

Shadow 1041

[Chapter 1041: The nightingale and the trickster \(2\)](#)

So, as Loki was trying to stab the Broker, Sasha pull the Broker towards her causing him to miss.

Loki smiles as he kicks the ground underneath his feet.

The entire ground shakes before it exploded.

The radius of one meter around him depressed while outside that one-meter radius, the ground exploded and bursted up toward the sky.

Large amount of soils rises up to the sky with stones and hard ground. Loki at the same time propels himself to the sky.

‘Sharp’ he mutters as he opens his left palm. Glowing runes floated out from his palm. The moment he said sharp, these runes fly towards the stones and the hard ground that was in the sky.

It attached itself and suddenly even though the soil should not have given one the sense of it being sharp, Sasha could notice something that is wrong.

Everything become sharp. From the small pebbles of stones to the irregular shape of hard ground that is all over the sky right now, everything had become sharp like a pair of knives

Sasha plan is simple. Since she could not defeat Loki in one on one combat, she would not even try. She would bring the Broker away.

The area around them is still distorted because of the earlier surge of energy. Sasha plans to regroup with her operatives.

But how could it be that easy?

‘It is not that easy to run away from me!’ Loki said as he throws another knife.

A powerful bolt of lightning seems to explode from that knife. His knife seems to glimmers as bright as the sun.

At the same time, the boulders, the pebbles, the stones and the soils that was forced up into the sky by Loki stomp turns into knife intent.

They become incomparably sharp.

And then it pulverizes their matter. With a shape, with matter, there is restriction. A round shape stone and an irregular shaped soil, all of this could be turned into knife intent

But, restricted by its shape, it could not reach the apex of sharpness.

Loki attack right now might not be as supreme and domineering as Azief attack when he swings his sword and cut off an entire archipelago island.

But it is close to it. A mass of clear light appears from the knife. This light seems to extend to infinity.

A knife light that could be seen tens of thousands of kilometers away appeared. It eclipsed the light of the sun and enveloped the entire forest.

A sharp ring of the knife sounded out explosively and echoed like the ringing of a bell.

Like a giant was awoken from its slumber, the sound created mental attack.

'Argh!' Sasha shouted as she unconsciously releases the translucent rope that she had used to tied up the Broker body.

Sasha immediately realized what had happened as she kicks the clouds around her and fly down to grab back the Broker.

But that knife did not yet explode with its ultimate potential. All of this took time to describe but it happens in the span of two seconds.

Even as Sasha was trying to grab back the rope, her eyes sting. The sharpness that Loki had uses did not only sharpen the knife intent but also the concept of sharpness.

Her eyes felt like something is stinging it. But she endures the pain. Because she knows one thing. Loki might not hesitate to kill the Broker. But he would not kill her.

Because he needs her to man the helm of Pandemonium. So, she uses all of her strength and diverted it to increase her speed.

The desperation in her heart, the trembling hand and her stinging eyes, all shows how determined she is to save the Broker.

The broker since the beginning of the conversation till the battle is still unconscious.

Whatever Loki did to him; it renders him unconscious to the point that he almost looks like he had died already

In the sky right now, the clouds for ten thousand kilometers radius, is all clear.

If this was before the Multiversal Convergence, this move of Loki would have the same effect like what Death Monarch had done.

It would clear the sky of the entire world.

Fortunately, this is after the Multiversal Convergence.

If not, many forces would know, right now, in one region of Pandemonium, there is an intense battle that is happening involving the most wanted man Loki and the elusive leader of the Shadow Guards Sasha

The sound of booming fills the sky, and distortion could be seen all above the skies.

And all one could see is endless vast blue sky with nothing else.

There are no single clouds to be seen like someone had erased it. Like some kind of pristine painting that had not been added with some colors yet.

Only blue skies and yellow sun

But if one looks at the sky, they would feel their eyes sting.

Like there is knives striking their eyes.

If even people who are not close to that knife power felt this way, what else could be said about Sasha who is near that knife.

That knife travelled slowly in the air while being disintegrated and become knife intent that covers everything around Sasha.

BOOOM! A powerful shockwave seems to explode that affects the Laws and Concepts all around Loki

He is smiling with his eyes looking very dangerous

If Sasha was the target right now, and Loki wanted to kill her, she would probably be minced to death.

But because she was not, she keeps flying down trying to grab the Broker even as injuries appears in her skin.

Her skin is already tough surpassing the strongest metal known in the world

Everyone who had reached Disk Formation would have skins that are hard to break, as everyone undergoes physical metamorphosis during the Energy Disperse Stage.

But right now, her skin is as fragile as paper as wound appears like scratches.

At first the scratches are small but as moments passed by, the wound slowly become larger.

The pain which at the beginning simply felt like a bite of group of ants now the pain is akin of having putting your hand into a wood chipper

Loki might not want to kill Sasha but he surely could hurt her

Sasha could feel that there is an endless sphere of chilling light enveloping her, wounding her and trying to stop her.

And that chilling light is about to envelop the Broker.

Even her mental state seems to be stung with the sharpness of the knife intent. Almost like it could even cut her memories

The closer she is toward grabbing the rope that is flailing in the air as the Broker keep falling, the more pain she experiences.

'Loki attack.... affected the Concepts and Laws of the world' this is what she concluded. That's the only way to explain this fierce but sharp attack

If only she knew how close she is to the mark. Loki in the past had used such methods to deal with the White Witch.

He had carved an inerasable tattoo on the body of the White Witch. A tattoo that hints toward the future.

Only after using the last vestiges of the White Witch memories, that the tattoo had disappeared.

But, before all of that happens, Loki had erased White Witch memories about him. The same attack is now enveloping Sasha

Fortunately, this is not an attack directed at her mental state. If not, she would suffer all kinds of excruciating pain right now.

Loki on the other hand, just floats in the sky, his eyes seems to look at the sight of Sasha flying down trying to catch Nathan.

Nathan is unconscious and did not respond to anything. He looks at all of this with coldness. That one attack is enough to do what it supposed to do.

His Divine Sense is also limited here but he could guess that when he was talking with Sasha before, Sasha had called for reinforcement.

It did not matter.

His eyes kept looking.

But his eyes are unlike normal eyes. There is images of matrixes and runes in his pupil. He is calculating. Calculating probabilities.

It takes a great deal of control to unleash an attack that could destroy an entire continent and make sure that it is only limited to a certain place and people.

Sasha who is in the middle of that force felt a kind of petrifying brutality and cruelty in that attack.

As she was about to reach the rope, suddenly a force cut toward the rope and her finger grabs only air.

Powerful force of destruction and full of murderousness seems to try to push her away

'Arghh!' She yelled as her body burst out with energy.

'I will not let you get your way!' she shouted. The force is about to push her away and shredded the Broker into pieces but as she opens her mouth to scold Loki, she also begins to sing.

And the moment she sings, the worldly laws seems to change.

[Chapter 1042: The nightingale sings](#)

The wind changes course, the rivers bellows seems to slowly rise to the air, the ground seems to shake with giddiness and the sky seems to spirals.

There is white aura around her as she sings. And this white aura seems to spread out wider

The Song she sang is unlike any other song the world had ever heard. There is lyrics. But it is a language no one had ever heard.

Yet, each melody, each word of the lyrics of the song she sang seems to affect the Laws of the World.

Sasha energy drains a lot in that moment. But at the same time, it repelled that sharpness of the knife intent.

Loki narrowed his eyes thought to a poem

'The bird that soars on the highest wing,

Builds on the ground her lowly nest,

And she that doth most sweetly sing,

Sings in the shade when all things rest:

In lark and nightingale, we see

What honor hath humility

He was reminded of this poem. The song is not words. But a melody that calm the destruction and murderousness.

It is not quite accurate to say that it is a life force. It is simply a song so beautiful that even the Laws and Concepts stop to listen

Even Loki for a second felt enchanted by the song and his mind nearly stopped thinking. The calculation in his head nearly deviated.

That is how enchanting the song of a Nightingale really is. Sasha unique class is the Nightingale. Many people believe that the strongest power of the Nightingale is her stealth

That is what Sasha wants the world to believe.

It is not stealth but her song.

Her song is that ability she kept secrets of

When one thinks of Nightingale, they think of that bird who sing so sweetly that it inspires bards and poets and bring calmness into one heart

Loki knew the Ethernas who had this power. It is because he had the Book of Mysteries in the original timeline.

He did not know the name of that Ethernas but he does know the feat of that Ethernas.

That Ethernas probably is something very dangerous and powerful for a chapter is dedicated to it.

It is not like there isn't any Ethernas mentioned in the Book of Mysteries but there is only a few that was dedicated an entire chapter too

The Book of Mysteries had many chapters.

The first few chapters are of course about magic.

Orderly magic that have well thought system. And if you go further, there is other magic.

Not so orderly magic.

But once in a while, when you peruse the Book, you would find there is a few chapters that dedicated to some ancient being.

There was Ethernas. And there is even Eldritch being in the Dark Universe. The Nightingale is actually an Ethernas that transformed herself into a bird.

Every Nightingale that exist in the Universe is actually following Her image.

When life appears in any worlds, in any universe, and life began to bloom and all kinds of creature evolve and appears, there would be always be a Nightingale bird.

It is coded into creation itself.

Whether it is a big and titanic Nightingale birds or small nightingale birds that people once use to see on Earth, as long as life develops the way Earth does, it would always have a Nightingale bird.

Like Gods that put their Will Stamp into the consciousness of living beings to worship them, the same could be said for the phenomenon of always having a singing bird in a creation.

And the song that Sasha had sung is the most beautiful song that Loki had ever heard.

In the Book of Mysteries, it is said that when the Nightingale Ethernas sang, worlds were created, and even Laws and Concepts of the Universe stops to listen.

And she sung so beautiful songs, that every Ethernas would stop what they were doing and they would sit down under the large tree that is in the center of their world and listen to her song

Ethernas does not fall sick or get injured, nor do they age or die.

Before The Supreme One create The Creator and Destroyer, before Time was introduced to the Universe, before the concept of life and death appears, that is the state of Ethernas.

But living for such a long period, they get tired in their hearts and their mind.

The song of that titanic bird that would perch on the highest branch of the tallest tree in the Ethernas world would heal the tiredness in their hearts, minds and souls.

And they after finished singing, it would chirp happily and flew outside of Ethernas world. The Book did not tell Loki why the Nightingale sings or where she goes.

She was the first Ethernas that roams the empty Universe. But she was probably unlike any other Ethernas in the Universe.

Since she was the first to went out of the planet where the Ethernas was, she probably knows that outside of their world, there is only emptiness.

But she would still flies in space and she would sing. For whom, that song was? Does the song still echo until today?

Does the song of the sea, the song of the earth, is merely the last vestiges of Her Will? Or is it the echoes of a long bygone era only heard today?

And the reason why an entire chapter of the Book of Mysteries was dedicated to this unnamed Ethernas is because, she is the only one that had her Will coded into every creation.

Regardless of the kinds of birds, regardless of the kind of the world, there would always be a bird that would sing beautiful song that would inspire all kinds of thoughts

This is a grace and a gift from the Supreme One toward this one particular Ethernal.

Whether this Ethernal participated in the last battle between the Ethernal and the Destroyer, that remains unknown.

But her Will live on and not like the inherited state of the system. It lives in every living being in every universe and dimension

As long as there is life that would be able to stand the test of time, there would be a singing bird.

And for Earth, that is the Nightingale. In that brief moment, Loki remembers all of this and nearly forget what he needed to do and wanted to do

But then the Song ended. And he quickly regains back his calmness as he looks at Sasha who is pale and have wrinkly skins is about to reach Nathan.

The knife that he had thrown had lost all of its luster. The knife intent that was so domineering and powerful had disappeared almost like an instant.

It was calmed down by that song. Loki only shakes his head

'It is unexpected that Sasha had such a trump card.'

Then a smile formed on the end of his mouth

'But, that is not enough' muttering this, Loki kick the air and almost in a second he appears below Nathan who is about to fall down toward him

Loki made another grasping motion and this time, there is a sword on his hand. This sword is translucent almost like it is made out of air itself

His eyes close for a second. And then he slashes down. This time he put a little effort in his attack.

The reason why it was so hard to kill Nathan before is because Loki fears that the attack he would unleash would hurt Sasha.

Right now, they are separated. To some people it might not seem that way as it almost appears like Sasha is only a few inches away from grabbing the Broker to her

But for someone with Loki power as long as you are not really in front of that person or already grabbing that person, a few inches away is like a world away

BOOOOM!

A larger shockwave exploded and before Sasha could grab the Broker, she who have now been drained almost all of her power was pushed away by a powerful shockwave blast

This time, she could no longer fight against the force

Sasha in that one moment, just right before she was pushed away by the shockwave, look at the Broker and sigh.

She closes her eyes and put down all hope, and turns into a white flash that uses the shockwave to propel herself backward safely.

She was blown a thousand kilometers away in that brief moment.

She forces herself to stop in midair, as she deals with the aftershock that was not as strong as the initial explosion.

After enduring most of the blast, she halted in the sky, forcing the shockwave blast to spread around her, causing the space around her to crack under the pressure.

Then she stood there in the air and look toward the area she was in.

Then she looks left and right and then her gaze stops at one direction.

It was the area to the north. She was spun around until her position is even hard to determine.

But as she looks toward the north and focus all of her senses to the max she could see the trails left by the shockwave blast.

From there, she could see where Loki was.

[Chapter 1043: The reason to wait](#)

‘Che’ she gritted her teeth and then she kicks the air behind her, and dashing forward in the sky, leaving a trail of spiraling wind, beneath her feet, surpassing the speed of sound, she once again come toward the vicinity of the battle.

All of this took one second to happen.

half a second she was pushed a thousand kilometers away, and another half second, she arrives back near the battle site.

But the moment she arrives back at the battle site, she could only frown and she cursed in her heart

‘Fuck, I am too late’ she thought to herself.

The reason is simple. It is because she saw the sword silhouette forming in the sky, the accumulation of a very sharp sword intent gathering together.

The sword intent pressure is so powerful that it manifested solid form. And that solid form in heading toward the Broker

She knew at that moment she would not be able to save the Broker. She had done her best

The power coming out from the sword resembled the most violent and domineering monster which broke free of its cage and descend upon the Broker, its sole purpose is to decimate and destroy him

Sasha frowned.

‘Sword intent that is as powerful as Death Monarch’

'Loki had been holding back a lot these past few years' she thought to herself.

It is not as domineering as Death Monarch sword will but....one thing that Loki sword seems to surpass Death Monarch, was its sharpness.

It was so sharp that it seems that it cut off the energy all around the Broker. Like a void zone where energy could not cross. It cut space, time, elements, these intangible things.

That is how sharp the sword is. But because Loki is not yet a Divine Comprehension leveler, this effect of his cut is merely temporary

But this method alone would make him quite invincible among Disk Formation levelers.

At the same time, as the sword is coming down toward the Broker, in that moment that is less than a second, the sword shape suddenly condenses and become a streak of radiant light.

Even though, it appears like some kind of straight thin streak of light that is heading towards the Broker, Sasha could sense the dense killing intent contained in it.

And then she could see was how the sword light descend down on the Broker

There was nothing she could do. She could only watch. By now, it is already too late. She is looking at this scene

The scene of the execution of the Broker could be seen by her is because is making her thought process faster to view all of it without missing one bit

That is why the sword light seems slow in her perception.

And the reality is if she nullifies her thought process to the normal speed right now, she would not even be able to see this strike because of how swift it is.

The True time did not change. She could only trick her perception.

She would not make it to him before that sword strikes him. That is her conclusion. But there is another way.

But it is a path she would not choose. The only other way to stop that sword is if she went in front of that sword and accept the brunt of that attack

But then she would be severely injured and the end result would still not change. The Broker would still die.

So, that choice is not a choice at all. So, she stays still and watch. It might appear like she is heartless.

But, the truth is always heartless.

The Broker is not someone that Sasha would sacrifice herself for. She did not hesitate to give her best for him.

But that is out of the feeling of comradeship.

And part of why she wanted to stop Loki is because she knows that by doing this Loki had no way to turn back.

As much as she wanted to save Broker, part of the reason she wanted to save him is to save Loki.

She did not close her eyes and she did not even blink.

She watches this execution because she believes this is her punishment. And the last respect she could have given the Broker

Her feeling itself is full of complicated emotions. But most of all, she felt helpless. Powerless. Rarely she had felt such way.

The only other person that could make her feel this way is Death Monarch.

The sword seems to slowly come down.

The pressure of the sword attack affects the world

The sky around a thousand kilometers radius from the battle, lost its colors.

It was like all colors, all elements, and all energies around this thousand kilometers radius was sucked into that sword intent.

And the sword connected. Sasha look as the Broker is cut by that sword will. There is no scream or expression of pain.

Maybe, this is Loki way of showing some mercy. From the beginning of the battle between her and him, the Broker seems to be unconscious.

Now, even as he is dying, there is no expression of pain.

Only the sound of something being cut. The blood did not spurt out from the wound. Only a streak of light that passes the broker body and then before any blood could drop, the Broker body slowly being disintegrated.

Like dust. And the wind that accompanied that sword will scatter these dust to the sky. The Broker is destroyed into nothingness

There is no sign of him ever existing. The kill is very clean and neat.

Sasha close her eyes at this moment, her forehead seems to frown, feeling frustrated and all other kinds of emotion.

Sasha nullify the effect on her mind. And everything moves according to true time again in her perception.

With her limited range of Divine Sense, she could see what is the effect of that sword attack to the surrounding area

The force of that sword had flattened all forest in the ten thousand kilometers radius.

The entire land was scarred with deep gashes of sword marks.

There is deep abyss that leads to nowhere. Rivers path was diverted.

Some of the land was depressed while some of them were cut creating an uneven land geography with some of them losing a lot of area while some of them have large amount of soil piled up on top of one another, creating a hill-like structure

And the energy around the area was all in disarray, making it even harder for her to use her Divine Sense as it tangles with this energy that is all in chaos.

The shockwave seems to be endless as it moves like waves after waves around the area.

If this was before, the shockwave would probably travel the world a few time before finally calming down

But the world is now too big that even this force did not even reach half of Pandemonium. Only around the thousand kilometers radius.

Sasha retracts her Divine Sense and opens her eyes.

'The Broker is dead' she mutters to herself as she shakes her head.

Sasha sighed. She felt regretful. Loki landed back on the ground, the sword on his hand dissipated into motes of green light.

His energy is also drained a bit after executing such powerful sword intent.

Sasha also become calm. She could not stop Loki. So, the fight ended. In the end, this fight, she had lost.

But she did not go away. After all, they were not enemies. They just have different objectives and aims.

Now, that aim had been put out of the way, Sasha no longer have any reason to fight Loki. And vice versa.

Sasha fly toward Loki and then she too also landed on the ground. They were not too far away from each other, but they were not that close with each other either.

But to them, this distance is quite close. If they wanted to, just by moving with their body, they could cover this distance in less than a second.

Loki smiles towards her and then he said

'Now, I can answer that question.' Loki said

Sasha frowned and ask him

'What question?' Smiling, Loki answered

'the reason why I waited for you' Looking at the sky, Loki said

'This is why I wait for you, Sasha. I wanted you to witness it. You are the witness'

He smiles and then continue

'Since you have seen it, even if someone wanted to prove my innocence, when they saw this, they have no choice but to believe that I am not innocent. You are my proof'

'I would not be surprised if someone would be able to extract your memories out from you and peruse it to confirm what happens today. Guard it very well. Or better yet, erase some of the memories that specifically talk about what we are planning. The possibility is low that anyone could kidnap the leader of the Shadow Guards when she is in Pandemonium, but I always exercise caution and vigilance'

There is silence between them after Loki said those words. Instantly some of Loki's actions make sense to her

[Chapter 1044: A witness \(1\)](#)

She should have guessed it. But she was too anxious for the safety of the Broker that she did not think of this.

A witness to an execution. That is the role she is meant to play today. But for whom? For whom should she testify? And the answer immediately comes for her.

Loki wanted to convince someone else. He did not only want to convince the Crime Lords of his cruel nature.

But he also wanted to show his determination to "that person"

Since he had taken the blame to become a villain for the Multiversal Convergence and yet his brother still could not let him go and wanted him to come back, this killing, this execution is for her to relay it to Death Monarch

To show his determination. She clicks her tongue.

Sooner or later, regardless of how she wanted to cover up this matter, it will come to light.

Maybe the citizens would not know of this matter. But to those intelligence agencies in the dark, they would surely investigate what happened here.

Sasha clicks her tongue as she knows she needs to disavow any of her relations with the Broker.

It is not something she would like to do. But everything had been done. She could not really bring back The Broker back to life right now

There is no solution other than that. There are other solutions. But the other solutions would not be good for the Shadow Guards

In the end, she still had to choose the best choice for her and her organization

Since she could not do anything other than, she had to prepare countermeasures so that things would not get even worse.

Sighing he said

'Now, that it is done, you should no longer hesitate. Use me' Loki said. There was silence between them

Sasha shakes her head and said

'There is another way.' Loki eyebrows rise up

And then she said

'You force me to do this' the moment she said, the sound of a click could be heard. Loki smiles as he could see that there is something on Sasha hand, gripped tightly by her fingers.

She had clicked something. And the moment she did that, all kinds of sound could be heard.

Swoosh!

There is the sound of air splitting. The sensation of the ground moving and a surge of energy that is gathering around Loki and Sasha

Loki shakes his head like he disapproves of Sasha action.

'I have been waiting for you to call out all of your operatives here. Your last trump card, I presume. I wish you won't do that. It would save both our times. But, I guess you would not understand until you are beaten thoroughly.'

Sighing he then said

'I guess I need to extinguish all of your hopes before you start seeing things my way' And he smiles his most charming smile towards her

But Sasha did not smile.

She is still wary. Loki seems to be calm. That is why she became even warier.

'You don't seem surprised' she said, her eyes observing every single movement of the Trickster.

'I notice that you were trying to contact your men when we were talking' Loki said calmly.

At the same time as they were both talking, there were hundreds of people wearing black clothes attires rushing toward him from the distance

Some of them is flying in the sky, some of them is running in super speed in the ground and some is travelling underground.

Their target is Loki.

Sasha knew she alone could not bring down Loki.

She rarely overestimates an enemy but with Loki, Sasha had always thought that this person never quite plays by the rules

He hides too deeply and it is hard to know what is real and what is false when one is with him. With an enemy like this, Sasha knew what she needed is thorough preparation.

She alone is not enough

But what if there is a hundred people? At least, she could capture Loki and present him to Death Monarch

She knew Loki had his own plan. She read the letter.

And she knew the advantages of that plan. But that was his plan.

And not hers. Why should she care so much about Loki plans?

All she needed to do was to make the decision that benefited Death Monarch the most. She is not working for Loki.

Loki is not her lord. So, there was no reason for her to respect Loki wishes and desires

Death Monarch wanted to protect Loki in Pandemonium.

That is not something he could do when Loki is all around the world trying to become the next leader of the Crime Alliance.

And without a doubt, this act of Death Monarch is not simply to protect Loki. It is also to restrain Loki.

Unlike Death Monarch other enemies, Death Monarch could not just kill Loki. To him, Loki is his brother.

But he could at least restrain him. That is why Sasha had a plan B if she failed to save the Broker.

That other plan is to capture Loki and brought him to Death Monarch when he returns back from his seclusion.

What Loki probably underestimated was the fact that when the interest of the Shadow Guards and the interest of Death Monarch clashed with each other, Sasha would always choose Death Monarch interest

Like Loki said, Sasha is loyal. She might not be loyal in the beginning as she was the defeated enemy, but years had gone by.

Sasha found her work to have meaning. She had people she wanted to protect and there is people she loves.

And there are some virtues that she had cultivated. Loki smiles is quite weird. There is a trace of some shock but it was not obvious.

But even though the situation right now is very tense, Loki like always is confident.

BOOM!

The sound of something closing could be heard in the sky. Loki look up and there is a smile on his face

A circular dome covers the sky above Loki head. It is erected in a split second. Powerful humming sound echoes all over.

'I am flattered' Loki said as he looks back at Sasha in front of him

'You even activate the formation that my brother left you to seal any teleportation device that I might have. Sealing space and teleportation channel. Quite elaborate but understandable.'

Loki eyes look at it and matrixes in his eyes appears again, and he look at the formation with his eyes

Sasha take her stance. She was ready to battle again. Space is not the only thing that Sasha had sealed. She had even sealed energy inside the formation.

Outside the formation, on the four direction, west, east, south, north, there is people.

If one looks at it from a bird eye view, one would see that the hundred people separated and form a diamond shape

There were a hundred kilometers from Loki and Sasha. As such, the radius of the sealing formation dome had the width of one hundred kilometers

As for its height, it reached one hundred feet. On the west, there is twenty-five people. They sing songs and this song seems to turns into energy

On their feet there is translucent lines that connect the people in the west to the East. On the East side, there is also twenty-five people

These twenty-five people writes runes on the lines around them. These runes then would flow into the translucent lines and power the restriction in the sealing dome.

On the intersection of the lines is the sealing dome where Loki and Sasha is in. And intersecting these lines is also the line that connect the North and the South position.

Both the North and South position had twenty-five people. It seems that the sealing formation created by Sasha requires one hundred people to execute it.

On the South, the twenty-five people there did not sing or write runes. Instead they were drawing magic circles.

inside the magic circles is all kinds of characters drawn by them. It seems to draw the power of the elements to the drawing.

It has the elements of formation magic.

The raw materials around these people seems to be turned into dust. But that is not quite the accurate representation of the matter.

It is not that it turns to dust. instead it was turned into energy. Of course, such magic did not have the power to transform material objects to energy

At least not the magic that these people are doing

That is not how most formation magic works.

While there is magic that draw power and energy from the surrounding and there is many such thing, what they took in is the energy of the world that is inside the matter

For example, a stone that is being nourished by the energy of the world would possess a certain amount of energy inside it

Magician, witches and warlocks and any magical kind could then absorb the energy contained in the stone. Of course, the witches and magical kind on Earth Prime had one advantages over the magical kinds of other world

[Chapter 1045: A witness \(2\)](#)

Other magical kind had to draw magic circles, or chanted spell or set up a ritual to draw the energy out from such stone.

But for the witches and warlocks of Earth prime, they could easily draw the energy of the world in the form of EXP like some kind of game.

But what these twenty-five people are doing is not absorbing the world energy into their body. And they are not taking the energy of the things around them to convert it into the energy of the restriction formation

Instead what they are doing is that they took the essence of this thing and channel it into the restriction dome

Essence, at this particular time, means simply the basic matter of the things, the core of what made something, something.

As such, the hardness of a stone is imbued into the restriction formation. The sharpness of a pebble is embedded into the formation. And so on and so forth

They are taking the intangible things that makes a something, something and imbued that properties to strengthen the restriction formation

If Loki wanted to break through this formation, he had to unravel all of this tangled properties.

This is far more complicated of a formation than the formation that Riana had set up in her basement

Such phenomenon could only happen because probably the formation magic is connected by three others discipline of magic.

Four positions. For discipline of magic. All for one restriction formation

Only that could explain why when formation magic is used, it transforms material form into energy that is sucked into the formation around these people and converted back into the sealing dome.

And as for the people in the North position, they were not singing, they were not writing runic characters and they did not draw any formation circles

Instead, they were sitting cross legged, closing their eyes, their bodies seem to be connected by some kind of strings of energies that is translucent.

And they each have a pendant on their neck. This pendant seems to supply power toward the sealing dome.

The energy contained in each pendant could probably grow an entire batch of soldiers enough to last them until they reach Seed Formation

And twenty-five have such pendant hanging on their neck. That itself is incredible.

The one hundred people was not ordered to attack Loki. Their target is Loki but they were not ordered to fight him

They were order to restrain him.

With the current situation of the world and the chaotic energy all over, the Pandemonium formation could not be used effectively.

At least not by Sasha at her current level. That is why she constructed a mini formation, designed to trap space and magical energy.

There is even rune in the formation. Magical energy is extremely weakened in this formation.

But not for Sasha. Inside the dome, she looks at Loki. But even after all of this, Loki still seems confident.

She did not know whether this is simply bravado or whether Loki had another trump card. But even if he has a trump card, does his trump card could break the formation?

Sasha had the advantage of knowing Loki won't kill him. Loki had no such advantage. She would not hesitate to fight with everything on the line to force Loki to stay here in Pandemonium

As she was thinking of all this, the sound of laughter suddenly broke her thought.

Loki laughed, his smile seems carefree and his expression unbothered.

'What are you laughing about?' Sasha ask as she is ready to charge toward Loki.

Loki was about to say the reason why, but it was at this time, when Sash kicks the ground and launch herself toward Loki.

She is as fast as lighting as the wind around her breaks and the space distorted in a spiral because of her sudden speed that breaks the barrier of speed

A blast of air exploded around the area where she had kick the ground.

She begins her attack with a knee attack toward Loki face

'Hyargh!' her feet are heading straight toward Loki face. Loki eyes glance toward that leg and he duck down.

The feet miss its target but the force of that kick travel forward and hit the restriction formation.

The moment it hit the formation, the entire formation seems to stir.

The attack left a trail of straight lines of distorted air channel.

At the same time as Loki duck down from having his head almost being kick by such force, he strikes both of his palm to the ground as he launches his feet toward the sky, his upper body becoming vertical

Loki was quick on the uptake.

Sasha was never interested in talking too much this time. Before, she wanted to delay.

So, she did not object to speak a lot.

Loki forget. That Sasha has some of his brother trait. They do not like to talk too much.

So, he too would not hold back too much. Loki feet is about to hit Sasha. Sasha saw the missed attack and Loki counterattack

Sasha spin herself in circular motion and position her feet above Loki feet

Then she kicks Loki feet with her own feet, creating a blast of air as both of their attack clashed with each other

BOOOM!

Since energy is sealed inside this space, their attack did not involve the worldly laws. Instead, it was like they were fighting using only their physical prowess.

In this kind of space, technique also matters.

They both were forced backward by the exchange of strikes

Sasha glided backward and landed gracefully on the ground as Loki uses the force of the kick and transfer it to his hand

He pushed his hand deep toward the ground.

The ground exploded toward the sky as the land around his one kilometers radius depressed two feet deep

The rebound force concentrated on his hand as he pushes his hand of the ground and launch himself to the air and like Sasha glided backward, like there is a string on his back that pull him backward.

Loki landed on the ground, look at Sasha, shakes his head and said

‘Heh. So, be it. I’m going to beat you up until you have no choice but to listen’ And then he launched himself toward Sasha.

Sasha did the same as she once again kicks the ground.

Loki punches toward her and she did the same.

The punch connected with each other and as it clashes with each other, the point of impact spirals because of the distortion of the space.

The ground beneath their feet is plucked up from the ground gathering into the spiral that was created because of the force around their fist.

The air also gathered in that spiral and space around both of them crack as the sound of something breaking could be heard

BOOOM!

The force of their punch colliding against each other created another blast of shockwave.

The force surges up above and descend down below. It shakes the dome when the force hit the upper limit of the dome height.

As for the land beneath them, it cracks before pulverizing the soil beneath.

The land beneath their feet falls down, creating a large sinkhole in that area as both Loki and Sina jump backward avoiding to fall into the sinkhole.

Then they both kick the ground again and once again traded blows.

All of this happens in the span of two seconds from Loki attacking Sasha and then the force of their punch shakes the dome and pulverizes the ground that they are standing in.

And then they retreat and once again charged each other with blinding speed.

Both of them leave trails of explosion as they move in the dome, trading blows and exchanging strikes.

They both kick each other, punches toward each other and deflected each other moves.

Strikes and kicks were traded by the thousands in the span of second.

The leaves on the ground they were fighting on surges toward the sky and the wind blast that was generated because of their blows landed on the mini formation border when they deflected or miss each other.

The sound of explosion of shockwaves could be heard by the thousand in the span of a second that it overlapped each other.

One would find it hard to even see their silhouettes as they fight in a speed that surpassed the speed of sound.

The ground is full of depression, the effect of their attacks reflected in the ground. In the battle between these two, only they know how intense and how dangerous the battle between them

Loki had to hold back many times for fearing to kill Sasha. Sasha on the other hand exploded with all of her potential.

Even though her energy is drained after that singing, her physical prowess is still very much full of vigor.

This is probably why she did not hesitate to sing during that moment even though she knew that her energy would be drained.

Because she had this formation to use her other strength

She did not believe that her physical strength would be under Loki

In this battle, Loki uses his hand and feet like a saber. And Sasha uses her hands and feet like a sword.

Even though they have no sword and they have no saber, as their hands clashed, it is like a sword and saber clashing with each other

[Chapter 1046: Principle of sword and saber \(1\)](#)

The principle of sword and principle of saber is demonstrated by these two using their hands and their feet.

It is not hard for them to master all kinds of moves since at their level they could even master the laws of the world.

Loki hack through all the attacks that Sasha could dish out on him. His limbs easily evade any life threatening attack, and his entire senses is alert.

Of course Sasha did not intend to kill Loki.

But all of her attacks are lethal.

The only reason she uses all of her powers and stimulated her killing intent is simply because she knows Loki could take it.

If Loki truly wanting to kill Sasha, Sasha would die. But if Sasha truly wanted to kill Loki, the best result would be him suffering heavy injury and not dying

Thus, Loki held back, and Sasha unleashes all. But even under such attack, Loki eyes seems to be able to see every attack that Sasha executed

He is fearless and his attack could not be broken easily. His mind stays in focus, as his attack contain variety of changes.

Sasha truly felt like she is facing a saber. When Loki hacks, the air would be split apart and something would get cut.

If he could use the worldly energy, one could only wonder the damage he could have done. Sasha also notices that her pace is slowly being controlled by Loki moves.

Loki uses his hand embodying the principle of the saber. He is mindful of using his hand, and his footwork is also in tandem with his movement.

Even though Sash physical prowess is a tad higher than Loki, Loki compensate this with his technique.

When he thrust his right hand in a stabbing motion, his attack and strike follows his right wrist, pushes on the attack even more powerful, guiding naturally, like following some rhythm of nature.

Only she could see this intricate details in every move of Loki.

Outside of the dome, even though the one hundred people created the dome, even they could not keep up with the speed of the battle between Loki and Sasha.

But even though Loki uses his right hand most of the time to execute his attack, his left hand is not left alone aimlessly.

If she deflects and there is an opening, the left hand would then strike.

In the clash, she is already had been injured by Loki left hand a few times.

When she is cut by the left hand, deep gashes would appear on her skin and it felt like she is cut by some hot knife.

Loki respond to every attack that Sasha executed by changing his hand. His hands are like sabers, quickly deflecting any incoming strikes and blows.

Sometimes his foot would also deflect the attack and he even uses it to attack, the sharpness is as sharp as a real saber and even surpasses it.

A stone that is hurl toward Earth with the speed of light could create large crater that could induce an extinction event.

Though Loki attack did not reach the speed of light, when it surpasses the speed of sound, one could only imagine the destructiveness of such attack

His hand moves like a saber, and the saber moves like it was in the shadows, akin of a fierce tiger

There is a principle in the saber, sacrifice yourself for the saber

The meaning of this principle is to charge without concern for your own safety. It is fierce, domineering and imposing.

That is how Loki could break every single sword attack that Sasha had executed while at the same time pushing her with every clash.

Moves in the shadow could also be interpreted as moves in darkness, another principle of the saber that Loki had understood.

The meaning is simply to take advantage of the opponent position by attacking the opponent on the sides that the opponent is not paying attention to.

Akin to a fierce tiger, mean to boldly go forward, mustering all of your courage and only then could you take advantage of the opponent gaps.

This kind of method is actually would be perfect to use against spear user.

But it is even more lethal when it is used against Sasha as distance means nothing for a Disk Formation levelers.

At least in the distance of a few hundred kilometers, it is nothing for a Disk Formation leveler. It would only take a few seconds to travel that distance.

Before the expansion of the world and before the energy become denser, for some Disk Formation leveler, it would only take them half a second to travel that kind of distance.

As for Sasha, she is pushed around but she herself is not easy to defeat. She uses her hands and feet like a sword.

Out of all the weapons she has, she mostly uses her sword. When she swings her sword, white flash will flash and a life is taken. But, of course such method could not be used toward Loki who seems to understand the principle of the saber almost like he had learned all there is about sabers.

Still, even though the barrage of attack from Loki, she still manages to hold on, her movement is as supple as a dragon.

If Loki shows the principle of the saber in his attack, then Sasha demonstrate the principle of the sword in her attack

Spear is the dragon of weapons, saber, the tiger of weapons, and sword is the phoenix of weapons

Spear strength lies in directness, saber strength lies in fierceness and the sword strength lies in using angles.

Right now, as they could not use worldly energies, the principle that they understood while executing attack become the only way to determine the winner and loser of this battle.

Loki attack is fierce, his footwork enables him to always be at the right time, at the right place to position his attack.

The shine of the saber blinds and the wind of the saber roars. And while there is no saber in Loki hands and feet, there is his saber intent there

They do not have to fight like in a wuxia stories but it did not mean understanding toward technique is useless.

As their body itself could be considered a weapon, they could imbue their understanding of weapons and its principle toward their organs like Divine Comprehension levelers could imbue Laws in their attack

Loki use of the saber principle in his attack is ingenious and masterful.

Although each of his attack has the ability to chop down a mountain and cleave the earth, he truly treated his hand and feet like sabers, as it does not rotate to cut with both edges of the saber.

Only by doing things like this, he could unleash such powerful saber intent from only using his hand and feet

At times, it is the back hand become the saber front. Other times, it is the front, changing in various ways, birthing countless possibilities.

But it also has some drawbacks. Sacrifice yourself to use the saber. This is one of the principle of the saber

As such, when Loki attack, it is like a tiger unable to turn its head while attacking

It lacks the capacity of the sword's edges to move in all directions.

As such, even though she is pushed back, as they exchange blows by the hundreds in half a second, she began showing of able to divert the attack and slowly recovering her own pace of attacking and defending

Her hand is like sword. And as such sword intent swirls around her hands and feet. It was truly like she is wielding a sword

Her sword, which is her hand, twirls the attack of the saber with no definite pattern. The principle of the sword is demonstrated and executed

To one side, the sword sharp attack flashes, yet the body of the attack is hidden away.

The edge of the sword is keen and sharp, like a Black Dragon Swings Its Tail, her left foot moves, her body follows, the sword draws and arc, the sword tip pointed to the target, the roars of the dragon could be heard as she slashes the attack of the fierce saber akin of a berserk tiger.

The saber pushed forward and she moves again, her left foot extend only a step toward the left, her right foot does not leave its position.

The saber deflected, the sword moves up and down, left and right, reverse and forward, guiding the berserk nature of the saber, the flexibility of the sword trying to tame the saber, like a dragon coaxing the tiger

Her attack become difficult to guard against, yet Loki charges forward. Sacrifice the body. This is the principle. Boldly moving forward and give a strike.

Flexibility and perseverance, this principle seems to clash with each other moment the sword and saber clashed.

Sasha moves is dazzling, fluttering and agitating, each of her attack become unpredictable.

Her sword attack full of tapings and stabbing, absorbing and thrusting the sword seems to alternate continuously, full of stealth and concealment when hidden, roaring with energy when unleashed.

[Chapter 1047: Principle of sword and saber \(1\)](#)

The sound of the air ripping and the booms accompanied each strikes and movement from both Loki and Sasha.

Her sword seems to also imitate the personality of its user.

The sword method of Sasha, is quick and nimble, light and breezy, yet hidden in this breezy moves lies danger

Suddenly turning, suddenly rising, the sword seems to be able to fly, countering myriad changes, deflecting thousands of attacks, moving in every direction, making it difficult for the opponent to defend against

her sword is like a flying phoenix.

If this is anyone else, they would probably had lost against Sasha in the first few hundred exchanges.

Yet, it is precisely because it is Loki, that her sword moves did not work as intended

Her dazzling moves broken with one simple strike. Her fluttering and agitating attack is ignored, each unpredictable attack become predictable.

There is something that the whole world doesn't know about Loki.

A secret only known to a select few like that of Yewa Hafar and people who came from the same era as him.

Loki is a person most proficient in Karma.

To be proficient in karma, you have to be proficient in calculations. This is unlike the calculation of math, of created numbers by mortals to make sense of the Universe

The calculation of Karma is the calculations of probability. It touches upon fate and destiny. Of time and Space.

Loki greatest abilities is not that he mastered all kinds of magic or that he had learned as much runes as possible for an outsider of the Asgard, but that he had the ability to calculate certain trajectories of fate and destiny

Compared to the calculations of such intangible concepts, how hard could it be for him to calculate the unpredictable sword moves of Sasha?

A sword technique is just a sword technique after all, just like a saber technique is just a saber technique the changes in sword technique are always at the end of a movement.

Ages have passed and all kinds of swordsmen have put thought into this. There is nothing new about sword technique under the heaven.

No matter what change it is, it had long been predicted. Since it is something that could be predicted, Loki could surely see through it.

Even when her attack is full of tapping and stabbing, he broke it.

When the sword thrust forward, he cut forward. When it tries to absorb the force of his strike, he pushed even more forward.

None of her stealth and concealment methods could hide under Loki gaze. Her sword method is quick and nimble, light and breezy, so Loki inverse it.

His saber method forces her to slow her attack, put heaviness in his strike, slowly breaking the pace that she had forcefully recovered

He lifts his saber when Sasha wanted to bring down her sword, he hooks the sword with his saber to direct the sword, he slashes across when she tries to stab and at times he even throws a few of blast of compressed air toward her by using his environment.

The sword and the saber is their feet and hand, yet it is no different than real sabers and swords.

Loki uses all the basic moves of saber technique, from hacking, forward and downward, chops to the left and right, a move called throwing, propping the saber, hanging the saber, raising, seeking, and stabbing

All of it is used to deal with the diverse sword method performed by Sasha.

Loki could no longer do what he did before where he created a knife intent that seems able to split the Heavens and Earth apart but that did not mean his saber intent is weak.

The battle between them had only been one minute but tens of thousands of moves had been exchanged and all kinds of principles of swords and sabers were exchanged in that one minute

What is more remarkable that both of them still remains vigorous after all that exchange. Then another explosion sounded as both of them jump backward from each other

The explosion did not spread out.

Instead it surges toward the sky and when it reached one hundred feet, this force dissipated when it hit the height of the dome.

On top of the dome, there is now a slight crack like it has been cut by something. The cut is deep but fortunately after a moment, the formation reassemble itself

On the ground below, now that they stopped for a second, that one could see their figures.

When they were fighting, no one could see them as the only thing they could see was the effect and blast of air that appears because of their clash.

Loki is in fighting stance. His three-piece suit had scratches and holes all over.

His fedora also had disappeared. His sunglasses are cracked and his leather shoes seems to be worn down.

One might think that the clothing of Loki is real fabric but it is actually made of magic items.

It is only their exterior appearance that was changed by some kind of magic that made it look like it is a three-piece suit.

But his three-piece suit right now is in a terrible condition

As for Sasha, a few kilometers away from Loki, she also had holes in her clothes.

But it is larger and there is huge tear in her robe that reveal her skin. Almost half of the lower part of her clothes were torn apart.

One could see the lower part of her breast.

Though, one would not necessarily have their eyes trained on it because of the ghastly golden blood that is dripping from the gashes on her stomach and her chest.

She immediately changes her clothes to a white one. While certain energy could not be used, she still has a few Clothing Pills in her possession.

Clothing Pills only manipulate space and the energy is minimal enough that it would not activate the restriction formation.

But while she could hide what happen to her attire, one could see bruises all over her hands and her face.

Blood is dripping from the edges of her mouth. There is a deep gash on her feet and there is a small hole on her back, like she was drilled by something

All in all, she did not look good.

Compared to Loki, it is clear that Sasha had been beaten up by Loki in that brief clash

Loki then release his breath and put his hand behind his back, his eyes look toward Sasha, staring at each other.

At the same time, he taps his wristwatch behind his back

The wristwatch has no pointer. But as he tapped it, the symbols in the wristwatch seems to rearrange itself into a pointer.

It became a pointer and it pointed to a direction. The moment it became like that, Loki senses the changes of the wristwatch and he smiles.

Then he became even more relaxed.

He looks at Sasha and said

‘Cease this’ he said to Sasha. Sasha only sneer.

‘I underestimated you...again’ she said. Loki chuckles as he said

‘This is not the first time people had underestimated me. And it would not be the last time. Hide a bit of your power and abilities and people would always make the wrong estimation of yourself. My brother on the other hand....’ And Loki sighed a bit as he shakes his head

‘Well, he is different. He kind of need to shows his strength. Since he is the deterrent force for other forces. But you and me, it is better to let people never get the true grasp of our method. Just giving you some of my advice.’

‘It still won’t change anything’ Sasha said as she pours down a few pills down her throat. Her injuries slowly recover.

‘I have all the time in the world. I can do this all day’ she said.

‘But, I don’t’ Loki said with a smile before he suddenly looks up toward the sky

Unconsciously Sasha also look up. Then she widened her eyes in surprise. It is not always that the leader of the Shadow Guards gets surprised.

The clear sky suddenly is filled with dark clouds. These dark clouds are clearly not something natural. It is like it appeared suddenly and formed from the energy of the world.

And inside these dark clouds, she could see slithering amidst the clouds, is slithering arc of lightning.

The sky roars with the sound of thunder and illuminated the dark clouds with flashes of lightning

But if that is all, it would not shock her that much. Instead, it is because the color of the slithering arcs of lightning that causes her to be shocked

It is red. The lightning is red. And she could see small red thunderbolts explodes up in the dark clouds.

And then a sound of explosion sounded that shakes the Heavens. It is almost like the Heaven is roaring toward the Earth

And then something seems to come out from the dark clouds.

BOOOOM!

[Chapter 1048: The conclusion](#)

BOOOOM!

The dark clouds open up in the middle and a red bolt of lightning appears and quickly coming down

A bolt of red lightning is about to descend toward her dome, that is what she realized at the moment

She is panicked for the first time in this battle. In her heart, she cursed so many times. At the same time, she shouted

‘Release the restriction! Run away!’

Actually she did not need to shout it out.

The moment that red thunderbolt appears, the one hundred people had already noticed it. They already did not feel right when they saw the dark clouds.

The appearance of the red thunderbolt is the last straw that broke the camel back

Because while that red thunder bolt did not emanate a suppressive or possess some kind of murderous intent toward the world, its target was the dome.

It is like a concentrated precision attack toward the dome.

As such, while the whole world did not feel anything in particular, the target of that red thunderbolt would surely feel the destructiveness desire inside that red thunderbolt as it descended down from the Heavens to strike down the dome formation.

Since they are connected to the formation, they immediately felt the majestic power pressuring them and even before the red thunderbolt is hitting the dome, they could imagine the backlash that they would suffer if they tried to withstand such destructive power.

They would not be surprised if some of them would be incapacitated or have their Disk broken if they tried to withstand it.

In this world, when one sees red thunderbolts suddenly descending down from the Heavens, in a clear day, one would only think of “that person”

How could the operatives of Shadow Guards dare to defend themselves against their own lord?

Even if they have the ability to defend against it, would they really dare do it?

The moment they saw it; they knew they had to run away.

As such before Sasha even shouted, the four position is abandoned and the dome dissipated almost immediately.

They did not immediately retreat as they all use their methods to create protective shields around them if the red thunderbolts reach the ground

And while they don't dare to take head on the red thunderbolt, they still would not leave their leader alone.

They decided to wait for the red thunderbolt to come down before trying to trap Loki again

The red thunderbolt keeps descending but as it was about to hit the ground and crashed to the ground and created a catastrophe, the red thunderbolt also dissipated.

Loki look at Sasha and he smiles with satisfaction. He likes it very much surprising people. And he has always seen such faces

Because he has a bag of tricks under his sleeve. Always.

Then he said

'Like I said, never underestimate me. You forget that I once was the Regent of Pandemonium'

He chuckles and then said

'My brother like always is very generous. He left me a strand of his Will. The strand of Will that have enough authority to command one red thunderbolt from the Heavens. In my reign, I had never used it. Now, I finally use it. It is good to be brothers with such a backer' and then he laughs.

Before Sasha could react suddenly there is golden light falling down from the sky. It was like a channel of light from the Heavens to the ground. It envelops Loki in golden light.

At the same time, energies from the outside could now be used again. Loki three-piece suit returns to normal. His sunglasses also had regained its original form.

If not for the fact that there are still some wounds on Loki fingers, no one would have known that he had just battle intensely with Sasha a minute ago.

Sasha uses her super speed as she appears right in front of Loki. She tries to grab him but she is stopped by some invisible force that is protecting Loki.

She then stops trying to do such pointless thing and sighed. The distance between them is only one meter apart. Yet, in this such a small distance, she couldn't even touch him

She looks at him and said

'It seems I lost again' Loki chuckles

'You lack preparation. You need to prepare more and look at the matter more broadly if you ever want to catch me. If you could think to delay time to trap me, why did you not think that I was also trying to delay time to make sure my exit out of Pandemonium would be a smooth one. This would be the last time for a while that I will be in Pandemonium'

Then with a smile he tips down his fedora, smiles and then the channel of light sucked him into the sky and he disappeared

Sasha could only look at this and sighed.

She looks at the now clear sky and nodded to herself.

She had done her best. She just stands there for a few minutes. Sometimes there is a sigh coming out of her mouth.

At times, she just shakes her head.

She was like that for a few minutes and then she walks away from that area. The operation failed.

Not only she did not manage to save Nathan, she lost also the cooperation of Riana and she did not even get Loki.

There are many things she regretted.

Still, she is the leader of the Shadow Guards. It only takes her a few second before she calms herself down and began planning

But since she could not stop what happens, at least she could take advantage of it.

Loki did not see wrongly. Sasha is a lot like him. She is very practical. She regroups with her subordinate and then she coldly said

'The operation failed. Set out a notice to all related personnel. Burn any records of our cooperation with the Broker' And then she paused for a second before saying

'Make it obvious'

'Make it obvious?' One of the operatives did not seem to understand.

Sasha look at one of her operatives and simply said

'If you do not make it obvious, how would the other spies from the great powers would know that we have something to hide. Of course, while you make it obvious, do not reveal what happened'

'This would make them even more curious. I estimated some of them would get the inside story. Only then Loki would have some leverage and prove his worth to the Crime Lords of the Crime Alliance.

One of Sasha most trusted subordinate ask with some cautiousness.

'Leader. Do you want to adopt the Trickster plans?' Sasha nodded.

'What choice do I have. I have to make the best of the situation. Since the Broker is dead and we could no longer stop Loki, this is the best we could do. I could only help him from the background'

The others nodded but then Sasha said

'Ah, and don't forget to fan rumors that said Loki and I are enemies. That we hated each other guts. This would help him a bit in dispelling such notions that we have a common interest'

One of the operatives then said

'Fortunately, there is already a precedent for such relationship as Loki once sent a hunt order for you' Sasha only laughs and said

'Who knows? Maybe, he was already planning all of this since that time' she said and shakes her head.

'Go and execute the order. And report to Vice Leader Shinji. He would know how to organize the teams. And order him to try to seek any energy readings that is out of ordinary around Pandemonium. That golden light that teleported Loki away....it would not be so stable if it's not at least nearby.'

What Sasha did not tell the others is that because of the expansion of the world, the energy of the entire world is in chaos.

As such, most teleportation channel did not work.

And most great powers had disable teleportation channel from the outside. They fear that there is Otherworlders that would use the channel to launch an attack.

For the teleportation channel that come to spirited away Loki, it had to be at least close to pandemonium for it to be that stable

A one-way teleportation channel. To receive but not send

Still, it is remarkable that such teleportation channel could be sued even amidst the chaotic energies all over the world right now.

And it even seems that the teleportation channel did not trigger the destructive power of the protection formation of Pandemonium.

It seems to have no other power other than to teleport a person away. But such method is quiet desirable for Sasha

She shakes the thought of her head and said to her operatives. The other operatives nodded, affirming her orders

She continues

'I would be back in the Central Palace, waiting for Death Monarch. Right now, we have to stabilize Pandemonium as fast as possible, determine the current size of Pandemonium and find out where all of the cities of Pandemonium is situated'

'We also need to find all the locations of all our black sites that probably had been rearranged by the expansion of the world'

They all nodded. And then Sasha gesture with her hands to go and they all disperse as fast as lightning. Leaving Sasha alone in the area.

[Chapter 1049: A moment of silence](#)

She was alone in the area. The wind ruffles the edges of her white clothes and she could smell the scent of destruction all around.

Her hand is still trembling. Even though most of her external injuries had been healed, her internal injuries did not

This did not mean that she had internal injuries like normal person. When people below Disk Formation spoke of internal injuries, they meant the injuries in their inside organs.

But when levelers in the level of Disk Formation said that they suffer internal injuries, this refers to the injury to their core energy

And damage that is afflicted to their Disks. The fight with Loki drained her and a few of her Disks has cracked.

Some of them are even on the verge of breaking entirely.

If it truly breaks, Sasha would have to spend another few years to forge back her Disk. Of course, she holds back these injuries from showing.

The moment her subordinate all flew away, slowly energy leaked out from her, the energy returning back to the world.

Even though she is only a Disk Formation leveler, her type of injuries is like the effect of injury for Divine Comprehension leveler.

This might be related to her own understanding of her path.

It is a pity that she herself is not a Divine Comprehension leveler. If not, she could easily capture Loki.

But there is no "What If?" in an operation.

She took this time to calm down her heart and settle down her stormy thoughts right now. She tries not to let this failure weaken her.

Sasha close her eyes and takes a deep breath.

Then she opens her eyes looks at the sky and sighed

'I'm sorry Nathan. I am too weak.'

She is sad. That is her true feelings right now. The simple emotion of being sad. There is nothing complicated about this feeling.

But Sasha did not exactly show any signs of being sad. She did not cry. There are no tears falling down from her eyes.

She does not seem to suffer any pain of sadness at all.

She appears calm and unlike someone who had just lost a person she knows.

She did not share deep connection with Nathan. But Nathan is an acquaintance that Sasha knows deeply. They were not friends.

But they do talk to each other.

While their meeting is brief, they do shares some similarities.

And maybe it is because they share that similarities, that there is part of her heart, that felt sad for that man

Both are people who lived in the darkness and see the evil in the world

Both yearned for the light. She felt like he is a compatriot of hers. But she did not cry. Crying would not solve her problem.

And she could not break down.

Not at this moment. Maybe, when she had a little break time, she would go to Sina place, drink some tea and cry there.

Or maybe, she would ask for some rest day and went to some beautiful island so she could unwind herself and cry for a few hours there.

People would forget sometimes that behind that cold expression of hers, there is still flesh and blood.

There is still a heart beating there. She's human. She felt all the emotions that any other person experienced.

It is just that she could not afford the luxury of breaking down. Before the Fall, she is quite a normal person

It is only after the Fall and the circumstances that surrounded her, that forces her to change

She would love to unleash all of her emotion and just cry until all that is in her heart is released.

But not now.

She only sighed. A few more minutes passes like she is observing a moment of silence for Nathan and then she flies up into the air, flying with full speed toward Pandemonium Central Palace.

Her eyes are full of determination as her speed increased.

At the same time, Loki appears inside a cave on an island near Pandemonium.

The golden light that swirls around him slowly dissipated as the teleportation channel also turns into motes of light

As he familiarizes his body after that sensation of being sucked away, he realizes that someone is looking at him.

That someone is a woman wearing a red smiling demon mask.

There is protruding horns on each side of the mask. Loki however did not pay attention to the mask.

Instead, he looks at the bracelet that woman is wearing. The bracelet is cracked. And it seems that it would not be long before that bracelet falls apart.

'Trisha, that was a little late' Loki said.

Trisha nodded.

'At the last moment, there is a spatial storm that pas by this island. It created some interference with the teleportation channel and my lord location. But, it is still under the time requirements'

Loki nodded

'Well, I could not complain that much. I expected such things to happen. After all, the world is not yet finished in expanding. A few spatial and energy storms every few hours is not that uncommon. Fortunately, I put it in my calculations. If not, I would be in quite an awkward predicament. But, I do have a streak of bad luck today'

Trisha however did not seem to hear what Loki is saying. Instead she is looking left and right, expecting someone else to come out.

Loki tilt his head to the right and he chuckles.

'Worried about Riana?'

She nodded. Loki then said

'Don't let me start with her. She had a child. Did you know that?' Loki ask as he look straight at Trisha eyes

Hidden underneath that mask, Trisha face expression changes.

She shakes her head.

'No, I did not. She never told me she had a child'

'Did she told you she got married with the Broker?'

'What!' this time Trisha is really surprised. A child could be said a mistake in the moment. A marriage however...is a different thing entirely.

She knew Riana. If she had slept with someone and in that process getting a child, she did not need to marry that person. But she will raise that child.

Because she is always the romantic. She wanted to be a mother. Some people when they are abandoned, they either do not want to be a mother, fearing that they would repeat the mistake of their predecessor

But there are also some people who were abandoned who wanted to become a mother, to compensate for that feeling of never having a mother

Since they know the pain of being abandoned, being unwanted and being unneeded, they become more compassionate

But marriage? This mean that Riana love that man. This is now complicated.

Loki seen Trisha eyes and he could see that she was as just as shocked as him. She is still not good enough at lying as him. And that made him smile

'Nathalie' he said.

'What? Trisha said

'She named her daughter Nathalie. For the nun'

Hearing this Trisha shakes her head.

'a closest thing she had to a mother. That is what she said to me once'

Loki nodded and then looking at the bleak dark cave he exhales.

'Let's go out from the cave and smell some fresh air' Trisha then raise her eyebrows and said

'What about all of this formation?' Loki look around the cave and he could see all kinds of magic circle carved on the walls, the ground and the ceiling of the large cave.

There are more runes inside these magic circles.

All of them had dimmed and seems like it has been worn down. The use of such teleportation channel that fold space and time does take a lot of juice.

But Loki had a lot of things in his arsenal other than just these runes.

It would hurt his reputation if he did not at least have this much trump card when he is Sovereign in his original timeline.

While some of his knowledge is restricted and some of which he did not remember because of the splitting of his own self, what he knew still outstripped many of other people.

And he had the advantage of stockpiling stuff since before the Time Crisis

Being the Regent of Pandemonium, a lot of thing that is hard for him to procure made easier.

Some of the runes that has been used to strengthen the matrixes had dissipated when Loki was sucked into the teleportation channel.

He thinks for a while what he should do and then he shakes his head

'Leave it here' He said. Trisha looks at him weirdly.

Even though Loki could not see the expression on Trisha face right now, he is quite sure she is raising her eyebrows on him

'Leave it here?'

'What if the Shadow Guards found it?'

Loki chuckles and said

'That is what I intended to do'

And then a look of understanding dawned on Trisha

'Wait. My lord...you want them to find this formation?' Loki nodded as he walks toward the entrance of the cave

'It is fine for them to try to learn this. Even though the runes had been used and some of the matrixes circles is hard to decipher, I am quite sure Sasha would figure it out sooner or later'

[Chapter 1050: The cave \(1\)](#)

Trisha shakes her head. Then she sighed a bit, looking at Loki with that same look of exasperation

Loki is quite used to it. Then she said

‘I don’t understand why you would do this’ Loki halted for a moment in front of the cave entrance.

And then chuckling a bit, he turned back and look at Trisha

‘My dear child. The world is about to enter a new era. The era of the myriads paths’

He paused for a second and then continue on

‘It would not be long till you will see the advent of that new world. And now, with so many changes, so many energies in the world, so many sources of energies...I wonder what the whole world would look like in the future’ there is a wide smile on his face and then he laughed, like he found something very amusing and funny at the same time

Like a child that is tickled when they found something very funny.

‘Would it be so bad, if the Shadow Guards found this formation. Even though Sasha did hurt me, I give her such a gift. Hehehe. She would feel really guilty.’

He looks at Trisha face and she did not look amused

‘Don’t worry too much Trisha. This is but one of many of my formation. It is not like I would give them the core of my knowledge and help them capture me. I am generous. But, I am NOT that generous’

Trisha then countered

‘It is just that if you gave them this, next time our forces clash again with the Shadow Guards, we always have to consider the possibility, of them using this method. Another possibility had to be added into the plan. I will always have to craft a plan considering that they could use the formation to teleport themselves. More checks need to be conducted. Sealing space and energy is not enough. I have to make sure there is a double layer to the formation.’ Loki only chuckles and said

Wouldn’t that be even more fun?’

Trisha look dumbfounded at Loki words and then she shakes her head, smiling.

She could never understand the thoughts of her lord no matter how she tries.

And Loki smiles. He knows if he said it like this, Trisha would not elaborate more as she would just accept it.

Then he walks outside of the cave and Trisha followed.

The moment he went out of that cave, he saw hills and rivers.

He saw tall trees with thick leaves. The fruits on its branches is purple and it is nothing like a tree that one had seen before in this world

Even the branches are weird.

Some of them are flat, while some of them is as sharp as a sword. The leaves itself seems to contain some faint traces of energy.

Trisha frowned before she clicked her tongue in annoyance.

Loki look at her as she come beside him.

‘What?’

‘The island seems to change again’ Loki only smiles

‘Like I said, the expansion is not over. What happened today, would change the destiny of so many people and bring about a new world. This is the time for you to make your mark in the world Trisha. To accumulate things’

‘There will be a boom of people easily breaking through. There would not be lack of energy to absorb. Some of them could be directly absorbed while some of them would manifest into crystals, gems, or energy stones. Some might even manifested itself as some beast or monsters’

Loki is exhilarated talking about it. But Trisha did not seem to share the same enthusiasm. Instead she asks him

‘My lord. Do you feel no regret?’ Loki halted and then he asks her back

‘For what?’

‘For taking the blame’

Loki shakes his head and said

‘It is my plan from the very beginning. What is there to regret?’ The wind from the hills come washing over them. Loki windbreaker flaps gently to left and right.

There is silence between them for a while. Loki did not immediately leave the island. And Trisha would not leave until Loki leave.

Loki stay here not because he is keen to want to be caught by the forces of Pandemonium. Or other forces that might have mobilized to seek his whereabouts.

Instead he wanted to explain some things to Trisha. Then Trisha suddenly said

‘My lord’

‘Yes’

‘Stop calling me your dear child. I don’t like it’ Loki eyebrows raised. He is stunned for a moment before he breaks out of laughter.

‘Hahaha. I thought you were going to ask some questions. I did not think that this is the first thing you would said after all that happened today’

Trisha however is not in the mood to play along with Loki ways of defusing the matter with laughter and joke

‘I don’t like it when you said it like that. I am no longer that child’ Loki shakes his head and simply said

‘In my eyes, you still are’ Trisha face underneath that mask begins to become red with frustration

'My lord, I think you need an eye exam' Loki just shakes his head, his mouth curves into a smile and he just laugh like he had heard an excellent joke

'Fine, fine. I'll limit it'

'No. I want my lord to stop it' Loki just sighed with a smile on his face as he patted her head and like a deflated balloon she crosses her arms together and humph at him

Loki could only shake his head at this behavior of Trisha.

Even though he could not see Trisha face beneath the mask, he is quite sure she is sulking with her cheek puffed up.

Maybe it has something to do with how he had raised them. They seem na?ve in certain things but hell, do they get wild in battlefield.

To his eyes, all of them look cute. As he treated them all like his daughter. But Trisha had feelings for him. Riana could not trust him and betray his trust.

Greisha is the only one that truly treated him as her father.

'You do not want to ask about your sister? And about her daughter? Or her husband'

The moment Loki mentioned this, the mood become tense.

Trisha sighed and said with a bitter smile

'I had wished we would not talk about this until we are back at Nowhere Land.' Loki nodded

'But, I have time to spare here. The energy around this island is mild but there is still a trace of the storms. If not, we could already have teleported back home. Since this conversation would get uncomfortable either way, it did not matter if you ask this question here or in Nowhere Land.'

'How is my second sister?' Loki opens his palm and then he summons the grain from his personal Bag of Holding

Grain Palace?' Loki nodded.

'the child?'

'Also in the Palace'

'What about the husband. My brother in law?'

'Dead' Trisha narrowed her eyes and then said

'Really dead?'

'Really dead' Loki reply

At hearing this answer, Trisha nodded and said

'That is good'

'yes, it is very good' he said.

Then he senses it.

The energy distortion around the island had passed completely.

He grabs Trisha hand with his right hand and then using his left hand he rips out the wrist watch on his hand and threw it to the sky.

He chanted some words and the watch exploded. But instead of exploding into fragments of glass and gears, the watch exploded into a surge of energy that covers Loki and Trisha

This surge of energy went unnoticed.

Because there is no close continent around the island that could detect the energy and differentiate with the other energy in the vicinity

With almost all of surveillance technology going down during the massive surge of energy entering Earth prime, other than being close to the island, it would be hard to realize such a massive surge of energy had exploded

But it does create some massive shockwave that created storms of wind around the island and its vicinity

The effect of such a massive surge of energy is actually so miniscule compared to before the expansion.

If this was before the expansion of the world such surge of energy would have alerted every single one of the surveillance system of all the great powers

Eyes and ears would be focused on this place.

And then a portal opened up in front of Loki.

'Let's go home'

He had already released Trisha. He grabs her before to make sure she is not affected by the shockwave

Loki then walk slowly toward that portal with Trisha beside him, mumbling something under her breath

The moment both of them enter the portal, the portal shut down and spirals into nothingness.

The watch turns into dust and the island regain back its calmness.

A few hours later, someone landed on the ground. A man with six feet five height wielding a long katana that reflected the sunlight.

There is blood dripping on this man sword. He shakes the sword slightly and the blood were thrown off from the edges of the sword, falling to the ground

A sizzling sound could be heard as that blood seems to pierce the ground. The blood itself is acidic.

'Troublesome monsters' the person muttered.

As he is flying toward this island, he had encountered a few winged creatures that wanted to eat him.

He had no other choice then to fight a horde of winged creatures. Each of their blood is acidic in nature.

This person has clear pale white skin and have thin physique. He wears leather armor that covers his chest and body.

But his clothing is black. This person is the Vice Leader of the Shadow Guards, Shinji the Swift Sword.