

**SUPER SPECIAL  
THE DARK  
CRYSTAL**

# STAR BLASTER

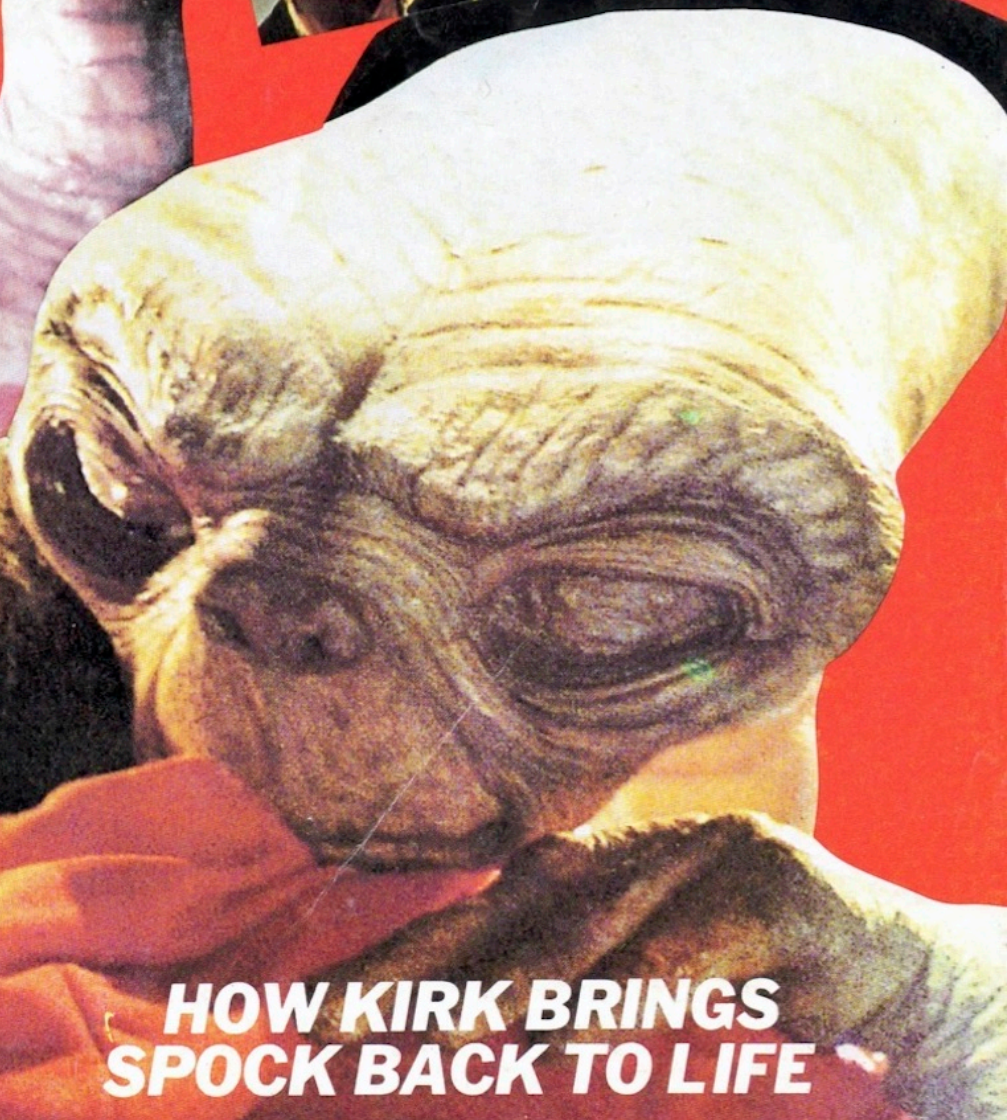
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**E.T.**  
GIVES HIS  
LIFE TO  
SAVE ELLIOTT

**REVEALED:  
THE MYSTERY  
JEDI KNIGHT**

**HOW TO BECOME  
A VIDEO  
GAME  
CHAMP**



**HOW KIRK BRINGS  
SPOCK BACK TO LIFE**



# STAR BLASTER



MARCH 1983

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Mel Seligman  
PUBLISHER

STAFF  
Kevin Goodman  
EDITOR

Dean Williams  
MANAGING EDITOR

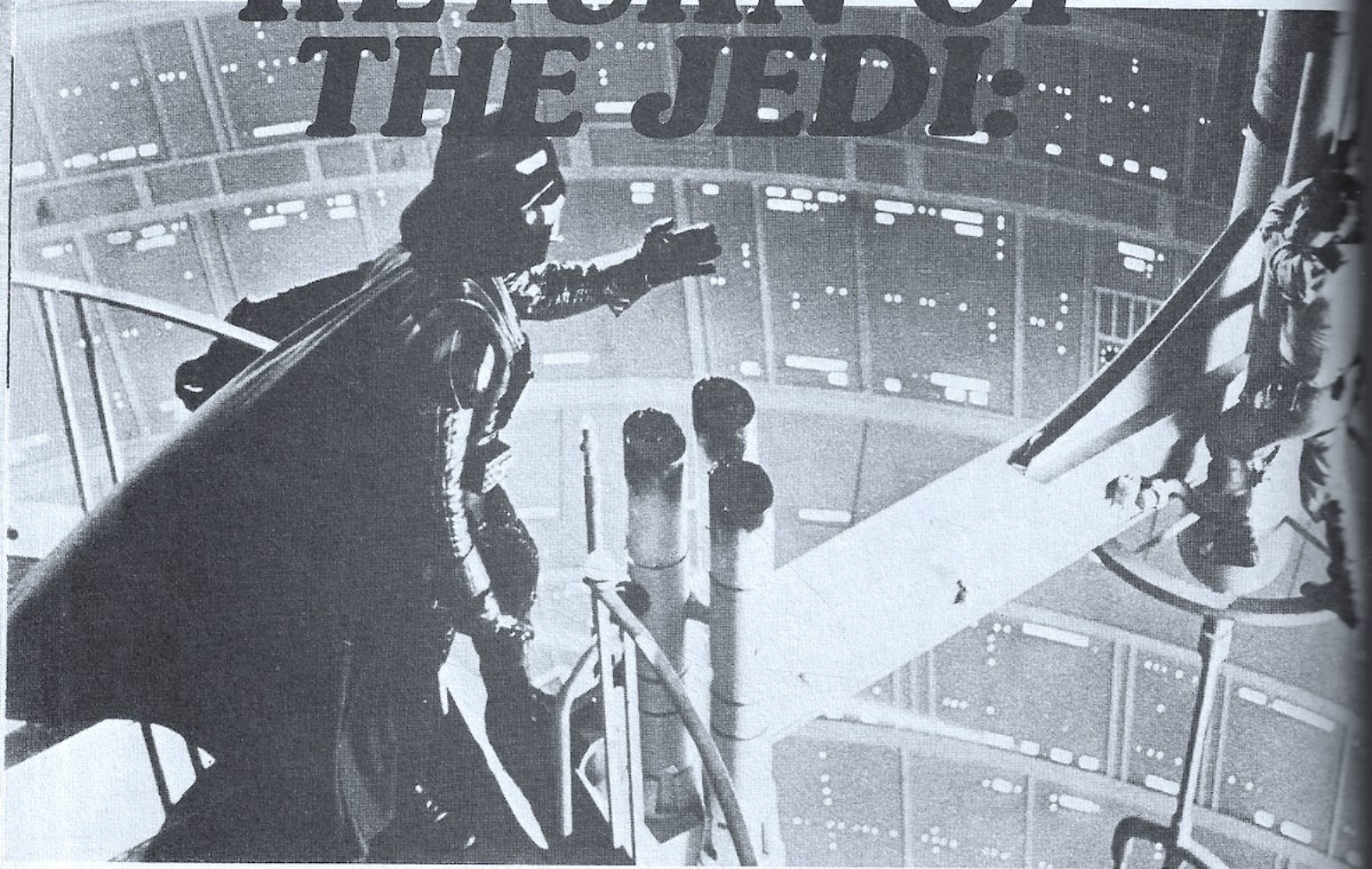
Al Fellows  
Dale Ericson  
Norm Thomas  
Eric Storm  
ARTISTS

Mel Goldman  
ADVERTISING



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# THE MYSTERY KNIGHT REVEALED! RETURN OF THE JEDI:



*A deadly battle with Darth Vader left Luke Skywalker without a hand.*

**S**tar Wars. The name alone connotes a whole galaxy, an entire world complete in itself. With only two movies completed in the forecasted nine-picture series, the Star Wars movies have already captured the public imagination and brought fame and stardom—along with a great deal of money—to their creator, George Lucas.

The first movie, "Star Wars," set the stage for events to come, introducing us to the key characters of the drama to rapidly unfold. The second

film, "The Empire Strikes Back," took us beyond the first in both technical and plot complexity. Here the largeness of the great conflict between the outnumbered rebels and the mighty Empire was fully revealed, with spectacular chases and effects previously unmatched. The third in the promised trilogy, "The Revenge of the Jedi," is due for release in a matter of months, and promises to be the most spectacular Star Wars movie yet. While George Lucas is not directing this latest ef-

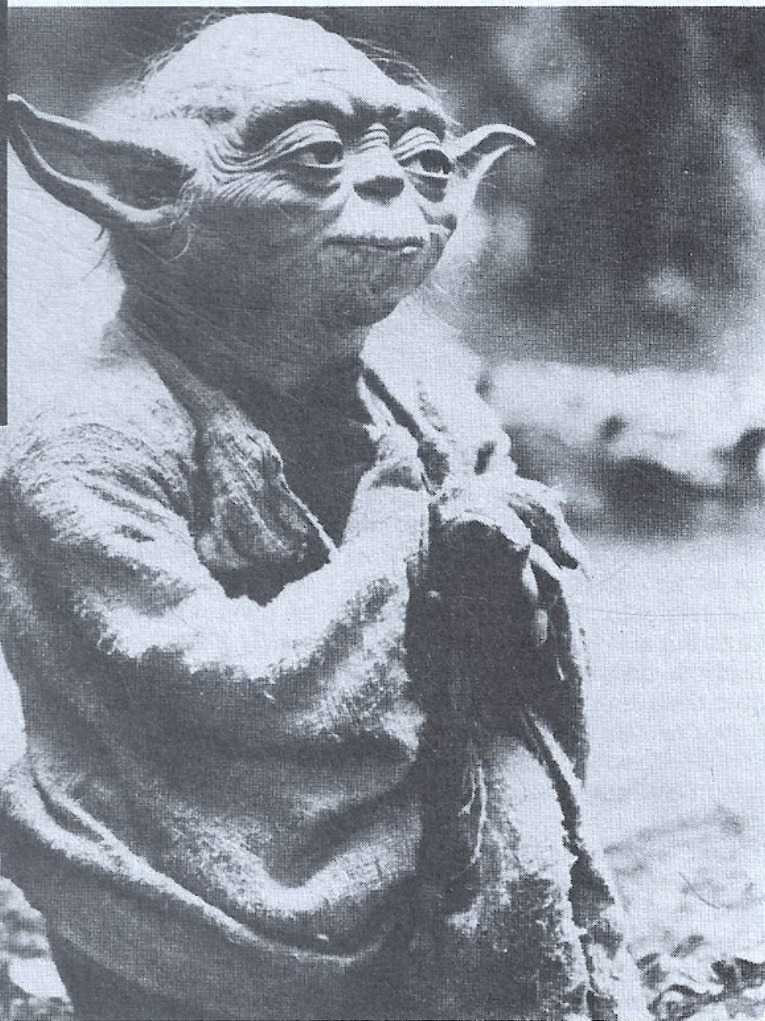
fort, he is working strongly behind the scenes to maintain the high level of storytelling quality the other Star Wars films have represented.

"The Revenge of the Jedi" is a keynote to the whole Star Wars series. The entire Star Wars story will run a total of nine films. Within this body of nine films, there will be three trilogies. "The Revenge of the Jedi" is the last of the second three-film cycle (chronologically, although it is the first to be produced). After "Jedi," the story will go significantly



**Things seemed very bleak for the Rebel Forces at the end of "The Empire Strikes Back." Their fleet was scattered, Han Solo was encased in metal, the prisoner of a bounty hunter, and Luke Skywalker had lost his hand in a battle with Darth Vader, the evil warlord who seemed more determined than ever to destroy his foes. Only Yoda seemed hopeful that a champion of the rebels would emerge to defeat the Empire. Now, his identity can be revealed: the mystery knight who will triumph in "Star Wars III: The Revenge of the Jedi."**

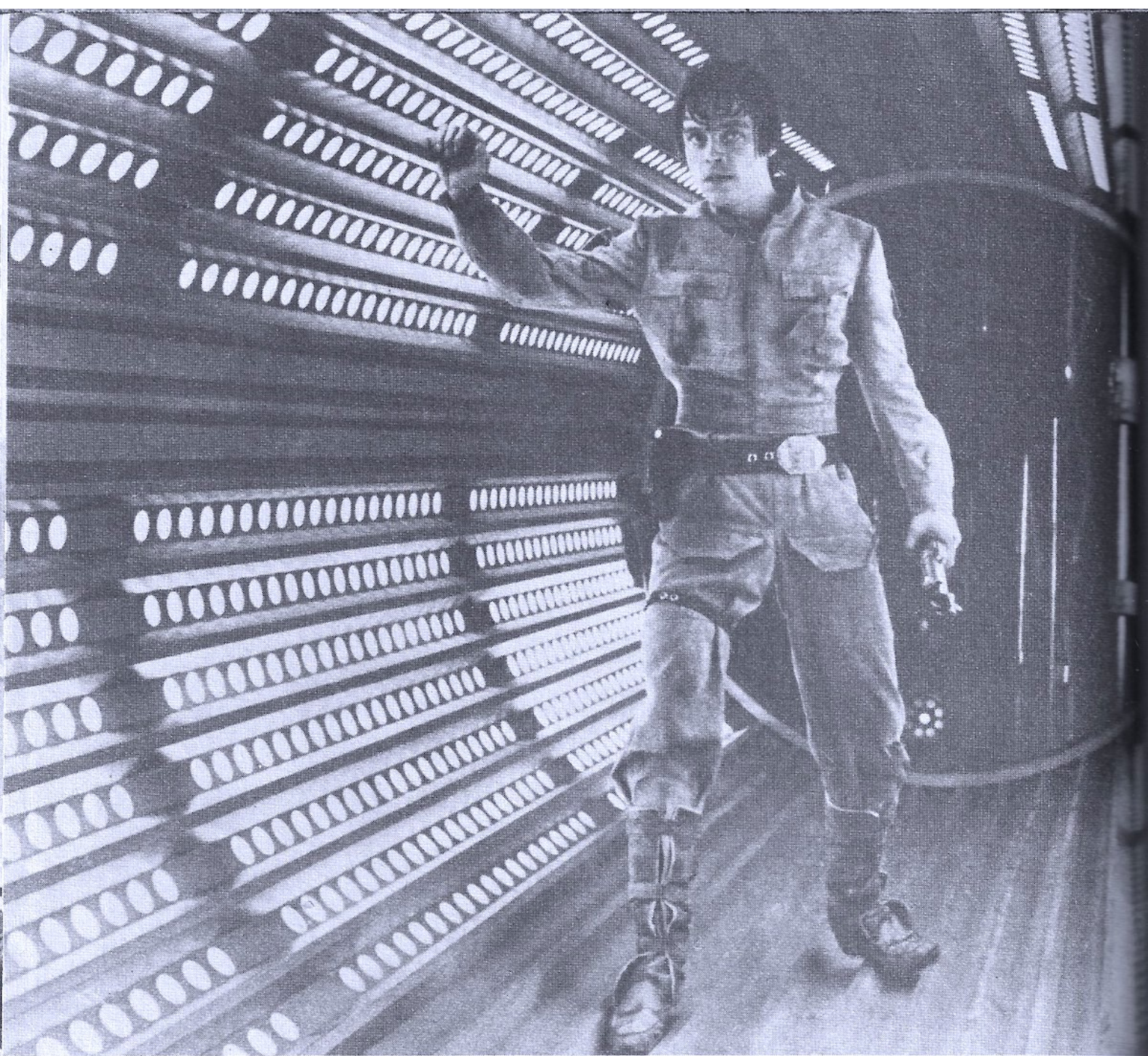
*Luke began his training as a Jedi under Yoda but left before completing his education.*



back in time to cover the adventures of Luke Skywalker's father before his evil and uncanny transformation into the nemesis we know him as today, Darth Vader.

Everyone knows the exciting stories which made up the first two films of this ground-breaking trilogy, but the third in this series has been a jealously-guarded secret. Fortunately, there have been enough leaks on the production of "Jedi" to give some valuable room for accurate speculation on the dramatic occurrences which will round out this soon-to-be blockbuster. But before we get into "Jedi," let us recap some of the intrigue of the first two films.

At the dawn of the Star Wars pictures, we meet Luke Skywalker, an



*The Force is the key to Vader's power.*

everyday teenager on a habitable planet, a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away. Luke is the protagonist of the first trilogy of the Star Wars cycle—he is the type of boy everyone can relate to. Luke is honest and kind, but also bold and adventurous, ready to take on any challenge that Fate deals him. When we first meet Luke, he has had a mostly-normal childhood, with the exception of the loss of his father, who is assumed to be dead.

Enter Ben Kenobi, the present star of the Jedi knights, an elite fighting group which makes up the most powerful wing of the rebel's fight against the demonic Empire. Obie, ancient sage that he is, tells Luke that the

time has come for him to follow in the steps of his father.

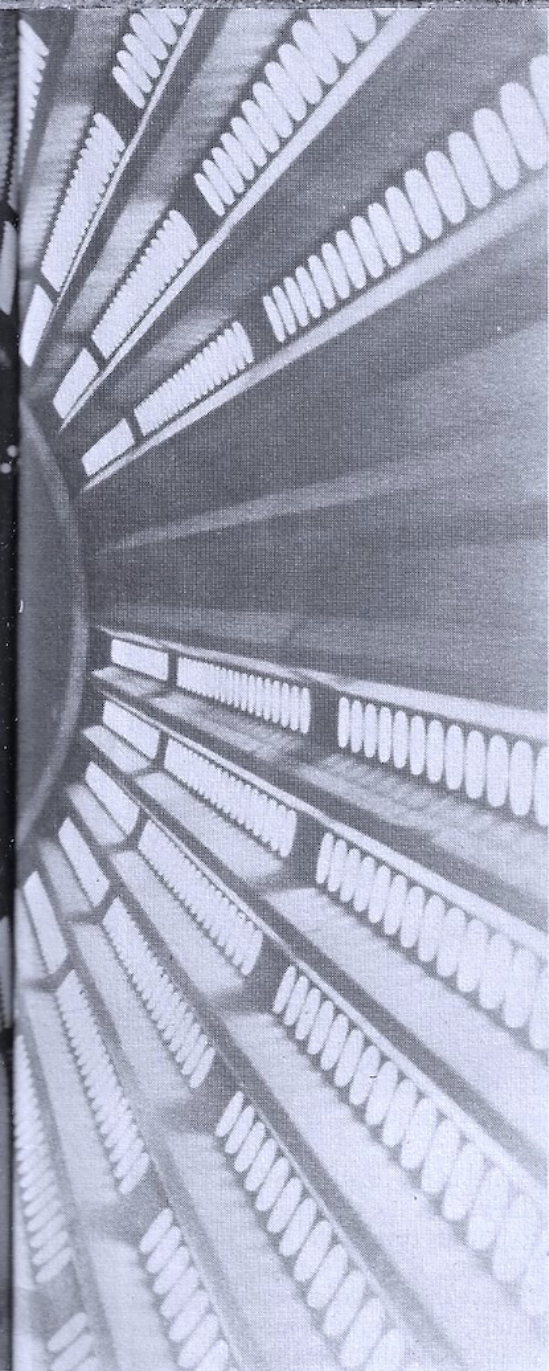
Enter...trouble. Princess Leia, the last holdout of royalty left to the rebel cause, is kidnapped by agents of the Empire. Before she is completely incarcerated, however, she is able to send off a holographic message with the two robots which supply much of the comic relief in the Star Wars films. R2-D2 and C-3PO are actually more than mere machines—R2's amusing noises and quirks and 3PO's mechanical English accent give the two very distinct personalities.

When the two robots stumble onto Luke Skywalker's planet, our story begins to pick up. Ben Kenobi realizes

the importance of Leia to the struggle against the Empire, and urges Luke to take action at once. The fate of our young hero is sealed when he returns to his home and finds his foster parents—his Uncle's family—murdered by the rampaging Empire. Luke is now in the battle for keeps.

The next major character to enter the story is Han Solo, the intergalactic hot-rodder who personifies for Star Wars the swashbuckling buccaneer of long past pirate days. Han is a man of few words and strong action who, with his co-pilot, a large furry Wookie, pilots space in pursuit of adventure of the highest kind.

Luke and Han first meet in an un-



*"Are you talking to me?" Harrison Ford plays Han Solo, the free-spirited owner of the Millennium Falcon.*

forgettable scene in an outerspace bar full of creatures that remain indelibly etched on the viewer's memory. It is at this unlikely galactic crossroads that Luke enlists Han's help in rescuing Princess Leia. In a flash, our heroes are off in Solo's colorful but unreliable rocket ship, a kind of "My Mother the Car" in space.

The story makes many twists and turns before the heroic rescue of Leia from the clutches of the effervescently evil Darth Vader, and anyone who has seen the movie will remember that particular moment of triumph. Tragedy was mixed with high adventure, however, as Ben Kenobi was forced into a duel with Darth Vader

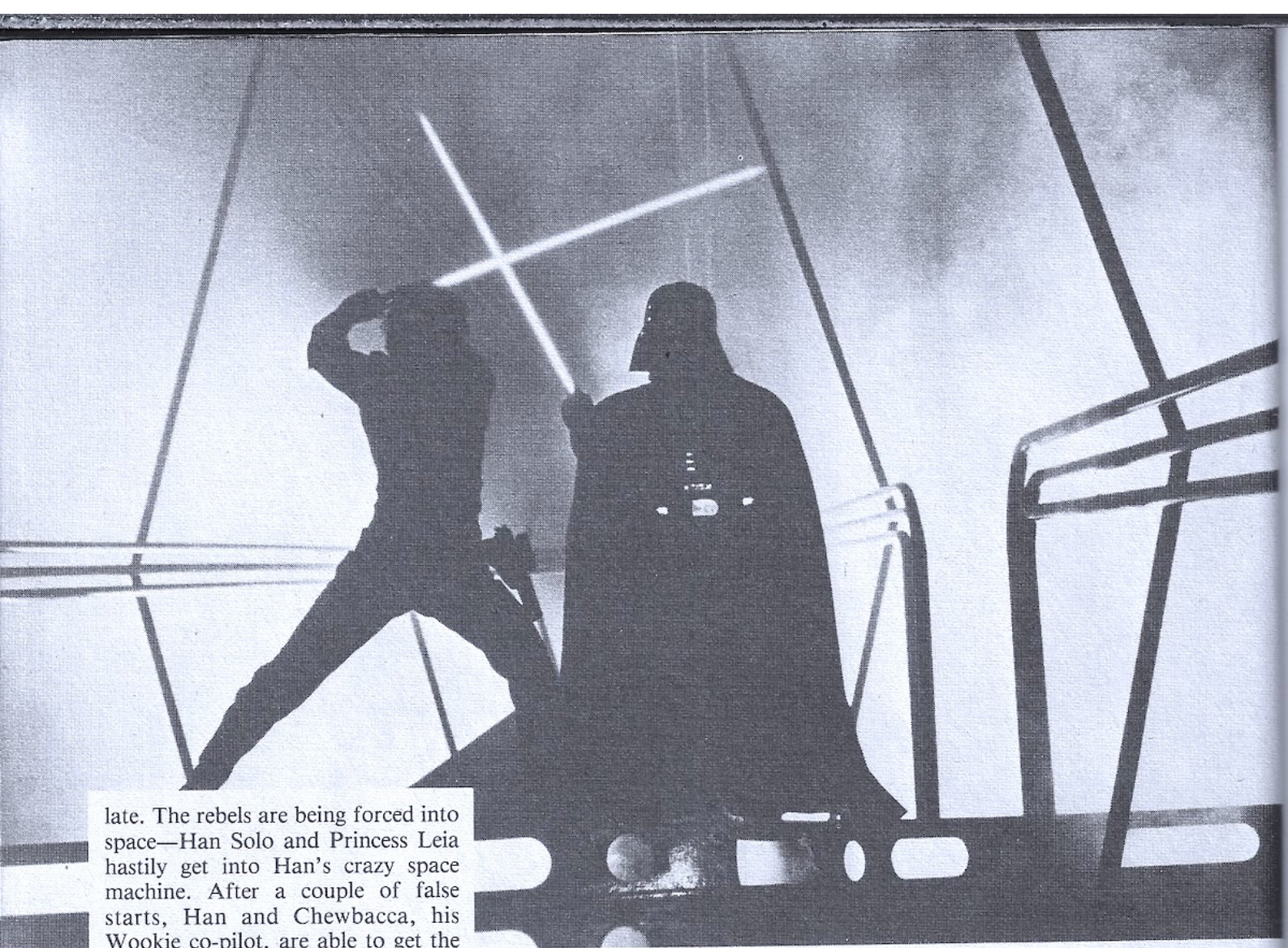
on Vader's diabolical space fortress, the Death Star.

Kenobi ends up losing the tense battle to Vader's cruel light-sword. While Kenobi has the Force on his side, Vader's evil is just too overwhelming, and Kenobi dies a hero's death. His image will continue to grace the Star Wars films after his death, though: the spirit of Ben Kenobi cannot be vanquished.

In a final, all-out rebel raid on the Death Star, rebel hopes are generally frustrated, until Luke Skywalker is able to penetrate the fortress and blow it up. In a spectacular finale, Luke is able to reach safety before the Death Star bursts into a huge outerspace fireball.

While the storm troopers, Vader's elitist corps of robot terrorists, are, for the most part, destroyed in the explosion, we are led to believe at the end of "Star Wars" that Vader has survived. And, indeed, he has....

The opening of "The Empire Strikes Back," the second movie in the Star Wars chronicle, brings us right in on the action: Vader's massive forces of destruction are concentrated on one snowy planet, while rebel forces are forced into a slow retreat. Luke Skywalker is fighting on the front lines, and although the young hero is able to deal a sharp blow to the menacing, quadropodic death machines that stalk the rebels, it is definitely a case of too little too



late. The rebels are being forced into space—Han Solo and Princess Leia hastily get into Han's crazy space machine. After a couple of false starts, Han and Chewbacca, his Wookiee co-pilot, are able to get the vessel off the ground and into space, moments before Vader's forces close in on the planet.

Meanwhile, Luke beats a hasty retreat to a swampy planet where the enigmatic guru of the Jedi knights, Yoda, resides. It is time for Luke to begin his training to become a Jedi knight under the tutorship of Yoda, a small, wise-looking creature who is deeply enlightened in the ways of Jedi lore and magic. In short, Luke learns to use the Force.

Luke's tutorship is a series of trials and errors—sometimes with amusing results. Yoda teaches him various skills essential to the Jedi knight, including levitation, mind-reading and psychic projection. Luke is also taught to learn patience, as the Jedi training often strains even the most milquetoast of temperaments.

In the other side of the saga which makes up "The Empire Strikes Back," Solo, Leia and Wookie are narrowly escaping the forces of the Empire. In one unforgettable chase, Solo's ship finds refuge in what appears to be the deep crater of a planet, only to find out—none too soon—that the crater is actually the belly of a huge beast. The escape

from the snapping jaws of the space critter leads to a spectacular chase scene through an asteroid field, the only escape route left to the rebels in the face of outnumbering Empire forces. Solo deftly steers his craft to open space, however, and the exhausted crew soon finds themselves the guests of Cloud City.

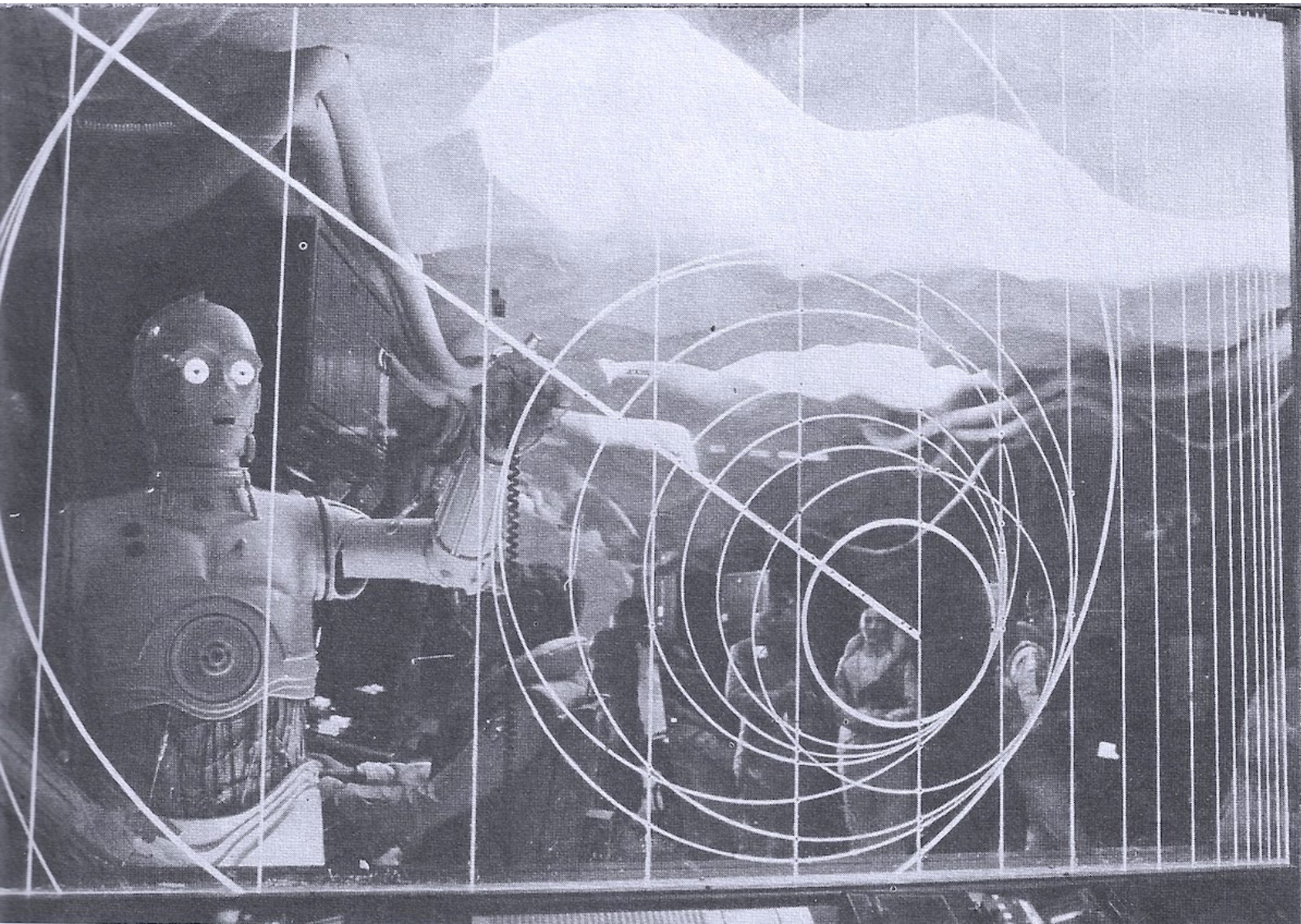
The mayor of Cloud City, Lando, is an old friend of Solo's. This makes the turn of events extra surprising when storm troopers suddenly appear and take our friends captive, reducing, in the process, R2-D2 and C-3PO to something like scrap metal. Luke Skywalker arrives on the scene, having completed his training with Yoda, just in time to fall into the Empire's trap. While Han Solo is frozen into a carbon block and taken away, his friends try fruitlessly to save him. But Lando, seemingly a turn-coat, comes through in the end, signalling his own guards to vanquish the storm troopers at a strategic moment. In the anarchic fight which takes place afterwards, Leia and Chewbacca escape, but Luke is left

to duel in the finale with Darth Vader himself. In the ensuing fight, Vader cryptically reveals the fact that he, in actuality, is Luke's father. The evil menace then severs off one of Luke's hands, and within moments, the young hero plummets several stories through the hollow core of Cloud City.

Is this the end? No. At the bottom, Leia manages to use Han's ship to intercept Luke as he plummets downward, saving the day. The crew then moves off to a friendly space station, where Luke receives a new hand, the playful robots are reconstructed, and everything—for the time being—ends happily ever after.

But what of Han Solo? Is the vanished space mercenary really the object of Princess Leia's love? Is there hope for him? And, *most importantly*, who is the last Jedi knight which Yoda posits to be the last hope of the rebels against the Empire? Could it be Darth Vader? Princess Leia? The deep-frozen Solo?

The only clue as to the existence of this last hope for the rebels is Yoda's



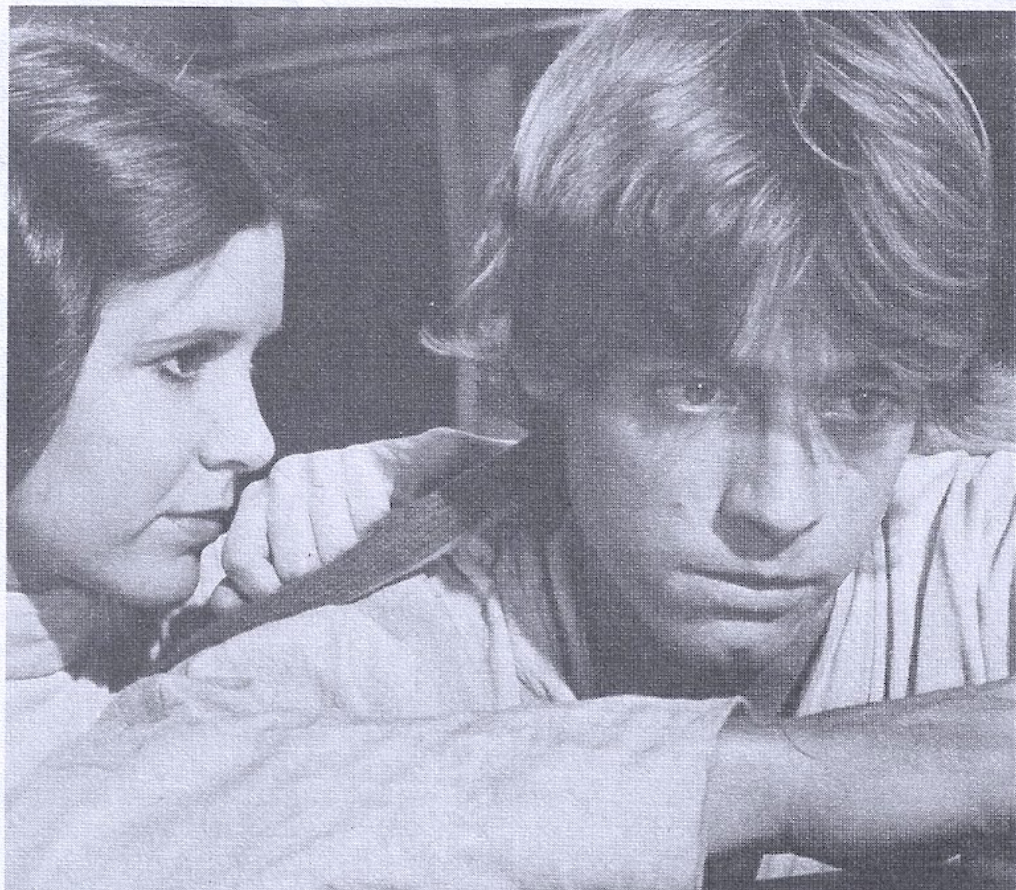
*C-3PO attempts to locate his friends on an electric map of the galaxy.*

remark upon Luke's completion of the Jedi training. As Luke is transported away from the marshy planet's surface, Ben Kenobi's image reappears from beyond the grave. "He is our last hope," Kenobi says of Skywalker.

"No," Yoda replies. "There is one other."

The identity of this other Jedi knight will be pivotal in the third installment of the Star Wars epic. For this reason, Star Wars fans the world over have given endless speculation to the identity of the mystery Jedi knight. Thanks to the consultation of several experts and deep research into the lore and legend which makes up the Star Wars stories, we are able to deduce here the *real and true* identity of this knight.

First, let us consider every possible candidate. Princess Leia and Han Solo spring immediately to mind, of course, but there is a key fact which halts further supposition along these lines: Yoda has had opportunities to come into contact with both Solo and Leia, and has chosen not to.







While Leia has royal lineage which might, given other circumstances, make her a prime candidate, her consistent demonstration of strong mortal bravery has lent her an air of normalcy which would not be consistent with her new identity as the last hope of the Jedi knights.

Solo, the loner, is also out of the question. As a man who has always lived through his own cunning and shrewdness, he simply does not possess the air of majesty and magic necessary for such a hope.

Other candidates come to mind: Lando, the leader, in exile, of Cloud City, and Darth Vader himself, after a strong rehabilitation from the crippling injury which made him the evil and hated leader of the Empire.

Lando, from the surface, appears a strong candidate. Through use of clever treachery, he managed to outfox the Empire in "The Empire Strikes Back," leading to the escape of Leia and Luke. Without his help, the hero and heroine of the saga may

have ended the sequel behind bars. Is he the saviour, the mystery knight?

No. The Jedi knight must have other weapons at his disposal than sheer guile and foxiness. Isn't this a large part of what Yoda taught Luke? indeed, a Jedi must know how to tap into the Force in place of his own contrivances. A Jedi who learns to lean on the Force for support has nothing to fear. For Lando, the possibility of this type of redirection of resources seems small, especially when taking into account the large margin of time he needed to rally his own guards against the fearsome storm troopers.

The mystery Jedi knight will not spring from any character previously introduced in the Star Wars saga. Rather, this character will rise from the planet where Han Solo is held, frozen into his carbon block. The planet, known as Guenter, will be the opening setting of "The Revenge of the Jedi."

In the second Star Wars we were

introduced to Yoda, an unconventional character by any standards. Few would have expected the stooped little green-headed creature to be a commanding mentor to Luke. Yet the teachings of Yoda were valued more than Luke will ever know or understand—the creature is a true prophet.

Yoda's race, nearly extinct at the time of Star Wars, is an ancient, extragalactic strain of being whose biological make-up is not easily understood. The creatures are reproduced in pairs—a type of couplet which allows for survival of the sparse race. When Yoda was born hundreds of years ago, he was born with an "ovoid," a sort of egg-like structure that glows a luminescent orange. At the age of twelve, in a manhood-type ritual, Yoda designed a rocket to launch the egg—a "brother" of sorts—into the cosmos. While Yoda lived out his life on the planet of his birth, the ovoid came to rest on another planet far, far away, where its natural

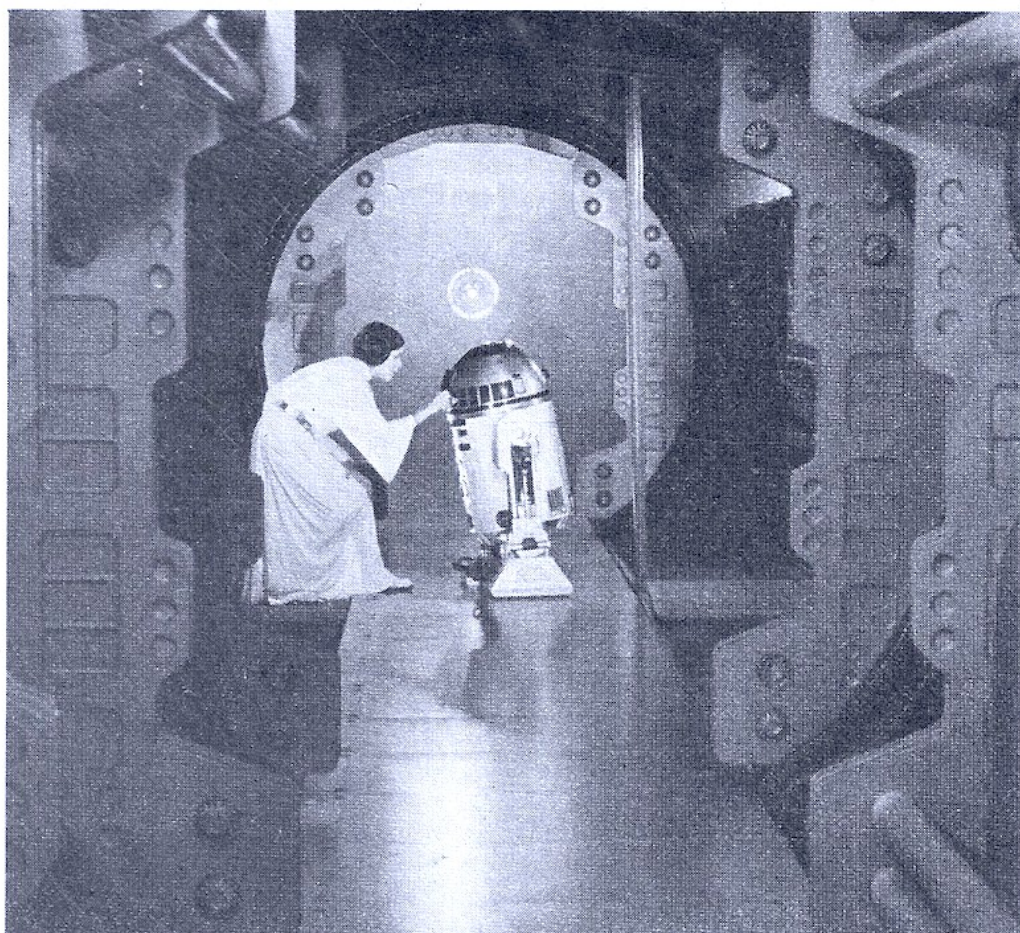


defenses protected it from enemies and created an environment in which it could survive.

The purpose of the ovoid becomes clear in "The Revenge of the Jedi" when, after a prolonged illness natural to the life-cycle of his people, Yoda dies and is buried in a spectacular funeral attended by all the rebel anti-Empire factions. At the exact moment Yoda's life passes away, the ovoid, light years away, begins to open. The emerging being is called Aday—the one who will continue where Yoda left off, a somehow reversed spirit of the former Jedi master that has distinctly different powers than Yoda, but has a destiny—a need to fight for what is good—that is identical to his soulmate.

Coincidentally, the ovoid has opened on the same planet where the carbon block Han Solo is frozen in is being stored. It is in this way that Luke and Princess Leia meet Aday, who they do not recognize at first as

*(Continued on page 52*



# JEDI:

the heir to Yoda's spirit. Aday, after all, is bright purple, winged and large, with a tumultuous laugh that ricochets through the plante's snow-capped valleys: hardly a ringer for the reserved, green Jedi master. Luke and Leia see Aday only as an ally who can help them rescue their friend.

Aday's unique skill allows the super-being to change forms almost at will. Through this natural bent towards disguise, Aday is able to penetrate the heavily guarded Sternaugh, the palace of marble and glass where Solo's carbon block is stored, along with the captive carbon blocks of generations of rebel threats to the Empire.

Once inside the imprisoning palace, Aday manages to sneak Luke in as well. The two together enter a spectacular underground vault, where they search out Han Solo's carbon block. This is no easy task, in that generations and generations of carbon blocks are stored on top of one another, almost from the dawn of time. Luke is able to free many of the prisoners, many of them ancient colonial tribesman, eager once more to undertake the fight against the Empire.

By the time Luke and Aday find Han Solo, they have, at their disposal, an entire army, where before they had only a dwindling reserve of rebel power to cling to. The army marches out of reserve of rebel power to cling to. The army marches out of its vault, overwhelming its captors, and then goes on to take over a local Empire rocket port, where they manage to secure the Empire's death machines for the disposal of the rebels.

Caught up in this drama is the unfolding of the close relationship between Han and Leia. The separation has augmented their feeling for one another—but to give away more than this would be an injustice.

So, the last hope of the Jedis, Aday, the alter spirit of Yoda, does indeed triumph over great odds. But this is by no means the final word of "The Revenge of the Jedi." There are many more tortuous turns in the path to the happy ending awaiting this Star Wars trilogy—the first of three we can expect in the next few years.

# E.T.

Elliot yells out: "Ever since he's left, no one cares about me. He asked me to go with him, wherever he was going. I should have."

While complexion and dating problems are common to all teenagers, Elliot's crises are unique in that he hopes and prays for a day he can leave this planet altogether.

Meanwhile, back at the secret headquarters of Plague Control Central, the news is getting worse and worse. The strange alien disease, brought in by a routine meteor, has taken hundreds of lives. Elliot's step-father is called in on a consultation basis, and in a heroic and very risky act, volunteers to try out a new suit scientists think will thwart the plague's strange and unpredictable movements. Garbed in the protective suit, he makes his way to the contaminated region, where the unearthly plague has manifested itself in the form of incandescent rainbow trout that hop about land on taloned fins.

In an especially visual scene, Elliot's step-father is attacked by the plague through the suit and, like the others before him, seemingly disappears into thin air. The trauma is all the more intensified when the mutated and barely recognizable image of the step-father drops in on Elliot's family, interrupting them during a serene dinner dedicated to remembering E.T.

In Elliot's mind, there is only one course of action. Although he didn't get along with his step-father, the loss of yet another husband is a crushing blow to his mother. He snaps out of his depressed teenage trauma into high gear. Jumping onto his motor scooter (having outgrown the bicycle) Elliot and his friends attempt to find the mechanism by which, years earlier, E.T. communicated with his own kind, leading eventually to his rescue. By using the same makeshift device, Elliot hopes to contact E.T. and alert him to the danger the earth faces.

After trial and error, a message is sent. In a comeback that will probably not be equaled in modern movie history, E.T.'s glowing spaceship returns to Earth. Before the spectacular return, however, the alien plague has cast an even longer shadow on the surface of the earth. The government of the United States is holed up

in a cave beneath the Rocky Mountains. Reports of new mass deaths as a result of the plague, which appears and disappears without a pattern or explainable cause, highlight the news of each day. Panic is difficult for the authorities to quell. Even as Elliot transmits his urgent message to E.T., the strange disease is rampaging across the Yukon in the form of a bison stampede, a species of bison which, cryptically enough, disappeared from the surface of the earth two hundred years before.

E.T.'s reappearance combines a sense of fanfare and urgency. While Elliot is overjoyed to be reunited with his friend, things have begun to change for both of them. Elliot is now almost a man—no longer the naive boy full of wonder he was when E.T. first landed on Earth. E.T., on the other hand, has also grown in distinct ways. Since his adventure on earth he has become the leader of his people, a tremendous responsibility which he has briefly set aside to come to the aid of Earth.

Just as psychic telecommunication was used in the first E.T. film, Elliot and the E.T. are once more joined in cerebral wavelengths. Since E.T.'s English vocabulary consists of only three or four words, this telepathic communication is essential to the team effort to vanquish the plague.

As it turns out, the meteorite which initially fell on earth, starting the plague, was not, in fact, a natural occurrence at all. Rather, the meteorite was a missile of sorts, aimed at our planet by an enemy of E.T.'s people, the Bluundars. The Bluundars are a bitter, awkward race. Since they live on a planet with a very dense gravity, they appear crab-like in construction, with their brain divided up into each of their six legs. The heavy gravity makes any sort of communication or transportation awkward at best, which accounts, in part, for their basically warlike nature, despite their having taken to the zero-gravity of space, a preferable habitat, eons ago.

E.T.'s peace-loving people and the Bluundars have been at war for as long as space travel has existed between their two peoples.

Since the armament stockpiles of both races are infinite in scope, the Bluundars have taken to different means in terrorizing E.T.'s people. Direct conflict is avoided at all costs, since both planets' races possess vaporizing lasers and deadly rays which can be aimed from light years away.