of SHIELD fighting Ghost Rider. This time, the video began with a very intense fight. The camera shook violently, indicating that it was likely recorded by a soldier on the battlefield.

In this SHIELD video, Tony and the others were finally able to see what Ghost Rider looked like up close and clearly. Upon seeing the flaming skeleton, both Tony and Peter had shocked expressions in their eyes. It became clear to them that this was not a normal mutant transformation.

Furthermore, Ghost Rider seemed completely unafraid of the weapons used by the SHIELD special warfare team and had the upper hand in the fight against Falcon. From the various angles shown in the video, it appeared that Ghost Rider was only focused on breaking through and did not get caught up in the fight. After injuring Falcon's flying wings, Ghost Rider laughed wildly and broke free, leaving a stylishly behind once again.

Shout~

The video paused at various points, but it was enough for Tony and the others to get a sense of the situation.

"It looks like this guy may really be cursed by the devil," Tony said.

Chapter 952: Lin Rui Whereabouts

Tony had to believe the authenticity of the news that Lin Rui sent back after watching the close-range combat scene on SHIELD. Who would have turned into the terrifying appearance of that skeleton if he hadn't been cursed by the hell demon?

"So this hothead who beat Falcon and a special operations team is still a good guy," Tony said in a strange tone after watching the video.

It was difficult to imagine Ghost Rider as a good person based on his appearance. After all, appearance is still important, and Tony's Iron Man suit appears very impressive. And, like Mirage Knight and Spiderman, their battle suits have unique characteristics that do not make people afraid of them.

"According to what Jackson said, he should be considered a good person. However, I'm not sure how Jackson is doing now," Peter said with concern.

"If he is able to handle this guy cursed by the devil, then since a day has passed and nothing seems to have happened, that means Jackson has resolved it," Tony said. Since there were no further updates on the A-level incident, it seemed that Lin Rui had already taken care of it.

"So, is he not coming back on purpose now? Or is there some special reason?" Peter asked with a frown upon hearing Tony's words.

"Perhaps both. We don't really know what Jackson has gone through. The former Thor of Asgard said that Jackson was sent away by countless space portals in Asgard. At this point, Jackson probably still doesn't know what state he's in. However, I think he'll come back on his own when the time is right," Tony said, his eyes flashing as he spoke. He seemed much calmer now.

"Then should we just wait like this? We must give a reasonable explanation to Uncle Lin Hai. His son hasn't been home for a long time," Peter said helplessly.

“There’s not much we can do, but if you can’t stand it anymore, I’ll go there in person. I think I still have some pull and can’t let JARVIS continue to deceive them like this,” Tony said, knowing that Lin Hai often asked Peter about Lin Rui’s situation.

“So, what are we going to do now, Mr. Stark?” Putting the news about Jackson aside for the moment, Peter, who had just experienced the invasion of Earth by extraterrestrial civilizations, was still interested in continuing this exciting life.

“Now? I have a lot of things to do. As for you... go back and be a good high school student. Spiderman also needs to protect his neighborhood, and I’ll call you if something comes up,” Tony replied seriously after hearing Peter’s question.

Peter: “...”

Then, Tony sent Peter, who was almost recovered, back. Meanwhile, Daredevil left after being aware of a situation that had occurred on the League of Defenders side. In the absence of Mirage Knight, Daredevil needed to return and investigate the situation.

After Peter and Daredevil left, Tony remained on the couch in the underground laboratory, thinking about the series of events that had recently occurred. These events included the search for the Magic Cube, the encounter with extraterrestrial civilizations in Siberia, the appearance of a dimensional space in London to battle the Dark Elf, and finally, the large-scale invasion of the Dark Elf. These experiences had given Tony and the others a firsthand look at what it was like to fight against an extraterrestrial civilization.

Tony and his alliance were able to successfully fend off the invasion of the Dark Elfs, highlighting the importance of their alliance. This also gave Tony and the others a glimpse of the powerful strength of other civilizations in the universe. In light of the numerous problems facing the Earth, Tony realized that threats from beyond the planet could not be ignored.

“Where did Jackson go? He still has so much to do back home!” Tony muttered to himself as he lay on the couch, feeling helpless.

As Iron Man, Tony, like Spiderman Peter, has had to face more and more challenges and responsibilities. He has come to understand that with great power comes great responsibility. Many of the things they encounter are beyond their control, and they must learn to deal with them as best they can.

In times like these, Tony knows that he needs the help of Lin Rui, a clever and resourceful individual. Despite the fact that Lin Rui has not yet revealed his secret, Tony does not mind. His primary goal is to protect the Earth, and he is willing to work with anyone who shares this goal, regardless of their secrets.

Huh~

“Let’s forget about that kid. He can come back whenever he wants. I just heard from Rogers that there are some leads in the investigation into Killian, so I have to get back to work.” Tony sat up and got off the couch, muttering to himself.

After that, Tony left the underground laboratory. It had been a while since he had seen Pepper, and he wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to rest and spend some time with her to make up for the times when he had been too busy to see her.

...

“Achoo!~~” Just as Tony and Peter were thinking about Lin Rui in New York, Lin Rui, who was wandering in a small city in the northern United States, suddenly sneezed.

“Hmm~ I wonder if anyone is thinking about me?” Lin Rui muttered to himself as he rubbed his nose.

Lin Rui pulled down his baseball cap and walked towards a small supermarket. After leaving Rochester, he and Bucky had stopped a car on the side of the road and continued their journey without a specific destination. However, at this time, Lin Rui had to be more careful not to reveal his face or whereabouts, just like Bucky. After all, Lin Rui felt that he was more important than Bucky and needed to protect himself more carefully.

“I have to make the most of this opportunity for a vacation. Besides, with me by Bucky’s side, I can testify for him if anything happens,” Lin Rui thought to himself as he walked towards the supermarket.

Lin Rui’s memory has indeed been fully restored. When Ghost Rider saw through Lin Rui’s soul with the Penance Gaze that night, his memory had already been restored. However, Lin Rui did not immediately choose to return to his previous life when his memory was restored.

After learning about the Dark Elf invasion, Lin Rui decided not to return for the time being. Tony and the others now have the Elven Holy Spring Water, which allows them to recover quickly, so Lin Rui does not need to worry about them.

Lin Rui also felt that it might not have been a coincidence that he was sent from Asgard to Earth by the Magic Cube’s space energy and met Bucky. He suspected that many unexpected things may happen during this trip with Bucky.

The encounter with Johnny a few days ago was a good example of this. If Lin Rui had not been strong enough, he might not have been able to help Johnny.

Chapter 953: Lin Rui’s Plan

When Lin Rui’s memory was restored by Ghost Rider’s Penance Gaze, he also absorbed all the events that had occurred during the time he had lost his memory. This is why he was able to adapt to the critical situation so quickly.

It was also fortunate that Lin Rui had not done anything harmful in his life, otherwise, he might have faced consequences under the judgment of the Penance Gaze.

After his memory was restored, Lin Rui used his knowledge of the Ghost Rider plot to help Johnny. It was beyond his expectations that the local police would invite SHIELD to assist. This is why he left a device in the motel room to send messages at regular intervals.

The message that Lin Rui sent to JARVIS was to allow JARVIS and SHIELD to communicate. He wanted to prevent those who were not aware of the situation from interfering. Lin Rui preferred that he and Johnny would handle it themselves.

Lin Rui's actions did carry some risk. JARVIS would know that the message was sent by Lin Rui and would likely mobilize a lot of resources to find him. However, Lin Rui and Bucky had left Rochester before SHIELD could locate them. They disguised themselves and used their professional skills to evade surveillance cameras along the way.

After leaving Rochester, Lin Rui had no fixed destination. Although he remembered some of the plots, the current timeline was completely different from what he remembered.

Therefore, he did not know what might happen next. Nevertheless, he felt it was best to stay by Bucky's side. The longer he spent with Bucky, the more he felt that he could help the Winter Soldier.

If the next plot centers around the Winter Soldier, then Bucky will likely be discovered by SHIELD soon. In the original plot, Rogers turns against Tony in order to protect Bucky, leading to a civil war. However, with Lin Rui present, he will try to prevent this from happening.

"In the original plot, it seems that someone used the attack on the head of Wakanda to frame Bucky, causing him to come back into SHIELD's view and leading to a confrontation between Rogers and Tony. That person seems to have a lot of resentment towards superheroes because their relatives were affected by the war, and they planned a huge action to cause a civil war among the superheroes." As he shopped for food in the supermarket, Lin Rui recalled some plots involving the Winter Soldier in his mind.

"However, since the New York War or the Ultron crisis has not yet happened, does that mean that the victim has not appeared and no one will do these things behind the scenes?" Lin Rui continued to think as he walked to the cashier with his purchases.

"Hello, I need to pay for these items," Lin Rui said as he approached the cashier and caught the attention of the girl who was playing with her phone.

"Oh, sorry," she said, putting down her phone and leaning forward to begin the transaction. "That will be \$37.50."

After paying for his items, Lin Rui was ready to leave the supermarket. However, just as he was walking towards the door, a middle-aged man who looked a bit downcast approached the store. He greeted the cashier and then walked toward the food shelves at the back of the store. A fat man also entered the store behind him.

"Hey! Scott, you just got out? Are you gonna throw a party for yourself?" the fat man who followed behind the downcast middle-aged man shouted. His accent had a distinct Mexican flavor.

"Not in the mood," Scott replied without looking back as he searched for food on the shelves.

"You can't always be like this! Do you have any plans for the future?" The chubby Mexican asked as he walked up to Scott's side.

"I just want to find a simple job and see my daughter often..."

Lin Rui only overheard this much before pushing open the door and leaving the store. It seems that the downcast middle-aged man had recently been released from prison and had lost both his career and

family. While there are many people like this in the world, Lin Rui cannot pay attention to every one of them.

Lin Rui returned to the simple motel where he and Bucky were staying instead of continuing to shop. On the way, he continued to think about what might happen next.

Although the New York War and the Ultron incident have not yet occurred, Lin Rui cannot guarantee that there will not be any other events that could lead to a civil war because the timeline is now disrupted. He feels that the forces at play in the world will not allow these things to pass easily.

“No matter what, I will try my best to prevent things from happening, just like before,” Lin Rui said to himself as he walked back to the hotel, organizing his thoughts.

Then, Lin Rui walked towards his room.

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As Lin Rui and Bucky continued their journey with no fixed destination, a bright, multicolored light beam shot through the universe toward Earth. The beam crossed through space, and Earth’s technology was unable to detect its existence or trajectory.

Just as the colored light beam approached the Earth, it suddenly disappeared, as if it had entered another space.

Rumble!

As the colored light beam in the universe disappeared, strange weather changes occurred on Earth, specifically in downtown New York in the United States. The sky was clear one second before, and the next second it was overcast with thick clouds and flashes of lightning.

The sudden change in weather caught the New York meteorological department off guard. This was because a similar weather change had occurred not long before and was accompanied by a colorful light beam falling from the sky, causing quite a stir in New York.

Although SHIELD had suppressed the arrival of the Bifrost, the public had become aware that the magical weather change and light beam in New York were not so simple after the alien invasion event in London. Therefore, when this severe weather change occurred again in New York, everyone stared at the sky, particularly at the location where the thunder was most intense.

Rumble!

As countless people in New York watched, a violent roar came from the swirling black clouds. Then, a dazzling, colored beam of light pierced through the clouds and shot down in front of everyone’s eyes.

Chapter 954: Return To Earth

This colored light beam that shot down through the clouds was Bifrost. After leaving Asgard, it traveled through the vast universe and arrived on Earth. Under Heimdall’s control, Bifrost descended directly on New York, near Thor’s apartment and Lin Rui’s home.

Of course, the arrival of Bifrost attracted the attention of not only ordinary people in New York but also those who understand its significance. Their attention to Bifrost is even stronger than the shock of ordinary people.

The head of SHIELD's New York branch had already informed the SHIELD headquarters in Washington when the clouds of the Bifrost omen appeared. When Bifrost actually arrived, Captain America Rogers at the Washington headquarters was also aware of the situation.

Additionally, the New York SHIELD branch had already begun a live broadcast so that Rogers could see the arrival of Bifrost with his own eyes.

"Prepare the Quinjet and go to New York immediately!" Rogers ordered after seeing the arrival of Bifrost on the communication screen.

"Yes!" a soldier standing behind him replied loudly.

The underground base of the SHIELD headquarters quickly launched a Quinjet and it flew out of the open patio. A minute later, Rogers flew towards New York in the Quinjet.

While Rogers was rushing to New York from Washington, Tony, who was chatting with Pepper on the top floor of the Stark Industries building, put on his Iron Man suit. Despite Pepper's helpless expression, Tony rushed out of the top floor of the Stark Industries building, heading towards the location where Bifrost had descended.

Huh~

"Tony, be a hero, and don't let me hold you back." Pepper stood on the edge of the roof platform and she muttered to herself as she watched Tony's disappearing figure in the sky.

In addition to Tony, other people who knew the significance of Bifrost also rushed to the location where it descended as quickly as possible, including Spiderman who had just returned home.

Of course, there were also many ordinary people who did not know what Bifrost represented and rushed to the location out of curiosity. The location where Bifrost descended was now attracting a large crowd.

Rumbling~

Thor looked around, standing in the center of a circular imprint with magical characters on the grass in front of the apartment where he lived. The beam of Bifrost had lasted for about two seconds before disappearing, and the thick clouds in the high altitude had almost completely dissipated as well. It was just like the last time Bifrost had appeared.

Huh~

"Ah! Finally back again to Earth!" Taking a deep breath and feeling the temperature and soft environment of the earth, Thor shouted a little excitedly.

Thor stepped out of the withered grass, which had been scorched by the energy of the Bifrost. As he looked around, he realized that Heimdall had teleported him next to his apartment on Earth. After so

many Bifrost teleportations, this experience had been the best one for Thor. Perhaps it was due to the changes within himself.

“Ah! Aliens!!” Just as Thor walked out of the grass, a piercing scream suddenly reached his ears.

Following the sound of the scream, Thor saw a young child around ten years old holding a football and staring at him in terror. It seemed that the little boy had witnessed the arrival of the Bifrost and Thor’s appearance, and was now screaming in fear.

If it hadn’t been for the news that London had been invaded by aliens a few days ago, the child might not have called Thor an alien upon seeing him emerge from the Bifrost, but rather a god.

“Shhhh! I’m not an alien!” Seeing that the little boy had no intention of stopping his shouting, Thor yelled at him helplessly. Of course, Thor is an alien, but he couldn’t reveal the truth at that moment, as it might have caused a crowd of people to gather around him. Thor didn’t want to become famous for this reason.

“Ah! Alien! Alien!” Seeing Thor approaching himself while talking, the little boy yelled and threw the football in his hand at Thor, and then ran away while shouting.

Huh~

Tilting his head slightly to avoid the football thrown by the little boy, Thor watched helplessly as the child ran away. Of course, he couldn’t chase after him to explain his situation.

Thor could already feel that many people around him were rushing over, likely attracted by the Bifrost. It was already too late for Thor to try to hide. So, he quickly left the grass and turned to where the Bifrost had just descended, with a look of surprise on his face.

Da Da Da~

As soon as Thor made an expression, many spectators had already walked in from around the door of his apartment building. These people had come over after seeing the Bifrost, and everyone had a mix of curiosity and nervousness on their faces.

When they saw Thor standing on the edge of the grass, they simply looked at him and then looked at the circle that had been printed by the Bifrost energy. It seems that Thor’s acting skills were still good, as these people all seemed to think that Thor was just someone who had come to watch the spectacle like them.

“Hey! Dude, did you see anything?” As the crowd approached, a man leaned over Thor and asked.

“Uh, it was nothing. It was already like this when I arrived.” Hearing what the man said, Thor replied with a controlled expression.

“Is that so?”

Just as everyone was discussing the disappearing circular mark, a police team arrived on the scene. After the nearby crowd of spectators gathered around, the police finally rushed over.

The police clearly attached a lot of importance to the appearance of the Bifrost this time. As soon as they arrived, they immediately set up a cordon and separated the spectators. Although the circular imprint was dissipating, they still needed to protect the scene.

Brush!

Just as the police set up the cordon, a red figure descended from a high altitude. As it approached the ground, it dropped sharply before landing firmly inside the cordon set up by the police.

Seeing this sudden appearance, the surrounding spectators became excited, and the police didn't express any dissatisfaction with the person who had broken into the cordoned-off area.

"Iron Man!!"

Chapter 955: Talk

As the spectators exclaimed "Iron Man" upon seeing the figure that had suddenly fallen from the sky, Tony had already started to scan the area with his equipment, acting as if no one else was there.

After scanning once, Tony's eyes began to search for something in the surrounding crowd. When he saw Thor hiding among the people, the expression on his face, hidden behind the steel helmet, changed instantly, and a light flashed in his eyes.

And when Tony noticed Thor, who was among the onlookers, he realized that Tony had noticed him as well. Despite his embarrassment, Thor did not leave or go to say hello right away.

Anyway, no one knows he came out of Bifrost except the little boy who has fled, so Thor just needs to wait for Tony to resolve the situation here, and he can also return to his apartment.

Tony had already begun negotiating with the police as Thor was thinking about this. In any case, something like Bifrost is not under police control because their level is too low and they are not equipped to deal with such situations.

Tony knew that the New York SHIELD branch was already rushing over due to JARVIS. As a result, Tony requested that the police first disperse the surrounding crowd. Despite the fact that the cops had no connection to Tony Stark, they complied with his orders.

The police then drove the onlookers further away while they photographed Iron Man. Thor, of course, continued to retreat with the crowd, and he soon turned around and left after retreating a little further. The people from the SHIELD branch rushed over when Thor left, and they both passed each other without one noticing the other.

Thor went in again, passed outside the expanded cordoned-off area, and walked into the apartment building after making two simple laps outside. Thor then returns to his apartment, which he hasn't seen in over a week. It's a good thing Thor didn't misplace the key, or he'd have simply broken in this time.

Kaka~

Thor had already opened the door and walked in after the key turned once in the lock. However, just as Thor entered the apartment and shut the door, his brows twitched and his feet jumped to the side in an instant.

Brush!

Pū!

As Thor threw himself out of the way, a small metal flying arrow with a dangerous red light on its tail shot past his shoulder and into the door. The red light continued to blink for a few moments before it went out.

“Tony Stark! “What are you doing?!” Thor jumped up quickly after avoiding the surprise onslaught and yelled at the person in the apartment’s living room.

Tony is currently facing off against Thor in his Iron Man Armor in the middle of Thor’s apartment living room. He also removed the helmet so Thor could see Tony’s upset expression.

Tony just shot a flying arrow, and if he had not shut off the remote control bomb on the flying arrow, the flying arrow would have been enough to blow up Thor’s apartment.

“What am I doing?! You’re going to tell me what you did?! What happened to Jackson?!” When Tony heard Thor’s words, he went straight to him and continued to question him.

“I.....”

“At that time, Jackson helped you think of a way to return to Asgard, but you left the earth with him. I wouldn’t have said anything if you had brought Jackson back safely, but now? You actually told me Jackson disappeared in Asgard, and you needed our help to deal with the enemy!” Just as Thor was about to speak, Tony interrupted him and continued to ask questions.

It’s clear that Tony is unhappy with Thor for sending Lin Rui to Asgard through the Bifrost and then losing track of him. When Tony was informed of the Dark Elf’s invasion of Earth a few days ago, he was ready to confront Thor, but he was not able to do that at that time.

Thor and the others were immediately transported away by the Bifrost after the battle, while Tony was left in a coma due to serious injuries.

Now that the Bifrost has returned to earth and Thor has returned with it, he is naturally eager to find out what happened to Lin Rui. If it weren’t for the news about Lin Rui, Tony would not have greeted Thor with a warning shot when he entered the room. Instead, the situation might have been much more hostile.

“I’m sorry too. I’m also concerned about Jackson’s disappearance, but I believe he will be okay. My main reason for returning to Earth this time is to help find Jackson and fulfill my responsibilities. I won’t avoid it,” Thor finally interrupted Tony as he answered the question.

Thor feels guilty about Lin Rui’s disappearance. However, he believes that Lin Rui will be okay because he used the power of the Magic Cube himself and caused a space energy disturbance. The Magic Cube is an artifact of the same level as the Ether Particle, and Thor has not yet figured out how Lin Rui was able to access its power.

“Hmph! I have no idea how long it will take you to find Jackson when you come back. I shouldn’t have had high expectations for you, Crown Prince of Asgard,” Tony replied, speaking disrespectfully despite Thor’s apology.

During the last battle against the Dark Elf, Tony learned that the big man who seemed unconcerned with earthly matters and only cared for dogs was actually the Crown Prince of an extraterrestrial civilization.

However, as far as Tony is concerned, the Crown Prince is just an ordinary person on earth. Since he lost Lin Rui, Tony has the right to be angry.

"Different people have different powers. In addition, Jackson disappeared because of the power of the Magic Cube. I've brought something that can detect the energy of the Magic Cube, so it should be helpful," Thor acknowledged his mistake and didn't argue with Tony. He simply lowered his posture and continued speaking.

"Actually, we already have news about Jackson. We haven't found him yet, but we've determined his approximate location. He's in the United States right now, and he may come back on his own soon," Tony said in a calmer tone. His anger had subsided somewhat seeing that Thor wasn't offering any arguments.

"What?! You almost found him?!" Thor asked in surprise upon hearing Tony's words.

"He might be avoiding us on purpose, or something else might have happened. Either way, he's in the United States now, and he'll come back when he's ready. Do you still want to find him? I don't mind either way," Tony continued, seeing Thor's surprised expression.

"Sure, let's go!"

Chapter 956: Guess

A few minutes later, Tony and Thor sat down on the sofa in a relaxed manner. Tony also took off the Iron Man Armor on his body and put it aside. He was quite satisfied with Thor's attitude just now.

If Thor hadn't taken the blame so proactively, maybe Tony would have had to give him a good trashing. Of course, with Thor's current strength, Tony may not have been able to achieve his wish.

"Okay, let's put aside the matter of looking for Jackson for now, I am good as long as I know that kid is still alive and kicking. Now, tell me about the Dark Elves. Where did they go after the battle that day?" Sitting on the sofa with his legs up, Tony looked at Thor and asked.

As soon as Tony entered Thor's apartment, he took measures to block the signal of the SHIELD surveillance team that had been set up in the room across from Thor's. Thor's identity was already known to SHIELD and he was considered an S-level figure, so Tony didn't want to drive the team away. However, he didn't want his conversations with Thor to be monitored, so he took steps to block the signal.

"After the battle, Malekith, the leader of the Dark Elf clan, fled back to their planet in a spaceship. No further action has been taken since then. However, Malekith lost too much in his plan and will unlikely be able to recover and launch another invasion," Thor told Tony, relaying information he had learned in Asgard.

Tony's question about the possibility of another invasion by the Dark Elf clan reflects his concern about the earth's ability to withstand another attack. The previous invasion, which was successfully repelled by Tony's efforts, resulted in significant damage and loss of life.

The earth's survival was made possible only with the aid of Asgard and the secret support of the earth's sorcerer. Without these allies, Tony's alliance may not have been able to prevent Malekith, the leader of the Dark Elf clan who possessed the powerful ether particle, from destroying the earth.

The memory of the great sacrifices made during the previous invasion weighs heavily on Tony and he is understandably worried about the potential for another attack.

Tony frowned and asked Thor, "What is your plan? Last time you came in a hurry and didn't explain why the Dark Elf was invading Earth. I feel like there is a lot we don't know about it."

Lin Rui had previously encountered the space portal in Siberia while searching for the Magic Cube. He then crossed over to the dimension space in London to save Jane Foster but was severely injured.

He was then accidentally teleported to Asgard by Bifrost. Given this experience, Lin Rui had already suspected that the Dark Elf would invade Earth, but he did not have the opportunity to inform Tony and the others. Even if he had warned them, the outcome would have likely been the same.

"Malekith's plan has been in the works for thousands of years. The earth is located in the middle of the Nine Realms, making it the first target of his invasion. The specifics of his plan are rooted in the events of a battle that took place thousands of years ago. It all began..." Thor then began to elaborate on Malekith's motives and the details of the use of the Aether particles to Tony.

After another ten minutes, Thor completed his explanation. As he spoke, Tony expressed his shock and disbelief. With Thor's explanation, Tony now had a better understanding of the Nine Realms and the position of Earth in the universe or in the world tree.

"It turns out... so that's it." When Thor finished speaking and started looking for water for himself, Tony couldn't help but sigh with emotion.

"I think Jackson should know all of what you just said." After sighing with emotion, Tony looked at Thor who was gulping water in front of him and seemed to ask himself a question.

"Jackson? He must know," Thor interrupted Tony, "Although I am unsure of how he, as a person on Earth, obtained this knowledge. Perhaps he has..." Thor's sentence trailed off.

Despite Lin Rui not bringing it up, Thor had always suspected that there was more to the young man who had aided him in New Mexico. As he got to know Lin Rui better, his suspicions were confirmed, and he became certain that Lin Rui's identity was not ordinary. Upon returning to Asgard, Thor discovered some information about Lin Rui from his mother, Frigga.

In other words, it appeared that this young man had a unique connection with Earth's Sorcerer Supreme, the Ancient One. If Lin Rui was indeed someone that the Ancient One held in high regard, then it was clear that he had a profound understanding of not only the Nine Realms but also the entire universe.

After all, the title of Ancient One was not one that was earned by simply remaining on Earth; it was acknowledged by other civilizations in the universe as well.

“Maybe what?” Tony asked eagerly, noticing Thor’s sudden pause. “Is there something you know about Jackson that I don’t?”

Ever since he met Lin Rui, Tony had been trying to uncover the secrets of this young man, but to no avail. Now, with Thor appearing to have knowledge of something, Tony was not going to miss this opportunity to learn more about Lin Rui.

“Um... this,” Thor hesitated, uncertain whether or not to continue under Tony’s questioning.

After all, the Sorcerers were a secret organization on Earth. However, during the recent Dark Elf invasion, Thor noticed that several sorcerers had come to offer their assistance.

“What are you unable to tell me? You are aware of my relationship with Jackson. Even if I am aware, I will continue to treat him in the same manner as before.” Tony expressed his dissatisfaction after observing Thor’s hesitancy.

In fact, as Tony said, given his lengthy friendship with Lin Rui, he will not entertain any alternative theories even if Thor suddenly informs Tony that Lin Rui is an extraterrestrial. After all, Lin Rui has always acted in a way that promotes earth preservation.

“Alright! But if Lin Rui returns in the future, don’t say that I mentioned it,” Thor said to Tony, after a moment of contemplation and spoke with a serious expression on his face.

“No problem,” Tony nodded in response to Thor’s words.

“You should already know about the Sorcerers, but do you know about the Ancient One, the Sorcerer Supreme?” Thor asked.

“Yes, I’ve met him once. He is a very powerful individual,” Tony replied.

“The Sorcerer Supreme is not just powerful. Your Mirage Knight, Jackson Lin, has a good relationship with the ancient one. It’s possible that the ancient one is looking for an inheritor,” Thor revealed what he knew.

It’s worth noting that both of the situations Thor mentioned are true. While the relationship between the Ancient One and Lin Rui is not overt, it can be considered good, and the Ancient One has recently announced that he is searching for a successor.

However, these two circumstances do not align well with Lin Rui, as he has no aptitude for magic whatsoever.

Chapter 957: Reaction

Based on Thor’s statements, it’s clear that Thor believes that the Ancient One has taken an interest in Lin Rui and plans to make him his successor.

However, it’s important to note that the Ancient One is indeed searching for a talented inheritor in preparation for his “retirement”, but he did not have Lin Rui in mind as a candidate. The Ancient One is aware of Lin Rui’s identity and knows that he lacks any aptitude for magic.

“Are you saying that Jackson still has the potential to become a sorcerer?” Tony asked in disbelief after hearing Thor’s words.

In Tony’s perception, Lin Rui already possesses a great deal of strength and potential. Every time Lin Rui goes through some experience, his strength increases.

The last time Lin Rui fought Hulk, even though he was defeated, it was enough to see that he had a great deal of confidence in his own strength. If Lin Rui still has a great talent for magic, it would be extraordinary.

“He must have some potential, otherwise, why would the Ancient One treat him so favorably? And didn’t the Ancient One sorcerer rescue him when he was teleported away from Earth last time? From what my mother said, the Ancient One probably used...” Seeing Tony’s surprised look, Thor continued but stopped midway.

Thor also knew that he almost talked about the situation of the Time Stone in the hands of the Ancient One, which is something they cannot discuss now.

“Is that so? Is the Ancient One really that powerful?” Tony disregarded Thor’s sudden silence as he was more interested in the strength of the Ancient One sorcerer.

If it was truly the Ancient One, the Sorcerer Supreme, who placed value on Lin Rui, then as the person responsible for Jackson Lin, a talented high school student, Tony must always be aware of who the other party is.

“Can’t you tell from the title alone? Not just anyone can be called the Sorcerer Supreme! It’s safe to say that it’s thanks to the Ancient One that the Earth has been able to develop steadily to this day” Thor replied with a challenging raise of his eyebrows.

It’s important to note that the Earth’s Ancient One is a powerful individual on par with Asgard’s Odin. Additionally, Odin’s health is gradually declining while Ancient One’s condition is obviously much better than Odin’s.

“Is he really that powerful? Then why didn’t I see him take action during the Dark Elf invasion this time? The weird guy who fought with Venom last time actually showed up.” Hearing Thor says that the Ancient One is so powerful, Tony said lightly.

Although Tony didn’t show it, he already had some doubts about this Sorcerer Supreme named Ancient One in his heart. Although Lin Rui was also very mysterious, Tony considered himself the elder of this mysterious young man, and he was the first to know what was happening.

And now that the Ancient One has suddenly appeared, and it’s possible that he had his eyes on Lin Rui, Tony has an inexplicable feeling that his excellent protégé will be taken away by someone else.

“Earth Sorcerers don’t involve themselves in everything. This time, the Dark Elves invaded Earth and it wasn’t their concern, but there were still Sorcerers who helped, so you should be satisfied!” Thor said helplessly when he saw Tony’s expression.

“Well, if that kid Jackson knew someone so powerful like Ancient One then he shouldn’t have kept it from us!” Tony said angrily, not wanting to continue discussing this topic.

“Um... then you can talk to Jackson about it when he comes back,” Thor responded lightly, noticing Tony’s change in mood.

Tony: “...” No one knows when Jackson will come back, and Tony won’t talk to him about it at that time.

Tony and Thor talked about something else, and Tony got up from the sofa. Tony already knew what he needed to know, and SHIELD’s team had been waiting outside for a while. Rogers, who had flown over from Washington, was also on his way.

Ka Ka Ka!

Tony stood up and quickly donned the Iron Man suit.

He then looked at Thor, who was still sitting on the couch.

“I’m going back first. People from SHIELD should come to you later. You can handle it. Anyway, they won’t make things difficult for you. If you really have a way to find Jackson, then go,” Tony said, finishing his sentences before turning and walking towards the window.

Boom!

Tony then flew straight out the window of Thor’s apartment. By looking at the direction Tony was flying, it seems like he was planning to intercept Rogers from Washington. In any case, Tony has already understood the situation, so there’s no need for Rogers to come over in person.

As for the SHIELD agents downstairs and the surveillance team across the street, they will also receive news from the headquarters, and they will not have much of a reaction to Thor’s return.

“SHIELD, it seems that my hammer is still with them. Maybe this time, I can retrieve what belongs to me,” Thor whispered to himself as he looked at Tony’s back which was about to fly away.

Then, he pulled out his phone and started calling Jane Foster. A few days ago, because of the battle, Destroyer sent Jane Foster to a safe place, and Thor didn’t have time to say hello to her when he returned. Therefore, Thor now thinks that his ex-girlfriend should not be angry with him and may want to get back with him.

Beep Beep

“Hey! Jane! I’m back! I’m back on Earth!” Tony shouted excitedly as soon as the phone was connected.

“Crack!”

Beep Beep

...

Brush!

When Thor took the phone away from his ear with a dazed expression, Tony had already flown into the sky. In the direction of his flight, a Quinjet was rushing toward him. After spotting Tony, the Quinjet slowed down noticeably.

A few seconds later, Tony had already flown to the Quinjet carrying Captain America. Then, the bottom cabin of the Quinjet opened and Tony flew right in. Not long after Tony entered the Quinjet, the jet turned around and flew towards the Stark Industries building in downtown New York, landing on the top floor of the building.

After that, Rogers and Tony disembarked the plane together and walked into the luxurious living room on the top floor of the Stark Industries building. What they talked about that day, remains known only to them.

However, just after ten o'clock in the evening when Bifrost landed in New York, a very strong earthquake occurred in the SHIELD's first-level base in New Mexico, it was accompanied by a very strong lightning reaction. This incident caused the earthquake to be felt in a radius of 100 kilometers and all power was cut off.

Chapter 958: Summoned

Zilala~~

The first-level base of SHIELD in New Mexico was filled with sparks and electric lights at this time, it was as if it had suffered some kind of electromagnetic attack. Although the entire base seemed to be under attack, the people inside were orderly and not panicked.

The researchers quickly ran towards the outside of the base under the protection of the soldiers, while the rest rushed to the center of the base to put out any open fires. It was obvious that this was not the first time they had experienced such a situation.

Huh~

"Hey! I thought it would be stable for a while, but I didn't expect something to go wrong, and this time it's more powerful than last time!" A middle-aged researcher complained as he ran out under the protection of the soldiers.

"Didn't you already prepare mentally? After all, this thing is not a conventional weapon, and it's normal to have these reactions. However, we finally achieved some results after such a long period of research" An older man walking in front of him spoke calmly in response to the researcher's complaints.

The middle-aged researcher replied to the old man, "I understand, but I can't shake the feeling that we're running out of time."

The old man reassured him, "Don't fret, once things settle down we can pick up where we left off. Hopefully, before the next outbreak, we'll have found a way to control it."

Despite the tireless efforts of the senior researchers, their progress in studying Mj?lnir, left behind by Thor in New Mexico, has been slow. Without the complete information from Asgard, they have only been able to decrypt one percent of it.

Rumble!

As the old man finished his words, a deafening roar echoed from the core of the base behind them, followed by a black object hurtling into the sky with a thundering force.

Zi Zi Zi!

Brush!

Amidst the thunderous noise, the black object shot toward New York at an incredible speed. It was none other than Mjølner, which had been studied by SHIELD. After a prolonged period of inactivity, the Asgardian tool had finally responded to someone's call.

The middle-aged researcher, trembling, exclaimed in shock as he watched Mjølner fly off into the distance, "Professor!... The hammer flew away! It really flew away!"

Hoo!

However, as the middle-aged researcher finished his exclamation, the old man who had witnessed the event collapsed in agitation. If Mjølner truly escaped, their research would have been for naught, and the results would not be enough to construct a comprehensive theory.

"Professor!!" The middle-aged researcher shouted in concern as he rushed to support the old man.

"Quickly notify headquarters! We need assistance!!" The old man, supported by his student, exclaimed after catching his breath.

"The situation has been reported to headquarters," The Captain of the battle team escorting them replied promptly.

Now, there was no need for retreat. The individuals who had caused the chaos and electrical riots in the base had fled, and the base would soon return to normal. However, the S-level item had escaped again, and at such high speed, the chances of retrieving it were slim.

"We must...definitely get it back!" The old man said with determination before he passed out due to his anxiousness.

"Professor!!"

...

As the chaos unfolded at SHIELD's primary base in New Mexico and Mjølner, which had been dormant, suddenly unleashed its power of thunder and escaped. Thor, in his apartment in New York, paced back and forth in the living room and the expression on his face changed constantly.

"Why did Mjølner respond so positively to my call this time? I haven't fully regained my powers as Thor yet!" Thor muttered to himself as he paced back and forth in his apartment, his eyes flickering with a light blue glow.

It seemed that Thor's call had caused Mjølner to suddenly go berserk at the SHIELD base in New Mexico and flee the base, flying away. After Jane Foster hung up on him and blocked him, Thor, confused by her behavior, stopped trying to contact her for the time being and attempted to summon Mjølner again.

Thor was surprised when his summoning was answered so clearly by Mj?lnir, unlike his previous attempts where he barely received a response. Now, he could sense Mj?lnir coming towards him rapidly.

“Haha! It seems that coming back to Earth was the right decision. I wouldn’t have known when I would have been able to summon Mj?lnir back!” Thor exclaimed in joy as he confirmed that his Mj?lnir was indeed flying towards him quickly.

He then walked quickly to the window of the living room, eager to see his long-lost hammer for the first time as Mj?lnir flew in his direction.

Ci Ci Ci Ci~

As Thor waited by the window for Mj?lnir’s return, the SHIELD team assigned to monitor him in the apartment across from his, heard him talking to himself through their headsets.

“Captain, what does the s-target mean? He’s talking about something?” One of the team members asked the Captain in a low voice.

Their equipment had malfunctioned while Tony was there, but it returned to normal after he left. It looks like Tony didn’t mind Thor being monitored by them.

“He’s summoning something? Is he a sorcerer? Isn’t he an alien who is friendly to Earth?” The Captain muttered, intrigued, as he put on a headset to listen in on Thor’s conversation.

Suddenly, a thunderous roar echoed from the sky above New York and it was as if a bolt of thunder had struck out of nowhere, and it was rapidly getting closer.

Chapter 959: Killian Back Clue

Rumble!

As soon as the Captain put on the headphones, the loud roar passed through the headphones and directly reached his eardrums. The roar was already deafening, but it was even more intense after being amplified by the professional equipment.

The Captain and his other two teammates who were also wearing headphones immediately tore them off their heads upon hearing the sound, and shook their heads quickly, wincing in pain.

“Ah! It hurts!”

“My Ear! It’s about to explode!”

“My whole head is buzzing!” After throwing off the earphones, the surveillance agents covered their ears and yelled in pain.

“Captain! Are you all right?!” Seeing the sudden behavior of teammates and Captain, the other teammates next to him shouted with worried expressions on their faces.

Rumble!

The team monitoring Thor was momentarily confused by the sudden roar, but they soon realized that the roar was getting closer. Even without headphones, the rest of the team could hear the roar.

They were surprised but were unaware that Thor, across from their apartment, was standing by the window with an excited expression on his face as he gazed up at the sky.

“Haha! Mj?Inir, you are finally back!” Thor exclaimed as he looked up and saw a black object wrapped in blue thunder flying rapidly towards Tony’s apartment.

Hurrah!

The onlookers who had just dispersed were shocked as the thunder-like object slashed toward the location where Bifrost had landed earlier. However, the area was now surrounded by SHIELD, making it impossible for them to get a close look. They could only stand there and watch as the thunder crashed into Thor’s apartment building.

“Huh?!” Thor exclaimed in surprise as he saw Mj?Inir flying towards him quickly.

He realized that Mj?Inir wasn’t slowing down. Normally, Thor would have been able to catch it without any problem, but his powers had not fully recovered yet. If Mj?Inir hit him at full speed, it was likely that the apartment building would be destroyed.

“I.....”

Boom!

Before he could make a final exclamation, Mj?Inir smashed into Thor’s apartment with the force of thunder. Then, like a bomb went off in the apartment building, the whole building shook violently.

...

Two minutes ago, Thor was hanging up with Jane Foster and was in the process of summoning Mj?Inir. Meanwhile, Tony and Rogers were sitting on a soft couch in the luxury living room on the top floor of the Stark Industries building, the tallest building in downtown New York. They were chatting.

It was clear that Tony had told Rogers about the information he received from Thor regarding the Dark Elves. With this knowledge, Rogers saw no need to go to Thor himself.

However, Tony had not shared his and Thor’s speculations about Lin Rui’s identity with Rogers, as it was unnecessary. The mysterious Lin Rui’s identity was uncertain and their guesses may not be correct.

“You told me before that there were some clues in the investigation of the forces behind Killian. What kind of clues?” Tony asked after taking a sip of the red wine on the table and looking at Rogers across from him.

When Tony had just woken up, Rogers had already contacted him briefly, but he did not say much, only confirming that Tony was safe. Since Rogers had come to New York this time, Tony wanted to learn more about the investigation of the Extremis incident.

Tony asked a question and Rogers replied with a slight frown, “There are clues, but they also cause me some headaches.”

Tony was surprised and said, “Really? Can something give Captain America Steve Rogers a headache? It seems that the situation with Killian is more complex than I thought.”

During the previous battle with Killian’s Extremis fighters, Tony deployed hundreds of Iron Man troops to ultimately defeat them and captured some of the fighters. However, upon experimenting and researching those captured Extremis fighters, both Tony and SHIELD discovered some issues.

The Extremis in these captured fighters appeared to have undergone a change. They still have the ability to enhance the strength of the human body and turn it into a living bomb, but they can no longer transform into the terrifying giant monsters they were previously capable of, it was as if this ability had been taken away.

In addition to obtaining information about Extremis from these fighters, they also received a significant amount of information from another important individual, Mandarin. His identity and status in the incident is just as mysterious as Killian’s. It was Mirage Knight who took the initiative to capture Mandarin alive, otherwise, SHIELD might not have been able to control such an influential figure later on.

Despite Mandarin’s reluctance to speak and strong willpower, SHIELD’s professional agents were able to extract information from him through repeated torture. It was revealed that there was another force secretly supporting Killian and his group. Without this support, it would have been impossible for Killian, even as a genius, to perfect Extremis to such an extent in just over ten years.

Furthermore, the means to transform Extremis fighters into giant monsters is also in the hands of the forces behind them. Without this support, the Extremis formula is limited to basic enhancements and would not be able to cause such extensive damage.

“It’s definitely not simple. Do you know where the clues revealed by Mandarin lead to?” Nodding, Rogers asked further.

As he spoke, Rogers looked towards the east. Seeing the direction of Rogers’ gaze, Tony was not only surprised but also a little shocked, “You mean... the forces behind Killian are from there?”

“That’s correct” Rogers nodded seriously, confirming Tony’s assumption. The ancient and mysterious country in the east, despite SHIELD’s power, it has its own limitations and can’t control it. There seems to be a mysterious barrier between the two.

Chapter 960: Future Pattern

Tony remained silent for a moment after verifying that Rogers’ statement was credible. He realized that they would have to proceed with caution if the Eastern country was truly involved with Killian.

“So, shouldn’t we have sent someone to make contact with them?” Tony spoke up again after the brief silence.

“We did send a team to investigate further,” Rogers replied, nodding. “But we haven’t received any updates yet, they may still be in contact.”

“That’s it...”

Rumble!

As Tony was about to speak again, a loud roar and the sound of thunderclaps interrupted him. Both he and Rogers' expressions changed and they quickly headed to the open-air platform outside the living room to investigate the source of the noise.

Rumble!

Brush!

As soon as Tony and Rogers stepped out, they saw a black object, engulfed in thunderbolts, hurtling towards a location in New York City from a high altitude. Its speed was too fast for Tony to activate his Iron Man suit in time.

Dī Dī Drops!

As the black figure flew overhead, a notification sound from Rogers' communicator beeped from his waist.

brush!

As Rogers checked the message on the communicator, the black object had already crashed into a downtown area of New York City with a thunderous force. Rogers didn't seem surprised by its impact location, but Tony's eyes widened slightly and it looked as if he was deep in thought.

"That's Thor's apartment," Tony said to Rogers after the black object disappeared into the ground.

"Could that fast black shadow have been heading towards him?" Tony also attempted to intercept the object, but its speed was too great for him to stop it without prior preparation, even as Iron Man. Rogers' expression showed that he was aware of the object's origin.

"Yes, it was targeted at Thor. That shadow is something that originally belonged to Thor," Rogers confirmed Tony's guess.

"Originally belonged to Thor..." Tony repeated Rogers' words with a thoughtful expression on his face.

"Shall we go check it out? Given the speed of that black shadow, it could have made a huge impact," Tony asked.

"No, since it came on its own, let Thor handle it," Rogers denied, shaking his head.

However, thinking of the excitement of the researchers in New Mexico State mentioned on the communicator, Rogers was also helpless. They were researching other people's stuff before, so don't take back your own stuff now, they can't force them to come back and continue researching, Rogers doesn't have such a big face yet.

Despite the cries of the researchers in New Mexico State, Rogers felt helpless in this situation. They had been studying other people's stuff, and now that the person had taken his stuff back, they can't continue their own research and they also can't force someone to surrender his weapon as Rogers did not yet have enough influence to make this happen.

Additionally, during the recent Dark Elf invasion, Rogers had become aware of the power of Asgard and Thor. Therefore, if Thor were to reclaim Mj lnir, Rogers would simply pretend it never happened.

As for the researchers, they should be transferred back to SHIELD headquarters, where there are ample opportunities for them to utilize their skills.

“Really?” Tony responded to Rogers’ answer with a neutral tone.

Since Rogers showed no desire to elaborate further, Tony decided not to press him for more information. He knew that the black shadow was moving towards Thor and eventually he would learn what was happening.

“Alright, since you’ve said that the Dark Elves have retreated to their own territory and Asgard is keeping an eye on them, we can finally relax,” Rogers shifted the conversation away from the topic of the black shadow without further discussion.

“Yeah, without magical elements like the Aether particles, the Dark Elves won’t be able to do much,” Tony nodded in agreement with Rogers’ perspective.

“Tony, have you ever thought about it before? That our Earth would come into contact with extraterrestrial civilization so quickly, and it would be directly invaded by them,” Rogers asked with a serious tone, as he stood on the top floor of the Stark Industries building and looked out at the busy scene of New York City.

“To be honest, I never thought it would happen so soon,” Tony replied with a serious tone.

On hearing Tony’s answer, Rogers frowned and asked, “You mean, you didn’t expect that the Earth would be invaded by extraterrestrial civilizations?”

From Tony’s response, Rogers realized that their expectations about the possibility of Earth’s invasion by extraterrestrial civilizations differed. Tony seemed more calm and more collected.

“Steve, do you remember the purpose of the alliance we formed?” Tony asked with a smile, noting the surprised expression on Rogers’ face.

“The purpose of our alliance? Isn’t it to form a real Earth federation? To unite the power of the entire planet, accelerate the development of Earth’s technology, and promote the progress of Earth’s civilization,” Rogers quickly replied to Tony’s rhetorical question.

“Exactly. But the most important thing after the establishment of the real Earth Federation is to enter the Interstellar Age of Navigation. And as we enter the Interstellar Age of Navigation, we will inevitably come into contact with other civilizations in the universe. It’s normal for other civilizations to discover us first and launch an invasion before we make that step,” Tony added after Rogers’ response.

As a genius scientist, Tony is well aware of the situations that human civilization may encounter in the future. However, most importantly, Tony has been informed by Lin Rui about the potential scenarios that Earth may encounter in the future, including the invasion of extraterrestrial civilizations.

“So, did you actually expect the Dark Elf’s invasion this time?” Rogers asked with a raised eyebrow, as he noticed a change in Tony’s demeanor.

Tony shook his head lightly and sensed that something was off with Rogers beside him.

"If I had truly expected the Dark Elf's invasion, this battle might not have ended so poorly. However, since the space portal connecting the Dark Elf's territory appeared in Siberia, I had some suspicions. But I thought the collision of the two civilizations would happen in Siberia, with that space portal as the center, not London, and not in such a brutal way where the other party broke into Earth," Tony explained.

"Besides, I'm a genius scientist, not a prophet," Tony replied calmly to Rogers' question.

On hearing Tony's explanation and answer, Rogers quickly let go of his previous thoughts. He realized that he had overthought it.

"The space portal on Siberia's side is still very stable. There are no Dark Elves on the opposite side, and we haven't sent any more teams there," Rogers added since Tony brought up the space portal on Siberia's side.

"This is for the best. Neither we nor the Dark Elves can handle more trouble at the moment. When we become stronger, that might be the starting point of our counterattack," Tony said with a sharper glint in his eyes on hearing Rogers' words.

As Tony previously mentioned, as Earth continues to develop, its future is no longer limited to just the planet. They will eventually have to deal with other civilizations in the universe.

"Counterattack... I hope that day will not come too late," Rogers said with a sigh.

"Don't worry, it won't be too late," Tony reassured him.

The sun was setting in the sky, casting elongated shadows of the two powerful figures on the top floor of the Stark Industries building. They stood upright in the breeze, facing the future with determination.