

STAR WARS
Episode VII: Escape from Peril
An Original Screenplay
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And
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A long time ago in a galaxy far far away...

EXT. SPACE

A vast star field serves as a backdrop for the main title, followed by a roll-up, which crawls into infinity.

It is a time of unstable peace in the galaxy. The reformed Republic, under the leadership of Leia Organa Solo, struggles to maintain freedom in the galaxy.

Recently a secretive force known as the COALITION OF FREE SYSTEMS has begun to assert control along the Outer Rim, and challenge the Republic's right to rule.

In the midst of this turmoil, LUKE SKYWALKER has called for his two sons to return with him to his home planet of Tatooine in order to teach them the dark secrets of their family's past....

EXT. SPACE - TATOOINE

The *Jaren's Dream* zooms towards the desolate planet of Tatooine.

INT. JAREN'S DREAM - KANE'S QUARTERS

In the spartan quarters of the ship, a hooded Jedi - KANE SKYWALKER (14) stands next to R2-D2, gazing out of the window at the planet below.

KANE

It's beautiful.

Artoo beeps and gives an electronic raspberry.

KANE (con'd)

I don't care what you say Artoo. I can't thank Master Talja enough for letting me come here with father and-

The door chimes and Kane turns.

KANE (con'd)

Come in Ben.

The door opens up revealing BEN SKYWALKER (16), also dressed in Jedi robes.

BEN

Kane, get ready, we'll be landing soon.

Kane smiles and follows Ben out of the room.

EXT. SPACE ABOVE TATOOINE - DAY

The *Jaren's Dream* flies past an unnoticed scout ship.

INT. COALITION SCOUT SHIP - COCKPIT

A Coalition Officer hits a switch, activating the holocomm. The hooded face of a severe-looking woman appears. She is pale with white eyes.

WOMAN

Speak.

COALITION OFFICER

They've just passed us m'lady.
Transmitting vector now.

The woman nods as the holo fizzles out.

EXT. TATOOINE - ABOVE MOS EISLEY - DAY

The *Jaren's Dream* flies in high orbit above Mos Eisley.

INT. *JAREN'S DREAM* - COCKPIT

Ben enters the cockpit with Kane behind him. At the helm is LUKE SKYWALKER. He is in his early 60s now, with a beard and graying hair down to the bottom of his neck. On his right hand is a black glove.

KANE

Is that it?

Luke laughs.

LUKE

That's Mos Eisley, we'll be heading
out a lot further.

EXT. MOS EISLEY - DOCKING BAY 47

The ship lands in the docking bay. The cargo door opens and Luke, Ben and Kane exit on speeder bikes while Artoo stays inside.

LUKE

It's not too far away, just follow
me.

Luke revs his speeder and the boys follow him out of the docking bay.

WIPE

EXT. TATOOINE - DUNES/MOS ESPA

The speeders fly over the dunes and enter the ruins of Mos Espa. The city has fallen into disrepair. Kane looks around as they go through the abandoned slums and reach an arid patch of ground.

EXT. TATOOINE - MOS ESPA SLAVE QUARTERS

They get off of their speeders and the boys look around, confused. The ground is barren, with ruined building foundations around them.

KANE

Where are we?

LUKE

Where my father grew up. This used
to be the Mos Espa slave quarters.

Kane looks at his father.

KANE

The Great Anakin Skywalker - the
Chosen One - grew up a slave?

Luke nods.

LUKE

And under the Emperor he was a
slave for most of his life.

Kane digests the information. Luke looks up.

KANE
What is it?

BEN
Dad - look.

Luke looks and sees footprints in the desert sand.

WOMAN
Master Skywalker.

The Skywalkers all look to the pale woman who has appeared directly in front of them. She is DARTH NYX, a young Sith Lord cloaked in black. Attached to her belt are two small saber handles with long knife blades protruding from them. She throws back her hood, revealing white dreadlocks, and smiles, before making a grab for Kane with her right arm.

KANE
Hey!

Luke ignites his green saber and charges. Nyx swings her back towards him and ignites one of her small red sabers. Luke parries it, but she releases Kane and brings her second saber around towards his face, which Luke barely blocks in time. Kane and Ben ignite their blue sabers.

LUKE
No - get back.

Nyx continues to fiercely duel with Luke. Kane leaps to his father's rescue, but Nyx easily deflects his saber and knocks him to the ground. Ben runs to Kane to help him up.

KANE
I'm fine, help dad.

Ben looks up and sees Nyx trying to throw Luke off in order to get closer to them. Luke looks to his boys.

LUKE
Take the speeders - go!

Nyx punches Luke in the face and knees him in the stomach. He falls back and she runs after Kane and Ben. Kane stands his ground and re-ignites his saber. Ben starts in to help

Luke, stops, thinks a minute, then turns to run, grabbing Kane by the shoulder.

BEN
You heard him, lets go.

KANE
No, we stay here.

Nyx leaps into the air, her sabers outstretched towards the boys. Ben pulls Kane around.

BEN
Now.

As Nyx is about to land, Luke's saber flies at her head and she hits the ground prematurely. Luke's saber flies back to his hand as he charges after her. She flips around, barely blocking Luke's saber coming at her face. She uses his momentum to flip him over her onto the ground.

Ben and Kane reach the speeder bikes.

BEN
Get on, let's go.

Kane looks back and sees Nyx getting up, with Luke lying on his back.

KANE
We can't leave him.

BEN
We don't have a choice right now.

Nyx runs past Luke, but he grabs her ankle and pulls her backwards. As she falls back to the ground she brings a saber towards Luke, which he parries as he gets up. Spinning, he puts himself between her and the boys and yells to them.

LUKE
Kane - trust me!

Kane looks his father in the eyes and gets on his speeder bike. Ben jumps on his as well and they take off as Nyx gets up, swinging her sabers upwards. Luke turns back and catches one saber, but the other cuts the side of his knee. He screams in pain and drops to the ground, his chin stopping just above Nyx's other saber.

EXT. TATOOINE - DUNES

Ben and Kane speed away along side each other. Kane turns his head back and sees Nyx standing over Luke, bringing her sabers to either side of his neck.

KANE

We need to go back.

BEN

We can't. She's not after him she's after us. Keep going.

KANE

She'll kill him.

BEN

If she wanted to he'd be dead right now, so move.

Ben speeds up. Kane takes one last look and follows after his brother.

EXT. TATOOINE - MOS ESPA SLAVE QUARTERS

Nyx speaks into a commlink near her shoulder.

DARTH NYX

I have the father. The sons are heading your way.

Smiling, she turns back to Luke, who shuts off his saber and drops it.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

Looks like you're mine, Skywalker.

She turns back to her commlink.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

Bring the Capture Droid.

EXT. TATOOINE - DUNES

Ben and Kane continue to fly through the desert. As they rise above a large dune they see a Coalition Camp. A Coalition Commander stands with several Coalition Swoop Troopers, sitting ready on Sand Skates.

COALITION COMMANDER

There they are! Go! Go!

The Troopers rev their engines. The Skates roar to life and zoom out after the boys. Kane looks over his shoulder and spots the Skates in hot pursuit.

BEN

Looks like trouble.

KANE

Hit your accelerator! They're gaining on us!

Kane hits a toggle on his handlebars. His bike lurches forward and goes faster, almost making him fly off the speeder. Ben sighs and hits his accelerator following after his brother. Behind them the Sand Skates continue to gain.

EXT. TATOOINE - METTA DROP

The speeder bikes head towards Ebe Crater Valley and pass between two markers.

MARKER

Warning! You have entered the racetrack.

Ben and Kane stop their bikes and look at each other.

BEN

Racetrack?

KANE

How could I have forgotten - the Boonta Eve 6000!

BEN

What?

The Sand Skates head over the dune towards the boys. They start their bikes back up, when suddenly they hear several loud engine roars.

KANE

Pod racing!

Five sleek pod racers head towards the boys, who are right at the edge of the cliff. Kane turns his bike facing off the edge.

KANE (con'd)

Come on!

He flies forward towards the edge.

BEN

You're crazy!

KANE

Trust me.

They fly off the edge of the cliff, with the Pod Racers right behind them. At the same time the Sand Skates get in the way, causing several to crash into two of the pods.

EXT. TATOOINE - EBE CRATER VALLEY

The bikes land with three pods right behind them.

BEN

I thought pod racing was outlawed.

KANE

Sure, under the Empire.

The pods, much faster than the speeders, threaten to suck the boys into their engines.

KANE (con'd)

Hurry up!

BEN

Thanks for the advice.

Up ahead, Kane sees more track markers in the dust.

KANE

Slow down!

BEN

Hurry up, slow down - make up your mind.

Kane pulls his speeder bike to the side, heading between two oncoming pods.

BEN (con'd)

I ever tell you you're crazy?

KANE

All the time. Follow me.

Ben follows after Kane as they fly past two more markers.

MARKER

You have deviated from the course.

Kane turns his head to look at Ben.

KANE

That wasn't so bad!

Ben's eyes widen, and Kane turns his head forward again to see what Ben is looking at - it's a Bantha herd. Kane turns to avoid the lead Bantha and spooks it. It begins to charge after Kane, almost crushing Ben. The rest of the herd bellows and begins to charge after them both.

Kane's bike begins to sputter.

KANE

Oh no.

He falls back past Ben, towards the stampeding herd.

KANE (con'd)

I'm out of fuel!

BEN

Hold on.

Ben cuts back his throttle, dropping right in front of the herd.

BEN (con'd)

Jump!

Kane gets up on his speeder and leaps onto Ben's. Ben speeds back up and pulls off as Kane's bike is crushed by the herd.

EXT. MOS EISLEY

As Ben and Kane zoom towards Mos Eisley, more Sand Skates appear behind them.

KANE

Looks like more trouble.

The bike heads into the street, startling several pedestrians. The Skates continue pursuit.

The boys turn down a side street. They turn sharply and knock over a droid wheeling a cart. The fallen cart sprouts legs and walks off the road.

KANE (con'd)
Go that way!

The bike races the docking bay. Ben hits a switch on the bike.

BEN
Artoo?

INT. DOCKING BAY 47

The *Jaren's Dream* sits silently in the docking bay.

INT. JAREN'S DREAM - LOUNGE

Artoo has a panel open in the lounge when he hears something calling from the cockpit.

BEN (O.S.)
Artoo pick up!

R2 warbles and heads into the cockpit. He activates a scomp link.

BEN (con'd)
Artoo get the ship fired up. We've got to get out of here.

Artoo chirps.

BEN (con'd)
And open the hanger bay. Take off as soon as we enter.

Artoo chirps in the affirmative.

EXT. MOS EISLEY STREETS

Ben and Kane head to the docking bay doors with the Skates behind them. One of the Coalition troopers takes a shot at them, the blaster bolt whizzing by Kane's ear and hitting the wall.

INT. DOCKING BAY 47

The bike enters the docking bay, with the Skates behind it. They start to blast at the boys. Ben sees a sloping rock in front of the opening hanger bay door and aims the bike at it.

BEN

It's going to be close.

He rides the bike up the rock, jumping it over the troops and into the bay.

INT. *JAREN'S DREAM* - CARGO BAY

The bike skids to a stop. Ben and Kane tumble off of it.

KANE

Ben?

BEN

Yes?

KANE

Never do that again!

EXT. MOS EISLEY

The *Jaren's Dream* begins to lift off. The Skates stop and a Coalition Trooper activates his comm link as the ship jets away.

EXT. SPACE ABOVE TATOOINE

The *Jaren's Dream* heads into orbit just as several Coalition Scouts head towards them.

INT. *JAREN'S DREAM* - COCKPIT

The boys rush into the cockpit and Ben takes the controls.

BEN

They must want us really bad.

The scouts begin to fire at the Dream. The ship's communications dish explodes.

BEN (con'd)

We've got to jump to avoid them.

KANE

Where?

BEN

Anywhere for now - we'll worry
about our course later.

Ben does a few small calculations and punches the ship to hyperspace.

WIPE

INT. *EBONY BLADE* - CAPTURE BAY

Nyx is standing over Luke, who's being locked into place.
The Coalition Commander enters.

COALITION COMMANDER

I'm afraid we've lost them.

In a fit of rage Nyx throws the Commander into the ceiling
then the wall with the Force. He collapses to the ground.

LUKE

You won't get my sons that easily.

DARTH NYX

Gloat all you want Skywalker. We're
still sending you to *Doom Keep*.

WIPE

EXT. SPACE - CORUSCANT

Bustling traffic zooms all around the planet of Coruscant.

INT. CORUSCANT - SENATE BUILDING - SUNRISE

The domed Senate building sits majestically over the main
thoroughfare.

INT. SENATE - MAIN SENATE CHAMBER

Chancellor LEIA ORGANA-SOLO is presiding a debate in the
Senate. SEE-THREEPIO is at her side, both providing her with
information as well as translating.

QUARREN SENATOR

The Jedi are our best source for
(more)

QUARREN SENATOR (con'd)
 protection and peacekeeping in the
 galaxy. To undermine their
 authority is ludicrous.

LEIA
 Local security squads are for
 everyday matters, Senator, we are
 talking about returning them as
 protectors of the Republic. To use
 their autonomy to help with
 disputes that benefit the galaxy as
 a whole. Like this matter with the
 Coalition.

ITHORIAN SENATOR
 Jedi can make the jobs of our armed
 forces a whole lot easier.

DUG SENATOR
 Echam wanna Jedi eit take bukka woe
 min ehy tabba whu. Deh mo anomen.

THREEPIO
 Senator Setoka says that the Jedi
 cannot be allowed to roam the
 galaxy free to do what they please.
 They have to be regulated.

LEIA
 The Senate will have authority, but
 you cannot take away their basic
 freedoms!

Threepio takes Leia aside.

THREEPIO
 Madame Chancellor, if I may,
 Malastare has a history of
 disliking Jedi for centuries. I do
 not think you can change their minds
 today.

LEIA
 I have to try.
 (To senate)
 To continue to serve the galaxy in
 the best way possible, I urge this
 (more)

LEIA (con'd)
 body to discontinue their distrust
 of the Jedi. The Jedi were the
 pillars of the Old Republic.

The aging, blue skinned, red eyed, pointy eared, SENATOR
 GOLEMUN moves his platform forwards.

SENATOR GOLEMUN
 The Jedi were responsible for the
 fall of the Old Republic, if I am
 not mistaken.

LEIA
 Senator Golemun, that is simply
 untrue-

GOLEMUN
 I was there, Madame Chancellor. The
 Republic was by destroyed by
 Palpatine, whose manipulations the
 Jedi could not detect. We relied
 too heavily on their guidance, and
 as a result, the Jedi's weakness
 led to decades of war.

Rumblings and cheers emit from various pods throughout the
 senate. Leia starts to look concerned.

THREEPIO
 Oh my!

GOLEMUN
 Why should we trust them now?

LEIA
 The Coalition forces are growing,
 Senator. We need to support this
 body's position on the Jedi if they
 are to help us with this new
 threat.

GOLEMUN
 Threat? Threat, my lady? The
 Coalition is simply fulfilling the
 promises that this body has lacked
 the ability to accomplish.

RODIAN SENATOR

Here here!

LEIA

Under current conditions, the Jedi are stunted. They cannot make a move without this body's approval. They need more freedom to perform their duties.

GOLEMUN

The Empire was free of Jedi interference to complicate matters. The galaxy is once more in turmoil, and we're here again talking about Jedi. I myself am beginning to think that the Coalition might be more effective in running the galaxy than either Empire or Republic.

There is an uproar. The Senators begin to argue.

MON CALAMARI SENATOR

That is treason!

THREEPIO

This is not good.

LEIA

Senator Golemun, enough! We are going in circles. The Coalition is consolidating their forces. We need to decide this issue as soon as we can.

Leia notices Jedi Master MARA JADE-SKYWALKER standing in the viewers area.

LEIA (con'd)

We will revisit this topic when we reconvene. Thank you all for your time. Senate adjourned.

The turmoil begins to die down as the Senators leave.

INT. SENATE - HALLWAY

Leia and Threepio walk with Mara down to Leia's office.

LEIA

I don't know how much more I can take, Mara. This debate about the Jedi has been going on for months.

MARA

The number of Senators sharing Golemun's point of view is growing.

LEIA

Golemun has his own agenda. He's only using this issue as a catalyst.

MARA

And he's doing a very good job.

INT. CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Leia leads Mara and Threepio into the Chancellor's office, now hers and decorated in white. Leia walks to her desk and looks wistfully at a holostill of Han, now well into his 80s.

MARA

I'm about to leave for Kharam. I want to get back before Luke does

LEIA

How do you deal with being away from Luke and the boys?

MARA

Luke never seems to get enough time with them. This trek to Tatooine is important for their training, and for him. That's all I need. Besides, I can't say I'm not enjoying the break.

Leia smiles as her door chimes.

LEIA

Come.

Golemun enters, flanked by his honor guard, atop a mechanical throne.

GOLEMUN
Madame Organa-Solo?

LEIA
Senator Golemun, what brings you to my office?

GOLEMUN
With all due respect, I came seeking a private audience with you to discuss the growing Coalition debate, to see if we can avoid a repeat of what happened today in the Senate Chamber.

LEIA
That is a nice thought, Senator, you can make an appointment with-

GOLEMUN
I feel you are only seeing one side of this issue. As both a Jedi and the Chancellor, it is imperative you remain as neutral as possible on this matter. Your mind seems made up as far as the proper way to govern the galaxy is concerned.

LEIA
Senator, I have made no nods to the contrary. The galaxy was governed for years under the very body I wish to reinstate.

GOLEMUN
Your type of government has failed before, why will it not fail now? My friends in The Coalition assure me they are simply offering an alternative to the reforming Republic, they mean no harm.

LEIA
I am well aware of your ties to The Coalition, Senator-

GOLEMUN
The Jedi were unable to prevent
(more)

GOLEMUN (con'd)

Palpatine from bringing about the rise of the Empire. A governing body without Jedi presence is the only safe way to maintain a democracy in this galaxy. Frankly, some find your tactics for running the Galaxy quite imperialistic-

LEIA

Imperialistic? I do not care for your implication, Senator Golemum. You seek a government with you in charge and the Jedi non-existent.

GOLEMUM

That is a most remarkable presumption. I should know not to expect less from the daughter of Darth Vader.

Leia looks around as if to see if anyone is close enough to hear Golemum's words.

LEIA

That is hardly public knowledge, Senator. And completely irrelevant.

GOLEMUM

On the contrary, Madame Organa-Solo, it is completely relevant. The Jedi continue to push their ideals upon the galaxy for the "greater good". You push for a government where the Jedi are the real power, not the people.

Golemum leans in to Leia.

GOLEMUM (con'd)

I am confident that I will persuade the Senate to see my point of view... And you will be surprised of the many things I know that are hardly public knowledge.

Leia pulls back a little.

LEIA

We have strong intelligence showing that The Coalition is stockpiling arms. If anyone is looking for a war, it's them.

GOLEMUN

Please. With the Republic military so large, obviously they feel threatened. Try being a diplomat again. I fear your time with the Rebellion has turned you into a warmonger.

LEIA

I have sacrificed my life many times for this galaxy. You cannot say the same. Until you have, keep your slanderous comments to yourself.

Golemun's throne begins to retreat backwards.

GOLEMUN

When my planet was threatened during the Clone Wars, I pleaded with the Senate for assistance, but got none. The Republic destroyed my planet after I joined the Separatists in order to avoid their attack. My people blamed me for the destruction. I have sacrificed plenty.

LEIA

That was 50 years ago, Senator, now is not the time to fix your family legacy.

GOLEMUN

Again, Madame Organa Solo, you are mistaken. Your personal agenda has no right to try and prevent free will. I have sworn to bring true order to the galaxy. And if that means-

LEIA

That's Chancellor Organa-Solo,
(more)

LEIA (con'd)
Senator, and until you hold that
title, you will show the proper
respect. Good day.

GOLEMUN
My apologies...

LEIA
Good day.

The door closes as Golemum leaves.

WIPE

EXT. HYPERSPACE

The *Jaren's Dream* rockets through hyperspace.

INT. *JAREN'S DREAM* - COCKPIT

Ben and Kane are sitting at the controls, mulling over data
screens.

KANE
The damage isn't nearly as bad as I
thought.

BEN
Yeah. The hyperdrive is slow, but
it'll get us to Kharam.

KANE
We should be going after dad.

BEN
Where do we even start? At least
home at the Temple we'll have some
resources to work with.

Kane sighs, staring out into hyperspace.

KANE
Great Jedi we turned out to be.
Couldn't even save our own father.

BEN

Don't worry, we'll find him. I'm going to the lounge, you coming?

KANE

Guess I might as well.

Kane grumbles, following Ben out of the cockpit.

INT. *JAREN'S DREAM* - HALLWAY

On the way to the lounge Ben and Kane walk past a reptilian creature hidden in the shadows. He slinks out after they pass and heads into the cockpit.

WIPE

EXT. SPACE - *DOOM KEEP*

The Coalition Prison Station, *Doom Keep*, hangs silently in the darkness of space. It is gothic, black, and heavy.

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - NYX'S QUARTERS

Darth Nyx stands rigidly in the center of her sparse quarters. The room is dark, open, and hexagonally shaped. Barely seen on the walls are several types of melee weapons. Her eyes are transfixed on a viewscreen, showing a tactical readout on the planet of Kharam. The viewscreen is interrupted but the face of WARDEN KVEZ, a heavy-set, stern man.

DARTH NYX

Yes, Warden Kvez?

WARDEN KVEZ

Lady Nyx, the prisoner has been incarcerated.

DARTH NYX

Good. Has the serum been administered?

WARDEN KVEZ

Of course, m'lady.

DARTH NYX

Excellent. Screen off.

The screen turns off and Nyx bows to one knee.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

Holo.

Holobeams activate from four corners, forming a hologram field in front of her. It's dense, and flickering, with heavy interference. In the depth of the image the shadowy, hooded, face of DARTH SECUTOS can barely be glimpsed.

DARTH SECUTOS

Yes, Lady Nyx?

DARTH NYX

I have captured Skywalker.

DARTH SECUTOS

Which one?

DARTH NYX

The father.

DARTH SECUTOS

The father is unimportant to my plans-

DARTH NYX

I am aware, m'lord. I suspect the sons will come to rescue-

DARTH SECUTOS

Alert all Coalition forces. The sons must be found.

DARTH NYX

Yes m'lord.

DARTH SECUTOS

I will not tolerate further failure.

Secutos cuts the communication.

WIPE

EXT. HYPERSPACE

The *Jaren's Dream* continues through hyperspace

INT. JAREN'S DREAM - LOUNGE

Ben and Kane are sitting across from one another playing holochess, with Artoo looking on. Ben's monster defeats Kane's. Artoo laughs and Kane scowls at him.

BEN

You've never played this bad before.

KANE

Yeah, well I'm a little distracted.

He glares at Ben.

KANE (con'd)

You should be too.

BEN

There's nothing we-

Suddenly the engines strain and the ship shudders, before going back to normal. Ben and Kane look at each other.

KANE

The hyperdrive.

BEN

We've changed course.

The boys jump up and run to the cockpit.

INT. JAREN'S DREAM - COCKPIT

As the boys rush into the cockpit they startle the green, reptilian creature at the controls.

BEN

Hey!

The creature, MINCH, jumps up, gripping the ceiling bulkheads. He's just over three feet tall, with a small body and long limbs. He has prickly skin, and is dressed in a ragged mechanic's jumpsuit with many pockets. When he speaks it's a mixture of English and his own tongue.

MINCH

<Stay away!> Back <horrible> boys!
<This is my ship! You must get
off!>

Ben steps in front of Kane.

BEN

I don't know who you are, but this
is our ship.

MINCH

<It's mine now.> Sorry.

Kane ignites his lightsaber.

KANE

I suggest you surrender to us.

Ben gets a sudden realization and darts towards the control panel, but Minch beats him to it and takes them out of hyperspace.

MINCH

Rotten Jedi boys!

EXT. SPACE ABOVE TOWNOWI

The ship is now back in realspace, heading towards the dark brown and black planet of Townowi.

INT. JAREN'S DREAM - COCKPIT

MINCH

<I need to put it orbit now.> Get
away.

Minch struggles with Ben for the controls. Kane pushes him away with the Force. Minch gets up and leaps at Kane, knocking him over. Kane's lightsaber goes flying and Ben tries to bring it to him, but the spinning blade cuts through the controls.

BEN

Hey!

Kane and Minch stop fighting and look at Ben, then to the sparking control panels.

BEN (con'd)
I don't think we're going to be
able land this thing.

Outside, the ship hits the atmosphere and begins to buckle.

MINCH
<Fools.> Coalition hates
<trespassers!> They'll shoot <us
down for sure.>

Kane looks to Ben.

KANE
Great. A Coalition planet.

BEN
Let's worry about them if we
survive the crash. Head to the
middle of the ship.

He nods over to Minch, who's trying in vain to control the
ship.

KANE
Leave him!

BEN
We can't just let him die. We're
Jedi.

Ben runs up and grabs Minch's arm. He pulls him out of the
cockpit with Kane.

EXT. TOWNOWI - LOW ATMOSPHERE

The ship continues to free fall, breaking through the
clouds, past a giant mountain covered in docking pads, over
a vast brown rocky plain with large columns of rock, and
coming up on an immense black bog, filled with refuse and
garbage. The ship smacks into the bog, sending debris flying
everywhere, but soon comes to a halt.

INT. JAREN'S DREAM - LOUNGE

Minch, the boys, and Artoo check themselves over. Kane
glares at Minch.

KANE

You have a lot of explaining to do.

Kane starts towards Minch, but the ship shudders and drops down.

BEN

Kane, I think we're starting to sink into the bog.

Once again the ship drops.

MINCH

No outside! <The bog is toxic,> it kill us all.

BEN

Is the MPT working?

KANE

It is if Artoo fixed it like he was supposed to.

Artoo beeps, taken aback.

KANE (con'd)

I don't care what I did - you were supposed to fix it.

BEN

It doesn't matter, we have no other way out of here.

INT. TOWNOWI - GARBAGE BOG - DAY

The ship is half buried in the muck. The cargo door opens and Artoo, Minch, and the boys leave, wearing gas masks and riding in their MPT - Multi-Personal Transport - a small, open cockpit walker. One leg is damaged, but still able to move, albeit slowly. The MPT lumbers on the unsure ground towards the shore. Kane looks over the side of the walker and sees large white worms writing through the muck.

Minch looks over the side as well.

MINCH

Feh! Grolgnaks. Nasty <creatures, don't step on them>

Ben looks at Minch, unsure of what he said. Minch

illustrates by bringing his fist down on his other arm and making it violently wriggle.

BEN

Got it.

On the next step the leg comes down on a grolgnak. It's face snaps out of the muck and slams the side of the walker, causing it to shudder. Minch panics.

MINCH

Stupid Jedi boys <what are you doing? I said don't step on them.>

KANE

Oh come on, that wasn't so bad.

More grolgnaks start to slam into the walker, now from both sides.

BEN

The walker's not going to hold together if this keeps up.

The attacks increase, with over a dozen worms fiercely smashing into the walker. Kane looks and sees the shore somewhat far off.

KANE

I think we're going to have to jump.

Ben looks and sees how far away the shore is.

BEN

I don't think we can make it.

KANE

I've jumped that far.

BEN

Not with a passenger.

Kane looks back at Minch.

KANE

You take him.

BEN
Then you have Artoo.

KANE
Fine.

Ben calls Minch and Artoo over the front of the cockpit. The foursome steps out onto the nose.

BEN
If we miss it won't be pretty.

A large worm hits the walker so hard that it almost tips.

KANE
I don't really see how we have
much of a choice.

Ben and Kane force-leap, taking Minch and Artoo with them. As they leave the walker, it finally topples and the worms writhe on top of it, dragging it below.

EXT. TOWNOWI - SHORE

The four barely make it to the shore, and the boys huff with exhaustion.

BEN
Two craft in one day - a new
record.

The boys look down at Minch who's begun to walk away.

MINCH
<I guess I'll be going then.>

Ben gets up quickly and grabs Minch.

BEN
You're not going anywhere.

Kane comes to his brother's side.

BEN (con'd)
I should slice your head right
off.

Ben ignites his saber, shocking Kane.

KANE

Ben?

BEN

It's your fault we're in this mess
to begin with. What's your name?

MINCH

My name Repuper.

KANE

And why'd you steal our ship?

MINCH

Coalition pay good money for good
ship.

BEN

Aunt Leia was right - The Coalition
is stockpiling.

(To Minch)

What else do you know about the
Coalition?

Minch points to the large mountain in the distance.

MINCH

<They occupy Port Olath.> We go
this way.

Minch begins to walk towards the large rock columns up
ahead. The boys and Artoo start to follow.

BEN

See, he's coming in handy all
ready.

The group continues towards the distant mountain.

WIPE

EXT. TOWNOWI - ROCK COLUMNS

The boys head with Artoo and Minch past large columns of
rock which reach far into the sky. Minch looks up and sees
the edges of nests resting at the very tops. He starts to
make a weird hooting call. The boys stop walking.

KANE

What is he doing?

The boys hear a whooshing sound.

BEN (con'd)
Sounds like he's calling something.

A great shadow covers the boys.

BEN (con'd)
I don't like this.

Kane tugs Ben's robe.

KANE
Hey, Ben - look.

He points to the sky. Ben looks up and sees two giant birds - atoqs - swooping above them. Minch begins to run away.

BEN
Hey! Get back here.

He chases after Minch, as one of the atoqs begins to descend. It pulls its wings back to dive. It's claws almost reach Ben's shoulders, but he ducks and rolls at the last minute.

Kane activates his lightsaber and turns as the other atoq makes a dive for him. He swings at it, but quickly leaps out it's way as it continues towards him. The atoq swoops back up into the air, almost knocking over Artoo, and turns for another pass.

Ben, barely avoiding another atoq attack, has caught up with Minch, and grabs him. Minch struggles to let go. He points at the sky and the atoq that's now diving right at them.

MINCH
Let go! Run!

Ben refuses to let go. The atoq almost gets them when a blaster bolt hits it under the chin. The atoq hits the ground head first, rolling to a stop.

Ben looks and sees a young girl, THENNA SUNSHADOW (15), standing with her rifle. The second atoq goes for Kane and she shoots it under the chin as well, felling it instantly.

Kane walks up to her, with Ben and Minch following behind.

BEN
That was amazing.

Kane stares in amazement at Thenna. Thenna gives Kane a dirty look.

THENNA
My name is Thenna Sunshadow. And you're both welcome. Atoqs don't like strangers. Or anyone else, for that matter. I heard a crash, came to look for survivors.

KANE
Or salvage.

THENNA
You should talk, hanging around with Minch of all people.

Kane and Ben look at each other.

BEN
Who's Minch?

THENNA
He is.

She points at "Repuper."

MINCH
Oh, yes. Forgot name.

THENNA
Anyone who hangs around with him may need help, but not from me.

Thenna turns and walks back to her speeder. Ben runs after her, grabbing her shoulder.

BEN
Not so fast. We need-

Thenna grabs him and flips him onto the hood of her speeder. Kane is astonished. Ben gets up and brushes himself off as Kane steps boldly forward.

Thenna looks the two of them up and down.

THENNA

You must be awfully brave Jedi to come to Townowi. Or just awfully stupid.

BEN

How did you know we're Jedi?

THENNA

The lightsabers kind of gave it away.

KANE

We're not here to cause trouble. Our father's been-

BEN

We need to get back to the Jedi Temple.

Thenna's eyes light up, but she quickly hides her excitement.

THENNA

The Jedi Temple?

KANE

Yes, can you help us?

THENNA

My father isn't too fond of Jedi. I doubt he'll take you. Maybe we can get you a ride at Port Olath.

Thenna gets in the speeder. Ben and Kane look at each other, and silently agree to go along with Thenna. Ben, Kane and Artoo follow, and Ben calls out to Minch.

BEN

You too.

THENNA

Oh no, he's not coming with us.

BEN

Yes he is. He owes me a life debt. Two actually.

THENNA

You've got to be joking.

Ben looks her in the eye.

KANE
Jedi don't joke.

THENNA
Fine. Minch - get in here. Now.

Minch grumbles and gets in the speeder.

EXT. TOWNOWI - DAY

Thenna's speeder rockets towards Mount Olath.

BEN
Are we going to be able to get this
speeder up the mountain?

THENNA
We're not going up the mountain,
we're going into it. Port Olath is
built into Townowi's cave system.

The speeder rides past the dark, foreboding, mountains of Townowi until it stops at the massive entrance cave to Port Olath.

THENNA (con'd)
Most people get here the
traditional way by docking their
ships at a docking pad. I've never
had to sneak anyone in this way.
Still, rummage in the cargo
compartment. There should be
something for you guys to cover up
those robes with.

Kane opens the compartment and pulls out some drab cloaks.
Ben and Kane look back towards Minch.

THENNA (con'd)
And give one to Minch.

BEN
He's got friends everywhere doesn't
he?

INT. PORT OLATH

The speeder enters the wide main street of Port Olath, a bustling frontier town. Powerful lights are strung up on the high walls of the gigantic main cave, and many smaller caves can be seen breaking off and leading away. Many buildings are built directly into the walls of the cave, but others, especially on main street, are four walled structures built in the wide-open space. People and aliens scurry about their daily business and several red armored Coalition Troopers stand watch. There is vehicular traffic as well, mostly personal speeders or cargo transports.

BEN

This place is crawling with troops.

THENNA

Don't worry, they keep away from certain areas.

Thenna turns down a side street.

INT. PORT OLATH - SIDE STREET

Thenna stops the speeder outside of the cantina and they disembark. Thenna looks at the entrance, and back at the boys, sighing.

THENNA

You should be able to find a ride here.

She pauses.

THENNA (con'd)

Well, I guess this is it. Good luck.

BEN

Thanks.

KANE

We appreciate the help.

BEN

Kane, do you have any money?

KANE

Oh, didn't think of that.

THENNA

Maybe I should go in with you. You know, to help you find-

Suddenly Thenna's speeder starts up and speeds off. They turn to see it go and Thenna runs a few steps after it in vain.

THENNA (con'd)

My speeder!

The boys look around to see that Minch is gone.

BEN

Minch!

THENNA

I don't believe he stole my speeder!

KANE

You don't?

THENNA

Dad's going to kill me.

KANE

I have an idea.

Kane looks around at the crowd of people outside of cantina. He sees a Rodian walking towards a parked speeder and runs up to him. He waves his hand.

KANE

You will give us your speeder.

The Rodian looks at Kane. Thenna turns to Ben.

THENNA

Wow, I've always wanted to see a mind trick.

BEN

Keep waiting, Kane can't do it.

He waves his hand again.

KANE

You will give us your speeder.

The Rodian still looks puzzled. Kane grabs his saber and ignites it.

KANE (con'd)

Give us your speeder!

The Rodian panics, yells, and runs off.

BEN

Kane!

Kane jumps in the speeder.

KANE

What? It worked. Come on! He's getting away.

Thenna runs to the stolen speeder and Ben and Artoo follow. R2 beeps at Ben. Ben force-lifts Artoo into the speeder. Kane and Thenna jump in. Ben takes the controls and takes off after Minch.

INT. PORT OLATH - STREET

The Rodian's speeder rockets through the streets of Port Olath, dodging traffic and pedestrians.

BEN

I can't believe you stole a speeder.

KANE

You're the one driving it.

BEN

Don't blame this on me. We don't want them to know we're Jedi, and you pulled your saber out.

KANE

It's a training saber!

Ben shoots Kane a look like he's gone mad. Distracted, Ben almost hits a group of merchants.

THENNA
Stop arguing and drive!

BEN and KANE
Sorry!

Thenna points to the radar screen.

THENNA
Great. He's heading into the
Distribution Center.

INT. PORT OLATH - DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Minch checks the radar on Thenna's speeder and sees that he's still being followed. He steers the speeder into the busiest area of the Distribution Center. Automated cranes and belts sort through an endless stream of cargo containers of all shapes and sizes and drop them onto large hover trucks. Ben steers his speeder right after him.

KANE
I told you we should've left Minch
on the sinking ship.

BEN
Our job as Jedi is to help people.

Ben just barely dodges a large crane.

BEN (con'd)
No matter who they are.

KANE
You call this helping?

They continue to give chase as Minch pulls out of the thick of the Distribution Center and turns down a small cavern.

INT. TOWNOWI CAVE SYSTEM - EXPANSION TUNNELS

Ben continues to gain on Minch. The tunnel has a string of lights running along it's ceiling, but is devoid of traffic.

THENNA
He's taking us outside the city
limits.

BEN

Good.

THENNA

Not good. These tunnels lead up to the surface somehow, but it's a total maze.

KANE

We will be all right. Someone had to travel through here to string these lights up.

Suddenly it goes dark. Now only the running lights of the speeder illuminate the caves.

THENNA

City limits.

Minch is now within sight distance. Kane shifts in his seat and begins to get up.

KANE

Can you get any closer?

BEN

Did I ever tell you you worry me?

KANE

Just do it. Pull up on him.

Ben floors it as Kane gets on the front of the speeder. He steadies himself as the speeder comes up behind Minch. Kane leaps off the hood of the stolen speeder and lands - barely - on Thenna's speeder, just missing the exposed engine, which singes his cloak.

Minch turns and sees Kane moving up towards him and swats at him with his arm. Kane grabs Minch's shoulder.

KANE

Remember what happened last time you fought with me?

Minch gets a devilish look in his eyes and jerks the speeder sharply to the left. He leaps out of his seat, just as Kane realizes what's happened. He too leaps away as the speeder tips, hits the ground, flips over and rolls.

In the Rodian's speeder Ben makes a wild turn in his

speeder, and Artoo is thrown off by the quick turn. Ben has just enough time to react. He grabs Thenna tightly and the two of them leap to safety as well. The stolen speeder slams into Thenna's and the two crash and explode in a flash of light.

Kane gets up and checks himself. His left shoulder is injured. He sees Minch on all fours, holding his head and runs and grabs him.

KANE

You better hope they're still okay.

On the other side of the burning speeder wreck Thenna is lying on top of Ben. She pushes herself up a bit, her face hovering just above his. A strand of her hair dangles in Ben's face. His eyes open.

THENNA

You saved my life.

BEN

Just, um, doing my job.

Thenna stares into his eyes and begins to drop her lips towards his and - they hear a beep. Thenna turns to see Artoo next to them. He turns on his spotlight and continues to talk. Thenna gets up, looking down at Ben as he does the same. They brush themselves off.

THENNA

What's he saying?

BEN

Artoo? Oh. Nothing, just reminding me about something in the Jedi code.

He looks at the wreckage of the speeders.

BEN (con'd)

We better go see if Kane and Minch are okay.

He walks around to other side of the wreckage, and is met by Kane, holding Minch by the arm.

KANE

You two all right?

BEN
Just a few scrapes.

Kane throws Minch's arm at Ben.

KANE
Good. Here's your burden.

The three turn and see Thenna staring at the remains of her speeder. She bends down and picks up a piece of metal and hurls it back at the wreck. Ben turns to Artoo, indicating Minch.

BEN
Hold on to him.

Artoo shoots out a whipcord, which wraps around Minch's neck. Ben and Kane walk over to Thenna, who's practically crying.

THENNA
It's gone. There's no way that's ever being fixed.

Ben puts his arm around Thenna, but she throws it off.

THENNA (con'd)
My speeder's wrecked, we're stuck in these caves and-

KANE
We'll find our way out.

THENNA
How?

KANE
I thought you said the caves lead back up to the surface.

THENNA
Yeah, and no one knows how.

MINCH
<I know how.>

BEN
What?

THENNA

He said he knows how. <You do not
you liar.>

MINCH

Liar! <I can take us right to the
cargo tunnels. Who knows these
caves better than me?>

Thenna sighs. Ben and Kane look at her.

THENNA

He does know these caves pretty
well. It's a long walk, but he
should be able to get us into a
cargo tunnel. I can get us to the
surface from there.

BEN

Minch, you're going to get us out
of here.

KANE

Oh great. Can't we just shoot
ourselves now and save him the
trouble.

Thenna turns and takes one last look at her speeder, before
the group sets out.

WIPE

INT. DOOM KEEP - DARTH NYX'S QUARTERS

Darth Nyx is meditating in her quarters. She sits in the
middle of the room, centered in a small pool of light. Her
eyes open a split second before we hear a chime.

DARTH NYX

Activate.

Her viewscreen turns on, revealing Warden Kvez.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

What?

WARDEN KVEZ

Priority message from Governor Sate
Molok of Townowi.

DARTH NYX
Put him through.

The image fizzles, replaced by the Governor. He's a tall man wearing an elaborate hat, with many medals on the opulent robes he wears over his standard Coalition uniform.

SATE MOLOK
Lady Nyx, I have excellent news.

DARTH NYX
I hope so Governor, I am not to be disturbed otherwise.

Molok, expecting her response, continues, still smiling politely.

SATE MOLOK
We have reason to believe that the Skywalker children are on Townowi.

DARTH NYX
Impossible.

SATE MOLOK
Earlier today we received reports of a thief wielding a lightsaber.

DARTH NYX
Interesting but-

SATE MOLOK
Prior to that a ship crashed in the wastelands.

Molok hits a button off screen and a hologram of the *Jaren's Dream* appears in front of him.

SATE MOLOK (con'd)
The same ship that got away from you on Tatooine.

Molok takes a moment to enjoy the anger rising to Nyx's face.

DARTH NYX
Where are they?

SATE MOLOK

We don't know. I've posted sentry droids, but I want to keep it quiet.

DARTH NYX

If you don't find them shortly put the planet into Lockdown.

SATE MOLOK

Isn't that a bit rash?

DARTH NYX

My Master wants those children.

SATE MOLOK

Last time we had to do that-

DARTH NYX

You have two hours.

SATE MOLOK

Yes m'lady.

Molok, bows his head and cuts his transmission.

WIPE

INT. TOWNOWI CAVE SYSTEM - NARROW PASSAGE

Kane, Ben, Thenna, Artoo and Minch are making their way through a narrow passage. Minch, still tied to Artoo, is leading the way, with Artoo's spotlight illuminating the cavern.

KANE

Are you sure he's not just walking us in circles?

BEN

No, we've been moving upwards for a while now.

KANE

Yeah, well it's a big mountain.

THENNA

I thought Jedi were supposed to be patient?

Kane glares at her.

KANE

You seem to know an awful lot about the Jedi.

THENNA

So?

KANE

I mean cause you're not one.

The three walk in silence for a moment.

THENNA

Listen *Master* Skywalker, not all of us have the freedom to choose our paths in life.

The two of them stare at each other as the group enters a new chamber.

INT. TOWNOWI CAVE SYSTEM - CAVERN

Artoo's light illuminates the huge cavern. Only a thin bridge connects the two sides, with fierce updrafts on either side of them. Hanging from the ceiling are several large stalactites. The group enters, with Minch starting to move around as if sensing something.

MINCH

<I don't like the smell of this place.>

KANE

What'd he say?

THENNA

He says he doesn't like the room.

KANE

I don't sense anything.

They continue onto the bridge, but after a few steps, Minch stops.

MINCH

<Forget it.> Danger.

BEN
What's in here?

KANE
Ignore him, he's faking.

Ben stops and concentrates.

BEN
No, I do feel something. It's
faint but-

KANE
Fine, it's faint. Let's keep
moving.

Minch turn and starts to walk back the way they came,
tugging at the rope connecting him to Artoo.

MINCH
No way. <You want to die, be
my->

Kane shoves his lightsaber in Minch's face.

KANE
Turn around.

Minch looks at him blankly and walks back past Artoo,
swatting him.

MINCH
Move fast droid.
The group begins to cross the bridge when Minch sees a large
swatch of bioluminescent lichens on the side of the bridge.
His eyes light up.

MINCH (con'd)
Kleamins!

He smiles and starts to try and scrape them off the side.

BEN
What's he doing?

THENNA
Kleamins are a delicacy. Worth
quite a bit since they only
grow in the deep caves.

Ben grunts and walks towards Minch.

BEN
Come on, we don't have time.

Ben tries to pull Minch along, but he recoils.

THENNA
I saw something move.

BEN
Where?

THENNA
Look.

Kane and Ben look to where she's pointing. One of the stalactites is missing. Minch continues to reach for the kleamins. Suddenly from the other direction, something swoops in between them, almost knocking the group off the ledge.

BEN
Stay here.

He motions for Thenna to stay put as he and Kane jump back, igniting sabers, holding them at the ready. A bluarg, a long and slender blind creature, with a head a mass of feelers, snout, and teeth, all on a short armor plated neck, swoops down on large leathery wings. It aims its wide clawed feet at Ben who dodges it, and slicing at the creature.

MINCH
<I told you!> Stupid Jedi
boys!

KANE
You're the one who stopped,
you greedy little-

A second bluarg takes a swipe at Kane.

THENNA
There's two of them!

Minch forgets the kleamins and starts to head for the other side of the cavern, Artoo quickly following him. They almost make it when the second bluarg comes at them. It hits Minch and knocks him off the edge. The tether saves

him, but the impact pulls Artoo off balance. The droid falls but shoots a grappling hook out of his dome.

The boys doing their best to fight off the first Bluarg as the group moves towards the other side.

Artoo tries to pull himself up, but Minch is climbing up the tether, making it difficult. He grabs onto Artoo's foot, and Artoo tries to shake him off.

MINCH

Stupid droid!

Artoo makes it to the ledge, but Minch falls again, jerking Artoo and almost breaking the grappling hook. The second bluarg lands on the bridge. It extends its neck, face biting at Minch, who reveals retractable claws. He jabs at the bluarg, stabbing into the feelers on its face. The bluarg roars and bites at the tether, snapping it. Minch quickly grabs onto an armored plate on the bluarg's neck and swings himself onto Artoo's leg as the bluarg spreads its wings and glides under the bridge on an updraft.

Back above, the other bluarg has landed in front of Thenna and Ben, cutting them off from Kane. Ben tries to hit it with his lightsaber, but it dodges and knocks Thenna off the side.

BEN

Thenna!

Kane, positioned behind the Bluarg, begins to strike, but the bluarg whips its head around, neck stretching towards Kane's face. He yells in shock and slices off the feelers on the right side of the bluarg's face. It retreats, leaping into the air and flying off into the darkness.

Meanwhile, Artoo and Minch have climbed back onto the bridge. Kane begins to peer into the darkness, worried. Ben walks up to him, placing his hand on his brother's shoulder.

BEN (con'd)

She's out there somewhere. I think.

Kane begins to speak when they hear Thenna screaming. Both bluarqs return, Thenna holding onto the one that attacked Minch earlier. Its face is bleeding, and it isn't flying very well. The other bluarg is in worse shape, unable to sense anything to its right. It drunkenly heads for Kane.

Thenna, meanwhile, is doing her best to stay on top of her bluarq. She climbs towards its face, using the bony plates on its neck to keep her grip. She ducks as it goes under the bridge, almost taking her head off, but manages to make it. The creature extends its neck to bite at Minch, when Thenna notices the soft flesh under the plates. She reaches under and grabs. The creature screams and changes direction.

The other bluarq attempts to attack Ben and Kane who swings his saber hard. He misses, almost falling off the bridge.

BEN

We have to help Thenna.

KANE

Go, I can handle this.

BEN

Are you sure?

Kane glares at his brother.

KANE

I'll be fine - just go!

Ben runs to Minch and Artoo as Thenna's bluarq swoops overhead. She tries to steer it, but it heads towards the wall of the cavern.

BEN

Thenna! Jump!

Thenna looks back at Ben.

THENNA

Are you out of your mind?

BEN

Trust me - jump!

Thenna closes her eyes for a moment and then jumps off the bluarq. Ben concentrates and tries to guide her with the Force. Thenna begins to drift to the ledge. Her bluarq hits the side of the wall, distracting Ben. Thenna drops, smacking the rock ledge.

THENNA

Ouch!

She glares at him.

THENNA

I'm beginning to lose my faith in
the Jedi.

BEN

I'm only an apprentice.

Behind them, Kane keeps trying to fight off the bluarq attacking them. It makes passes over his head, biting at him. Kane attempts to judge its movement. It makes a turn in the air and comes right at him, when Kane leaps over it. He spins and slices off the creature's head. It thumps as he lands, cheering.

KANE

Got it!

Kane looks at his brother, smiling, when the bluarq's body crashes behind him, smashing through the bridge. The shock causes Kane to lose his balance. He falls backwards, grabbing onto the bridge with both hands. He pulls himself back up as his saber plunges into the darkness.

KANE

My lightsaber!

Ben runs and grabs him. The boys with Minch and Artoo, head towards Thenna as the bridge begins to crumble. The sounds of the rocks smashing down echoes throughout the cavern. Every stalactite begins to shake, revealing that they are all, in fact, bluarqs, now awaking. The four companions reach Thenna and they run for the next cavern.

A male bluarq, larger, and with a horn, comes up behind them. The five run through the small tunnel leading to the next cavern. Minch pauses, seeing kleamins on the inside of the wall. He stops as the others pass him into the next cave. Kane pauses, grabs Minch and pulls him along as the male bluarq punches his head through the opening. It growls, yanks it's head out, and flies away.

INT. TOWNOWI CAVE SYSTEM - SMALL CHAMBER

Kane and Minch join the rest of their comrades.

KANE

Whew - I didn't think we'd make it
out of there alive.

Ben shakes the dust out of his hair.

BEN
You almost didn't.

Kane flares his arms to shake the dust off of his cloak, and is reminded of his shoulder injury.

BEN (con'd)
You lost control.

KANE
Well excuse me for having a little fun-

BEN
You're a Jedi. Jedi don't have fun. People could have been killed.

KANE
We seem to have made it out ok-

BEN
What if I hadn't been there?

KANE
Yeah, well maybe next time I won't need you to be.

The brothers stare at each other for a moment.

BEN
Come on, we still need to make it out of here.

They continue to walk and follow Minch through a small crack.

INT. TOWNOWI CAVE SYSTEM - CONSTRUCTION TUNNEL

The crack leads into a small passage, which the group can barely fit through. They only make it a few steps when they find it leads into a large circular tunnel drilled into the rock. A few lights line the ceiling. Kane looks in wonder.

KANE
Is this one of those cargo shafts you were telling us about?

THENNA

No, this is something else.

They hear a rumble.

BEN

Get back in here.

They duck back into the passageway. The rumble increases and soon a large convoy roars by, consisting of several hover trucks, troops transports and munitions carriers. In addition several Coalition Troopers escort on foot, faces obscured. As they walk past, one of them shines a light past the group's hiding spot, but doesn't notice them. After the convoy passes they step back out into the tunnel.

THENNA

That's not right.

BEN

What?

THENNA

The Coalition shouldn't have roads this deep into the mountain.

KANE

Maybe they're mining?

THENNA

Then why would the troops be with them? Mining isn't a military operation.

KANE

Well who cares?

Thenna and Ben look at Kane.

KANE (con'd)

This tunnel has to lead out somewhere right?

THENNA

Yeah, it should link up with a cargo shaft someplace.

KANE

So lets go.

Kane starts to walk in the direction that the convoy came from. He stops and turns.

KANE (con'd)

Well?

BEN

We should see what they're up to.

KANE

No way, I'm tired of being stuck in the dark.

BEN

We have a responsibility to-

KANE

We have a responsibility to rescue our father. We don't have time to conduct an investigation.

Once again the boys look at each other, waiting for the other to break. Finally Ben looks to Thenna.

THENNA

I would like to get out of here.

Ben sighs, and drops his shoulders.

BEN

Ok, lead the way.

Thenna takes the lead as they continue up the shaft.

EXT. TOWNOWI DOCKING PAD 1138 - DAY

Thenna leads the boys, Minch and Artoo out of the end of the cargo shaft and onto the landing pad. There they see Thenna's ship surrounded by stacks of cargo boxes.

THENNA

There it is.

The boys look over the cargo freighter.

THENNA (con'd)

The *Quantum Pixie*.

Kane snickers.

THENNA (con'd)

What?

KANE

You named the ship didn't you?

THENNA

Yeah, so what?

KANE

Nothing.

Thenna shoots Kane a look.

THENNA

I'll go get my dad.

She turns to Minch.

THENNA (con'd)

You better hide. If my father sees you he'll toss you off the edge.

Minch sneers at her.

MINCH

Feh! <Not if I toss him first.>

THENNA

Really? I'll let him know.

Minch withdraws and hides. Kane turns to Ben as the foursome continues towards the *Pixie*. Thenna reaches up and hits a call button near the ship's ramp.

THENNA

Dad, I'm back.

The ramp clicks and lowers. Thenna's father, DREKKA MONTORRA, begins to walk down, rubbing the grease off of an engine part.

DREKKA

I was wondering what was taking so long. Find anything interesting?

THENNA

Sort of.

Thenna gestures and Drekka looks up to see the Jedi. He snarls.

DREKKA

What business do they have with us?

THENNA

It's a long story. They're stranded here and need a ride back-

DREKKA

Forget it. I ain't helping any Jedi. I don't owe them anything.

Drekka storms back into the ship. Ben begins to follow him back in, but Thenna stops him.

THENNA

Better leave him alone. He's not too fond of the Jedi, or the Republic. I'll go see if I can talk some sense into him.

Looking deflated, Thenna enters the ship.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

Drekka is sitting in the pilot's seat of the six-person cockpit, still fiddling with his engine part. Thenna enters and sits in the co-pilot's seat.

THENNA

Dad, we have to help them.

Drekka huffs and keeps cleaning. He grunts and throws the rag.

DREKKA

Why are these damn things so hard to clean?

THENNA

They just need a ride.

Drekka looks at his rag, now out of reach.

THENNA (con'd)

Dad, we come into this world and
(more)

THENNA (con'd)
 can either do some good, or do some
 harm. It's not like I'm-

Drekka grunts.

DREKKA
 Stop it. You sound just like your
 mother.

THENNA
 You'd know better than I would.

Drekka sighs, Thenna gets in his face and forces him to look
 at her, but seeing she's hurt him, stops being angry.

THENNA (con'd)
 At least let them use our comm to
 contact the Jedi Temple. Maybe they
 can get picked up.

Drekka looks out of the cockpit at the boys and their droid.

THENNA (con'd)
 Please daddy?

DREKKA
 Ok, but just one call.

THENNA
 That's fine.

DREKKA
 This daddy's little girl routine is
 going to get old one day.

THENNA
 Sure daddy.

Thenna goes over and kisses Drekka on the cheek. Drekka gets
 up and exits.

EXT. TOWNOWI DOCKING BAY 1138

The two Jedi are huddled, but turn as Drekka exits the ship.

DREKKA
 All right you two. You can use my
 comm - but that's it.

BEN
Thank you Mr. Sunshadow.

DREKKA
Montorra.

Ben and Kane begin to follow Drekka into the ship.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

Drekka shows Ben and Kane to the controls. They punch a few buttons, activating the holo. Mara answers, startled.

MARA
Boys! I'm surprised to hear from
you. How's your father?

KANE
Not good.

Mara looks down and sees where the transmission is coming from.

MARA
Why aren't you on Tatooine?

BEN
We're on Townowi.

MARA
Townowi?

BEN
It's all right, the Coalition
doesn't know we're here.

MARA
Leave immediately.

BEN
We were near-

KANE
They kidnapped dad!

MARA
What? Who?

KANE

Some woman showed up with Coalition
troops. I think she wad . ln.NE

BEN
What's Lockdown?

DREKKA
High security shields. Someone did something they shouldn't, and they'll search every pad until they find what they're looking for.

Drekka looks at Ben and Kane.

DREKKA (con'd)
How could I have been so stupid!

THENNA
What?

DREKKA
We sent a transmission to Kharam! I knew you Jedi would be trouble.

Drekka rushes out of the cockpit, Thenna follows. The boys look at each other confused and follow them outside.

EXT. TOWNOWI DOCKING BAY 1138

Drekka runs to his cargo, pulls out two hand-held anti-grav pads and begins to load them into the side of the ship.

DREKKA
Thenna, you Jedi, help me hide this stuff.

KANE
Why?

DREKKA
It's contraband. The Coalition has been subjugating this planet and driving the natives underground. I've been smuggling supplies to them.

MINCH
<Yeah and none to me!>

DREKKA
Who said that.

Minch jumps out from behind the cargo boxes.

DREKKA (con'd)
You! What are you doing here?

THENNA
Remember I told you I'd explain how
I met the Jedi. Well, I was on the
speeder...

DREKKA
(looking at Minch)
What'd you do to my speeder?

MINCH
Me? I do <nothing. Blame your
larva.>

Drekka angrily grabs a box and throws it. It busts open,
spilling out several blasters.

THENNA
Dad! I thought you said we need to
hide that stuff!

DREKKA
Not only do we have two wanted
Jedi, but we also have Minch. It's
hopeless. I'm going to put to death
for this.

KANE
Nothing's hopeless. Why can't we
just blast out of here?

DREKKA
No way could I blast through these
shields. They're even stronger than
the docking pad itself.

Drekka looks down at the floor, and runs back into the ship.

DREKKA (con'd)
Come on. All of you.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - LOUNGE

Ben catches up with Kane.

BEN
What's going on?

KANE
Don't worry about it.

Drekka stops.

DREKKA
Either of you know how to use a gun
port?

KANE and BEN
Absolutely

Ben looks at Kane.

DREKKA
Good. Man the guns, I'm headed for
the cockpit.

BEN
We're not doing what I think we're
doing?

Kane nods. Ben shakes his head.

BEN (con'd)
I have a bad feeling about this.

Kane and Ben enter the gun wells - Ben on the right, Kane on the left. As Kane takes the controls, he looks a little confused. Meanwhile, Minch and Artoo stay in the lounge and Thenna follows Drekka into the cockpit.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

Drekka takes the pilot seat and Thenna sits down next to him, taking a headset.

DREKKA
What do you think your doing?

THENNA
I want to help pilot us out.

DREKKA
You know you're not ready, now
go strap in the lounge.

Thenna gets up and storms out.

THENNA (con'd)
You never let me do anything!

DREKKA
(Shouting after her)
Not the time for this!

He puts on his headset.

DREKKA (con'd)
You boys ready?

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LEFT GUNWELL

Kane is still trying to figure out the controls.

KANE
Yeah, um, sure.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

DREKKA
Good.

Drekka raises the ship up and it hits the shielding, causing some sparks.

DREKKA (con'd)
Ok, aim for the fuel storage.

Kane and Ben blast at the landing pad, Ben much more controlled than Kane. The fuel explodes, causing the landing pad to blow up. The *Pixie* shakes, and Drekka, looking nervous, drops the ship under the shield, almost scraping the mountain below, and rockets up through the atmosphere.

EXT. SPACE - NEAR TOWNOWI

The *Quantum Pixie* speeds away from Townowi. Several capital ships are visible in the distance.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - RIGHT GUNWELL

BEN
Looks like planetary defenses
weren't too happy with us leaving.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

DREKKA

Trust me, for an organization preaching freedom from the oppressive Republic, they really hate it when you break the rules.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LEFT GUNWELL

KANE

Squadron of fighters, incoming.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

DREKKA

Time for you boys to prove your worth. Look, those Coalition fighters are fast, but aim for the plasma cell under the guns and you can usually take em out with one shot.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LEFT GUNWELL

DREKKA (V.O.)

Kane - treat my girl well.

KANE

But- Um, Okay.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

DREKKA

What is it?

KANE

Nothing. I'm just not used to this type of gun well.

DREKKA

A little late for that. Ten seconds to maximum range.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LEFT GUNWELL

Thenna shows up by Kane's gun well.

THENNA

Not used to this type of gunwell?
What does that mean?

KANE

Nothing! I just, well I just can't
really shoot too accurately.

THENNA

You blasted the landing pad pretty
good.

KANE

Of course I did - how could I miss!

THENNA

I can't believe we're trusting you
with our ship.

KANE

Hey, I was pretty good back in the
simulators-

THENNA

Simulators!

KANE

I was a little too busy being
taught not to be Darth Vader to
learn how to shoot guns!

THENNA

Get out of that chair.

Kane gets out, Thenna sits down and takes over

THENNA (con'd)

Go help dad fly this thing before
his pride kills us all.

Kane huffs.

KANE

Fine.

Kane leaves.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

DREKKA
They'll be here any second.

Kane comes to the cockpit and sits down next to Drekka.

KANE
Need any help?

DREKKA
Kane! What are you doing here?

KANE
Thenna took the gun from me.

DREKKA
Thenna! But Thenna can't-

EXT. SPACE

Drekka is interrupted by laser fire. The three Coalition Fighters make a run at the ship. Thenna hits two of them instantly one right after the other.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LEFT GUNWELL

DREKKA
Thenna! What are you doing? You've never used the guns before-

THENNA
Sorry dad, I'm a little distracted right now.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

DREKKA
I knew raising her to be independent would come back and bite me one day.

Thenna and Ben continue to blast Coalition Fighters

KANE
She seems to be doing pretty well for herself.

DREKKA

Look, can you fly a ship?

KANE

Sure.

DREKKA

Good. You maneuver, I'll set the coordinates for Kharam.

KANE

How do you know about Kharam?

DREKKA

Because I just do, all right. Take over.

Kane takes the controls. Ben and Thenna keep firing on the increasing amounts of fighters. As Drekka works with the hyperdrive the ship takes a few hits.

DREKKA

I thought you said you knew how to fly.

KANE

I do, sort of. Just starfighters though.

DREKKA

Can't fly, can't shoot, some Jedi you are.

KANE

How bout I aim us back at the planet?

DREKKA

Go ahead, I doubt you'll hit it.

Kane, now angry, drives the ship right at an oncoming fighter.

BEN

Kane! What in the Fire Rings of Fornax are you doing?

DREKKA

Forget it kid, I'm ready to go.

Drekka pulls the hyperdrive lever and the *Pixie* rockets off.

EXT. HYPERSPACE

The *Quantum Pixie* flies through hyperspace.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

Ben, Thenna, Kane and Drekka all enter the lounge. Thenna, Kane and Ben all run to congratulate each other, and Ben gives Artoo a pat.

DREKKA

Look at you two. Not very impressive. The Force must not run too strong in your family.

BEN and KANE

(Proudly)

We're Skywalkers.

DREKKA

Great. No wonder disaster is always just around the corner.

Suddenly they hear a yelp.

MINCH (O.S.)

<Cut that out you> lousy droid! Ow!

Minch jumps back into the room. Artoo follows closely with his shocker arm out. Drekka grabs Minch and picks him up to eye level.

DREKKA

Touch one more thing on this ship and I'll toss you out the airlock.

Minch smiles.

MINCH

<Don't worry about me,> I always stay out of trouble.

DREKKA

It'll be a few hours before we reach Kharam. I'll be in my quarters.

Drekka storms out.

BEN
Is your dad always like this?

THENNA
All our contracts were on Townowi.
Thanks to you guys we have nothing
now.

WIPE

INT. DOOM KEEP - PRISON CELL

Luke's eyes open, only to see two sharp spikes sitting right in front of them. His eyes are yellow and glowing faintly, and he's hanging upside-down, spread eagle, with electromagnets on his wrists and ankles suspending him above the floor. He hears a click and the spiked cage surrounding him lifts up to reveal Darth Nyx, standing in front of him with two Coalition Guards.

DARTH NYX
Welcome to *Doom Keep*, Master
Skywalker.

LUKE
You have no right to-

DARTH NYX
I've been rude. Allow me to
introduce myself. I am Darth Nyx.

Luke is speechless for a moment.

LUKE
Darth? You can't be. The Sith were
destroyed-

DARTH NYX
By your father, yes. Well it seems
we are very much alive.

Luke's eyes close and he concentrates. Nothing happens. Nyx bends down and grabs his forehead with her hand, examining his eyes.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
 Don't bother trying to use the
 Force. We have seen to it that your
 midichlorians remain dormant.

She stands back up and begins to leave.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
 Stay cozy, you may be here for a
 while.

Nyx and the guards exit.

WIPE

EXT. SPACE - KHARAM

The icy planet of Kharam sits quietly in space, surrounded
 by a dense ice belt in orbit.

EXT. KHARAM - JEDI TEMPLE - DAY

The stony Jedi Temple sits overlooking a large canyon,
 surrounded on either side of the tundra by waterfalls. A
 light snowstorm has begun.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - JEDI COUNCIL

Mara sits cross-legged on a raised circular cushion. Ten
 Jedi Council members enter the room, including MASTER TALJA
 and the four-armed MASTER DAL-KON, and sit on similar
 cushions in a circle around the room.

MARA
 Thank you all for coming. I've
 received word from my sons that my
 husband has been kidnapped by a
 Sith Lord.

The Jedi react with shock.

MASTER TALJA
 That's impossible. The galaxy has
 been cleansed of their scourge.

MARA
 We're not the first Jedi to have
 thought that.

Talja nods.

MARA (con'd)
We have little evidence of where he
may have been taken.

MASTER TALJA
Then we must search for him.

The Jedi look at her.

MASTER DAL-KON
Is it wise for us to waste our
resources to search for one man?

MASTER TALJA
If it weren't for Master Skywalker,
none of us would be here today. We
owe it to him.

MASTER DAL-KON
Mara?

MARA
Even I would hesitate to use the
Jedi for selfish reasons.

MASTER TALJA
It is not selfish to rescue our
mentor from certain doom.

The Jedi take a moment to reflect.

MASTER TALJA (con'd)
I suggest that Master Dal-Kon lead
an expeditionary force. We have
enough T-Wings here to-

The door chimes.

MARA
Yes?

The door opens revealing Apprentice OVAN MAREKAL.

OVAN
Sorry to interrupt Masters, but a
ship has arrived in orbit.

Master Talja looks up, out the window.

EXT. SPACE - KHARAM

The *Quantum Pixie* approaches the planet.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - COCKPIT

Drekka, Thenna, Kane and Ben are seated in the cockpit.

DREKKA

They do know we're coming right?

The face of the Jedi Comm Officer appears on Drekka's holopad.

JEDI COMM OFFICER

Welcome *Quantum Pixie*. We are transmitting the course through the ice belt now.

The holo fizzles and Drekka looks at one of his screens.

DREKKA

This better be right.

EXT. SPACE - KHARAM ICE BELT

The *Pixie* darts and weaves through the beautifully complex ice belt.

EXT. KHARAM - JEDI TEMPLE

The *Pixie* flies past the Temple and lowers itself down into the canyon below it.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON

The *Pixie* flies underneath one of the canyon waterfalls.

INT. KHARAM - DOCKING BAY

Mara and Talja stand in the docking bay as the *Pixie* lands. The ramps hisses and lowers, and Kane and Ben appear with Artoo. As soon as they see Mara then run to her and embrace.

MARA

Thank goodness you're all right.

Master Talja walks to Kane and touches his shoulder.

MASTER TALJA

It is good to see you, apprentice.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - LOUNGE

Drekka, Thenna and Minch begin to disembark, when Drekka sees Talja standing outside. He stops and turns, preventing Thenna from leaving,

DREKKA

I want you to stay here.

THENNA

What? Why?

DREKKA

Keep an eye on Minch.

MINCH

<What? I did nothing.>

THENNA

But dad, I've wanted to see -

DREKKA

Stay on the ship.

INT. KHARAM - DOCKING BAY

Drekka leaves the ship and sees Talja standing there staring at him. Mara walks to him with Ben and Kane in tow.

MARA

I can't thank you enough for bringing my sons back. Any thing we can do for you, just ask.

DREKKA

Just some fuel.

Drekka looks at Talja.

DREKKA (con'd)

I just want to get out of here as soon as possible.

MARA

Master Talja will be able to help you with whatever you wish.

Mara and the boys leave with Artoo. Drekka and Talja stare at each other for a moment.

MASTER TALJA
I never expected to see you again.

DREKKA
I'm only here to return some unwanted cargo.

MASTER TALJA
I sense my daughter is here. May I speak with her?

DREKKA
No.

MASTER TALJA
It's the will of the Force that she's here.

DREKKA
I don't want to hear about the Force.

MASTER TALJA
At least tell her I miss her.

DREKKA
Do you?

MASTER TALJA
Don't worry, I'll get you off planet as soon as I can.

DREKKA
Good.

Drekka turns and begins to walk back to his ship.

MASTER TALJA
I'm sorry I had to leave you.

Talja walks up to Drekka and takes his hand.

DREKKA
You didn't have to do anything.

MASTER TALJA
I had to do this for me.

DREKKA
Tell that to your daughter.

Drekka lets go of her hand and disappears inside the ship.

INT. KHARAM - T-WING DOCKING BAY

In a second docking bay, Dal-Kon stands with a large amount of Jedi. Behind them are T-Wings - long-range snubfighters.

MASTER DAL-KON
Finding Master Skywalker will be no easy task. With so little to go on, we will have to split up to cover the most ground. Master Skywalker is counting on all of us. May the Force be with you.

The Jedi's run to their ships.

EXT. SPACE - KHARAM

The fleet of T-Wings exits Kharam and enters hyperspace.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - CONTROL CENTER

Mara stands with her sons in the Jedi Control Center. Several Jedi monitor readouts. They watch the T-Wings enter hyperspace.

WIPE

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - DARTH NYX'S QUARTERS

Nyx is in her quarters standing in front of her viewscreen. We can't see whom she is talking to.

DARTH NYX
Excellent. You shall be commended.

She cuts the transmission and calls up the viewscreen once again. Warden Kvez answers.

WARDEN KVEZ
Yes m'lady?

DARTH NYX

I have just received word from my source on Kharam. The Jedi have begun to search for Master Skywalker.

WARDEN KVEZ

Do you believe they'll find us?

DARTH NYX

Fool. This is what we've been waiting for. Kharam is totally undefended. Prepare your troops and take us to the staging point.

WARDEN KVEZ

Yes m'lady.

WIPE

EXT. JEDI TEMPLE - DOCKING BAY

A line of fuel pipes are hooked up to the *Pixie*, and a few small maintenance droids are performing repairs to the hull.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

Drekka sits on his couch with Thenna and Minch.

DREKKA

We should be ready to go soon.

THENNA

To go where? I still don't see why we can't stay here.

DREKKA

Because we can't. We did our good deed for the day.

THENNA

Well I doubt we'll be getting a lot of contracts from Townowi anymore. And what about Minch?

Minch perks up at his name being mentioned.

DREKKA

We can shoot him, or better yet, hire him out for menial labor.

MINCH
<Very funny, dirty pilot.>

Drekka stands.

DREKKA
I'll go check the systems.

Drekka walks to the cockpit.

EXT. JEDI TEMPLE - DOCKING BAY

Master Talja walks onto the landing pad and enters the *Pixie*.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

Thenna busies herself at the computer console. She turns as she hears footsteps coming her way. Master Talja enters the lounge and Thenna's eyes light up.

THENNA
Mom!

Thenna runs to Talja and embraces her tightly. They release and Talja holds Thenna at arms length, studying her.

MASTER TALJA
My beautiful daughter.

THENNA
I knew you were here! I just knew it. Dad wouldn't let me leave the ship and-

MASTER TALJA
Thenna, relax. Your father has his reasons, but I needed to see you at least once before you left.

THENNA
But I don't want to leave. I want to stay here, I want to be a Jedi-

MASTER TALJA
I'm afraid you can't. Not now.

Thenna withdraws.

THENNA

But why not? It's what I've wanted
for so long.

Master Talja stares at her daughter, almost tearful. She begins to speak when Drekka walks in from the cockpit.

DREKKA

We should be about ready to go-

He sees Talja.

DREKKA (con'd)

Come with me. Now.

Drekka takes Master Talja to the cockpit. Thenna drops on the couch, depressed.

BEN (O.S.)

Thenna?

Thenna looks up and sees Ben and Kane enter.

KANE

We heard you were leaving and just
wanted to say good-bye.

BEN

Is everything all right?

THENNA

My mother came to see me.

KANE

Really, she's here?

THENNA

Yeah, and now she's in the cockpit
fighting with my dad.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - COCKPIT

DREKKA

I thought I told you to stay away
from her.

MASTER TALJA

Well I'm sorry!

Drekka sees Minch under the pilot seat and grabs him by the back of the neck, He thrusts Minch towards the door.

DREKKA
Too bad! Both of you get out of my
ship. You deserve each other.

He opens the cockpit door.

MASTER TALJA
Drekka-

DREKKA
Get out of my ship!

MINCH
You dare no leave me with Jedi.
Nasty man!

Drekka shoves Minch outside of the cockpit. Master Talja looks at him one last time.

MASTER TALJA
Fine. Then leave here immediately.

Talja departs, taking Minch with her, and Drekka slams the cockpit door shut, locking it. Talja hurries out of the ship, taking Minch with her.

KANE
Master Talja is your mother?

THENNA
Yeah, why?

Suddenly they hear the engines whine.

BEN
Uh-oh.

EXT. JEDI TEMPLE - DOCKING BAY

Now detached from the fuel lines, The *Quantum Pixie* raises from the landing pad and heads back out through the waterfall with Drekka furious at the controls.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

Thenna runs to the cockpit door and tries to open it, but it's locked. She bangs on the door.

THENNA
Dad! Dad open up!

In the cockpit, Drekka ignores her. Thenna gives up and walks back to the lounge.

THENNA (con'd)
Useless, he locked the door.

Drekka takes the ship to hyperspace.

THENNA (con'd)
Guess you two are stuck with us a while longer.

WIPE

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - PRISON CELL

The spikes in front of Luke rise back up and two Coalition Guards enter. One has a gun trained on Luke at all times, while the other carries a tray with several instruments, including a ration bar and a syringe.

LUKE
Dinnertime already?

The guard huffs and picks up the ration bar.

LUKE (con'd)
I know you need to keep me alive.

The guard looks at Luke and bends down and shoves the bar in Luke's mouth. Luke spits it out.

LUKE (con'd)
I'm going to starve myself.

The guard bends down to pick up the bar.

GUARD
You're going to eat it.

He pinches Luke's nose and shoves the bar hard into his mouth. Luke gags, and this time spits the bar towards his right hand. The guard, now angry, punches Luke in the face and bends back down to pick up the bar. Luke jerks slightly, his hand inching closer to the gun in the guard's holster.

The gun is drawn magnetically next to Luke's hand. He reaches it with his hand and aims it at the guard's face. The second guard points his weapon at Luke.

LUKE

If you shoot me your master will be very unhappy.

GUARD

Reset the magnet!

The second guard nods and hits the control panel. The magnets shut off for a split second. Luke begins to drop, but the magnets reactivate, trapping Luke in a strange position. It disorients him and the alarms sound.

The first guard tries to wrestle his gun out of Luke's hand, but Luke jerks his wrist sideways and fires at the control panel. It explodes in a shower of sparks and Luke drops to the ground. He hits the first guard with the gun, and shoots the second one.

Luke then tries the door, but it's locked. He looks up and sees a ventilation panel on the ceiling. He attempts to force-leap, but falters, unable. Then the door to the cell opens. He shoots the first guards coming in and runs out of the cell. More Coalition Troopers are headed his way. He fires some more shots and runs off.

WIPE

EXT. HYPERSPACE

The *Quantum Pixie* continues through hyperspace. Drekka gets up to leave the cockpit.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

Drekka enters the lounge.

DREKKA

Look, honey I'm sorry-

He sees the Skywalker boys.

DREKKA (con'd)

What are they doing here!?

THENNA

Dad! You just took off-

DREKKA

This is unbelievable! I risked my neck to bring you home and now you're right back onboard.

BEN

Just let us contact the Temple again. We'll explain everything.

The lounge shakes violently.

THENNA

We've dropped out of hyperspace.

DREKKA

That was the emergency cut out. Something large just got in our way.

Everyone runs to the cockpit.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

They look out of the window and see *Doom Keep* sitting in front of them.

DREKKA

It's a prison station.

KANE

A prison station!

Kane concentrates for a moment.

KANE (con'd)

Dad's on that ship!

DREKKA

That's ridiculous.

BEN

No, he's right.

KANE

We can't go back now.

DREKKA

Oh yes we can, I'm not taking you there.

KANE

Ben, get on the comm. Tell mom
we're getting our father back.

Ben goes to the comm to contact Mara.

DREKKA

I said we're not going.

KANE

Well, they're going to start
launching fighters at us pretty
soon.

Drekka doesn't budge.

KANE (con'd)

How would you like it if you died
and Thenna was left alone?

DREKKA

Don't tug at my heartstrings kid.

KANE

We're Jedi. We're warriors. We'll
go in there, get our father, and be
gone.

DREKKA

I don't want to hear-

THENNA

Just help them one last time.

DREKKA

How? You think we can just fly
right into a prison ship?

Ben has finished explaining everything to Mara.

MARA

Ok, I'll recall the search. I don't
like this, Ben. Be careful.

BEN

We'll make you proud.

MARA

I know you will. May the Force be with you.

Ben smiles, nods and cuts the holo.

DREKKA

I don't like this at all.

EXT. SPACE - DOOM KEEP

The *Quantum Pixie* accelerates towards the prison.

INT. QUANUTM PIXIE - COCKPIT

Drekka aims the ship towards an open docking bay.

DREKKA

This seems too easy. There should at least be a shield up or something.

BEN

Looks like you can just fly into a prison ship.

Drekka shoots Ben a look, and brings the ship in.

INT. DOOM KEEP - DOCKING BAY 1015

The *Pixie* lands softly in the expansive docking bay.

INT. DOOM KEEP - CONTROL CENTER

Warden Kvez oversees the prison control center. Several Coalition Technicians are at control stations, diagnostic computers and other stations. Darth Nyx enters.

DARTH NYX

It seems our prisoner has escaped.

Warden Kvez walks up to her nervously.

WARDEN KVEZ

We're currently searching for him my Lady. The, um, troops will soon be ready for deployment, however, and-

COALITION TECHNICIAN
 Sir, an unauthorized freighter has
 just landed in Docking Bay 1015.

Kvez shoots the technician an angry glance.

DARTH NYX
 Good.

He turns back to her, confused.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
 The sons have returned to save
 the father.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

Drekka, Thenna, Ben, and Kane—have gathered near the landing
 ramp. Drekka grabs a blaster rifle and gives it to Thenna.

DREKKA
 Here.

Drekka notices that Kane is looking sheepish.

DREKKA (con'd)
 Don't worry, I have plenty blasters
 to spare.

After everyone is outfitted, Drekka nods towards the ramp.

DREKKA (con'd)
 Let's get moving.

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - DOCKING BAY 1015

The group exits the ship and begins to leave the docking bay
 carefully.

WIPE

INT. CORUSCANT - LEIA'S OFFICE

Leia presides over the meeting in the Chancellor's office.
 In the middle of the room is a long rectangular table, lined
 with New Republic Military personnel and a few of the senior
 Senators, including GENERAL WEDGE ANTILLES. A holo projector
 lies in the middle of the table, but is not on. Leia is at
 the head of the table, passionately arguing her points, with

a holo-projection of Mara at her side.

LEIA

My sources show that the Coalition is poised to strike at the Jedi Training Center.

GENERAL KADAR

Madame Chancellor, you're asking us to deploy the fleet to defend a planet that our sources tell us is safe.

MARA

We understand what we are asking for. Please believe that we need the fleet to protect the Jedi.

GOLEMUN (O.S.)

The Jedi need our help again?

WEDGE

Senator Golemum, what an unexpected surprise.

Senator Golemum enters in his chair, surrounded by his honor guard.

GOLEMUN

Thank you, General, I apologize for my tardiness to this meeting.

His chair strolls up to the table and looks to Leia.

GOLEMUN (con'd)

I guess I missed the memo regarding its existence. Thankfully, you are all still in session.

MARA

We are wasting valuable time here. Kharam is about to be attacked.

GOLEMUN

How can this be? I thought it's location was a secret?

LEIA

Luke seems to think that the secret has been compromised.

SENATOR BAHIRI

Master Skywalker assured us that the Jedi would not need military assistance.

LEIA

Yes, Senator, Luke is aware. He would not have requested this meeting if not absolutely necessary.

Golemun scoffs.

GOLEMUN

How predictable - the sister and the wife of the Almighty Skywalker putting the needs of the Republic aside to help the Jedi.

LEIA

Without the Jedi, our enemies would have defeated us long ago. Luke and Mara have-

GOLEMUN.

Why isn't Master Skywalker telling us this himself?

Leia glares at Golemun. He has a suspicious look in his eye and a sly smile on his face. Leia maintains her cool.

MARA

We are here, asking for him. Can you help us?

Wedge looks to Golemun, then to Leia.

WEDGE

Leia, while your passion is duly noted, I am afraid we're going to need a little more than that to justify such a strong military action.

Golemun leans back in his chair, smirking. Leia looks ahead blankly, with Mara over her left shoulder, with a distraught look on her face.

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - CORRIDOR

The group heads down the dark, scaffolding-like corridors of *Doom Keep*. Their weapons are at the ready.

DREKKA

This isn't right. We haven't seen a trace of the Coalition since we landed.

KANE

What kind of complaint is that?

Drekka leads the group around the corner.

DREKKA

Trust me, I've been around. I-

A blaster bolt slams into the wall, an inch from Drekka's face. He moves back and waves the group back behind the corner.

KANE

Happy now?

Drekka motions for them to stay down.

DREKKA

Much better, yeah.

COALITION COMMAND TROOPER

Remember, we need the two boys alive. Kill the rest!

Drekka, Thenna and Kane try to shoot back while Ben deflects bolts with his saber, but the strike force is too much. As the troopers push towards them, the group begins to retreat backwards into the corridor.

KANE

Around here.

Kane points to another corridor and the group follows him to a locked door at a dead end.

BEN
Locked! Just great!

Drekka tries to pry the door open when suddenly it opens and he falls inside.

VOICE (O.S.)
Get in!

With little choice, the rest of the group follows the voice and the door slams shut as the Coalition Troopers begin to fire at it.

INT. DOOM KEEP - CONTROL ROOM

Drekka gets up and rushes at the man who opened the door.

DREKKA
You better be-

BEN
Dad!

Luke Skywalker smiles and embraces his sons.

DREKKA
So - this is Luke Skywalker.

Luke releases his boys.

LUKE
Pleasure to meet you.

DREKKA
I'm Drekka, this is Thenna.

Luke walks to an R2 unit plugged in to the diagnostics.

BEN
What's wrong with your eyes?

LUKE
Long story. I found this droid, R2-J2. She was scheduled for a memory wipe.

DREKKA
Plenty of room for her on my ship, so if you don't mind.

LUKE

We can't leave yet.

DREKKA

Why not?

LUKE

This prison is a ruse. I'm the only captive here. They're housing an invasion fleet. The center of this station has been hollowed out and something massive is being constructed there.

BEN

How do we stop it?

Luke points to a belt of charges on the computer console.

LUKE

We're near one of the core conduits that runs to the main reactor of the ship. I was going to detonate it.

Ben looks to the charges, then to his father.

BEN

You weren't planning on coming back were you?

LUKE

Sometimes a Jedi's duty to others outweighs his duty to self.

DREKKA

Well now you have a way off this rust bucket, so no one has to sacrifice themselves anymore.

Ben activates his lightsaber.

BEN

Let's go before they can launch.

The Coalition Troopers on the other side of the door begin to burn through. Luke looks at Kane cradling his rifle.

LUKE

Where's your lightsaber?

The door bursts and laser fire pours through. Drekka, Thenna and Kane start shooting. Five Troopers try to enter, but are subdued.

LUKE
C'mon Jaytoo.

The droid follows the group out of the room.

INT. DOOM KEEP - CORRIDOR

The group continues down the corridor, with Luke taking the lead.

LUKE
It should be down here some-

KANE
More Troopers!

Luke turns, but is shot in the stomach and falls.

BEN
DAD!

Kane, hearing his brother's yell, and seeing his father on the ground, grabs Ben's lightsaber from his hand and charges the Troopers, quickly slaughtering them. He then runs back to Luke, who's now on the ground, with Ben propping him up. Drekka is tending the wound.

DREKKA
Lucky, lucky man.

Kane looks at Drekka, his eyes welling up.

DREKKA (con'd)
Don't worry, he'll survive. But he'll need to be brought back to the ship. Ben, take your father and Jaytoo to the *Pixie* and prep it. Thenna, Kane, you two are with me.

KANE
No. Take Ben, I'm not leaving my father.

DREKKA

Ben gets to go because he knows how to fly a ship. You'll back me into the docking bay.

Kane glares at Drekka.

KANE

Fine.

He cradles his gun and begins to march forward.

KANE (con'd)

See you back at the ship.

Drekka and Thenna follow after Kane.

INT. DOOM KEEP - CONTROL CENTER

Darth Nyx continues to oversee the Control Center. Warden Kvez walks up to her to report.

WARDEN KVEZ

M'lady, they appear to have spilt up. We believe one group is heading for one of the power cores.

DARTH NYX

It must be Skywalker. Leave him to me.

INT. DOOM KEEP - CORE ROOM 7 CORRIDOR

Drekka, Kane and Thenna blast two Coalition Troopers guarding the entrance to the Core Room.

DREKKA

The Core Room.

INT. DOOM KEEP - CORE ROOM 7

The Core is a giant empty sphere with a huge generator running vertically down the middle. A long platform circles the room, with an expandable bridges extending to the generator in the middle, 4 in all.

Drekka, Thenna and Kane enter. The room is engulfed in, pulsing generator-type sound, rendering the three unable to hear each other.

KANE
 (Drowned out)
 I can't hear a thing in here!

Drekka points to the charges and then to the Core. The kids understand and wait while Drekka hurries to the bridge and hits the controls. The bridge begins to slowly extend.

Thenna starts to say something when someone walks past the door. She backhands Kane in the arm.

THENNA
 (Drowned out)
 Kane - look!

Kane looks around.

KANE
 (Drowned out)
 What?

Thenna points the core where Drekka is. Kane shrugs, not seeing anything. He looks again and sees Darth Nyx striding towards her father, who is now walking down the extending bridge. Thenna begins to run towards it.

Drekka attaches the charges to the core and types in the detonate code. Before he can hit the button to activate it, though, Nyx appears out of nowhere at the control panel, and begins to retract the bridge, then destroys the panel with her fist.

DARTH NYX (V.O.)
 Not who I expected.

Drekka shakes his head to get her voice out of it, then turns to see her standing at the end of the bridge with her two sabers lit.

THENNA
 (Drowned out)
 Dad!

Nyx turns and looks directly at Thenna, who is now screaming. Nyx uses the Force to push her back towards Kane and away from Drekka. Kane runs forward but is thrust back, hard against the wall. Nyx turns back to Drekka.

DARTH NYX (V.O.)
The Force is strong with your
daughter.

Drekka's face turns angry. He plants his feet, stands his ground.

DREKKA
(Drowned out)
You leave her alone!

DARTH NYX (V.O.)
You're awfully brave for someone
who's about to die.

Drekka looks across the room to Thenna. She's in tears, shaking her head. Kane is next to her, frantically trying to move, but remaining pinned to the wall.

Drekka gives Thenna a salute. He draws his gun and fires a shot at Nyx, distracting her. Thenna, hysterical, screams, unheard, kicking her legs.

THENNA
(Drowned out)
No!

Drekka turns and leaps forward. Nyx hurls one of her sabers into Drekka's back as hard as she can. As the saber pierces him, Nyx drops the kids to the floor. Drekka slams his hand down on the activator before falling into the cavern below. The charges begin to blink red. Darth Nyx pulls her saber back to her from the cavern and turns towards Kane and Thenna.

Thenna begins to fire at Nyx, who deflects every bolt. She gets ready to attack Thenna, but a bolt goes wild and hits a pipe. It bursts, sending a cloud of hot steam where Nyx is standing. The loud hum in the room dissipates. Nyx as she screams as the steam blasts her towards the edge of the platform. When the cloud clears, she's gone. Kane is runs to Thenna, who collapses in a heap on the floor.

KANE
Come on, we still have to get out
of here.

Thenna slowly rises and they run out of the room.

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - DOCKING BAY 1015

Ben and Jaytoo, who is helping to carry Luke with a hoverbeam, have entered the docking bay, which is occupied by several Troopers. They and pin the three of them down by the entranceway. Ben deflects two blasts with his saber.

BEN

This is crazy! We'll never get to the ship.

Ben deflects a few most blaster bolts, one of which hits a Trooper nearby. He concentrates and waves his hand towards the ship. The lower belly cannon activates starts to fire salvos upon the troopers, taking most of them out. Ben runs to the ramp and lowers it, before waving for Jaytoo to bring Luke over.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - LOUNGE

They enter the lounge. Ben places Luke on the flight couch and

BEN

Jaytoo, watch after him.

Ben runs to the cockpit.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

Ben takes the controls and powers up the ship as more Troopers enter the docking bay and begin to shoot at the ship. Ben slams the control console.

BEN

This thing's slower than a Hutt.

The ship slowly whirrs to life as Kane and Thenna run into the bay, fighting the troopers, and onto the ship. Thenna and Kane soon burst into the cockpit.

KANE

We're here, we're here - go go go!

BEN

Where's Drekka?

He sees Thenna collapse into the copilot's seat, crying.

KANE
Just go, all right.

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - DOCKING BAY 1015

The ship turns and blasts out of the docking bay.

EXT. SPACE - *DOOM KEEP*

The *Pixie* exits amongst a flurry of ships.

INT. *DOOM KEEP* - CONTROL CENTER

A Coalition Technician runs to Warden Kvez.

TECHNICIAN
Sir, the ships have begun to
launch, but we have a problem.

The Technician points to a monitor showing the explosion in Core Room 7. Kvez lets out a painful sigh.

WARDEN KVEZ
It's premature, but prepare the
Dark Claw for launch.

The Technician nods and leaves as the evacuation klaxons begin to wail.

INT. *QUANTUM PIXIE* - COCKPIT

Ben and Kane stare at the fleet of ships deserting the station.

BEN
We better warn Kharam.

KANE
We will! Just go! Now!

BEN
Calm down, I've still got to-

KANE
Wait! There's the ship dad was
talking about!

EXT. SPACE - DOOM KEEP

Doom Keep begins to break apart, revealing a massive ship in the center - *The Dark Claw*.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - COCKPIT

BEN

So what, it's toast. You want us to get out of here, we're getting out of here.

Ben pulls the hyperspace lever.

EXT. SPACE - DOOM KEEP

The *Quantum Pixie* goes to hyperspace as *Doom Keep* explodes in a tremendous fireball, taking most, but not all, of the fleeing ships with it. The *Dark Claw* is engulfed in flames.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - COCKPIT

As the ship rockets through hyperspace Ben calls Mara on the holocomm.

MARA

Are you alright?

Ben looks at Thenna, now being consoled by Kane.

BEN

Mostly. We rescued dad, but they launched an invasion fleet.

MARA

I knew it! When Leia hears this she'll- Look, we'll prepare for the invasion, Get here as soon as you can.

Ben cuts the comm.

WIPE

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - MEETING ROOM

Mara and Talja stand in front of a small group of Jedi.

MARA

I've just received word that the Coalition has launched an invasion force towards the temple.

The Jedi begin to all talk at once.

MARA (con'd)

I've recalled Master Dal-Kon and the rest of the fleet, but they won't be here for some time. In the meanwhile, prepare the swoops and be ready for attack.

Mara nods and the Jedi begin to break up. Mara steps down and begins talking to a group of Jedi.

INT. QUANTUM PIXIE - LOUNGE

Kane is sitting on the floor, comforting Thenna.

BEN (O.S.)

Get ready, we're almost there.

EXT. SPACE - ICE BELT

The *Pixie* drops out of hyperspace in the midst of the remaining Coalition fleet. Several fighters attempt to attack them, but get lost in the ice belt. A Coalition Troop Transport attempts to follow them through, but is badly damaged. It does, however, manage to make it.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON

The Transport follows the *Pixie* but is shot down. It crashlands in the canyon as the *Pixie* enters the waterfall.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - DOCKING BAY

The *Pixie* comes through the waterfall and lands sharply in the docking bay. Kane and Thenna unstrap themselves as the ramp lowers. Mara is standing right outside. With Artoo and a medical team behind her, she peers in as Thenna exits, Ben and Kane right behind her, propping up Luke. Mara sees him and gasps.

MARA

Luke.

She runs to him and helps the boys take him off the ship. The medical team places Luke on a hovering stretcher. Artoo warbles at him as he passes.

MARA (con'd)
Get him to the Medbay immediately.

The med team rushes Luke away, with Kane attempting to follow. Mara stops him.

BEN
The invasion force is out there. A transport followed us, but crashed in the canyon.

MARA
Good, Dal-Kon should be here shortly.

BEN
I'm taking a T-Wing.

MARA
It's too dangerous.

BEN
We've got no one up there.

Ben begins to run over to a docked T-Wing.

BEN (con'd)
I'll prep her, c'mon Artoo.

MARA
(Sighing)
Be careful.

Mara rushes off with Kane, Thenna, and Jaytoo.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

Master Talja is standing with Minch over the shoulder of a technician when Thenna and Jaytoo enter the Command Center. They see her Thenna, and rush over.

MASTER TALJA
Thenna?

Thenna looks to her mother, eyes welling up. Without saying a word she runs to her, and they embrace. Talja looks into Thenna's eyes.

MASTER TALJA (con'd)

Oh no.

THENNA

He was so brave. He saved us all.

Talja hugs her daughter again.

MASTER TALJA

I know, I know.

Talja looks up as Ben's voice breaks through the comm system.

BEN (O.S.)

This is Alpha Blue to Zulu Base-

Minch tentatively puts his hand on Thenna's back. She looks at him, unsure at first, but smiles.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

Ben's T-Wing flies into the ice belt, Coalition Fighters begin to head for him. He banks his ship to avoid their shots. He fires back, but misses. Fiddling with the controls, Ben begins to look worried.

BEN

Dal-Kon better hurry.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - MEDICAL CENTER

Mara is sitting next to Luke, who is now semi-conscious, with eyes returning to normal.

LUKE

We've raised two very brave young Jedi.

Mara strokes Luke's forehead.

MARA

They certainly have their father's spirit.

Luke smiles.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON BOTTOM

A large door at the bottom of the crashed Troop Transport creaks open. A Coalition Officer limps out into the falling snow, his face bloody. Behind him are rows and rows of white armored Coalition Troopers wearing jetpacks. The Officer wipes a trickle of blood from his mouth and looks up to the Jedi Temple high above.

COALITION OFFICER
Death to the Jedi.

Behind him the troops cheer.

JETPACK TROOPERS
Death to the Jedi!

The fire their rockets and whoosh up out of the carrier.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

Talja stands with Thenna as one of the technicians points to her screen.

FEMALE TECHNICIAN
Master, look at this.

Master Talja walks over to the screen and sees a large amount of blips starting to rise from the bottom of the canyon.

MASTER TALJA
I knew it. Launch the swoops.

Master Talja hits a button on the console.

INT. JEDI MEDICAL CENTER

Mara continues to tend Luke

MASTER TALJA (V.O.)
Mara?

She looks up.

MARA
Yes?

MASTER TALJA

It seems the Troop Transport is in better shape than we thought. It's launched troopers into the canyon. The swoops are away.

MARA

Good. Tell Kane that-

MASTER TALJA

Kane's not here.

MARA

He's not?

INT. JEDI COMMAND CENTER

Thenna looks at Minch, prompting Talja to do the same.

MINCH

What? Not my idea to go get swoop!

MASTER TALJA

Mara-

INT. JEDI MEDICAL CENTER

MARA

I heard.

She looks to Luke. He writhes in pain.

LUKE

The Dark Side.

Mara gets up and runs out.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON

Over thirty Jedi mount their swoops and burst from behind a waterfall. The swoops are nothing more than a saddle and an engine, which they steer with their feet, leaving their arms free to wield a lightsaber.

They swoop downwards through the heavy snow as the Troopers rise from the bottom and begin shooting.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - SWOOP DOCKING BAY

Kane runs into the docking bay and over to one of the remaining swoops, when he stops.

DARTH NYX
Skywalker.

He turns to see Darth Nyx standing behind him. Kane stares in horror.

KANE
It can't be.

DARTH NYX
Oh yes.

She begins to slowly stride towards him.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
I'm afraid it is.

She stops five paces from where Kane is standing.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
Poor little Jedi. Daddy's not here.

Kane looks at Luke's saber hanging from her belt. Nyx motions, using the force to lift up Luke's saber and floats it, spinning, between her and Kane.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
Go on, take it. Are you afraid?

Kane carefully walks towards the slowly spinning saber. He hesitantly reaches out his hand to grab it. Suddenly it activates, swinging at Kane's head. He jumps back and falls to the floor as Nyx calls the saber back to her belt, laughing.

DARTH NYX (con'd)
You do your family proud.

The doors to the docking bay open, revealing Mara, green saber lit.

MARA
Leave him alone.

Ignoring Mara, Nyx keeps her eye on Kane.

DARTH NYX

Poor, weak, little Jedi. Good thing
your mother is here to save you.

Kane gets up, attempting to defy Nyx. He looks behind her to Mara. Kane activates Ben's blue saber, Nyx spins, and activates both her sabers, blocking Mara's. She pushes Mara off of her, and the two begin to duel.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

Ben chases after a Coalition Fighter, with two others behind him. He fires at the lead, winging it before almost crashing into an ice meteor. He takes a deep breath, and tries to shake the two fighters behind him.

BEN

Dal-Kon, you better get here soon.

One of the Fighters shoots at a large chunk of ice, melting it and creating a new obstacle for Ben. He pulls up, barely avoiding the crash, when from out of nowhere the fighters are blasted. More T-Wings enter the ice ring.

DAL-KON

You needed some help Skywalker?

BEN

It's about time!

DAL-KON

Keep that up and I may just go
home.

BEN

Be my guest, but there may not much
home to go to.

Another blast hits Ben's T-Wing.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON

The vertical battle continues, as the Jetpack Troopers overwhelm the small Jedi force. Ovan Marekal drops his swoop behind a Jetpack Trooper and takes a swing at him with his saber. It slashes the jetpack and the Trooper goes flying. Two other Troopers then rush Ovan from both sides, firing. He deflects their lasers, but one hits the swoop's engine. It sputters and Ovan falls through the battling Jedi. He

begins to rewire the swoop, and it starts up moments before it crashes into the ground. Smiling, Ovan rises back up into the battle.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - SWOOP DOCKING BAY

Kane and Mara are dueling with Darth Nyx. She gracefully deflects both Jedi's sabers, keeping them at bay. Mara swings low and Nyx leaps up in the air, spinning and landing behind Mara. Kane runs after her, but Nyx takes a swing at Mara's face and she goes down. Mara gets up, wiping blood from the cut on her cheek made by the knife blade on Nyx's saber. Nyx looks at Kane and laughs.

DARTH NYX

What's the matter boy? Afraid
mother can't protect you.

Nyx swings at Kane and starts to duel him as Mara quickly gets back up and charges at Nyx. She parries Mara and force-pushes Kane over.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

An entire family of great Jedi, and
then there's you. Pathetic.

Kane looks up, hurt.

MARA

Don't listen to her.

Nyx turns and fights Mara with both sabers, wearing her down. Kane leaps up and flies forward, slamming into Nyx and knocking her down.

DARTH NYX

Powerful anger for such a small
child.

Nyx smiles and pushes Kane off of her, while dodging a blow to the head from Mara.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

As the T-Wings dodge ice particles, dog-fighting, Ben is being chased by a Coalition Fighter, which he manages to dodge and destroy.

Ben banks his fighter and notices that a small group of fighters is about to leave the ice ring.

BEN
Zulu Base, warning-

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

Master Talja stands over the technicians, with Thenna close beside her. Minch hangs to the back of the room with Jaytoo, eyes on Thenna.

BEN (V.O.)
Alert the swoops, we have fighters
breaking through.

EXT. KHARAM - JEDI TEMPLE

The group of fighters takes pot shots at the Jedi Temple, but descends into the canyon to help the Troopers.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON

Ovan and the rest of the Jedi continue to fight the Coalition Troopers, when the group of fighters drops in and begins to fire at them. A few Jedi are blown off their swoops.

Ovan makes a run for one of the ships. It fires at his swoop and it explodes. Ovan leaps off at the last moment and lands on the edge of the cockpit. The Coalition pilot begins to bank his craft to knock Ovan off, but Ovan uses his saber to cut the cockpit release. He tosses the pilot out, takes control of the ship, and begins to attack the other fighters.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

The Female Technician signals to Master Talja, who joins her at her radar screen.

FEMALE TECHNICIAN
Master, look.

A large blip appears, heading towards the ice ring. Talja hits a button to call the T-Wings.

MASTER TALJA
Blue Squadron, we're picking up a
new arrival.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

From the ice ring, Ben is staring out at the massive ship heading towards them - *The Dark Claw*.

BEN

Yeah. We see it.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - SWOOP DOCKING BAY

Nyx blocks a swipe from Kane and pushes her attack on Mara. She begins to push her back towards the wall, while simultaneously fighting Kane, almost as an afterthought. Nyx and Mara lock sabers and Nyx shoves Mara back with all her might. She back flips over Kane, deflecting his attack as she flies over his head.

Landing, she uses the Force to toss a few tools at Mara, as Kane attacks her. Mara dodges the debris tossed at her, but then Nyx looks to one of the unmanned swoops on the far wall. She flicks her hand and activates the swoop. It accelerates across the room at Mara, who barely has time to leap out of the way.

The swoop slams into the wall, exploding. Debris flies everywhere, and Mara is knocked to the ground. Kane is distracted, and Nyx deactivates her sabers and grabs him.

DARTH NYX

Now come with me.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMANDER CENTER

Talja continues to monitor the battle screens.

FEMALE TECHNICIAN

Master, explosion in Docking Bay 4

Master Talja takes a step towards the monitor when another technician calls from across the room.

TECHNICIAN

Bigger problem. The warship is getting closer.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

A T-Wing follows closely behind a Coalition Fighter. It fires twice, destroying it, only to quickly be blown up by turbolasers from the *Dark Claw*

BEN

Preventing these fighters from getting through the belt will be pointless once that ship gets in range.

Dal-Kon dodges laser fire.

MASTER DAL-KON

Wise observation young Jedi, but all the firepower we have won't be enough.

BEN

There has to be a way.

Ben steers his T-Wing towards the *Claw*.

MASTER DAL-KON

Skywalker!

Ben continues to speed closer to the ship.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - SWOOP DOCKING BAY

Nyx is pulling Kane by the arm, towards the snowy cliff at the edge of the docking bay.

DARTH NYX

Come on you weak little fool.

She whips his around and shoves him down onto the snowy cliff. The waterfall roars behind them, and pulls in the falling snow from outside, creating a small flurry.

Kane gets up and points his saber at Nyx's chest.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

Don't try and intimidate me, child.

She re-ignites her sabers and holds them in a defensive stance. Kane sizes up Nyx for a moment and then charges, furiously attacking her with his saber. Nyx easily defeats every blow and pushes Kane near the cliff edge.

DARTH NYX (con'd)

You are a failure to your family's name.

Kane looks behind Nyx and sees that Mara is starting to get up.

KANE

I will be a great Jedi warrior one day.

DARTH NYX

Ha. If you didn't have your family to protect you, you'd be either dead or navigating spice freighters.

Kane stares at Nyx, angry. She uses the moment of intimidation to casually swipe her saber. Kane looks and sees that she's sliced off the end of his saber handle, deactivating it.

Mara, now standing, ignites her saber and runs at Nyx. Nyx turns to fend off the assault, and Kane jumps out of the way. Mara and Nyx battle each other, neither gaining the upper hand. Nyx uses the Force to push Mara off of her, but as Mara flies back, Nyx's foot slips on the snow. At that moment Mara leaps up, flying at Nyx. She kicks her in the stomach and Nyx goes backwards off the cliff.

Mara shuts off her saber and walks carefully with Kane to the edge of the cliff. They peer over and see nothing, but Nyx has used the knife blades on her sabers to cling to the side. She pushes off of her handles and flies back up with them to cliff level. She lands and pulls Kane towards her, kissing him on the mouth. She then speaks in a strange tongue.

DARTH NYX

<It is your destiny to join us.>

Kane responds in the same language.

KANE

<I'll never be one of you.>

Nyx raises her arms in the air and takes a backwards dive off of the cliff into the mist below. Kane looks down and sees that she's placed one of her sabers in his hands.

MARA

What language was that?

Kane looks at his mother.

KANE

I only know one.

Mara looks deep into Kane's eyes, searching.

MARA

We better head to the Command
Center.

They run off towards the command center.

EXT. KHARAM - CANYON

Ovan makes a direct hit on the last fighter. It's engine explodes and it begins to fall to the floor below. He turns his fighter back and goes to help the other Jedi.

The Troopers have dwindled to less than the amount of surviving Jedi, but are still advancing upwards. Ovan helps in the battle. He changes the transmission of the fighter and contacts Dal-Kon

OVAN

Master Dal-Kon, we're almost done
down here, how are things looking
for you?

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

Dal-Kon dodges a shot from a Coalition Fighter.

MASTER DAL-KON

We're wearing down the fighters,
but there's still that war cruiser
to deal with. And young Ben's gone
suicidal.

Ben starts an attack run on the underside of the ship.

BEN

Very funny Mas-

A shot from the *Dark Claw* hits Ben's ship, causing an explosion

BEN (con'd)

Hey, Artoo?

Artoo warbles.

BEN (con'd)

Fix that!

Ben's controls give a burst of static before working once more.

MASTER DAL-KON

You okay?

BEN

Yeah, but my targeting computer is down.

MASTER DAL-KON

You're too old to be use-

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

Mara and Kane rush into the Command Center, exhausted. Kane immediately goes to Thenna's side and hugs her, while Mara heads right to Master Talja.

MARA

How are we doing?

MASTER TALJA

Not good. The canyon is clear, but the largest warship I've ever seen is heading right towards us.

Several small blips appear on the Technician's scope.

TECHNICIAN

Warning! The ship just launched two squadrons of fighters.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

The squadrons of Coalition Fighters burst from the docking bays underneath the *Dark Claw*, which is now penetrating the ring.

MASTER DAL-KON

Skywalker - get out of there now!

In an incredible show of maneuvering, Ben begins to dodge the shots fired by the passing fighters. He almost survives

unscathed when the last three fighters all connect. Artoo screams as Ben's fighter is damaged and goes spinning.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

Thenna quickly looks up towards the ceiling, startling Kane and Minch.

THENNA

Ben!

INT. *THE DARK CLAW* - BRIDGE

Warden Kvez is staring out of the bridge's main viewport.

COALITION TECHNICIAN

Sir, the Temple will soon be in range.

WARDEN KVEZ

Excellent. Begin charging the main gun.

The Technician nods.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

MARA

Do you think we could evacuate in time?

Master Talja begins to answer when the Female Technician calls out.

FEMALE TECHNICIAN

More warships dropping out of hyperspace.

Mara's shoulders hunch as Talja wipes her brow and sighs.

MASTER TALJA

The day is lost. We should prepare for our-

The comm crackles with a large burst of static.

GENERAL ANTILIES (V.O.)

This is General Antilles on Republic Defender *Guardian*. May we offer our assistance to you?

Mara and Talja look to each other. Talja hangs her head in relief, Mara smiles and looks at Kane, Thenna and Minch, who are all cheering.

MARA
Welcome General. We certainly could use the help.

INT. *GUARDIAN* - BRIDGE

Wedge stares at a tactical map of the battle in progress, with Leia standing beside him.

GENERAL ANTILLIES
We'll try to take out that war cruiser as soon as possible.

He flicks a few buttons, bringing up a schematic.

GENERAL ANTILLIES (con'd)
(to himself)
Heavy shielding over the main reactor-

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

MARA
You better hurry General. I fear our time is running out.

EXT. SPACE - ICE RING

The *Guardian* is quickly surrounded by several Republic support vessels and starfighters. The starfighters immediately head for the *Dark Claw*, as the remaining Coalition Fighters begin to pull out of the belt and go to hyperspace.

RED LEADER
Red Leader to *Guardian*.
Beginning our attack run.

Near the bow of the *Claw*, Ben's T-Wing floats. The lights in his cockpit are flickering.

MASTER DAL-KON
(through comm system)
Come in...walker. Do...ead...ver?

Ben shakes his head to clear it.

BEN
I'm here master. Most of my systems
are fried, but I'm okay.

He begins to look over the damage.

BEN (con'd)
Life support, and I have thrusters
but no engines.

MASTER DAL-KON
Listen to me. You have to get out
of there.

Ben looks up, and out of his cockpit window. His ship is floating directly in front of the *Dark Claw's* main gun.

INT. *THE DARK CLAW* - BRIDGE

Warden Kvez is steadily pacing.

COALITION TECHNICIAN
Main gun charged.

WARDEN KVEZ
Arm the warhead and prepare to fire
on my mark.

INT. *GUARDIAN* - BRIDGE

A Republic Officer calls out to General Antilles, who looks at the bridge's main monitor.

GENERAL ANTILLIES
They've armed the main gun. We're
too late. I'm sorry Mara.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - COMMAND CENTER

MARA
Understood. We'll try and evacuate
as many personal as possible.

INT. *GUARDIAN* - BRIDGE

GENERAL ANTILLIES
All craft disengage.

EXT. SPACE - ICE BELT

RED LEADER
You heard him, abort. Abort.
Concentrate on the remaining
fighters.

The Republic starfighters pull away from the *Claw*.

EXT. SPACE - ICE BELT

From his cockpit, Ben can see the warhead begin to glow at the end of the barrel.

BEN
Artoo, reverse thrusters-

He hesitates.

BEN (con'd)
On my mark.

MASTER DAL-KON
Get out of there now.

BEN
Arming proton torpedoes.

MASTER DAL-KON
I'm giving you a direct order,
Skywalker.

BEN
Fire!

Ben hits the controls, but nothing happens.

BEN (con'd)
Artoo! What's wrong?

Artoo beeps, his words displaying on Ben's flickering screen.

BEN (con'd)
Jammed!

The glowing warhead starts to move forward as Ben begins to concentrate. The jammed mechanism slowly moves before releasing with a snap. The two proton torpedoes fire from Ben's ship.

BEN (con'd)
 Artoo! Full reverse now!

INT. *THE DARK CLAW* - BRIDGE

Warden Kvez has his eye on Kharam.

WARDEN KVEZ
 Fire!

COALITION TECHNICIAN
 Warhead launched.

EXT. SPACE - ICE BELT

The *Dark Claw* explodes from the inside. Ben's T-Wing pulls away in reverse, but is caught in the *Dark Claw's* triumphant fireball. Shaken, Ben steers his broken craft back towards the planet below.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - DOCKING BAY

The T-Wings enter the docking bay along with the remaining swoops and Ovan's captured fighter. Ben leaves his ship as R2 is lowered to the ground. He is cheered by the surviving Jedi as the hanger doors open, revealing Mara, Thenna, Kane and Minch who run in to greet Ben as well.

THENNA
 You're okay!

Thenna hugs Ben, as Kane simply grabs his shoulder.

KANE
 Yeah. You're a hero.

The Jedi continue to celebrate.

WIPE

EXT. KHARAM - JEDI TEMPLE - SUNSET

A fire burns on one of the Temple's parapets.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - HALLWAY

Leia walks with Threepio and Golemun, on his throne.

LEIA

I'm glad you've decided to come
tour the temple.

GOLEMUN

Don't think I'm here for anything
but an investigation. I don't trust
these sorcerers.

LEIA

It seems it was the Coalition that
showed their true colors today, not
the Jedi.

GOLEMUN

The Jedi must have provoked them.
Why would the Coalition make such a
risky move otherwise? I promise you
Chancellor, I will bring an end to
the Jedi before my career is over.

LEIA

I assure you Senator, if you are
this blind, your career may not
last much longer.

Golemum stops and looks Leia deep in the eyes.

GOLEMUN

I warn you not to underestimate me,
Chancellor.

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - PARAPET

Golemum stares as Master Talja puts a hand on Thenna's
shoulder, causing her to rise. The procession begins to
leave.

WIPE

EXT. SPACE - NARAGNOK

Black storms swirl across the dark red planet of Naragnok.

EXT. NARAGNOK - TOWER

Lighting bolts crash behind a sea of lava, the Sith Tower a
thin silhouette in the foreground.

INT. TOWER - SECUTOS'S LAIR

Darth Secutos begins to speak from the shadows, perhaps nothing more than a hologram.

DARTH SECUTOS
She has failed to bring me
Skywalker.

DARK VOICE (O.S.)
I told you she was weak, Master.

DARTH SECUTOS
Patience.

A dark figure in a solid ebony mask steps out from the shadows. Darth Secutos begins to laugh.

DARTH SECUTOS
We will destroy them soon enough.

WIPE

INT. JEDI TEMPLE - ASSEMBLY HALL

The Jedi stand assembled in the large Assembly Hall, along with the New Republic Military and honored Senators and guests. On a stage at the end of a long walkway are Luke, with Ben standing in front of him, Talja with Kane in front of her, and Mara alone in the middle. Minch, Artoo, Threepio and Leia stand at the edges of the stage as well.

The assembly turns and Thenna enters, now dressed in a Jedi robe. She strides triumphantly to the stage, where she stands in front of Mara. She bows to Luke, and he returns it. She then faces Mara and bows on one knee. Mara places both hands on Thenna's shoulders and then kneels in front of her as well. The two rise together, and Thenna turns to face the assembly. She smiles and looks at her mother as the Jedi ignite their sabers in salute. She is now a Jedi apprentice.

WIPE TO
END
CREDITS