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Star Wars Vol. 2: Showdown On The Smuggler's Moon (Star Wars (Marvel))



Synopsis

Injustice reigns on Tatooine as villainous scum run rampant. Will Ben Kenobi risk revealing himself to do what's right? Then, Luke continues his quest to learn about the Jedi by heading for the Jedi Temple on Coruscant. Plus: Han & Leia are confronted by an unexpected foe from Han's past!

COLLECTING: STAR WARS 7-12

Book Information

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Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

I have been very happy with the new line of Star Wars Books (except maybe Chewbacca). Jason Aaron continues to perfectly craft the world of Star Wars between A New Hope and Empire Strikes Back. However, while I loved the light sabre battle in this story with the entire cast. What really shines are the Tales of Ben Kenobi tales. While one off tales in all of the Star Wars stories by Aaron. They really show the lost warrior forced into exile by the fall of the Republic and set on a lawless world with one mission. Keep up the great work.

Much as I hated to see the license leave Dark Horse, which had done some great work over the years, they also left some bruises on Star Wars comic history. (Not that Marvel didn't do the same a few decades ago.) But these new comics from Marvel? Definitely surpassing my expectations! I haven't been disappointed yet. The artwork is strong, the stories are interesting, and the quality is

consistent from issue to issue. I hope this series has a good, long run.

While not as good as Vol 1, Vol 2 continues the story - Luke wanting to find out more about the Jedi. His teacher is gone and he needs more training - especially since his first battle with Vader went VERY badly. His course takes him to Nar Shaddaa and things don't go as planned from there. Also.....Han has a wife?!?Set between A New Hope and Empire Strikes Back.

The new Star Wars comics keep on getting better with showdown on the smugglers moon. Han and Leia have their usual difficulties and Luke gets captured by a hutt crime boss with a thing for Jedi artifacts. Cannot say anything bad about these stories they capture the Star Wars feel better than dark horse comics ever could. Two thumbs way up

After a fun re-introduction into a galaxy, far, far away, Jason Aaron's STAR WARS is off to a good start. Taking place between the films Episode IV and V. Plenty of action, proper characters, and fine art to supply it all. Maybe it's own default would be it played things slightly safe with the numerous nostalgia for fans of the films. With the second volume though, Aaron does continue the better aspects while injecting his own pathos. Collecting issues #7-12, Luke Skywalker is having trouble finding guidance in the ways of the Jedi. By reading the journal of Obi-Wan Kenobi (in issues #7) and gets the idea in order to know more about the Jedi history, it'd best be to go to Nar Shada, the appropriately nicknamed Smuggler's Moon, a planet where some of the most dangerous people inhabit. Things don't go as they planned for Luke who runs into a whole heap of problems as the Jedi Temple doesn't exist anymore and needs to know more about them through scrupulous means. And Han Solo, Princess Leia, and Solo's wife Sana comes to a head as Sana wants her husband back, but they to have problems of their own as the Empire is on their tails. Volume 2 picks up the same tone from volume having plenty of characterization, nostalgia, and action with laser fighters, Tie-fighters, our main cast using light sabers! (wait until you see that). Balancing out the fighting and laser shooting, there is still the occasional light banter, specifically Leia and Solo over Sana and their marriage while they run away from the Imperial Empire and the chaos that follows. But the character(s) that steals the show in the end are two beings that are surprisingly funny and interesting together that I would like to see more of in the future. The most interesting thing Jason Aaron does in my opinion is try to play down on the nostalgia factor and try to introduce new aspects into the ever-growing Star Wars universe. The planet Nar Shada and characters like Grakkus the hutt, Game Master, Bounty Hunter

Dengar and Han Solo's wife, Sana. We all know these characters do not have a lasting impact on the feature films, but Aaron is starting to show they could possibly fill in some blanks that would explain things from Episode IV to V. Whereas John Cassaday did volume 1, Stuart Immonen does majority of the art here from issues #8-12 and I think his art suits this comic better. Immonen's art is cartoonish, but it's vibrant, highly expressive, and gives the action a massive sense of kinetic energy to Aaron's scripts. I'm a big fan of Cassaday and Immonen's art work, but I hope Immonen can stay on for more issues. One last thing I have to point out is issues #7, an entire issue dedicated to Obi-Wan Kenobi's memoirs from his time in exile on Tatooine. Obi-Wan is my personal favorite Star Wars character, so I admit I have a bit of bias toward him, yet I really enjoyed Aaron's exploration of the character. We get to see the immense difficulties for him to simply stop being a Jedi on a planet full of villainous beings and look after Luke without interference of training him on behalf of Uncle Owen. It's a solid issue where I would love to see Aaron do more of between story arcs on Obi-Wan's journal entries in the future. Simone Bianchi who too makes a gorgeous issue that, again, I hope he continues to draw more of if possible. My only flaws for me here is the main overarching story doesn't get pushed forward. Luke gets stuck on Nar Shaddaa and the Han/Leia/Sana angle is a lot of bickering. Pieces are slowly built up here, but I think it might be slow on behalf of Aaron wanting to do the VADER DOWN crossover. The other thing is Han/Leia/Sana bickering threesome over Han, as fun and in character as it is, I felt it was a little too long winded as Han does nothing for almost three issues asking to just talk about the situation and he gets cut off every turn. He just about says the same lines every time before Sana or Leia shutting him up. I thought Han should have put his foot down and clear up on the subject, which he does, but I felt it took a little longer than it could have been. Even with a slower main story pacing and love triangle being a tad too long for my taste, STAR WARS VOLUME 2: SHOWDOWN ON THE SMUGGLER'S MOON is still an enjoyable read under the pen of Jason Aaron. Plenty of action, proper characterization, stellar art, and an excellent Obi-Wan story keeps things on good terms. Though I feel Kieron Gillen's DARTH VADER is the better of the two series, they both are strong books that stand alone and together well. Which means they both will converge for the next story arc, VADER DOWN, where we will see Vader take on the Rebel Alliance all by himself. May be the force be with you, readers.

Continuing on the greatness from the previous volume, Showdown on the Smuggler's Moon is another success in my opinion. It takes place on Nar Shaddaa, which has been featured extensively

in the previous canon, but introduces the Smuggler's Moon into the new Star Wars canon. The story is interesting, the characters are great, and once more the art is spectacular. Highly recommended.

This is the second volume in the ongoing Star Wars series from Marvel. The first issue collected in this volume is a tale from Obi-wan's journal. I love seeing what Kenobi was up to on Tatooine between Episode 3 and 4. The characters are written very well in this series. The banter between Han and Leia is on point. I also like seeing the naive Luke from A New Hope. One great thing about the new Marvel comics is how all things canon are referenced. Luke fights Magnaguards! The imagery blending the aesthetic of both trilogies is so cool. There are a lot of references in Grakkus the Hutt's collection. Oppo Rancisis, Shaak Ti, and Tera Sinube all cameo. There's even a Jedi temple guard mask. There were a lot of great original characters in this volume. My favorite was probably the Gamemaster. Grakkus was a very different type of Hutt. There is a badass looking pirate/smuggler Gungan! Sana Solo added an interesting atmosphere to Han and Leia's mission, although Sana's story is a little too Firefly in my opinion. I give this volume a 4/5. I will absolutely be continuing this series. The next volumes are in the Vader Down crossover event.

In my four decades of reading comics, I've never seen a more beautifully illustrated Star Wars comic. Stuart Immonen's art is top notch, and writer Jason Aaron perfectly captures the voices of Star Wars' most popular characters.

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