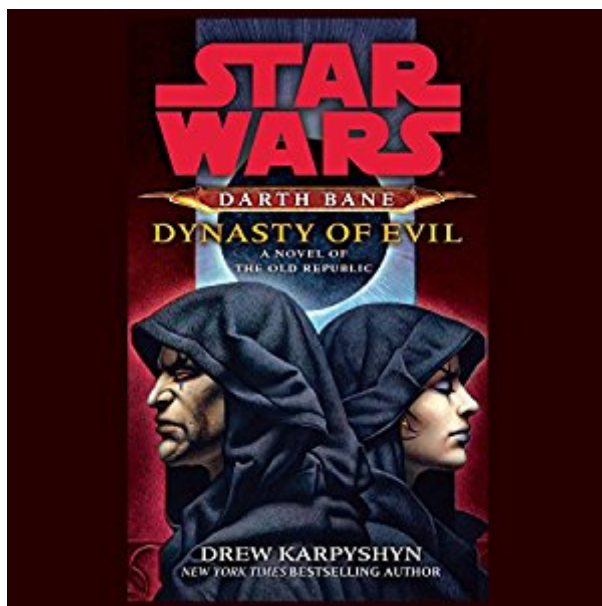


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Dynasty Of Evil: Star Wars Legends (Darth Bane)



Synopsis

Twenty years have passed since Darth Bane, reigning Dark Lord of the Sith, demolished the ancient order devoted to the dark side and reinvented it as a circle of two: one Master to wield the power and pass on the wisdom, and one apprentice to learn, challenge, and ultimately usurp the Dark Lord in a duel to the death. But Bane's acolyte, Zannah, has yet to engage her Master in mortal combat and prove herself a worthy successor. Determined that the Sith dream of galactic domination will not die with him, Bane vows to learn the secret of a forgotten Dark Lord that will assure the Sith's immortality - and his own. A perfect opportunity arises when a Jedi emissary is assassinated on the troubled mining planet Doan, giving Bane an excuse to dispatch his apprentice on a fact-finding mission - while he himself sets out in secret to capture the ancient holocron of Darth Andeddu and its precious knowledge. But Zannah is no fool. She knows that her ruthless Master has begun to doubt her, and she senses that he is hiding something crucial to her future. If she is going to claim the power she craves, she must take action now. While Bane storms the remote stronghold of a fanatical Sith cult, Zannah prepares for her Master's downfall by choosing an apprentice of her own: a rogue Jedi cunning and cold-blooded enough to embrace the Sith way and to stand beside her when she at last wrests from Bane the mantle of Dark Lord of the Sith. But Zannah is not the only one with the desire and power to destroy Darth Bane. Princess Serra of the Doan royal family is haunted by memories of the monstrous Sith soldier who murdered her father and tortured her when she was a child. Bent on retribution, she hires a merciless assassin to find her tormentor - and bring him back alive to taste her wrath. Only a Sith who has taken down her own Master can become Dark Lord of the Sith. So when Bane suddenly vanishes, Zannah must find him - possibly even rescue him - before she can kill him. And so she pursues her quarry from the grim depths of a ravaged world on the brink of catastrophe to the barren reaches of a desert outpost, where the future of the dark side's most powerful disciples will be decided, once and for all, by the final, fatal stroke of a lightsaber.

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Customer Reviews

I find the Star Trek (several series) books generally better than the Star Wars books, but within the Star Wars Books I only buy the dark (Sith) character books to have enough to read of the book series I buy. I enjoy more the positive oriented Jedi books, but this book has an interesting twist in introducing a Dark Jedi who is primarily motivated by simple personal greed as one of the key characters. If I was more into dark character books I probably would have rated this book a five star one.

The final book in the Darth Bane series delivers on all cylinders. A great ending to a great trilogy this final book pits apprentice against master and the reader must decide who to root for, if anyone! The Bane series is one of my favorite Star Wars novels and essential to anyone who wants to further understand the Sith we see in the films.

I've only read 6 of the expanded universe novels, the Thrawn trilogy and now the Darth Bane trilogy. I started with the Thrawn series as it seemed to come the most highly recommended of all the star wars novels. I read the trilogy, and was sorely disappointed. The story was grand and epic, and the entire universe is at stake again, but the characters were boring and flat. The characters from the movies like Luke, Han, Leia, etc, were just shadows of the movies, with no new character development, often repeating their iconic lines from the movies with sort of a wink and a nod to the reader. A lot of the plot devices from the Thrawn trilogy were cheap and lazy. The only remotely interesting character was Mara Jade, and she was poorly executed most of the time. I thought to myself, if this is the best the best of the star wars books, then we are in trouble. I searched out a different story, hoping it would redeem the poor effort of the Thrawn series, and I decided to give the first novel of the Darth Bane series a shot. I always thought the dark side of the force was lacking in depth from the movies, and I wanted to see if anyone was capable of giving that angle new life. I'm very pleased to report that the Darth Bane trilogy is far more compelling, and is overall a really great

story. In contrast to the Thrawn trilogy, the physical scope of the novel is far more narrow. The galaxy is not in any immediate danger after the conclusion of the first novel, and there are no clone armies threatening to destroy the republic and there is no death star blowing up planets. This trilogy is all about the small first steps the Sith will take to the eventual galactic domination that culminates in episode III, and thus the action is far more focused and localized to discrete areas of the Star Wars galaxy. Bravo to the author for not falling into the trap of bigger is better. I won't launch into an exhaustive review, but suffice to say, the main characters are very dynamic and interesting. Bane is obviously the main focus of the novels, and getting to see the transformation that he undergoes really gives you a better sense of what Yoda and the crew were fighting against. From the movies, you sometimes get the sense the dark side of the force is just lightning bolts and intimidating names. This series really delves into the philosophy of the Sith, and how it is so different from the Jedi, and gives you a better idea of what powers the dark side offers, besides silly lightning bolts. The story moves at a great pace, and the story itself falls into place without the need to rely on the cheap plot devices that I detested in the Thrawn trilogy. This is a far more subtle and nuanced trilogy. I'm giving the trilogy a 5 because the characters are very compelling and the story feels like a cornerstone to the whole Star Wars universe. It's not perfect, of course, but it's a very strong trilogy that is definitely worth a read.

I am so tired of George Lucas' obsession with the "Clone Wars" when there are so many SW novels that beg to be made into films or a T.V. series, "Darth Maul: Shadow Hunter" & "The Force Unleashed" come to mind & now the "Darth Bane Trilogy" as well, this third & (maybe final book) on Darth Bane is just as good if not better than its predecessors, in this one Bane goes on yet another adventure for a Sith Holocron, while Zannah realizes that her time as the Bane's successor is at hand, we are introduced to some newer characters like the assassin Huntress who gets the drop on Bane that is fun to read, as well as Caleb's now adult daughter Serra who has a heated vengeance against Bane, as well as a Dark Jedi named Set Harth who is more or less comic relief but very dangerous & cunning especially in the way he toys with Zannah & later the Huntress, there isn't much I can add that others haven't already said or added, however I really feel that this trilogy is a great addition to the SW cannon, I like how Bane initiates the Rule of Two, & how Zannah is intent on following that tradition that we know will exist a 1,000 years later in Palpatine & Vader's time, I also liked how these characters got fleshed out, I especially liked how the action sequences were written, Bane & Zannah's showdown & later their rematch & the questionable ending that leaves room for more, it is a shame these characters will never make it to the big screen, again if I were a

casting director, I would definately get Vin Diesel(Fast & Furious) & Amanda Seyfried(Red Riding Hood) in the roles of Bane & Zannah, I can't think of two better actors suited for these roles, I kept picturing their faces as I read this one, & Josh Holloway (Sawyer on the show "Lost") would be perfect as Set Harth simply because the two characters are a lot alike, & I think he would be the only one to pull it off, I know it will never happen, but this would be one great trilogy of films, Darth Bane is by far the best Sith ever, he even eclipses Darth Maul, Count Dooku, Palpatine, & even Anakin/Vader in the far off future, even Zannah somewhat puts these characters to shame, author Drew Kapshyn has created some memorable characters here, he is right up there with Timothy Zahn, A definat must read to all SW fans, especially those intrigued by the origins of the Sith, another thing I liked was Bane's insistence on patience & deception & him instilling this in Zannah, because we all know that patience, cunning & deception are what allows Palpatine to seize power & destroy the Jedi in the SW Prequel films, a move that would have made Bane & Zannah proud!!

This is a great conclusion to the Darth Bane book series written by Drew Karpysyn. If you enjoyed Path of Destruction and Rule of Two, then this is the book for you. If you haven't read them, I would recommend you do. They are well written entries in the Star Wars legends universe. The author Drew Kaypyshyn was writer for Knights of the Old Republic, so if that story telling interested you, this book series will as well.

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