



Star Wars: Legacy, Book 1

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Star Wars: Legacy, Book 1 John Ostrander , Jan Duursema , Randy Stradley (Editor) , Adam DeKraker (Illustrations) , Travel Foreman (Illustrations) , Colin Wilson (Illustrations) , Dan Parsons (Illustrations) The future of Star Wars, the future of the galaxy, and the future of the Skywalker's is told in John Ostrander and Jan Duursema's acclaimed Star Wars: Legacy. A legion of Sith have conquered what was left of the Empire, the Jedi have been purged-or fled into hiding-and the galaxy is divided. Meet Cade Skywalker, a bounty hunter who doesn't want anything to do with the Jedi, his famous name, or his legacy . . . But his legacy is determined to follow him as the good guys and the bad guys begin to search for him-as a savior, and as a threat.

Star Wars: Legacy, Book 1 Details

Date : Published June 5th 2013 by Dark Horse

ISBN : 9781616551780

Author : John Ostrander , Jan Duursema , Randy Stradley (Editor) , Adam DeKraker (Illustrations) , Travel Foreman (Illustrations) , Colin Wilson (Illustrations) , Dan Parsons (Illustrations)

Format : Hardcover 480 pages

Genre : Media Tie In, Star Wars, Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Science Fiction, Fantasy

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From Reader Review Star Wars: Legacy, Book 1 for online ebook

Joy says

Set several generations after the original trilogy--most of the main characters are descendants of the movie characters and/or expanded universe novel characters. If you're familiar with the EU, this reads like fairly grim, but interesting, fanfic. I wish the art was less driven by the male gaze, though.

Christy says

Loved it! I won't get into how I wish the new movies had elements of this, but. Brilliant characters, plot, and artwork. A+ all around. Four stars, just because the book was so HEAVY and difficult to maneuver anywhere!

Jinji says

Star Wars Legacy Book 1!!! This is set in 40 ABY. Well, this was supposed to what have happened if Episode 7 was not made, but it's still an awesome story. Luke Skywalker revived the Jedi but conflict is still present in the galaxy. An alien invasion and civil war happened, and it led to the empire once again joining forces with the Sith. This time the Sith had Darth Krayt as the leader, with a new policy, the Rule of One. The Sith now have lots of followers, but are all under 1 leadership. So, what happened to the Jedi, specifically the line of Skywalker, in all of this? Well they were hunted down by the Sith, and scattered through the galaxy. Cade Skywalker, descendant of Luke, became resentful of using the Force altogether, despite being so attuned with it, that he could revive those on the brink of death. He, instead, became a bounty hunter. However, a Skywalker does not escape their destiny easily, even with the help of death sticks. Cade became entangled in a plot to gather the Jedi and overthrow the Sith, but first, he must learn the ways of the Jedi... And the Sith!

Trike says

I usually don't like counting graphic novels as part of my "Read" list because it feels like cheating since they're so short. This one is different. Clocking in at more than 470 pages, it's pretty substantial both in terms of story and as a physical object. It would be a handy workout weight and a superior doorstop, rated to a Category 4 hurricane. Seriously, this thing is a brick.

Okay, hang on, I'm watching the Tonys.

What? I'm large, I contain multitudes. Have you seen Hedwig and the Angry Inch? You should, it's awesome. Neil Patrick Harris is amazing in it. The movie version is genuinely superb and often overlooked. Cool, Lena Hall just won a Tony.

...where was I?

Right, Star Wars. This book is kind of all over the place. Some parts are really terrific, while some parts are just clunky. Not unlike the original Star Wars. (I'm old, none of this "Episode IV" crap for me.)

The quick plot is this: 136 years after the end of the original movie trilogy, Cade Skywalker rejects his Jedi heritage after his father is murdered during an ambush and he brings his mentor back from the dead... a power neither Jedi nor Sith have. Because he must use the power of the Dark Side to use his healing power, he is dressed down by the very man he saved. Disillusioned, Cade becomes a bounty hunter, using drugs to dull his sensitivity to the Force and get the visions of Luke Skywalker out of his head. Because nag, nag, nag, that's all Luke does.

This book showed up on a list of books one should read if you want more stories like Firefly/Serenity. And for a large portion of the book there are some of those elements, as Cade flies around the galaxy with his crew of two in their spaceship *The Mynock*. Considering that mynocks are parasites who live inside the belly of a giant beast, it works as an excellent metaphor for Cade's attitude.

There are twists and turns, some are kind of cool, come pretty lame. R2D2 shows up for literally no reason beyond fan service. Ostrander then forgets about the robot entirely, so it's a bit weird. But overall this would make for a pretty enjoyable Star Wars movie. I don't know if they're going to raid the novels and comics for stories, but this has enough of the classic elements to work well as part of the film series.

Amber says

For not being much of a graphic novel person, I loved this graphic novel! The story was interesting (and fairly dark for Star Wars) and the art was great.

Mark Morabito says

Good Star Wars with occasional clunky dialogue and oddly drawn humans.

Arthur Cravan says

idk. I'm iffy on a lot of it tbh... but relative to vast amount of Legends stuff out there, I really did enjoy following the story. Maybe being older just makes me more cynical re: the handling of the Force & technology in the EU stories particularly. But maybe being older also means I love escaping into lightsabers & deathsticks more than ever.

Jameson Nevitt says

This review can be taken as one written for the whole series, volumes 1-11:

By far my favorite Star Wars graphic novel series among the ones that I've read. Really the only other that comes close is the Knights of the Old Republic series.

Having been immersed in Star Wars my whole life, it takes quite a bit to find an object of quality within the Expanded Universe these days. The characters and events of Star Wars: Legacy are what it took for Star Wars to sink its claws into me utterly and completely this latest time.

There's something about the nature of this new "Fel Empire" and its dedicated soldiers and protectors, as well as Darth Krayt's Sith Empire that is far more powerful and awe-inspiring than the Galactic Empire of the films and earlier works in the Expanded Universe. The events just seem to matter all the more, with a radical tyrant convinced that he will not make the same mistakes as Palpatine hell bent on drowning the galaxy in a sea of blood.

The locations are fantastically drawn and suitably diversified. Really everything is incredibly well drawn, but something else must be said for the novelty of the new designs for iconic Star Wars vehicles and other miscellany. In part this comes from the necessity of making visual changes to a story set 137 years after the Battle of Yavin, and the series benefits greatly from the makeover.

Aaron says

I've heard a lot of good things about the Legacy series, many of them comparing it in scope Timothy Zahn's Thrawn Trilogy (AKA "the only good" Expanded Universe novels) and Dark Empire (AKA "one of the only good" Expanded Universe comics). I've been out of the Star Wars comics loop for about 10 or so years, minus a couple of dabblings with Darth Vader miniseries, so I was excited to jump back in with a series that was being hailed the way this one was.

Here's the thing about the Star Wars Expanded Universe, though. It's exclusively for fans of the Star Wars films. It doesn't seek to draw in new blood or set itself apart from the movies by really, truly telling well-written, thought-provoking stories. Instead, it seeks to give mega fans (as I once was) more of the same, only revealing a few new overall details that might affect the entire Star Wars universe. Barring a few series (like the ones I mentioned), it's meant to feel like you're reading the movies, played out with similar beats and themes, only with new scenarios. And I am actually fine with that.

That's where my 4-star review of Legacy comes from. This series is as close as you're going to get to a brand new, fully formed, epic-level Star Wars adventure. Setting the series over 100 years after Return of the Jedi gives Ostrander plenty of room to do whatever he wants with the story, without worry of harming any of the continuity of the Original Trilogy or Prequel eras. What we get is a fun, lightsaber-filled blast, with lots of Light vs. Dark (and even a little grey thrown in, for a nice mix-up in the typically manichaean galaxy. There are Skywalkers and Sith and Star Destroyer battles, and if you ever liked the movies, you will enjoy this.

The overt references to the films and previous popular expanded universe titles come left and right, often a little forced for my taste. I also think the fake languages spoken in Star Wars have always sounded a little "stooopa" (the very imaginative word for "stupid" used over and over again in this book). But with the corniness aside, this is still a thoroughly enjoyable, galaxy-hopping story, that even has a couple of completely unforeseen twists and turns. I'm into it, and I'm excited to read the next volume.

C.T. Phipps says

Star Wars: Legacy is one of the few grand experiments in the Star Wars Expanded Universe. A fifty-six issue comic book series with an ongoing sequel series, it was one of the rare attempts to do something original. Set a century and a half after the events of A New Hope, it followed the adventures of antihero Cade Skywalker as a new Sith Empire had risen to take over the galaxy.

The problem is there's already some issues with this premise. The Sith returning after George Lucas made such a very big deal of the "Rule of Two" and their order being extinguished rang false. Likewise, I'm not sure any fans wanted to see a drug-addicted PTSD-suffering bounty hunter and occasional pirate version of Luke Skywalker.

Much like Superman, Luke Skywalker is one of those incorruptible symbols of purity in modern mythology. Seeing Luke's "heir" as such a wreck of a human being while the galaxy was once more under the sway of a tyrannical regime couldn't help but cause me to feel like his quote-unquote legacy was being tarnished.

The issue is further troubled by the fact Cade Skywalker has no interest in being either a Jedi Knight or studying the Force. The refusal of the call is a basic part of Campbellian mythology but it's usually resolved quickly. Watching the entire galaxy suffer while Cade talks about how hard it is to deal with the death of his father is hard to take seriously. Not to diminish his loss but a lot of people are losing their fathers during this time period and the fact Jedi Master Kol Skywalker was killed by the Sith should make Cade more determined to oppose them.

The first third of this three volume collection of omnibuses mostly centers around Cade's series of false stops and starts along his road to (maybe?) getting his act together. Unfortunately, any number of events which would normally convince a hero to take up the fight against the Sith and their Imperial minions gets ignored by Cade. Quite simply, Jon Ostrander and Jan Duursema seem more interested in Cade's angst than I, the reader, am.

Despite this, I maintain the series still has much to go on it. The writers have taken a great deal of time to plot out the backstory of the characters they've created. Darth Krayt is a great villain, even if he's got a bit too many similarities to Anakin Skywalker (and visually resembles Mortal Kombat villain Shao-Khan). Likewise, I love the concept of the Imperial Knights (Jedi who serve the Emperor-in-Exile Roan Fel) and the entire Fel family.

The art is incredible. Every scene is like a painting come to life and while it's a much darker world than the original trilogy, the world is both vibrant and realistic. I love the look of characters like Marasiah Fel, Roan Fel, Rav, and even Cade himself. The action scenes leap off the page and if the One Sith are a bit generic--I never get tired of seeing them sliced up by lightsabers.

Much of this volume exists to set up the extremely complicated universe and its backstory. We find out how the One Sith took over the galaxy, what people are happy with the Sith Emperor, who prefer the "good" Emperor Roan Fel, and why Darth Krayt needs Cade Skywalker so badly. The situation is extremely well set up but I almost feel like the story might be better if it followed some of the supporting characters more than Cade.

One thing I don't like is the attempt to do a more "gritty" version of Star Wars. Cade Skywalker is a drug-addicted bounty-hunter who turns a Jedi over to the Sith due to not wanting to 'out' himself as a Jedi. While

he recants of this decision, it doesn't make up for the very negative first impression I have of the character. Luke Skywalker's Jedi spirit attempts to coax him out of his fugue state but even this ends in Cade threatening suicide over trying to do something for the galaxy as a whole. Watching Jedi knights Wolf and Shado talk about how Cade is their last hope is just depressing.

I'm also not a big fan of the Imperial Remnant and the Imperial Knights being heroes this time around. While a lot of fans are excited about "good" Imperials, they come at the expense of those who might still believe democracy and the Jedi way are worth fighting for. Despite this, I'm quite fond of the characters and hope they'll remain as supporting cast. I just hope the series creators remember there's a reason we liked the Jedi and Rebel Alliance. Darker and edgier does not mean better.

And that's me saying that.

Much of the early story is designed around setting up Cade to confront his demons but the expected "Road to Damascus" moment never happens. Cade becomes a slightly less awful person but he never quite manages to make the turn-around to full hero. The fact Cade is able to defeat Darth Krayt, his chief enforcer, and anything less despite not being a fully-trained Jedi also makes the conflict between them somewhat questionable. It's hard to root for a hero who can easily overpower the villain if they get within a few feet of each other. I would have preferred Darth Krayt to be more powerful than Cade, if only because of experience.

The Sith are visually interesting even if they're all rather one-dimensionally evil as many seem to think the Dark Lords should be. Despite the fact they're ostensibly supposed to be loyal to each other, they come off as the same level of scheming backstabbing Sith as before. I would have preferred a bit more camaraderie and love between them as even evil ones can have family. I'm also intrigued by third-side characters like Morliss Veed and Nyna Calixte who seem more on their side than Fel or Emperor Krayt's.

Star Wars: Legacy Volume 1 is a rather small book, larger than a standard paperback but not by much. It is very reasonably priced, being only about twenty-dollars for four-hundred pages of color comics. If you're interested in an epic storyline, albeit one marred by an attempt to be "gritty" in the least gritty setting in fiction outside of My Little Pony, then you might enjoy picking up this volume.

8/10

Danielle (is trying to escape reality) says

4.5 !

This was probably the best graphic novel I've ever read. It read like a true book but had the amazing added bonus of pictures :P

The is set after the events of the movies, with a future generation of Skywalkers. This is a gritty novel though, with everything you love about Star Wars (the atmosphere, all the different creatures, the pretty women, bounty hunters, Sith, Jedi.. even R2 makes an appearance :D)

What this graphic novel has working for it that really sets it apart is a real, driven plot. It was so incredibly well written, with some off shoots that tied back into it. There were side stories that ended up just coming

full circle. And even though the novel did break off into these, they were all super intriguing and thus kept your attention more than if it was just solely about Cade. The whole thing was superbly done.

The only reason I knocked off 1/2 star is because I did get somewhat bored at some of the meatier military strategy scenes. I did almost give this 5 stars though. Also, no Blue/Cade lovin! I was so hoping for that.

I really seriously enjoyed this. Only a couple times did my attention waver (this is a behemoth of a graphic novel too!)

I highly recommend this to any Star Wars fans. You don't have to have read every other book that's out there on this (because writers have been churning them out for awhile now). I slipped in very easily just having seen the movies. A non Star Wars fan may not be able to get into it because of all the lore though, but maybe try because this is an awesome graphic novel! And the artwork is SUPERB.

So happy I found this on a whim @ the library.

Nathaniel says

Probably 3.5, but not four.

I always have trouble reading Lucas-era Star Wars Expanded Universe comics, because of my unfounded belief Lucasfilm gave the comic book writers and comic companies, no guidance, except what to stay away from. Second because of the weird green rabbit in the 1970s Marvel, post-A New Hope comics, which kinda scarred me for years from Star Wars comics.

As a story this is a dense story that takes place post-Jedi. It works pretty well. It's a weird jumping on point, because while they work hard to separate their story from the movies and those characters, it made me wonder what I missed previously. There are some familiar Star Wars themes in the book, and in that way it feels like a Star Wars story.

I bought this years ago on Kindle and never finished it, mostly based on the strength of John Ostrander. But now reviewing his Wikipedia article, and the list of his works, even now I'm not sure what of Ostrander's work I have read then or now. (It's a fascinating, perhaps peripatetic career.) Regardless, Ostrander does a nice job, and as I said, despite characters being unfamiliar to readers, there is enough in the work to ground a Star Wars fan: movie adjacent characters, and themes fans will recognize. Perhaps the best compliment I can give the work is I want to read on.

Dates I took to read this are a lie. Took me about two weeks. I read it in chunks, and then put it down for a while.

Nicolo Yu says

I bought this first volume of the Star Wars: Legacy digital omnibus as a part of a set with the second volume because of a Comixology sale that offered the second volume as free. It was a sweet deal that i couldn't resist because I've been looking to add any edition of Star Wars: Legacy to my physical or digital library.

The Star Wars: Legacy series is one of the few books that I wouldn't mind double-dipping. The story and art by Ostrander and Duursema in this series was excellent. So good, that I would pony up the cash for the entire three-volume hardcover set from Dark Horse despite its being out-of-print and hard to find.

Jason says

This was surprisingly very cool. far more entertaining than expected plenty of star wars lore, tie-ins and action. Nice touches with stand alone stories of random characters in the universe that give good perspectives from the different factions.

Morgan says

I am pretty sure that I should be rooting *for* Cade and not the Sith. Right?

Pretty sure.

But still I would rather this whole thing focused on any of the female characters mentioned (most are pretty badass, honestly) instead of the actual "focus" in the last Skywalker.

Apart from Cade, the story moves along at a pretty good pace--though there are some slow spots where I was just sort of wondering what the point was and hoping that someone would get to it. (I don't think I should feel like I'm reading endless walls of text in a graphic novel, and when there really isn't an endless wall of text.)

The artwork left a little to be desired -- face front was okay, but sometimes when the characters were looking down, up, or away the proportions looked strange. Then again, I draw stick figures that are lacking in almost every aspect, so it's miles above anything I could create on my own.

In the end, this comes in around the middle of the road for me. I liked it, but I don't know that I will be seeking out the next omnibus in the series. I especially won't be seeking it out for the kindle version. I ended up having to read this on my laptop (touch screen), and it was still pretty small text even expanding the panels. So I definitely would not recommend that format.

Digital edition: 2 stars for tiny text.

Overall: 3 stars

Cade Skywalker: 1 star. This is not the Skywalker you're looking for.
