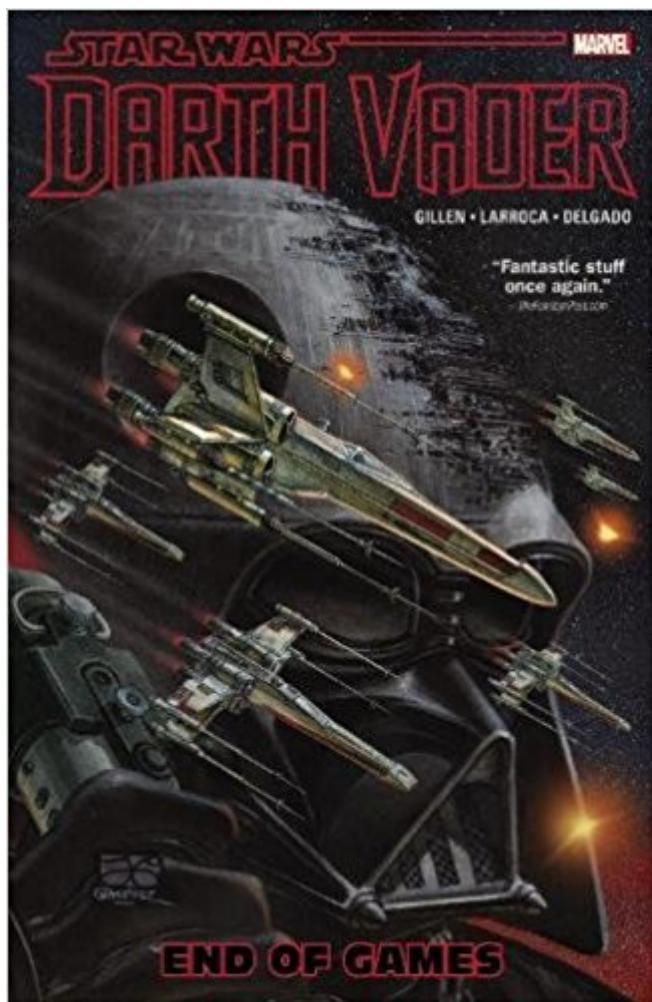


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Star Wars: Darth Vader Vol. 4: End Of Games



Synopsis

Darth Vader has been secretly pursuing his own agenda, but now it is time for the End of Games. As Inspector Thanoth returns with some startling information, it seems that Vader may have passed his master's tests. But even after finding favor in the eyes of the Emperor, the Dark Lord's schemes may yet prove his undoing... Plus, the killer droids Triple-Zero and Beetee wreak havoc in their own homicidal adventure! Marvel's in-depth exploration of the Dark Side of Star Wars goes from strength to strength! COLLECTING: DARTH VADER 20-25

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kieron Gillen is a British comic book writer and former computer game and music journalist. He is known for his creator-owned comic *Phonogram*, created with artist Jamie McKelvie, published by Image Comics, and for numerous projects for Marvel Comics, such as *Journey into Mystery* and *Uncanny X-Men*. Salvador Larroca is a Spanish comic book artist, primarily known for his work on various X-Men titles. The biggest selling comic book in 20 years with over a million copies of issue #1 sold!

This is the final volume in the Darth Vader ongoing series that has been going since Marvel first launched their Star Wars line. Although, another Darth Vader comic is coming soon, but that one takes place shortly after *Revenge of the Sith*. This took place shortly after *A New Hope*. This series

followed Darth Vader's rise from defeat after the first Death Star was destroyed. This last volume finishes up that rise. My favorite part of this series was the introduction of Doctor Aphra and her murderous droids, Triple-Zee and Beetee. I'm very excited for the doctor to get her own series. The other original characters that Vader competed against were some of my least favorite characters in the new Marvel comicverse. They all seemed very "Legends" to me. Cybernetic implants and force powers. Imperial posture. Not my kind of characters. There is an epic lightsaber battle that is depicted midway through this volume. It bridges the prequel-era with the original trilogy nicely. I found the coda odd. I'm interested to see where it leads. If anywhere. I give this volume a 4.5/5. I enjoyed seeing it all come to an end. The droids really shined in this volume.

I have to say that I really had a tough time wrapping my head around both the writing and art style of the Darth Vader graphic novels. Kieron Gillen isn't very clear in his approach and I find myself having to re-read several portions to understand what's going on. Same goes for Salvador Larocca's artwork. It's just so mysterious at times and I find myself needing re-cover material that should have a simple flow to it. All that being said, Gillen is a visionary and has come up with some brilliant concepts that are enjoyable to experience. Telling the story from the perspective of the Empire, and slowly seeing Darth Vader's character develop from what we see between A New Hope and Empire Strikes Back is quite enjoyable. All-in-all a solid-enough story to get 4-star review from me.

It's the Vader we needed. It's like the last scene of Rogue 1 but in a comic book.

3.5 stars The art throughout this 25 issue series has been stellar, and it holds up in this final volume. The drawings of ships, monsters, planets and splash pages are all excellently done. The fight scenes are decent, but we've also read this book for the intrigue between the imperials. The Emperor has encouraged this, because Vader is on the outs a bit since the Death Star blew up. With the conclusion of this volume, the bridge that Disney/Lucasfilm/Marvel was looking for between IV and V is complete.....BUT, I expect we'll see more stories involving Vader in this specific movie gap. Triple Zero and Beetee are entertaining, but they have much less panel time than before. Still, these have been welcome creations (the highlight of the series) and I hope we see more of them in future stories. The Doctor Alpha story line has a very good ending. Excellent payoff.

Nice end to the series

Great series!

This is the conclusion to the first Darth Vader series, and it is EXCELLENT! You've got giant, cybernetic whale starships (you wanted Space Opera? You got it!), amazing Vader Force action, with it all tying into the movies nicely. This is the new canon. And, it's brilliant. The strength of this series are the characters. Dr. Aphra - cute as a bug but lacking one human quality. A soul. She's a true sociopath. Black Krrsantan, the Wookiee. Give the Wookiee his money! Just do it! Triple-Zero and Beetee - These are the anit-duo to C-3PO and R2-D2. They're quite funny, and they're homicidal. I love these two. Cylo - And, then there's this guy. He's a great bad guy--a bad guy for the bad guy, Vader. He's a worthy foe for Vader. Very smart, Cylo is a master at cybernetics. In fact (new canon information!), he helped design Vader's "body". Palpatine ordered him to take what was left of Anakin Skywalker and rebuild him. I think "Cylo" is an inside joke among the Marvel guys, giving a nod to Battlestar Galactica (the new BS, not the old BS). Why? Well, that's a spoiler. You'll have to read the book to see why I think that. Tagge - Remember the first time we see Vader use his Force Choke ability? It was in *A New Hope*, and Vader did not kill Tagge because Tarkin waved him off. Well...evidently, Tagge survived the destruction of the Death Star, and the Emperor made him a Grand General. And, he serves as a pain in Vader's backside all through the series. I love how this part of the story is all tied together aboard the Executor (bridging *A New Hope* and *The Empire Strikes Back*), leaving Admiral Ozzel in command.

To see how Vader how to compete for his position in the Sith order was very interesting. To image what he had to go through was one thing but to actual see it in print was amazing. A fitting end to this story line.

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