

STAR WARS

EPISODE VII:

“Stronghold”

By

Alberto Veloso

PAGE ONE (4 PANELS):

PANEL ONE:

A platoon of Rebel Alliance forces, led by Lieutenant Drex Anders, is entering an ex-Empire stronghold on the planet Malastare.

1) CAPTION: My unit, sir, ever since Yavin, we’ve been hunting down the Empire’s strongholds. Making sure they’re secure. Seeing if they’d left some valuable intel behind.

PANEL TWO:

The platoon is in a fierce firefight with various security and battle droids.

2) CAPTION: And we’d run into some resistance before, sir. Mostly low grade security droids. Never anything like this.

PANEL THREE:

The platoon is exiting the stronghold carrying their wounded and dead.

3) CAPTION: We lost a lot of good guys in there, and we barely got to Level 3.

PANEL FOUR:

Lt. Anders is talking to a hooded figure outside the stronghold. It’s an Over-the-Shoulder Shot favoring the Lieutenant, so we can’t see the hooded figure’s face.

4) ANDERS: That’s why we called you, sir. I don’t know who this place belonged to, but they sure didn’t want anyone getting in.

5) HOODED FIGURE (O.P.): It belonged to my father, Lieutenant...

PAGE TWO (6 PANELS):**PANEL ONE:**

The hooded figure is revealed to be none other than Luke Skywalker.

1) LUKE: And I sense something... important inside.

PANEL TWO:

Luke walks toward the entrance of the stronghold, alone.

2) LUKE: Tell your men to wait here.

3) ANDERS: But, sir--

4) LUKE: I'll contact you when it's secure.

PANEL THREE:

Luke uses the force to open the stronghold doors.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL FOUR:

He sees a cluster of G-2RD guard droids inside (REFERENCE LINK [HERE](#)).

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL FIVE:

Luke activates his lightsaber.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL SIX:

Moments later. This panel is similar to Panel Four, except now the robots have been destroyed and Luke is walking past them into the stronghold.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PAGE THREE (4 PANEL):

PANEL ONE:

Each panel on this page represents a different underground level of the stronghold, each with a different and deadlier type of security droid. In this panel, Luke’s fighting a group of Nar Shaddaa security droids (REFERENCE LINK [HERE](#)).

1) CAPTION: Level 4.

PANEL TWO:

Luke battles a company of 6FT-DP droids (REFERENCE LINK [HERE](#)).

2) CAPTION: Level 12.

PANEL THREE:

Luke uses the force to bend up the metal floor, creating a wall to push back an army of B-2 battle droids (REFERENCE LINK [HERE](#)).

3) CAPTION: Level 28.

PANEL FOUR:

Luke destroys a group of Krath war droids (REFERENCE LINK [HERE](#)).

4) CAPTION: Level 33.

PAGE FOUR (5 PANELS):**PANEL ONE:**

Luke is fighting one of the infamous Droideka Battle Droids (REFERENCE LINK [HERE](#)). Luke's using his lightsaber to reflect its laser blasts.

1) CAPTION: FINAL LEVEL.

PANEL TWO:

Close-Up Shot of Luke, focused, his hand raised as he uses the full strength of the force.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL THREE:

The Droideka is crushed by the force into a big metal ball.

2) SFX: CRUSH!

PANEL FOUR:

From behind Luke, a figure speaks. We can see just a black foot and the edge of a cape.

3) VOICE (O.P.): Impressive, Young Skywalker.

PANEL FIVE:

Luke turns and sees Darth Vader, red lightsaber drawn, ready for battle.

4) VADER: But you will not fair as well with me.

5) LUKE: No! It's impossible!

PAGE FIVE (4 PANELS):

PANEL ONE:

Vader swings his saber, and Luke blocks.

- 1) LUKE: You died in my arms!
- 2) VADER: The Dark Side can never die. Nor can your feeble Jedi tricks defeat me.

PANEL TWO

Luke swings back, but he's blocked.

- 3) LUKE: You're not my father!

PANEL THREE

Vader kicks Luke to the ground.

- 4) SFX: Thump.

PANEL FOUR

Vader stands over Luke.

- 5) VADER: I sense much doubt in you.

PAGE SIX (5 PANELS):**PANEL ONE:**

Luke blocks as Vader brings his lightsaber crashing down.

1) LUKE: No!

PANEL TWO:

Luke is on his feet, fighting back.

2) LUKE: When I fought my father before, I could always sense his own struggle.

PANEL THREE:

Luke has the momentum.

3) LUKE: The battle between the darkness and light. Between Vader and Anakin. But in you...

PANEL FOUR:

Luke is standing in front of Vader, their lightsabers locked together.

4) LUKE: I sense nothing.

PAGE SEVEN (6 PANELS):**PANEL ONE:**

Luke cuts Vader in half, revealing only circuitry inside.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL TWO:

Luke looks down at the malfunctioning android.

1) VADER: You cannot... defeat...

2) LUKE: You're just a machine. Programmed with my father's memories, but none of his soul.

PANEL THREE:

Luke notices a vault nearby.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL FOUR:

He uses the force to open the vault.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL FIVE:

Luke is shocked by what he sees inside.

[NO DIALOGUE]

PANEL SIX:

Outside, Lt. Anders is receiving a holographic transmission from Luke Skywalker.

3) LUKE: Lieutenant. The stronghold is secure. Take your platoon and proceed to the next one.

4) ANDERS: Understood, sir. But if you don't mind my asking, what'd you find in there? Anything valuable?

5) LUKE: Yes, Lieutenant.

PAGE EIGHT (1 PANEL):**SPLASH:**

Luke is standing inside the vault, which is more of a shrine dedicated to Padmé Amidala (Luke’s mother and Vader’s wife). We can see the red dress and crown she traditionally wore as queen. We can see a holographic picture of her clandestine wedding to Anakin Skywalker. Luke stands in awe, and his last comment is more to himself than to Lt. Anders.

1) LUKE: Valuable indeed.

THE END