

A Passionate and Concerned Appeal for the Preservation of Marvel Cinematic Universe Television Canon, from a Devoted Fan

With Co-Signatures from Across the MCU Wiki Community

I appreciate that this letter is very long. For a reader with limited time, I have indicated in the contents which sections are the most important – and within each section, the key points are also in bold. So, it may easily be skimmed. Read as little or as much as you wish. I hope the length may also be seen to reflect how much this subject truly means to me.

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The importance level of each section, for a reader with limited time, is noted in brackets.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction (medium)

The work of Marvel Studios and Television has invested me into a fictional world to a level far beyond anything before in my life. I cannot thank them enough for how they have changed my life for the better. Over a very tough several years in my life, the MCU has always been there for me, and the value of that is immeasurable. I regret only reaching out in appeal, but unfortunately while the praises of Marvel Studios are always heard, Marvel Television fans are feeling unheard.

*Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., Marvel's Agent Carter, Marvel's Daredevil, Marvel's Jessica Jones, Marvel's Luke Cage, Marvel's Iron Fist, Marvel's The Defenders, Marvel's Inhumans, Marvel's The Punisher, Marvel's Runaways, Marvel's Cloak & Dagger, and Helstrom** comprise 29 seasons of television/386 episodes/over 300 hours, making up **a massive portion of the official Marvel Cinematic Universe** (as of the end of 2020, approximately 86% of it by runtime**). But **there is a lot of fear among the shows' fans about this remaining the case.**

**Helstrom* was confirmed to connect to *Ghost Rider*, itself a confirmed continuation *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*'s Robbie Reyes, making it confirmed MCU by transitivity – but not directly confirmed as with all the other shows. Paul Zbyszewski then stated it was not tied to the MCU. However, with Zbyszewski also calling *Helstrom* a “pocket of the universe”, it seemed he was referring more to the show's standalone status. The show itself referenced the (unfortunately unseen) events of *Ghost Rider* and contained MCU-exclusive Easter eggs with newspapers connecting to *Iron Man 2*, *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, and *Marvel's Cloak & Dagger* and brands connecting to several other MCU shows, as well as an auctioned prop referencing the Sokovia Accords, seemingly reaffirming its original position. Nonetheless, when this letter refers to the shows' 100% MCU confirmation, I will treat it as implicit, without repeating myself, that *Helstrom* is a slight exception set to one side, not clearly promised from inception as MCU like the others – while nonetheless belonging in the list.

**The end of 2020 is the statistic I will use through this letter, as a stable statistic and appropriate date given the pivot in MCU structure.

For a long time now, I've felt a desperate wish to contact Marvel Studios about this issue. After a couple of years of growing fear, I started writing this letter (for context, in July 2020), feeling I had to try whatever I could. It has taken me until September 2021 to complete and during that time, my fears have only been further exacerbated.

In the last 6 years, I have committed myself to dedicated work on the MCU Wiki, rising to become a “content moderator” (vice admin) on the site. Primarily, I am focused on calculating, reconciling, dating, and writing up the complex and ever-expanding timeline. Among immense life pressures and mental health struggles, **I have found escapism in working almost daily for 6 years, amounting to over eleven thousand edits to date** (a devotion that Marvel Studios and Television have earned many times over). This dedication can be seen in my edit history on the site at “User:BEJT”, and in much of the work on the wiki's timeline pages (the articles titled, for example, “2000s”, “2015”, “2018”). I'm a walking MCU encyclopaedia and a proud mega-fan.

This letter contains only my words, but nonetheless **a broader message representing many other passionate, concerned MCU fans**. I posted this letter to the MCU Wiki's discussions section to collect some community signatures, **demonstrating a fraction of the others out there who feel similarly**.

1.2 Clearly Stating the Intentions of This Letter (high)

Conscious that this is potentially my only chance to get this message across, there are a lot of things that I feel the need to say. I also need, therapeutically, to get all these thoughts out of my head. But it means this letter is sprawling, so I feel I should make my intentions clear early.

This Letter's Intentions

1. The fundamental, bottom line purpose of this letter: To passionately plead that whatever happens, Marvel Television's MCU shows remain canonical to the MCU.

- **If Marvel Studios are considering actively “decanonising” the Marvel Television MCU shows, I wish to plead that they do not.**
- **If Marvel Studios are considering small details and changes that would passively “decanonise” the shows, I wish to plead either just for perhaps a little more care, or any anomalies just be clearly defined by Marvel Studios as mere fudges of continuity.**
 - e.g. Continuity questions perhaps just explained away in a simple broad manner (e.g. *Matt Shakman's quote on the Darkhold: “I would imagine it's the same book”*).
 - e.g. If any character/item is to be redesigned, it simply be made clear it's like Hulk/Thanos/Abomination in being a redesign within continuity. Similarly, any unfortunate possible recasting explained as a Cheadle/Ruffalo/Levi/Newton situation.
 - e.g. Simply a general reaffirmation of the continuity, that means any anomalies which crop up are quickly dismissed and understood by fans as mere continuity quirks.
 - **Anything, just please keep the shows technically in continuity.**

2. The letter is also to present why the canon of the shows matters greatly to myself and other fans, as well as how the current fears over the canon are hurting MCU fans. This is in the hope to help Marvel Studios understand this and perhaps take it on-board. If Marvel Studios are unaware of

the conflict within the fan base surrounding the MCU Marvel Television shows' canon, I also wish to bring it to their attention.

3. I wish to also present a few of the myriad ways in which the shows enrich the MCU, should their place in the world need defending.

4. Finally, I wish (but only *additionally*) to present why it would mean a great deal to fans to get some acknowledgement of the shows by Marvel Studios; to add to the voices calling for the continuity-secure potential return of the beloved MCU characters and stories from these shows.

A Deep MCU Love

I want to be very clear that all of this comes from a place of deep love and care for the MCU. I am forever grateful for everything Marvel have done, and do not at all want to sound otherwise. I wish merely to plead that facts aren't reneged on, something so meaningful not be undone.

Through this letter, **I do not wish to in any way sound accusatory or presumptive with mentions of possible scenarios.** Any part based on rumour/speculation is not me in some way confronting Marvel Studios based on blindly believing false rumours. Rather, it relates to a fear that, given the volume, any one or two may be true and this would be all it takes to collapse it all – as well as being frightened by recent events that there may be some truth to the general trend. There is nothing I would love more than for this letter to be completely unnecessary.

Finally, it's not lost on me that these are "just a bunch of TV shows". This letter is going to include a level of passion and care that may seem ludicrous^{***}. However, the letter is an expression of concern about a subject that, while fictional, has strong personal meaning to me. **I hope it will be clear why to myself and others, these are not "just a bunch of TV shows".**

***I also just wanted to note my OCD, which is a contributor to strong feelings that others may consider ridiculous.

1.3 Context: The Incidents That Have Caused Increasing Concern (low)

In case the reader needs to understand where this letter is coming from, I felt I should provide context.

It's been a tough 3 years for Marvel Television-inclusive MCU fans. While for a long time there has been a portion of MCU fans who regarded the shows as "effectively non-canon" to the cinematic universe – describing the fact they did not impact the main, Marvel Studios section of the universe – the discussion has devolved since 2018.

From around 2016, fans accepted that the series simply told stories in the wider MCU, valid as their own valuable parts of this world. While acknowledgement of the series in the films was feeling increasingly like a pipe dream, it was okay, being the hierarchical structure of the MCU. Fans can delve as deep as the Marvel Studios tier, making sense on its own, or they can delve a tier further to enrich themselves by watching the Marvel Television content. **The important thing was that the shows had their own place in building this beautiful universe.**

In 2018/19, fans were hit with the sudden cancellations of all the Netflix shows. As the Netflix MCU corner finished abruptly, discussions seemed to begin online about the possibility of Marvel Studios "rebooting the characters", as if that were an option or made sense... **the MCU versions of Daredevil, Jessica Jones, Luke Cage, Iron Fist, Punisher, and their supporting characters have been thoroughly established.** It seemed that as time had gone on, while Television-inclusive MCU fans had come to accept the lower status, Studios-only fans had drifted to deciding they weren't just "effectively non-canon", but rather *were* non-canon, and that the shows finishing somehow indicated they were now able to be dropped. For many Television-inclusive fans, it took constant self-reminders that this was only counter-factual speculation among non-fans, with an enormous wealth of explicit confirmation clearly proving them wrong.

Nonetheless, I was already scared by 2019 of how *Captain Marvel* would handle Coulson's history. Fortunately, the excellent film did not provide many significant problems, but this felt only like luck, since the film did not appear to take *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* into account: seemingly implying that Fury and Coulson barely knew each other in 1995 (the show established Fury recruited and supervised Coulson in 1982), and having Coulson mention the Kree (*Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*: Season 1 involved him not knowing who the Kree were – fortunately, the T.A.H.I.T.I. protocol erased Coulson's memory of everything to do with his resurrection, and with Kree being a key part, they would naturally have also been wiped).

The perfect casting of Mahershala Ali as Blade also unfortunately further drove the false narrative online, with people claiming that it meant the shows were “confirmed” non-canon due to Ali already having an MCU role as Cottonmouth. While this was an Internet overreaction given there are other examples of dual casting, the dual casting quirk not being acknowledged felt concerning.

2019 also saw the sad but dignified announcement of the end of *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, though excitement built for the launch of *Adventure into Fear* – but *Ghost Rider* was cancelled before filming. *Marvel's Cloak & Dagger* was abruptly cancelled, then *Marvel's Runaways*, all future planned *Adventure into Fear* series beyond *Helstrom* (itself then cancelled after Season 1), the gestating projects at ABC, *Marvel's New Warriors*, and eventually the hope of anything else MCU coming from Marvel Television. The steady folding (and Mr. Feige's exciting promotion around this time) seemingly had the same growing effect on Studios-only fans as somehow indicating Marvel Studios would retroactively become the only thing that counts. And the rampant speculation and concern was growing and growing.

It admittedly did not help that *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*: Season 6 set itself a year after *Avengers: Infinity War* and *Marvel's Runaways*: Season 3 took its timeline through to post-*Avengers: Infinity War* 2018 dates, yet unfortunately neither referenced the Snap****.

****There is a lot of misunderstanding about this, with some thinking *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* branched into a different timeline in Season 5. The timeline did fork, but the branch they are in is the one where Earth survived 2018: Earth-199999. After time-travelling again in Season 7, they used the Quantum Realm to again return to their universe (the MCU) and are still there. The agents survived the Snap and weren't discussing it on-screen a year on, despite the low likelihood. It's a continuity issue that is unfortunate, but in the past, not unlike other MCU continuity issues such as “8 years later” that the universe simply moves beyond. In *Marvel's Runaways*, the characters were outside time in the Dark Dimension during the Snap and returned to a brainwashed L.A., largely accounting for the lack of discussion.

Over this time, we have seen a constant increase in assertions being made by fans that the Marvel Television shows are “not canon”, along with false information being spread countless times that they have been “confirmed” as such, unending canon queries on the wiki from users, and so on. There are an astonishing number of biased articles and YouTube channels pushing this narrative or in some cases simply concocting nonsensical evidence, and it has spread. Television-inclusive MCU fans have seen every piece of “evidence” under the sun thrown at them.

The Marvel Studios Disney+ shows sadly became a point of attack from some Studios-only fans, seen as “replacements” for the previous MCU shows. The promotion of them as being the expansion of the universe stung as the MCU was simultaneously quietly shrinking without the other shows, and the discussion of the Disney+ shows as connected to the films somehow translated to some Studios-only fans as, “Now we're actually making *proper* MCU shows, sorry about those last ones, just pretend they didn't happen. They don't count, they were trial runs for the real thing.” **The shows aren't trial runs; for 7 years, they were the TV arm of the MCU, and Marvel Studios also expanding into that medium of course should not change that history.**

Unfortunately, a 2019 quote from Mr. Feige, which fairly described the Disney+ shows as the first time TV would truly connect back and forth with the films, was falsely run by sites as “confirmation” that the other shows were not part of the MCU. This quote has been weaponised and referenced ad nauseum for 2 years.

Furthermore, rumours began to swirl and build. Recasts/reboots of Iron Fist, the Inhuman Royal Family, Bobbi Morse, Whitney Frost, Luke Cage in various future projects. **The first glimmers of hope in promising rumours of the returns of Cox's Daredevil, Ritter's Jones, Bernthal's Punisher, or**

D’Onofrio’s Kingpin, only to be completely undercut by rumours that these would technically only be similar, new versions of the characters – in fact tools further used to “decanonise” the shows.

The Darkhold would appear in *WandaVision* with no link to *Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D./Marvel’s Runaways*, the MCU’s history with Inhumans would be rejected in *Ms. Marvel*, and so on. That’s not even starting on the mountain of disturbing online speculation. I do not for a second believe these all to be true – but all it takes is one or two to be utterly devastating, making this extremely frightening.

During the time it took me to write this letter, *WandaVision* aired, and one of my fears came true. Before the release of Episodes 8 and 9, I felt sick in fear about the magic book we had glimpsed, only for Episode 9 to indeed reveal it was the Darkhold – redesigned and without any hint towards its previous MCU appearances. It was a horrible day and subsequent week online in the fan base, and a terrifying start to Phase Four.

Beyond this, there were incidents I did not find significant, but which fans online ran with. Disney+ not listing the shows under “Marvel Cinematic Universe”, presumably just because that section is for the main, Marvel Studios, MCU brand part of the universe. *Marvel Studios LEGENDS* not including *Marvel’s Agent Carter* footage, presumably due to the hierarchy for understanding the MCU and *Marvel Studios LEGENDS* only being a “Marvel Studios” show (hence the name). When Mobius didn’t tell Loki about Coulson’s resurrection – despite the understanding hierarchy making this completely understandable, and it not being relevant – some Studios-only fans tore into *Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* fans for another week.

Outlets unfortunately add to the narrative by calling *WandaVision* the first MCU show, claiming there was no MCU content in 2020, or crediting things as firsts for the MCU that were in fact done in previous shows, as a conflation between “Marvel Studios” and “MCU” has built (some Studios comments I’m sure were not meant harmfully have unfortunately also fed into this). Television-inclusive fans have felt the beloved shows being erased from MCU history.

The fan reaction to the Darkhold and Mobius scenes has also led to upsetting incidents where creators such as Jac Schaeffer and Michael Waldron are asked questions they are seemingly, understandably, not informed to answer, giving confused and accidentally damaging quotes. Then, in July 2021, the beloved James Gunn caused particular alarm when he claimed *WandaVision* was the first MCU show and, despite the facts to the contrary, responded to a Twitter user that it was “incorrect” that the previous shows had been officially confirmed MCU (even comparing the idea to “Daffy Duck” being MCU canon).

The non-canon narrative only continues to escalate, and while it has always been reassuring to rest on the fact that the shows are canonical, naturally, many of us have become worried: when people claim this non-stop, day in, day out... what if there is some truth to this? Along with this, a fear that the perpetuation of the narrative could somehow bleed into the franchise itself – and a fan base increasingly fractured and hurting. I will discuss these anxieties and hurts more below.

The facts fortunately, of course, remain that these shows are unquestionably parts of the beautiful MCU, with **an enormous history of confirmation (including literal hundreds of interview quotes from both sides as well as official Marvel documentaries, official books on both sides, official social media, Marvel Studios direct references in the *WHIH Newsfront* series and *Avengers: Endgame*, and so much more).** And sometimes I feel safe, sure that there is no fathomable way 7 years of facts entrenched so deeply in the history of everything surrounding the MCU could possibly be ignored. But despite even some recent positive backup, it far too often no longer feels comforting. Rather than a reassuring bedrock, it can feel like we are clinging onto those facts as others forget them and they face the danger of potentially being reversed. This is where you now find me and the other fans: very anxious, concerned, and afraid.

2. The Impact of Canon

2.1 Why Losing the Canon Would Hurt So Much (high)

It would be truly devastating to lose the Marvel Television shows as MCU canon. Many people won't see why; we've had our fun and they still exist as good shows. But to myself and many others, it's the natural reaction, and is causing dread. Let me attempt to explain why.

The MCU Is Special

The argument that the series stand alone as great in raw *quality* is true, but that doesn't make it sufficient given their status as MCU shows from conception. **The MCU world makes its contents more than the sum of its parts.** The MCU is not just a label applied to a random jumble of good things; it's a concept enjoyed beyond just each instalment being great, because of this special factor of the shared continuity. The MCU is special. To eradicate that factor reduces the shows from part of that special world to "just" shows. Great shows, but with one of their most special attributes ripped out from their hearts.

There are other great Marvel shows, e.g. *Legion*, but these have nowhere near the power or lasting impact in my heart simply by virtue of not being part of this world. The MCU shows would not just be stripped back to this, but worse, having been given the specialty *then having it taken away*. **They may be valid in their own right, but when stripped of a status they had, they become rejects,** made unfortunately to look pathetic and be the subject of ridicule (they already are, to many MCU fans, due to the perception of this already being the case). They had a place at the table and then were kicked off it.

Why It Would Feel Like the Shows Are Erased, Gone

When entertainment franchises get rebooted, the old franchise still exists. If the MCU were merely ending and rebooting, or even just became disappointing in storytelling moving forward, it's merely a surface-level disappointment with fiction where a line can be drawn under it, not retroactively impacting the first 12 years of the MCU as its own entity. **But rebooting within a franchise means the MCU, the franchise defined as these (as of September 2021) 25 films and 16 shows – the way I know it, the way it factually is, the way I have lived with it for 8 years – would be gone forever.**

The MCU is in these shows' DNA. It is literally present in every frame, and the shows are brimming with references. To strip away their MCU-ness is to strip them of their very DNA, akin to the idea: "*The Mandalorian* is a show, just the facts mean you're wrong to watch and love it under the understanding that it has anything to do with *Star Wars*". The *The Mandalorian* show we watched and loved, the *Star Wars* show, would be gone – and the idea is nonsensical. It feels like declaring "these shows' MCU-ness, and therefore the nature of their existence, is to be ignored", erasing them from MCU fan consciousness, declaring "they don't count". It is also discarding all the development and storytelling put into the MCU through the shows. The shows would be effectively lost, scrubbed.

The MCU is my favourite franchise ever. It's just phenomenal. **Scrubbing the shows would mean scrubbing 86% of that franchise, losing 86% of this thing I adore.** A hypothetical scenario where the Marvel Studios content instead were effectively somehow scrubbed would be just as heartbreaking per amount lost... and losing the TV shows is that six times over. It's a devastating prospect.

The Future Can Hurt the Past: Stories Being Damaged Retroactively, and the Beloved Shows Becoming Very Tough to Ever Again Revisit

The shows are instalments in the larger series of the MCU. Therefore, if a later instalment were to retcon them out, **it is effectively the same as a follow-up instalment in any series making 29 prior seasons of television all a case of "It was all a dream",** in that it's a series wiping its own continuity

(and at least a dream would involve them having a place in continuity on some level). **The stories are not immune from the future, and can be damaged in retrospect** (e.g. If an MCU film revealed Tony Stark were secretly a villain all through his story).

And many of us love to revisit the MCU; I know I am constantly (or was, until it sadly became too unsettling) revisiting these shows. **The enjoyment of these shows as parts of the MCU isn't just in the past, it's ongoing**, and these series aren't just stories made independently to exist on their own. Again, *quality* speaks for itself, but the shows are clearly made to be part of the MCU, containing hundreds of connections. **To revisit them in the context of them being scrubbed... the quality alone would remain, while each and every one of those hundreds of connections becomes a mistake, a sore point; a point of sadness, heartbreak, failure, the very nature of much of what the shows are striving for being completely broken and aimless. Every frame of the shows, which was meant to be an MCU frame...** I don't believe I could bring myself to revisit these shows – the TV series far dearer to me than any others in my life – ever again. They would no longer be the shows I watched, and would be riddled, unignorably, with heartbreak.

The MCU Is a Safe Space and Escape

Having been through a lot personally over several years, the MCU has been a crucial escape in my life. These shows contribute 86% of a world that represents a powerful escapist safe space for me and so many others. The shows, severed from the MCU, lose the power of that world. **It's together that the MCU forms this entire safe place; the union of these various aspects, with the TV shows particularly realising this world as a lived-in place with so many facets.**

During the Covid-19 pandemic, one of the things the world has found even more so is the value of escapist fiction. **I cannot express how much this MCU world means to me, the world inhabited by all these incredible characters and stories**, and how empty I've already been feeling without this escapism currently due to all the fear. I can't bear the prospect of fully and permanently losing it. **I'm terrified my safe space, my passion, my escape, this major aspect of my life will be torn away. It's not an exaggeration to say it would be life-changing.**

The MCU Allows the Shows and Characters to Live On

One of the great things about the long and expansive storytelling of the MCU is that the world continues even when characters are left behind. The existence of that world creates a feeling of the stories living on. It would be heartbreaking to lose this for the shows, which we had thought had this quality at the time of losing them.

We left the shows with their world continuing beyond them, allowing them to live on. To find out some time later that actually, that was their death – not only that, they never even had the life we thought – means a missed chance to appropriately mourn when the shows ended or to get closure.

Hope for these characters' return is also still big for us Marvel Television fans. We've had dreams of these characters making it into Marvel Studios "main" MCU content for years, and while we know these are likely not to happen, while the characters exist on, the dream remains a core binding force of the fan base. Losing this would rip a foundation from the fan base.

The MCU Family and Fan Community, Broken

Speaking of which: The MCU family is such a wonderful thing, but right now, Television-inclusive fans don't feel like we're welcome in that family anymore. The MCU is the hub of the fan community for these MCU shows, being part of this family. The fan base grew from this hub and connects through it. To lose that hub would scatter the fans, disbanded and broken from the community they were with from the start, reduced to small leftover communities based specifically around individual odd shows rather than part of this original larger family devoted to the behemoth MCU world.

Emotional Devotion to the Whole MCU World

I, we, have put so much devotion emotionally into these shows *as part of the MCU*, watching the shows and experiencing and devoting myself to *that world*, in return receiving one of the few sources of joy in my life as I shared in this world growing and progressing in all its dimensions. It would really hurt to find out the devotion was wasted, misled, wrong all along; this rare joyful thing in my life a falsehood.

Mountains of Work Down the Drain

On a personal note, I have to mention my extra personal devastation at such an event: it would be *years* of wiki work down the drain. **I have devoted countless hours over 6 years to intense, thorough, very extensive work regarding the Marvel Television shows' place in the MCU, as parts of me developing the intertwined Earth-199999 timeline (done on the basis that these shows were unequivocally confirmed MCU, with no reason to have ever even considered until recently that this was in danger of changing).**

Fans in general have put so much work and time into devotion to these shows specifically as part of the MCU, including on the wiki, with a massive portion of its over 1.4 million edits. It would really sting to find out our work was in fact pointless, wasted, wrong, to be immediately entirely discarded and discredited.

I have been preparing to embark on the biggest project of my time on the wiki: to revisit the entire MCU and, piece by piece, collect every timeline note ever made across my years of work, and make every note not yet made, to produce a massive piece containing *everything* about the timeline work. It's an exciting prospect, and yet I've become scared to start, because what if it is now revealed that I have wasted even more dedication and time when things are scrubbed, the facts changed as 86% is removed from Earth-199999's timeline tapestry?

An Element of Rug-Pulling

I don't wish to dwell on this point. However, having been assured repeatedly for 7 years that the shows were MCU canon and having given so much of ourselves to them on that basis, I think it is understandable to be bruised simply by the reversal of that promise. After the shows also reportedly worked hard to fit around the films and restricted themselves so as not to contradict, and after the shows' fans have experienced a lot of disappointment already in the shows' treatment, it would really sting just fundamentally to have this rug somewhat pulled out from under us.

The Shows' Broken Legacy

As parts of the MCU, the shows have a strong legacy. Taken away from that, they gain a legacy of being discredited, their continuity invalidated and the value the MCU status gives them removed. They become stragglers, offcuts, and with a much greater climb for recognition and to establish a separate legacy – without even the chance to try anymore, since they are over.

The legacy of these shows in my own mind is already being poisoned by these fears. I love them and feel strongly about them – and am feeling increasingly crushed by the worry that they are going to be retroactively made as failures, shows which failed at being part even of *their own world*. The thought of them is entangled with pain and anxiety, which is now triggered by any mention of them... **I don't want to be triggered with distress for the rest of my life at the mention of the shows which helped define my teenage years.**

And people tell generational stories of parents passing *Star Wars* onto their children, this beautiful fictional world they can share. Similarly, I hope one day to give the MCU to my future children. The MCU I grew up with, cared about, gave so much to. The MCU that includes these wonderful shows. Not just giving my children the Marvel Studios collection and separately some odd individual shows that were once related, but then kicked out of it and forgotten... the vast, single entity of a world and franchise. My heart breaks to think of that dream being torn down.

Losing the MCU, and the Ripple Effects

I of course adore the Marvel Studios content in the MCU as well. **The scrubbing of the Marvel Television content would break my heart and make it incredibly difficult to continue devoting myself to/loving the MCU**, losing Marvel Studios as well as the MCU crumbs. As mentioned, the MCU, the world of these 25 films and 16 shows, would be gone, and I really don't want to lose it. **No entertainment world could ever spark the same passion in me, nor replace the MCU in my heart.**

That doesn't just mean the loss of the franchise, but the knock-on loss of a massive portion of my life. The MCU drives not only a deep direct passion of mine, but much of the other entertainment I consume and follow, including podcasts, critics, Internet personalities, and more. It is a cornerstone to my love of film in general, and that entire passion would be missing its heart and foundation. I have the wiki community, which I don't want to lose; I have friendships filled with MCU discussions, which I don't want to lose – but I would have to try to avoid the MCU as much as possible to prevent anxiety. **Being an MCU fan is a big part of my identity, and I'm scared of that identity being fractured.**

2.2 Why It's Already Difficult: The Hurt and Anxiety It's Causing (medium)

It's not just what hurt might occur. Unfortunately, it's already difficult even with the shows still as official canon. It's only becoming harder every day over the last few years.

It's also nerve-racking. Marvel Studios and Marvel Television have put great effort in and successfully made the MCU matter to me. It is a cornerstone of my life... and it feels increasingly like 86% of it is in danger, causing tremendous anxiety. **In the same way it enriched my life, it has the power to hurt it.** I've reached a point where every sentence about the MCU fills me with anxiety, and I hope to communicate both these difficulties and anxieties below.

Hurtful Articles/Videos Exacerbating the Narrative

Certain comic-book sites and channels control much of the narrative within the fan base of what certain pieces of MCU news mean. As such, when certain platforms started taking a non-canon stance, they subsequently drove much more of the fan base to this belief. And they've only built this, including twisting news with sometimes ridiculous or infuriating articles, or flat-out concocting completely nonsensical "evidence".

This fan narrative running out of control is concerning in and of itself, as we know that Marvel Studios listens to fans. There is a major fear that as this narrative perpetuates, Marvel Studios might see it and believe no one cares about the continuity/think the series are seen as "past Marvel franchises" like *X-Men*/feel there is no expectation to stick to the canon (or actors). There is also a fear that without further reinforcement, this uncontrollable narrative could even erode popular belief to the point of the canon becoming essentially a fan decision, when it's just reached too much for the previously stated facts to overpower the situation any longer. There are already fans frighteningly discussing the "final nail in the coffin" (despite a lack of genuine concrete reason).

When there are contradictions within Marvel Studios, no one considers previous Marvel Studios MCU content no longer canon... but fans latch onto anything with Marvel Television, again due to the impact of this narrative being out of control. And the more this becomes a conversation, the more we get the aforementioned questions to creators, the answers to which worsen things. When there's doubt in the foundation, any erroneous comments have disturbingly more weight.

The never-ending onslaught of articles/videos therefore terrifies fans, as this narrative escalates. And sadly, there are people who openly take pleasure in posting articles that cause Television-inclusive fans distress. **Much of the MCU fan base has even been turned against Television-inclusive fans**, which, in turn, has incited some cases of online bullying.

Warring and Bullying Among MCU Fans

The way this subject has become an issue, and the misinformation around it, is causing division among MCU fans. It feels like a war has erupted between those misinformed/trying to guess behind-

the-scenes thought processes and uneasy fans trying to promote the pre-existing facts. While many fans are civil (if misguided), in some cases, **those standing by facts are mocked and taunted, hounded with online comments whenever they dare even mention their beloved MCU shows; gaslit to believe themselves “delusional” as they are repeatedly told as much, called a “cult”**. Some also take a smug attitude on being the ones to “call” that Marvel Studios will wipe the shows, ridiculing fans for being “naïve” (fans are not in some way claiming they know better about Marvel Studios’ thought process, simply trying to bolster the facts to reclaim the frightening narrative and stop the disrespect and harassment).

The trolling seems to have a basis in a “What you like isn’t valid!” mentality, mocking fans as pathetic for loving a thing that that the person does not care about. **And, while it’s hurtful in any situation, it’s particularly hurtful coming from your own fan community. Television-inclusive fans have been shunned out of online discussion** (also only sadly furthering the takeover of this non-canon sentiment). We generally feel unvalued, no longer welcome as MCU fans unless we give up these shows.

Wiki admins recently had to discontinue the term “canon”, stating, “That particular term [...] has become the excuse to instigate [...] arguing, trolling, and everything that a healthy Internet community should avoid. Its use has been twisted to try conform subjective views [...] and attempt to force it into the wiki to pass as fact, by misinterpreting or deliberately twisting statements.” As described here, canon is constantly used as a weapon to undermine the shows and their fans (which also, unfortunately, is another reality to how much import is put into canon).

Already Cannot Revisit the Shows

The anxiety now triggered by anything to do with the shows is already making them too upsetting to revisit. This has been particularly sad during a time like the Covid-19 pandemic, when I wish I could be escaping with the shows but have been unable to. **I already feel bereft without the comfort they (and the MCU in general) used to bring, and could still be bringing.**

Slight Feel of Punishment for Caring

I don’t wish to dwell on this either, but there is admittedly an inkling of a feeling currently like having been a dedicated MCU fan is punishing me; the world telling me I’ve made a massive mistake in trusting and investing myself and that I should have made sure I stayed a lesser fan. I hope it can be seen why this might hurt.

Preventing All Current MCU Anticipation and Enjoyment, Every Tiny Thing Is Scary

When Phase Four began on 15 January, I wanted to be excited, but all I felt was a dread and sickness at what this new era might bring for Marvel Television’s place in the MCU. With all this unsettlement, I find myself unable to move forwards with the MCU until the past feels safe. I want to be revelling in the prospect of such frequent Marvel Studios content, but **I can’t look forward to anything in the MCU’s future – merely dread every instalment, terrified each week because I don’t know what a new Disney+ episode could include.** And without that joy in my life, while surrounded by the joy of other fans while I’m in terror, I feel hollow.

Every day now, I’m in fear. I’ve had sleepless nights before Disney+ episode releases. I can’t enjoy any episodes, merely sitting through them with a feeling of sickness, willing it to be safely over. I see each coming instalment as an incoming threat I don’t want to arrive, rather than something to look forward to. All I can associate the MCU with currently is stress and anxiety. I find myself wishing the MCU had ended in 2020, so that at least it would still always safely exist to revisit, and I didn’t have to go through this every week.

The anxiety is also not confined to new MCU instalments. I’m scared by every tiny news story. Abomination in *She-Hulk*? I’d been hoping to see him again, but now I just wish it weren’t happening, so I didn’t have to worry about a contradiction to him being kept in Alaska in 2013. Sif in *Thor: Love and Thunder*? I’d been hoping to see her again, but now I just wish it weren’t happening,

so I didn't have to worry about a contradiction to her trips to Earth in 2014 and 2015. **Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.'s MCU existence – a quarter of the MCU alone – could ride on a single accidental word in a script.**

I'm scared of every big announcement event. Every interview, every *Marvel Studios ASSEMBLED* episode... **it sometimes just feels like a matter of time until a disastrous quote.** I'm anxious checking every source of news: social media, film/TV news sites, the wiki. Afraid of having anxiety triggered by reading any non-canon tweet, article, comment. Unsettled even by people saying things like "Don't recast these characters!" as it adds to the idea that it is in question.

I can no longer even imagine a world where things to do with the MCU are comfortable and I can focus on its future again... let alone feel anticipation. **I can't care about anything regarding the MCU's future beyond this anymore.** Every moment I feel at risk of a large part of my life suddenly crumbling, **like having an axe hanging over my neck at all times, waiting for a key part of my identity (and a key escapist world for myself) to potentially be killed at any moment.**

Knock-On Upset on Other Things in Life

With the MCU being such a big part of my life, the difficulty currently associated with it is impacting my enjoyment of other things in life. Podcasts I otherwise love, entertainment personalities, my wiki work, the wiki community, even discussions in friendships as mentioned above, are already tinged in pain and sadness. When I'm not having anxiety triggered, I'm anxious in case there is something triggering coming up as I watch/listen/discuss. So many aspects of my daily life are impacted.

It also just... really stings to see the shows overlooked by these people, with comments (due to being influenced by the online narrative) such as calling *WandaVision* the first MCU show or believing these shows are out of continuity. Constantly watching and hearing 7 years of MCU history, and your own history, be ignored and erased by this narrative is truly disheartening.

Feelings of Helplessness and Desperation

With something with such sway over my life, it's very difficult feeling entirely helpless and at the mercy of secret behind-the-scenes decisions, with no ability to cry out. I am exhausted, my stomach tired of being tied in knots and feeling sick, my heart tired of panic, my nerves shredded. I want to free my mind from constant anxious thoughts and wish I didn't have to be scared and hurt about everything Marvel-related. **I feel desperate, this letter my only long-shot attempt to do something, anything.** The building situation and suspense over 3 years has only deeply intensified all my feelings, making me even more desperate and care yet further (and to lose it all in the end anyway, after all this anguish, would honestly hurt doubly).

3. Addressing Some Mooted "Possibilities"

I wished to address a couple of commonly mentioned "possibilities" thrown up by speculators and rumours, and how such potential decisions would impact things.

3.1 *Marvel's Iron Fist: Season 1* and *Marvel's Inhumans* (and the Connectivity Web) (medium)

I feel the need to address *Marvel's Iron Fist: Season 1* and *Marvel's Inhumans*. I'm not going to ignore the fact that *Marvel's Iron Fist: Season 1* received a mixed audience/negative critical reception and *Marvel's Inhumans* a broadly negative reception – and there has been a lot of discussion about how this might affect Marvel Studios decisions.

Marvel's Inhumans

The impression I get from fans, and my personal feeling, is that if the Inhuman Royal Family *needed* to be rebooted within the MCU... *in and of itself* (and with all due respect to the many people who

I'm sure gave their all to that show) it would not be the worst thing imaginable. But this is not just due to quality, it is very much also because (a) it is merely eight episodes, and (b) nothing else has ever referenced it, so there is no collateral damage. The show is surgically extricable from the canon if that were considered necessary.

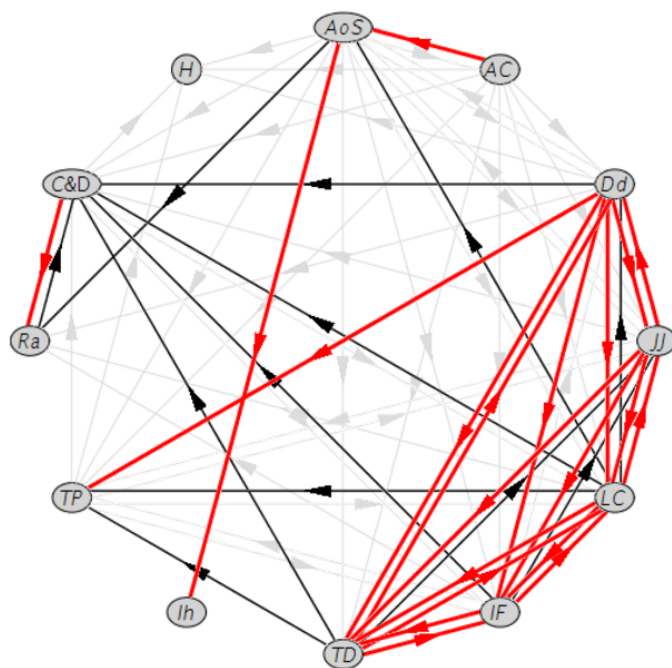
Mr. Feige has spoken about his love for imagining taking franchises that took a wrong turn and fixing things in a follow-up, which I think is a great mentality and I certainly think, if Marvel Studios were to use the Inhuman Royal Family, would be preferable here. Cast members have proven themselves as very capable actors, and the principle of sticking to the established facts is certainly more desirable. But if not, I will concede that this series does not muster the same passionate defence as the rest.

However, were they to be rebooted within the universe, it would nonetheless be very worrisome for Marvel Television fans, for the door it potentially breaks open and the possible implications/fear for the other shows. Which leads me to plead that were it to have to happen, the other shows' status be bolstered so we needn't panic.

Marvel's Iron Fist: Season 1

However, **the idea of being an extricable part of the MCU does not apply to *Marvel's Iron Fist***, which frightens me. While every other Netflix character/show was acclaimed, Iron Fist was the odd one out – but if Marvel Studios wanted to reject it, it would bring the rest all tumbling down.

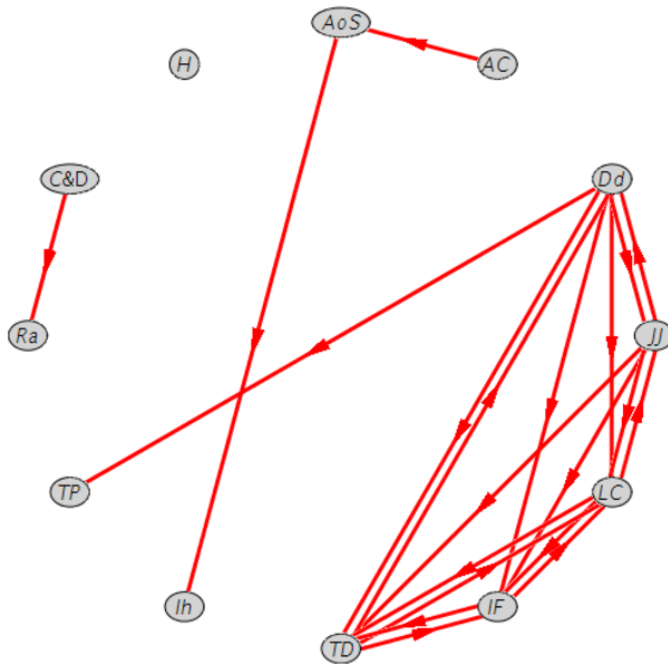
With the help of a fellow wiki user, I put together a comprehensive list of all the links between the shows and have used that list to create a graphical representation of the connections:



Arrows in the graph from "A" to "B" represent an element from "A" referenced/appearing in "B". Faint grey arrows represent a maximum of Easter egg-level connection. Black arrows represent firm connections. Thick red arrows represent very strong connections.

If one looks closely, the only shows which have nothing referencing them in anything else (only arrows *entering* them, none exiting) are *Marvel's Inhumans* and *Helstrom*. These are therefore the only shows "removable", if absolutely necessary, with no collateral damage.

But okay, grey connections are perhaps "breakable". They would sadly become Easter eggs now lacking the meaning they were once imbued with, but that doesn't break the universe. At the worst push, we might even consider that things can just about survive with black connections tragically broken, depending on handling. But the red connections are unbreakable. If something goes, everything which receives a red arrow from it also goes. Here's the red-only graph:



Marvel's Iron Fist is inextricably connected to all the other Netflix shows. Lose it from canon, and one loses *Marvel's Luke Cage* and *Marvel's The Defenders*, from those then *Marvel's Daredevil* and *Marvel's Jessica Jones*, and from *Marvel's Daredevil*, *Marvel's The Punisher*. **My fear is that even if Cox's Murdock, Ritter's Jones, Colter's Cage, and Bernthal's Castle all returned, Marvel Studios might contradict *Marvel's Iron Fist*, whereby all the Netflix shows themselves are wiped, and these other actors become mere referential castings plucked from the wreckage.** So, just in case, I wish to specifically plead: please, please do not reject *Marvel's Iron Fist*.

Not just for this reason, of course! Season 2 was much better received, the character was better received in all

subsequent appearances, and the show contains other great characters such as Jessica Henwick's Colleen Wing. **If Marvel Studios happen to be in a situation where they do not want to use Finn Jones' Danny Rand but want to use Iron Fist, I would just mention that Colleen Wing is now an Iron Fist too, as well as that the show has left a lot of freedom for the MCU's Orson Randall.**

3.2 Character Readaptation (medium)

I know there is precedent with *Star Wars* for wiping canon, but there it was motivated by a need to free the storytelling. The Marvel Television MCU shows are not particularly restrictive. Most things can be picked up on fairly easily, perhaps at most needing a couple of throwaway setup lines.

I understand there are situations where perhaps it would make sense for Marvel Studios to want to adapt a character in a story who has, for example, been killed off in Marvel Television. Here, I beg that Marvel Studios work just a tiny bit around this. Even as little as just adapting the same character under a slightly different name or conflating a couple of comics characters as is sometimes done. I was delighted, for example, to see Karl Malus conflated with Wilfred Nagel and given *Nagel's* name in *The Falcon and The Winter Soldier*, avoiding a *Marvel's Jessica Jones* contradiction. Even if Marvel Studios produce double adaptations but simply confirm them to coexist in the vein of Tina Minoru... as with all this letter: anything, just please preserve the canon.

3.3 Some Other Mooted Possibilities (medium)

There have been other possibilities thrown up heavily by people online that I also wanted to briefly address just in case there is any chance of them transpiring.

An Alternate Universe Hurts Essentially as Much

A common discussion online (and one frighteningly even brought before Feige by journalists of late, and suggested – albeit seemingly (hopefully) accidentally – by Michael Waldron) is that the shows could be part of an alternate universe to Earth-199999. If this eventuated, this would be almost equally heartbreaking to a simple “non-canon” status. While it keeps the series tangentially as “part” of the MCU franchise, **this is still them being shunted out of the universe they belonged in and ripped away from the interconnected Earth-199999 tapestry their whole existence grew within, causing almost all the same hurts described above.** The shows aren't novelty *What If...?* type stories, e.g. “*What If... Phil Coulson Were Resurrected?*”, made to be a separate little alternate story

– but born and bred as parts of building, developing, growing, interweaving the beautiful main MCU world and timeline. **They're one half of a pivotal 7-year chapter in the MCU's history.**

Reusing Actors as “Similar” Characters Without Actual Show Continuity

There has also been a lot of concerning discussion about bringing back actors to play *technically* new versions of the characters, à la J. K. Simmons as J. Jonah Jameson. As mentioned regarding *Marvel's Iron Fist*, **this would still be truly hurtful, tearing the shows themselves from the continuity and causing all the damage listed above**, just with the slight nice bonus of seeing the actors again after it has all been torn down. Besides, **it wouldn't be seeing the character again, it's a new character.**

J. K. Simmons plays a fun small character, enjoyed on a meta level and with no pre-existing reason he should need to be anything more... but it's the continuity of the big characters that brings depth to the MCU. If Robert Downey Jr. played a new “similar” Tony Stark every time, it wouldn't carry nearly the same weight of following his character journey. This mooted situation would be the actors without any of the meaning and, crucially, without the beloved shows *themselves*.

4. The Love for These Shows (As Part of the MCU)

4.1 What the Shows Bring to the MCU (low)

The MCU Is Enriched by the Shows, with Wonderful Human Stories

Marvel Television has brought so much to this universe for me. I adore the Marvel Studios content; I had one of the best cinematic experiences of my life watching a midnight screening of *Avengers: Endgame* with a packed crowd of superfans, and someone who only watches Marvel Studios content might more than understandably already be blown away by the sprawl of that endeavour. But as someone whose eyes have been opened to the even wider – much wider – world, the MCU is far further enriched. **I have the privilege of knowing this beautiful universe is seven times larger, and I can't un-know that.**

Having a constant flow of Marvel Television content is what has **really made this universe feel real, lived-in, multi-faceted just like the real world.** It has brought so many corners and lifestyles to this universe (and I admittedly already do miss having that counterbalance to the Marvel Studios content).

It is great that this universe has fantastical elements of big headlining superheroes: monsters, gods, super soldiers, aliens, sorcerers, and kings. It also has humans. It has long storytelling time deeply exploring human friendships and relationships, and their trials, tribulations, highs, lows, and meaning****.

****To be clear with all the following, I'm not saying Marvel Studios is entirely lacking these things, simply that they are the areas Marvel Television particularly specialised in.

It has ordinary agents demonstrating heroism exists at every level, including being an ordinary person with a kind heart, devoted to bravely risking your life for your job. People who deeply care for each other and form a family (and the most engaging and healthy relationship I have ever seen depicted on-screen in FitzSimmons).

It has vigilantes fighting personal and local struggles below the level of an Avenger threat. A man grappling with his religion and morality. A woman who struggles with alcoholism and trauma and finds overcoming these struggles messy and complicated, but nonetheless manages to always strive for good while overcoming her abuser. An exploration of the Black experience in America through the lens of a Harlem community and the powerful imagery of a bulletproof Black man inspiring and empowering those around him, along with an exploration of male anger. A veteran with a deeply troubled heart and moral compass, struggling to find his place in the world again.

It has a story of a group of conflicted and diverse teenagers with all sorts of experiences, and how their differences don't define them. A study of the opposite and similar aspects of a young black man and young white woman in New Orleans, with examination of privilege, oppression,

circumstance, loss, abuse, and systemic police racism. A family tormented by their father's abuse and trying to repair their broken familial love in the wake of that.

The shows explore the darker aspects a world naturally has, with issues of assault, consent, alcoholism, rape, violence, race issues, oppression, morality, religion, law, crime, corruption, politics, intense grief. It has teenagers' stories, women's different stories, adults' stories, and an array of different, relatively more "normal", MCU lives. **And so much more, all beautiful parts of this extraordinary and comprehensive web. The shows bring so much to this world, and I can't bear to think of that being lost.** The MCU, defined by all of this unified together, would be gone forever.

Diversity, Representation, and Inspiration

The Marvel Television MCU shows have also provided a great array of cherished diverse characters and representation to this universe. The shows include the MCU's first two female-led projects and its first Black-led project. The agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. include the MCU's first Asian heroes, its first Latina hero, a Black lead, a 50:50 mix of male and female leads. Natalia Cordova-Buckley, for example, has particularly expressed her deep pride at being the MCU's first Latina superhero. Elizabeth Henstridge has expressed her pride at inspiring young girls to get into S.T.E.M..

Marvel's Luke Cage has an array of brilliant Black characters, *Marvel's Iron Fist* gives us a Japanese-American female hero. *Marvel's Runaways* has a group of teenagers including a lesbian lead couple, another even gender split, a Japanese-American lead, a Black lead, two Latina leads. *Marvel's Cloak & Dagger* richly explores a Black family including the damage done by police murder.

Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., *Marvel's Jessica Jones*, *Marvel's Runaways*, and *Helstrom* in particular contain the MCU's first recurring/lead explicitly homosexual characters, with *Marvel's Jessica Jones* also giving the MCU its first recurring transgender character. Again, the shows provide a beautiful enrichment to this world.

The Shows Are Complementary to the Films

This is not a competition! Marvel Studios does some of this too, and does many things Marvel Television doesn't. But **they complement each other.** Marvel Studios tells the stories of the people defining this world, and Marvel Television tells the stories of the people living in the world those people defined; **the in-between stories that give even more weight, reality, and dynamics to this world's storytelling.** They are the antithesis to the argument that too much crossover "makes the universe smaller", broadening this universe's scope invaluable.

4.2 The Fan Love for the Shows (low)

I hope Marvel Studios see the #SaveDaredevil campaign. The passionate fans online desperate for Charlie Cox to remain, for Chloe Bennet, Krysten Ritter, Mike Colter, Jon Bernthal, and others. Television-inclusive fans may be a small proportion of overall MCU fans by the nature of the shows, but we deeply care.

And **we are MCU fans.** Not "the Marvel Television fans", fans of Marvel Studios *and* Marvel Television. We are massive fans of the MCU, we love both sides, we adore it all. We love the MCU so much we have delved all the way into its depths. Please, this side of the MCU deserves to remain, not be shut out/buried.

5 ... And Some Hopes

5.1 A Sentence That Would Make Everything Better (medium)

If Marvel Studios would be so kind, I just wanted to mention that **a reiteration of previous comments would be incredible.** Recently, Mr. Feige made the comment, "Everything is on the board. That's one of the fun things about the comics is that characters would appear and disappear

and come and go [...] There are some great characters and actors from those shows.” This exciting quote bears similarity to previous remarks of Mr. Feige’s, such as, “All of those things inhabit, however far on the outskirts, the same continuity, so certainly that opportunity [to integrate those characters] exists.” If a similar question were inevitably asked again, and Mr. Feige were generously to reiterate such a statement specifically mentioning the continuity... **all I can say is that for me, it would change everything, make my year. You have no idea the sense of security, relief, peace of mind, elation I would get from it – the anxiety and spiralling thoughts it would dispel, the renewed excitement and love for the MCU.**

Anything that then arises as a potential small contradiction would be swept aside. Any odd comment is clearly just a mistake. **Any slight recasting or redesign – hey, Bruce Banner/Hulk turned up both recast and redesigned and the continuity remained!** Anything like the incidents mentioned, it would all be fine, under the reassurance that the shows’ place in continuity has been recently rebolstered. It would be so, so wonderful.

5.2 Additional: Some Characters We Would Love to See Again (low)

In a dream world, these shows would be beautifully fully integrated, but I know this isn’t the case, and that’s fine! The shows are supplemental. But this letter has been very focused on just asking for things not being undone, in the hope that it isn’t aiming high or sounding at all demanding – while I’m here, I did want to take an opportunity to present some dreams.

If there happened to be any tiny Easter eggs Marvel Studios could drop just to give a nod whenever they stumble across territory that has Television links, I can simply say that personally, that alone would make me lose my mind with excitement. For example, anything like a prisoner list/cell doors in the Raft including Trish Walker and Willis Stryker, or an off-handed remark about S.H.I.E.L.D. rebuilding without Fury after *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*, a shot in Washington, D.C. of Mack’s rebuilt Triskelion, anything like that.

But then characters. Even among Steve lifting Mjolnir, the entire portals sequence, “Avengers assemble!”... for me, Edwin Jarvis’ appearance was an equally exciting part of *Avengers: Endgame*. I was astounded and overjoyed to see a Television character debut in Marvel Studios content – and this was a character deceased in the MCU’s present, from a short-running show that always felt safest anyway due to its Marvel Studios involvement. **I can only dream of how I would react if a fully continuity-secure character from one of the other shows appeared in Marvel Studios content. I might cry.**

I understand the hierarchy of making sure fans don’t need to have seen the shows to understand Marvel Studios content. However, I just wanted to mention that when Spider-Man enters in *Captain America: Civil War*, we can imagine backstory we don’t need to see. For any Marvel Television character, a similar arrival seems to me to work similarly – just in this case, there are bonus shows you actually *could watch* to see that backstory.

Star Wars: The Clone Wars is remarkably comparable in its universe to how *Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* sits in the MCU. Watching *Star Wars* bring Ahsoka and Bo-Katan into their high-profile Disney+ release in *The Mandalorian*, I can certainly say, as someone who isn’t a *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* fan, it worked well, and I felt thrilled for those fans (and admittedly jealous). The show seemed a great model for this kind of character return. Absolutely treat them as if they are pretty much new characters to Studios-only viewers, it makes sense. **But I can tell you that nothing I can possibly dream of in the MCU would excite me as much as any character turning up in a Marvel Studios project. It’s the biggest dream I could ever have in any fiction.**

Chloe Bennet’s Daisy Johnson, who could be simply introduced as “one of S.H.I.E.L.D.’s best agents since it rebuilt after its fall” to Studios-only viewers, is beloved to so many. So are **Iain De Caestecker’s Leo Fitz and Elizabeth Henstridge’s Jemma Simmons** (who would be coming out of

retirement), perhaps just introduced to Studios-only viewers as “some former colleagues of Fury’s”, and the same with **Ming-Na Wen’s Melinda May** (stepping back into field work). And **Henry Simmons’ wonderful Mack**, introduced simply as “the director of the new S.H.I.E.L.D., who has rebuilt it after Fury left”, or simply a great S.H.I.E.L.D. agent in **Natalia Cordova-Buckley’s Elena Rodriguez**/former agent in **Adrienne Palicki’s Bobbi Morse**. **The version of Coulson still out there, an LMD**, introduced as “an android recreation of Coulson” without any need to explain his resurrection and second death. Gabriel Luna’s Robbie Reyes, introduced perhaps alongside any other Ghost Riders as just another of their group.

Charlie Cox’s Matt Murdock, simply introduced as “a lawyer who is secretly a hero in Hell’s Kitchen the locals call Daredevil”, indeed very similar to how Spider-Man was introduced (and in need of a new suit after his last one was destroyed). Elden Henson’s Foggy Nelson and Deborah Ann Woll’s Karen Page, introduced as Murdock’s colleagues and friends. **Vincent D’Onofrio’s Wilson Fisk**, “a New York crime kingpin who recently got out of prison for the second time”. **Krysten Ritter’s Jessica Jones**, “an alcoholic New York private investigator”. **Mike Colter’s Luke Cage**, “a man, experimented on, who became the bulletproof local hero in Harlem” (perhaps having managed to leave his position at Harlem’s Paradise), Simone Missick’s Misty Knight, simply “a New York cop who has a bionic arm following an accident”. Jessica Henwick’s Colleen Wing, a “martial artist vigilante in New York” (or indeed Finn Jones’ Danny Rand). **Jon Bernthal’s Frank Castle**, who was left in a quintessential Punisher place from which he could be easily introduced into the fold again.

And other beloved characters: **the Runaways**, **Aubrey Joseph’s Tyrone Johnson** and **Olivia Holt’s Tandy Bowen**, the Helstroms, Rosario Dawson’s Claire Temple, Élodie Yung’s Elektra (revealed alive), Wilson Bethel’s Benjamin Poindexter.

Many of these are simply some of the best MCU characters, sitting alongside Marvel Studios’ roster, and I do really miss them. But if we never see them again, so long as the world keeps them as part of it, so be it... however, any continuity-secure returns would be utterly sensational.

6. Conclusion and Signatures

6.1 Conclusion (medium)

I really want to be excited about the MCU again. At the very least, I desperately don’t want to lose what’s already come in the MCU. **I truly hope Marvel Studios will embrace these wonderful shows and reaffirm their position in this extraordinary world. Or, whatever the case... just please keep them in continuity.** I really look forward to a day when hopefully the MCU can be relaxing once more and provide its escapism and joy again.

If you are reading this, thank you so, so much for your time.

MCU Wiki user BEJT, 21, United Kingdom

6.2 Signatures (high)

I am here collecting some signatures from fellow active registered MCU Wiki users who feel similarly and wish to have their names added. The post had a greater response than I have ever seen for a non-staff post on the wiki’s discussions, and proof of the signatures is at the following link: <https://marvelcinematicuniverse.fandom.com/f/p/440000000003237279>

While the words of this letter are my own, they sign to show they support the message of this letter and wish also to express their similar feelings. I really appreciate each of these wonderful individuals’ contributions.

Most have chosen to use their wiki username (*in italics*), some have asked for something else (not in italics).

1. *Marvelus*
2. *SonOfAres1*
3. *NicksComics*
4. *Zenger1*
5. *Rman41*
6. *AquaticSans*
7. *DirectorNook8*
8. *Steve Fuenzalida*
9. *JaylsWayBetterThanKai*
10. *Pigwars*
11. *YaBoiShadowNinja*
12. *GenericDuck*
13. *Maharaja O Earth*
14. *Ericboy405*
15. *LR2159*
16. *Edward Zachary Sunrose*
17. *IP Films*
18. *ProBot1227*
19. *Farizhf27*
20. *33niboR*
21. *ProximaDaylight*
22. *PitZagufull*
23. *AntisBack*
24. *Leon Heßling*
25. *AgentG18*
26. *Mh142*
27. *Spider-Man on YouTube*
28. *Lior06*
29. *Venom1502jw*
30. *Ninjaseeker*
31. *VenomMeda*
32. *ReadingIsLifeee*
33. *The Diamond Man 3000*
34. *NOIDPARANOID*
35. *ChronoVerso*
36. *Darth DarkDarth2*
37. *Að12032016*
38. *Mastersavior124*
39. *Jason Younger*
40. *C. Ross*
41. *Peldroed2*
42. *Kushagr.j*
43. *Ard con*
44. *Spy101Guys*
45. *TheD00dlebug*
46. *1Marvel Fan*
47. *Diamond The SkyWing*
48. *Dpaz1*
49. *D. Shing*
50. *Keithhj65*
51. *(ROK) DK0010*
52. *TAC2021*
53. *JEA16*
54. *RedRoom1984*
55. *Bombuslucorum*
56. *Zorkaan*
57. *Shabook*
58. *BlueDaly*
59. *Banana Guy3334*
60. *DieGrinsekatz77*
61. *TrueDogeMaster*
62. *BartusZsolt1996*
63. *DrewVeenstra*
64. *José Henrique de Ferraz*
65. *IceMoh*
66. *Ladderman*
67. *Fish Master 41*
68. *Andy36314*
69. *ThatGuyNamedJoe*
70. *IC228*
71. *Brett3801/Brett Herman*
72. *Zayn Yeh*
73. *User160998*
74. *Alxzer*
75. *Super382946*
76. *MarvelousMarty*
77. *ThatIsAPirate*
78. *JustAnAverageMCUViewer*
79. *Cinderlakes*
80. *DrGamingTrexus*
81. *Daemonus Rex*
82. *Jonas kahnwood*
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85. *Amrrish Jeyadinesh*
86. *SilverQuake616*
87. *MalchonC*
88. *Willmorrish*
89. *Xanoverse*
90. *Captain Absinthe*
91. *TomN2*
92. *Jazz2405*
93. *Ruancraft*
94. *JarodMighty*
95. *DaenerysTheMadKhal58*
96. *Luke Cage Bass Fishing*
97. *CarverSindile*
98. *Liam R 2000*
99. *MJLogan95*
100. *Robert Djr*
101. *CupOJello*
102. *Nedual*
103. *HaldonarOfGondor*
104. *Crawly Monster*
105. *Tigerlegos*
106. *David Kaique*
107. *John123456D*
108. *Nathaniel Higgins*
109. *ISyriux*
110. *Xpert45*
111. *MegaZeph*
112. *Invincible341*
113. *Sy Twin*
114. *Jonathan Charron*
115. *Thoughts Of Kairav*
116. *TheAnt3x*