

THE DUEL OF THE FATES

The Fate of the Galaxy hangs in the balance. PALPATINE'S new EMPIRE has the dying REPUBLIC in its iron grip...

The JEDI, deceived and manipulated by the EMPEROR, have been outlawed, branded as traitors and hunted down in the devastating PURGE of ORDER 66...

MASTER YODA has been defeated by Papatine, fleeing for his life into the farthest reaches of the galaxy. The Jedi's greatest hero, ANAKIN SKYWALKER, has fallen...

Tormented by nightmare visions of a future he believes only a Sith Lord can prevent, he has been seduced by the DARK SIDE of the FORCE. Reborn as DARTH VADER...

Holding a heart-broken, dying PADME on the fiery planet of MUSTAFAR, he gives himself over to the lure of the DARK SIDE in a desperate attempt to save her from the death he has foreseen...

At the same time, Jedi Master OBI-WAN KENOBI races through hyper-space in a last-ditch bid to save both Anakin and the Galaxy from succumbing to the darkness forever...

EXT. SPACE/ MUSTAFAR ATMOSPHERE - NIGHT

A vast sea of stars above the fiery red planet MUSTAFAR. A battered, HI-JACKED SHUTTLE drops out of LIGHTSPEED and limps through the orbiting IMPERIAL ARMADA.

INT. IMPERIAL SHUTTLE - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi and Bail look out in awe and dread at the amassing fleet. Colossal STAR DESTROYERS knifing through the void. Fighters roaring past.

BAIL

Talk about into the Krayt's lair...

Jacked into the systems console, ARTOO beeps.

THREEPIO

Artoo says he's successfully jammed the ship's transmission signal.

(MORE)

THREEPIO (CONT'D)

As far as any scanners are concerned, the ship now shows no life forms.

BAIL

If they look any closer there won't be.

(Kenobi is staring at the planet)

You ready, General?

Kenobi stares at the planet a moment longer. He knows what awaits him on that fiery surface.

EXT. IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS/ MUSTAFAR SKIES - NIGHT

The shuttle streaks through the atmosphere into the FIRE and SMOKE of the Mustafar night sky. Towering VOLCANOS of obsidian rock spray molten LAVA into the hellish air.

Wide, burning rivers channel the liquid ore into the IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS: Ugly, squat manufacturing factories which use the lava in the construction of the monstrous Star Destroyers.

Long lanes of wrecked and damaged starships limp towards the burning maw of the largest volcano to be melted down and re-used in the building of new weapons of conquest.

INT. HI-JACKED SHUTTLE/ MUSTAFAR SKIES - NIGHT

Bail pilots the shuttle into the junk lanes. Just another doomed ship en route to a fiery demise.

They cruise past the vast mounted defence platforms, built into the cliff walls. Past the huge quad lasers. Bail watches anxiously. Kenobi's brow is furrowed in concentration. Artoo whistles.

THREEPIO

Artoo has located mistress Padme. She's being held in the medical facility.

BAIL

(in disgust)

Held...

Kenobi bows his head.

THREEPIO

Oh, I do hope we're not too late.

Artoo emits a sad moan.

INT. MED-BAY/ IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS/ MUSTAFAR - NIGHT

Tears of anguish and defiance streak Padme's face as she is strapped into a MED-BAY bay by cold, faceless MEDICAL DROIDS. Her pleading eyes fix on the imposing, impassive figure watching from the shadows. Once ANAKIN SKYWALKER, now DARTH VADER. Lit only by the red glow of the med-consoles his handsome features betray nothing.

PADME

Anakin, please....

The hawkish IMPERIAL DOCTOR FASS primes a hypo-needle.

VADER

If anything happens to them...

He glances nervously at the Sith Lord.

FASS

Y-yes, Lord Vader.

Padme struggles against the binders.

PADME

Why are you doing this?

(Vader looks at her)

Why?!

Vader looks down at his wife and the unborn child she carries. Tears roll down her cheeks...

PADME (CONT'D)

Why...

Fass grips her wrist. Activates the hypo-needle. As the sedatives course through her veins she fades into unconsciousness.

PADME (CONT'D)

...why...

And the last thing she sees before she blacks out is the silhouette of a man she no longer knows, blotting out the light. Vader gazes at her a moment longer. Then fixes Fass with a glare. Fass shifts uncomfortably-- And Vader is gone, sweeping out of the cell like a chill wind. Fass's relief is palpable.

EXT. JUNK LANES/ MUSTAFAR SKIES - NIGHT

The Shuttle skims low over the shipyards with the rest of the JUNKERS.

INT. HI-JACKED SHUTTLE/ MUSTAFAR SKIES - CONTINUOUS

Threepio has taken control, while Bail heads to the rear of the Shuttle. Kenobi opens a cargo hatch on the underside of the ship. Heat blasts in, the searing air buffeting the Jedi.

KENOBI

I'll buy you as much time as I can. Get Padme and get to the rendez-vous.

The black earth rushes past below.

BAIL

And what about y--

KENOBI

Whatever you do, don't wait for me.

BAIL

But--

KENOBI

My destiny lies here.

The two men share a look.

BAIL

Then may the Force be with you.

Kenobi nods.

INT. VADER'S MEDITATION CHAMBER - MONTAGE

Vader sits in concentration. Palpatine's teachings echo in his thoughts...

PALPATINE (O.S.)

Only through the Dark Side, can you save her...

OVER WHICH: PADME lies sedated in the med-bay...

PALPATINE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Unleash your fear...

OVER WHICH: Kenobi readies himself. Closes his eyes...

Vader allows the DARK SIDE to flow through him.

PALPATINE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Feel the power of the Dark Side...

Vader SENSES Kenobi's presence.

VADER

Obi-wan...

OVER WHICH: Kenobi stands at the open hatch...

KENOBI

Anakin...

Vader ignores the plea.

VADER

*Turn back...*

Kenobi opens his eyes. Looks down at the facility rushing past beneath him-- JUMPS from the Shuttle.

Vader's eyes open. They burn yellow with SITH HATRED.

EXT. ROOF/ IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi watches the shuttle race away.

INT. IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS - CONTINUOUS

Vader stalks down a corridor. A squad of CLONE TROOPERS falls in behind him.

VADER

(to the CAPTAIN)

Take your men to the medical bay. Leave Kenobi to me.

EXT. BOILER ROOM/ IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS - NIGHT

CLONE TROOPERS hustle past. Kenobi emerges from the shadows. Kenobi strides through the corridor of the BOILER ROOM. Lava ore is channelled into the molding furnaces, casting an orange glow over the grimy, industrial hardware that encases the facility. Kenobi's eyes harden as he sees Vader standing. Waiting. MASTER and APPRENTICE face off.

VADER

You will not take them from me.

KENOBI

I've come for you.

Vader ignites his saber. The hum echoes through the chamber. Kenobi refuses to draw his blade.

VADER

I have foreseen your treachery...*My friend...*

KENOBI

*My treachery?! Anakin, don't do this.*  
It's not too late...

VADER

*I have seen...*You would turn them against me. Destroy me.

KENOBI

No--

VADER

Defend yourself.

KENOBI

(shaking his head)  
Your fear has blinded you--

Vader ATTACKS. Kenobi dodges.

VADER

The Dark Side has opened my eyes.

KENOBI

It's twisted you. Consumed you.

Vader slashes-- Kenobi flips clear.

VADER

Made me stronger. More powerful.

Kenobi's saber remains at his side.

KENOBI

At what cost?! Look at you! What you've become!

(they circle each other)

Anakin, let go of your fear. Your anger.  
Your hate. *Let go...Stop this madness!!*

Vader launches a series of strikes. Vicious. Powerful. Aggressive. Kenobi twists. Side-steps. Ducks-- Vader kicks him full in the chest. The Jedi flies backwards, crashing down the iron steps. Vader advances...

EXT. JUNK LANES/ MUSTAFAR SKIES - SAME TIME

The Shuttle approaches the maw of the Volcano. Bail pilots the shuttle past the DEFENCE PLATFORMS.

Ahead the damaged ships vanish into the searing heat of the Volcano, breaking up in the inferno. The Shuttle begins to shake then DEVIATES at the last onto a rocky service platform.

INT. SHUTTLE - CONTINUOUS

Bail checks his blaster.

BAIL

(to Threepio)

You'll have to divert all main power to the hull but that should give us just enough time to get starside before the shields give out.

THREEPIO

But, Sir, what if the shields don't hold? I'll be melted down.

Bail and Artoo are already on their way out.

BAIL

If you're not here when we get back, melt down'll be the least of your worries.

He watches them head under a SHIELDED walkway.

THREEPIO

I see...

EXT. IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS - SAME TIME

The vast skeletons of STAR DESTROYERS cover the ship yards, automated machines welding the newly forged armour plates onto the hulls of the great craft. The fires of Mustafar rage all round them. Vader stalks down the iron steps towards a prone Kenobi.

VADER

You think I would allow you to take them from me?

(Kenobi picks himself up)

Weak-minded fool.

KENOBI

Anakin--

VADER

Always so content to serve the will of the force. So afraid of the power within. Well, I am no longer afraid. I do not fear the Dark Side. I embrace it.

Kenobi stands tall. Vader's coming right at him.

KENOBI

*Anakin--*

Vader lunges at his old master, saber humming past as Kenobi rolls aside.

VADER

*No longer. With the Dark Side as my ally  
I will bend the Force to my will. End  
this destruction. Bring order to the  
galaxy.*

Kenobi keeps his distance. Stalling.

KENOBI

And the Emperor?

VADER

He will be no match for me.

KENOBI

You underestimate him--

VADER

Even Death will bow to *me*...  
(Kenobi looks at him in  
HORROR)  
*I will save Padme...Save my son...*

Smoke and embers swirl around them. Kenobi stands his ground.

KENOBI

And who will save them from you?  
*Let go...*

Looks his old friend in the eye. Knows he is LOST.

VADER

You cannot win.

Kenobi finally unhooks his saber. IGNITES it. Hum cutting through the raging maelstrom around them. The blue blades so often turned against their enemies, turned against each other. Kenobi's eyes are filled with sadness.

KENOBI

*I know...*

INT. SERVICE CORRIDORS/ IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS - SAME TIME

Bail and Artoo hurry along the service corridors. Bail stops the little Droid as Clone Troopers march past. Bail sighs. *That was close.* Artoo whistles in agreement.

EXT. SHIP YARDS - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi centres himself. Controls his fear. Calm-- As Vader SWINGS. Kenobi blocks. Parries.

KENOBI

I've failed you. I have failed you.

Vader attacks. Savage, forceful blows. Kenobi meets each strike.

KENOBI (CONT'D)

Forgive me.

Vader launches a series of strikes, driving Kenobi back. Kenobi dodges, ducks and blocks.

Vader gestures, a wake ploughing through the lava until it fountains up into the air, rushing down on the Jedi-- Kenobi throws up his hand, the Force deflecting the molten metal around him.

Kenobi barely has time to duck as Vader's saber arcs through the air at him, slicing open a blast door. Vader Force pushes Kenobi through the metal door.

INT. GUARD POST - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi lands hard in on the floor of a GUARD POST. Startled CLONE TROOPERS reach for their BLASTERS. Open fire. Kenobi's saber flashes. Two troopers drop, struck with their own bolts. Kenobi scrambles to his feet. Vader storms through the breach.

Lasers fly at Kenobi. The Jedi moves fast, retreating through the post, saber deflecting the blasts. One strikes Vader. His DROID ARM smokes from the impact. Vader's eyes blaze with fury.

The Trooper glances at the Sith-- Vader raises his fist. Crushes. The Trooper's helmet DENTS. CRUMPLES. Kenobi looks at his old friend in horror. Vader lifts the Trooper into the air with the Force. Hurls the dead Trooper at Kenobi.

Kenobi is struck on the shoulder, thumping backwards against a wall. He scrambles to his feet.

Vader's still coming. The last two remaining troopers scream as they too are lifted into the air and hurled at the Jedi. Kenobi doges one but the second catches him full in the chest. Kenobi crashes through window--

EXT. VOLCANO SLOPES/ MUSTAFAR - CONTINUOUS

Thuds into the black rubble of the Volcanic slopes. Skids painfully. Rakes to a stop several metres short of a ragged, steam spewing chasm. Kenobi gasps, winded. No time for rest--

Vader uses the Force to hurl him backwards-- Kenobi Force pushes back. The air around them shaking as the FORCE COLLIDES against the DARK SIDE. Both men strain with exertion. The earth around them tearing up. Neither willing to give.

Vader is too powerful. Kenobi's saber is torn from his grasp, skittering into the chasm. Kenobi pushes with BOTH hands but he is wounded. WEAKENING. Sliding back. Closer and closer to the CHASM EDGE...

The ABYSS yawns wide behind him. Steam and flame belching up-- With a final PUSH, Vader sends Kenobi flying over the edge. Vader stands at the rim. Looks into the DARKNESS below. Drops into the shadows.

BAIL

Jack in.

(Artoo does)

Time to give them something else to worry about.

Artoo beeps and sets to work. DISPLAYS show security systems shutting off. Artoo chirps.

BAIL (CONT'D)

Shut them all down.

(Artoo whistles)

All of them except the landing platform.

With a final beep Artoo powers down the Shields that protect the facility from the hellish environment.

INT. EXT./ IMPERIAL SHIP YARDS - CONTINUOUS

Various shots show Clone Troopers reacting to the blare of SIRENS as the Shields fail and lava starts to rain down on the facility.

EXT. VOLCANO OUTCROPPING - SAME TIME

The shuttle shimmers in the heat haze. Even shielded, no ship could last long here.

INT. SHUTTLE - SAME TIME

Threepio watches with concern as the overheat alarms start to sound.

THREEPIO

Oh dear...

INT. OUTCROPPING/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi hangs from an outcropping, the jagged rocks cutting into his fingers. Beneath his dangling feet the molten rivers rage. Summoning what strength he has left he hauls himself up and over, back onto the outcropping.

INT. CAVE SYSTEM/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Vader hunts through the fiery caverns. His Lightsaber casts nightmare shadows through the mist and twisted rock formations. Water drips from the cavern roof, hissing and sizzling as it hits Vader's saber.

INT. CAVE/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi drags himself into the shadows of the caves. Breathing hard. Drenched in sweat. Numb from the PAIN. He closes his eyes. Rests his head against the warm earth.

INT. CAVERNS/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Vader leads with his saber, hunting through the Mist.

INT. CAVE/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi lies prone. Motionless. Pale BLUE LIGHT glimmers in the cavern. Glows brighter.

INT. CAVERNS/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

SENSING a TREMOR in the Force, Vader turns...

INT. CAVE/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Kenobi's body is bathed in BLUE LIGHT.

QUI-GON (O.S.)  
 Obi-Wan...  
 (Kenobi's eyes flicker)  
 Obi-Wan...

Kenobi opens his eyes to see the shimmering SPIRIT of QUI-GON JINN.

KENOBI  
 (weak, barely a whisper)  
 Qui-Gon?

QUI-GON  
 You must fight.

KENOBI  
 I...I can't...

QUI-GON  
 You are all that stands against the Sith.  
 You must not fail. Anakin's children are  
 our last hope.

KENOBI  
 H-how--

QUI-GON  
 Love is the answer to the darkness...

INT. CAVERNS/ CHASM - SAME TIME

Vader SENSES the DISTURBANCE. Stalks through the shadows.

INT. CAVE/ CHASM - SAME TIME

KENOBI  
 He...he's too powerful...

QUI-GON  
 Trust the Force. Trust in yourself.

KENOBI  
 I--

Looking up at his former master's spirit his eyes catch a glint of light. In the gloom at Qui-Gon's feet: the battered hilt of a LIGHTSABER.

QUI-GON  
 You are a Jedi...The Force is with you.

Defiance burns once again in Kenobi's eyes. As he pushes himself to his knees he reaches out.

Qui-Gon's spirit begins to FADE but the BLUE GLOWS BRIGHTER. The buzzaw hum of a Lightsaber cuts through the cavern-- Vader looms out of the darkness.

Kenobi's hand shoots out, summoning his saber. Vader swings-- Kenobi catches-- IGNITES-- BLOCKS. Their blades locked together. Face to face. The hum and crackle of the sabers electric.

INT. MED-BAY CORRIDORS - SAME TIME

Clone Troopers rush to shore up breaches in the facility. In the confusion Bail and Artoo sneak their way into the medical facility. The way forward is blocked by a BLAST DOOR. Artoo is already jacking in. Bail glances nervously over his shoulder.

BAIL

This is too easy.

(Artoo beeps)

I don't like too eas--

As the blast doors open a hail of laser fire erupts around them. Bail dives for cover. The little droid squeals and scoots to his side. Bail returns fire at the Clones. Ducks as lasers burst over his head.

BAIL (CONT'D)

Get back out there!

(Artoo snorts)

Just do something! Anything!

Artoo wheels back out into the barrage. Jacks back in. Lasers explode around him. Bail drops one of the Clones. A second. Artoo lets out a chirp and at the far end of the Corridor the SPRINKLER SYSTEM activates, dousing the Clones with water. A bolt hits near Artoo and he rolls back towards Bail.

BAIL (CONT'D)

*That's it?!*

Artoo trundles past Bail-- PAST COVER-- into the hail of fire. A Laser glances off his dome, scoring the little astromech. Artoo extends an arm and ELECTRIFIES the pooling water. The Clones thrash and jerk then drop DEAD. Artoo turns to Bail. Beeps.

INT. MED-BAY/ CONTINUOUS

The Doors open. Bail firing, hitting the two Clone Troopers. Scrapping the Medical droids that hover over Padme. Fass backs away. Hand reaching for a hidden blaster.

FASS

Please! I'm unarmed...

His hand closes around his blaster-- Bail knocks him out cold. Bail checks Padme's pulse. She stirs. Moans.

BAIL

It's OK, Padme...we're here...It's going to be alright...

Bail looks at her, concern etched on his face.

PADME

(delirious)

Anakin...

INT. CAVE/ CHASM - CONTINUOUS

CRACKS SPLINTER through the cavern roof. Vader uses the force to tear great CHUNKS of ROCK-- HURLS them at Kenobi. The Jedi Force pushes the rocks away. Vader strikes...

Jedi DUELS Sith amidst a storm of flying rocks. Kenobi takes a kick to the ribs-- Just rolls under a death blow. Glances up. Leaps UP and OUT through the cavern roof as a huge MOLTEN SLAB crashes behind him.

EXT. CONCOURSE/ LAVA SMELTING FLOW - CONTINUOUS

A shielded concourse overlooks the lava channels to the smelting furnaces. Kenobi lands hard. Glances back-- Vader soars high, bursting from the chasm. Saber raised high, slashing down. Kenobi flips clear. Takes a defensive stance. Vader strides towards him. Relentless.

Jedi and Sith hurl themselves at each other. Sabers clashing as the fires of Mustafar erupt around them. The battle spills onto the Collection Panels. A huge spray of lava covers the UNSHIELDED support struts. The Frame begins to MELT.

EXT. VOLCANO LANDING PAD - CONTINUOUS

Artoo rolls ahead as Bail struggles onto the landing pad with Padme.

PADME

(weak)

We've got to go back...We can't leave him...

BAIL  
He doesn't want us to--

PADME  
Anakin...

BAIL  
Padme, the man you loved...he no longer exists.

PADME  
There is still good in him.  
(off Bail's look)  
I know there is--

BAIL  
I'm sorry Padme, all that matters--

PADME  
(weak)  
No...

BAIL  
-- All that matters is getting you out of here--  
(they stop dead. NO SHIP)  
THREEPIO!!

Artoo lets out a stream of angry beeps and hoots--

PADME  
(weak)  
Bail...

Bail whirls to follow her gaze as Clone Troopers sweep out onto the platform behind them. Bail drags Padme behind cover as the Clones open fire.

EXT. COLLECTION PANELS/ LAVA SMELTING FLOW - CONTINUOUS

Lava rains down on Kenobi and Vader. Still they FIGHT. The Lava eats through the support structure. Still they FIGHT. With a rending groan, the COLLECTION CLUSTER breaks away from the concourse and falls into the LAVA.

Kenobi and Vader grab for loose wires. Anything to cling to as the cluster impacts into the molten river. Both men are swung against the side of the cluster. Neither lets go.

They fight their way up to the highest point of the tower, the rest beginning to melt away as it rides the searing molten current. Obi-Wan reaches the top. TRAPPED.

EXT. VOLCANO LANDING PAD - CONTINUOUS

Bail and a weakening Padme are hunkered down behind cover as Clones unleash a withering fusillade. The Clones swarm forward-- the roar of SUBLIGHT ENGINES stops them in their tracks. The Shuttle swoops down, QUAD LASERS knocking the Clones back.

INT. SHUTTLE COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Threepio sits fussing at the controls.

THREEPIO

Oh, this is going to be the end of me.

EXT. VOLCANO LANDING PAD - CONTINUOUS

The Shuttle hovers over the platform, ramp lowering. Bail doesn't waste a second, carrying Padme onto the ramp and into the ship, Artoo hot on his heels.

BAIL

*Go! Go! Go!*

INT. SHUTTLE - CONTINUOUS

Artoo joins Threepio in the cockpit, beeping excitedly as Threepio lifts the Shuttle up.

THREEPIO

It is not exciting. It's terrifying.

INT. MED-BAY/ SHUTTLE - CONTINUOUS

Bail straps Padme into the med-bay.

PADME

(delirious)

Anakin...

BAIL

I'm sorry, Padme.

EXT. COLLECTION CLUSTER/ LAVA FLOW - CONTINUOUS

The Tower is slowly sinking under the lava. Still Vader comes. Still they FIGHT. A deafening roar cause both men to look up. Ahead, the lava river drops off in a tremendous LAVA FALL.

Vader launches himself at Kenobi. Kenobi topples backwards, barely grabbing onto a wire and swinging himself round.

He kicks Vader, knocking him flat onto one of the support struts. Metal snaps and groans as the Cluster begins to tip over the edge.

Kenobi spots a narrow service pipe over head. Plants his foot to jump for it-- Vader grabs him. The Cluster shudders as the lowest part is dragged over the edge. Kenobi kicks down in Vader's face. Vader lets go. Kenobi leaps. Just grabs onto the service pipe. Still dangling, he looks down to see the Cluster swept over the edge.

He breathes a heavy sigh of relief-- Vader bursts from the flames, shooting up into the heat-blurred air and lands on the service pipe. Kenobi hauls himself up onto the pipe. He's still 50 feet from the far side. Kenobi sucks in the hot air.

VADER

I never wanted it to come to this.

KENOBI

Spare me the self-delusion. You made a pact with everything we swore to destroy.

VADER

We must all make sacrifices--

KENOBI

Betrayal? Murder?

VADER

*You dare talk to me of such things?! You, who would turn her against me!*

KENOBI

You have done that yourself--

VADER

*NO!!*

Kenobi is driven back by the fury of Vader's assault. The blue blades a-blur as the Dark Side courses through Vader's body, filling him with malevolent power. Vader unleashes his dark wrath upon the Jedi.

The fight is furious. A blaze of light and fury. A duel of the fates as the greatest heroes the galaxy has ever known seek to destroy each other. Light against darkness. Good against evil.

Vader's face a mask of evil. The Dark Side flowing through him. Vader hammers blow after blow. Kenobi's strength is weakening. His blade moving too slow.

Vader feints-- stabs, impossibly fast-- His saber stabs clean through Kenobi's shoulder.

Kenobi howls in pain. He swings at Vader-- the Dark Lord catches his hand in his mechanical grip. CRUSHES. Kenobi's saber drops from his shattered hand. With a gesture, Vader hurls it into the Lava below. Kenobi drops to his knees. Vader towers over him.

VADER (CONT'D)

Now do you understand?

Kenobi grits his teeth against the pain. Looks up in defiance at his old friend.

KENOBI

Oh, I understand. Do you?

Vader holds his saber at Kenobi's throat.

KENOBI (CONT'D)

The darkness you fear...you can't escape it...you can't defeat it...It's within you, *Vader*...

(Vader glares down at him)

You truly are lost--

Kenobi chokes as his windpipe constricts. Vader slowly begins to Force crush his throat. Stares down at Kenobi as he Force lifts the wounded Jedi off his knees. Into the air. Kenobi clutches at his throat, gasping for air.

VADER

I'm afraid it's you who is lost.

Kenobi's vision fogging. The steam swirling around him. Swirling into hallucinatory shadows. Sith Warriors mocking Kenobi. Mocking his failure. Here to witness his death. Vader tightens his grip.

Kenobi is dying. The mist swirls into a ROBED FIGURE. A Jedi. And for the briefest of moments: QUI-GONN. And then the mist clears, revealing nothing but an ANTENNA ARRAY and the obsidian cliff it's bolted into. Vader crushes. Kenobi closes his eyes.

VADER (CONT'D)

Goodbye, old frien--

The banshee wail of ALARM SIRENS fill the air. Realization flashes across Vader's face. He looks up at the stars to see the Shuttle bursting through the shipping lanes in a hail of laser fire.

VADER (CONT'D)

Padme...

INT. MED-BAY BLOCKADE RUNNER - SAME TIME

A heart-broken Padme lies in the MED-BAY. Tears stream down her face.

PADME

Anakin...

EXT. CLIFFS/ MUSTAFAR - SAME TIME

Vader watches the ship as it streaks into HYPER-SPACE and DISAPPEARS. Hatred flows through him: KENOBI...

A screeching of metal grabs Vader's attention. Turns to see-- The Antenna Array ripped from the cliff and hurtling towards him. He releases Kenobi, who crumples to the service pipe. Vader slashes with his saber, the debris clattering harmlessly past him.

VADER

No...NO!

Turns back to KENOBI-- pushing himself to his feet. Gasping for breath.

VADER (CONT'D)

*And so it is...*

Kenobi feels only sadness.

KENOBI

You left us no choice...

VADER

*Where have you taken them?*

KENOBI

I'm so sorry...

VADER

*WHERE?!*

Vader slashes. Kenobi rolls clear, the blade scarring the pipe.

VADER (CONT'D)

*Where are they?!*

KENOBI

Safe.

VADER

*They'll never be safe!!*

KENOBI

Listen to yourself.

ENRAGED, Vader ATTACKS.

VADER

*I'll tear you apart!!*

Kenobi reeling backwards. Slips. Barely clings on.

VADER (CONT'D)

*I'll tear the Galaxy apart!!!*

Vader swings at Kenobi. Kenobi rolls aside. Vader's Saber slices into a venting pipe-- WEDGES as STEAM blasts into his face. Vader cries out in pain. Stumbles backwards. Kenobi yanks Vader's saber free with the Force-- just blocks the SITH LIGHTNING that Vader unleashes at him.

The Lightning crackles, snaking around the blade, deflecting into the Service pipe. Tearing at the bolts and support struts. The Pipe begins to buckle. Vader's eyes blaze with Sith hatred. Kenobi's brim with tears.

KENOBI

You were my brother.

VADER

*And you mine, traitor.*

Vader advances towards the Jedi. Lightning engulfing them both. Kenobi holds the blade before him. The deadly Lightning bursts around him. The Sith Lord is almost on top on him.

KENOBI

I loved you, Anakin...

VADER

*Prepare to meet your destiny.*

The Dark Side has consumed Vader, pure energy courses through his dark soul. Lightning forks towards Kenobi. Kenobi is calm. At peace. The FORCE flowing through him.

KENOBI

...but I couldn't save you.

The Force giving him the STRENGTH to deflect the Lightning back at Vader.

Vader takes the blast in the chest. HATE fills Vader's soul, the air around him sparking with Dark Side energy as the Sith recovers quickly to launch a final, deadly CHARGE at Kenobi--

The Jedi is faster. His saber swings true. Chops off Vader's arm. Swings again. Cleaves clean through the damaged pipe. The Pipe splits in two. And they FALL.

Kenobi grabs onto a power cable. Vader's mechanical fist CLAWS into the pipe casing.

KENOBI'S HALF of the Pipe clatters into the dam wall, jolting Kenobi. He barely manages to cling on.

VADER'S HALF of the Pipe is much longer, swinging low, far closer to the lava. It smashes into the near side of the Dam wall just above the lava flow. His mechanical arm is all that keeps him from falling into the INFERNO.

Vader comes round in AGONY as the HEAT becomes UNBEARABLE. Kenobi looks across the flow at Vader. Vader writhes in pain as his legs burst into flame. The fire consuming his entire body.

VADER

*KENOBI!!!*

Kenobi has no time for grief or pity. Laser bolts explode around him. CLONE TROOPERS on the Dam wall. Vader's Saber flares to life in his hand, deflecting blasts back at his attackers as he hauls his way up and over the Dam wall.

Lasers burst around him as he risks one final glance to see: Vader ENGULFED in FLAME. Hanging motionless from the dangling pipe as Clones struggle to raise him up. It's the last time the Jedi looks back as he runs from the concourse, leaving ANAKIN SKYWALKER dead behind him.

IRIS OUT