DELEGATE BACKGROUND GUIDE THE MULTIVERSE OF MADNESS

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Committee Introduction

The Marvel Cinematic Universe is a media franchise based on the popular Marvel Comics Series centred around superheroes. They tell stories of superheroes, both born and forged, in diverse settings all over Earth and outer space through films and television series. These stories have had a massive cultural impact around the world, being adapted into various digital games, virtual and physical experiences, and literary works.

Delegates will participate in a simulation of the Marvel Cinematic universe and take on the roles of characters as per their depiction in the original Marvel films and television shows. The committee will take place in the period following the events of *Thor: Love and Thunder*, but before the post-credit scene of *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness*. The committee will be disregarding the events of *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*, and *The Guardians of the Galaxy Holiday Special*. Note that delegates are to fully embody their character at the specified point in time; if a character was not present during certain events (they were on a different planet, their memory was erased, etc.), the delegate is to act in the committee as if lacking personal knowledge of said events.

Additionally, delegates are to ignore the Marvel comic series and consider the films as canon throughout the duration of the committee. The materials delegates should consult are the Marvel films and television series released from *Iron Man (2008)* to *Thor: Love and Thunder (2022)*.

This background guide seeks to provide delegates with a basic understanding of the setting of the committee and the general world they will be inhabiting during the simulation. However, delegates are strongly encouraged to watch the films and television series on their own as they will be much more in depth than the guide. This background heavily cites the Marvel Cinematic Universe Wiki, which is highly recommended as an alternative/additional source of information for research.

Committee Timeline

- September 3rd, 2024 - 11:00 am

Holes in the sky—portals—appear at random across every continent and spew out thousands of purple creatures, led by a figure in a dark cloak. However, after fully entering Earth's atmosphere, they seem to float in the sky, translucent. Five minutes later, both the new arrivals and the portals suddenly disappear.

- September 5th, 2024 - 8:42 pm

100 people around the world are reported missing, all appearing to have disappeared at the same time and have some semblance in appearance: blonde hair, brown eyes, and ranging from 18 to 25 years-old.

- September 5th, 2024 - 9:00 pm

All television channels switch to an external broadcast and an announcement relays on television screens across America:

"Good evening, tiny Terrans. I understand you may be confused by the sudden disappearances of your fellow weaklings and the loud blast of colours just yesterday. Today I want to clear something up. You all have demonstrated you have absolutely no powers; you are like Outriders following your corrupted leaders. Your Avengers are incompetent and have little idea of what will come. Be prepared."

- September 9th 2024 - 11:38pm

16 Asgardian warriors are reported missing. One bystander comments on the event, stating that "they were all following this one person in a cloak. It was weird, they just kept following her. I turned around to call someone for help, but then they all vanished. I hadn't seen anything like this on Earth before, sure before when we lived in space, but here? Oh, no no no."

- September 16th 2024 - 1:11pm

A portal appears over New Jersey and an instant later, another appears over New York. Nothing has appeared or come out of either portal.

The committee takes place on September 17th, 2024

Past Experiences with the Multiverse

This is not an exhaustive list, and delegates should not be using this timeline as their sole resource. Delegates are highly recommended to refer to the footnotes for further research.

- Doctor Strange - November 2016

The Ancient One shows Stephen multiple realities including the Mandelibus Dimension and the Dark Dimension^{1 2} in order to demonstrate the extent of his limited knowledge. Later, Doctor Strange has an experience with the Dark Dimension, a void space in between universes, and outsmarts Dormammu the ruler, forcing the entity to cease attacks on Earth³.

- Avengers: Endgame - April 2023

Five years after the events of Avengers: Infinity War, The Avengers and members of the Guardians of the Galaxy band together to travel back in time in order to obtain the Six Infinity Stones before Thanos obtains the aforementioned, and then bring back everyone who blipped ⁴. Several days later after the Avengers used Pym Particles to travel back and forth intime, Bruce Banner uses the newly acquired Infinity Stones and an adjusted Iron Man Gauntlet to bring the half of all life to 2023. However, during this period, 2012 Nebula has posed as 2023 Nebula and as the Avengers prepare to use the Infinity Stones, she uses a Pym Particle to bring Thanos and his army into the future, instigating a war between the Avengers and the 2012 villains. Following Thanos' defeat, Steve Rogers returns to the timelines to place the Infinity Stones, however decides to stay back and live out the rest of his life with Peggy Carter in the 1940's. Steve lives until 2023, and officially passes on the position of Captain America to Sam Wilson.

Doctor Strange: Multiverse of Madness - March 2024

It is first revealed within this movie that dreams are variant events taking place in other universes. Additionally, Doctor Strange, America Chavez, Wanda Maximoff and various other characters travel the multiverse using the Darkhold⁵ or their own powers.

- Loki - Outside the Scared Timeline

After Loki in Avengers Endgame steals the Tesseract, he disappears into a desert and is captured by the TVA, the Time Variance Authority, an organisation dedicated to keeping

¹ <u>https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/Doctor_Strange_(film)</u>

² <u>https://screenrant.com/doctor-strange-dark-dimension-time-loop-how-long/</u>

³ https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/Dormammu

⁴ <u>https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/Blip</u>

⁵ https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/Darkhold

the Sacred Timeline safe. Once Loki arrives at the TVA Headquarters, he is forced to watch an introduction video ⁶ from Miss Minutes describing the formation of the Sacred Timeline. Additionally she states, the consequences of multiple Nexus events is likely a multiversal war. A few days later, a variant of Loki kills He Who Remains⁷, the sole ruler of the multiverse, leading to unknown consequences.

- What If...? - Outside the Sacred Timeline

Taking place amongst variant timelines, Uatu the Watcher[®] is shown as one of the omniscient beings of the multiverse watching over the events of the multiverse, unable to directly interfere with any universal events.

Important Factors to Consider and Potential Solutions

For years, travel between universes has been utilised by various peoples; from the inhabitants of the Nine Realms ventured between planets through the Bifrost ⁹ for thousands of years, to the Terran's first expedition into outer space in 1961¹⁰. In the midst of these happenings before this committee session, a portal has been opened a day previous, but no consequential events. Portals have been previously used as pathways for new creatures to visit Earth, such as Loki's initial invasion to Earth in 2012 and Thanos' brief visit in 2023.

This portal is the opportunity for people to collaborate and explore the multiverse, potentially allowing the human race to access new resources, develop relationships, and repair damage from previous wars. Moreover, this new portal could be a way to find a new valiant defender for Earth, one worthy and willing to fight a new heartless, secretive, and powerful villain.

Currently, there are few from Earth-616 that have had the opportunity to travel to different universes. With little experience in the multiverse, there is still much to explore and learn about its behaviour and the possibilities it may provide. However, leaving the universe puts the Earth in a vulnerable position with the absence of its protectors.

Though exploring may prove valuable, it requires time that could have been used to find the hostages and defeat the new invader. Though there is little knowledge about this new outlaw, the

⁶ <u>https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/Loki_(TV_series)/Season_One</u>

⁷ https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/He Who Remains

⁸ https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/The_Watcher

⁹ https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/wiki/Bifrost_Bridge

¹⁰ https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/history-space-exploration

delegates have connections to powerful organisations including SHIELD, SWORD, as well as federal and international agencies that can collaborate to locate the missing persons. However, the portal's sustained presence poses the threat of a possible invasion; by discovering what keeps it open, delegates may be able to find the source of the attacker's power and consequently eliminate the portal as well as the attacker.

Finally, delegates have the opportunity to discover who created the portal in the first place. Though this may not be the first time intrusions from outer space beings have taken place, this is the first time beings from another universe have invaded Earth. In order to open an interdimensional passageway, the person must be both physically and mentally powerful. However, it is also important to consider the possibility of this person residing within the committee and, if so, what they could do to restrain the actions of the committee against them.

Guiding Questions

- 1. What are the main goals of the Avengers as a whole?
- 2. In what ways will the current universe be affected if Avengers are to leave Earth?
- 3. How should general stability be brought to Earth?

Delegate Resources

Delegates are encouraged to watch the Marvel films and television series to review the Marvel Cinematic universe in preparation for the committee. Additionally they may use the below resources to complete in depth research.

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