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Star Wars: Red Harvest [Hardcover]

[Joe Schreiber](#) (Author)

★★★★☆ (17 customer reviews)

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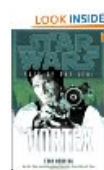
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Editorial Reviews

Review

Praise for Joe Schreiber's *Star Wars: Death Troopers*

"This is the *Star Wars* of every horror fan's dreams—gory, funny, and brimming with a blood-spattered cast of swashbucklers and space-zombies."—Seth Grahame-Smith, author of *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*

"Brilliant . . . This book combines two of my favorite things on earth: the *Star Wars* universe and the undead."—Tommy Wirkola, director of *Dead Snow*

Product Description

The era of the Old Republic is a dark and dangerous time, as Jedi Knights valiantly battle the Sith Lords and their ruthless armies. But the Sith have disturbing plans—and none more so than the fulfillment of Darth Scabrous's fanatical dream, which is about to become nightmarish reality.

Unlike those other Jedi sidelined to the Agricultural Corps—young Jedi whose abilities have not proved up to snuff—Hestizo Trace possesses one extraordinary Force talent: a gift with plants. Suddenly her quiet existence among greenhouse and garden specimens is violently destroyed by the arrival of an emissary from Darth Scabrous. For the rare black orchid that she has nurtured and bonded with is the final ingredient in an ancient Sith formula that promises to grant Darth Scabrous his greatest desire.

But at the heart of the formula is a never-before-seen virus that's worse than fatal—it doesn't just kill, it transforms. Now the rotting, ravenous dead are rising, driven by a bloodthirsty hunger for all things living—and commanded by a Sith Master with an insatiable lust for power and the ultimate prize: immortality . . . no matter the cost.

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Product Details

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: LucasBooks (December 28, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0345511174

ISBN-13: 978-0345511171

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 6.4 x 1.1 inches

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★★★★☆ **Doesn't Walk the Walk**, December 17, 2010

By [BJ Fraser](#) (Michigan) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **Star Wars: Red Harvest (Hardcover)**

Customer review from the Amazon Vine™ Program ([What's this?](#))

Most Recent Customer Reviews

★★★★☆ **Schreiber's Star Wars Zombies: Round Two**

I read Joe Schreiber's "Star Wars: Death Troopers" just a few weeks ago. I find it quite ironic that I've now been given the opportunity to read and review an advanced

When I read and reviewed "Night of the Living Trekkies," which covered similar bloodstained ground, I complimented the book for delivering exactly what it promised. Such can not be said of "Red Harvest," which fails to deliver on the promise of Jedi/Sith fighting zombies.

Oh sure there are zombies and there are two Jedi and some Sith, but it never really amounts to anything. From a pure geek standpoint there's nothing COOL about any of the fights. There are a couple of times when a Jedi or Sith hacks apart a few of the zombies with a lightsaber. But there's nothing that comes within tauntaun spitting distance of the sweet lightsaber fights from the movies--even the dreadful prequels. That's a big letdown and as something of a Star Wars geek (especially when it comes to lightsaber battles) I can't overlook it.

If you want a plot summary it's pretty simple. Long ago during the time of the Old Republic (some thousands of years before even the Star Wars prequels) there were a lot more of the evil Sith lords (the "dark side" of the Force like Darth Vader in the Emperor if you're not up to speed on all the prequel stuff) who have their own academies, which are like an evil version of Hogwarts. The head of this academy is Darth Scabrous, who is researching a way to become immortal, which requires a very special orchid.

Just such an orchid is being raised by a Jedi named Zo Trace. What's so special about the thing is that the orchid requires the Force to grow, so it essentially has bonded with Zo. When a bounty hunter comes to steal it, Zo has to go along or else the plant would die.

Once they get to the planet, Scabrous uses the orchid to create some weird concoction that causes some of the Sith students to become zombies. They in turn start attacking others and from then on it's a fight for survival.

The zombies generally operate under "28 Days Later" zombie rules, which means they're fast, as opposed to the shambling "Night of the Living Dead" zombies. What would have made things better is if the zombies could use the Force and their lightsabers.

The author does such a poor job juggling the characters that I question if he's seen any zombie movies at all. I'm not exactly the expert, but I've seen a few, enough to know that you have to have your varied characters come together into one tight-knit group. (See "Night of the Living Dead," "Dawn of the Dead," "28 Days Later," "Zombieland," and even "Shaun of the Dead.") But this never happens until the very end; the characters remaining isolated from one another until that point. Really, there is a formula to writing a good zombie story and if you're going to deviate from that you need to have something better than this.

Also, the author at a couple points uses colloquialisms with the Sith students. Star Wars characters do not say "Whatever" or "Fail." I don't care what year it's taking place in the Star Wars universe, that just shouldn't happen. At least they didn't say, "Talk to the Hand," so we got that going for us.

From a purist standpoint this book itself is an abomination, a cheap way to cash in on the resurgence of zombies in popular culture. I would have been willing to give it more slack if it was fun or had some good fight scenes. Since it doesn't, I definitely can't recommend this.

That is all.

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★★★★★ **An Entertaining Use of Star Wars Themes In A Horror Setting**, December 14, 2010

By [Michael Lima](#) (Fresno, California USA) - [See all my reviews](#)

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This review is from: **Star Wars: Red Harvest (Hardcover)**

Customer review from the Amazon Vine™ Program ([What's this?](#))

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Published 20 hours ago by K. Fontenot

★★★★☆ **While the story was decent--it just felt out of place in the Star Wars Universe**

Okay, I'm a bit torn with this one. I am a HUGE Star Wars fan...I enjoy the occasional horror novel as well--however, merging these two genre's and what do you get?

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Published 21 hours ago by Jeff Edwards

★★★★☆ **The second Star Wars horror story**

Let me just say right off the top that I am not normally a fan of horror books. I realize that the genre is popular now, but zombies and the undead hold no particular appeal for... [Read more](#)

Published 1 day ago by David Pruette

★★★★☆ **Personally, I Liked The Story**

I have to say that I really enjoyed this story and the one the preceded it, Star Wars: Death Troopers by the same author.

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Published 2 days ago by Shawn Kovacich

★☆☆☆☆ **Worst... EU Novel... Ever...**

Imagine if George Lucas (or rather, the editorial board Lucas hires/oversees to protect his IP whilst mining the EU for as much as can be squeezed out)... [Read more](#)

Published 3 days ago by N. S. Michael

★★★★★ **Intergalactic Fun**

Having no strong particular expectations going into this book, I found it to be a fun read. Though it may seem a bit more hokey than most Star Wars books, it certainly adds a new... [Read more](#)

Published 6 days ago by JMack

★★★★☆ **The Walking Dead meets Knights of the Old Republic**

Years ago, in the long lonely days after Return of the Jedi but long before The Phantom Menace, I was a Star Wars book nut. [Read more](#)

Published 7 days ago by ONENEO

★★★★★ **Plants, zombies, Jedi, Sith, lightsabers, and a HK droid**

Red Harvest has all of the elements of modern popular culture that relate to the zombie mythos. I won't give away the plot, but the reader will come to expect plants that turn... [Read more](#)

Published 9 days ago by Charlie

★★★★☆ **Good in places, creased in others**

When I saw a caption about "Zombies enter the world of the Jedi and the world of the Sith" and "zombies with lightsabers," it struck me as interesting. [Read more](#)

Published 9 days ago by TastyBabySyndrome

★☆☆☆☆ **I mean... really?**

I'm a rabid fan of Star Wars, including some self-indulgent, "not-so-good" EU books, e.g.

I've long thought that it is helpful if a reviewer shares their background (for example, if the reviewer has read other works from the author of the book they are reviewing) in order to give the reader some perspective on how they evaluated the book. But, I think that disclosure is critical when one is reviewing anything from the Star Wars universe, given the large amount of media (movies, television shows, books, comic books, video games, etc.) that could have possibly influenced a reviewer's perspective. That being said, here is my background. I've seen all of the Star Wars movies, and enjoyed all of them (including the prequels...although I enjoyed the movies more when Han shot first). I've seen The Clone Wars animated movie, but haven't seen any other animated episodes. I read the comic books, both the Marvel and the Dark Horse series, until about 15 years ago. I've read three Star Wars books ([Splinter of the Mind's Eye \(Star Wars\)](#), [Heir to the Empire \(Star Wars: The Thrawn Trilogy, Vol. 1\)](#), and [Tales of the Bounty Hunters \(Star Wars\) \(Book 3\)](#)), but haven't read a Star Wars book in over ten years. In general, I'd say that I'm a barely casual fan that has a deep admiration for the mythology. So, given that background, how did I like Red Harvest?

I loved it.

One reason why I enjoyed this book was that I approached it as a work in the horror genre that used Star Wars elements, as opposed to a Star Wars work that incorporated horror elements. Thus, I didn't mind the disposable characters (I mean, when was the last time you remembered a victim's character from a horror movie) or the seemingly impossible lapses of logic/intelligence. Instead, I became caught up in the story's incredible pacing, which briskly moves the reader from one scene of gleeful mayhem to another. To my surprise and satisfaction, Schreiber provided just enough Star Wars elements that the environment felt familiar, but introduced enough "wrinkles" to make the concept fresh. As a result, I found Red Harvest to be recognizable as a part of the Star Wars universe, yet accessible enough that I didn't feel I needed to have read other Star Wars books in order to enjoy this story.

I'm sure that a more dedicated Star Wars fan would find a lot of holes in the story and a lot of troubling "violations" of the mythology. Still, I think that even more serious Star Wars fans than me will enjoy the roller-coaster ride the story provides, and admire Schreiber for the level of respect that he demonstrates for both genres. Given those qualities, I believe both casual fans and hard-core Star Wars fanatics will find that Red Harvest is a worthy addition to the Star Wars canon.

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★★★★☆ **Star Wars Horror Story...Really?**, December 14, 2010

By [TRFB](#)  - [See all my reviews](#)



This review is from: **Star Wars: Red Harvest (Hardcover)**

Customer review from the Amazon Vine™ Program ([What's this?](#))

NOTE: I am more than 3/4 done with the book. So this review will be adjusted when I complete it. But as of now:

I was excited to take a trip back into the Star Wars universe with this latest installment. Star Wars Red Harvest takes place at a Sith Academy and a sinister secret experiment is brewing. I can't give the details, so I will comment on my experience with the book.

My question, is did it really need the Star Wars name? Not really. There are no characters here from the Star Wars movies. I was hoping to find a reference in the story for something familiar. But other than the mention of a Sith and Jedi characters, there really isn't anything else.

It really could've been written without the Star Wars name and it still be relevant. Does that mean that the book deserves a better review? In my humble opinion, it seems the author wanted to write a horror story and attach it to one of the greatest franchises of all time. Nothing wrong with that. It's all business. However, it would've had more "weight" if there

the Republic Commando series (I, as a clone, wish I had a heart). [Read more](#)

Published 12 days ago by The Lone Wolf

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was mention of familiar characters.

As I stated I am not completely done with the book, but thus far it is a good story. Just don't know if I buy it as a "Star Wars" story.

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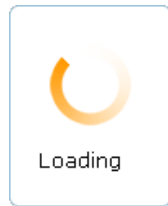
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