

in *The Avengers* they cannot hold a normal conversation with one another. They are constantly pacing around each other and involving physical contact and never fully mentioning how they care about each other seriously. The first thing Thor says to Loki is asking him where a relic is. Loki, clearly hurt by the lack of personal interest, but attempting to hide that fact, jokingly says, “I missed you too.” Loki wants Thor to tell him that he missed him, however, the way that brothers interact prevents this forward and direct way of speaking so Loki pretends it is a joke. It is as if communicating with feelings would be a sign of weakness for either of them.

Probably the biggest example of this flawed form of communication between brothers is the reasoning behind Loki faking his death in *The Dark World*. As Loki falls, Thor holds him and says, “I will tell Father you died with honor.” To which Loki replies, “You don’t do it for him.” This beginning of the scene is a strong representation of their refusal to admit their feelings. Loki is saying that he died saving Thor and wanted to do it to show Thor that after all that had happened between them, that he cared. Rather than having a truthful and heartfelt goodbye, they must keep a slight vagueness between them to avoid crossing that emotional barrier. Also, the only way that Thor would genuinely believe his brother’s sentiment is if he thought they were his last words. Loki knows that he is notorious for lying, therefore finds faking his death as the only way to make his brother feel his sincerity. Since Loki chooses this way to tell his feeling to his brother, he uses the guise of death as an attempt to see how Thor feels about him. Loki would never outright ask how his brother felt about him, although at times it has been obvious, so he hopes to see Thor’s true feelings if he were to die. On top of that sad thought, Loki may also be trying to relieve Thor of the burden of caring about him by making Thor think he were gone for good. Lastly, however, the worst reason of all for faking his death is the cruel truth that power plays a particular role in brother relationships. Loki observes an

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Page 11 of 12