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Star Wars: Heir To The Empire (20th Anniversary Edition), The Thrawn Trilogy, Book 1



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Synopsis

Here is a special edition 20th anniversary release of the number-one New York Times best-selling novel that reignited the entire Star Wars publishing phenomenon - unabridged for the first time. The biggest event in the history of Star Wars books, Heir to the Empire follows the adventures of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and Princess Leia after they led the Rebel Alliance to victory in Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi. 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, Princess Leia and Han Solo are married and expecting twins, and Luke Skywalker 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. For this dark warrior has made two vital discoveries that could destroy everything the courageous men and women of the Rebel Alliance fought so hard to create. The explosive confrontation that results is a towering epic of action, invention, mystery, and spectacle on a galactic scale - in short, a story worthy of the name Star Wars.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The story that restarted the Star Wars universe, Heir To The Empire was the first expanded universe novel for the Star Wars universe. Picking up a few years after the events of the Return Of The Jedi film, Timothy Zahn not only played with the existing locations, characters, and stories as

created by George Lucas, but fleshed it all out with characters and creatures of his own. Introducing the reader to characters like Talon Karrde, Mara Jade, and Grand Admiral Thrawn, Zahn peers into many elements of the universe that Lucas didn't get around to. If you have an interest in Star Wars, this is the starting point for your expanded universe. all the character breath and act realistically, whether established in the movies, or brand new to the settings, and all the locations are well thought out and introduced in interesting ways.

"Heir to the Empire" reignited the interest in the Star Wars universe and set the stage for many of the novels that followed.It has been five years since the destruction of the second Death Star and the death of Emperor Paplatine. The New Republic is struggling to find its way, and the last members of the Empire, led by the cunning Grand Admiral Thrawn, are consolidating the remains of the Imperial fleet and have their sights set on the New Republic.Thrawn has two assets at his disposal; a dark jedi and a new type of cloaking device. He hopes to unleash the power of the Imperial fleet against the New Republic base on Sluis Van. But the attack does not go as planned, and soon, the Imperials are forced to flee. Meanwhile, Admiral Ackbar has been arrested, forcing Han Solo and Luke Skywalker to return to Coruscant.I thoroughly enjoyed reading "Heir to the Empire". This book was the one that really got the Star Wars novels going, and author Timothy Zahn has done a masterful job of describing events after the Battle of Endor. His character development is flawless, as evidenced by the masterful creation of Grand Admiral Thrawn. Also introduced in "Heir" is the brilliant Mara Jade, who, after this book, becomes a regular character in future novels. Also, the continual development of Luke, Han, and Leia (who's pregnant with twins) is well done.I'm eagerly anticipating reading the other two books in this series. I've been a fan of Star Wars novels for years, but I had never read the "Heir to the Empire" series. I'm glad I decided to start. Highly recommended.

This is my all time favorite Star wars book. Definitely to date the best one ever written. Even the other 2 books in the trilogy are amazing.Pros:1: Thrawn. Yes Grand admiral Thrawn, not only a huge fan favorite of myself and countless others but one of the most interesting and awesome additions ever to the Star Wars universe.2: Thrawns Genius. Thrawn unlike most of the other imperials does not let emotions govern his actions. He is cold, calculating and precise. Think of him like Boba Fett, hes like a chess master, always several moves ahead of the New Republic.3: Thrawns obsession with art. This was actually really cool, Thrawn is able to discern the enemies weaknesses and strengths by studying the art of their culture.4: Mara Jade. The second greatest

addition to the star wars universe since the lucas movies. Mara Jade once an imperial agent is now trying to live as a smuggler and forget her past when she is caught up in the wave of events that Tim Zahn masterfully unfolds in his story.5: Talon Kardde. Kardde was also pretty awesome, hes the new smuggler chief now that Jabba is out of the picture.6: Captain Pelleon. He is fated to become a great leader. But till then he is an interesting character, the perfect imperial officer if you will, tutoring under Grand admiral Thrawn.7: Nohgri. Its interesting to note that Zahn was going to make them Sith because back then no one knew what a Sith meant. Still the Nohgri are awesome, deadly small nimble assassins.8: Han Solo, Zahn is a master at writing Han Solo and really catches his sarcastic, hard edged smugglers charm.9: Joruus C'baoth. I loved this character so much. He was the first real Dark Jedi Master that we are introduced to in the star wars EU, of course by now there are others that take place in time b4 him, but as far as this being the real first star wars EU novel C'baoth was just what the force doctor ordered. What also makes him interesting is the mystery surrounding him, is he evil or just insane? You will have to read to find out.10: just about everything in this book is awesome.Cons:1: Ill put it in here though i kinda disagree but ive seen people complain about the coincidence factor, where like the characters keep ending p in the same place at the same time perfectly in time for a major event. If you ask me it makes sense due to the Force manipulating events to be balanced out.2: Pronunciation. IE C'baoth, Thrawn, Nohgri ect. The names are clever but yes very hard to pronounce, especially C'baoth. I asked the author how to say it and it wasnt at all like i thought it would be. It was like Sib ah Ohth. And did you know germans cant pronounce Thrawn?3: Jedi suppression. This part i will agree with, while Luke does do some fun Jedi moves in here it does seem Zahn dislikes writing Jedi and having them use their powers.4: No Boba Fett :(I was bummed not to see Fett or any of the famous hunters. Zahn told me once that he feels Fett is overrated and would most likely not write him. That made me sad, and while he has had fett in a book he wrote (not this trilogy) it still wasnt really the fett we wanted.SummeryThis book is truly a masterpiece despite the few flaws. Its as close to seeing a star wars movie as you can get in novel format. Theres so much more i could say about it but if you want to know what all the hype is about just go read it!!!

It's been over twenty years since I first read this. I remember when it originally came out how excited I was to continue the adventures of Luke, Han and Leia. To this day it still doesn't disappoint even though it's not cannon. There are some things I've always logistically disagreed with but as a SW Legend it all makes sense now.A good read for those who are about to dive into Thrawn.

This was an old book, and I got it for the novella at the end of this edition since I was unable to find the novella in any standalone form. I read Heir to the Empire when it was new and still have that book. It has been relegated to Star Wars Legends (not real in Disney space), but is nevertheless a great book and much better if the Novella Crisis of Faith is read first.

I agree with the most essential elements of the many five star reviews. It was a delight to be reacquainted with the Star Wars family. Mr. Zahn is an excellent story teller, but he has one habit which just irks me; and that is he often uses the construct of "the other" rather than a character's name or a pronoun. The good news is that this small writing flaw (as I believe it is) can be easily corrected by a global word search of "the other" and substituted with a name or "she", "he", "him", "her" , or "it" as appropriate by the writer or an editor. Indeed, it seems that an editor should have attended to this.

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