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DOUGLAS WHEATLEY
2012

FROM YOUR PALLS AT DARK HORSE COMICS AND

STAR WARS®

THE ASSASSINATION OF DARTH VADER

SCRIPT Brian Wood | ART Ryan Odagawa | COLORS Gabe Eltaeb
LETTERING Michael Heisler | COVER ART Douglas Wheatley
ASSISTANT EDITOR Freddye Lins | EDITOR Randy Stradley

THE REBELLION (FROM THE BATTLE OF YAVIN TO FIVE YEARS AFTER)

Open resistance begins to spread across the galaxy in protest of the Empire's tyranny. Rebel groups unite, and the Galactic Civil War begins. This era starts with the Rebel victory that secured the Death Star plans, and ends a year after the death of the Emperor high over the forest moon of Endor. This is the era in which the events in *A New Hope*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, and *Return of the Jedi* take place.

The events in this story take place shortly after the events in *Star Wars: Episode IV—A New Hope*.

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CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT™

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THE IMPERIAL
STAR DESTROYER
DEVASTATOR.

STAR WARS

THE ASSASSINATION OF DARTH VADER

WRITER **BRIAN WOOD** ARTIST **RYAN ODAGAWA**
COLORS **GABE ELTAEB** LETTERING **MICHAEL HEISLER**

This story takes place shortly before the events in *Star Wars: A New Hope*.



I WAS TO DIE.

THE FEAR AND ANTICIPATION WERE POURING OFF THEM LIKE A STENCH.

THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS ARE... ROBUST, TROOPER.

CAPTAIN TORN'S ORDERS, LORD VADER, WHEN DEALING WITH INDEPENDENT BOUNTY HUN--



BOBA FETT IS NO THREAT TO US.

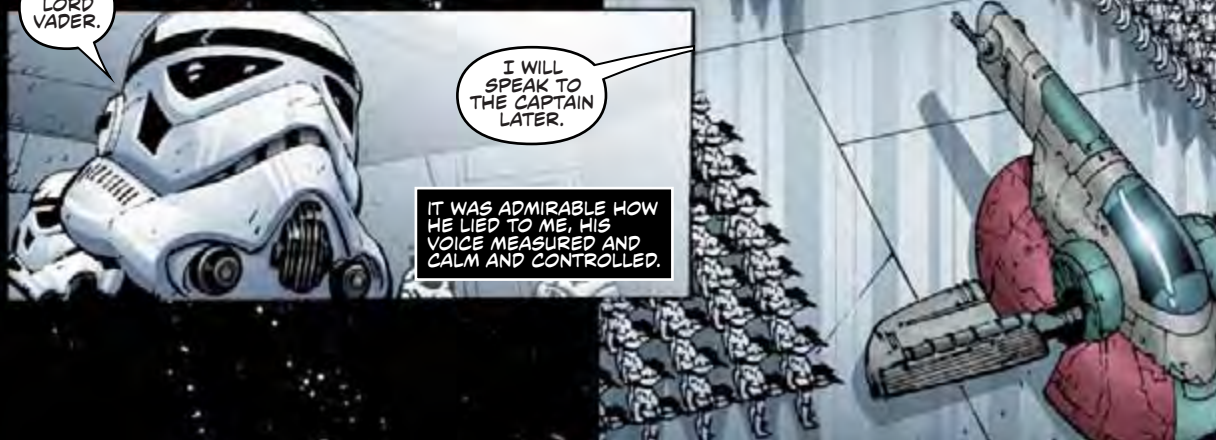
TORN WAS AN OPPORTUNIST, A BRUTAL MAN WHO CLIMBED THE RANKS ON THE BACKS OF HIS LESSERS, AN IMPRESSIVE OFFICER -- PRECISELY THE SORT I WOULD NOTICE.


AND NOT UNDERSTANDING THAT WAS HIS FIRST ERROR.

YES, LORD VADER.

I WILL SPEAK TO THE CAPTAIN LATER.


IT WAS ADMIRABLE HOW HE LIED TO ME, HIS VOICE MEASURED AND CALM AND CONTROLLED.






VENTING SEVERAL SQUADS OF TROOPERS AS COLLATERAL DAMAGE SUGGESTS TORN HAS LITTLE TO FEAR.


THE REALITY IS, ONLY A FRIGHTENED MAN WOULD BE SO EXCESSIVE.



I HAVE LIVED THROUGH ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS IN THE PAST.



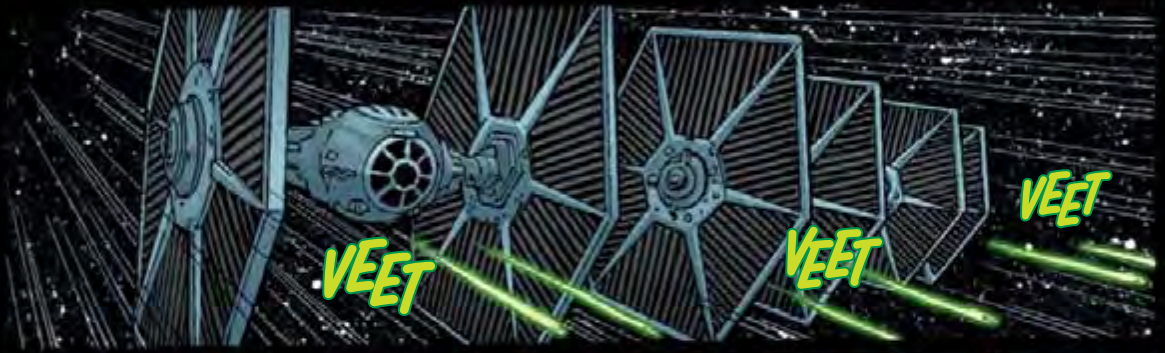
IF THOSE RESPONSIBLE ARE NOT DEALT WITH IN A FASHION BOTH IMMEDIATE AND RUTHLESS AND VERY, VERY PUBLIC, IT ONLY EMBOLDENS OTHERS.



TORN IS NO DOUBT WATCHING ME FROM THE BRIDGE. IF HE HAS HIS WITS ABOUT HIM, HE WILL HAVE ALREADY LAUNCHED TIE FIGHTERS.



HIS THIRD ERROR -- NOT CONSIDERING BOBA FETT'S PRESENCE.



BOBA FETT AND I HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING. HIS ARRIVAL ON THE DEVASATATOR WAS OF A ROUTINE MATTER, BUT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE FORTUNATE.



A BOUNTY HUNTER WITH AN IMPRESSIVE RECORD, HE WAS HIRED TO ASSIST IN FINDING THE LOCATION OF THE REBEL FLEET.



BUT, LIKE ANY GOOD FREELANCER...

...HE ADAPTS TO THE NEEDS OF THE TASK AT HAND.



AND WILL BE COMPENSATED GENEROUSLY FOR IT.



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT AND THE CASE OF THE GRIM GHOSTLY PILOT







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