## I AM THALOS, ODIN'S OLDER BROTHER

Chapter 19: Seven Days of Creation (Part Two)

Thalos bestowed upon these mortals life and souls; Odin gave them reason and form; Willy granted them loyalty and motion; and Bor gave them speech.

Thus, the first ancestors of humankind were born.

What none of the gods—Thalos aside—had expected was this: on the vast lands formed from the corpses of the two primeval giants, strange worm-like creatures began to emerge.

Bored, Thalos casually granted these beings spiritual awareness. Bathed in sunlight, some of the creatures—though appearing like maggots, were more akin to silkworms—transformed into beautiful light elves. With their elegant, slender forms and radiant appearances, they immediately won the affection of both Aesir gods and giants alike.

Without hesitation, Thalos granted them residence in Álfheim, assigning them the task of serving the gods closely.

The others—those born from the darker recesses of Ymir's corpse, drawn to the shadows—became the dark elves, and were grouped with the dwarves and gnomes, created also from the primeval giants' remains.

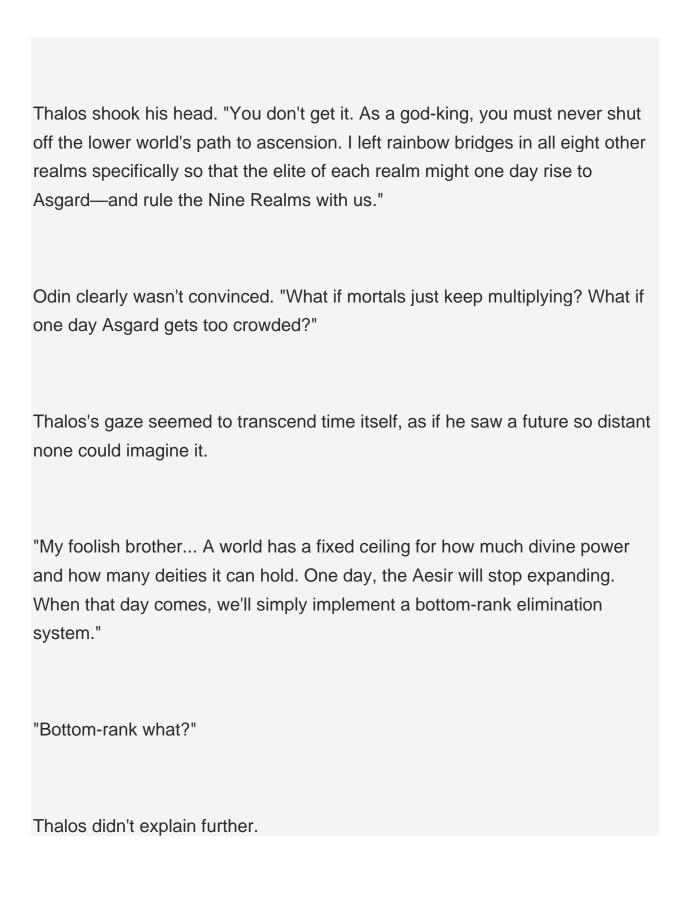
And with the surviving fire giants still around...

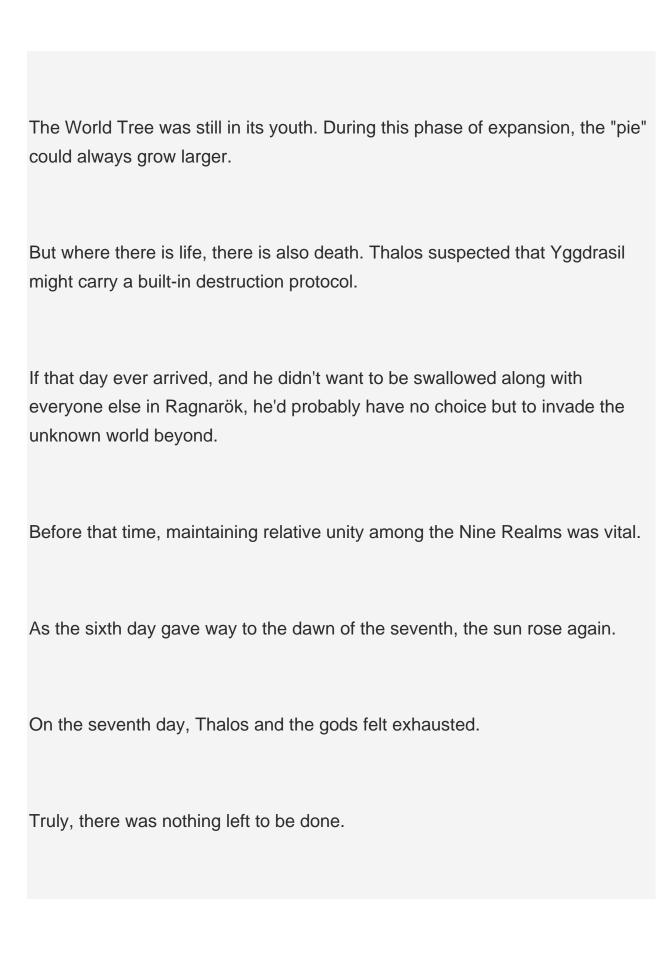
The nine realms of the Ginnungagap world were now fully populated with intelligent life.

Yet from the very beginning, Thalos had resolved not to follow in Odin's mythical footsteps by using the other mortal races solely as resources to be exploited by the Aesir.

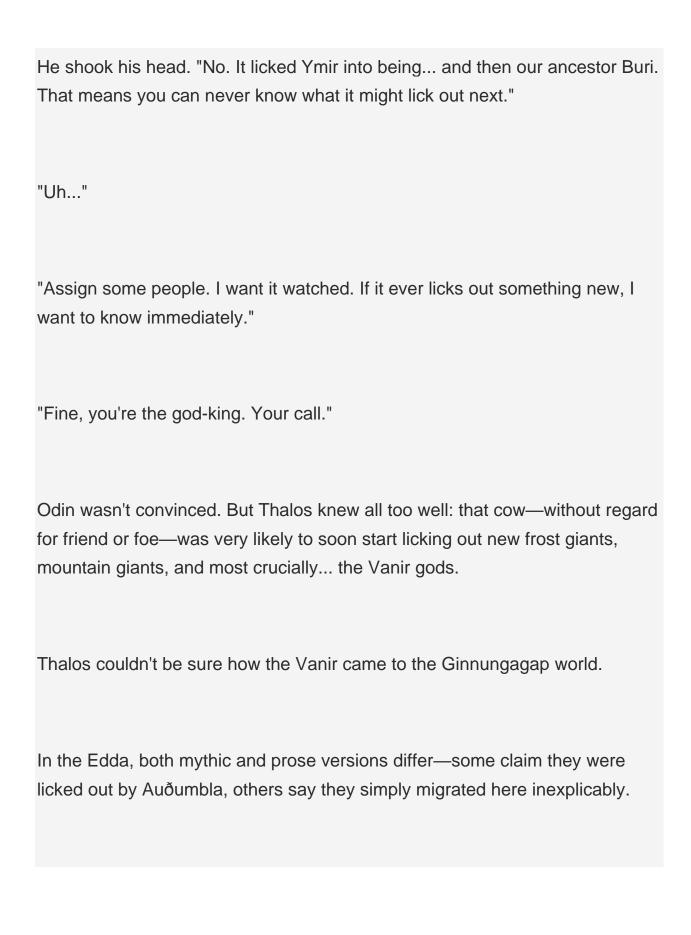
Even the dwarven realm of Svartálfheim, cloaked in endless night, would receive one month of sunlight. Even the deathly cold realm of Helheim would experience a month of spring.

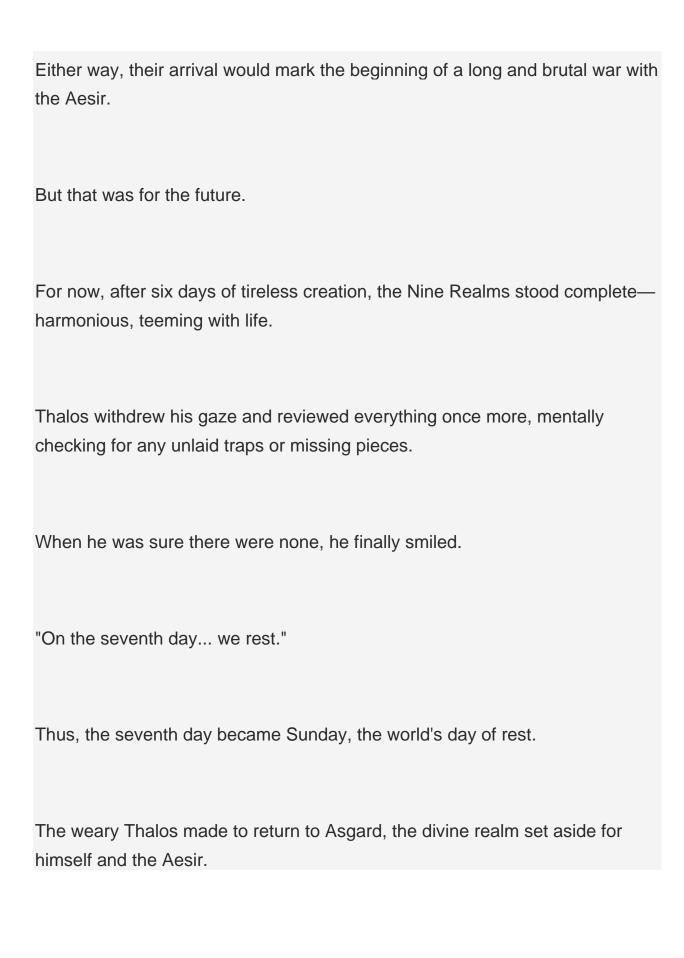
Odin muttered disapprovingly, "Brother, you're overcomplicating things."

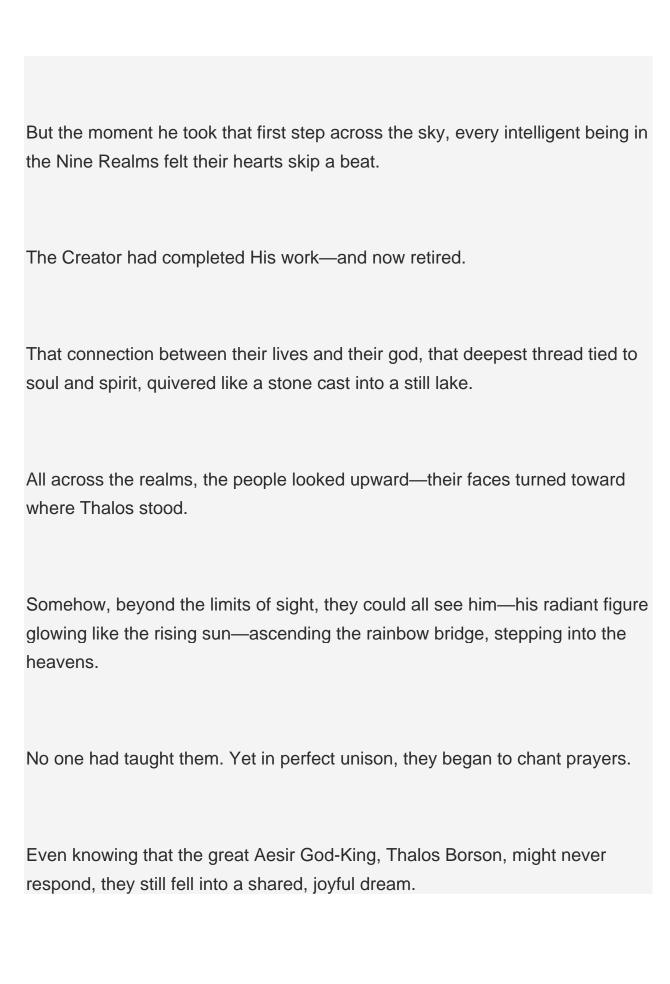


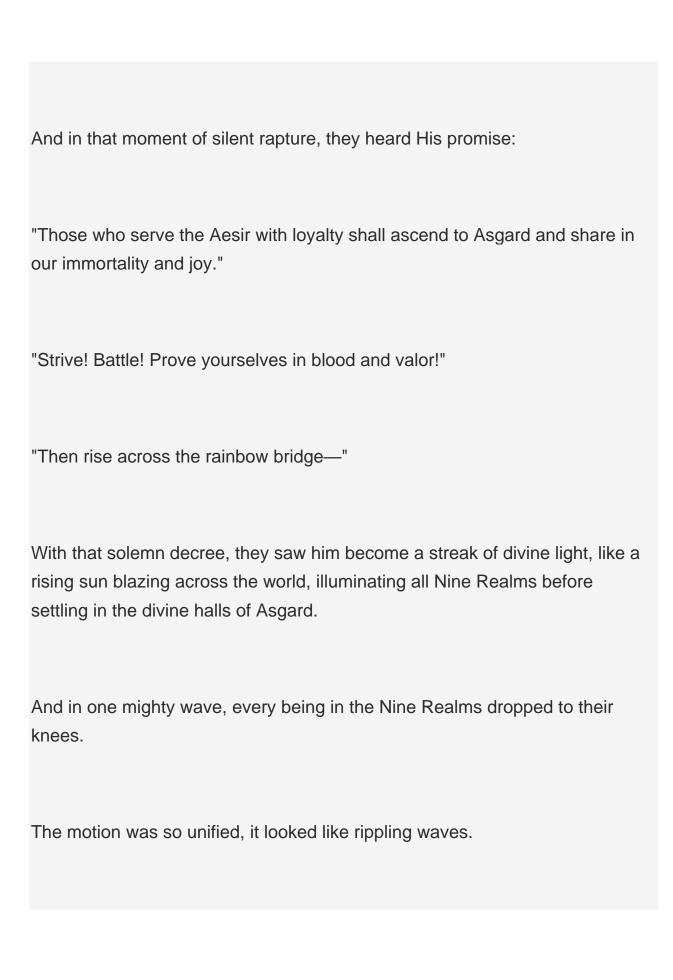


Thalos and his brothers could clearly feel the world's will reclaiming their right to shape it.
The Aesir had already rewritten this world from top to bottom. If anything had remained untouched, it was the colossal primordial cow: Auðumbla.
Thalos's eyes pierced space, gazing at the cow now relocated to Jötunheim.
It was the size of a stadium holding 50,000 people.
Its movements were repetitive and mindless: endlessly extending and retracting a tongue large enough to swallow an Aesir whole, as it licked at the ice-covered ground.
To Odin, this ridiculous cow was simply a joke. "Pfft. What's so special about Auðumbla? It could lick for ten thousand years and still find nothing new."
Thalos, however, couldn't laugh.









Overwhelmed with awe and reverence, and using the language gifted to them
by Bor himself, they spoke their first words in life:
"We obey the command of the God-King!"