



Inferno

Troy Denning

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Luke Skywalker wanted to unify the Jedi order and bring peace to the universe. Instead his wife Mara lies dead at the hands of an unknown assassin, his wayward nephew Jacen has seized control of the Galactic Alliance, and the galaxy has exploded in all-out civil war.

With Luke consumed by grief, Jacen Solo works quickly to consolidate his power and jumpstart his plan to take over the Jedi. Convinced he's the only one who can save the galaxy, Jacen will do whatever it takes, even ambush his own parents.

With the Rebel confederacy driving deep into the Core to attack Coruscant and the Jedi under siege, Luke must reassert his position. Only he can lead the Jedi through this crisis, but it means solving the toughest problem Luke's ever faced. Does he fight alongside his nephew Jacen, a tyrant who's illegally taken over the GA, or does he join the rebels to smash the Galactic Alliance he helped create?

Inferno Details

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Author : Troy Denning

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From Reader Review Inferno for online ebook

Jaime K says

headdesk

In my mind, this is EXACTLY what Denning had in mind when writing the Dark Nest trilogy.

- Jacen uses Tahiri to Force Flow, retconning the kiss she never gave Anakin
- He manipulates Tenel Ka and, though she recognizes it and requires conditions before helping him, she doesn't see the depth of his manipulations.
- He is easily angered, impatient, suspicious, and forceful. He is Sith, especially as a meld of what Vergere and Lumiya did to him.

The Good:

- Jacen is Sith, and he is good at hiding it.
- Ossus' creatures are described!
- Kaiburr Crystals (especially because they're canonized now)
- Luke's bloody amazing Force powers.
- The Sith on Korriban. It makes sense! Do I like their practical inaction there? No. But I like that they DO exist.
- The "Alliance" being on every side, confusing the war. I think this really adds to how screwed up this subseries is.
- Ben enraged. It WORKS and makes sense, I just don't like it. But I put it in the "good" because it truly shows how warped Ben's mind is. He even understands he's becoming like Jacen.

The Bad/Highly Irritating:

- Jacen is blatantly seen as a sex symbol among Hapan females
- Jaina/Zekk/Jag love triangle (lust dogs, or whatever Alema thinks of the boys as) goes overboard. I'm with Jaina - Zekk said he was over her and Jag said he was frustrated with her. Still, I can understand Jag coming to terms with forgiving her over Zekk retracting his statement just because of male hormones.
- Jacen is total bantha poodoo for wanting to put senior military officers on a GAG watch-list simply because they're strong against his manipulations.
- Ben won't tell Luke about his suspicions about Jacen, even though Luke is out of his slump.
- Tahiri is spying for Jacen yet again....and then she fights Leia.
- Kam is killed
- Alema wondering if the Togorian is shaved everywhere. Kriffing A!
- Ben warning Jacen that Luke was on the *Anakin Solo*. He knows better than that, to hide his emotions.
- The end *sobs*

The Ugly:

- Jacen threatening the Jedi Younglings just because he can.
- Tionne is tortured in front of the children.

Jay DeMoir says

3.5 stars! Started off rather slow, but eventually picked up. The fight between Luke and Jacen was written incredibly! The demise of Tenel Ka and Jacen's relationship was also a pivotal part of this story.

Rachel says

This was a very good story. Nicely paced and kept things moving. The fight between Luke and Jacen was awesome.

Katrin von Martin says

It seems to be a trend in the Star Wars universe that greatly significant books are followed up by not-so-great books (Star by Star being followed by Dark Journey, for example). I was afraid that would be the case with Inferno, but the opposite ended up being true. With its fast paced plot, tight story, and the comeback of one character in particular, Inferno ended up being the best in the series, in my opinion. Spoilers follow.

There is never a dull moment in this book. The novel practically opens with action with Han and Leia, still considered traitors to the Galactic Alliance, being attacked at Mara's funeral. Jacen plans to launch an attack against the Confederation that is greatly dependent on the disgruntled Jedi Order. From there, the fast pace continues with Jacen taking control of the Jedi Academy for "protection" purposes, Alema Rar visiting Korriban, Jacen attacking Kashyyyk, and an epic lightsaber battle between Jacen and Luke and Ben.

While the plot of the book is great and simply doesn't leave space for a boring moment, there was also a lot of character development (possibly moreso than in any previous book). Luke was the most satisfying of these characters. He was finally brought back to his full glory. Until now, he has been playing merely on the sidelines, being present but never really stepping up to the plate to assume the role he should. However, Denning brings him back to his full potential. Yes, Luke is distraught by the death of his wife, but he comes back full force, perhaps brought back to awareness by the death of one loved one (Mara) and the pain of another (Ben). It was great to see Luke back to playing the role of Grand Jedi Master and taking on the bad guys just like he used to. Hell, it was great to see him actually DO something.

Another character that made a good comeback was Jaina. Pretty much since the New Jedi Order began to wrap up, Jaina has been written into obscurity with a few occasional comebacks with this whole "Sword of the Jedi" thing (which I'm still not convinced was a great idea) followed by falling into obscurity, once again. She actually played a rather significant role in Inferno, specifically her actions at the Jedi Academy. Now that she isn't really stuck in this Zekk/Jag love triangle (please, let that stay dead), she's actually enjoyable to read about. I only hope she will continue to play a bigger role than she has been.

Ben continues to be a joy to read about. The authors, so far, are characterizing him nicely and are doing a fine job in keeping his actions and reactions consistent and realistic. I like that he isn't a perfect, can-do-no-evil Jedi kid. Like everyone else, he is susceptible to the Dark Side, he isn't always taken seriously because of his age, and he clearly struggles internally with the events that unfold around him. I found his desire for revenge on Jacen to be very realistic, given the situation, and almost wish he had finished the deed.

The only character problem I saw was with Jacen. He just seemed to have changed greatly from the last book to this one. In Inferno, he came off as being a great deal more...evil. He threatens children, destroys planets, and tortures family members. While he has been steadily traveling farther down the path to evil, I felt that this jump was a bit extreme, considering that up until this point, he hasn't been quite so open or blunt with

his actions.

Honestly, I think the series could have ended here and I would have been more or less satisfied. Unfortunately, Luke stops Ben from making the final blow with the old "this isn't the right time" line in order to save Ben from the Dark Side. That was almost a bit disappointing. After everything Ben has been through, I think it would have been justified for him to deliver the killing blow now.

Inferno is definitely worth the read, as it is probably the best book in the series so far. I can only hope that the next three books maintain the standard that this novel set.

This review is also posted on Amazon.com.

Darrin says

Thoroughly enjoyed.

Jerry says

Even though I already know the ending, it's interesting to see what leads up to it. The interview with the three authors was good, too.

J.J. says

A family tragedy of galactic proportions.

Wade says

Man, Troy Denning. I view his contributions to the Legacy of the Force series as the price of getting through the story. The key to Legacy's success, I think, is the believable portrayal of a man's descent into evil for the best of reasons, and the acceptance of his descent by people around him. Denning just can't manage it: Jacen comes across as a petulant, stupid child, and it's no longer clear why his supporters are so loyal to him.

Also, Denning is prone to using science fiction words where ordinary words would work better. (This is pretty common in Star Wars books.) The first line of Inferno contains a word in an alien language that is never defined, and its meaning isn't clear from the context. (It's a flashback to another series, which I guess he expects me to have read.) Then there's a description of a place that sounds like it should be visually breathtaking, except that he insists on telling me that the ground is carpeted in "sturdimoss" and walled around by mirrored "transparisteel". Seriously, how does this enhance my experience of the moment? "Moss" and "steel" work great, unless the fact that the mirrored steel is transparent(?) will be used to good effect somewhere in the scene.

But the plot chugs along, and I still want to see where all of this is going.

andrew looker says

Personal Response

I think this book was very good and maybe the best of the series. I also think this book had a lot of unexpected twists and turns which is very good in these types of books. I do have a few questions though: How did Luke or Jacen not die from there injuries? Also why was only Ben able to sense Luke's force presence he shouldn't have been able to conceal it like Jacen could?

Plot

First we find out that Mara Skywalker has been killed ,and then Jacen becomes a Sith Lord and sends GAG troopers to the Jedi Temple where they are not allowed to arrest Han and Leia Solo. Then the Confederation of Independent systems attacks Balmorra and Kuat which are the major shipbuilding yards for the Galactic Alliance. Then while the battle ensues the Galactic Alliance loses Balmorra but Jacen takes the Fifth Fleet and orbitally bombards Kashykk setting the huge forests on fire. Then Luke and Jaina go to destroy the Galactic Alliance Flagship The "Anakin Solo". While this happens Jaina finds Jacen and tries to kill him because he has turned evil. In doing so she accidentally kills Luke or so she thinks. Meanwhile Jacen tortures Ben because he wants to make him stronger for being a Sith Apprentice. After that Luke hides his force presence and attacks Jacen and Luke wins but doesn't kill Jacen. Next the Confederacy comes to Kashyyk's aid and the Hapan Home Fleet arrives ,but has changed sides and is now with the Confederacy. However a Sith manages to influence the Bothan Fleet to stop firing and the Fifth Fleet is saved along with Jacen.

Recommendation

I would recommend this to High School boys who are into action, tense, and unexpected moments but I would not recommend this to girls because they are not into death and suffering usually.

Joseph says

Well Luke finally man's up and is not such a wimp in the previous books. He really seemed lame prior this that really made the series not great.

The Jedi confront Jacen and finally say enough is enough to him. Some how Jacen continues to rise to power. I am sure how he stays in power though. Allies are leaving him and he seems to be losing a lot of battles.

The writing is a little weak and tries to be a little to technical for my taste.

I don't want to spoil it, but the ending is pretty good.

Emjen Enla says

Star Wars: Legacy of the Force: Inferno by Troy Denning

"No one else can do this. No one else is willing to make the necessary sacrifices."--Chapter 13

Stars: 4.75

Rating: PG-13

in Series: 6

Genre: Sci-fi (Star Wars)

Things you might want to know about before you read: violence, cruelty, assassinations, twisted reasoning, guilty consciences, covering up murder, mass murder, torture

POV: 3rd person, past tense

Viewpoint Characters: Jacen Solo, Ben Skywalker, Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, Alema Rar, Saba Sebatyne, Leia Organa Solo, Jaina Solo,

Shelves This Book Made:

Cool Covers: you all know what this is

Cool Titles: you all know what this is too

Legacy of the Force Series: the series of books by Aaron Allston, Karen Traviss and Troy Denning

Legends-Canon Star Wars: books published in the old Star Wars canon

Star Wars: all Star Wars books

Some scenes I liked:

-Chapter 8, especially pages 102 to 109 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 11 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 13 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 17 pages 230-232 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 18 pages 237-243 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 18 pages 244-246 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 19 pages 247-256 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 19 pages 256-264 (view spoiler)

-Chapter 20 (view spoiler)

Some Quick Thoughts: WARNING: contains spoilers and written with the assumption that anyone reading it has already read the first 5 books.

-This book was easier to get into than Tempest but I can't help feeling like it was too short. I would have liked to see the Jedi work with Jacen a little more before disowning him and I would also have liked it if Ben had kept up his subterfuge a little longer.

-Jacen is officially crazier than Anakin Skywalker ever was...

-I thought it was cool how in Jacen's POV Troy Denning switches between calling him Jacen and Caedus. It grants the impression that Jacen isn't quite sure what to call himself. By the end of the book he's going by Caedus pretty much all the time. However, there is one paragraph in chapter 20 where he's Jacen. At first that confused me, then I realized that in this paragraph he's weak. The Caedus side of his personality views all his human weaknesses as Jacen's so when he's weak he goes back to thinking of himself as Jacen.

-For the record, I'm going to keep calling him Jacen for the sake of clarity.

-Am I the only one who thought Han and Leia's decision that "Jacen is dead" seemed a little premature? I know that people have disowned their children for a way less than burning a planet but it still seemed like it just happened with nothing leading into it.

-Where did Admiral Atoko come from?

- Sorry, Tahiri, I'm pretty sure Anakin wouldn't be on Jacen's side...
- SD-XX is hilarious!
- I really enjoyed watching Alema and Ship work together. They're such a strange partnership.

Lane says

Ok, first off, the beginning of this book was admittedly a bit slow and suffers a bit from that pacing... however the middle and ending were wonderful. Thankfully, coming fresh off of *Sacrifice* (Book #5), this lull doesn't feel like as big of an issue.

Hard to go into why this book was great without gushing out spoilers. That said, the climax was fantastic. The interactions involving Ben are excellent. It's nice to see Jaina starting to have a bit more of a role (albeit still a background character for some reason...), and Han and Leia are still in their supporting role with occasional front-lining... which is alright.

Anyways, was wondering why the book was called *Inferno*, but that question became definitively answered by the end :)

Pagan says

Rating: 6.5/10

Very Slow First Half But Ends Strongly

Warning: This review may contain spoilers.

Inferno started very slowly but it did end strongly as Jacen Solo finally made his descent into the darkside as a Sith. The *Legacy of the Force* series for me is very up and down, very frustrating, taking one step forward and two steps back, and *Inferno* was a fine example of this. Whilst towards the second half of the novel it really picked up speed, the novel and characters went backwards during the first part and its frustrating to see because all the main characters except for Ben Skywalker, shown absolutely no character growth or development through the story and plots. At the end of this novel, everyone (and surprisingly most of all Luke) still haven't figured out that Jacen has killed Mara which is blatenley obvious.

On the bright side, we finally see Jacen do something sithlike, as he issues an attack on the Wookie's forests and places Ben in the Embrace of Pain in an effort to seduce him into turning to the darkside and becoming his apprentice once more. The plot finally seems to be coming to head against Jacen, setting up for an interesting last couple of books.

Darryl Dobbs says

A good read and a rather quick one as Denning does a great job of keeping you hooked. It's a little frustrating that Cha Niathal and other keep members of the GA continue to follow Jacen Solo when he's clearly gone off the deep end - and nod stupidly when he outlines ridiculous logic.

But the battle scenes were excellent and I do admit that I didn't like putting the book down. And that's often

enough to make a good book.

Derrick Contreras says

Oh my god. This book was so good. I've never cried during a Star Wars book but damn. The final interchange between Jacen and Tenel Ka just made me tear up. This was one of the best Star Wars books I've read. And I've read like 75.
