

thrawn trilogy the last command

Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command

The Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command stands as the final installment of the legendary Thrawn Trilogy, authored by Timothy Zahn. Published in 1993, this novel has cemented itself as a cornerstone of expanded universe (now called Legends) Star Wars literature. It intricately weaves political intrigue, military strategy, and character development, culminating in a compelling conclusion to Grand Admiral Thrawn's saga and the broader rebellion narrative. As the climax of the trilogy, The Last Command not only resolves ongoing conflicts but also deepens the lore surrounding the New Republic, Imperial remnants, and the complex personalities that drive this universe forward.

Background and Context of the Thrawn Trilogy

Origins and Development

The Thrawn Trilogy was conceived during a time when the Star Wars universe was expanding beyond the original movies, exploring new characters and stories. Timothy Zahn, already an acclaimed science fiction author, was commissioned to craft a trilogy that would bridge the gap between Return of the Jedi and the ongoing conflicts of the galaxy. The trilogy introduced Grand Admiral Thrawn, a strategic genius of the Imperial Navy, and revitalized interest in the Star Wars saga.

The Significance of the Trilogy

The trilogy's importance lies in several aspects:

- Introduction of new characters such as Thrawn, Mara Jade, and Talon Karrde.
- Reinforcement of the galactic political landscape post-Empire.
- Deepening of the Star Wars mythos through complex military and political plots.
- Establishment of Thrawn as a fan-favorite villain, noted for his tactical brilliance and calm demeanor.

Plot Overview of The Last Command

Major Themes and Storylines

The Last Command continues the story of the New Republic's efforts to consolidate power, while remnants of the Empire under Grand Admiral Thrawn pose a significant threat. The novel explores themes such as loyalty, strategy, and the moral ambiguities of war.

Key Plot Points

- Thrawn's Strategic Campaign: Thrawn orchestrates a series of military maneuvers to reclaim Imperial territories and challenge the burgeoning New Republic.
- Mara Jade's Role: Mara Jade, once the Emperor's Hand, now navigates her complex feelings about her past and her loyalty to the New Republic.
- The Rescue of the Solo Family: Han Solo and Leia Organa's children are targeted, leading to high-stakes negotiations and battles.
- Introduction of New Characters: The novel introduces Karrde and other figures who play vital roles in the galaxy's political landscape.

The Climax and Resolution

The novel culminates in a decisive confrontation where Thrawn's plans are thwarted, largely due to the cleverness and bravery of the New Republic allies. Thrawn's death marks the end of his threat, but the galaxy remains fragile, with ongoing challenges ahead.

Major Characters and Their Development

Grand Admiral Thrawn

- Strategic Mastermind: Thrawn's signature trait is his brilliant tactical mind, often outthinking his enemies.
- Calm and Collected: Unlike many Imperial officers, Thrawn maintains composure, which makes him a formidable adversary.
- Complex Morality: His loyalty to the Empire is strategic rather than ideological, adding depth to his character.

Mara Jade

- From Assassin to Ally: Mara's evolution from the Emperor's Hand to a key member of the New Republic reflects her internal struggle.
- Relationship with Luke Skywalker: Her interactions with Luke serve as a pivotal subplot, hinting at future developments.

Han Solo and Leia Organa

- Parenting and Political Roles: Their leadership in the New Republic continues to develop, balancing personal and political responsibilities.
- Resilience: Their resilience in the face of threats underscores the trilogy's themes of hope and perseverance.

Supporting Characters

- Talon Karrde: Smuggler and information broker, Karrde plays a crucial role in navigating the political landscape.
- Gilad Pellaeon: Thrawn's loyal subordinate, representing the remnants of

Imperial loyalists.

Themes and Motifs in The Last Command

Strategy and Warfare

The novel emphasizes the importance of strategy over brute force. Thrawn's tactical genius is showcased through detailed space battles and ground campaigns.

Loyalty and Betrayal

Characters grapple with questions of allegiance, especially Mara Jade and the Imperial remnants.

Hope and Resilience

Despite setbacks, the protagonists embody hope, illustrating that even in dark times, resistance and perseverance prevail.

Moral Ambiguity

The novel explores the gray areas of morality, particularly in warfare and personal loyalties.

Impact and Legacy of The Last Command

Critical Reception

The Last Command was praised for its complex characters, strategic depth, and faithful expansion of the Star Wars universe. It is considered one of the most well-crafted entries in the Legends continuity.

Influence on Star Wars Lore

The novel significantly shaped the portrayal of Thrawn and influenced subsequent stories, including the recent Thrawn animated series and novels.

Fan Reception and Cultural Impact

Thrawn's character has become iconic, inspiring a dedicated fanbase and numerous adaptations. His portrayal as a calculating, honorable villain has elevated him to a legendary status within Star Wars canon and Legends.

Legacy and Continuing Relevance

The Role in Expanded Universe and Canon

While *The Last Command* is part of the Legends universe, its influence persists in canon materials, especially with Thrawn's recent appearances in *Star Wars Rebels* and *Ahsoka* series.

Future Adaptations and Media

The character of Thrawn continues to be explored in novels, comics, and animated series, with new stories expanding on his strategic brilliance and complex personality.

Why It Remains a Must-Read

For fans of military strategy, character-driven stories, and intricate plots, *The Last Command* offers a compelling conclusion to the trilogy and a deep dive into the nuanced universe of *Star Wars*.

Conclusion

Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command stands as a masterful conclusion to Timothy Zahn's groundbreaking series, blending political intrigue, military strategy, and character development in a richly detailed galaxy. Its enduring legacy lies in its ability to elevate the *Star Wars* universe beyond the films, creating memorable characters like Thrawn and Mara Jade whose influence continues to resonate. Whether read as part of the Legends universe or appreciated for its storytelling craft, *The Last Command* remains a seminal work that exemplifies the depth and complexity possible within the *Star Wars* saga.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the main themes explored in 'Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command'?

The novel explores themes of loyalty, leadership, and the complexities of war, focusing on Thrawn's strategic genius and the Rebel Alliance's resilience in the face of imperial tyranny.

How does 'The Last Command' conclude the Thrawn Trilogy?

It wraps up with Thrawn's defeat and death during the final battle, solidifying the Rebel Alliance's victory and setting the stage for future conflicts in the *Star Wars* Expanded Universe.

What is Thrawn's strategic approach in 'The Last Command'?

Thrawn employs his signature tactical brilliance, leveraging art and culture to predict enemy moves and outmaneuver the Rebels, showcasing his innovative military strategies.

How does 'The Last Command' expand on Thrawn's character development?

The novel delves into Thrawn's unwavering loyalty to the Chiss and his adoptive Empire, highlighting his diplomatic skills, sense of duty, and the moral ambiguities of his actions.

What impact did 'The Last Command' have on the Star Wars expanded universe?

As the final book of the Thrawn Trilogy, it cemented Thrawn's status as a fan-favorite villain and influenced subsequent Star Wars stories, although later canon adaptations have reinterpreted his character.

Additional Resources

Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command – An In-Depth Review and Analysis

The Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command stands as a cornerstone in the expanded universe of Star Wars literature, captivating fans and newcomers alike with its intricate storytelling, compelling characters, and profound insights into the galaxy's ongoing struggle between the Empire and the burgeoning Rebel Alliance. Crafted by Timothy Zahn, this final installment in the trilogy not only concludes the saga with high stakes and satisfying resolutions but also elevates the narrative to a level of sophistication that cements its status as a must-read within the Star Wars canon—at least in the context of the original Expanded Universe (now called Legends).

In this review, we will explore the novel's core themes, character developments, strategic intricacies, and its lasting impact on the Star Wars universe. Whether you're a seasoned fan or new to Zahn's work, this comprehensive analysis aims to illuminate the depth and brilliance of The Last Command.

Overview of The Last Command

Published in 1993, *The Last Command* is the third and final novel in Timothy Zahn's Thrawn Trilogy, preceded by *Heir to the Empire* and *Dark Force Rising*. It picks up directly after the events of the second book, continuing the tense cat-and-mouse game between the Rebel Alliance and Grand Admiral Thrawn, the brilliant tactician of the Imperial fleet. Zahn masterfully balances military strategy, political intrigue, and character development, culminating in a climax that resolves the trilogy's overarching conflicts.

At its core, *The Last Command* revolves around the Empire's final efforts to crush the Rebel Alliance, Thrawn's relentless pursuit of galactic dominance, and the personal struggles of key characters such as Luke Skywalker, Leia Organa, Han Solo, and Mara Jade. The novel exemplifies Zahn's talent for blending space opera with detailed military tactics, making it a standout piece in the Star Wars literary universe.

Core Themes and Narrative Significance

Strategic Warfare and Military Genius

One of the hallmarks of *The Last Command* is its emphasis on military strategy. Thrawn is portrayed not just as a ruthless leader but as an intellectual tactician whose understanding of art, culture, and psychology informs his battle plans. Zahn's detailed descriptions of space battles, ground assaults, and logistical operations elevate the novel beyond mere action fluff, offering readers a glimpse into the complexities of galactic warfare.

Key aspects include:

- **Thrawn's Use of Cultural Artifacts:** Thrawn's unique approach involves studying enemy culture and art to anticipate their tactics and motivations. This innovative strategy adds depth to his character and provides a fresh perspective on warfare.
- **Tactical Battles:** The novel features several pivotal space confrontations, including the decisive Battle of Calamari, showcasing Thrawn's mastery of combined arms tactics and strategic deception.
- **Resource Management:** Zahn emphasizes the importance of supply lines, ship formations, and intelligence, illustrating how these elements determine the outcome of large-scale conflicts.

Expert Tip: Zahn's detailed depictions make *The Last Command* an excellent read for fans interested in military science fiction, highlighting how intellect and strategy can triumph over brute force.

Character Development and Interpersonal Dynamics

While the novel is rich in tactical detail, its emotional core lies in the development of its characters. Zahn balances the perspectives of heroes and villains, providing nuanced portrayals that challenge traditional notions of good versus evil.

Notable character arcs include:

- Grand Admiral Thrawn: The centerpiece of the trilogy, Thrawn's calm demeanor and strategic genius are showcased as he consolidates power and seeks to solidify the Empire's dominance. His respect for art and culture humanizes him, making him a compelling antagonist rather than a mere villain.
- Mara Jade: Introduced as the Emperor's hand, Mara's journey from a vengeful assassin to a conflicted ally is explored thoroughly. Her interactions with Luke Skywalker deepen her character, revealing vulnerability beneath her formidable exterior.
- Luke Skywalker: As he continues his Jedi training, Luke grapples with his identity and the burden of destiny. His encounters with Thrawn and Mara Jade challenge his beliefs and force him to grow.
- Leia Organa and Han Solo: Their relationship and political roles are fleshed out, emphasizing their importance in the Rebel Alliance's strategic planning.

Expert Tip: Zahn's characterizations add emotional weight to the story, making the high-stakes conflicts resonate on a personal level.

Political Intrigue and Galactic Politics

Beyond the battles, *The Last Command* delves into the political machinations within the Imperial hierarchy and the Rebel Alliance's diplomatic efforts. The novel explores themes such as loyalty, betrayal, and the cost of war.

Key political elements include:

- Imperial Politics: Thrawn's rise within the Empire involves navigating treacherous political waters, balancing loyalty to the Emperor with his own strategic ambitions.
- Rebel Diplomacy: The Alliance's efforts to garner support from neutral systems and manage internal dissent are depicted, adding layers to the narrative.
- Moral Ambiguity: Characters are often faced with difficult choices, highlighting that war is rarely black-and-white.

Expert Tip: The political undercurrents enrich the story, making it more than a simple conflict; it's a commentary on power, loyalty, and survival.

The Significance of The Last Command in Star Wars Lore

Legacy and Impact

The Last Command holds a special place in Star Wars lore, especially within the Legends continuity. Its portrayal of Thrawn as a strategic genius and complex antagonist influenced subsequent expanded universe stories and characterizations. Zahn's meticulous storytelling set a new standard for Star Wars novels, elevating them from simple space adventures to sophisticated science fiction narratives.

Key contributions include:

- Establishing Thrawn as a fan-favorite villain, inspiring multiple adaptations in other media, including the Star Wars Rebels animated series.
- Demonstrating that the Empire's downfall is not solely due to insurgent weakness but also due to internal flaws and strategic miscalculations.
- Highlighting the importance of intelligence, culture, and psychology in warfare, which has influenced later Star Wars stories.

Expert Note: Despite its status as Legends, Thrawn's character has been integrated into official canon, testifying to the trilogy's enduring influence.

Criticisms and Limitations

While widely praised, some readers find Zahn's detailed military descriptions dense or slow-paced at times. The focus on strategy and politics may overshadow the character-driven moments for those expecting a more action-oriented narrative. Additionally, as part of the Legends continuity, some elements may not align with the current official timeline.

Conclusion and Final Verdict

The Thrawn Trilogy: The Last Command is a masterful culmination of Timothy Zahn's groundbreaking space opera saga. Its blend of intricate military strategy, layered characters, and political intrigue creates a richly textured story that appeals to fans of science fiction, military fiction, and character-driven narratives alike. Zahn's portrayal of Thrawn as a tactician and thinker redefined the archetype of the Star Wars villain, making him an enduring figure in the franchise's extended universe.

Pros:

- Deep strategic and tactical detail
- Complex, multi-dimensional characters
- Engaging political and cultural themes
- Satisfying resolution to the trilogy's arcs

Cons:

- Dense technical descriptions may slow pacing
- Heavy focus on strategy might not appeal to all readers
- Part of Legends, not canon (though influential)

Final Verdict:

If you're seeking a Star Wars novel that offers more than just galaxy-spanning battles—one that explores the minds behind the conflict, the cultural nuances, and the moral complexities—The Last Command is an essential read. Its enduring influence and storytelling mastery make it a standout in science fiction literature and a fitting conclusion to one of the franchise's most beloved expanded universe sagas.

In summary, Timothy Zahn's The Last Command exemplifies the best of Star Wars storytelling: a compelling mix of strategic brilliance, character depth, and thematic richness. It's a testament to Zahn's writing prowess and his ability to craft stories that resonate long after the final page. Whether revisited as a classic piece of science fiction or examined for its strategic insights, this novel remains a cornerstone of Star Wars lore and a shining example of how good storytelling can elevate genre fiction to art.

[Thrawn Trilogy The Last Command](#)

thrawn trilogy the last command: The Last Command Timothy Zahn, 2020-08-27 Dark Force Rising continued the gripping new adventures of Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, Han Solo, and the other heroes of the most popular trilogy in movie history. Now the saga concludes with The Last Command, the climactic volume of a three-book cycle authorized by Lucasfilm Ltd. and written by

Hugo Award-winning author Timothy Zahn. It is five years after the events of Return of The Jedi. The fragile New Republic reels from the attacks of Grand Admiral Thrawn, who has not only rallied the remaining Imperial forces but has driven the rebels back with an abominable new technology: clone soldiers. Hopes are dim as Thrawn mounts a final siege against the Republic. While Han and Chewbacca struggle to form a wary alliance of smugglers in a last-ditch attack against the Empire, Leia keeps the Alliance together and prepares for the birth of her Jedi twins. But the Empire has too many ships and too many clones to combat. The Republic's only hope lies in sending a small force, led by Luke, into the very stronghold that houses Thrawn's terrible cloning machines. There a final danger awaits. The Dark Jedi C'baoth schemes in his secret fortress, directing the battle against the rebels, nursing his insanity and building his strength to finish what he had already started - the destruction of Luke Skywalker.

thrawn trilogy the last command: The Last Command: Star Wars Legends (The Thrawn Trilogy) Timothy Zahn, 1994-01-01 The epic story that began with Heir to the Empire reaches its dramatic conclusion in this essential Star Wars Legends novel. The embattled Republic reels from the attacks of Grand Admiral Thrawn, who has marshaled the remnants of the Imperial forces and driven the Rebels back with an abominable technology recovered from the Emperor's secret fortress: clone soldiers. As Thrawn mounts his final siege, Han Solo and Chewbacca struggle to form a coalition of smugglers for a last-ditch attack, while Princess Leia holds the Alliance together and prepares for the birth of her Jedi twins. The Republic has one last hope—sending a small force into the very stronghold that houses Thrawn's terrible cloning machines. There a final danger awaits, as the Dark Jedi C'baoth directs the battle against the Rebels and builds his strength to finish what he already started: the destruction of Luke Skywalker.

thrawn trilogy the last command: *The Last Command: Star Wars Legends (The Thrawn Trilogy)* Timothy Zahn, 2011-06-28 The epic story that began with Heir to the Empire reaches its dramatic conclusion in this essential Star Wars Legends novel. The embattled Republic reels from the attacks of Grand Admiral Thrawn, who has marshaled the remnants of the Imperial forces and driven the Rebels back with an abominable technology recovered from the Emperor's secret fortress: clone soldiers. As Thrawn mounts his final siege, Han Solo and Chewbacca struggle to form a coalition of smugglers for a last-ditch attack, while Princess Leia holds the Alliance together and prepares for the birth of her Jedi twins. The Republic has one last hope—sending a small force into the very stronghold that houses Thrawn's terrible cloning machines. There a final danger awaits, as the Dark Jedi C'baoth directs the battle against the Rebels and builds his strength to finish what he already started: the destruction of Luke Skywalker.

thrawn trilogy the last command: The Last Command Timothy Zahn, 1994 For use in schools and libraries only. While Han and Chewbacca struggle to form a coalition of smugglers for the last-ditch attack against the Empire, Leia prepares for the birth of her Jedi twins and Luke Skywalker enters Thrawn's stronghold.

thrawn trilogy the last command: Heir to the Empire: Star Wars Legends (The Thrawn Trilogy) Timothy Zahn, 2011-06-28 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • In this essential Star Wars Legends novel—the first ever to take place after the events of the original trilogy—Grand Admiral Thrawn makes his debut on the galactic stage. Five years ago, the Rebel Alliance destroyed the Death Star, defeated Darth Vader and the Emperor, and drove the remnants of the old Imperial Starfleet to a distant corner of the galaxy. Princess Leia and Han Solo are married and expecting twins. And Luke Skywalker has become the first in a long-awaited line of Jedi Knights. But thousands of light-years away, the last of the Emperor's warlords, Grand Admiral Thrawn, has taken command of the shattered Imperial fleet, readied it for war, and pointed it at the fragile heart of the New Republic. For this dark warrior has made a vital discovery that could destroy everything the courageous men and women of the Rebel Alliance fought so hard to build.

thrawn trilogy the last command: The Thrawn Trilogy 3-Book Bundle Timothy Zahn, 2022-05-31 Experience the #1 New York Times bestselling Star Wars Legends trilogy that introduced the menacing Grand Admiral Thrawn—now in a complete three-book set. Following the

events of Return of the Jedi: Star Wars: Episode VI, Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and Princess Leia find themselves once again at the center of rebellion. Five years after the Death Star was destroyed and Darth Vader and the Emperor were defeated, the galaxy is struggling to heal the wounds of war, Leia and Han are married and expecting twins, and Luke has become the first in a long-awaited line of new Jedi Knights. But thousands of light-years away, the last of the Emperor's warlords—the brilliant and deadly Grand Admiral Thrawn—has taken command of the shattered Imperial fleet, readied it for war, and pointed it at the fragile heart of the New Republic. Meanwhile, Han and Lando Calrissian race against time to find proof of treason inside the highest Republic Council—only to discover instead a ghostly fleet of warships that could bring doom to their friends and victory to their enemies. Yet most dangerous of all is a new Dark Jedi, risen from the ashes of a shrouded past, consumed by bitterness, and scheming to corrupt Luke to the dark side.

thrawn trilogy the last command: Dark Force Rising: Star Wars Legends (The Thrawn Trilogy) Timothy Zahn, 2011-06-28 In this essential Star Wars Legends novel, the sequel to Heir to the Empire, Grand Admiral Thrawn's sinister plan threatens to spell doom for the fledgling New Republic and its most iconic heroes. The dying Empire's most cunning and ruthless warlord, Grand Admiral Thrawn, has taken command of the remnants of the Imperial Fleet and launched a massive campaign aimed at the New Republic's destruction. Meanwhile, Han Solo and Lando Calrissian race against time to find proof of treason inside the highest Republic Council—only to discover instead a ghostly fleet of warships that could bring doom to their friends and victory to their enemies. Yet most dangerous of all is a new Dark Jedi, risen from the ashes of a shrouded past, consumed by bitterness, and scheming to corrupt Luke Skywalker to the dark side.

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thrawn trilogy the last command: Star Wars Timothy Zahn, 2010-02-01 Luke has become the first of a long line of Jedi Knights, but the last of the emperor's warlords has taken command of the shattered Imperial Fleet, readied it for war, and pointed it at the fragile heart of the new Republic.

thrawn trilogy the last command: Star Wars: Dark Force Rising Timothy Zahn, 2020-08-27 In this essential Star Wars Legends novel, the sequel to Heir to the Empire, Grand Admiral Thrawn's

sinister plan threatens to spell doom for the fledgling New Republic and its most iconic heroes. The dying Empire's most cunning and ruthless warlord, Grand Admiral Thrawn, has taken command of the remnants of the Imperial Fleet and launched a massive campaign aimed at the New Republic's destruction. Meanwhile, Han Solo and Lando Calrissian race against time to find proof of treason inside the highest Republic Council-only to discover instead a ghostly fleet of warships that could bring doom to their friends and victory to their enemies. Yet most dangerous of all is a new Dark Jedi, risen from the ashes of a shrouded past, consumed by bitterness, and scheming to corrupt Luke Skywalker to the dark side.

thrawn trilogy the last command: Star Wars: Heir to the Empire Timothy Zahn, 2021 The adventures of Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, and Han Solo continue as the last of the Emperor's warlords discovers secrets that could destroy the New Republic.

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thrawn trilogy the last command: *The Final Prophecy: Star Wars Legends* Greg Keyes, 2011-06-28 As a beleaguered galaxy fights its way back from the brink of destruction, the Jedi's most fearsome enemy plots to end the war-and claim victory-with a final act of domination. . . . The troubles for the embattled living planet Zonama Sekot have just begun. As Luke Skywalker and Jacen Solo negotiate its place in the galactic struggle against the Yuuzhan Vong, one of its organic ships is taken by the alien invaders. Scientist Nen Yim is ordered to use the captive to find weak spots in Zonama Sekot's technology. But what Nen Yim discovers about the planet and its mysteries shocks her to the core. Clearly her people have gone terribly astray. For the peace-loving planet harbors not only the key to its own destruction, but the long-forgotten secrets of the Yuuzhan Vong themselves. Meanwhile, General Wedge Antilles, commanding one fleet in a three-pronged campaign to retake the Bilbringi system, is suddenly stranded deep in Yuuzhan Vong space, cut off from all contact. Wedge and his ships must rely on trickery and brilliant battle tactics if they are to survive long enough to ensure the success of one of the deadliest and most crucial missions the Galactic Alliance forces have ever seen. . . . Features a bonus section following the novel that includes a primer on the Star Wars expanded universe, and over half a dozen excerpts from some of the most popular Star Wars books of the last thirty years!

thrawn trilogy the last command: Inferno: Star Wars Legends (Legacy of the Force) Troy Denning, 2007-08-28 Luke Skywalker wanted to unify the Jedi order and bring peace to the universe. Instead his wife Mara lies dead at the hands of an unknown assassin, his wayward nephew Jacen has seized control of the Galactic Alliance, and the galaxy has exploded in all-out civil war. With Luke consumed by grief, Jacen Solo works quickly to consolidate his power and jumpstart his plan to take over the Jedi. Convinced he's the only one who can save the galaxy, Jacen will do whatever it takes, even ambush his own parents. With the Rebel confederacy driving deep into the Core to attack Coruscant and the Jedi under siege, Luke must reassert his position. Only he can lead the Jedi through this crisis, but it means solving the toughest problem Luke's ever faced. Does he fight alongside his nephew Jacen, a tyrant who's illegally taken over the GA, or does he join the rebels to smash the Galactic Alliance he helped create?

thrawn trilogy the last command: The Joiner King: Star Wars Legends (Dark Nest, Book I) Troy Denning, 2005-07-26 After triumphing in *Star Wars: The Unifying Force*, the heroes of the New Jedi Order return in a dazzling new adventure! Luke Skywalker is worried: A handful of Jedi Knights, including his nephew and niece, Jaina and Jacen Solo, have disappeared into the Unknown Regions in response to a strange cry for help that only they could hear. Now the alien Chiss have angrily lodged a formal complaint, accusing the missing Jedi of meddling in a border dispute between the Chiss and an unidentified aggressor. Luke has no choice but to head to the Unknown Regions for serious damage control. Han and Leia follow, intent on protecting their children from what could be grave danger. But none of them are prepared for what they find when they reach their destination. A colony of mysterious aliens is expanding toward the edge of Chiss space. The leader of the alien nest is resolute. Adept in the Force, he is drawing old friends to his side, compelling them

to join the colony and meld their Force-abilities with his, even if it leads to all-out war. . . .

thrown trilogy the last command: Allegiance: Star Wars Legends Timothy Zahn, 2007-12-26 Never before has the incendiary mix of action, politics, and intrigue that has become Timothy Zahn's trademark, been more evident than in this new Star Wars epic. On the heels of the stunning events chronicled in *Star Wars: A New Hope*, the newly minted heroes of the Rebellion—fledgling Jedi Luke Skywalker, smuggler turned reluctant freedom-fighter Han Solo, and Princess Leia Organa, a bold leader with a world to avenge—must face the harsh realities of the cataclysmic conflict into which they have so bravely plunged. From this point forward, legends will grow, treachery will abound, and lives will be irrevocably altered, in the long, hard fight to counter the fist of tyranny and restore hope to a galaxy too long in darkness. The destruction of the Death Star by the Rebel Alliance was a decisive blow against the Empire, but Palpatine and his monstrous enforcer, Darth Vader, are no less of a threat. The brutal extermination of Alderaan not only demonstrated the magnitude of their murderous power, but served as a chilling testament to their resolve to crush the Rebel uprising. Standing against them, Skywalker, Solo, and the Princess remain uncertain opponents. Luke is gifted and brave, but unschooled in the power he possesses. Han has doubts about waging someone else's war—and his contentiousness is one more burden for Leia to bear as she struggles to help keep the Rebellion alive. The three have been sent to mediate a dispute between Rebel Alliance factions in the Shesh Sector—agitating matters by forcing Han to deal not only with pirates, but with his more dreaded enemy, politics. At the same time, Mara Jade—all of eighteen years away from her fateful meeting with Luke—is serving her evil master, Palpatine, well in her role as the Emperor's Hand: tracking suspected treachery in the Empire to what may be high places—while trying to stay out of Darth Vader's way. But the Rebels will prove to be only one of the Empire's concerns. For Imperial Stormtrooper Daric LaRone, his faith in the Empire shaken by the wanton destruction of Alderaan, will commit a sudden and violent act of defiance, and take four other enforcers with him, in a desperate bid to elude their masters' wrath. Each of these fateful actions, whether sanctioned, secret, or scandalous, will expose brutality and corruption, spur upheavals destined to shake the Empire to its core, and shape momentous events yet to come.

thrown trilogy the last command: Betrayal: Star Wars Legends (Legacy of the Force) Aaron Allston, 2007-05-01 “[Betrayal] blasts off a new string of adventures starring beloved Star Wars familiars . . . this new installment should please Star Wars fans.” —Publishers Weekly Honor and duty collide with friendship and blood ties as the Skywalker and Solo clans find themselves on opposing sides of an explosive conflict. When a mission to uncover an illegal missile factory on the planet Adumar ends in a violent ambush—from which Jedi Knight Jacen Solo and his protégé and cousin, Ben Skywalker, narrowly escape with their lives—it's the most alarming evidence yet that political unrest is threatening to ignite into total rebellion. The specter of full-scale war looms between a growing cadre of defiant planets and the Galactic Alliance that some fear is becoming a new Empire. Determined to root out those behind the mayhem, Jacen follows a trail of cryptic clues to a rendezvous with the most shocking of revelations. Meanwhile Luke grapples with something even more troubling: dream visions of a shadowy figure whose Force power and ruthlessness remind him of Darth Vader. If Luke's visions come to pass, they will bring untold pain to the Jedi Master . . . and to the galaxy.

thrown trilogy the last command: Death Star: Star Wars Legends Michael Reaves, Steve Perry, 2011-06-28 “THAT'S NO MOON.” —Obi-Wan Kenobi The Death Star's name says it all, with bone-chilling accuracy. It is a virtual world unto itself—equipped with uncanny power for a singularly brutal purpose: to obliterate entire planets in the blink of an eye. Its annihilation of the planet Alderaan, at the merciless command of Grand Moff Tarkin, lives in infamy. And its own ultimate destruction, at the hands of Luke Skywalker, is the stuff of legend. But what is the whole story, and who are the players, behind the creation of this world-killing satellite of doom? The near extermination of the Jedi order cleared the way for Palpatine—power-hungry Senator and Sith Lord—to seize control of the Republic, declare himself Emperor, and usher in a fearsome, totalitarian regime. But even with the dreaded Darth Vader enforcing Palpatine's sinister will, the threat of

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