

GUIDEBOOK TO THE MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE

MARVEL

THOR

PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT A MARVEL STUDIOS PRODUCTION A FILM BY KENNETH BRANAGH "THOR" CHRIS HEMSWORTH NATALIE PORTMAN TOM HIDDLESTON STELLAN SKARSGÅRD
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Collecting information from Marvel's *Thor* (2011) and *Marvel's Thor Adaptation* (2013).

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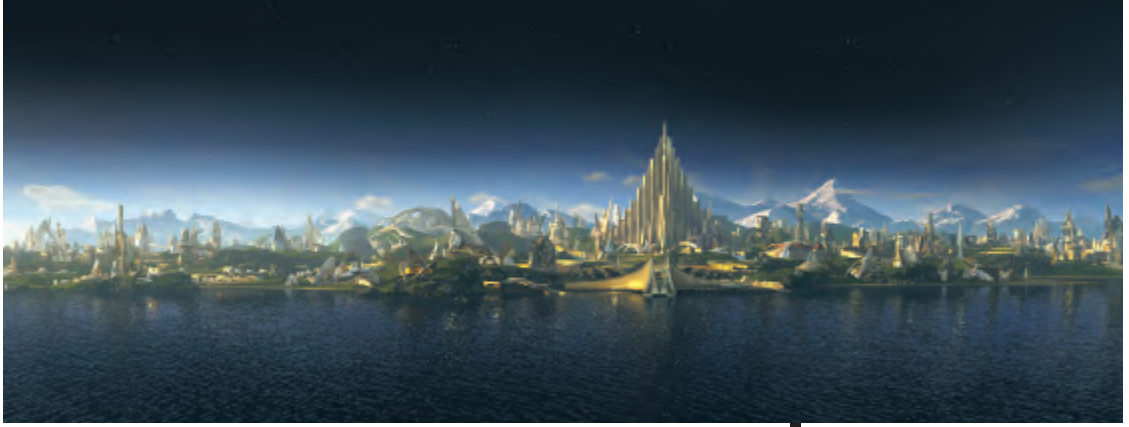
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SPECIAL THANKS TO DAVE ALTHOFF, STEVEN BOYD, SHAWN "KEEBLER" BYERS, JEFF CHRISTIANSEN, MATT DELMANOWSKI, ERIKA DENTON,
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IN LOVING MEMORY OF MAHOGANY WILLIAMS JENSEN, 2000-2015

THOR CREATED BY STAN LEE AND JACK KIRBY



ASGARD

FIRST APPEARANCE: *Thor* (2011)

Home to the long-lived Asgardians, and one of the Nine Realms of their cosmology, Asgard, the Realm Eternal, is a flat, floating planetary body with a gravitational pull and day-and-night intervals. Asgard hosts a vast city of unsurpassed beauty, mixing immense golden architecture, ornate statues and decor, and verdant paradises. The realm ends where waters encircling the city come to a precipitous drop into the void of eternal space. The Bifrost, a glittering, rainbow-colored bridge extends across Asgard's water, connecting the massive, central castle to an ornate, circular observatory on the precipice edge which, when acti-

vated, can project the bridge to any location in the Nine Realms for rapid transport.

The ruling Asgardian royal family includes the All-Father, Odin, his queen, Frigga, and their sons Thor and Loki. Asgard is largely populated by warriors who have honed their craft to an art form; their victory celebrations are approached with equal passion. Odin refers to Asgard as a beacon of hope, shining out across the stars for all to see.

By 965 A.D., Earth's humans believed Asgard to be the realm of their gods, and the denizens of other realms their feared evils. When Jotunheim's Frost Giants

IN THE COMICS

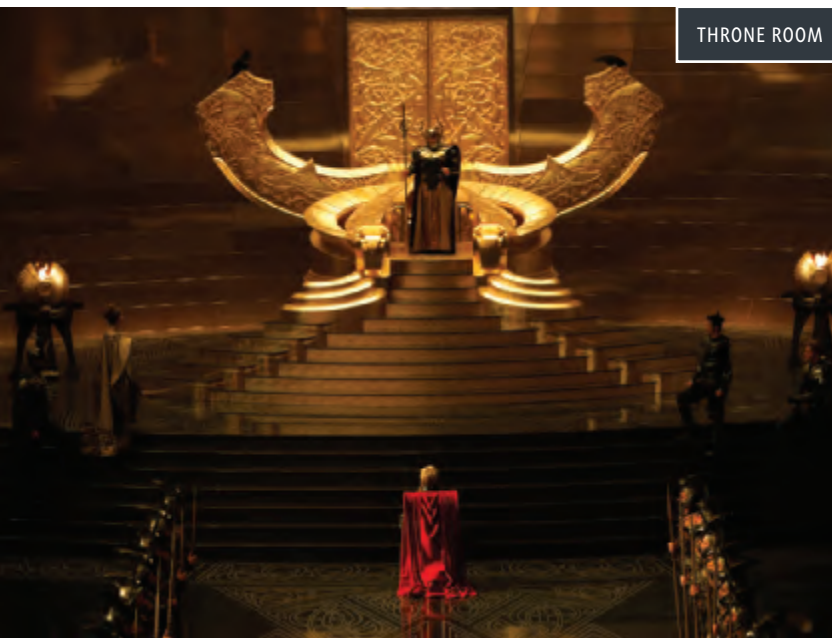


HOME TO THE ASGARDIANS

and numerous other races, Asgard is a small planetary body, roughly the size of the United States, that was connected to Earth (Midgard) by the roots of Yggdrasil, a cosmic Asgardian tree. Asgard is one of Ten Realms of the Asgardian cosmology, which include Earth, Jotunheim, Hel, Heven, and five others; direct access to Earth (Asgardian thunder god Thor Odinson's adopted home) was accomplished via the Rainbow Bridge, Bifrost. In modern times, following a rebirth in the cyclical destruction of the Asgardians, Thor moved the city of Asgard to Earth, where it hovered over Oklahoma until it was destroyed in battle against corrupt Earth forces. Rebuilt (with help from Tony Stark) and rechristened Asgardia, the city currently resides between Earth and the Moon.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #85 (1962)

THRONE ROOM





WEAPONS VAULT

invaded Earth, intending to regress it to an ice age, the Asgardian armies came to humankind's aid, repelling the Jotuns. Following the Jotuns' defeat, Asgard established universal peace and withdrew from the other realms, becoming the stuff of humanity's myths, legends, and fairy tales.

In modern times, Loki secretly enabled three Jotuns to covertly enter Asgard via a secret path and breach the Asgardian weapons vault, seeking to reclaim the Casket of Ancient Winters,

their greatest weapon. As Loki hoped, this disrupted Thor's coronation and angered him into taking reckless retaliation. Disobeying Odin's commands, Thor and his closest allies journeyed to Jotunheim to confront Jotun king Laufey, who considered Thor's aggression an act of war. After saving Thor from Jotunheim, Odin ruled that Thor's dismissal of peace made him unfit to rule and banished him to Earth. Shortly after, Loki learned from Odin he was a Frost Giant, long ago adopted by Odin in hopes of one day uniting the

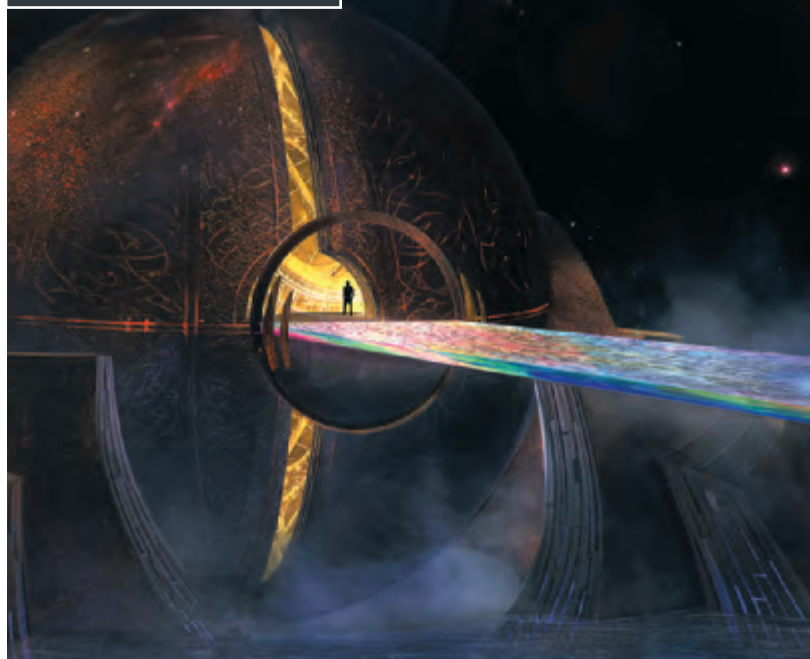
kingdoms. The subsequent confrontation exhausted Odin to the point of falling into his regenerative Odinsleep, leaving Loki to claim the throne.

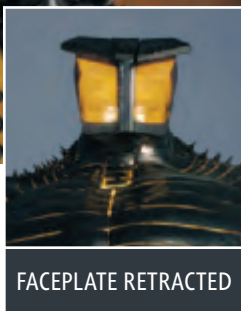
Loki approached Laufey, offering him entrance into Asgard to slay Odin and regain the Casket. Laufey agreed, unaware Loki intended to kill Laufey so Asgard would find Loki worthy of the throne. After sending the Destroyer to Earth to slay Thor, Loki killed Laufey in Odin's bedchamber. However, moments later, Thor returned to Asgard, his humbling experiences on Earth and personal sacrifice to defeat the Destroyer making him worthy to rule. The two brothers battled until Thor was forced to destroy the Bifrost to prevent Loki from slaughtering the Jotuns in an effort to further prove himself to Odin. An awakened Odin saved his sons from falling into the void of space, but when Odin disapproved of Loki's machinations, Loki allowed himself to fall into a space warp. Odin reclaimed the throne of Asgard, but the Realm Eternal was cut off from the other realms by the Bifrost's destruction. 🌐

FACT SHEET

- ▶ ASGARD IS ONE OF NINE REALMS OF THE COSMOS LINKED BY THE BRANCHES OF YGGDRASIL, THE COSMIC "WORLDS TREE." OTHER REALMS INCLUDE EARTH (MIDGARD), JOTUNHEIM, ALFHEIM, NORNHEIM, VALHALLA, AND VANAHEIM.
- ▶ WHEN EXPLAINING ASGARD TO JANE FOSTER, THOR DESCRIBED IT AS A PLACE WHERE SCIENCE AND MAGIC EXIST AS ONE.
- ▶ ASGARD'S WEAPONS VAULT WAS STAUNCHLY PROTECTED BY THE DESTROYER AUTOMATON.
- ▶ LOKI CLAIMED TO KNOW WAYS IN AND OUT OF ASGARD THAT BYPASSED THE BIFROST.

BIFROST AND OBSERVATORY





FACEPLATE RETRACTED

DESTROYER

FIRST APPEARANCE: *Thor* (2011)

The Destroyer construct was one of Asgard's most powerful weapons, stored behind a mystical wall of energy, stone, and spikes inside the royal weapons vault. When Jotunheim Frost Giants secretly breached the vault in an attempt to recover their confiscated Casket of Ancient Winters, Odin sensed their intrusion and activated the Destroyer to stop them. The Destroyer exterminated the Giants with powerful energy beams projected from its face. When Odin's son Thor disobeyed Odin's command and traveled to Jotunheim to confront the Frost Giants, their king, Laufey, considered Thor's actions to be an act of war, ending a long-standing truce between the kings. An enraged Odin stripped Thor of his powers and exiled him to Earth to learn humility. Soon after, Odin succumbed to his rejuvenating Odinsleep, leaving Loki to rule Asgard in his place. Thor's friends, Sif and the Warriors Three, privately felt Loki was not worthy of the throne and tried persuad-

ing him to reverse Thor's banishment, but Loki refused; the group left for Earth to find Thor. Incensed, Loki activated the Destroyer and sent it to Earth to destroy Thor and anything in its path. Upon its arrival, the Destroyer was met by a S.H.I.E.L.D. contingency led by Agent Phil Coulson; when asked to identify itself, the Destroyer responded by using its energy beam to destroy their vehicles. The Destroyer entered the town of Puente Antiguo, New Mexico, and demolished everything in its path without discrimination, and easily fended off an attack by the Warriors Three. Sif assaulted the Destroyer from above, driving her spear through its neck, temporarily halting its rampage. The Destroyer quickly recovered and continued to lay waste to the Asgardians and the town. Thor unsuccessfully attempted to reason with Loki through the Destroyer, instead receiving a fatal blow. Thor's selfless and humble sacrifice proved him worthy of his power: Thor's



IN THE COMICS

SEEKING DEFENSE AGAINST WORLD-destroying level threats, Asgardian All-Father Odin Borson enlisted the Dwarves of Nidavellir to construct the Destroyer, a vastly powerful, inert armor that is animated by absorbing the consciousness of any who touched it. Once activated, the armor destroys everything in its path, usually through the disintegrator ray contained behind its faceplate. Over its history, the Destroyer has been used for malicious and benevolent deeds; it remains one of Asgard's greatest weapons.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #118 (1965)



hammer, Mjolnir, instead flew to him and rejuvenated him. Creating a vortex powerful enough to lift the Destroyer into the air, Thor used Mjolnir to force the Destroyer's blasts back into itself, causing it to explosively malfunction and crash back to Earth. 🌐

FACT SHEET

- ▶ THE DESTROYER CAN APPARENTLY BE SUMMONED ONLY BY ASGARD'S KING TO SWIFTLY ANNIHILATE ASGARD'S ENEMIES.
- ▶ THE ARMOR'S BODY CAN BE QUICKLY RECONFIGURED TO FACE THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION WITHOUT HAVING TO TURN AROUND.
- ▶ ASGARD'S KING CAN HEAR AND SEE WHAT THE DESTROYER DOES, EVEN ACROSS THE VOID SEPARATING THE NINE REALMS.



JANE FOSTER

FIRST APPEARANCE: *Thor* (2011)

A brilliant astrophysicist, Jane Foster enlisted her late father's colleague Dr. Erik Selvig and her intern Darcy Lewis to document a recurring meteorological event near Puente Antiguo, New Mexico, believing the event tied into her research into spatial

wormholes. Upon sighting the anomaly, Lewis inadvertently drove Foster's truck into the Asgardian warrior prince Thor, who had been exiled to Earth by his father Odin for inciting a war between Asgard and the Frost Giants of Jotunheim. Lewis subdued the ranting Thor with a stun gun, and the trio dropped him off at the local hospital before returning to their lab.

While reviewing their findings, Lewis showed Foster and Selvig a photograph of the anomaly with a human silhouette inside. Sensing a link between Thor and the anomaly, the trio drove to the hospital, but Foster accidentally backed her truck into the escaping Thor. Though stymied by Thor's arrogance, Foster and her colleagues supplied him with clothes and a meal at the local diner, where

they heard locals speak of a crashed satellite 50 miles away that could not be pried from the ground; Thor correctly deduced this was his enchanted hammer Mjolnir, but, heeding Selvig's concerns that Thor appeared delusional and dangerous, Foster declined to drive him there. After Thor left to retrieve the hammer by himself, Foster discovered S.H.I.E.L.D. agents led by Agent Phil Coulson stripping her lab of data and equipment, citing a "security threat" as justification.

With years of her research confiscated and determined to learn Thor's connection to the anomaly, Foster, undaunted by Selvig's warnings about S.H.I.E.L.D., located Thor and drove him to the crash site; during the drive the two realized they were becoming attracted to one another. Finding the

FACT SHEET

- ▶ FOSTER'S PUENTE ANTIGUO LAB WAS THE UNUSED SMITH MOTORS AUTO DEALERSHIP. SHE FREQUENTLY SPENT SPARE TIME ON ITS ROOF TO THINK.
- ▶ FOSTER CONSIDERED HER EX-BOYFRIEND, DR. DONALD BLAKE, TO BE "GOOD WITH PATIENTS, BUT BAD AT RELATIONSHIPS."
- ▶ FOSTER'S FATHER AND ERIK SELVIG WERE PROFESSORS AT THE SAME UNIVERSITY.
- ▶ FOSTER'S TRUCK, A MODIFIED 1971 STEYR-DAIMLER-PUCH PINZGAUER, DOUBLED AS A MOBILE LABORATORY.

FOSTER'S LAB



site contained within a makeshift S.H.I.E.L.D. outpost, Foster left a voicemail with Selvig while watching from afar as Thor fought through several agents; Thor was disheartened when he couldn't lift Mjolnir from the ground and was taken into custody. Returning to the lab, Foster argued with Selvig that Thor seemed neither a liar nor a lunatic, despite Selvig showing her a Norse mythology book mirroring Thor's seemingly outlandish claims.

Selvig later convinced Coulson to release Thor, who presented Foster with her notebook, the one piece of her research he had managed to steal back, and explained how accurately her research lined up with the Nine Realms' cosmology. The arrival of Thor's Asgardian

allies, Sif and the Warriors Three, and the Asgardian behemoth, the Destroyer, finally dispelled any remaining doubts in Thor's claims. Foster watched as the Destroyer struck Thor with a seemingly fatal blow, only for Mjolnir to return to Thor's hand, restoring his powers. After Thor dispatched the Destroyer and insisted that Coulson return Foster's equipment, Thor promised Foster he would return for her after he dealt with his treacherous adopted brother Loki back in Asgard. Foster accepted his oath with a passionate kiss, but Thor was soon forced to destroy the Bifrost to prevent Loki from destroying Jotunheim, trapping him in Asgard. Foster continued her research, now with S.H.I.E.L.D. participation, hoping to one day be reunited with Thor. 🌐

FOSTER'S MOBILE LAB



IN THE COMICS



JANE FOSTER WAS A REGISTERED

nurse in the employ of physician Donald Blake, the secret alter ego of Asgardian thunder god Thor. Thor and Foster shared a mutual attraction, but Thor's father Odin considered the mortal Foster unworthy of a romance with his son. Foster eventually married another doctor, Keith Kincaid; had a son, Jimmy; and became a doctor herself – but her marriage ended in divorce, due in part to Jane's simmering feelings for Thor.

After Foster contracted breast cancer, she forbade Thor to seek non-Earthly treatments for her condition. When Thor became unworthy to wield his enchanted hammer, Mjolnir, Foster was deemed worthy and took possession of Mjolnir, despite knowing that wielding it would worsen her frail health. Mjolnir empowered Foster, transforming her into Thor, the Goddess of Thunder.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #84 (1962)

