



MIKAMI NARRATIVE

NARRATIVE AND PLAY

FGMD7003

MA GAME DESIGN 2021-2022

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Lore of the game

Golden Path Segment 0 - Prologue

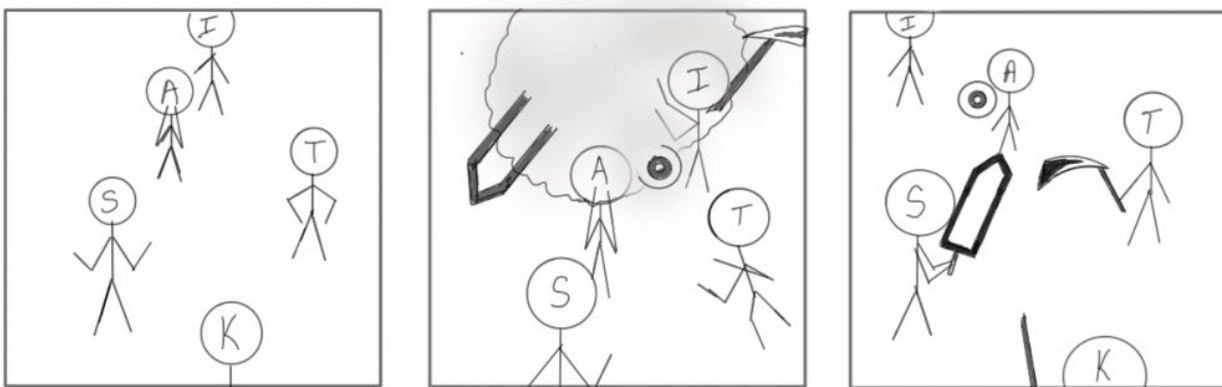
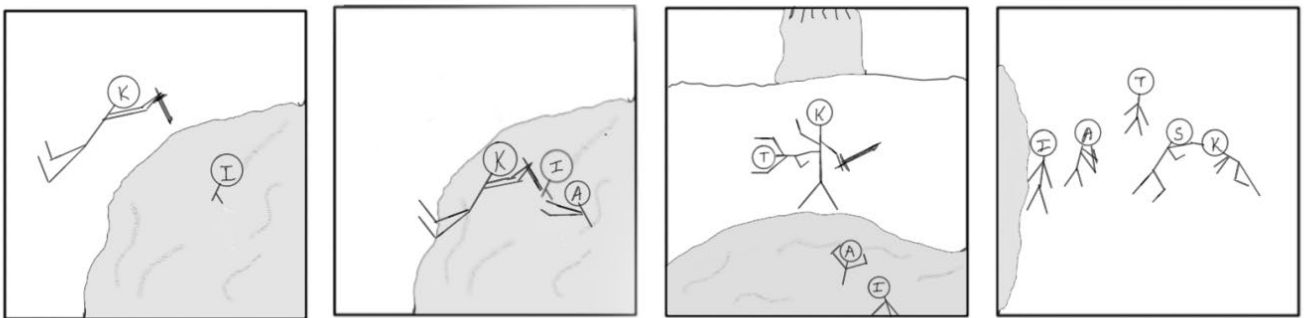
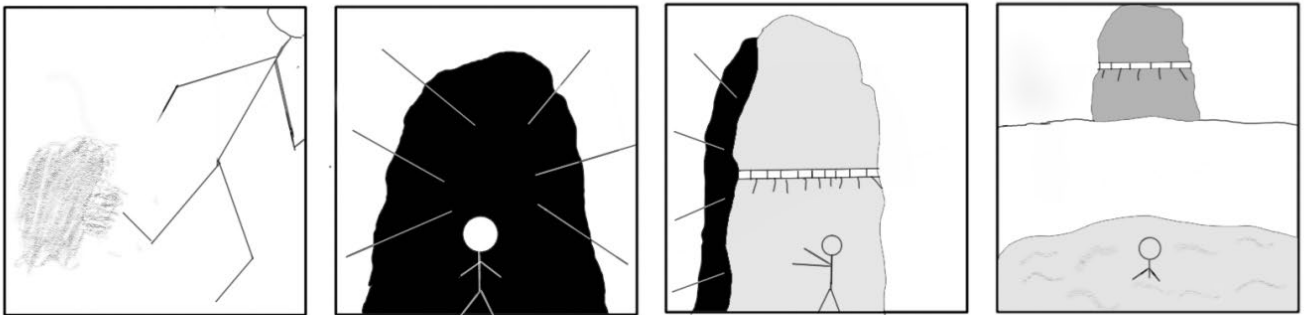
As soon as Izanagi escaped the underworld, he blocked the entrance to the underworld by a huge rock and sealed it with Shime-Nawa. Izanami let out a cry. She made a promise to herself that she would destroy everything that Izanagi had created and held dear to him. She started chanting out a ritual from the underworld. Izanagi, heartbroken and tired, entered a small lake in front of the entrance to the underworld to wash himself. Kagu-Tsuchi came rushing to the lake in which Izanagi was bathing the moment he came to know of his father's deeds. The sky turned blood red. Kagu-Tsuchi launched a deadly surprise attack on Izanagi. The moment before his blade was about to touch Izanagi's throat a female warrior parried it with a flat stone and took a defense stance in front of Izanagi. A male warrior as light as a feather flanked Kagu-Tsuchi and kicked him on his chest to create some distance among them. A second male warrior charged straight at Kagu-Tsuchi and punched him in his face. Startled by this sudden turn of events Izanagi commanded these warriors to introduce themselves. The female warrior said, "I am Amaterasu I am born out of your right eye's tear". The first male warrior said, "I am Tsukuyomi born out of your left eye's tear". The second male warrior exclaimed "I am Susano, born when the tear from your nose touched these waters. Old man talks less, fight more". Izanagi gave each of the warriors a sacred treasure from his arsenal of mystic weapons. After subduing Kagu-Tsuchi, a red rift opened and pulled him in, and the red sky went back to normal. The rock blocking the entrance of the underworld shattered and ominous aura, black souls burst out in the sky making it dark.

Every AAA game needs a hook so that players continue to invest their hours in the game. The opening scene is Mikami's hook. The name Izanami will not be revealed to the players yet. The reason Mikami opens with an action scene is because it sets the tone for the game and the onboarding process for the player can be done in the first fight itself.

The heroes embark on their quest

Izanagi recognized the abnormal magic and had a terrifying expression. The three young Gods recognized Izanagi as their father and enquired about his concern with this magic. He told them that the origin of this magic is the underworld, and these escaped souls need to be sent back to the underworld. Before the warriors embarked on their journey Izanagi gave his heavenly necklace the Yasa beads to Amaterasu to save his life from Kagu-Tsuchi's first attack. Izanagi decided to stay put and guard the entrance of the underworld. He turned himself into a giant magical tree to block the entrance. The band of young Gods set out on their journey to explore and save the world their father held close to his heart.

Heroes need motivation to go out on their quest and their father's word and sacrifice felt enough to send them out on a dangerous adventure.



Golden Path Segment 1

As heroes' journey through the lands of Japan they come across a huge warrior encompassed in dark aura. The warrior attacks heroes and tastes defeat. The dark aura fades away and the warrior comes to his senses. He introduces himself and Jikokuten. He informs the heroes that this dark aura is underworld's magic and tells the heroes that the only one strong enough to subjugate one of the kings is Izanami herself. As he speaks, he looks at Susano's expression and catches a glimpse of Izanami. He asks the heroes who they are and what their heritage is. The heroes introduce themselves and tell him about Izanagi. Jikokuten with a surprised expression tells the heroes that they have the heavenly lineage and no wonder they could beat him in combat. He asks the heroes if they know who their mother is. After a moment of silence from the heroes Jikokuten tells them that their mother's name is Izanami. Heroes have a childlike joy on their face as this is the first time anyone has mentioned their mother and they feel happy learning about her. Jikokuten tells the heroes that there are three other kings like him, each ruling a direction with a virtue. He is the king of the east, guardian of nation. He gives his ring to the heroes as his acknowledgment of their heroic deeds. He asks heroes to search for the other kings.

This segment's objective from a narrative point of view was to introduce the hero's mom into the lore and to establish the fact that she is a powerful entity. This segment also branches into one of the legendary quests, hence the ring works as a trigger for it.

Golden Path Segment 2

Heroes spot headless bodies all around an area and a man sitting on a pile of dead bodies. As they go closer the man throws a coin with vicious force at Susano's face to enrage him. As the coin is about to hit Susano Tsukuyomi catches this coin and throws it back at the stranger with double the force. The stranger dodges the coin by slightly shifting his neck and it hits a rock behind him, cutting it in half. The stranger smiles and says, "This will be fun, I haven't had a challenge in years." As the stranger is defeated, an evil spirit leaves his body. The evil spirit says "I need to inform others" while hastily flying away. The stranger introduces himself as Daikokuten one of the seven Gods of luck and thanks the heroes for getting rid of the spirit. He tells them that a spirit could never take hold of a God's body, this is the first time he has seen such a transgression happen. He says that this is all Izanami and Izanagi's fault for making these demons in the first place. The heroes are all shocked and confused. Amaterasu asks Daikokuten to why they would spawn demons into this world. Daikokuten tells the heroes that two centennials (200 years) ago. Izanami and Izanagi fell in love and Izanami invited Izanagi to her bed. Because the mating ritual was initiated by a woman it was against the laws of heaven and this unholy union lead to the birth of demons into this world. Daikokuten plucks a feather from his roaster and hands it over to the heroes. He then takes his leave to rest at his shrine and recover from the injuries sustained in battle.

Daikokuten is being used here as an agent deliver lore for the world and to justify demons in the world. This reason of demons being born is true from the myths. Whereas the 200 years are mentioned via creative freedom as there are no historical records with an accurate number. The start of this battle is heavy on action as I intend the player to have a fast-paced battle and then slow down as the lore starts after the fight. Thus, making the lore more satisfying to unlock.

If GPS 3 is completed

Tsukuyomi understands that his parents felt guilty for releasing demons into this world. Hence, they waged a war to seal them in the underworld. He shares this with Susano and Amaterasu. Amaterasu has a slight doubt as to why Izanagi did not mention Izanami to them before but keeps this to herself.

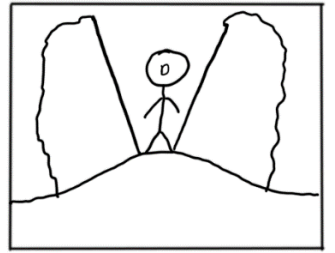
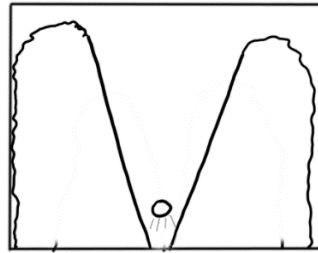
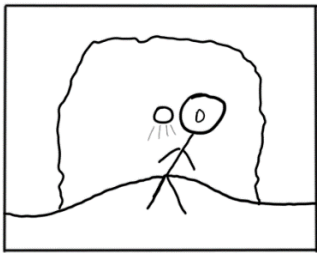
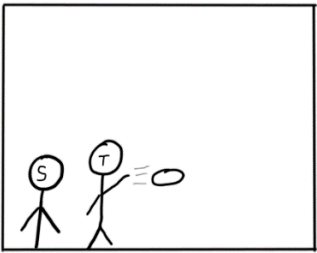
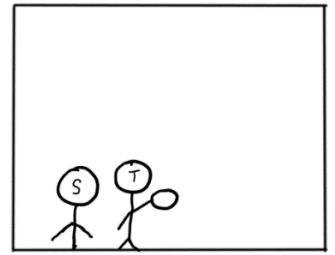
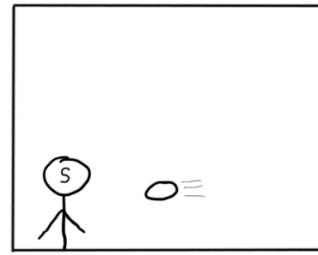
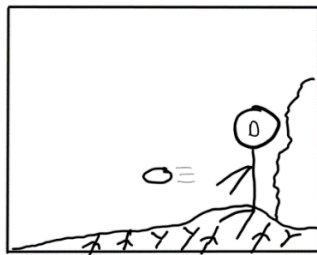
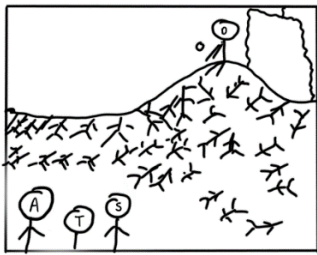
If GPS 3 is not completed

Susano feels bad that Izanagi never mentioned anything about their mother to them. Amaterasu tells him to keep faith in Izanagi as there might be a good reason to hide the fact from them.

If GPS 1 is not completed

Izanami is referred to in third person and her name is not mentioned clearly.

This type of pf slight branching is in the game to make sure players do not encounter redundant information despite the sequence in which they access golden path segments.



Golden Path Segment 3

While heroes are on their journey, they get ambushed by one of the seven Gods of luck. He introduces himself as Bishamonten. Bishamonten tells the heroes that he himself wanted to test the might of Izanagi's children whose worshippers are rapidly rising. As the dust of combat settles, he yields and acknowledges these young Gods skills. He tells the heroes that they have the potential to be on equal footing with their father someday. He narrates a story to heroes from the last demonic war. He tells them that two heroes bravely fought the demons a century ago and sealed them in the underworld. Their teamwork on the battlefield was like watching an elegant dance, their every move was in unison. Their every move would strike a deadly blow and set the other one for an even deadlier offense. The duos' love could be observed in their combat skills, he had never observed something deadlier yet beautiful in his lifetime. Listening to this Susano and Amaterasu were very curious as to what kind of duo they were. Bishamonten gives his blessing to these young Gods and decides to aid them in combat whenever he is summoned. He walks out of the scene. Tsukuyomi deduces that the duo must be their parents.

Through this segment my aim is to depict Izanagi and Izanami's love and efficiency in the battle at the same time. It establishes the fact that the heroes have a powerful lineage and responsibility on their shoulders. It also adds to the lore and history of Mikami.

If GPS 2 is completed

Tsukuyomi understands that his parents felt guilty for releasing demons into this world. Hence, they waged a war to seal them in the underworld. He shares this with Susano and Amaterasu. Amaterasu has a slight doubt as to why Izanagi did not mention Izanami to them before but keeps this to herself.

If GPS 2 is not completed

Susano gets mad at Izanagi for not telling them that he had a partner to help him seal the demons in the underworld. Amaterasu tells him to keep faith in Izanagi as there might be a good reason to hide the fact from them.

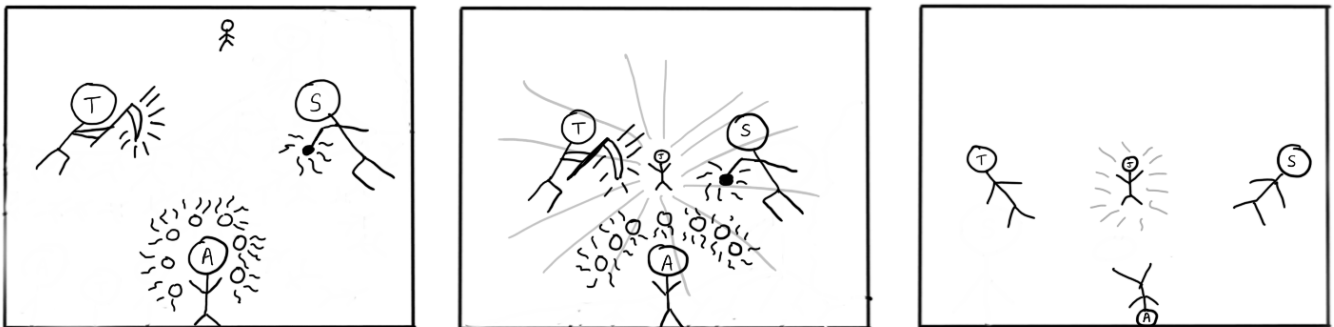
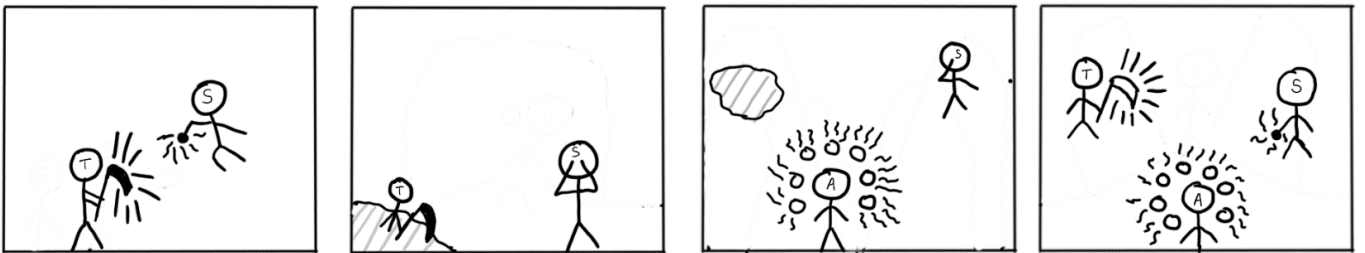
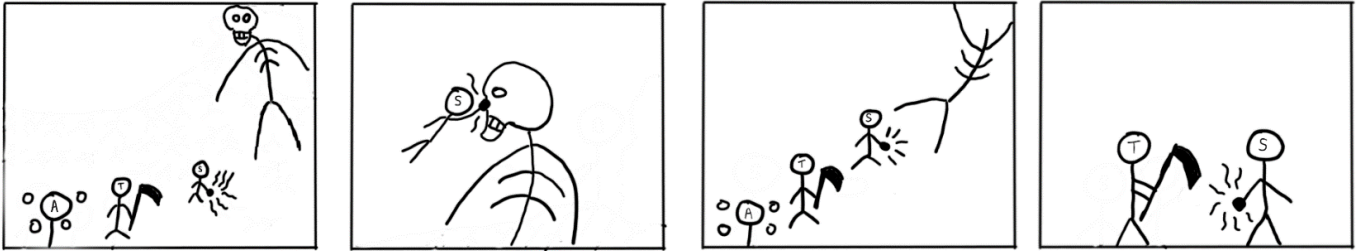
Golden Path Segment 4

Heroes spot a Gashadokuro (humongous skeleton) walking around and destroying everything in its path. If any of the heroes comes under this skeleton's feet, their health points immediately drop to zero. The skeleton does not attack the players unless it is attacked first. When the skeleton is hit, he bends down on his knees and the combat begins. Susano goes into a Godly rage once the skeleton is at 5% of its max health points and defeats it in a single blow. Susano loses all his senses while raging and rips out the skeleton's heart. Susano starts to wreck everything in sight. Tsukuyomi tries to stop him, but Susano does not listen. As Susano is about to land the same punch, he used to kill the Gashadokuro, Tsukuyomi shines his scythe bright like a moon blinding Susano and becomes a shadow to fall back with this powered up scythe ready to strike. Seeing this unfold, Amaterasu feels enraged for the first time and summons a massive amount of magic energy from nature forming a miniature sun in her palm. The three heroes are about to collapse into each other with their Godly powers awakened. A small figure comes running out from a bush, jumps in the middle of the three charging heroes. He has prayed beads in his hand that shine and make all the heroes fall unconscious. As the heroes wake up they see a small monk meditating. Amaterasu asks the monk who he is. The monk answers saying he is Jizo, the protector of children. He says, "Your children seem to need help, so Jizo jumped in to stop you all from destroying each other". He thanks the heroes for destroying Gashadokuro. He tells them that he wished Izanami was still alive, she used to protect everyone who could not protect themselves during the demonic war. Izanagi used to march bravely on the front line to defeat demons, but he did not consider the damage he caused. He used to think he could always recreate whatever was lost. But Izanami protected everyone and everything while fighting on equal footing with Izanagi. Listening to this all the heroes get shocked. Susano gets down to his knee and asks, "You mean mother is dead?". Jizo tells him that Izanami died in childbirth. After the demonic war Izanagi invited Izanami to his bed and because the ritual was initiated by a man a holy fire was born out of this union. But as the fire was being born it burnt Izanami and she died. Izanagi was crushed, he abandoned the child and blamed him for Izanami's death. Tsukuyomi asks Jizo what happened to the child. Jizo said that as he is the protector of children, he took care of the child until the boy grew up and could take care of himself.

The fight in segment 4 is quite a huge fight that lets the player know that these young heroes are yet to awaken their Godly power. It gives a taste of what is yet to come in the game with respect to combat. While speaking Jizo refers to himself in third person. This segment will show the darkness in light and light in darkness meaning, Izanagi was being depicted as all mighty golden hero until now, but he has a bad side. On the other hand, Izanami was being depicted as evil until now, but she has a good side. The objective here is to not make these characters feel completely black and white but rather on a grey scale.

If the player interacts with Jizo again

Jizo tells the heroes that the powers they just experienced were their Godly awakenings. He instructs them to find Suijin the Goddess of water as she can perform a purification ritual that allows them to control these powers at will.



Golden Path Segment 5

Heroes spot a beautiful lady standing by a lake, she looks lost in her thought. As the heroes get closer the lady walks towards the heroes and talks to them. She introduces herself as Benzaiten one of the seven luck Gods and asks the heroes to stop trying to save the world. The heroes are obviously very confused by this request. She says that this is a hopeless world, and the demons are here so that the world can start afresh. Things need to be destroyed first to be rebuilt. She says Gods, demons, humans all are same at their core they take whatever they want and cast it aside once used.

In a time of chaos everyone has a different approach to solve it and their own perspectives. Not all the Gods are always on the same page and Benzaiten is in the game to represent the same thing.

If GPS 2 is not completed

Benzaiten says that Izanagi used Izanami to create this world and left her to rot in the underworld once his wishes were fulfilled.

If GPS 2 is completed

Benzaiten says that Izanagi used Izanami to create the world, caused her to make demons and left her to rot in the underworld once his wishes were fulfilled.

If GPS 4 is not completed

While Izanami was on the verge of death Izanagi promised her that he will find her in the underworld and they would be together again, but he never reached her.

If GPS 4 is completed

While Izanami was burning to death Izanagi promised her that he will find her in the underworld and they would be together again, but he never reached her.

Amaterasu says to Benzaiten that it was not Izanagi's fault he is still at the underworld entrance stopping the demons from coming to these lands. Tsukuyomi tells her that Izanagi has sent them to stop the demons. Benzaiten says, "You foolish young Gods, the only one powerful enough to control all these demons at this scale is Izanami herself and I support her goals". The inevitable fight breaks out.

The curtain is lifted from the big bad guy of the game, that is Izanami and any speculations that the players might have had about Izanami being evil now are true. The reason for this revelation is halfway of the golden path because I wanted to take the first half of the golden path to set the world of Mikami and introduce its characters. The second half would be to justify why her being evil makes sense to her and thus putting the parents' characters on a grey scale.

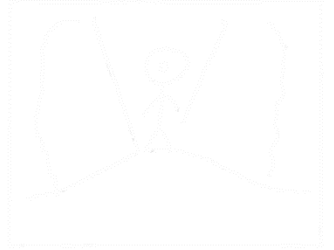
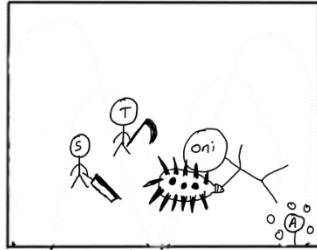
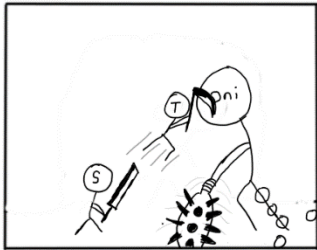
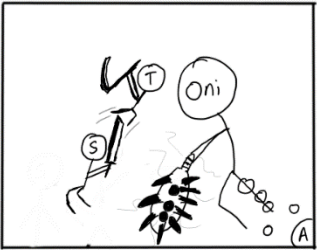
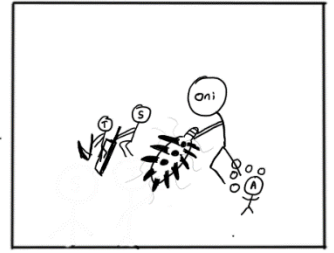
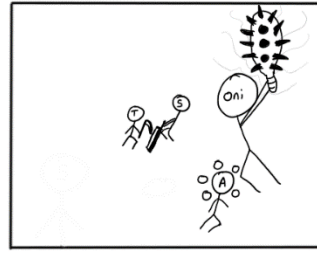
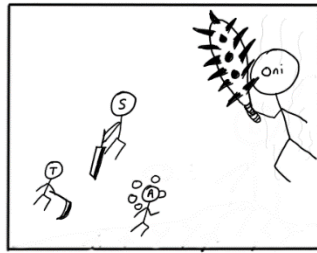
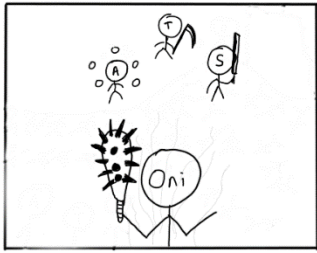
Golden Path Segment 6

One of the characters (one that player is controlling) gets hit by a huge rock suddenly. The character can either block or dodge, if not the character takes damage. A huge demon is charging towards the heroes. He stops and introduces himself as Onihitokuchi. He exclaims that lady Izanami has suffered because of Izanagi and heroes being the children of Izanagi shall pay for it with their life. Onihitokuchi attacks the heroes. Onihitokuchi and the heroes are on their verge, this is the longest and toughest fight all four of them have ever faced. They all knew it would come down to one last move. Tsukuyomi in the heat of the battle slows down like still water, his mind focuses on enemy's movement. He comes up with a plan in a split second and communicates it to his siblings. Amaterasu instead of second guessing, starts to believe in herself as a leader. She commands her brothers to follow Tsukuyomi's plan and gives the callout to move. Susano listens to Tsukuyomi's plan for the first time and charges in but not to attack rather to act as a decoy. As Susano fakes his attack, Onihitokuchi is left vulnerable from a side. Amaterasu flanks him and brings him down on his knees. Tsukuyomi attacks from above with his moon lit scythe and severs Onihitokuchi's horn to chest. Onihitokuchi in his dying moments tells the heroes that demons wreaked havoc on these lands and they were sealed in the underworld. It is a very dark place but ever since Lady Izanami joined them it has become better. She was kind even to demons. She taught them how to use their abilities constructively. Onihitokuchi says, "We offered her food, but she never accepted because she believed her love would take her back to the land of living. For almost a century I saw her starving and crying for her love but Izanagi....." Onihitokuchi dies. The heroes are devastated after listening to this. Tsukuyomi picks up Onihitokuchi's horn and wears it around his neck.

I aimed to establish multiple things in this segment. The first was that the trio finally breaks through their comfort zone and each of them gets a chunk of character development. The trio's interaction out of combat is usually naive and playful with each other but after this segment the same interactions are more mature and dignified (with still some elements of playfulness). The trio's combined attack will be the same move that Izanagi and Izanami use during the flashback in segment 3, thus showing that the heroes are on their parents' footsteps.

Secondly, I wanted to make a case for demons as they were created by mistake. They knew nothing but chaos and destruction from the moment they were created. They were locked away in hell but when Izanami joined them, she treated them with kindness and respect. Implying that demons are not always bad if you are welcoming enough to give them a chance. Hence, the demons start trusting Izanami and taking her advice.

Third, it shows the character of Izanami, she was not always evil. She was a kindhearted woman who believed in her love more than anything in the world.



Golden Path Segment 7

Heroes meet Suijin, the water Goddess. They ask her to perform the purification ritual. She tells the heroes that she needs a demon's heart and a demon's horn to perform the ritual.

If the player has completed GPS 4 and 6

While going to the ritual altar Suijin asks the heroes that Izanagi had descended to underworld weeks ago so where is he now, especially during the demon attacks. Heroes say that they did not know Izanagi had descended to underworld. Amaterasu tells Suijin that he is now blocking the entrance to the underworld to stop anymore demons from breaking out. Suijin and heroes arrive at an altar half submerged in sea. Suijin starts the ritual chant, but a demon interrupts her and heroes fight this demon. After the battle ends, Suijin comes out of the sea. She once again starts the ritual chant and pierces the demon's heart with the demon's horn. Impure demonic blood gushes out of the heart and flows into the ritual altar. The altar starts glowing and the dragon God Ryujin is summoned. Ryujin says "Suijin are these Izanagi's children?". Suijin tells her about the heroes' deeds, listening to this Ryujin blesses each of the heroes and grants them their Godly awakening. The heroes peak Ryujin's interest and he offers them his aid if they subdue him in combat. As soon as the ritual is finished the tree of Izanagi falls to the ground. The sky turns red, and demons start pouring out. All the heroes feel a chill in their spine as they feel the essence of Izanagi slowly fading away.

The player can control the power they previously got a glimpse of in segment 4 after finishing this segment. The reason that this power up is handed out at a later stage in the game because I wanted to show that Godly powers are earned by the heroes, it is not just granted to them because of their lineage. Each character starts out with their own set of flaws but by segment 7 they overcome it and hence they get these powers (to know more about the characters please refer to character design section in GDD). The after effect of red sky is to make a sense of urgency in the players.

Golden Path Segment 8

The heroes reach the underworld entrance where Izanagi had transformed into a tree. The tree is barely holding the rift from fully opening. The trio rushes towards the dying tree. A huge fireball crashes between the tree and heroes. Kagu-Tsuchi says "Oh I see my younger siblings have achieved Godly purification." Heroes are shocked by the fact that Kagu-Tsuchi is their elder brother. Heroes ask Kagu-Tsuchi to help their father. Kagu-Tsuchi tells the trio that Izanagi does not deserve to live. Izanagi abandoned him as a baby and blamed him for his mother's death in childbirth. He tells the heroes that Izanagi went to the edge of the underworld to find their mother and left her in the underworld because she was not beautiful anymore. He tells the heroes that Izanagi is a selfish man and casts away people if he does not need them anymore. Heroes try to reason with their elder brother, but Kagu-Tsuchi says "I have met mother only once in the land of the dead. I will finally be with her in the land of the living for the first time and no one is stopping that not my father nor his children." Heroes step forward to help Izanagi, Kagu-Tsuchi attacks the heroes. As the fight ends Heroes are driven into a corner by Kagu-Tsuchi's demonic form.

Jizo mentioned a baby back in segment 4 but the baby is never named and in segment 3 it is said that Izanami dies in childbirth. This figure kagu-tsuchi also appears in the opening scene of the game. This segment is where all the stories link up when kagu-tsuchi addresses the heroes as his siblings. He also looks a lot more demonic now than previously encountered because of the rift he got sucked into in segment zero of the game. This is to indicate that the rift was opened by Izanami to summon her son to the underworld, and she has corrupted him to follow his instructions. She uses the hatred he has towards his father and the void of never experiencing mother's love to manipulate him.

Golden Path Segment 9

The decaying tress has now completely fallen and Izanagi lays unconscious on the ground. The gates of underworld are now partially open and a female figure (Izanami) walks out of the red rift. Izanami walks towards Izanagi, kisses him on the lips and says while tears dropping from her eyes "You promised we would always stay together, why did you make me do this". She wiped a tear off her cheek and walked towards Kagu-Tsuchi. Heroes are shocked seeing their mother for the first time. She hugged Kagu-Tsuchi and said, "You made me proud son, I love you." As she says this Kagu-Tsuchi felt mother's love for the first time in his lifetime. Izanami stabs Kagu-Tsuchi through his heart and says, "Sorry my child but I vowed to destroy every memento of my love." As Kagu-Tsuchi falls to the ground feeling the life essence slowly bleeding out of him. Izanami chants a ritual to completely open the gates of the underworld. The trio rushes to Izanagi and Kagu-Tsuchi's aid. Izanagi crawls up to Kagu-Tsuchi, holds him in his hand and with tears in his eyes he says "Son, I have wronged you. It was never your fault, what happened to your mother. I failed to protect you and her. I cannot repent for my crimes but take this last of my life essence and continue to live." Looking at heroes he says, "Children please save this world, it is the memento of the love your mother and I have." Slowly fading away to heaven Izanagi looks at Izanami with a smile and says his final words "Iza I truly loved you". Izanagi screams at Izanami "Then why did you run away after seeing my form in the underworld. We could have been together in the underworld if you had not decided to run away the moment you saw my face. You did not allow me to explain what had happened. I waited a century for you in the depths of the underworld". She continues "I waited and starved but you never came. I counted days and kept my hope alive. A century passed and I lost all hope. I became this because of you Izanagi. As I heard your voice my hope was reignited and for the first time in years, I felt something. But you ran the moment you saw me and betrayed our love. As your love has destroyed me, I will destroy everything we created together." Izanami looks at the heroes, they all get on their guard and take a few steps back. Izanami looks at the heroes and says "Children I am your mother and I wish we had a chance to be a family. Sorry you got caught up in this, you deserved better but move aside!!!". Heroes do not budge. Izanami with tears in her eyes say, "Stand down children, I do not wish to fight you. Make this easier for all of us." Heroes take an offensive stance. Izanami, wiping a tear off her eyes, says "You are after all Izu and my children, you will make a stand when something important is on the line. Very well we shall let our blades talk." Fight starts.

This segment is one of the peaks of Mikami. Izanami finally returns to the land of living but this time to destroy everything she created. Even though she is evil she is a lawful evil character and hence she gives Izanagi a final kiss before she ends all of creation in front of him. She expresses joy and love to Kagutsuchi before striking a fatal blow to him because after all she is still a mother. My intention here is to show that she did not turn evil by choice, it was the situation that turned her evil. I also wanted to show that Izanagi by the end of his time on earth realizes his mistakes and shortcomings and moves on to heaven as a better person. Finally, Izanami's interaction with the trio is made in such a way that a mother is pleading her children to make it easier for her to do the absolute thing that needs to be done in her perspective. Whereas the trio being righteous are willing to go against their mother for the sake of greater good.

Golden Path Segment 10 - epilogue

The fight between heroes and Izanami continues. Izanami pleads her children to stand down and make this easier for her. Susano replies saying that its not possible because Izanagi gave them responsibility to protect the world. Tsukuyomi tells her that there might be another way she does not have to destroy the world. Izanami says “No one can help me. The only thing that will heal the pain your father has caused is destruction of these lands.” Izanami is done holding back. She unleashes her full power against the trio of Gods now. The fight continues. Tsukuyomi asks Izanami that Izanagi has already ascended to heaven, why are you punishing the world for it? Izanami explains them her ideology and that she plans to make a sanctuary. A sanctuary where pain does not exist. She will rebirth all her children and restart the world in this sanctuary. She won't repeat the mistakes she made while creating this world and she promises it will be a better world. Amaterasu asks Izanami that how is she different from their father? During the last demonic war, the Izanagi had the same ideology where he did not care about destroying things as he could always rebuild it. Izanami justifies herself by saying that unlike Izanagi she cares about her creations. She promises her children that if they bend the knee, they will get a painless death and the next time they open their eyes, they will wake up in a better and peaceful world. Susano says “It was father's last wish that we protect this world and we will honor it.”

The trio tries the same move they use to defeat Onihitokuchi previously. Izanami immediately laughs and tells the trio that this move is called the deadlock. Izanagi and Izanami were the one to discover this move. The trio is far too inexperienced to use this move on her. With the heroes' ace gone their chances of winning are reducing.

I wanted to show here that Izanami is much more powerful than the three heroes combined. She is not blindly destroying the world out of rage. She has a reason and a motive to go ahead with such mass destruction. As she is a caring mother, she is also has a plan to rebuild the world and bring her children back to life. She does not want to but must kill her children so that they don't become obstacles in her plans.

Heroes are not giving up, with their resilience and life on the line they are still fighting for their honor. Izanami is frustrated and angry because she did not expect to meet this kind of resistance so soon. Izanami uses a spell to call the souls of underworld to merge with her. By doing this she leaves the last bit of her Godhood behind and transforms into a demon fully. She did not think she would have to use this unless she was up against one of the generals from the imperial court of heaven.

I wanted to show in this sequence that something in Izanami has finally clicked and she has crossed over to a point she cannot return from. She has given up her Godhood to gain a higher power.

The heroes are drenched in blood. They are severely injured and barely able to stand. Izanami is at the limit of her magical energy. Izanami gathers all that remains of her magic at tip of her index finger

in right hand. Huge wind gushes inwardly towards Izanami's fingertip as she creates a small but intensely dense amount of magic in her attack. She says that she is proud of her children as they forced her to use her heavenly strike. She bids farewell to her children and says that she will see them soon in her sanctuary. Heroes stand up for a last time gathering all their strength and they go ahead with their deadlock attack fused with each one's heavenly strike. As these calamitous forces move ahead to converge. Izanami hesitates for a moment, her centuries of love overcomes her century of hate for a moment. In that deciding moment Izanami sees a white bright light coming down from the clouds to earth. She changes the trajectory of her attack towards the right light. The heroes capitalize on this moment and go head to deal the final blow. Izanami blocks Amaterasu and Susano's attack but Tsukuyomi's attack hits her on her legs and she is not able to move anymore.

This bit might be a bit controversial to some players, but I had two reasons for doing. First was to deliver the message that in the end Izanami was still a mother who cared deeply. Even though she was a demon by the end, she was still a mother at her core and she hesitated even if it was for a moment. The second reason was that Izanami was built as a very powerful entity throughout the game. Heroes defeating her in a single fight did not seem justified to be. According to me a trio of young Gods could not defeat an eons old powerful God just because they are the protagonist of the story. Hence, I introduced a new entity to put an end to this story and to simultaneously start a new one.

The bright light is now at the battlefield now. The heroes turn around and see six figures standing in the bright light. The heroes recognize one of these six figures to be Ryujin. Izanami says, "All six of you descending together, no wonder my heavenly strike did not damage." One of the figures throws a lance at Izanami that pierces her chest. She starts coughing blood and she is gravely injured. Because she cannot die, she feels the pain of death over and over in this moment. She regrets that she could not defy the will of heaven in the end. She tells the heroes that these figures are generals from imperial court of Heaven. One of the figures from the light chants a spell and the gate to the underworld collapse. As Izanami is being sealed in the underworld again, she tells the heroes that to make better choices than Izanagi and herself. She also tells them to trust no one except Ryujin and that she is proud of them.

This last bit of the epilogue is to establish a base for the next game. This allows the possibility for the world of Mikami to expand with new characters and a new lore. This epilogue is made to conclude the first story to Mikami and to make players excited about the second story of Mikami.