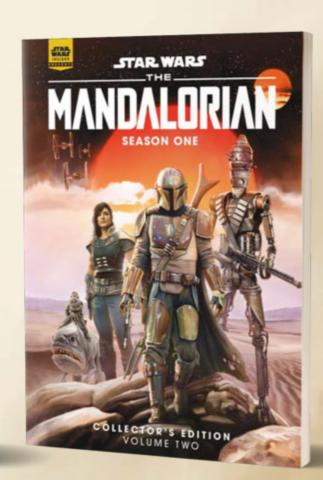


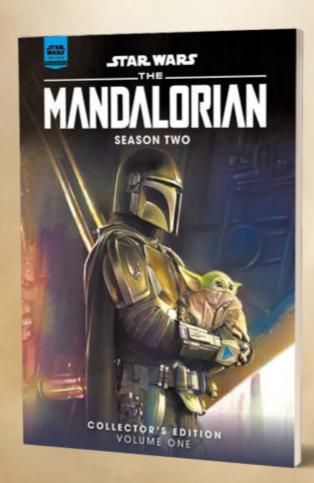
COMPLETE YOUR STAR WARS: THE MANDALORIAN COLLECTION

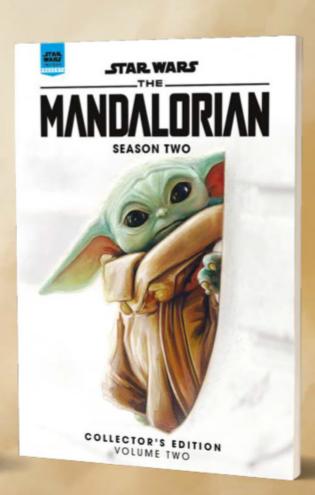












Go behind the scenes of the hit live-action series, streaming now on Disney+, with episode guides, character profiles, rare photographs, and art from fan favorite artists including Nick Gindraux, Ryan Church, John Park, Doug Chiang, Christian Alzmann and more!

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WELCOME...



I love the Ewoks! Actually, I think they're one of the coolest concepts in all of *Star Wars*. They represent qualities that everyone should aspire to–inventiveness, compassion, a connectedness with their natural surroundings, and the grit and resolve it takes to stand up to bullies. They were the quintessential underdogs that turned the tide of galactic conflict, and the fact they were also adept at refashioning stormtrooper helmets into xylophones only adds to my appreciation.

I love Wookiees too! As is well known, George Lucas invented Ewoks when he needed a new species of non-technological allies for the Rebellion in *Return of the Jedi* (1983), having already established that Wookiees such as Chewbacca knew their way around a hyperdrive. Now we have another hulking Kashyyyk native to admire, in the form of our mighty cover star Krrsantan, whose live-action arrival in *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021) was a standout moment for fans. In this issue of *Star Wars Insider*, we get the best of both worlds: There's an exclusive interview with Carey Jones, the actor inside the Krrsantan costume, and we also take a speculative look at how life on Endor might have been changed for the Ewoks by the presence of the Empire.

Other highlights include interviews with Hugh Quarshie (Captain Panaka in 1999's *The Phantom Menace*), *Star Wars: Shadow of the Sith* author Adam Christopher, and Industrial Light & Magic matte painting veteran Craig Barron. Plus there's exclusive new fiction by Rodney Barnes starring Jedi Master Mace Windu. This party is just getting started!

May the Force be with you.

Clin

Christopher Cooper

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Amy Richau
amyrichau
Amy is a regular
contributor to
StarWars.com,
and is the author
of Star Wars: I
Love You, I Know:
Lessons in Love
and Friendship.



Mark Newbold
aPrefect_timing
A writer for U.K.
sci-fi magazine
Starburst and Star
Trek magazine,
journalist Mark is a
proud Honorary
Friend of the 501st
and Rebel Legion.



Jay Stobie
aStobiesGalaxy
Starship fanatic
and blogger Jay
writes articles for
StarWars.com and
is searching for a
way to reside full
time in the Star
Wars galaxy.



Rodney Barnes
a TheRodneyBarnes
An award-winning
screenwriter and
producer, Rodney
is the writer of
Marvel's upcoming
The Mandalorian
(2019-present)
adaptation.



Melissa T. Miller amelissaruth Scientist and science writer Melissa visits Comic-Con every year to purchase new Star Wars paraphernalia for her pet dog.



Brandon Wainerdi aActuallyBrandon Brandon is a writer, digital strategist, and podcaster, with a talent for crossword puzzles and a love of the Star Wars galaxy.

CONTACT US

Write to us

Star Wars Insider Titan Magazines, 2819 Rosehall Lane, Aurora, IL, 60503, U.S.A. Star Wars Insider 144 Southwark Street, London SE1 OUP, U.K. arwarsinsi

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STAR WARS

ISSUE 212

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Creative Director / Michael Siglain
Asset Management /
Chris Argyropoulos, Gabrielle Levenson,
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Sarah Williams, Jackey Cabrera,
Shahana Alam, and Elinor De La Torre
Story Group / Pablo Hidalgo,
Leland Chee, Phil Szostak, and Kate Izquierdo

CONTRIBUTORS

Rodney Barnes, Mary Fan, Melissa T. Miller, Mark Newbold, Amy Richau, Jay Stobie, Brandon Wainerdi, and Dan Wallace. Coastal Miwok photo courtesy of Lucina Thomas-Vidauri.

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Production Controllers /
Caterina Falqui & Kelly Fenton
Production Manager / Jackie Flook
Art Director / Oz Browne
Sales & Circulation Manager / Steve Tothill
Marketing Coordinator / Lauren Noding
Publicist / Will O'Mullane
Digital & Marketing Manager / Jo Teather
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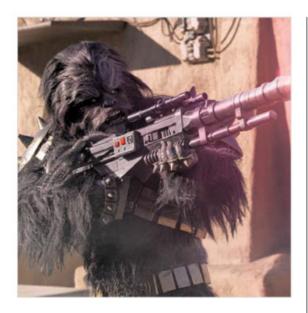


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Andor's Adventure Begins

Disney+ series debuts on August 31, 2022

he long-awaited first season of *Star Wars: Andor*, the new live-action *Star Wars* television series from Lucasfilm and Disney+, arrives on the streaming service on August 31.

Starring Diego Luna as Cassian Andor and Genevieve O'Reilly as



Mon Mothma, the 12-part series takes place five years prior to the events of *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (2016), and promises a nail-biting spy thriller that explores how the conflicted hero reached a point where he was willing to sacrifice his life for the rebel cause.

Speaking at *Star Wars* Celebration earlier this year, star Diego Luna explained that "You're not going to recognize Cassian at the beginning. He's a very selfish man. You're going to see a guy who's waiting for that awakening to happen."

Production begins on a second season this November, again comprised of 12 episodes, which series creator



Tony Gilroy has revealed will follow Cassian's journey up to the point we met him in *Rogue One*.

Created by executive producer Tony Gilroy, the series is produced by Stephen Schiff, Kate Hazell, David Meanti, and Kathleen Kennedy, and executive produced by Sanne Wohlenberg and Diego Luna.



STAR WARS ANDOR

Expanding Galaxy

More new Star Wars shows on their way!

host of new *Star Wars* live-action and animated adventures were announced at this year's *Star Wars* Celebration, along with more details of much-anticipated series and news on the return of other old favorites. In case you missed anything (perhaps you were sitting it out in a Tatooine cave or encased in carbonite?), here's *Insider*'s summary of everything we have to look forward to.



Star Wars: Skeleton Crew

Starring Jude Law and an as yet-to-beannounced cast of four younger adventurers, *Star Wars: Skeleton Crew* will follow the journey of a group of lost children as they struggle across the galaxy to find their way home. Set after *Return of the Jedi* (1983), during the Ahsoka-Mandalorian timeframe. The series is executive produced by Jon Watts and Chris Ford with Jon Favreau and Dave Filoni.



<u>Star Wars:</u> <u>Young Jedi Adventures</u>

Set during the High Republic era, *Young Jedi Adventures* is billed as the first full-length animated *Star Wars* series created for pre-schoolers, early grade schoolers, and their families. The show will follow Younglings as they begin their journeys on the path to becoming Jedi Knights.



Star Wars: Tales of the Jedi

This new, 6-part series of animated shorts created by Dave Filoni will focus on untold escapades of Ahsoka Tano and Count Dooku, with three episodes focusing on each character. Liam Neeson returns to provide the voice of Dooku's Padawan Qui-Gon Jinn, and *Star Wars*: Battlefront II's Janina Gavankar (Iden Versio in the classic videogame) will play Ahsoka Tano's mother.



<u>Star Wars: Visions</u> <u>Volume 2</u>

Coming in Spring 2023 is a second season of ground-breaking animated shorts. This time the focus expands upon Japanese anime to ask animators from around the globe to reinterpret classic *Star Wars* themes. Expect to see unique takes on the galaxy far, far away from Spain, India, Chile, Ireland, and South Africa, among others.



01 Natasha Liu Bordizzo and Rosario Dawson. Photo: Wes Ellis

Star Wars: Ahsoka

Confirmed to premiere during 2023 and with filming now underway, the biggest news is that *Rebels* characters Sabine Wren and astromech Chopper will be joining the former Jedi, played by Rosario Dawson, on her new adventures. Wren will be played by *Star Wars* newcomer Natasha Liu Bordizzo, with Chopper once again playing himself.



The Mandalorian Season 3

Din Djarin and Grogu will return to Disney+ in February 2023! As well as directing an episode, Rick Famuyiwa becomes an executive producer on the third season, and Bryce Dallas Howard is also onboard to direct an episode. What's more, Jon Favreau is already hard at work on scripts for Season Four.



The Bad Batch Season 2

Clone Force 99 continue their quest to survive in a hostile galaxy when the second season of the animated series returns to Disney+ this fall. Starring Dee Bradley Baker (as the voices of the Bad Batch) and Michelle Ang (as Omega), the news stories will see the return of some familiar faces.



This Party Isn't Over

Star Wars Celebration Europe confirmed

he greatest party in the galaxy is set to take place in the United Kingdom next year when *Star Wars* Celebration Europe returns to London's ExCel conference center—just a few tube stations away from Canary Wharf, famously used as a filming location for *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (2016).

Scheduled to take place from April 7 through April 10, 2023, the event will feature the usual mix of exclusive panels, live events, exhibitions, and photo opportunities. You can register for updates on the event at starwarscelebration.com.

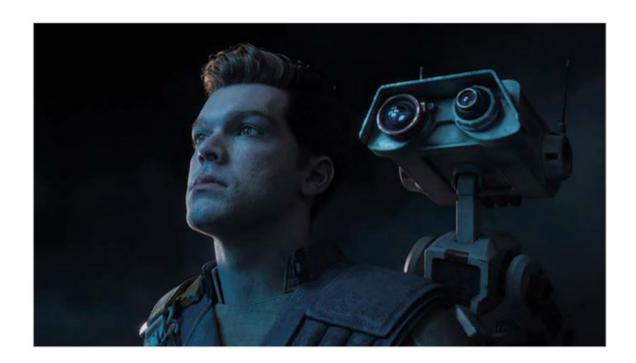
Galactic Guests

Boba Fett and Fennec Shand touch down on Batuu

ourists visiting Star
Wars: Galaxy's Edge at
Disneyland® Resort in
California this summer
may have a chance encounter
with the Daimyo of Mos Espa,
Boba Fett, and his right-hand
assassin, Fennec Shand, as the
duo from The Book of Boba Fett
(2021) make their presence felt
at Black Spire Outpost.

Adding new storytelling to the interactive experience, the duo's trip to Batuu is part of a previously untold mission. Fans can also look forward to seeing more characters at the settlement when Din Djarin and Grogu pay their own visit in the not-too-distant future.





A Game of Survival

Cal Ketsis and BD-1 break cover in a new adventure

t this year's Star Wars
Celebration in Anaheim, ,
Lucasfilm Games, Electronic
Arts, and Respawn
Entertainment announced a sequel

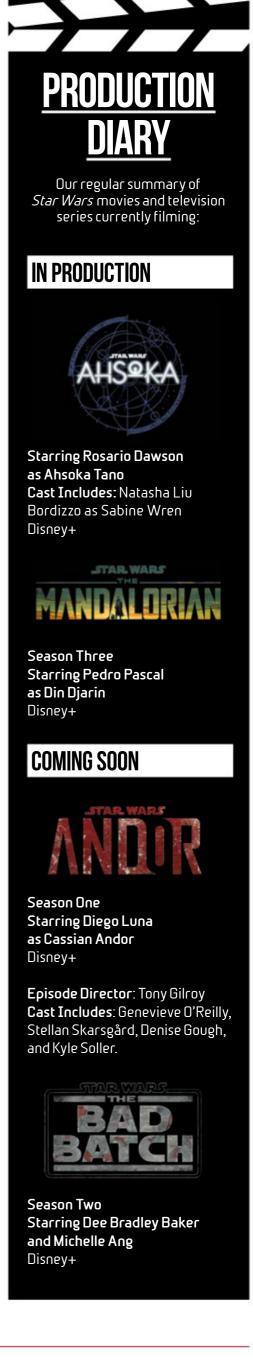
to *Star Wars* Jedi: Fallen Order was in development, picking up the story of protagonists Cal Ketsis and his loyal droid BD-1 as they continue to (try to) avoid any Imperial entanglements.

After debuting a teaser trailer for *Star Wars* Jedi: Survivor, the game's

director Stig Asmussen revealed to StarWars.com that "The game is all about survival. That's why it's called Jedi: Survivor. They are in dark times, and Cal and the crew are doing whatever it takes to stay alive. That might mean that they are making connections with people that, in other times, might be considered unsavory."

We'll find out who these unsavory characters might be when *Star Wars* Jedi: Survivor arrives in 2023.





Sneaking Into Your Collection

Just the right height for a stormtrooper

ans of the galaxy's most infamous scoundrel are sure to be impressed by Gentle Giant's new Milestones 1/6 Scale Statue of the iconic *Star Wars* hero.

Limited to 1,000 pieces world wide (and available for pre-order now, priced \$250), this latest collectible recreates Solo in the stormtrooper disguise he used to sneak around the Death Star in *A New Hope* (1977). The statue comes with an E-11 Imperial blaster and two interchangeable heads, enabling you to display Solo with his identity hidden beneath the helmet or showing off a serious scowl, depending on how his latest plan is panning out. Reserve yours at **gentlegiantltd.com**.



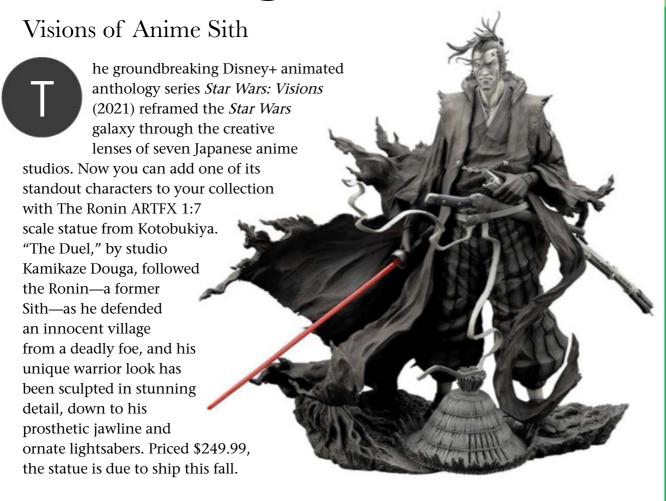


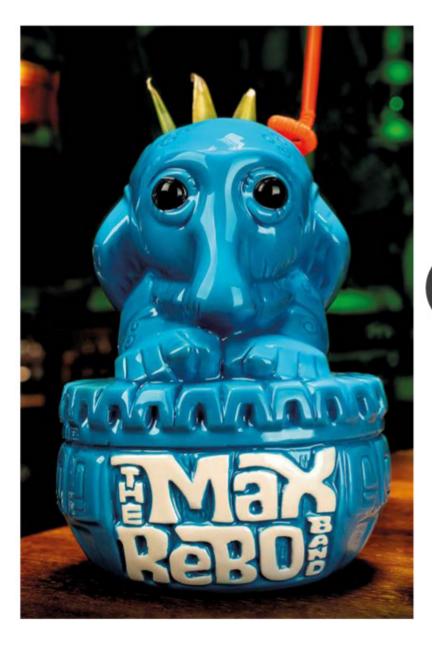
THE LIGHT SIDE

By Jamie Cosley



Wandering Warrior





To The Max!

Savor the flavor of the Max Rebo Band

> rom Jabba the Hutt's palace

to Garsa Fwip's
Sanctuary, Max
Rebo and his
band provided endless hours
of musical entertainment
as the citizens of Tatooine
enjoyed a chilled beverage.
You can join them in
toasting the talents of the
Ortolan tunesmith with
Beeline Creative's Max Rebo
Geeki Tikis Mug, which can
hold 28 fluid ounces of blue
milk, or whatever tickles

your tastebuds. Available now at **GeekiTikis.com**,

priced \$39.99.

<u>The</u> <u>StarWars</u> DotColumn

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

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

Attack of the Quotes
Starwars.com celebrates the
20th anniversary of Star Wars:
Attack of The Clones (2002)
with a selection of its most
memorable lines.



Hitting the Heights
Two of StarWars.com's regular
writers look back at the high
points of Star Wars: The High
Republic Phase I.



The Force Unleashed... Again! Sam Witwer talks about the iconic videogame, recently re-released on Nintendo Switch.



Astromech Tech

An R2-D2 with added boost!

lucky astromech R2-D2's compact frame contained an array of gadgets and gizmos that proved useful in countless situations during adventures with the Republic, Rebel Alliance, and the Resistance. Bandai Hobby Gunpla's R2-D2 Rocket Booster 1:12 Scale Model Kit replicates the droid's tricked-out kit, from a pair of rocket boosters to a hydraulic head lifting device, that will surely captivate any fan of the faithful droid. In stores this fall, priced \$26.99.



Vader Illuminator

Let the dark side light up your life



s the last sight that many of the Sith Lord's enemies saw, Darth Vader's haunting helmet became a symbol of the Empire's terrible might. However, Paladone have chosen to look on the bright side, and transformed Vader's infamous headgear into a fun lamp!

The Darth Vader Light with Sound features glowing red eyes and mouth grill, and even emanates the Sith's notorious mechanical breathing when powered up. Retailing for \$31.99, the light is available now.



<u>Dressed to</u> <u>Impress</u>

Become one with a fashionable Force



s Anakin Skywalker's Padawan, Ahsoka Tano fought valiantly on behalf of the Republic during the Clone Wars. Based on the character's costume

from that era, Her Universe's new Ahsoka Tano Halter Dress reinterprets Tano's distinctive look into a stylish garment that is composed of 97percent cotton and 3 percent spandex, enabling the wearer to look cool and defend the Republic at the same time! Priced at \$89.90, the dress is available in a range of sizes at HerUniverse.com.

Lovably Luxurious

Pattern your style after these exemplary accessories

rom stormtroopers to starships, *Star Wars* has introduced a host of memorable designs that have become woven into popular culture. The films also inspired the creative team at Vera Bradley to develop unique patterns to apply to their *Star Wars* collection of bags, blankets, drink tumblers, apparel, gifts, and more. The main patterns in this line focuses on the most iconic moments in the original trilogy, featuring a variety of light- and dark-side characters. The *Star Wars* collection is available now at **VeraBradley.com**.



LAUNCHPAD

MANDO MERCH The latest bounty on

The latest bounty on which to blow your beskar

A Mando Glow

Set your sights on this Pop! that shines bright

The viewfinder in the Mandalorian's distinctive beskar helmet gave the bounty hunter the ability to see heat signatures that were not visible to the naked eye. Fortunately, Funko's brand new The Mandalorian Hologram Glowin-the-Dark Pop! Vinyl Figure shines for every collector. A The blue glow-in-the-dark deco Pop! of Din Djarin retails for \$14.99, and is available exclusively at EntertainmentEarth.com.





Beautiful Bucket

Shade your eyes with this handy Grogu hat

In *Star Wars* fandom, the term "bucket" typically refers to the helmets worn by Imperial stormtroopers. However, Love Your Melon's Grogu Seaglass Bucket Hat B is a perfect fit for any fan, whether they're a Jedi Master or a Mandalorian foundling. Embroidered with an image of Din Djarin's Force-sensitive ward, this 100-percent cotton twill hat could protect you from the intense rays of Tatooine's twin suns. You can bag your own bucket at LoveYourMelon.com.



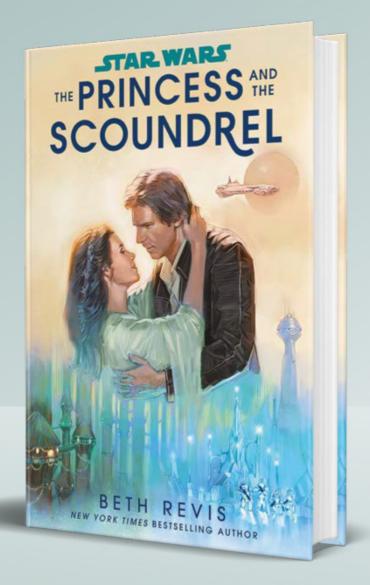
The Mando-rnaments

Decorate your home with some holiday season bounty

Din Djarin and Grogu engaged in eclectic adventures that sent them traveling throughout the Outer Rim territories. Hallmark's line of *Star Wars* 2022 Keepsake Ornaments © enshrines these exploits in holiday-themed poses, ranging from the Jedi in Training Grogu on Rocking Bantha (\$19.99) and Grogu Greetings Ornament with Sound and Motion (\$39.99), to the *Razor Crest* (\$34.99), A Jedi Returns (\$29.99), and I'll See You Again (\$24.99) ornaments. Prepare for the holiday season by acquiring these assets at Hallmark.com.

Book Club

Untold tales and unlikely heroes star in the latest Star Wars book releases.



You Are Cordially Invited

Attend the wedding of Han and Leia in Star Wars: The Princess and the Scoundrel

Star Wars fans know that Han Solo and Princess Leia eventually became husband and wife, and then had their troublesome offspring Ben Solo. But when and where did they tie the knot? Star Wars: The Princess and the Scoundrel opens shortly after the destruction of the second Death Star, as Han proposes to Leia on the Forest Moon of Endor during the height of the rebel celebration.

After a wedding ceremony held in the Ewoks' Bright Tree Village, the newlyweds depart for their honeymoon aboard the *Halcyon* starcruiser (the now-familiar centerpiece of the *Star Wars*: Galactic Starcruiser 2-night experience at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida). But even as

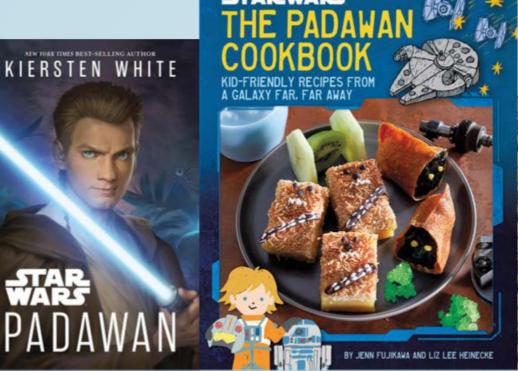
the Empire's reign of terror is coming to an end, the war isn't over—and Han and Leia must outwit the stubborn Imperial remnants struggling to cling on to power.

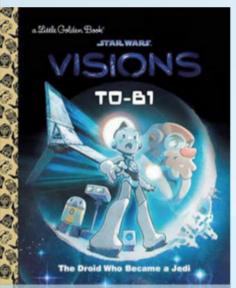
Beth Revis (*Star Wars: Rebel Rising*) took a deep dive into the Han and Leia dynamic in order to accurately portray this phase in the couple's relationship, as she recently told StarWars.com. "I found myself watching *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) on repeat," explained Revis. "The emotional beats of Han and Leia's relationship start to spin out in *Empire*—it's not just the famous 'I know,' line, but it's the way Leia relates how she doesn't trust Lando and Han responds with seriousness,

the way their trust builds, all the moments that lead up to their confession of love. By the time *Return of the Jedi* (1983) picks up the story, Leia's been left with that confession long enough to get comfortable with the idea of it. It's one reason why the relationship between the two works—Leia was always going to be someone who had to think about something like love, and Han was always going to be someone who just followed his gut."

The novel, on sale from Del Rey on August 16, is packed full of memorable moments. "I don't want to spoil anything," Revis hints about the novel's wedding scenes, "But I will say that when Ewoks are involved, nothing ever goes to plan!" 02

01





PADAWAN

ol Star Wars: Padawan

Star Wars: Padawan, a coming-ofage adventure by Kiersten White, sees a young Obi-Wan Kenobi testing the limits of his bond with his new Jedi Master, Qui-Gon Jinn.

Frustrated by Qui-Gon's insistence on a methodical schedule of meditation and practice, Obi-Wan rushes into a mission on a remote planet that had once been explored by an ancient Jedi. The lush world seems like a perfect fit for Obi-Wan Kenobi, especially once he encounters a group of fellow teens who seem to exhibit Force-sensitivity. But his Padawan training pushes him to question his new comrades and what they might mean for his future. On sale now from Disney Lucasfilm Press.

Star Wars: The Padawan Cookbook

Packed with kid-friendly recipes from a galaxy far, far away, *Star Wars: The Padawan Cookbook* lets you show your younglings the ways of the kitchen, as well as the Force!

Written by Jenn Fujikawa and Liz Lee Heinecke, the cookbook features 50 fun, simple, and delicious recipes inspired by the settings and creatures of the *Star Wars* saga. Snacks, lunches, entrees, desserts, and drinks are all here, along with STEM content focusing on the sciences of nutrition and culinary chemistry. Featuring full-color photography, cooking tips, and a complete kitchen reference guide, *The Padawan Cookbook* is the perfect way to instill young fans with a lifelong passion for cooking. On sale August 16 from Insight Editions.

Star Wars: Visions: T0-B1

The unconventional, would-be
Jedi known as TO-B1 debuted in the
Disney+ animated anthology Star
Wars: Visions in September 2021.
Appearing as a childlike droid,
TO-B1 bares a resemblance to
Osamu Tezuka's seminal Astro Boy
and provides a spark of hope in the
memorable segment from Japanese
studio Science SARU.

Star Wars: Visions: TO-B1 is a beautiful storybook in the Little Golden Book tradition, and follows TO-B1's dreams of becoming a Jedi, despite his origins in a workshop. Featuring images taken from the anime-inspired episode, the book introduces fans of all ages to one of the most unexpected Star Wars heroes. On sale September 6 from Disney Lucasfilm Press.

Comics Roundup

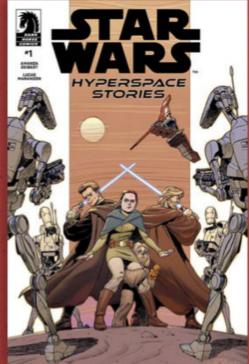
Heroes arise from every faction in this month's Star Wars comics.

Make the Jump

Dark Horse goes to lightspeed with new *Hyperspace Stories*

Dark Horse Comics returns to the galaxy far, far away on August 10 with an all-new, all-ages anthology series, *Star Wars: Hyperspace Stories*. The new title, which will run for 12 issues in total, promises incredible adventures from all-star authors, including Michael Moreci, Cecil Castellucci, and Amanda Deibert, with tales from every era of the *Star Wars* movies, animated series, and televisions shows.

Issue #1 kicks off with a tale of danger and deception at the



height of the Clone Wars written by Amanda Deibert and featuring art by Lucas Marangon.

A Republic mission led by Senator Padmé Amidala goes awry when its members are abducted by the ruthless Separatist General Grievous. Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker are sent to save them, only to be surrounded by an entire army of battle droids!

In The Ascendent

The rebels are on the rise in Star Wars #26

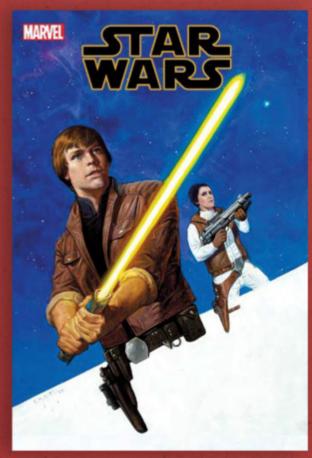
Marvel's ongoing *Star Wars* series continues to explore the space between *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) and *Return of the Jedi* (1983) with the latest cosmic adventure courtesy of writer Charles Soule.

After the rebel fleet barely survives a savage attack by Imperial commander Ellian Zahra, General Leia Organa has called for all surviving Alliance vessels to reunite at last. It is time to send a message to the galaxy: the Rebel Alliance is on the path to victory!

As General Leia, Mon Mothma, and other leaders of the Alliance

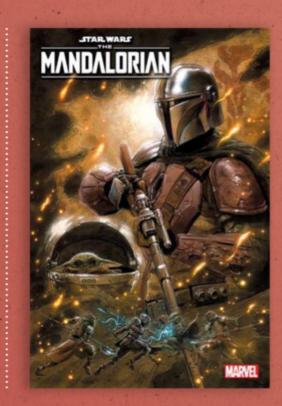
fine-tune their message of courageous resistance to the cruel reign of Emperor Palpatine, Lady Qi'ra of the Crimson Dawn criminal syndicate activates a network of sleeper agents scattered across all civilized planets. Their goal? To cause chaos for the forces of the Empire—by any means necessary!

Star Wars #26 features interior artwork by Andres Genolet and a standard cover by E.M Gist, with variants including an action figure variant cover by John Tyler Christopher and a Choose Your Destiny variant cover by Chris Sprouse. Available in comic stores on August 17.



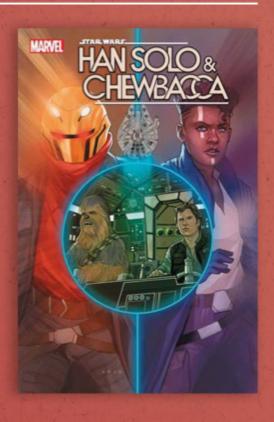
The Mandalorian #2 (of 8)

Adaptiing 2019's breakout hit on Disney+, this eight-part limited Marvel Comics series retells the events of *The Mandalorian* 's first season through the skills of writer Rodnev Barnes and artist Georges Jeanty. In issue #2, the Mandalorian exacts revenge against thieving Jawa scavengers when they take refuge inside their rolling sandcrawler fortress, and battles a reclusive Mudhorn in its lair. Will the Child provide the edge that the Mandalorian needs against long odds? Featuring cover art by Kaare Andrews, Star Wars: The Mandalorian #2 is on sale August 17.



Han Solo & Chewbacca #5

The latest issue of this ongoing Marvel series, chronicling the adventures of the notorious Corellian smuggler Han Solo and his Wookiee co-pilot in the years leading up to Star Wars: A New Hope (1977). concludes "The Crystal Run" storyline which sees writer Marc Guggenheim putting the duo into their toughest spot ever! With the *Millennium* Falcon gone and a very angry Greedo back in the mix, can Han avoid the clutches of Marshal Buck Vancto and Khel Tanna? Han Solo & Chewbacca #5 features art by David Messina with a cover by Phil Noto, and is in comic stores on August 3.



Doctor Aphra #23

Rogue archaeologist Chelli Lona Aphra is a true wild card, fighting alongside the rebels one day and then unexpectedly saving the life of Emperor Palpatine the next. Don't let her academic credentials fool you—Doctor Aphra will cross her moral line if she can turn a profit! In the latest issue of the ongoing Marvel series, smuggler Sana Starros is determined to rescue Aphra from the enemy at any cost. But everyone has secrets, and the dark side adherents of the Spark Eternal have plans of their own! Written by Alyssa Wong with art by Minkyu Jung and a cover by W. Scott Forbes, *Doctor Aphra* #23 is on sale August 3.





AUGUST

Bounty Hunters #26

Marvel Comics
Writer: Ethan Sacks
Artist: Paolo Villanelli

Cover Artist: Giuseppe Camuncoli

Darth Vader #26
Marvel Comics

Writer: Greg Pak Artist: Raffaele Ienco Cover Artist: Rahzzah

Obi-Wan Kenobi#4 (of5)

Marvel Comics

Writer: Christopher Cantwell Artist: Madibek Musabekov Cover Artist: Phil Noto

SEPTEMBER

Star Wars: The New Republic Legends Epic Collection

Volume 6

Marvel Comics

Writers: Mike Richardson

& Randy Stradley

Artists: Paul Gulacy & others Cover Artist: Dave Dorman

OCTOBER

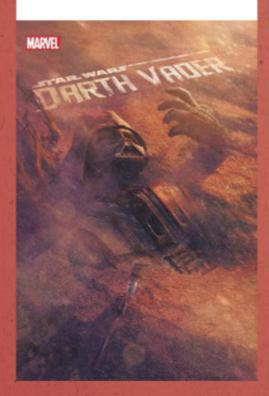
Tales from the Rancor Pit

Dark Horse Comics Writer: Cavan Scott Artists: Nick Brokenshire, Juan Samu, Andy Duggan

& Rafael Perez

Cover Artists: Kelley Jones

& Michelle Madsen





Luminous Lore

Shining a light on Star Wars: The High Republic.

Chronicles of the Jedi!

Brush up on your *High* Republic knowledge as Phase II gets underway!

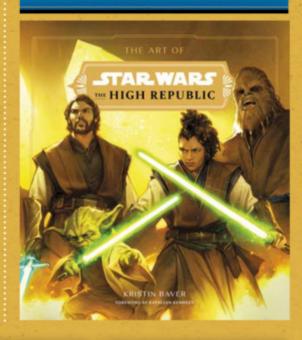
With the first novel in *The High Republic* Phase II, *Path of Deceit* by Tessa Gratton and Justina Ireland, arriving this October, fans who have not yet embraced the golden age of the Jedi might be looking for a way to bring themselves up to speed.

To help, Insight Editions will be releasing Star Wars: The High Republic: Chronicles of the Jedi, An Illustrated Guide to the Galaxy's Golden Age on November 29, 2022. Written by Cole Horton, this lavishly illustrated, 160-page book provides an in-depth look at the characters, creatures, vehicles, and locations of the High Republic era, and will include hints and teases about about the saga's second and third phases

Also on its way on November 10 is *The Art of Star Wars: The High Republic*, written by Kristin Baver and featuring a foreword by Kathleen Kennedy. It's cover (pictured right) was recently unveiled at *Star Wars* Celebration, along with covers for the first issues of upcoming comic books from Marvel and Dark Horse (below).

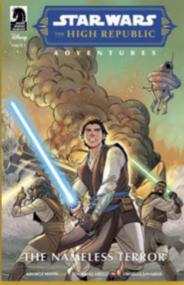


STAR WARS
HIGH REPUBLIC
CHRONICLES OF THE JEDI:





The High Republic#1
Writer: Cavan Scott
Actist: Acio Aciodito



The High Republic Adventures:
The Nameless Terror#1
Writer: George Mann
Artists: Eduardo Mello
8. Ocnolla Savacoso



The High Republic: The Blade #1 Writer: Charles Soule Artist: Marco Castiello



Republic Roundup

PHASE I AVAILABLE NOW

Light of the Jedi

Writer: Charles Soule Del Rey, Adult novel

A Test of Courage

Writer: Justina Ireland

Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

The Great Jedi Rescue

Writer: Cavan Scott Artist: Petur Antonsson

Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

Into the Dark

Writer: Claudia Gray

Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

The Rising Storm

Writer: Cavan Scott
Del Rey, Adult novel

Race to Crashpoint Tower

Writer: Daniel José Older

 ${\sf Disney\,Lucasfilm\,Press,Middle\,Grade\,novel}$

Out of the Shadows

Writer: Justina Ireland

Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel

Tempest Runner

Writer: Cavan Scott
Del Rey, Audio original novel

Showdown at the Fair

Writer: George Mann Artist: Petur Antonsson

Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

Mission to Disaster

Writer: Justina Ireland

Disney Lucasfilm Press, Middle Grade novel

The Fallen Star

Writer: Claudia Gray Del Rey, Adult novel

The Battle for Starlight

Writer: George Mann Artist: Petur Antonsson

Disney Lucasfilm Press, 8x8 storybook

Midnight Horizon

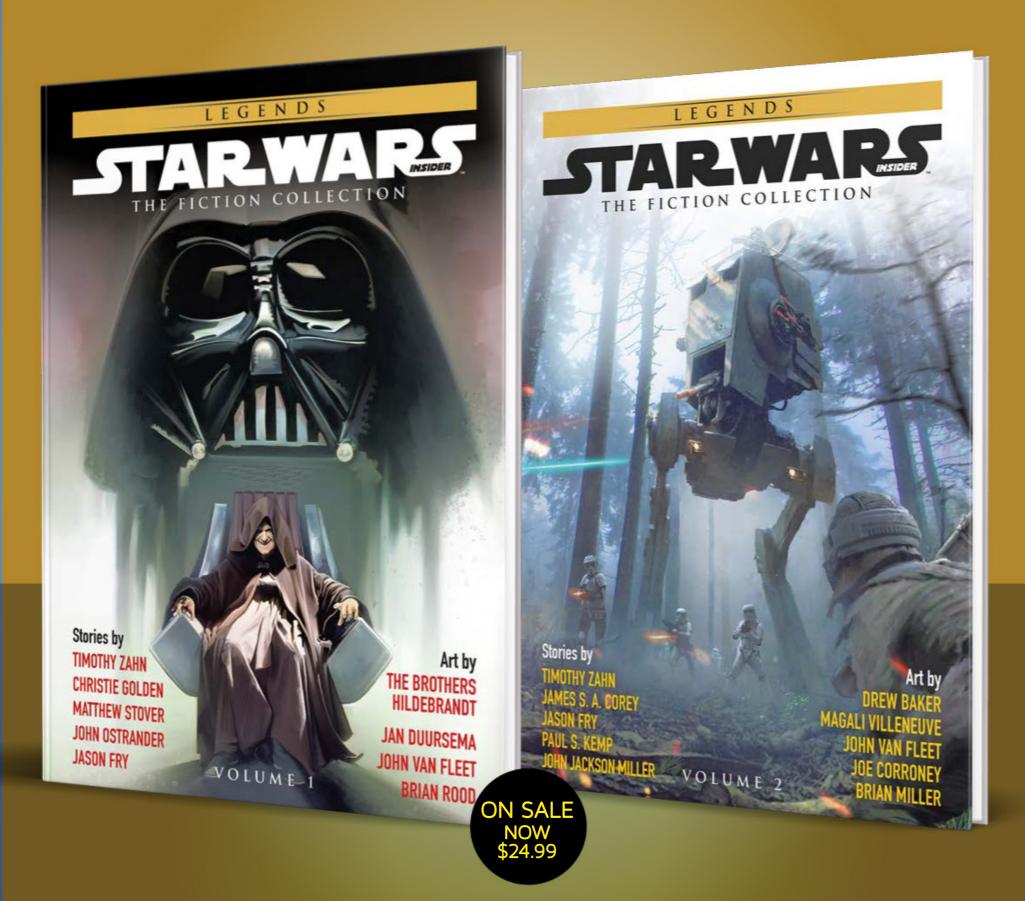
Writer: Daniel José Older

Disney Lucasfilm Press, Young Adult novel



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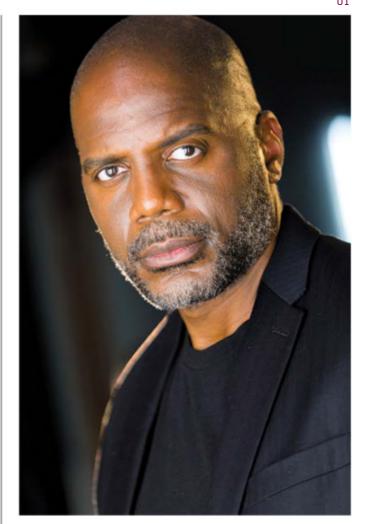
- 01 Carey Jones.
- 02 Jones as Krrsantan in The Book of Boba Fett (2021).
- 03 Krrsantan concept art by Christian Alzmann.

Star Wars Insider: Portraying a character in the Star Wars galaxy is a unique accomplishment, especially for a fan. How did the role come your way?

Carey Jones: I had worked with Robert Rodriguez on Predators (2010). He's friends with Greg Nicotero (the legendary special makeup effects artist), who happened to mention me in the course of a conversation, and Robert remembered that experience. He gave me a call and that's really how it started. When someone asks you if you want to be in Star Wars, you say, "Yes!" You don't really ask a ton of questions after that (laughs).

What went through your mind when you learned that you'd be playing Krrsantan in The Book of Boba Fett?

The funny thing about it is that although I knew that I'd been cast as a Wookiee, I didn't know that it was Krrsantan, or that we'd be making The Book of Boba Fett. For a while, I'd assumed it was for another Star Wars show altogether, because Disney and Lucasfilm like to keep things so close to the vest, and they kept the scripts so secret. I didn't know it was actually a Boba Fett show until I was on set, but that was okay because I was going to be in a *Star Wars* production!



"When someone asks you if you want to be in Star Wars, you say, 'Yes!'
You don't really ask a ton



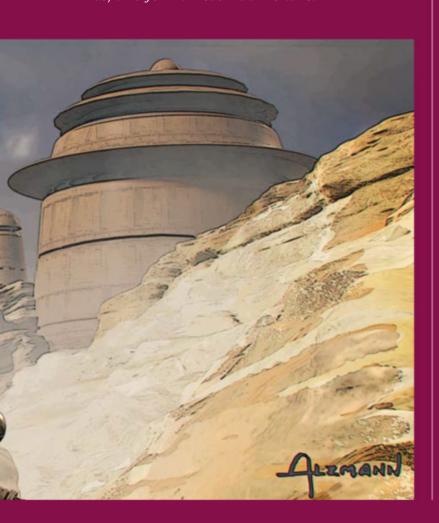
And how did you react when you realized it was a Boba Fett series?

It was amazing. Boba Fett is one of my favorite characters. It says a lot when a character who had such a short amount of screen time in the original movies could leave such a lasting impression on so many fans. The striking design and detail of his costume, the fact that he was a bounty hunter, his mannerisms, his voice, and the mystery surrounding him! To be a part of *The Book of Boba Fett* felt pretty great for me.

Krrsantan originally made his debut in *Star Wars* comics. Did you research his previous appearances to inform your characterization?

I wasn't given his name right away. Initially, all I was told about the character was that he was a Wookiee. It was at least a month or so later when I got that information; and when I did, I was able to go and do the research that helped me learn about Krrsantan's demeanor.

Every one of us has a history, and what we've gone through in our lives defines the person that you are today. Krrsantan's backstory in the comics is where it starts in terms of his character and why he is the way that he is, so yeah, I looked at all the graphic novels and things I found online about him, including fan theories and ideas about the character. Luckily, there were a lot of stories out there about Krrsantan, so there was plenty to absorb. Then, of course, Robert Rodriguez had his take on how Krrsantan was, and Jon Favreau had his take.



DOCTOR APHRA COT GARAGE SOFT OF THE PROPERTY O



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CRACKING KRRSANTAN

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Krrsantan was first introduced to *Star Wars* fans in issue #1 of Marvel Comics' *Darth Vader* in 2015, but *The Book of Boba Fett* made him a living, breathing, three-dimensional character. *Insider* asked Carey Jones what he feels motivated Krrsantan most, and if there was more to him than just money? "*Star Wars* bounty hunters don't care about the bounty that they're hunting," Jones suggests. "I don't think Krrsantan cared whether someone was good or bad, right or wrong. He was motivated by purpose and money. He just needed a reason, you know?"

After being hired by the duplicitous Hutt Twins to end Boba Fett's life, and failing, Krrsantan was left without such direction. "I think that's why he went to Garsa's place and had to get a couple of drinks inside him," says Jones. "Krrsantan was double-crossed by the people who hired him, and then left in the hands of Boba Fett. He didn't have a mission, and that's what bounty hunters live for—missions, the adrenaline rush, the battles they have to go through to get their bounty. Krrsantan didn't know what Boba Fett's true endgame was, but he knew he'd get paid, and get to fight, so he thought, 'Alright, I'm in!'"

How did it feel to put on the Wookiee suit for the first time?

It was surreal. The first time it was just the head, which was still in the process of being built. I found myself staring at Krrsantan in the mirror for hours at a time, as I tried to get to grips with the fact that I was going to do this show and become this character. To be perfectly honest, even today I don't think that it's sunk in (*laughs*).

Krrsantan demonstrated a lot of physical prowess. Did you undertake much stunt training for the series?

I've done stunts before on other projects, so my personal preparation was just to train. And I trained, and trained, and trained! From my experience of wearing other suits like the Krrsantan costume, it's the legs, the shoulders, and the arms that wear on you first, so it was those areas I concentrated on when I started my training..

Once I knew in more detail what I was going to be doing—I had to lift a guy, put someone on my shoulders, throw another guy—I started training a little differently. The stunt coordinator, JJ Dashnaw, and the other

- 04 David Nakayama's cover art featuring Krrsantan for *Doctor* Aphra Annual#1.
- 05 Marvel Comics' *Han Solo & Chewbacca*#4 variant cover
 by Nic Klein.
- 06 A collection of
 Krrsantan stories
 from various Marvel
 Comics was
 published in June
 2022. Cover art by
 Salvador Larroca.

07

- 07 Concept art for the Trandoshan attack by Christian Alzmann.
- 08 Krrsantan gets ambushed by a band of Trandoshans in *The Book* of Boba Fett.



"I like to think I'm a big dude and can throw people like that, but we were really making contact."

MAKING UP

As a performer who has appeared on-screen as a Scooby Doo monster and a Predator, Carey Jones is best known for playing Krrsantan in *The Book of* Boba Fett (2021), but for more than two decades he has also enjoyed a prolific career behind the scenes. Starting out as a mold maker and lab technician on films such as Jurassic Park III (2001), it's Jones' skills as a special makeupeffects artist, designer, and supervisor that have benefited numerous major television and movie projects, including *The* Walking Dead (2011-2021), True Detective (2014), The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014), Transformers: Age of Extinction (2014), Suicide Squad (2016), Watchmen (2019), Lovecraft Country (2020), and *Mare of* Easttown (2021).



08

stunt guys were all awesome. I like to think I'm a big dude and can throw people like that [laughs], but we were really making contact. They were getting tossed around the set, and they had to sell it, which they all did.

The word "Wookiee" has become synonymous with Chewbacca, as played by Peter Mayhew and Joonas Suotamo in numerous *Star Wars* movies. Did their performances as Chewie influence your approach to Krrsantan?

The reason why Chewbacca was so endearing and so expressive was because of the actors who portrayed him, and I didn't want to hinder my performance by trying to copy what they did. With anything that you do, there's a part of you in it. I figured that whatever my truth or my take on Krrsantan was, it would come through. He's a unique character and had a completely different

history and story to Chewbacca's, and I felt as if it should read that way. I didn't want him to be too much like Chewbacca because you could *never* replace Chewie, so why try (*laughs*)?

So, were there ways that you sought to differentiate Krrsantan from Chewbacca?

Not really. I didn't go through anything comparatively speaking. I just did what made sense for Krrsantan and his motivation—how would he react to stuff, based upon what was in the script and the scenarios he was put into? His disposition is *always* volatile (*laughs*), and his reaction is *never* a calm one. It's always fight first, think later. So that's how I played it.

How has *The Book of Boba Fett* impacted your life, both as an actor and as a *Star Wars* fan?

Being completely covered in a Wookiee suit while still having to create a character, convey emotion, and come across as a certain type of person, is tough. So, getting feedback from fans on what they saw in what I was trying to do with the character has been huge for me.

The fact that they've picked up on and reacted positively to the things I was doing makes me feel good, as if I did my job. The validation as a performer is great, and that's the most impactful thing for me as an actor.

As a *Star Wars* fan, there's also a sense of humility there. Whenever I meet other fans now, I remember what it felt like to be around someone you'd seen on screen or whose character you connected with, because that was me. *Star Wars* was one of the first movies I ever saw, and I was on the outside of it my whole life, looking up to Mark Hamill, to Harrison Ford, and all of those people, wishing that one day I might meet them. To be on the other side of that is surreal. There aren't too many stories you'll hear about someone being such a deep-rooted *Star Wars* fan like I was and becoming a part of it. It's been awesome.



10



- 10 Krrsantan sided with Boba Fett after the Daimyo showed him mercy and offered him a job.
- 11 After defending
 Mos Espa from
 Boba Fett's
 enemies, what
 might be next
 for the mighty
 Krrsantan?





FROM THE SHADOWS

The Dangerous Life of a Rebel Agent

As we look forward to the launch of *Andor* on Disney+, *Insider* explores the precarious existence of the rebel spy, and how Cassian's selflessness set him apart from more extreme figures like Saw Gerrera.

WORDS: AMY RICHAU



ar is full of impossible choices made in the most stressful and morally ambiguous

environments. Commanders send their troops into battle, knowing many won't survive the day. Spies must participate in or ignore illegal behaviors to keep their true identities safe. And bombers are often unable to verify their payloads won't injure civilians, along with their intended targets.

Cassian Jeron Andor was a Rebel Alliance hero whose bravery helped turn the tide in the battle between the Alliance and the Empire. But many of Andor's actions on missions for the Rebellion were morally questionable. *Star Wars Insider* takes a look into the life of Cassian Andor and other rebel spies and insurgents who sometimes blurred the lines between right and wrong in their desperate fight against the Empire.

As with so many individuals whose experiences later led them to join rebel cells, conflict and war had been a constant in Cassian's life, though his various struggles have only been loosely documented so far. By his own

admission, he had been in the fight since he was six years old, a span of time that predated even the rise of the Empire. Records indicated that he was from Fest, but the haze of war and covert operations raised questions about their accuracy.

"We don't all have the luxury of deciding when and where we want to care about something."

Cassian Andor, Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (2016)

Cassian made a name for himself as someone willing to risk his life for the cause of upending Palpatine's grip across the galaxy. Davits Draven, a veteran of the Clone Wars, served as Cassian's case officer in the Rebel Alliance. Draven was in contact with Mon Mothma

as various cells started working together with the aim of forming a unified Rebel Alliance.

Andor spent much of his time with the Rebellion in the Intelligence Operations department, working undercover in areas controlled by the Empire to gain information about Imperial activities. The task was incredibly dangerous, and the majority of undercover rebel agents did not survive their assignments. For Andor, intelligence gathering often entailed more than simply spying. Sabotage, espionage, and assassinations all played parts in Andor's missions, ranging from impersonating government agents on Ord Mantell to recruiting agents in the Albarrio sector.

Even when Andor and other intelligence agents' missions were successful, they often didn't lead to significant victories for the struggling rebel cells. It was during this period Andor relied on following orders as a way to help justify his actions. As Andor spent much of his time during missions in systems under Imperial control, he had firsthand knowledge of how ruthless its occupation forces could be. The Empire was laserfocused on stripping these planets and moons for minerals and





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▶ metals, without caring how these mining operations would affect the local populace or the planetary environments. When faced with doing nothing or morally questionable actions to try and stop the Empire, Cassian Andor—and many other rebels—made difficult and painful decisions in the field.

By Any Means?

Another rebel active during this period was Saw Gerrera, himself a veteran of the Clone Wars, and a man much less morally conflicted than Andor.

Gerrera fought against the Separatists during the lengthy conflict, and then later the Empire, when they occupied his homeworld, Onderon. Hardened by the tragic loss of his sister Steela and a seemingly never-ending occupation that threatened his people, Gerrera led a group of rebels often referred to as the partisans, who were known for daring and risky missions leading to violence that other rebel cells tried to avoid. Gerrera's willingness to target civilians during such engagements, along with the use of brutal interrogation methods, similar to those of the Empire, drove a wedge between Saw and the rest of the Rebel Alliance, most notably Senator Mon Mothma, who referred to Gerrera as a militant extremist.

Gerrera's deeds in the field were condemned by many, but his actions did, in several cases, lead to results that slowed down the Empire. Gerrera helped Imperial scientists Galen and Lyra Erso and their young daughter escape Coruscant, and relocated them

- 01 Cassian Jeron Andor with his modified Imperial security droid, K-2SO.
- 02 Renegade rebel Saw Gerrera and Jyn Erso.

"Andor made a name for himself as someone willing to risk his life for the cause."





GOOD SOLDIERS FOLLOW ORDERS

Captain Rex and his fellow clone trooper soldiers made difficult moral choices when General Pong Krell replaced Anakin Skywalker during a mission on Umbara. Rex felt he had a duty to follow orders from his commander, in addition to looking out for his fellow soldiers, who Krell seemed all too eager to sacrifice in the name of a wartime victory.

When Rex and the other clones discovered Krell was a traitor working on behalf of Dooku and the Separatists, Rex agreed with his soldiers that it was too risky to keep Krell alive as he could reveal Republic intelligence to the enemy. Rex went to Krell's cell, even though he was hesitant to take such action. However, it was Dogma—a clone trooper that Krell had taunted for his blind loyalty to his superiors—who executed the traitor.

02



03

to the isolated planet, La'mu. When Director Orson Krennic found the Ersos, killing Lyra in the process of forcing Galen to return to his work on a new Imperial superweapon, Gerrera was able to save Jyn and, for many years, raised her among his partisans.

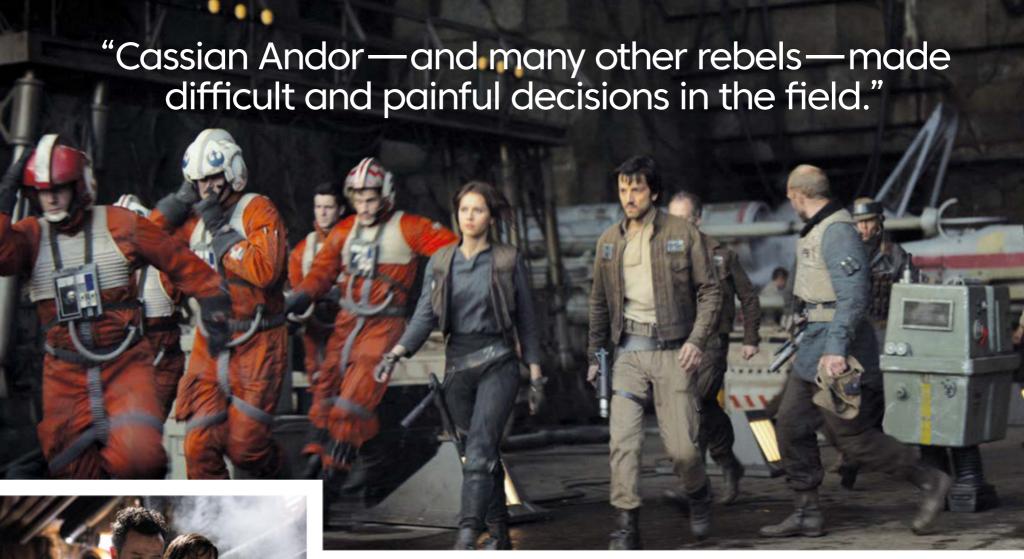
Jyn, however, wasn't always comfortable with Gerrera's tactics, particularly his attack of a festival in Inusagi and its new leader, Governor Cor Tophervin, a friend of the Emperor. Gerrera's actions led to high numbers of both Imperial and civilian casualties. Saw felt the mission was worth it, to send a message to the Emperor; Jyn viewed the mission for what it was: a massacre. "Oh, Jyn," Saw replied when she questioned his methods, "What do you think war is?"

- 03 Andor and Jyn
 Erso traveled to
 Jedha on their
 mission to find
 out more about
 the Empire's
 secret weapon.
- 04 Erso realized that Andor's true mission was to kill her father, rather than rescue him.

Gerrera eventually abandoned Jyn when he became concerned Imperials were close to finding her. While Saw's disappearance understandably felt like a cruel betrayal to Jyn, his heart was in the right place as he genuinely believed Jyn would not survive if the two stayed together.

Both Gerrera and Andor went to great lengths to retrieve Imperial intelligence that related to threats against the Rebellion, particularly the development of of the regime's weapons. After Gerrera and his unit went missing on an intelligence mission on Geonosis, the *Ghost* crew were sent to investigate. When they found him, Gerrera roughly threatened a Geonosian survivor, demanding that he tell the group what weapon they were helping the Empire to build. Ezra Bridger, Kanan Jarrus, and former

04





clone trooper Rex insisted that Gerrera take it easy, especially as the Geonosian was unarmed and defenseless. Saw, however, wanted information from the Geonosian at any cost, telling Bridger, "We are in a war, and war is loss." Bridger eventually convinced Gerrera to leave the Geonosian on his planet, but they would continue not to see eye to eye on several future missions.

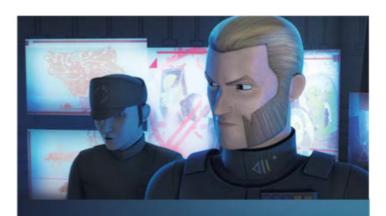
The following year, Gerrera convinced Bridger and Sabine Wren to help him infiltrate a cargo ship he believed held Imperial secrets. When they found Imperial prisoners and a giant kyber crystal, Bridger and Wren prioritized helping the prisoners escape, while Gerrera's only focus was to find out how the Empire was weaponizing the crystal. Having stunned the young rebels, Gerrera told them that the difference between them was that he would do whatever was required to be victorious. "Following orders will only get you so far," he said. As far as Gerrera was concerned, he had lost everything to the Empire, including his sister and his homeworld. All he had left was his burning need for vengeance. His war was personal.

Moral Dilemmas

In a trading post on the Ring of Kafrene, Andor acquired vital information from an informant named Tivik, who told him about a new Imperial planet-killing weapon. But their exchange came

- 05 Andor met his contact, Tivik, on the Ring of Kafrene, and faced a terrible moral choice.
- 06 On Eadu, Andor chose not to follow General Draven's order to execute Galen Erso.

at a terrible cost. Stormtroopers surrounded Andor and Tivik, and the spy only had a few moments to weigh up the odds—risk that the injured Tivik be taken captive and interrogated by the Empire, most likely revealing the intel he'd shared with Cassian, or kill the informant to protect that intel. After taking out the stormtroopers, Andor chose to shoot Tivik. Visibly upset, the emotional toll of his actions had to



UNDERCOVER AGENTS

Both the Rebellion and the Empire used spies in their war against one another. After becoming disillusioned with the Empire, former Imperial Security Bureau agent Alexsandr Kallus secretly worked for the Alliance using the codename Fulcrum—the same codename Ahsoka Tano and Cassian Andor used while funneling intelligence to various rebel cells across the galaxy.

When Thrawn realized a mole was working against him, Kallus framed fellow Imperial officer Lieutenant Lyste, knowing that Lyste would immediately be taken into custody and most likely executed.





08

ARMY OF INSURGENTS

The Twi'lek homeworld of Ryloth suffered occupations from the Separatists during the Clone Wars and the Galactic Empire, after the fall of the Republic. Cham Syndulla, leader of the Free Ryloth Movement, knew the Empire was unlikely to leave Ryloth while the planet still had valuable spice to trade. Unfortunately, there was little hope of any successful diplomatic measures that would help his people. When Palpatine and Darth Vader visited Ryloth, Syndulla and his army of insurgents made the bold move of attempting to assassinate them both. Their efforts failed, but their movement continued.

Out of desperation, some civilians turned to violence to defy the Empire. Explosives expert Skelly became alarmed by the mining activities ordered by Imperial Efficiency expert Count Vidian on the Gorse moon, Cynda. Believing that the Empire's aggressive actions to harvest thorilide so quickly might destroy both Cynda and Gorse, Skelly orchestrated a series of bombings in the center of a Gorse city to try and assassinate Vidian.

wait for another time, as, with more stormtroopers closing in on his location, Cassian made his escape.

Andor and Gerrera would come face to face after Mon Mothma, Bail Organa, and Davits Draven tasked the rebel to liberate Jyn Erso from an Imperial prison on Wobani and convince her to help them retrieve a message from her father Galen Erso, which was now in the hands of Saw Gerrera. The rebels knew that Gerrera was unlikely

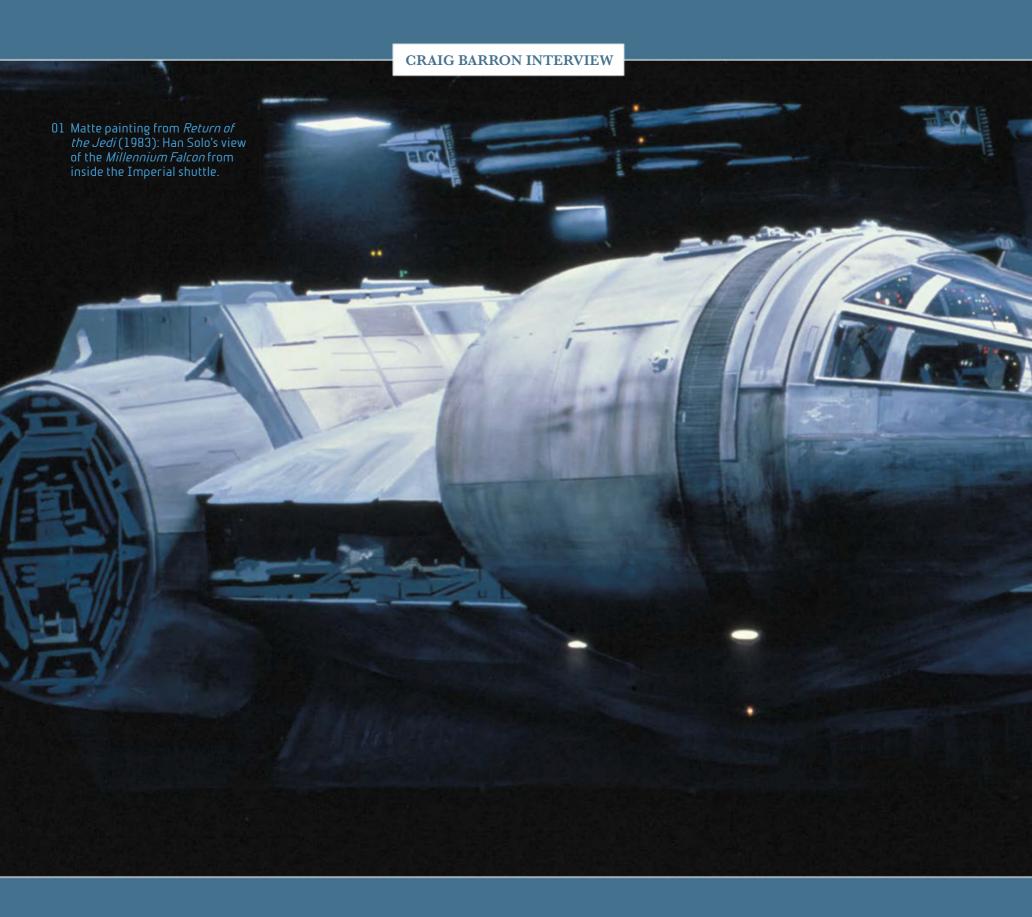
- 07 Rebel forces on Yavin 4 prepare for battle.
- 08 Jyn Erso and
 Cassian Andor
 made the
 ultimate
 sacrifice for
 the sake of
 the galaxy.

to work with them, but he might be amendable to reuniting with Jyn. Draven told Jyn that Andor's mission was to authenticate the message and that the superweapon existed; then, if possible, find Galen Erso. Mon Mothma hoped that Gerrera would help them locate Galen and persuade him to testify in front of the Senate in an attempt to stop the development of the Empire's secret weapon. But before Cassian and Jyn departed for Jedha, the last known location of Gerrera's partisans, Draven told Cassian to forget what he'd been told—there was to be no extraction of Galen. Andor's secret order was to kill the scientist on the spot. Draven's questionable command showed how desperate he was to stop the new Imperial superweapon from being finished. As Galen was essential to its completion, killing him was the fastest and most assured way of accomplishing that outcome. Morally right or wrong, the ends justified the means.

Consequently, Andor faced another dilemma when they discovered Galen was on Eadu, the planet housing a secret Imperial research facility. Despite his orders to assassinate the scientist, Andor allowed Jyn and his crew to believe that he was going to help them take Galen back to Yavin 4. Yet, just as he had Galen in the sights of his sniper rifle, Andor hesitated, then lowered his weapon.

Were his actions on the Ring of Kafrene catching up with him, or had his encounter with Gerrera and association with Jyn Erso changed his perspective? Either way, he was defensive when Jyn challenged him as the rebels escaped Eadu aboard a stolen Imperial cargo shuttle. Jyn realized that Andor's true mission had been to kill her father and asserted that following orders he knew were wrong made Cassian no better than a stormtrooper. "What do you know?" Cassian spat back, revealing the pent-up anguish that had driven him to such extremes. "We don't all have the luxury of deciding when and where we want to care about something," he told her. "Suddenly the Rebellion is real for you? Some of us live it. I've been in this fight since I was six years old! You're not the only one who lost everything. Some of us just decided to do something about it."

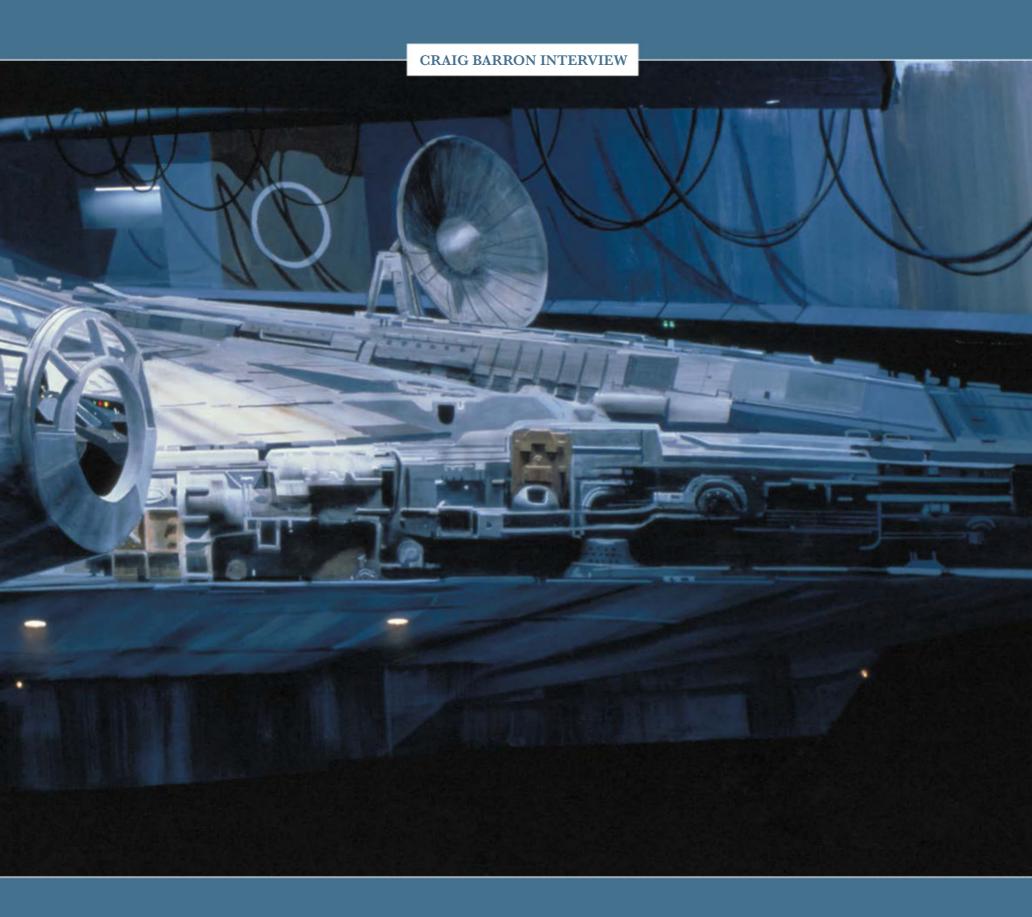
Andor's selfless dedication to the cause reached its ultimate apogee during the Battle of Scarif, where he, Jyn, and his comrades in the ragtag Rogue One crew made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the Death Star plans reached the hands of those who could use them to turn the tide of the conflict. Their mission changed the course of the Rebel Alliance, but the path to that victory came at a dreadful emotional cost for the soldiers and insurgents forced to compromise their morals in order to defeat the Empire. 4



It's A Matte, Matte World!

Some of the most striking visual environments in the original *Star Wars* trilogy were, in reality, two-dimensional works of art painted on panes of glass. Craig Barron, who worked in Industrial Light & Magic's matte department for almost a decade, reveals how such images added depth to the galaxy far, far away.

WORDS: BRANDON WAINERDI



raig Barron, a visual effects supervisor, film historian, and Academy

and Academy
Award winner,
began his career
in 1979 when he was hired—aged
18-years old—as the then-youngest
person working at Industrial Light
& Magic, Mentored by Ralph

& Magic. Mentored by Ralph McQuarrie, Barron worked in the legendary ILM matte department and had a direct hand in many incredible shots seen throughout the original trilogy, as well as in an array of other movies.

Star Wars Insider: What were the early inspirations that drove your creativity?

Craig Barron: Before 4 New

Craig Barron: Before A New Hope, the film industry had been floundering. The next generation of filmmakers hadn't quite taken over yet and the antiquated studios were making films that weren't very exciting. So, as a teenager growing up, I would often look back to the older movies that did deal with adventure, like Gunga Din (1939). Science-fiction films like The Day the Earth Stood Still (1951) and Forbidden Planet (1956) had good

stories with interesting concepts, and they were great to discover, because films like those weren't being made anymore.

Of course, Ray Harryhausen was really the keeper of the flame for many, many years. Every two or three years, he would make a film that was wonderfully inspiring. As a kid, I would mimic those films. We didn't have home VCRs back then, so I would go to the theater and stay all day, see a movie three times, and then go back home to recreate it in the garage, trying the techniques for myself.

By the time I ended up working at ILM, I had a little reel of film that showed off my compositing and stop-motion animation.

What were your early experiences working as a matte photography assistant on *The Empire Strikes Back*?

Up to that point, I had been mostly interested in stop-motion and animation, so I was hoping to get into Phil Tippett's group, but there was an opening in the matte department, and I couldn't say no. At the time, Neil Krepela was the matte photographer, and I would help him photograph the paintings and do the color testing. We would do these things called

"wedges," which were very subtle color variations on the live-action footage to better match them to the painting. The painting could be finished but, essentially, the matching could take another week or two, just to get it as seamless as possible. Afterwards, the transition between the live-action and the matte painting would be totally undetectable, with no matte line, thereby creating a much more effective illusion.

Back then, you had to *physically* cut out the matte painting, where the live-action was going to be. I would be handed a razor and think, "Oh man, if I slip and blow this, I'm going to ruin the painting!"

"I was hoping to get into Phil Tippett's group, but there was an opening in the matte department, and I couldn't say no."

You worked under legendary artist Ralph McQuarrie. What did you learn from him, so early in your career?

I would do whatever Ralph needed. Matte paintings were done on glass, so I would prepare them for him, spraying each with a Krylon white, so that the acrylic paint would stick to it (because paint doesn't stick to glass naturally). I would clean his airbrushes, and then every once in a while, he'd let me kind of go in and do a little part of a painting. If he didn't like it, he would paint over what I'd done (laughs). I did paint the power generator that gets blown up in Empire, which was okay for me to do because it was just six frames.

Compared to most of the department, Ralph McQuarrie was much more advanced. A lot of us were young: I was a teenager, while most of the other people working there were in their 20s and 30s. Ralph and I both lived in Berkeley, California at the time, and because I didn't have my own car my girlfriend would drop me off at the corner and Ralph would pick me up on the way to work. On the journey we would just talk all about art and design; it was like a private education.

Ralph wasn't really a matte painter in the traditional sense, but because he was such a great artist he could do *anything*. What was unique about Ralph was that he would follow through sequences he had initially done the concept art for to then paint the mattes.



- 02 Ralph McQuarrie working on a matte painting for *A New Hope* (1977).
- 03 Craig Barron
 (left) with
 Ralph McQuarrie
 during the
 making of
 The Empire
 Strikes Back
 (1980).





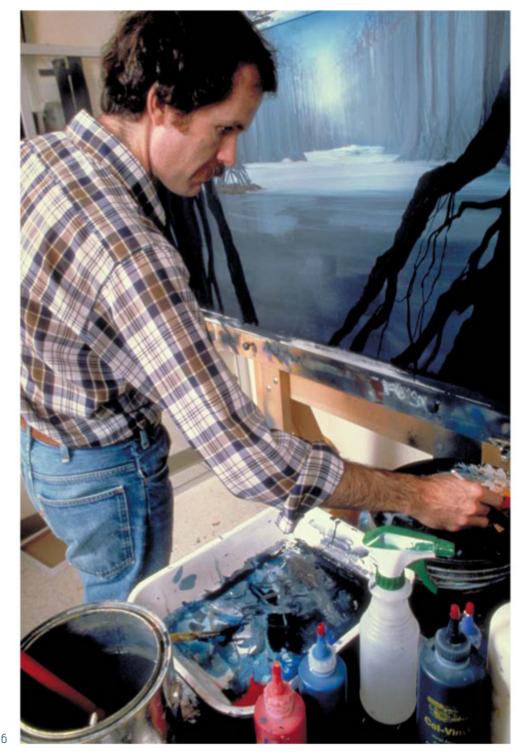
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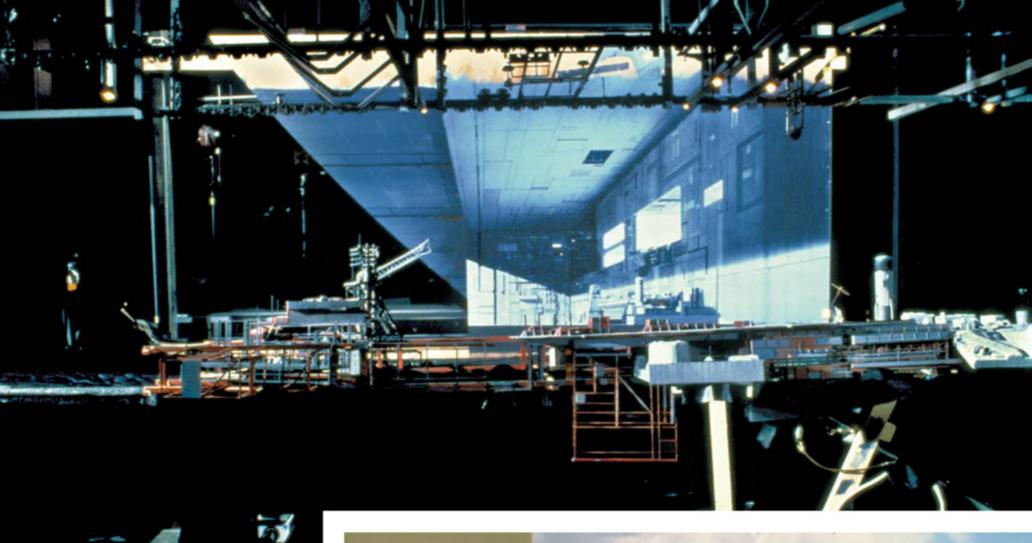
How did your work, and the work of the matte department, progress as you moved from Empire to Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)?

Well, Raiders of the Lost Ark was interesting, because before that and Dragonslayer (1981), ILM was really just run by George Lucas. He was the guy—there was no ambiguity. It was his money. It was his facility. But both Raiders and Dragonslayer were competing for department talent. I became more involved, working with the artists designing the shots, and helping to decide how they would be done. I also became more involved in the actual production: going on location and advocating for the shot so that it wasn't an

- 04 Matte painting by Ralph McQuarrie of the rebel base hangar for The Empire Strikes Back.
- 05 Barron's long-time collaborator Michael Pangrazio painting the landscape of Hoth.
- 06 ILM matte artist Harrison Ellenshaw working on a Dagobah matte painting.







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▶ afterthought. We called it "body and fender" work. We always felt like the matte painters should be in charge of the shot, because they were the ones responsible for ultimately making it look good.

George *loved* matte paintings and would hang out in the matte department, because he liked to be with the artists. He would tell us stories and about films he wanted to make—like one about Alexander the Great, which never happened.

Return of the Jedi had some of the most complicated effects shots ever filmed at that point. How had matte and optical technology improved during that period?

You can actually see how the mattepainting department got better over time, throughout each of those movies. We were a small group that worked together for years, charged with taking "the state of the art" and making it better, making more convincing illusions. As we got better, the shots got better, because we were able to tell the story better as well. Ralph used to say, "What is the 'first reading' of this shot? What does it immediately tell you?"

With *Return of the Jedi*, we had our "Automatte camera,"



which was a big multi-plane animation stand, like Disney had been using for its animated movies, but ours used motion-control technology. We had a 30-foot track, with motorized camera planes that we could program to move paintings on an X, Y, and Z dimension. There was also enough room for us to build foreground miniatures in these shots.

For instance, for the shot of Palpatine's shuttle approaching the Death Star, Neil Krepela and Michael Pangrazio used an all-miniature foreground, adding dimensional movement to a McQuarrie painting.

"George loved matte paintings and would hang out in the matte department, because he liked to be with the artists."

- 07 Miniatures added depth to Michael Pangrazio's matte painting of the second Death Star's docking bay in *Return of the Jedi*.
- 08 ILM artist Michael Pangrazio creating a matte painting of Jabba's palace on Tatooine.

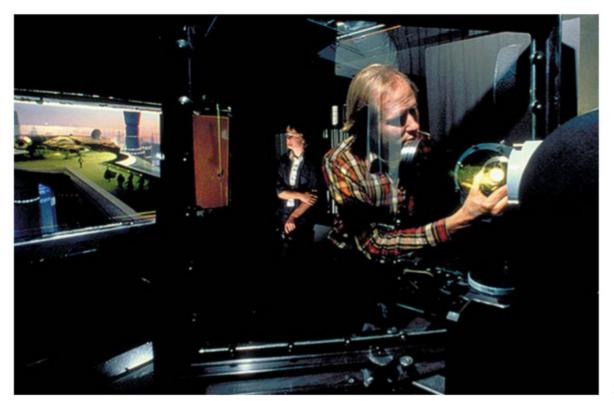


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Ultimately, a matte painting is a just 2D piece of flat art: you can zoom in on it, you can pan across it, but you can't really move dimensionally. But if you build some miniature components in the foreground that do move dimensionally, you can increase the illusion of reality. And that was the glimmer of the future that we really wanted to explore. A lot of these ideas expanded into what the industry would eventually become.

- 09 Craig Barron (center) with ILM colleagues preparing a reference maquette of a warehouse for a Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) matte painting.
- 10 Craig Barron
 (left) and Neil
 Krepela (right)
 setting up a
 matte shot for
 The Empire
 Strikes Back.

The realism in movies has only continued to get better. Today, for instance, we truly have the potential to create illusions that are undetectable. It's all in how you approach your aesthetic. We draw from classical paintings and art, and there's that inner voice that tells you what to do, based on experience, as well as what people had done before you. Hopefully, that all helps you achieve something that works.



TRAVELING MATTE

After working on *Star Wars* and other Lucasfilm classics, Craig Barron left ILM in 1988 to set up his own company, Matte Digital World, which he co-founded with ILM artist Michael Pangrazio and producer Krystyna Demkowicz.

Initially working with traditional matte-painting techniques, the company soon embraced digital technology, recreating the Las Vegas skyline for *Casino* (1995) and the New Orleans railway station for *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* (2008), for which Barron was awarded an Oscar for Achievement in Visual Effects.

In Return of the Jedi, you also have a brief cameo on-screen as Darth Vader. How did you get to step into the iconic suit? George was very involved in the editorial process. There would be times when he would say, "I need another little shot here, so that the audience can relax for a moment before the next sequence." He used the matte department a lot during post-production to add shots that weren't thought

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"Traditional matte painting was probably one of the most successful techniques in the pre-digital era."

of during the actual filming. So, when Vader's shuttle landed on Endor, George really wanted to have a shot of Vader leaving, just to expand that sequence. We built a little economic set on our stage, which was just a ramp with a

CLEAR AS GLASS

Numerous myths have built up around the making of the original Star Wars trilogy, and there is one common misconception that Craig Barron is keen to clear up.

"There is a rumor that our matte paintings were done on glass panels that were actually shower doors from a local hardware store," he says. "Now, I don't know where this rumor started, but they weren't! We had them specially made. Each of them was two-anda-half by six feet in size and placed in metal frames. Sure, they were made by a company that also made shower doors, but they weren't actually shower doors (laughs)!"



little ambient sky color behind it. The reason we could do this was because we could design from the standpoint of lighting and integration, and make it work seamlessly. But our ramp matched the miniature shuttle, and not the full-size shuttle that was built in London, which was a little bit different. Our ramp was a lot steeper and that meant that our Darth Vader had a more challenging exit.

Really, the only reason I was in the shot at all is that I was just tall enough to fit in the suit. Dave Prowse was incredibly tall, about 6' 6", and I'm only 6' 1", so if you look closely, I look a little bit more like Rick Moranis in Spaceballs (1987), than anyone else.

The cape was long. And, yes, in one of the takes, I did slip on the cape and onto my butt, sliding down the ramp into a crumpled mess at the base of the shuttle. I've never seen the footage, but I would love to—I'm sure it's buried deep in the Archives.

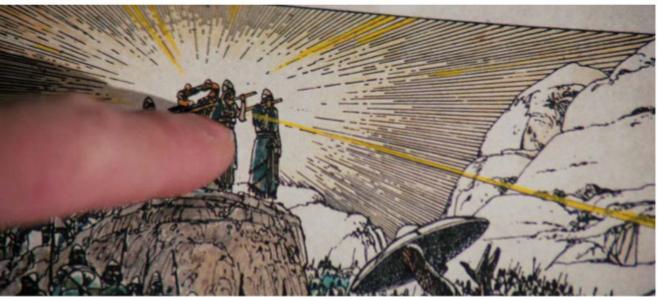
- 11 Craig Barron played Darth Vader for the shot of the Sith Lord exiting his shuttle on Endor. Painting by Michael Pangrazio.
- 12 Barron's pointing finger stood in for Harrison Ford's for this shot from Raiders of the Lost Ark. Illustration by Ralph McQuarrie.

Did this kind of additional shoot happen often?

It was one of the fun things about being at ILM, because it could quickly turn into a mini motionpicture studio. I'm also the finger pointing at the illustration of the Ark of the Covenant in the Bible, in Raiders of the Lost Ark. They had an original illustration that was shot during filming, but it just didn't look very good. Steven Spielberg said, "We really need something that's more appropriate to an old Bible, because the sketch looks too modern." So, Ralph and I went to the library and pulled out all the Gustave Doré books. Ralph used these illustrations as an inspiration and created something in that style. I then Xeroxed a whole bunch of copies and colored them with marker pens, and we burnt the edges to make it look like it was aged. We got this old Bible, and we inserted our page, rolled the camera, opened the page, and I pointed. The rest is history.

What would you say is the legacy of the ILM matte painting department?

I think traditional matte painting was probably one of the most successful techniques in the pre-digital era. We really could make something look great and undetectable as an illusion. That's why it was so much fun to work in that department, because what we would create was pretty impressive. Those amazing artists could paint photorealistically for the camera and expand the entire scope of a movie. It was a very unique time, and it was a lot of fun.







Double the Bounty

Win a set of *The Mandalorian* collector's editions from Titan Comics!

It's already difficult to imagine the *Star Wars* galaxy without the presence of Din Djarin and his young clan-mate Grogu, such has been the duo's phenomenal impact. Across two seasons of *The Mandalorian* (2019-present), and a guest spot on *The Book of Boba Fett* (2021), their adventures on Disney+ have captivated audiences worldwide, and *Star Wars Insider* has been there to document that journey.

While we wait for the third season to arrive on Disney+ in early 2023, we're giving three lucky readers the chance to win a double-bill of collector's editions from Titan Comics that take you inside

the *Razor Crest* for a trip through the events of the show's epic second season. *Star Wars: The Mandalorian: Season Two: Volume One* collects stunning artwork from chapters 9-12, featuring the battles, creatures, and worlds as seen in the hit series. *Star Wars: The Mandalorian: Guide to Season Two* includes an in-depth look at how the groundbreaking season was created, alongside rarely-seen photographs and concept art, as well as an episode-by-episode guide to the show.

To be in with a chance of winning one of three sets that we're giving away, just send us the correct answer to the following *Star Wars* trivia question:

What was the name of the planet where Din Djarin and Grogu first encountered Ahsoka Tano?

A) Concordia B) Corblimi C) Corvus

Send your entry marked "DOUBLE THE BOUNTY!" via email to insidercomp@titanemail.com (or by mail to the address printed on page 3) by September 12, 2022. Remember to include your mailing address. Terms and conditions are available at titan-comics.com.

May the Force be with you!

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With help from anthropologists and tribal cultural experts, Star Wars Insider seeks answers about who the Ewoks were, how they were changed by the presence of the Empire, and what might have come next for the inhabitants of Endor's forests.

WORDS: MELISSA T. MILLER

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here's no denying the importance of the Ewoks in helping to defeat the Empire. Even with only a small amount of screen time to go on, it was clear that the

furry creatures had a fiery resolve and a rich culture, with many parallels to Indigenous societies here on Earth. Such similarities give us some leads into exploring how Ewok society might have functioned, and how the climactic collision of cultures might have changed them.

Because of its remote location, the Empire judged Endor to be the ideal site for the final phase of construction on their secret second Death Star, and the forest moon was an equally perfect location for a shield generator to protect the project. An apparent lack of resistance from the local inhabitants was no doubt a bonus. But just like so-called uncontacted tribes here on Earth, the Ewoks were likely to have been profoundly affected by this Imperial colonization.

Today, there are thousands of distinct tribes, including nearly 600 in the United States and more than 400 in the Amazon. Of the dozens of Indigenous groups in South America, New Guinea, and islands in the Indian Ocean, many have had contact with the outside world to some degree, but they choose to live in isolation.

"Just like 'uncontacted' tribes in the Amazon, Ewoks are not completely uncontacted,"
Christopher Shaffer, a professor of anthropology at Grand Valley State University, explains. He works with the Wai Wai people in Guyana, who reclaimed legal title to their land in 2004.
"The Ewoks may have ended up retreating to the trees because of people visiting the planet and attacking them. This is what we see in the

- 01 An elder from the Waorani tribe living in Ecuador's Yasuni National Park. Photo by Ryan P. Killackey.
- 02 The Ewoks may have lived an arborial life due to previous incursions on Endor.
- 03 Princess Leia and Wicket's friendly first encounter in Return of the Jedi (1983).

Amazon, where far-away tribes remain relatively uncontacted and don't have interactions with others, aside from occasional intrusions into their land. But for a lot of those groups that we have histories for, we know that 100 years ago they were involved in elaborate trade networks. And then inevitably they fled from some sort of persecution. In a lot of cases what we're seeing is the legacy of colonization. And that's what I see with the Ewoks as well. They had weaponry prepared, so they'd clearly had to defend themselves in the past. I would guess that may be part of the reason they had treehouses."

Threats from Colonization

Oil and gas extraction, as well as other mining, continues to devastate many regions and populations throughout the Amazon rainforest. In the 1940s, oil companies left



"The Ewoks may have ended up retreating to the trees because of people visiting the planet and attacking them."

Christopher Shaffer

Ecuador after several violent run-ins with "hostile natives." But they returned in 1960, only two years after missionaries made first peaceful contact with local Indigenous tribes.

Ryan Killackey is a wildlife biologist and the documentary filmmaker of Yasuni Man (2017), which chronicles the recent history of the Waorani people in Ecuador. Yasuni National Park was established in 1979 to protect land that multiple tribes, including some in isolation, call home. "You see some small victories like people getting rights

03



to their land, but the oil platforms are expanding and there's continued encroachment of roads closer to the people living in voluntary isolation," Killackey tells us. "That is something that's happening right now and is essentially what you saw in Return of the Jedi (1983), with the Empire going in and attempting to colonize the place, destroying the habitat and ecosystem and the people of that forest."

Habitat destruction also threatens the California redwood forests that were the Earthbound filming location for Endor. While some areas are protected, much of the actual filming took place on land owned by a logging company, an industry

that historically has an impact on local wildlife. On Endor, the building of the shield generator would have required cutting down trees and clearing land, and the Ewoks likely changed their movements and behaviors due to that incursion.

Making Friends

There is a broad spectrum in how contact was made with the Ewoks, which also has parallels in human history. Deana Weibel, an anthropologist of religion at Grand Valley State University, studies





n/

the effect of space travel on religions around the world. "The smartest thing Leia did was give Wicket something to eat," she says. "That's the best way to make friends. She was pretty mellow and didn't threaten him at all."

It was Princess Leia Organa's positive interaction with Wicket that set the stage for the alliance that brought down the Empire. "They had a conversation and worked on communicating ideas," suggests Jared Ten Brink, a cultural educator who is an Indigenous American, a member of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi. "She wasn't 'rescuing' him, they were working together. And when Leia followed Wicket, she placed her trust in him that he knew the land."

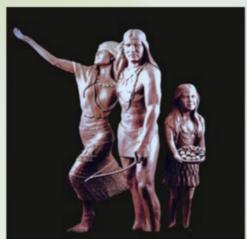
After being separated from her group, Leia recognized that the Ewoks were her best chance at survival. Perhaps she only considered her personal predicament, but in the big picture the Rebel Alliance would have been lost without their help. Imagine if Han Solo's hostile reaction had been the only experience the Ewoks had with the rebels? And it wasn't as if Chewbacca, Luke Skywalker, or even R2-D2 did anything to ease tensions with these potential allies. "They yell a lot!" Weibel points out. "What See-Threepio

"The smartest thing Leia did was give Wicket something to eat. That's the best way to make friends."

Deana Weibel

- 04 Ewok treehouses provided some protection from the dangers of the forest floor.
- 05 Ewoks made use of primitve technology, including bows and arrows.





THE COAST MIWOK TRIBE

George Lucas originally intended Wookiees to be the ones to save the galaxy, but the story called for an isolated civilization that he named Ewoks. Perhaps coincidentally, this rhymes with Miwok—the name of the tribe indigenous to the land that Skywalker Ranch was built on.

The Coast Miwok have lived in California for thousands of years, but much of the population was devastated by colonization in the 1800s, including forced relocation and diseases like smallpox. The tribe had no federal recognition between 1958 and 2000.

"I imagine numerous artifacts like arrowheads and mortar and pestles would have been found on the site of the Lucasfilm property," says Lucina Thomas-Vidauri, the great-great-granddaughter of Camillo Ynitia, the last chief of the village Olompali. Now a state historic park, it is one of very few cultural sites left of the Coast Miwok people. "The Ewoks are something people know about, they really made an impression and that's a good thing," she says. "I'm always hoping fans will make the connection, every which way to get the Coast Miwok name out there. We're talking about a people that were here for thousands of years, and they're not now. People should know."





"Everybody has an impact, even those people who are trying to do good." Ryan Killackey

had going for him was that he was able to speak in a dialect somewhere close to Ewokese almost immediately, to communicate directly. Both Leia and Threepio immediately began communicating in some way."

The Ewoks assumption that C-3PO was a god is actually similar to some misconceptions of colonizers here on Earth. In 1579, Englishman Francis Drake made contact with the Coast Miwok tribe while circumnavigating the globe. He was considered a hero by the British, a pirate by the Spanish, and a god by some Indigenous peoples. "The thing I expected to be triggering in terms of Indigenous perspectives is when See-Threepio sat up and they started treating him like a god," says Ten Brink. "But it happened in our history. When

colonizers showed up, people perceived them as something more than what they were, and they took advantage of that. And that's not what happens in *Star Wars.*" The difference is that, as C-3PO says, "It's against my programming to impersonate a deity." Perhaps that coding was prompted when a droid, like colonizers, leveraged their power and devastated entire civilizations.

Instead of manipulating the Ewoks, C-3PO told the story of the Rebel Alliance. "That's actually really significant to me," says Ten Brink. "That's how you introduce yourself, you tell your story. See-Threepio was explaining who his people are and where they came from."

Fight for the Future

The Ewoks then expressed agency and empathy, choosing to help the rebels after hearing the full story. "They are not presented as being forced into something, but as people who made a decision," suggests Ten Brink.

"The Ewoks were welcoming of another culture, technically letting aliens into their community," says Killackey of the rebel's subsequent acceptance into the Ewok tribe. "They worked alongside one another, and that's one of the positive messages that comes out of *Star Wars*."

The Ewoks had the experience and resources to be the game-changing element, surprising both the rebels and the Empire. They had stockpiles of weaponry and planned tactical and coordinated attacks. Sticks and stones may seem rudimentary, but they also made complicated machines, like hang gliders and catapults, with those same materials. "The Ewoks were not necessarily unadvanced technologically, it was just different technology," says Weibel. "They

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were working with the resources that were available to them."

If Endor had been more like the Amazonian rainforest, most of their food would most likely have lived in the trees, leading to some key differences in weaponry. "They would probably have used blow guns rather than bows and arrows," explains Shaffer. "They would have had specialized weapons to get such prey and the blow gun is the ultimate way of doing that."

If the Empire had won, they would have been likely to continue to exploit Endor with no regard for the Indigenous people. If the moon was chosen for mining of valuable natural resources on top of its strategic location, that exploitation could have continued into the New Republic era. Perhaps Leia worked with the Ewoks to protect their autonomy and homeworld. "Everybody has an impact, even



those people who are trying to do good," says Killackey. "Just our presence can be a negative influence. It can totally change them and make them look at what is 'out there' differently. Where did Ewok society go once it had all this new knowledge?"



"When it comes to representation in popular culture, there are examples of Indigenous people telling their own stories and I really gravitate towards those," says Ten Brink. "So much of our culture is co-opted, and that's why Indigenous people are sensitive about it. It's not because we don't want to share, it's because we weren't given the choice."

Exploring more of the Ewok's story should come with careful consideration to avoid perpetuating harmful tropes. "It would be so cool to see the whole *Return of the Jedi* sequence told through the lens of the Ewoks," says Shaffer. \clubsuit

- 06 A statue by artist Will Pettee, commissioned to commemorate the Coast Miwok people.
- 07 A Coast Miwok
 man and woman
 sit outside their
 dwelling, circa
 late 1800s.
 Photo courtesy
 of Lucina
 Thomas-Vidauri.
- 08 C-3PO was mistaken for a god by the Ewoks.
- 09 It was the Ewoks choice to join the rebels in their fight against the Empire.
- 10 Logray, the chief shaman of the Bright Tree tribe.
- 11 C-3PO retelling the story of the Rebel Alliance and his friends' struggles to the fascinated Ewoks.



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HUGH OUARSHE THE QUEEN'S PROTECTOR

WORDS: BRANDON WAINERDI

est known to audiences in the United Kingdom for his 19-year run as consultant

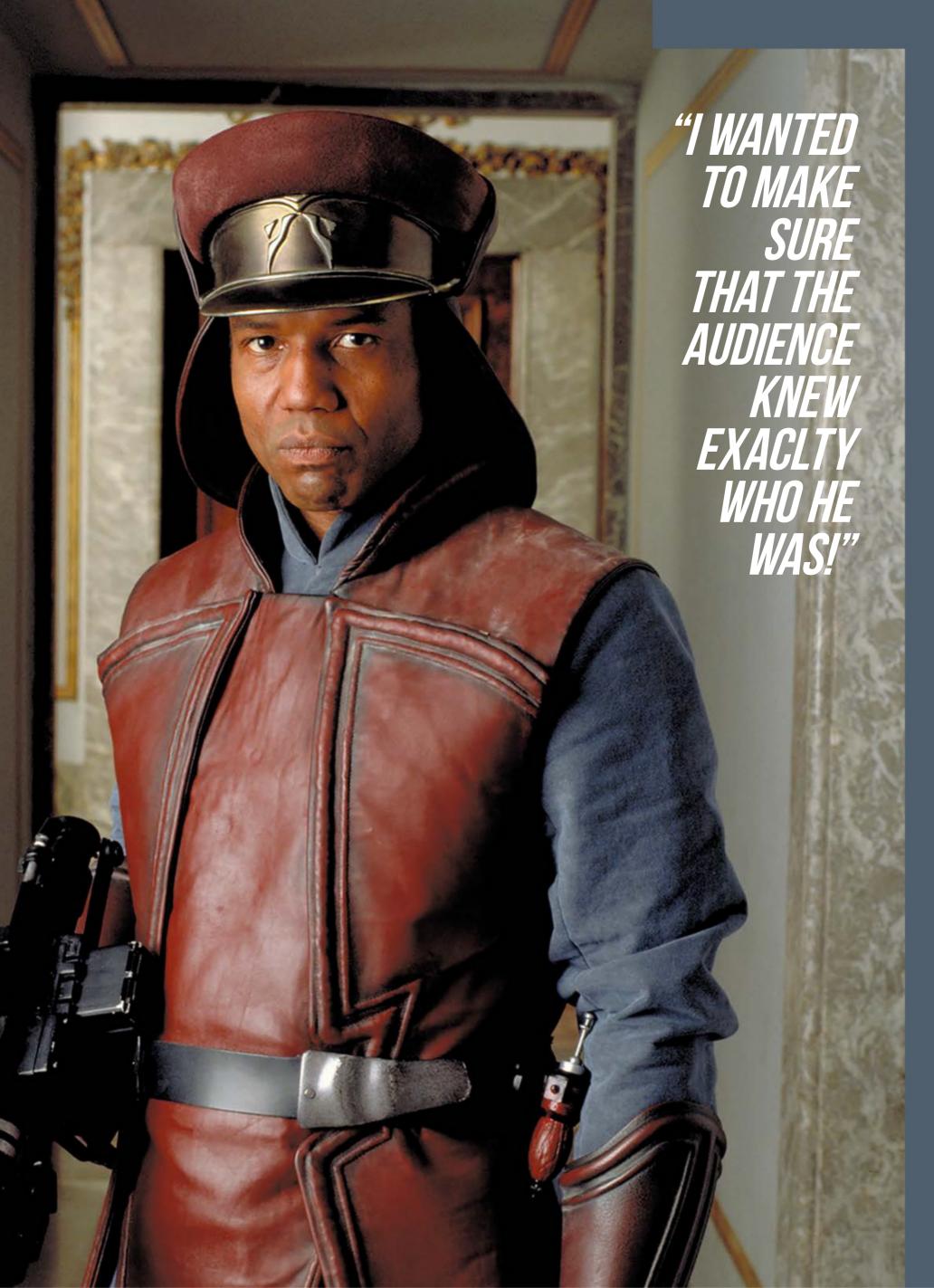
surgeon Ric Griffin in the BBC Television hospital drama *Holby City* (1999-2022), actor Hugh Quarshie made his mark in the *Star Wars* saga as Captain Panaka, the diligent protector of Naboo's Queen Amidala in *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace* (1999).

"Of course, I was delighted to become a part of cinematic history," Quarshie says of landing the role. "But I was a little concerned that in the script my character's name didn't get a mention in dialogue." His solution was to ad-lib a namecheck during filming in Tunisia. "I found an opportunity to announce it while I was in the Tatooine desert with Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor), so I said 'Panaka' when I answered my communicator. I wanted to make sure that the audience



01

- O1 Captain
 Panaka (Hugh
 Quarshie)
 with Obi-Wan
 Kenobi (Ewan
 MacGregor) in
 Star Wars:
 The Phantom
 Menace
 (1999).
- 02 Hugh Quarshie as Captain Quarsh Panaka.



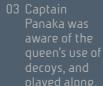
knew exactly who he was!"

Quarshie laughs.

Born in Ghana, Quarshie's family moved to the United Kingdom when he was three years old, and although he dabbled with theatre while at school, he didn't become a professional actor until 1979, having originally considered a career in journalism. At that time, Star Wars was an inescapable phenomenon, with audiences eagerly awaiting a sequel to *A New Hope* (1977). The original film left such an indelible mark on the public consciousness that, when it came to making the first prequel in 1997, Quarshie was aware that the new film might not be what people were expecting.

"I remember the thrill of that opening sequence of *A New Hope*,





04 The queen of Naboo's head of security.

and I think people wanted the new film to be a repetition of that," the actor suggests. "But we were going to do a new saga, something different, telling a different story using not only new heroes but also different story-telling techniques. The Phantom Menace was never going to repeat the trio of Han Solo, Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia. It was multi-protagonist, it was a new beginning; this was 'Episode One,' and it took a while for audiences to understand that."

Now, more than 20 years later, Quarshie is pleased that the movie gets the credit that it deserves.

"At the time, I don't think *The* Phantom Menace got quite the acclaim that the original trilogy did, but it was a ground-breaking movie in terms of its technology, its use of CGI, and the cleverness of the storyline and the backstory," he says. "I was always pretty sure that, in time, it would take its place in the cinematic pantheon. Maybe not for the same reasons as the original trilogy, but as a piece of technical mastery it broke new ground. I'm delighted that today people have come to appreciate many of its finer points, and that my friend and colleague Jar Jar Binks (as played by Ahmed Best) has finally been





recognized and rehabilitated (*laughs*). People do understand George Lucas' achievement with the movie better now."

Duck and Run

The primary challenge for Quarshie was in adapting his performance to the mix of traditional staging and cuttingedge effects utilized during the filming of the movie.

"We were reacting to things that quite often weren't there," he chuckles. "In the final battle scene, there were supposed to be fighters taking off just above our heads. We'd

- remained
 at Queen
 Amidala's sid
 throughout
 the Trade
 Federation
 invasion.
- 06 Star Wars
 required a
 different style
 of acting from
 Quarshie
 - I/ Panaka was or hand when the queen (played by Natalie Portman, center) revealed her true identity.

"WE WERE REACTING TO THINGS THAT QUITE OFTEN WEREN'T THERE."







all be running along through the hangar set and the first assistant director would shout 'Duck,' and we'd all have to bend down while running, but there was nothing there. We just had to hope that it looked alright. I couldn't judge my own performance, so I had to trust the eyes of David Tattersall (the movie's director of photography) and George Lucas to see if it was working or not, because only they could visualize how it was going to look in the end, and whether George had got the reactions and performances that he needed.

/



"I remember stepping onto the set one day, and it was the scene when we were fleeing in the silver Naboo starship," Quarshie recalls. "We were told, 'You're being chased by the Trade Federation's fighters, and they're firing laser bolts at you, so you need to react.' I'd naturally assumed that the set would be built on hydraulic lifts that would move us one way and then the other, but what actually happened was that George Lucas wanted us to move about ourselves! I remember joking, 'So, are you going to move the camera, or do you just want us to jerk around?' And he said, 'We'll do both,' so it really was old-fashioned filmmaking."

Low-tech solutions also played their part during pickup filming. "I had to come back to reshoot a scene with Qui-Gon Jinn and Queen Amidala, but neither Liam Neeson nor Natalie Portman were available," says Quarshie. "So, they stuck a cross on a pole to represent Liam, who is six inches taller than me, and another, lower one to represent Natalie, and I was filmed talking to a couple of crosses on two sticks! It was slightly puzzling and pedestrian, but when I saw how skillfully they merged those shots into the film. I was amazed and very impressed. It wasn't filmmaking as I had been

- 08 Introducing R2-D2 to
- 09 Panaka's
 loyalty to
 Palpatine
 remained
 beyond his
 time as chief
 of security
 to Naboo's

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO CAPTAIN PANAKA?

The Phantom Menace proved to be Captain Quarsh Panaka's only on-screen appearance in the Star Wars saga, but his story didn't end with the liberation of Naboo. Panaka continued to serve Naboo royalty when he became Queen Jamillia's head of security, but he took on a very different role after the Clone Wars ended. Loyal to the Republic's former supreme chancellor, the self-declared Emperor Palpatine, he was appointed as the Imperial Moff of the Chommell sector. This made him a target for the rebel extremist Saw Gerrera, and Panaka was killed when the partisans bombed his chalet.



used to, but acting has had to evolve just as filmmaking has had to evolve. It was a learning curve.

You just had to trust that there was a certain amount of smoke and mirrors in the action and the fans were going to buy it, and I think on the whole they did."

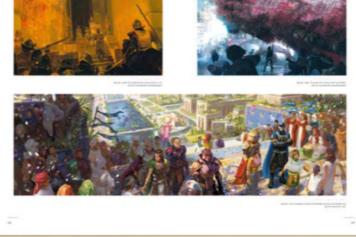
09

YOUR ESSENTIAL COMPANION TO THE MARVEL STUDIOS BLOCKBUSTER!









GO BEHIND THE SCENES OF MARVEL STUDIOS' ETERNALS!

Interviews with stars Gemma Chan (Sersi), Richard Madden (Ikaris), Salma Hayek (Ajak), Angelina Jolie (Thena), Don Lee (Gilgamesh), Lia McHugh (Sprite), Brian Tyree Henry (Phastos), Lauren Ridloff (Makkari), Barry Keoghan (Druig), Kumail Nanjiani (Kingo), Kit Harington (Dane Whitman), and Harish Patel (Karun). Director Chloé Zhao talks about the philosophy of the film. Plus, explore the incredible concept art, learn about the amazing costumes, and much, much more.







N

ew Zealandborn Adam Christopher is the author behind what is potentially one

of the most anticipated *Star Wars* novels in recent years. Set more than a decade before *The Force Awakens* (2105), *Shadow of the Sith* traces the journey of Luke Skywalker and Lando Calrissian as they pursue Ochi of Bestoon across the galaxy in order to protect a young girl and her family.

That young girl is a six-year-old Rey.

No major spoilers ahead, but, trust us, you're going to want to read the novel. *Star Wars Insider* caught up with Adam to discuss his experience crafting such an important chapter in the *Star Wars* saga.

Star Wars Insider: What was your first experience of Star Wars?

Adam Christopher: I'm a classic child of the 1980s. I was exactly the right age for *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) and *Return of the Jedi* (1983). But my first *Star Wars* experience was actually *A New Hope* (1977), which my parents took me to see when I was just six months old! My dad is a big science-fiction fan and

really wanted to watch it, but it was a terrible idea to take a six-month-old to see a movie. I apologize to anyone who was there at that New Zealand cinema in August, 1978. So, I can genuinely say *A New Hope* was my first movie. I have no memory of watching it, obviously, but maybe it instilled something in me.

My dad traveled for work and went to Asia a lot, where you could get many more *Star Wars* toys than you could in New 02 Luke Skywalker (Mark Himill) in *The Last*

03 Shadow of the Sith author Adam Christopher

04 The novel fills in some blanks in the family history of young Rey.

Zealand. He would come home with suitcases of toys wrapped up with his clothes. I remember unraveling my X-wing toy from his shirts, and the AT-AT took up nearly half his suitcase. It was brilliant.

Where did your writing journey begin?

I was also a huge fan of *Doctor* Who (1966-present), which had an enormous history of incredible tiein novelizations, so the first things that I wrote were pieces of *Doctor* Who fan fiction. I continued to develop that love of writing from there, and haven't really stopped since. Beginning in high school, I started to get things published in school magazines, and then my Doctor Who stories were starting to get printed in fanzines. It was the first indication to me that maybe other people were interested in what I could write.

When I moved to the U.K. in 2006, I said to myself, "I need to take this seriously if I want to do this as a job." I created schedules and started listening to writing podcasts, all with the intention that it was not going to be just a hobby anymore.





"You must get these characters right, because, if you don't, people are going to notice immediately. I loved that challenge." ► How has your writing process evolved over time?

In 2006, I wrote my first novel, with no intention of trying to get it published. It was more of a personal challenge: could I write a whole novel's worth of fiction? After I finished that first one, I worked on many more manuscripts. I knew I needed more practice, but I could see that I was progressing. It's like with anything: the more you do it, the better you get. I never got a degree in English or creative writing, so it really was all selftaught. I had to instill myself with this work ethic.

As well as Star Wars and your own novel series, you've also written tie-in novels for properties like Elementary, Stranger Things, and Dishonored. What are the challenges of writing within established universes?

I really love it because it is a completely different way of working. Of course, writing a novel is quite difficult, because you must create a plot, brand new characters, storylines, and themes, all within about 100,000 words. It must be logical, and people must like the characters you create. And then, maybe, if you're lucky, you are able to say something important.

When you're working on a licensed book, you have got to do all of that and, at the same time, write a story that fits with whatever universe that you're writing in, using characters that people already love. It also means that you must get these characters right, because, if you don't, people are going to notice immediately. I love that challenge.

What was it like finally working on *Star Wars*, professionally, in the *From a Certain Point* of View anthologies?

I had always wanted to write a *Star Wars* novel, but I knew that it was a long shot. I was writing *Stranger Things: Darkness on the*

- 05 Ochi of

 Bestoon plays
 a major role
 in Shadow of
 the Sith.
- 06 Rey recalled the moment her parents left her in The Last
- 07 Lando Calrissian (Billy Dee Williams) in The Rise of Skywalker (2019).



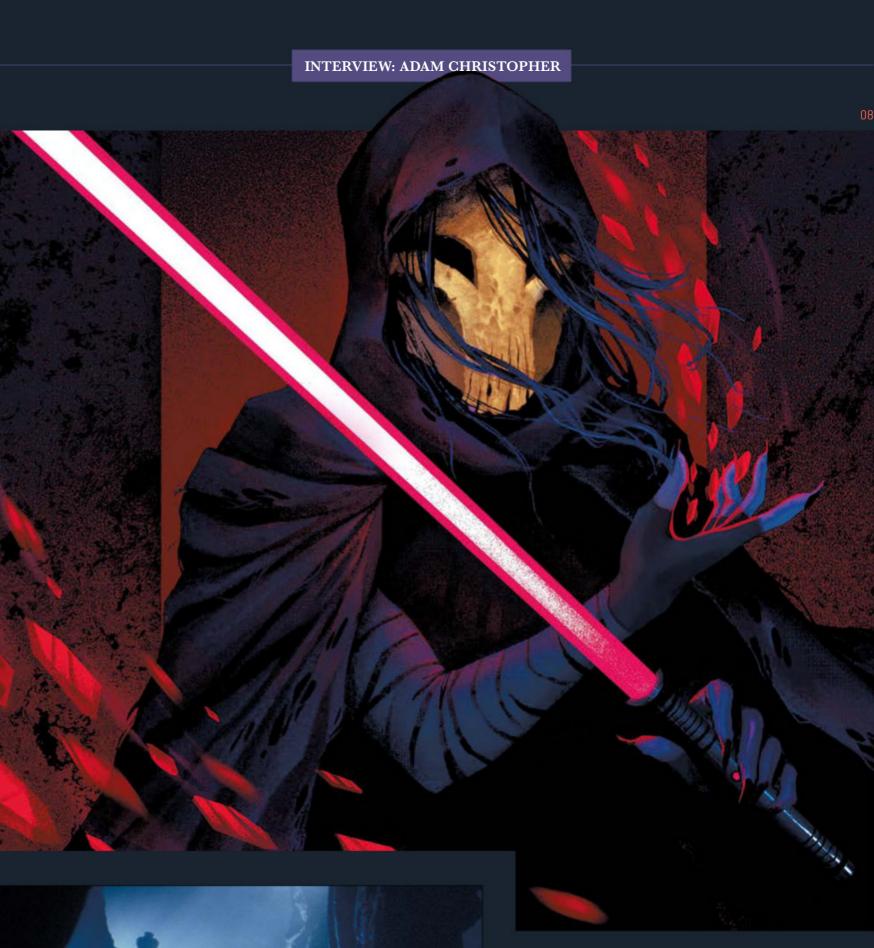


Edge of Town for Del Rey, and they invited me to contribute to that first anthology series.

I thought, "Okay, this is my one chance to do something in *Star Wars*. I'd better make it good."

My story was called "End of Watch," and I immediately knew I wanted to write about what was going on at the other end of Han Solo's "boring conversation" over the Death Star comms system, while he, Luke, and Chewie were rescuing Princess Leia.

With *The Empire Strikes Back* edition of the anthology series, I came in late, so I was worried that all the good scenes and characters were going to be gone. The editorial team really wanted to include the "I am your father" scene in the book, which is, of course, one of the most famous moments in cinema history. But no one would do it! The problem was that there is no one present during that duel, besides Luke and Vader, so there was no "certain point of view" that could be told. I had to cram in "The Witness," a new, lost stormtrooper character. It was an enormous challenge, but I think it turned out well.





- a powerful presence in the novel.
- Exegol, as seen in The Rise of Skywalker.

Let's delve into Shadow of the Sith. How did you begin plotting the novel?

It was a *huge* challenge. The initial brief was just a few lines of Lando dialogue from *The Rise of* Skywalker: "Luke and I were tailing an old Jedi hunter. Ochi of Bestoon. He was carrying a clue that could lead to a wayfinder.

We followed his ship halfway across the galaxy, here."

And that was it. All I had to do was decide what happened and write it, and there was a *lot* to decide, but Lucasfilm trusted me to tell that story.

Pairing Luke with Lando was an interesting challenge as well, because they barely interacted in the original movies. They make for a slightly odd couple. In a way, they were more like work buddies! In the timeframe of the novel, Luke is on his own: building a temple and rebuilding the Jedi. Lando, who we know as a devil-may-care playboy, has experienced a personal tragedy with the kidnapping of his daughter, and he still hasn't found her. What has that done to the Lando that we knew? It's a very precarious and emotionally raw time for both of them. These two characters that everybody loves had gone off in these different directions, and then I got to bring them together to go on this new adventure. How are they going to interact? I was very nervous.

This book is set about 20 years after the Battle of Endor, which is a relatively untouched period in the saga. Was that a challenge?

One of the most important things with this book was not only telling



a good story, but also a good story that links all the threads from *The Rise of Skywalker* with Rey's parents and Ochi of Bestoon. Yes, this time period is really unexplored, besides a few books and comics, so I pretended that this book was *Star Wars*: Episode 6.5. I thought, "If this was a main saga movie, what would I want to see in it?"

I really wanted to achieve an epic quality, a spectacle.

- 10 Christopher found writing Lando "really satisfying."
- l 1 Rey's parents, Dathan and Miramir.
- 12 Palpatine's throne on Exegol.
 The novel explores Rey's familial connection to the Emperor.

I wanted it to be pivotal and connective with other books, videogames, comics, and movies.

Lando has not appeared much in post-Return of the Jedi storytelling. What was the challenge of telling his character's story, pre-The Rise of Skywalker?

Lando was the character I could work with the most, and who could change the most throughout the novel. The events of *Shadow of the Sith* are kind of a revitalization of him, and he becomes an active agent. Lando was really satisfying to write, because he's *such* a great character, and has such a unique voice. But it's not a Luke book or a Lando book. They are equal lead characters for me. They are the costars of this book, and I think that makes it very strong.

This book feels so integral to The Rise of Skywalker. Without delving too much into spoilers, how did you approach tying your plot into that of the sequel trilogy? I really had no restrictions. The publisher said, "Just go for it!" There were many characters that first appeared in *The Rise of Skywalker* that I really wanted to use. They had a life before appearing in the movie. I talked a lot with Rae Carson, who wrote The Rise of Skywalker novelization, and I almost view this as a companion book to that novel.





It was a puzzle, though, working within the storytelling of *The Rise* of Skywalker. There had to be a logical threat that Luke and Lando were facing that was connected to Rey's parents, but that also would not unravel the sequel trilogy.

One teaser that has been shared is that Rey's parents play a key role in this book. What was it like crafting their mysterious story?

Shadow of the Sith is set about 13 years before The Force Awakens (2015). It is interesting that a book that takes place so far before the sequel trilogy is tied so closely to the last installment of that trilogy. Rey's parents are a mysterious and driving presence throughout all three of those movies.

But it was rather incredible: I was able to create their names and their backstories, beyond the ten seconds of flashbacks we saw as an audience. As a Star Wars fan, it was an enormous responsibility to add to the mythos in this capacity. It was truly amazing.

novel revealed a familiar face: the Force spirit of Anakin Skywalker, rescuing his son. Why did you want to make sure Anakin and Luke connected?

When I added that moment into my outline, it was one of the things I was positive that I was never going to be able to write. As far as I knew, Luke had never really "met" Anakin beyond that brief shot near the end of *Return of the Jedi*, so I thought for sure the editors were just going

to cross it out. But it made the cut.

It felt integral to Luke's journey. I made it quite ambiguous, but it's there because I just love Star Wars. Does Luke actually go to Exegol in that scene, or is it just a super intense Force vision? Is this the first time he uses the projection power that he did at the end of *The Last Jedi* (2017)? The book is full of questions and bombshells like that.

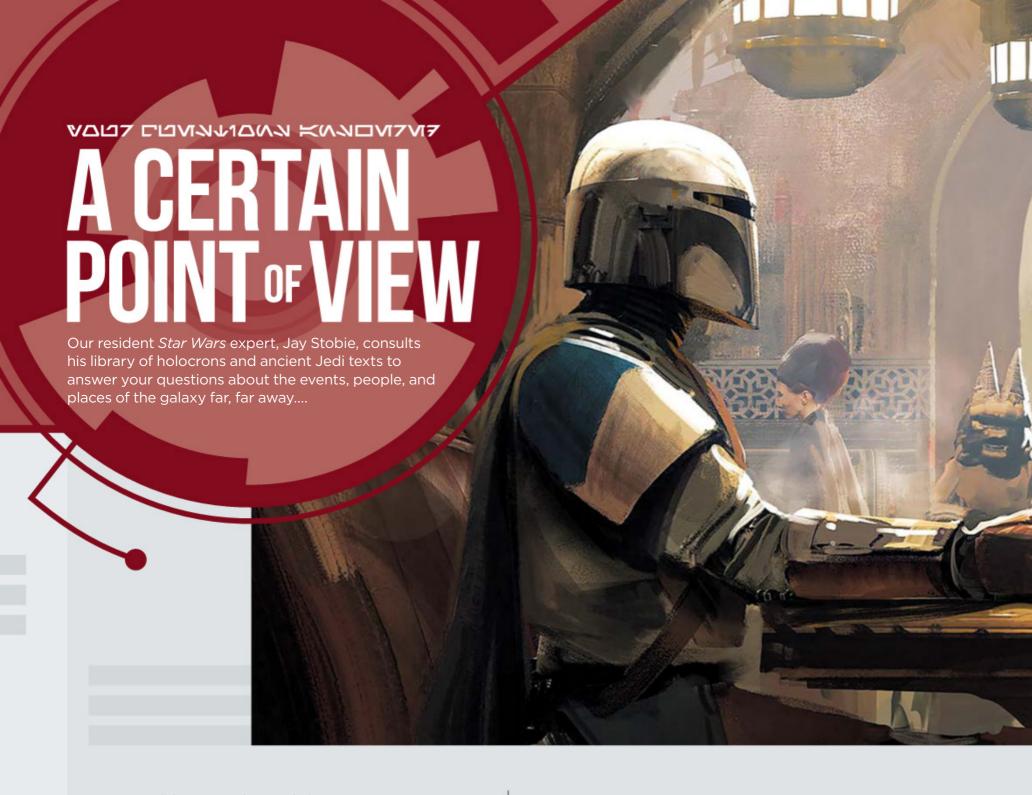
What do you hope fans will take away from this book?

"I talked a lot with Rae Carson, who wrote *The Rise of Skywalker* novelization, and I almost view this as a companion book to that novel."

farewell to her daughter, in *The Rise*







"I've noticed several characters in *The Book* of *Boba Fett* (2021) and *The Mandalorian* (2019-present), like Burg and Mos Pelgo's bartender, look familiar to me but I can't quite place where I've seen them before. Have they appeared elsewhere in the *Star Wars* saga?"

Emilia Edward

There are numerous galactic species that have made brief "blink-and-you'll-miss-them" appearances in the *Star Wars* franchise. The episodic nature of *The Mandalorian* and *The Book of Boba Fett* has allowed both shows to revisit several of them, sometimes promoting

them to more prominent roles. The two individuals you cited serve as excellent examples of this trend, but there are a wealth of other characters who also fit that mold. Let's dive in and explore precisely where you might have seen these aliens before.

Star Wars: A New Hope (1977) gave us one of the most iconic sequences in cinematic history by taking us into the shady corners of the crowded Mos Eisley Cantina, where we glimpsed an array of exotic and mysterious patrons. While Obi-Wan Kenobi and Luke Skywalker sought passage to Alderaan, we spotted a dual-horned Devaronian, a hammerheaded Ithorian, and the large red eyes of

■ Across The Galaxy

Kuiil

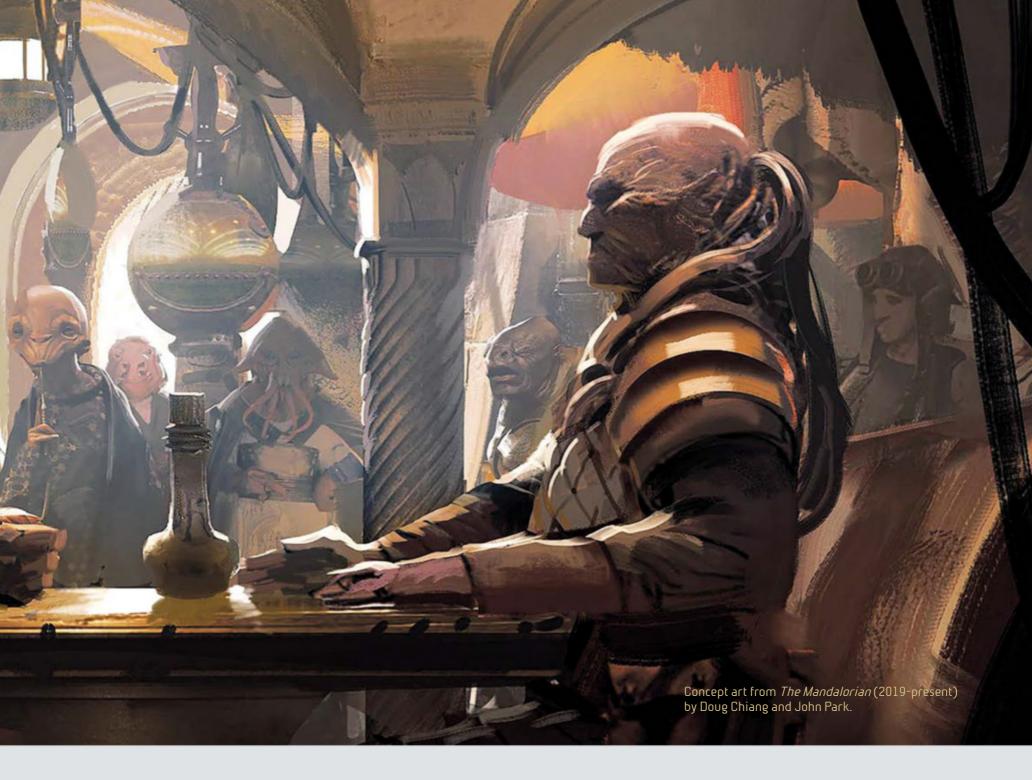
A dutiful Ugnaught who lived on Arvala-7, Kuiil possessed many technical skills and sought to live a peaceful existence after a lifetime of servitude. Kuiil assisted Din Djarin on several occasions, including helping the bounty hunter reassemble the *Razor Crest* and embarking on a rescue mission to save Grogu from the Client's clutches.

Ruco

A towering Devaronian, Burg served as the muscle in Migs Mayfeld's crew when they took a job to free a prisoner from the New Republic. Burg preferred brawn over brains, allowing his powerful physique and menacing horns to strike fear into his enemies. Unfortunately for Burg, he was no match for Din Djarin.

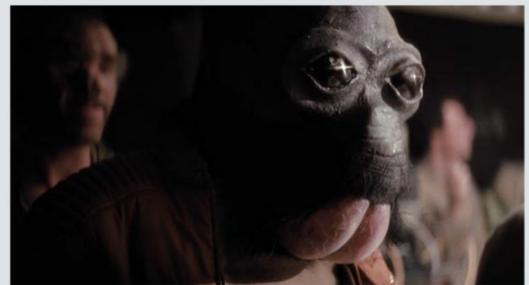
Taanti

An upstanding Weequay bartender in Mos Pelgo (aka Freetown), Taanti befriended Marshal Cobb Vanth and participated in the hunt for a destructive krayt dragon. After Vanth was shot down by Cad Bane, Taanti led his fellow citizens to support Boba Fett during the conflict between the former bounty hunter and the Pyke Syndicate in Mos Espa.



a Duros. We also had a close encounter with Ponda Baba, the unfortunate Aqualish who lost his arm at the stroke of Kenobi's lightsaber.

Thanks to *The Mandalorian* and *The Book of Boba Fett*, members of each of these background species have now been granted an abundance of screen time. The Devaronian Burg worked as a mercenary alongside Migs Mayfeld, while an Ithorian named Mok Shaiz ruled Mos Espa as its duplicitous mayor. The Duros bounty hunter Cad Bane, best-known for his animated exploits in *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* (2008-2020), made his live-action debut during a face-off with Marshal Cobb Vanth in Mos Pelgo;

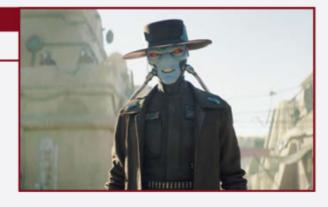


Mayor Mok Shaiz ⊢

An Ithorian who ruled Mos Espa as its elusive mayor, Mok Shaiz represented a threat to Boba Fett's takeover of Jabba the Hutt's territory. Mok Shaiz preferred to let his Twi'lek majordomo face his foes for him, but the Ithorian's alliance with the Pyke Syndicate eventually led to his death at the hands of Fennec Shand.

Cad Bane ⊢

A Duros bounty hunter best known for his exploits during the Clone Wars, Cad Bane had a long history with Boba Fett that culminated in a showdown on Tatooine. Hired by the Pyke Syndicate, Bane shot Marshal Vanth and confronted Boba Fett during the Mos Espa turf war. Following a closely matched struggle, Bane was defeated by Fett in one-on-one combat.





▶ and Aqualish criminals temporarily inhabited the former Mandalorian covert on Nevarro, while others operated under Garfalaquox's command on Tatooine.

Familiar Faces

In *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980), we met the reptilian Bossk, a Trandoshan bounty hunter who, alongside Boba Fett, IG-88 and others, was hired by the Empire to track down the *Millennium Falcon*. That film also introduced audiences to Ugnaught laborers in the depths of Cloud City, who nearly incinerated C-3PO and who participated in encasing Han Solo in carbonite.

Crime boss Dokk Strassi wielded authority over the Trandoshan citizens of Mos Espa in *The Book of Boba Fett,* and in Season One of *The Mandalorian,* three Trandoshan bounty hunters attempted to steal Grogu away from Din Djarin on Arvala-7. The planet was also home to the

Ugnaught Kuiil, an intrepid craftsman who went on to become one of Djarin's staunchest allies.

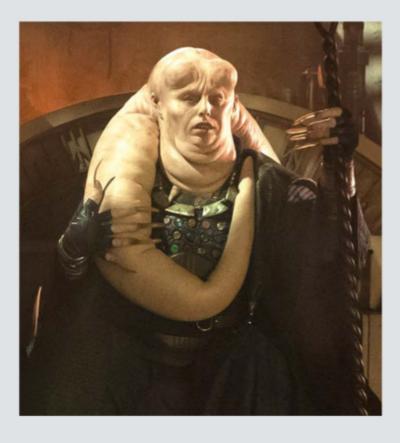
Although the Twi'lek Bib Fortuna stood out as a member of Jabba's court in *Return of the Jedi* (1983), the Hutt's entourage featured a host of inhabitants of the galaxy far, far away. Squid-faced Quarren, heavily jowled Klatooinians, and thick-bodied Gamorreans all obeyed Jabba's orders at his palace, on his barge, and at the Sarlacc pit, and a large portion of the Hutt's private army consisted of Nikto and Weequay foot soldiers.

Taanti is the name of the Weequay bartender from Mos Pelgo (also known as Freetown), but other familiar creatures have also populated scenes in The Mandalorian and The Book of Boba Fett. Quarren boatmen attempted to drown Din Djarin on Trask; Djarin combined forces with Sorgan villagers to fend off a group of Klatooinian bandits; and he also tracked down the Klatooinian Kaba Baiz on the Glavis Ringworld space station. Back on Tatooine, Boba Fett fought against a Nikto speeder-bike gang called the Kintan Striders, and the former bounty hunter later employed a pair of Gamorreans to guard his fortress. So, as you can see, the background aliens from the original trilogy and elsewhere have survived and prospered in this new era of storytelling.

Legendary Lekku

First introduced in *Return of the Jedi*, the Twi'lek species was most commonly associated with Jabba the Hutt's henchman Bib Fortuna. *The Mandalorian* brought Twi'leks to center stage in the form of the morally corrupt sister and brother duo of Xi'an and Qin, who sought to betray Din Djarin on a New Republic prison ship.

Bib Fortuna himself made a brief cameo before Boba Fett usurped him and took over Jabba's former criminal empire on Tatooine. Thereafter, Fett became acquainted with two other prominent Twi'leks in Mos Espa: Mayor Mok Shaiz's talkative majordomo, and Garsa Fwip, the proprietor of a local sanctuary who paid tribute to Fett from her establishment's profits.



ANIMATED ADVENTURES

21 BSW4:

In collaboration with Jedi Master Mace Windu and the Grand Army of the Republic, Twi'lek General Cham Syndulla and his resistance fighters freed their homeworld of Ryloth from Separatist control.

- 21 BSW4:

Hired by Darth Sidious, the Duros bounty hunter Cad Bane infiltrated the Jedi Temple on Coruscant and stole an important holocron that contained the names of Force-sensitive children throughout the galaxy.

- 20 BSW4:

The Ithorian Byph was part of a cadre of younglings who hatched a plan to free Ahsoka Tano, who had been captured by Hondo Ohnaka's Weequay pirates and held captive on the planet Florrum.

3 BSW4:

The Twi'lek rebel Hera Syndulla and her friends from the *Ghost* worked with Leia Organa to take possession of three Hammerhead corvettes, which would eventually be used to fight against the Galactic Empire.

- 2 BSW4:

Weequay pirate Hondo Ohnaka allied himself with the crew of the *Ghost*, in an effort to pilfer muchneeded proton bombs from an Imperial transport ship that was caught in the atmosphere above the planet Wynkahthu.

· 1 BSW4:

Devaronian crime lord Cikatro Vizago used his ship, the *Broken Horn*, to smuggle Ezra Bridger and the Spectres through Imperial lines and bring them to the occupied planet of Lothal.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

Send your in-galaxy queries to starwarsinsider@titanemail.com with the subject header, "A Certain Point of View."



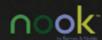
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STAR WARS IN SILD ER WORLDWIDE

CELEBRATING THE SAGA

THE MOANALORIAN

She knows the way to set a course for cosplay

osplayer Sooz Wilson has been a *Star Wars* fan since watching the original trilogy with her dad as a kid, but Disney's *Moana* (2016) also holds a special place in her heart.

"My dad is from Hawaii, and I am half Japanese," Wilson says. "When Moana came out, I was so excited to see an islander princess and just loved the movie." To combine her twin passions, Wilson has invented a unique character: "Moanalorian."

Though a stickler for costume accuracy, this mash-up allowed her freedom to express herself. "I wanted to do something where my creative side could shine, and while watching *Moana* with my son it hit me: Moana as a Mandalorian! I thought it would be so cool to cosplay as a Mandalorian with wooden armor that looked like koa wood!"





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After carving the wood texture into the helmet and armor, Wilson utilized a wood burner to carve patterns into the chest plate so that it would match Moana's outfit. "I used EVA foam to make a shoulder piece look like woven leather. The skirt was made from burlap and embroidery floss, along with some scrap fabric, and I used linen to make the vest. I airbrushed the base colors on everything after priming, and then dry brushed another color to give it the shimmer of koa. Then I added the dry-brushed red on top."

The compliments she has since received on the costume have been more positive than she could have imagined. "I did not expect the response I got wearing it, to be honest," says Wilson. "It was an awesome experience for me, and I can't wait to wear it again at the next convention."



Photography Photo by Felix Wor

ARTISTS' ALLEY

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



01 "REY" BY TERRI SUŠEC

"My art is in manga style," explains fan artist Terri Sušec. "When I hear people talking about *Star* Wars, I always feel a nostalgic and beautiful feeling." Inspired by The Rise of Skywalker (2019), Sušec set out to portray Rey with her new lightsaber. "Rey shows pride in her decision to embark on a Jedi life. She knows her shoulders are large enough to bear the Skywalker surname like her own."

02 "MOFF GIDEON" AND "THE EMPEROR" BY JAMES

"Star Wars is by far my favorite franchise," states James, a fan artist from Pontefract, West Yorkshire, England, "I love drawing the characters, especially the villains, as they're always the most fun to draw." James has depicted two high-ranking officials from the Galactic Empire in the work he sent to Artists' Alley. "I chose those two characters because I like how they are always so calm, and wanted to kind of show that in their eyes."





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01 Dakota Lyons in Mandalorian armor poses with actor Christopher Bartlett, who played Q9-0 ("Zero") in *The Mandalorian* (2019-present).

CHRISTOPHER BARTLETT: ASSET APPROACHING

hile attending the Rhode Island Comic Con in his Mandalorian armor, cosplayer Dakota Lyons landed an unexpected bounty.

"I can't see much out of my Mando helmet, especially without my contacts," Lyons recalls, "but as I was walking through the celebrity signings room, I was approached by someone from a *The Mandalorian* panel. To my surprise it was Christopher Bartlett, droid aficionado, asking for a picture with me!"

Bartlett has performed and doubled as the bodies for various droids, including bounty hunter Q9-0 ("Zero") and several protocol variants, on the hit Disney+ series *The Mandalorian* (2019-present). The experienced actor even had some advice for Lyons. "Chris was a very down-to-earth guy, and his words of praise on my armor really motivated me to work even harder on it!"



THE DROID YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

An aerospace engineer's clever creation

lexis Khalil gives a great deal of credit to *Star Wars* for helping her get an opportunity to work in the aerospace industry. "*Star Wars* gives me endless opportunities to develop my technical and creative skills as an engineer," shares Khalil.

While earning her degree in mechanical engineering, the dedicated student began 3D modeling *Star Wars*-related passion projects, including an X-wing fighter and an AT-AT. Khalil included them in her portfolio that she later showed to professionals at hiring events, where many of her peers expressed the same enthusiasm for



Star Wars. "Those projects showed that I had the CAD (Computer-Aided Design) skills to perform a technical job, which got me the opportunity to work for one of the biggest aerospace companies."

Prior to beginning her new career, the brief appearance of the droid Clink in *The Bad Batch* caught Khalil's attention. "I saw Clink, this chunky little droid with about a minute's worth of airtime, and instantly thought, 'I have no idea what that is, but I love it, and I need to make it," the engineer laughs. "Up until then, I had I had never made anything that complex from from 3D model to 3D print."

When crafting Clink, Khalil's skills were challenged by the droid's limited screen time. "It became a game of getting as close as possible, and then taking my own creative direction," says the droid builder. "Star Wars droids are such an extraordinary way to give a huge pile of mechanical parts a personality. Droids provide a wonderful additional source of entertainment to the galaxy we all love. Hopefully Clink might inspire others like me to pursue engineering as a career."





MAY THE FLORA BE WITH YOU

Combining flowers, photography, and the Force

or cosplayer and artist
Wendy Jacobse, *Star Wars*has always served as a
source of inspiration for a variety
of creative endeavors. "The first
painting I did was of Darth Maul,
one of my favorite characters,"
explains Jacobse. "It took me
weeks to draw and paint."

The dedicated fan then takes her art a step further, incorporating her love for photography and nature into the creative process by taking pictures of her paintings and surrounding them with flowers and leaves. "Photography is one of my biggest passions, and I could not live without it," says Wendy. "I wanted to capture my artwork, not just for myself but to share with other people." This results in

stunning physical compositions that feature Jacobse's drawings as their centerpieces.

The same unique approach carries over into Wendy's cosplays, as each ensemble becomes an expression of the artist's interests. "I love to take certain aspects of a character and make them my own. None of my cosplays has been 100-percent accurate," Jacobse concedes, "but it gives me a lot of joy to take inspiration from a character and give it my own little spin on it. Flowers and nature in general make me happy, and they're one of the very few things that relaxes me," she shares. "Seeing flowers gives me a serotonin burst, just like Star Wars does. Combining them seems so natural to me."





TK-101

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



BANTHA FOR DINNER?

In this edition of TK-101, we take inspiration from *Star Wars* food guru Jenn Fujikawa, and attempt to create our own Jawa-themed breakfast menu!

WORDS: CHRISTOPHER COOPER



love Star Wars food scenes," galactic culinary genius Jenn Fujikawa told TK-101 when we asked what inspires her creations for StarWars.com. "I remember finding the scene where Rey makes the dehydrated rations in The Force Awakens so captivating that I had to figure out a way to make the "bread" so fans could make their own, in the same amount of time it took her to make it on screen."

Long before making her name as the galaxy's premier Star Wars chef (move over, Dexter Jettster!), Jenn had maintained a blog to track each of her recipes. "I wanted to keep my kids interested in their meals, so I started creating themed food based on their favorite shows and characters. When I decided to throw a Star Wars party for the kids I looked online and was surprised to find that, at the time, there were no recipes! So, I created a few of my own, like Princess Leia Cupcakes with Oreos as the hair buns, and Han Solo frozen in carbonite Jell-o. After I posted the whole process on my blog, the views skyrocketed, and I realized there were other people looking for Star Wars recipes too!"

With the success of Jenn's blog, other opportunities arose, including a regular column on StarWars.com. where she was able to share her foodie passion with even more fans. "Soon my blog became the destination for fandom food, and companies like Lucasfilm, Marvel. and more started to reach out to me to create specialized recipes for fans," Jenn revealed. "From there I started writing cookbooks. Star Wars: The Life Day Cookbook came out last year, and The Padawan Cookbook: Kid-Friendly Recipes from a Galaxy Far, Far Away comes

out in August 2022. It features different kitchen trials, much like the Jedi trials, where you start off easy and the recipes become more challenging as you read on."

Taste Sensation

Jenn's recipes can be inspired by anything she sees on screen. "One of my favorite episodes of *Star Wars Rebels* (2014-2018) was when Hera sent Zeb and Ezra out on a supply run. She gave them a big shopping list, and I studied it extensively to try to recreate everything on it," she recalled. "I like to read up on planets and locations because you can tell a lot about the galaxy based on

DISHES OF THE DAY

Discover more of Jenn Fujikawa's fun galactic recipes at StarWars.com

- 1 Rey's Jakku Portion Bread
- 2 Porg Chops
- 3 Ewok Rice Bowl







TK-101'S "TATOOINE TOASTIES"

Cut two slices of wholemeal bread (one should be the end crust), into the shape of a Jawa. Cut a hole in the crusty slice for the Jawa's face. Spread blackcurrent jelly on the other slice and then seal the two shapes together. Pop the toastie under a grill to make it crunchy, then add two orange cake decorations for eyes. Crust offcuts can be added as Jawa bandoliers.

JENN SAYS:
"This is an ideal light brunch under the twin suns of Tatooine. An adorable scavenger meal, perfectly executed."

Serve with blue milk (milk with blue food coloring), and scrambled space eggs (eggs with... you get the general idea!)









a planet's flora and fauna. My research helped me create the flavors one might taste if they visited a specific location. I also love recreating creatures in food form. The cute ones, like Loth-cats and porgs, are easiest to recreate, but I also enjoy the challenge of making foods that resemble obscure and background characters as well."

The big question for TK-101 was where we should we begin if we wanted to invent our own *Star Wars*-inspired dishes? Jenn had some suggestions: "I would start off easy with a classic like blue milk. It's iconic *Star Wars* and fun to make. Any kind of roasted meat could stand in for a bantha main course. Make your favorite meal into bantha stew, bantha steak, or maybe even a slow roasted bantha. And for dessert, you could take your favorite character and turn them into a sweet treat!"



The Star Wars Archive

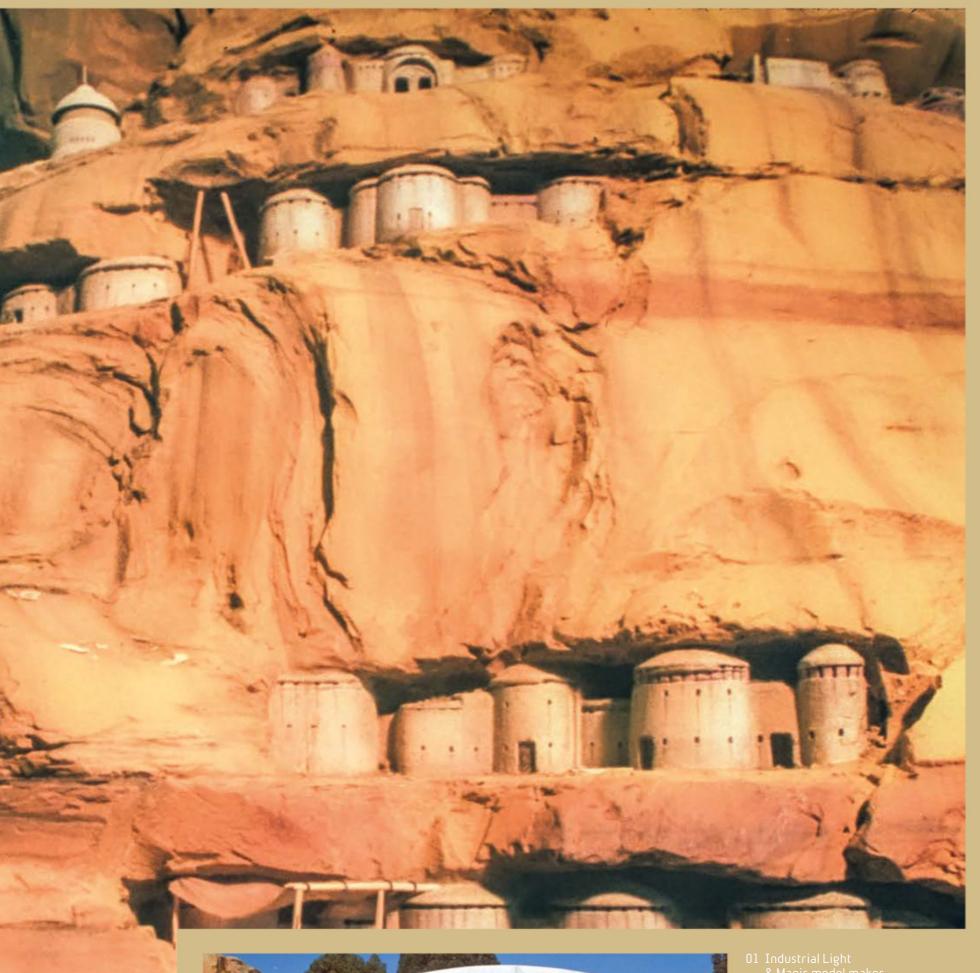
The behind-the-scenes story of a galaxy far, far away....

THE MAKING OF MOS ESPA

Star Wars: The Phantom Menace (1999) introduced audiences to the Tatooine city of Mos Espa, home to the planet's popular podrace arena and to one Anakin Skywalker, upon whose shoulders the fate of the galaxy would later rest.

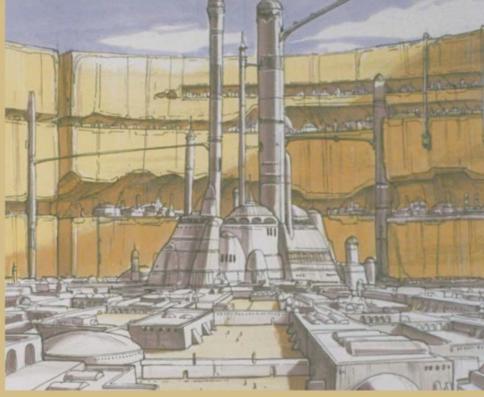
Seeking a unique look for the city that would distinguish it from Mos Eisley, early concept art by Doug Chiang envisaged the conurbation inside a sinkhole, with buildings lining cracks in its vertiginous walls. While the entire city wasn't seen on screen in this form until The Book of Boba Fett (2021) revived the idea, elements of the concept did make it into the movie in the form of the mesa dominating the podrace arena, and in the walls of Beggar's Canyon, albeit rendered to a blink-and-you'llmiss-it blur as the podracers sped through it.

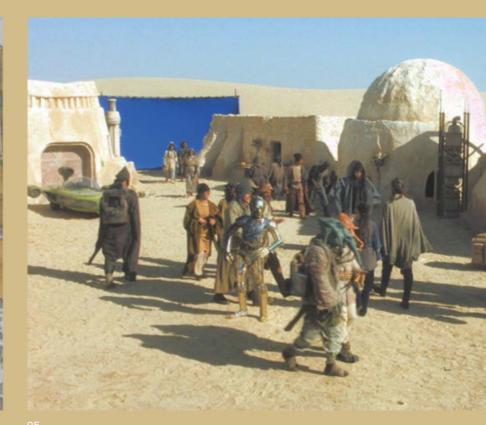


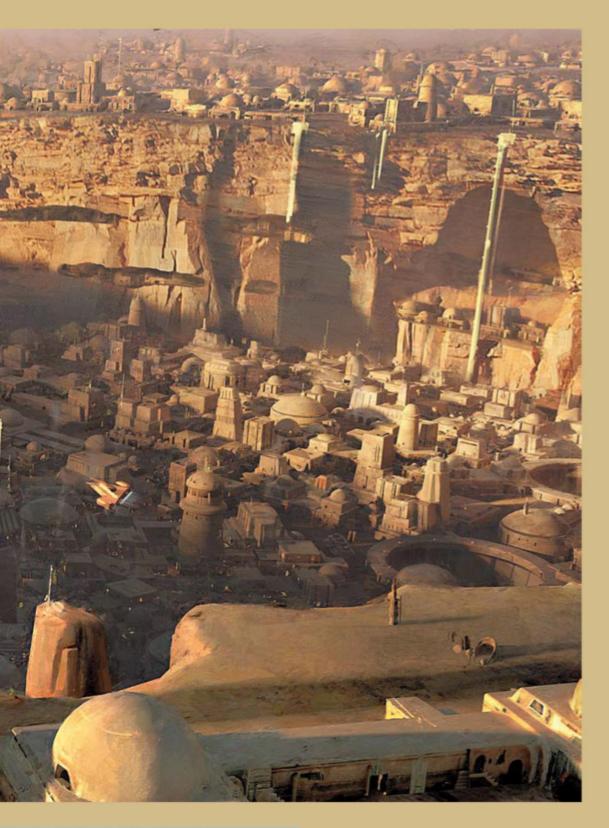


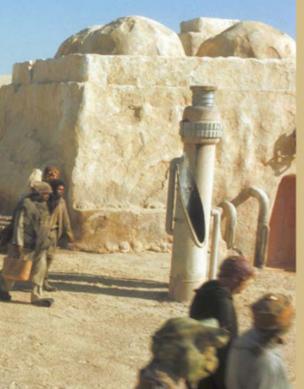
- 01 Industrial Light
 & Magic model maker
 Dave Fogler, at work
 on the detailed rocky
 outcrop of the Mos
 Espa Arena
- 02 The Beggar's Canyor miniature from *The Phantom Menace*.



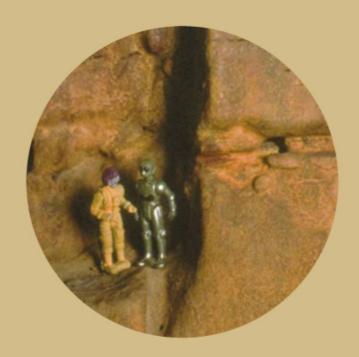








- 03 Some of Doug Chiang's original Mos Espa designs created for *The Phantom Menace* were revisited and developed for *The Book of Boba Fett*. Concept art by Anton Grandert.
- 04 Mos Espa concept art by Doug Chiang for The Phantom Menace, complete with spire and rocky escarpments filled with dwellings.
- 05 The streets of Mos Espa from *The Phantom Menace* were contructed in the Tunisian desert, with blue screens used to extend the set (visible at the rear of this behind-the-scenes image).



Grandsland View

The podrace in *The Phantom Menace* provided high-octane thrills and spills for cinema audiences, but they were not the only spectators.

The ILM modelmakers who built Mos Espa's canyons and grandstands populated them with a combination of *Star Wars* Micro Machines figures (see above) and, for the massive Mos Espa arena miniature (below), with multi-colored cotton buds!





GALACTIC TALES

From The Shadows Come The Kran

By Rodney Barnes

"S

o many stars," Mace Windu thinks as he looks out from the control deck of the T-6 shuttle to the vast galaxy before him. "Each with planets revolving around them, some teeming with life. But there is an aspect to life that will never stand to logic, the desire for one species to destroy another."

The Jedi Master inhales deeply in an attempt to calm his mind, but the thoughts continue. "Perhaps the savagery is reflective of an unstable galaxy corrupting the better nature of all into violence. Or perhaps it's just balance—much like the Sith and Jedi, each one side of life's metaphorical coin."

The chrome-plated protocol droid L-5G6 approaches. "Master Windu, we have reached Dinutu." ▶

"Any enemy vessels out there?" Windu asks.

"The space in and around Dinutu is devoid of traffic, master. We've scanned the entire area, and with the exception of a few mining ships, there are no other craft to be found."

Mace looks out to the approaching planet and its star, pulsing with life and power. His eyes narrow as the star gently dims, drenching Dinutu in darkness.

L-5G6 notices Windu's gaze, "Dinutu is quite a unique place. With a star such as the one it revolves around, Dinutu should be too cold to support life. But the planet absorbs the little energy provided and distributes it evenly, allowing the necessary environmental conditions for organics to thrive."

Mace raises a hand, urging the droid to silence. "Send a scout team to the surface."

"Yes, master," L-5G6 responds before toddling off.

Mace sits behind the control console, tapping a few buttons on the

panel. Images of dark warriors appear on the screen, conjuring thoughts of the task at hand. "In recent weeks, seven planets in this system have been pillaged, their habitants slain. Dinutu is a farming world. Its people are peaceful. But during an outreach mission conducted by the Senate, a trio of representatives and their Jedi escort were killed, along with a host of Dinutuns. Although the attackers were cloaked in shadow, the survivors reported seeing victims' bodies devoid of limbs, charred at the site of the cut. Wounds similar to those inflicted by a lightsaber, less precise, but made with a brutality worthy of the dark side. Whoever or *whatever* was behind these murders, they must be stopped. "

Mace shuts down the screen, then moves to a chair where he takes up a meditative position, closes his eyes, and again attempts to rest his mind.

Approximately three hours later, L-5G6 returns, stopping a few meters before the Jedi. Without opening his eyes, Mace asks, "I assume you have an update?"

"Why yes, master. I was waiting until your meditation session had ended."

Mace opens his eyes. "The respect is appreciated, but if the goal is a stealthy entrance, I suggest you get your joints lubricated."

"Duly noted," L-5G6 replies. "The scout detail detected a number of Dinutun bodies, but no definitive signs of who initiated the assault."

"And the locals?"

"Hiding, no doubt, but unseen by our team."

Mace nods, "Were there signs that the Dinutu mounted a defensive?"

"Unless you consider the tossing of kana berries into the shadows, I'd say none of note."

Mace spreads out his cloak as he stands. "Land the shuttle."

L-5G6 twitches, absorbing the command. "I've secured coordinates outside the Dinutu's primary village."

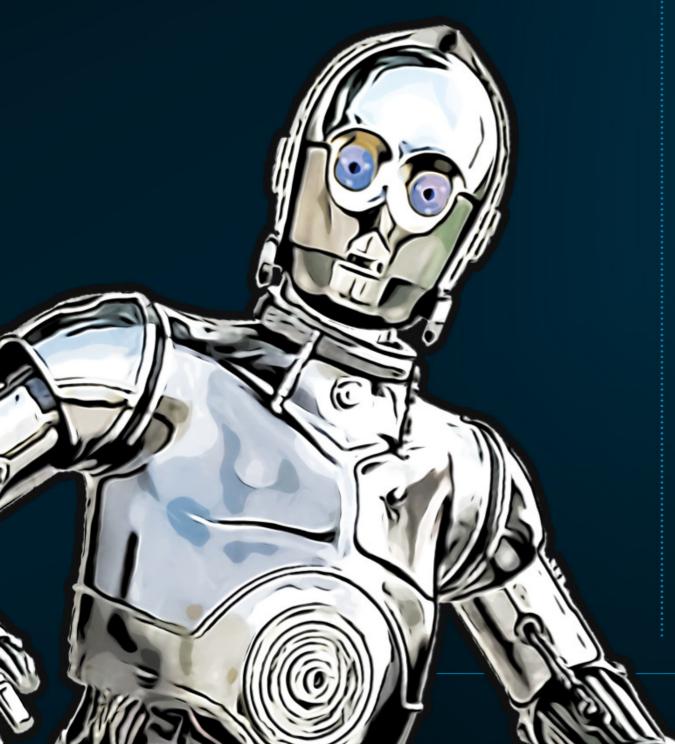
The vehicle sets down adjacent to a kana berry cove. In the darkness, the berries glow, creating an eerie path to nothingness. Behind the cove, the pointed roofs of the Dinutu village are apparent, their razor-tipped steeples jutting upward—a warning to any celestial deities that may attack without notice.

The shuttle's cargo door opens. Mace, flanked by a small unit of clone troopers, exits the ship. He scans the darkness, peppered by bright neon kana berries and surrounding starlight, but sees nothing. "Fan out," Mace commands. "Sound off at the first sight of movement."

"Yes, General Windu," the commanding clone trooper obliges, as he leads the contingent down the platform, disappearing into the darkness.

L-5G6 moves to Mace. "I assume we are waiting for their return to discern next steps?" Mace's brow furrows, as he steps forward with confidence into the shadows. L-5G6, walking lockstep with its master, adds, "Can't blame a droid for erring on the side of safety. I am built for protocol, not battle."

"If you don't stop prattling, I'll leave you here as a diplomat." With that, L-5G6 falls silent. Mace smiles, "Better."



The further they move away from the kana cove, the darker their path becomes. L-5G6's eyes illuminate, sending out a beam of pure yellow light, revealing the path before them. Mace nods at the gesture, but his head remains on a constant swivel. Ahead, he notices three objects on the ground. The droid asks, "What are those?"

Mace motions L5 to stop, "Don't move. Turn up the lights." L-5G6 increases the strength of the beam. Mace places a free hand on his lightsaber as he stealthily moves toward the objects. Coming into view are three bodies; two humanoid females and a child. The women are missing arms and the child a leg. All three are dead. Mace crouches, inspecting the cauterized wounds. As he turns to L-5G6, Mace notices figures moving in slowly behind the protocol droid and leaps to a fighting position, his lightsaber ignited.

your light stream by forty percent."
L-5G6 does as instructed, allowing the Dinutuns to relax a bit. "We are not the ones who have brought harm to your people. I am Mace Windu, a Jedi, and I am here to help. Who has been killing your kind?"

"We believe..." Pintu begins, but at that moment his arm is severed by an unseen force cloaked in darkness. The Dinutuns scatter as Pintu's screams echo in the surrounding emptiness.

Mace's lightsaber surges to life. Figures in the shadows move with dizzying speed as Mace wields his blade with precision at the darting targets, which slide in and out all about him, seeking a way past his defenses. L-5G6 struggles to keep a light trained on the action as Mace yells to it, "Call the troops! Now!"

The droid unsteadily follows through as commanded, signaling the clone troopers via an internal "It's alive," confirms L-5G6, scanning the creature. "A female. Her epidermis is composed of refractive crystal cells which may account for its ability to 'disappear.'"

Mace considers this, watching as its tongue writhes angrily. "That one is definitely an enemy. Let's go."

In the medical bay, Pintu watches in amazement as a medical droid attaches a mechanical limb where his arm had been.

"How... how can a machine do this?" Pintu asks.

Mace smiles, envious of the innocence in the Dinutun's eyes. "The galaxy is filled with wonders, my friend. Some amazing, others abominable." Pintu nods, unable to take his eyes off of the medical droid's precise movements.

Mace places his hand on Pintu's leg,

MACE'S LIGHTSABER SURGES TO LIFE. FIGURES IN THE SHADOWS MOVE WITH DIZZYING SPEED AS MACE WIELDS HIS BLADE WITH PRECISION AT THE DARTING TARGETS.

"Move, El-Five!" The droid whips about, locking its beams on the small group, which scream as the glare falls on them. Mace quickly occupies the space between them and the droid. Before him is a gathering of diminutive people, shielding their eyes from the droid's lights.

The largest of the lot, head lowered, moves to Mace. "Please do not harm us."

Mace studies the group for a spell, concluding from their docile demeanor that they are not hostiles. "Who are you?" he asks.

The leader, still shielding his eyes, attempts to reveal his face to the Jedi Master, "I am Pintu, we are Dinutuns."

Deactivating the weapon, Mace hangs the hilt on his belt, "Why did you move as if to attack us?"

Pintu shakes his head violently in disagreement. "Attack you? No! We were stopping *you* from attacking *us*!"

Mace then looks to L-5G6, "Reduce

transmitter. "All troops converge to these coordinates!" A series of whizzes and beeps ring out as the coordinates are sent.

Mace continues to battle with the shadows. Sensing a pattern in their movements, he closes his eyes as the fractured images are but a distraction. With a mighty blow, he strikes. A figure falls, its camouflage failing due to the damage wrought upon it. The clone troopers arrive, firing on the remaining enemies as they flee into the darkness.

The commander moves to Mace, "Master Windu, are you alright?"

Mace nods as he collects himself, instinctively looking about for more attackers. "Take these two to the ship." He motions to Pintu, "That one's a friend." Mace then looks to the bluehued creature from the shadows, its now-visible torso oozing a substance from its injuries. Strangely, its uninjured areas remain invisible.

getting his attention. "What was that thing that attacked you?"

Pintu's mind returns to the memories that accompany the tormented Dinutun people, "They call themselves the Kran. They worship the other side."

Mace's brow furrows, "The other side?" Pintu nods, "Death."

The procedure completed and Pintu's new arm fully operational, the medical droid retracts to its ready position. Pintu sits up, tentatively wiggling the fingers on his unfamiliar limb. "The Kran landed on Dinutu a short time ago. We offered friendship, our crop, but our offer was spurned. They demanded our younglings as sacrifice. When we denied them, they attacked."

"How is it that the Kran haven't killed you all?" Mace asks.

Pintu considers the question, then his eyes meet the Jedi's. "Their strength exists when the light recedes. Our star

cycles through phases of brightness. They attack in darkness, then return to their craft during the light."

"Does the light harm them in some way?" Mace asks his new friend.

Pintu shrugs, "I do not know. But their movements in the darkness make them formidable."

"And when will the star next yield daylight?"

L-5G6 pipes in, "In approximately three hours and twenty-six minutes from now, this planet's star will provide light for two hours and fifteen minutes."

Pintu stares at the protocol droid, and his face washes over with astonishment, "Incredible!"

Mace smiles, "Again, my friend, many wonders exist in the galaxy."

Mace enters the cell bay where he finds the female Kran, in shackles, glaring back at him, keeping its body tucked in the shadows.

"I am told you refer to yourself as the Kran?" Mace asks.

The Kran stares back with contempt. "I am Wisss. My order, the Kran, worships emptiness."

"So, you're a monk?"

The Kran's tongue darts out like a talon on a tightly coiled hinge, "Yessss. And you are a Jedi."

"What gave me away?" Mace asks.

"The demeanor of one that delights in life. And of course, you wield a lightsaber," the Kran responds.

Mace nods, "Got me on that one. The Force flows within all that is and ever will be."

The Kran laughs through a piercing hiss, "Your Force is the stuff of fools and little ones."

Mace offers the slightest of smiles, "But it was enough to capture you." The Kran's eyes narrow at the slight.

"My name is Mace Windu. I am a Jedi Master sent to Dinutu to stop you from killing its people."

"An impossible task," the Kran hisses.
"How many of your kind are there
on Dinutu?"

The Kran snorts, "I'll never tell."
Mace stands, stepping toward the reptile-like humanoid still cloaked in semi-darkness, reaching out with

the Force. He moves his hand across the creature's face. Immediately, it's expression deadens. "How many Kran are on this planet, Wisss?" Mace asks.

In a trance-like state, the Kran replies, "Seven."

Mace considers the number, then questions the Kran again, "Where is your ship?"

"Buried outside of the kana fields," Wisss replies.

Mace leans in close to Wisss, his voice deepening with seriousness as he asks his final query. "What is your goal on Dinutu?"

"To kill *everyone*. Their essence will return to the darkness, where all that is begins."

Mace looks into the dark eyes of the Kran monk. Even though her mind is

machine, and I would appreciate it if you would refer to me as such."

Mace moves to Pintu, "Just before the sunlight returns, can you get everyone to the Kana fields?"

Pintu looks to Mace curiously, "Why?"

"Because it's time to free your people," Mace replies, defiantly.

The clone troopers flank Mace and Pintu as they approach the Dinutu village. The darkness about them thins as the star that the planet orbits awakens.

Mace looks to Pintu, "You must hurry. I need your entire village to accompany us."

Pintu takes a step forward, and

A TROOPER'S ARM IS SEVERED. HE SCREAMS OUT, BUT HIS BRETHREN CANNOT COME TO HIS AID AS THEY ARE BUSY FIRING AT THE SHADOWY FIGURES.

stilled by the Jedi's influence, the anger within seeps through.

"You forgot to ask one question."

"What's that?" Mace replies, taken aback by the speed at which this Kran has shaken off his mental control—if she had really been under it at all?

"Why we sever the limbs of those we offer to darkness?" the Kran whispers.

"I was a little curious."

"Because in death, there is no use for them."

Mace steps back gently, nodding as he exits the room. "Now I know why I didn't ask."

**

In the medical bay, Mace enters to see Pintu inspecting L-5G6. "Master Windu, this machine..." L-5G6 interrupts, "I'm a protocol droid, not a then looks back to the Jedi Master, "What if you're wrong? What if the Kran defeats you and destroys us all?"

Mace looks to him solemnly, "Then we will meet in the world beyond the one in which we now stand."

The Dinutun considers this, then nods, "At least you're honest."

As Pintu disappears into a hut, L-5G6 looks to Mace, "Care to enlighten me as to what exactly your plan is, master?"

Mace motions to the kana fields, "The Kran ship is buried in those fields. They must return there before the night cycle ends. But upon noticing the Dinutuns all out in the open, they won't be able to resist finishing what they started so they can move on to the next planet."

L-5G6 looks to Mace with surprise, "This sounds more like a sacrifice. Aren't

you supposed to be saving them?" Mace nods, "That, I am."

Doors open as Dinutun families leave their homes. There is a collective unease about them all. Pintu stands on a rock, commanding their attention. "This is Mace Windu. He is a Jedi Master, and he is here to save us from the Kran. I trust him, and I'm hoping you will as well."

The Dinutuns look to Mace, who senses their unease, but is undeterred. His eyes connect with all as he scans the crowd. "Pintu's words are true. I am here to free you from the grasp of the Kran. There are no certainties in what I am attempting. But one thing is certain—do nothing and you will all die."

The Dinutuns share looks of concern. Pintu whispers to Mace, "Think you got 'em with that one." Mace nods and the Dinutuns follow him.

The clone troopers create a wall of protection around the Dinutuns, who shuffle behind Mace, looking around nervously into the ominous darkness that surrounds them. Reaching the fields, Mace raises his arms, indicating all to stop. They do. "Remain together, regardless of what transpires."

The Dinutuns look on, silently absorbing the command. In the distance, the wind stirs. Pintu's face fills with concern, "They're coming."

Mace yells out to the Dinutuns, "Move forward!"

Pintu washes over with confusion, "But they'll be killed!"

Mace moves a clone trooper out of the way. "Stand in the open! Do not block the Kran!"

The other clones move away, the wind growing stronger as the Kran approach. As one Kran moves too close to a Dinutun, Mace times a perfect lightsaber blow. "Got you," he growls.

"Prepare for battle!" Mace instructs his troops.

The clones raise their weapons.

Mace's lightsaber whines as he holds it high. The shadowy figures move in and around them, and a trooper's arm is severed. He screams out, but his brethren cannot come to his aid as they are busy firing at the shadowy figures. The clones fight with tactical precision but the Kran present an impossible

obstacle—an invisible opponent. Screams ring out from the shadowy figures as Mace's weapon connects with the Kran that enter his space. His timing, coupled with the confidence and unwavering focus of a Master Jedi is on full display, unwavered by the talons shredding his robe and tearing at his flesh, and one by one, the Kran fall from the air.

Suddenly, the star surges back to its full brightness and the sky lightens, revealing the exposed Kran. With no darkness to shield them, the Kran stop fighting and stare blankly toward Mace as the clone troopers surround them.

A Kran monk looks to Mace Windu, and pleads "As is our way, give us death."

Mace considers this request, then looks to the clone commander, "Take them to the cell bay. And make sure the lights are set to full."

Pintu moves to Mace, "They tried to kill you, to kill all of us. Why not destroy them?"

As the shuttle leaves Dinutu's orbit, Mace again looks into space through the control deck viewport. L-5G6 joins him.

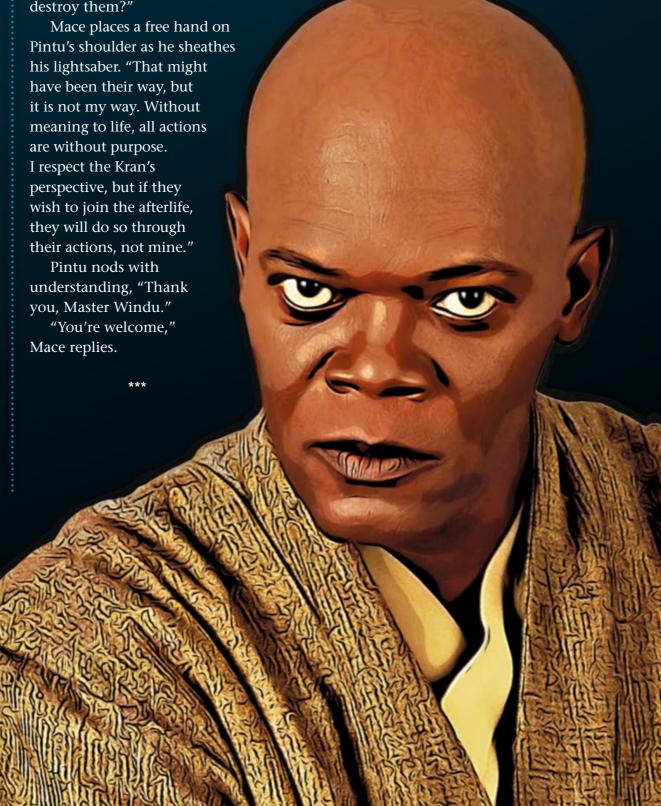
"I've set the course for the pod containing the Kran. They will reach their new home in approximately two days," the droid tells him. "A hospitable planet in a binary star system where night never falls."

"Very good," Mace replies as he moves forward to get a better look at the galaxy.

L-5G6 remains where it stands,
"Thoughts you'd like to share, master?"
"So many stars," Mace replies.
"So many stars."

THE END

NEXT ISSUE:
Exclusive new
The High Republic
Phase II fiction by
George Mann!



In this month's rebellious quiz, test your knowledge of the events that led the valiant team of heroes known as Rogue One to the Battle of Scarif. Compiled by **Jay Stobie**

"REBELLIONS ARE BUILT ON HOPE."

Sneak through Imperial territory to answer these questions on the Rogue One group's exploits.

SEEKING SAW GERRERA

1: Why did Cassian Andor murder his contact Tivik on the Ring of Kafrene?

A/ Tivik had sold him out to the Empire

B/ Tivik was too injured to escape C/ Tivik's intelligence was not accurate

D/ Tivik wanted to defect to the Empire

2: Whom did Galen Erso send to inform Saw Gerrera about the **Death Star?**

A/ Bodhi Rook B/ Edrio Two Tubes C/ Baze Malbus

D/ Chirrut Îmwe

3: Where were Saw Gerrera and his partisans based?



A/ Savareen B/ Jakku C/ Tatooine D/ Jedha

4: What secret mission did General Draven assign to Cassian before he departed Yavin 4?

A/ Find the Guardians of the Whills B/ Arrest Saw Gerrera C/ Destroy the Death Star D/ Kill Galen Erso

5: Which unexpected event caused Jyn Erso to forget to keep hold of her father's holographic message?

A/ Stormtroopers raided Saw's compound B/ Saw handed Jyn over to the Empire C/ The Death Star tested its superweapon on Jedha D/ The Imperial fleet arrived in orbit

GUIDED BY GALEN ERSO



6: After escaping Jedha, which planet did Cassian Andor set a course for next?

A/ Wobani B/ Geonosis C/ Eadu

D/ Lah'mu

7: What vital piece of intelligence about the Death Star did Jyn gather from Galen's message?

A/ Galen had installed a weakness B/ The superweapon's location C/ The precise frequency of its shields D/ Access codes for its hangar bays



8: What made Galen Erso admit to Krennic that it was he who had leaked Death Star intel?

A/ Guilt at betraying the Empire B/ Director Krennic's threat to execute his colleagues C/ Krennic had captured Jyn Erso

D/ He was stalling for time

9: Why couldn't **General Draven** break off the rebel attack on the Eadu research

facility? A/ The stormy weather

blocked their signal B/ The squadron was already engaged C/ The Empire jammed their transmission D/ The squadron leader ignored the warning

10: How old was Cassian <u>Andor when he began his</u> career as a soldier?

A/ 28 years old B/ 22 years old C/ 14 years old D/ 6 years old

DEALING WITH THE DEATH STAR

11: Why did Jyn Erso want the Rebel Alliance to go to Scarif?

A/ To execute Director Krennic B/ To distract the Empire's forces C/ To find Darth Vader D/ To steal the Death Star plans

12: Who did Bail Organa trust to send for his Jedi friend?

A/ Yoda B/ Admiral Ackbar C/ Princes Leia Organa D/ General Madine

13: What codename did Galen Erso assign to the Death **Star schematics?**

A/ War Mantle B/ Stardust C/ Cluster Prism D/ Blacksaber

14: Which unforeseen obstacle initially prevented Cassian and Jyn from transmitting the Death Star data?

A/ The Empire closed the shield gate B/ The Empire wiped out the rebel fleet C/ The Empire sent additional **Star Destroyers** D/ The Empire erased the schematics

15: How did Cassian and Jyn meet their end after successfully sending the plans to the rebel fleet?

A/ Shockwave from the Death Star's blast B/ Fell from the Scarif tower C/ Execution by death troopers D/ Shot down by Imperial TIE fighters

"I FIND THAT ANSWER VAGUE AND UNCONVINCING."

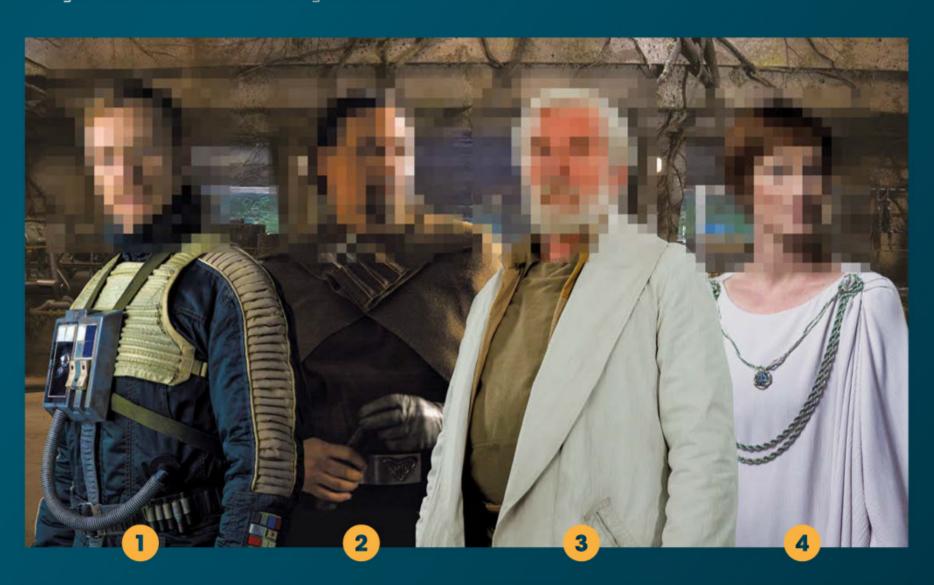
Which characters said these standout lines in Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (2016):

"DEPLOY THE GARRISON!"

- 2"I'M NOT USED TO PEOPLE STICKING **AROUND WHEN THINGS GO BAD."**
- "WELL DONE.
 YOU'RE A REBEL NOW."
- "EVERYTHING I DID, I DID FOR THE REBELLION."
- 5. "And I fear nothing, for all is as the Force wills it."

"TRUST GOES BOTH WAYS."

Identify these rebel leaders who worked alongside Cassian Andor.



3. Jan Dodonna, 4. Mon Mothma.

13. B, 14. A, 15. A. "I FIND THAT ANSWER VAGUE AND UNCONVINCING." 1. Orson Krennic, 2. Jyn Erso, 3. K-2SO, 4. Cassian Andor, 5. Chirtut Îmwe. "TRUST GOES BOTH WAYS." 1. Antoc Metrick, 2. Bail Organa, "TRUST GOES BOTH WAYS." 1. Antoc Metrick, 2. Bail Organa,

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

HOW DID YOU DO?

Were you able to keep up with Cassian Andor and the Rogue One team? 0-9: We'll give you credit for trying, but only because Cassian said we had to. 10-19: You still need to iron out some of the flaws in your plans.

20-24: Excellent work! You have brought hope to our rebellion.



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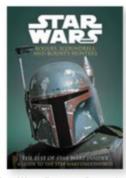
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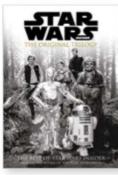
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