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THE AWAKENING

Part III

The Resistance has barely escaped total destruction at the hands of the evil First Order, their survival ensured by the ultimate sacrifice made by many brave heroes – including the legendary Luke Skywalker.

Now, the remnants of General Leia Organa's band of rebels flee through hyperspace aboard the Millennium Falcon, mourning their losses and seeking refuge.

In this rare moment of peace, Poe Dameron, Finn, Rey, and the other survivors reflect upon the journey that brought them to this point....

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The Unknown Regions. First Order Space. The Battle Of Starkiller Base.

"WE ALL THOUGHT
WE WERE GOING
TO DIE.

"WE TALKED
ABOUT IT, ON THE
WAY OUT THERE.

"BUT THE
JOB IS THE
JOB."

"IT IS. I'M SORRY
I COULDN'T BE
THERE WITH YOU."

"THAT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU
PUT IN YOUR TIME. NO
ONE WOULD EVER JUDGE
YOU. NONE OF US WOULD
BE HERE WITHOUT YOU.

"THE MISSIONS
YOU FLEW...YEAH.
YOU'RE A LEGEND.

"THAT SAID, I WOULDN'T
HAVE MINDED, OH...
*A THOUSAND MORE
SHIPS?* THIS MISSION...
THIS WAS A DOOZY.



"TWELVE T-70S,
TWELVE PILOTS,
TWELVE ASTROMECHS...
AND THEY WANTED
US TO BLOW UP AN
ENTIRE PLANET."

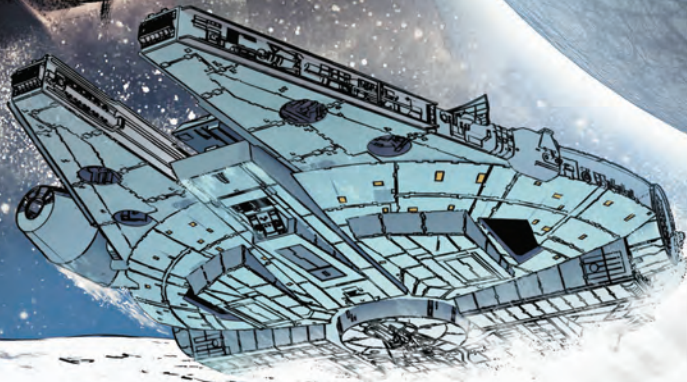
"NORMALLY, YOU
NEED A DEATH STAR
FOR SOMETHING LIKE
THAT, YOU KNOW?"

"I DO."


"WELL...YEAH.
OF COURSE.
SORRY."



"OH YEAH. BIG TIME.
HE HAD TO DO SOME
INSANE MANEUVER
WITH THE *MILLENNIUM
FALCON*, DROPPING IT
OUT OF LIGHTSPEED
INSIDE THE
PLANET'S SHIELD."

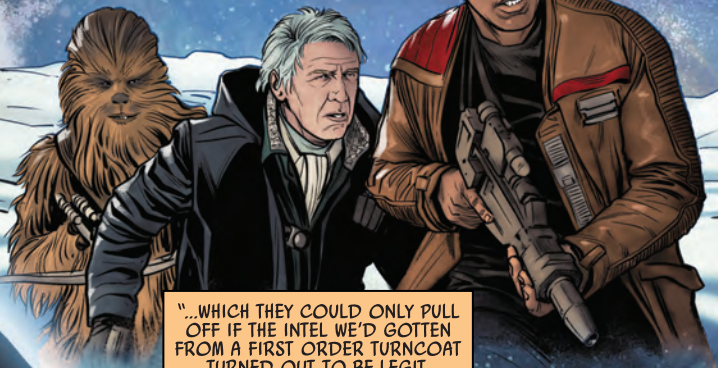


"GUY WAS
A MANIAC."



"ANYWAY, SO WE'RE FLYING IN THERE, USING A BATTLE PLAN THE OFFICERS THREW TOGETHER IN ABOUT TEN SECONDS, WITH A FIGHTER CONTINGENT WAY TOO SMALL FOR THE JOB..."

"...TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON A TINY GROUND SQUAD THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO INFILTRATE THE ENEMY BASE AND DEACTIVATE THEIR SHIELD..."




"...WHICH THEY COULD ONLY PULL OFF IF THE INTEL WE'D GOTTEN FROM A FIRST ORDER TURNCOAT TURNED OUT TO BE LEGIT."

"I MEAN, WE ALL LIKE FINN NOW, BUT BACK THEN HE WAS JUST THE GUY WHO STOLE POE'S JACKET."

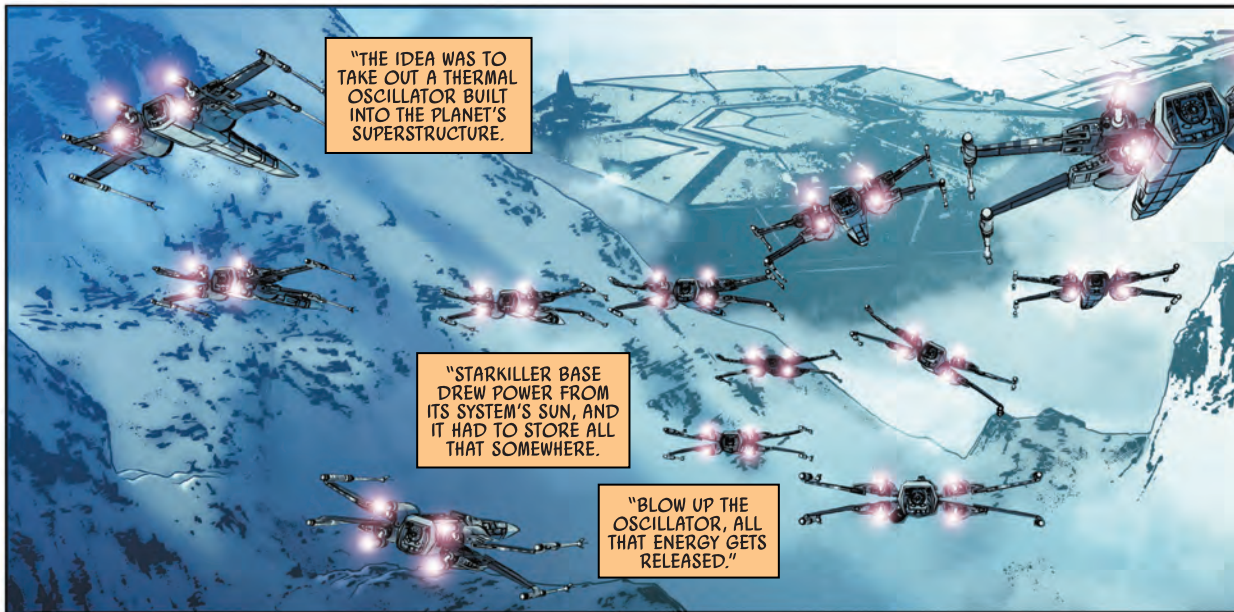
"LET ME GUESS--WAS HAN SOLO INVOLVED IN ALL OF THIS?"



"TRUE, BUT ONE OF THE BEST MANIACS."



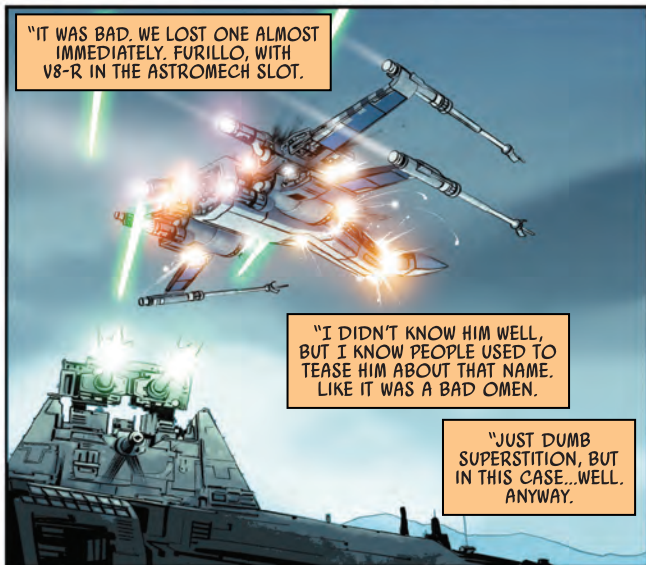
"IF ANY OF THAT DIDN'T WORK, THE WHOLE RESISTANCE... POOF. GONE, JUST LIKE HOSNIAN PRIME."



"THE IDEA WAS TO TAKE OUT A THERMAL OSCILLATOR BUILT INTO THE PLANET'S SUPERSTRUCTURE.

"STARKILLER BASE DREW POWER FROM ITS SYSTEM'S SUN, AND IT HAD TO STORE ALL THAT SOMEWHERE.

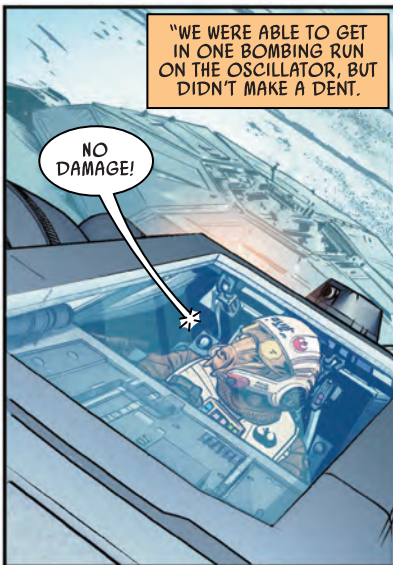
"BLOW UP THE OSCILLATOR, ALL THAT ENERGY GETS RELEASED."



"IT WAS BAD. WE LOST ONE ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. FURILLO, WITH V8-R IN THE ASTROMECH SLOT.

"I DIDN'T KNOW HIM WELL, BUT I KNOW PEOPLE USED TO TEASE HIM ABOUT THAT NAME. LIKE IT WAS A BAD OMEN.

"JUST DUMB SUPERSTITION, BUT IN THIS CASE...WELL... ANYWAY.



"WE WERE ABLE TO GET IN ONE BOMBING RUN ON THE OSCILLATOR, BUT DIDN'T MAKE A DENT.

NO DAMAGE!



"I FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT THAT--NOT KNOWING THEIR NAMES. I'M GOING TO FIND OUT, AND I'LL MAKE SURE THEY'RE BOTH ADDED TO THE ROLLS OF HONOR.

"ALTHOUGH...I WONDER IF I'LL GET A CHANCE. THE ODDS OF THE RESISTANCE SURVIVING EVEN ANOTHER WEEK ARE LIKE..."

"LISTEN. LISTEN TO ME.

"THAT'S PART OF IT. LOSSES, DEATH. BUT THERE'S ANOTHER PART, TOO.

"A CHOICE. DESPAIR... OR HOPE.