

TO TRAIN OR NOT TO TRAIN: BECOMING A JEDI!

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE | ISSUE 214

STAR WARS INSIDER

Exclusive *Star Wars: The High Republic* Fiction!

INTERVIEWS:

Silas Carson

The many characters of the multifaceted prequel actor!

The Toymaker

The story behind the original Kenner *Star Wars* toy line!

"Hello There"

Relive the action with *Insider*'s exclusive *Obi-Wan Kenobi* series companion!

The Way of the Jedi

Our Top 10 Jedi moments from the Skywalker saga!

Decoding Darth Vader

The anger that fueled the Sith Lord!



ON SET WITH THE JAWAS!

FROM TATOOINE TO ARVALA-7

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"Hello There!"



Darth Vader is, by my reckoning, probably the angriest character in any science fiction and fantasy franchise (and that's including whatever gamma-irradiated individuals you might care to mention from another movie series!). The armor-clad villain stands out within the *Star Wars* pantheon for his surliness and ill-temper, even among other Sith Lords, who always seemed to take great glee in their malevolent acts—Palpatine was always chuckling away to himself, usually as he was committing some heinous act with bolts of Force energy! Not Vader. Nope, he's just pure grumpiness, as we witnessed in the Disney+ series *Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022).

Would a few anger management sessions have helped? Too little, too late, I think. After all, the flaws in his temperament were brewing even when he was going by the name of Anakin Skywalker and getting into fights with young Rodians on Tatooine. In this issue of *Star Wars Insider*, we'll examine what we thought we knew about Darth Vader through the lens of the character's deeds in the *Kenobi* series, take a wider look at the events of the show in general, and discuss the perils of being chosen to train as a Jedi in the first place.

On a lighter note, we discover how much fun it can be to play a Jawa in a *Star Wars* production; speak to Jim Swearingen, the design guru behind Kenner's original toy range; and return to *The High Republic* with all-new short fiction from author George Mann. If that's not enough brightness to chill-out a Dark Lord, I don't know what is!

May the Force be with you.



Christopher Cooper
Editor

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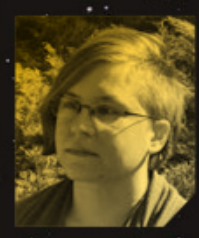
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STAR WARS INSIDER

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Master of Evil

Having witnessed the rage of Darth Vader in the Disney+ series *Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022), *Star Wars Insider* reassesses what we thought we new about the Dark Lord of the Sith!

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Time for New Tales

Disney+ Premiere Dates Announced!



Lucasfilm unveiled a host of first looks and premiere dates for imminent *Star Wars* releases at Disney's D23 Expo 2022 this September.

Leading the showcase event was Lucasfilm president Kathleen Kennedy, joined on stage by filmmakers and cast from several productions—including *Star Wars: Andor* star Diego Luna, who introduced a new trailer for the series, now streaming on Disney+. Jude Law appeared with *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew* creators Jon Watts and Chris Ford to talk about their new show centered around four children who become lost in the vastness of the galaxy and their journey trying to find their way home, while Dave Filoni and Jon Favreau were on hand to share new production stills from the set of *Star Wars: Ahsoka*. Both new series will arrive on Disney+ in 2023. Cast members from *Star Wars: The Mandalorian* (2019 -), including Pedro Pascal, Katee Sackhoff, Emily Swallow, Giancarlo Esposito, and Amy Sedaris, were also at show with director and executive producer Rick Famuyiwa to drop a new Season 3 trailer.

But the biggest *Star Wars* news was the announcement of premiere dates for two Lucasfilm Animation series. *Star Wars: Tales of the Jedi*, a six-part anthology of shorts telling untold





stories of Jedi Knights including Ahsoka Tano, Count Dooku, and Qui-Gon Jinn, will debut on the streaming platform on October 26, just as this edition of *Insider* arrives in stores. Then, on January 4, 2023, *Star Wars: The Bad Batch* (2020 -) will make its long-awaited return with a double-bill of Season 2 episodes.

At another D23 Expo panel, further details—including character designs (see above)—were revealed for *Star Wars: Young Jedi Adventures*, an all-new animated series set during the High Republic era that will stream exclusively on Disney+ in 2023. Jamaal Avery Jr. was announced as the voice of Kai Brightsar, a Jedi youngling who dreams of following in the footsteps of Master Yoda. Emma Berman will co-star as pilot Nash Durango, who joins Kai and friends on their exciting adventures.



The Story Behind the Story

Disney+ reveals how *Obi-Wan Kenobi* was made

The Disney+ limited series *Star Wars: Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022) has left fans crying out for more from Ewan McGregor's heroic Jedi. With a new documentary available since September on the streaming platform, those wishes have been fulfilled—from a certain point of view!

Released on September 8, *Obi-Wan Kenobi: A Jedi's Return* is an original documentary special from Lucasfilm that takes audiences behind the scenes to explore the series' production. Featuring exclusive footage from the set and interviews with stars Ewan McGregor (Obi-Wan Kenobi), Hayden Christensen (Anakin Skywalker), and director Deborah Chow, among others, the documentary offers an enthralling look at how the filmmakers took characters created four decades ago into a new age, and how friendships were reforged in the process.

Saturn Awards

Disney+ *Star Wars* shows nominated



The winners of the 2022 Saturn Awards were announced on October 25, and the nominees included ten shows and actors from popular Disney+ *Star Wars* series.

The Mandalorian was once again recognized with a nomination for Best Science Fiction Series (Streaming), while Rosario Dawson—star of the upcoming series *Ahsoka*—picked up a nomination for Guest Performance in a Streaming Series for her appearance in Season Two. Ming-Na Wen was nominated for Actress in a Streaming Series for her role as Fennec Shand in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021), and the series joined *Obi-Wan Kenobi* as a nominee in the Limited Event Series (Streaming) category. *The Bad Batch* secured a nomination for Animated Series.

Ewan McGregor was nominated for Actor in a Streaming Series for his starring role in *Obi-Wan Kenobi*, with co-stars Moses Ingram (Reva) up for Supporting Actress, and Vivien Lyra Blair (Leia Organa) in the frame for Performance by a Younger Actor. Also nominated in the Guest Performance category was Hayden Christensen, for his role as Darth Vader and Anakin Skywalker in the show. Our congratulations to all those nominated for these prestigious awards, which follow Industrial Light & Magic's success in winning an Emmy for Outstanding Special Visual Effects in a Season or Movie for the legendary company's exemplary work on *The Book of Boba Fett*.



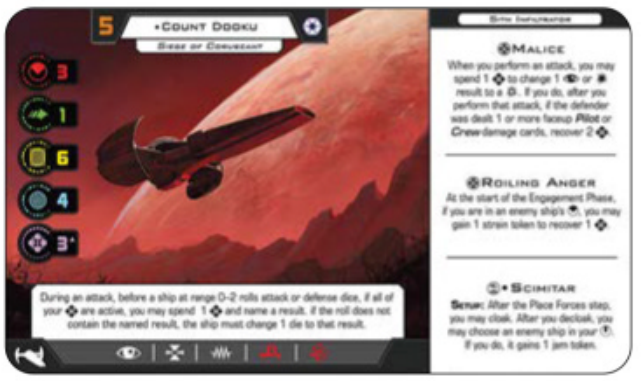
Aiming High

Star Wars prop hits the bullseye at auction

The last remaining blaster prop used by Han Solo in *Star Wars: A New Hope* (1977) raised an eye-watering $1,057,500 at auction in August.

The price paid for the iconic blaster, known by *Star Wars* aficionados as a modified BlasTech DL-44, set a new record for such a prop when it went under the hammer at Rock Island Auctions, reaching almost twice the bounty that another Han Solo blaster bagged when it was sold in 2018 for $562,500!

The original prop, based on a German Mauser C96 firearm designed in the 1890s, was adapted by Oscar-winning set decorator Roger Christian as Solo's signature blaster, and it has gone on to become one of the most recognizable *Star Wars* weapons.







Under Seige

Star Wars miniature games expand

Atomic Mass has released a new expansion pack for the second edition of *Star Wars:* X-Wing that pits Republic forces against the might of the Separatists as they attempt to rescue Supreme Chancellor Palpatine from the grasp of General Grievous.

The Siege of Coruscant Battle Pack gives players the chance to take part in this pivotal encounter in the galactic conflict, with 23 ship cards, 3 upgrade cards, and a set of rules for this thrilling playable scenario.

Also available for pre-order is the *Star Wars*: Legion Din Djarin and Grogu Operation Expansion, which features paintable plastic miniatures of *The Mandalorian* duo along with unit, command, and upgrade cards to enhance player's armies.

Priced $24.99, both are available to order now at **shop.asmodee.com**.





PRODUCTION DIARY

Our regular summary of *Star Wars* movies and television series currently filming:

IN PRODUCTION

AHSOKA

Starring Rosario Dawson
as Ahsoka Tano
Cast Includes: Natasha Liu
Bordizzo as Sabine Wren
Disney+

STAR WARS SKELETON CREW

Starring Jude law
Disney+

COMING SOON

STAR WARS TALES OF THE JEDI

Cast includes: Ashley Eckstein as
Ahsoka Tano and Corey Burton
as Count Dooku.
Premiere date: October 26, 2022
Disney+

STAR WARS THE BAD BATCH

Season Two
Starring Dee Bradley Baker
and Michelle Ang
Premiere date: January 4, 2023
Disney+

STAR WARS THE MANDALORIAN

Season Three
Starring Pedro Pascal
as Din Djarin
Disney+

Only Vader Remains

A formidable figure from Obi-Wan Kenobi's past

Darth Vader thought he had buried Obi-Wan Kenobi for good under a pile of rocks and boulders on a barren moon in *Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022), but his former master managed a dramatic comeback in which he bested Vader and slashed open the Sith Lord's helmet. Standing approximately 13 3/4-inches tall, the Darth Vader Sixth Scale Figure by Hot Toys presents the battle damaged Sith Lord with breathtaking accuracy.

The collectible figure's broken helmet reveals Anakin Skywalker's lava-scarred visage and a glaring red eye. Vader's body boasts 30 points of articulation, a battle-damaged chest control panel, LED light-up belt boxes, LED light-up lightsaber, and more! Retailing for $295 (with layaway plans starting at $53.10 per month) and expected to ship between October 2023 and March 2024, this Darth Vader figure can be preordered at **sideshow.com**.





THE LIGHT SIDE

By Jamie Cosley



Happy Howl-o-ween!

Creatures of the night take flight

Hasbro's *Star Wars*: The Black Series is adding some delightfully frightful figures to its premium line of 6-inch action figures. The werewolf-inspired Wookiee (Halloween Edition) and skeleton-deco Clone Trooper (Halloween Edition) provide the perfect treat for the spookiest evening of the year. The Wookiee (available exclusively at Walmart) is accompanied by a bogling and a pumpkin-themed camtono, while the clone trooper (available exclusively at Target) has been paired with a vampire porg and ghostly chest. Both figures retail for $27.99 each.





Duel for the Dark Side

A top-grade blade comes to a Sith Lord's aid

In a clash that rivaled their epic battle on Mustafar, Darth Vader and Obi-Wan Kenobi faced off once again following the latter's escape from Jabiim in the hit Disney+ series *Obi-Wan Kenobi*. As always, the Sith Lord was armed with a red lightsaber reflecting his allegiance to the dark side. Hasbro Pulse's *Star Wars*: The Black Series Darth Vader Force FX Elite Lightsaber replicates Vader's weapon with intricate details ranging from a removable kyber crystal and realistic hilt to advanced LED lighting and entertainment-inspired sound effects. Priced at $278.99, you can acquire this remarkable recreation at **HasbroPulse.com.**



The *StarWars* DotColumn

Fascinating features and articles from the digital vaults of StarWars.com

Add StarWars.com/Insider to your browser bookmarks to enjoy *Insider*'s pick of the best of the official *Star Wars* website.

Vacation Planning
The creators of LEGO® *Star Wars Summer Vacation* take StarWars.com inside the making of the sizzling Disney+ animated special.



Lawrence Kasdan
The director of Disney+ documentary series *Light & Magic* talks about his respect for the special effects artists of Industrial Light & Magic.



A *Star Wars* Tattoo Story
StarWars.com writer Kristen Bates tells the story of how she gained some galactic inks at *Star Wars* Celebration Anaheim 2022.



Tasty Tikis TIE fighter

Defend the Death Star with this stylized take on a classic Imperial starship.



Beeline Creative has taken the iconic TIE fighter design, a longtime symbol of the might of the Galactic Empire and the First Order, and transformed it into a fresh, fun design as part of its growing range of Geeki Tiki mugs.

Standing at 6 1/4-inches tall and capable of holding 24-ounces of your favorite beverage, the imposing TIE Fighter Geeki Tikis lidded ceramic mug is now the galaxy's coolest drinking vessel. Add one to your personal fleet by ordering yours now at **GeekiTikis.com**, priced $99.99!



A Bounty Hunter Build

Bringing Cad Bane's starship to life, brick-by-brick

Cad Bane's reign as one of the galaxy's most ruthless bounty hunters encompassed the years prior to the Clone Wars through the post-Imperial era. In *Star Wars: The Bad Batch* (2021-present), Bane cruelly stole young Omega away from her Clone Force 99 brethren in his personal starship, the *Justifier*. LEGO's incredible model of Bane's fearsome ride allows fans to recreate the bounty hunter's adventures. Measuring an astounding 19 1/2-inches wide, the *Justifier* features a foldable rear engine for flight and landing modes, spring-loaded shooters on the wingtips, a 'laser' jail cell to imprison Omega, a Todo 360 LEGO droid figure, and LEGO minifigures of Cad Bane, Omega, Fennec Shand, and Hunter. Priced at $169.99, the ship is available now at **LEGO.com**.

‘Shoes’ Your Destiny

Footwear and fashion ready for any trench run



The magic of the original *Star Wars* trilogy is captured in the new Galactic Rewind collection from DC Shoes. The line focuses on five character-themed capsule collections based on the iconic figures Darth Vader, Boba Fett, Luke Skywalker, Stormtroopers, and an X-wing capsule. From 100-percent cotton fabric class T-shirts ($34.00 each) adorned with catchy yearbook-style sayings to the Kalis MID Mid-Top Shoes ($85.00) sporting a Rebel Alliance logo and secret zipper stash pocket for a collectible Death Star keychain, each collection features hats, apparel, and footwear that will have you covered from head-to-toe in *Star Wars* lore. Visit **DCshoes.com** to browse the entire collection.



Cruising the Outer Rim

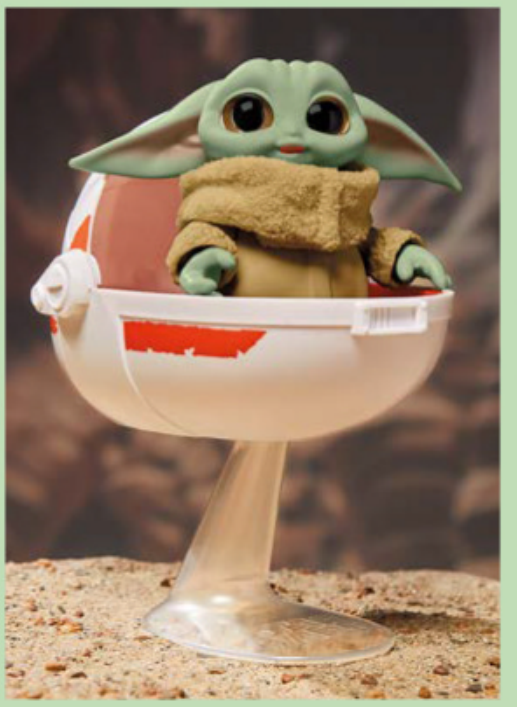
Lightweight sportswear designed for fishing and fun

The Columbia PFG Outer Rim Collection is expanding faster than a Death Star shockwave! Say “Hello there” to the Cantina II Super Tamiami shirt, a special-edition short-sleeve shirt covered in comic scenes depicting Chewbacca, R2-D2, Han Solo, and more memorable characters. Overlaid with sportfish silhouettes, the breezy shirts are made from an ultralight recycled fabric with back venting, wicking, built-in UPF 40 sun protection, and rod holder. Whether you want to beat the heat on Jakku or sail the oceans of Mon Cala, this is the style for you. Available in Men’s, Women’s and Kid’s variants, add to your wardrobe by visiting **columbia.com**.



MANDO MERCH

The latest bounty on which to blow your beskar



A Hovering Home

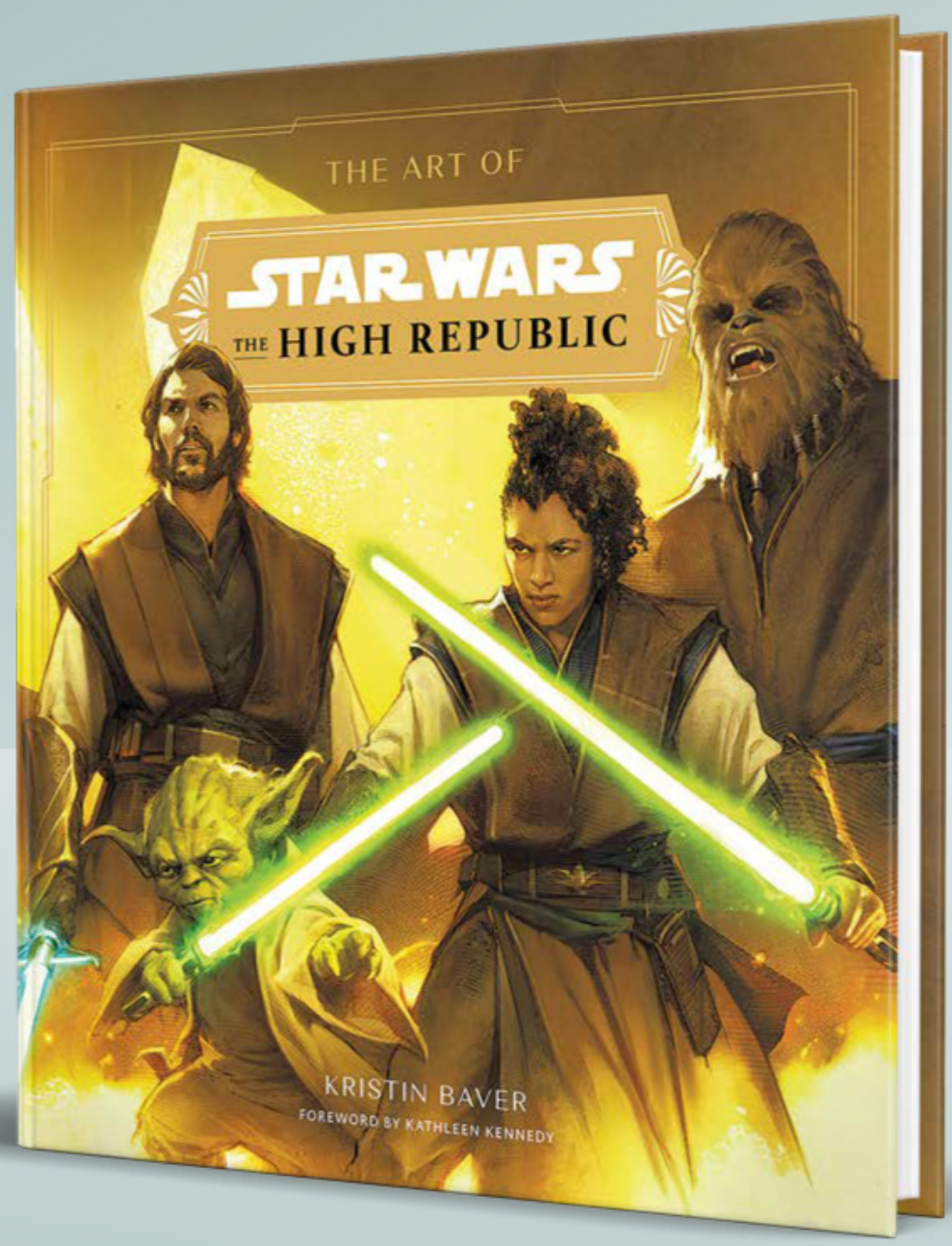
This foundling can fly!

Grogu regularly kept pace with Din Djarin by gliding through the air in his hover pram. Hasbro Pulse’s Wild Ridin’ Grogu pairs a figure of the Force-sensitive foundling with a model of his beloved pram. Accompanied by more than 25 sound and movement combinations, such as Grogu’s signature giggles and cute head turns, Wild Ridin’ Grogu has a soft-touch head and ears, fuzzy collar, and stand to place the pram upon. Priced at $59.99, you can catch this animatronic figure at **HasbroPulse.com**.



Book Club

Histories uncovered in the latest *Star Wars* book releases.



An Artful New Era

The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic Unveiled!

Set centuries before the *Star Wars* saga we're familiar with from the movies, *Star Wars: The High Republic* has opened up a whole new era of adventures for writers and artists to explore. The gestation of Lucasfilm's ambitious publishing initiative was every bit as involved and creative as the production of any film or TV series, and the full story of its creation is revealed in *The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic*, fully exploring how this new chapter in galactic history was developed.

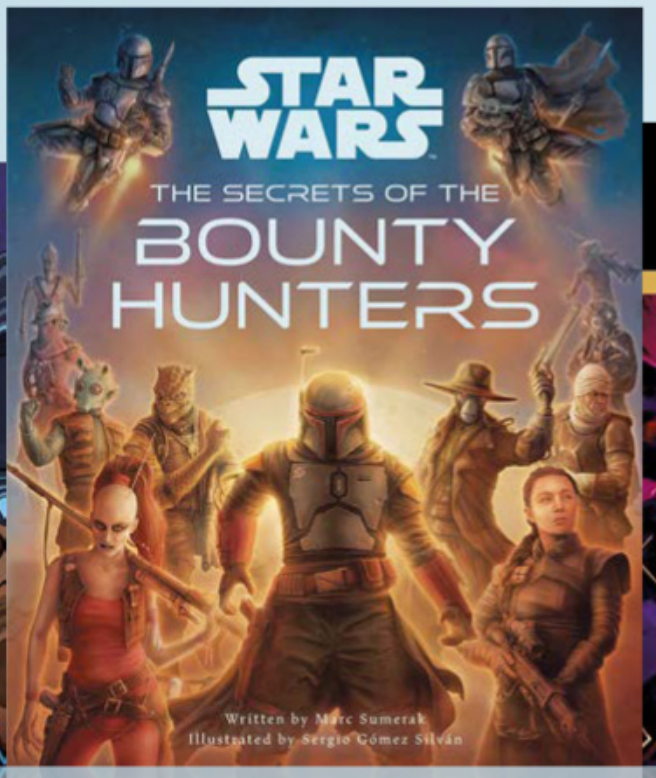
Written by Kristin Baver, with a new cover by Grant Griffin, and a foreword from Lucasfilm president Kathleen Kennedy, this heavyweight, 224-page tome takes an in-depth look at Phase I of the initiative, and is packed with exclusive concept art, vehicle and creature designs, and character and costume sketches designed by visualists at Lucasfilm and a host of respected comic book and *Star Wars* artists such as Phil Noto, Iain McCaig, and Ryan Church. There are also interviews with the writers charged with telling these tales, including Claudia Gray (*Star Wars The High Republic: Into the Dark*), Justina Ireland (*Star Wars The High Republic: A Test of Courage*), Daniel José Older (*Star Wars The High Republic: Race to Crashpoint Tower*), Cavan Scott (Marvel Comics' *The High Republic*), and Charles Soule (*Star Wars The High Republic: Light of the Jedi*).

Published by Abrams Books, *The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic* is on sale November 8.

01



02



03



01

Star Wars: Obi-Wan Jedi Master Colortivity

This new coloring and activity book comes bundled with four twist-up crayons, allowing young fans to bring Obi-Wan Kenobi's Clone Wars adventures to colorful life.

The Jedi Knight faces adversaries including Count Dooku, General Grievous, Chancellor Palpatine, and Darth Sidious in this action-packed activity book, filled with mazes, codes, word searches, and even a cut-out R2-D2 frame on the back cover! The book's perforated pages are easy to remove and display, encouraging artistic play and creative crafting to get kids thinking and doing. Color the galaxy with this 48-page softcover from Dreamtivity, on sale September 27.

02

Star Wars: The Secrets of the Bounty Hunters

From Boba Fett to Cad Bane, get the scoop on the galaxy's most infamous bounty hunters in this fully illustrated volume aimed at readers of all ages.

Written by Marc Sumerak with artwork by Sergio Gómez Silvan, *Star Wars: The Secrets of the Bounty Hunters* has wily pirate Hondo Ohnaka shining a light into the workings of the galaxy's shadowy underworld. Uncover shocking truths about its most infamous scum and villains through the book's numerous interactive features, including booklets, pop-ups, and inserts. This hardcover book from Insight Kids is on sale November 22.

03

Star Wars: Revan

Part of *The Old Republic: The Essential Legends Collection*, *Star Wars: Revan* resurfaces a tale from the *Star Wars* Legends continuity starring a fan-favorite character. Written by Drew Karpyshyn, this 336-page softcover features Revan—a Jedi who became a Sith disciple some 4,000 years before the events of the *Star Wars* films—and reprints the 2011 novel in its entirety while boasting all-new cover art. Fans of Bioware's *Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic* game won't want to miss this look into the backstory of the game's memorable, conflicted protagonist. *Star Wars: Revan*, published by Random House Worlds, is on sale November 1.

Comics Roundup

This month's *Star Wars* comics offer a glimpse of the saga's next steps.

You Seek Yoda!

Seeking wisdom through the ages in *Star Wars: Yoda* #1



A teacher, a guardian, a legend—the great Jedi Master Yoda was all these things during the height of the Jedi Order. Now living in exile on Dagobah and haunted by ghosts of the past, he is all but forgotten. But when a strangely familiar voice echoes through the swamps, Yoda must revisit the lessons he has given from the age of the High Republic to the chaos of the Clone Wars in this all-new, 10-part comics series.

Although this story opens before Luke Skywalker crash-lands on Dagobah in *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980), *Star Wars: Yoda* features three story arcs that flashback to pivotal moments in the Jedi Master's life. Issue #1 focuses on a youthful Yoda on Coruscant, when a desperate cry for help reaches the Jedi Council. As the adventure unfolds, writer Cavan Scott and artist Nico Leon explore just how far Yoda is willing to go to protect a community from aggression.

"We see Yoda as part of a new community, interacting in a way that I don't think we've seen before," Scott told StarWars.com. "One of the things I love about the High Republic is that it shows the Jedi living alongside the people of the galaxy rather than locked away in their temples. This story is all about Yoda making himself part of a community that is not his own, of finding a new home. Yoda casts a long shadow over anything he appears in. Writing him is a privilege and a responsibility I take seriously."

Subsequent story arcs in *Star Wars: Yoda* will feature the talents of writers Jody Houser and Marc Guggenheim, as well as a crew of artists including Luke Ross, Nico Leon, and Alessandro Miracolo. On sale November 23, issue #1 of *Star Wars: Yoda* features a striking cover by Phil Noto.

Star Wars: Hidden Empire #1 (of 5)

Lady Qi'ra, the Crimson Dawn crime boss who made her debut in *Solo: A Star Wars Story* (2018), has been central to Marvel Comics' recent epics *War of the Bounty Hunters* and *Crimson Reign*. The new *Hidden Empire* miniseries brings this "trilogy" of stories to their conclusion, *with* the development that Emperor Palpatine has targeted Qi'ra for elimination. But she isn't about to go down without a fight, and her allies include the enigmatic Knights of Ren! *Star Wars: Hidden Empire* #1, written by Charles Soule and illustrated by Steven Cummings, is on sale November 16 and features a cover by Paulo Siqueira.



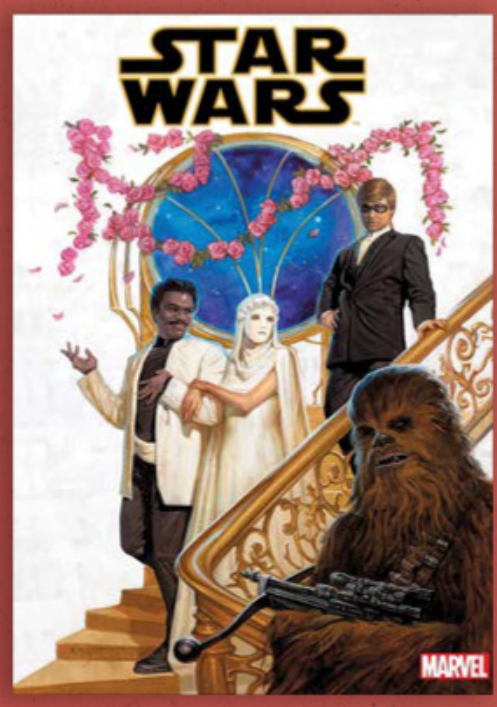
Star Wars: Revelations #1

Star Wars: Revelations is a special one-shot issue available November 9, which offers fans an exclusive sneak peek into Marvel's 2023 *Star Wars* publishing plans. Written by Marc Guggenheim with art by Salvador Larroca, Paco Medina, and others, this can't-miss issue shakes out the aftermath of recent story arcs and examines the fates of Qi'ra, Doctor Aphra, and other key players in the underworld, Empire, and Rebellion. When Darth Vader travels to Mustafar to seek out the Eye of Webbish Bog, the mysterious creature uses the Force to explore the past, the present, and many possible futures. The next phase of *Star Wars* comics starts here!



Star Wars #29

The latest installment of the ongoing Marvel series sheds new light on how the Rebel Alliance fought to survive during the dark days of the Empire's dominance. With the Alliance's supply lines in jeopardy thanks to unfulfilled promises offered by Crimson Dawn, General Leia Organa knows it is just a matter of time until her troops run out of resources, but fortunately her ally Amilyn Holdo has a solution! It's time for a treasure hunt, with a vast hoard of centuries-old fuel as the prize! *Star Wars* #29, from writer Charles Soule and artist Ramon Rosanas, featuring a cover by E.M. Gist, is on sale November 2.



Incoming

Don't Miss These Upcoming Releases

NOVEMBER

Hyperspace Stories #3
Dark Horse Comics
Writer: Cecil Castellucci
Artist and Cover Artist: French Carlomagno

Bounty Hunters #28
Marvel Comics
Writer: Ethan Sacks
Artist: Paolo Villanelli
Cover Artist: Giuseppe Camuncoli

The Mandalorian #5
Marvel Comics
Writer: Rodney Barnes
Artist: Georges Jeanty
Cover Artist: Stephanie Hans

Doctor Aphra #26
Marvel Comics
Writers: Alyssa Wong
Artists: Minkyu Jung
Cover Artist: W. Scott Forbes

Han Solo & Chewbacca #7
Marvel Comics
Writers: Marc Guggenheim
Artists: Paul Fry
Cover Artist: Pasqual Ferry

Darth Vader #29
Marvel Comics
Writer: Greg Pak
Artist: Luke Ross
Cover Artist: Salvador Larroca



STAR WARS THE HIGH REPUBLIC

Luminous Lore

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Better Together?

A complex conspiracy threatens regional peace!



The first full-length adult novel in *The High Republic*'s second wave, *Convergence* by Zoraida Córdova arrives in bookstores on November 22. Set generations prior to the events of Phase I, the novel takes place during an age of exploration, in which the Republic seeks to unite its burgeoning galactic community while the Jedi attempt to learn more about the Force that connects all living things.

Despite the noble aims and ambitions of the times, local conflicts that have long simmered begin to escalate, and orbiting planets Eiram and E'ronoh stand on the brink of all out war. Following an attempted assassination that threatens the last hope for peace in the region, Jedi Knight Gella Nattai takes it upon herself to discover who was behind the attack. However, her inquiries are hampered by Chancellor Kyong's son, Axel Greylark, appointed to represent the Republic during the investigation. As the shadows of a conspiracy gather around them, is it possible that this mismatched duo can put aside their differences and bring the truth to light in the battle to save both worlds?

Incoming Comics



***The Blade* #1**
Writer: Charles Soule
Artist: Marco Castiello
Cover: Giuseppe Camuncoli
Marvel Comics
On sale November 2



***The High Republic* #2**
Writer: Cavan Scott
Artist and Cover: Ario Anindito
Marvel Comics
On sale November 9



***The High Republic Adventures* #1**
Writer: Daniel José Older
Artist and Cover: Tony Bruno
Dark Horse Comics
On sale November 30

Republic Roundup

AVAILABLE NOW

PHASE I

Light of the Jedi
Writer: Charles Soule
Del Rey, Adult novel

A Test of Courage
Writer: Justina Ireland
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

The Great Jedi Rescue
Writer: Cavan Scott
Artist: Petur Antonsson
Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

Into the Dark
Writer: Claudia Gray
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

The Rising Storm
Writer: Cavan Scott
Del Rey, Adult novel

Race to Crashpoint Tower
Writer: Daniel José Older
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

Out of the Shadows
Writer: Justina Ireland
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

Tempest Runner
Writer: Cavan Scott
Del Rey, Audio original novel

Showdown at the Fair
Writer: George Mann
Artist: Petur Antonsson
Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

Mission to Disaster
Writer: Justina Ireland
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

The Fallen Star
Writer: Claudia Gray
Del Rey, Adult novel

The Battle for Starlight
Writer: George Mann
Artist: Petur Antonsson
Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

Midnight Horizon
Writer: Daniel José Older
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

PHASE II

Path of Deceit
Writer: Justina Ireland and Tessa Gratton
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

Quest for the Hidden City
Writer: George Mann
Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

(Excluding Comics & Manga)

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DECODING DARTH VADER

Following the rage-fueled appearance of Darth Vader in the Disney+ series *Obi-Wan Kenobi*, *Star Wars Insider* re-examines what we thought we knew about the Dark Lord of the Sith.

WORDS: MEGAN CROUSE

Obi-Wan Kenobi **(2022) changed our perspective on some aspects of the saga that had previously remained unquestioned, while adding new layers to familiar *Star Wars* characters—not least of these being Darth Vader, the former Jedi whose turn to the dark side ran parallel to the fall of the Republic.**

The series brought to the fore many of the things we already knew about Vader: his vengeful anger, his deep well of injured pride, and his belief in his own power. It also revealed new insights, including the reason why Vader never traced his former master to Tatooine—Palpatine himself forbade Vader from pursuing Obi-Wan, ironically protecting the existence of his future nemesis, Luke Skywalker, from discovery. It also brought closure to one of the most important relationships in the Skywalker saga: that of Anakin Skywalker and Obi-Wan Kenobi.

> "Mustafar was where we found this seething mass of broiling discontent at the beginning of *Obi-Wan Kenobi*."

Harnessing Hate

Vader was shaped in the metaphorical fires of the Clone Wars as well as in the physical flames that burned him on Mustafar. As a young man, Anakin had clashed against ▸





01



02

01 More machine than man, Darth Vader's reliance on his life-supporting armor and cybernetic additions was equal to the rage that sustained him.

injustices, perceived or actual, such as the reality that slavery and cruelty still existed in the galaxy, and the Jedi Council's refusal to confer the rank of Jedi Master upon him. His craving for justice twisted into an evil desire for control.

These facets in Anakin's makeup can be traced to events during the Clone Wars. His marriage to Padmé Amidala, for example, was pivotal in illustrating how his love descended into possessiveness and anger. Anakin's summary execution of the treacherous senator Tal Merrik also demonstrated how his moral compass sometimes went awry.

Having already adopted the identity of Darth Vader, Anakin's physical transformation into the cybernetic Dark Lord only magnified his anger. In the aftermath of *Revenge of the Sith* (2005), as told in issue #21 of Marvel Comics' *Darth Vader* series, Palpatine's plan had come to fruition: Vader was fully loyal to the dark side, but the Emperor continued to stoke the flames of Vader's rage to ensure he remained so. Exploiting Vader's emotional turmoil as the Dark Lord settled into his castle on Mustafar, the planet where he had nearly lost his life, Palpatine planted an idea in Vader's mind that would ensure his protégé would not stray far. "Perhaps your Padmé does await you on Mustafar," Palpatine suggested. "Perhaps the dark side will bring her to you."

Thus, Mustafar was where we found this seething mass of broiling discontent at the beginning of *Obi-Wan Kenobi*, a figure clearly under the complete control of both his Emperor and his own hatred. It is from this baseline that we can reassess the Vader we know from later in the Skywalker saga timeline.

03 Vader's calm use of the Force to choke Admiral Motti was a hint at the anger burning within him.



03

The Rematch: Round 1

The brutal, unrelenting hate we saw emanating from Vader during *Obi-Wan Kenobi* highlighted just how much he would change over time. It's all too easy to think of Darth Vader as purely evil from the moment he donned the black armor to when he turned against the Emperor to save his son, but the character underwent a gradual, if self-interested evolution throughout the original trilogy.

When the Empire was on the rise, Vader's rage was all-encompassing, exemplified when he choked Admiral Motti for doubting the power the Force in *A New Hope* (1977). After his duel with Luke Skywalker on Cloud City in *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980), Vader became more contemplative, open to the possibility of a different path now that Luke knew who he was. By *Return of the Jedi* (1983), it was clear he was beginning to question whether he truly belonged to the dark side. Turning the clock back to the time of *Obi-Wan Kenobi*, however, Vader was still consumed by fury, emanating an aura of overt, intimidating anger, as we saw when he and Obi-Wan were reunited in battle on Mapuzo.

Faced with the unrecognizable silhouette of his former friend, Obi-Wan's response was to evade a confrontation with Vader for as long as possible, partly to give Tala time to get Leia to safety, but largely because he was horrified by what he beheld. "What have you become?" Kenobi uttered, his shock and confusion palpable. For his part, Vader seemed more interested in inflicting the same suffering upon Obi-Wan that he had experienced himself on Mustafar. "I am what you



04 Vader's true face revealed: a twisted remnant of Anakin Skywalker.

"When the Empire was on the rise, Vader's rage was all-encompassing."

05 Darth Vader, Dark Lord of the Sith.

06



"Vader showed no mercy, leaving the scene certain that he had finished Kenobi for good. That he had won.

made me," Vader replied, adding, "You should have killed me when you had the chance." The ultimate expression of this was when Vader dragged Obi-Wan into a fire he had ignited from flammable rocks, intent on watching Kenobi burn as Vader had been burned a decade before.

This cruel, eye-for-an-eye act of vengeance was one of several mirrors between the two men in the series (note the reflective floor during their Coruscant training flashback). Vader recognized that the two were eternally tied, and, in his twisted way, wanted to make that comparison literal. Vader had consistently had the upper hand during the fight, almost toying with his opponent. The next time they clashed, in "Part VI," Obi-Wan needed to up his game. Fortunately, the Jedi Knight had changed over the course of the series, while Vader had not.



07

The Rematch: Round 2

Any illusion that Darth Vader was masking some internal conflict was dispelled when he and Obi-Wan fought again among the rocky spires of a barren moon.

During the fight, Vader almost killed Obi-Wan, attempting to crush his former master under a barrage of rocks from a position on higher ground, a reversal of fortunes compared to their fateful battle on Mustafar. On that occasion, the victorious Obi-Wan had left Vader to die in a pool of molten lava. Here, Vader showed no mercy, leaving the scene certain that he had finished Kenobi for good. That he had won.

This was not the end of the fight, however, and its climax had been foreshadowed in "Part V," in a sequence that took us back to happier times.

During a sparring session in the Jedi Temple on Coruscant, Anakin and Obi-Wan's practice duel neatly revealed their strengths and weaknesses. It essayed the complexity of Anakin's character—calm yet impatient, motivated by the deep well of emotion that seethed within him, and his capacity for both good and evil. Obi-Wan observed that Anakin was too eager to win. "Your need for victory, Anakin, blinds you," he observed. The same flaw continued to blind Vader years later. Even as the Emperor's right-hand man, he still suffered from the same egotistical need to win that Obi-Wan had noted. Having seemingly not taken his master's lesson to heart, the scene gave us leave to wonder whether Anakin ever really become much more than a Padawan?

06 Darth Vader attempted to exact revenge on Obi-Wan through fiery torture on Mapuzo.

07 A flashback to a training session between Obi-Wan and Anakin revealed the fundamental differences between them.

08 Did Anakin Skywalker learn anything from his master?

What we learned from those scenes was that Anakin remained a part of Vader, whatever the latter claimed. Vader fought in the same style in both eras, with forceful swipes of his lightsaber. Obi-Wan, on the other hand, knew that even in a practice bout a Jedi always needed to remember that their goal was "to defend life, not to take it." Anakin's response? "Mercy doesn't defeat an enemy, Master." Clearly, Vader held tight to this belief. Note that even when they were on the same side, brothers in arms, Anakin still viewed Kenobi as an "enemy" during their training bout.

On Jabiim, Obi-Wan took advantage of Vader's juggernaut attitude, to defend the lives of the Force-sensitive refugees and the Path rebels helping them. The need for victory linked Vader to Anakin in a very literal way. His eagerness to destroy the escaping ship meant he never considered it was a decoy. In the flashback, Obi-Wan snatched his friend's lightsaber, literally using ▸

08



REVA: A TWIST IN THE TALE

Although Obi-Wan was the central figure in Darth Vader's life, *Obi-Wan Kenobi* added another character to the mix, further illuminating who he was: Reva Sevander, the Third Sister.

Vader had the power of life and death over each of the Inquisitors. That wasn't unusual for the Sith Lord, but what was unusual was that he had the power to promote or demote them, fostering a competitiveness amongst them. Vader essentially behaved as a manager. It was a microcosm of how he handled the Empire as a whole, controlling people through fear.

This led to one of the most dramatic revelations of the series: how close Darth Vader could have been to finding Luke on Tatooine, and closer still to capturing Leia and learning of her true lineage. If Reva had been as loyal to Vader as she had been pretending for so long, the fate of the galaxy could have moved in a very different direction.



09 Darth Vader's Star Destroyer pursued Obi-Wan Kenobi to a barren moon where the former friends would fight once again.

Anakin's weapon against him. The literal move became metaphorical.

One of the weightiest moments in the scene was when Obi-Wan handed Anakin's lightsaber back to him. It was an action of mercy and power—Obi-Wan could have won but chose not to. It is an echo of another moment in the Skywalker saga, when Luke Skywalker discarded his own lightsaber to stand before Vader and the Emperor without a weapon. More often than not, a Jedi's strength comes from deciding not to fight.

Through Tragedy, A New Hope,

Vader's sense of victory was premature, as Obi-Wan not only extricated himself from his predicament, but turned his full power on the Dark Lord, smashing his life support system and cleaving a gash in Vader's helmet and mask. The face revealed beneath was an abomination of the good man that Anakin had once been: Scarred, distorted by rage, and unrepentant.

In *Return of the Jedi*, Obi-Wan described Vader as "More machine now than man. Twisted and evil," and it was at this moment, during their fight on a barren moon, that he came to that realization. Given how the scene played out, we can understand why the Jedi was so reluctant to tell Luke the whole truth about his father. The horror of what Anakin had become was too appalling to admit. The fact that he referred to Vader as "Darth" during their exchanges in *A New Hope* reads like a choice now, too. It was a decision, to deemphasize his relationship with Vader, and an acknowledgement that Anakin was long gone. When Vader declared that he himself killed Anakin Skywalker, Obi-Wan could literally see it was the truth.

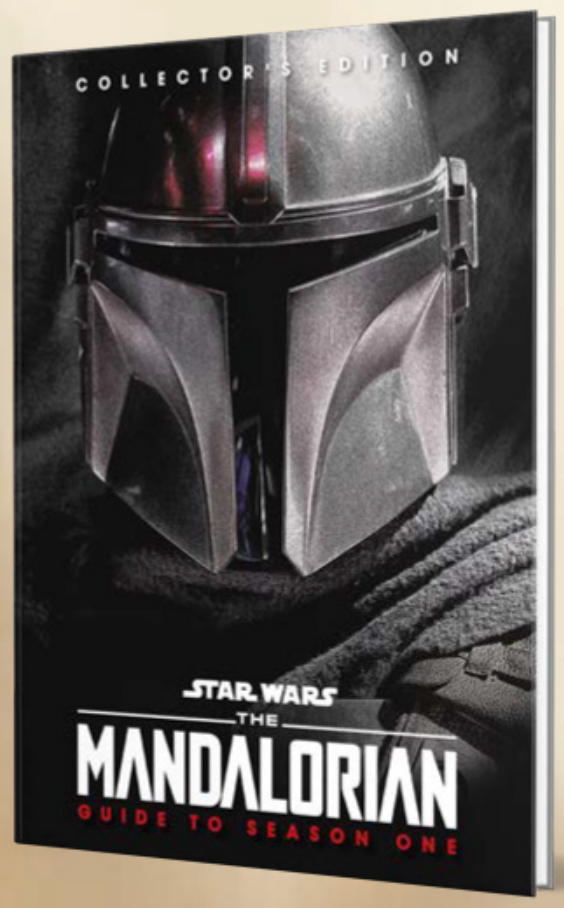
Their duel in *A New Hope* can now be seen as the culmination of a sequence of tragic events, the final chapter in a once close relationship that carries the weight not just of the duel on Mustafar, but now of the two previously unknown encounters in *Obi-Wan Kenobi*. Vader had the upper hand on Mapuzo, as ultimately Obi-Wan did in the following fight. At the end of the series, the two were evenly matched, almost mirror images of each other in outlook and deed, with the result that their duel on the Death Star has more resonance than ever.

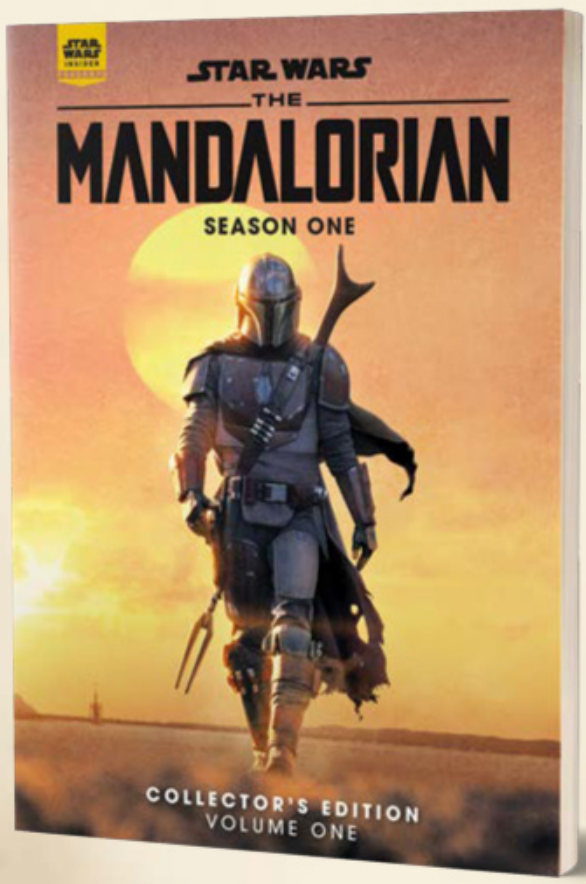
10 The final duel between Kenobi and Vader in *A New Hope*.

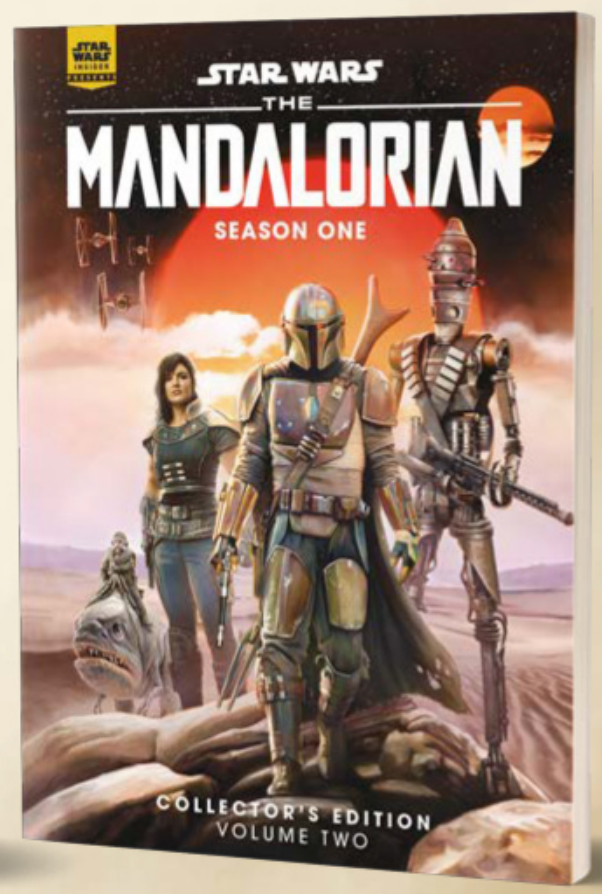
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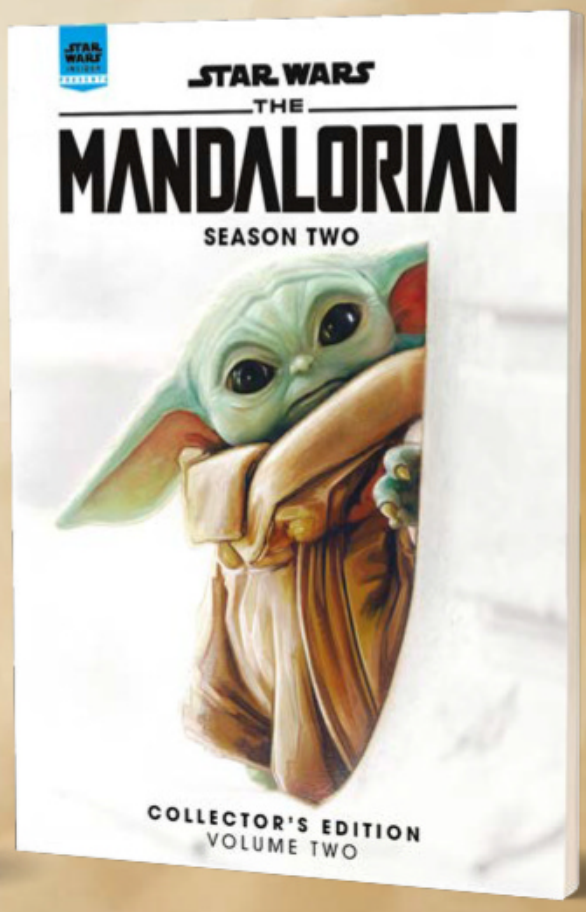












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01 Silas Carson's most prominent *Star Wars* role was as Jedi Council member Ki-Adi-Mundi.

02 As Nute Gunray, Carson performed beneath a heavy animatronic mask

HEROES & VILLAINS

Actor Silas Carson tells *Star Wars Insider* how he fought for both sides in the Clone Wars of the prequel trilogy.

WORDS: MARK NEWBOLD

INTERVIEW: SILAS CARSON

Almost a quarter of a century after he played the roles of Ki-Adi-Mundi, Nute Gunray, Lott Dod and Lieutenant Antidar Williams in *The Phantom Menace* (1999), *Star Wars Insider* spoke to British actor Silas Carson about the challenges of performing under layers of makeup and animatronics in the *Star Wars* prequels.

***Star Wars Insider*: Is it true that you weren't particularly familiar with *Star Wars* when you were first cast in *The Phantom Menace*?**

Silas Carson: I'd never watched *Star Wars* when I was a kid. I grew up in Eastbourne (on the south coast of England), where we only had one cinema that I never used to go to, so the original films totally passed me by. I didn't get into acting until much later when I was about 17 years old.

I remember when Robin Gurland (the casting director on the prequels) auditioned me for the film, she said, "So, you know all about *Star Wars*?" I replied, "Well, I've heard the name before, but I have no idea what you're talking about." She thought I was joking, but I was like "No, really, I've never seen them. Are you doing a remake?"

So, my first memory of seeing *Star Wars* was when they released the Special Editions, maybe two days before I started filming *The Phantom Menace*. I went out and saw all three in one day to educate myself on what it was all about.

And what did you think of them, seeing as you were about to film one?

I watched the films in the context of knowing that *A New Hope* had come out in 1977, and it was easy to imagine the incredible experience everybody had when that ship boomed in over their heads. You could see it was something that had never been done before. Even though I was watching the film decades later, the opening scene still had that power. It made me very excited to know I was about to be a part of *Star Wars*, and it opened a whole new world to me. It sounds daft, doesn't it? That somebody who is now so embroiled in the *Star Wars* galaxy wasn't for such a long time. I think George Lucas probably liked having someone on set who wasn't overawed or overwhelmed by it all.

The most exciting thing for me, though, was that I got to work alongside Frank Oz. Like so many of us, I grew up watching the Muppets, so getting to meet and talk to him was big. My first few days of filming was all the Jedi Council stuff, playing Ki-Adi-Mundi. For that initial film, Frank was performing with a puppet Yoda, so he was down underneath the stage with his hand inside the puppet, doing the voice in real time. And there was Samuel L. Jackson sitting to my right and Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor in front of me, so it was quite an introduction.

Ki-Adi-Mundi's head looks like quite a top-heavy piece. Was it difficult to work in it?

The prosthetics were incredible, even though the makeup took four-and-a-half hours to apply. It was made from a very, very thin foam that skin could breathe through, and it moved with me, so after a few minutes of it all being on I really didn't notice it, apart from the fact that everybody was looking at me weirdly. The mask elements were blended around my mouth and eyes with regular makeup, so that helped make it comfortable and easy to work with, and I was able to be a lot more naturalistic with my performance.

Where did Ki-Adi-Mundi's gentle voice come from?

The design inspired the voice. The look of him is of a kindly old man, which made me think of the ▸



"My first memory of seeing *Star Wars* was when they released the Special Editions, maybe two days before I started filming *The Phantom Menace*."



03

gentility of a Native American; very noble, very peaceful, but warriors when called upon to defend themselves. I wanted to find a voice that was avuncular, older, and kinder, but that also had that theatrical English tone to it.

After playing the character for six years, you filmed Ki-Adi-Mundi's death scene in *Revenge of the Sith*. How did you feel about it?
Nick Gillard, who was the stunt coordinator and swordsmaster, said, "This is where you die!" It all looked incredibly dramatic on screen, but basically it was just me in front of a green screen, and nothing else.

I said to Nick, "What direction do the bullets come from, and who's firing at me?" and he just told me, "Don't worry about it. Everything will be added in later. All you've got to do is have some fun fighting, falling over, getting hit in different ways, and dying!" We filmed for about an hour and a half, with me doing all these different moves. The rest was created after I had done the movements on set.

We see your face in an early scene as Lieutenant Antidar Williams, one of the two pilots of the doomed *Radiant VII*. Was that fun?
We had quite a small set for that, with me and Bronagh Gallagher (as Captain Maoi Madakor) in the cockpit. Famously I'm talking to myself in that scene. As Lieutenant Williams I ask Nute Gunray for permission to land, but we shot the Nute Gunray stuff much later. We did all the Jedi Council stuff first, then the Lieutenant Williams shots, and on to my Nute Gunray scenes.

03 The Jedi council scenes in *The Phantom Menace* (1999) were the first that Carson filmed as Ki-Adi-Mundi.

04 Carson played Nute Gunray (middle) in all three prequel movies.



04

"I wanted to find a voice that was avuncular, older, and kinder."

From a performance point of view, Nute Gunray must have been your most challenging character?
Yes, it was hot, airless work. His head was basically a big helmet that went over my head, with lots of electronics inside. I had to have earphones, a battery pack, and a microphone, and there were wires going past my ears, so that was quite claustrophobic and unpleasant. It took a lot of getting used to. The actors could only be in those costumes for about half-an-hour, forty minutes max, and then we had to get out of them for a breather. It took twenty minutes to get into the outfit and another



05

twenty minutes to remove it, which caused complications in terms of scheduling.

It took a while to get the technology right on Nute, which progressed as we moved into the second and third films, and what changed mostly was how the mouth moved. In *The Phantom Menace*, I said my lines in real time on set with a microphone and earpiece under the helmet, and the mouth moved. I would then lip-synch to those movements when we re-recorded the dialogue later at Abbey Road Studios. Those sessions were amazing, because by that point John Williams was recording the music down in the orchestra room, so I got to go and meet him and listen to the London Symphony Orchestra play, which was extraordinary.

05 Carson (left) as the ill-fated Lt. Antidar Williams in *The Phantom Menace*.

When we shot *Attack of the Clones* (2002), puppeteers off-set could hear what I was saying and control Nute's mouth in real time using remote controls, but there was always a slight delay so it didn't quite work. For *Revenge of the Sith* (2005) we rehearsed like we were doing a bit of theatre and pre-recorded the lines, then I'd say my lines in real time on set and the mouth would move in sync with the pre-recorded dialogue, so it all looked more realistic.

Did you see a lot of advancement in technology during the course of making those films?

I loved being on set to experience the evolution in filmmaking technology while we were working on the prequels. George Lucas was constantly pushing movie-making boundaries, so there was tech on set that we'd never seen before. This will sound strange, but in those days people didn't have flatscreen televisions. During filming, George had this huge flatscreen monitor, with small screens along the bottom, and they were in color, which was remarkable. If you saw that stuff now it wouldn't seem so advanced, but this was 24 years ago. It was remarkable.

06 Silas Carson as Nute Gunray in *Revenge of the Sith* (2005).



06



THE CARSON CURSE

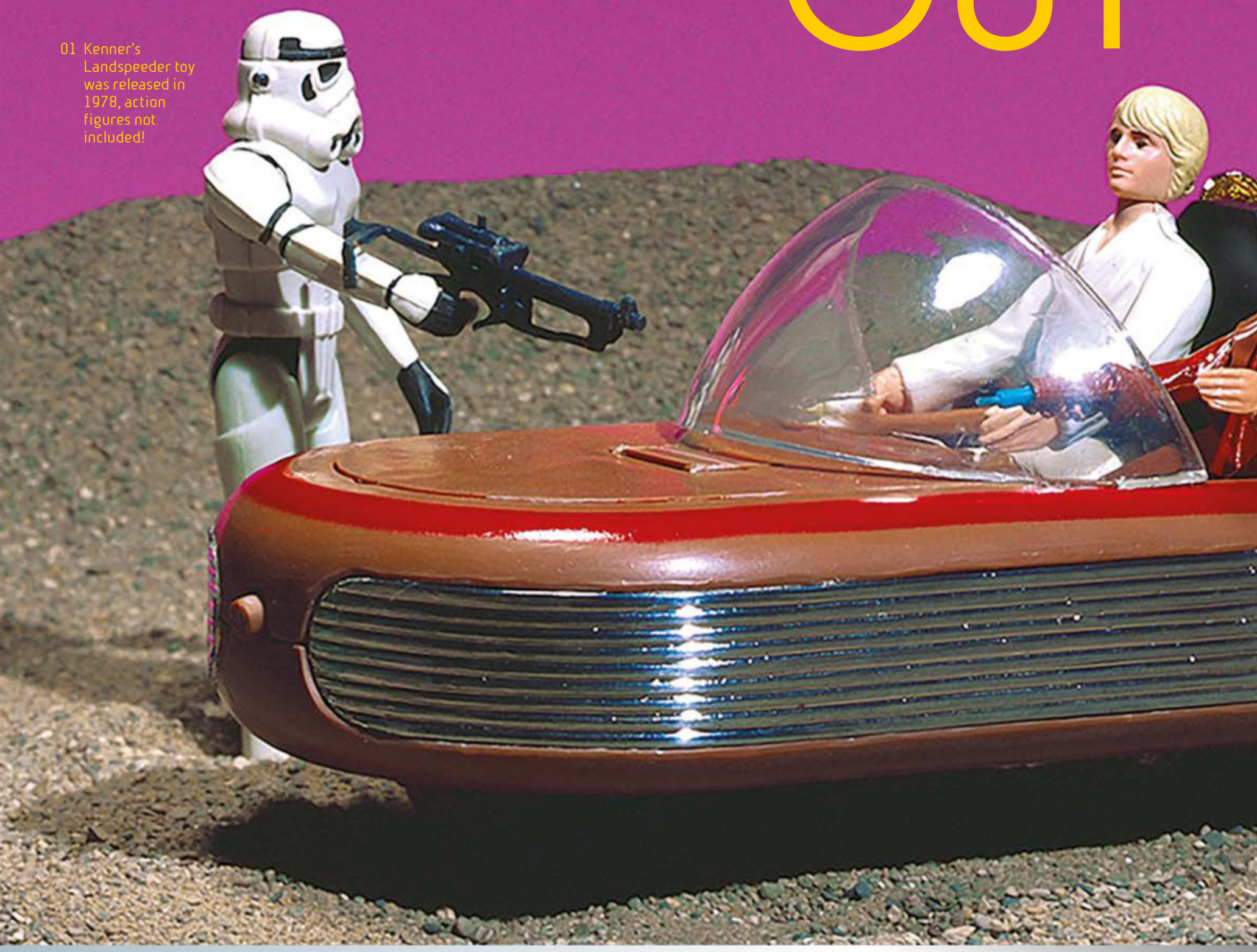
How each of Silas Carson's *Star Wars* characters met their grizzly end:

Lieutenant Antidar Williams
Republic pilot.
Killed in an explosion during a Neimoidian ambush.

Ki-Adi-Mundi
Jedi Master and member of the Jedi Council.
Shot by clone troopers on Mygeeto during Order 66.

Nute Gunray
Viceroy of the Trade Federation and a high-ranking Separatist.
Executed by Darth Vader on Mustafar.

ALL FIGURED OUT

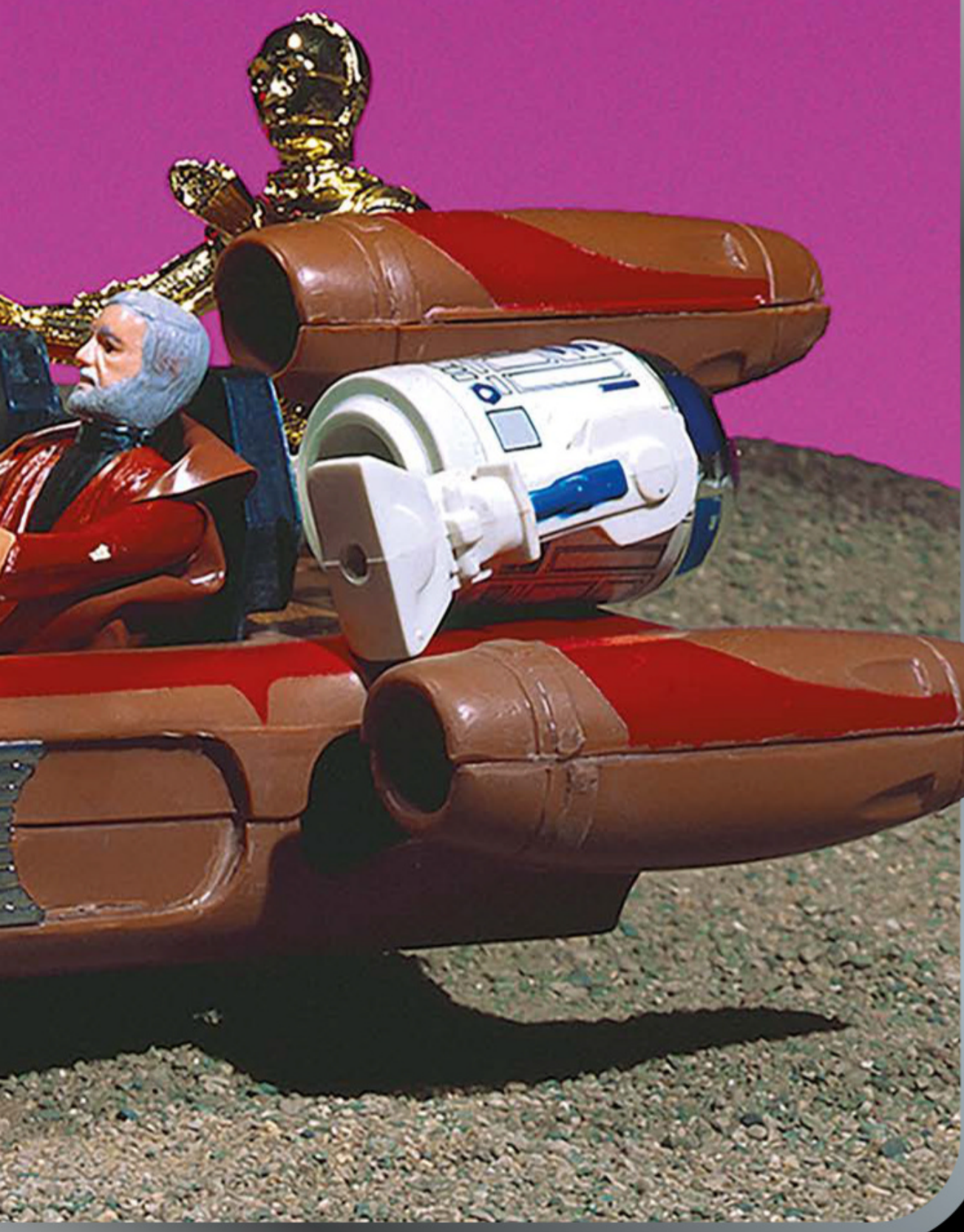


01 Kenner's Landspeeder toy was released in 1978, action figures not included!

Kenner product photographs reprinted with the permission of Kim Simmons.

A long time ago, at a toy company based in Cincinnati, Ohio, a team of talented designers led by Jim Swearingen started work on a line of toys that has become iconic. *Insider* takes you back to when and where it all began.

WORDS: BRANDON WAINERDI

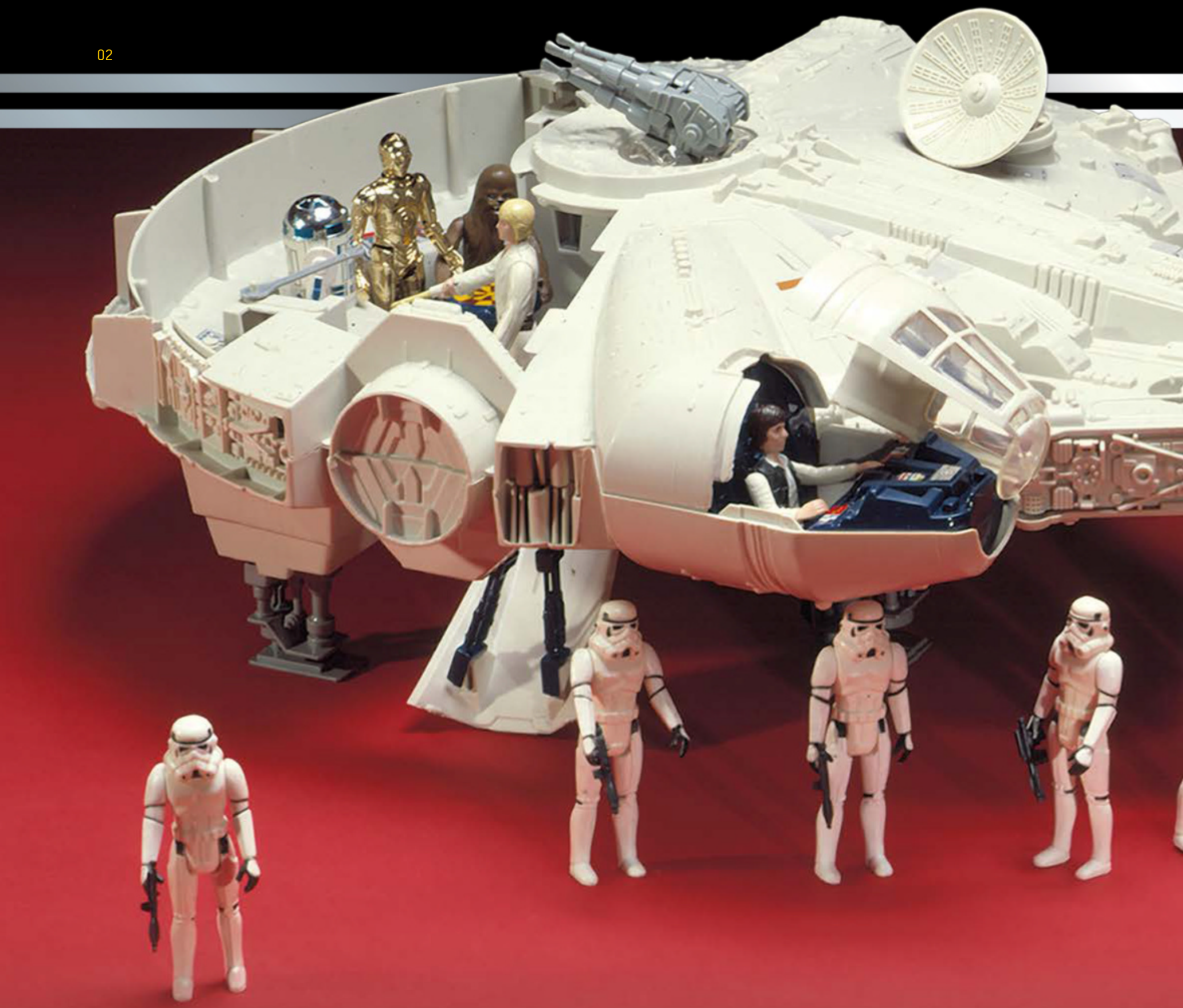


If you've ever grabbed a toy X-wing and imagined it embroiled in a galactic dogfight, in many ways you have a man named Jim Swearingen to thank. As a designer at Kenner Toys in the 1970s, Swearingen helped to bring the company's original line of *Star Wars* toys into being. He is responsible for 11 of those iconic first "12-back" 3 ¾-inch action figures, as well as the initial sculpt of a certain bounty hunter that would later be introduced in ***Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*** (1980).

The master toymaker, who was inducted into the Toy Hall of Fame in 2007, tells *Star Wars Insider* about the early days of the franchise, when it was hard to believe that *anyone* would want an action figure from a galaxy far, far away.

Star Wars Insider: **How did you get into the business of designing toys?**

Jim Swearingen: I grew up as an artsy kid in Cleveland, Ohio, and went to the art museum every Saturday, from five years old until high school. As I got older, my art teacher said that, if I wanted to make a living with my creativity, I should consider doing industrial design. I ended up going to the University of Cincinnati on their co-op program, where I would alternate between 10 weeks of school and 10 weeks of work. As a result, I was able to work at General Motors and Philips Norelco and, eventually, a little company called Rainbow Crafts, which was where Play-Doh was invented. I was able to get my first professional toy experience, right before they were bought by General Mills, which also then purchased Kenner Toys and merged the two companies. ▸



How did you get involved at Kenner Toys? What were your first projects?
My boss at Rainbow Crafts ended up working for Kenner after the merger and wanted me to come and work for him, after I finished school. I started at Kenner in the summer of 1972, continuing to work on Play-Doh, as well as the Spirograph toy.

In 1974, Kenner started the Preliminary Design department, pulling in the designers, model makers, and engineers who they felt were the more creative people at the company. I was lucky to be one of those chosen. They wanted us to come in and invent new things, and they started looking at licensing opportunities. The first big, licensed project that I worked on was *The Six Million Dollar Man* (1974-1978), starting in 1975, along with a team of incredibly talented people. I gave him his bionic eye, which was a telescopic eyepiece that kids could look through, in the back of the figure's head.

Were you much of a science-fiction fan before *The Six Million Dollar Man*?
My first experience with science fiction was the movie *Forbidden Planet* (1956), which actually scared me to death, even

02 The *Millennium Falcon* became a centerpiece of the original Kenner line.

03 The Creature Cantina Action Playset had opening doors, a bar, and a cardboard backdrop.

04 Kenner's TIE Fighter is one of the toy designs Jim Swearingen is most proud of.

"My first experience with science fiction was the movie *Forbidden Planet* (1956), which actually scared me to death."



though afterwards I replayed its storyline in my sandbox, making the monster from the Id's footprints with my palm and a thumb. It stuck with me and inspired a ton of creativity.

Had you seen any of George Lucas' previous movies when the *Star Wars* project was initially brought to Kenner?

I saw *THX 1138* in 1971, when they played it as part of our University of Cincinnati film society. It got stuck in the back of my head, and I registered the name "George Lucas." And then, when *American Graffiti* (1973) came out, there was that same name



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once again, with another cool film. My first brush with *Star Wars* was in November 1976, reading a four-paragraph article tucked away inside *Starlog* magazine. It briefly mentioned that George Lucas and 20th Century Fox were working on some new project called *Star Wars*. Then, in February of 1977 20th Century Fox came and pitched *Star Wars* to Kenner.

The script for the movie and a book of black-and-white stills were sent to the office shortly after that, and Dave Okada, my boss and the VP of preliminary design, came in and said, "Who wants to look at this thing called *Star Wars*?" I was the first one to raise his hand, because I remembered that little blurb in *Starlog*. It was *kismet*. I felt like I was meant to be there at that point.

I took the script home with me that night and read through it all, and the next day I gave it back to David and said, "Go in your office, shut the door for a couple hours, and read this. There is a toy on every page."

What were the biggest challenges in getting behind the *Star Wars* brand so early on?

At that point, all the other toy companies had turned down *Star Wars*. In those days, movies were not great for toys. We usually made toys for TV shows, because they premiered in September, ran through Christmas, and had a long shelf life. Movies could be in theaters for just a few weeks.

Another major issue was that it was marketed as a science-fiction property. In the recent past, Paramount had done a terrible job of licensing their first *Star Trek* products, and toy buyers had decided that sci-fi was dead. And then, of course, we were looking at a movie that was opening in just a couple of months. We knew it would take at least a year to get product manufactured and out the door. However, the Preliminary Design department kept putting together ideas to present to management every week, to show what we could do with *Star Wars*. And, fortunately, they kept tolerating us.

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PROTOTYPING

Jim Swearingen reveals how the infamous missile-firing Boba Fett action figure prototype was originally pieced together.

"I took some 360-degree photographs of the Boba Fett costume during our visit to Lucasfilm, as well as some pictures of the up-close details, and took them back with me to Ohio," Swearingen recalls when asked about the genesis of perhaps the most famous *Star Wars* figure ever made.

"I made that first mock-up of the Boba Fett figure using parts from action figures that already existed, which made the job so much easier! It was basically a C-3PO body, and I carved the first head out of a Darth Vader helmet, as that had the most plastic that I could shape with an X-ACTO knife. Then I sacrificed a Japanese robot from my personal collection for the missile-firing rocket. They used that initial prototype model to display at that year's Toy Fair, as well as for product photography."

We did our first presentation of ideas to 20th Century Fox in March [of 1977], to convince them that Kenner was the right home for the project. David and I went out to California, got off the airplane with giant shipping boxes full of prototypes, which we piled on top of a rented station wagon. And Fox signed off on it.

That April, I went out to Industrial Light & Magic, and the Lucasfilm bungalow at Universal Studios. That's where I met Charlie Lippincott (Lucasfilm's vice president of merchandising) and Carol Titelman, who brought out even more incredible photos and drawings for us. I spent the entire morning going through all of it, and then they said, "Do you want to go and see dailies?" I got to see the cameras and the TIE fighter models, and it was just a magical time.

When we began working on the toys, I'd send faxes to Ben Burtt, asking for certain sound effects. I'd say, "I need a 'pew, pew' and the sound of the *Millennium Falcon*." It was such an exciting time for me, being able to just fall into *Star Wars*.

05 A packaging shot for the X-wing fighter toy.

06 Not seen in *A New Hope*, the Imperial Troop Transporter toy was designed specifically for the Kenner line.

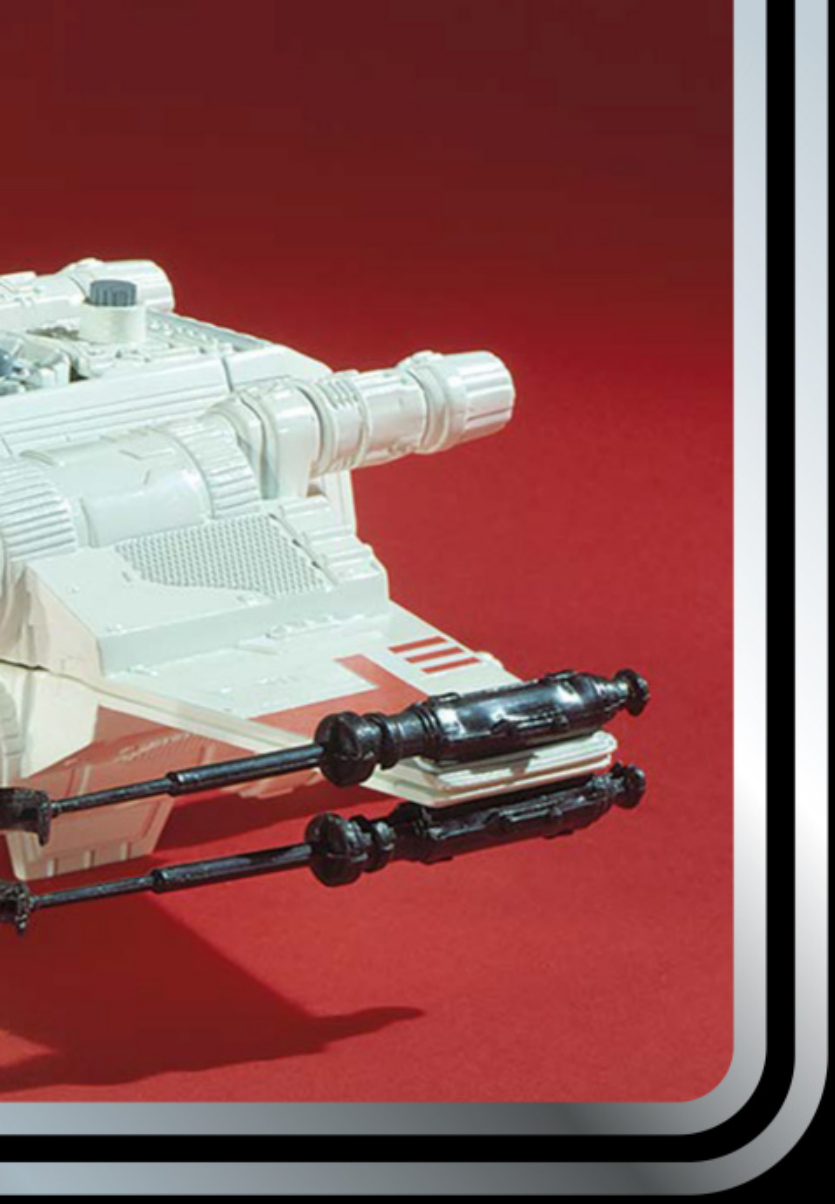
07 Darth Vader's TIE Fighter.

The original *Star Wars* action figures were also some of the first that were scaled at the 3 ¾-inch scale. How much did the playability of the toys factor into that decision?

After reading the script, it was obvious that the vehicles were going to be the heroes of the toy line, for play purposes. The X-wings and TIE fighters were going to be the centerpieces of the collection.

I thought back to my childhood days, and gravitated towards my old Roy Rogers Stagecoach, which, when I was growing up, was my X-wing. I took it over cliffs and through rivers and was able to imagine entire adventures with it. At the time, *The Six Million Dollar Man* and *G.I. Joe* figures were both 12 inches tall, which would make a similarly scaled X-wing end up at nearly 4 feet long, which would have been… impractical! So, we targeted a smaller figure.

In terms of the 3 ¾-inch scale, there are two stories. The first is that the president of Kenner, Bernie Loomis, put his hand up and said, "Make them *this* tall." David Okada then measured that gap and said it was exactly 3 ¾ inches tall. The other story is that, when we



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decided that we needed to mock-up the figures, I was out at a toy store and came across the Fisher-Price Adventure People and, lo and behold, they were 3 ¾ inches tall.

In any case, we needed to mock-up characters, and so I used my X-ACTO knife and body puddy and whipped up a bunch of them. The Kenner model shop helped build R2-D2. The original lightsaber was going to be a monofilament line that would pull out of the hilt, which didn't work very well, but it helped us to get the point across.

The first presentation included basic renderings of 11 characters, just black-and-white pen drawings with colors added with markers. It was here that we put across the idea for the main line, which included Luke, Leia, Han, Ben Kenobi, Darth Vader, a Sand Person, and a stormtrooper.

The original Boba Fett action figure has become one of the most legendary *Star Wars* toys of them all. You must have been among the first people to see the character in the flesh?

It was top secret. George Lucas did not want too many people knowing what was going on.

David and I went out to San Anselmo to see this new character that they wanted us to make a toy out of, and someone came out, dressed in that first Boba Fett costume.

Not only did I get to see this exciting new character, I got to meet George Lucas and have lunch with him and his dog. I sat for an hour with George in his office while David Okada and Gary Kurtz went off somewhere to talk about the business aspects of everything. It was just me and him, talking about the Buck Rogers ray gun he had on display, and his original painting of the "Death Dealer" by Frank Frazetta that he had hanging on his wall—I had the exact same poster in my office, and there he had the real thing!

"See-Threepio is my favorite character because I think he's a little like me: a bit timid about everything but sometimes saves the day."

But it was just two guys talking about nerdy things they loved for an hour. I always say that I should have asked him, "Hey George, you should hire an in-house toy designer to work here at Lucasfilm." But I never did. That's still the one regret that I have!

Which of the figures and toys you designed are you proudest of?

I love them all. They're like my children. See-Threepio is my favorite character because I think he's a little like me: a bit timid about everything but sometimes saves the day.

Because it all happened so early in the history of *Star Wars*, Lucasfilm wasn't really prepared for what a toy company was actually going to need, so we made a lot of the stuff up. All the original drawings were done from that black-and-white book of movie stills that we had received from them, but a lot of the time we didn't have the detail we needed. I'm particularly proud of the final X-wing and TIE fighter vehicles. The end result that arrived on toy store shelves were very close to my original concepts, my original layout drawings and model shots.

It is wonderful to me that so many people grew up playing with these toys, and still cherish those designs. I was just 27 at the time and living the dream. ▸

THE ART OF TOYS

Photographer Kim Simmons on creating classic Kenner *Star Wars* imagery.

WORDS: CHRISTOPHER COOPER

The colorful photographs that graced the packaging of Kenner's original *Star Wars* line for many years were the work of Frankenfield & Associates, a Cincinnati photographic studio established by Roy Frankenfield. Ohio University graduate Kim Simmons joined Frankenfield in 1981, and the two worked together to create the numerous evocative images that made *Star Wars* toys stand out on store shelves across the world. Simmons eventually bought the business from his mentor and continued to photograph *Star Wars* toys for Kenner until 2001.

Star Wars Insider: How did you first become involved with photographing Kenner's *Star Wars* toys?

Kim Simmons: I'd graduated but I still had to complete my thesis and needed a job, so I was showing my portfolio around at different design and photo studios. At the time, Roy Frankenfield was in dire need of help. He gave me a tour of his studio, but to be honest I was more interested in getting a job. I told him I'd work for $75.00 a week sweeping the floors, but that night Roy called and said he'd give me a trial run and pay me $100.00 a week.

I reported to the studio the next day and was immediately told to climb up a ladder as we were shooting a bunch of action figures on a yellow background. I was up about 6 feet or so, looking down at what was eventually to become the Darth Vader Collector Case.

It should be remembered that it was Roy who shot those first iconic photographs everyone loved from the original *Star Wars* packaging, and documenting Roy working on the sets was very important to me. I still needed to complete my thesis, so when I was working on a few different sets I'd ask Roy to come out of his office and pose for photos like he was working on them.

What was the process behind photographing the range?

We would get a toy from Kenner, usually a hard copy or first shot, and a verbal brief of the angles and detail they were looking for. We'd go back to the studio and shoot 35mm black and white negatives (and later Polaroids), then create a contact sheet of those images to send back to the designer. They needed images that were as close as possible to what the final image would be so they could begin working out a packaging layout.

We were always given a brief that told us what they needed to convey—what the toy was capable of, how it worked, and most of all how a figure would fit inside. It was about teaching kids the basics of playing with that specific toy.

As the packaging evolved from having primary-colored backgrounds to more complex setups, they'd ask me to create them. Backgrounds like the scene on the speeder bike packaging was a day's work, including building the set and shooting it. It could become somewhat expensive, and with the advent of Photoshop, movie stills were used as backgrounds for the *Power of the Force 2* and *The Phantom Menace* (1999) lines.



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08 Roy Frankenfield adding final touches to the Snowspeeder set, ready for photographing by Kim Simmons.

09 The Hoth Battle scene Point of Purchase display, created by Kim Simmons.

10 Kim Simmons carefully rigging vehicles for the Hoth Battle scene.

"The perfect image would show all the ways a toy could be played with, but no single image could really do that."



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What makes for the perfect image to represent a product?
The perfect image would show all the ways a toy could be played with, but no single image could really do that. That's why we would shoot multiple images from different angles and positions, so that each package could show the best of what the toy was capable of. Our images showed the play value in the different toys and gave a child an idea as to where and how the toys could be played with, and then the children's imaginations would take it from there.

Your *Star Wars* images are remembered as fondly as the toys themselves. Why do you think that is?
They appeal to a vast number of people, young and old. I was sitting at my table at a toy show convention and a young family came by to look at what I had to offer. The young son, no more than 6 years old, wanted to look at the books of photos I was selling. He stood there for over an hour, slowly going over each page, examining each image. When he'd finished, before his mother dragged him off to another booth, he told me he'd loved the pictures. That exemplifies in my mind that the images Roy and I created are timeless.

Which potential Padawans were really ready to train in the ways of the Force, and why might they not have been? *Insider* examines the Force trainees for whom this decision had broader consequences for the *Star Wars* galaxy, and the reasons that their masters took them on.

WORDS: RICHARD DINNICK

Given the galactic upheaval caused by some who had been trained in the Jedi arts before taking a different path, it's worth asking the question: should they have been given the opportunity in the first place? Did they possess the requisite characteristics, temperament, and skill to undergo the rigors of training? And were members of the Jedi Council mistaken in accepting some of those potential Padawans into their Order?

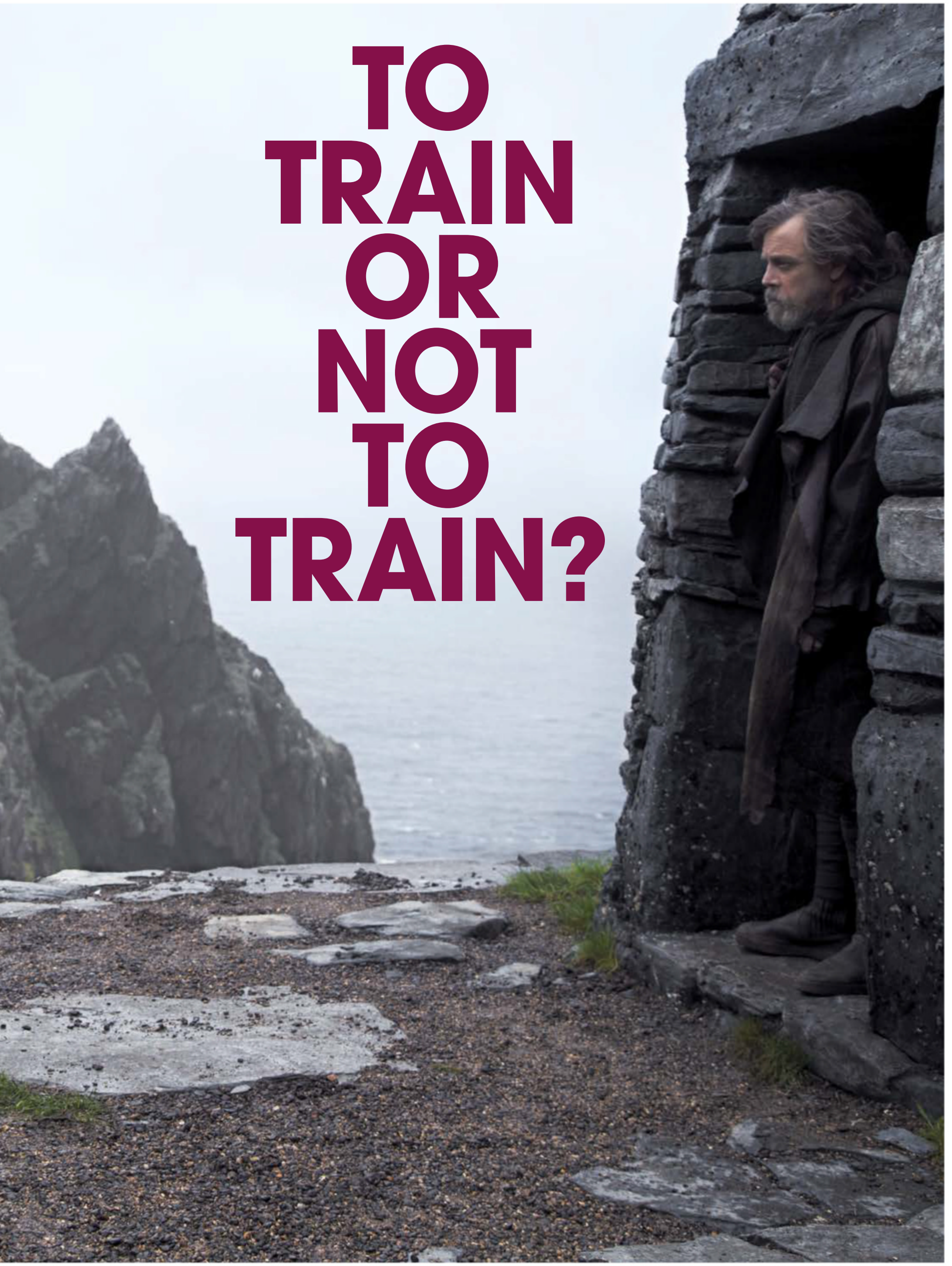
One objection raised about the suitability of a person did not concern an individual's character, but their age: the belief that to give oneself fully to the Force—at least according to the traditions of the Jedi—you needed to be very young. Certainly, during the period that led up to the fall of the Republic and the issuing of Order 66, it seemed to be the case that all younglings were below the age Anakin Skywalker had been when Qui-Gon Jinn found him on Tatooine.

Back then, most Jedi began their training as initiates at a similar age, as ▸

01 Rey's urgent entreaty to train as a Jedi was initially denied by Luke Skywalker.



TO TRAIN OR NOT TO TRAIN?



02 Members of the Jedi council, including Mace Windu and Yoda, denied Anakin Skywalker the chance to train as a Jedi.

03 Younglings tended to be of a similar age when they began their training.

an infant or very young child, as part of a clan with several masters instructing them. In this way the initial training offered a similar experience to every youngling. The necessity that those would-be Knights were so young was to ensure they would find it easier to adjust to another benchmark of the Jedi Code—the edict that they become detached from personal relationships and find companionship in the Force alone.

It was only once a youngling was chosen by a master to become their Padawan that more intimate training could begin, and a far deeper affinity often formed. This may have been because at this stage a Padawan's training became



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more personal, a unique reflection of both master and apprentice, which by its nature would have varied quite considerably from master to master, and from Padawan to Padawan. In short, in place of a blood family the bond between master and apprentice could become as close as the familial ties that were denied by the Jedi Code. Indeed, Anakin Skywalker would once admit that Obi-Wan Kenobi was the closest thing he had to a father.

That connection saw some Jedi Masters almost dote on their Padawan learner—especially as the time came for them to undertake the Jedi Trials. We saw this with Qui-Gon Jinn and Obi-Wan Kenobi, Obi-Wan and Anakin Skywalker, and Anakin with young Ahsoka Tano.

04 Anakin Skywalker in his Padawan robes.

05 Obi-Wan Kenobi undertook the mentorship of Anakin following the Battle of Naboo.



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The Right Choice

Qui-Gon Jinn was a very highly regarded member of the Jedi Order—and was even offered a seat on the Jedi Council. The fact that he refused the honor was testament to his unorthodox nature, partly engendered by the training of Dooku, who certainly took pride in how much of a maverick his apprentice became.

Jinn followed his own path and was more concerned with the will of the living Force than he was the edicts of the



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"Qui-Gon was determined to see Anakin trained in the ways of the Jedi and was prepared to do it himself if the Council didn't agree."



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Council. His rebellious streak was highlighted by his decision to take Anakin Skywalker to Coruscant, believing him to be the Chosen One spoken of in prophecy, after discovering his incredibly high midi-chlorian count. Qui-Gon was determined to see Anakin trained in the ways of the Jedi and was prepared to do it himself if the Council didn't agree, despite already having Obi-Wan Kenobi as a Padawan. Certain that Anakin would ultimately restore balance to the Force, a dying Jinn placed the burden of training the boy on Kenobi, who



was close to completing the trials to become a Jedi Knight himself. This raised two questions: Whether or not it was the correct decision to train Anakin, and did the task fall upon the best person for the job?

Perhaps it was rash of Obi-Wan to agree to Qui-Gon's dying wish—and Yoda was definitely against the idea—but the Council decreed that Anakin would become the young Jedi's apprentice. Years later, Kenobi confessed to Anakin's son, Luke, that he'd mistakenly believed he could instruct his Padawan as well as Master Yoda. "I was wrong," he admitted. Troubled as he was by Anakin's eventual fall to the dark side and his failure in not being able to help his friend, perhaps Yoda's opinion had weighed upon Kenobi. But was Obi-Wan's true failure in framing later events from that point of view? The Force moves in mysterious ways, often obscure to even the greatest of Jedi Masters. For if Yoda had had his way and Anakin been sent packing to Tatooine, then Palpatine might never have been defeated. No Padawan Anakin would have meant no conflicted Darth Vader, and no Luke or Leia either. The prospect of balance being returned to the Force could have remained a prophecy unfulfilled.



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A Code to Live By

The Jedi Council appeared to have become quite rigid in their decision making right before the Republic fell and Palpatine declared himself Emperor, and their attitude was exemplified by Mace Windu, who had objected to allowing Anakin to train as a Jedi, refusing to agree with Qui-Gon's view regarding the Chosen One prophecy. Later, Windu refused to grant Anakin the status of Jedi Master, and found it difficult to believe the younger man's revelation that Palpatine was secretly a Sith Lord. This longstanding mistrust of Anakin, and by association the prophecy, could be seen as a personal weakness. It suggests that the Jedi Order relied more on adherence to orthodoxy rather than being open to the cosmic Force and different perspectives. Although it could be argued that subsequent events meant the Jedi Council's decision to train Anakin resulted in failure, as Luke Skywalker would learn from Master Yoda decades after the Jedi had become one with the Force: failure is a great teacher. ▸

06 Mace Windu's constant mistrust of Anakin may have unwittingly helped fuel the Jedi's fall to the dark side.

07 When Skywalker revealed to Windu his knowledge that Palpatine was a secret Sith Lord, the Jedi Master's doubts about the younger man proved pivotal.



LEAVING THE ORDER

To be considered worthy of joining the Jedi Order is one thing, but what if a Jedi decides that Order is not worthy of their continued membership?

Ahsoka Tano was forced to ask herself that very question after being accused, falsely, of conspiring to bomb the Jedi Temple on Coruscant. Despite Anakin Skywalker discovering Ahsoka's friend and fellow Jedi Barriss Offee was behind the heinous act, thereby exonerating his former Padawan in the eyes of the Jedi Council, a disillusioned Tano chose to leave the Order and become an outcast.



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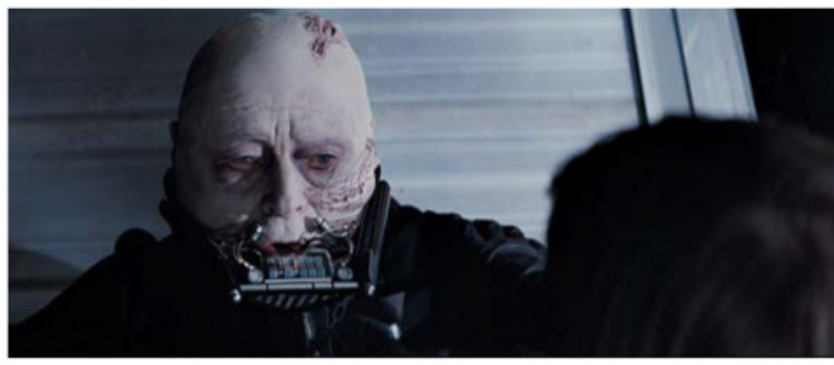
"Luke displayed how unready he was to become a Jedi through his fear for his friends. Yet that empathy was what made Luke a hero, and eventually a better Jedi."

Which brings us to Luke, with Obi-Wan Kenobi once again imploring a reluctant Yoda to take on a Skywalker as a Padawan. Perhaps Yoda was merely testing Luke's resolve in questioning his age as an obstacle, but one thing was certain—both Obi-Wan and Yoda knew they had no other option. The boy from Tatooine had to be trained.

One immutable fact had, of course, made it impossible for Luke to be trained any sooner—the dominance of the Empire from the moment he'd been born, and the danger that such training would have alerted both the Emperor and his father to his existence (not to mention that of Yoda and Kenobi!).

But Luke's age was a problem. He had formed attachments, with Leia Organa, Han Solo, and even a pair of droids. He had a mission, to assist the Rebel Alliance in overthrowing the Empire. And he had experienced great loss, with the murder of his aunt and uncle and the death of his mentor. Under the rules of the old Jedi Order, with all that baggage he should have been out of the picture. Despite Yoda's declaration that he shouldn't, Luke rushed to Cloud City and an inevitable confrontation with Vader, despite a warning that such action could destroy all that which his friends had fought for. In that moment, Luke displayed how unready he was to become a Jedi through his fear for his friends. Yet that empathy was what made Luke a hero, and eventually a better Jedi.

One aspect of Luke's training we never saw were his Jedi Trails, unless maybe we did? When they met in Cloud City's carbon freezing chamber, Darth Vader praised Luke for controlling his fear, but it was his ability to reject anger and the darkness that comes with it that won the day during their next encounter on the second Death Star, where Luke refused to succumb to Palpatine's exhortations to strike down his father. This could be interpreted as Luke's final trial in his journey to becoming a Jedi, and he passed with flying colors. Anakin was redeemed and balance achieved. But even a master has more to learn, and lessons to teach.



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08 Luke Skywalker accepted Obi-Wan Kenobi's offer to train in the ways of the Force after his aunt and uncle were killed by the Empire.

09 Luke's battle with the Emperor on the second Death Star led to the redemption of his father, Anakin.



10 Yoda was as reluctant to train Luke as he had been to train Anakin, but he relented after Obi-Wan reminded him of their desperate situation.



"Luke understood that training Rey was a necessity—a last hope."

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11 Disillusioned by Ben Solo's turn to the dark side while under his training, Luke Skywalker was at first reticent about taking on Rey as a student of the Force.

The Force Awakens

In the years following the establishment of the New Republic, Luke Skywalker set about rebuilding the Jedi Order. In addition to other younglings, he also trained his nephew, Ben Solo, and his sister. Leia was probably the oldest of all the students of the Force we have encountered, but her age mattered not.

Although Leia abandoned her Jedi training when she became pregnant with Ben, she evidently learned enough from Luke to use the Force effectively. Able to sense others over great distances, she was even strong enough to utilize its power to survive for a short time in the vacuum of space. Furthermore, there can be little argument that it was right for Luke to have trained Leia, even without her becoming a fully fledged Jedi, as through her connection with the Force she was able to reach out across the galaxy to redeem her lost son.

In fact, Luke seemed to have a habit of taking on older students. Although Grogu had been a youngling at the Jedi Temple when Order 66 had been initiated, he escaped and remained alone, receiving no training in the Jedi arts for years. Despite this, Luke offered Grogu the opportunity to join his new academy, although the foundling turned down the offer in favor of his Mandalorian clan.

Given his own experience, Luke did not appear to see age as a barrier to Jedi training, although later in life he had other reasons for rejecting a potential Jedi. Skywalker never mentioned Rey's age when she arrived on Ahch-To demanding to be trained, but instead cited the failure of his own Jedi temple and the hubris of the generation of Jedi that preceded him as reason enough, but was there more to it? Was he already aware of Rey's lineage as a Palpatine, and if so should that have tempered his eventual decision to train her?

Despite Uncle Owen fearing there was too much of his father in him, Luke did not turn to evil as Anakin had. The same was true of Rey, and it's unlikely Luke believed in the idea of an inherited destiny. As with Obi-Wan and Yoda before him, Luke understood that training Rey was a necessity—a last hope. Indeed, it is fascinating to consider how training in the Jedi arts for some people was a "necessity" for the galaxy, especially when one thinks about those whose unquestioned acceptance by the Jedi Order followed all the rules and regulations, yet they still fell to the dark side, like Count Dooku.

Although they served the Jedi well over the millennia, those rules were rigid and inflexible. They posed questions such as "is this person too old," or "is this person too fearful," and only seemed to accept binary answers whereas life is more nuanced.

So, when asking the question "to train or not to train," we must understand that not everything in the galaxy far, far away is simply black and white, and exceptions can be made. Indeed, as Obi-Wan Kenobi once said: only a Sith deals in absolutes.

12 Luke began training his sister, Leia, not long after the fall of the Empire.



12



It's Wreckin' Time!

Win *The Bad Batch* Wrecker 1/7 scale model from Kotobukiya

***The Bad Batch* (2021-present) is on its way back to Disney+, and the team of ex-clone troopers will need all of their skills to survive as the Empire tightens its grip on the galaxy. To celebrate, *Insider* has teamed up with our friends at Kotobukiya to give away one Wrecker 1/7 scale model kit to three lucky readers.**

Wrecker stands out among the Bad Batch, not least because he towers above his comrades due to his genetic mutations added by Kaminoan cloners, but he isn't just the muscle of the operation. Loyal to his friends, with a unique sense of humor and a kind heart, Wrecker is one clone you wouldn't want to get on the wrong side of. Kotobukiya's detailed Wrecker 1/7 scale snap-fix model kit features his iconic fanged skull design and unit number on the helmet's brow. An interchangeable head part without the helmet is also included.

Founded in 1953, Kotobukiya has a long history of providing the highest quality collectibles to fans throughout the world, including an extensive range of *Star Wars* characters.

To be in with a chance of winning one of these fantastic Kotobukiya Wrecker model kits, just send us the correct answer to the following tricky *Star Wars* trivia question:

What was the name that Wrecker gave to his stuffed tooka doll?

A) Lola
B) Leela
C) Lula

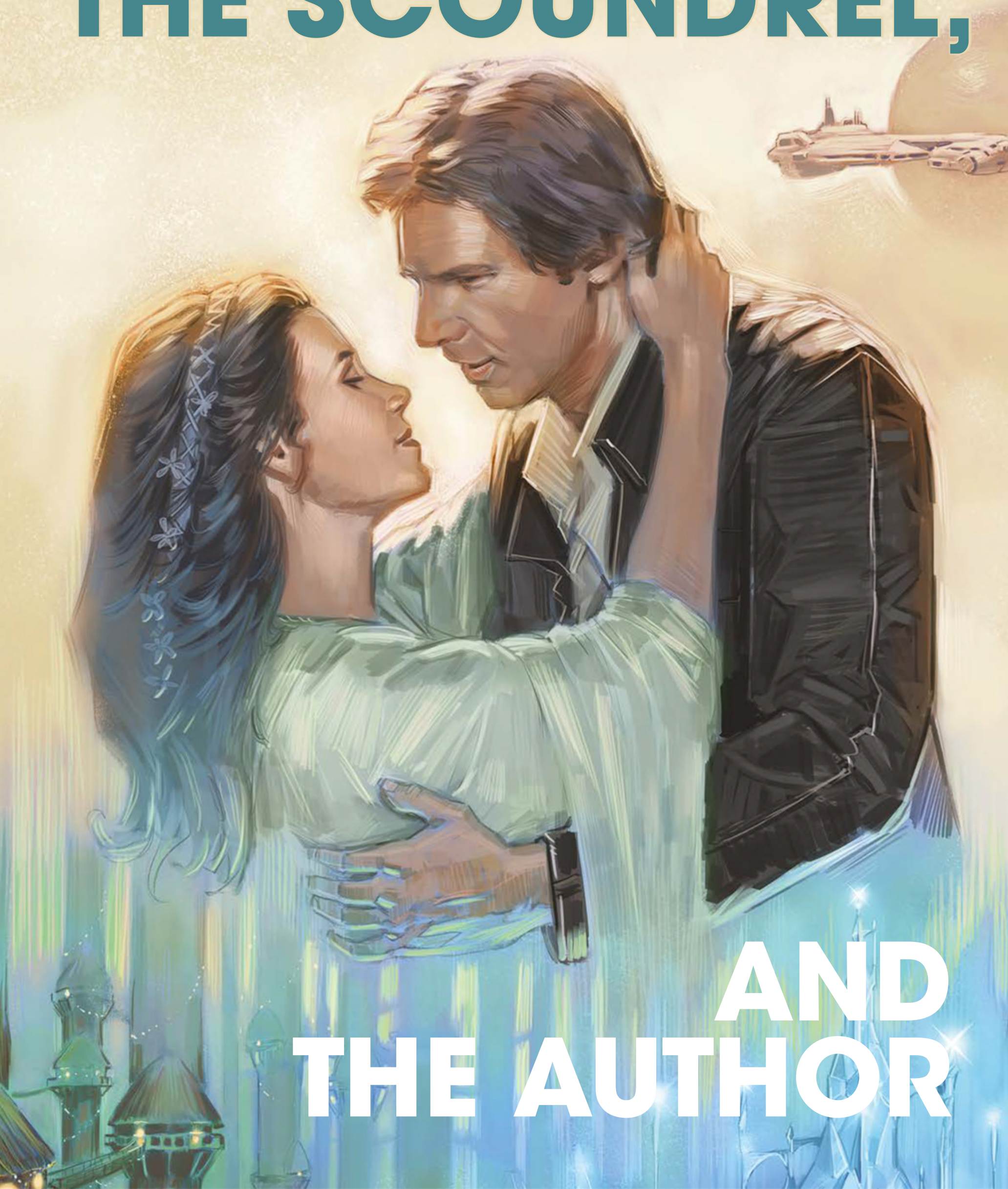
Send your entry marked "WRECKIN' TIME!" via email to **insidercomp@titanemail.com** (or by mail to the address printed on page 3) by January 5, 2023. Remember to include your mailing address. Terms and conditions are available at titan-comics.com.

May the Force be with you!

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THE PRINCESS, THE SCOUNDREL, AND THE AUTHOR



Star Wars Insider speaks to Beth Revis, author of *The Princess and the Scoundrel*, the new novel from Del Rey that follows Leia Organa and Han Solo's first star-crossed adventure together after *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi*.

WORDS: BRANDON WAINERDI

Beth Revis is no stranger to the worlds of *Star Wars*, but this year the author faced her greatest galactic challenge yet—telling the story of Princess Leia and Han Solo's wedding and eventful honeymoon. *The Princess and the Scoundrel* takes the newlyweds from an Ewok-filled marriage ceremony on Endor to the sleek hallways of the Starship *Halcyon*, known to fans as the setting of the new *Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser* experience in Orlando, Florida. *Insider* asked Revis what it was like to be charged with planning the wedding of the century.



"Claudia Gray's *Bloodline* is one of my favorite books of all time. I had that novel as the end goal of where Leia was going to end up, in terms of her attitude towards Anakin and Vader"

Star Wars Insider: How did you get into the mindsets of both Han and Leia, as they were immediately after the events of *Return of the Jedi* (1983)?

Beth Revis: The research I had to do for *The Princess and the Scoundrel* was just the best possible research *ever*. All I did was rewatch the original trilogy, back-to-back-to-back, for several weeks straight. It was fantastic. But every time I watched it, I watched it for different things. For instance, I would watch the trilogy once and would only look at what Han was doing. Then I would start over again, and I would only observe Leia.

I knew that this book was going to pick up immediately after *Jedi*. But what really surprised me was how much I relied on *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) to inform the writing of these characters. When Han is frozen in carbonite, there's a time leap of about a year, so his mentality is still in *Empire*, whereas Leia has had time to grow and think. I really had to blend those two movies strongly in my mind and understand that Leia was coming from a different point in time to Han. Once that clicked, it was easier to understand them both as characters moving past *Return of the Jedi*.

The real question is, how difficult was it to write new banter between Han and Leia?

I wrote most of that on my couch, with my husband on the chair across from me. So, whenever Han and Leia would talk back and forth, I would just start feeding him lines. It was like I was writing a script for us to play with. He was my Han Solo, and we kept bantering until we got it right.

The book connects closely with Disney World's *Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser* experience. Did you work with Walt Disney Imagineering to help define your depiction of the *Halcyon* starship?

I actually had the whole draft written *before* the first guests were allowed onto the starcruiser, which made it even more intimidating. Fortunately, I had time to make edits, so, if you were somebody who put anything on YouTube about *Galactic Starcruiser* in those first three weeks, I probably watched it multiple times.

When I was researching the novel, it was incredibly cool to have access to all the background information, including all the development files and concept art. I was blown away by the attention to detail that Imagineering had put into everything: each scuffmark on the wall had a backstory. It was also incredibly intimidating because I wasn't actually there to see the real thing. I remember being under the impression that the floors were going to be tiled in the engineering room, so I wrote this whole thing about hearing boots on the tiles until the Imagineering team told me the deck was going to be all metal grate!

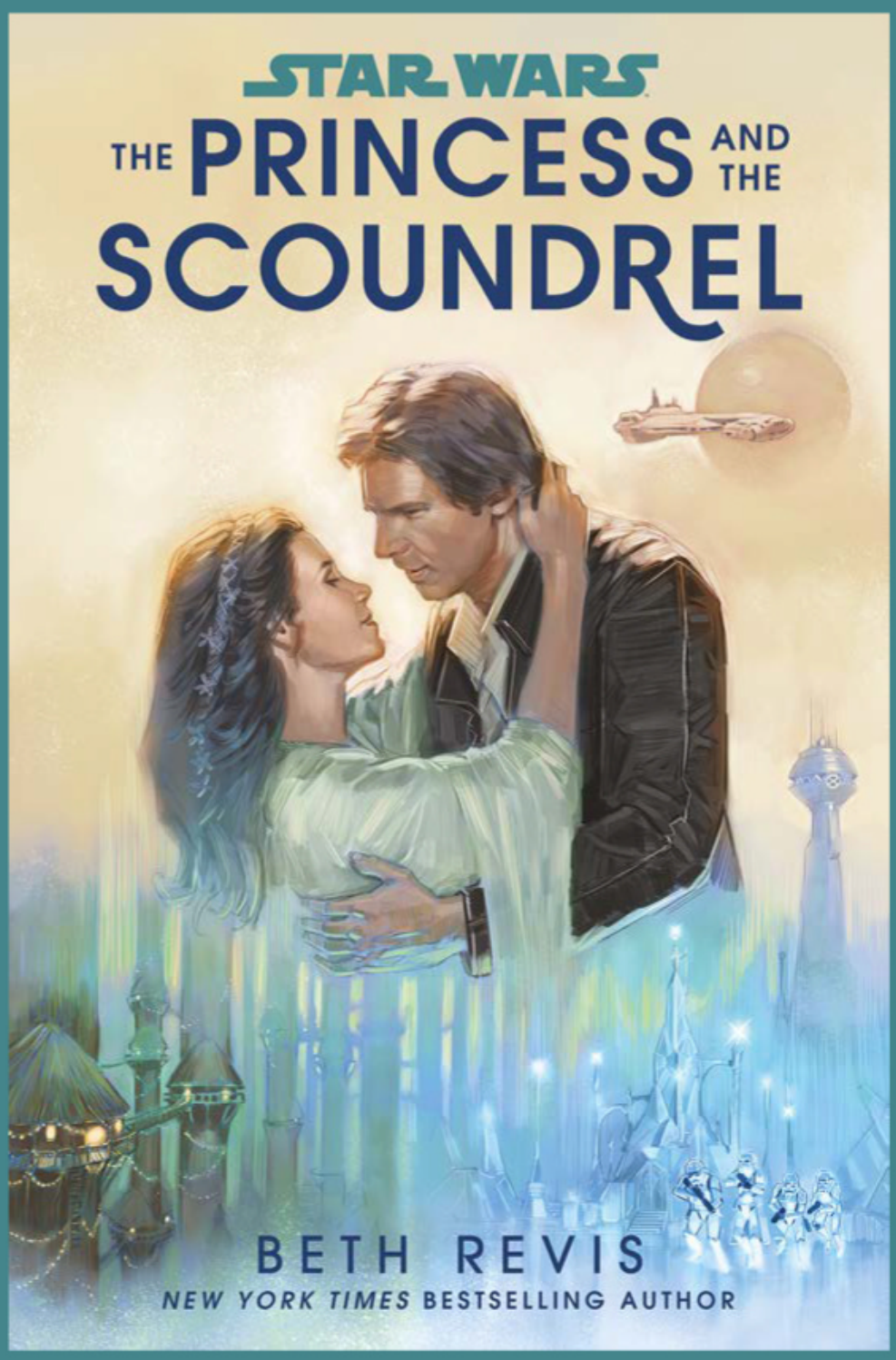
One of the most fascinating aspects of the novel deals with Leia coming to terms with Darth Vader being her father. How did you approach that?
It helped that Claudia Gray's *Bloodline* is one of my favorite books of all time. I had that novel as the end goal of where Leia was going to end up, in terms of her attitude towards Anakin and Vader.

In a lot of ways, it reminded me of writing *Rebel Rising*. I knew that *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (2016) was going to show Jyn Erso both as a child and as an adult, but my book was a bridge between the two during her teenage years. How did she become the person in the movie, from where she started? That's how I approached writing Leia for this book, as well. I knew who she was in the original trilogy, and I knew how she was going to end up in the sequel trilogy. But, on an emotional level, how did she get from one point to the other? Of course, it's not the complete bridge, but it is the first few steps. And I had to make sure that it had heart.

"I always start a *Star Wars* project from the perspective of being a fan."



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01 *The Princess and the Scoundrel* Cover art by Oliver Cuthbertson.

02 Beth Revis' *Star Wars* debut, *Rebel Rising*. Cover art by Brian Rood.

This book draws from previous books and comics, like *Shattered Empire*, *Crimson Reign*, and many more. How did you make sure that your story was its own thing but also tied in with those stories that had come before?
Again, I always start a *Star Wars* project from the perspective of being a fan, from loving the stories that are already there, and then my nerdiness takes over. For this book, it was almost like seeing the different puzzle pieces, and figuring out ways to fit them together.

I didn't want to reinvent the wheel, but I wanted references to sit within the story. Some of them, of course, are tiny references that most people won't recognize. I lived off a preemptive high while writing, and I hope people will notice these details and piece them all together.



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The wedding, and its associated festivities (including Han's bachelor party thrown by Lando Calrissian), is *incredible*. What were the most important elements to you?

I wanted to show that both Han and Leia were on a different path in the lead up to the wedding. For Han, it was a joyous, boisterous, chaotic party. Anything that could go wrong, went wrong, and I wanted to make the bachelor party be a source of fun and hilarity. At the same time, I wanted to share that Leia was going in a very different direction. While Han is surrounded by all his friends, Leia is by herself, having an emotional reaction to all these things that have transpired.

I wanted to emphasize that they were two very different people that are both, ultimately, walking towards each other.

03 Beth Revis drew heavily on Han and Leia's relationship in *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) when writing *The Princess and the Scoundrel*.

That was the end goal for me: to show that they are different people who come from different backgrounds. They are cognizant that this might not work, but they see the joy that they have in front of them right now. And they are going to take it and seize every moment of it. I wanted to show how different Han and Leia are, but how they still choose each other.

Was there a challenge in writing a love story when we know that darker times lay ahead for this couple?

The rings were the one thing that got rewritten and redone the most. They went through a lot of different iterations: at one point they were going to be rings made from the spare parts of the *Millennium Falcon*, or a part of R2-D2 and C-3PO that they donated. It took a lot of time to figure that part out, but when I ▸

BETH REVIS' *STAR WARS* STORIES

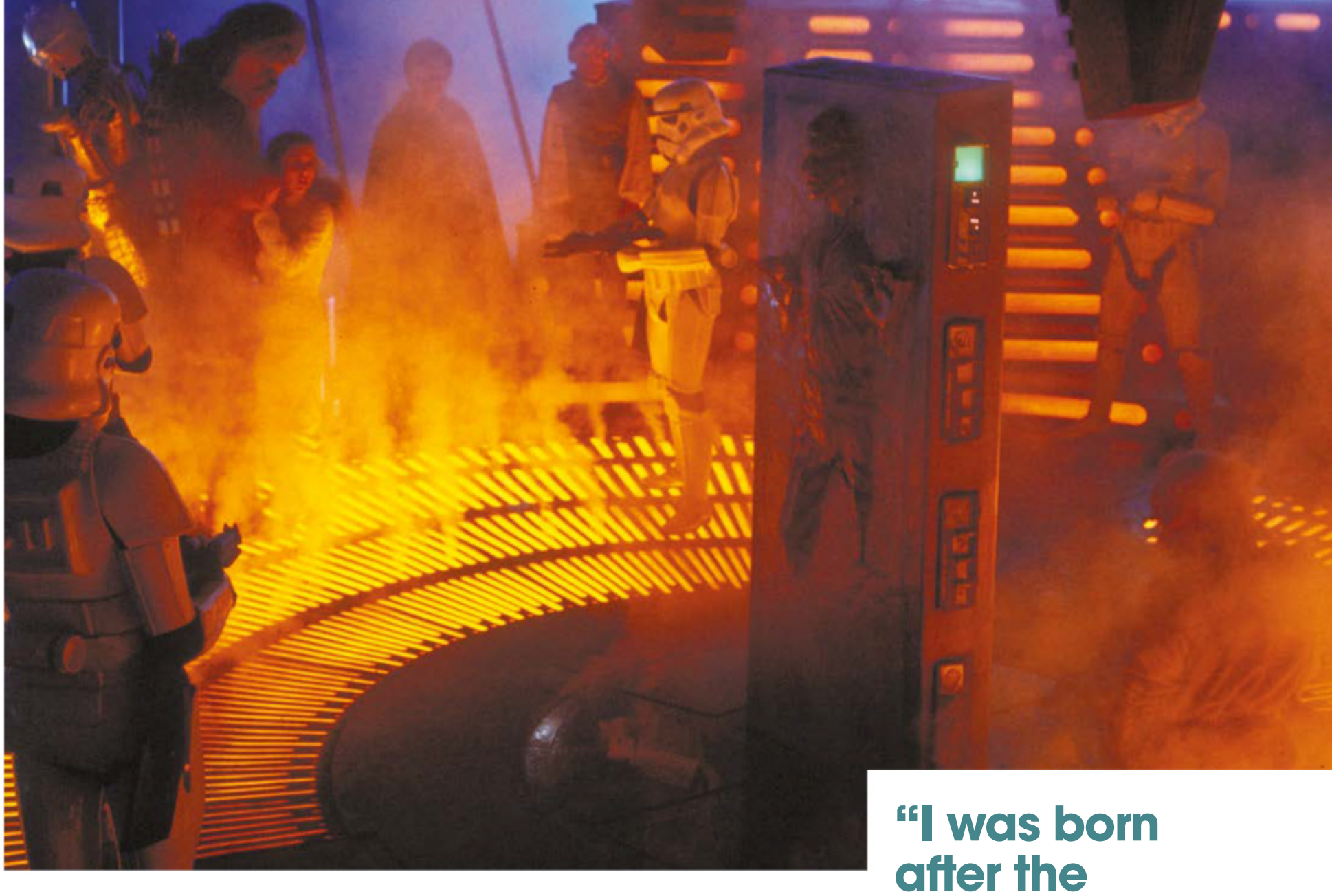
Rebel Rising
Disney Lucasfilm Press
First Published: May 2, 2017

"Fully Operational" From A Certain Point Of View
Del Rey
First Published: October 3, 2017

Forces Of Destiny
IDW Publishing
First Published: January 24, 2018

"For The Last Time" From A Certain Point Of View: The Empire Strikes Back
Del Rey
First Published: November 10, 2020

The Princess and The Scoundrel
Del Rey
First Published: August 16, 2022



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settled on Endor as the "home" of these rings, everything fell into place.

Endor is very organic. Everything organic will eventually fall apart and dissolve into chaos and break. That became the idea of where the rings would come from, and where they would end up. As soon as those rings go around their fingers, you know what's going to happen to them. We've all seen the sequel trilogy. But it was still important for them to be beautiful in the time that they were there. And to recognize the beauty, power, and symbolism of what happened. In that moment, they had each other.

What was your first experience with the *Star Wars* saga?

Some of my earliest childhood memories are *Star Wars*-related. When I was growing up, I had extremely long hair, and I braided it into Princess Leia buns as soon as I was able to do so. I even have a brother named Luke! We had these PVC pipes that we would pretend were lightsabers, and we would go into the backyard and whack each other with them. It became my childhood, really.

What other types of art or film did you gravitate towards early on?

I was a true child of the 1980s and early '90s. Saturday morning cartoons were a sacred ritual with *X-Men: The Animated Series* (1992-1997) and *She-Ra: Princess of Power* (1985-1987). It was a great time to grow up. My father never really liked *Star Wars*, but he loved *Star Trek*, and really latched on to the character of Picard. And so, I got both sides of the fandom: I watched *Star Wars* with my brother and *Star Trek* with my dad. It was great.

As a kid, my interests were a very private experience, simply because I didn't know many people who liked the same things as me. I had one friend, who is actually credited in the acknowledgments of *The Princess and the Scoundrel*, that I would swap books with back and forth. It was just Jennifer and me on the bus, trading copies of the *Young Jedi Knights* series.

However, once I went to college, and once I went on the internet, I realized there was a huge fanbase out there. There is

04 Not even being frozen in carbonite could stand in the way of true love.

"I was born after the original films came out, so I've never known a life without *Star Wars*."



something to be said for enjoying things by yourself but, when your passions lead you to a *community*, it becomes much more joyous.

That feeling and experience led directly to my writing; I would try to translate the things I loved into my own work. I was not necessarily trying to copy the characters and the stories but trying to emulate the emotions that I felt around me.

How did you transition from that into being a professional writer?
Books were always my safe space. I wanted to be a writer, but I didn't know if I could actually cut it. I wrote my first novel when I was a sophomore in college, and promptly I decided that I wanted to make it big. I wanted to send it to an agent, and I wanted to get a really big book deal.

So, I sent it out and was roundly rejected. I repeated that process with a book a year for 10 years. And all of them were rejected. I racked up about a thousand rejections from literary agents, magazines, publishers.

I finally got my eleventh book accepted, in my eleventh year of trying. It was called *Across the Universe* and it was a science-fiction book. That was the one that changed everything for me.

Across the Universe enabled me to become a full-time writer, and really focus on my career. But writing for *Star Wars* was still just a pie-in-the-sky dream. That was something for real authors, and I still didn't feel quite "real."

I remember when Lucasfilm approached my agent, she rang me up to tell me the news. She said, "You like *Star Wars*, right?" And I started shaking. When she told me what the project was (the book that would eventually become the *Rogue One* tie-in novel, *Rebel Rising*), I screamed for half an hour. I scared the dog. Eventually I managed to get out, "Yes, I would love to do it." And the rest was history.



05 Leia and Han's happy ending in *Return of the Jedi* (1983).

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06 Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher) and Han Solo (Harrison Ford) enter the Imperial bunker in *Return of the Jedi*.

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Has writing *Star Wars* stories changed how you feel about the saga in any way?
In a lot of ways, it was eye-opening: *Star Wars* wasn't just mine. It's easy to become possessive of something you love that much. I felt very possessive about *Star Wars*.

It was an interesting experience to take something that is so deeply loved and a part of my whole life and turn it into something new. I was born after the original films came out, so I've never known a life without *Star Wars*. The more I've worked within the worlds of *Star Wars*, the more my eyes have been opened to how *Star Wars* is for everyone. In some ways, that has added a lot more pressure to the process because now I'm like, "Oh, no. If I mess this up, I mess this up for the entire galaxy!"

STAR WARS OBI-WAN KENOBI

COMPANION

Set between the prequel and original *Star Wars* trilogies, the Disney+ limited series *Obi-Wan Kenobi* followed the lost Jedi as he risked all in a dangerous quest across the galaxy. *Insider*'s series companion revisits the key moments in this epic story.

WORDS: CHRISTOPHER COOPER
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: TARA BENNETT

The Jedi we met in the first episode of *Obi-Wan Kenobi* (2022) was a man far removed from the heroic Clone Wars general of old, a shadow of his former self, less connected to the Force, and emotionally damaged by the events of *Revenge of the Sith* (2005). This "Ben" Kenobi was also barely recognizable as the man he would become by the events of *A New Hope* (1977): a wise teacher at ease with his destiny and the will of the Force. How Obi-Wan made that transition was the question at the heart of the series, which saw Ewan McGregor reprise his role as the lost Jedi.

Aside from a line reading or two for the sequel trilogy films, McGregor had moved on from playing Kenobi upon completion of the prequel trilogy. However, *Star Wars* remained an ever-present constant in the actor's orbit that would reappear through tireless press and fan questions asking if he would ever be tempted to return to the role.

"At the end of every interview I ever did, for years, I was asked two things; would I do the sequel to *Trainspotting* (1996), and would I ever play Obi-Wan Kenobi again?" McGregor told *Star Wars Insider* during the international press tour for the series. "I just started answering it honestly, as I was becoming more aware of the fondness that the generation we made the prequels for have for those films. That meant a lot to me, and it's one of the reasons why I wanted to do this again. Fans of *Star Wars* are amazingly passionate. To be able to give them an Obi-Wan series—which it seems that there's been a hunger for, for some time—was really exciting to me."

McGregor's publicly warm feelings were not lost on Lucasfilm executives who eventually asked McGregor to come in for a meeting to gauge his interest in playing Obi-Wan Kenobi again. "They asked me if I meant it and I said, 'I would love to play him again. But there's got to be a good story.'"

Those conversations initiated a period of developing storylines for where Obi-Wan might be in that time period of self-isolation in the wake of his failure with Anakin's fall to the dark side. "He can't communicate with any of his old comrades and he's living a pretty solitary life," McGregor mused on his character's predicament at the start of the series. "He's not able to use the Force, so, in a way, he's lost his faith. It's like somebody who's stepped away from their religion, if you like. The only responsibility to his past life is looking over Luke Skywalker." ▸



"Part I"

Directed by Deborah Chow
Written by Joby Harold, Hossein Amini, and Stuart Beattie
Premiered on May 26, 2022

Imperial Inquisitors—a group of Force-sensitive Jedi-hunters under the command of Darth Vader—arrive on Tatooine, searching for a Jedi-in-hiding on the planet. They find Nari in a saloon but the desperate fugitive escapes into the desert. However, the Third Sister, Reva Sevander, is obsessed with finding a different Jedi entirely: Obi-Wan Kenobi!

Elsewhere on the desert planet, Obi-Wan (now going by the name of Ben) is laying low, living in a cave as he keeps a protective watch over Luke Skywalker from afar. Owen Lars is equally determined to keep Luke safe, as much from Kenobi and the Force as from the Empire. While the pair meet in Anchorhead, Reva threatens the locals with violence unless they give up the location of the Jedi. Obi-Wan, hiding nearby, watches on in fear and horror.





On Alderaan, the headstrong and opinionated young Princess Leia Organa gets herself into trouble when she stands up to her bullying cousin at the royal palace. After being chastised, Leia runs off into the woods, but mercenaries are lying in wait and they kidnap the princess. Bail and Breha Organa contact Obi-Wan with a desperate plea for him to rescue their daughter, but the jaded and unsure Jedi refuses. After learning that the Inquisitors have found and killed their Jedi and left his body as a warning to others, Obi-Wan returns to his cave where Bail Organa is waiting with details of where Leia has been taken, desperate for the Jedi's help. What neither realize is that Reva is using Leia as bait to draw Kenobi out.

REDISCOVERING OBI-WAN

Ewan McGregor revealed that playing an older Obi-Wan as a lost man who comes to find himself was the bridge chapter of his character's story that always piqued his imagination. "It was interesting to take this character that we know and love from Alec Guinness' wise, sage-like, spiritual man and the work that I did in the prequels, and bring him to this more broken place."

Finding Obi-Wan's voice again posed its own challenges for McGregor. "When we came to do the actual scenes with the other actors, I was doing a sort of vague English accent, and it wasn't really Obi-Wan's voice at all. I was like, 'Oh dear. That's not very good,'" he laughed. "Luckily, we had months before we actually started shooting. So, I went back and did some homework on Alec Guinness' performance and what I'd done before in the prequels. Playing him again felt like he'd always been in there, ready and waiting, but his voice just needed a bit of work."



“Part II”

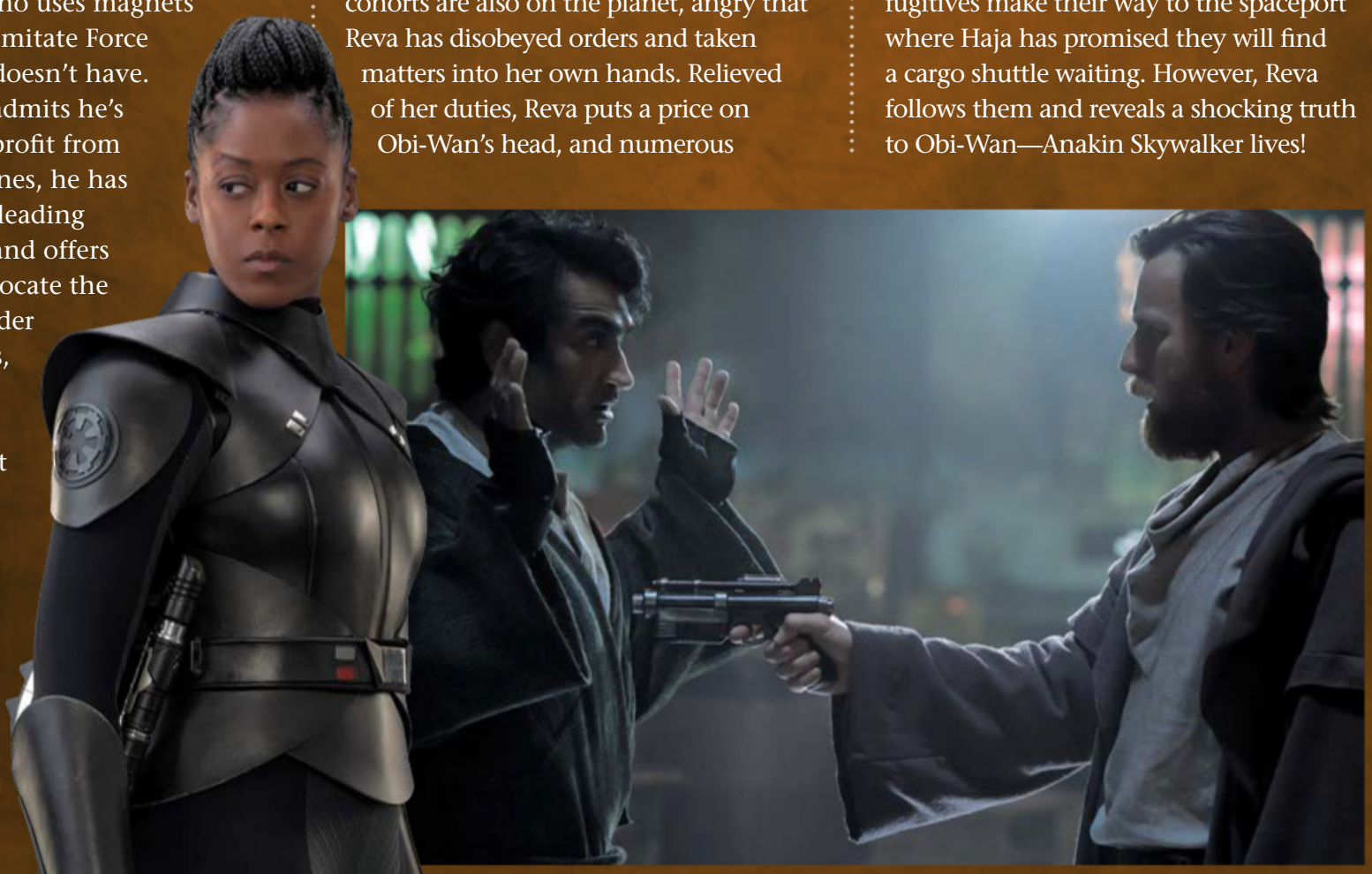
Directed by Deborah Chow
Written by Joby Harold, Hossein Amini, and Stuart Beattie
Premiered on May 26, 2022



Having agreed to search for Leia, Obi-Wan travels to Daiyu, the dangerous and densely populated planet where Bail Organa’s intel suggests she can be found. He soon learns of a local Jedi, Haja Estree, who helps people in need.

Obi-Wan quickly recognizes Haja as a fraudster, who uses magnets and remotes to imitate Force powers that he doesn’t have. But while Haja admits he’s been turning a profit from other’s misfortunes, he has genuinely been leading them to safety, and offers to help Kenobi locate the missing girl. Under Haja’s directions, Obi-Wan makes his way into a criminal hideout where rumors suggest Leia is being held, but the mercenary Vect Nokru has been waiting for him—it’s a trap, laid by Reva!

Having fought off the gang, Obi-Wan locates Leia in a nearby cell and they escape into the streets of Daiyu. But the Grand Inquisitor and his cohorts are also on the planet, angry that Reva has disobeyed orders and taken matters into her own hands. Relieved of her duties, Reva puts a price on Obi-Wan’s head, and numerous bounty hunters lurking on Daiyu immediately join the search. Under fire and after being briefly separated, the fugitives make their way to the spaceport where Haja has promised they will find a cargo shuttle waiting. However, Reva follows them and reveals a shocking truth to Obi-Wan—Anakin Skywalker lives!





"Part III"

Directed by Deborah Chow
Written by Joby Harold, Hannah Friedman, Hossein Amini, and Stuart Beattie
Premiered on June 1, 2022

Reporting the apparent death of the Grand Inquisitor to Darth Vader, Reva informs the Sith Lord that Obi-Wan Kenobi is alive. Vader offers to promote the Third Sister to the now vacant position if she can prove herself capable of finding Kenobi.

En route to Mapuzo, Obi-Wan digests the news that his former Padawan and friend survived their deadly duel on Mustafar years earlier. When the cargo shuttle arrives on the planet, he and Leia pose as father and daughter while they make their way to the rendezvous point provided by Haja Estree, but the contact they were supposed to meet is not there. Taking a ride aboard a passing vehicle, they learn that the Empire is searching the galaxy for Kenobi, and at an Imperial checkpoint the driver reports his suspicions about the pair to the troops on guard. After a firefight and the arrival of more troops, Obi-Wan and Leia are rescued by Tala Durith, an Imperial officer who uses her position to aid Jedi and other Force-sensitives on the run from the Empire.



As Tala sets the next leg of an escape plan in motion, Obi-Wan senses a disturbance in the Force. Darth Vader, accompanied by three Inquisitors, including Reva, has arrived on Mapuzo. While Tala leads Leia to safety through a network of secret tunnels, Obi-Wan must confront Vader once again, only he is not the Jedi Master he once was.





WE MEET AGAIN, AT LAST

One of the great gifts that Ewan McGregor says *Obi-Wan Kenobi* afforded him was the opportunity to reconnect and work with his friend Hayden Christensen again. "We were so close when we made the prequels together in Australia," he shares. "We spent so much time training together for the fights and being on set together, and because we were so far from home we spent a lot of time outside of work together as well. When we were acting together again, it was like we'd gone through some sort of time warp. Looking across at him on set was like the previous 17 years hadn't happened at all. It was peculiar but great."

"Part IV"

Directed by Deborah Chow
Written by Joby Harold and Hannah Friedman
Premiered on June 8, 2022



Badly burned during his fight with Darth Vader, Obi-Wan awakes in a bacta tank on the planet Jabiim, having been rescued by Tala and her droid, NED-B. Concerned for Leia's safely, the Jedi is devastated to learn that she has fallen into the hands of the Empire.

Leia has been taken to Fortress Inquisitorius on the ocean moon of Nur. There, Reva interrogates the princess, telling her that Kenobi is dead and that no one is coming to rescue her this time. Despite hearing this, Leia determines to make things difficult for Reva, refusing to cooperate even in the face of imminent torture.

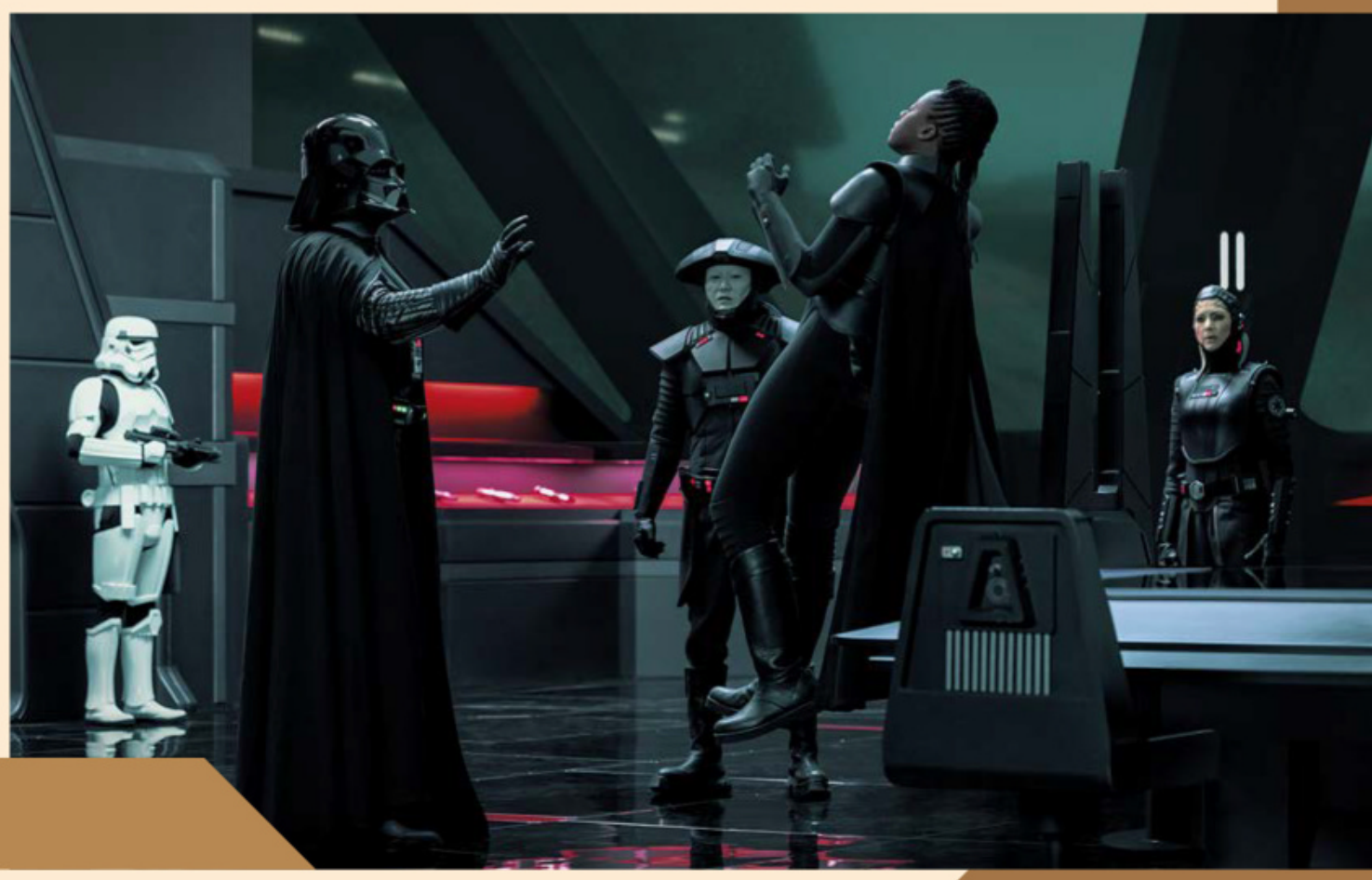
With the help of Kawlan Roken, a freedom fighter who operates an underground network known as the Path, Obi-Wan and Tala travel to Nur and infiltrate Fortress Inquisitorius. Tala guides Obi-Wan from a console in a control room, while the Jedi heads to where they believe Leia is being held. Along the way, Kenobi is sickened when he discovers a vault filled with fallen Jedi, but when he senses Leia is in danger he rushes to the princess's aid, asking Tala to cause a distraction.

With alarms ringing, Obi-Wan, Leia, and Tala evade Imperial pursuit in an attempt to reach their shuttle in the hangar bay, but Reva is not far behind. With nowhere left to run, the trio appear to be out of luck until Roken's comrades arrive in modified T-47 airspeeders and rescue them, although one of the vehicles is brought down by Reva during the escape.

Darth Vader arrives and is about to kill Reva when she reveals she has placed a tracker on the fleeing ship.







“Part V”

Directed by Deborah Chow
Written by Joby Harold and Andrew Stanton
Premiered on June 15, 2022



Aboard Darth Vader’s Star Destroyer, Reva reveals that Obi-Wan and his allies have been tracked to the planet Jabiim. Satisfied with the success of Reva’s plan, Vader promotes the Third Sister to Grand Inquisitor, and orders his crew to set a course for the planet.





The situation is already desperate on Jabiim. Roken’s people delayed their departure to help Kenobi rescue Leia, and now they are running out of time. When the base suffers a mysterious power outage and its hangar doors close and lock, Tala is convinced that Reva was tracking their ship. In fact, Leia’s personal droid LO-LA59 (Lola) was reprogrammed by the Third Sister during the princess’ incarceration, and it sabotaged the doors. After Leia offers to help fix the problem, Obi-Wan receives a message from Bail Organa, offering to travel to Tatooine himself to protect Luke.

Reva leads the Imperial forces in a ground assault on the Path’s base, and Obi-Wan offers to negotiate a ceasefire. As they talk, Kenobi finally understands what drives Reva—she was in the Jedi Temple on Coruscant when Order 66 was carried out and has vowed to avenge the deaths of her Jedi family at the hands of Anakin Skywalker.

Stormtroopers enter the base, and a battle ensues in which Tala is slain. Obi-Wan attempts to bargain with Reva—if they work together, then they can destroy Vader. Reva appears to refuse.

Meanwhile, Leia finds Lola and they fix the roof mechanism, allowing the hangar doors to open, but Darth Vader has landed and is closing in. He arrives and uses the Force to stop the transport from taking off, tearing it apart in the process—but it’s a decoy. The real freighter, filled with refugees including Obi-Wan and Leia, blasts off to safety.

Reva attempts to kill Vader, but he always knew her plan and strikes her down with her own blade. After the Dark Lord leaves, Reva finds Bail Organa’s message to Obi-Wan about the boy on Tatooine.







"Part VI"

Directed by Deborah Chow
Written by Joby Harold, Andrew Stanton, Hossein Amini, and Stuart Beattie
Premiered on June 22, 2022

Reva has made her way to Tatooine, and is searching for a farmer named Owen. When they realize that the day they have long feared is finally upon them, Owen and Beru Lars are determined to protect Luke, whatever the cost.

In the depths of space, Darth Vader's Star Destroyer is closing in on Roken's transport ship, fleeing at sublight speed because its hyperdrive motivator is badly damaged. Obi-Wan realizes that the only hope for the fugitives is if he draws Vader's attention away from them.



PREPARING FOR BATTLE

"The fight scenes are always something extra when you're doing something like this because they require such a lot of preparation," Ewan McGregor explains. "There's a real nervousness when you walk on set to do a fight that you've been training for and learning for months. Sometimes you're shooting two, three days in a row. It requires an enormous amount of stamina. We did a lot of lightsaber drills with Jonathan 'Jojo' Eusebio, our fight coordinator and his team. He'd taken the fights that we did in the original three films and studied and developed them with his stunt crew. He's really a thoughtful fight arranger."

Leaving Leia under the protection of Haja, who promises to get her to Alderaan, Kenobi departs in a small shuttle, certain that Vader will follow. Before long, the Sith Lord orders his crew to change course.

Landing on the rocky surface of a barren moon, Obi-Wan is waiting for Vader when he arrives in his shuttle, and a bitter lightsaber duel begins. Their powers equally matched, each gains the upper hand until Vader leaves Obi-Wan for dead after burying him under tons of rock. Fighting not to be crushed, Kenobi focuses on Leia and Luke, and the memories give him the strength to escape and overpower Vader. However, he also witnesses the hate that has consumed his former friend, and finally understands that Anakin is truly dead, killed by Darth Vader.

On Tatooine, Reva has a change of heart as she is about to exact revenge on Vader by killing his son and returns the boy safely to the Lars. Both Reva and





Obi-Wan realize they are free from the shadows of the past. His faith restored, Obi-Wan visits Leia on Alderaan and Luke on Tatooine, before encountering an old friend in the desert.

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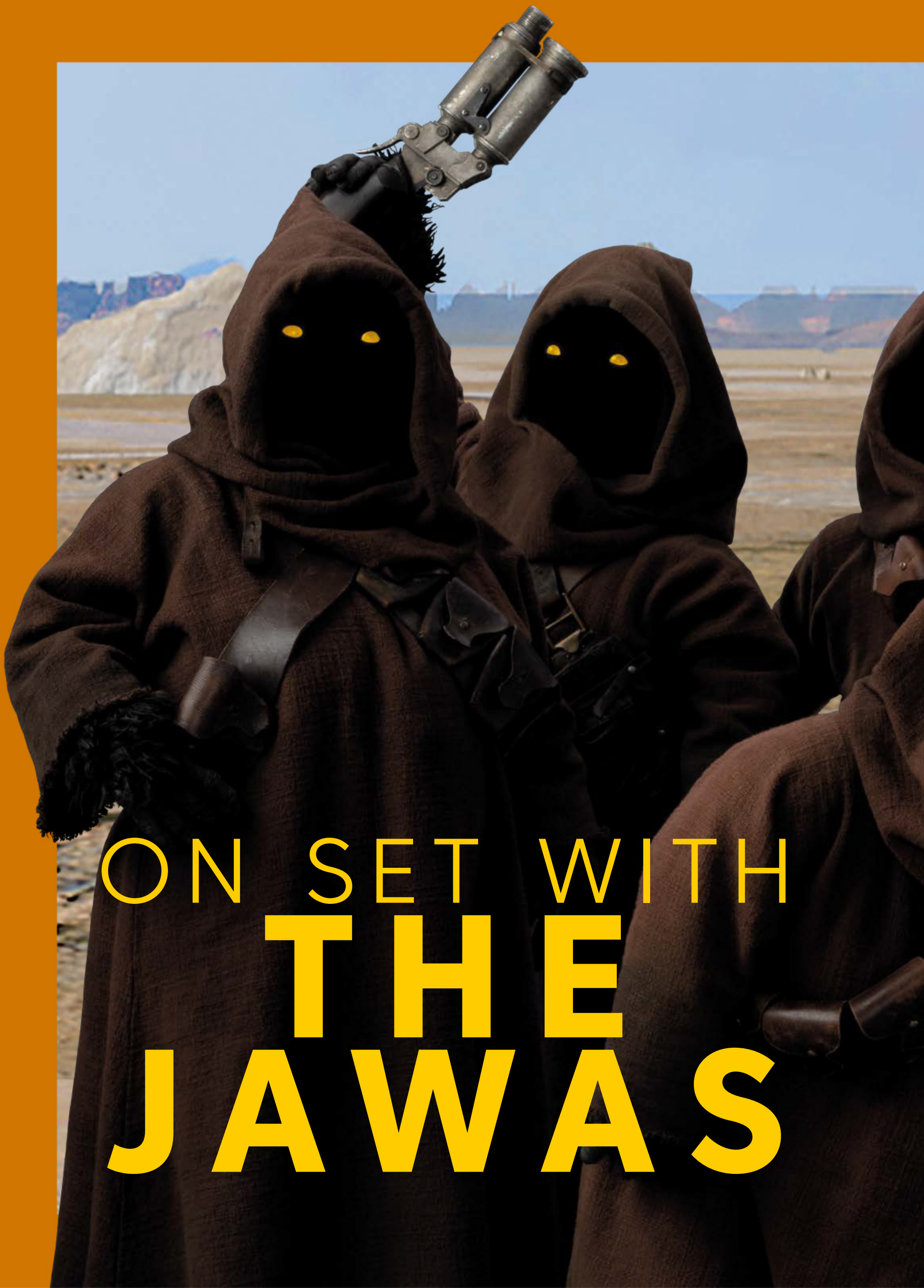




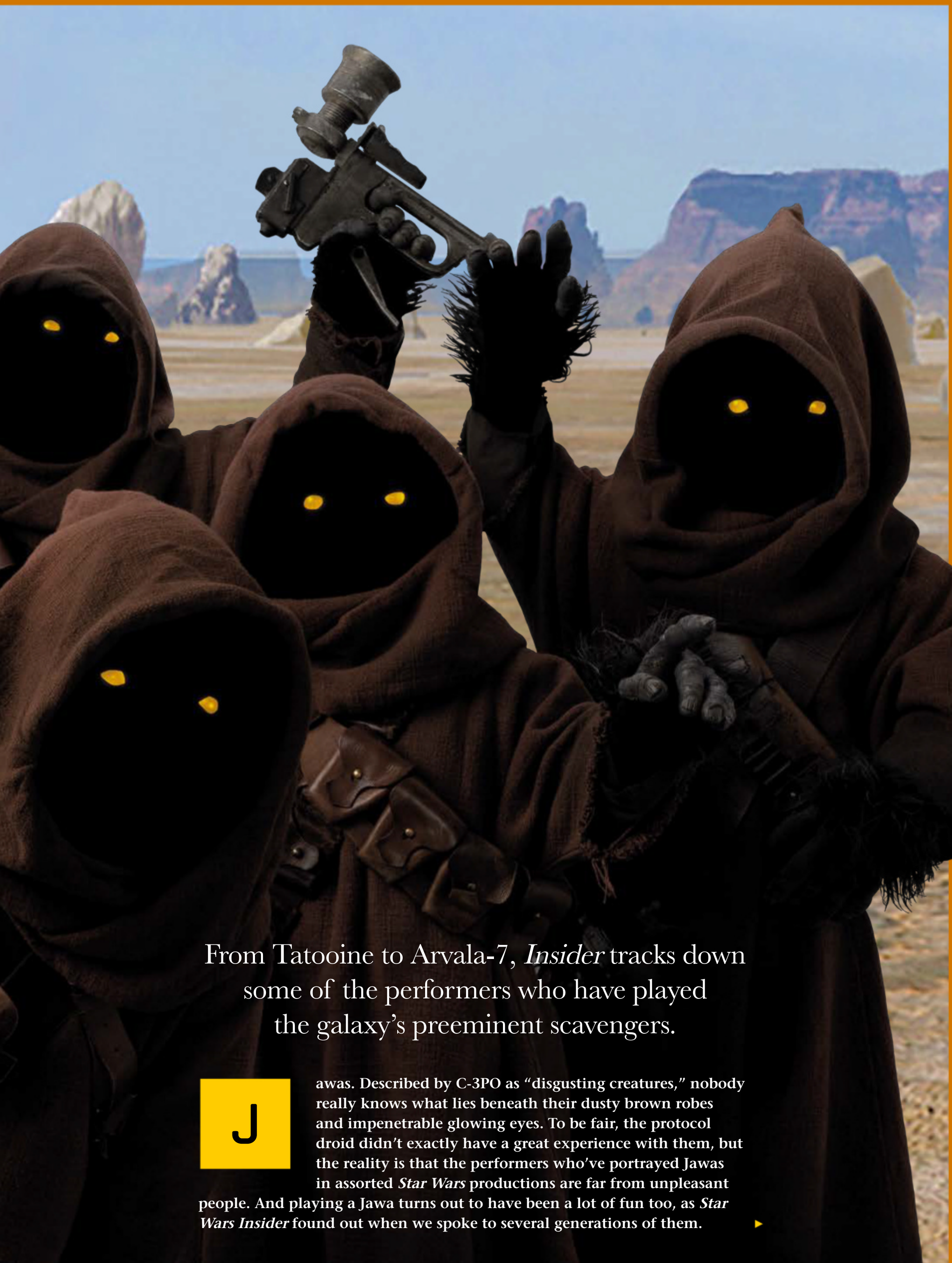


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ON SET WITH THE JAWAS



From Tatooine to Arvala-7, *Insider* tracks down some of the performers who have played the galaxy's preeminent scavengers.

Jawas. Described by C-3PO as "disgusting creatures," nobody really knows what lies beneath their dusty brown robes and impenetrable glowing eyes. To be fair, the protocol droid didn't exactly have a great experience with them, but the reality is that the performers who've portrayed Jawas in assorted *Star Wars* productions are far from unpleasant people. And playing a Jawa turns out to have been a lot of fun too, as *Star Wars Insider* found out when we spoke to several generations of them. ▸

FROM COW CREEK TO THE DUNE SEA

WORDS: JAMES FLOYD



01

Who didn't dream of being a movie star when they were a child? Back in 1977, that dream came true for a handful of elementary school students living in one of the hottest and driest parts of the United States.

After *Star Wars: A New Hope* (1977) had finished principal photography in Tunisia, the producers looked a little closer to home for a suitable location to capture additional Tatooine shots for the film, scheduled to be released just a few months later.



03

California's Death Valley was a perfect match for the desert landscapes of North Africa, with twisty canyons, rocky hillsides, and sand dunes big enough to swallow a droid.

Needing a cast of Jawas to capture R2-D2 and haul the astromech to their sandcrawler, the production turned to the logical source of short-statured people in the area—the children at the local school in Cow Creek, smack bang in the middle of the valley. A total of nine children were picked, including second grader Andrea Wickman Miller and five-year-old Tim Donaldson.

Aged seven, Andrea had only moved to Death Valley just a few years earlier with her father and stepmother, a schoolteacher. "A couple of people came to the school and asked if they could use some kids for a little film project they were doing," Andrea recalls of the casting process. "They measured us, and Tim and I were among the lucky ones to be chosen. We didn't know it then, but that was because they needed kids who would fit into the Jawa costumes they'd used in Tunisia. We were the right size, so that's how we got the gig."

01 A group of local school children were cast as Jawas for filming in Death Valley. (Photo: Sally Weber)

02 Tim Donaldson in costume as a Jawa. (Photo courtesy of Tim Donaldson)

03 The interior of a Jawa mask from *A New Hope*, complete with foam padding and goggles.



02

Tim Donaldson could well be the youngest cast member on the original *Star Wars* film. The son of two National Park Service employees, the kindergartener had turned five the November before the film crew arrived in Death Valley. While Andrea had seen a few movies, the younger Tim had no such experience. "I don't think I had any idea about movies at that age," he admits. "There was no movie theater in Death Valley, and I don't remember if we even had a TV at that time. I don't think I had any concept of what we were doing. It didn't compute in my head."

The shoot was scheduled to take place over two days, including a costume fitting on day one and filming on the next. "My stepmom was one of the chaperones on the first day," says Andrea. "She was cracking up, saying 'There is no way this movie is going to be anything. You should see the costumes, and there are robots, and an *elephant*!'"

That was Mardji, the Asian female elephant that played the bantha. She was borrowed from the zoo at Marine World Africa



04 The cast of Jawas watch R2-D2 being repaired at Death Valley's Artists Drive. (Photo: Sally Weber)

05 Andrea Wickman Miller (right) and Joe Weber (left) dressed as Luke and Leia for Halloween 1977. (Photo: Andrea Miller)

U.S.A., then located in Redwood City in the San Francisco Bay Area. Mardji made quite the local splash, walking through Furnace Creek with her handler Alan Hernandez, who also played the bantha's Tusken Raider rider.

Tim recalls spotting Mardji at the Furnace Creek Ranch hotel, but his attention was taken by Hernandez' costume. "I remember trying on the Tusken Raider helmet," he says. "That was one of my vivid memories from that first day."

The Trials of Tatooine

Getting into costume was just the first of the trials the youngsters faced. "We were wearing tennis shoes, but they wrapped them in a kind of brown gauze," says Andrea of their costumes. "That made it really hard to walk. And the robes were so heavy, we had a kind of funny run to us, like we were in a gunny sack race."

The glowing Jawa eyes were lightbulbs fitted onto a pair of goggles, but they weren't popular with the young cast members. "I vividly remember not wanting to put the eye stuff on my face. I was not down with that," Andrea says. "Johnny Bushell [another classmate who played a Jawa] was the only one who would happily wear them."

"I think for the vast majority of the time, we just had our hoods pulled up and over," adds Tim.

Both Andrea and Tim clearly recall hauling R2-D2 up and down a hill as the toughest part of the shoot, for the scene where the Jawas carry the droid to their sandcrawler. "We had to go up and down that hill a bunch of times," says Andrea. "Artoo-Detoo was so difficult to carry. He was like a barrel; heavy and awkward. We had a really hard time filming that shot."



05

"It was heavy, but I don't think any of the Artoos were especially light. I remember thinking, 'How are we kids going to carry this thing?" says Tim. "And his head kept falling off, I don't know how many times!"

"The crew were shooting from behind us and didn't realize what was happening, so they kept yelling at us to 'Keep going, keep going! Don't stop! Keep walking!' And we were shouting back 'But his head fell off!'" laughs Andrea, adding, "Tim, you're the easiest of us to point out, too, because I don't think that your hands were even on Artoo-Detoo because you were so tiny. You were like the tiniest one. You can definitely see a little Jawa that's sort of just *almost* touching Artoo!"

"What are you saying?" Tim smirks.

The pair have little recollection of filming scenes in Golden Canyon where the Jawas spy on R2-D2 before capturing him, but there is a good reason for that. "I remember doing some of those scenes, hiding back in a hole and peeking out," says Tim. "But playing hide and seek in a canyon was something we did every single day. That was our life in Death Valley. Our parents would have some get-together, a barbecue, and we'd go out and play hide and seek in the middle of the night. That was our life as kids out there."

> ***"Playing hide and seek in a canyon was something we did every single day."***
> **Tim Donaldson**

After their acting gig was over, going back to normal life seemed somewhat duller. Andrea recounts, "When we got back to school, everybody was so excited, talking about what we'd done, that we might be in a movie. Our kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Prather, took us to one side and said, 'Listen, it was a fun thing to do, but lots of movies get made and they don't always get played, so you probably won't ever see this movie.'"

That advice turned out to be moot, as *Star Wars* became an overnight phenomenon, with seemingly everyone rushing to see it. Andrea finally got her chance during a trip to Florida that June. "My mom took us to the theater and the whole time she was asking, 'What did you do?' The second that my scene started, she shouted out, '*That's my daughter!!!*" The theater was busy, and that's when I realized 'Wow, this might be a big deal."

It took a little longer for Tim to see the film on the big screen. "I was staying with my father at his house at Yellowstone National Park the summer that the film came out. I've seen it a million times on VHS, but I didn't see *A New Hope* in the theater until 2018, when I was overseas in the military," he laughs.

Miller recognizes the magic that Jawas continue to hold over audiences, "I love seeing kids dressed up as Jawas at Halloween. There's always a Jawa." ▸



06

FROM NEVARRO TO TATOOINE

WORDS: PATRICK JANKIEWICZ

Jawas have continued to be a presence in the *Star Wars* galaxy ever since the resourceful recyclers made their first appearance in *A New Hope*, most recently turning up in the new era of *Star Wars* storytelling on Disney+, in both *The Mandalorian* (2019 -) and *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021). While time and technology have moved on since schoolmates Andrea and Tim lugged R2-D2 across Death Valley, the rewarding experience of playing a Jawa has remained much the same, as mother and daughter Jawa duo Leilani and Ariel Shiu can attest.

Away from her regular day job promoting hip-hop tracks released by her record label, Leilani Shiu indulges her passion for movies and television through her side gig as a part-time actor. "I started acting after legendary little person, actor, and activist Billy Barty suggested I sign up with Central Casting, as he thought it was important that little people like us should be represented on screen," says Leilani.

Her journey to the galaxy far, far away came about when

06 Jawa actors, including Ariel and Leilani Shiu (middle left), pose with director Rick Famuyiwa.

07 Full Jawa costumes can get "a little warm."



07

"I didn't know that Jawas had so many fans!"

Ariel Shiu

she took a seemingly routine call from the agency. "I didn't have to audition or anything, just show up," she remembers. "None of us knew anything about who or what we were going to be playing until our first day on set. We had no idea! When I realized that I was going to be playing a Jawa—one of the most famous *Star Wars* species—I was dumbstruck! As someone who grew up loving the saga, I just couldn't believe it. My first experience of going to the movies was to see *Return Of The Jedi* (1983). Ironically, Ariel and I are now friends with a lot of the Ewoks!"

Leilani found herself clad in Jawa robes scurrying around the Nevarro set for the debut episode of *The Mandalorian*. Much like her predecessors, getting used to the costume was challenging. "The Jawa costumes have several layers and are really thick, so they can be a little warm, but I'm not complaining. It was fun being dressed up as a Jawa, kind of like wearing a gunny sack, and the costume was quite comfortable," she says.

Arrival on Arvala-7

Another bonus of being cast in *The Mandalorian* was that Leilani was able to work alongside her daughter, Ariel. "After I was hired and the producers found out I had a daughter who was a little shorter than me, they said, 'Wait, you have a daughter?! Have her come down!' And that's how Ariel became a Jawa too."

"I didn't know that Jawas had so many fans!" Ariel enthuses. "It's great being a Jawa. People love droids, Ewoks, and Wookiees, but Jawas are cool because they take parts and resell them, they recycle! Little kids who go to comic



08

conventions dress like Jawas and get so excited when they get to meet the real thing!

"My favorite episode was when we were with the Frog Lady," she continues. "Misty Rosas is cool and a friend of ours, and we enjoyed working with her. We're also the Jawas in the scene that teased the reintroduction of Boba Fett in [*The Mandalorian*, Season Two, Episode One,] Chapter 9: 'The Marshal,' where we traded his armor for some crystals Cobb Vanth had. So, viewers learned that Boba Fett might still be alive through that transaction!"

The Shius also got to work alongside Grogu, the cute cohort of Din Djarin that captured the world's imagination. "Grogu was fun to work with," says Leilani. "There's a scene in the cockpit of the sandcrawler with me, Ariel, Mando, and another Jawa, with Grogu sitting in the middle. That made it onto a trading card. We thought he was cute but didn't know what he was because no one told us, and we were right there next to him!" Leilani laughs.

"On set, they always called him 'Baby,'" Leilani continues. "They didn't call him 'Yoda' or 'Baby Yoda,' like the public did—just Baby. 'Bring in Baby!' they'd say."

"The highlight of portraying a Jawa for me was being in scenes with Amy Sedaris, whose character, Peli Motto, claimed to have even *dated* one!" says Leilani. "Acting with Amy was a dream come true and I laughed a lot. She's very funny. Working on these shows can be tough, but it was never really 'work,' because we always had a good time. It's fun to be part of *Star Wars*. People get so excited when they find out you were a Jawa!"

08 Ariel and Leilani Shiu (left and center) in the sandcrawler cockpit set from *The Mandalorian*.

09 Ariel (left) with mom Leilani (Right).

10 Leilani Shiu as a Jawa in Chapter One of *The Mandalorian*.



09



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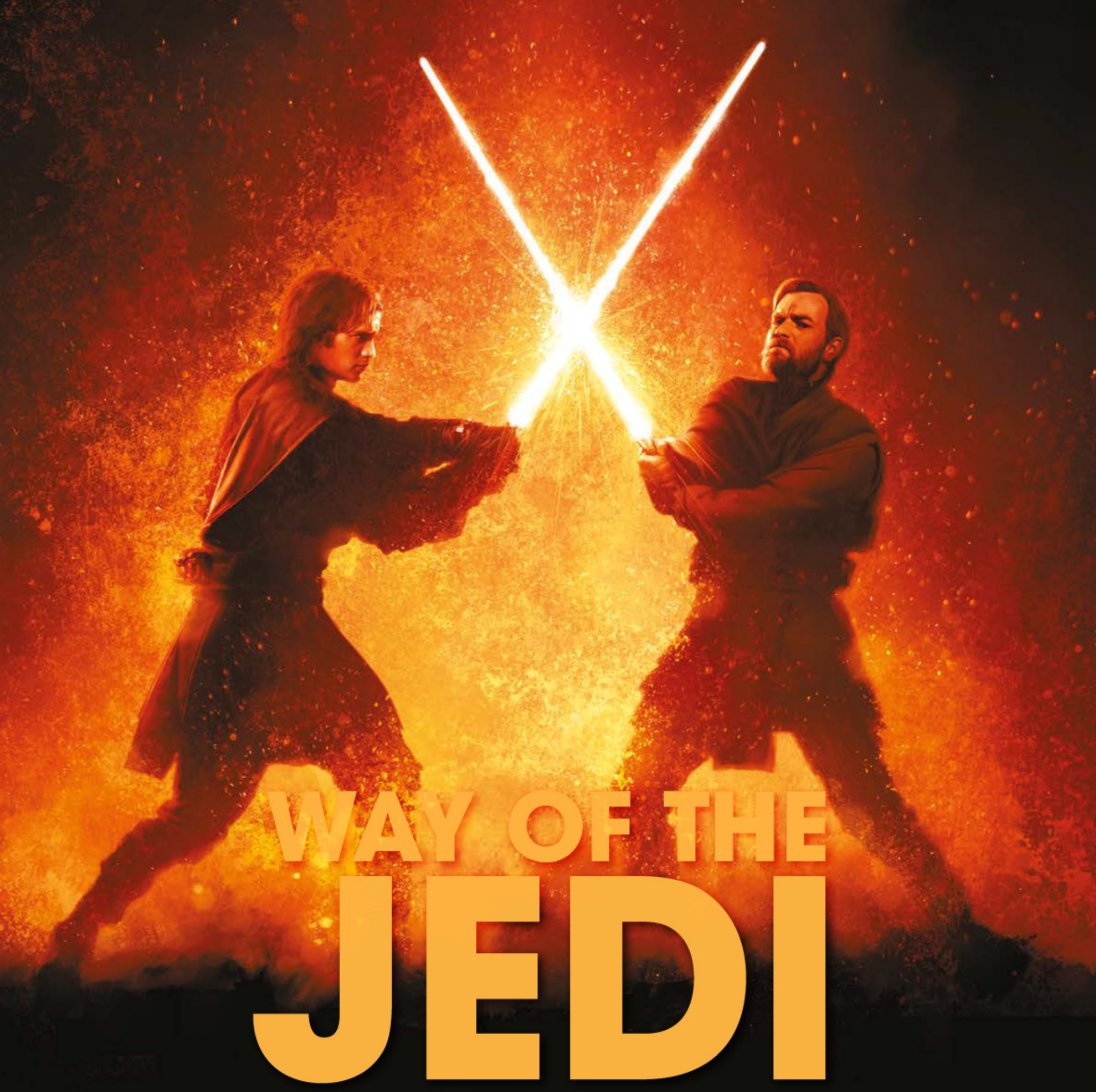
DECLOAKED

Leilani Shiu also had the opportunity to become another classic *Star Wars* creature in Episode 6 of *The Book of Boba Fett*.

"My friend Pamm Riddle and I are two of the gamblers at the card table in Garsa Fwip's Sanctuary. She plays the Snivvian and I'm the Chadra-Fan beside her. That's the same species as Kabe in *A New Hope*."

Mother and daughter also got to show their real faces in Chapter 12 of *The Mandalorian*, "The Seige," directed by Carl Weathers.

"Rather than Jawas, Ariel and I played villagers in that episode," says Leilani. "It was Jon Favreau's idea to give us those roles, which was very cool of him. Our friends were so excited to spot us!"



WAY OF THE JEDI

Star Wars Insider's Top 10 Jedi moments from the Skywalker saga!

WORDS: JAY STOBIE

The Jedi Knights dedicated themselves to serving the galaxy, utilizing their connection with the Force as a means of upholding justice and protecting others from those who sought to do harm and create havoc. Throughout the Skywalker saga, we watched as various Jedi intervened in everything from trade disputes to interstellar conflicts, always placing the welfare of innocents above their own. Each executed their duties and upheld their values in their own unique fashion, creating standout moments in the nine-movie cinematic epic. Here are 10 of *Star Wars Insider*'s favorite occasions that revealed the best of the Jedi way.

10
A MOMENT OF MEDITATION





In the midst of a climactic clash with Darth Maul on Naboo, Qui-Gon Jinn became separated from his opponent by a force field, causing a pause in this duel of fates. As the Sith paced back and forth in anticipation of the battle's resumption, Qui-Gon calmly knelt and focused his thoughts inward. Rather than allow his emotions to overcome him, the Jedi let go of his feelings and meditated in the face of mortal danger. While Qui-Gon went on to lose the fight, his actions demonstrated the need for a Jedi to have patience in full view of his Padawan, Obi-Wan Kenobi, who would later attempt to pass this lesson on to his own Padawan, Anakin Skywalker.



09
ENDLESS EMPATHY

We are going to cheat here, because this next "moment" actually spanned the entirety of the sequel trilogy, though its true depth did not reveal itself until after Leia Organa's death in *The Rise of Skywalker* (2019).

When one imagines the life of a Jedi, the first things that spring to mind are more than likely visions of lightsabers and moving objects with the Force. Leia proved capable in both skills, but she understood that she could best defend the galaxy's citizens with her diplomatic and interpersonal skills. Empathy, a valuable attribute for a Jedi and a key element for any Good Samaritan who wishes to help others, turned out to be one of Leia's most important talents.

Leia exemplified this quality on numerous occasions throughout her life, such as the kindness she showed to Wicket the Ewok on the Forest Moon of Endor, but also in the compassion she showed to Rey, which stands out as a particularly noteworthy instance of empathy. Recognizing that Rey had no home or family and was burdened by the uncertainty surrounding her newfound sensitivity to the Force, Leia immediately became a mentor to the scavenger, first as a friendly face on D'Qar and later as a teacher on Ajan Kloss. Luke Skywalker unmasked the magnitude of his sister's benevolence when he told Rey that Leia had known the girl was a Palpatine. Leia had cast aside any preconceptions to see Rey's virtuous heart, not the evil of her ancestor.







08

JOINING THE JEDI







Much like his grandfather Anakin Skywalker, Ben Solo committed horrific crimes under his dark-side alias, Kylo Ren. In his final battle on Kef Bir, Kylo heard Leia Organa's compassionate call and experienced Rey's merciful healing, two acts that combined to cause him to cast off the mantle of Kylo Ren. Having become Ben Solo once again, the reformed Jedi could have opted to retreat into solitude and reexamine his choices. Instead, Ben set out to begin atoning for his mistakes and traveled to Exegol in an effort to aid Rey in her standoff with Emperor Palpatine. Although Rey found the power to defeat Palpatine within herself, Ben provided a reassuring presence and gave his life to heal Rey's wounds. This selfless moment reflected Ben's reunion with the light side and represented the completion of his turbulent journey.

07

FOLLOWING THE LIGHT

Having failed to recruit Luke Skywalker to assist in the Resistance's struggle against the First Order, Rey believed that turning Kylo Ren back to the light was the only option left to pursue. With this in mind, Rey willingly went to meet Ren aboard the *Supremacy*, although her plan went somewhat off course when the son of Solo brought her before Supreme Leader Snoke. However, Rey's faith was rewarded when Kylo struck Snoke down and fought alongside her in a melee with the elite Praetorian Guards. Rey's vision of Kylo Ren's redemption had come to pass! Or had it?

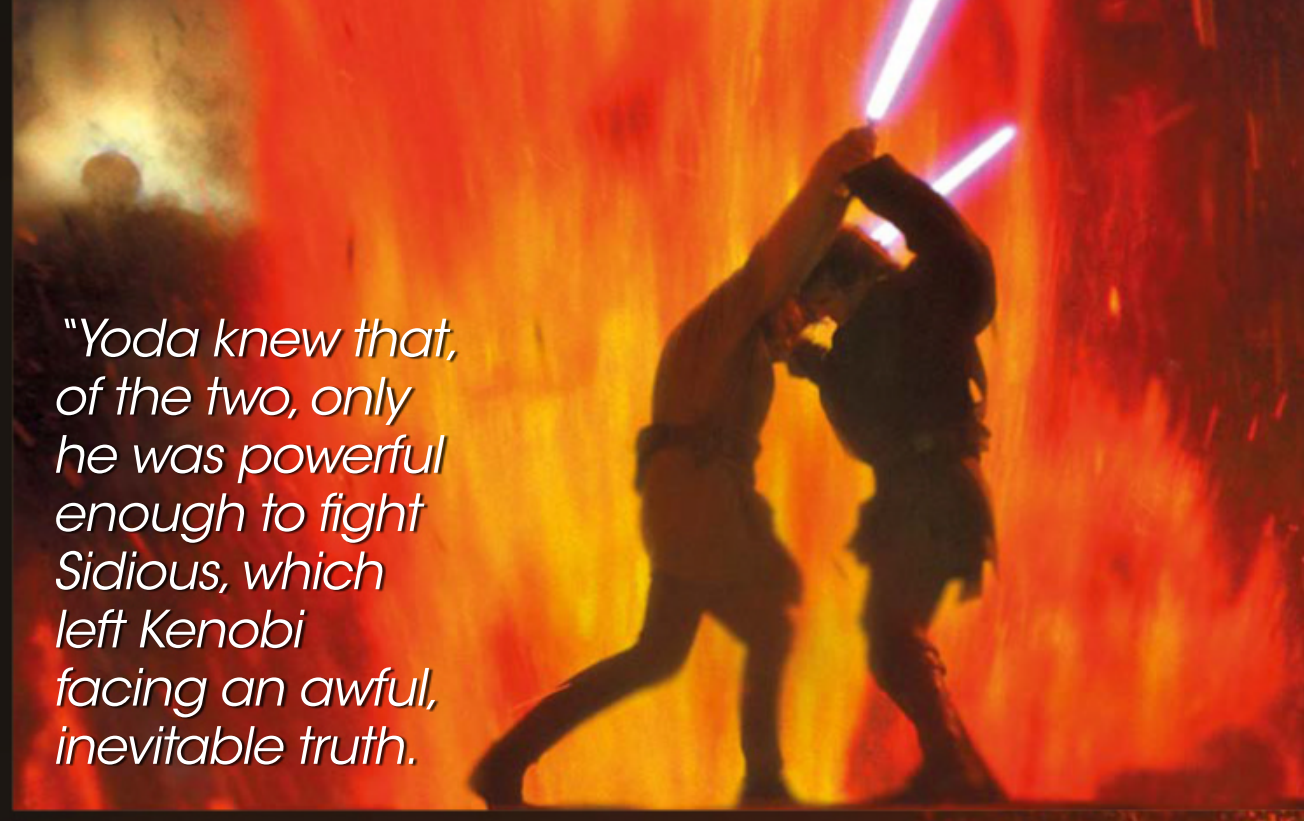


Kylo may have cast his allegiance to Snoke aside, but he also wished to see Luke, the Jedi, and the Resistance fall as well. Kylo tempted Rey by asking her to join him, but she remained true to her values and the lives of her friends, initiating a fateful tug-of-war over the Skywalker lightsaber and taking advantage of Vice Admiral Amilyn Holdo's sacrifice to make her escape. This critical moment enabled Rey to regroup with Chewbacca and save the remaining Resistance troops from annihilation. Rey would herself go on to provide the Resistance with the very hope she had looked for from others.



06

TAKING THE HIGH GROUND



"Yoda knew that, of the two, only he was powerful enough to fight Sidious, which left Kenobi facing an awful, inevitable truth.

Upon learning that Anakin Skywalker had become Darth Sidious' apprentice and helped slaughtered numerous Jedi at the Temple on Coruscant during Order 66, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Yoda realized that they needed to prevent the two Sith from doing even more harm to the galaxy.

Yoda knew that, of the two, only he was powerful enough to fight Sidious, which left Kenobi facing an awful, inevitable truth—he must face Anakin, a friend he considered to be as close as a brother. Kenobi reached for any excuse he could muster to defer the dreaded task of confronting his former Padawan, but he was aware that Yoda had spoken honestly and that he alone had to stop Anakin, now known as Darth Vader.

The clash between Kenobi and Skywalker on Mustafar is widely considered to be one of *Star Wars*' most epic, but the duel was underscored by the tragic circumstances surrounding the broken bond between master and apprentice. As painful as it was for Obi-Wan to confront his former student, he did his duty as a Jedi and defeated Anakin, leaving the badly burnt Sith apprentice to die on the fiery slopes of the lava planet. Unable to kill his friend in cold blood, Kenobi's decision to walk away had consequences for the galaxy that he could not have forseen.



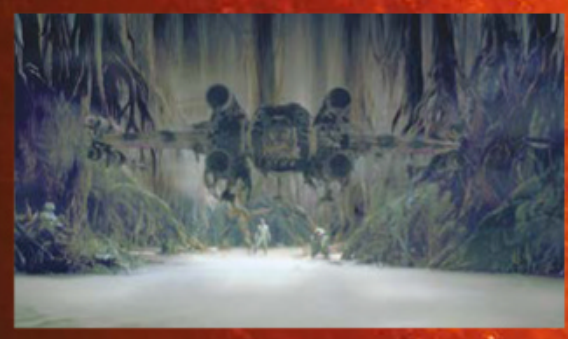


05

SIZE MATTERS NOT

While training Luke Skywalker during the young man's first excursion to Dagobah, Jedi Master Yoda witnessed his new apprentice experiencing self-doubt when his X-wing sank below the swamp's murky waters. Yoda encouraged Luke to lift the starfighter from the depths, but Skywalker maintained an uncertain demeanor that prevented him from successfully harnessing the Force and raising the ship. It was at this moment that Yoda imparted one of his most valuable lessons, namely that one must cast aside their perceptions and understand that no difference existed between picking up a small rock or a massive X-wing.

Yoda's wisdom was initially lost on Skywalker, who believed the feat to be an impossible one. Nonetheless, as any good teacher would do, the Jedi Master drove the lesson home and illustrated that all was possible by calling upon the Force to lift the submerged fighter from the swamp. This miraculous sight bewildered Luke, initially stirring even more doubts within him. Yet Skywalker persisted and continued his training, freshly reminded by Yoda's words and deeds that the Force surrounded him and could be his ally in accomplishing anything. In a poetic twist of fate, Luke would go on to lift Red 5 from the seas of Ahch-To to inspire Rey several decades later.







04
LEADING BY EXAMPLE

As Obi-Wan Kenobi, Anakin Skywalker, and Padmé Amidala found themselves held prisoner and about to be executed by Count Dooku and the Separatists on Geonosis, Mace Windu arrived with a large contingent of Jedi and mounted a daring rescue. Instead of keeping a safe distance from the fight and commanding the Jedi from afar, Mace led by example and personally confronted Dooku on the ledge of the Geonosian arena. The Sith Lord did not relent, which sparked a fierce battle. Mace stood side by side with his cohorts, proving that all Jedi needed to serve the Republic equally, regardless of their rank or experience. As numerous battle droids squared off against the other Jedi, Mace resolved to bear the burden alongside them, placing himself in harm's way and ultimately beheading Jango Fett with one swipe of his purple blade.

03
A FRIEND'S FATE

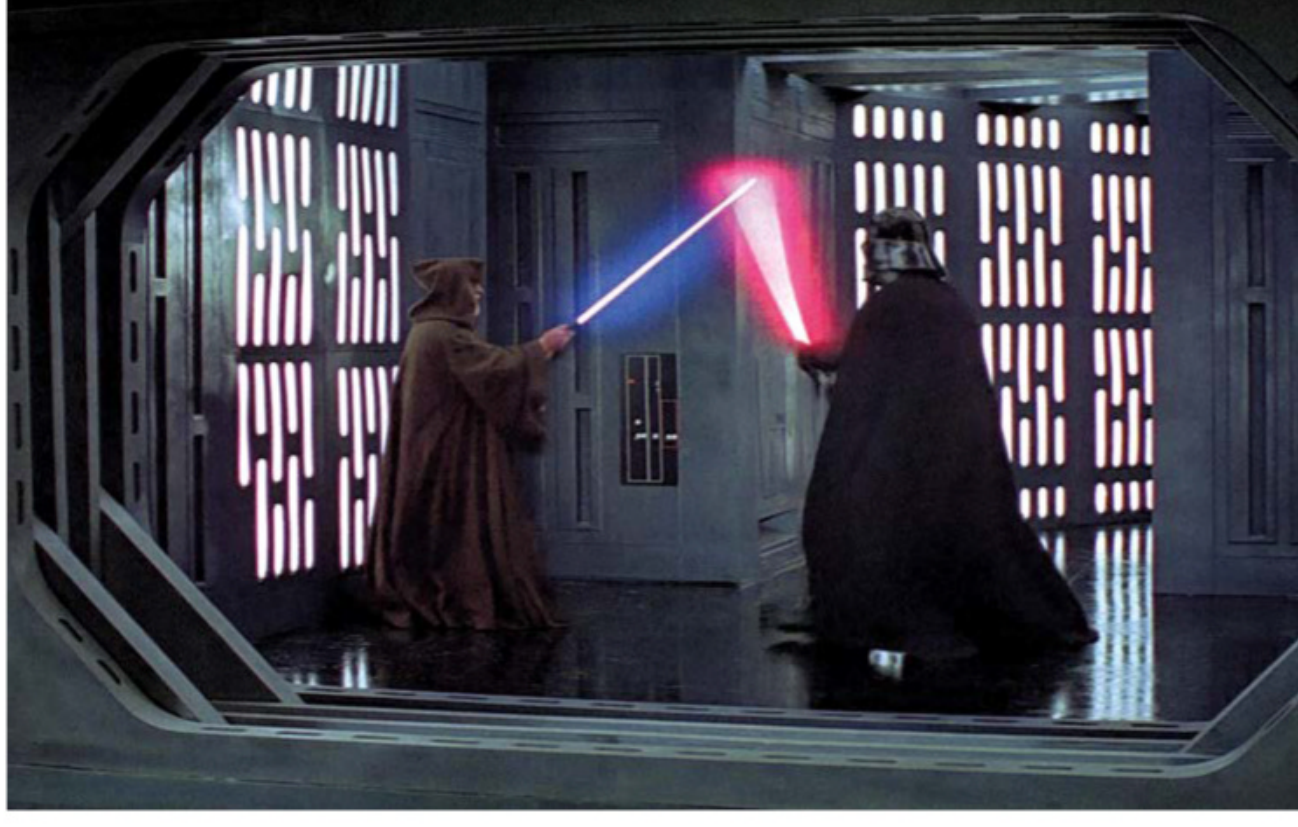


During Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker's mission to save Supreme Chancellor Palpatine from the Separatist flagship above Coruscant, the elder Jedi was incapacitated, leaving Anakin to face Count Dooku alone. Skywalker defeated Dooku, but he soon gave into temptation as Palpatine urged the young man to mercilessly execute the Sith. This momentous event solidified Palpatine's influence on Anakin and propelled Skywalker even further toward the dark side. However, Anakin did not heed Palpatine's call to leave an unconscious Kenobi behind, defiantly declaring that his master's fate would be the same as theirs.

This selfless loyalty was a hallmark of the Jedi, as well as a trait Anakin exhibited when he offered to help Qui-Gon Jinn on Tatooine in his youth. It might seem counterintuitive to point to a scene that occurred right after Anakin took a significant step away from the Jedi path as one where he displayed an admirable Jedi quality, but Skywalker's journey was often clouded with contradictions. Saving Kenobi's life was a natural instinct for Anakin, a fact which highlighted just how far Skywalker had fallen by the time he tried to kill Kenobi on Mustafar.







02

DUEL ON THE DEATH STAR

Though he had only recently begun to train Luke Skywalker, Kenobi sensed that their paths had diverged when they became trapped aboard the Death Star. While Skywalker, Han Solo, and Chewbacca raced to rescue Princess Leia Organa, Kenobi headed off to deactivate the tractor beam, which would allow them to escape aboard the *Millennium Falcon*. His destiny, however, would lead him to a final confrontation with Darth Vader, his former friend and apprentice.

As the duel raged on, Kenobi warned Vader that he would become more powerful than the Sith Lord could possibly imagine if he struck the Jedi down. When Obi-Wan noticed that Luke and his allies were poised to escape, he distracted Vader by permitting the Dark Lord to deal a death blow, echoing Qui-Gon's moment of meditation towards the end of his fight with Maul on Naboo.

Kenobi willingly sacrificed himself in a peaceful manner that served as a message to both Skywalkers. Kenobi's demise showed Luke that a Jedi must put the well-being of others before their own, and served as a final lesson and reminder for what remained of Anakin Skywalker: do not give in to hatred and anger.

01

LIKE MY FATHER BEFORE ME



With Emperor Palpatine urging them on, Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader engaged in a vicious battle aboard the second Death Star. Vader tried to stoke the flames of the dark side within his son, claiming that he would turn Luke's sister, Leia, if Luke could not be coaxed into joining him. The threat worked, temporarily pushing Luke to breaking point and giving him enough of an edge to be able to knock his father down and sever one of his mechanical hands. Upon seeing Vader's wires exposed, Luke could not help but think of the hand he himself had lost on Cloud City.

Young Skywalker regained his composure and defiantly declared he would not succumb to the dark side or join Palpatine. Just as Qui-Gon Jinn and Obi-Wan Kenobi before him had placed their faith in the will of the Force as they faced death, Luke turned off his lightsaber and tossed it aside, prepared to accept whatever the Emperor threw at him. In doing so he rejected the darkness and avoided the painful path that had consumed his father, Anakin Skywalker.





"Luke turned off his lightsaber and tossed it aside, prepared to accept whatever the Emperor threw at him."

A CERTAIN POINT OF VIEW

Our resident *Star Wars* expert, Jay Stobie, consults his library of holocrons and ancient Jedi texts to answer your questions about the events, people, and places of the galaxy far, far away....



Concept art by Ryan Church.

"Anakin Skywalker's downfall is well-documented, but were there others who also abandoned the Jedi way?"
Josiah Brown

The Jedi Order's selfless approach to act as peacekeepers, seek calm through meditation, and utilize their connection with the Force to benefit others was not an easy lifestyle, particularly when you factor in their choice to abstain from attachments. Considering the original Sith were former Jedi who elected to align with the dark side in ancient times, one might even view the foundation of the Sith Order as a rejection of the Jedi's principles. However, to answer your question, quite a few individual Jedi lost their way in the era encompassed by the Skywalker saga.

Qui-Gon Jinn often disobeyed the Jedi Council, viewing his allegiance as something that was owed only to the Force. While still respected, the Council never appointed him to their ranks, a snub which never concerned Qui-Gon. Jinn's willingness to bump heads with Jedi Masters, including the occasion where he sought to train Anakin Skywalker, led Count Dooku to believe that Qui-Gon could have become a Separatist. However, this opinion

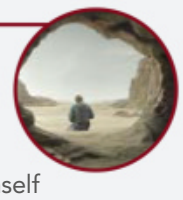
Lonely Knights

Mustafar



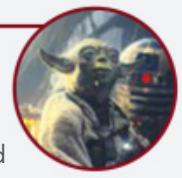
The site of Darth Vader's defeat at the hands of Obi-Wan Kenobi, Mustafar became a key location for the Sith Lord to use to harness his hatred. Vader had his own private castle constructed on this lava planet, a site that acted as his personal fortress when he was not out doing his master's bidding.

Tatooine



A desert world that was home to Owen and Beru Lars, Obi-Wan Kenobi elected to take baby Luke there to live with his relatives. Kenobi established a home for himself on the planet so that he could watch and protect young Skywalker from afar, though tales about 'Old Ben' did reach Luke's ears.

Dagobah



A swampy planet filled with an abundance of life, Dagobah served as the perfect place for Yoda to conceal himself from the Empire, meditate, and connect with the Force. Yoda's patience paid off, as Obi-Wan Kenobi eventually guided Luke to these wetlands so that Yoda could complete the former farm boy's Jedi training.

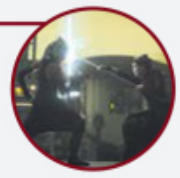


was probably a ruse on Dooku's part as he attempted to sway a captured Obi-Wan Kenobi to his way of thinking on Geonisis.

Framed for the bombing of the Jedi Temple, Ahsoka Tano was expelled from the Jedi Order by the Council. Once acquitted, Tano nevertheless chose to walk her own path and abandon her ties to the Jedi. For a time, Caleb Dume also hid his Jedi nature, becoming known as Kanan Jarrus and trading his lightsaber in for a blaster. Tano and Jarrus eventually found purpose in opposing the Galactic Empire and, like Qui-Gon, they did not stray from the light. ▶



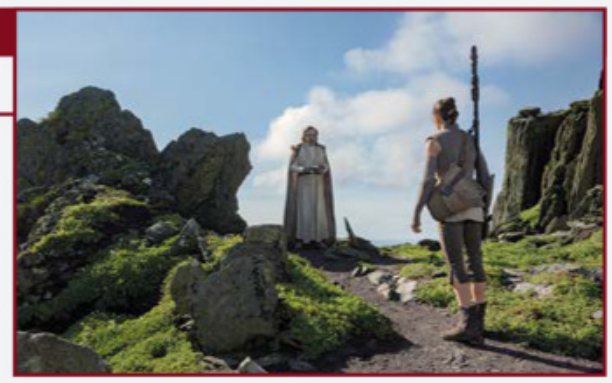
Corvus



Din Djarin found Ahsoka Tano waging a one-person war on Corvus, a forest world that was overseen by Magistrate Morgan Elsbeth. The Mandalorian allied with Tano, who bested Elsbeth in a fierce duel in order pose one important question to the magistrate: "Where is Grand Admiral Thrawn?"

Ahch-To

Disillusioned by Ben Solo's fall and the destruction of his Jedi temple, Luke Skywalker retreated to the site where the Jedi Order was founded, and its first temple built. Despite his desire to cut himself off from the Force, Skywalker watched over the sacred Jedi texts that had been left behind all those generations ago.





Stepping into the Dark

Qui-Gon, Ahsoka, and Caleb may have been independently minded, but much like Anakin Skywalker, this next group found itself fully enveloped in evil. As with many Sith, a search for power led Count Dooku to follow Darth Sidious into deception and darkness. The former Jedi helped orchestrate the Clone Wars, setting the stage for Sidious to execute Order 66 and demolish the Jedi Order. After the death of Jedi Master Ky Narec, Asajj Ventress (above) gave into anguish and anger, finding a home as Dooku's apprentice and fighting against the Jedi.

Meanwhile, Jedi Master Pong Krell predicted the Jedi Order's fall and aimed to ally with Count Dooku, demonstrating a willingness to murder his own clone troopers in the process. Similarly, Padawan Barriss Offee saw the Jedi leading armies during the Clone Wars as being antithetical to peace, yet she bombed the Jedi Temple and framed Ahsoka Tano for the crime. Luckily, Krell and Offee's plots were eventually uncovered by the Council.

Though she served Count Dooku, Asajj Ventress fell in love with Jedi Quinlan Vos, bringing an attachment into Vos' life that swayed him to the dark side. This same passion provided an avenue for Ventress and Vos to once again find the light within themselves. Just like his grandfather before him, Ben Solo also fell to the darkness, committing unspeakable acts under the guise of Kylo Ren, and unknowingly furthering the goals of the Emperor. As with Ventress, Vos, and Darth Vader, Ben was redeemed, joining Rey to finally defeat Palpatine on Exegol.

So, Jedi did go 'rogue' to varying degrees over the years. One might even view Luke Skywalker's self-imposed disconnection from the Force as straying from the Jedi way. However, much like Obi-Wan Kenobi and Yoda, Skywalker ultimately chose against exile, tapping into the Force again to aid the galaxy.

JADED JEDI

32 BSW4:
Believing that Anakin Skywalker was the Chosen One, Qui-Gon Jinn brought the boy before the Jedi Council so that he could be trained as a Jedi. The Council refused, which prompted Qui-Gon to claim he would take Skywalker as his apprentice anyway.

22 BSW4:
Under orders from Darth Sidious, Count Dooku imprisoned Obi-Wan Kenobi on Geonosis, an act which compelled the Jedi Council to send a rescue team and ignited the Clone War.

19 BSW4:
Having been acquitted of any involvement in the Jedi Temple bombing, Ahsoka Tano nevertheless rejected the Jedi Council's offer to rejoin the Jedi Order and chose to follow her own path.

19 BSW4:
Anakin Skywalker betrayed the Jedi, killing Mace Windu to save his soon-to-be Sith master, Darth Sidious. This decision led Skywalker to become Darth Vader, Sidious' new apprentice.

3 BSW4:
The Seventh Sister, Fifth Brother, and Eighth Brother clashed with Maul, Ezra Bridger, Kanan Jarrus, and Ahsoka Tano on Malachor. The three Inquisitors were defeated, leaving Ahsoka to face off against Darth Vader.

28 ASW4:
Ben Solo awakens to see his master and uncle, Luke Skywalker, standing over him with an ingnited lightsaber. This is the final push that sends Ben on his path to the dark side.

The Infamous Inquisitorius

In an effort to track down the Jedi who escaped Order 66, Emperor Palpatine and Darth Vader assembled former Jedi who had been corrupted or tortured into serving the dark side. Led by a former Jedi Temple Guard known as the Grand Inquisitor, these Force-sensitive lightsaber wielders hunted Jedi for a living.

The Grand Inquisitor, as well as the Inquisitors known as the Seventh Sister, Fifth Brother, and Eighth Brother, pursued Kanan Jarrus and Ezra Bridger. The ex-Jedi Trilla Suduri (Second Sister) and Masana Tide (Ninth Sister) were the Inquisitors assigned to find Cal Kestis, while Reva (Third Sister) had her own axes to grind with Obi-Wan Kenobi and Darth Vader.



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MERMANDO

Giving armor an aquatic twist

Cosplayer Caleb S. Knight became hooked on *Star Wars* after watching the original trilogy on VHS as a kid. "I was so fascinated by the entire lore of the galaxy that George Lucas brought to life on the silver screen," he says.

Knight attended his first comic convention in Indianapolis In 2014. As someone who loved telling stories through sketches and fan fiction, Knight found himself at home in the world of cosplay and began creating backstories for each of his original characters, which included a Republic Commando of his own devising.

Knight's most unique cosplay to date has been a character he has nicknamed "Mermando," which he created after being introduced to the "mermaiding"





INSIDER NEEDS YOU!

We want to hear from you! Tell us about your *Star Wars* experience. What made you want to become a fan? What have you done in the name of *Star Wars*? Tell us your *Star Wars* story by sending your photos, art, and letters here:

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hobby, where people dress up and go swimming wearing merpeople tails. While visiting an aquarium, one of his mermaiding friends suggested it would be cool if they were a mermaid Jedi and Knight was an aquatic bounty hunter! Knight thought it was a fun idea and began exploring how he might combine the two distinct fandoms while ensuring his outfit would be approved by the Mandalorian Mercs Costume Club.

The character that eventually inspired his Mermando costume was Riff Tamson from *The Clone Wars* (2008–2020) animated series. "The most prominent feature of the entire costume is the dorsal fin on the helmet," says Knight. "A friend of mine constructed and painted the custom-roto cast helmet, and the armor breastplate and back plate were made from vacuum-formed ABS plastic." Knight combined 3D-printed parts and pieces from various sources, then used Chicago screws and posts to create the armor's bolted and layered look.



Photographed by Kyle Morrow

ARTISTS' ALLEY

Talented *Star Wars* fans share their amazing drawings inspired by the galaxy far, far away....





01 "BOBA AND TUSKEN WARRIOR" AND "HAN AND CHEWBACCA" BY JUNCHAN

Fan artist Junchan enjoyed seeing Boba Fett and the Tusken Warrior bond in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021). "It was beautiful to see the trust grow between them, and how they accepted one another as friends," says Junchan, who compares that relationship to Han Solo and Chewbacca's. "I was moved by Han and Chewie's friendship throughout the movies. I decided to paint them with their backs towards each other, to show the trust between them."

02 "RODIAN PRISONER" BY NAOMI LINCOLN

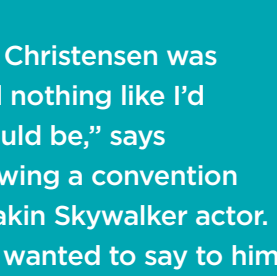
Shortly after being captured by a Tusken tribe in *The Book of Boba Fett*, the bounty hunter attempted to escape and offered to help his fellow Rodian prisoner do the same. "I was really drawn to that Rodian by his huge eyes," proclaims fan artist Naomi Lincoln. "I just loved the expression on his face, so I had to have a go at drawing him. I really enjoyed making this piece!"



BOUNTY HUNTERS

Scouring the galaxy for the stars of *Star Wars*...

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HAYDEN CHRISTENSEN

"Meet Anakin Skywalker"



Maureen Doherty poses with Hayden Christensen, best known for playing Anakin Skywalker and Darth Vader.

"Meeting Hayden Christensen was everything and nothing like I'd imagined it would be," says Maureen Doherty, following a convention encounter with the Anakin Skywalker actor. "I'd gone over what I'd wanted to say to him in my mind, but everything went out of the window as soon as it was my turn."

Dressed as Padmé Amidala, Doherty had intended to greet the Anakin Skywalker actor at the photo opportunity with a line of dialogue from *Attack of the Clones* (2002): "I was going to say 'Ani?! My goodness, you've grown!' But all I managed to say was, 'Hi!'" Doherty laughs. Ever the gentleman, Christensen praised Maureen's cosplay and remembered the fan when she returned later for an autograph. "I was finally able to express how much Anakin has meant to me growing up, and how his role as Anakin had an influence on my love for film and, therefore, acting," she says. "He was so kind and genuinely happy to be there, which made it that much more special."



I HAVE THE 'PIE' GROUND

Baking delicious *Star Wars* treats

There isn't a galactic citizen who wouldn't hate to find the Death Star looming over their planet, unless the technological terror took the form of a *scrumpcious pie*, of course! For Erin, a *Star Wars* fan who enjoys baking, creating unique treats based on infamous moments from the saga has become a delightful hobby.

"I remember watching *Star Wars* for the first time in middle school around 1995," reflects Erin. "I was Princess Leia for Halloween that year, and I've loved it ever since." Her connection to the legendary Alderaanian would later be reflected in one of Erin's culinary projects: a cake decorated with the Rebel Alliance's distinctive symbol.

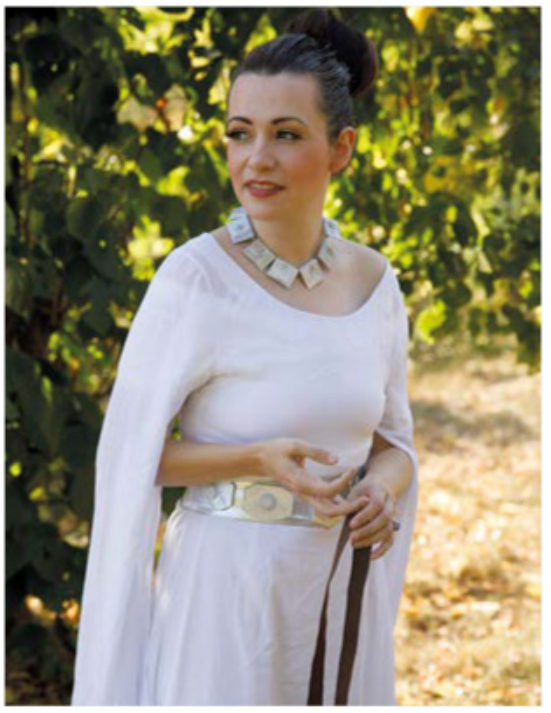
"It wasn't until I had kids of my own with a *Star Wars*-loving husband that I began to have fun with *Star Wars*-themed bakes," says Erin. The fan's first noteworthy dish featured two characters who recently made their return in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021): the Sarlacc and Fett himself. While the Sarlacc clearly found Jabba's henchman a little too spicy, Erin's cake flipped the narrative by turning the Sarlacc into a savory snack.

Another one of Erin's favorite bakes was based on Luke Skywalker's icy experience in the wastes of Hoth. The clever fan crafted a wampa arm cake as a nod to the appendage lost by the creature that attempted to eat Skywalker for supper.













A REBEL'S RESOLVE

Finding inspiration and resilience in *Star Wars*

"*Star Wars* plays a huge role in my life," begins the cosplayer known as Ladykatbat. "It never fails to make me feel like everything can and will be okay and reminds me of the resilience of people in the face of evil or oppression. *Star Wars* definitely inspires me to be a rebel in the face of things I think are wrong."

A New Hope (1977) served as the costumer's introduction to the saga, and she instantly related to Leia Organa. "Leia has been my favorite character for as long as I can remember," says Ladykatbat. "Her medal ceremony outfit in the final scene of *A New Hope* has always been my favorite of her costumes. I've also cosplayed as Mon Mothma because I adore her simple regal look, and I always loved that the Rebellion's leader was a woman!" Ladykatbat has cosplayed as other characters, including Qi'ra, Rey, Padmé Amidala, Bo-Katan Kryze, and Hera Syndulla. "One thing I love about *Star Wars* are the incredible female characters," she adds.

Ladykatbat has also crafted a stunning dress that incorporates the iconic *Star Wars* opening crawl that opens each of the Skywalker Saga movies. "That introduction always fills me with such excitement," the cosplayer says. "My opening-crawl dress was a dream I'd had for years. I wanted to cosplay something unique from *Star Wars* that I hadn't seen anyone else do."

TK-101

HINTS, TIPS, AND IDEAS FOR CRAFTING YOUR OWN *STAR WARS* GALAXY



DARTH DOODLES

In this edition of TK-101, we find out how *Star Wars Insider* cartoonist Jamie Cosley draws Darth Vader, and he shows us how you can too.

WORDS:
CHRISTOPHER COOPER



01 Jamie Cosley at work on his Darth Vader cartoon (see facing page).

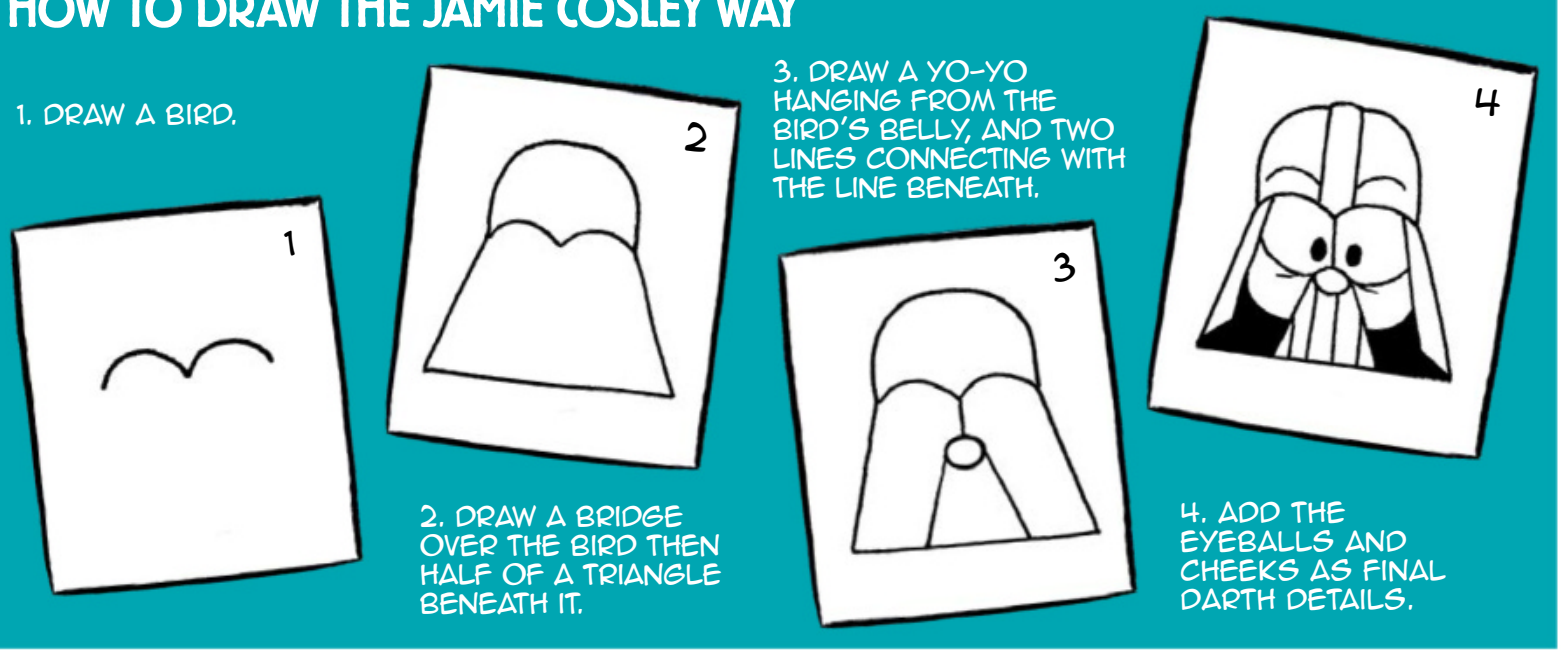
Star Wars Insider **wouldn't be the same without Jamie Cosley's "The Light Side" cartoon, nestled in its regular corner in the news section of every issue. It never fails to bring a smile to TK-101's face, not least because working with Jamie is a lot of fun.**

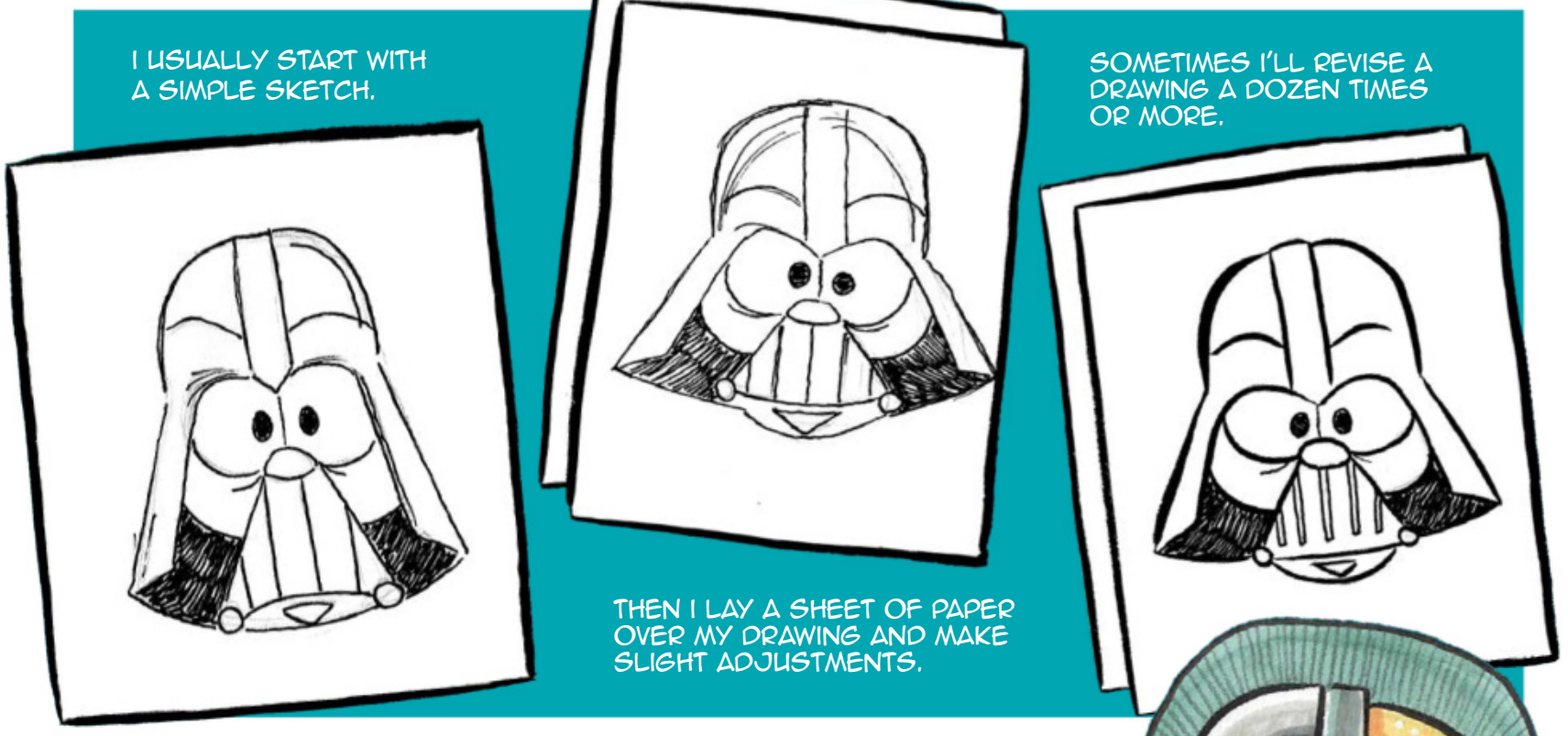
As TK-101's remit is to encourage our readers to get creative, we asked the artist to offer his advice on how best to start drawing your own *Star Wars* cartoons.

"Try to smile while you're drawing," is Jamie's first piece of Jedi-like wisdom. "The process can be a struggle a times, but drawing is and always should be so much fun. Artists can be very critical of themselves, so I work extra hard to extend myself some grace. If I'm trying to capture something fun with a particular character or creature and it just isn't working, I'll take a walk, eat a sandwich, or maybe even try again the next day. Usually, things will come together easier after some time away from the drawing board.

"I go through dozens of sketches before settling on one," he adds. "The toughest character for me was

HOW TO DRAW THE JAMIE COSLEY WAY





Kylo Ren, who took the most work. Having said that, after Vader he's probably my favorite to draw. I mean, in addition to cuties, like porgs, Ewoks, and Grogu."

Jamie also notes that enjoying the work of other artists really helps when you're trying to establish your own style. "My all-time favorite cartoonist is Sergio Aragonés of *Mad* magazine and *Groo the Wanderer* fame," Jamie says of the artists that have inspired him. "I also love old-school cartoonists from the newspaper comic strip days, folks like Mort Walker, Jim Davis and, of course, Charles Schulz of *Peanuts* fame! My biggest contemporary influences would be my friends, Mike Kunkel (*HeroBear*) and Art Baltazar (*Superman*)."

His biggest piece of advice is to be bold and brave. "Doodle without a pencil," he suggests. "Try to capture a shape or a silly look with a marker or a pen that you can't erase or alter— you can always trace your drawing later to make revisions. Maybe draw with a friend, so you can challenge and inspire each other. And of course, make sure to watch *Star Wars* while you sketch!"

02



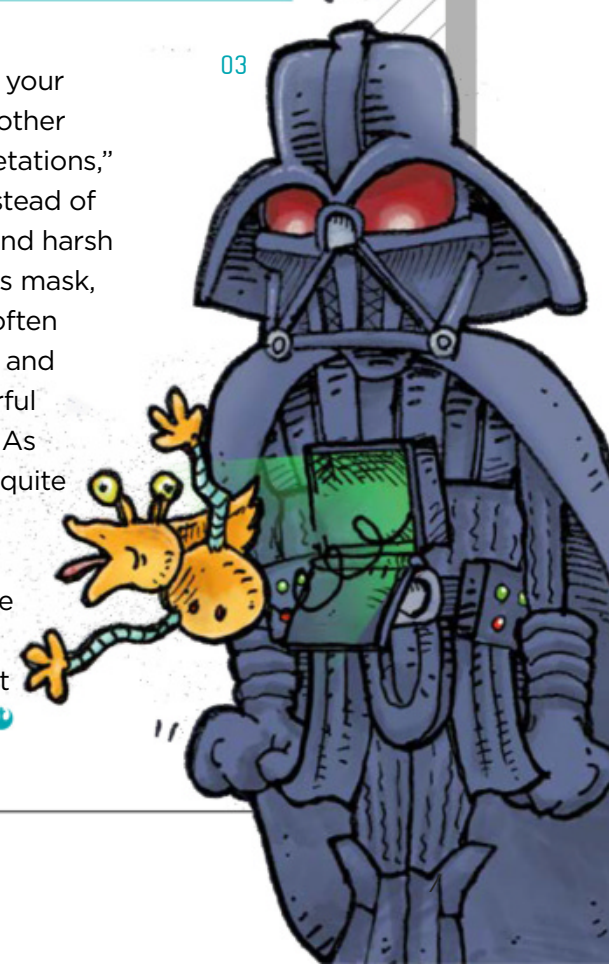
02 Jamie (left) with *Darth Vader and Son* author Jeffrey Brown.
03 TK-101's "Darth Vader Wardrobe Malfunction" cartoon.

Duel of the Darths

As a fan of *Star Wars* and a keen convention-goer, Jamie has had the chance to meet other artists known for their work in the galaxy far, far away. "I recently met Jeffrey Brown (author of *Darth Vader and Son*, among other books) at Heroes Con in Charlotte, NC, and suggested we should have a 'Darth-Off,' with me drawing my version of Vader next to his. He's such an awesome cartoonist," says Jamie. "I'd love to have the opportunity to draw Darth alongside other artists, like Jake, the Illustrator of *How to Speak Like a Wookiee*. So many artists I love and admire! Imagine what they could do with Darth Vader?"

This observation caught TK-101's imagination. A challenge! Just the kind of thing we thrive on. With our mind set on drawing our own version of Vader (see right), we asked Jamie where we should begin. "For an iconic character like Darth Vader, you should try to capture his essence but also create something that separates your drawing from other artist's interpretations," he tells us. "Instead of sharp angles and harsh triangles for his mask, I decided to soften those features and give him cheerful round cheeks. As a look, it's not quite as menacing! Oh, and you can't forget the googly eyes! Very important to my style."

03



The
Star Wars Archive

The behind-the-scenes story of a galaxy far, far away....

ONE WITH THE FORCE

***Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (2016) moved away from the epic Skywalker saga to explore the adventures of other characters living in the galaxy far, far away.**

Some of the most compelling themes and ideas introduced in the film were those situated around the moon of Jedha, where we learned of worshippers of the Force beyond the Jedi and Sith, including former Guardians of the Whills Chirrut Îmwe (Donnie Yen) and Baze Malbus (Jiang Wen). We also discovered that, before an alliance was formed, the Rebellion against the Empire was a factional and disparate opposition to the galactic oppressors, with characters such as Saw Gerrera and Cassian Andor operating at the margins of morality. In short, the film added layers of gray to the previously black and white tales of good versus evil.







02

01 Jiang Wen (left, back to camera) and Donnie Yen (center) surrounded by prone stormtrooper extras during filming of *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*.

02 Director Gareth Edwards (left) with Diego Luna as Cassian Andor (right) on the set of *Rogue One*.

03





03 First assistant director Toby Hefferman (left) with Warwick Davis (right) in the partial costume of Weeteef Cyu-Bee, a member of Saw Gerrera's partisans.

04 Davis (left) in the full Cyu-Bee costume, with creature FX animatronic designer Jessie Hinton (right) on the set of *Rogue One*.

05 Saw Gerrera costume concept art by Adam Brockbank.

06 Felicity Jones as Jyn Erso and Forest Whitaker as Saw Gerrera filming the hologram scene in the partisan hideout.







05



SPACE CHESS

The holochess sequence in *A New Hope* (1977) was one of those small scenes that lent the fantasy adventure movie its sense of grounded reality.

Tasked by George Lucas with creating the VFX for the game, Phil Tippett and Jon Berg constructed ten creatures that they then brought to life using stop-motion animation. Two decades later, the original models were scanned and 3D printed for a brief cameo in *The Force Awakens* (2015), again animated by Tippett. A physical version of the game (known as dejarik), can be seen in *Rogue One* (pictured above), using carved recreations of Tippett and Berg's original pieces from *A New Hope* (see below).



06





TALES OF ENLIGHTENMENT

“New Prospects”

PART TWO

By George Mann



Concept art by Will Htay



Previously, in a galaxy far, far away….

A prospector taking refreshment at the Enlightenment cantina regales the regulars with a tale of a deadly encounter with space pirates, a mysterious Jedi, and being eaten by a monster.

Somewhat inebriated from the amount of blue mappa he'd consumed, Piralli blurted out, "What you are saying doesn't make any *sense*. You can't be *eaten* by a monster and then live to tell the tale."

Saretha von Beel fixed him with a wry smile and reached for her own freshly charged glass of retsa. "And you know this because *you've* been up close and personal with a monster's insides before?"

"Well, no. Of course not," retorted Piralli. "That's kind of my point." He shrugged and glanced to Keth as if looking for support, but Keth could tell from the big grin the Sullustan was wearing that he was as taken in by Saretha's tale as the rest of them.

The prospector nodded. "Well, then. Allow me to enlighten you. But I'd better warn you—it's not for the faint hearted."

"Kradon finds none of the best tales are." Keth turned in his stool to see the Villarandi owner of Enlightenment had surreptitiously found himself a position behind the bar, edging closer to better enjoy Saretha's story. He was making a show of wiping an empty glass, while old Chantho, the Ithorian barkeep, was busy fixing a steady flow of fresh drinks nearby.

It was busy tonight. In fact, now that Keth was paying attention, he realized that others from around the bar had abandoned their seats and begun to gather in a loose circle around Saretha, all hanging intently off the prospector's every word.

Keth shot Moona a glance and she raised her glass in salute, before knocking back the cloudy contents. Cynical as she was, even the Twi'lek was enraptured by Saretha's story.

"So, after escaping the pirates, even though they'd stolen most of your credits, you took Jedi Knight Lee Harro to the planet he'd been trying to reach?" said Keth, prompting Saretha to continue.

"That's right. A place called Vexos." She shrugged. "It seemed the right thing to do, after the guy had just saved my life and gotten me my ship back. And besides, he asked nicely."

"Probably one of those Jedi mind tricks," said Moona, waving her hand before her face, "forcing you to do stuff you didn't really want to do."

Saretha laughed. "Harro isn't like that. I knew what I was doing. But I had no idea what I was getting myself into." She took a swig of her drink. "I guess I'd imagined there'd be some sort of settlement. A city, maybe. An outpost. But Vexos was just an uninhabited wilderness. Completely empty."

She glanced at her glass as if to underline her words, and then placed it on the bar. Old Chantho reached over and refilled it, as if on reflex.

"We touched down on a large, jagged outcropping of black rock, so slick and shiny you'd have thought it was glass. The whole place was covered in these immense stone cliffs, like spines emerging from the back of some gigantic beast. Not a glimpse of civilization in sight—no buildings, ships, campsites… No habitation of any kind. The air outside was thick and rancid with the smell of decaying vegetation, drifting up from the steaming valleys below."

"What did a Jedi want with a place like that?" said Piralli.

"Maybe he was looking for an old Jedi temple?" ventured Keth.

Saretha shot him an impressed look. "Not quite. But you're close. Harro told me there'd once been a sect of Force-users who'd lived on Vexos, millennia ago. Or so his research had led him to believe. He was there to see if any trace of them still existed."

"And you decided to stick around," said Moona, "just in case there was a profit to be turned?"

Saretha nodded, unashamed. "Like I said, I'd lost everything but my ship. If there were relics on Vexos that could help me recover some of what I'd lost—well, it seemed like fate. And besides, when I'd agreed to take Harro there, I'd assumed there'd be some sort of

"Handy thing about having a Jedi around—they've got a built-in early warning system."

inhabited outpost or station. But given the place was a complete wilderness, I figured I couldn't just leave him stranded there, with no way off world again."

"So, you went with him to explore?" said Keth.

"*Explore* might be too strong a word for it," said Saretha. "Harro seemed to know exactly where he was going. He led us down into one of the gullies, and from there, deeper into the wilderness below. It was dark and overgrown. The vegetation was thick and pervasive, and even the rocks were covered in a deep, purple moss. We used ropey vines to swing even lower, to where a fast-flowing river slashed through the base of the valley. It was raining, but we were sheltered by a canopy of leaves and branches that clung to the cliff walls." She rubbed the back of her neck, her expression pained. "It was a perfect hunting ground."

"So, *this* is when you got eaten?" murmured Keth, wide-eyed.

"Nope. This is when we *nearly* got eaten. When the strostodons came for us."

"What the hell is a strostathon?" bungled Piralli.

"Something you never, *ever* want to meet," said Saretha. "A giant bird, about three meters tall, that walks on two legs and has a beak that could take your head off in one snap."

Moona blew a long, low whistle. "I don't envy you, facing off against one of those things."

Saretha shook her head. "Oh, no. Not *one*. They hunt in *packs*."

Keth shuddered.

"Harro was poking around in the undergrowth," Saretha continued, "looking for the entrance to an old cave system—or so I realized later. Like I said, he rarely spoke, so it was something of a surprise when he told me to 'edge back slowly without making any sudden movements'".

"He'd sensed them coming, hadn't he? He knew you were in danger," said Keth.

Saretha nodded. "Handy thing about having a Jedi around—they've got a built-in early warning system." She pushed her stool back and got to her feet, smoothing the front of her tunic. "But in this case, it wasn't early enough. The strostodons burst out of the tree cover. Five, maybe six of them. Screeching so loud I swear you could have heard them on Coruscant."

Piralli was leaning forward on his stool. "What did you do?"

Saretha cocked a smile. "I didn't even have a blaster, not after the pirates had taken all my stuff. I just grabbed one of the hanging vines and started climbing. *Quickly*." She frowned, as if recalling something unpleasant. "Now, like I said, these creatures were *big*, and while they couldn't fly, they *could* jump and glide." She reached down, rolling up the leg of her coveralls. Keth looked down in astonishment at the lurid pink scar that curled around the base of her calf. "One of them caught me by the leg as I tried to swing into the trees for cover."

"Ouch," said Moona.

Saretha nodded. "I thought I was going to lose my leg. Probably bleed to death there and then in the bottom of that stinking valley. But that's when Harro did his Jedi thing."

"He used his lightsaber?"

Saretha shook her head. "No. He hadn't even *drawn* that. He just stood there as the creatures converged on him, eyes closed, hands outstretched. For a moment I thought he'd simply reconciled himself to death, but then something weird happened."

"What?" said Moona.

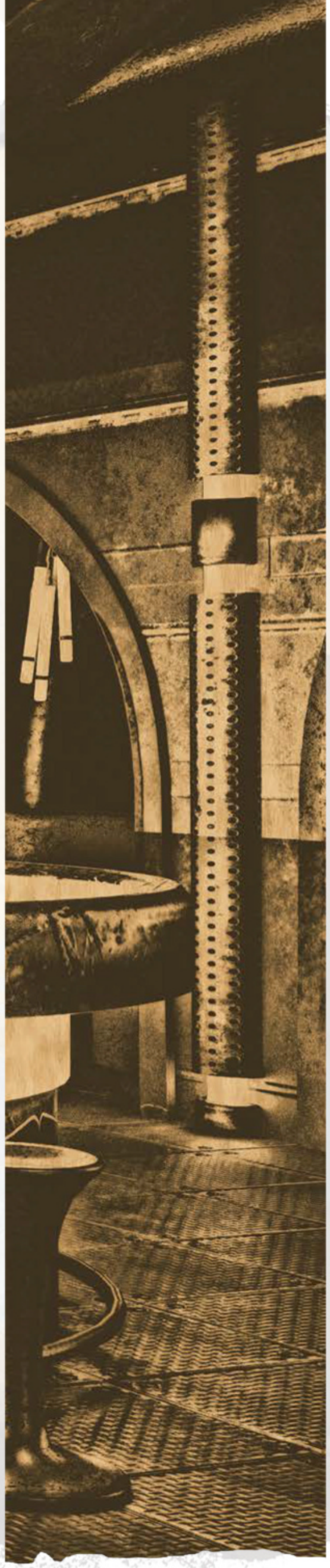
"The strostodons just *stopped*."

"Stopped?" echoed Keth.

Saretha nodded. "They just hung their heads and began making trilling sounds. As if they were placid, peaceful creatures that had never had any intention of eating us."

"The wound on your leg suggests otherwise," said Piralli.

"It does, at that," agreed Saretha. "Harro told me later that he'd reached out through the Force to commune





with them. To help them to see us as friends, rather than food." She rolled her trouser leg back down over her boot. "I only wish he'd done it a bit sooner."

"*See*," said Moona, wagging her finger. "Jedi mind tricks."

"I suppose it was, in a way," said Saretha. "But however he did it, I was grateful to Harro. He'd saved my life. *Again*."

"So, the strostodons just… *left*?" asked Keth.

"Yes and no," said Saretha. "You see, it turns out Vexos was a pretty hostile place, and they weren't the only predators down there in the gully. Harro had pacified the strostodons, and with a flick of his wrist, he sent the entire pack on its way. As we watched them thunder off through the undergrowth, though, that's when the *real* danger presented itself."

"So, *this* is when you got eaten?" said Piralli.

"I'm getting there," said Saretha, rolling her eyes. "There was a massive rumbling sound, and then the ground nearby just *erupted*. The head of an immense worm burst out from the undergrowth, its pale flesh rippling as its fanged maw gaped wide. It grabbed one of the trailing strostodons and *swallowed* it whole. Then it simply slithered back into whatever 'home' it had crept from, disappearing almost as quickly as it had arrived.

"I stood there, speechless and trembling. And that was when Harro walked over to stand beside me. 'Ah,' he said, with a broad grin. 'Looks like we've found the way into the caves.'"

"What about your leg?" asked Keth.

"Harro helped me bind it. Thankfully the wound wasn't too severe, although I wasn't going to be running anywhere for a while. He explained that the worm was a parasite, one of dozens of them down there in the valley, that had taken up residence in the cave tunnels, blocking the way in and out of the underground warren. And of course, the warren was exactly where he wanted to go."

"So, you had to kill one of the worms, right?" offered Piralli.

Saretha shook her head. "Harro is a *Jedi*. The idea of killing an innocent creature was anathema to him. No, his plan was far worse. He planned to encourage the worm to eat us."

"That's insane!" said Piralli.

"Exactly what I said," agreed Saretha. "But Harro was adamant. The best way down to the caves was to allow the worm to swallow us. You see, the worm was just one appendage of a much larger creature, like an esophagus leading down to the stomach below. Harro's plan was to use it like a tunnel—to let it swallow us, and then find a way to avoid the pools of digestive acid awaiting us below, before exiting through the, well, you know…"

"In the name of the Force," muttered Keth.

Saretha shrugged. "I have to hand it to him—it worked. I'll spare you the worst of the details, but when that fleshy throat closed around our bodies and dragged us in… let's just say I'm still not sure I've got the stink out of my hair. The slime…" She pulled a face. "The muscles rippled and propelled us down the chute of its throat at some speed.

"Thankfully, Harro was able to slow our descent with the Force, and we narrowly avoided the rancid pools of stomach juice, where our friend the strostodon was already in the process of being digested."

Beside him, Keth noticed Piralli shudder.

"It was then that I realized several other worm-like throats all led down to the same place. It was as if the creature had grown *inside* the rock, filling the available space. We skirted around the

"There was a massive rumbling sound, and then the ground nearby just erupted. The head of an immense worm burst out of the undergrowth."

acid, along another stinking tunnel where the walls quivered nervously at our presence, and eventually found our way out of the thing's insides."

"Into the cave system?" said Keth.

Saretha nodded. "Harro was delighted, of course. Personally, I couldn't see what all the fuss was about. The caves showed signs that they had once been inhabited—a few primitive paintings smeared on the walls, the remains of a bunch of old pots, and a small chunk of rock that Harro seemed particularly enamored with. He told me that he was on a quest, like Barnabus Vim and others of his Order, venturing out into the frontier to search for new ways to learn about the Force. Although, if truth be told, I had no idea what *anyone* could learn from a few musty old caves like that. We were down there for a couple of hours while he recorded his findings before he finally managed to find us another way out. This time, via an old set of carved steps in the rock, because I swore that there was no way I was venturing back the same way we'd come.

"We emerged into the light, covered in mucus and other unmentionable dirt, only to find there was someone waiting for us, blasters held at the ready."

"The pirates!" Blurted Keth, on the edge of his stool.

"They'd followed us to Vexos, looking for revenge on Harro for ruining their haul."

"What did you do?" gasped Moona.

"Me? Oh, I just put up my hands, closed my eyes, waiting for the inevitable," Saretha laughed. "Some people never learn, me included."

She took another sip of her drink, leaving her audience hanging.

"And…?!" Piralli demanded, impatiently.

"Harro whistled," Saretha smiled. "And a moment later, that flock of strostodons burst out of the undergrowth. Those pirates didn't know which way to turn."

"What happened to them?" said Keth, scandalized.

"They took off, in every direction. If they didn't end up as worm food, they're probably still there now," Saretha shrugged. "Harro took their ship, headed off to continue his explorations elsewhere on the frontier, and I had just enough fuel to make it here, to Jedha." She pulled a fist-sized hunk of rock from her pocket and tossed it in the air, before catching it again. It seemed to sparkle as it caught the low lights of the bar.

"Harro gave me the hunk of rock he'd found in the caves as a souvenir." She grinned. "I hope I'll run into him again someday, but somehow I doubt it. People like Lee Harro—they're a once-in-a-lifetime sort of encounter."

"So, now you're stranded here on Jedha, until you can figure out how to pay for repairs and fuel," said Piralli.

"That's about the size of it," said Saretha. "Although it doesn't seem like such a bad place."

"Can I take a look at that rock?" said Keth.

"Sure." Saretha tossed it over to him with a quizzical expression. "Although it's nothing special. I figured I'd mount it in my cockpit, as a reminder of Harro."

Keth turned the rock over in his hands. A broad smile crept onto his face. "This is pure kyber," he said, holding the rock up so it caught the light. "It's worth a small fortune."

"It is?" said Saretha.

"This'll more than pay for your repairs," said Keth. "And Jedha is just the place to sell it, too. I can show you where."

Saretha reached over and took the rock back from Keth, regarding it in a new light as she weighed it up in her hand. "The old dog. He knew exactly what he was giving me, didn't he?"

Keth laughed. "I guess he did."

Saretha patted Keth on the shoulder. "Thanks for the drinks, kid," she said, as she returned to her stool. Behind her, the small audience was peeling away as the other patrons went back to their own seats.

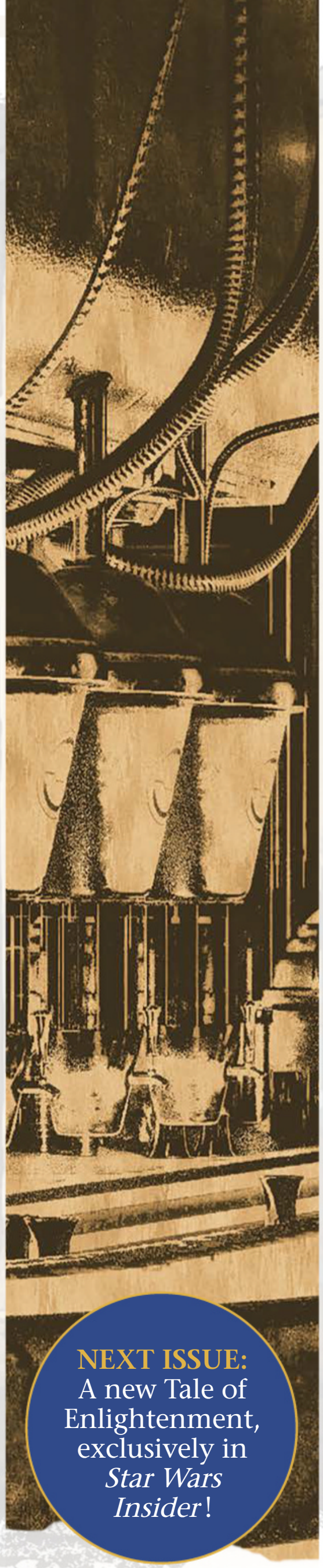
"Well, seems you *can* survive being eaten by a monster," said Piralli.

"And being kidnapped by a Jedi," said Moona.

Keth shook his head. "It was a good story. Thank you."

Saretha tossed the hunk of kyber into the air, catching it again in one hand. She turned back to Keth, Piralli and Moona, and smiled. "Well, friends," she said. "Looks like the next round's on me."

THE END.



NEXT ISSUE:
A new Tale of Enlightenment, exclusively in *Star Wars Insider*!

JEDI MASTER'S QUIZ

The Book of Boba Fett (2021) took the bounty hunter on a journey from the belly of the Sarlacc to the top of Tatooine's underworld. Test your memory of the exploits of Boba Fett in this issue's crime-infested quiz.

Compiled by Jay Stobie

"I INTEND TO RULE WITH RESPECT."

Take over Jabba the Hutt's throne by answering these questions about *The Book of Boba Fett*.

THE TRIBES OF TATOOINE

1: Which creature emerged from the ground while Boba Fett was hunting for water?



A/ B'omarr monk spider
B/ Krayt dragon
C/ Sand beast
D/ Dewback

2: Assassins from which organization attacked Boba Fett near Garsa Fwip's Sanctuary?

A/ Crimson Dawn
B/ Imperial Intelligence
C/ Order of the Night Wind
D/ Black Sun



3: Why did Boba Fett steal speeder bikes from the Kintan Striders?

A/ To travel to Mos Eisley
B/ To stop a Pyke repulsor train
C/ To sell them for parts
D/ To protect Tosche Station

4: Who tried to murder Boba Fett while he was healing in his bacta tank?



A/ Krrsantan
B/ The rancor keeper
C/ Drash
D/ The Modifier

5: What did Boba Fett and Fennec Shand use to kill the Sarlacc?

A/ Ion cannon
B/ Thermal detonator
C/ Turbolaser
D/ Seismic charge

RETURN OF THE MANDALORIAN



6: Where did Din Djarin find his Klatooinian bounty?

A/ Tatooine
B/ Glavis Ringworld
C/ Klatooine
D/ Arvala-7



7: Who helped Djarin learn to wield the Darksaber?

A/ The Armorer
B/ Koska Reeves
C/ Ahsoka Tano
D/ Greef Karga

8: Why did Din Djarin travel to Tatooine?

A/ To find Grogu
B/ To track down a bounty
C/ To obtain a new starship
D/ To hire mercenaries



9: Which species did Peli Motto maintain strong business ties with?

A/ Tuskens
B/ Pykes
C/ Jawas
D/ Gamorreans



10: Whose lightsaber did Luke Skywalker offer to Grogu?

A/ Yoda's lightsaber
B/ Obi-Wan Kenobi's lightsaber
C/ Leia Organa's lightsaber
D/ Mace Windu's lightsaber



IN THE NAME OF HONOR

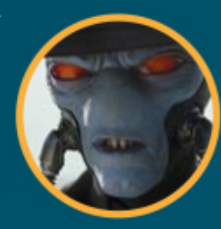
11: Where did Boba Fett and Din Djarin decide to make their last stand?

A/ Mos Espa City Hall
B/ Garsa Fwip's Sanctuary
C/ Jabba the Hutt's palace
D/ Mos Eisley mod parlor

12: Who delivered Boba Fett's terms of surrender to the Pyke Syndicate?

A/ Fennec Shand
B/ 8D8
C/ Peli Motto
D/ Twi'lek majordomo

13: How did Cad Bane antagonize Boba Fett?



A/ Mocked the legacy of Jango Fett
B/ Stole Fett's rancor
C/ Destroyed Fett's gunship
D/ Revealed who killed his Tusken family

14: What was the new name for the Mos Pelgo settlement?

A/ Freetown
B/ Sand City
C/ Banthaville
D/ Mos Krayt



15: Who occupied Boba Fett's bacta tank after the battle with the Pykes?

A/ Taanti
B/ Garfalaquox
C/ Cobb Vanth
D/ Paz Vizsla

ANSWERS QUIZ: 1. C, 2. C, 3. B, 4. A, 5. D, 6. B, 7. A, 8. C, 9. C, 10. A, 11. B, 12. D, 13. D, 14. A, 15. C.

"LIKE A BANTHA." 1. Fennec Shand, 2. Din Djarin, 3. Mok Shaiz, 4. Ahsoka Tano, 5. Boba Fett.

"I'M THE CRIME LORD." 1. Lortha Peel, 2. Kaba Baiz, 3. The Twins, 4. Cad Bane.

HOW DID YOU DO?

Were you able to acquire power and prestige just as Boba Fett did?

0-9: Sorry, we're still tired of dying because of the idiocy of others.

10-19: Not bad, but on Tatooine, things would go a lot smoother if you accepted their ways.

20-24: Excellent! You're now the head of a family, enjoy the trapplngs!



"LIKE A BANTHA."

Who spoke these standout lines in *The Book of Boba Fett*?

1. **"IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE BREATHING, I ADVISE YOU TO WEIGH YOUR NEXT WORDS CAREFULLY."**

2. **"WIZARD."**

3. **"Running a family is more complicated than bounty hunting."**

4. **"SO MUCH LIKE YOUR FATHER."**

5. **"YOU CAN ONLY GET SO FAR WITHOUT A TRIBE."**

"I'M THE CRIME LORD."

Identify these characters who quarreled with our heroes in *The Book of Boba Fett*.

NEXT ISSUE

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE | ISSUE 215

STAR WARS INSIDER

215

Making Tracks for Kenobi

Obi-Wan Kenobi **composer Natalie Holt**
Exclusive interview!

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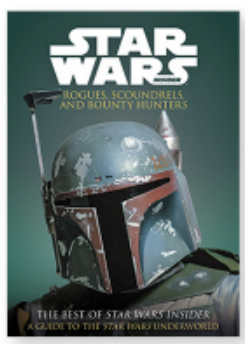
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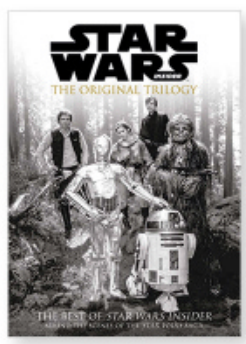
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Star Wars: Aliens,
Creatures and Droids



Star Wars: Rogues, Scoundrels
and Bounty Hunters



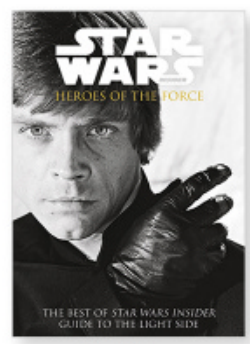
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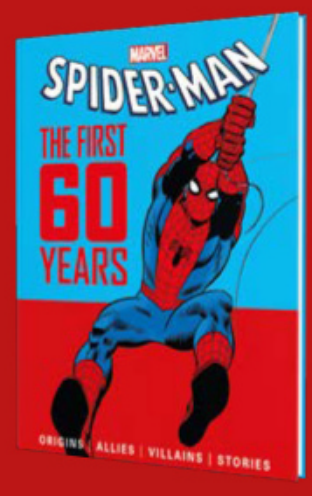
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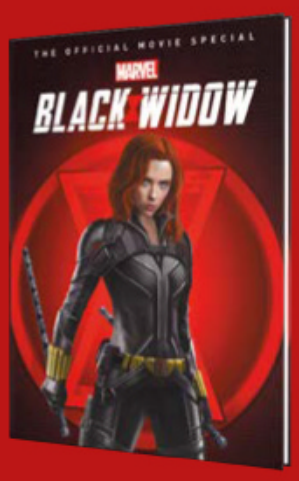






















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