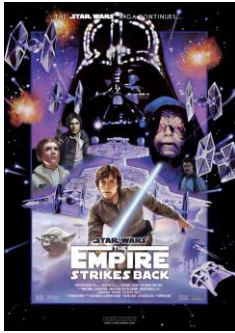


Short Review: “Star Wars V - The Empire Strikes Back” (1980) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Star Wars: Episode V - The Empire Strikes Back (1980). (aka The Empire Strikes Back).

20th Century Fox, color, 124 min. Director: Irvin Kershner. Writers: George Lucas, Leigh Brackett, etc. Producer: Gary Kurtz. Cast: Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, and Billy Dee Williams.

Darth Vader, steeped in the dark side of the Force, leads the evil empire’s attack on the rebels’ base at Hoth. Solo (Ford) and Leia (Fisher) escape to Cloud City, ruled by the swaggering Lando Calrissian (Williams). Luke seeks expanded knowledge of the Force from Master Yoda on his swamp planet, gains it, and then goes to Cloud City to rescue his friends, who have been captured by Vader. In a duel with Vader, Luke learns that he is Vader’s son. Some critics maintain that this film is superior to the original **Star Wars**. It does have a wonderful attack sequence on Hoth, superior special effects and mind-blowing spectacle plus more good music by Williams, but it is a more serious film as it develops Vader’s character.

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