

GUIDEBOOK TO THE MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE

MARVEL DOCTOR STRANGE

MARVEL STUDIOS PRESENTS BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH "DOCTOR STRANGE" CHIVETEL EJIOFOR RACHEL McADAMS BENEDICT WONG MICHAEL STUHLBARG BENJAMIN BRATT SCOTT ADKINS WITH MADS MIKKELSEN AND TILDA SWINTON
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Collecting information from Marvel's *Doctor Strange* (2016) and *Marvel's Doctor Strange Prelude #1-2* (2016).

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DOCTOR STRANGE CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO



THE ANCIENT ONE

FIRST APPEARANCE: *Marvel's Doctor Strange (2016)*

Of Celtic descent, The Ancient One was the long-lived Sorcerer Supreme, latest in a long line of mystics dedicated to defending Earth from magical and extradimensional threats. A practitioner of meditation and martial arts, she was the preeminent mage of Kamar-Taj, where she taught numerous students in the mystic arts and worked diligently to help them achieve balance and avoid evil.

When her student Kaecilius' quest to defeat death itself led him to reject her teachings, he murdered the Kamar-Taj librarian and stole pages from the *Book of Cagliostro*, hoping to use a ritual it contained to contact Dormammu, the evil and timeless lord of

the Dark Dimension. The Ancient One confronted him in the library and pursued as he and over a dozen of his own followers—the Zealots—fled to London, where she transported them to the Mirror Dimension. In the resulting battle, The Ancient One slew the majority of the Zealots before Kaecilius and a small few escaped through a portal.

When Dr. Stephen Strange arrived at Kamar-Taj seeking healing for his neurologically damaged hands, he was disrespectful of the mystical practices The Ancient One revealed to him. To teach him humility, she briefly separated his astral form from his body and sent him through several other dimensions and universes, revealing the existence of the Multiverse, the

system of infinite realities of which their own was only a part. When

FACT SHEET

- ▶ THE ANCIENT ONE'S WEAPONS OF CHOICE WERE HALF-CIRCLE TAO FIGHTING MANDALAS, WHICH SHE CONSTRUCTED FROM ELDRITCH ENERGY. SHE SOMETIMES CHANGED THEM TO FULL CIRCLES DURING BATTLE.
- ▶ TO TEACH HIM HOW TO USE HIS SLING RING—A PORTAL-CREATING DEVICE USED BY THE MASTERS TO TRAVEL QUICKLY BETWEEN LOCATIONS—THE ANCIENT ONE STRANDED STRANGE AT THE TOP OF MOUNT EVEREST, KNOWING HIS DESPERATION TO SURVIVE WOULD FORCE HIM TO LEARN HOW TO USE THE RING.
- ▶ THE ANCIENT ONE OFTEN CARRIED A FOLDING HAND FAN.
- ▶ NO ONE KNEW THE TRUE AGE OF THE ANCIENT ONE, AND SHE NEVER SPOKE OF HER PAST.

MANDALA

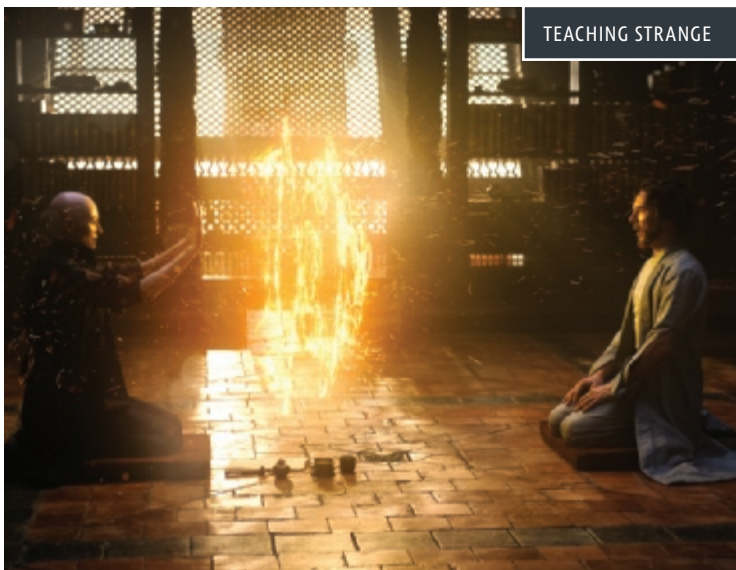


he begged her to teach him, she refused, but ultimately relented at Master Mordo's encouragement.

She closely oversaw Strange's training, an investment that paid off when he single-handedly prevented Kaecilius from destroying New York City's Sanctum to weaken the Masters' protective barrier against Dormammu. However, when Strange confronted The Ancient One about Kaecilius' claim that she drew power from Dormammu to prolong her life, she would neither deny nor confirm his suspicions. When Kaecilius subsequently pursued Strange and Mordo into the Mirror Dimension, she followed to help them, but Kaecilius

stabbed her and cast her back to Earth, where she fell dozens of floors to the ground. As her body lay dying in the hospital, her astral form visited Strange's, where she admitted hating drawing power from the Dark Dimension, but argued that the greater good sometimes required breaking the rules. She revealed that Strange could return to his previous life by channeling dimensional energy into his hands, but noted that such an effort would preclude him from manifesting other magical abilities, and urged him to use his gifts to continue protecting the world with the Masters. Giving Strange's hand a gentle squeeze, The Ancient One passed away. 🌀

TEACHING STRANGE



IN THE COMICS



THE CENTURIES-OLD ANCIENT ONE

was born in Tibet as Yao, and, in his youth, worked as an apprentice doctor. He studied magic in the Himalayan village of Kamar-Taj until another sorcerer, Kaluu, seized control. The Ancient One defeated him and swore to oppose malevolent sorcerers. The Ancient One eventually became Earth's Sorcerer Supreme, and after living several centuries in various dimensions, he returned to the Himalayas, taking Karl Mordo as his disciple. Realizing Mordo was too corrupt to succeed him, Yao took the guise of the High Lama to activate mystic potential in Dr. Anthony Druid, then as the Ancient One taught magic to the ailing surgeon Stephen Strange, who initially sought him out while seeking to heal his injured hands. Even after Strange left to pursue a life of heroic deeds, the Ancient One continued to aid Strange. Though killed battling an extradimensional demon, the Ancient One's astral form continued to appear numerous times after his death.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
(AS THE HIGH LAMA) *AMAZING ADVENTURES* #1 (1961); (AS THE ANCIENT ONE) *STRANGE TALES* #110 (1963)





CLOAK OF LEVITATION

FIRST APPEARANCE:
Marvel's Doctor Strange (2016)

A high-collared garment of unrevealed origin, the Cloak of Levitation is an intelligent, sentient magical item that has been described as “finicky,” choosing its own wearer. The Cloak free-floated in a glass case within the New York City Sanctum Sanctorum, where it presumably resided between wearers. The Cloak first encountered Doctor Stephen Strange when he was inadvertently thrown through a portal into the New York City Sanctum by the explosive force released when the traitor Kaecilius destroyed the London Sanctum. While searching the building for other Masters, Strange happened upon the Cloak’s case; the Cloak seemed to take a great interest in him, moving within the case while regarding the Master.

When Kaecilius attacked the New York City Sanctum, Strange defended himself. A fierce battle between the two spilled into the Chamber of Relics and destroyed the Cloak’s case. As Kaecilius attempted to strike a killing blow against Strange, the Cloak chose

to aid Strange against the mad Zealot and blocked it. After saving Strange from a fatal fall, the Cloak then forcibly pulled him toward the Crimson Bands of Cyttorak, rather than the axe Strange was trying to reach, knowing the Bands would restrain Kaecilius and end the battle. When Kaecilius’ disciple Lucian attacked Strange and badly wounded him, the Cloak again blocked the killing blow and battled the Zealot while Strange sought medical assistance; Strange ultimately defeated Lucian on the astral plane. The Cloak assisted Strange in a subsequent battle against Kaecilius, and when Strange wept over the death of The Ancient One, the Cloak wiped his tears away, much to Strange’s annoyance. When Strange went to Hong Kong to battle Kaecilius, the Cloak continued to aid him, blocking blows and augmenting his maneuverability. Following Strange’s defeat of Kaecilius and his corrupt master Dormammu, the Cloak returned to New York City, presumably to wait until Strange needed its help again. 🌀



AFTER DOCTOR STEPHEN STRANGE defeated Dormammu, the Ancient One (Yao) gifted Strange with the powerful Cloak of Levitation, woven by an unidentified mystical weaver. Strange uses it to fly and can command it to shield him, wrestle foes, or to carry himself and others. It can be transformed into other shapes, such as a scarf, carpet, coat, or kimono. If the Cloak is damaged and repaired incorrectly, it can cause levitational chaos, the full extent of which is unknown.

FIRST APPEARANCE:
STRANGE TALES #127 (1964)



FACT SHEET

- ▶ THE CLOAK DEFEATED THE ZEALOT BY WRAPPING ITSELF AROUND HIS HEAD AND JERKING HIS BODY BACK AND FORTH TO DISORIENT HIM. THE CLOAK ALSO REPEATEDLY SLAMMED THE ENEMY TO THE FLOOR DURING THEIR BATTLE.
- ▶ THE CLOAK APPEARS TO BE VERY RESISTANT TO DAMAGE; THE SOURCE OF THIS POWER HAS NOT BEEN REVEALED.