

Marvel's Thor

Based on the screenplay by Ashley Edward Miller and Zach Stentz and Don Payne

Story by Michael Straczynski and Mark Protosevich



About the writer

Michael Straczynski is an American television and movie screenwriter, producer, director, and comic book writer. Mark Protosevich is an American screenwriter and producer.

Summary

When Thor decides to use his powerful hammer, Mjolnir, to start a war with the Jotuns, Odin realizes that Thor is not ready to be king of Asgard. He sends him to another realm and tells him to learn to put other people's needs before his own. On Earth, where Thor falls in love, he learns that his father was right.

Chapter 1: Scientists Jane Foster, Darcy Lewis, and Erik Selvig are in Puente Antiguo, looking up at the night sky. Jane wants to show Selvig strange clouds and rainbow colors that have been appearing recently. Suddenly, something falls in front of their van. It's a large man. When Darcy tries to drive away, Jane pulls at the wheel and knocks the man down. Earlier, in the realm of Asgard, Odin is about to pronounce his son, Thor, king for the few days he needs to go into the Odinsleep to regain his strength. During the ceremony, Frost Giants arrive from Jotunheim to steal the Casket of Ancient Winters. Everything they touch turns to ice. Thor wants to go to war against them but his father warns him against it.

Chapter 2: Ignoring his father, Thor tells his friends and his brother Loki they are going to Jotunheim. They cross the Rainbow Bridge to Heimdall's guard post. Heimdall wants to know the identity of the traitor who let the Frost Giants into Asgard. With his sword, he opens the Bifrost, allowing Thor and his friends to cross.

In Jotunheim, they are met by a crowd of Frost Giants and their King, Laufey. In a battle between the Asgardians and the Jotuns, Loki is touched by one of the Frost Giants and his arm and hand turn blue and very cold. Loki keeps this event a secret. When Odin hears that his sons have gone to Jotunheim, he goes and brings them back. Odin and Thor argue and Odin takes away Thor's powers and angrily pushes him into the Bifrost, sending him to Earth. There, Jane, Selvig, and Darcy take the large man, Thor, to the hospital. Later, in her office, Jane prints pictures and discovers that Thor fell from the sky. She and Darcy return to the hospital to talk to him but Thor has left. As Jane starts driving off, she suddenly hits something, again. It's Thor.

Chapter 3: The three scientists take Thor to a café, where two men are talking about a large hammer that crashed into the ground the night before. Thor quickly leaves to find it. In Asgard, Lady Sif thinks that Loki was the traitor who allowed the Jotuns to enter Asgard but Volstagg disagrees. When Loki goes underground and picks up the Casket of Ancient Winters, his hands turn blue and cold. Odin enters and tells him that at the end of the war between the Asgardians and the Jotuns, he took the Casket of Ancient Winters from Jotunheim. He also took a baby boy, Loki, the son of Laufey. Odin collapses and falls into the Odinsleep. Loki tells his friends he is now King of Asgard.

Chapter 4: Jane finds S.H.I.E.L.D. agents taking her equipment and papers from her office. She tries to get them back but does not succeed. Jane sees Thor and takes him to Mjolnir. Thor explains to her that the lights she saw in the sky are a bridge between different realms. When they arrive, they see guards protecting the hammer and Thor has to fight off soldiers to reach it. However, he is unable to move Mjolnir because his father has taken his powers and the hammer can be used only by someone who is wise. The guards take Thor away; Heimdall is watching from Asgard. Back in her office, Jane convinces Selvig to help her rescue Thor. Thor is being questioned by Agent Coulson, but tells him nothing. When Coulson leaves the room, Loki appears. After telling his brother that Odin is dead, which is a lie, and that he, Loki, is now king, he leaves. Selvig arrives and takes Thor away, telling Coulson that Thor is a scientist. Coulson knows that Selvig is lying and tells his men to follow them. Selvig knows Jane is growing fond of Thor and tells Thor to stay away from her.

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Chapter 5: Loki travels to Jotunheim and admits to Laufey he was the traitor. Loki also tells him that he is his son. He offers to help Laufey to kill Odin so he can get back the Casket of Ancient Winters and Loki can be King of Asgard. Loki returns to Asgard and orders Heimdall to close the Bifrost. Thor and Selvig return to Jane's office, and Thor tells her about Odin and the World Tree, Yggdrasil, an energy field that reaches out to the Nine Realms. He thinks Jane is beautiful. In Asgard, Lady Sif and the Warriors Three realize that Loki is their enemy. They are worried about Thor. Heimdall is glad they want to bring Thor back to Asgard and he makes it easy for them to open the Bifrost. Loki sees this and attacks Heimdall, covering him in ice. Loki goes to the Casket of Ancient Winters, opens the gate, and tells the Destroyer to kill Thor. Near Puente Antiguo, Agent Coulson and other agents notice changes in the sky and get into their cars.

Chapter 6: While Jane is explaining about the Nine Realms and the Bifrost to Selvig and Darcy, Thor's friends arrive. Lady Sif tells Thor his father is alive. The Destroyer falls to Earth. Thor sees the Destroyer but he does not have his powers so his friends have to fight it without his help. Loki is listening from Asgard. Thor speaks to him, asking him not to destroy people on Earth. When Thor offers his life to save the lives of people on Earth, the Destroyer hits Thor hard, hurting him badly. Jane cries.

Chapter 7: Mjolnir flies up from the ground and goes straight to Thor, whose sacrifice has shown that he's able to use his hammer wisely. With the power of Mjolnir, Thor defeats the Destroyer. Jane is very impressed. Meanwhile Loki opens the Bifrost to let Laufey and the Frost Giants into Asgard. Heimdall breaks free from the ice and opens the Bifrost for Thor. Ready to return with Lady Sif and the warriors, Thor tells Jane he will return for her. Mjolnir lifts him up and carries him through the sky.

Chapter 8: Laufey attempts to kill Odin in his bed but Loki stops him and kills Laufey with Odin's spear, Gungnir. Thor returns to Asgard and confronts Loki about his treason. Then, Loki attempts to destroy Jotunheim with energy from the Bifrost. Thor tries to stop him. Loki tells Thor his plan to destroy Jotunheim is to prove to their father that he is the good son. Thor and Loki fight. To stop Loki and save Jotunheim, Thor destroys the Bifrost. Thor and Loki are clinging to a broken piece of the bridge when Odin, who has woken up, arrives to save them.

Loki wants Odin to understand he has done all these terrible things for *him* but Odin does not forgive him. Loki lets go of Gungnir, and falls into the unknown. Everyone in the palace is sad. Loki's mother, Frigga, has lost her son and Thor has lost his brother and cannot return to Earth for Jane. Thor is hopeful that one day they will be together again.

About the movie

Thor is the fourth movie in the Marvel Cinematic series.

Background and themes

Power: Discuss with the class the ways power affects Odin, Laufey, Thor, and Loki. Ask students: *Which character(s) uses their power wisely? Does Odin think Thor will be a good king? Why (not)?*

Norse mythology: Darcy and Selvig show Jane a picture book with an image of Mjolnir. The book was most likely about Norse mythology. Explain the meaning of Norse mythology to students. Tell them that they can find many similarities between these myths and Marvel's *Thor*. Almost all characters and places, apart from those from Earth, have a counterpart within the myths. You can have students read about Norse mythology in books or the internet and compare it to Marvel's story. Ask students: *What do you know about Norse mythology? What or who would you like to know more about? Have you found any similarities or differences between Marvel's Thor and Norse myths?*

Adoption: Loki finds out that he was adopted by Odin as a baby and that Laufey is his birth father. Ask students: *How do you think Loki feels when he finds out that he was adopted? How does Odin feel? Do you think Odin and Frigga were right to not tell Loki he was adopted? Which one – Odin or Laufey – do you think is Loki's 'real' father: the adoptive father or the birth father?*

Discussion activities

Chapter 1

While reading

- Discuss:** Ask the students to stop reading at the bottom of page 2. Put them in small groups. Ask students: *What do you know about Jane Foster? What has she seen in the night sky?*
- Guess:** Ask the students: *Who do you think the large man is? Why?*

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After reading

- 3 **Check:** Ask the students if they guessed correctly that the large man is Thor.
- 4 **Role play:** Put the students in pairs. *Student A* is Odin. *Student B* is Thor. Practice and perform the conversation between Odin and Thor in the underground room.

Chapter 2

While reading

- 5 **Read carefully and discuss:** Put students in small groups. Tell them to read the conversation between Loki and Heimdall. Ask students: *Why does Heimdall agree to open the Bifrost for Loki, Thor, and their friends? What are the dangers for them in Jotunheim?*
- 6 **Discuss:** Put students in groups. Ask students: *Why does Odin send Thor to Earth? Why does Darcy's Taser make Thor fall? What does Jane know about Thor after she prints the pictures?*

After reading

- 7 **Role play:** *Student A* is Jane. *Student B* is Thor. Ask students to imagine the conversation between Thor and Jane after he realizes he is on Earth. Ask them to work in pairs and prepare the conversation and then perform it for the class.
- 8 **Guess:** Put students in small groups and ask them to discuss what they think will happen next to Thor.

Chapter 3

While reading

- 9 **Check:** After students have read the first section, ask them if they had guessed correctly about what would happen next to Thor.
- 10 **Pair work:** After students have read the first section, put them into pairs, and ask them to write Jane's list of questions that they think she would like to ask Thor. Then, ask each pair to compare their questions with another pair. For homework, they can write Thor's answers.

After reading

- 11 **Discuss:** Put the students into groups. Ask: *What has Loki learned about himself from Odin? How does Loki feel after Odin goes into the Odinsleep? How do Lady Sif and the Warriors Three feel about Loki as their king?*

Chapter 4

While reading

- 12 **Discuss:** After students read the first section, ask:

What is the relationship between Coulson and S.H.I.E.L.D., Thor and Mjolnir, Thor and Jane?

After reading

- 13 **Discuss:** Have a class discussion about Loki's reasons for lying to his brother and Selvig's reason for lying to Coulson. Ask: *What does Thor's reply to Loki tell you about Thor? What do Selvig's actions tell you about him?*

Chapter 5

While reading

- 14 **Role play:** After reading the first section, students should work in pairs with books open. Ask them to practice the conversation between Loki and Laufey. Ask for volunteers to perform the conversation for the whole class without looking at the text.

After reading

- 15 **Pair work:** Put the students in pairs. Ask each pair to choose one of the following questions to discuss: *How does Thor help Jane? How does Heimdall help Lady Sif and the Warriors Three? How do you think the Destroyer will help Loki? When they have finished discussing their question, they should report back to the rest of the class.*

Chapter 6

After reading

- 16 **Group work:** Put students in small groups and ask them to imagine they are about to fight the Destroyer. Ask students to brainstorm a plan for defeating the Destroyer and protecting the people. Each group can then present their plan to the rest of the class.

Chapter 7

After reading

- 17 **Discuss:** Put students in small groups to discuss these questions. Ask students: *Imagine you are going to live in Asgard or Jotunheim for one week, which would you like to visit, and why? Imagine you are Thor, do you want to be King of Asgard or live with Jane on Earth?*

Chapter 8

After reading

- 18 **Role play:** *Student A* is Frigga and *Student B* is Lady Sif. Ask the students to work in pairs and to invent a conversation between Frigga and Lady Sif about the recent events. Ask them to think about why Loki did what he did.
- 19 **Discuss:** Ask the class to discuss the following: *Will Thor be a good king after his father dies? Why (not)? Will he ever see Jane again? How?*