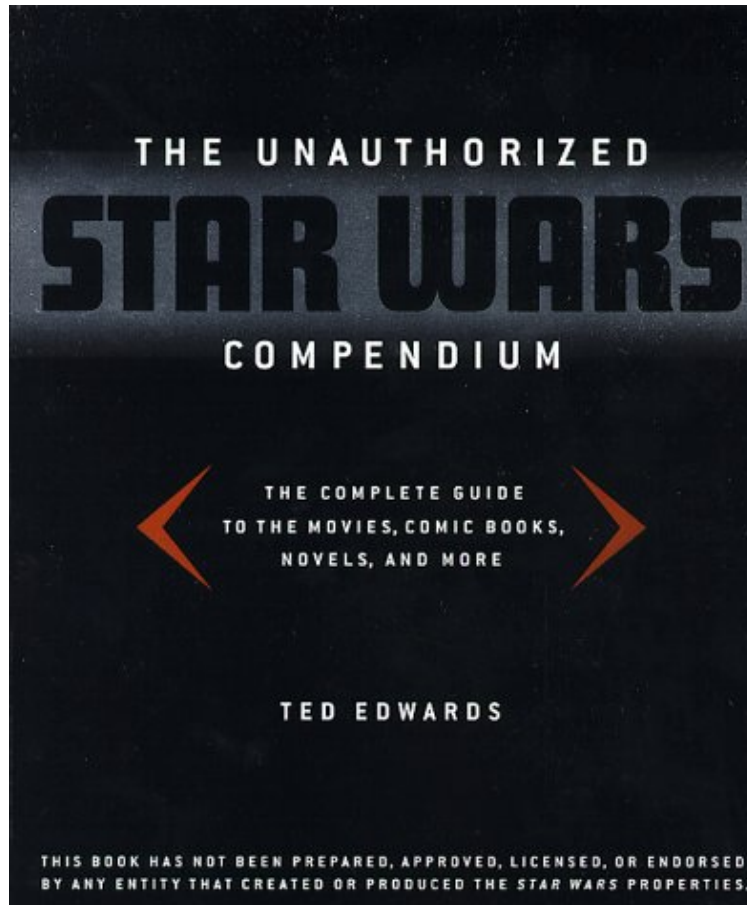


(Mobile library) The Unauthorized Star Wars Companion: The Complete Guide to the Star Wars Galaxy

The Unauthorized Star Wars Companion: The Complete Guide to the Star Wars Galaxy

Ted Edwards

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Ted Edwards : The Unauthorized Star Wars Companion: The Complete Guide to the Star Wars Galaxy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Unauthorized Star Wars Companion: The Complete Guide to the Star Wars Galaxy:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Funny and entertaining By Gerry Blue This great book not only does give you insight and complete (though short) history of how the Original Trilogy came to be. From early inceptions to the new Special Editions (1997). The book leaves off just weeks to the release of Episode I but has some chilling insight when referring to the future of the Saga. For instance, when they comment on the burp jokes on Return of the Jedi the authors write "what's next? Bodily function humor? Maybe we'll see that on the next movies" Well, they got it right, didn't they. This book makes a complete recollection of all things Star Wars since from 1977 to 1997. From an extensive detail of all the books so far published, to the comics and radio dramas. Especially amusing is the section 50 reasons why Return of the Jedi sucks. Never had I laughed so hard at any form of Star Wars humor. You will see

ROTJ with different eyes after reading this. If you are a SW fans, don't let this one pass. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Loses 2 stars because of the factless "I hate Jedi" list alone. By Bernard Finnigan If there's any problem with Star Wars, it's that it inspires every wannabe and Mcjob to proclaim their own SW "holier than thou" to anyone they can beg for attention from. Everyone claims to know the hidden history, everyone claims to have the 'special' knowledge, when it's all just the same dozen talking points cut and pasted ad nauseum. (For any would-be SW evangelists in the audience, if you've never read the Lensmen series of novels by EE Smith or "Princess of Mars" by Edgar Rice Burroughs, then you don't have a nerf-herders foggy idea about where Lucas got most of his inspiration from, stories which predate even the over-mentioned and over-referenced 'Hidden Fortress' by 40 years.) Books like this (and I've read too many already), typically fail as by now there's precious little left to tell. All the stories in here are well-worn and easily discovered by anyone with even a passing interest in SW and a working google connection. Books like "Skywalking" and "Empire Building" cover nearly all the same ground, and do it better. Worse, books like this usually exist only as vanity projects for the authors, an excuse to grind an axe (as if name-dropping 'Hidden Fortress' lets them pretend to be stupendously world-renowned movie connoisseurs, when even in the 80s any lazy newb could watch it as a midnight movie) Case in point: the appendix to this book here, the inclusion of which dropped the score 2 stars all by itself, a self-serving "listen to us we're super-researched experts who know better cause we say so!" essay entitled "50 Reasons We Hate Return of the Jedi." One, it's just a lazy reprint of a cover story from a long extinguished 90's magazine called "Sci Fi Universe," which wore its anti-Lucas hatred on its sleeve (albeit offering more comprehensive reviews than any other magazine it competed with). Two, as hilariously biting online rebuttals have pointed out, their "50 Reasons" is really only 10, repeated and reworded extensively to reach the arbitrary number of 50. And even getting to 10 is a sorry task as the authors stumble in hair-splitting, leaps of subjective illogic, and outright ignorance of the subject matter to justify the unjustifiable. (Attacking SW is a cautionary tale of obsession, as discovered by other anti-SW zealots like David Brin, who keeps himself from being ignored every few years by publishing yet another rehash of ill-researched and factually stupid "crimes" that SW has committed. Such continuous whining only succeeds in demeaning himself far more than any dent he ever put in SW). This list is more moronic than most, pushing outright falsehoods such as claiming A) "The sound isn't synched to the actors." Complete baloney. There is no such mistake anywhere in the movie. B) Complaining that Vader's line of "Your skills are complete" means all Luke ever had to do was build a lightsaber and bingo, instant Jedi, which means they admit to sleeping through the entire Dagobah sequence in ESB for one thing, and can't define the word "complete" (sum total of many skills) for another. C) The Rancor was a bad effect, which must be news to the 100 million other people who watched it with thrills and joy. Thank god we have these "50 reasons" idiots to tell the rest of us what our opinion is. SOME of us know the difference between fact and subjective whining. These guys don't. And on and on. Pass. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. COMPENDIUM a concise take on the legend that is STAR WARS By Steven Bailey This Unauthorized Star Wars Compendium was published just four months before the highly anticipated Star Wars Episode I movie was released. Therefore, the book could only speculate as to the quality of the third Star Wars sequel. But this is the only dated aspect of the book; otherwise, it's a valuable (and very readable) compact version of the legend that is Star Wars. The book re-tells the familiar anecdotes about the movie's creation--how writer-director George Lucas shopped his script around 20th Century-Fox took a chance on it, and so on. Once the groundwork is laid, the book gives in-depth insight into the groundbreaking technical work and mythical story that fills Star Wars and its sequels. The book also offers incisive critiques of the myriad Star Wars spin-offs, such as novels, comic books, and a late-1980's National Public Radio version of the movies' stories. My only complaint is that the book offers a smidgeon too much sugarcoating of how happy everyone was with the saga. (For example, the book offers only the most positive quotes from Sir Alec Guinness, who loudly commented in his autobiography about how he did not wish to be remembered solely as Obi-Wan Kenobi.) As a partial remedy to this, however, the book closes with an insightful and hilarious essay titled "Fifty Reasons Why Return of the Jedi Sucks." All in all, an enjoyable account of a movie legend.

Join the celebration with THE UNAUTHORIZED STAR WARS COMPENDIUM, a comprehensive chronicle of the entire history of Star Wars, from its moment of conception through the release of the newest big-screen installment. Meet the personalities involved and explore how one man's vision changed the nature of motion pictures forever. Within the pages of THE UNAUTHORIZED STAR WARS COMPENDIUM you'll find: * The Making of the first film trilogy - Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back, and Return of the Jedi - and the people behind it * The story of the expanded National Public Radio adaptations, and how they stack up against the films * A guide to the dozens of Star Wars novels and comic book adventures * A peek at the long-awaited episode one of the new trilogy * Photos of cast and crew, many in print for the first time, and much more....

.com The word "unauthorized" combined with the words "Star Wars" brings to mind sordid details involving drugged-up Jawas, Sandpeople mistreating their Banthas, and Wookiees canoodling with Twi'leks. Readers may be disappointed to discover that author Ted Edwards had no such intention. Kitty Kelley he isn't: The nearest thing to dirt he dishes is that George Lucas didn't get along with John Dykstra, head of special effects on Star Wars. What Edwards

does offer is a (predominantly) affectionate look at the Star Wars phenomenon. Chapters (or "Episodes") look at the making of the original trilogy and the special edition films and present a detailed description of the radio dramas. Other chapters include a history of the various comics and a "fiction guide" with synopses and reviews of the SW novels. A chapter entitled "Rebirth" recounts how Shadows of Empire came about and offers information (now rather dated) about the prequels. Hardcore fans will appreciate the exhaustive timeline which places all the novels, short stories, and comics in loose chronological order. Sidebars contributed by other SW experts add some extra spice to the text. Dan Vebber's "Death Star=Death Trap" is hilarious, and his piece (cowritten by Dana Gould), "Fifty Reasons Why Jedi Sucks," is reason enough to buy this book. --C.B. Delaney
From School Library JournalYA-The " More" of the subtitle includes the radio dramas, a catalog of the changes made for the Special Edition movies, rumors about The Phantom Menace, and an appendix. A time line places everything in the Star Wars universe in context of the first three movies. It begins at ANH-5000 (5000 years before A New Hope) and ends at ROTJ+21 (21 years after Return of the Jedi). That alone is worth the price of admission for any confused Stars Wars fans. Edwards's fiction reviews are graded and generally positive. The chapter on comic books/ graphic novels covers their publishing history and critiques adaptations and series by both Marvel and Dark Horse. The author lists the differences between the movies and the radio dramas, including scenes that were cut from A New Hope but included in the dramatization. The chapter on the original movies is a history apparently culled from previously published interviews. The essay by Dan Vebber and Dana Gould, "Fifty Reasons Why Jedi Sucks" (including a sidebar, "Ten Reasons Why Jedi Doesn't Totally Suck"), is an entertaining, opinionated read. Unfortunately, the book contains only speculation about The Phantom Menace. Surely the Ewok-hating compilers of the "Fifty Reasons" list would have had something to say about Jar Jar Binks. A top choice for any library in which "Star Wars" books soar off the shelves.
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About the Author Ted Edwards is the author of X-FILES CONFIDENTIAL. He lives in California.