

INSIDE: AMAZING HASBRO PRIZE GIVEAWAY!

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE | ISSUE 233

STAR WARS INSIDE

Exclusive STAR WARS Fiction!

INTERVIEWS:

Genevieve O'Reilly & Stellan Skarsgård

The stars of *Andor* on the hope and sacrifice of Luthen Rael and Mon Mothma

Kyriana Kratter

Skeleton Crew's cyborg, KB

Galactic Toymaker

Behind the scenes at Hasbro

ANDOR

A STAR WARS STORY

Season 2 companion



RISE OF THE BAD BATCH

AUTHOR LAMAR GILES TALKS CLONE FORCE 99

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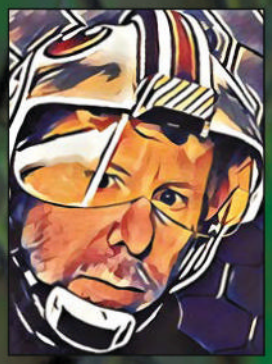
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A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

"Hello There!"



"They were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Naturally they became heroes."

That's a quote from the prologue to the novelization of *Star Wars: A New Hope*. Attributed to Senator Leia Organa of Alderaan, it's a phrase I've always fondly remembered, as it so neatly summed up the ramshackle exploits of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and the rest of the *Millennium Falcon*'s motley crew. The prologue also explained a little about how the Empire rose to power, and briefly essayed the birth of the Rebellion in two short but powerful paragraphs. In doing so, it provided a tantalizing glimpse at a story we would have to wait decades to be told in live-action. Thanks to two captivating seasons of *Andor*, the wait was worth every second.

In this issue of *Insider*, we celebrate the series by speaking with two of *Andor*'s core cast, Genevieve O'Reilly and Stellan Skarsgård, who talk about the sacrifices Mon Mothma and Luthen Rael made for the rebel cause. We also present our *Andor* Season 2 companion, taking an episode by episode look at the events of the series with contributions from the cast and crew.

The Bad Batch were another bunch of heroes active during the Empire's reign of terror, and we speak to Lamar Giles about his exciting new novel starring Hunter, Tech, Wrecker, and Omega. *Skeleton Crew*'s Kyriana Kratter reveals what it was like playing KB in the Disney+ series, and Hasbro's Steve Evans takes us behind the scenes of the making of *Star Wars* action figures. We also have brand new short fiction set in the weeks after Order 66 led to the Jedi being wiped out, in which we'll discover it was very much the wrong place to be at the wrong time!

May the Force be with You.



Christopher Cooper
Editor

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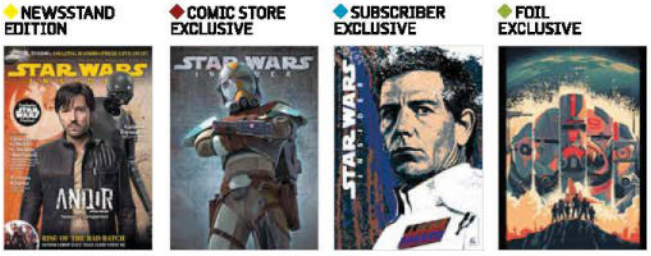
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The Legacy of Luthen Rael

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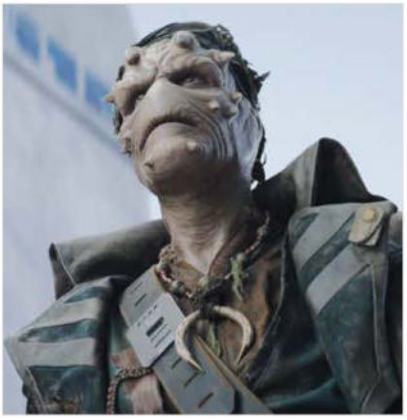
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Pieces of the Past

LEGO® *Star Wars: Rebuild the Galaxy* Returns



Arriving on Disney+ on September 19, 2025, the four-episode sequel to LEGO® *Star Wars: Rebuild the Galaxy* remixes familiar facets of the epic space saga in ways only a LEGO animated series can.

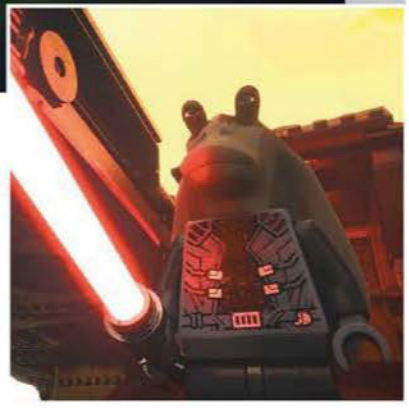
Directed by Chris Buckley and written by Dan Hernandez and Benji Samit, the sequel series sees a new threat rising in the galaxy, with Sig Greebling and Darth Dev combining their powers of "Force Building" and "Sith Breaking" to stop it. Returning cast members include Gaten Matarazzo as Sig Greebling, Marsai Martin as Yesi Scala, Tony Revolori as Dev Greebling, Bobby Moynihan as Jedi Bob, Michael Cusack as Servo, and Ahmed Best as the villainous Darth Jar Jar! Joining the brick-built crew are Dan Steves as Solitus—Jedi Bob's Former Master, Ben Schwartz as Jaxxon, and Ashley Eckstein reprising her role as Ahsoka Tano, this time in BrickHeadz form.

"This has really been a dream come true," Eckstein said during *Star Wars* Celebration in Japan. "I am such a huge fan of LEGO. I have so many of these Ahsoka BrickHeadz, and I now get to voice her! There's so much heart in BrickHeadz Ahsoka, and we're all going to relate to her. You're going to love it."

"I always liked the Darth Jar Jar theory," said Ahmed Best, who first played the errant Gungan in *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*. "I always wanted







to explore this whole Darth Jar Jar thing, so when *Rebuild the Galaxy* came about, I was just like, 'Oh, this is absolutely perfect. This is the best way to explore Darth Jar Jar and start talking about him.' I got to do a whole bunch of comedy ad-libbing while we were doing it, which is my thing. I loved it."



AR Wars

Canned Force from Coca-Cola

There's still time to take part in the sizzling summer collaboration between *Star Wars* and the makers of Coca-Cola, showcasing the magic of the two historic brands with the "Coca-Cola x *Star Wars*: Refresh Your Galaxy" campaign.

Central to celebration are 30 limited edition collectible designs, featuring stylized illustrations of the galaxy's most beloved characters. Coca-Cola Original Taste packaging designs feature Kylo Ren, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Lando Calrissian, Queen Amidala, Ahsoka Tano, and Darth Maul, while the Coca-Cola Zero Sugar variety spotlights other icons including Darth Vader, Yoda, Anakin Skywalker, and Princess Leia Organa.

Collectors determined to complete their sets will need to visit Walt Disney World Resort, Florida or Disneyland Resort, California, where cool designs featuring the Mandalorian and Grogu; Chewbacca, and a First Order stormtrooper are exclusively available.

The limited-edition packaging designs feature a QR code that fans can scan with their devices to access a unique Augmented Reality (AR) *Star Wars* experience that explores the incredible campaign art, and also allows you to record a hologram transmission to share with friends and family.



The Reel Deal

Original 1977 *Star Wars* screened in London



On Thursday June 12, 2025, some very lucky film fans sat down at the British Film Institute (BFI) on London's South bank for a very special event: two exclusive screenings of the original 1977 U.K. theatrical print of *Star Wars*—the first time since the mid 1990's that this original six reel, 35mm dye transfer IB Technicolor print had been shown in public.

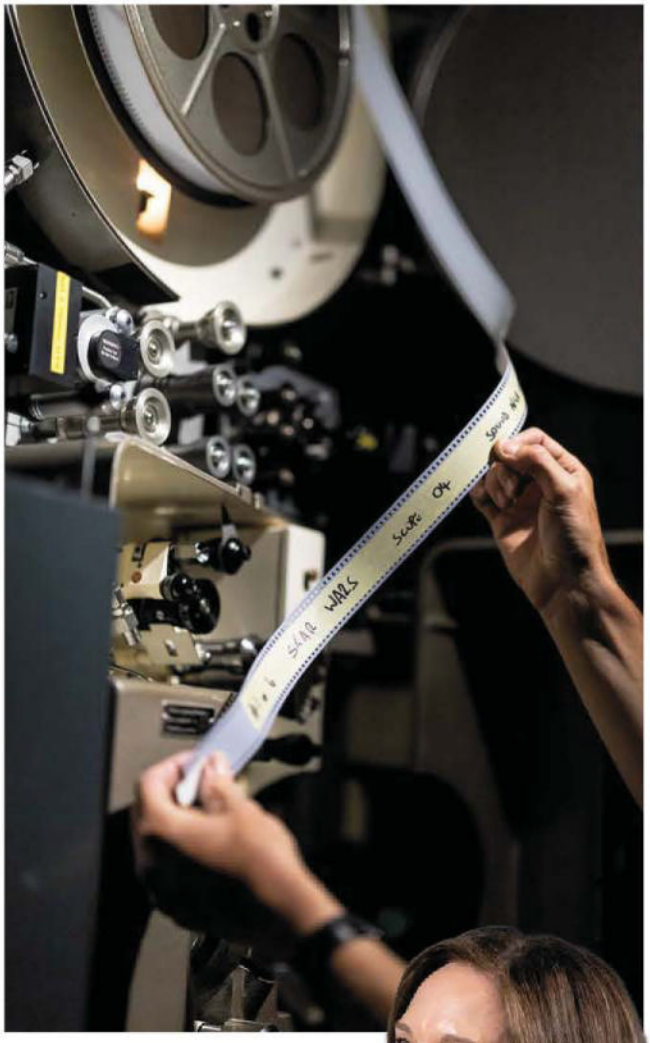
The print was originally obtained by the National Film Archive thirty years ago, and has been stored in a protected vault to ensure it suffered no degradation over the years. Opening the BFI's Film on Film festival, this unique piece of film history was screened with the full backing of Lucasilm Ltd., and the company's president, Kathleen Kennedy was in attendance.

Speaking to the audience before the film played, Kennedy said, "With the 50th anniversary of *Star Wars: A New Hope* just around the corner, the discovery of this rare original print of 1977's *Star Wars* by BFI feels superbly fitting, as it reminds us all of the film's enduring artistry and legacy nearly half a century later." Kennedy also commented on



the stunning picture quality of the Technicolor print. "It was a rare privilege to see this beautifully preserved print, still rich in color, with an audience that truly relished the opportunity to experience *Star Wars* as first seen in 1977," she said. "It's remarkable that nearly 50 years later, the excitement and celebration around this film is still as energized as it was when first released."

Archive Kieron Webb, Head of Conservation at the BFI, explained why the IB Technicolor process was so important. "Technicolor prints are renowned for the quality of color they achieve, the distinctive look and feel of the color rendition," he said. "It's very exciting that this particular original print is in existence. Crucially the colors don't appear to have faded at all over time. The most common color systems that were used [in the 1970s] have often faded to a single color, to pink or blue, the only color dyes that are left in them, whereas



Photos by Tim Whitby for the BFI.



Technicolor prints retain their excellent color reproduction throughout their life."

"Watching such original release prints carries an unmistakable emotional charge, putting us in touching distance of a film's first release," said festival program director James Bell. "We know we are experiencing the very same object as its initial audience. *Star Wars* changed popular culture forever and is omnipresent in our lives. This print was the very same object that had an enormous impact on people of all generations."

PRODUCTION DIARY

Star Wars movies and television programs from a galaxy far, far away....

NOW STREAMING

Season Two
Starring Diego Luna as Cassian Andor.
Disney+

Starring Gaten Matarazzo
Disney+

COMING SOON

Volume 3
Disney+
October 29, 2025

POST PRODUCTION

Directed by Jon Favreau
Starring Pedro Pascal and Sigourney Weaver

IN PRODUCTION

Season Two
Starring Rosario Dawson
Disney+

Directed by Shawn Levy
Starring Ryan Gosling

Bombad Binks

Gather around the galaxy's greatest Gungan

From Gungan outcast to a Senate representative, accident-prone Jar Jar Binks had a career path that no-one could have expected. Hot Toys' Jar Jar Binks Sixth Scale Figure depicts the clumsy Gungan as he appeared in *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*, complete with interchangeable face sculpts, a body with over 20 points of articulation, a Booma ball, and a carefully tailored fabric costume. Capturing Jar Jar at his comical best, this 13-inches-tall figure retails for $285 on **Sideshow.com**.



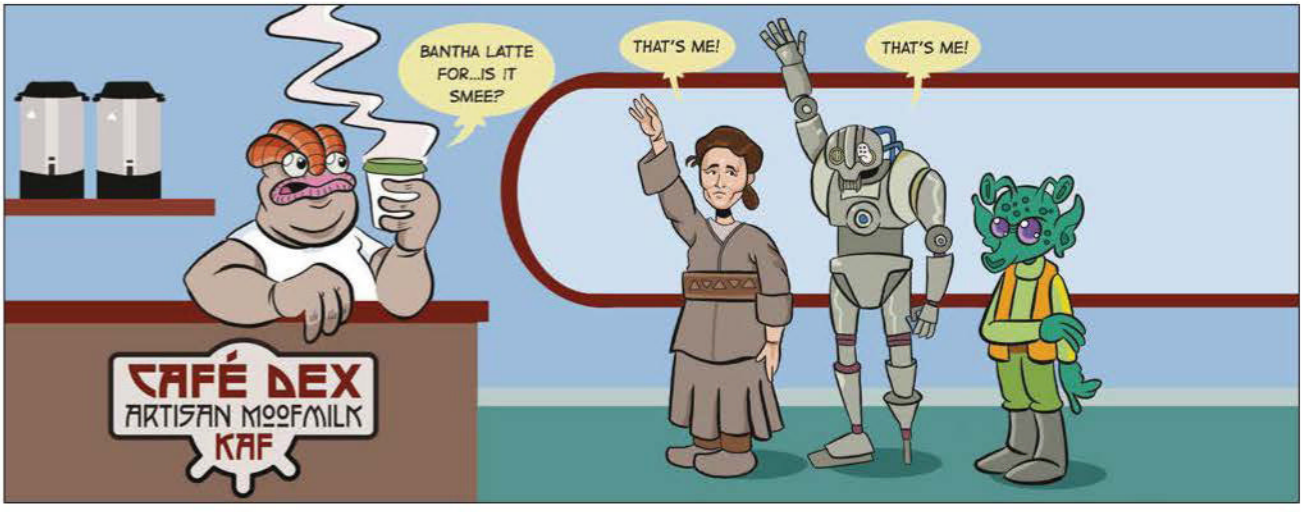






THE LIGHT SIDE

By Jamie Cosley



The Entrance to Exegol

Track down Emperor Palpatine's Final Order with this wonderful wayfinder

Recovered from the clutches of a Sith cult on Mustafar by Kylo Ren, the Sith Wayfinder guided Darth Vader's grandson on his journey to locate the reborn Emperor Palpatine on the distant world of Exegol in *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker.* Now you can get your hands on your own copy of the menacing map from **DisneyStore.com**, priced $49.99.

Packaged inside a crate emblazoned with the Sith Eternal symbol (just as Kylo Ren discovered it in the Mustafar system), the Sith Wayfinder model boasts light and sound effects that are designed to interact with Kyber crystals (sold separately).





The Brawn of Thrawn

Survive the perils of Peridea with this captivating Captain Enoch collectible

Banished to a far galaxy, Grand Admiral Thrawn's exile to Peridea was filled with unimaginable hardships. As the captain of Thrawn's guards, Captain Enoch led the Night Troopers wearing a unique helmet that featured a gold face hammered into its mask.

Based on production 3D scans, Denuo Novo's Captain Enoch Helmet Accessory meticulously recreates every detail of the character's signature headgear. Fabricated with fiberglass with resin parts, the helmet has an interior that is fully lined and ready to wear. Scheduled to ship in Fall 2025, you can currently pre-order the Captain Enoch Helmet Accessory for $700 on **DenuoNovo.com.**



THE STAR WARS DOT COLUMN

From the desk of StarWars.com Editor-in-Chief Kristin Baver



We've been recovering from the emotional toll of *Andor* Season 2 all summer (still haven't gotten over losing Brasso!) but consider this: with the LEGO® *Star Wars: Rebuild the Galaxy* sequel hitting Disney+ soon, it's possible that a brick-based Brasso and other favorite characters are still living their best lives in buildable form. Yes, even Darth Jar Jar!

Animation Celebration



Star Wars Celebration Japan kicked off another kind of celebration this spring: the 20th anniversary of Lucasfilm Animation. Recently, fans got a look at art and artifacts from *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* and more recent offerings with an exhibit at San Diego Comic-Con. Watch out for StarWars.com's exclusive coverage of *Visions* Volume III and LEGO® *Star Wars: Rebuild the Galaxy: Pieces of the Past.*

"We Are the Ghor..."



Andor series creator Tony Gilroy and his crew pulled off an incredibly immersive feel to every planet, safehouse, and hospital explored in the critically-acclaimed show. But perhaps no world exemplifies this approach more than Ghorman. From the Palmo city center to the Twillery lore, the tourism reels to the planetary anthem sung in an all-new native tongue, the series made us feel like Ghorman was a place we could all visit one day. And that makes the devastation in Season 2 all the more heartbreaking. Take a deep-dive into the soundscape that shaped the drama of the Ghorman Front with StarWars.com.

Cooler than Hoth



If it feels like you're living in the Tatooine desert, may we suggest a refreshing dessert to help you cope with late summer's Mustafar-like temperatures. Check out StarWars.com's classic recipe for retro-inspired *Star Wars* ice cream pops which are the perfect mix of whimsical and revitalizing.

Welcome to the Rebellion

Dedicated droids built to fight tyranny

We might never know if K-2SO and C1-10P (known to his friends as "Chopper") ever met while at the rebel base on Yavin 4, but they were always part of the action in the early days of the Rebel Alliance. Thanks to LEGO® *Star Wars,* fans now have a chance to pair them up with some incredible new building sets.

The 845-piece K-2SO Security Droid set (priced £$89.99) measures over 16 inches in height when built, and features a poseable head and arms, while the 1,039-piece Chopper Astromech Droid set (priced £$99.99) stands over 8 1/2 inches tall and comes equipped with a rotating head and adjustable antenna. Add both builds to your collection on **LEGO.com.**



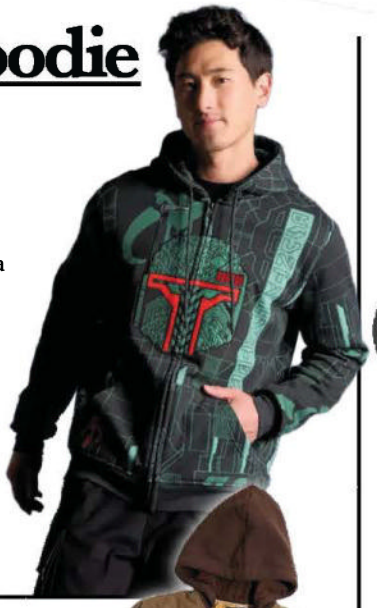


Bounty Hunter Hoodie

Track down your quarry in this awe-inspiring Boba Fett attire

Before he usurped Bib Fortuna as the crime lord overseeing Jabba the Hutt's former territory, Boba Fett was one of the galaxy's most revered bounty hunters. HerUniverse's Our Universe Boba Fett Icons Hoodie embraces the legendary hunter's distinctive armor with a stylized version of his helmet proudly embroidered on the front of the zip-up hoodie. Mythosaur skulls adorn the rest of the hoodie's front and back, as well as its front pocket, making this 60% cotton-40% polyester hoodie a dream find for any Mandalorian aficionados.

Available exclusively on **HerUniverse.com**, the Boba Fett Icons Hoodie retails for $59.90.



Balance to the Force

Will you join the Jedi or select the Sith?

Although Jedi Master Qui-Gon Jinn insisted that young Anakin Skywalker be trained as a Jedi, the two Force users followed very different paths. While Qui-Gon died in service to the Republic, Anakin eventually fell to the dark side and became Darth Vader. Whichever path you lean towards, Heroes & Villains has you covered with its Qui-Gon Jinn Jedi Master Work Jacket and Sith Lord Vader Bomber Jacket.

The 50% cotton-50% polyester Qui-Gon canvas work jacket, priced $200, includes embroidered Jedi Master patches on the front and back, snap closure pockets with faux suede accents, and a fleece hood. The 100% polyester, $125 Vader bomber jacket incorporates embroidered Imperial symbols, two front flap-snap pockets, and a ribbed knit collar. Pick a side on **HeroesVillains.com**.





Happy Beeps!

Store your treasures in this boisterous BB-8 bag

Never underestimate a droid, especially when that droid happens to be BB-8, the chirping Resistance fighter who valiantly fought beside Poe Dameron as his personal astromech.

Loungefly's BB-8 Figural Crossbody Bag channels BB-8's design aesthetic to create a bag perfect for carrying a map to Luke Skywalker or anything else you'd like to keep safe!

The bag features a 3D-detailed top of BB-8's dome, a front zipper pocket with appliqué detailing, and an adjustable strap that is also detachable. The BB-8 Figural Crossbody Bag can be purchased on **HerUniverse.com**, where it can be added to your wardrobe for $80.00.



RED 5 STANDING BY

RELIVE THE BATTLE OF YAVIN



Great Shot, Kid!

This Luke Skywalker collectible is one-in-a-million

Not long after leaving Tatooine, Luke Skywalker found himself preparing to pilot an X-wing fighter into battle against the planet-killing Death Star. Sideshow's Luke Skywalker™ & X-Wing: Red 5, Standing By Premium Format™ Figure is an intricate tribute to the pairing of pilot and starfighter.

Portraying Luke in his flight suit as he is about to ascend the ladder into the X-wing's cockpit, this extraordinary, mixed media collectible includes a stunning recreation of Skywalker's iconic orange fabric jumpsuit, complete with sculpted flares, control panels, and a base resembling metal and stone flooring underneath the boarding ladder. Also included is a sculpted section of his legendary starship, which incorporates part of the seat, targeting computer, and flight control panels. The cockpit window can be positioned either open or closed. Available to pre-order now for $1,595 on **Sideshow.com**, the figure is expected to ship in late 2025.

Built for Battle

LEGO® *Star Wars* Luke is ready for anything

With the Death Star about to unleash its superlaser on Yavin 4, Luke Skywalker placed his trust in the Force and delivered a volley of proton torpedoes that destroyed the technological terror.

The LEGO® *Star Wars* BrickHeadz Luke Skywalker (Rebel Pilot) buildable figure depicts the future Jedi Master in his famous orange flight suit, equipped with a Rebel Alliance helmet, translucent orange visor, microphone, and blue lightsaber. The 138-piece LEGO *Star Wars* BrickHeadz Luke Skywalker (Rebel Pilot) figure is available now for $9.99 on **LEGO.com**.





Trench Run Fun



Revisit a day long remembered with these magnificent magnets

The size of a small moon, the Death Star's sprawling surface appeared to stretch on for ages, towards its own distant horizon. Based on the original prop models that were used to create the battle station's exterior in *Star Wars: A New Hope*, Regal Robot's Death Star Surface Magnets come in five variations that can be configured in multiple layouts to portray unique sections of the battle station's surface. The 2.6-inch square magnet tiles are cast in solid resin, hand-painted with a layer of weathering, shipped in a full-color box, and ready to display with their neodymium magnets. Obtain your own Death Star Surface Magnets on **RegalRobot.com**, where they retail for $19.99 each.

"Use the Shirt, Luke!"

Dive into the dogfight with this eye-grabbing garment

When the Death Star's surface cannons proved unable to pick off all the Rebel Alliance X-wings that approached its surface, the Empire dispatched TIE fighters to clash with their rebellious counterparts. RSVLTS offers a colorful take on that fateful fight, as its "Synthwave Dogfight" KUNUFLEX Short Sleeve Shirt stands out with neon TIE fighters, electric X-wings, and everyone's favorite freighter, the *Millennium Falcon*.

Made from RSVLTS's lighter and softer KUNUFLEX four-way stretch material, every shirt produced has its own one-of-a-kind pattern locations. The Synthwave Dogfight KUNUFLEX Short Sleeve Shirt is priced at $70. Get ready for battle by assembling your wardrobe on **RSVLTS.com**.



Book Club

Take a tour through every galactic era with the latest *Star Wars* books



Back to the Past

Celebrate the beginning of the Skywalker saga in *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace: A Visual Archive*

When it premiered in theaters in May of 1999, *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace* was an unprecedented cultural event. For the first time in more than two decades, *Star Wars* creator George Lucas returned to the director's chair, and this time he was armed with groundbreaking CGI technology courtesy of Industrial Light & Magic. It would would go on to become the top-grossing movie of the year, and one of the most successful films of all time.

In this incredible volume from Insight Editions, writers S.T. Bende, Kelly Knox, Amy Richau, and Clayton Sandell walk readers through behind-the-scenes photography, concept art, and insightful filmmaking anecdotes, providing a fresh perspective on Episode I's connections to contemporary *Star Wars* narratives such as *Star Wars: The Clone Wars, Star Wars Rebels,* and *Star Wars: The Mandalorian,* as well as the sequel trilogy.

Fans will discover how *The Phantom Menace* built the framework for the most compelling aspects of modern *Star Wars* storytelling, providing fertile worldbuilding for future stories—its portrait of the Jedi Order would be expanded upon in *The Clone Wars,* and its milieu of political intrigue would later be explored in *Star Wars: Andor.* Iconic designs from the movie have more recently made appearanes in projects from *Star Wars: The Mandalorian* to *Star Wars: Ahsoka* and beyond.

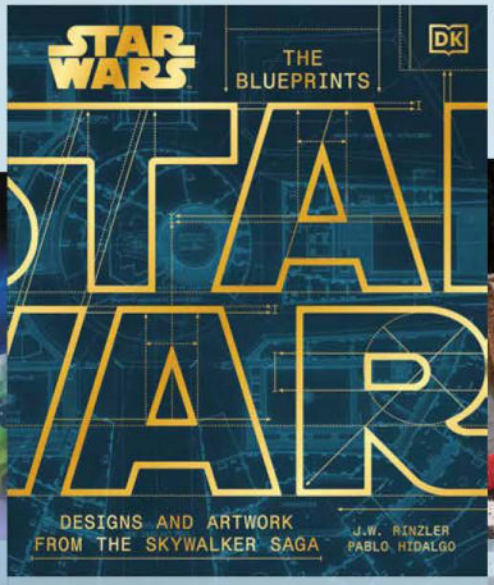
Paying tribute to George Lucas' creation, the book pairs behind-the-scenes photography and concept art with insights on the film's production. Loaded with more than a dozen special interactive items, such as booklet inserts and foldout pages, the book also examinrs the merchandise, novels, and comics inspired by the film. Foldout pages and recreations of ephemera from the production add a new level of insight to this deluxe volume.

A celebration of the enduring appeal and impact of the epic film, *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace: A Visual Archive* is a must-have for any fan collection, and arrives in bookstores on September 9.

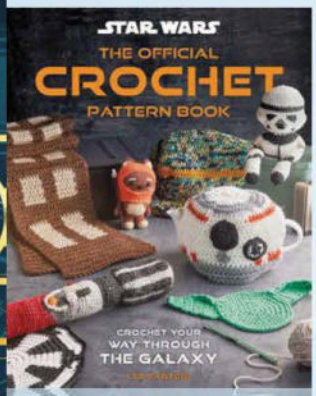
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01

The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic: Volume II

Coming soon from Abrams Books is the second collection of concept art from Lucasfilm's *Star Wars: The High Republic* publishing initiative, set 200 years before the events of the *Star Wars* films.

In this 224-page reference book, the visual development of Phases II and III of the multimedia epic is laid bare, with exclusive character, costume, vehicle, and creature designs. Written by author Kristin Baver, this companion collects the work of legendary *Star Wars* artists including Phil Noto, Iain McCaig, and Ario Anindito, presented alongside development sketches and interviews with the creatives. *The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic: Volume II,* available August 19, features an introduction by Rebecca Henderson—Vernestra Rwoh in *Star Wars: The Acolyte.*

02

Star Wars: The Blueprints: Designs and Artwork from the Skywalker Saga

For decades, DK Publishing has provided fans with astonishingly detailed looks at the starships, droids, and weapons from the galaxy far, far away. On October 7, a wealth of designs from *The Phantom Menace* to *The Rise of Skywalker* feature in this 336-page update to the 2011 original *Blueprints* book.

Created with an unprecedented level of access to the Lucasfilm Archives, the book celebrates the technical artists and designers who conceived the *Star Wars* aesthetic that has proven to be so influential in pop culture to this day. With insights from With insights from the late J.W. Rinzler and additional sequel content from Pablo Hidalgo, as well as 10 gatefold artworks, this collection is an essential addition to the library of every fan of the saga.

03

Star Wars: The Official Crochet Pattern Book

Inspired by your favorite *Star Wars* movie moments, *Star Wars: Crochet Your Way Across the Galaxy* provides step-by-step instructions for crafting stunning yarn creations for crocheters of any skill level. This is the ultimate fan guide to recreating iconic scenes from the saga via accessible crochet patterns, encompassing toys, apparel, and decor.

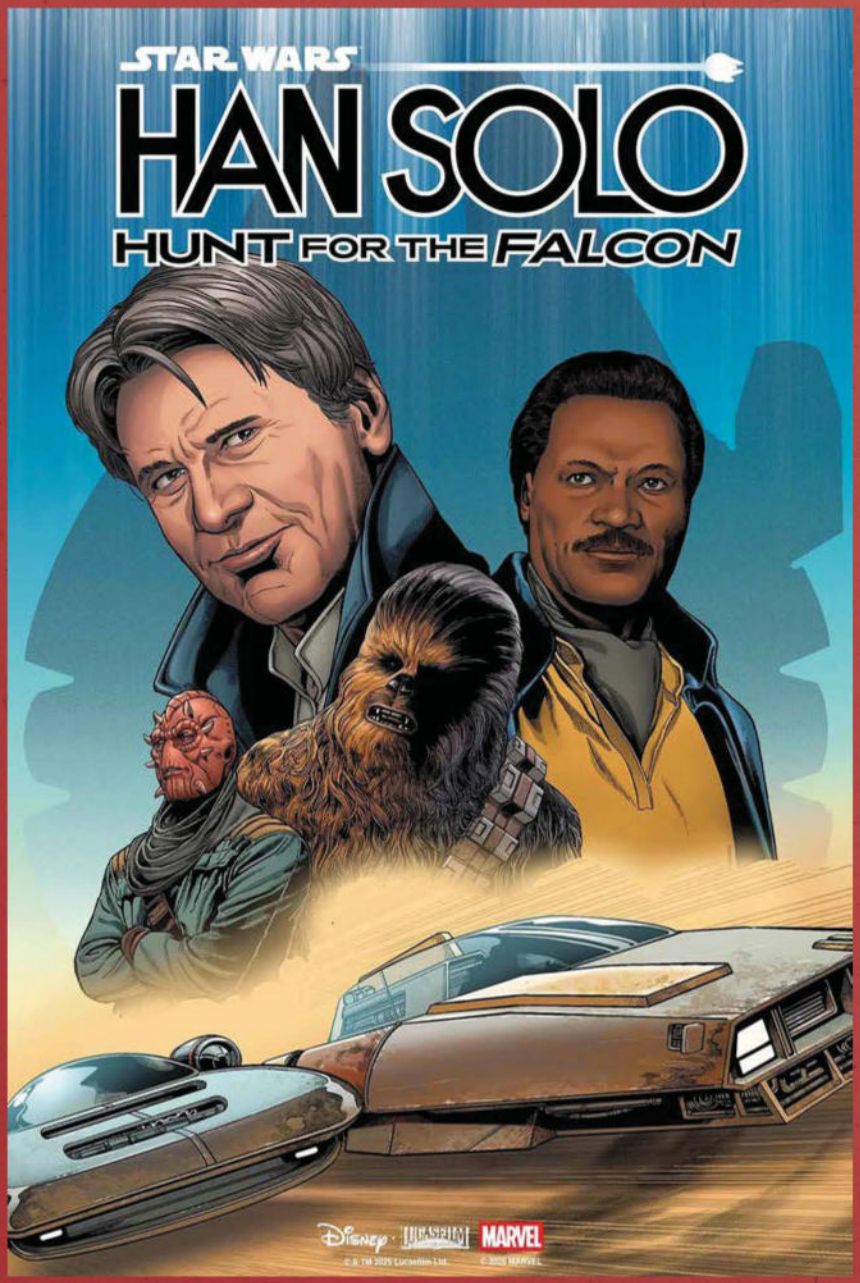
With full-color photos and detailed instructions, *Crochet Your Way Across the Galaxy* contains more than 25 patterns at varying skill levels and crochet techniques. Create amigurumi keepsakes from galaxy far, far away and home goods that feel like they've been imported from another world. *Star Wars: Crochet Your Way Across the Galaxy,* from Insight Editions, is on sale October 7.

Comics Roundup

The search for a starship and spectral spirits in the latest *Star Wars* comics

Wanted: The Fastest Hunk of Junk in the Galaxy

Han Solo and Lando Calrissian team up to track down the *Millennium Falcon*!



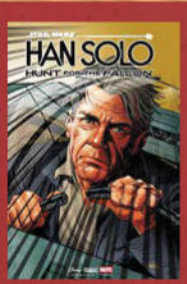
With *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* soon celebrating its 10th anniversary, Marvel Comics takes fans back into the sequel era starting this September with a new five-issue limited series that takes place in the run up to the events of the movie.

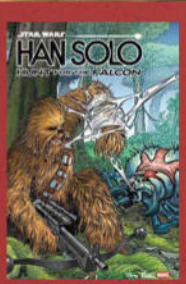
In *Star Wars: Han Solo—Hunt for the Falcon*, the former smuggler and sometime rebel general comes out of retirement and returns to a life of adventure as he sets out to recover his beloved (and missing) ship, the *Millennium Falcon*—whether Leia Organa approves or not. With his co-pilot and best friend Chewbacca reluctantly joining the hunt, Solo also enlists former *Falcon* owner Lando Calrissian to help him on his quest. But there are countless other scoundrels also seeking to lay claim to the greatest ship in the galaxy—including the shady character who stole it in the first place, Ducain.

"*Han Solo—Hunt for the Falcon* is a dream come true," says writer Rodney Barnes. "Han, Leia, Chewbacca and Lando were my heroes when I was a kid. To write an adventure that includes that quartet (and more!) is truly an honor. One huge check off my bucket list!"

Featuring interior art and a cover by Ramon Rosanas, there will be several variant covers for *Hunt for the Falcon* #1 by artists Dan Panosian, EJ Su, and Pete Woods.

Issue #1 is on sale September 3.



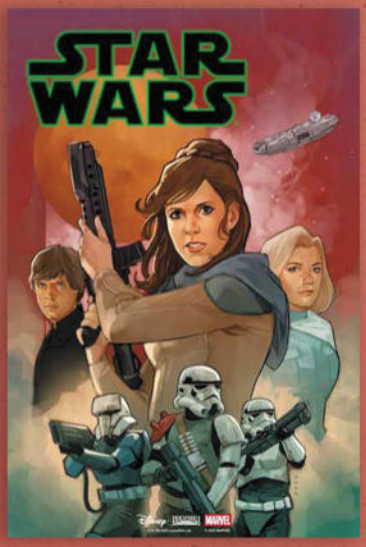




Star Wars #4

Marvel Comics' latest iteration of its venerable *Star Wars* comic launched in 2025, and issue #4 of the series continues its exploration into the state of the galaxy several years after the destruction of the second Death Star.

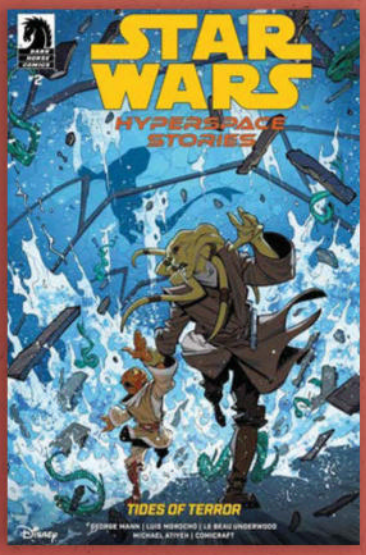
As Princess Leia Organa finds herself in the clutches of the Zantarrk gang—underworld thugs who wear castoff pieces of stormtrooper armor—an assassin is unmasked, and it's not who you might expect! Meanwhile, the *Millennium Falcon* is cornered, and a message from the Clone Wars sends shockwaves throughout the galaxy. Written by Alex Segura with art by Phil Noto, the issue is on sale August 20.



Hyperspace Stories: Tides of Terror #2 (of 4)

Writer George Mann takes us back to the prequel era in the second issue of Dark Horse Comics' *Hyperspace Stories—Tides of Terror,* featuring art by Luis Morocho and Le Beau Underwood, with a cover by Eduardo Mello.

Following a massive explosion that rocked the Axil Research Station, Jedi Master Kit Fisto and his Padawan Nahdar Vebb race to evacuate the flooding facility. Chaos reigns as seawater thunders through the corridors, while giant underwater beasts lie in wait for fresh prey. On sale September 3.



Tales from the Nightlands #1 (of 3)

A new three-issue limited series from Dark Horse Comics introduces the Nightlands—a spectral realm where the spirits of the Ryloth find rest after their deaths.

In issue #1, young Padawan Anakin Skywalker visits Ryloth and attempts to contact a ghost for a final goodbye, but instead encounters a terrifying new threat: the Nightlander!

Written by Cavan Scott, the comic features artwork by Soo Lee and a cover by Francesco Francavilla, and is on sale September 3.



Incoming

Don't Miss These Upcoming Releases

AUGUST

***Legacy of Vader* #7**
Marvel Comics
Writer: Charles Soule
Artist: Luke Ross
Cover Artist: Derrick Chew

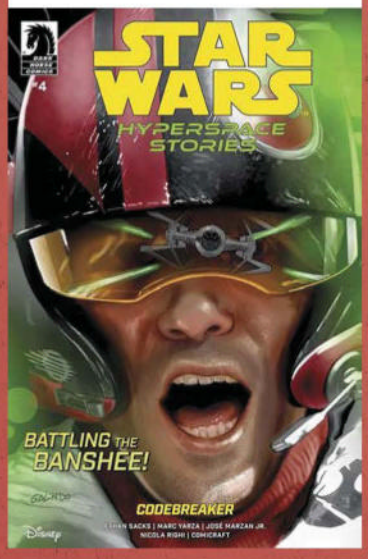
***Jedi Knights* #6**
Marvel Comics
Writer: Marc Guggenheim
Artist and Cover Artist: Madibek Musabekov

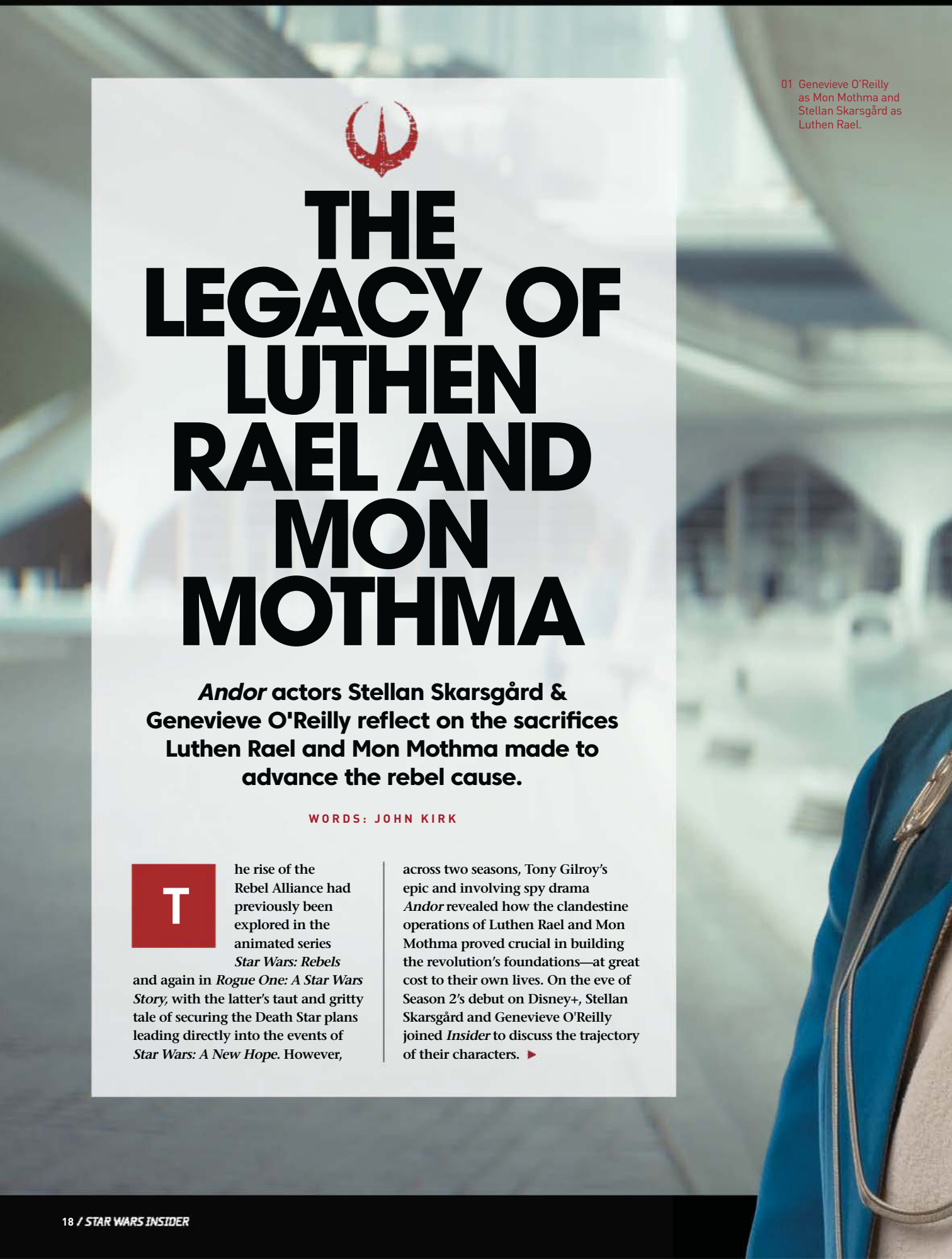
***Doctor Aphra Chaos Agent* #3**
Marvel Comics
Writer: Cherish Chen
Artist: Gabriel Guzman
Cover Artist: Ejikure

SEPTEMBER

***Hyperspace Stories: Codebreaker* #4**
Dark Horse Comics
Writer: Ethan Sacks
Artists: Marc Yarza & José Marzan Jr.
Cover Artist: Diego Galindo

***Jedi Knights* #7**
Marvel Comics
Writer: Marc Guggenheim
Artist and Cover Artist: Madibek Musabekov





01 Genevieve O'Reilly as Mon Mothma and Stellan Skarsgård as Luthen Rael.

THE LEGACY OF LUTHEN RAEL AND MON MOTHMA

Andor actors Stellan Skarsgård & Genevieve O'Reilly reflect on the sacrifices Luthen Rael and Mon Mothma made to advance the rebel cause.

WORDS: JOHN KIRK

The rise of the Rebel Alliance had previously been explored in the animated series *Star Wars: Rebels* and again in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story,* with the latter's taut and gritty tale of securing the Death Star plans leading directly into the events of *Star Wars: A New Hope.* However, across two seasons, Tony Gilroy's epic and involving spy drama *Andor* revealed how the clandestine operations of Luthen Rael and Mon Mothma proved crucial in building the revolution's foundations—at great cost to their own lives. On the eve of Season 2's debut on Disney+, Stellan Skarsgård and Genevieve O'Reilly joined *Insider* to discuss the trajectory of their characters. ▶


Genevieve O'Reilly &
Stellan Skarsgård

02



02 Tensions between Mothma and Rael heightened during Season 2.

03 Luthen Rael's monologue in Season 1 "said it all," according to Skarsgård.

04 Her daughter's wedding on Chandrilla was a low point for Mon Mothma.

"What we were really seeing through these two characters was what their ideals cost them," says Genevieve O'Reilly, who reprised the role of Mon Mothma that she'd first played in the prequel trilogy. "It wasn't just about winner, loser, bad, good. They were both such richly complex people and all their choices carried a cost, whether to themselves or their families or to other people. Ideals don't come without pain and consequence."

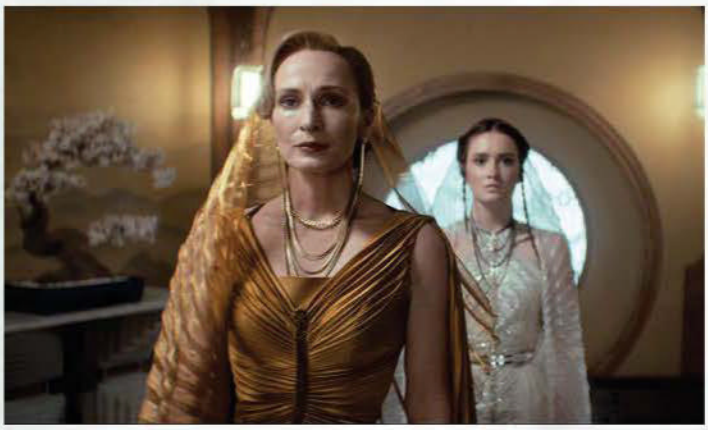
Luthen Rael, the enigmatic antiquities dealer and revolutionary schemer played by Stellan Skarsgård, paid the ultimate price in Season 2, taking his own life to ensure his secrets wouldn't fall into the hands of the Empire. But he had already admitted the true extent of his sacrifice in a powerful speech during the first season episode, "One Way Out."



03

"Well, that said it all, didn't it?" suggests Skarsgård. "Luthen rarely showed how difficult it was for him to make such sacrifices. There's always sacrifice, but sometimes he had to sacrifice other people, and that was worse. That was more difficult for him. He was genuinely a good person and he was trying, but like any general he had to sacrifice good people. Whether they were the right sacrifices or if they were unnecessary, it might take years to know for sure, but he expressed that conflict so well in 'One Way Out'—what it costs him personally. It's the speech he never wanted to make."

Throughout Season 1, Mon Mothma struggled to maintain a balance between her efforts in the Senate, her obligations as a mother, and continuing to secretly fund Rael's rebel activities, despite growing reservations about his methods. The



04



SACRIFICE

Luthen Rael to Supervisor Lonni Jung:

"Calm. Kindness. Kinship. Love. I've given up all chance at inner peace. I've made my mind a sunless space. I share my dreams with ghosts. I wake up every day to an equation I wrote 15 years ago from which there's only one conclusion, I'm damned for what I do. My anger, my ego, my unwillingness to yield, my eagerness to fight, they've set me on a path from which there is no escape. I yearned to be a savior against injustice without contemplating the cost and by the time I looked down there was no longer any ground beneath my feet.

What is my sacrifice? I'm condemned to use the tools of my enemy to defeat them. I burn my decency for someone else's future. I burn my life to make a sunrise that I know I'll never see. And the ego that started this fight will never have a mirror or an audience or the light of gratitude. So, what do I sacrifice? Everything!"

Season 1, Episode 10
"One Way Out"
Written by
Beau Willimon

second season saw all of that fall apart as an old friend attempted to extort her and the rift with her daughter deepened.

"Tony [Gilroy] gave story space and screen time to Mon in a way that she'd never had before," says O'Reilly. "We were able to fully explore the idea that she was not just a senator, that she was a mother, a wife, a cousin, a friend, a foe, a threat, a champion. There was a need to play with all of that. And given that width of character to play with, she surprised me."

"The complexity and the richness of the scripts never ceased to surprise me," agrees Skarsgård. "When writing does that, it allows you to play a scene thinking, 'Wow! Where did that come from?' or 'Why did he do that?" ▶

"You felt an urgency. It was written into the scenes. You felt that the rhythm was demanding more."

Stellan Skarsgård



TRUTH

Senator Mothma's speech to the Imperial Senate:

"Fellow Senators, friends, colleagues, allies, adversaries. I stand before you this morning with a heavy heart. I've spent my life in this chamber. I came here as a child. And as I look around now, I realize I have almost no memories that pre-date my arrival and few bonds of affection that cleave so tightly. Through these many years, I believe I have served my constituents honorably and upheld our code of conduct. This chamber is a cauldron of opinions and we've certainly all had our patience and tempers tested in pursuit of our ideals. Disagree as we might, I am hopeful that those of you who know me will vouch for my credibility in the days to come. I stand this morning with a difficult message. I believe we are in crisis. The distance between what is said and what is known to be true has become an abyss. Of all the things at risk, the loss of an objective reality is perhaps the most dangerous. The death of truth is the ultimate victory of evil. When truth leaves us, when we let it slip away, when it is ripped from our hands, we become vulnerable to the appetite of whatever monster screams the loudest. This Chamber's hold on the truth was finally lost on the Ghorman Plaza. What took place yesterday... what happened yesterday on Ghorman was unprovoked genocide! Yes! Genocide! And that truth has been exiled from this chamber! And the monster screaming the loudest? The monster we've helped create? The monster who will come for us all soon enough is Emperor Palpatine!"

Season 2, Episode 9
"Welcome to the Rebellion"
Written by Dan Gilroy

"And we could see the surprise in each other's eyes, too," adds O'Reilly. "It was wonderful when we got to play scenes together and have this real kind of sword fight between each other as actors."

"Tony writes as if every scene is so important, and every word *is* so important, even in the stage directions," continues Skarsgård. "He told me he was writing an 'actor-and-director-proof' script. You felt an urgency. It was written into the scenes. You felt that the rhythm was demanding more. I've never experienced anything like that in a script before."

"And you knew how far they had to fall," says O'Reilly. "Tony set that up. You understood what they had to lose. The vitality of each moment was innately dramatic. You played life-and-death in every single scene. It's like a Greek tragedy in that way."

Of several outstanding scenes for Mothma in Season 2, her speech to the Senate condemning its corruption by Emperor Palpatine was a standout. "I'm speaking for myself, but I hope that Mon's voice in this season allows for a legacy of

"What we were really seeing through these two characters was what their ideals cost them."

Genevieve O'Reilly

impact in regard to how powerful a voice can be," says O'Reilly. "That within a hugely ambitious adventure piece with fights and spaceships and planets, that a woman's voice can still be powerful."

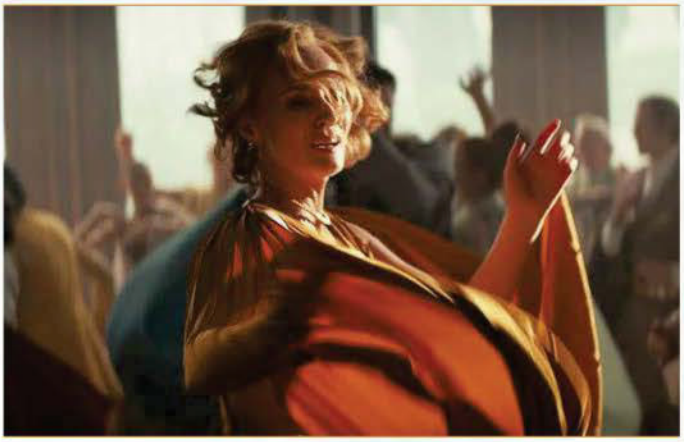
In contrast, Mothma losing herself in dance during her daughter's wedding was a cathartic expression of the character's emotional turmoil, and a moment of rebellion for her. "I like the idea that the revolution comes from within us. Mon gave in to how she was feeling," O'Reilly continues. "The choregrapher, the director, the cameraman, all of us, we spent a lot of time breathing life into that moment."

With the story ending with a neat dovetail into *Rogue One,* and the fate of at least one of the characters sealed for good, O'Reilly and Skarsgård have nothing but praise for the experience of making *Andor*.

"It's been hard to say good-bye to this job," concludes O'Reilly. "The relationships that we built with each other; the dynamic that we had as actors and directors, and the costume people, everyone involved, it was so uniquely intimate and special. Maybe that's because it took five years to do (laughs), and everything we went through together with the pandemic and strikes. But we have been part of this really special piece, and it's really tough to say good-bye to all of that."

"All the details within details made this project so special," Skarsgård remarks. "It's one of the happiest I've been involved in."

05





06

05 Mothma's dance at Leida's wedding was given an hour-long edit on the official *Star Wars* YouTube channel.

06 Luthen Rael and Kleya part company on Coruscant.

07 Mon Mothma and Luthen Rael's final encounter.



09

07



INSIDE HASBRO STAR WARS™

WORDS: MARK NEWBOLD

THE MAKING OF A *STAR WARS* ACTION FIGURE

Steve Evans, Hasbro's senior design director of fan product for *Star Wars*, takes *Insider* on the manufacturing journey behind the highly detailed action figures of The Vintage Collection and The Black Series.

***Star Wars Insider*: What's your role at Hasbro?**

Steve Evans: I have the honor of heading up a team of designers who are involved in creating The Vintage Collection and The Black Series. One of my major roles is communicating and liaising with Lucasfilm, strategically discussing what we want to do for a product line based on the entertainment they're producing, and the strategies that they're working on.

We are entirely focused on the collectors, looking at what the fan community are saying on social media and interacting with them, which gives us the opportunity to better understand them. A lot of my time is spent listening to and appreciating what's happening within that community, because our collectors are so dedicated. These are people that care about *Star Wars*, and they're probably going to care about it until their dying day. That's a big responsibility for my team, and for Hasbro. The ability to focus on the fans is the truest way towards fulfilling that responsibility, and as I have a lifelong love of toys, it's a dream come true for me. You ask me what I do for a job? I just do what I love, and Hasbro pays me for it. I'm pretty appreciative of that.

01 The Black Series' Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader.

02 Hasbro's Steve Evans.

03 Grand Admiral Thrawn from The Vintage Collection.

Could you walk us through the planning process for a new *Star Wars* action figure?

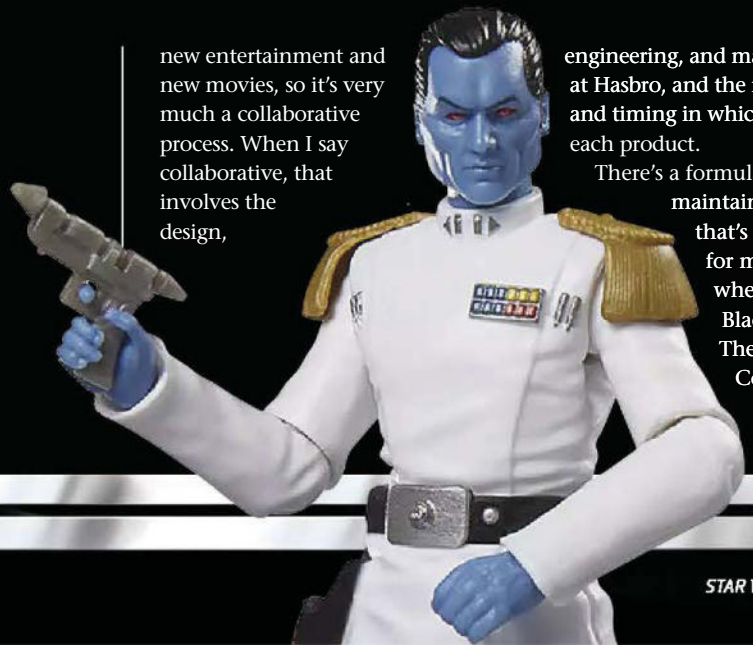
We're here to support Lucasfilm and their strategic planning surrounding new entertainment and new movies, so it's very much a collaborative process. When I say collaborative, that involves the design, engineering, and marketing teams at Hasbro, and the methodology and timing in which we approach each product.

There's a formula in maintaining a line that's been going for many years, whether it's The Black Series or The Vintage Collection:

02



"ULTIMATELY, WE'RE INTERESTED IN WHAT FANS AND COLLECTORS ARE LOOKING FOR."



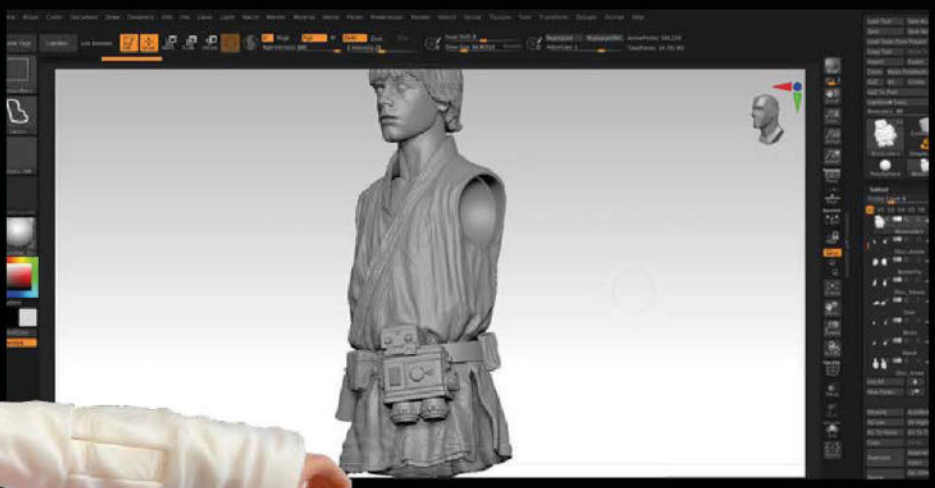
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▶ Which characters do we need to do from a classic perspective? Do we need to redo Luke or Leia? If so, how do we do that? Also, what are we hearing? We spend so much time listening, observing, absorbing, sifting, and sieving through what people tell us at conventions and what we're hearing through online fan polls. We take all of that into account, along with what the lines might need in terms of updating or refreshing, or what we might be able to do with new technology and innovations.

04



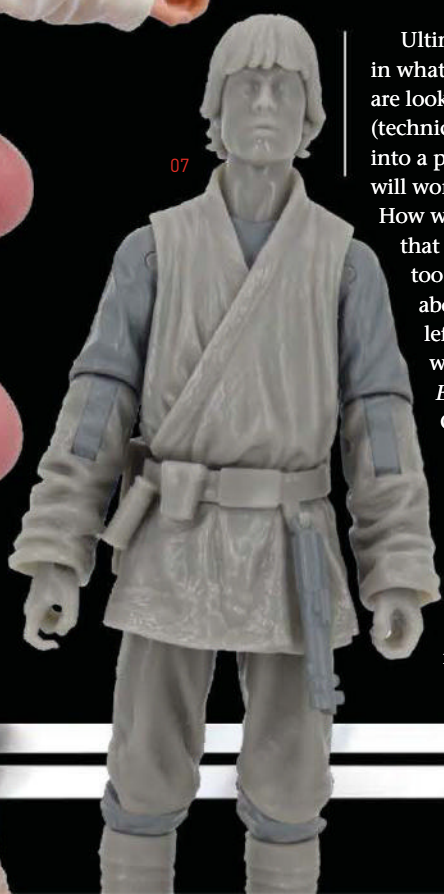
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Ultimately, we're interested in what fans and collectors are looking for. We "Smoosh" (technical term) all of that insight into a plan and lay it out: "What will work? What won't work? How will this product work with that product? Are we doing too many of these?" It's also about throwing in some left field choices, like who would expect an *Heir to the Empire* 3-pack? Or Gaming Greats for The Black Series? Eventually we gather all the ingredients for the cake, as it were, then we mix it into a plan that supports the overall *Star Wars* story for the year. From the moment we lay a product idea on the table to baking

it and getting it to our hungry fans (to keep running with the analogy), the whole process takes around 12 to 18 months.

How do you take a concept through to design and prototyping?

First, we'll submit the product to Lucasfilm as a concept, which can take the form of an image or a description. They're already in the loop because we've been discussing it with them, but that is the official first stage. With a concept approved, we then move to what's called the "input" stage, which is a tighter design drawing. If there are any aspects that we need to invent, that's when we'll do that—for example, when we've got reference stills from a show but there are areas where we don't have photographs, like if a character wears a cape, we need to know what their back looks like *beneath* the cape. Lucasfilm are fantastic at taking reference photos and keep an extensive archive, so eight times out of ten they'll find us an image. If not, then our designers Eric, Chris, and Emily will conceptualize what they *think* that character's back would look like, and we'll check with Lucasfilm to get their input.

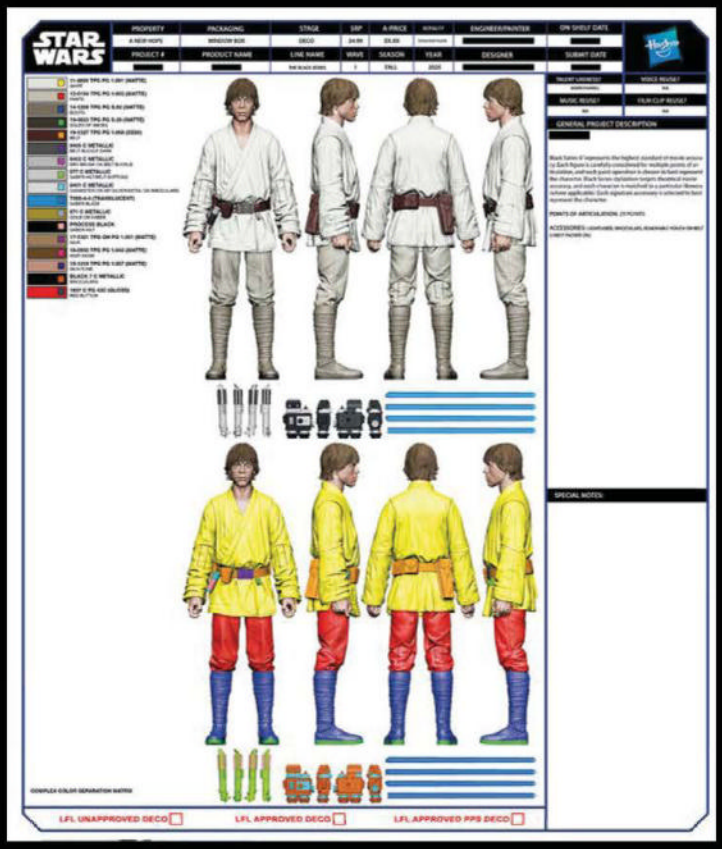
Once we all agree on what we're going to do and everyone's cool, we move on to digital sculpting. We have an incredible sculpting team at Hasbro. Most figures take 3-4 weeks to sculpt, depending

04 3D Software
05 is used to create a digital sculpt of an action figure.

06 A painted prototype of the Luke Skywalker Black Series action figure.

07 An unpainted prototype.

10



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08 Black Series
09 versions of characters aim for highly accurate likenesses (bottom) over older ranges (top).

10 A "deco sheet" is used for final approval of a figure's paint finish.

11 A side view of the painted Black Series Luke Skywalker prototype.

"ONCE WE HIT TOOLING, THAT'S A BIG, BIG MILESTONE."

11



on how complex they are. Lucasfilm looks at this digital version, reviews it, makes comments, and we'll refine it if need be. Then the file is handed over to our partners who are actually going to make it into a physical action figure. They'll review the design and stress test it for feasibility. They might provide feedback to say we've made this piece too thin, or that piece can't physically be made because it might warp. They comb through every detail to ensure the figure is manufacturable. There's a lot of polishing before we're ready to go.

That, presumably, is when things get serious?

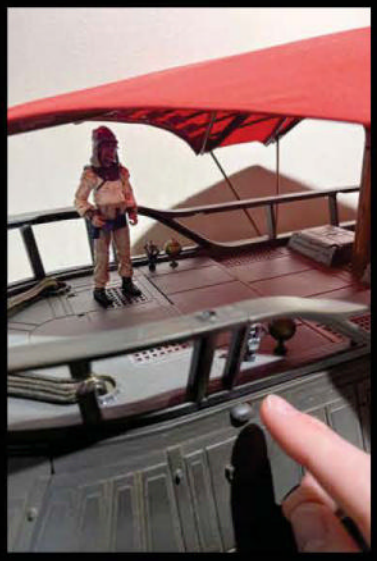
That's where we spend the big money—making the tools. Up to that point we've spent development time and money on getting a figure sculpted, but once we make the tools, that's where the big investment comes in. Now we're cutting steel and making molds for the plastic to be injected into. Once we hit tooling, that's a big, big milestone.

While that's happening, we're fine-tuning the decoration, asking ourselves things like, "What color is Han Solo's Hoth jacket? Is it blue or is it brown? Do we want to put snow wash on the jacket?" We work all that out in conjunction with Lucasfilm, which will sometimes involve going to the Archive to see the original costume or prop in person. We work through getting the deco approved and, once we know what colors we want to use, then we've got to decide exactly what colors to mold the plastic in.

At that stage, from our point of view, there's a bit of a pause. There are a few more stages, including

12 Play features
13 are just as important in high-end collectibles like Jabba's Sail Barge.

12



13



14 One of the detailed interiors of the Sail Barge set.

14





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"'WHAT COLOR IS HAN SOLO'S HOTH JACKET? IS IT BLUE OR IS IT BROWN? DO WE WANT TO PUT SNOW WASH ON THE JACKET?' WE WORK ALL THAT OUT IN CONJUNCTION WITH LUCASFILM."

what we call EP1 (Engineering Pilot) figures. The manufacturer runs plastic through the tools to see how all the parts fit together—you've probably seen photographs of such weird-colored prototypes. They are usually a bit loose, but they're just an early test sample of what we're going to make, so we can see if something doesn't move quite right, and we need to change the articulation.

Then we go back and make another prototype that's a little bit tighter and more like the final release is really going to be. This Final Engineering Pilot (FEP) is packaged and sent to Lucasfilm for final approval. They hit the big green button and "Boom!"

15 The Vintage Collection uses the retro packaging of Hasbro's original range from the 1970s and 80s.

That sounds like an incredibly involved process. How many different teams are involved from start to finish?

There's design, packaging structure, branding, engineering, QA, copywriting, to name but a few. It's a huge team of people all inputting to make this thing in a box that people love and want to collect and keep, play, or display. It's difficult, but super, super joyous.

With so many moving parts, how is all this coordinated?

We're working with a company that is making numerous streaming shows and movies. That process has changed incredibly over the last ten years. Just look at *The Mandalorian* using the ILM StageCraft volume. ▶



ADDED PLAY VALUE

Hasbro's renditions of iconic *Star Wars* vehicles often include details not seen in the movies. Are they simply fun play features, or more fun for the company's designers?

"The only interior that was built for Jabba the Hutt's Sail Barge in *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi* was the observation deck," says Steve Evans. "No one knew what areas like the cockpit looked like, so we had incredible fun inventing the rest of the Sail Barge for our Vintage Collection version. That's quite common. You don't see every little part of a ship, so we've been doing that for years. The late Mark Boudreaux made his name by doing just that, inventing these incredible missing pieces of ships."



They can make these shows a lot quicker, and we've gotten quicker too. We have an incredible team of project managers who oversee coordinating the process, and they are the unsung heroes of everything we do. The project management team are the ones who tell us what to do and when. I liken their role to that of an orchestra conductor.



LOVE RULES

"In my opinion, the 50th anniversary of *Star Wars* is the most important pop culture event of the century," Evans told *Insider*. "I'm fortunate to be working in this industry, and fortunate to be working on *Star Wars,* which is important to all of us at Hasbro. When I'm retired, I want to look back on what we've done with the brand and be proud.

"The story that George conjured up comes from multiple cultures, fables, and lore, and it culminated in a new way of storytelling. It's a reasonably simple story, but it's a story of universal truths. Those who understand and love *Star Wars* get that," he continues. "For me, being involved in *Star Wars* is being involved in storytelling, which is a fundamental need and one of the things that makes the human race different from other species. Forget that it's spaceships and monsters and robots. As I grow older, I realize what *Star Wars* is really about, what everything is all about: Love!"

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They're the ones that say, 'You start, you stop, you do this'. The tune would fall completely flat without our project managers.

At Hasbro you have teams working on many other brands. Do innovators from those teams exchange ideas to help problem solve?

The great thing about Hasbro is there are a lot of resources and expertise available to tap into. There are experts in animatronics or electrical engineering, pockets of people that aren't assigned to one specific brand. Grab them, buy them a coffee, and ask what they think. There's no command key for innovation. You can hunt for it, but it often comes from out of the blue.

Talking of innovation, what have been game-changing advances for your ranges?

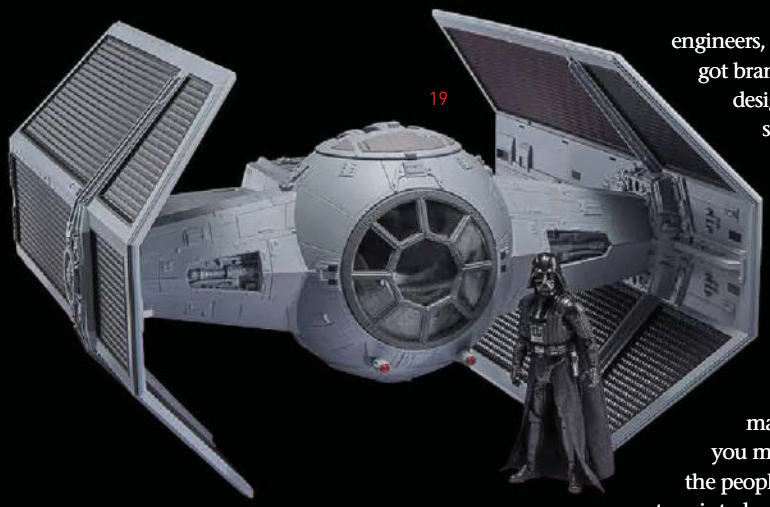
PhotoReal is a great example. Applying a facial feature, standardizing it, and having it repeatable with less room for human error benefits the efficiency of manufacturing, and it also looks way better—like someone has breathed life into the action figures. That was a win for both Hasbro and *Star Wars* collectors.

16 Rey and 17 Captain Rex action figures benefited from Hasbro's innovative PhotoReal technology.

18 Characters from the *Star Wars* Legends novel *Heir to the Empire* feature in The Vintage Collection.

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Do you think the average *Star Wars* fan would be surprised by the process of putting a new figure together?

People are always surprised by the amount of people involved. So many different hands touch each product. First of all, we've got researchers. Our research group tells us what people want, what parents and collectors are spending their money on. Then we have the designers, the engineers, our marketers. We've got brand writers and brand designers, packaging, structural engineers, graphics. Then there's copywriters, vendors, and quality assurance, who are always checking and making sure a toy is safe. You've got project managers, and then you move through into the people who are packing toys into boxes and shipping them, delivering them, and merchandising in stores. You might think "It's just an action figure, what's difficult about that?" but there are so many people, it's a whole community doing very different things at very specific times.

19 The Vintage Collection Darth Vader's TIE Advanced.

20 The Vintage Collection Imperial Combat Assault Tank.

21 A hidden coffee cup is a fun feature hidden inside the Assault Tank.

Adult collectors love The Vintage Collection and The Black Series, but are those products play tested by kids?

Every day! We're all still kids at heart, aren't we? No one ever truly grows up, we just shift our perspective a little, moving from playing as kids to *displaying* as adults. But when we develop products, we always like to sprinkle in a little fun here and there.

Take the coffee cup in the Imperial Combat Assault Tank or the trap door on Jabba's Sail Barge, small details that remind us of the joy of discovery. While accuracy and screen authenticity are always the priority, we never miss the chance to pay homage to our playful roots, because at the end of the day, it's important that we never stop playing!



21

"AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE NEVER STOP PLAYING!"



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01 Kyriana Kratter as KB in *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew.*

KB

KYRIANA KRATTER UNPLUGGED

One of *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew*'s talented ensemble of young stars, Kyriana Kratter shone as the quietly intelligent KB.

WORDS: MARK NEWBOLD

First announced on May 17 2022, with the series title revealed a month later at *Star Wars* Celebration Anaheim, the arrival of *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew* on Disney+ gave fans an entirely new perspective on the storied galaxy far, far away. Told from the viewpoint of a group of youngsters lost in space and a long way from home, the series took them from the cosseted suburbia of At Attin to the underworld dive of Port Borgo, onto the devastation on At Achrann and the opulence of Lanupa. It also introduced a group of talented young actors at the beginning of their careers, including Kyriana Kratter as KB, a socially awkward child whose cybernetic augments set her apart from her classmates.

Star Wars Insider's conversation with Kratter began by revisiting her audition for the role in early 2022.

"It was top secret," says the actor. "The audition script was short, only two pages long, but I was given a good number of days to work on it. I spent that time figuring out what KB was all about, analyzing her and trying to make her feel like a real person. I was called back for more auditions, and then the chemistry read, and the night after that I got a phone call from my manager to say I'd got the role."

The Grogu Quartet

Series creators Jon Watts and Christopher Ford have spoken previously about making changes to the scripts once the quartet at the story's heart had been cast. "We went back into the scripts and punched [them] up to match their personalities even more so the kids could bring as much of themselves as possible," said Watts. That flexibility extended to the young actors being encouraged to truly inhabit their characters, as Kratter explains.

"I had written a whole page of questions to ask Jon and Chris, and Jon said that he liked it every time I asked, 'Oh, could I try this? Could I try that?' He was very open, and he gave me a lot of freedom to do what I wanted, and that was really, really fun," she says. "KB is like a different version of me, and I put elements of myself into her."

Kratter also threw in an influence from another sci-fi classic. "I gave her a Terminator posture, so she's slightly robotic, always standing really straight," she explains. "KB gets a little less robotic as the season goes on, as she feels more confident in her abilities and more comfortable around the other kids and begins to show more of her personality. She's very technical and she knows how to fix things, whereas I'm not so good. I'm more on the creative side."

As production commenced, Cabot-Conyers, Smith, Armstrong, and Kratter settled into their roles, a process helped by the order in which they filmed the episodes.

"At the beginning we shot almost all the scenes in order, which helped as we were all kind of figuring out each other as we were filming," says Kratter. "I love them all, they're really great actors, and I think it's a perfect group. We

"KB IS LIKE A DIFFERENT VERSION OF ME, AND I PUT ELEMENTS OF MYSELF INTO HER."

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02 KB and Fern (Ryan Kiera Armstrong) race to school.

03 KB with Kh'ymm (voiced by Alia Shawkat).

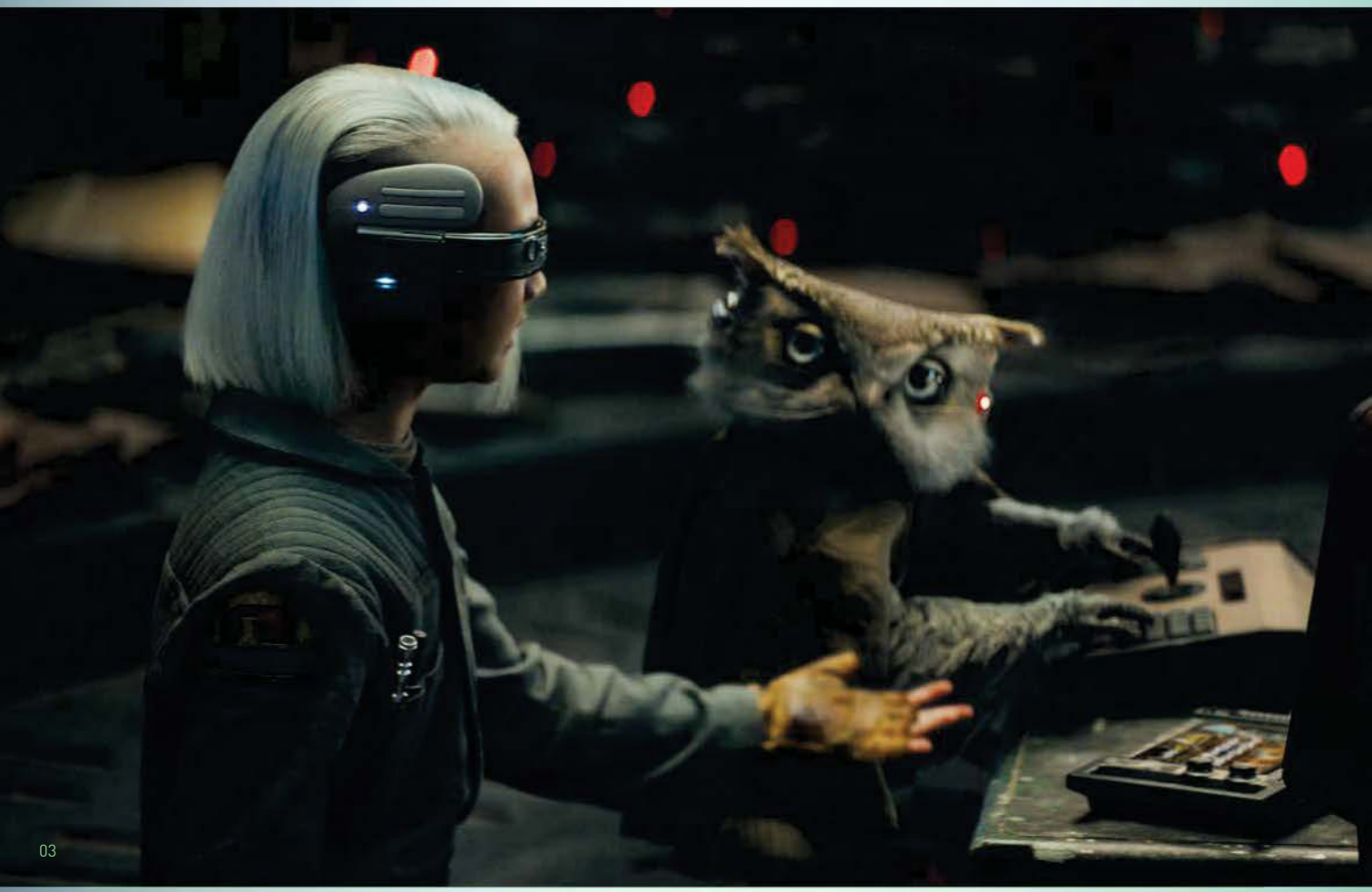
got along really well. I think each of us has a little part of ourselves in our characters. I remember the producers saying that us kids were the show's little secret, like four Grogus."

In Character

While it took a small army of visual effects wizards and animatronic experts to prepare actor Robert Timothy Smith (and performance artist Kacie Borrowman) for the role of Neel, Kratter was only required to don the striking visor that, in the show, connected to a cybernetic implant at the back of her head. She had anticipated a more drawn-out process before arriving on set.

"I was pretty sure she was a full-on robot, so I was expecting something to happen with my costume, something futuristic, maybe cyborg," recalls Kratter. "I was sent some rough concept art of what KB might look like, and it was really exciting."

To ensure KB's visor fitted Kratter perfectly, a 3D scan was made of the actor's head. "I closed my eyes and put my hair up, and this light flashed all around me. When I came back later, there was a 3D sculpture of my head, and it was so scary!" she laughs. "They had a ton of different prototypes for the visor. Whenever I came back for a fitting, they'd made tweaks and added new things. They still tweaked little things while



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"IT WAS A TWO-HOUR PROCESS PUTTING EVERYTHING ON AND THEN I WAS LIKE, 'OK, NOW I'M KB!'"

we were filming, and after a while it was perfect. It was like a pair of sunglasses that I just would slip on my head, I could put it on in two minutes. They added foam to make it more comfortable and more holes, so it was breathable. Then the side of my head was shaved, and the wig was fitted. With the jumpsuit and the hair and makeup, it was a two-hour process putting everything on and then I was like, 'Ok, now I'm KB!'"

Kratter's inexperience on a project of the size and scope of *Skeleton Crew* was made easier on a set that employed Industrial Light & Magic's StageCraft alongside numerous practical props. "There were so many people the first day I was on set, lots of cameras and gear, monsters and creatures. It was very, very

FAMILY TIME

Long before being cast in *Skeleton Crew,* Kyriana Kratter was well aware of the galaxy far, far away, with her family's affection for the saga running deep.

"*Star Wars* has always been big in my family," reveals the actor. "I watched *A New Hope* when I was four. We had toy lightsabers, and a Darth Vader helmet that my brother would wear and chase after me, which was horrible. My dad is a big *Star Wars* fan. He got to watch it in theaters when it first came out, so as you can imagine, he was very, very excited for me. It was crazy and really fun, because I got to talk to him about it and we shared our excitement together."

04 SM-33 (voiced by Nick Frost) with KB.

05 KB (Kyriana Kratter).



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overwhelming," admits the youngster. "But, to be honest, working on the Volume made it easy to click in as an actor. You could imagine yourself in these locations, so it feels like you're really in *Star Wars*. I just blurred out everything else happening around me on set and imagined I was there."

Shooting effects sequences against blue and green screens was another new experience. "I really had to use my imagination when we were doing stunts in the bluescreen rooms," she remembers. "For the scenes where me and the other kids were riding our hoverbikes, there were men wearing blue suits who were moving the hover bikes. It was hard to ignore them! I had to *really* imagine that I was riding the bike. Luckily, I have a big imagination, so it was fun."

06 KB, Fern, Neel (Robert Timothy Smith), and Wim (Ravi Cabot-Conyers) face danger together on Lanupa.

07 Kratter as KB in "Zero Friends Again."

Zero to Hero

KB's story took center stage in the series' sixth episode, 'Zero Friends Again,' in which audiences learned more about her augments, and the reason she had them. That installment was directed by *Star Wars* veteran Bryce Dallas Howard, who had helmed episodes of *The Mandalorian, The Book of Boba Fett,* and *Ahsoka* before taking on *Skeleton Crew.* Howard and her directorial methods made a strong impression on Kratter.

"Bryce is such a pro, and she's an actress herself, so working with her was just awesome," she says. "She took Ravi [Cabot-Conyers] and I to one side and told us to ask her whatever questions we wanted to, and that was really great for



08 A disguised KB in "You Have a Lot to Learn About Pirates."

09 KB reunited with her family in "We're Gonna Be In So Much Trouble."

10 KB with Wim and Fern on At Achrann.

me. It was such a big set, and I was scared to ask questions as I was worried I'd distract her because she had this happening over here and another thing over there. I didn't know if it was OK for me to do that. It was scary, but now I feel so much more confident asking questions. She was so amazing and super supportive. I would ask her questions, and she'd say, 'Try it out, just go for it'.

Howard was keen to not only put her young actors at ease, but help create the right conditions to allow them to deliver their best performance. "They made a little sandbox for me to sit in when I was doing the scene where KB breaks down, to help me imagine it," says Kratter. "It was wonderful that Bryce thought of that."

In a season that was packed with memorable moments, it was this episode that has remained in Kratter's memory, and one she had been preparing for since principal photography on the series had begun.

"It was towards the end of filming," she remembers, "and I had been anticipating it. I would put little things in my lines and my performance while we were filming the earlier episodes. Some would hint towards what would happen in episode six, and I'm so grateful that I got to do those scenes with Ravi with Bryce. It was an amazing episode, and I'm really glad that I got to do it. There was actual sand under my feet and the water moved in the background. I could even hear the trash crabs!"

With the series performing well on Disney+, and new ventures on the horizon for the young actor, the enormity of being in a high-profile *Star Wars* series is one she remembers fondly.

"THE LAST DAY ON SET WAS HEARTBREAKING ...WE WERE ALL CRYING."

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"I've learned so much since the audition," Kratter reflects. "I made friends with all the other kids—we're all besties. I made friends with the crew and everyone on the production team. It was almost a year of filming, and then we went back for reshoots. The last day on set was heartbreaking. Someone had made a collage of photos and put it up on the screens in the Volume, and we were all crying. I really hope we can get back together and see each other again soon. It was a wonderful journey."

ANDOR

A STAR WARS STORY

SEASON 2

COMPANION

***Andor*'s second season concluded what has proven to be a milestone achievement in nearly a half century of *Star Wars* storytelling. Lucasfilm's Disney+ series broadened the scope of what a story in the galaxy far, far away could be, while simultaneously maintaining the saga's core themes of choice, redemption, and hope.**

WORDS: LUCAS O. SEASTROM AND JAY STOBIE



The second and final season of *Andor* upped the ante for those committed to the rebel cause—and the Imperials fighting to quash them—across a four-year story arc that led directly into *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*. Both heroes and villains made sacrifices along the way, and several didn't make it through in one piece. The ultimate fate of Cassian Andor (Diego Luna) was, of course, known from the very beginning, but it was the all-important question of how he got there that kept audiences glued to their screens and TVs.

"I've become very aware, particularly doing this show, that it's watching people make decisions that really matters," explained creator, writer, and executive producer Tony Gilroy. "It's being there at the moment where someone has to decide what it is they're going to do about something epic." Such moments inspired audience members to ask themselves, "What would I do in such a situation?" Gilroy's intent was to foster identification with all of *Andor*'s characters, even those best described as villains.

"It's compelling," said Gilroy. "I hope that's what we're doing because I'm writing it that way. What would I do? Who am I in this show? I have to have affection for everybody. I have to love every character. It doesn't matter if it's Krennic or [Cassian]... Could I do this? Could I do that? Would I be that brave? Would I be that craven? Would I be that duplicitous? Would I be that honest? I don't know. That is why we watch, I think."

Season 2 featured a unique structure with four episodic arcs, each totaling three episodes covering a successive year in the timeline, which moved ever closer to *Rogue One*. "Tony [wrote] jumps in time and therefore

he left himself a lot of freedom to start somewhere else and make you try to figure out, well what happened, you know?" explained Diego Luna.

Cassian had learned a great deal over the course of his adventures, but the start of his Season 2 journey still gave the character plenty of room to grow. "I think he'd learned a lot of what was going on," Luna said. "He realized that there was something for him to do, but he still didn't feel part of something bigger. I don't think the whole feeling of becoming part of a community was there yet. I think he still had a lot of doubts, and he still had a little bit of an egocentric approach to the fight. There was still a long way for him to go to become the Cassian Andor we meet in *Rogue One.* There was still a lot that needed to happen to him, and a lot of things he had to witness."

In *Rogue One,* Cassian told Jyn Erso (Felicity Jones), "You're not the only one who lost everything. Some of us just decided to do something about it." *Andor*'s second season brought those hard facts into sharp focus, in what Luna described as "understanding the complexity" of someone like Cassian, who was engulfed in a revolutionary conflict. "It's about the love, commitment, and passion behind change, you know?"





EPISODE 1
ONE YEAR LATER

Directed by Ariel Kleiman
Written by Tony Gilroy
Premiered: April 22, 2025

One year after the Ferrix uprising, Cassian Andor collaborates with a technician to steal an experimental TIE starfighter from Sienar. Elsewhere, living undercover among the farming community on Mina-Rau, Bix Caleen, B2EMO, Brasso, and Wilmon learn that Imperial troops are busy auditing the workers in each sector.

On Chandrila, Mon Mothma welcomes Luthen Rael to her daughter's wedding. During the early celebrations, Tay Kolma seeks out Mon Mothma to discuss his growing concerns, but Mon leaves to console her daughter.

At the Maltheen Divide, Director Orson Krennic assembles Dedra Meero and other high-ranking Imperials to discuss the Emperor's energy project, particularly in regard to the planet Ghorman's mineral resources. Dedra Meero impresses Krennic by suggesting the Empire use a radical insurgency to sway public opinion against Ghorman.

Having landed the stolen TIE avenger at a rendezvous point in the remote wilderness of a jungle world, Cassian is captured by a group of stranded freedom fighters who eventually turn on one another in a flurry of blaster fire.







EPISODE 2
SAGRONA TEEMA

Directed by Ariel Kleiman
Written by Tony Gilroy
Premiered: April 22, 2025

The rival rebels divide into two camps, one holding Cassian prisoner and the other securing the stolen TIE avenger. Meanwhile, Dedra Meero returns to Coruscant and expresses disappointment at being assigned to the Ghorman desk. On Mina-Rau, Brasso discovers that the Imperials searching for illegal residents are getting closer, and an Imperial lieutenant harasses Bix.

As the rebels continue to clash in the wilderness, Tay Kolma gives Mon Mothma the impression that she will need to compensate him for the risks he has taken. Luthen Rael notices the exchange and pulls Mon aside to voice his own concerns about Tay.

Back in the forest, the rebels decide to end their stalemate with a game. With most of his captors distracted, Cassian frees himself and reaches the TIE fighter, blasting off and leaving the chaotic troop of freedom fighters to their fate.



INSIDER INTEL
A "PERFECT COUPLE"

"The way Tony Gilroy crafted Syril and Dedra was unlike any other villains that you would normally see in a piece like this," explained Syril Karn actor Kyle Soller. "They're incredibly human. They're incredibly flawed. And they have these little ticks that you know just instantly make them more relatable. And they're both extremely conflicted, extremely questioning of themselves and of other people. Extremely demanding, extremely insane. But no, so they make a perfect couple [laughs]. Which is crazy 'cause they don't."

EPISODE 3
HARVEST

Directed by Ariel Kleiman
Written by Tony Gilroy
Premiered: April 22, 2025

As Cassian wrestles with the stolen TIE avenger in deep space, Brasso and Bix arrange an escape from the Imperial auditors on Mina-Rau. On Chandrila, Leida Mothma rejects her mother's heartfelt attempt to dissuade her from going through with her marriage, while Dedra Meero and Syril Karn welcome Syril's mother to their home on Coruscant.

Elsewhere on Coruscant, Kleya Marki finally hears from Cassian, who sets course for Mina-Rau upon hearing about the Empire's presence there. At dinner, Dedra quietly corners Syril's mother and advises her not to cause stress in her son's life.

As the Imperials close in on Brasso and Bix, Luthen Rael resolves to prevent Tay Kolma from becoming a loose end. While Brasso is detained by Imperial troops, Bix fights off the lieutenant who had previously bothered her. Cassian arrives, blasting the Empire's reinforcements with the TIE avenger's weapons, but not before Brasso is killed. As Cinta Kaz deals with Tay Kolma by posing as his driver on Chandrila, Cassian flees from Mina-Rau with Bix and Wilmon.





EPISODE 4
EVER BEEN TO GHORMAN?

Directed by Ariel Kleiman
Written by Beau Willimon
Premiered: April 29, 2025





One year later, Bix Caleen continues to struggle with nightmares while laying low on Coruscant with Cassian Andor. Syril Karn has accepted a transfer to Ghorman, where he is under constant surveillance by the locals. Believing Syril to be sympathetic to the Ghor, an operative invites him to a town hall.

On Coruscant, Bix feels conflicted about an Imperial soldier who Cassian killed to protect her. Back on Ghorman, Syril covertly contacts Dedra Meero to inform her that the Ghor have reached out. Elsewhere on Coruscant, Mon Mothma fails to gather votes for her legislation, while Supervisor Jung warns Luthen Rael about Meero's involvement with Ghorman.

At the town hall, the Ghor voice anger about the Empire's presence on their planet, and a leader named Carro Rylanz consults with Syril about the facility the Imperials are building. While Luthen recruits Cassian to assess the Ghor, Wilmon brings equipment to Saw Gerrera on D'Qar. As Cassian departs for Ghorman, Bix takes a sedative drug.

EPISODE 5
I HAVE FRIENDS EVERYWHERE

Directed by Ariel Kleiman
Written by Beau Willimon
Premiered: April 29, 2025

As Cassian readies himself for his mission to Ghorman and Syril's office is ransacked by the Imperial Security Bureau, Kleya uses a listening device to learn that Davo Sculdun will be having his entire collection reappraised following the discovery of a fake. The Ghor approach Syril to discover what the Empire's transports are delivering.

While Cassian poses as a fashion designer to evaluate the Ghor, Luthen Rael visits Bix at the safehouse and discovers she is self-medicating. On D'Qar, Wilmon trains one of Saw Gerrera's men to operate a rhydonium fuel pipe siphon.





Cassian meets with Carro Rylanz before scouting the Ghor's plan to hijack an Imperial weapons shipment. Kleya divulges the news about Sculdun to Luthen, who is furious that his listening device might be discovered. As Cassian expresses his doubts to Rylanz, Wilmon helps Saw to procure rhydonium.

INSIDER INTEL
TREASURED TWILL

According to *Andor* creator Tony Gilroy, the Ghorman twill made from the planet's native spiderweb was so coveted across the galaxy that even Emperor Palpatine's black robes were made from the material. That commercial and cultural significance became key to Gilroy's choice to make Ghorman the site of a brutal Imperial crackdown.



EPISODE 6
WHAT A FESTIVE EVENING

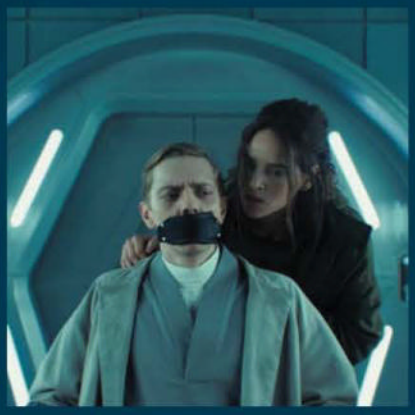


Directed by Ariel Kleiman
Written by Beau Willimon
Premiered: April 29, 2025

Cassian rendezvouses with Luthen Rael at Port Steergard, and advises him not to get involved with the Ghor. However, Luthen is enthused at the prospect of bringing such a wealthy planet into the rebellion. Cassian reunites with Bix Caleen on Coruscant, but is frustrated that Luthen approached her while he was away.

As Cassian breaks protocol to admonish Luthen at his gallery, Vel Sartha and Cinta Kaz organize the resistance on Ghorman. In private, Cinta apologizes for hurting Vel, and the two share their love for one another. As the cell initiates its gambit to rob an Imperial transport, Luthen and Kleya Marki attend Davo Sculdun's party in a bid to retrieve their transmitter.

In spite of the unexpected presence of Director Krennic, Kleya removes the device with the assistance of Supervisor Jung. The plan doesn't go quite as well on Ghorman, where Cinta is accidentally killed during the mission. Back on Coruscant, Bix traps Doctor Gorst and hooks him up to his own interrogation equipment. As she and Cassian leave the scene, they detonate an explosive to cover their tracks.



EPISODE 7
MESSENGER

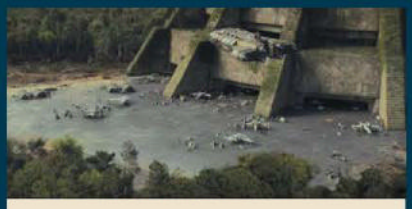
Directed by Janus Metz
Written by Dan Gilroy
Premiered: May 6, 2025



Another year later, Cassian Andor and Bix Caleen are stationed on Yavin 4, where Wilmon notifies them that Dedra Meero is on Ghorman. Major Partagaz orders Supervisor Meero to enact the Empire's plan to resettle the Ghor and extract its supply of minerals, but the cover story she gives to Syril Karn prompts him to reach out to his local contacts.

As the Ghorman resistance grows increasingly hostile under the Imperial occupation, Cassian sees a Force healer who alleviates pain caused by a recent injury. After Cassian and Wilmon depart for Ghorman, Vel Sartha visits Bix to discuss her decision to leave Luthen Rael's inner circle.

Determined to find a way to eliminate Supervisor Meero, Cassian and Wilmon arrive on Ghorman. Cassian checks into his hotel and scopes out the view of Meero's office, only to discover that his room is situated just below a stormtrooper lookout position.





INSIDER INTEL
AN OLD SCHOOL TRICK

Just as was done in *Star Wars: A New Hope*, several of *Andor*'s X-wing starfighters at the rebel base on Yavin 4 were flat, painted cut-outs made by the series' art department at Longcross Studios. "Because we were using lenses that had very shallow focus, once those ships were out of focus, they worked beautifully in camera," said Industrial Light & Magic production visual effects supervisor Mohen Leo. Exteriors and interiors of the rebel base were also digitally expanded by his team.



EPISODE 8
WHO ARE YOU?

Directed by Janus Metz
Written by Dan Gilroy
Premiered: May 6, 2025

The Empire redirects its troops from the Plaza to fortify the new Imperial building on Ghorman, causing the locals to head to the Plaza to protest their occupiers. Carro Rylanz fails to convince his daughter to stand down, and he briefly confronts Syril Karn.

The peaceful demonstration continues to grow, and Cassian proceeds to the Plaza. Syril Karn bursts into Dedra Meero's office, raging about the armada of Imperial mining ships that have arrived. Meero confesses the true reason for the Empire's presence there, and Karn storms out.



An Imperial sharpshooter is ordered to fire on one of his own soldiers, an act which ignites chaos and results in the death of many Ghor. Syril Karn corners Andor, but before Karn can fire his weapon, he is shot by Carro Rylanz. Cassian captures a disabled Imperial security droid as he escapes, and the Ghor transmit desperate broadcasts for assistance.





EPISODE 9
WELCOME TO THE REBELLION

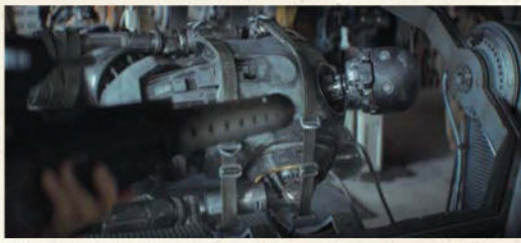
Directed by Janus Metz
Written by Dan Gilroy
Premiered: May 6, 2025





On Coruscant, Mon Mothma plots with Bail Organa to deliver a speech about the tragedy on Ghorman. Luthen Rael meets with Senator Mothma to arrange her exit strategy, and he dispatches Cassian Andor to handle the extraction.

The Imperial Security Bureau tries to ascertain Mothma's whereabouts, and Cassian infiltrates the Senate building. In the main chamber, most senators speak out in favor of the Empire, but Bail Organa arranges time for Mon Mothma to deliver a scathing rebuke of Emperor Palpatine. Despite an immediate lockdown, Cassian helps Mothma evade the Imperials.



Cassian transports a wounded Wilmon to Yavin 4, and tells Bix Caleen he has decided to leave the rebellion. To ensure Cassian stays, Bix leaves the base while he is sleeping. As he processes this loss, Cassian watches technicians revive the security droid he captured on Ghorman.

EPISODE 10
MAKE IT STOP

Directed by Alonso Ruizpalacios
Written by Tom Bissell
Premiered: May 13, 2025

The following year, Supervisor Lonni Jung sets a meeting with Luthen Rael to convey his discovery that the Emperor's energy program is a front for a secret weapon. Luthen kills Jung to cover his tracks, relays the new intel to Kleya Marki, and returns to his gallery to destroy his equipment.





Dedra Meero surprises Luthen with a raid, but he stabs himself with a blade before he can be taken into custody. Luthen is rushed to hospital, where medical equipment keeps him alive.

Supervisor Heert arrives at the hospital and arrests Meero, while Kleya sneaks through the wards to find Luthen. After recalling her childhood under Luthen's guidance, Kleya blasts her way past the guards and into Luthen's room. Tearfully, Kleya disconnects the machine and Luthen dies before he can reveal his secrets.

INSIDER INTEL
MULTI KLEYA STORY-TELLING

"She was very good and she had a stare, a cold stare that gave the impression that she was unbendable," Stellan Skarsgård (Luthen Rael) said about April V. Woods, the actor cast as young Kleya Marki. "She was this little figure who always knew what she wanted." Skarsgård would add that Kleya is "twice as tough as Luthen is. And you see that in the way Elizabeth Dulau plays her as a grown-up as well."





EPISODE 11 WHO ELSE KNOWS?

Directed by Alonso Ruizpalacios
Written by Tom Bissell
Premiered: May 13, 2025

Director Krennic interrogates Dedra Meero at headquarters, and she admits to scavenging classified reports related to the Death Star. Meanwhile, Kleya Marki assembles a transmitter in a safehouse to send a distress signal. On Yavin 4, K-2SO has become part of the rebel crew. The Empire alerts the public about Kleya, claiming she is plagued by an infectious disease.







Cassian Andor recruits Melshi and K-2SO to steal a U-wing against orders, and they jump to Coruscant. The Imperial Security Bureau begins to track down Kleya and assembles a security team to apprehend her. Cassian and Melshi enter the safehouse building, but Imperial soldiers are not far behind.

When Kleya answers the door, Cassian is shocked to learn that Luthen Rael is dead. Kleya hurriedly shares the details about the Empire's secret superweapon, but she is hesitant to leave. As Cassian works to convince her to go to Yavin 4, Supervisor Heert's soldiers close in…

INSIDER INTEL
DEDRA'S DESTINY

"Everyone is disposable in the Empire," suggested actor Denise Gough about her character, Dedra Meero. It's "the ultimate gang" where "nobody is safe."

The series left the ex-ISB agent crying with despair in her Narkina 2 prison cell, and Gough revealed that "there were variations of what happens to Dedra" in her last confinement. "In one version of the script it panned in on her and you see the anger rising in her again. That would have been a really interesting way to go but it's the end. I don't imagine she was going to become Kino Loy, you know. She's done."



EPISODE 12
JEDHA, KYBER, ERSO

Directed by Alonso Ruizpalacios
Written by Tom Bissell
Premiered: May 13, 2025

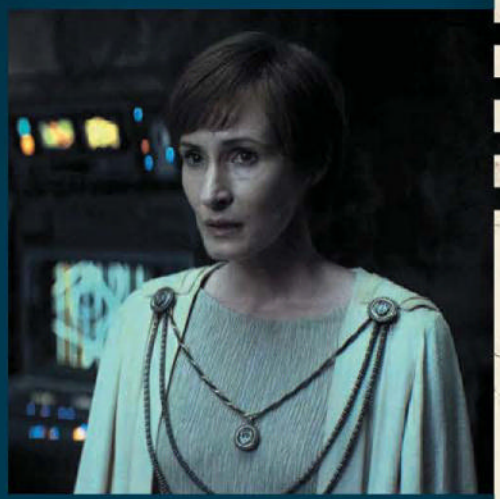
Kleya Marki agrees to go to Yavin 4 with Cassian Andor and Ruescott Melshi, but Supervisor Heert's tactical team intercepts them before they can leave. They exchange blaster fire, and K-2SO comes on scene to help dispatch the Imperials.

On Yavin 4, Mon Mothma and Bail Organa deal with a transmission from an increasingly unstable Saw Gerrera. Admiral Raddus is alerted to Cassian's incoming U-wing, and General Draven takes Cassian to share Luthen Rael's intelligence about the superweapon with the rebel leaders.

Cassian visits Kleya, explaining that the senior officials are hesitant to accept Luthen's word. Vel questions Cassian about the validity of Luthen's intel before comforting a visibly distraught Kleya. A contact in Saw Gerrera's group refuses to talk to anyone but Cassian, so Draven orders him to rendezvous with the man at Kafrene.

Bail Organa wishes Cassian well on his mission. While Cassian prepares to leave and his friends all settle into their duties on Yavin 4, Dedra Meero is locked away in an Imperial prison facility. As Cassian and K-2SO jump to Kafrene, B2EMO and Bix Caleen hide out among the fields of Mina-Rau… along with Bix's newborn baby.



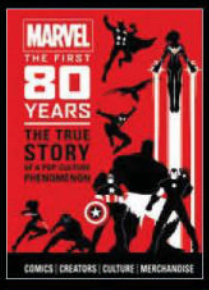


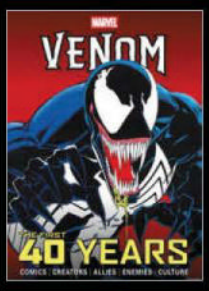


INSIDER INTEL
WHAT MIGHT'VE BEEN

Season two's final moment showed Bix Caleen (Adria Arjona) on Mina-Rau with a baby that's presumed to be her child with Cassian. "I think it was a beautiful way to finish our show," Diego Luna said. "Behind this rebellion, behind this story that happens in this galaxy far, far away, there are real people. It's the reminder of what Cassian's not going to have. I think it's powerful and it's very strong. And it's a beautiful way of reminding you of what's behind change, what's behind those great stories we've learned."

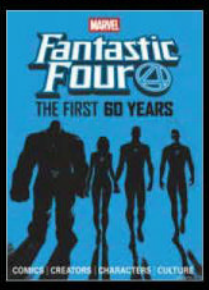


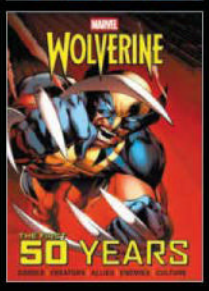






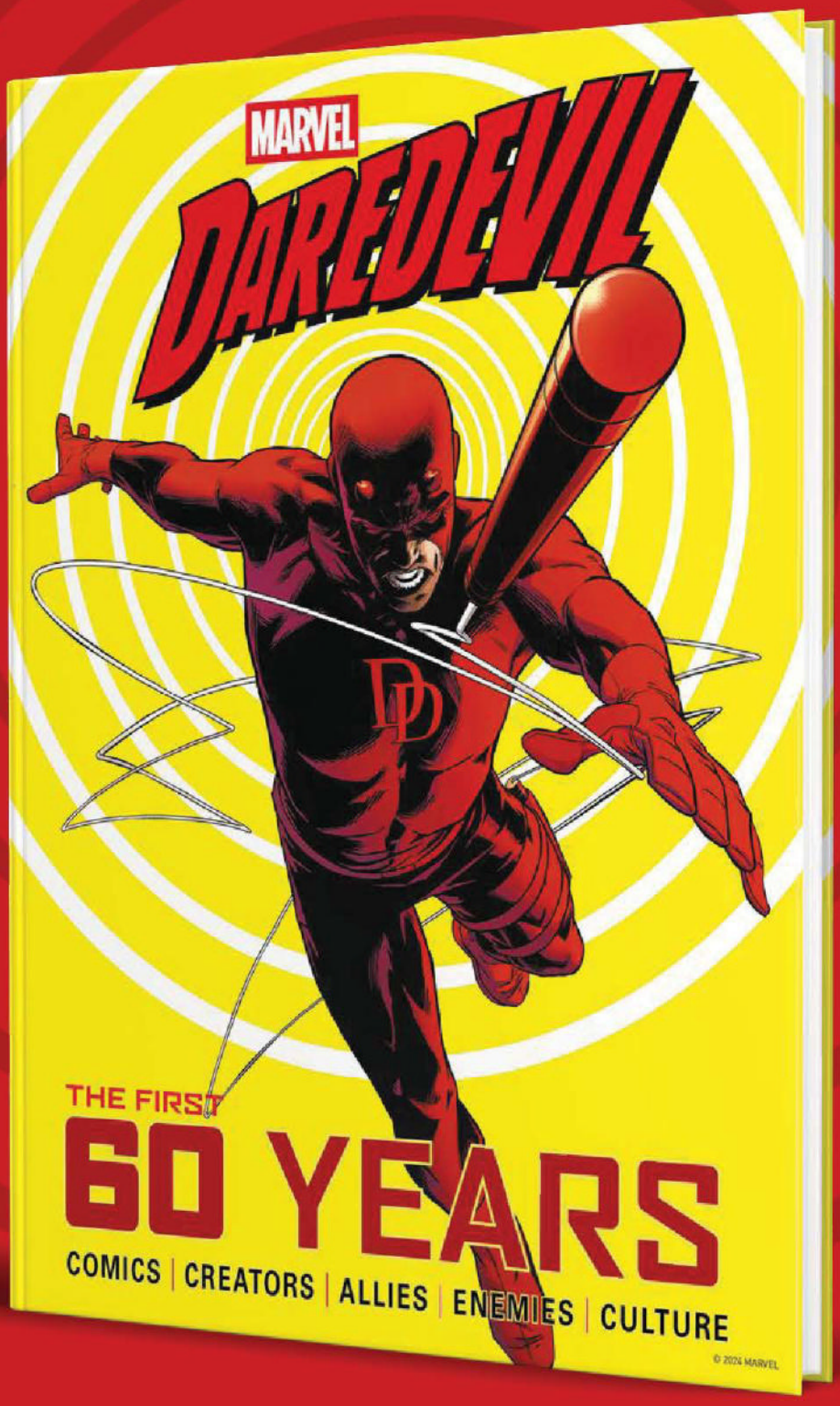






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DAREDEVIL #237 (1986)



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LAMAR GILES FINDING SANCTUARY

Many fans have dreamed of watching *Star Wars* "for work," but for author Lamar Giles, sitting down in front of *Star Wars: The Bad Batch* with pen and paper in hand meant setting himself a galaxy of homework. *Insider* recently spoke to the life-long fan about his new book, *Sanctuary: A Bad Batch Novel.*

WORDS: MEG DOWELL

The prospect of writing the first full-length novel featuring Clone Force 99 was a *Star Wars* dream come true for author Lamar Giles, who embarked on the project with a deep love for the space fantasy saga already in place—so much so that he quickly realized he had to learn a lot more about the galaxy far, far away to truly do it, and *The Bad Batch*, justice.

***Star Wars Insider:* What was your relationship with *Star Wars* before you started writing stories set in a galaxy far, far away?**

Lamar Giles: : I can't really remember a time in life that *Star Wars* wasn't a part of my consciousness. My earliest memory was of *Return of the Jedi*, which I probably saw on cable when I was around four or five years old. I was instantly enamored and begged my mom to help me see the other movies. From that point on, I've been engaged with every iteration of *Star Wars* to some degree.



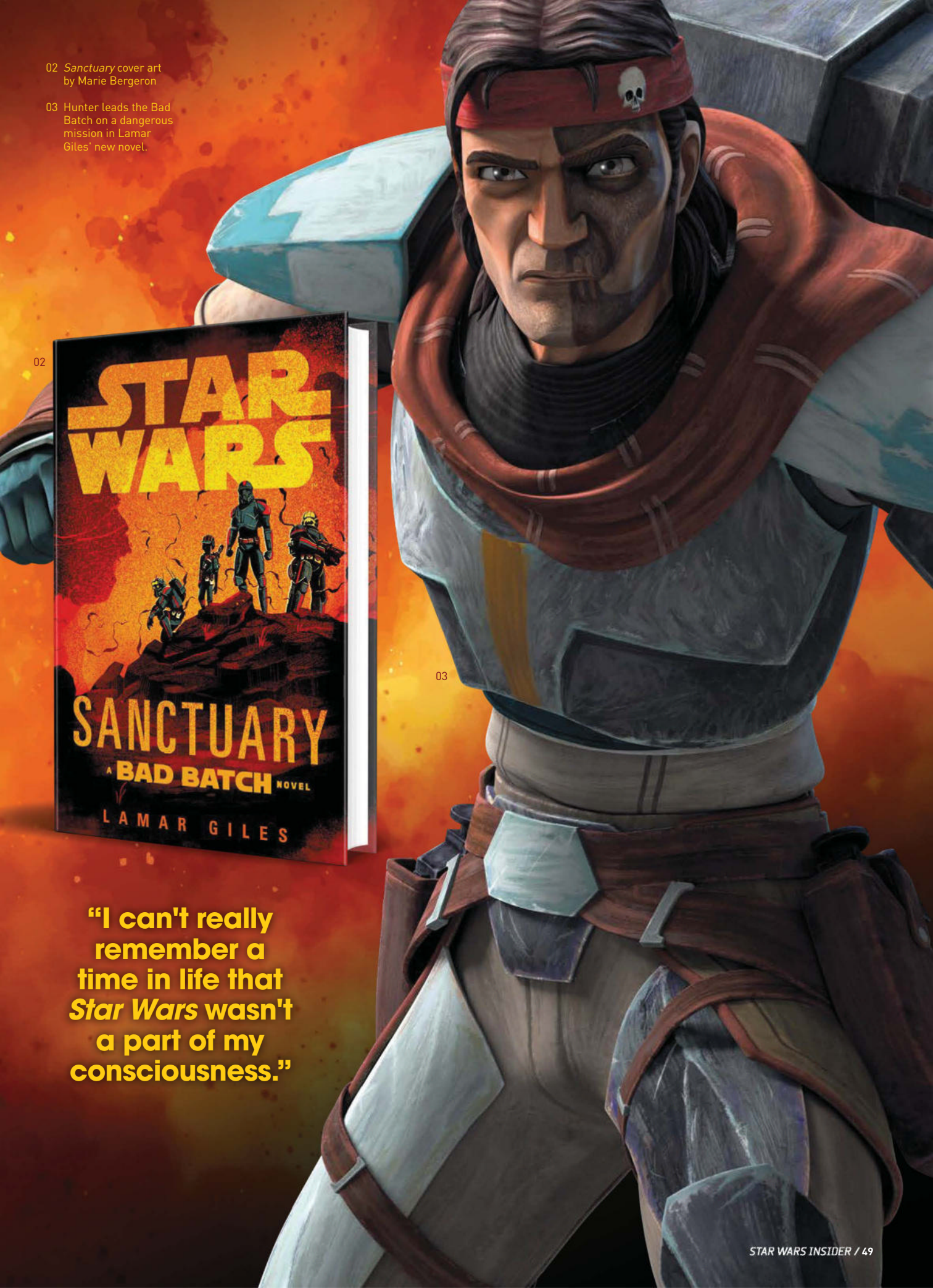
01 Lamar Giles

You began your official *Star Wars* writing journey in 2023 with "Twenty and Out," a short story in *From a Certain Point of View: Return of the Jedi*. How would you describe your experience of being part of that anthology?

I was invited to write for *A Certain Point of View* when my daughter was less than a year old. I was operating on this rolling sleep deficit, so when I say working on the anthology felt like a dream, I mean that in every sense because I was delirious. The whole time. And as I said, *Return of the Jedi* was my first *Star Wars* memory, so telling the story within the framework of that film was a career moment that made it feel like I'd taken all the steps I was supposed to take. Like every accomplishment, every setback, all led to a place where I was contributing to something that helped shape my storytelling sensibilities. ▶

02 *Sanctuary* cover art by Marie Bergeron

03 Hunter leads the Bad Batch on a dangerous mission in Lamar Giles' new novel.



02

03

"I can't really remember a time in life that *Star Wars* wasn't a part of my consciousness."



04 The peaceful sanctuary of Pabu before it was hit by a devastating tidal wave.

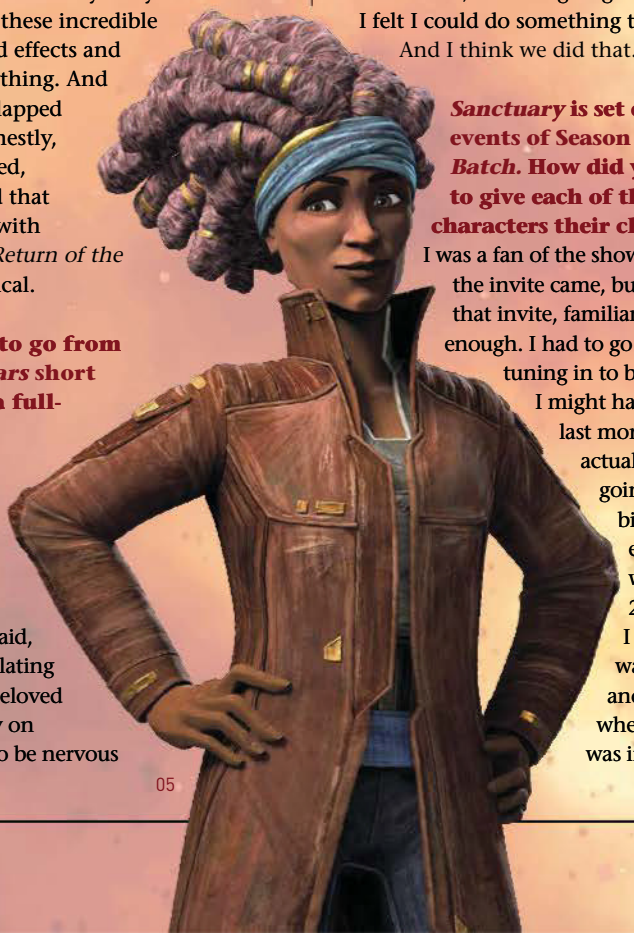
05 In the novel, Phee Genoa offers the Bad Batch several jobs that could secure the resources to help them rebuild Pabu.

The process for selecting the scene and the characters I was going to write was really smooth, and the story itself came together quickly. I just showed up and did the work. It was a joy to do it, but the absolute best moment was when the anthology released and I got my audiobook copy, because my daughter was two by then and she, my wife, and I sat together on our bed and listened to my story being performed by these incredible narrators with sound effects and the music and everything. And then my daughter clapped her little hands. Honestly, it made me teary-eyed, because I recognized that her first experience with *Star Wars* was now *Return of the Jedi* too. It was magical.

What was it like to go from writing a *Star Wars* short story to writing a full-length novel?

When I took the job, I told a close friend—who was also *a Star Wars* fan—that I was nervous, and he did what friends do: he said, "You're only manipulating canon for the most beloved science fiction galaxy on Earth. What's there to be nervous about?" Gotta love your friends, right?

But in both instances, I worked with fantastic teams, so I was never doing it alone. I'm talking about people who could teach PhD-level courses on every aspect of the *Star Wars* galaxy. We probably spent two months solidifying the idea of what the book could be about before any of us agreed to go forward. And because *Star Wars* is so beloved, I wasn't going to touch it unless I felt I could do something that was worthy. And I think we did that.



05

***Sanctuary* is set during the events of Season 2 of *The Bad Batch*. How did you endeavor to give each of the central characters their chance to shine?**

I was a fan of the show already before the invite came, but once you get that invite, familiarity isn't really enough. I had to go from casually tuning in to binge three episodes I might have missed over the last month to having to actually study like I was going to be taking a big, life-changing exam. I wasn't done watching Season 2 at that point, so I stopped where I was in my viewing and went back to when Clone Force 99 was introduced in *The*

"In a sense, the chapters in *Sanctuary* are like the episodes in a season of *The Bad Batch*."

Clone Wars series. I was watching with a notepad and drawing little sketches of each character in the margins. I was noting just how they moved, speech cadences, the history of everything, and essentially tried to become a *Bad Batch* major at *Star Wars* University with the goal of telling a story that was true to the characters in a long-form situation.

So, what you're saying is you had to do *Star Wars* homework!

It's not a bad major to have. It's such a fun group of characters to work with.

***Sanctuary* takes us back to a point in the timeline before Tech died. How did you handle the character, knowing how much he still means to Bad Batch fans?**

When it became clear that we were going to do a story with Tech in it, meaning it had to happen prior to the Season 2 finale, one of the first questions I asked was: "Can Phee be in it?' Because I knew if we put them together, they opened up all sorts of possibilities to give readers some really touching moments with him again, because he's trying to understand the dynamic between the two of them. And doing it in the way most people do when you don't have knowledge of how limited time is. He doesn't know he's going to die soon, and so I got to write him as curious and optimistic and as the figure that we love, in a way that I hope readers feel that thing you feel when grief doesn't sting as bad anymore, like accessing maybe a new and fond memory of a friend you've missed, but not necessarily in a sad way.



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Of all the characters in *Sanctuary*, who was the most challenging to write?

The thing I was always taught was, you should write dialogue in a crowded room where you don't need dialogue tags. You know who's saying what because you know that's the thing that would come out of that character's mouth versus the other character. And in the case of Clone Force 99, that work's already been done. I'm studying the distinct voices that have already been established, so it wasn't so much that any individual character was challenging, but how to juggle them all so they all got special moments.

In the TV show, you could have episodes that focused more on Tech, or on Hunter and so on. But in the book, at some point you want them all to have a special moment. In a sense, the chapters in *Sanctuary* are like the episodes in a season of *The Bad Batch,* and that became the challenge. We worked on it quite a bit to make sure everybody got a moment that felt true to them and didn't shortchange any one character, even if there are characters we spend more time with than others.

Did you secretly have a favorite character to write?

Because of the scenarios they find themselves in, which are a little extra-ordinary, it's probably a tie between ▶

06 The Batch arrived on Pabu in Season 2, episode 13.

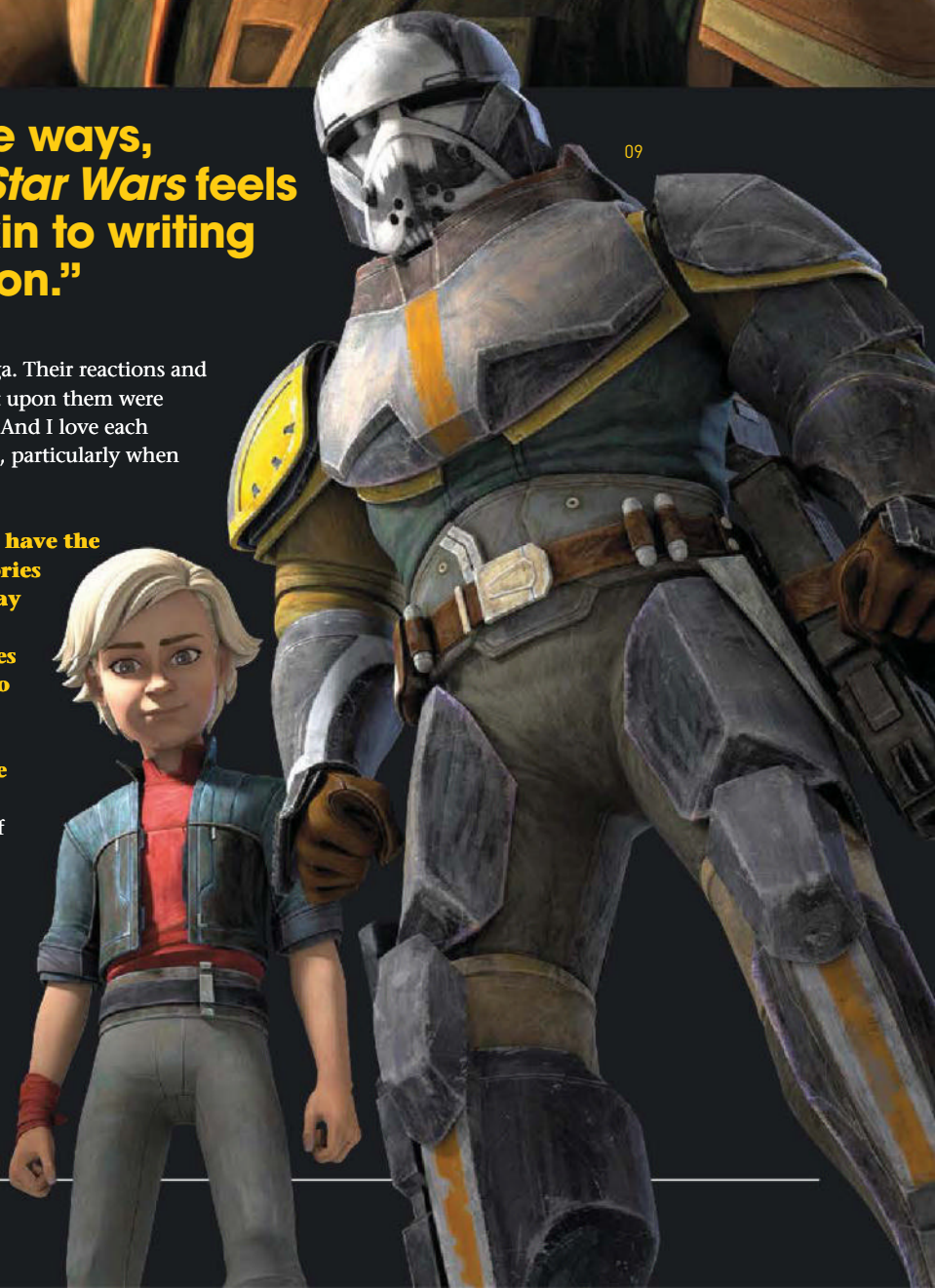
07 *Sanctuary* is set before Tech's tragic demise in the Disney+ series.



08 Hunter enjoying the hospitality of Pabu's residents.

09 Omega (left) and Wrecker (right) are Giles' favorite Bad Batch members to write.

"In some ways, writing *Star Wars* feels more akin to writing non-fiction."



09

Wrecker and Omega. Their reactions and what's being thrust upon them were really fun to write. And I love each and every moment, particularly when they're together.

***Star Wars* books have the power to tell stories in a different way to movies or TV shows. What does *Sanctuary* add to the overarching story of Clone Force 99 that the show couldn't?**

It was a TV show of three seasons, with half-hour episodes for the most part, and I think that tended to lend itself to really tight, action-packed scenarios. In most episodes, there was less

time for slice of life moments, even though we did get them from time to time. In *Sanctuary* we have more time for moments in between adventures, which is a space that I always love exploring; I always want to know what heroes do with themselves on days that we might consider our weekend? There's plenty of action in the book that I think will be recognizable to fans of the show, but we're able to get into how the team interacts a little bit more in their downtime, which allows for a further exploration of their personalities and ultimate desires.

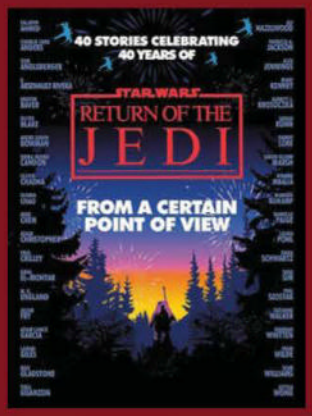
In your experience, is there anything about writing a *Star Wars* story that is unique compared to writing original fiction?

In some ways, writing *Star Wars* feels more akin to writing non-fiction, because the galaxy is so well established. You have matters of military, religion, commerce, politics, that are settled and cannot be contradicted unless there is a purposeful reason. So, while it's fiction, I don't think you make up as much as you think you'd have to. There are rules to *Star Wars.* And some of them are as fixed as our own understanding of earthly physics. There's no real skirting around the facts of the galaxy to make a story beat work. I think that's the way it should be for something so beloved and that's been around for this many decades. You need to play by the rules. That's different to my own original fiction, where I make the rules.

You've been a *Star Wars* fan almost as long as you can remember. What would your younger self think about growing up to write a *Star Wars* adventure?

My younger self would probably jump up and down, scream, and then try to move something with the Force. It wouldn't work of course, but in the moment, I doubt younger me would care. It would sound ludicrous to a younger version of myself, but there's a bunch of stuff that if I told them I'd be doing, they'd be like, 'Come on man, that's ridiculous.' Storytelling has brought me a really great life and offered some really cool moments, and this is one of the biggest.

I've tried to do right by the fandom, of which I am a part, and I hope people will get something great out of the book. I want to thank anyone who's going to take the time to read *Sanctuary*, and I hope you all enjoy it. I love these characters. I love the Bad Batch. And I hope that's felt through what's on the page.



LAMAR GILES' *STAR WARS* STORIES

"Twenty and Out"
From a Certain Point of View: Return of the Jedi
Random House Worlds, 2023
A Death Star gunner's last week on the job. What could possibly go wrong.

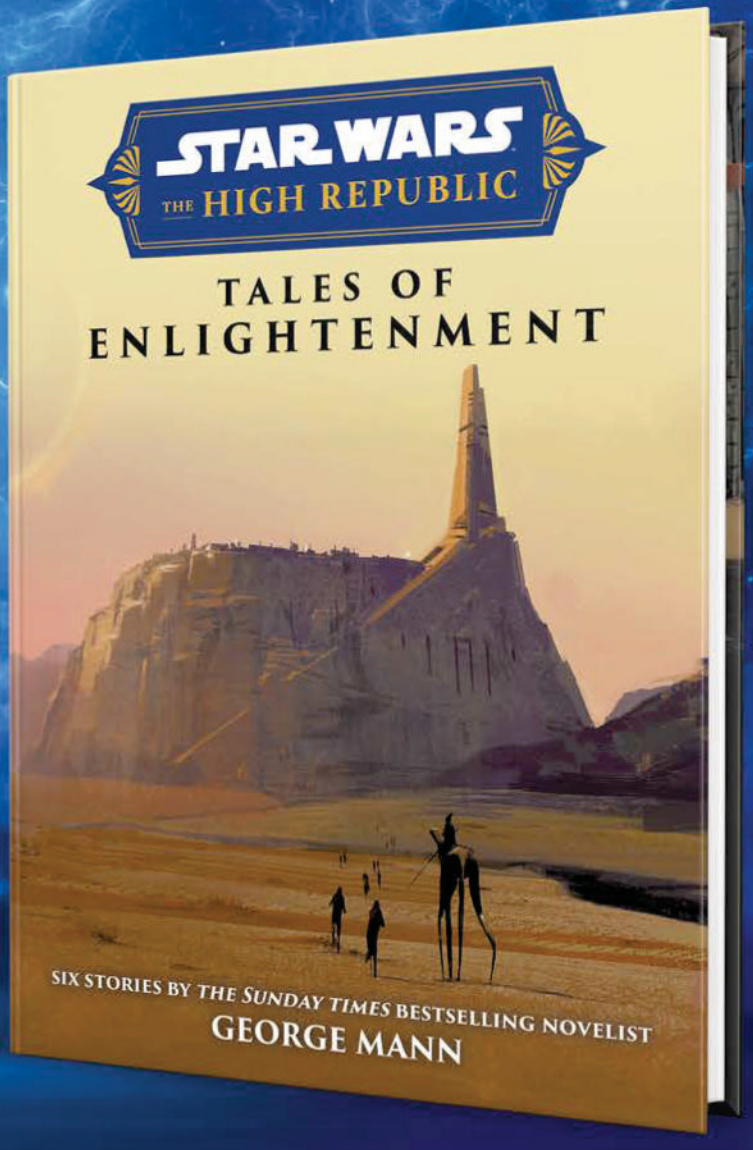
Sanctuary: A Bad Batch Novel
Random House Worlds, 2025
Hunter, Wrecker, Tech, and Omega gamble on a mission to help rebuild Pabu.

"I've tried to do right by the fandom, of which I am a part, and I hope people will get something great out of the book."



10 Phee Genoa has work for the Bad Batch.

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Blast off with the Spectres!

Win *Star Wars* The Vintage Collection: The *Ghost*, courtesy of Hasbro!

As the hero ship of *Star Wars Rebels*, the *Ghost* spirited Hera Syndulla and her crew from one rebellious mission to the next across four series, and has since made appearances in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* and *Star Wars: Ahsoka*. As iconic as any vehicle from the galaxy far, far away, the famed ship has now been recreated in exacting detail and at action figure scale thanks to HasLab, Hasbro's crowdfunding platform—and *Insider* has one to giveaway!

Part of The Vintage Collection, the *Ghost* was developed by Hasbro in collaboration with Lucasfilm, Industrial Light & Magic, and Doug Chiang, with the aim of creating an object that captures the spirit and storytelling of the *Star Wars* galaxy in one highly collectible display piece. One of the largest ships ever made by Hasbro, play options include an opening front ramp, removeable panels for access and play, incredible recreations of the cockpit and lounge areas, and a docking port into which the *Phantom II* can be attached to the *Ghost*.

To be in with a chance of winning this epic collecitble, worth $499.99, just send us the correct answer to the following *Star Wars* trivia question:

What type of modified Corellian freighter was the *Ghost*?

A. VCX-100 light freighter
B. VCR-100 light freighter
C. XS stock light freighter

Send your answer via email to **insidercomp@titanemail.com** or our usual postal address (see 'Contact Us' on page 3), marked "HASBRO" by October 31, 2025. Terms and conditions are available at titanmagazines.com

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01

01 Greedy Nikto pirate Vane.

02 Marti Matulis is the actor beneath the Vane makeup.

A PIRATE'S LIFE FOR ME

As the nefarious space pirate Vane, actor Marti Matulis made trouble for Mando and Grogu before posing a threat to a bunch of lost kids from At Attin. *Star Wars Insider* talks to the actor about his love for creature work and his journey from middle school theater to the iconic realms of the *Star Wars* galaxy.

WORDS: JENS SCHLEICHER

Without his Nikto makeup and pirate costume, Marti Matulis strikes an imposing figure, but look closely at his eyes and you'll instantly recognize the piercing gaze of duplicitous pirate Vane. Matulis starred as the unreliable rogue in Season 3 of *Star Wars: The Mandalorian* before returning to the role in *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew.*

***Star Wars Insider*: Vane is probably your most high-profile role to date, but you've played numerous creatures over the past two decades. What attracted you to acting, and, specifically, creature work?**

Marti Matulis: I've been acting since the 6th grade in a performance of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* where I played Ebenezer Scrooge. I continued studying theater in school, eventually moving to Los Angeles to learn more about the business of television and ▶

02

"IT WAS MY PLEASURE TO REPRESENT THAT CHAOTIC SPACE PIRATE."

film. A couple of years into that process, I found work on *Star Trek: Insurrection* (1998) and *Star Trek: Nemesis* (2002) where I met some of the makeup artists, expressed interest in their work, and continued developing those relationships over time. My acting background and enthusiastic appreciation and respect for the work of these incredibly talented artists contributed to the amazing opportunities I've been offered.

Were you always a fan of *Star Wars* before you were cast as Vane?
I got into the saga in 1977 at age 7 as a fan! *A New Hope* completely changed my life. It was all we thought about as children.



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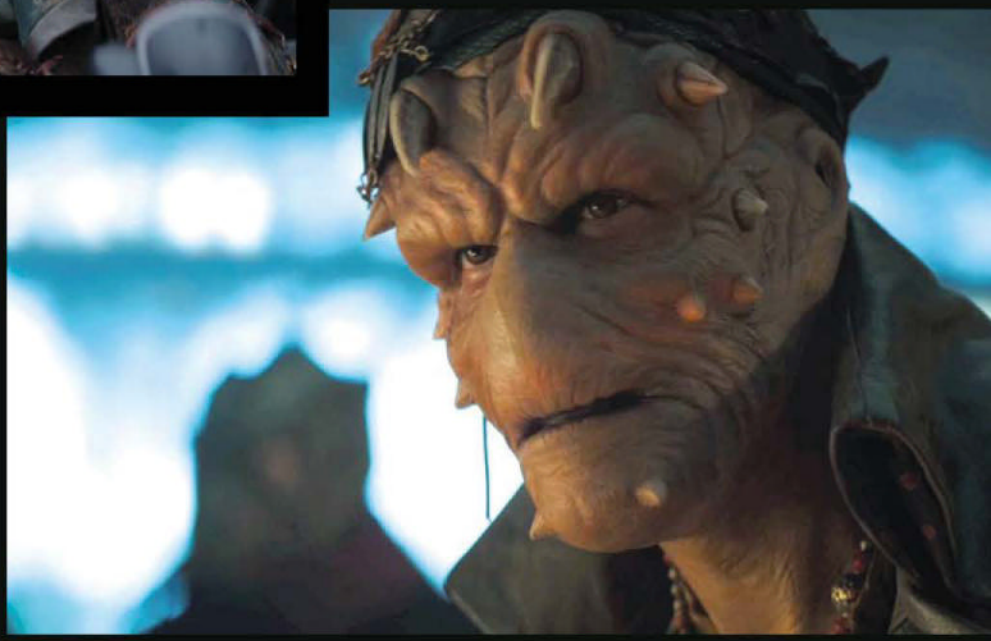
03 Vane menaced the Nevarro locals in *The Mandalorian* Season 3.

04 Cowardly Vane abandoned Captain Gorian Shard to save his own neck.

05 The slippery customer turned up like a counterfeit credit in *Skeleton Crew*.

Professionally, I went for an audition for something that seemed like an Old West shootout, but it turned out to be *The Mandalorian*! Winning that role felt like a dream come true. It was my pleasure to represent that chaotic space pirate.

Were you given any guidance as to who Vane was and his backstory, or did you have the freedom to develop your own interpretation of the character?
After the initial description in the audition—that he was a pirate who spoke with a "British" accent—the development of his character was largely left up to me. I had some ideas about his attitude, his background, his motivation—"actor stuff"—but the character really formed itself during the makeup and costume tests. It usually happens that way. I need to see what the makeup will allow, or not allow, how the costume moves, how much it weighs. That is 70% of the work. The producers seemed happy with what I was doing, and we carried on from there.



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Working with practical effects and wearing a mask to portray creatures must come with its own set of challenges. Can you tell us about the creation of the costume and makeup for Vane?

There were emails and visits to the makeup and costume shops over a few weeks as they were developing the look of Vane. The makeup artists were excited to create him as a more detailed prosthetic makeup.

Once I was brought into the makeup trailer for tests and started exercising the limits of the makeup, I saw that Vane would be very capable of emoting with little additional effort on my part. Later in the development we had a full makeup and costume test so that all of the higher-ups could see him. I knew that this was essentially the character's audition, so I gave it 100% effort, showing them how much I could do from inside the foam latex face.

06 Vane (Matulis) confronted SM-33 on Port Borgo.

07 Working with actor and director Carl Weathers on *The Mandalorian* was a personal highlight for Matulis.

You took a hit from SM-33. Did you perform that stunt yourself?

For an old droid, he has a solid punch! I was asked early on if I was comfortable with some light stunt work, which I was. The superb stunt team brought me to their practice space where they described the stunt, hooked me into the rigging and practiced the action. Having performed in creature suits and heavy prosthetics for decades now, that physical component of acting is familiar and enjoyable. Though, once it goes beyond the fun stage, I am quite happy to turn it over to the professionally trained stunt performers. They are the best at what they do.

> "A New Hope completely changed my life. It was all we thought about as children."

What were your most memorable times from the sets of *The Mandalorian* and *Skeleton Crew*?

My favorite moment on *The Mandalorian* was meeting the late Carl Weathers! He was the first person I met on set, and he was a total professional. We were scene partners for two days, but he spent time between takes chatting about the "old days" of Hollywood when he arrived as a young man. Such a delightful, kind, and generous man. ▶

PLAYING FAVORITES

A lifelong *Star Wars* fan, Marti Matulis is part of the cohort who saw the original trilogy as it first released in cinemas. One episode remains his personal favorite…

"Because of my age when it came out, and because of the quality of the film itself, my favorite *Star Wars* movie is without question *The Empire Strikes Back*," he says. "It has a seriousness that I wasn't prepared for as a pre-teenager, but it also had a humor throughout that kept me invested. And over the years, it has held up."



08

"THEY LIKED VANE ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM AROUND!"



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08 Vane joined Brutus' mutiny against Captain Silvo in *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew*.

09 Marti Matulis as Vane.

WHERE HAVEN'T I SEEN THAT FACE?

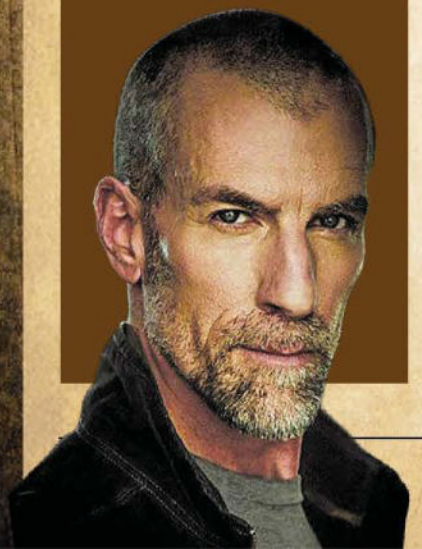
With a decades-long career that has seen Marti Matulis' features mostly hidden beneath masks and makeup, the actor has appeared on screen in movies and TV shows you may well have watched.

***Evil* (2019-2024)**
Devil Therapist

***Westworld* (2022)**
Drone Host

***Sleepy Hollow* (2013-2017)**
The Sandman, Scarecrow, War Horseman

***Star Trek: Enterprise* (2003-2005)**
Xindi-Reptilian Soldier, Reman Bodyguard



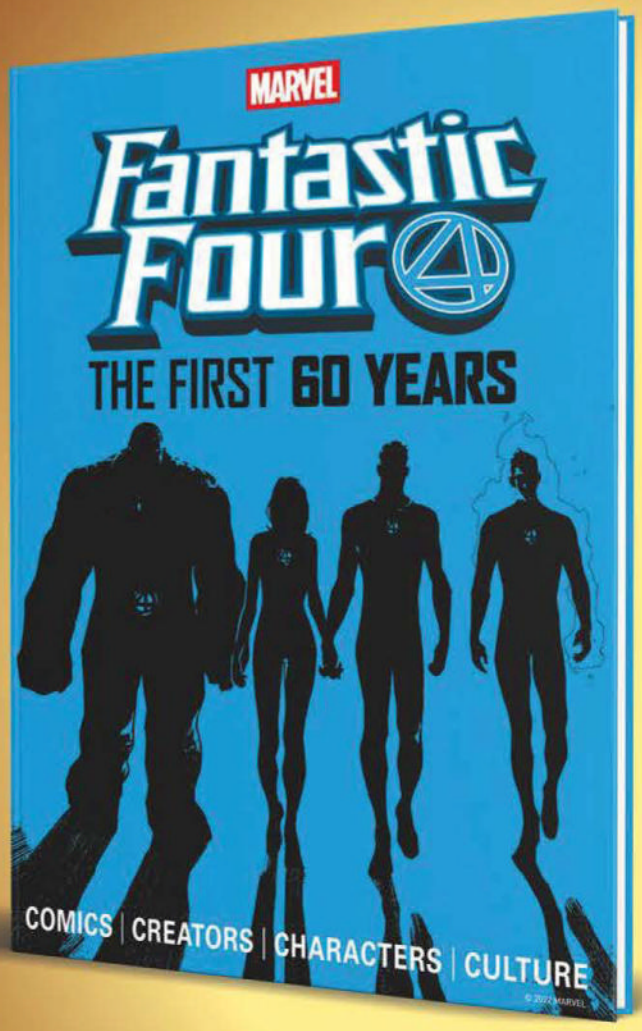
What was your favorite scene to shoot in either series, and why did it stand out to you?

My favorite to shoot was probably in episode 2 of *Skeleton Crew* when we pirates chased down the kids in Port Borgo. That was such a complex scene with so many moving parts. For me, it was the most undeniably *Star Wars* of the scenes. The kids were amazing, and fully present as actors. The work with SM-33 was fun. Being on the ILM StageCraft set was incredible. All said, I'll never forget that scene.

Is there a dream character in *Star Wars* you would love to play?

I would love… *LOVE*… to play an elder Sith. Bad guys are such fun! And I've been in makeup for so long as other-than-human characters that a lighter makeup as a mostly human character would be like a vacation. Plus, Sith usually wear comfortable clothing like robes, so that would only add to the joy. Honestly, there's no character I wouldn't want to play in this galaxy that George Lucas created. It's such fertile ground for creative storytelling. And as an actor who trained and studied for years, any complex and layered character that I could sink my teeth into would be another dream come true.

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Reed Richards

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Susan Storm Richards

The Thing
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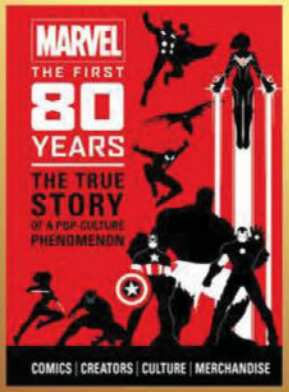
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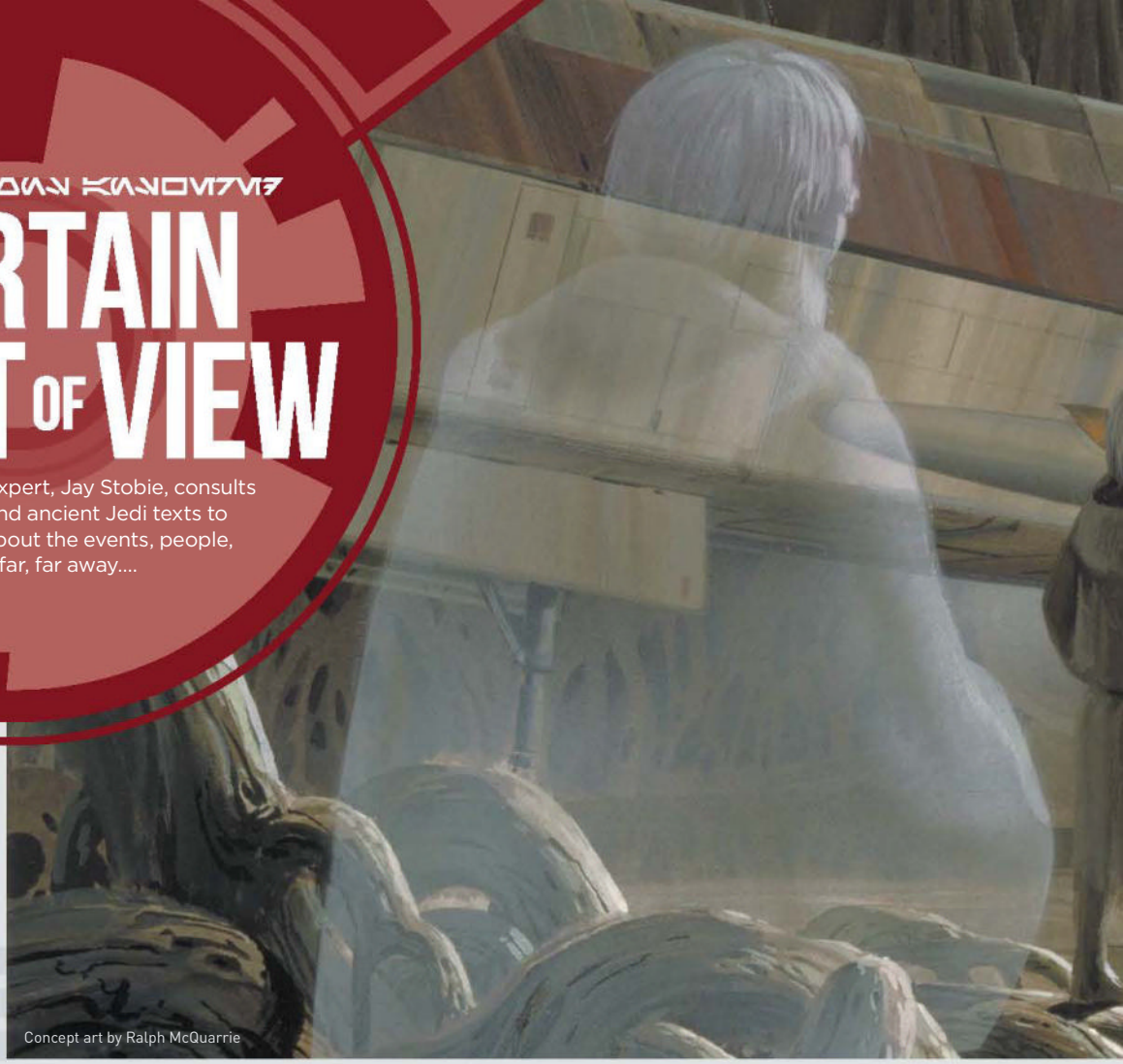
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TITAN COMICS

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 Ralph McQuarrie

"When Luke Skywalker leaves Dagobah in *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*, abandoning his training in an attempt to aid his friends at Cloud City, Yoda cautions him to 'remember your failure at the cave.' We saw Luke experience a dark vision there, but what exactly was his failure?"
Jay Gabler, Duluth, Minnesota, United States

The answer is rooted in a truth from our own galaxy: unlike a scheduled college exam, life's everyday tests tend to grade us before we even realize we're taking them. The failure that Yoda alluded to actually originated *before* Luke even stepped foot into the cave.

Yoda had emphasized that inside, Luke would find "only what you take with you." As his master spoke, Luke buckled his utility belt around his waist—a belt that carried his lightsaber and blaster—and paid no heed to Yoda's warning: "Your weapons. You will not need them."

Those weapons represented something Luke carried that was far more dangerous: his fear.

It was this powerful yet unacknowledged emotion that had prompted Luke to keep his weapons close to hand, and the fear that lingered within him left him susceptible to the darkness. That was Luke's first failure. Illustrating the beautiful symmetry between Yoda's teachings

Light Side Lineage

Qui-Gon Jinn



Although he never met Luke Skywalker, Qui-Gon Jinn was the driving force that brought Luke's father, Anakin, to be trained at the Jedi Temple on Coruscant. As he lay dying from a wound inflicted by Darth Maul, Qui-Gon Jinn's final request was for Obi-Wan Kenobi to move forward with Anakin's training.

Obi-Wan Kenobi



A close friend of Anakin, Obi-Wan Kenobi safeguarded Luke from a distance for nearly two decades before emerging to guide him soon after C-3PO and R2-D2's arrival on Tatooine. Kenobi sacrificed himself to facilitate Luke's escape from the Death Star, but he continued to advise his student through the Force.

Leia Organa



As Luke's twin sister, Leia Organa possessed great Force potential and became his first student in the wake of the Battle of Endor. Although she chose to focus on a career as a diplomat rather than the life of a Jedi, Leia eventually entrusted her brother with a mission that would define their family and the galaxy at large: training her son.

in *The Empire Strikes Back* and the wisdom he relayed in *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*, this moment paralleled knowledge that Yoda had shared with Luke's father decades before.

Believing young Anakin Skywalker was afraid of losing his mother, Yoda declared, "Fear is the path to the dark side... Fear leads to anger… anger leads to hate… hate leads to suffering." Though Yoda knew all Jedi were susceptible to this path, Anakin's downfall made him even more wary of Luke succumbing to the same fate. Luke's fear played out in several visible ways in the cave, as he took an offensive posture by drawing his



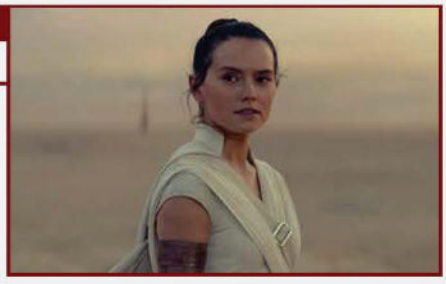
Ben Solo



The son of Leia and Han, Ben Solo embodied the powerful Skywalker lineage and studied at his uncle's Jedi temple. Luke sensed that Snoke had corrupted the boy and nearly struck him down in his sleep. Tragically, Ben witnessed Luke's moment of weakness, electing to destroy the temple and murder most of Luke's students.

Rey Skywalker

The granddaughter of Emperor Palpatine, Rey grew up as an orphan on Jakku after her parents were killed by Ochi of Bestoon. Rey sought out Luke on behalf of the Resistance, and convinced him to train her on Ahch-To. After their deaths, Rey would later bury Luke and Leia's lightsabers in the sands of Tatooine, close to her mentor's childhood home.



lightsaber the moment he saw the vision of Darth Vader. Aware that the Sith Lord had killed Obi-Wan Kenobi and convinced he had also murdered his father, Luke struck the apparition down through anger.

Such terrified rage precisely mirrored what had come to pass for Anakin, as the elder Skywalker flew into a vengeful frenzy when his own mother died while being held captive by Tusken Raiders. The path from fear to hatred and suffering fulfilled what Yoda had predicted to Anakin, with the despair of losing his mother serving as a catalyst for one of his most significant steps toward the dark side.

Fear is the key

Speaking of mirrors, Luke's vision of his own face within Vader's shattered helmet betrayed his unspoken fear that he could easily turn to the dark side himself. Despite Luke's protestations that he was ready to be trained, an undercurrent of fear resided beneath his confident demeanor.





In addition, this reflection of Luke's face served a multitude of other purposes. Most prominently, the vision foreshadowed the shocking revelation that Darth Vader would deliver on Cloud City. Despite Luke's assertion that he had learned so much since the test, the thought of Luke confronting the truth of his parenthood so soon after his failure at the cave alarmed Yoda, providing yet another reason why the Jedi Master specifically cited the cave incident as Luke rushed to venture off in a bid to save his friends. Taking the exam analogy a step further, the vision of Luke's face could even be interpreted as his immediate 'score' on the assessment. When a Jedi acted through fear and hate, as Luke had in the cave, then the dark side would literally consume them.

Luke's decision to abandon his training and rescue his friends on Bespin, itself an act motivated by fear for their safety, demonstrated a second failure which compounded that which he had made at the cave. As such, one can see why Yoda's initial concerns about Luke's unsuitability to be trained were not diminished by the progress his latest pupil had made, as Luke's mind remained reckless and focused on the future. Thus, bathed in the light of Luke's departing X-wing and with Obi-Wan Kenobi referring to the boy as their last hope, Yoda felt justified in turning his thoughts towards Leia Organa.

AN ODE TO YODA

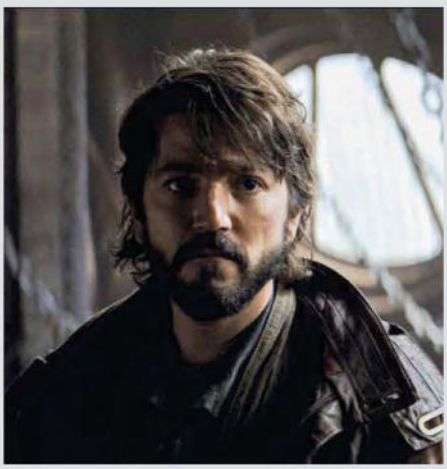
32 BSW4:
Following Qui-Gon Jinn's death, Yoda traveled to Naboo, where he granted Obi-Wan Kenobi the title of Jedi Knight and conveyed that the Council would allow him to take Anakin Skywalker on as his Padawan.

22 BSW4:
Having gathered the Republic's new clone army from Kamino, Yoda led the troopers into battle on Geonosis, where Count Dooku's forces had surrounded Mace Windu and a number of Jedi. The engagement catapulted the galaxy into a devastating conflict.

19 BSW4:
With Supreme Chancellor Palpatine exposed as a Sith Lord, Yoda confronted the self-proclaimed Emperor in the Senate building. Failing to defeat Palpatine, Yoda regrouped with Obi-Wan Kenobi, overseeing the separation of the Skywalker twins before exiling himself on Dagobah.

4 ASW4:
When Luke returned to Dagobah to complete his training, Yoda asserted that young Skywalker needed to confront Darth Vader in order to become a Jedi. In the moments before his own death, Yoda confirmed that Vader was Luke's father and relayed an additional truth: there was *another* Skywalker.

34 ASW4:
Following Rey's hasty departure from Ahch-To, Yoda appeared to Luke Skywalker and offered him a new lesson. The Jedi Master told Luke that he should not let his past failures prevent him from taking actions that would stop Rey from being lost to the dark side.



A Test of Trust

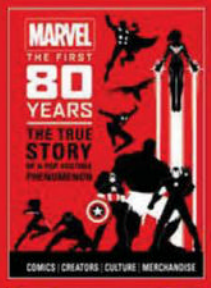
While Cassian Andor believed that Luthen Rael was meeting him on Ferrix to purchase a valuable piece of stolen Imperial technology, Rael's true intention was a more enigmatic and Yoda-like test of the younger man's character and resolve. The spymaster admitted he would buy the tech and leave if necessary, but in truth he was in search of a much greater prize—an ally in his battle against the Empire.

Aware of Cassian's troubled past, Rael approached the encounter as a test of Andor's character rather than a business transaction. He listened patiently as the younger man voiced his view of Imperial arrogance. Satisfied that Andor posessed the attributes he was looking for, Rael told him that he had a special talent that shouldn't go to waste. It marked the beginning of Cassian's journey from outsider to hero.

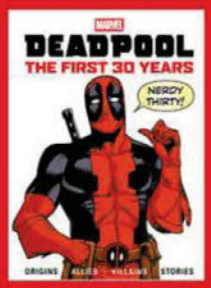
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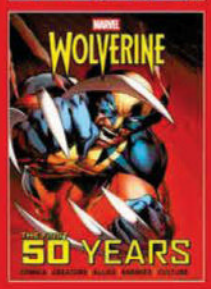












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FRIENDLY NEGOTIATIONS

Forming bonds with *Star Wars* cosplay

Berni's *Star Wars* cosplay journey began when her father joined the Rebel Legion German Base Yavin as a Jedi. "I wanted to share the hobby with him," she explains. "However, since I didn't want to just do any character, I chose Queen Padmé Amidala from *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace* because of her striking appearance." The cosplay build proved challenging, but Berni enjoyed crafting its headpiece.

"I was familiar with the *Star Wars* movies and *The Clone Wars*," Berni adds, "but my full enthusiasm and passion for the galaxy truly began when I first attended a convention as Amidala and got to share the excitement of other fans." What initially began as a bonding experience with her father grew into a wealth of new friendships. While the queen - joked about her ability to conduct 'aggressive negotiations,' Berni employed her cosplay talents in her own friendly fashion.

Berni also cosplays as Barriss Offee, the troubled Mirialan with shifting



Photographs taken by Philipp, Pixelrabe, and Nixi

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allegiances. "My Barriss Offee cosplay came about because I eventually wanted to become a part of the Rebel Legion myself," she notes. "What fascinates me most about Barriss is her intriguing backstory, which at the time had not been fully told. Now, we've gotten more insight into her complexity through *Tales of the Empire*, and my love for her and portraying her has only grown since then."

Berni's incredible cosplays have become a gateway to a greater galaxy. "*Star Wars*, the Rebel Legion, and especially the many friendships I've made thanks to my hobby, have become an integral part of my life, and I wouldn't want to miss a second of it," she says.



ARTISTS' ALLEY

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

01 "KANAN JARRUS" AND "POE DAMERON" BY PAULINA ZAMBRANO

Star Wars ignited fan artist Paulina Zambrano's inspiration to draw, and she applied her talents to portraying two characters she admires for their bravery and leadership. Her drawing of Kanan Jarrus is very dear to her, as he ranks as her favorite *Star Wars Rebels* character. "His sacrifice was really shocking, but looking at the bigger picture, he did so much for the story while staying true to himself," Paulina explains. "Poe Dameron is my favorite sequel trilogy character. He's the perfect mix of fun, skill, and responsibility."





02 "JOY" BY CHARLOTTE HARRIS

When Charlotte Harris set out to convey the feeling of joy in her latest work of fan art, her inspiration was immediately drawn to a very memorable *Star Wars* scene. "The celebration scene in the hangar after the destruction of the Death Star instantly came to mind, especially because *Star Wars: A New Hope* has been my favorite film since it first introduced me to the galaxy far, far away," says Charlotte. "To me, the joy and triumph of this scene lives up to the title of the film as a moment of hope."



BOUNTY HUNTERS

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

GIANCARLO ESPOSITO & DANIEL LOGAN: Beskar Besties



Diego Moreno poses with Giancarlo Esposito, who portrayed Moff Gideon in *The Mandalorian*.

While Diego Moreno enjoyed how intimidating Moff Gideon could be on screen, a convention appearance afforded him the chance to discover that actor Giancarlo Esposito was a gentle and outgoing person who was far kinder than the villain he brought to life in *The Mandalorian*. Diego and Esposito even shared a laugh together as they struck a fun pose for a photo op that blended *Star Wars* with *Breaking Bad* (2008-2013).

Diego also encountered another actor known for portraying an imposing beskar-clad character, as Daniel Logan—young Boba Fett in *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones*—greeted him warmly and expressed gratitude for the Boba Fett Funko Pop! that the fan gifted him during their meeting. "What I enjoy about Boba Fett is he is a survivor," says Diego. "He's just so undeniably cool." When it came time for Diego to be photographed with Logan, they engaged in a lighthearted lightsaber duel.

Diego Moreno shares a fun moment with Daniel Logan, who played a young Boba Fett in *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones*, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*, and *The Book of Boba Fett*.





A DEVIOUS DEN

Sculpting Jabba the Hutt's court of characters

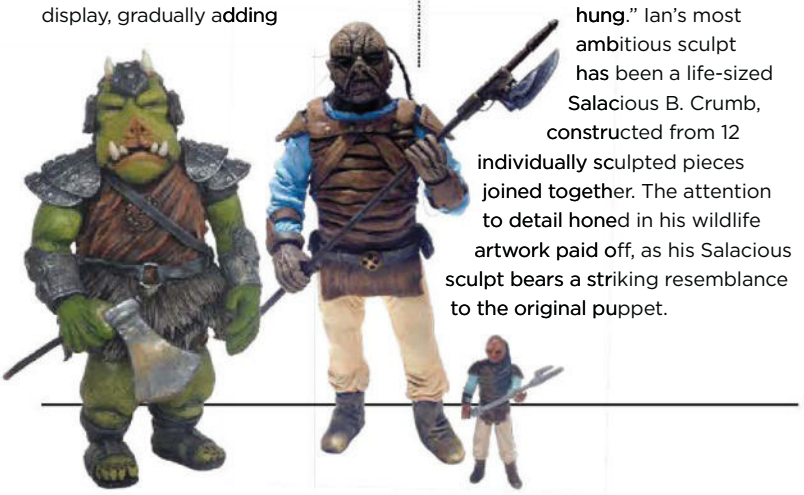
Born in 1977, Ian has quite literally been a lifelong *Star Wars* fan. "I was just the right age when *Return of the Jedi* was first released, and I can remember seeing it when our local cinema played all three original *Star Wars* films," Ian notes. An artist who loved vintage Kenner figures as a child and whose professional work is wildlife and landscape-based, Ian elected to try his hand at sculpting his own figures for fun.





"I made Max Rebo and was surprised by how well he came out," he states. Ian utilizes a sculpting material that can be baked to harden in a traditional oven, making the process more convenient for him. "I've worked as a painter for many years, so painting the sculptures I've made came quite naturally," Ian adds, "I use airbrushing to get some nice paint effects on the sculptures."

Ian took his fan-made artwork to the next level with a Jabba's palace display, gradually adding characters with an eye toward vintage Kenner figures as his inspiration. "In my sculpt, the Weequay holds his staff in the same way as the vintage Kenner figure," Ian shares. Once he had sculpted about 20 characters, Ian crafted a background with wood and plaster that he had painted. "I ran a few sets of battery lights through it as a diorama, making the archway that Jabba sits in and the wall where Han Solo in carbonite is hung." Ian's most ambitious sculpt has been a life-sized Salacious B. Crumb, constructed from 12 individually sculpted pieces joined together. The attention to detail honed in his wildlife artwork paid off, as his Salacious sculpt bears a striking resemblance to the original puppet.



GATHERING THE GALAXY

Star Wars fan groups unite to celebrate Pride Month



From the High Republic era to the climactic showdown over Exegol, *Star Wars* has depicted countless situations in which its heroic figures have rallied together to support vital causes. Such was the case for the Saber Guild, Rebel Legion, and 501st Legion costuming organizations during last year's Pride Month festivities in Huntington, New York.

The Long Island Pride Parade, hosted by the non-profit LGBT Network, united fans from the Saber Guild's Endor Temple, the 501st Legion's Empire City Garrison, and the Rebel Legion's Echo Base to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community.

Lili Pope Cosplay, who is an active member involved in the New York chapters of all three of the afore-mentioned costuming groups, shares insight on the importance of their charity work. "I hold leadership positions in Echo Base and Empire City Garrison," she begins, "These organizations bring smiles to children of all ages through hospital visits and various community appearances and also raise money for a broad array of charitable causes."



These goals stood at the forefront of the organizations' invaluable involvement in the Long Island Pride Parade. "By marching, we showed our support for the LGBTQIA+ community, and that *Star Wars* is for everyone," remarks Lili Pope Cosplay. "It was truly a great, joyful, and special event, and I felt very lucky to be part of it. As a longtime *Star Wars* fan, I am so fortunate to be able to use my love of *Star Wars* and cosplay to connect with other fans, build community, and do good work locally and beyond, including supporting important causes like Pride and fundraising for charity."





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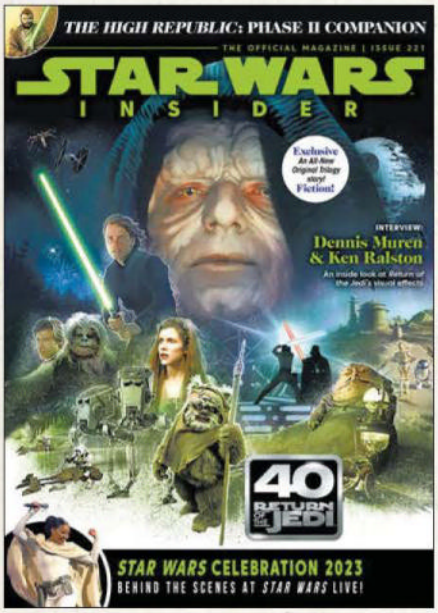
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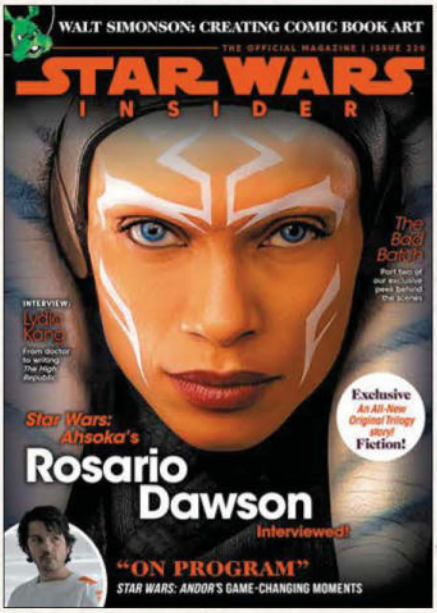
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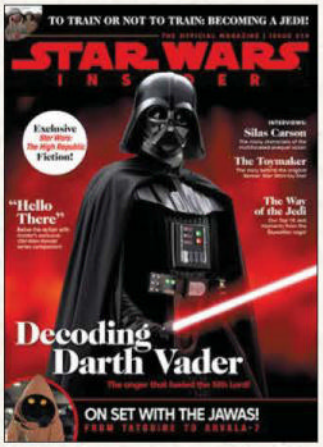














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STAR WARS

GALACTIC TALES

THE FAILING OF THE LIGHT

BY ADAM LANCE GARCIA

Jesha Cour discovered the Jedi shivering behind a wastebin. His stolen clothes filthy from days of living in the alleyways of Coruscant. Jesha felt something almost like pity, but it was immediately replaced by righteous indignation. After so much suffering, the Force was finally finding balance. She approached the Padawan slowly, calmly, her hands open.

"A gift freely given," she said, with a comforting smile, holding out a jogan fruit like Mother Tunenep had to her, all those years ago. ▸

Concept art by Erik Tiemens.



Jesha still remembered when the Separatists' transports appeared in the turquoise skies of Amaltanna, unleashing battle droids like locusts. No one had expected the Clone Wars to reach her homeworld, so far from anything or anyone important. But war is not a blaster, striking only where it is aimed. It is a brushfire, indiscriminate and all-consuming. Then came the clones, a single face hidden behind identical, emotionless masks, and the Jedi, their lightsabers burning the night. The battle lines were drawn and the trenches dug. The Republic promised it would be over in a day, but days became weeks, and weeks became months. Food became scarce. Villages were razed. Lives were lost. The war continued.

The Republic took Jesha's village as the rainy season began, four months after her brother died of starvation, three months after her mother died in an explosion, and two months after her father died from friendly fire. She and the remaining villagers were moved to a refugee camp, placed in too-thin tents, given food without taste, and clothes that itched her skin. They told her that she was safe, but when she saw her sallow reflection in the black visor of the clone's helmet, she knew it was a lie. Her days were marked by endless rain, her nights by cannon fire. In her exhaustion and grief, she prayed for release.

She was given a jogan fruit instead.

"A gift freely given," the old Atriik woman said with a smile, holding out the purple fruit. She wore a frayed gray robe, trimmed with a pale, sun-bleached blue; the horns protruding from the sides of her mottled face were dulled with age.

Jesha took the jogan fruit tentatively, its soft flesh feeling foreign in her mud-caked palms. She could not remember the last time she had eaten fresh fruit. She held it against her chest, fearing the old woman might try to snatch it back.

But the old woman only smiled. "It is yours, child. Eat."

Jesha wanted to correct the Atriik, that by custom, she was a woman grown, but she was too hungry to protest. She took a cautious bite of the jogan fruit. Tart juice rolled over her tongue and down her chin. She sobbed at the taste, exquisite in its simple, rapturous flavor.

"What are those?" Jesha asked once she had finished, pointing at the three wavy blue lines painted across the old woman's forehead.

The old woman touched the spot, as if she had forgotten they were there. "They are the marks of my faith," she replied. "My faith in the Force."

"Are you a Jedi?"

The kindness that had warmed the woman's face vanished, briefly replaced by a seething anger. "I am no more a Jedi than you, my dear," she said, smiling again. "I am Tunenep, and I believe you and I are on the same path." She extended her open hand, and Jesha knew without knowing that she had been bought, body and soul.

Over many cold nights and colder meals, Tunenep explained that she was a follower of the Path of the Open Hand, perhaps one of the last. The Path had no holy text, its nameless founders long since forgotten, its origins relegated to myth. Its sole tenet, shared in whispers, was that the Force must be free.

"The Jedi started this war," Tunenep said one night while they watched the horizon ignite. She tugged at the ancient leather cord hanging around her neck. "The Force is a mirrored lake, its surface calm and balanced, its currents flowing in and around us, shifting naturally with the tides, pushing us where it wants us to go. The Jedi are stones thrown into the lake, creating

"THE JEDI STARTED THIS WAR," TUNENEP SAID ONE NIGHT WHILE THEY WATCHED THE HORIZON IGNITE.

disturbances that ripple out, causing waves that crash upon distant shores. The Jedi take from the Force without thought or care, and this—" she gestured at the destruction, the camp, the misery "—is the Force trying to regain balance."

Jesha could not feel the Force but could see it in the kindness Tunenep showed her and others; she saw it in their suffering. She followed Tunenep everywhere, helping those who could not help themselves. She dipped three fingers into a jar of brikal shell paint and drew three blue lines across her forehead. Jesha learned to love, and she learned to hate.

The Republic won the Battle of Amaltanna, but the planet had been devastated. They loaded Jesha and the remaining refugees, a tenth of the planet's population, onto freighters and shuttled them to anywhere that would take them. Most were sent to Alderaan or Naboo. Jesha and Tunenep were sent to Coruscant. They spent eight weeks in the cramped and malodorous freighter, navigating contested hyperspace lanes as supplies diminished and food was rationed. An epidemic of Shipbreaker's Cough spread through the vessel, killing a dozen before settling in Tunenep's chest, leaving her breathing watery and hollow for the rest of her life.

It did not take Jesha long to acclimate to Coruscant. The canyons between the infinite towers were not much different than the camp, filled with the suffering of the forgotten. They spent their first nights shivering in alleyways as condensation from climate control units rained down from the skies above. They eventually found a small room deep in the bowels of the city, sharing a space with a half-dozen other refugees and an infestation of stone mites. Jesha slept on the floor, insisting Tunenep get the bed. She had become accustomed to discomfort, while Tunenep was more than 150 years old. Ancient, even for an Atriik.

For two years, they would rise before dawn, bathe, and share a meager portion of polystarch before riding the turbolifts to Coruscant's highest level—a three-hour journey that left Jesha's back aching—and stationed themselves on the boulevard leading to the Jedi Temple alongside beggars, pilgrims, and adherents of other Force religions spreading their gospels to apathetic ears. In all that time, Jesha never saw a Jedi, but she felt their presence looming like a shadow. Jesha could not understand it. The Jedi claimed to be guardians of peace and justice, but never did anything to help those outside their door.

"IN ALL THAT TIME, JESHA NEVER SAW A JEDI, BUT SHE FELT THEIR PRESENCE LOOMING LIKE A SHADOW."

"Why do so many still praise the Jedi?" Jesha asked a year into the war, marveling at the pilgrims who still flocked to the Temple, praying for even the briefest glimpse of one. "Can't they see how the Jedi's arrogance has torn the galaxy apart?"

"They cannot see with their eyes," Tunenep replied, her back stooped. "Here, so far from the fighting, they only care for their petty inconveniences, their perceived slights. They have been blinded by the Jedi, for to see would be to admit the truth."

"And what is the truth?"

Tunenep smiled thinly, knowingly. "That the Force must be free."

Jesha's gaze drifted over the pilgrims and cultists before lifting to the Temple spires piercing the sky.

"How would you do it," Jesha ventured, "if you could? How would you stop the Jedi?"

Tunenep squinted as she looked up at the Jedi Temple's central spire. "I would burn this place to the ground," she replied with certainty. "A bonfire the whole galaxy could





"THE FORCE WILL BE FREE, MOTHER," JESHA WHISPERED, KISSING THE BLUE LINES ON THE OLD WOMAN'S FOREHEAD.

see. Short of that, I would poison them one by one until they were all but dust." She drew the leather cord up from her robes, producing a clasped jogan fruit pit, and rolled it over between her gnarled forefinger and thumb. Jesha stared at the pit like a totem. "Synox," Tunenep said, as if hearing Jesha's unspoken question. "I have carried it since I was a Little, and even the scant amount I hold in here could kill scores of Jedi. That was one of the reasons I was first at the camp," Tunenep admitted, almost to herself. "I had hoped I would finally be able to kill a Jedi, but it seems the Force has other plans."

"Wouldn't that be murder?" Jesha asked.

"Perhaps some would see it as such," Tunenep said, giving a Jesha a sidelong glance. "We who follow the Path know better. For the life of one Jedi, a thousand children like you would be spared the horrors of this war. Imagine how many lives would be saved if we eradicated all of them."

Jesha felt suddenly very cold. "But why? The Force brought you to me, and we followed its path here." She nodded to the Temple steps. "It will no doubt lead us to the Jedi, and once they understand what their abuse of the Force has done to the galaxy, surely they—"

"We cannot lead those who will not follow. The Jedi believe they are born with the right to abuse the Force. They will not be convinced otherwise." Tunenep looked again at the Temple's central spire, her eyes shimmering. "Only in death will they learn what we have always known."

Then the war came to Coruscant.

Though the battle was fought low in the planet's orbit, Jesha and Tunenep could only see flashes of light piercing the cerulean sky. Standing outside their housing block, they had no way of knowing which were the Separatists and which were the Republic, nor was Jesha certain it mattered. So many kilometers away from the fighting and even more beneath the city's highest levels, Jesha believed they were safe.

She should have known better.

She heard the debris breach the atmosphere before she saw it, a deafening thundercrack that resonated through her body. Then came the screams, a thousand terrified voices, echoing up the durasteel canyons. All around her, fingers pointed to blazing streaks of orange and red hurtling across the sky. They were running before Jesha realized Tunenep had grabbed her by the wrist, urging her on.

Jesha would never learn what struck their tower or where, only that the impact pulverized its ancient, conglomerated superstructure, causing it to cascade inward. More than a thousand beings were killed instantly. Another thousand more would die in the days to come, either buried under rubble, pleading for help, or succumbing to their wounds in sterile medcenters, alone. Jesha survived by the grace of the Force, the falling structure creating an impromptu shelter around her while, centimeters away, Tunenep was crushed to death. Only Tunenep's eyes remained undamaged, staring, unblinking, into the falling dust. For hours, Jesha wept over the woman she had come to think of as Mother, murdered by the war the Jedi had begun. As the sun set, sending shafts of red light through the narrow opening that would lead Jesha free of the rubble, the melancholy that she had felt for years metastasized into something malignant and maleficent. She carefully undid the leather strap hanging loose around Tunenep's neck and pulled it free, holding the jogan pit tightly in her palm. She'd not dare lose it.

"The Force will be free, Mother," Jesha whispered, kissing the blue lines on the old woman's forehead. "I swear it. The Force will be free."

With her blue robes coated in soot, Jesha stumbled out from the rubble, deafened by the cries of the suffering and the dying and the whine of fireships overhead. She ignored the entreaties of the rescue teams, brushing aside their efforts of aid.

She knew what she must do and where she needed to go.

It took her two days to make her way to the surface, forced to climb through kilometers of rubble before finding a turbolift that could take her to the Temple District. She stood amongst the commuters and denizens of the higher levels like a wraith. Up here, life went on without pause, as if the war hadn't decimated whole sections of the city. Jesha clutched the jogan pit tightly in her palm, reminding herself that these people could not see with their eyes. The Jedi had blinded them.

But by the time Jesha reached Processional Way, the Jedi Temple was aflame. Joy surged in her chest at the sight; the bonfire that Tunenep had dreamed of had been lit. Sitting down meters from where she and Tunenep had once spent their days proselytizing, Jesha watched the blaze from afar, tears streaming down her cheeks. She did not move until the sun had risen, the black pillar of smoke turning the sky amber.

The Force was finally free.

She wandered back down into the city's lower levels, feeling lighter than she had in years. At a small, unnamed cantina, she sipped moogan tea and listened to the Supreme Chancellor addressing the Galactic Senate, her heart soaring at his promise to hunt down any surviving Jedi. If only Tunenep had lived to see it.

Days passed. The war ended. Life continued.

Jesha found herself a room near Augur Alley. There was no need to return to the Temple District with the Jedi gone. The Path's mission now belonged in the infinite, cavernous avenues. Every morning, Jesha would wake before the sun and make her way onto the streets, helping those who could not help themselves, just as Tunenep had done for her on Amaltanna. For the first time, Jesha found the peace she had prayed for. And then, she found the Jedi.

"A gift freely given."

The Padawan shrank back, fear shimmering in his hooded eyes. He was human like her, maybe a few years younger. He tentatively took the jogan fruit from Jesha's hand, and she wondered if she had looked like that when Tunenep found her.

She placed a hand on her chest. "I am Jesha Cour." Then, softly, with a comforting smile, "You are Jedi, yes?"

The Padawan held the jogan fruit close to his chest, trembling. His eyes darted around them anxiously. "Please don't say anything."

Jesha pressed a finger to her lips and winked conspiratorially. She unlatched her pale blue cloak and held it out to him. "Put this on. It will allow us to pass through the streets unnoticed. I'll take you somewhere safe."

The Jedi took the cloak in disbelief. Without another word, Jesha stood and began walking out of the alleyway. Only when she looked back and extended her hand did the Padawan finally throw the cloak around his shoulders and follow. She led him down the winding path to her home, keeping him always by her side. He tugged her cloak tightly around him, his gaze constantly shifting to her, as if expecting her to betray him at any moment.

Jesha smiled inwardly, idly rolling

"BY THE TIME JESHA REACHED PROCESSIONAL WAY, THE JEDI TEMPLE WAS AFLAME."





the jogan pit between her forefinger and thumb, toying with the clasp. He was not wrong.

"Is this your home?" the Jedi asked once they were safely inside her apartment. Jesha couldn't tell if he sounded relieved or pitying. There was very little. A bed, a small kitchen nook built into the wall, a small table with a single chair, and the refresher hidden behind a narrow door. A small window the size of her palm was her only view to the outside world. He slipped off her cloak and handed it back to her.

"It is where I am living," she replied, taking the cloak, noting with some relief that he did not have a lightsaber. "My home is gone."

"The war?"

Jesha nodded.

The Padawan let out a mournful sigh. He looked like so many of the refugees on Amaltanna, who had lost everything to fire and flame and were only given scraps. "I am sorry."

"Why?" Jesha said, cocking her brow. "You did not start it, did you?"

"No, but it should never have started at all," he said, shaking his head. "Or at least, the Jedi should have stopped it long before it came to this."

"Did you fight?"

"We all did."

"Yes, I suppose we did." She gestured to her lone chair and walked to the kitchen nook. "Sit. I shall make us some tea."

"That isn't necessary—" He stopped his protests. He was clearly starving. "Thank you, Jesha. You are very kind."

"It is a gift freely given," she replied, doing her best to keep the warmth in her voice and hide the tremor in her fingers. She knew what she must do. What the Force demanded of her. She had never done what she was considering, but it was the only way she could think to help keep the Force in balance.

JESHA WINCED, KEEPING HER BACK TO HIM, SHE DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW HIS NAME. "WHAT HAPPENED AT THE TEMPLE?"

"What do those represent?" he asked. "The blue lines on your forehead?"

Jesha touched her forehead, forgetting they were there. "They are the marks of my faith," she replied. "My faith in the Force."

"Are you a member of the Church of the Force?" he asked, sounding almost hopeful, as if that would explain everything.

"No. I follow a different Path."

"Ah," the Jedi said, clearly bemused. "I'm Ryza Ayre, by the way."

Jesha winced, keeping her back to him. She didn't want to know his name. "What happened at the Temple?" she asked, placing the teapot on the stove. "Everyone saw the flames, but we only know what they say on the holonet."

At first, Jesha thought he didn't hear her, but then she looked back. His shoulders were stooped, his head hung low. He was sobbing, stifling the sound with his hand, just as she had during those long, cold nights in the camp, fearing the battle droids would hear. For a moment, Jesha's heart broke for him.

"It happened so quickly," he replied with a tremor. "It was like something out of a nightmare. There was this… shadow leading the clones—men I had thought of as my brothers—cutting down anyone who crossed its path. It killed everyone. Anyone who dared face it. Even—" He wiped a trembling hand over his mouth. "Even the younglings."

Jesha's jaw fell open. "It killed… *younglings?*" she whispered.

Ryza nodded, his hand shaking as he brushed away the tears spilling down his cheeks. "When I saw it, I ran," he confessed. "So many others stood and fought and died, but I… I just ran. Jedi are meant to be above fear, but I wasn't. I was a *kriffing* coward. I thought there

"THE FORCE. IT MUST BE FREE IF WE HOPE TO RESTORE BALANCE TO THE GALAXY."

would be other survivors, but…"

Jesha was no longer listening. Her hands were shaking. Younglings. She had never considered that there would be younglings in the Jedi Temple, that they would bear the weight of their masters' arrogance. Perhaps it had been delusional to think that the innocent would be spared. The Jedi's abuse of the Force had not only torn her life asunder, but it had also blown back upon them, killing younglings whose only crime was being raised by those who should have known better. That was the price of Jedi pride; they had turned a lake into a brushfire, indiscriminate and all-consuming.

Any doubt left within Jesha evaporated. There was only one way to extinguish the fire the Jedi had set. She turned the jogan pit over her palm, knowing what she must do.

"Master Kenobi sent out a beacon telling us to trust in the Force, but how could the Force let something like *this* happen?" Ryza was saying.

"The Force must be free," Jesha unconsciously said in response.

"What was that?"

Jesha looked at him, her eyes brimming with tears, a strained grin twisting her face. "The Force. It must be free if we hope to restore balance to the galaxy."

"Yes," Ryza said, visibly unsettled. He seemed suddenly so very small. "Yes, I suppose you're right."

"Your tea will be ready in a moment," Jesha said. She turned back to the stove and closed her fingers around the jogan pit. "And then you can get some rest."

THE END



NEXT ISSUE: An all-new and exclusive *Star Wars* story by Landry Walker!

JEDI MASTER'S QUIZ

45 years ago, *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* took us on a breathtaking adventure from the snow fields of Hoth to Bespin's Cloud City. Test your knowledge of the movie with our *Empire*-themed quiz.

Compiled by Jay Stobie

"NEVER TELL ME THE ODDS!"

Can you fly through this asteroid field of *The Empire Strikes Back* trivia questions?

HAVOC ON HOTH

1: Which creatures acted as mounts for Luke Skywalker and Han Solo?



A/ Rancors
B/ Porgs
C/ Tauntauns
D/ Vulptices

2: Who served as Luke Skywalker's tailgunner during the Battle of Hoth?



A/ Snap Wexley
B/ Wedge Antilles
C/ Dak Ralter
D/ Carson Teva

3: Why did the Empire deploy AT-AT walkers to the surface?



A/ To destroy the base's shield generator
B/ To avoid volcanic activity
C/ To recover a lost probe droid
D/ To scout for ice caves

4: What weapon covered the rebel transports as they fled the planet?

A/ Cloaking cannon
B/ Ion cannon
C/ Hyperspace cannon
D/ Battering ram cannon



5: Which vessel facilitated Leia Organa's escape from the planet?

A/ *Chimaera*
B/ *Outrider*
C/ *First Light*
D/ *Millennium Falcon*

DETERMINATION ON DAGOBAH



6: Why did Luke Skywalker go to the Dagobah system?

A/ To hide from Jabba the Hutt
B/ To find Jedi Master Yoda
C/ To recover a treasure map
D/ To find himself

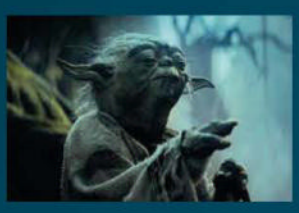


7: Who accompanied Luke Skywalker to Dagobah?

A/ Han Solo
B/ Chewbacca
C/ R2-D2
D/ C-3PO

8: What object did Yoda lift out of the swamp by using the Force?

A/ Luke's X-wing
B/ A mynock egg
C/ The Emperor's lightsaber
D/ A chest filled with credits





9: Whose face was revealed beneath Darth Vader's mask inside the dark-side cave?

A/ Padmé Amidala
B/ Maul
C/ Qui-Gon Jinn
D/ Luke Skywalker



10: Why was Luke Skywalker in such a rush to leave Dagobah?

A/ He needed to refuel his starfighter
B/ He'd left his lightsaber on Hoth
C/ He decided to join the Empire
D/ He wanted to rescue his friends

CLASH ON CLOUD CITY



11: Where was Cloud City located?

A/ Bespin
B/ Mon Cala
C/ Crait
D/ Pasaana

12: Which bounty hunter successfully tracked Han Solo to Cloud City?



A/ Boba Fett
B/ Greedo
C/ Aurra Sing
D/ Bossk

13: How did Chewbacca pass the time while waiting in his cell?

A/ He carved a statue
B/ He knitted a sweater
C/ He began reassembling C-3PO
D/ He built a blaster

14: In what material was Han Solo encased for transport?



A/ Beskar
B/ Carbonite
C/ Cortosis
D/ Kyber

15: Who did Luke Skywalker duel against while in the depths of Cloud City?



A/ Darth Sidious
B/ Count Dooku
C/ Supreme Leader Snoke
D/ Darth Vader

"IMPRESSIVE. MOST IMPRESSIVE."

Join us to discover 10 key terms from *The Empire Strikes Back* below:

W	E	T	A	N	I	P	A	L	I	N	E	S	H
A	H	A	D	S	S	T	S	W	E	E	D	N	A
B	Y	N	R	O	O	P	W	O	X	E	I	O	N
E	P	E	Z	N	A	U	G	K	N	O	O	W	P
E	E	V	E	U	E	R	S	O	E	J	I	S	F
V	R	M	G	O	G	E	D	E	E	D	A	P	T
I	D	A	N	O	I	N	D	I	D	H	U	E	M
F	R	O	Q	E	A	N	A	D	A	C	L	E	E
V	I	A	E	L	P	T	W	U	F	O	O	D	T
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S	E	N	A	A	O	O	S	I	S	H	O	R	S
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N	T	R	N	A	S	T	E	R	O	I	D	A	S
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ANSWERS QUIZ:

"NEVER TELL ME THE ODDS."

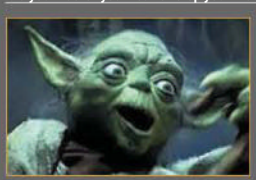
1. C, 2. C, 3. A, 4. B, 5. D, 6. B, 7. C, 8. A, 9. D, 10. D, 11. A, 12. A, 13. C, 14. B, 15. D.

"IMPRESSIVE. MOST IMPRESSIVE."

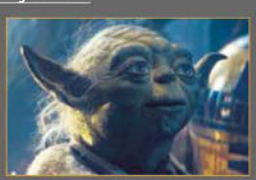
1. Lobot, 2. Asteroid, 3. Snowspeeder, 4. Needa, 5. Ugnaught, 6. Bacta, 7. Lando, 8. Wampa, 9. Hyperdrive, 10. Veers.

HOW DID YOU DO?

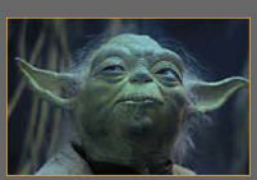
Did you master your fear or stop your training too soon?



0–9: You don't quite believe it yet. That is why you fail.



10–19: Do. Or do not. There is no try... but try again.



20–25: A luminous being are you!

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234

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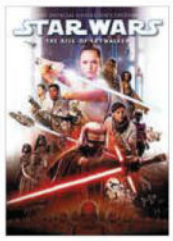
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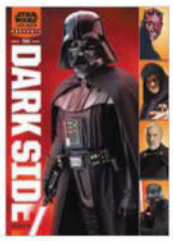
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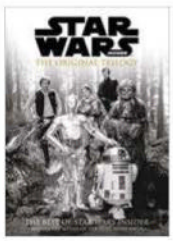
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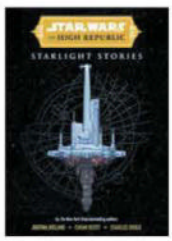
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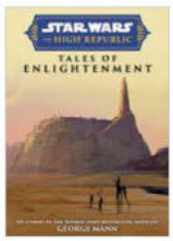
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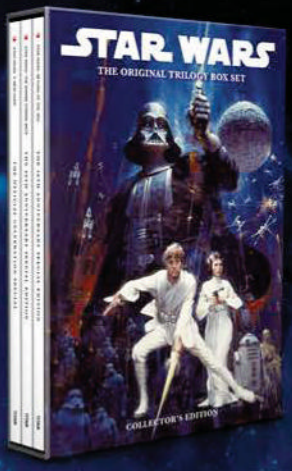
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