THE OFFICIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION RISE OF SKYWALKER THE

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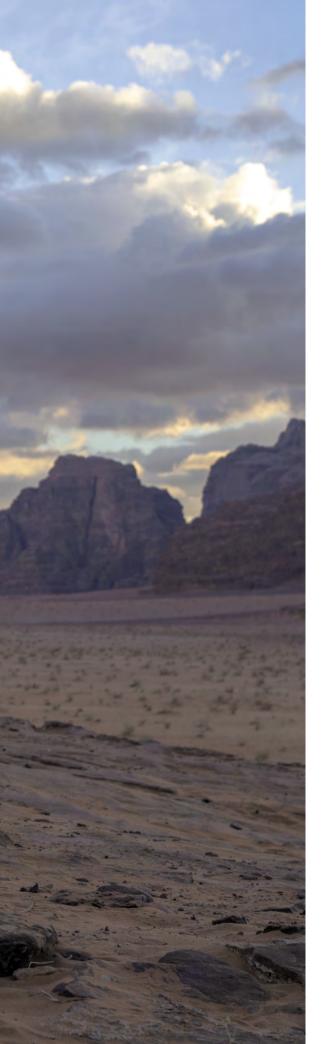
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## THE SAGA CONCLUDES

An epic tale, told over three trilogies reaches its conclusion in Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker.

he First Order is the ultimate power in the galaxy after it wiped out the capital worlds of the New Republic in a single, powerful attack. The Resistance, commanded by veteran rebel hero General Leia Organa, is diminished but unbeaten and not without hope. Facing the might of the army of the First Order, Jedi Master Luke Skywalker has briefly emerged from his exile to prove that hope exists. As word spread of Skywalker's gesture of defiance, General Organa has revitalized the Resistance.

With the galaxy on the brink, Rey, Skywalker's pupil, and Kylo Ren, the self appointed Supreme Leader, ponder their uncertain destinies...





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## REY FORCE OF NATURE





A mysterious loner who made her first appearance in 2015's Star Wars: The Force Awakens, Rey played by Daisy Ridley, returned

in Star Wars: The Last Jedi (2017). Now, in Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, her journey reaches its end.

hat was it like working with J.J. Abrams on The Rise of Skywalker? While filming The Force Awakens I was very tense and nervous. But because I worked with him on that movie, our relationship was a bit different this time around. I didn't feel as tense and nervous; I felt very comfortable.

## How does it feel to have *The Rise of Skywalker* as the conclusion to the saga?

It's a very worthy ending. J.J. and co-writer Chris Terrio are so knowledgeable about *Star Wars*, and they are both huge fans as well. Everyone felt good about what we were doing, and we all had a genuine feeling of joy about what we accomplished. I think that carried over onto the screen.

## Talk about your journey from *The Force Awakens* until now, specifically about the training you went through.

Working on the previous movies was really exhausting. This time I wanted to be sure I had enough stamina; I wanted to be healthy and, most importantly, ready. I even started kickboxing. When

it came time to do all the required stunts I felt I was ready for the challenge. Mentally, I had to prepare to do some rather terrifying things, and I had to completely trust the stunt team I was working with. I was doing things I never thought I would be doing, such as being strapped into a harness connected to wires and diving off a 30-foot-tall platform. But because I trusted the team around me, I felt I could do anything they asked me to.

## What was the most challenging scene for you to do in *The Rise of Skywalker*?

Physically, the lightsaber fight with Adam Driver on the wreckage of the Death Star. What made it more challenging than the other lightsaber fights was that we were being doused with water cannons the whole time. And since it was November in England, it was very cold as well.

As far as just being the most challenging scene it had to have been working atop the speeders while filming in Jordan. The vehicle we were riding on was tilted a certain way, which really made my knees hurt by the end of the day. And because we had wind

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- 1 / A darker side to Rey revealed? (Previous spread)
- 2 / "For this movie, my costume is pretty much white, which is great because we were filming in the sun." (Previous spread)
- 3 / Rey, from scavenger to hero. (Previous spread)
- 4 / Joining forces with Finn, C-3PO, and Poe Dameron.
- 5 / Confronting Kylo Ren. (Opposite page).
- 6 / Daisy Ridley films the Ajan Kloss training scenes. (Opposite page).
- 7 / Rey leads the charge as she, Chewbacca, and BB-8 speed across the plains of Pasaana. (Next spread)

machines constantly going, a piece of sand scratched my eye, causing it to become puffy and irritated. It's weird because technically we didn't really look like we were doing anything. It took many hours working on a moving vehicle, which made it tough.

Costumes and hairstyles are always a big part of a character's identity in *Star Wars*. How has Rey's look evolved since *The Force Awakens*?

For the most part, the costumes have been very similar: they're all meant to be utilitarian, using earthy colors. For *The Force Awakens*, it took a long time to establish the look, but that wasn't the case this time around. For this movie, my costume is pretty much white, which was great because we were filming in the sun. It just looks gorgeous. As for the hair, the team went for something that looked slightly different than before, but still retained the same silhouette. My makeup pretty much stayed the same—all natural.

How would you describe the camaraderie between Oscar, John, and yourself? This is the first film where Oscar and you actually have scenes together.

It was really fun. In a lot of ways because I hadn't properly worked with Oscar [Poe Dameron] before. Previously we had only shot two tiny scenes together. In *The Rise of Skywalker*, one of our first scenes shows us arguing. J.J. told us our relationship had grown "off-screen," since there was a year or so in between the events of *The Last Jedi* and this movie. So, there's a chemistry fostered "in between" the movies. And then John [Boyega] is just amazing.

How was it working with newcomers Naomi Ackie and Keri Russell?

Working with Naomi and Keri was really lovely. Naomi did a scene with Billy [Dee Williams], and my dad was in the same scene as a pilot. I went onset to watch them film it and he's literally right behind them—classic! And then Keri was just really awesome. Her character is really cool—she's such a badass.

What was it like working with Billy Dee Williams, who is reprising his role as Lando Calrissian?

Billy Dee, who's such a suave man, brought so much joy to the set. It's great he's back and in this movie. There was a particular scene where the rest of us were so exhausted, yet he just kept going! He didn't need any rest or anything. And his overall vibe was just great. He was showing me pictures of his granddaughter one day and told me I reminded him of her. I thought that was really sweet.

What do you hope audiences will take away from this movie, especially since it's the conclusion of the Skywalker saga?

I just want the audience to be happy and fulfilled with the film. J.J. and Chris Terrio did an amazing job crafting the story and tying in all nine episodes. J.J. really wanted to make a great film, and everyone involved with the production was just stellar at their jobs. I found it to be really moving. At the end of the day, if you took away the space element, the *Star Wars* of it all, it's about people and how they make their way in life, confronting and dealing with the difficulties they experience.

REY



