

MEMORIES OF A JEDI

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Based on Star Wars by George Lucas

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SPACE.

We slowly tilt down as a familiar planet slides in to view.

TATOOINE. A desert world set far away from anything of importance.

A spaceship bursts in to the frame. It's the MILLENNIUM FALCON.

The ship speeds away from the camera as it descends towards the yellow planet below.

CUT TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - DAYLIGHT

The Millennium Falcon zooms above THE DUNE SEA - an endless procession of rolling sand dunes and stretches of nothingness in every direction.

CUT TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - MOUNTAINS - CONTINUOUS

A band of JAWAS (small, robed, alien scavengers) carry a moisture vaporator towards their SANDCRAWLER (a massive square transport with giant treads).

The Millennium Falcon flies by overhead as we follow it to:

EXT. TATOOINE - MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT - CONTINUOUS

MOS EISLEY, a bustling city. The Millennium Falcon flies overhead and slows down to gently descend in to an open landing port.

CUT TO:

EXT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - CONTINUOUS

The Millennium Falcon sits in the open top landing port. Steam HISSES as it expels from beneath the ship.

A ramp slowly opens and descends to the ground.

Boots appear as an unknown figure walks slowly down the ramp.

CLOSE-UP - EXIT RAMP - CONTINUOUS

The figure slowly emerges in to view until finally we see LANDO CALRISSIAN - a debonair looking rogue.

WIDE - HANGAR BAY

Lando exits the Falcon and sees a green alien waiting in the shadows. GREEDO.

Greedo walks towards Lando with a purpose.

Lando stops next to the Falcon's closest landing gear.

INSERT - LANDING GEAR

Lando's hand comes to rest upon a hidden blaster.

DOCKING BAY - CONTINUOUS

Greedo speaks in the alien tongue HUTTESE, while Lando responds in BASIC ENGLISH.

GREEDO

You've been gone a long time.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Not long enough.

(beat)

I don't know how you stand this heat. It's unbearable.

GREEDO

Did you bring it?

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Greedo - I'm hurt. Offended really.

(beat)

Do you think I'd show my face around here if I didn't have it?

GREEDO

(anxious)

Let's see it.

Lando walks away from the landing gear and slowly makes his way towards Greedo.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Let's not be too hasty, my friend.

(beat)

I don't think Jabba would be very happy if he knew you took a peek at his new toy before he did.

GREEDO
You make a good point.

Lando walks up to Greedo and stops. He shakes hands with the alien.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
It *has* been a long time, hasn't it.

GREEDO
Jabba is anxious to see you.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I'll bet he is.
(motions towards the ship)
It's in the cargo hold. You got a transport?

GREEDO
Of course.

Four Jawas arrive as if on cue. They walk towards the Falcon pushing a hovering, flatbed transport.

Lando grows wary.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Jawas?!

GREEDO
They work cheap.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
That's because they steal whatever they can get their grubby little hands on.

GREEDO
Don't worry, Calrissian. No Jawa would dare steal from Jabba.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
It's not Jabba I'm worried about.

GREEDO
You worry too much.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
There's a difference between being worried and being cautious.

Greedo offers a half-hearted smile.

GREEDO

Show us to the cargo hold.

Lando remains uneasy.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

These little scavengers take
anything, Jabba's reimbursing me.

GREEDO

You'll have to take that up with
Jabba.

Lando hesitates before reluctantly escorting Greedo and the Jawas up the ramp and in to the Falcon.

CUT TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - SOUTH RIDGE - DAYTIME

OWEN LARS stands next to a moisture vaporator. A service hatch hangs open as Owen leans inside.

The suns beat down on him relentlessly as he attempts to repair the machine.

Owen wipes the sweat from his face. As he tightens a bolt the sweat on his hands causes the wrench to slip and he smashes his finger.

OWEN LARS

Ow! Blast it!
(sucking his finger)
Luke should be doing this.

Owen finishes tightening the bolt. He pulls out a small electrical device and holds it near the vaporator.

A series of three green lights CLICK on inside the vaporator's service hatch followed by a quiet HUM.

Owen closes the lid to the service hatch and tightens four more bolts, sealing the machine tight.

He wipes his brow again and walks over to his Landspeeder.

A small cylindrical droid rolls up to Owen. It BEEPS and SQUAWKS something of a question.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)

Let's hope so. The last thing we
need is another small harvest.

Owen reaches in to the Landspeeder and pulls out an opaque container full of water. He takes a drink.

Suddenly the cylindrical droid ERUPTS in a burst of sparks as smoke pours from a hole blown in its chest. Owen grabs his rifle from the Landspeeder and quickly crawls underneath it.

A second SHOT hits the ground in front of Owen as he reaches for the binoculars around his neck.

He focuses towards a far ridge.

INSERT - BINOCULARS POV

A hazy image slowly scans and then zooms in on two creatures.

EXIT POV

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)

Sand People.

Another SHOT hits the Landspeeder's rear engine. The top plate flies off and lands in front of Owen.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)

Blast it, where is Luke when I need him?

CUT TO:

INT. GARAGE - LARS HOMESTEAD - CONTINUOUS

A small aircraft - a SKYHOPPER - sits in a repair bay as the bottom half of what appears to be a mechanic sticks out from underneath it.

A small square droid stands nearby.

MECHANIC

Hand me a hydrospanner, will ya?

The small square droid BEEPS.

It extends an arm and picks up the tool. The droid swivels and places it next to the mechanic's waiting hand.

The mechanic grabs the hydrospanner and continues working without missing a beat.

The mechanic suddenly stops working. He slides out from under the ship and we see LUKE SKYWALKER, a look of concern across his face.

The droid BEEPS a question.

Luke ignores the droid as he jumps up and runs out of the building and in to the blinding suns.

CUT TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - SOUTH RIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Owen aims his rifle towards the ridge and FIRES.

OWEN LARS
(yelling)
Take that you ugly womp rats!

He reloads the rifle as the Sand People howl and bark at him.

Another SHOT barely misses Owen as he takes aim again. Before he can pull the trigger something catches his attention.

Owen listens and hears the faint WHINE of a Landspeeder.

He lifts the binoculars and zooms in to see a second Landspeeder in the distance rapidly approaching.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)
(grinning)
Luke.

CUT TO:

INT. JABBA'S PALACE

Lando and Greedo walk ahead of the Jawas who push along a levitating flatbed carrier. A large crate sits on top.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Let me tell you, this thing was not
easy to get.

GREEDO
I'm sure Jabba will be most
pleased.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Pleased or not, he owes me *big*.

INT. JABBA'S THRONE ROOM

The floating crate glides in to the room and comes to rest at the foot of a large throne. The Jawas lower the hovering platform to the ground. It drops with a loud CLANG.

Lando appears from behind the crate.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Hello Jabba.

JABBA THE HUTT, a giant, repulsive slug, speaks to Lando in Huttese. Lando responds in Basic.

JABBA THE HUTT
Calrissian. I didn't think you were
ever coming back.
(beat)
I see you have brought me
something.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I think you're gonna like it.

JABBA THE HUTT
For your sake, I hope you're right.

Jabba waves his small stubby arm towards the crate.

Greedo walks over to the crate and presses a button on the control panel.

Slats in the crate slide down to reveal a baby RANCOR.

The small, brown creature growls at the Guards and takes a swipe at the bars.

JABBA THE HUTT (CONT'D)
He's perfect.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
He is actually a *she*.

JABBA THE HUTT
(ignoring Lando)
Keeper!

A man dressed in tattered clothes and a long hood bounds in to the throne room.

RANCOR KEEPER
Yes, master?!

JABBA THE HUTT
 Take this Rancor to the pit and
 make sure it is well taken care of.

The Rancor Keeper lowers his head.

RANCOR KEEPER
 Yes master, of course master.

Greedo presses a few buttons on the controls of the platform
 to make it rise again.

RANCOR KEEPER (CONT'D)
 Follow me!

Two GAMORREAN GUARDS (obese, pig-like creatures) push the
 floating platform after the Keeper.

Lando still stands in front of Jabba's throne.

JABBA THE HUTT
 You've done well, Calrissian.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 I'm glad you approve.
 (beat)
 I'll be happy to collect that
 reward now.

JABBA THE HUTT
 I'm sure you will.
 (dismissive)
 Thirty-Eight should cover it.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 The bounty on that thing was fifty
 thousand! And I lost most of my
 crew trying to capture it!
 (beat)
 You know how hard it is to kidnap a
 baby Rancor from its mother?!

Jabba stares down at Lando.

JABBA THE HUTT
 Forty.

Lando is visibly upset.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 Forty-Seven.

Jabba stares.

JABBA THE HUTT
Thirty-Nine.

Lando wants to laugh out of frustration.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Look, Forty-Five - but that's *it*!

Jabba and Lando share a long look. Greedo looks on, nervous.

Jabba lingers for a few more moments before responding:

JABBA THE HUTT
Forty-Two and you won't have to pay
docking fees.
(beat)
Now we celebrate!

Before Lando can respond Jabba lifts his arms in the air as
MUSIC begins blaring throughout the room.

Lando shakes his head as he turns and walks towards Greedo.

GREEDO
(quietly)
Impressive.
(beat)
Jabba doesn't typically negotiate
with smugglers.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I don't typically negotiate with
gangsters.

Greedo offers another half-hearted smile.

GREEDO
Listen, Jabba has another job for
you if you're interested.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Greedo, you know me. When have I
ever not been interested in money?

The two walk towards a bar in a distant alcove as they
discuss business.

CUT TO:

EXT. CANYON - DAYTIME

Luke Skywalker's Landspeeder pulls up next to a steep cliff.
He climbs out of the Landspeeder, rifle in hand.

Standing in the shade of an overhang is a BANTHA (a large, four-legged, hairy creature with giant horns). Luke quietly approaches the creature from behind.

SHOTS can be heard from above as the Sand People continue shooting at Luke's Uncle.

Luke stands near the Bantha. He holds his rifle by the barrel and pulls back. He swings as hard as he can, hitting the Bantha from behind.

The Bantha CRIES OUT and takes off at a run.

EXT. RIDGE - CONTINUOUS

The Sand People turn and look down to see their Bantha running away. They GRUNT and HOWL as they scramble down the side of the canyon to chase after it.

EXT. CANYON - CONTINUOUS

Luke watches the two Sand People pursue their Bantha.

He smiles as he ignites the Landspeeder's engines and heads in the opposite direction.

EXT. TATOOINE - SOUTH RIDGE

Owen Lars continues to lie under his Landspeeder. He looks towards the ridge and waits for the next shot, but it doesn't come.

Luke's Landspeeder pulls up behind his.

Relieved, Owen crawls out from under the speeder.

LUKE SKYWALKER

You OK?

OWEN LARS

(dusting himself off)

I'm fine.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Good thing I showed up when I did.

OWEN LARS

How is it you always seem to know when I need help?

LUKE SKYWALKER
(shrugging)
Intuition I guess.

Luke looks over at the destroyed droid.

LUKE SKYWALKER (CONT'D)
Looks like A-7 didn't make it.

OWEN LARS
Damn Sand People. Costing me money
left and right.

Luke looks down at the Landspeeder's shot-up engine.

LUKE SKYWALKER
This Landspeeder's seen better
days.

OWEN LARS
(sarcastically)
Should leave it for the Jawas.

Luke chuckles and picks up the engine plate off the ground.

He places it in the passenger seat of the Landspeeder as Owen
climbs in to the driver's seat.

He starts the engine as smoke billows out.

Luke waves his hand and coughs.

Owen quickly presses a switch, shutting down the smoking
engine.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)
Damn gasket is ruined. I'll have to
limp home on 2 engines.
(looks at the sky)
There's still a few hours of
daylight left. Could you run to
Tosche Station for me?

Luke grins.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Really?

OWEN LARS
Yeah.
(beat)
Just don't tell your Aunt.

Luke trots towards his Landspeeder.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)
 (calling after him)
 Just make sure you're home before
 supper!

Owen takes off towards home, his Landspeeder noticeably slow.

Luke takes off in the opposite direction as fast as he can.

CUT TO:

EXT. TOSCHE STATION - LATER THAT AFTERNOON

A slightly run down building sits among a row of store fronts as human, droid and alien alike walk up and down the street.

Luke's Landspeeder pulls up in front of the main building. He climbs out and walks towards the building's entrance.

INT. TOSCHE STATION - CONTINUOUS

Luke walks in through a pair of sliding doors as they part.

He's greeted by a rundown SERVICE DROID.

SERVICE DROID
 Hello. Can I - how can - I help?

Luke ignores the robot as it repeats itself.

LUKE SKYWALKER
 Eebo?

Luke looks around but sees no one.

The Service Droid finally shuts up.

LUKE SKYWALKER (CONT'D)
 (shouting)
 Eebo!

An alien with human-like features suddenly appears from the back room. He is older but still spry in his walk.

EEBO
 Luke my boy!

The two acknowledge one another kindly.

EEBO (CONT'D)
 Where's Owen?

LUKE SKYWALKER
Home. He got ambushed by a couple
Tuskens out near one of our
vaporators.

EEBO
He OK?

LUKE SKYWALKER
Yeah, he's fine. The Landspeeder
didn't get so lucky.

EEBO
What you need?

LUKE SKYWALKER
Engine gasket.

EEBO
No problem.
(beat)
What about you? You need anything
for that Skyhopper of yours?

LUKE SKYWALKER
Yeah, but I don't have any money
right now.

EEBO
Tell you what, you come in next
week, fix that Service Droid,
whatever you need - on the house.

Luke looks over his shoulder at the Service Droid. It moves
in a jerky fashion as it TALKS to itself.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Not sure anyone can fix that thing.

EEBO
If anyone can, it's you!

Eebo grins.

LUKE SKYWALKER
(smiling)
I appreciate it Eebo.

EEBO
No problem. Just come back next
week. I'll take care of you.
(winks)
Let me grab your gasket. Be back in
a flash.

Eebo leaves the counter and disappears to the back.

The door to the station opens. Luke turns to see his good friend, BIGGS DARKLIGHTER.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Biggs!

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Hey kid!

(beat)

What are you doin' here?

Biggs walks up to Luke.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Coupla Sand People got the jump on Uncle Owen. Shot up his Landspeeder pretty good. Just pickin' up a gasket for one of the engines.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Oh no! Is he OK?

LUKE SKYWALKER

He's fine. You know Uncle Owen. Tougher n' a Gundark.

(beat)

What about you?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Actually, I'm probably heading out tomorrow. Got a lead on a job with a smuggler.

LUKE SKYWALKER

A smuggler?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Over in Mos Eisley. He's looking for a crew.

(beat)

You should sign up.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Yeah, right. Uncle Owen would have my head.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

You can't stay here forever Luke. It's a big galaxy. Something tells me you'd like to see it.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Boy, would I!

(beat)

But I can't. Not right now anyway.
Uncle Owen and I are just getting
the vaporators ready for the next
harvest.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

I get it.

(beat)

Just don't stick around too long,
you'll wind up like ol' Eebo here.

Eebo enters the room simultaneously as Luke and Biggs look at
him and share a laugh.

EEBO

(annoyed)

What's so funny?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Nothing Eebo.

Eebo sets the part for Luke down on the counter.

EEBO

Tell your Uncle I'll put it on his
tab.

Luke takes the part and puts it in a pouch on his belt.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Thanks Eebo.

Eebo nods and looks at Biggs.

EEBO

Aren't you supposed to be leaving
tomorrow?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Actually, that's why I'm here.
Think you can set me up with a
blaster?

EEBO

Easy Biggs, easy. Not so loud.

Eebo looks around nervously.

EEBO (CONT'D)

Last thing I need is the Empire
breathin' down my neck over illegal
firearms.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

(taken aback)

The Empire?! Why would the Empire
care about a run down shop like
yours when they're out there
"cleansing the galaxy"?

EEBO

Hey!

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

It makes me sick.

EEBO

You'd best be careful talkin' like
that. Word is Jabba made some kinda
deal with 'em.

(looks around)

He gives them information and they
look the other way - if you get my
meanin'.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Jabba makes deals with everybody.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

And rarely keeps them.

(beat)

Even *more* reason to join the
Rebellion.

EEBO

Look, I'll get you the blaster, but
you gotta take that kind of talk
outside!

(looking around)

Jabba's goons are everywhere.

(beat)

Now go!

Luke and Biggs turn to leave.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Fine, Eebo. But just remember that
when Imperial Stormtroopers are
knockin' on your door.

EEBO

Yeah, yeah!

(beat)

Just be back here tomorrow morning
if you want that blaster.

(beat)

And remember, mum's the word!

Eebo waves the two on as Biggs and Luke exit the Station.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

(laughing)

He is way too paranoid.

LUKE SKYWALKER

(serious)

Are you really looking to join the
Rebellion?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Yeah. I'm gonna try.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Isn't that risky?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Look kid, I don't know how much you
know about the Empire --

LUKE SKYWALKER

I know enough.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Did you know that they've enslaved
entire species?

Luke is silent.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER (CONT'D)

Things are only getting worse, and
I can't just wait around any more.
If the Empire isn't stopped who
knows what'll happen.

(beat)

Even a backwater world like
Tatooine won't be safe much longer.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Is that why you're going with this
smuggler?

Biggs hesitates as a couple of aliens walk past them.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
(quietly)
Rumor is he might know someone who
has connections to the Rebel
Alliance.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Can you trust him?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
I don't know. But it's a risk I'm
willing to take.

The two friends share a moment.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER (CONT'D)
Hey, you'd better get home before
dark or Sand People are gonna be
the least of your worries.

LUKE SKYWALKER
(solemn)
Take care of yourself, Biggs.

Luke extends his hand. Biggs takes it and they shake. The
handshake turns in to a friendly embrace.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
I'll see you soon, kid.

Biggs turns and leaves as Luke makes his way towards his
Landspeeder.

He sits in the driver's chair and looks up at the sky as a
ship blasts off towards space.

He watches until it's out of sight.

Luke looks down at the Landspeeder and sighs. He ignites the
ENGINES and takes off down the street.

SWIPE TO:

EXT. SPACE

The triangular shape of an Imperial Super Star Destroyer
slowly glides in to the top of the frame.

INT. SUPER STAR DESTROYER - HALLWAY

A menacing figure in a black cape and helmet walks swiftly down a corridor. His mechanical breathing ECHOES down the halls.

Crew members make way and avoid eye contact.

DARTH VADER, the Dark Lord of the Sith, strides towards his destination.

INT. SUPER STAR DESTROYER - EMPEROR'S CHAMBERS

The doors open with a HISS as Vader steps in to a dark and foreboding room.

The doors close as Vader makes his way deeper inside.

He reaches the center of the room and bends to one knee.

DARTH VADER

What is thy bidding, my Master?

A VOICE emanates from the room - its source uncertain.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (O.C.)

I have a mission for you, Lord Vader.

(beat)

Rumors persist of a Jedi on Anakin Skywalker's home world of Tatooine.

DARTH VADER

I too have heard such rumors.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (O.C.)

Then you know you must go there and find the truth.

DARTH VADER

(beat)

I swore I would never return there.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (O.C.)

You will if I ask it of you.

(beat)

Is that clear?

Vader hesitates.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (CONT'D)

(aggressively)

I said is that clear, Lord Vader?!

DARTH VADER
It is clear, Master.

EMPEROR PALPATINE (O.C.)
Good. I want you to discover the
truth about this, *Jedi*.
(beat)
If there are any remaining Jedi in
the galaxy they need to be found
and destroyed.
(beat)
See to it, Lord Vader.

DARTH VADER
As you wish.

Vader stands up and exits the room.

CUT TO:

INT. DOCKING BAY

The Millennium Falcon sits quietly in the opened top docking bay.

Biggs Darklighter enters and looks around.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Hello?

Biggs walks over to the entry ramp of the Falcon and looks up inside.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER (CONT'D)
Anybody here?!

A VOICE from behind surprises him.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (O.C.)
Something I can help you with?

Biggs turns and sees Lando standing with his hand resting on the blaster holstered to his hip.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
(cautious)
I'm here for the crew position.

Lando raises an eyebrow.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Got a name?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Biggs.

Lando walks towards Biggs.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Well, Biggs, what experience have
ya got?

Biggs is still cautious but realizes this must be the man
he's looking for.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

I've got some pilot experience.
Some fighting experience.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Ever been off this rock?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Served some time on a freighter.
Went to the Academy before that.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

(nods)

What do you think of the Empire?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

(cautious)

I'd rather not say among strangers.

Lando gives him a knowing look.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

(extends his hand)

Lando Calrissian.

(beat)

I'm Captain of the Millennium
Falcon.

Biggs hesitates before extending his own hand.

The two shake.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

Welcome to the crew.

Biggs grins.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Really?

LANDO CALRISSIAN

You got a blaster?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
I do. I mean, I will.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
(chuckles)
Follow me.

Lando walks up the ramp in to the Falcon. Biggs follows.

CUT TO:

EXT. LARS HOMESTEAD - DUSK

The home of Owen Lars sits quietly among the empty desert of Tatooine except for a few small droids milling about.

Twin suns set in the distance.

INT. LARS HOMESTEAD - KITCHEN

BERU LARS sets the table for dinner as Owen enters.

BERU LARS
Have you seen Luke?

OWEN LARS
I uhhh - I sent him for parts.
(beat)
He *should've* been back by now.

BERU LARS
Owen. You know I don't like Luke
being out after dark.
(beat)
It's dangerous.

OWEN LARS
Don't worry. Luke can handle
himself.

BERU LARS
Owen.

OWEN LARS
What?

Beru gives him a disapproving look.

The sound of a LANDSPEEDER can be heard in the distance.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)
See? Nothing to worry about.

Owen walks towards the exit.

BERU LARS
Where are you going?

OWEN LARS
Just want to make sure he got the
right parts.

Beru shakes her head as Owen walks out of the room.

CUT TO:

EXT. LARS HOMESTEAD

Luke pulls up in his Landspeeder just as Owen appears.

Luke jumps out and walks over to his Uncle.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Sorry I'm late. Ran in to Biggs.

OWEN LARS
(frustrated)
I told you to be home before
supper.
(beat)
Your Aunt was worried about you. I
had to tell her where you were.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Sorry, Uncle Owen.

OWEN LARS
What do I do if I can't trust you,
Luke?

LUKE SKYWALKER
I'm sorry.

OWEN LARS
Just don't tell your Aunt about the
Sand People today. Alright?

Luke nods.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)
(dismissive)
Did you get the gasket?

Luke takes it out of his pouch.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Eebo said he'd add it to your tab.

Owen takes the part.

OWEN LARS
I can always count on Eebo.

Luke winces at the verbal jab as Owen walks towards the stairs to the lower levels.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)
Get that Landspeeder stowed away.
Dinner's ready.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Alright. Tell Aunt Beru I'll be
right down.

Owen continues down the stairs as Luke hops back in the Landspeeder.

CUT TO:

INT. LARS HOMESTEAD - DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Owen and Beru sit at the table eating as Luke walks in.

He leans over to his Aunt and gives her a kiss on the cheek.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Hey Aunt Beru.

BERU LARS
Your Uncle told me you were in town
today.

Luke sits down.

LUKE SKYWALKER
(lying)
Yeah, just had to pick up some
parts for the moisture vaporators.

Owen keeps his head down as he eats.

BERU LARS
I don't like you going off by
yourself, Luke. It's dangerous.
Especially coming home this late.

LUKE SKYWALKER
I know. Sorry Aunt Beru.
(changing the subject)
I saw Biggs at Eebo's.

BERU LARS
Oh? How is he doing?

LUKE SKYWALKER
He said he might be leaving for
awhile.

Owen looks up at Luke.

BERU LARS
Where's he going?

LUKE SKYWALKER
Said he wanted to join up with some
smuggler.

BERU LARS
That sounds dangerous.

LUKE SKYWALKER
(beat)
He said he was looking to join the
Rebellion.

Owen and Beru share a look.

OWEN LARS
(dismissive)
Nothing good can come of that.

LUKE SKYWALKER
(emphatically)
He said the Empire's enslaving
entire *species*!
(beat)
Can you believe that?

OWEN LARS
There's lots of stories. Not all of
them can be believed. Besides,
we've got more important things to
worry about than the Empire.

The three share an uncomfortable silence as Owen eats.

Luke pours himself some blue milk.

LUKE SKYWALKER
 (bluntly)
 I want to put in my application for
 the Academy.

Owen looks up at Luke.

OWEN LARS
 What?

LUKE SKYWALKER
 Biggs says I'm a good enough pilot
 that they'd have to accept me.

OWEN LARS
 (dismissive)
 There are plenty of pilots. What I
 need is someone to help me keep
 these droids and moisture
 vaporators running.

Luke looks at his Uncle. Owen continues eating.

LUKE SKYWALKER
 Maybe if we got some more droids...

Owen makes an acknowledging grunt. Beru interjects.

BERU LARS
 I'm sure after this next harvest
 we'll have enough money to buy some
 more droids. Right Owen?

OWEN LARS
 Not if we have another small
 harvest.

LUKE SKYWALKER
 (deflated)
 Yeah.

Luke quietly eats his food.

Owen looks up at Luke.

OWEN LARS
 Look, I need you at the south flat
 tomorrow. One of the vaporator
 condensers is out again.
 (beat)
 If we don't keep these vaporators
 running buying more droids will be
 the least of our problems.

Luke nods as he stares at his plate.

Owen shares a look with Beru who nods her head towards Luke.

Owen relents.

OWEN LARS (CONT'D)

I'm sure we'll have a successful harvest. We keep these vaporators running, we should be fine. Then we can see about buying some more droids.

(beat)

How does that sound?

Luke looks up and sports a semi-grin.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Alright I guess.

Beru looks at her nephew compassionately.

BERU LARS

Don't worry, Luke, the harvest will be over before you know it.

She smiles at Luke who smiles back halfheartedly.

Beru and Owen share a quick glance of concern.

WIPE TO:

EXT. STAR DESTROYER - SPACE

A lone Star Destroyer floats above the planet Tatooine.

INT. STAR DESTROYER - HANGAR BAY

A figure clad in military-type armor stands in front of an oddly shaped starship as Darth Vader enters the hangar.

Vader's mechanical BREATHING echoes throughout the open hangar as he approaches the lone figure.

The Bounty Hunter, BOBA FETT stands his ground, not intimidated by the Dark Lord's presence.

Vader stops in front of the Bounty Hunter.

DARTH VADER

You come highly recommended.

Boba Fett nods.

DARTH VADER (CONT'D)
I need you to find someone.

BOBA FETT
Is that all?

DARTH VADER
There are rumors of a Jedi living
on Tatooine.

BOBA FETT
I've heard the rumors.

DARTH VADER
I want you to determine their
validity.

BOBA FETT
And if they're more than just
rumors?

DARTH VADER
You are not to engage.
(beat)
Report your findings directly to
me.

BOBA FETT
If there *is* a Jedi on Tatooine I
can bring you their head for the
price you're paying.

DARTH VADER
No. If there *is* a Jedi I will deal
them myself.

Vader hands Fett a small, flat metal card.

DARTH VADER (CONT'D)
Half of your fee now, the other
half once you have finished the
job.

BOBA FETT
Give me a few days. You'll know if
there's a Jedi down there or not.

DARTH VADER
I do not doubt your abilities,
Bounty Hunter.
(beat)
(MORE)

DARTH VADER (CONT'D)
 Just make sure no one knows who
 you're working for. Understood?

BOBA FETT
 As you wish.

Vader turns and strides out of the hangar bay as Fett readies his ship for takeoff.

WIPE TO:

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COMMON AREA

Biggs Darklighter sits next to a handful of humans and aliens as Lando Calrissian strides in to the ship's common area.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 Alright, looks like we're all here.

Everyone turns towards Lando.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
 I've spoken with all of you
 individually - you know this job is
 high risk, but if anyone wants out
 now is the time.

Lando looks around at the crew as the crew does the same to each other.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
 Good.
 (beat)
 I've been asked to *borrow* some
 hyperdrives from the Bilbringi
 Shipyards.

The small group begins muttering to themselves. One of the crew speaks up - a lizard looking alien named JARGOS.

JARGOS
 That's an *Imperial* shipyard. You're
 talking about a suicide mission.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 Now just hold on. I have it on good
 authority that a shipment of
 hyperdrives will be arriving at
 Bilbringi in 2 days.
 (beat)
 We're gonna hijack that shipment
 before it gets anywhere near its
 final destination.

JARGOS
 Count me out, Calrissian. I don't
 mess with the Empire.

Jargos gets up to leave.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 Sit down, Jargos.

JARGOS
 No way. You didn't tell me this was
 a one way trip.

The other members of the group begin to grow restless.

Lando pulls out his blaster and points it at Jargos.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 I said sit down.
 (beat)
 You had your chance to leave.

JARGOS
 You gonna shoot me Calrissian?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 I'd rather not have to clean up the
 mess.

Jargos growls and reluctantly sits back down.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
 Now look, this is a cargo ship.
 Yes, it's an Imperial ship, but my
 source has confirmed that these
 cargo ships are not escorted by any
 fighters and only carry one squad
 of Stormtroopers per run.
 (beat)
 We can easily overtake the ship
 with the Falcon, knock out its
 communications and overpower the
 squad and be out of there before
 the Empire even knows what's going
 on.
 (beat)
 But we need *everyone* to make this
 work.

Lando looks hard at Jargos.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
 The reward is worth the risk, trust
 me.

A human with scars on his face speaks up.

SCARRED HUMAN

How much?

The others start speaking up as well.

RANDOM ALIEN

Yeah, how much?!

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Everyone just calm down.

(beat)

You'll each get an even percent of the take.

JARGOS

How *much*, Calrissian?!

Lando looks at the motley crew.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Seven thousand. Each.

The tone of the room instantly changes from anger and fear to interest and greed.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

Like I said, high risk - high reward.

(beat)

Now, is everybody in?

Everyone looks around at each other and slowly start nodding their heads yes.

Jargos holds out. Lando walks over to him, his hand resting on the butt of his blaster.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

What's it gonna be Jargos?

(beat)

You in or out?

JARGOS

Doesn't look like I got much of a choice.

Lando just looks at him blankly.

JARGOS (CONT'D)

Fine. I'm in. But if this thing goes south I'm gonna make sure you go down with your ship.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I would expect no less.
(beat)
Alright, let's get ready for take-
off. We leave in one hour.

Everyone stands up and begins exiting the common area.

Biggs walks over to Lando.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
I, uh, wanted to ask you about
something.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Yeah? What is it?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
(quieter)
I heard a rumor that you might have
connections to the Rebellion?

Lando looks around and pushes Biggs towards an alcove.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Where did you hear that?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Like I said, it was just a rumor --

Lando gets aggressive and pushes Biggs against the bulkhead.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You an Imperial spy? Huh?!

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
What? No!
(beat)
I'm just looking to join the
Rebellion. I swear!

Lando looks around and then back to Biggs as he eases up.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
(quietly)
Look, if you're serious, I may be
able to introduce you to someone.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
(hopeful)
Really?

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Yeah.

(beat)

But *after* the mission. Got it?

Biggs nods.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

I need you to have your head in the game. I need you to focus. OK?

Biggs nods again.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Don't worry, I'll do whatever you need me to do.

Lando smiles.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Good!

(beat)

Now let's get this bucket of bolts ready to fly.

The two head towards the exit ramp.

CUT TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - SOUTH FLAT - WIDE

A valley opens up beneath a high ridge. At the bottom of the ridge is a moisture vaporator.

EXT. TATOOINE - SOUTH FLAT - MEDIUM

Luke Skywalker works on the moisture vaporator, his Landspeeder parked nearby.

A droid stands next to him, ready to assist.

LUKE SKYWALKER

C16, I need a macro welder.

The small square droid produces the device and extends it to Luke who takes it.

Luke continues to fix the vaporator when C16 suddenly begins CHIRPING and BEEPING.

Luke continues working.

LUKE SKYWALKER (CONT'D)
 (annoyed)
 What is it now?

The small droid continues making NOISES until Luke stops what he's doing and looks in the direction the droid is.

Luke sees a dark hooded figure approaching. He sets down his tools and walks over to the Landspeeder to grab his rifle.

The lone figure CALLS OUT to Luke.

STRANGER
 That won't be necessary, Young
 Luke.

Luke is confused. He holds the gun at the ready but does not raise it at the approaching stranger.

STRANGER (CONT'D)
 Rest assured I am no threat to you.
 (beat)
 Or your droid.

The stranger walks up to Luke and removes his hood.

LUKE SKYWALKER
 Do I know you?

STRANGER
 No, but I know your Uncle.

The stranger extends his hand.

STRANGER (CONT'D)
 Hello there.
 (beat)
 Ben Kenobi.

Luke reaches out his hand and shakes the old man's.

LUKE SKYWALKER
 Ben Kenobi - I've heard my Uncle
 mention you before.
 (beat)
 What brings you all the way out
 here?

BEN KENOBI
 I saw you while I was out gathering
 supplies, I thought it prudent to
 introduce myself.

Luke nods and sets the rifle back in the Landspeeder.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Well it's nice to meet you, Mr.
Kenobi.

BEN KENOBI
Call me Ben, please.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Well alright, Ben. Is there
something I can do for you?

BEN KENOBI
Yes, actually. From what I can see
you're handy with machines. I was
wondering if you'd be able to help
me.

LUKE SKYWALKER
What is it?

Ben pulls out a small machine from his robes.

BEN KENOBI
This blasted scanner. I use it to
forage for food, but lately it's
been acting up. I was wondering if
you might take a look at it for me?

Luke looks at the device. He reaches for it.

LUKE SKYWALKER
May I?

BEN KENOBI
Oh, by all means.

Luke takes the machine and starts to roll it over in his
hands. He tinkers with the buttons and dials.

LUKE SKYWALKER
Might just be a loose wire.

Luke walks over to the Landspeeder. He reaches inside and
takes out a small tool. He uses it to open the back of the
device, exposing its guts.

He sets the tool down and looks intently at the small machine
as he works on it.

BEN KENOBI
I must say I'm surprised to see you
out this far on your own.

Luke continues tinkering with the device as he responds.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Yeah, well, I'm a good shot and the Sand People usually don't come around here this early in the morning.

BEN KENOBI

There are more dangerous things than Sand People in these parts.

LUKE SKYWALKER

C16 over there keeps an eye out.

BEN KENOBI

You should watch out for Krayt Dragons. I've seen a few wandering about.

LUKE SKYWALKER

(continues working)

Krayt Dragons? I've never seen one around here.

BEN KENOBI

They tend to stick more to the mountains, but for some reason they like to come and bask in this area.

LUKE SKYWALKER

(smirks)

I'll be careful.

BEN KENOBI

(grins)

I'm sure you'll be fine.

Suddenly Luke makes an adjustment and a quiet HUMMING sound can be heard emanating from the device as a light appears on the front.

LUKE SKYWALKER

Well there you go. That should do it.

Luke reaches back in to the Landspeeder for the small tool to close the cover plate.

He hands the device back to Ben.

BEN KENOBI

Thank you! I appreciate it.

(reaching in to his robes)

Now let me pay you something for your time.

Luke waves his hand.

LUKE SKYWALKER
No, it's alright. Don't worry about
it.

BEN KENOBI
Nonsense. After all the trouble --

LUKE SKYWALKER
It's no trouble.

Ben smiles.

BEN KENOBI
Thank you, Luke.

LUKE SKYWALKER
You're welcome.

Luke places the tool back in the Landspeeder and wipes his
hands on a rag.

LUKE SKYWALKER (CONT'D)
Not to be rude, but I really gotta
finish fixing this moisture
vaporator.

BEN KENOBI
Yes, of course. I know how your
Uncle can be.

Luke chuckles.

LUKE SKYWALKER
How *do* you and my Uncle know each
other?

BEN KENOBI
That's a long story I'd rather save
for another time.

Ben looks off in the distance for a moment, thinking to
himself and then smiles at Luke.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)
(beat)
Thank you again for your help.

Ben motions towards Luke with the scanner.

LUKE SKYWALKER
No problem. Be careful out there.

BEN KENOBI

Oh, don't worry, I'll be alright.

Ben turns and begins to walk away.

Luke watches him go as he finishes wiping his hands on the rag. He tosses the rag in to the speeder and turns his attention back to the moisture vaporator.

LUKE SKYWALKER

He seems nice. What do you think
C16?

The droid TRILLS and BEEPS.

LUKE SKYWALKER (CONT'D)

Remind me to ask Uncle Owen about
him when we get back.

Luke continues fixing the vaporator as the small droid CHIRPS and WHIRS in response.

WIPE TO:

EXT. MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT

Boba Fett's ship, SLAVE 1 careens in for a landing in one of the open-top docking bays.

It quickly decelerates as it gracefully touches down.

INT. DOCKING BAY (CONTINUOUS)

The Bounty Hunter's ship ejects steam as the exit ramp lowers and Boba Fett emerges.

He's met by Greedo.

GREEDO

Greetings.
(beat)
Jabba is waiting for you.

Fett follows Greedo as they walk towards the exit.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JABBA'S THRONE ROOM

Greedo and Boba Fett make their way down the steps in to the main audience chamber of Jabba the Hutt's Throne Room.

Creatures of all shapes and sizes converse as SOFT MUSIC plays in the background.

Jabba sits idly upon his throne as the two approach.

Jabba dismisses Greedo as he greets Fett.

JABBA THE HUTT
My favorite Bounty Hunter.
(beat)
Here to discuss business.

Jabba SNAPS his fingers and his aide, BIB FORTUNA appears.

BIB FORTUNA
Yes, Master?

JABBA THE HUTT
Fett and I require the use of my
chambers.

BIB FORTUNA
Of course.

Bib motions to a couple of Jawas who quickly scramble to pull a few levers and chains.

With a deep RUMBLING Jabba's Throne begins to move backwards towards a recess in the wall.

A portion of the wall retracts upwards as Jabba's Throne is pulled back inside into a dark space.

Fett follows.

INT. JABBA'S PRIVATE CHAMBERS (CONTINUOUS)

Fett steps inside of the darkened room as the wall behind him closes shut. A faint ambient light gives the room an eerie glow.

Jabba motions towards an empty seat. Fett sits as a Slave Girl appears with two cups and jug full of liquid.

She puts a cup in Jabba's hand and pours.

JABBA THE HUTT
Your request seems...excessive.

The Slave Girl walks over and hands Fett a cup. He takes it as she pours the liquid in to it.

BOBA FETT

This target could prove to be
challenging.

Jabba laughs.

JABBA THE HUTT

A challenge? For the mighty Boba
Fett?

(laughs)

I wouldn't believe it if you
weren't sitting in front of me.

BOBA FETT

I take it the fee is acceptable.

JABBA THE HUTT

It is adequate. I've dispatched
someone to procure what you seek.

(beat)

Give it a day or two.

BOBA FETT

(removing his helmet)

I'm in no hurry.

The two drink and share a silence.

JABBA THE HUTT

If I didn't know any better I'd say
you were hunting Jedi.

Fett remains silent.

JABBA THE HUTT (CONT'D)

(laughs)

There haven't been any Jedi since
the purge.

BOBA FETT

You've heard the rumors, same as
everyone else.

JABBA THE HUTT

Just rumors, I assure you.

BOBA FETT

That's what the Empire is paying me
to confirm.

JABBA THE HUTT

The Empire?

(beat)

(MORE)

JABBA THE HUTT (CONT'D)

So that's why everything is so hush
hush.

BOBA FETT

I'd like to keep it that way.

Fett pulls out a wad of credits and slams them down on
Jabba's throne.

Jabba picks up the credits.

Fett takes another drink.

JABBA THE HUTT

I assume you've spoken to Cyl-
Andrio?

BOBA FETT

She's my next stop.

JABBA THE HUTT

If there is a Jedi on Tatooine
she'll be able to help you find it.

BOBA FETT

And if the rumors *are* true?

JABBA THE HUTT

If there *is* a Jedi here I want to
know.

Fett downs the last of his drink and puts his helmet back on.

BOBA FETT

I'll be at my ship when you have
what I need.

Fett gets up and walks towards the exit.

JABBA THE HUTT

Fett! You'd better tell me what you
discover.

BOBA FETT

You know the Empire doesn't like to
share.

JABBA THE HUTT

The Empire doesn't keep you in
business. *I* do.

The wall in front of Boba raises slowly.

JABBA THE HUTT (CONT'D)
 You hear me Fett?!

BOBA FETT
 When have I ever let you down?

Fett exits the room as Jabba grins and swallows the last of his drink.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT

Fett makes his way through the streets of Mos Eisley. Humanoids, droids and aliens alike pass by as he approaches a small building.

INT. SHOP (CONTINUOUS)

Fett enters a small shop. An attractive human woman sits at the front desk.

RECEPTIONIST
 Hello. How may I help you?

BOBA FETT
 I'm here to see Cyl-Andrio.

RECEPTIONIST
 Can I have your name please?

BOBA FETT
 Boba Fett.
 (beat)
 She's expecting me.

The receptionist smiles.

RECEPTIONIST
 Of course. Just a moment.

The receptionist presses a few buttons.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)
 Cyl-Andrio will see you now.

Fett ignores the receptionist and walks through a curtained off back room.

Cyl-Andrio, an orange-hued female alien with human-esque features and large animal-like ears sits upon a cushioned sofa.

She smiles as Fett enters.

CYL-ANDRIO
 Good to see you, Boba.
 (beat)
 It's been many cycles.

Fett sits across from Cyl-Andrio.

BOBA FETT
 It has.

CYL-ANDRIO
 I have to say, I was very intrigued
 by your inquiry. Can I ask what has
 you interested in Jedi?

BOBA FETT
 You've heard the rumors, same as
 everyone else.

CYL-ANDRIO
 I have. But why spend so many
 credits on rumors?

BOBA FETT
 My client is very insistent on the
 truth behind this one.

CYL-ANDRIO
 You mean the Empire?

Fett looks uneasy.

CYL-ANDRIO (CONT'D)
 Relax honey, it's my job to know
 things. Which is why you always
 come back to me.

BOBA FETT
 So do you have anything or not?

Cyl-Andrio hesitates.

CYL-ANDRIO
 There *is* someone.

Cyl-Andrio produces a datapad. She touches the screen and
 slides through a few documents until she stops and hands the
 pad over to Fett.

Fett looks at the pad to see a grainy photo of an old man in
 a dark brown robe. His face is hard to see.

CYL-ANDRIO (CONT'D)

His name is Ben Kenobi. He lives out near the Jundland Wastes. An old timer who keeps to himself.

(beat)

That is the only image I've been able to find. It was taken by a security camera at a trading post in Anchorhead.

Fett studies the photo.

BOBA FETT

You said his name is Kenobi?

Fett lingers on the name.

CYL-ANDRIO

Yes. The man is a recluse who lives in the middle of nowhere. Keeps to himself. Classic characteristics of someone who has something to hide or doesn't want to be found.

BOBA FETT

There's plenty of people on Tatooine with something to hide who don't want to be found.

(beat)

I hope you have more than a blurry photo.

CYL-ANDRIO

Well, to be honest, it's possible the Jedi rumor started with him.

(beat)

Some have claimed to see him using a laser sword to fight off Sand People.

Fett looks up, suddenly interested.

BOBA FETT

Laser sword?

(beat)

Like a lightsaber?!

CYL-ANDRIO

Possibly. It's hard to say. Like I said, they're just rumors.

Fett looks back down at the image.

BOBA FETT
Kenobi...

He lingers as if remembering something from his past.

CYL-ANDRIO
Everything alright my dear?

BOBA FETT
(looking up)
Where does this Kenobi live again?

CUT TO:

EXT. TRALAGA OUTPOST

The Falcon appears out of lightspeed above a floating docking station in orbit around a small planet.

The Falcon glides towards the station.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT

Lando points to an Imperial Cargo Ship already docked.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
That's it, right over there.

Roon makes a comment in his alien tongue.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
They should be here for a little
while longer.

EXT. TRALAGA OUTPOST (CONTINUOUS)

The Millennium Falcon slowly inserts itself in to one of the docking bays adjacent to the Imperial ship.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COCKPIT (CONTINUOUS)

Lando flips a few switches.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
(getting up)
Refuel the ship. Get her ready for
the mission.

The ship jolts slightly as the airlock connects to the outer hull.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
I'll be back.

Lando exits the cockpit.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - COMMON AREA (CONTINUOUS)

Lando enters the room as the crew stand ready.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
We've just docked at Tralaga
Outpost. The Imperial ship is here.
I need two volunteers to help me
plant a gravity decelerator.
(beat)
Who's with me?

Lando waits as the crew looks around at each other, mumbling incoherently.

Nobody wants to volunteer.

Biggs looks around and finally speaks up.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
I'll go.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Great! Who else?

After a few moments an alien with bulbous eyes stands up. His name is VELTROKS.

VELTROKS
I've got some experience with
Imperial Cargo Ships.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Veltroks! Just the man...
...I mean Morlon, I need!
(beat)
You two, follow me.

Biggs motions for Biggs and Veltroks to follow him towards the cargo hold.

INT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - CARGO HOLD (CONTINUOUS)

Lando opens up a crate revealing a large cylindrical device.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Is that the gravity...

LANDO CALRISSIAN
 Decelerator. Yes.
 (beat)
 Help me lift it out of here.

Biggs reaches in as he and Lando strain to lift the device out of the crate.

They set it on the floor with a loud CLANG.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
 How are we gonna plant *that* on the other ship?

Lando smiles.

He walks over to a storage locker and opens it up to reveal space suits.

CUT TO:

INT. TRALAGA OUTPOST - BAR

Two Imperial pilots sit at a booth in the Docking Station's bar. It's nearly empty with only a few regulars hanging out.

JARK (Human Female, late 30's) and MURSE (Human Male, late 40's) drink a strange glowing liquid as they CONVERSE quietly.

JARK
 So tell me Murse, how did you end up as a cargo pilot for the Empire?

Murse drinks slowly. He sets his glass down and looks long and hard at Jark.

MURSE
 Got tired of my shipments getting confiscated or stolen. Figured I might as well join up with the Empire so at least I *know* my cargo'll reach its destination.

JARK
 Smuggler?

Murse nods as he takes another drink.

JARK (CONT'D)
 The Empire doesn't take kindly to smugglers. I'm guessing you didn't have that on your resume.

MURSE

Are you kidding? Far as the Empire's concerned I was just a transport pilot from Coruscant.

(beat)

You aren't gonna tell anyone are you?

Jark laughs.

JARK

Don't worry, I know how to keep a secret.

(beat)

At least you wised up.

Murse gives her an odd look.

MURSE

How do you mean?

JARK

Joining the Empire.

(beat)

As a smuggler you'd just end up broke, dead - or both eventually. No future in smuggling my friend.

(beat)

The Empire though, now that's how you make a name for yourself.

MURSE

Hauling ship parts? Not exactly high profile work.

JARK

Hey, today you're hauling parts, tomorrow? Who knows. Maybe you'll advance to shuttle pilot.

(beat)

Some day you could be flying the Emperor around.

Murse laughs at the idea.

MURSE

Not likely.

JARK

The Empire always promotes from within. I had a buddy who started out repairing trash compactors.

Now?

(MORE)

JARK (CONT'D)

He's apparently working on some secret project. Some sort of Battle Station.

MURSE

(unimpressed)

Good for him.

Murse finishes his drink.

MURSE (CONT'D)

What are we doing way out here anyway?

JARK

There's some special cargo we're picking up.

MURSE

What's so special about it?

JARK

I don't ask, they don't tell.

(beat)

Some sort of high profile arrangement. Classified from what I understand.

MURSE

Great. Probably hauling around a bunch of radioactive waste or something.

(beat)

I hate this job.

JARK

Well, we've got at least another hour until they finish loading.

MURSE

In that case...

Murse lifts his empty glass as he motions for the waitress.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOCKING STATION - MILLENNIUM FALCON

Lando, Biggs and Veltroks emerge from the Falcon's top hatch in full spacesuits. The gravity decelerator floats gently upwards as the artificial gravity from the Falcon dissipates.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
We'll need to be quick. And quiet.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Won't somebody see us floating
around out here?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Not likely. This is a small
outpost. Lax security.

VELTROKS
Tell me again what an Imperial
Cargo Ship is doing here?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Hey - I just go where I'm told.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
And who told you?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
A good smuggler doesn't reveal his
sources.

Biggs gives Lando a strange look. Lando pulls himself along the top of the Falcon with the gravity decelerator attached by a short tether.

Veltroks follows, holding the decelerator steady.

Biggs reluctantly follows as well.

The three reach the edge of the Falcon and look at the Imperial Cargo Ship docked directly across from them.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Isn't this a bit dangerous to be
floating around out here without
some sort of lockline?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
What part of 'stealing from an
Imperial Cargo Ship' do you not
find dangerous?

Biggs is silent.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
Let's go.

Lando holds on to the decelerator and pushes off from the Falcon. His momentum pushes him towards the Imperial ship.

Veltroks looks at Biggs and shrugs. He follows Lando.
Biggs looks around one last time before doing the same.

EXT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP (CONTINUOUS)

The three of them reach the side of the Imperial ship.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
We need to place this as close to
their hyperdrive as possible.

VELTROKS
These Class II Cargo Ships have
their hyperdrives back by the
engines. Anywhere near there should
do the trick.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
What exactly does this thing do?

Lando pulls himself and the device towards the rear of the
ship.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
It creates an unstable
gravitational field that drops a
ship out of hyperspace.

VELTROKS
(to Biggs)
In case you're wondering, these are
illegal.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
So that's how we're hijacking this
ship?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You got it. We activate this baby,
they drop out of hyperspace and we
catch them totally off guard in the
middle of nowhere.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
How do we find them?

Lando places the device between two of the ship's exhaust
rockets.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER (CONT'D)
Can't they just jump back in to
hyperspace?

VELTROKS

The decelerators have implanted tracking devices. If you've got the codes, you can track them anywhere in the system.

(beat)

And once activated it'll ruin their hyperdrive. Once they drop out of hyperspace they ain't goin' anywhere faster than sublight.

Biggs presses a button on the device as it makes a LOCKING sound.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

That should do it.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Why did you need three of us out here? Seems like you and Veltroks could have done this yourselves.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

You know, you ask a lot of questions.

Biggs shuts up.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

Let's get back to the ship.

Lando turns and pushes off towards the Falcon.

Biggs looks at Veltroks. Veltroks shrugs again and pushes off.

Biggs follows.

CUT TO:

INT. TRALAGA OUTPOST

Jark and Murse walk towards their ship.

MURSE

(tipsy)

I don't know if you've ever been with a Twi'Lek, but I highly recommend it if you get the chance.

Jark ignores Murse as they continue into the airlock.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - AIRLOCK

MURSE

This one I met on Ryloth did things
I didn't know were possible, let me
tell ya!

JARK

I'd rather you didn't.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP

The two pass into the Imperial ship where a Stormtrooper
Sergeant stands waiting.

SERGEANT

All cargo has been loaded.

Jark ignores Murse as she interacts with the Stormtrooper.

JARK

Good. Get your men ready for take-
off.

SERGEANT

We're ready.
(agitated)
Just waiting on you two.

Jark gives the Sergeant a stern look.

JARK

Easy Sergeant. You might outrank
me, but I'm still the Captain of
this ship.

SERGEANT

(stern)
Ready when you are.
(beat)
Captain.

Jark walks past the Stormtrooper dismissively as she makes
her way to the cockpit.

Murse follows as the Sergeant leaves to secure himself for
take-off.

JARK

You gotta be direct with these
Troopers or they'll walk all over
you.

MURSE
Speaking of walking all over, that
Twi'Lek I was telling you about --

JARK
Sit down before you fall down
Murse. You're drunk.

Murse looks offended.

MURSE
I'm not drunk! I only had a few - a
couple drinks.

JARK
You're no good to me like this.
(beat)
Stow yourself in the back. I'll get
us out of here.

MURSE
I told you, I'm not drunk!

Jark gives Murse a serious look.

MURSE (CONT'D)
OK, maybe I'm a *little* drunk.

JARK
Go. Now.
(beat)
That's an order.

MURSE
Fine.
(beat)
Captain.

Murse meanders towards the cargo hold as Jark takes a seat in
the pilot's chair.

She flips some switches and makes an announcement over the
ship's intercom.

JARK
Alright everyone, make sure you're
strapped in.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - CARGO HOLD (CONTINUOUS)

Murse covers his ears as Jark's voice sounds through the
ship's intercom system.

JARK (V.O.)
We'll be departing in a few moments
followed by our jump in to
hyperspace.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - COCKPIT (CONTINUOUS)

Jark flips off the intercom and presses a few more levers.

The ship jolts as it disconnects from the terminal.

EXT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP (CONTINUOUS)

The Imperial Cargo Ship slowly glides backwards out of the Station's docking area. It turns gently and then accelerates towards open space.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP (CONTINUOUS)

Jark reaches for the hyperdrive controls. She pulls a lever and the stars turn to white streaks.

EXT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP (CONTINUOUS)

The ship disappears from sight in an instant.

CUT TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - JUNDLAND WASTES

Boba Fett exits his ship with a hover bike. Once clear of the ramp he presses a button on his armor and the ship lifts up from the ground and blasts in to the sky towards space.

Fett mounts the hover bike. He flips a few switches and he and the bike speed off in to the distance.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TATOOINE - KENOBI HOMESTEAD

Ben Kenobi wanders about outside of his home as he waters his plants and vegetables growing in a small garden.

EXT. TATOOINE - DISTANT CLIFF (CONTINUOUS)

Boba Fett sits on his hover bike overlooking Ben's homestead below.

His range finder flipped down, he zooms in on Kenobi.

POV - BOBA FETT (CONTINUOUS)

We see Kenobi finishing up and walking towards the entrance to his home.

EXIT POV

BOBA FETT
(to himself)
It *is* you.

Fett flips up his range finder and turns the hover bike to leave.

EXT. KENOBI HOMESTEAD (CONTINUOUS)

Ben Kenobi turns and looks towards the distant cliffs. He stands still for a moment as if listening for something.

After a few moments he shrugs and turns back towards his home.

WIPE TO:

EXT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP (HYPERSPACE)

The Cargo Ship is surrounded by the blue and white tunnel of hyperspace.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - COCKPIT (CONTINUOUS)

Jark sits in the pilot's seat checking gauges before getting up and walking towards the cargo hold.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - CARGO HOLD (CONTINUOUS)

Murse sits, buckled in to a chair, asleep and SNORING. Jark ignores her drunken copilot and walks back towards their recently acquired cargo.

She checks the cargo crate's straps by pulling on them. They are secure.

Jark looks around before pulling out a small handheld device and places it next to one of the cargo container's keypads.

The two devices start interacting when suddenly:

STORMTROOPER SERGEANT
What are you doing?

Jark jumps a little but hides her surprise well as she turns to see the Stormtrooper Sergeant from before standing right behind her.

JARK
Logging the manifest.

STORMTROOPER SERGEANT
Flight manifest was updated by the
loading crew.
(beat)
So let me ask you again.
(beat)
What are you doing?

Jark smirks.

JARK
You know, you Stormtroopers are way
too paranoid. They got you jacked
up on stims or something?

The Stormtrooper Sergeant isn't buying it and raises his rifle to his chest.

STORMTROOPER SERGEANT
Step away from the cargo container,
Captain.

JARK
Now hold on a minute!

Suddenly the ship lurches as it drops out of hyperspace. Jark uses the distraction to push the Trooper backwards against one of the other cargo crates.

The Trooper tries to regain his balance but Jark is on him and grabs his rifle before he can react.

She smashes him in the face with the butt of the rifle and he falls to the ground unconscious.

The noise causes Murse to wake up.

Jark makes her way towards the cockpit. She passes Murse who looks at the fallen Stormtrooper and back to her.

MURSE

What the hell are you doing?

JARK

You're drunk, Murse. Go back to sleep.

Murse looks up at her holding the gun and closes his eyes, pretending to be asleep.

Jark continues towards the cockpit.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - COCKPIT (CONTINUOUS)

Jark flips a switch and scans the area.

Suddenly two large thuds can be heard from outside the ship.

Another Stormtrooper appears at the cockpit doorway.

STORMTROOPER

Captain, what's going on? The Sarge is down.

JARK

(without turning around)

Well Trooper, your Sergeant hit his head when we dropped out of hyperspace.

(beat)

And from the sound of it we just got attached to by another ship.

STORMTROOPER

Why'd you drop us out of hyperspace?

JARK

I didn't, actually. Most likely someone planted a gravity decelerator on the hull of the ship.

STORMTROOPER

Are we being boarded?

JARK

That would be my guess, soldier.

STORMTROOPER

I'd better alert the men.

The Stormtrooper turns to leave the cockpit area.

JARK

Oh, that won't be necessary.

Jark pulls the rifle from beside her and shoots the trooper in the back. He falls to the floor.

She flips a switch on the console.

JARK (CONT'D)

'Bout time you made your move.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (V.O.)

(through intercom)

Miss me?

JARK

(smiling)

Just getting tired of playing the Imperial.

(beat)

You've got about eight troopers left to deal with. Make sure you don't shoot my copilot either.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (V.O.)

(through intercom)

Just make sure we don't shoot *you*.

JARK

Please. You couldn't hit a womp rat with an Ion Cannon.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (V.O.)

(through intercom -

laughing)

My men are coming through now. See you soon.

Jark switches off the intercom with a smile on her face. She hears the sound of an EXPLOSION as the airlock is blown open followed by the sound of BLASTERS.

Jark makes her way out of the cockpit towards the GUNFIRE.

INT. IMPERIAL CARGO SHIP - CARGO HOLD (CONTINUOUS)

Lando Calrissian strolls in through the breached airlock just as Jargos shoots the final Stormtrooper.

He sees Jark and smiles.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Mersa Jark.

JARK
Lando Calrissian.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You're looking lovely as ever.

JARK
Can it. You know that flattery
doesn't work on me.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
And that's one of the things I
adore about you.

JARK
(rolling her eyes)
Just get your cargo and go.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Everything's here?

JARK
Those two crates there are what we
picked up from Tralaga. I didn't
have a chance to decrypt the
container's security codes, but
this is all you'll need.

Jark tosses Lando the device she was using earlier.

Lando catches it and attaches it to his belt.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Perfect.

Jargos walks up to Lando.

JARGOS
So what's the score, Calrissian?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
(pointing)
Just those two containers over
there.

JARGOS
What about the hyperdrives?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
They stay.

Jargos looks confused.

JARGOS

I thought the hyperdrives were the whole point of the mission.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

You don't get paid to think, Jargos. Now take those two containers and leave the rest!

Jargos gives Lando a dirty look before walking towards the cargo containers. He orders the crew to move them to the Falcon.

Lando sees Biggs.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

Almost forgot.
(shouting)
Biggs. Come over here.

Biggs looks up and walks towards Lando and Jark.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)

(to Jark)
Might have a new recruit for ya.

Jark looks at Biggs as he walks up to them.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Yeah?

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Biggs, I'd like you to meet Mersa Jark.
(to Jark)
This is Biggs. Biggs....?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Darklighter. Biggs Darklighter.

Biggs looks confused.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Jark here is part of the Rebel Alliance.

Biggs eyes light up.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER

Oh! It's a - a real honor to meet you!

Jark smirks.

JARK

Don't you know there's no honor
among thieves, Biggs?

Biggs hesitates. Jark smiles.

Biggs smiles back, realizing she's joking.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Biggs has been a big help with this
mission. I promised him an
introduction to the Alliance.

JARK

Well, we're always looking for
recruits.

(to Lando)

Would be nice to have you in our
ranks.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

No thanks. I've got enough
problems.

(beat)

But between you and me, the money
I'm makin' off of this job is
enough for me to retire from the
smuggling game - permanently!

Suddenly Murse comes out of a storage compartment with a
blaster rifle and aims it at Jark and Lando.

MURSE

You just hold it right there,
traitor!

Lando pulls his blaster and points it at Murse.

JARK

Murse, put that thing away before
you shoot yourself.

She motions for Lando to put his gun down.

JARK (CONT'D)

That's my copilot, Murse. He used
to be a smuggler himself before he
joined up with the Empire.

(to Murse)

I'm sure you've heard the name
Lando Calrissian in your past
circles?

Murse looks at Lando as if he's out of focus.

MURSE
Lando Calrissian? Really?

Murse lowers his blaster rifle.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
In the flesh.

MURSE
(walking towards Lando)
I-It - It's an honor to meet you
Mr. Calrissian.

Murse extends his open hand.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Lot of that goin' around.

Jark intercepts Murse and grabs the rifle, handing it to Biggs.

JARK
Easy big fella.

MURSE
Jark? You're with the Rebellion?

JARK
Told you I knew how to keep a
secret.

Murse looks around at the fallen Stormtroopers.

MURSE
Yer - Yer not gonna kill me are ya?

Jark chuckles.

JARK
Depends. You feel like helping me
get this tub to the Alliance?

Murse looks around, still drunk.

MURSE
I could do that.

Lando smiles.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Looks like you got your hands full.
(beat)
Biggs, you staying or going?

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
I'd like to stay, if that's OK with
you, Miss Jark?

JARK
Just call me Jark.
(takes blaster)
Don't call me Miss. Ever.

Lando laughs as Jark makes her way towards the cockpit.

Murse follows. Biggs looks at Lando.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Don't worry, she likes you.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Thanks Lando.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Think nothing of it. Just remember,
you owe me one.

Lando winks and turns towards the cargo area.

Biggs heads towards the cockpit after Jark and Murse.

Jargos walks up to Lando as the rest of the crew push the
final cargo container through the airlock.

JARGOS
What's the deal, Calrissian? If
we're not taking the hyperdrives...

Lando puts his hand on Jargos' shoulder as the two start
walking towards the airlock.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Jargos my friend, all you need to
know is where you're getting drunk
once we get these containers back
to Tatooine and I pay you your
credits.

JARGOS
You mean once *I* get these back to
Tatooine.

Lando stops and turns towards Jargos.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
What?

Without warning Jargos shoots Lando in the stomach.

Lando falls back on to the floor.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
You're gonna pay for that...

JARGOS
Greedo filled me in on the details
before we left. Told me how much
you were makin' off this haul.
Talked it over with the boys and we
all agreed we were gettin' stiffed.
(beat)
Well, 'cept for that Biggs fella.
He'd have tipped you off first
chance he got.

Lando holds his stomach, wincing in pain.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Jabba will never let you collect...

Jargos reaches down and takes the decryption device off of
Lando's belt.

JARGOS
Jabba won't care so long as he gets
what he wants.
(beat)
So long Calrissian.

Jargos raises his gun when suddenly he's hit with a laser
blast in the face and falls to the ground dead.

Standing in the doorway Biggs lowers his blaster as Jark and
Murse run up behind him.

JARK
Lando!

Jark runs over to him.

JARK (CONT'D)
Are you alright?!

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I'll be fine. Just make sure those
traitors don't get away with my
ship!

Jark looks towards the airlock. Determined, she grabs her gun
and runs through it.

Lando lies on the floor as he hears BLASTER FIRE, SHOUTING
and SCREAMS.

Biggs and Murse run over to Lando.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
You OK?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I think so.

Lando sits up on his elbows as Jark comes walking back through the airlock.

JARK
You should know that Roon is dead.
One of Jargos' goons must have
killed him.
(beat)
I'm sorry.

Lando winces again with pain and sorrow.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Jargos.
(beat)
Should never have trusted that low
life.

JARK
It's not your fault.
(beat)
He just got greedy.

Lando looks up at Biggs.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You saved my life.
(beat)
Looks like I owe *you* one.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
Let's just call it even.

Lando smiles.

His smile quickly fades as the pain from the laser blast radiates through his body.

He lies back down on his back.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Don't know if I'm gonna be able to
make it out of here by myself.

Jark motions towards Murse and Biggs.

JARK
You're gonna need a copilot.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Biggs can't fly the Falcon.

JARK
I was thinking Murse.

Lando looks at Jark and then to Murse.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
The ex-smuggler turned drunk
Imperial? I'll take my chances
alone.

MURSE
Only reason I joined the Empire was
cuz I got caught smuggling spice
out of Kessel. Empire said I could
spend my life working in the mines
or make use of my talents.
(beat)
So I became a cargo pilot.
(beat)
The drinking just helps numb the
pain of working for the Empire.

Lando looks at Jark and then up at Murse.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You ever fly a YT freighter before?

MURSE
I used to fly an old YT-1760. Can't
be too different, right?

Lando scoffs at the idea.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
(to Jark)
I'd rather *you* come with me.

JARK
You know I can't. I have to get
these hyperdrives to the Alliance.
And I'm the only one here who knows
the location.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I guess you're right.
(beat)
Help me up.

Jark and Biggs get Lando to his feet.

JARK
You'll be fine. I'll come check on
you in a few days.

Lando leans on Jark as he hobbles over to Jargos.

He leans down and grabs the decrypter device from Jargos' dead hand. He puts it back on to his belt.

Jark and Biggs hold him up as they make their way in to the airlock.

Murse follows.

MURSE
Where are we going?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Tatooine.

MURSE
Tatooine? That dust bowl?!

JARK
Murse!

MURSE
What? I hate that place. It's hot
and dry - and the sand gets
everywhere.

BIGGS DARKLIGHTER
He's right about that.

They all make their way in to the Falcon.

CUT TO:

INT. STAR DESTROYER - DARTH VADER'S CHAMBERS

Darth Vader sits in his hyperbaric chamber. The top is open.

Suddenly an alert flashes on the panel in front of him. Without lifting a finger the monitor behind him flickers to life.

DARTH VADER
Speak.

IMPERIAL OFFICER
My Lord, there is an encrypted
signal coming from Tatooine.

DARTH VADER
Send it through.

IMPERIAL OFFICER
Yes m'Lord.

Vader's chair spins around slowly as the screen switches from
the Imperial Officer to Boba Fett.

DARTH VADER
What have you found, Bounty Hunter?

BOBA FETT
I've got a lead but I'm going to
need more credits.

DARTH VADER
No.
(beat)
You'll receive the rest of your
bounty when I have what I
requested.

BOBA FETT
I'm dealing with a Hutt down here
who is getting nosy. It cost me
quite a bit to keep him quiet.

DARTH VADER
Do the job you were hired for or
I'll find someone who can.

Vader abruptly cancels the transmission.

INT. SLAVE 1 - CONSOLE

Boba Fett stares at the dead terminal before flicking a
switch. The terminal shuts off.

Fett turns in his chair, visibly angry.

There is a CHIRP as his wrist communicator comes to life.
Fett presses a button.

BOBA FETT
What is it?

GREEDO (V.O.)
Your cargo will be arriving
shortly. Jabba is requesting
payment in full.

Fett hesitates for a few seconds before responding.

BOBA FETT
Tell Jabba I'll pay once I inspect
the merchandise.

GREEDO (V.O.)
You know that's not how things work
around here, Fett.

BOBA FETT
You tell Jabba he's not getting one
credit until I see what I'm paying
for.

There is a long silence.

GREEDO (V.O.)
Come to Jabba's Palace and you may
inspect the merchandise.
(beat)
But bring full payment with you.

Fett pushes a button, terminating the transmission.

EXT. MILLENNIUM FALCON - DOCKING BAY

Murse helps Lando down the ramp of the Falcon as Greedo
stands at the ready with a group of Jawas.

GREEDO
(snidely)
Run in to trouble, Calrissian?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
No thanks to you.

GREEDO
I'm merely a purveyor of
information.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Jabba owes me *really* big for this.

GREEDO
I'm confident Jabba will make sure
you are *fairly* compensated.

Lando walks slowly up to Greedo.

LANDO
You ever cross me like that again
and I'll kill you.

Greedo gives a smirk as he motions for the Jawas to enter the ship.

The Jawas CHITTER as they make their way up the loading ramp.

Lando hands the decrypter to Greedo.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You'll need this.

Greedo takes it.

GREEDO
Good work, Calrissian.
(beat)
We'll make sure your wounds are
tended to.

Greedo walks past Lando and Murse towards the Falcon.

MURSE
Friend of yours?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Not anymore.

The two make their way towards the doorway of the docking bay where two of Jabba's henchmen await.

WIPE TO:

EXT. JABBA'S PALACE

Small creatures scurry about as the twin suns of Tatooine set in the distance.

INT. JABBA'S PALACE (CONTINUOUS)

Boba Fett walks in to a lighted chamber within Jabba's Palace. Two storage crates await.

Greedo is present.

BOBA FETT
Open 'em up.

Greedo acknowledges Fett and presses a button on the decrypter.

The keypads on both cargo containers BEEP and the lights flash quickly.

Suddenly the front of both cargo containers slowly open with a HISS.

Fett looks on intently as the front of the cargo containers split in two as one piece raises while one piece lowers to the floor.

GREEDO
Satisfied?

Fett steps in to the first storage container. A tall, metal cylindrical device stands upright inside the container.

Fett runs his hands over the device. He presses a button and the device starts to HUM as several lights come on.

BOBA FETT
I'll need to test them first.

GREEDO
That wasn't part of the deal.

Greedo is visibly upset.

GREEDO (CONT'D)
Jabba will not be pleased.

BOBA FETT
He'll get over it.
(beat)
I want one of these loaded on to my ship.

Greedo looks at Fett frustrated. Fett raises his blaster at Greedo.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)
Now!

Greedo relents and motions to the Jawas standing nearby.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KENOBI HOMESTEAD - MORNING

Ben Kenobi hears a POUNDING on his door as he awakens.

A voice can be heard YELLING through the door. Kenobi recognizes the voice as Owen Lars.

OWEN LARS (O.S.)

Kenobi!

BANG! BANG! BANG!

OWEN LARS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Open up!

Ben puts on his robes and walks to the door. He presses a button and it slides open.

BEN KENOBI

Good morning to you as well.

Owen Lars bursts in to Kenobi's home.

OWEN LARS

I told you to stay away from him!

BEN KENOBI

(playing dumb)

Stay away from whom?

Owen turns and faces Kenobi, his finger in his face.

OWEN LARS

Don't play games with me. Luke told me you paid him a visit yesterday.

(beat)

Fixed your scanner did he?

BEN KENOBI

I was in the area and needed some help.

OWEN LARS

You don't go near that boy ever again, you hear me?!

BEN KENOBI

Owen, the boy has a right to know.

OWEN LARS

That boy has the right to a peaceful life. He doesn't need to get caught up in the past, and he sure doesn't need someone like you filling his head with nonsense.

BEN KENOBI

Surely you've seen him exhibit abilities. I could sense yesterday that the Force is quite strong with him. When the time comes --

OWEN LARS

It doesn't matter! He's better off not knowing anything about you or his father!

(beat)

As far as Luke is concerned his father's dead and you might as well be too.

BEN KENOBI

That boy needs to be trained.

OWEN LARS

No! You left him under *my* supervision and I'm not letting you or anyone else put it in to his head that he's special. We're far enough out of the way that the Empire won't even bother with us here.

BEN KENOBI

You can't believe that...

OWEN LARS

It's been hard enough trying to keep him from going to the blasted Academy. Now he's talking about the Rebel Alliance!

BEN KENOBI

You can't hide him here forever, Owen. There will come a day when Luke's destiny will find him.

OWEN LARS

I don't want to hear about destinies or any of that Jedi nonsense. You gave him to me to protect and that's what I intend to do. Even if I have to protect him from *you*.

Owen pulls out a blaster and points it at Ben.

BEN KENOBI

What are you doing, Owen?

OWEN LARS

You stay away from us, you hear me?

(beat)

Stay away from Luke. If I see you come around or hear that you talked to him again, I'll come back here and deal with you myself.

BEN KENOBI

I'll respect your wishes, Owen, but if Luke ends up coming to me I'm going to tell him the truth.

OWEN LARS

He won't.

Owen turns to leave. Ben sees him out.

Just as Owen steps outside Ben suddenly senses something.

BEN KENOBI

Owen, look out!

Ben pushes Owen forward with the Force as a laser blast hits the side of Ben's home where Owen was standing mere seconds before.

Ben reaches out his hand behind him as his lightsaber flies in to his palm.

He ignites it and steps in to the sunlight.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)

Owen, get back inside!

Owen gets to his feet.

OWEN LARS

What is it? Sand People?!

BEN KENOBI

Something much more dangerous I'm afraid.

Ben sees the Bounty Hunter Boba Fett on the cliffs above his home.

EXT. RIDGE (CONTINUOUS)

Fett looks down towards Kenobi through his range finder. He fires again.

EXT. KENOBI HOMESTEAD (CONTINUOUS)

Kenobi blocks the laser blasts with his lightsaber.

BEN KENOBI

Owen, I need you to get inside.
Now!

OWEN LARS

I've never ran from a fight and I
ain't plannin' on startin' now.

BEN KENOBI

This isn't a fight you can win.

Kenobi waves his hand towards Owen.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)

(using a Jedi Mind Trick)
You will go back inside.

Owen's face draws a blank as he repeats:

OWEN LARS

I'll go back inside.

Owen lazily walks back in to the home just as another series
of laser blasts rain down on the two.

Kenobi deflects them once again.

EXT. RIDGE (CONTINUOUS)

Boba Fett grows frustrated and jumps off the edge of the
ridge. He ignites his JETPACK as he flies towards Kenobi's
home.

EXT. KENOBI HOMESTEAD (CONTINUOUS)

Ben takes an aggressive stance as Boba Fett lands just out of
reach.

BOBA FETT

You can either come quietly or I
can take you down. It's your
choice, Jedi.

BEN KENOBI

I think you'll find that to be more
difficult than you realize.

BOBA FETT

If that's how you want it, old man.

Without warning Fett shoots a jet of flame towards Ben.

Ben quickly deactivates his lightsaber and uses the Force to hold the flames back.

Fett uses the distraction to fire a metal net from his rifle. The net snares Kenobi as Fett deactivates the flamethrower.

Before Kenobi can ignite his lightsaber, Fett shoots a small grappling hook that snatches the saber from Kenobi's hand and pulls it back towards him.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

Getting slow in your old age.

Fett grabs the lightsaber as Kenobi tries to pull it from his hands with the Force.

Fett holds the saber hilt tight as his wrist guard emits a small nozzle where a blowtorch ignites. He slices Ben's lightsaber in half as it spits out sparks.

The two pieces fall to the sand - useless.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

Let's see how well you fight
without your weapon.

Kenobi tries to get himself free of the net but Fett is upon him before he can escape.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

I've studied up on Jedi. Learned
your tricks.

(beat)

You won't escape this time.

Ben uses the Force to push Fett backwards. Boba flies through the air, landing face first in the sand.

BEN KENOBI

Apparently you didn't study hard
enough.

Ben tosses the net to the ground as he stands up.

Fett jumps to his feet, ready to attack.

Before Ben realizes what's happening Fett has wrapped him up in wire, pulling his arms tight to his sides.

As Ben struggles to get free Fett rushes the Jedi and sends him falling to the ground.

Ben squirms inside of the wire but Fett pulls it taught.

BOBA FETT

Give up, Kenobi. You've lost.

Suddenly Owen Lars appears from the doorway to Ben's home and fires at Fett.

Fett turns his body just in time to receive the laser blast on his jetpack.

The jetpack SIZZLES from the blasts. Fett spins around and fires his own blaster at Owen.

Owen dives back in to Ben's home.

The distraction has given Kenobi enough time to loosen the wire around him. He raises his hand, yanking Fett's blaster away with the Force. Fett presses a button on his forearm controls which sends a jolt of electricity through the wire.

Ben falls back to the ground as he writhes in pain. Fett watches as Kenobi raises his hand again. In turn Fett ups the voltage of the electricity causing Kenobi to start seizing.

After a few seconds he presses another button and the electric current disengages from the wire.

Ben's clothes are sizzling where the wire has nearly burned through and Ben now lies unconscious on the ground.

Fett turns towards the house and walks inside.

He looks around but doesn't see Owen anywhere.

He ends the search and walks back outside.

He presses a button on his wrist control and the WHINE of his ship, Slave 1 can be heard as it cruises over the planet's surface.

The ship darts over the ridge and gently lands on the ground.

Fett picks Ben up and throws him over his shoulder as he makes his way towards the ship. He picks his gun off the ground.

The entry plank is already starting to lower as Fett walks up and inside of the ship.

He removes the wire from Kenobi and tosses him inside of a cage. He presses the buttons on the controls and the device lights up and begins to HUM yet again.

Ben starts to come to.

Fett walks over to the ship's console and presses a button as the entry ramp closes.

BEN KENOBI
What in blazes?

Kenobi looks at his cage. He tries to use the Force but immediately realizes something is wrong.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)
Clever.
(beat)
A Force cage. I thought these had
all been dismantled by the Emperor.

BOBA FETT
Not all of them.

BEN KENOBI
Obviously.

BOBA FETT
Seems it works after all.

BEN KENOBI
It appears you have me at a
disadvantage.
(beat)
You seem to know me, but I'm sure I
don't know you.

Fett looks at Kenobi.

BOBA FETT
You remember me, don't you Jedi?

BEN KENOBI
I'm sorry, but I can't say that I
do.

Fett takes off his helmet.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)
(surprised)
You're a clone.

BOBA FETT
That's right.

BEN KENOBI

But the clones were designed to age faster than normal. How is it that you haven't?

BOBA FETT

My father asked I remain unaltered.

BEN KENOBI

Your father...?

Ben starts to piece things together.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)

We *have* met before, haven't we.

BOBA FETT

Yeah, we've met.

BEN KENOBI

(remembering)

Kamino.

BOBA FETT

Very good.

(beat)

But don't forget Geonosis. After all, you were there when my father was killed.

BEN KENOBI

I am sorry.

BOBA FETT

No you're not.

(beat)

But you will be.

A SHRILL ALARM suddenly emanates from the ship's console.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

(confused)

What the...?

Fett looks at the console and notices his fuel dropping quickly.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

How can that be?

He presses a few switches on the console to silence the noise.

BEN KENOBI
Something wrong?

BOBA FETT
(ignoring Kenobi)
We'll finish this conversation
later.

Fett gets up as he dons his helmet again.

Kenobi watches as the Bounty Hunter makes his way towards the ship's cockpit.

EXT. KENOBI HOMESTEAD (CONTINUOUS)

Slave 1 rises up from the ground and slowly turns as its rockets kick in sending the ship speeding over the hills towards Mos Eisley.

Owen Lars stands in the swirling wake of the ship and watches as it flies away.

WIPE TO:

EXT. JABBA'S PALACE

Establishing shot.

INT. JABBA'S PALACE - THRONE ROOM

Jabba sits atop his throne as his dancing girl moves to the rhythm of his house band, Sy Snootles and the Max Rebo Band.

Jabba is distracted however as he motions for Bib Fortuna.

BIB FORTUNA
Yes, master?

JABBA THE HUTT
Where is Fett with my money?

BIB FORTUNA
I will find out.

Bib quickly shuffles off in to the crowd.

INT. JABBA'S PALACE - ALCOVE

Bib sees Greedo and makes his way over to him.

BIB FORTUNA
Why hasn't Fett paid?

Greedo is drunk.

GREEDO
He said he had to test them first.

BIB FORTUNA
What?!

GREEDO
We loaded one on to his ship -

Bib smacks Greedo across the face.

BIB FORTUNA
You're worthless!

GREEDO
He - he would have killed me if I
didn't do as he asked!

BIB FORTUNA
Fool! What do you think Jabba will
do when he hears what you've done?!

GREEDO
Don't tell Jabba, please! I beg of
you!

BIB FORTUNA
We'll see what Jabba wants to do
with you.

Bib walks off as Greedo crawls up off the floor.

Bib motions to two Gamorrean Guards on his way past. The two
guards grab Greedo.

INT. JABBA'S PALACE - THRONE ROOM

Bib Fortuna returns to Jabba. He quickly rushes to his side
and reports the news.

Jabba explodes.

JABBA THE HUTT
He what?!
(beat)
Bring him to me!

BIB FORTUNA

The guards are bringing him now,
master.

Bib grins slyly as Greedo is brought before Jabba.

The guards throw him to the ground as Greedo grovels.

Jabba's pet, Salacious Crumb CACKLES loudly.

GREEDO

Please forgive me!

JABBA THE HUTT

Is this true?! You gave Fett the
merchandise before he paid you?!

Greedo hesitates.

JABBA THE HUTT (CONT'D)

Answer me!

GREEDO

Y-Yes, but --

JABBA THE HUTT

Kill him!

Jabba motions to the two guards.

They raise their metal spears in the air when suddenly two
LASER BLASTS knock both spears from the guard's hands.

A VOICE breaks the sudden silence.

BOBA FETT

That won't be necessary.

Jabba looks over to see Boba Fett standing in the shadows.
The Bounty Hunter makes his way through the crowd and stands
before Jabba.

JABBA THE HUTT

Ah, the thief has returned!

BOBA FETT

You know I'm good for it, Jabba.

(beat)

No reason to kill poor Greedo.

Greedo looks up at Fett and back at Jabba.

Jabba stews.

JABBA THE HUTT
 You'd better have my money or you
both die!

BOBA FETT
 I'll have your money. Once I
 collect my bounty.

JABBA THE HUTT
 You'll give me the money *now* or you
 can join Greedo in the Sarlaac Pit!

BOBA FETT
 Easy Jabba.
 (beat)
 I have something to tide you over.

JABBA THE HUTT
 What do you have that you think
 will keep you from dying today?

BOBA FETT
 Information.

Jabba is wary.

JABBA THE HUTT
 What kind of information?

BOBA FETT
 The kind I'd rather discuss in
 private.

Jabba looks around at the crowd of denizens who have been
 watching the show.

Frustrated he relents to Fett's wishes and motions to the
 band.

Without missing a beat the band continues playing MUSIC and
 the dancer continues dancing as the crowd disperses from
 around Jabba's throne.

JABBA THE HUTT
 Guards!
 (motioning to Greedo)
 Take him to the dungeon!

GREEDO
 No! Please --

Before Greedo can utter another word the guards grab him and
 haul him off towards the dungeon.

Bib motions for the Jawas to open Jabba's private chambers again as Fett follows the rolling throne.

INT. JABBA'S PRIVATE CHAMBERS (CONTINUOUS)

The wall closes shut as Jabba looks at Fett, furious.

JABBA THE HUTT
What is so valuable that makes you
think I will spare your life?

BOBA FETT
I found the Jedi.

Jabba's eyes widen.

JABBA THE HUTT
A Jedi? *Here?!*

BOBA FETT
I've got him locked in a Force cage
aboard my ship.

JABBA THE HUTT
A Jedi is a very valuable
commodity. The Empire will pay
generously.

Jabba's anger has shifted to greed and pleasure.

BOBA FETT
Not so fast.

Jabba is thrown off by this.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)
He's not yours to bargain with.

Jabba grows angry again.

JABBA THE HUTT
You're mistaken.
(beat)
Because the only way you're leaving
this Palace alive is by handing
over that Jedi!

BOBA FETT
I can't do that.
(beat)
I'll collect the rest of my bounty
and you'll be reimbursed - plus
extra for the hassle.
(MORE)

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

(beat)

But the Jedi belongs to me.

JABBA THE HUTT

That Jedi belongs to *me*!

BOBA FETT

No. He's mine. And I'll kill him for what his kind did to my father.

JABBA THE HUTT

So it's revenge you seek.

(beat)

This does not help me.

BOBA FETT

What do you think the Empire will do if you tell them you found a Jedi?

Jabba starts to think things through.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

Jabba the Hutt had a Jedi living under his nose this entire time.

(beat)

Think about it.

Jabba ponders this.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

I'll take care of the Jedi and no one will be the wiser.

(beat)

I'll tell the Empire there never was a Jedi here and everyone can go about their business as usual.

JABBA THE HUTT

I don't know...

BOBA FETT

Trust me. The last thing you want is Darth Vader showing up on your doorstep asking about Jedi.

JABBA THE HUTT

Vader?

BOBA FETT

That's right. He hired me, personally.

Jabba doesn't like any of it one bit.

JABBA THE HUTT
 You'll live today, Fett.
 (beat)
 But try anything like this again
 and you'll be spending the rest of
 your short and agonizing life in
 the belly of the Sarlaac!
 (beat)
 And I want double what you owe me
 for those Force cages!

BOBA FETT
 Fine. Double. But only if you let
 Greedo go.

Jabba looks at Fett with a frustrated stare.

JABBA THE HUTT
 Why do you care what happens to
 that no good Bantha fodder?

BOBA FETT
 I want *something* for my money.
 (beat)
 Besides, he'll owe me one.

Jabba relents.

JABBA THE HUTT
 (laughing)
 I'll let Greedo go, after a few
 days in the mines.

BOBA FETT
 Fair enough.

The wall lifts as Boba Fett exits Jabba's Chambers and makes
 his way back towards his ship.

CUT TO:

EXT. SLAVE 1 - DOCKING BAY

Boba Fett's ship rests quietly in one of Mos Eisley's Docking
 Bays.

INT. SLAVE 1 (CONTINUOUS)

Ben Kenobi sits inside his cage, frustrated.

BEN KENOBI
(to himself)
Never thought it would end like
this. Outsmarted by a clone.

Suddenly Ben hears something happening outside of the ship.

Without warning the loading ramp starts to descend as light
shoots in to the dark cargo hold.

A shape makes its way up the ramp. Ben can't see anything but
a silhouette.

Suddenly he hears a familiar VOICE:

OWEN LARS
Figured you for dead.

BEN KENOBI
(relieved)
Happy to disappoint you.
(beat)
How did you find me?

OWEN LARS
Nowhere else he could have made it
on fumes.

BEN KENOBI
That was you?

OWEN LARS
I nicked the fuel line before you
two flew off.

BEN KENOBI
I don't know what would have
happened if you hadn't done that.

OWEN LARS
(looking around the ship)
Haven't seen one of these babies in
a long time. Used to work on 'em.
(beat)
Firespray. Good ship. This one
looks like it's been modified a bit
though.

BEN KENOBI
Sorry to interrupt, but do you
think you could get me out of here?

Owen looks at Kenobi.

OWEN LARS
 I'll let you out. On one condition.
 (beat)
 Promise me you'll never tell Luke
 what really happened to his father.

BEN KENOBI
 Owen...

OWEN LARS
 I mean it.
 (beat)
 What happened to Anakin - no child
 should know that about their
 father.
 (beat)
 Or their mother for that matter.

Ben thinks on this.

BEN KENOBI
 You're right.
 (beat)
 I promise I won't tell Luke what
 happened to his father. You have my
 word.

Owen hesitates before walking over and pressing a button on
 the Force cage. It immediately opens.

Ben steps out and stretches as if he just awoke from a long
 sleep.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)
 Much better.

OWEN LARS
 Alright, can we get out of here
 now?

BEN KENOBI
 There's something I need to take
 care of first.

SWIPE TO:

EXT. MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT

Boba Fett walks briskly towards his ship.

INT. DOCKING BAY

Fett enters the docking bay where his ship sits as he left it.

He presses a button on his wrist and the ship's cargo ramp starts to descend.

BOBA FETT
Where were we, Jedi?

As the cargo hold opens up Fett realizes the Force cage is empty.

Before he can draw his weapon Ben Kenobi appears behind him and uses the Force to fling the weapon from his hand.

Fett reaches for his wrist as Ben uses The Force to push Fett against the ship's hull, his arms spread.

Ben's hands are extended out in front of him as he holds Fett in place.

Fett struggles to free himself from the invisible force holding him against his will.

Ben walks slowly towards Fett.

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)
There's no way you could have escaped. Who helped you?

BEN KENOBI
It doesn't matter how I escaped.
All that matters is that you forget
you ever found me.

BOBA FETT
No chance, Jedi!

Ben twists his wrist as Fett's helmet flies off.

Fett continues to struggle as Kenobi is less than a foot from his face.

BEN KENOBI
You'll soon forget everything.

BOBA FETT
Your mind tricks won't work!

Ben uses the Force to bring Boba's upper body forward. Ben looks him in the eyes with a knowing stare.

BEN KENOBI

This is no trick, I assure you.

(beat)

And this may hurt a little...

CUT TO:

EXT. STAR DESTROYER

The triangular ship floats above the planet Tatooine.

INT. DARTH VADER'S CHAMBERS

Darth Vader sits in his hyperbaric chamber when a light flashes on the console.

DARTH VADER

Yes, Admiral?

ADMIRAL OZZEL

Lord Vader. There is an encrypted transmission for you from Tatooine.

DARTH VADER

Send it through.

ADMIRAL OZZEL

Yes m'Lord.

Vader's chair rotates to face the screen above his chamber. The screen flickers and Boba Fett can be seen.

BOBA FETT

Lord Vader.

DARTH VADER

My patience wears thin, Bounty Hunter. What have you discovered?

BOBA FETT

There is no Jedi on Tatooine.

DARTH VADER

You're certain of this?

BOBA FETT

Yes. The lead I had turned out to be false. There may have been Jedi here at one time but there aren't any now.

(beat)

(MORE)

BOBA FETT (CONT'D)

The rumors of a Jedi living here
are just that.

Vader is uncertain how he feels about this news.

DARTH VADER

(beat)

The remainder of your credits will
be transferred immediately, and you
will never speak of this job again.

(beat)

That is all, Bounty Hunter.

Vader kills the transmission.

His chair spins back around when there is another alert on
his console.

DARTH VADER (CONT'D)

(annoyed)

What is it, Admiral?

ADMIRAL OZZEL

My Lord, the Emperor requests your
presence.

DARTH VADER

Set your course for Coruscant.

ADMIRAL OZZEL

Yes m'Lord.

Vader stares forward as the screen flickers to black.

EXT. STAR DESTROYER

The Star Destroyer leaves orbit from Tatooine.

WIPE TO:

INT. JABBA'S PRIVATE CHAMBERS

Boba Fett drops a large sum of credits on to the table in
front of Jabba.

BOBA FETT

Everything I promised you.

JABBA THE HUTT

I knew I could count on you.

(beat)

And the Jedi?

Boba hesitates.

BOBA FETT
What Jedi?

Jabba stops for a second and then laughs heartily.

JABBA THE HUTT
Of course. What Jedi?

Jabba continues to laugh as Fett looks on, confused.

CUT TO:

EXT. KENOBI HOMESTEAD

Lars Owen's land speeder comes to a halt in front of Ben Kenobi's home.

The two men sit next to one another in silence for a few seconds.

BEN KENOBI
Thank you again, Owen. I owe you my
life.

OWEN LARS
Just remember what you promised.

BEN KENOBI
I'll never forget it.
(beat)
You have my word.

Ben and Owen share a look of respect with one another before Ben jumps out of the Landspeeder.

Owen wants to speak but hesitates. He simply nods.

BEN KENOBI (CONT'D)
Farewell my friend.

Owen takes off abruptly. Ben watches the Landspeeder fade from sight as he makes his way inside.

SWIPE TO:

EXT. CORUSCANT

We zoom in on the enormous city of Coruscant, our focus drawn to a single tower.

INT. EMPEROR'S TOWER (CONTINUOUS)

The doors to the Emperor's throne room make a loud HISS as they part to reveal Darth Vader.

Vader enters and slowly walks towards his Master's throne.

The back of the throne is to him as a familiar voice speaks out:

EMPEROR PALPATINE
 Welcome, Lord Vader.
 (beat)
 What have you discovered of this,
Jedi?

He says the last word with contempt.

Vader's breathing regulator ECHOES mechanically throughout the room as he bends down on one knee before his Master.

DARTH VADER
 The rumors have proven to be
 unsubstantiated, my Master.

EMPEROR PALPATINE
 Have they?

DARTH VADER
 There is no Jedi on Tatooine.

The Emperor's throne slowly turns as he faces Vader.

EMPEROR PALPATINE
 Are you sure?

DARTH VADER
 Yes, my Master.

EMPEROR PALPATINE
 (beat)
 Good. Now we can focus on more
 important matters.
 (beat)
 Governor Tarkin informs me that the
 Death Star's progress has been
 slowed. I want you to go there and
 insure that it will be completed on
 schedule.

DARTH VADER
 There has been a report of a stolen
 cargo ship. I believe it to be the
 work of the Rebel Alliance.

EMPEROR PALPATINE

So I have heard.

(beat)

Send agents to pursue any leads on this cargo ship. If they find any connection to the Rebels I want you to pursue and destroy. Until then, report to the Death Star.

(beat)

It seems Director Krennic may need to be properly motivated.

DARTH VADER

Yes, Master.

EMPEROR PALPATINE

That is all for now, my friend.

(beat)

You have your orders.

DARTH VADER

I will not fail you, Master.

Vader gets up from kneeling and turns to leave the room.

The Emperor calls after him:

EMPEROR PALPATINE (O.C.)

Mind your feelings, Lord Vader.
They offer you only weakness.

Vader silently exits the room.

CUT TO:

INT. MOS EISLEY CANTINA

Lando Calrissian walks in to a dark cantina where aliens and races of all different sizes and shapes have converged.

He grimaces as he walks down the steps and towards the bar.

Murse follows behind.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Hope you don't mind. I couldn't spend one more second in that med bay.

MURSE

Doesn't bother me none.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Been here before?

MURSE
A few times. I didn't get out to
Tatooine too much when I was a
smuggler. Mostly stayed within the
Rim systems.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Lucky you.

Lando walks up and orders two drinks from the bartender.

He turns and looks around the cantina as a band plays in the
distance.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
Not my favorite place in the
galaxy.

The bartender drops the drinks on the bar top behind them.

Lando and Murse turn and take their drinks.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
But it does pay well.

Lando flips a large sum of credits on to the bar top.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
(to bartender)
That should cover the next few
rounds.

The bartender takes the credits and nods at Lando.

Murse and Lando drink.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
Now, what do ya say we put some of
this money to good use, huh?

Murse follows Lando over towards a dark recess of the
cantina.

The two stand in front of a Sabaac table.

LANDO CALRISSIAN (CONT'D)
Mind if I sit in?

One of the card players looks up at Lando.

CARD PLAYER

Be my guest.

The other card players look on uninterested.

One lone figure sits towards the back, his face hidden in shadow.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

What about you, buddy?

(beat)

You in?

The shadowed figure leans forward.

SHADOWED FIGURE

Sure. But I gotta warn ya...

The figure reveals himself as HAN SOLO.

HAN SOLO

...we bet big at this table.

(beat)

What do ya got?

Lando laughs.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

Enough credits to keep *you* entertained.

HAN SOLO

Credits are easy to get. What else ya' got?

Lando looks around at the other card players who eye him curiously.

Lando thinks for a moment.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

What did you have in mind?

HAN SOLO

Your ship.

LANDO CALRISSIAN

My ship?

HAN SOLO

That's right.

Lando laughs nervously and looks around the table.

The other players wait impatiently on him.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
That's quite the ante.

HAN SOLO
Like I said, we bet big here.
(beat)
Now you gonna put up or is Chewie
here gonna have to show you the way
out?

Lando suddenly realizes sitting behind Han in the shadows is a Wookiee.

CHEWBACCA
Raaaaaawwr!

Chewbacca leans forward and growls at Lando.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Alright, alright. If you think you
can *beat* me.
(beat)
My ship for yours.

Han grins.

HAN SOLO
Now we've got a card game, fellas!

Han starts dealing out cards to the players.

As he hands a card to Lando:

HAN SOLO (CONT'D)
You got a name, friend?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Lando. Lando Calrissian.

HAN SOLO
I've heard of you.
(beat)
You work for Jabba.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I did.

HAN SOLO
(smirks)
I wouldn't be so sure about that.
(beat)
(MORE)

HAN SOLO (CONT'D)
Jabba has a way of keeping people
around.

Lando smiles as he picks up a card.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
I didn't catch *your* name.

Han continues dealing.

HAN SOLO
Han Solo.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
You work for Jabba too?

HAN SOLO
Occasionally.
(beat)
Chewie and I like to keep our
options open.

LANDO CALRISSIAN
(raising his glass)
Words to live by my friend.

Lando takes a drink as Han continues to deal the cards.

HAN SOLO
This ship of yours - is it fast?

LANDO CALRISSIAN
Fast enough.

Han smiles as he sets the rest of the cards down.

HAN SOLO
We'll see about that.

Lando looks at his cards as the other players do the same.

Lando looks up at Han. Han looks at his cards and then up at
Lando with a big grin on his face.

HAN SOLO (CONT'D)
This should be an interesting game.

CUT TO CREDITS

THE END