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Scott Derrickson Returning to Direct 'Doctor Strange' Sequel (Exclusive)



Jay Maidment/Marvel

Benedict Cumberbatch (left) and Scott Derrickson on the set of 2016's 'Doctor Strange'



When it comes to negotiations, they're in the endgame now.

Marvel is finally ready to conjure up a sequel to *Doctor Strange*.

Scott Derrickson, who directed and co-wrote the mystical Marvel hero's initial 2016 outing, has quietly finalized a deal to helm the new installment.

A search for a writer to pen the script is about to get underway.

Benedict Cumberbatch will return as Stephen Strange, the good doctor turned master of the mystic arts, as will Benedict Wong, who played his right-hand man, Wong. Rachel McAdams, who played Stephen Strange's love interest, is likely to return as well.

Strange was last seen de-materializing in the [\\$2 billion-grossing *Avenger: Infinity War*](#), where one of his lines of dialogue served as the inspiration for the title of the fourth Avengers movie, *[Avengers: Endgame](#)*.

Marvel has been tight-lipped about its plans for life after *Endgame*, which it is calling Phase Four. After all, how much can there be when half your heroes are supposed to be dead?

In any case, sources tell *The Hollywood Reporter* that the plan is for the script to be hashed out in 2019 with an eye toward a spring 2020 production start. If all goes well, the movie would be casting its spell on audiences in May 2021.

Marvel had no comment.

Derrickson carved out a résumé of horror movies such as 2005's *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* and 2012's *Sinister* before making 2016's *Doctor Strange*, which grossed \$677.7 million worldwide. Earlier this year, he directed the pilot for TNT's adaptation of *Snowpiercer*, but parted ways with the production after the showrunner was replaced.

Derrickson is repped by WME, Brillstein Entertainment Partners and Ziffren Brittenham.



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