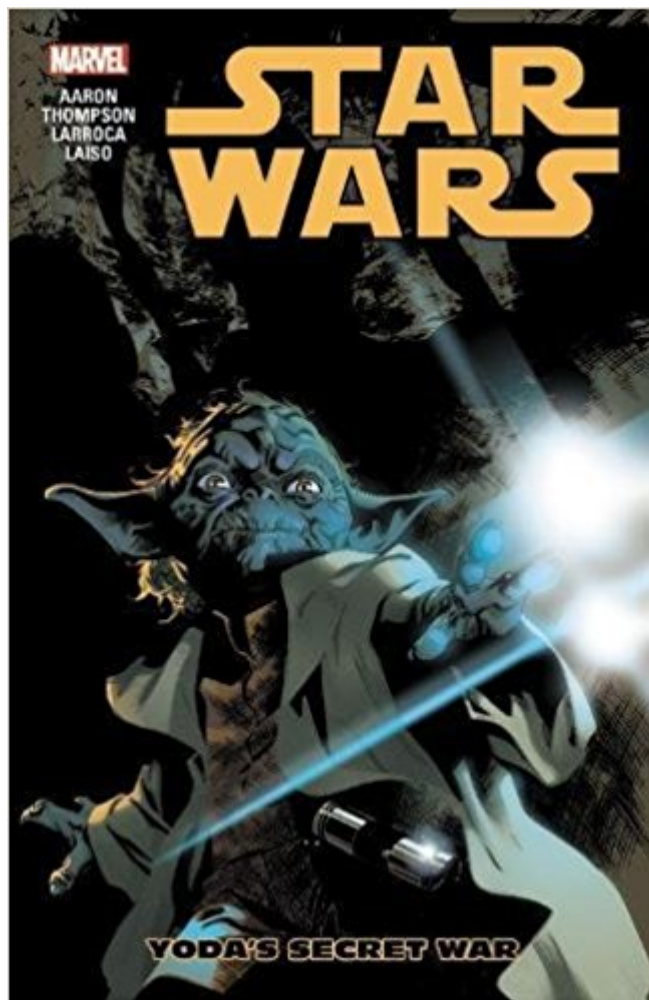


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Star Wars Vol. 5: Yoda's Secret War



Synopsis

With one member of the rebel crew captured and imprisoned, we turn once more to the journals of Ben Kenobi and a legendary adventure with Jedi Master...Yoda! COLLECTING: STAR WARS 26-30

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The new Marvel SW comics have, for the most part been great. The Vader books are, for me, the top tier but the SW run has been pretty good as well. Unfortunately there is only so much storyline to fill between Ep IV and V and it feels like we've filled that gap sufficiently. Now we have filler such as this story. It's not awful but there is nothing memorable about it either other than the artwork which is great.

A big cup of "meh". I am a huge fan of SW, and I have enjoyed what Marvel has done with the franchise since they reacquired the license, but I gotta say, this was their first misstep, in my opinion. It's not that it was bad; it was just kind of pointless. It was an unnecessary delay of the main storyline that we could have done without. And while Yoda is a favorite, IF this story had to be told, it could have been done in half the time. Not a bad trade, just pointless.

Great collection, keep the Marvel stories coming.

So I finished this one the other day after reading the negative reviews. And while I will say it isn't a bad comic, I will say it wasn't entirely necessary either. Spoilers ahead: The book picks up at the end of The Last Flight of the Harbinger with C-3PO in the hands of the Empire. R2 takes off to rescue him and Luke continues to read Ben Kenobi's journal. The rest of the story deals with Yoda feeling a call from the Force that leads him to a strange Lord of the Flies like planet. The story isn't terrible, but it doesn't really do anything either. It doesn't advance the current story closer towards Empire Strikes Back (which is probably why they did it so they can keep the comics going) and the only purpose that I can find for the Yoda story is to show that Jedi must be humble in their abilities. But we already saw that out of Yoda in his three part series at the end of The Clone Wars. The artwork is really good though. So there's that. If you want to read an ok side story, go for it. Or if you're like me and collect a lot of the expanded canon then still go for it. But if you want to just keep going in the present story and not read Yoda, wait for The Screaming Citadel. All you miss here is Scar Squadron is planning to use 3PO as bait for our heroes.

Up until now, Jason Aaron hasn't put a foot wrong in the Star Wars line. The plotting, characterization, and just the general feel of his run have been great, a real pleasure to read. Unfortunately with volume 5, things go off the rails. Focusing on an untold tale from Yoda's history, this story is a complete side-step with no real impact or bearing on the larger story. For the first time I found myself pushing impatiently through the pages in an attempt to get to the end, which is resolved in a less than fulfilling way. You also get an unrelated Princess Leia story at the end which is mediocre at best. Here's hoping that things return to normal with the next volume.

Ooph. For my money, this is the weakest story yet. It's not just from Aaron's "Star Wars" run, but in all of Marvel's Star Wars output since acquiring the license in 2014. I'm usually a big fan of both Aaron's writing and Salvador Larroca's style, so the thought of the two of them pairing up for an arc was really exciting. I let alone an arc focused specifically on freaking YODA was really had me jazzed. Color me surprised and disappointed that neither writer nor artist seemed to be operating at their full potential here. I could go on and on about all of the things that didn't work here, whether it be the plot itself, which proves definitively that there is such thing as a Star Wars story that is TOO out there. Larroca's linework, which seemed oddly unfinished here, or even just the way the arc sits rather uncomfortably alongside the broader Star Wars lore (no spoilers, but if you've read, you know of

what I speak). In fairness, there were moments here and there that worked, particularly early on, when it felt like Aaron had a better grasp of the type of tale he wanted to spin. But the longer this arc dragged on, the more eager I was for it to wrap up. And now, mercifully, it has. *Star Wars Vol. 5: Yoda's Secret War* (Star Wars (2015-))

It was a fun read but not something that someone needs to read. I was hoping for something more along the lines of his episode on TCW 'Sacrifice'. The plot isn't important at all. Also these short Leia stories they put at the end of these volumes are really unnecessary. It's huge let down when you get to it thinking there's more of the comic you're reading and it isn't.

I've been following this series since it began, and to be honest, this particular section of the series is pretty skippable unless you want to be a completist. I still enjoy reading it, but characters completely contradict themselves from page to page, and sometimes I wonder if anyone has seen the original films. In this volume, Luke continues reading Obi Wan's journal which recounts an adventure of Yoda's... this ... kind of takes some of the dramatic punch away from *The Empire Strikes Back*. They did a similar thing in the first issue - THE FIRST ONE!! where Luke has a short duel with Vader... It is dramatically imperative that Luke's first introduction to Vader is in *Empire on Cloud City*. Having them fight before then removes a lot of dramatic tension between the characters. I really like some of the stories they're telling in the comics, but the main STAR WARS line has a tendency to veer WAAAAAY off course. Poe Dameron is a great series though. Check it out.

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