

COBRA COMMANDER NOTES

- **Working Title:**
 - o *Cobra Commander: Serpent's Rise*
- **Premise:** Based off the *Cobra Commander* issues by Skybound Comics, this story will introduce audiences to the unsettling psyche of a twisted yet charismatic radical whose visceral rise to power propels him into becoming a terrorist overlord. Allowing this social outcast to create the greatest threat to the modern world – Cobra.
- **Chronology in 80's CU:** This origin story for Cobra Commander will be a one-hour special that will be a political thriller mixed with a villain origin set during Phase 1. The format for these one-hour specials is that the 60-minute film will premiere in theaters for one week and then hit whichever streaming service the 80's CU would inevitably be a part of. The *Cobra Commander* special will be released during Year 3 of the 80's CU release schedule, coming out 6-8 months after *G.I. Joe*, functioning like *The Winter Soldier* meets *Andor*. This is ideal because having the special come out after the first *G.I. Joe* film enriches what the audience just saw by peeling back the layers of Cobra Commander's past, his betrayal of Snake Eyes, and his transformation from vigilante to revolutionary radical. It is also the perfect way to fill the gap between *G.I. Joe* and *Megatron*, maintaining interest in the grounded subplot of the 80's CU while the cosmic scale begins to rise.
- **Inspirations & Influences:** The film will draw reference from *Breaking Bad*, *The Man in High Castle*, and *Joker*.
- **Casting Cobra Commander:** Just like with *G.I. Joe*, Charlie Adler would ideally return to voice the Commander. Body doubles will be used for when the masked version of Cobra Commander is onscreen with Adler's lines being added later in post to replace the lines the body double gave on set as scratch audio reference. Exactly the same way that it was done with David Prowse and James Earl Jones in the portrayal of Darth Vader in the original trilogy of *Star Wars*. This will be done to budget our money where it is most practical and save where we can so that we can afford to go big later on with the more expensive parts of the film. Yet, for this film, there will admittedly be scenes where Cobra Commander will show his face and speak with his normal voice so that is where some careful casting will be required so that the main actor's physique and body language seamlessly matches the performance(s) of the body doubles so that the audience is convinced that this is the same character despite multiple actors playing the role.
- **Cold Open or Flashback in G.I. Joe 1:** We can have either a flashback or some other hint(s) in *G.I. Joe 1* where we see a masked Cobra Commander as a rogue vigilante with Snake Eyes and then pay it off fully in this one-hour special.
- **Torture Scene:** *Pretty Please* by Dua Lipa will play as Cobra Commander is torturing a victim or executing a master plan.