

Star Wars Episode VII
The Return of the Empire

EXT. SPACE

A vast sea of stars serves as a backdrop for the Main Title, followed by a rollup, which crawls into infinity.

With the destruction of the second Death Star and the death of the Emperor, the Empire lost its grip on the Galaxy and fell into seclusion. The New Republic was formed and the Galaxy again knew peace.

Twenty years passed and the Empire reappeared, bearing a new weapon, though no one knew what it was. Yet all who were threatened fell to their knees, for they remembered the destruction the Empire had caused before. Before long the Empire regained much of its former strength and began aiming attacks directly on the New Republic.

Jacen Solo, son of Han and Leia Solo, flies to a secret base on Dantooine, where his younger brother, Anakin, is in charge of operations. But the base can only remain secret for so long...

Camera pans up to reveal the blue\green planet of Dantooine. JACEN SOLO'S X-Wing flies towards the planet and the camera follows it.

EXT. OVER DANTOOINE MOUNTAINS - DAY

Jacen's X-Wing flies towards some mountains

INT. DANTOOINE BASE COMM STATION - DAY

JACEN (VO)
Requesting permission to land

COMM OFFICER
Permission granted, land on platform D-U-D-3

Jacen's X-Wing flies in towards a mountain and lands on a cliff

EXT. DANTOOINE BASE - DAY

Jacen jumps out and greets ANAKIN

ANAKIN
Hi, Jacen.

JACEN
Hey, bro! A nice little cave you've built for yourself.

Anakin and Jacen start walking across the base and into

INT. DANTOOINE BASE - DAY

ANAKIN

Thanks. It's not the easiest to deal with some days, but it gets the job done. And how was your trip?

JACEN

Oh, just like your typical trip to anywhere: boring. And how are things going with the base?

ANAKIN

Quite well, actually. We just finished our torpedo factory on the west side of the complex. And we've been training X-Wing pilots also. In fact, you're going to be teaching them, or him I should say. We only have one at the moment.

JACEN

Doesn't sound too bad. Easier than my trip to Nal Hutta, anyways. Those darn slugs are so hard to work with.

ANAKIN

I'll vouch for that.
(looks at clothing quizzically)
By the way, what happened to your Jedi robes?

JACEN

You're looking at them. Functional and stylish all at the same time.

ANAKIN

Geez, makes me wish I hadn't left the order.

JACEN

You can always come back. Uncle Luke has forgiven you for that noodle incident, you know.

ANAKIN

I'm sure he has, but I'm happy in my work.

JACEN

Well, that's all that matters. (beat)
Where are going, anyways?

ANAKIN

To the simulators, I'm going to introduce you to your new student. Ah, we're here. (yells) Hey GUY, get out here.

GUY walks out from a simulator over towards Jacen and Anakin

GUY

Oh, hello General Solo. Who is this?

ANAKIN

This is your new mentor, my brother, and Jedi knight, Jacen.

JACEN

Pleased to meet you, Guy.

Guy genuflects before Jacen, takes his hand and says

GUY

I am overjoyed to be in your presence, your Excellency.

JACEN

Ummmm, that isn't necessary Guy. I'm just a Jedi, not the Supreme Chancellor.

Guy gets back up

GUY

If you say so, sir.

ANAKIN

Well, I'm afraid I have some pressing business to attend to. Nice to see you again, Jacen.

JACEN

Maybe we can get together later.

ANAKIN

Sounds good. Bye.

JACEN

Bye

Jacen waves to Anakin and turns to Guy

JACEN

So, how long have you been flying?

GUY

About two minutes, sir.

JACEN

(chuckles)

Well, I see my work is cut out for me.

EXT. SPACE - Two Star Destroyers with TIEs patrolling around it

A flight of TIEs fly past the camera

INT. EMPEROR'S CHAMBER ON STAR DESTROYER

SCHNIDER walks up to EMPEROR PALPATINE who is on his throne

PALPATINE

Your report, Admiral Schnider.

SCHNIDER

We have found a Rebel base on Dantooine, your supreme Imperialness

PALPATINE

Yes, it is as I have foreseen. Quickly, gather up a force and wipe them out.... ALL OF THEM!

SCHNIDER

There's one problem with that, your wickedly dudeness. They have a planetary shield set up. One of a grade that even our Star Destroyers would have trouble penetrating.

PALPATINE

Hmmmm, this is an ill fortune. But, one that is easily remedied. Gather the staff for a meeting.

SCHNIDER

Yes, your royal evilness.

PALPATINE

And Schnider?

SCHNIDER

Yes, high Imperial man?

PALPATINE

Just call me lord

SCHNIDER

Yes, Mr. Emperor dude

Palpatine sighs

EXT. SPACE

X-Wing flies by with TIE in hot pursuit

GUY

I have a TIE on my tail!

INT. JACEN'S X-WING

JACEN

Evade!

GUY

I.. I.. I can't! (VO)

JACEN

I'm on my way.

Jacen blows TIE out of the sky

INT. GUY'S X-WING

GUY

Thank you, sir. I owe you one.

JACEN (VO)
Well, you'd better pay it back quick. I've got someone on MY tail!

GUY
On my way!

JACEN (VO)
Make it quick, or I'm..... YYAAAARRRRRR!!!!

EXT. SPACE

Big explosion as Jacen is blown to smithereens by TIE Interceptor

INT. GUY'S X-WING

GUY
NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!

JACEN (VO)
That isn't necessary Guy, this is only a sim run.

GUY
Sorry, sir. I thought I should practice.

JACEN (VO)
Pray that you NEVER have to do that.

GUY
Yes, sir.

Jacen and Guy jump out of simulators and are in

INT. FOREST BASE SIMULATOR ROOM - DAY

Anakin buzzes Jacen on comm, and Jacen answers

ANAKIN (VO)
Jacen, please report to my office. It's an emergency.

JACEN
On my way.

Jacen turns to Guy

JACEN
Re-run the simulation again with a computer wingman.

GUY
Yes, sir.

Show Jacen walking across base - overhead shot

JACEN
You wanted me?

ANAKIN

Yes, I just received a distress call from a large freighter that apparently had a run-in with a Star Destroyer and their ship is in bad shape. My Force abilities are kind of rusty, what do you make of the situation?

Jacen closes eyes concentrates for a few seconds

JACEN

Not a lot. I don't like that, but if they really are in trouble we need to help them.

ANAKIN

Okay.

Anakin turns to COMM TECHNICIAN

ANAKIN

Drop the shields and let them in. Tell them to land on platform C-0-0-L.

COMM TECHNICIAN

Aye, sir.

ANAKIN

Jacen, I want you to fly cover, just in case someone is trailing them.

JACEN

I'm on my way.

EXT. OVER FOREST OF DANTOOINE - DAY

Show X-Wing lifting out of hangar

INT. X-WING COCKPIT - DAY

MAN (VO)

This i... *Exemptor*. TIE Inter... followed...
Can't... hold her up... longer....

JACEN

This is Jedi Knight Jacen Solo to *Exemptor*. I am on your pursuer.

EXT. OVER FORST OF DANTOOINE - DAY

Jacen flies after TIE and shoots it down

TIE crashes into *Exemptor*

INT. FOREST BASE WAR ROOM - DAY

MAN (VO)

Ship... breaking.... crash... (static)

ANAKIN

Jacen, where is Exemptor?

JACEN (VO)

It's gone, the TIE crashed into it.

ANAKIN

Run a scan of the surface and then report back.

JACEN

Aye.

INT. EXEMPTOR - DAY

Schnider is in front of holocomm

SCHNIDER

Good news, Emphy. We have penetrated the Rebels' shields and our cloak is in place. They fell for the false hull explosion.

PALPATINE (VO)

Excellent! And did Darth Disembowel make it?

SCHNIDER

He was beamed aboard without trouble, your wickedly dudeness.

PALPATINE

Good, good. Prepare the walkers. You attack at dawn.

SCHNIDER

Yes, my pretty lord!

Show Palpatine hologram. Buries his face in his hand and shakes

PALPATINE

(sigh)

EXT. DANTOOINE - NIGHT

Camera zooms in towards the mountain

ANAKIN (VO)

What were the results of your surface scan?

INT. DANTOOINE WAR ROOM - NIGHT

JACEN

Nothing. A few chunks of hull here and there, but otherwise nothing.

ANAKIN

Not even life forms?

JACEN

Nope. That was a huge explosion is was lucky *I* didn't get incinerated. I think the TIE hit their fuel tank.

Anakin nods, thinking

ANAKIN

Just in case we're going to move to yellow alert. I don't want to be caught off guard in case this is some Imperial trick.

JACEN

I agree.

ANAKIN

By the way, I am putting you in charge of Rogue Squadron for a week or two.

Jacen raises an eyebrow.

ANAKIN

Commander Antilles is doing some other secret mission. He also took Tycho with him, so we're going to need a fill in. I think Guy would work okay.

Jacen backs away from table and waves arms

JACEN

Whoa. No way. Guy isn't nearly ready to pilot a ship.

Explosion noise in background

GUY (VO)

Not again!!!

JACEN

You see. I think that Rogue Squadron can live with one less pilot.

ANAKIN

Well, there's no better time to learn. He'll have to get in real battle sooner or later.

Another big explosion in background

GUY (VO)

GAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!!!

JACEN

How about later?

ANAKIN

Guy will be in your squadron, and that's final.

JACEN

Nothing like being bossed around by your younger brother.

EXT. DANTOOINE - DAWN

SCHNIDER

Get the walkers ready. We must catch the Rebels while they are not on their guard.

OFFICER1

Yes, your grandness.

SCHNIDER

Please, sir will do fine. Are the TIE squadrons warmed and ready?

OFFICER2

All squadrons report green.

SCHNIDER

Good, excellent. Order your troops to move out. Spare nothing.

INT. JACEN'S ROOM - DAWN

Klaxons blare

PA OFFICER

Attention all personnel. The base is being attacked by Imperial forces. All pilots to their stations.

JACEN (drowsily)

C'mon, just five more minutes.

PA OFFICER

No, now.

JACEN

Blast that stupid thing.

DANTOOINE HANGAR - DAWN

Jacen is standing in front of a line of pilots

JACEN

Is everyone here?

Everyone confirms

JACEN

Okay, let's kick some Empire butt so I can go back to bed.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HANGAR - DAWN

X-Wings leave by the pair

INT. HALLS OF DANOOINE BASE - DAWN

Darth Disembowel is slinking around the base. He peeks around a corner into the

WAR ROOM

Anakin is talking to an OFFICER

ANAKIN

I want the blast doors closed and shields reinforced around all entrances.

DISEMBOWEL (whispering and waving hand)
You need to go to the bathroom.

OFFICER

Excuse me sir. But I really have to go to the bathroom.

Officer runs off before Anakin can get in another word

ANAKIN

He should have used Mylanta. I guess I'll do it myself.

DISEMBOWEL

Maybe I can help

Anakin whirls around igniting his lightsaber

ANAKIN

Who are you?

DISEMBOWEL

Your worst nightmare!

Disembowel ignites lightsaber and their blades cross

INT. JACEN'S X-WING - DAWN

JACEN

Okay, we'll be flying in pairs. Guy, you're my wing mate. Stay close.

GUY (VO)

Yes, sir.

EXT. DANOOINE PLAIN

A large battle takes place over the open field. AT-ATs and TIE fighters try to shoot down the X-Wings

INT. JACEN'S X-WING - DAWN

ROGUE3 (VO)

One, this is three. How are we going to take these AT-ATs?

JACEN

Hit the necks with protons.

X-Wings take down several AT-ATs, but casualties start to happen.

INT. ROGUE5s X-WING - MORNING

ROGUE5

I have someone on my tail. I... I... I can't shake him.

INT. GUY'S X-WING - MORNING

GUY

Just hold on. I'm on him.

Guy's X-Wing breaks away and heads towards a TIE

INT. JACEN'S X-WING - MORNING

JACEN

Guy! Look out!

Guy is hit by the last AT-AT and his X-Wing crashes into it

INT. DANTOOINE WAR ROOM

The fight between Anakin and Disembowel heats up

ANAKIN

You can't win!

DISEMBOWEL

But I can. The Empire will return with full strength. And the Sith will rule the Galaxy again. This time forever!

ANAKIN

Noooooooooooooooooooo

INT. JACEN'S X-WING - MORNING

JACEN

Seven, any sign of him?

ROGUE7 (VO)

Negative. No wait. He ejected.

GUY (VO)

This is two requesting pickup.

JACEN

Just hang in there, Guy.

With the AT-ATs gone, Rogue Squadron quickly mops up the remaining TIEs.

INT. DANTOOINE WAR ROOM

The battle continues and goes more, more in Disembowels favor

Disembowel cuts off Anakin's arm and stands over him gloating

DISEMBOWEL

Well, isn't this sad. Just like your grandfather. Because you left the Order without finishing your training, I will have no trouble in turning you to the Dark Side.

Anakin closes his eyes and begins to concentrate

ANAKIN (VO)

Jacen. Please, help me!

INT. JACEN'S X-WING - MORNING

JACEN

That's the last of them. Let's head home.

Rogue one to base, we need a transport.

OFFICER (VO)

Transport on the way, sir.

INT. ROGUE9's X-WING - MORNING

ROGUE9

One, this is nine. How about drinks, on me?

Everyone whoops, except Jacen

INT. JACEN'S X-WING - MORNING

Jacen has a blank look on his face as if he is concentrating somewhere else

ROGUE9 (VO)

Hey, leader. You okay?

JACEN

I must get back to the base at once!

INT. DANTOOINE HANGAR - MORNING

Jacen has just landed and jumps out of his cockpit. He runs down the halls of the base.

JACEN

I hope I'm not too late.

WAR ROOM

ANAKIN

I will NEVER turn to the Dark Side.

DISEMBOWEL

Then, I am afraid I'll have to kill you.

JACEN (VO)

Not today, Darth.

DISEMBOWEL

Ah, Jacen Solo. My old friend. It is a pity you hadn't joined me when you had the chance!

JACEN (calmly)

It is a pity you hadn't stayed. The Dark Side will be your undoing.

DISEMBOWEL

No. The Light will be yours!

Disembowel rushes Jacen with his lightsaber. Jacen ducks under the blade.

JACEN

It doesn't have to be this way.

DISEMBOWEL

I will not turn!

JACEN

Then so be it.

Jacen brings up his blade and he and Disembowel fight, Jacen obviously the superior. He backs Disembowel into a wall.

JACEN

I hate to have to end it this way. I'll give you one last chance.

DISEMBOWEL

No! I will never turn to the light again! It is for weaklings. CUT ME DOWN!

Jacen swings at Disembowel, but his body degenerates and disappears before he can be hurt. Jacen stares at the spot where Disembowel was. Remembering Anakin, he rushes to his side.

JACEN

I'll go and get a med droid.

ANAKIN

It's only a scratch

JACEN

Anakin....

ANAKIN

Oh, all right. But I want some answers to questions.
You knew this guy?

JACEN

He was a friend of mine in the academy. He went on a mission and they were attacked by Imperials. He gave himself over to save everyone else. His intentions were right at the time, but since he did not complete his training the Emperor had no trouble turning him to the Dark Side.

ANAKIN

That doesn't explain his disappearing trick.

JACEN

That... is a mystery that will have to be solved.

INT. STAR DESTROYER

PALPATINE

You have grown strong, my young apprentice.

DISEMBOWEL

Thanks to you, my master. The Jedi shall not survive. Not with our new transporters.

PALPATINE

Yes. How are they coming?

DISEMBOWEL

Excellent, my master. They should be ready soon.

PALPATINE

Wonderful. Then the Empire will prevail once and for all.

END CREDITS