IN DOOM WE TRUST

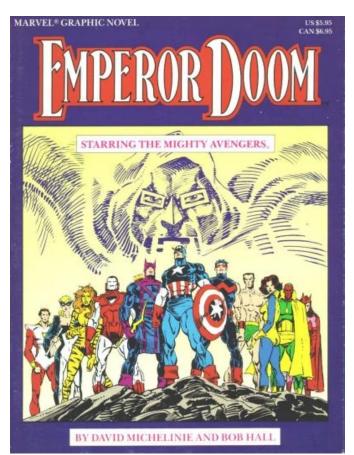
Comic Book Resources

CBR's readers all know that the battle over IP between Marvel and Fox was hard-fought and not without casualties - but now that Disney owns everything the battle is done, the war is over, and Marvel finally got their characters back. We've already seen Spider-Man swing into Marvel's Cinematic Universe and many fans are impatiently waiting for the Fantastic Four and The X-Men to burst into the MCU in a significant way.

Here at CBR we want to take a minute to explore what could be a gigantic power shift in the Cinematic Universe... the return of (arguably) the greatest ever super-villain: Dr. Victor Von Doom!

Fans of the comics will know that Dr. Doom isn't the vainglorious, intellectually envious, unhinged lunatic that those movies made him out to be. Don't get us wrong, he is all of those things. But to us he's so much more than that. The Monarch with The Mask, AKA The Infamous Iron Man has wreaked havoc upon the 616 since he showed up in Fantastic Four #5 (1962).

So let's take a moment to look at 3 of Victor Von Doom's most iconic moments in the comics and then hypothesize wildly about how Marvel Studios could incorporate or pay homage to those story lines.



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Emperor Doom

(1987 – written by David Michelinie, illustrated by Bob Hall)

In this epic story arc, Dr. Doom takes over the entire earth using mind control. Even The Avengers. Without Cerebro. Without Mefisto. Without an Infinity Stone. Think about that - Dr. Doom's brain and magical abilities are effectively as powerful as The Mind Stone.

So how could this play into the MCU? It's easy to say that a tête-à-tête between Doom and Thanos would be an epic, reality-bending battle. Maybe the big brain of the Doomed Doctor is a key piece of shattering whatever mental grip Thanos currently has on MCU?

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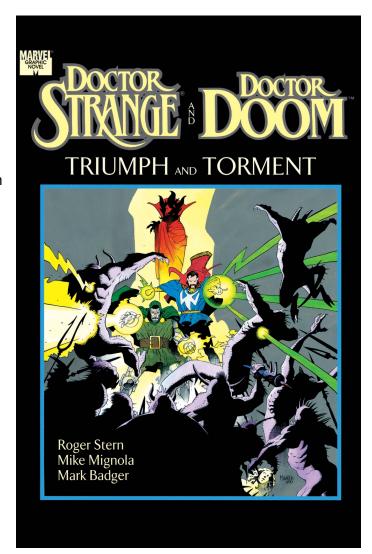
Triumph and Torment

(1989 – written by Roger Stern, illustrated by Mike Mignola)

In the Iconic graphic novel, Dr. Doom calls upon Dr. Strange to help him rescue his mother's undying soul from the evils of hell. This story not only allows the fans to see that there's a soul behind Doom's cold metal mask, but he must have a great respect for The Sorcerer Supreme to ask him for aid with a task of such importance.

Let's face it, Thanos left the universe in pretty rough shape after Avengers: Infinity War and there are loads of fan theories that Dr. Strange never died in Infinity War, so with a quick acknowledgement of the story line from Triumph and Torment, we can imagine Dr. Strange bursting through a portal during a crucial scene in Endgame with Doom himself in tow. Our theory is that game recognizes game:

Who else in the 616 is able to weave science and magic as skilfully as the Dr. and the Doc?



Books of Doom

(2005 – written by Ed Brubaker, illustrated by Mark Farmer and Pablo Raimondi)



In this quintuple Eisner Award winning story, we finally get a glimpse into Doom's mysterious origins. We learn what Latveria's fearless leader went through to get that crown, and what he'll do to protect it.

Now, if the rest of what's happening in the MCU wasn't enough to get Victor off the stainless steel throne, then half his loyal servants vanishing into thin air might just be the key. Just imagine, Endgame opens with Thanos sitting on his throne (as Infinity War ended) drinking in his bittersweet victory... then we cut to Latveria, where Doom rises from his own throne. Chills.

We have to admit – Endgame was already very much in development by the time the Fox/Disney deal went down, so realistically it'll probably be deep into MCU's Phase Four before we're lucky enough to be in the presence of The Great Dr. Victor Von Doom, but one thing should be obvious at this point: CBR is expecting big things for Doom when he finally does make his debut.