



Star Wars: Women of the Galaxy

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The women of the Star Wars universe are a diverse galaxy of heroes and villains, renegades and rogues, caretakers and, sometimes, unscrupulous scum.

Now StarWars.com is thrilled to exclusively announce a new book from Chronicle Books that celebrates this eclectic mix of female characters from the films, cartoons, novels, comics, and video games — *Star Wars: Women of the Galaxy* by Star Wars fan and journalist Amy Ratcliffe, arriving October 2018 in hardcover.

Featuring Leia Organa, Rey, Ahsoka Tano, Jyn Erso, Rose Tico, Maz Kanata, and many more — including characters from *Solo: A Star Wars Story* and *Star Wars Resistance* — the book gathers 75 profiles with text by Ratcliffe and all-new, incredible artwork from 18 talented female and non-binary artists. The amazing lineup of illustrators includes Alice X. Zhang, Amy Beth Christenson, Annie Stoll, Annie Wu, Christina Chung, Cryssy Cheung, Eli Baum, Elsa Charretier, Geneva B., Jen Aberin Johnson, Jen Bartel, Jenny Parks, Karen Hallion, Little Corvus, Sara Alfageeh, Sara Kipin, Sarah Wilkinson, and Viviane Tanner. Check out Jen Bartel's cover below, featuring a striking image of Rey.

Star Wars: Women of the Galaxy Details

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Author : Amy Ratcliffe , Alice X. Zhang (Illustrator) , Amy Beth Christenson (Illustrator) , Annie Stoll (Illustrator) , Annie Wu (Illustrator) , Christina Chung (Illustrator) , Cryssy Cheung (Illustrator) , Eli Baum (Illustrator) , more... Elsa Charretier (Illustrator) , Geneva B. (Illustrator) , Jen Aberin Johnson (Illustrator) , Jen Bartel (Illustrator) , Jenny Parks (Illustrator) , Karen Hallion (Illustrator) , Little Corvus (Illustrator) , Sara Alfageeh (Illustrator) , Sara Kipin (Illustrator) , Sarah Scudgell Wilkinson (Illustrator) , Viviane Tanner (Illustrator) ...less

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From Reader Review Star Wars: Women of the Galaxy for online ebook

Jena says

This book is an anthology of art showcasing the various women in Disney's new Star Wars canon. Each character has at least one illustration and an accompanying one page description that explains who they are and what media they appear in. Unsurprisingly, a vast majority of the characters featured are from *The Clone Wars* and *Star Wars: Rebels* series. Bigger name characters like Leia, Rey and Ahsoka have several pages dedicated to them with 3-4 illustrations. And yes, because this is new Disney canon old EU faves like Mara Jade do not appear in this book. I suggest you find your old copies of the *Thrawn Trilogy*, assume the fetal position, and rock back and forth as the waves of tears crash over your trembling body.

This is the sort of book where you can tell based on the premise whether or not you'll like it. I think this book is best suited for people who are familiar with the movies and looking to branch out into more Star Wars related media. The descriptions are nice, but if you're already a fan of certain characters the descriptions are functionally useless to you. The artist credits are also strangely laid out, instead of having the artist listed on a page near where their illustration appears, it's listed in a directory in the back of the book that is not broken out by page number. So if you like a piece of art and want to learn who the artist is, it's a bit of an ordeal to get that information.

That all being said, this book excels at what it's basic goal is: to showcase art of Star Wars female characters. All of the art featured in the book is top notch and covers a variety of styles and scenes. I really loved how for characters with more than one illustration the book used different artists, so sometimes you would get a completely different side of that character in each illustration.

This would make a fantastic gift for that person in your life that's passionate about Star Wars, or even a young fan of *The Clone Wars* or *Star Wars: Rebels* (or a full grown adult that perpetually rewatches *The Clone Wars* and rereads Star Wars books at the ripe age of 26 and will not shut up about Mara Jade...whoever that person might be).

Vonze says

I've been waiting for a book like this for over 20 years. Thank you Star Wars for empowering me.

Teresa says

If only this were a mesh of old canon and new. Alas, no Mara Jade (the best female Star Wars character ever), no 5 star. Still, the art was amazing and there were a lot of "behind the character" type of things such as character concepts in drafts, as well as actress input, which was very fun to read. It was also nice seeing what media the different characters are in, such as Holdo, who I kind of don't care about, but would love to see more of her in "Leia: Princess of Alderaan"--I think I can like her much more :)

Kalie says

I gifted this to myself the moment it showed up at my bookstore and, frankly, I regret nothing. It's worth the purchase for the lovely artwork alone, to be honest. It also made me want to expand my viewing/reading and take a look at other pieces of the *Star Wars* that I haven't devoured yet. This was a lovely, well-put-together compendium all around.

Ellie Scott-Allen says

This was absolutely gorgeous to look at and a treat to read. It's so empowering to know *Star Wars* is filled with amazing female characters.

Literally my only complaint is that Shara Dameron isn't included. :(

Allison ? says

I bought this for one of my girl friends for Christmas, and I just got a chance to look through it.

The comic-style illustrations are unique and beautiful. The descriptions are a good crash course for people who aren't familiar with the books or games. There were several characters I had never heard of before. Both heroes and villains are included.

I would recommend this to girls of any age, or for anyone who wants to expand their knowledge of the *Star Wars* universe.

RumBelle says

Beautiful. Amazing. Detailed. This book was all these things and so much more. Dedicated to Carrie Fisher, with one Introduction by Kathleen Kennedy, another by the author describing what her goals in writing this book were, and an About the Artists section at the end, this was a veritable chronicle of the women in *Star Wars*. The book was very current, including characters from recent books, and even the new Resistance TV show on Disney. It did not include any EU characters from, what they now call, the Legends timeline, which I have to say, upset me a little.

Each character had a bio. This bio was either a straight biography, meaning it just talked about the life of the character, or a biography mixed with details regarding the characters creation and production (if it was a film, video game or TV show), or how they were created for a book or comic. The majority of the characters had a two page spread, one side was their bio, with an accompanying quote or statement about the character, the other side was the illustration. Other, more well known characters, had entries that ran upwards of three pages. In those cases, there were several quotes and illustrations accompanying the text.

There was a wide variety of characters as well, from those who are very well known, and play a huge part in the Star Wars saga, to those who are only seen briefly. I think this gave the book an excellent balance. It brought to life many characters fans know, love and cherish, and highlighted those that got very little time, whether on screen or in print.

Some of the standout individuals, for me personally:

Ahsoka - One of my all time favorite characters, this entry traced her life from the moment we first met her, through her novel, to the last scene in Rebels. I look forward to what comes next for her.

Amilyn Holdo - I admit it, when I first saw her, I didn't like her attitude and her secrecy. By the time she flew that cruiser into Snoke's ship, I had fallen in love with her character, and was crying in the theater at her sacrifice. She had such heart, and was such an amazing woman.

Aunt Z - A character in the Resistance TV show, she was a lively, interesting woman.

Camie Marstrap - We first hear of her when Uncle Owen mentions the "friends" Luke wastes time with. She is one of his compatriots at Tosche Station. She is also the woman Luke dreams about having had a life with, in another timeline, in the Last Jedi novelization.

Dr. Chelli Aphra - She intrigued me from the moment I first read her in the comics. An archaeologist, a thief, and a cohort of Vader, who does not always believe his views. She is a multilayered, fascinating woman.

Enfys Nest - The leader of the Cloud Riders, from Solo a Star Wars Story, she was so enigmatic. The entry about her delves a little into her past, how she became the head of the Cloud Riders, and the type of woman she is.

Ciena Ree - The Imperial Pilot from Lost Stars, one of the more interesting characters in that novel. She believed with her whole heart in the Empire's mission. You had to applaud her dedication, but also, you wished she would see the devastation it caused.

Jessika Pava - A Resistance pilot, Blue Three, she was there for the Battle of Starkiller base. Proud to be part of Poe Dameron's squad, she fights every day for freedom in the Galaxy.

Kaydel Ko Connix - The Resistance Communications officer, who also, briefly, led a mutiny against Admiral Holdo. She is feisty, tough, committed and efficient.

Princess Kneesaa - An Ewok from Return of the Jedi, she also was one of the beings who assisted Hera in one of the Forces of Destiny series.

L3-37 - One of two droid entries in this book, she was Lando's companion in Solo a Star Wars Story. Smart and clever, when she perished on the Kessel mission, Lando incorporated her programming into the Falcon's neural net.

Princess Leia - One of the all time, if not the all time, best female character in this series.

Paige and Rose Tico - Each had a separate entry. I loved these sisters, so brave and selfless. I hope we see more of Rose.

Maz Kanata - She is one of my favorite characters. Long lived, wise, feisty and caring. Her entry discussed some of her previous life, before we meet her in The Force Awakens, and also discussed how she was brought to life for the screen.

Grand Admiral Rae Sloane - From the Aftermath novels. A woman who climbed to the pinnacle of the Empire.

Rey

Sabine

Steela Gerra - Saw's sister, who we learned more about from this book.

There are so many others, these are just a sampling.

The illustrations ranged in type from detailed, sharp painting, to chalk, to pop art like creations, to paintings that were more muted and soft. Each illustration fit the character very well, and showed off great artistic skill.

A book for any fan of Star Wars!

Mike says

When I learned Amy Ratcliffe was making a book dedicated to female characters from the Star Wars universe (a series I and many others hold near and dear), I could not think of a better person to tackle the project.

Amy's writing is done in such a way that gives a good overview of each character, but does not overwhelm the reader. It is not meant to give you every detail about each character, but a synopsis to give you an idea as to who they are and why they were selected for this book. The art used is fantastic and done by some incredibly talented women, each giving their own style but also keeping a consistent feel that shows throughout the entire book. The quality of the physical book itself is also extremely well done, with good quality printing and materials (some pages even have holographic text, a nice touch in my opinion.)

I'm not one to pre-order books, but I did so having been familiar with Amy's various projects in the past, and I'm happy to say it was a decision I do not regret in the slightest. With its digestible reading and beautiful artwork, this is a great purchase for anyone who love Star Wars and / or want something that shows how awesome women characters are, and continue to be.

Unabridged Bibliophile says

This is such a beautiful piece of art. Completely compromised of women giving thanks and recognising the women who make up the world of Star Wars.

Deborah says

Nice for the younger crowd, short profiles, great art

Neil R. Coulter says

This is a fun way to look back at the Star Wars story up to this point (but of course it's already becoming outdated, just with the graphic novels that have been published since, let alone the upcoming movies and TV series)—especially for those of us who have been steadily enduring through all formats in the new canon. The writing is fine, and it blends commentary about the stories themselves with behind-the-scenes details. I was interested to read the comments from actresses who have portrayed these characters, to see what they thought about character motivations.

The artwork is good—mostly comic-book styles, but also some nice pieces by the great Alice X. Zhang. I liked that the artists for this book are mostly females. I would have preferred the front and back covers reversed—Leia is more important than Rey.

The selection of characters represented is surprisingly big and varied. Minor characters I wouldn't have expected to see are included—Derla Pidys, the sommelier from the *Canto Bight* novel, for example, is perhaps stretching the range a bit too far. Points are lost, however, for overlooking Gormaanda and Yarna d'al' Gargan.

A couple of structural things would improve the book. First, why not include the artist's name by each image? Instead, a page in the back of the book lists all the artists, with page numbers of the images each one created. That's a frustrating way to figure out which artist did which picture.

Second, I'd like to see a list of all the places each character has appeared, included in each entry. The text in a lot of the entries mentions the books and movies where the character appears, but I'd just like a quick 'n' easy list. This book is more or less a printed volume of Wookieepedia entries, so why not include more of the helpful information that's already available there?

Star Wars has featured some awesome women: Leia, Jyn, Sabine, Hera, Enfys. It's nice to remember them while reading this beautifully designed book.

Jason says

Lovely book with beautiful art. I do think they could have done better with where they put the artist's credits. An index at the end instead of credits near the art.

Chris Evans says

I remember a time when Star Wars had strong female characters: Jaina Solo, Mara Jade, Tahiri, Kreia, Satele Shan, Tendra Risan Calrissian, Qwi Xux, Saba Sebatyne, Bastila Shan, Juhani, Jan Ors, Zannah, Xaverri, Mirax Terrik, Winter, Tionne Solusar, Salla Zend, Bria Tharen, Allana Solo, Tenel Ka, Nomi Sunrider, Mission Vao, ext ext ext ext. Even Jedi Master Leia Organa Solo and Mon Mothma were better in the original canon.

They were awesome on their own, and didn't requires some gimmicky pandering book to shine.

Anyways, if what you really need in your life is a gender specific, printed version of wookieepedia, then... you're probably still better off printing it yourself.

Temperance says

Star Wars has always held a special place in my heart. I was about five or six the first time I saw the movies and I've been hooked ever since. Throughout grade school and junior high, I devoured books and comics set in this spectacular universe.

The same can't be said of the last few years. I'm sad to say that, for a time, I fell out of love with Star Wars. I was disappointed with the new movies, but what really turned me off was the fandom. The toxicity and animosity that has been present within this community has been nothing short of appalling. I ended up falling out of love with a universe that once meant the world to me and haven't looked back since.

That was true, until I heard about *Star Wars: Women of the Galaxy*. To say I was excited would be putting it mildly; Padme Amidala and Leia Organa have always been two of my favorite characters. To be able to learn more about them, and lesser known female characters, like Queen Breha and Aunt Beru, proved much too much too resist.

I'm glad I didn't. This was the perfect way to return to that galaxy far, far away. Each entry was intriguing, including not only biographical information, but behind the scenes details about their creation (and movie/television appearances). It gave a richer appreciation for well beloved characters like Leia Organa, and a love for the new, like Phasma.

The art is the crown jewel. I loved the variety! Each portrait brought the characters to life, and, in the case of the more well known characters, highlighted different facets of their personalities.

This book is clearly a labor of love. It shows in every entry and every piece of art featured within *Star Wars: Women of the Galaxy*. It's beautiful and detailed and I loved every page!

This book has reignited my love of Star Wars; I'm looking forward to reading more works set in this universe!

Vanessa says

First thought: This is such a gorgeous book!

Second thought: Man, there really aren't that many important female characters in Star Wars so far, hm?

Anyways, I really enjoyed reading this and looking at the pretty art (I appreciated that there was a list of the artists at the end). It was really cool to finally see some official depictions of my favorite ladies from the Aftermath trilogy (Now someone please give me more Sinjir! I'm really afraid to never see him and Conder being a happy married gay couple again.).

Obviously the text was longer for more important characters (Leia, Rey, Padmé, Rose, the important characters from the tv shows like Ahsoka and Hera), but it was nice to see often overlooked women be included. Even though it was really kind of obvious that they struggled to come up with as many as they did,

since they had to include one-scene bit-characters. Their textx obviously were a lot shorter, but also amongst the most interesting, since the average viewer has never really thought about these characters or even heard of their names.

(Note: They included characters from all mediums aka movies, tv shows, books and comics - obviously only from the new canon.)

The only thing I thought they should have added, is an appearance list for every character. Sometimes the text mentions where the character originated or where she played her most prominent role, but I'd have liked a short list (aka not things like the episode of Star Wars Rebels, but just listing the show itself).

I'm fully aware that I can easily google this information, but I still think it would have been neat, especially for the non-movie ones.
