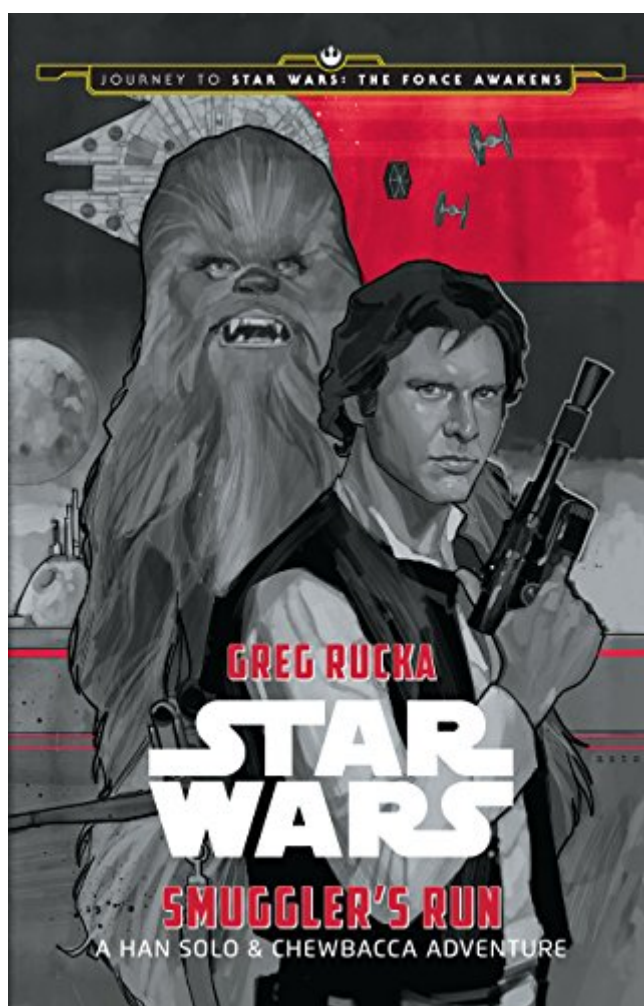


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# Journey To Star Wars: The Force Awakens: Smuggler's Run: A Han Solo Adventure (Star Wars: Journey To Star Wars: The Force Awakens)



## Synopsis

Han Solo and Chewbacca team-up for an all-new adventure in this thrilling upper middle grade novel. Set between *Star Wars: A New Hope* and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*, the story follows everyone's favorite pair of smugglers as they fly the Millennium Falcon on a top-secret mission for the Rebellion. Hidden in the story are also hints and clues about the upcoming film, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, making this a must-read for fans old and new!

## Book Information

File Size: 6941 KB

Print Length: 192 pages

Publisher: Disney Lucasfilm Press (September 4, 2015)

Publication Date: September 4, 2015

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00YB2HJYI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #12,797 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #9 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Action & Adventure > Science Fiction #36 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Science Fiction, Fantasy & Scary Stories > Science Fiction #43 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Children's eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Popular Culture

## Customer Reviews

My criterion for judging a Star Wars novel is simple: does it conjure the magic? That tingly feeling that the galaxy is a big place and anything might happen next? Am I transported to a long time ago? Despite the Star Wars brand on all the covers, there aren't very many that do. This one does. It's a short book, easily readable in one sitting, but it delivers. I was favorably reminded of the old Han Solo novels by Brian Daley, of the new show *Rebels*, and most of all of *A New Hope*. Rucka captures the character and voice of Han Solo perfectly: reckless, sarcastic, and immensely likable.

The main Imperial character is very convincingly drawn, too - you get a sense of how the Empire fostered its own downfall by breeding distrust and fear, even in its own ranks. In short, it's a fast, fun book that is faithful to Star Wars. Even though it's being released as a (tenuous) tie-in to *The Force Awakens*, it stands well on its own, and I think people will be reading and enjoying it for a long time to come. And if you're worried about spoilers for the movie, fear not - whatever *Force Awakens* 'hints' the book contains are sufficiently subtle that I missed them.

This is just fun! It's Han Solo right after Yavin, allowing himself to be convinced to run an emergency mission for the Rebels. The characterization is top-notch and the story does a great job of showcasing the dark side of the Empire without getting too nasty -- perfect for the 5th-9th graders this story is aimed at. This is a fun read for middle schoolers and adult fans alike.

From page one to the very last, I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Greg does an **AMAZING** job in writing Han & Chewie. This really does feel like an extension of the same characters in the movies. While I was reading this, I really felt that these were the exact same characters from the movies that I had grown to love. When a writer is able bridge that connection between movie & book, I think it's a job well done. When I'm able to read a book twice and it still moves me emotionally to get that, "Man I freaking love Star Wars!" feeling, I think the writer has completed his objective. And Greg does just that, flawlessly. I really wish Disney/Lucasfilms would let him write a much longer Star Wars novel, because he's such a damn good writer. My only complaint - It's over too quickly. I want MORE. TL; DR - Do you like Star Wars? Do you like Han Solo & Chewbacca? Good. Then stop reading this and buy this book.

"Smuggler's Run" is the Star Wars equivalent to an hour of really, really good television. It's sharply paced, cleverly written, and full of all the charm and excitement that a Han and Chewbacca adventure could ever need. It starts off running and doesn't slow down until the, albeit slightly abrupt, ending, and while the story isn't anything we haven't seen before -- "Han and Chewie are sent to a backwater planet to extract a Rebel soldier before a ruthless Imperial can get to him" -- author Greg Rucka writes with such an electric style that once I started the book I couldn't put it down. Rucka writes some of the best Han and Chewie moments I've seen from the Star Wars novels in years, and his passion for the universe he's playing is immediately apparent and undeniably infectious. Even with only 180 pages, Rucka tells a story that thrives off of its characters, and somehow manages to not only deliver an outstanding Han and Chewie escapade,

but also introduce us to several new characters who I wouldn't mind seeing more of in the future. If you're looking for a quick, purely enjoyable Star Wars action romp, then "Smuggler's Run" is just the book for you. It doesn't come packed with any substantial hints about The Force Awakens, although the story is bookended by a tantalizing peak at what Han and Chewie are up to in their moderately older age, but rather focuses on delivering a fast-paced story full of intrigue, action, and a fantastic cast of characters. It's Star Wars in its purest, and simplest, form, and is absolutely worth picking up.

I really enjoyed this novel! It's considered a YA novel, which made me dubious at first, but as I read it I realized that what got it labeled YA is what I like about it: fast-paced, action-oriented, easy reading. There's a skill/gift to taking those parameters and keeping the story interesting for an "adult" reader and Greg Rucka did a spectacular job. For many readers, this will be the kind of book that could be finished in an evening or two, but don't think of that as a slight on my part. I like a quality, quick read now and then as a bit of dessert between other fair. As for the story, the novel tells a good story about a secret mission Han and Chewie undertook shortly after the battle of Yavin. Han doesn't really want to go, but Chewie has already committed them to what is supposed to be a quick trip of shuttling a high-value asset. Of course, the problem is that the Empire wants that asset, too!

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