

How Sam Raimi makes the first MCU horror-esque movie through Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness

Heavy Spoilers ahead!

Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness has been released worldwide on 5 May. The audience reaction to the newest entry in MCU Phase 4 has been relatively positive. Some critics praised Sam Raimi's direction style, the cast's overall performance, and the visual effect of the movie. But does Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness deliver the “Madness” it promises? Let's deep down into the Sam Raimi multiverse.

Summary

Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness begins with Doctor Strange from a different universe and America Chavez, a girl with a multiversal travel superpower, trying to get the Book of Vishanti and escape from a demon who was chasing Chavez to obtain her power. After they failed to do so, the “other” Doctor Strange was killed and Chavez accidentally opens a portal to the MCU Doctor Strange (Earth 616).

Chavez was saved by Earth 616 Doctor Strange and Wong. They decided to consult Wanda Maximoff, Master of Hex magic, about the demon, because the demon chasing them had Hex runes cast into it.

Turns out, Wanda was the one who sent the demon to obtain Chavez's power for herself. She planned to bring back his kids (who disappeared after the Disney+ series WandaVision) from another multiverse. This starts the whole multiversal chase between Doctor Strange and the Scarlet Witch.

Verdict

You could find various horror elements put by Sam Raimi from jump scares, spooky atmosphere, and the scary-looking Scarlet Witch.

There are even some gory scenes not usually seen in MCU and some fans have considered this film should be R rated. But does the new direction save the story? Not so much.

Rather than Multiverse of Madness, I think Scarlet Witch Madness is more fitting for the title. Doctor Strange MOM was intended to introduce us to the bigger multiverse MCU is currently heading after exploring it a bit in Spider-Man No Way Home.

Rather than exploring the vast multiverse Marvel Comics has to offer, the film somewhat limits its potential by making the film focus on stopping Wanda's quest to bring back her children. Of course, there are multiversal actions in this film with Doctor Strange and America Chavez traveling between multiverses and meeting other characters from other universes.

But this multiverse version of existing Marvel Comics characters only served as a Cameo with little connection to the story. We will witness how powerless the Illuminati, a group of

the most intelligent and influential leaders of the Marvel Universe, in the face of Scarlet Witch.

Overall, Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness brings a fresh take to the stale MCU formula with Sam Raimi's horror-esque direction on this movie. But if you are a long time comic books reader, you'll probably find this entry lacking in terms of story and direction.