



# UNDERCITY

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Dec.  
2007



Sandra  
Martins

Reviews

## "Splinter of the Mind's Eye"

by Alan Dean Foster

Opinion

## The Expanded Universe

Fan Fiction

"Leadership"  
and more...



THE 501st CORNER - Meet the Lusitanian Outpost





## EDITORIAL



This is the first issue of our fanzine and we are proud that it's finally up and running, although it is still a preview of what is to come.

All you'll read here will be with the sole intention to please the fans and the general supporters of the **Star Wars** saga.

We decided to create this project, out of the necessity of bringing the best of the **Star Wars** fandom to the general public. We also felt that our website, forum and blog were somehow biased in the Portuguese fans, and we definitely needed an international medium to expand our horizons. Thus, we picked English as main language, although we plan to translate each number into Portuguese too (except Author material).

Each issue comes filled with the best picks of stuff made by the fans and for the fans. We deliver to you reviews of your favourite games, books, comics or any other item the fans usually collect. We also bring you opinion articles, news and curiosities from our always active blog. There's a special corner, powered by our famous Fan Fiction blog where we take the best stories created by fans for your reading pleasure. Also from the Fan Fiction blog selection we praise the talented FanForcers and bring you Fan Art! Drawings, paintings, photographs, you name it, it's art in the various shapes that only the magic of **Star Wars** can bring you.

Finally, we present you a nice corner for our local Outpost, the fine gentlemen who keep our backs safe at the **501st Legion** and its Portuguese branch: the **Lusitanian Outpost**.

All this packed in fine (and time consuming) design that, we wish, can please the majority.

Indeed, this is a big step. We wanted it to be a firm one. Thus, we thank you all for reading this fanzine. Any suggestions or constructive critics can be reported back to us.

All of you are, hereby, invited to participate as writers, reviewers, artists, whatever you feel your contribution can be useful. The only requirement is that you love **Star Wars** and want to contribute to the worldwide fans of **Star Wars**.

All we want is to make sure **Star Wars** is forever.

May the Force be with you and us...

### Attention!

We not take profit from this fanzine. **Star Wars** and all its characters, locations and other terms belong to **Lucasfilm, Ltd.**



### Character of the Month:

**Darth Revan, the Dark Lord of the Sith, center character of the game Knights of the Old Republic. Formerly a Jedi Knight, his quest to for the StarForge, led him to to the Dark Side of the Force, becoming one of the most influential Sith Lords of the Saga.**



## Splinter of the Mind's Eye

To celebrate the birth of the **Expanded Universe**, Fan Force Portugal brings to the top the 1978 novel written by Alan Dean Foster – ***Splinter of the Mind's Eye***.

The first edition came out in March 1st 1978, not even a year after ***Star Wars*** was revealed to the world. Interestingly enough, the book was published by **Del Rey Books**, The same publisher that has held the rights for Star Wars novels from 1999 through 2008.

The thing that seems to be the funniest is that although the novelisation of the first Star Wars movie is known, or thought, to have been entirely written by George Lucas, the fact is that author Alan Dean Foster did have a major role in the writing. That is, actually, why he was chosen for this project, although ***Splinter of the Mind's Eye*** was meant to be some sort of a sequel to the episode that we now know as ***A New Hope***, in case it didn't have such a great success.

But it did, and as a new sequel was being produced, ***Splinter of the Mind's Eye*** was published as a means of following the story of **Luke Skywalker** and his friends in their neverending fight against **Darth Vader** and the **Galactic Empire**.

As the **Rebel Alliance** struggles to convince more and more systems in joining their cause against **Palpatine's** tyranny, Leia Organa, Luke Skywalker and the droids **C-3PO** and **R2-D2** travel to **Circapous** in a diplomatic mission to arrange a meeting that will, probably, bring in another planet to the Rebellion.

However, the journey does not go well and Luke and Leia crash on a planet named **Mimban**. In time, they discover about a very special crystal that can increase the Force powers of anyone who possesses it – the **Kaiburr** crystal.

But they're not the only ones after the special gem and soon another individual reveals himself to be interested in it. Darth Vader himself.



Admiral Tina - Fan Force Portugal

Find this book at: [amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)



### Expanded Universe

There is a great amount of people who have at least heard about **Star Wars**. All of them think about it as a saga made of several films, however, some know of the existence of a greater universe born from it. Those who are fans of Star Wars may choose to dedicate more of themselves to the movies, or they can search for a greater knowledge of the stories through other means, such as books or games.

The **Star Wars** Expanded Universe began almost immediately after the first episode ever of the saga was released. Although it is almost as old as the first movie, there are some who have not showed interest in the Expanded Universe yet. If you are one of them, these words are for you.

The first time I began to take interest in the Expanded Universe, it was something of a coincidence. I was looking for **Star Wars**-related things, you know, like when you are obsessed with something and want to make a grab for every tiny little piece of it. I found some books and I really liked the covers. I thought it was worth the try, and I still remember the first **Star Wars** novel I've ever read – ***Shadows of the Empire***, by Steve Perry.

Since that day, I began reading **Star Wars** novels not because I found them, but because I looked for them specifically. I am proud to say that I have read more than sixty, but I still feel I have so much to learn that I don't want to stop. Same thing with comics and games.

I realised that although the Expanded Universe does not belong to the same canon as the films do, the things you learn and experience through the stories are as exciting and spectacular as one of the episodes from the saga. You will find events that dazzle you, you will find astonishing characters and new worlds, many of them. Not to mention the same characters you know from the movies, you can follow their steps through the years as the galaxy changes and new conflicts arise.

The people who have had the opportunity to live through many of these experiences and stories know what I'm talking about.

Those of you who haven't, just give it a try. If you do, I'm certain you will like it, if you don't like it, well... Keep trying! You won't regret.

POWERED BY:



The FFPT Blog Opinion Forum

**Author:**  
**Admiral Tina**  
**Fan Force Portugal**



## "Leadership"

"To acknowledge your defeat is the first part of vengeance..." the words echoed in the dark lit room. "The Jedi always outnumbered us in the battlefield". The Sith Lord was bent on his seat facing the floor as if ashamed of his own words, "But, the turning point where we won our advantage was always in strategy and the Force not in individual pride..."

"We don't care about your battlefield experience, Lord Ru'uhk", another louder voice interrupted "Why did you assassinate your own Field General, a Sith Lord?"

Sith Lord Ru'uhk looked up the five Sith Council members and smiled...

"It's my nature to purge the weakness off the Sith Order..." He slowly said.

"Sith Lord Peragus was our greatest warrior. The Sith Champion. Hardly our weakness!" A Twi'lek Sith Lord spoke.

"You weren't there to see how a man's pride can become his own self-ruin." Ru'uhk said with losing his grin, facing the floor again. He thought that perhaps his own pride didn't make him as great as the Champion he had slain. Then again, the council seemed to cherish brutality instead of strategy... muscles instead of brains... Corrupt...

The Sith Lords felt that, "Your thoughts are dangerous, Lord Ru'uhk!" one of them said, "Be careful not to think little of our judgment."

"If I was uncertain of my own judgment, I would hide my thoughts from you..." Ru'uhk faced the Council "Peragus was a blind leader... and I fear you're no different!"

The statement was defiance. The elder Council member, Lord Cal'Nuron spoke for the first time, "I hope you have facts to prove your statements," he said "since my own inclination is to take your life just for that defiance, Lord Ru'uhk..."

"Oh, but I have Lord Cal'Nuron, I do have..."

"I sense you killed him in a matter of jealousy..."

"Peragus was as vain as those who surrounded him idolized the person he was not..."

The stated caused commotion among the Sith Council members.

"Don't act so surprised, my fellow Sith Lords, we all know Peragus was not the great Warrior you all attempted to make us believe..." Ru'uhk was now standing up and looking directly at his questioners, "I was there when he was weak, and I saw how and why he was a General... his victories were pure facade... Peragus was a puppet... Your propaganda... I feel ashamed to serve you!"

The humming was now deafening with all Council members objecting this outrage.

Cal'Nuron, finally spoke again, quieting the voices, "I hope you have more than just your opinion to back up that statement, Ru'uhk, because some of us would like your head, just now..."

Sith Lord Ru'uhk sat on his chair again and softly said, "I will tell you what your field operatives could not..."

(End of Part 1 - To be Continued)

POWERED BY:



<http://fanfictionpt.blogspot.com>

**Author:**  
**Darth En Ghedi**  
**Fan Force Portugal**



On this preview issue let me introduce some things about myself and the way I work.

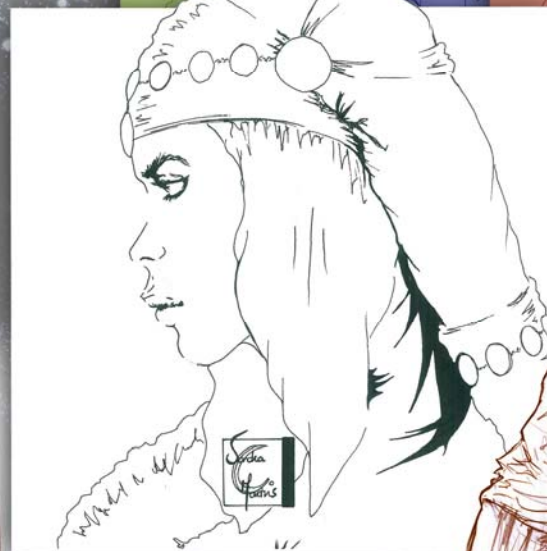
One of the things I love the most about Star Wars is the Expanded Universe. Not only because it allows me to know more details about the stories, but also because I can be myself inside them and, that way, imagine the facts the way I choose.

Take a look at the sketches here. As you can see, the Malak one is just a rough layout, a mere drawn note, but it has its own visual strength.

There's also this very basic image of Numa Rar, a Twi'lek Jedi, which has turned out this way because it was reduced to a group of precise lines. You can also see a very simple sketch of a Rakata and another Darth Revan, this time seen from the back. Quite simple, but something that I enjoyed to do.

Henceforth, this section will show you some Fan Art, not only from me, but from whoever wants their tribute to Star Wars to be here.

I own none of these characters. They belong to **Lucasarts**, **Lucasfilm** and **Bioware**.



**Admiral Tina**  
**Designer & Editor**  
**Fan Force Portugal**



My desire to become a "Man in White" faded and almost died, due to the large amounts of money I would require to spend and the lack of fellow supporters.

Then one day I received an email. A very special email from my (now) great friend João Carreira. He had found our blog and was very appreciative of our work.

And... he had a complete Sandtrooper outfit, hand-built and personalized by himself.

That was my chance! At last we could go forth in creating something. At last there was someone else as mad as myself to create a suit and wear it.

I saw João's suit and was hooked. But I was even more touched by João's power to make his dream come true... That and the fact that besides his hobby, he had a life... that's something.

I decided I needed to enter the character and make something useful out of my hobby. Unfortunately, financial problems never fade away when you need money the most, so I never really had the chance to go forth with my Stormtrooper extravaganza.

But, I went for my Second Choice Suit: The Imperial Royal Guard.

The first part was done, I bought the fabrics and cloth, I was ready. I make a rudimentary Force Spike, and went on to buy the boots and the precious helmet.

Eventually, these things require dedication and time.

But we gathered our efforts and started to build our humble but proud group. We made our best efforts to walk with steps we could take, not going beyond our own capabilities.

In March 10th 2007, we created both our Blog and Forum to gather all efforts to create the Lusitanian Outpost of the 501st Legion. (<http://501stportugal.blogspot.com/>).

From there, our candidacy to the 501st went through with the only complete suit: João's Sandtrooper.

Finally, in May 7th 2007, João Carreira was officially accepted as Sandtrooper TD9976 and shortly, in June 19th 2007 the Lusitanian Outpost was finally approved and officially launched.

Both steps were important to the Portuguese Fans, not only did we sign in the very first Portuguese Member of the 501st Legion, but an Official Outpost was born in our country, bringing the 501st might to Portugal.

You see, the 501st Legion is not just a group of costumers, it's also a charity organization that brings to children and grown children, the magic of Star Wars, especially those blessed by health that need to rely on hospitals and institutions to survive. The 501st brings this magic with visits and events, but also by attending other events where it is invited free of charge but with the condition that the requester places a donation to one of the many organizations that help children or other people with special needs.

We're still young in terms of existence. But we already appeared in some events, like an exhibit in Lisbon, Celebration Europe and 30th Anniversary of Star Wars in Portugal, back in December 6th 2007.

The future... We have several people developing suits, not only Imperials but also denizens and others. All of them with the same spirit of joining the World's Largest Star Wars Costuming Group (Guinness World Record). All of them sharing João's dream... and my own...

As for me... My Red Guard is still on hold... but I'll wear that mask... someday!



Visit the 501st Legion in:  
**[www.501st.com](http://www.501st.com)**

Visit Lusitanian Outpost in:  
**[www.501stportugal.blogspot.com](http://www.501stportugal.blogspot.com)**



**Darth En Ghedi**  
**Admin & Co-Founder**  
**501st Legion: Lusitanian Outpost**







SINCE 1999 GATHERING PORTUGUESE STAR WARS FANS

# FAN FORCE PORTUGAL

## OFFICIAL BLOG

News gathered from our blog. These are not necessarily important news, only those we choose to publish from the hundreds we post every month. All news that are in our blog are written in Portuguese, by the exception of transcriptions and interviews.

### DECEMBER



Dark horse comics revealed the 4 page previews of Dark Times #7 and Legacy #18, The galaxy's most exciting comics always have a nice sneak peek before release for those eager fans. If you're one just visit Dark Horse's website and enjoy.



Nokia Announced that the Next-Gen platform "N-Gage" will receive the next LucasArts game, The Force Unleashed. Good news for the Nokia Smartphone users.

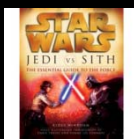


Sideshow Collectibles are having a giveaway that can include you! Tell the Web Mistress what you want and why you should have it, and by December 14<sup>th</sup> your dream might come true! Visit their website and hit the "Dreams do Come True" banner!

### NOVEMBER



The Gentle Giant Premier Guild Membership welcome kit has been revealed and begun shipping early this month. From a stylish bag to a nice mouse pad, the welcome gift includes exclusives that only these privileged ones will get.



November 27<sup>th</sup> was the release date for one of the most wanted books for 2007: Star Wars Jedi Vs Sith, The Essential Guide to the Force, we got it, and we made a review. It's a must have! Recommended by FF Portugal and Amazon.co.uk.



The Slap that never happened... This was a rumour created by a book that Carrie Fisher would slap Billy Dee Williams during rehearsal of the Empire Strikes Back movie. In Lightsabre.co.uk's recent interview, a myth is destroyed! Comes out that Billy Dee doesn't recall such incident...



Fan Force Portugal is now partner to Kotobukiya and sponsored by Entertainment Earth and Amazon.co.uk Online Shops. These are great news for the Portuguese Fan Forcers who'll benefit from fresh news and discounts!

All news are compiled and translated from our official blog

[www.fanforcept.blogspot.com](http://www.fanforcept.blogspot.com)





## ON AIR

### FFPT INTERVIEWS



Steve Sansweet is perhaps the most known face in Lucasfilm's Marketing, he's responsible for Fan Relations and the world's greatest Star Wars memorabilia collector. He is also **Fan Force Portugal's Honorary Member** and a great friend. It was only natural Fan Force Portugal, should make this interview with one of the most influent persons in the Fandom universe.

**FFPT - We all know Mr. Sansweet is, perhaps the biggest collector of Star Wars. How did it really begin?**

**Steve** - I've always been a collector. It started with soda-bottle caps, matchbook covers, baseball cards—the usual stuff when I was a kid. I also grew up loving science fiction— books, movies, and TV. I had started collecting space toys such as Japanese tin robots just before Star Wars premiered. The movie blew me away and I started finding items to buy. But truly, my first Star Wars collectible had come months before the movie opened. A fellow reporter at the Wall Street Journal received in the mail the brochure that 20th Century Fox sent to theatres to try to get them to book the film. He looked it over and threw it in his wastebasket. After he left for the day, I went over, dug it out of the trash—and still own it today!

**FFPT - Is there any item you pursuit that never got the chance to add to your collection?**

**Steve** - Of course! All the time! I am not a wealthy man—although I spend much of my income on Star Wars items. There are many things that I would like that I have to either pass up or someone else buys because they are willing and able to spend more than I can.

**FFPT - What is the object you value the most? Not necessarily the most expensive.**

**Steve** - It's not a single object, but a class of objects: fan-made items that I have either bought or that have been given to me as gifts. I probably now have a dozen or more Steve Sansweet action figures that fans have made of me—including one with long pointy ears and a Yoda-green face! I have a large Bantha piñata that won a craft contest in Mexico City, and a full-size Wampa costume from the same convention. A friend in Mexico also makes one-of-a-kind Star Wars vehicles out of tinfoil. I have a great piece of R2-D2 stained glass. And I love the patches and other items that the 501st and Rebel Legion makes just for their own members.

**FFPT- We've seen the evolution of Rancho Obi-Wan in Hyperspace videos "Visit Rancho Obi-Wan". What's the future of this space? Would you like to make it a Museum someday?**

**Steve** - Well, it already is a museum—although a private one. Because of local government restrictions, it will always be private, but I still do occasional tours for charities and for fans that come to the area. That becomes more and more difficult, and must be limited, because I just don't have the time while working fulltime, writing more Star Wars books in my personal time, and trying to pay at least some attention to my collection.

**FFPT- Collecting can be a painful process. Can you share a story that you feel better pictures this arduous hobby?**

**Steve** - Well it's certainly painful to my wallet and bank account! ;) And it takes a lot of time and effort to keep up with it all. But I certainly wouldn't call it arduous; once a hobby becomes "arduous," it's time to drop it and move on.

**FFPT - Why is it so fascinating to collect Star Wars memorabilia?**

**Steve** - I think the movies awakened or kept alive the child in all of us. These were breakthrough movies and captured the imagination of people worldwide. Collecting memorabilia from the series helps us keep those memories very much alive...and close by.

CONTINUES...

You can find the rest of this interview at this address:

<http://fanforcept.blogspot.com/search/label/FFPT%20Interviews>







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