

The Paragon

Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Information

23. Tile: Quantum of Solace



Release Date: 31st October 2008 UK
 Release Date: 14th November 2008 US
 Duration: 1h 46m
 Genres: Action, Adventure, Mystery, Thriller
 Cert: 12A
 Languages: English, Spanish, Italian, French, Swiss, German
 AKA: B22
 Filming locations: Filming locations: Strada Regionale 249, Navene, Lake Garda, Italy (Opening car chase)
 Sound Mix: SDDS, Dolby Digital, DTS
 Colour: PAL
 Aspect Ratio: 2.39:1

ISBN:

Storyline

Immediately following the events of *Casino Royale*, James Bond is driving from Lake Garda to Siena, Italy, with the captured Mr. White in the trunk of his Aston Martin DBS V12. After evading pursuers, Bond delivers White to M, who interrogates White regarding the mysterious organisation Quantum. When White responds that their operatives are everywhere, M's bodyguard Craig Mitchell suddenly shoots one of the guards and attacks M. Bond chases Mitchell and eventually kills him; in the confusion, White escapes. Searching Mitchell's flat in London, Bond and M discover Mitchell had a contact named Edmund Slate in Haiti. Bond learns Slate is a hitman sent to kill Camille Montes at the behest of her lover, environmentalist entrepreneur Dominic Greene. Observing her subsequent meeting with Greene, Bond learns Greene is helping exiled Bolivian General Medrano, who murdered Camille's family, to overthrow the government and become the new president in exchange for a seemingly barren piece of desert.

After foiling Camille's assassination attempt on Medrano by "rescuing" her, Bond follows Greene to a performance of *Tosca* in Bregenz, Austria. Meanwhile, the head of the CIA's South American section, Gregg Beam, along with agent Felix Leiter, strike a non-interference deal with Greene for access to putative stocks of Bolivian oil, which the CIA believes to be the reason for Greene's interest in the land. Bond infiltrates Quantum's meeting at the opera, identifying Quantum's executive board members, and a gunfight ensues. A Special Branch bodyguard working for Quantum member Guy Haines, an advisor to the British PM, is thrown off a roof by Bond after refusing to answer his questions. He lands on Greene's car and is shot dead by one of his men. Assuming Bond killed the bodyguard, M orders him back to MI6 for debriefing. When he disobeys, she revokes his passports and credit cards. Bond heads to Talamone and convinces his old ally René Mathis to accompany him to Bolivia. They are greeted by Strawberry Fields, a consular employee who demands Bond return to the UK immediately. Bond seduces her, and they attend a fundraising party held by Greene. At the party, Bond again rescues Camille from Greene, and they leave. The Bolivian police pull Bond and Camille over but discover Mathis unconscious in the car's boot. One of the officers' shoots Mathis before Bond kills both of them. Mathis dies in Bond's arms, urging him to forgive Vesper and himself.

Quantum of Solace	
	
UK theatrical release poster	
Directed by	Marc Forster
Written by	Paul Haggis Neal Purvis Robert Wade
Based on	James Bond by Ian Fleming
Produced by	Michael G. Wilson Barbara Broccoli
Starring	Daniel Craig Olga Kurylenko Mathieu Amalric Giancarlo Giannini Jeffrey Wright Judi Dench
Cinematography	Roberto Schaefer
Edited by	Matt Chesse Richard Pearson
Music by	David Arnold
Production companies	Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Columbia Pictures Eon Productions
Distributed by	Sony Pictures Releasing ^[1]
Release dates	29 October 2008 (London) 31 October 2008 (United Kingdom) 14 November 2008 (United States)
Running time	106 minutes
Countries	United Kingdom ^[2] United States ^[3]
Language	English
Budget	\$200–230 million ^{[4][5]}
Box office	\$589.6 million ^[4]

The following day, Bond and Camille survey Quantum's intended land acquisition by air; their plane is damaged by a Bolivian fighter plane. They trick the plane into destroying itself, skydive into a sinkhole, and discover that Quantum has been secretly damming Bolivia's supply of fresh water to create a monopoly. Back in La Paz, Bond meets M and learns Quantum killed Fields by drowning her in crude oil. Bond meets Leiter, who discloses Greene and Medrano will meet at a hotel, La Perla de las Dunas, in the Atacama Desert to finalize their agreement, and warns him to escape as the CIA's Special Activities Division arrives.

Bond and Camille infiltrate the hotel, where Greene blackmails Medrano into signing a contract that will make Medrano the leader of Bolivia in exchange for the land rights, making Greene Bolivia's sole water provider at significantly higher rates. Bond kills the police chief for betraying Mathis, and after killing the security detail, he confronts Greene. Meanwhile, Camille kills Medrano, avenging the rapes and murders of her family. The struggle leaves the hotel destroyed by fire. Bond captures Greene and interrogates him about Quantum. Bond leaves him stranded in the desert with only a can of engine oil. Bond and Camille share a kiss, and she wishes him luck in conquering his demons.

Bond travels to Kazan, Russia, where he finds Vesper Lynd's former lover, Yusef Kabira, a member of Quantum who seduces female agents with valuable connections and is indirectly responsible for her death. After saving Kabira's latest target, Corrine, who works in Canadian intelligence, Bond allows MI6 to arrest Kabira. Outside, M tells Bond that Greene was found dead in the middle of the desert, shot twice in the head with some engine oil found in his stomach. Bond admits that M was right about Vesper. M tells Bond she needs him back; he responds that he never left. Bond drops Vesper's necklace behind him as he walks away in the snow.

Cast

Daniel Craig as James Bond. Craig's physical training for his reprise of the role placed extra effort into running and boxing, to spare him the injuries he sustained on his stunts in the first film. Craig felt he was fitter, being less bulky than in the first film. He also practised speedboating and stunt driving. Craig felt *Casino Royale* was [physically] "a walk in the park" compared to *Quantum of Solace*, which required a different performance from him because *Quantum of Solace* is a revenge film, not a love story like *Casino Royale*. While filming in Pinewood, he suffered a gash when kicked in his face, which required eight stitches, and a fingertip was sliced off. He laughed these off, noting they did not delay filming, and joked his finger would enable him to have a criminal career (though it had grown back when he made this comment). He also had minor plastic surgery on his face. The actor advised Paul Haggis on the script and helped choose Marc Forster as the director.

Olga Kurylenko as Camille Montes, a Bolivian agent with her own vendetta regarding Greene and Medrano. Forster chose her because out of the 400 women who auditioned, she seemed the least nervous. When she read the script, she was glad she had no love scene with Craig; she felt it would have distracted viewers from her performance. Kurylenko spent three weeks training to fight with weapons, and she learnt a form of indoor skydiving known as body flying. Kurylenko said she had to do "training non-stop from the morning to the evening" for the action scenes, overcoming her fears with the help of Craig and the stunt team. She was given a DVD box set of Bond films, since the franchise was not easily available to watch in her native Ukraine. Kurylenko found Michelle Yeoh in *Tomorrow Never Dies* inspiring "because she did the fight scenes by herself." The producers had intended to cast a South American actress in the role, thus, Kurylenko trained with a dialect coach to perform with a Spanish accent. She said that the accent was easy for her because she has "a lot of Hispanic friends, from Latin America and Spain, and it's an accent I've always heard". When reflecting on her experience as a Bond girl, she stated she was proudest of overcoming her fears in performing stunts.

Mathieu Amalric as Dominic Greene, the main villain. He is a leading member of Quantum posing as a businessman working in reforestation and charity funding for environmental science. In the 2015 Bond film *Spectre*, he is revealed to have been a member of the titular crime syndicate, of which Quantum is a subsidiary. Amalric acknowledged taking the role was an easy decision because, "It's impossible to say to your kids that 'I could have been in a Bond film but I refused.'" [Amalric wanted to wear make-up for the role, but Forster explained that he wanted Greene not to look grotesque, but to symbolise the hidden evils in society. Amalric modelled his performance on "the smile of Tony Blair [and] the craziness of Sarkozy", the latter of whom he called "the worst villain we [the French] have ever had ... he walks around thinking he's in a Bond film." He later claimed this was not criticism of either politician, but rather an example of how a politician relies on performance instead of a genuine policy to win power. "Sarkozy, is just a better actor than [his presidential opponent] Ségolène Royal—that's all," he explained. Amalric and Forster reconceived the character, who was supposed to have a "special skill" in the script, to someone who uses pure animal instinct when fighting Bond in

the climax. Bruno Ganz was also considered for the part, but Forster decided Amalric gave the character a 'pitiful' quality.

Giancarlo Giannini as René Mathis, Bond's ally who was mistakenly believed to be a traitor in Casino Royale. Having been acquitted, he chooses to help Bond again in his quest to find out who betrayed him.

Gemma Arterton as MI6 agent Strawberry Fields, who works at the British consulate in Bolivia. Fields, who is merely an office worker as described by M, takes herself seriously and tries to overpower Bond when the pair meet. She is later seduced by Bond, infiltrates Greene's fund raiser party with him and ends up paying the ultimate price. Forster found Arterton a witty actress and selected her from a reported 1,500 candidates. One of the casting directors asked her to audition for the role, having seen her portray Rosaline in *Love's Labour's Lost* at the Globe Theatre. Arterton said Fields was "not so frolicsome" as other Bond girls, but is instead "fresh and young, not ... a femme fatale". Arterton described Fields as a homage to the 1960s Bond girls, comparing her red wig to that of Diana Rigg, who played Tracy Bond in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. Rigg, alongside Honour Blackman, is one of her favourite Bond girls. Arterton had to film her character's death scene first day on the set, where she was completely covered head to toe in non-toxic black paint. The character's full name, which is a reference to the Beatles song "Strawberry Fields Forever", is never actually uttered on screen; when she introduces herself to Bond, she says "Mr Bond, my name is Fields, I'm from the Consulate.". Robert A. Caplen suggests that this is a conscious effort to portray a woman 'whose character attributes are neither undermined nor compromised' by her name, even though her name may have sexual overtones reminiscent of earlier Bond girls. In August 2018, Arterton wrote a short story titled *Woke Woman* based on the character.

Anatole Taubman as Elvis, Greene's second-in-command. Taubman wanted to make Elvis "as colourful, as edgy and as interesting as possible", with one of his suggestions being the bowl cut. Amalric and Taubman improvised a backstory for Elvis: he is Dominic's cousin and once lived on the streets before being inducted into Quantum. He called Elvis "a bit of a goofball. He thinks he's all that but he's not really. ... He's not a comic guy. He definitely takes himself very seriously, but maybe by his taking himself too seriously he may become friendly".

Jesper Christensen as Mr. White, whom Bond captured after he stole the money won at Casino Royale in Montenegro.

David Harbour as Gregg Beam, the CIA section chief for South America and a contact of Felix Leiter.

Rory Kinnear as Bill Tanner, M's chief of staff.

Tim Pigott-Smith as the British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Joaquín Cosío as General Medrano, the exiled general whom Greene is helping to get back into power, in return for support of his organisation. He murdered Camille's entire family when she was a young girl.

Jeffrey Wright as Felix Leiter, Bond's ally at the CIA. Early script drafts gave Leiter a larger role, but his screentime was restricted by on-set rewrites.

Judi Dench as M. Forster felt Dench was underused in the previous films and wanted to make her part bigger, having her interact with Bond more because she is "the only woman Bond doesn't see in a sexual context", which Forster finds interesting.

Fernando Guillén Cuervo as Carlos, the Colonel of Bolivian Police, the chief of all police forces, and the contact of René Mathis in Bolivia.

Paul Ritter as Guy Haines, special envoy to the Prime Minister and a member of Quantum.

Neil Jackson as Edmund Slate, a henchman who fights Bond in Haiti.

Simon Kassianides as Yusef Kabira, a member of Quantum who seduces female agents and manipulates them into giving away classified information. He is indirectly responsible for Vesper Lynd's death.

Stana Katic as Corrine Veneau, a Canadian agent and Yusef's latest target.

Glenn Foster as Craig Mitchell, M's bodyguard and a double agent.

Oona Chaplin as Perla de las Dunas's receptionist, a woman saved by Camille Montes in one of the last sequences.

Lucrezia Lante della Rovere as Gemma, Mathis's girlfriend.

Jesús Ochoa as Lieutenant Orso, a bodyguard of the exiled General Medrano

Marc Forster asked his friends and fellow directors Guillermo del Toro and Alfonso Cuarón to appear in cameos. Cuarón appears as a Bolivian helicopter pilot, while del Toro provides several other voices.

Parents Guide

Certification

Argentina:13 Australia:M Austria:12 Brazil:14 Canada:14A (Alberta/British Columbia/Nova Scotia) Canada:PG (Ontario) Canada:13+ (Quebec) Canada:PG (TV rating) Denmark:11 Egypt:Not Rated (DVD rating) Finland:K-13 Finland:K-12/9 France:Tous publics Germany:12 Greece:K-17 Hong Kong:IIB Hungary:16 Iceland:14 (original rating) India:UA Indonesia:R (self-

applied) Ireland:12A Israel:ALL Italy:T Japan:G (2015) Malaysia:U Mexico:B Netherlands:12 New Zealand:M Norway:15 Peru:14 Philippines:PG-13 Poland:12 (self-applied) Portugal:M/12 Russia:14+ Singapore:PG Singapore:PG13 (re-rating) South Africa:10 (M) South Africa:PG (video) South Korea:15 Spain:13 Sweden:11 Switzerland:12 (canton of Geneva) Switzerland:12 (canton of Vaud) Taiwan:PG-12 Thailand:u 13+ (self-applied) Turkey:13+ United Kingdom:12A United Kingdom:12 (DVD rating) United States:PG-13 (certificate #44263) United Arab Emirates:PG-15 (self-applied)

Sex & Nudity –Mild **Violence & Gore** – Moderate **Profanity** –Mild **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - Moderate

MPAA Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, and some sexual content

