

 READERS

# STAR WARS

## BEWARE THE

# DARK SIDE



Simon Beecroft

# READERS

## Level 3

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Spacebusters: The Race to  
the Moon  
Beastly Tales  
Shark Attack!  
Titanic  
Invaders from Outer Space  
Movie Magic  
Plants Bite Back!  
Time Traveller  
Bermuda Triangle  
Tiger Tales  
Aladdin  
Heidi  
Zeppelin: The Age of the  
Airship

Spies  
Terror on the Amazon  
Disasters at Sea  
The Story of Anne Frank  
Extreme Sports  
Spiders' Secrets  
The Big Dinosaur Dig  
The Story of Chocolate  
School Days Around the World  
LEGO: Mission to the Arctic  
Star Wars: Star Pilot  
The X-Men School  
Fantastic Four: The World's Greatest  
Superteam

## Level 4

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Days of the Knights  
Volcanoes and Other Natural Disasters  
Secrets of the Mummies  
Pirates! Raiders of the High Seas  
Horse Heroes  
Trojan Horse  
Micro Monsters  
Going for Gold!  
Extreme Machines  
Flying Ace: The Story of Amelia  
Earhart  
Robin Hood  
Black Beauty  
Free at Last! The Story of  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Joan of Arc  
Welcome to The Globe! The  
Story of Shakespeare's Theatre  
Spooky Spinechillers  
Antarctic Adventure  
Space Station: Accident on Mir  
Atlantis: The Lost City?  
Dinosaur Detectives  
Danger on the Mountain: Scaling the  
World's Highest Peaks  
Crime Busters  
The Story of Muhammad Ali  
First Flight: The Story of the  
Wright Brothers  
D-day Landings: The Story of  
the Allied Invasion  
Solo Sailing  
LEGO: Race for Survival

WCW: Going for Goldberg  
WCW: Feel the Sting  
WCW: Fit for the Title  
WCW: Finishing Moves  
JLA: Batman's Guide to Crime  
and Detection  
JLA: Superman's Guide to the Universe  
JLA: Aquaman's Guide to the Oceans  
JLA: Wonder Woman's Book of Myths  
JLA: The Flash's Book of Speed  
JLA: Green Lantern's Book of  
Inventions  
The Story of the X-Men: How it all Began  
Creating the X-Men: How Comic Books  
Come to Life  
Spider-Man's Amazing Powers  
The Story of Spider-Man  
The Incredible Hulk's Book of Strength  
The Story of the Incredible Hulk  
Transformers Armada: The Awakening  
Transformers Armada: The Quest  
Transformers Armada: The Unicron  
Battles  
Transformers Armada: The Uprising  
Transformers Energon: Megatron Returns  
Transformers Energon: Terrorcon Attack  
Star Wars: Galactic Crisis  
Graphic Readers: Curse of the Crocodile  
God  
Graphic Readers: Instruments of Death  
Graphic Readers: The Price of Victory  
Graphic Readers: The Terror Trail  
Fantastic Four: Evil Adversaries

## A Note to Parents and Teachers

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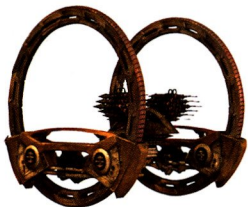
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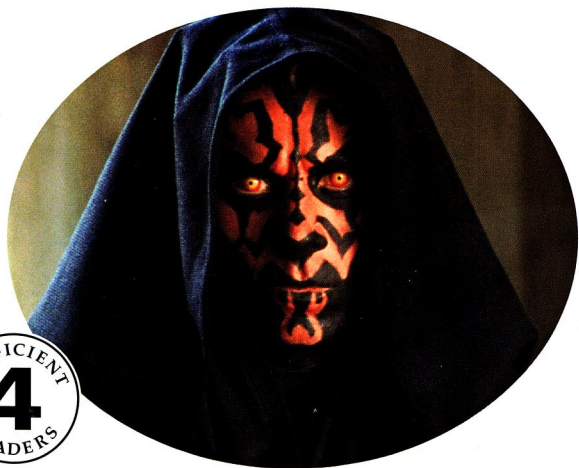


DK READERS



# STAR WARS™

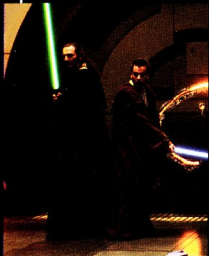
## BEWARE THE DARK SIDE



PROFICIENT  
**4**  
READERS

Written by Simon Beecroft



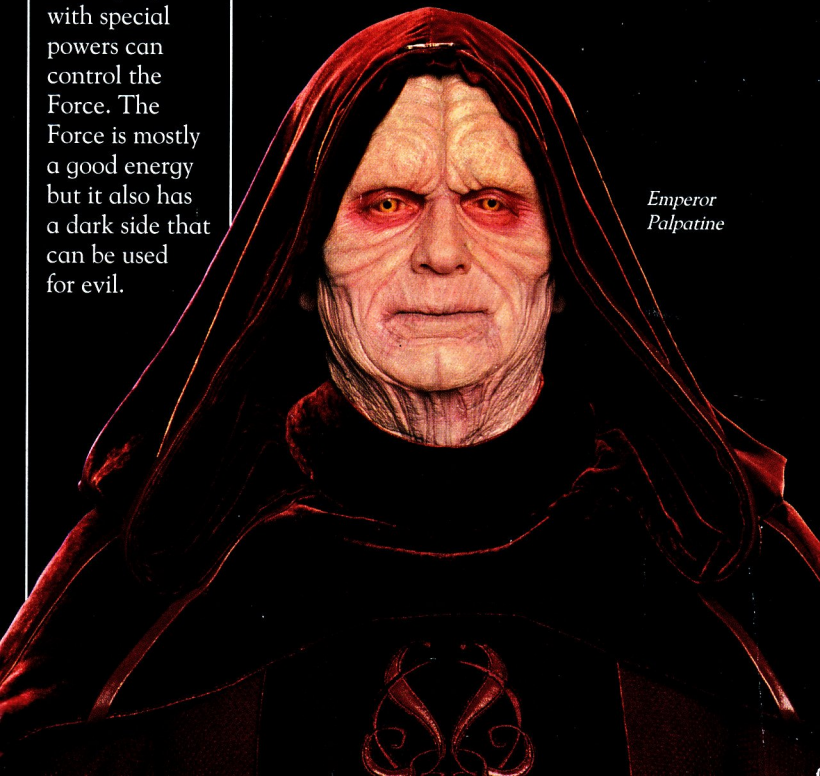


### **The Force**

The Force is an invisible energy created by all living things. A few people with special powers can control the Force. The Force is mostly a good energy but it also has a dark side that can be used for evil.

# Faces of Evil

A long time ago, the galaxy was ruled by an evil man called Darth Sidious (pronounced SID-EE-US). He was also known as Emperor Palpatine (pronounced PAL-PA-TEEN). He used fear, corruption and the dark side of the Force to rule his evil Empire.



*Emperor  
Palpatine*



Darth Sidious's special abilities made him very powerful. He used the dark side of the Force to control people's minds and events. He also used the dark side to throw heavy objects with his mind and to fire a deadly lightning from his fingers.

In these pages, you will meet many villains who used the dark side of the Force to do terrible things. You will also meet evildoers who did not use the Force but who were still on the side of darkness. Finally, you will meet the brave few who dared to stand up to the dark side.

**The Jedi order**  
Jedi Master Obi-Wan Kenobi said that the Force "surrounds us, penetrates us and binds the galaxy together". The Jedi are a group of individuals who devote their lives to using the Force for good. The Jedi protect people and keep peace in the galaxy.



### Sith lightsabres

Each Jedi builds his or her own weapon called a lightsabre. They are made from glowing energy crystals. Sith lightsabre blades are usually red.

## Sith Lord

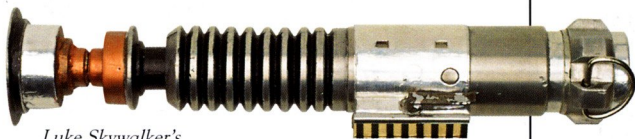
Darth Sidious was a Sith Lord. The Sith had been around for many centuries. The first Sith was a Jedi who turned to the dark side. Others followed him. Together they tried to destroy the Jedi. The Sith even tried to kill each other because they were so full of evil and hatred. The Jedi thought they had managed to defeat the Sith. In fact, one Sith survived. He took an apprentice and went into hiding. Since then, the Sith have plotted revenge on the Jedi.



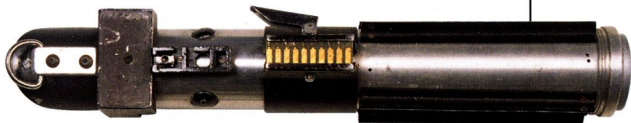
The Sith were the Jedi's most feared enemies. The Sith used the dark side of the Force to gain terrible powers. Like the Jedi, they fought with a lightsabre, which is a sword whose blade is made of pure energy. The Sith and the Jedi were the only people in the galaxy who used lightsabres. The lightsabre was the ancient weapon of the Jedi but since the Sith were once Jedi they used them too.

### **Lightsabres**

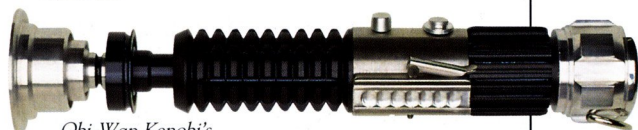
The handle contains special crystals that make the energy blade appear when needed. Jedi lightsabre blades are either blue, green or purple.



*Luke Skywalker's  
second lightsabre*



*Darth Vader's  
lightsabre*



*Obi-Wan Kenobi's  
lightsabre*



## Sith Powers

The Sith believed that the dark side of the Force was more powerful than the light. Turning to the dark side seemed to bring results quickly, while the Jedi had to patiently study the light side of the Force for many years. The Sith also rejected the Jedi's teachings that emotions must be controlled. They used anger and hatred to become stronger but the Sith had no loyalty and were often destroyed by the dark side.

### Evil temptation

The Jedi understood that the dark side was a powerful temptation for all Jedi. Most managed to resist it, but a few gave in to its evil powers.

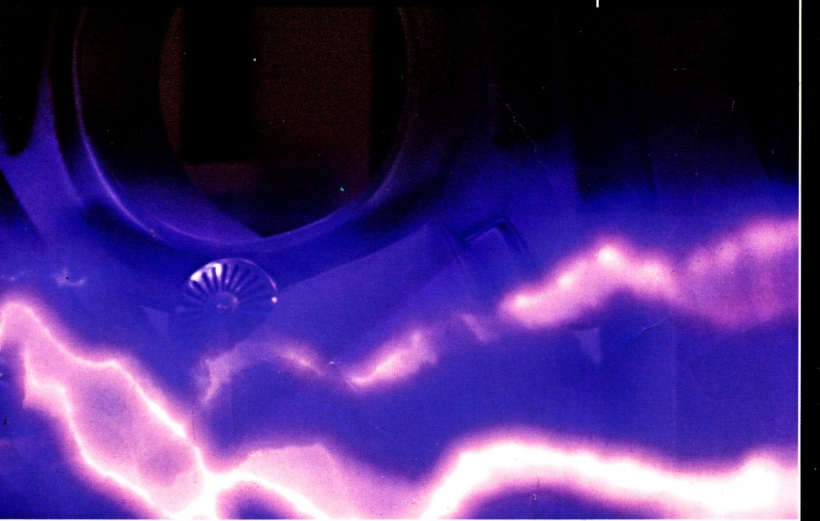


In battle, the Sith tried to crush their opponents with heavy objects, which they threw using their dark side energies.

The dark side of the Force gave the Sith powers that the Jedi did not have. One of them was deadly Force lightning. They could fire it from their fingers at an opponent. However, this power was very dangerous and could also harm the user.



**Force lightning**  
When Sidious attacked a Jedi called Mace Windu with Force lightning, Mace threw it back at Sidious. The lightning hit Sidious's face and scarred it forever.



## Galactic Republic

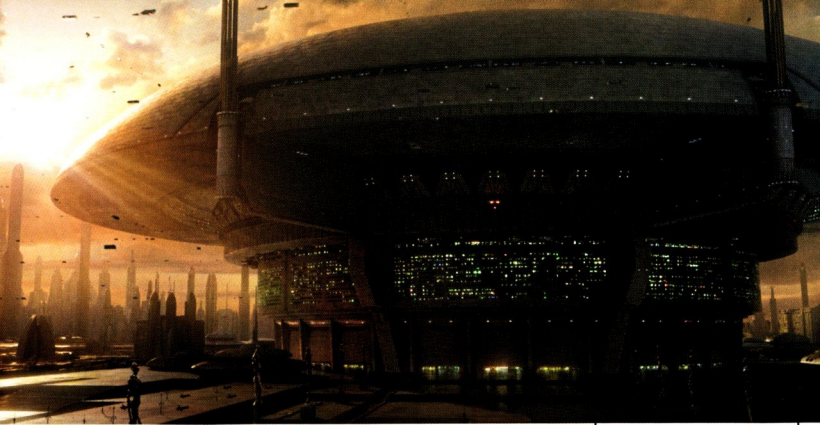
When the galaxy was united in peace, a Galactic Republic was formed. It was a democracy, which meant that every person in nearly all the worlds had a voice.

# The Phantom Menace

Before Darth Sidious became Emperor of the galaxy, he was a popular politician called Senator Palpatine. At this time, the galaxy was at peace and laws were made in the Senate. All the different planets had a voice in the Senate and large armies were outlawed.



Palpatine secretly wanted to take over the galaxy. He planned to destroy the Senate and build a massive army so that he could force every planet to do what he wanted.



No one suspected that Palpatine was really a Sith Lord. After he secretly started a war in the galaxy, Palpatine convinced the Senate to make him their leader, the Supreme Chancellor. Then he gave himself the power to make all the decisions. Finally, he crowned himself Emperor. Now the dark side ruled the galaxy.

### **The Senate**

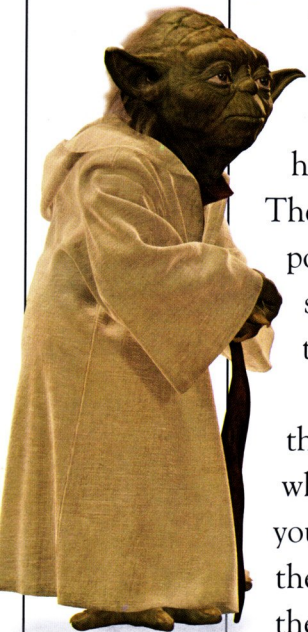
The Senate was a gigantic circular building on the galaxy's capital planet, Coruscant.

### **Secret Sith**

Palpatine hid his true Sith identity from the Senate.



# Jedi Defenders



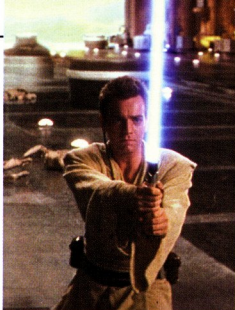
When the Sith revealed themselves after two thousand years in hiding, only the Jedi had the powers to face them. The Jedi vow to use their Force powers only to do good. The good side of the Force is known as the light side.

Learning to use the light side of the Force takes many years. Those who become Jedi begin training as young children. They must leave their families behind and live in the Jedi Temple on a big planet.

## Yoda

Yoda was the wisest Jedi of all. He was hundreds of years old when the Sith reappeared.





### **Obi-Wan**

Obi-Wan Kenobi was a powerful Jedi. While the Sith ruled the galaxy, Obi-Wan went into hiding. Yoda also went into hiding.

The Jedi learn to control their emotions so that they can remain calm and practical in all situations. The Jedi seek to keep the Force in balance in the galaxy, which means that they must stop those who seek to use the dark side.

The Jedi can actually listen to the Force telling them that there is trouble happening somewhere. This is known as a disturbance in the Force. It means there's a problem some place in the galaxy – and the Jedi must find it and do whatever they can to stop it.



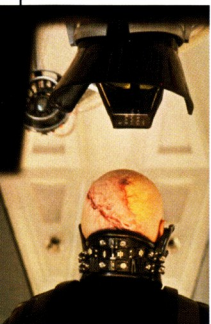
### **Jedi Council**

The wisest, most experienced Jedi sat on the Jedi High Council. Before the Sith attacked, Yoda felt great disturbances in the Force but even he was not able to see where the threat came from.



### Masked man

Vader's armour and breathing equipment were created in a secret medical facility.



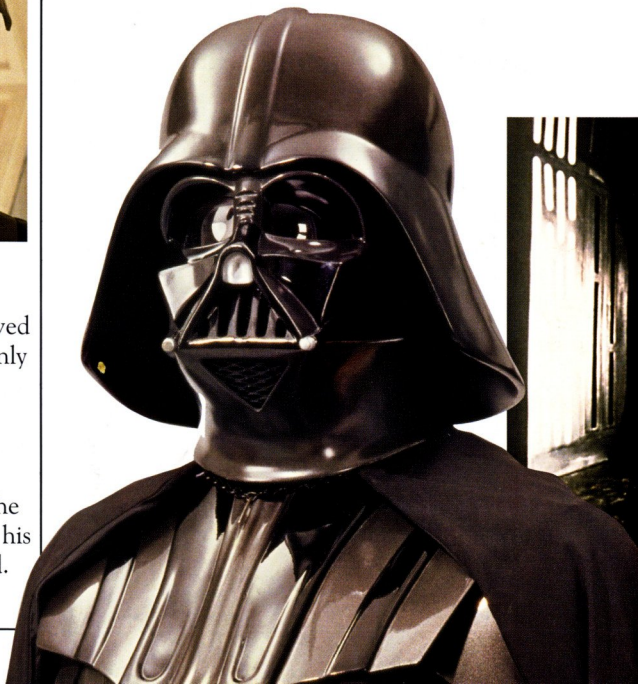
### Vader

#### uncovered

Vader removed his helmet only in a special isolation chamber. Mechanical arms lifted the helmet from his scarred head.

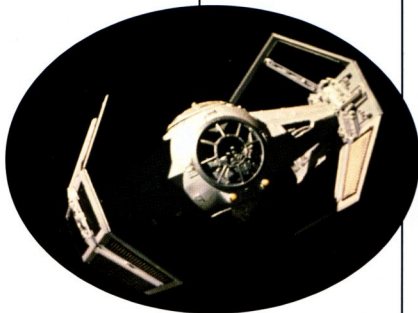
# Darth Vader

Darth Vader ruled the galaxy alongside Darth Sidious. Vader was also a Sith Lord. His knowledge of the dark side of the Force made him a powerful and dangerous figure. Vader would kill anyone who got in his way or disobeyed him, even his own generals. He used his Force powers to strangle people without even touching them.





Darth Vader always wore a black suit of armour and a black mask because his body had been almost destroyed in a great battle. His armour and mask contained breathing equipment and life-support systems to keep him alive. The wheezing sound of Vader's artificial breathing was enough to strike terror into the mind of anyone he approached.



**Space fighter**  
Vader flew his own fighter ship into combat. He was a very daring pilot.



**Lightsabre duel**  
Vader was a merciless opponent in battle and did not hesitate to cut down his former Master, Obi-Wan Kenobi.

### Boyhood

Anakin was born on a poor desert planet called Tatooine. He spent his boyhood as a slave until a Jedi Master called Qui-Gon Jinn rescued him.

## Anakin Skywalker

Before he became a Sith Lord, Darth Vader was a Jedi called Anakin Skywalker. Anakin was one of the most talented Jedi ever. His Force powers were incredibly strong but Anakin was impatient.

He wanted to become more powerful than any other Jedi.

Senator Palpatine befriended Anakin and began to plant ideas in his mind.

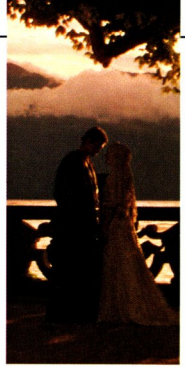


### Tragic death

When Anakin joined the Jedi, he had to leave his mother behind. He never forgave himself when he could not prevent her from dying at the hands of a vicious species called Sand People.

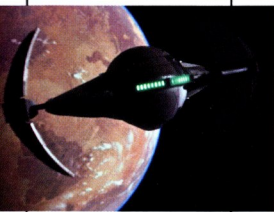
He convinced Anakin to join him on the dark side and train to be a Sith. Palpatine told Anakin that the dark side of the Force was more powerful than the light side. He even told Anakin that he would be able to stop his wife from dying. Anakin wanted this more than anything, so he rejected his Jedi training and joined Palpatine.

When Anakin joined the dark side, he killed many Jedi. He even fought his best friend, Obi-Wan Kenobi. On the edge of a lava river, Anakin and Obi-Wan fought fiercely until Obi-Wan managed to strike down his former friend. Anakin fell near the red-hot lava and burst into flames. Palpatine rescued him and re-built his badly burned body with robotic parts and a suit of armour – and Darth Vader was born!



**Padmé Amidala**  
Anakin secretly married the Senator for Naboo, Padmé Amidala, even though the Jedi are forbidden to marry.





# Maul

Each Sith Master chose a single apprentice, whom he trained in the dark side. Sidious

first chose a savage alien from the planet Iridonia. Given the Sith name Darth Maul, he served his master obediently, although he was only waiting for the day when he would take Sidious's place. Maul had horns on his head and yellow eyes. His face was tattooed with dark side symbols. Maul's weapon was a double-bladed lightsaber.

## Sith ship

Maul's spaceship could make itself appear invisible to others.

## Speeder

Maul also used a speeder that flew along just above the ground. It had an open cockpit.

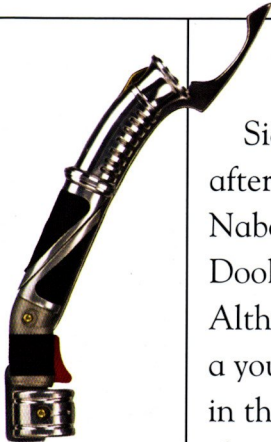




When two Jedi named Qui-Gon Jinn (pronounced KWY-GONN-JIN) and Obi-Wan Kenobi (pronounced OH-BEE-ONE KEN-OH-BEE) started to upset Sidious's plans, he sent Maul to kill them. The fight took place on the edge of a giant power generator on Palpatine's home planet, Naboo. The Jedi were not prepared for such a ferocious attack. Qui-Gon was killed but Obi-Wan defeated the deadly Sith apprentice.

**Sith Master Sidious** kept in contact with his apprentice using a hologram transmitter.





**Weapon**  
Tyranus's weapon was a lightsaber with a curved handle. His special moves could surprise even the most experienced Jedi.

# Count Dooku

Sidious needed a new apprentice after Obi-Wan killed Darth Maul on Naboo. His search led him to Count Dooku, who was once a Jedi Master. Although he joined the Jedi order at a young age, Dooku was interested in the dark side and wanted power to change things quickly. When Dooku joined Sidious, he took the new Sith name –  
Darth Tyranus.

*Count  
Dooku*



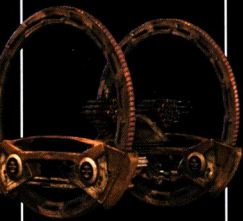
For many years, Dooku had been encouraging planets and business organisations to leave the Senate and build droid armies. He told them that this would make the galaxy a better place. In reality he was doing only what Sidious told him to do. He did not know what Sidious's true plans were.

Sidious eventually betrayed Dooku and allowed him to be killed by Anakin Skywalker. Sidious knew that the powerful and gifted Anakin would be a more useful Sith apprentice than Dooku.



**Force lightning**  
Like Sidious, Tyranus used Force lightning to deadly effect.





### **Hailfire droids**

Hailfire droids are shaped like massive wheels. They can race across flat ground or shallow lakes, flattening anything in their path.

## Droid Army

Count Dooku had persuaded many planets and organisations to buy powerful droid armies. The footsoldiers were blaster-wielding battle droids while heavily armoured super battle droids provided backup. Hailfire droids rolled across the battlefields, each equipped with deadly cannon or missile launchers. Deadly machines called droideka were used on special missions.







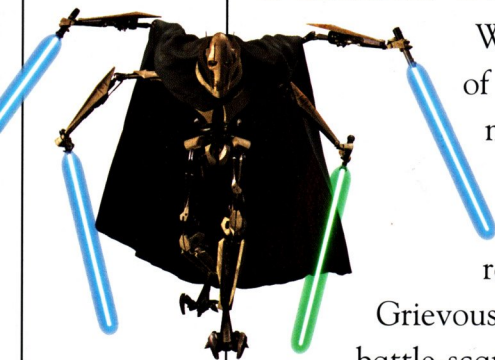
Heavily armed droid ships were also used for space battles. They included vulture droids, which could also walk along the ground, and tri-fighters. Swarms of tiny buzz droids attached themselves to enemy ships. Although they were very small, their cutting and sawing arms could inflict serious damage.

**Tri-fighter**  
Tri-fighters seek out and hunt down enemy ships in space, training their deadly nose cannons on their prey.

**Spider droid**  
Spider droids go into battle equipped with heat-seeking missiles.

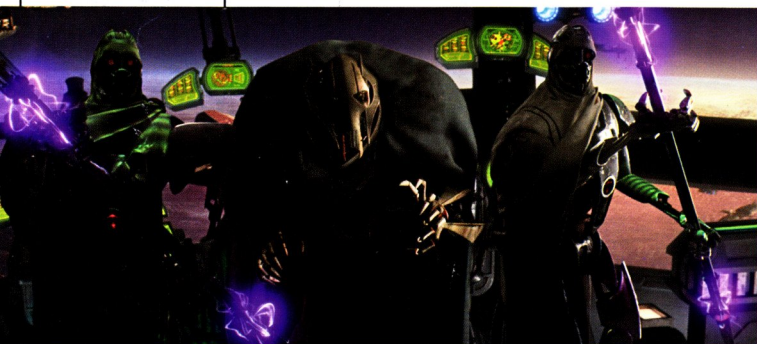


# General Grievous



**Bodyguards**  
Grievous was accompanied by droid bodyguards, who were equipped with deadly energy staffs.

With the outbreak of war in the galaxy, many brutal fiends joined the Sith Lords. One such recruit was General Grievous, a warlord whose battle-scarred body had been rebuilt with cyborg parts. The only parts of his original body left were his reptile-like eyes and his inner organs, which were protected by armour. Although he was more machine than man, Grievous would kill anyone who called him a droid.



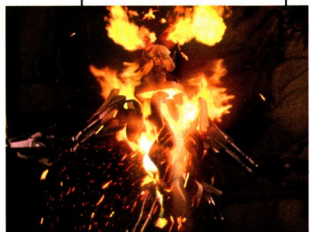


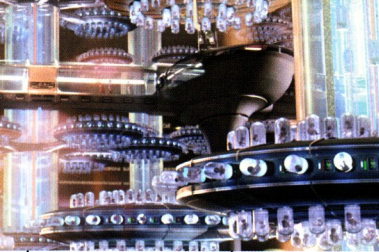
Grievous became Supreme Commander of the droid armies. Dooku taught Grievous to use a lightsabre, although Grievous could not use the Force like the Sith and Jedi.

Grievous had a long-standing grudge against the Jedi and took the lightsabres of any Jedi he killed. In battle, Grievous could split his two arms into four, each of which could wield a lightsabre. He also used a deadly blaster and a powerful energy staff, which delivered fatal electric shocks to his opponents.

#### **Final battle**

Grievous was no match for the combined power of the Jedi Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker.





# Clone Soldiers

Although Sidious had started a war in the galaxy, he didn't want

## Special training

Each clone trooper was an identical copy of a single 'supreme soldier' called Jango Fett. Each clone was grown in a factory and trained for combat from birth.

either side to win it. He wanted the war to go on just long enough for him to bring the Sith to power.

He made sure that the Republic had an army of its own, so that each side was evenly matched. The Republic army consisted of well-trained clone soldiers and a variety of battle tanks, plus cannons, gunships and space assault ships.





### **Battle vehicles**

In battle, clone troopers operated several kinds of tank and flew armed gunships.

For many battles, the clone soldiers fought on the side of the Republic. The Jedi generals did not know that the clone soldiers were programmed to be loyal to Sidious. When Sidious gave a special signal, the clone soldiers turned on their Republic masters, showing no mercy.

### **Weapons**

Clone troopers carried powerful blasters and rifles.



# Stormtroopers

When the war was over, Darth Sidious ruled the galaxy as Emperor Palpatine, and the clone soldiers became his personal army.

He renamed them stormtroopers and forced many millions of human males to join their ranks. Military

Academies were formed in

which new recruits were trained to be foot soldiers or more specialised troops, such as pilots or scouts. The

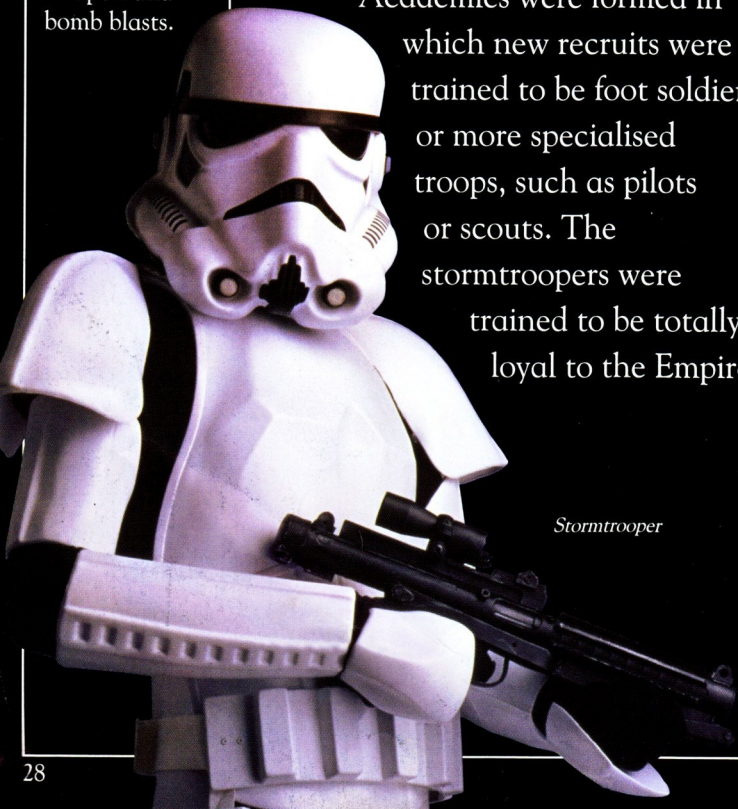
stormtroopers were

trained to be totally

loyal to the Empire.

## Armour

Stormtrooper armour protected the soldier inside from from weapon and bomb blasts.



*Stormtrooper*



The stormtroopers could not be bribed or persuaded into betraying the Emperor. People everywhere learned to fear the sinister white-armoured troops.



**Snowtroopers**  
Some stormtroopers wore specialised armour to protect them from the cold on freezing planets. They were called snowtroopers.



**Vader's son**  
Luke was raised on Anakin's home planet, Tatooine, by his uncle and aunt.

**Vader's daughter**  
Leia was raised on the planet Alderaan. She became a Princess – and a secret member of the Rebel Alliance.



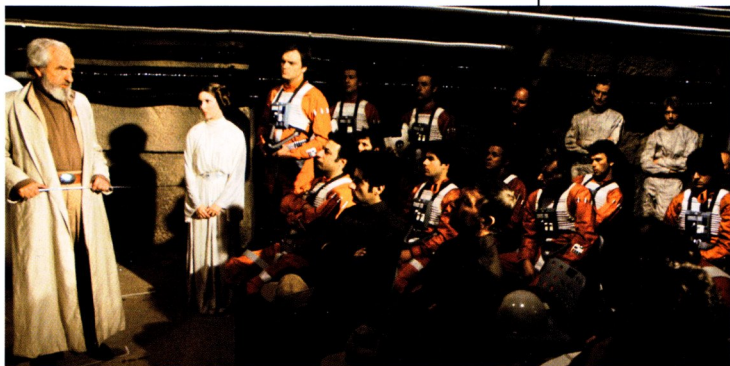
# Empire and Rebels

When Darth Sidious came to power, a dark age began in the galaxy – the Empire. As Emperor Palpatine, Sidious used his massive armies to terrify the galaxy and to stop anyone from rising against him.

Nevertheless, a secret opposition was formed, called the Rebel Alliance. The most famous Rebels were the children of Darth Vader, Luke and Leia.







When Anakin Skywalker turned to the dark side, he did not know that his wife, Padmé Amidala, was pregnant with twins. Tragically, Padmé died while giving birth. The twins were hidden away in separate places, so that Anakin would not find out about them.

**Rebel Alliance**  
Leia and the Rebel Alliance plan an attack on the Empire from their secret base on the planet Yavin 4.



**Han Solo**  
The Rebels welcomed any support they could get, even from former smugglers like Han Solo and Chewbacca.

# Jango Fett

The first clone troopers were cloned from a single 'supreme warrior'. He was a man called Jango Fett. Jango made his living as a bounty hunter. This means that he was paid to hunt criminals and outlaws. Darth Tyranus knew of his unbeatable combat skills and recruited him for the secret clone-army project.

## Warrior upbringing

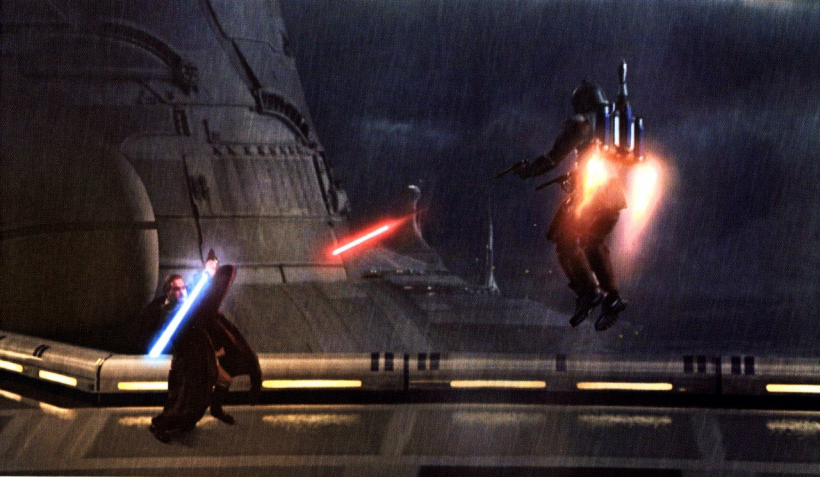
Jango was an orphan. He was raised by a legendary warrior army, thought to be the most dangerous in the galaxy.

## Equipment

Jango wore a protective helmet to hide his identity. A jetpack allowed him to blast into the air and escape.



*Jango Fett*



Jango also carried out certain special missions for the Sith Lords. For example, he would assassinate any public figures that stood between the Sith Lords and their ultimate goal of ruling the galaxy. One such person was the good Senator Padmé Amidala. Thankfully, Padmé survived the attempts on her life and the Jedi pursued Jango. Eventually, Jango was killed in a large battle between the Republic army and the droid army.

#### **Jetpack**

Jango uses his jetpack to attack Jedi Obi-Wan from above.

#### **Flame thrower**

Jango fires his deadly wrist-mounted flame thrower.





### Airspeeder

When Zam needed to make a fast getaway, she jumped into her fast, green airspeeder.

## Zam Wesell

Jango Fett had many contacts in the criminal underworld. One such contact was the hired assassin Zam Wesell. Zam was an alien whose species could shape-shift, which meant that she could change her body shape to imitate other species. This was useful when she needed to blend in with another planet's species without being noticed.





Jango hired Zam to carry out the daring murder of the politician Senator Padmé Amidala. First Zam tried to blow up the Senator's spaceship. Then she released deadly insects called kouhuns into Padmé's bedroom while she slept, but her Jedi bodyguards were able to stop the attack in time. Zam was chased by the Jedi Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker. They managed to capture her but before she could give anything away, she was shot by a mysterious figure in the shadows – Jango Fett.

**Jedi protector**  
Obi-Wan was trying to protect Senator Amidala.



**True face**  
When shape-shifters die, they return to their own body shape.



## Boba Fett

When Jango Fett was killed in battle, he left a young son called Boba. Young

### Like father, like son

Boba Fett is an exact, unaltered clone of his father, Jango.

Boba had spent his whole life learning from his father, so when he grew up, he too became a bounty hunter. Boba inherited his father's armour and weapons, and became the best bounty hunter in the galaxy.

Boba often worked for Darth Vader, tracking down enemies of the Empire.

When Darth Vader learnt that he had a son, he wanted to track him down and see if he could turn him to the dark side. He would have liked to rule the galaxy alongside his son.

### Secret weapons

Boba's armour conceals a deadly flame thrower and powerful rocket dart launchers.

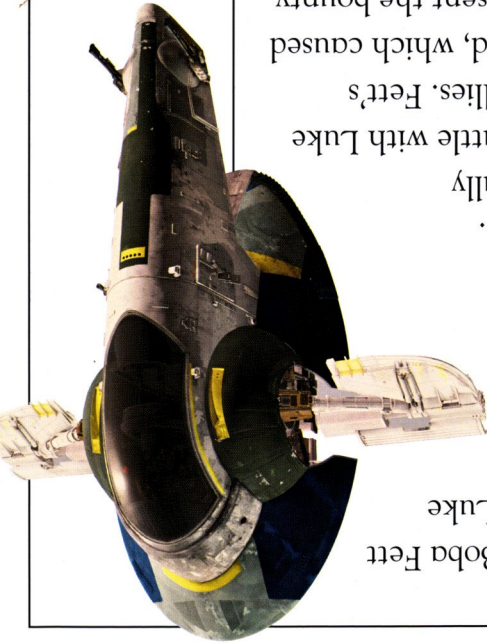


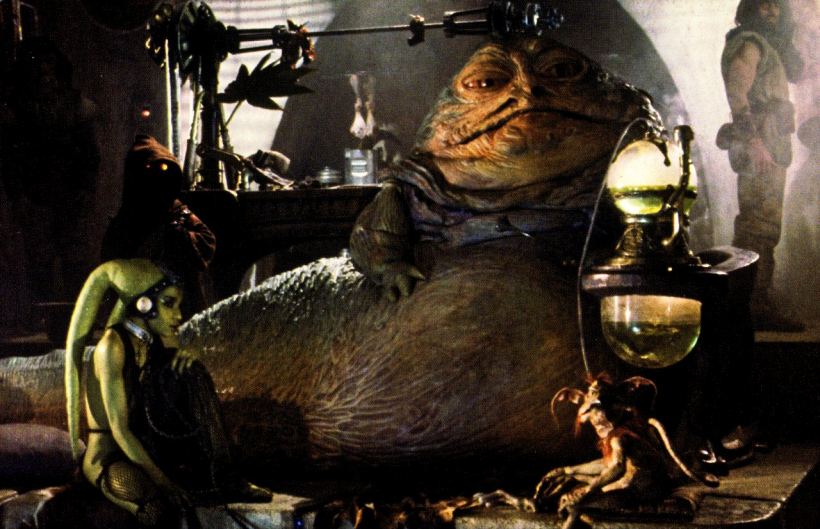
Vader employed Boba Fett to find and capture Luke but Luke was firmly on the side of good. He had begun to train as a Jedi and refused to turn to the dark side. Boba was eventually defeated during a battle with Luke Skywalker and his allies. Fett's jetpack was damaged, which caused it to malfunction. It sent the bounty hunter soaring into the air, out of control. Fett finally tumbled to his death into the ravenous jaws of a giant desert creature called the Sarlacc.



Possible escape  
Some people believe that Boba managed to escape from the stomach of the Sarlacc.

Armed  
spaceship  
Boba traveled in his father's ship, "Slave I".  
The ship was full of weapons.





### **Criminal Species**

Jabba was a Hutt, a species known for its ruthless ways. Hutts ran most of the galaxy's large crime gangs.

## Jabba the Hutt

Another of Boba Fett's employers was a crime lord named Jabba the Hutt. This repellent slug-like creature was the leader of a large crime empire responsible for all kinds of shady deals, including murder, theft and fraud. Jabba lived in a palace on the desert planet Tatooine. He shared his palace with assorted gangsters, assassins, smugglers, corrupt officials, low-life entertainers and servants.



Jabba paid Boba Fett to bring him a smuggler who owed him money.

That smuggler was Han Solo, who had become friends with

Luke and Leia

Skywalker. When Han was captured and brought to Jabba, Leia set out with Chewbacca to rescue Han.

When she was also captured, it was up to Luke to rescue all his friends.

During Luke's rescue mission, Leia was able to wrap a chain around Jabba's neck and defeat him.



### **Bib Fortuna**

Bib Fortuna ran Jabba's palace for him. He had a large head, tail, sharp teeth and scary red eyes.



### **Pet monster**

Jabba kept a ferocious rancor monster in a cellar pit. Sometimes he fed it human captives for fun.



## Rogues and Villains

Even before the Empire took control, parts of the galaxy were wild and lawless. On remote

### **Informer**

Garindan was a low-life informer who lived on Tatooine.

### **Watto**

Watto made Anakin and Shmi work very hard.

planets like Tatooine, highly dangerous Podraces were organised, although they were officially banned. Slavery was also common. When the Jedi Qui-Gon visited Tatooine, he met a slave dealer called Watto. Watto owned Anakin Skywalker and his mother, Shmi. Anakin and Shmi both worked for Watto in his junk shop.



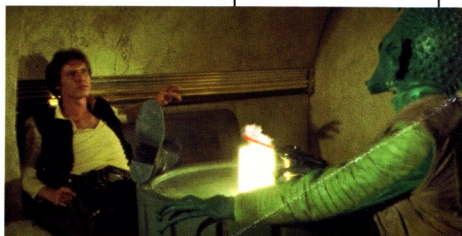


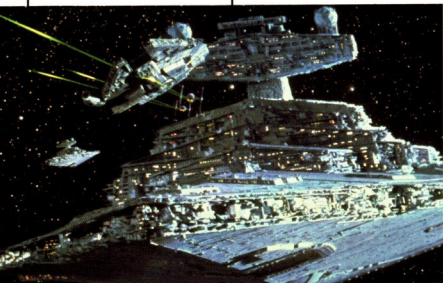
Under the Empire, crime was often rewarded. The Empire relied on spies to report suspicious behaviour. Often, it forced officials to do its shady business.

When Darth Vader wanted to capture Luke Skywalker, he threatened to shut down an entire city if its leader, Lando Calrissian, did not lure Luke into a trap. When Vader broke his promise, Lando helped Luke and joined the Rebels.

**Calrissian**  
Lando Calrissian had great charm.

**Greedo**  
Greedo was a small-time hitman hired to kill Han Solo.



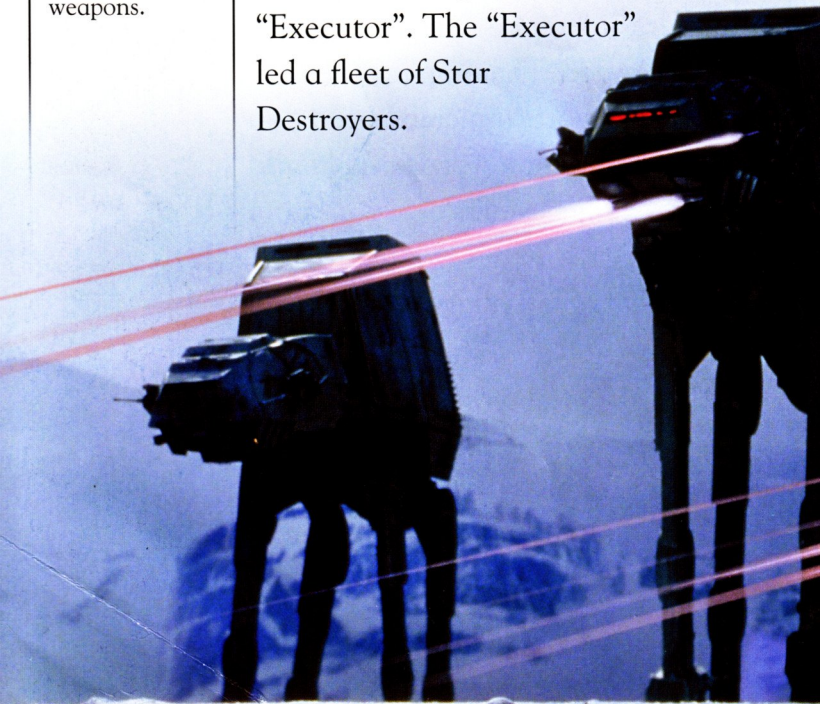


## Imperial Might

The Empire kept control of the galaxy with its gigantic army of stormtroopers and a fleet of warships

**Heavy weapons**  
Star Destroyers were armed with many powerful weapons.

that patrolled all the major space routes. The biggest warship was Darth Vader's personal ship, the "Executor". The "Executor" led a fleet of Star Destroyers.



Each Star Destroyer had enough firepower to destroy entire planets. Swarming around these big ships were countless smaller TIE-fighters, each piloted by a fighter pilot.

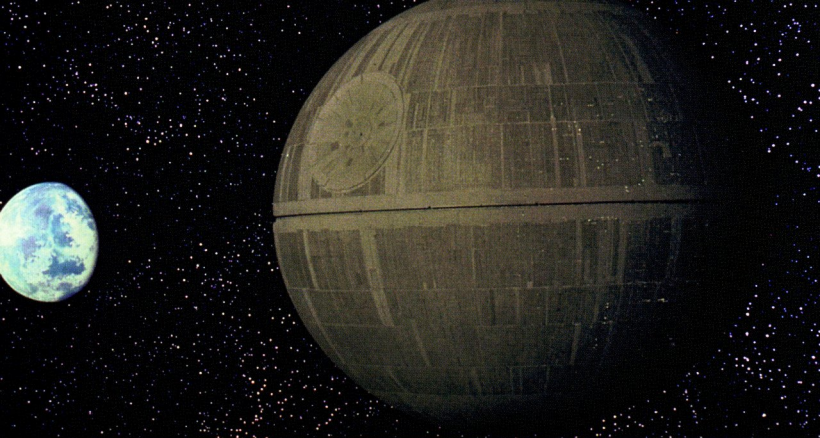
When the Empire discovered a Rebel secret base on the ice planet Hoth, it sent in massive walking tanks called AT-ATs. Pilots controlled the tanks from a cockpit in the head. Until the battle of Hoth, AT-ATs were thought to be unbeatable in battle, but the Rebels toppled them by wrapping cables around their legs.



**Scout walkers**  
Smaller AT-ST, or scout walkers, patrolled many planets.



**Sinister spy**  
A probe droid spotted the Rebel base on Hoth and informed the Empire.



### Torture

Aboard the Death Star, Darth Vader threatened to use a torture droid on Princess Leia to make her reveal the whereabouts of the Rebel bases.

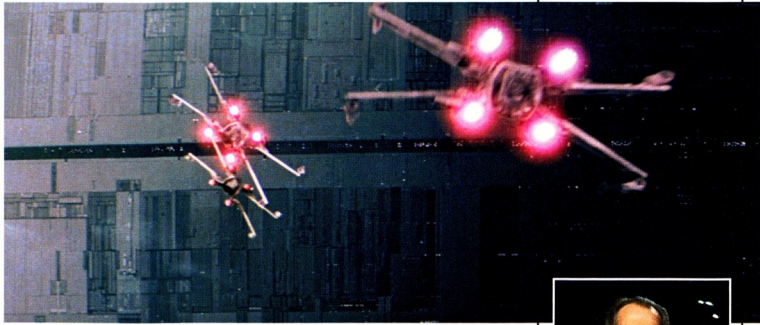
## Death Star

The Death Star was the Emperor's most terrifying superweapon. It was the size of small moon but it was actually one of the largest starships ever built. Its gigantic superlaser weapon could destroy entire planets.

To demonstrate its enormous power,

the Empire used it to destroy the planet of Alderaan. This was the planet on which Darth Vader's daughter, Leia, had lived most of her life.

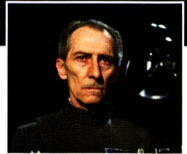




### Fatal flaw

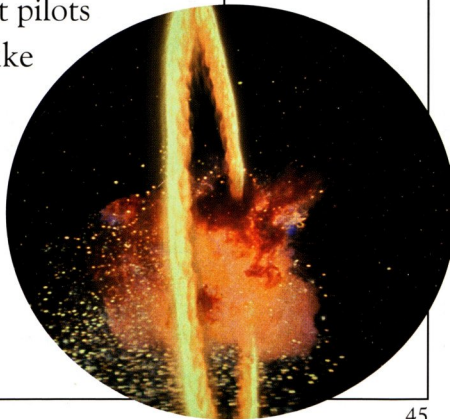
The unguarded exhaust port was located at the end of a long channel on the surface of the Death Star.

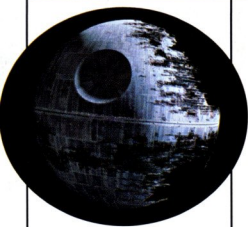
Yet even the Death Star had a flaw. If a skilled pilot could fire torpedoes into a small exhaust shaft on the Death Star's surface, a chain reaction of explosions would blow up the entire starship. The Rebel Alliance sent their best pilots to reach the target. Luke Skywalker trusted in the Force and fired. A direct hit! Luke had managed to destroy the Empire's most terrible weapon.



### Mastermind

One of the Emperor's leaders, Grand Moff Tarkin, was the mastermind behind the Death Star.





### Second Death Star

After the Rebels destroyed the first Death Star, Emperor Palpatine ordered a replacement to be built.

## Rebel Victory

The brave Rebels refused to give up the fight against Emperor Palpatine and his Empire of evil. Although the Emperor commanded the biggest army in the galaxy, he was not invincible. The Rebels teamed up with a band of forest-dwelling creatures called Ewoks on the planet Endor. Together they overpowered the Emperor's stormtroopers and helped the Rebels' spaceships to launch a full-scale attack on the second Death Star.

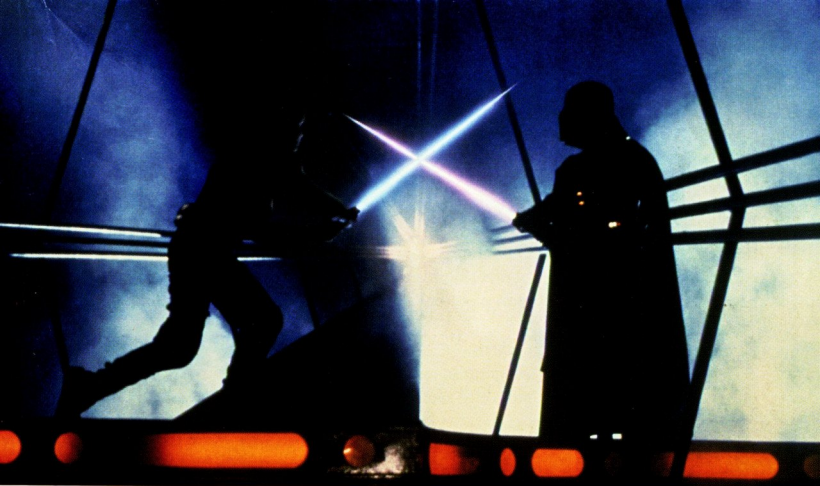


### Look out!

The Ewoks only used weapons made of wood, yet they managed to defeat the well-trained and well-armed stormtroopers.







Meanwhile onboard the Death Star, Luke battled for his life against the Emperor and Darth Vader. When Luke refused to turn to the dark side, the Emperor forced the father and son to fight. In the end Luke could not kill Vader. When the Emperor tried to kill Luke, Vader turned against his Sith master and threw him to his doom down a deep shaft.

Luke had proved that even those who have turned to the dark side still have good inside them that can be reached – if you only know how.



**Vader unmasked**  
Luke lifted Vader's mask to gaze at the face of the father he had never known.

# Glossary

**Apprentice**

A person who is learning a skill.

**Blaster**

A gun that fires a deadly beam of light.

**Bounty hunter**

A person who hunts criminals and other wanted people, in return for money.

**Clone**

An exact copy of another person.

**Dark side**

The part of the Force associated with fear and hatred.

**Droid**

A kind of robot.

**Emperor**

The leader of an Empire is called an Emperor. Palpatine is the Emperor who rules the Galactic Empire.

**Empire**

A group of nations ruled by one leader.

**The Force**

An energy field created by all living things.

**Force lightning**

One of the Sith's powers

which involved firing deadly electricity from their fingers.

**Galactic**

Something from or to do with a galaxy.

**Galaxy**

A group of millions of stars and planets.

**Jedi Council**

The governing body of the Jedi order. The wisest Jedi, such as Yoda, sit on the Council.

**Jedi Knight**

A *Star Wars* warrior with special powers who defends the good of the galaxy. Anakin Skywalker, Luke Skywalker and Ob-Wan Kenobi are all Jedi Knights.

**Jedi Master**

The most experienced Jedi of all.

**Jedi order**

The name of a group that defends peace and justice in the galaxy.

**Jedi Temple**

The Jedi headquarters where the Jedi Council meets and Jedi live, train and work.

**Lightsaber**

A Jedi's or Sith's weapon, made of glowing energy.

**Light side**

The part of the Force associated with goodness, compassion and healing

**Rebel**

Someone who opposes whoever is in power.

**Republic**

A nation or group of nations in which the people vote for their leaders.

**Senate**

The governing body of the Republic.

**Senator**

A member of the Senate. He or she will have been chosen (elected) by the people of his or her country.

**Sith**

Enemies of the Jedi who use the dark side of the Force.

**Stormtroopers**

Soldiers, many of them clones, who are loyal to Emperor Palpatine. They wear white armour.






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Venture deep into the world of the dark side and the Sith who wield its power.

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