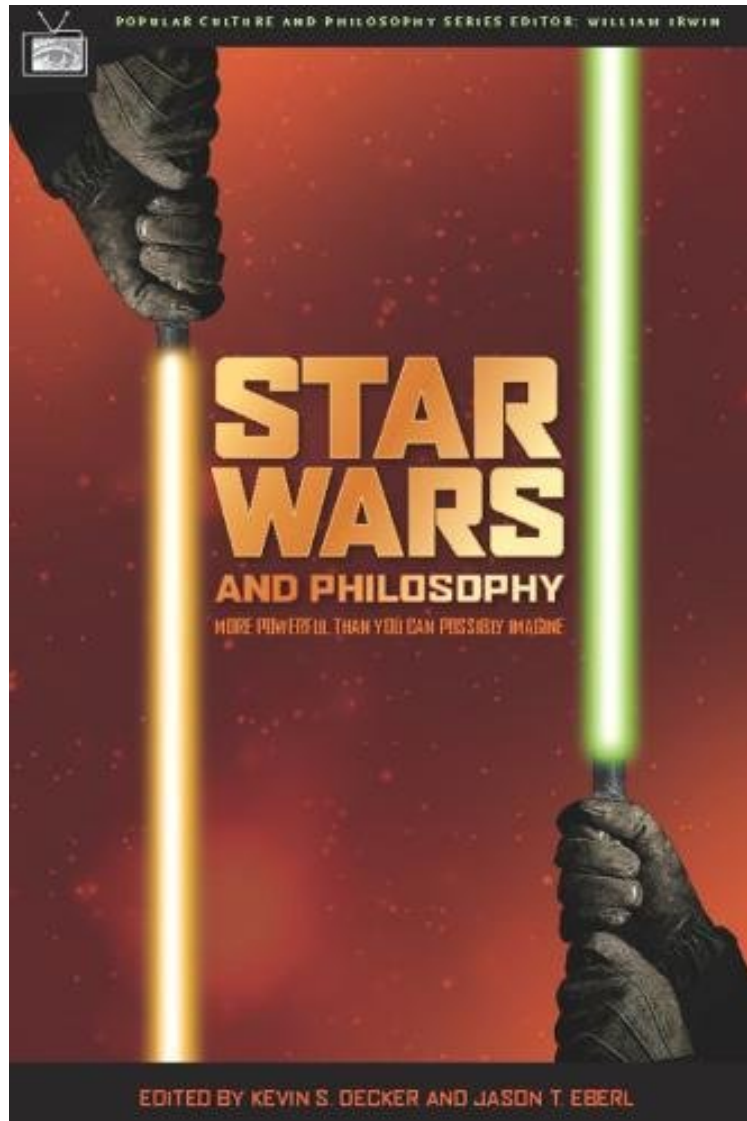


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## Star Wars and Philosophy: More Powerful than You Can Possibly Imagine (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

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**From Brand: Open Court : Star Wars and Philosophy: More Powerful than You Can Possibly Imagine (Popular Culture and Philosophy)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Star Wars and Philosophy: More Powerful than You Can Possibly Imagine (Popular Culture and Philosophy):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. If you are a Star Wars fan you may want to check out this interesting book dealing with philosophical issues of Star Wars. By Joseph J. Truncale I am a voracious reader and a science fiction fan with also an interest in philosophy. I have also been an avid fan of Star Wars since the movie first came out way back in the 1970s. I purchased this book (Star Wars and Philosophy edited by Kevin S. Decker and Jason T. Eberl) for a bargain price on and I have just finished reading it. It is essential to be familiar with the Star Wars genre in order to get the most out of this fantastic 224 page hardcover book. This book is organized into four parts with 17 different essays by numerous authors. The first part May the force be with you: Have four essays on the philosophical messages of Star Wars. I found these essays very interesting and enlightening on some of the philosophical basis for the principles and characters of Star Wars. Since I am into the many Far East philosophies like Taoism and Zen, I found chapter three very intriguing. Part two Try not-Do or Do not: Have four essays on the ethics of Star Wars. Some of the ethical conflicts are explored in these essays. Part three Dont call me a mindless philosopher: There are four essays on alien technologies and the metaphysics of the force in this section. The final part Theres always a bigger fish: Truth, faith and a galactic society is explored in this section. There are five essays in this section which I found entertaining and thought provoking. In conclusion, if you are really into Star Wars and the philosophical foundation of this popular media you need to check out this book. It is both interesting and thought provoking. Rating: 5 Stars.

Joseph J. Truncale (Author: Pro-Systems Combatives Vol. 1,2) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. philosopher great this will make you By James Roper The "force", The "darkside", right and wrong, justice, revenge, anger, sadness, ...etc. The book covers what the movies do but also life in general. We all have these issues and feelings and much has been written about the human condition. The Star Wars movies have made the drama of people more fun to watch and we all can understand how little steps in either the right or wrong direction can alter our lives and future outcomes. the writings are very good and will stimulate much thought into many areas of thinking. even if not liking the movies, placing them in the context of philosophy was a great idea and well worth the read. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Philosophy and the Force. By Wade Young I'm kind of a weirdo. My wife and I went on a trip for our anniversary to a Bed and Breakfast in Thomasville, GA. We just stayed in the room and read the whole time. I read this book in about 1 day. I have to say that I was more than a little surprised at how good a book it was. I've read other books in the Philosophy and Popular Culture series, but was expecting this one to be kind of lame. Star Wars is my favorite movie series of all time, and I find that it's easy for someone commenting on or writing about the series to provoke my ire. (Dorks hate it when other people get their life's obsession wrong.) I am by no means a great mind. But I do enjoy the notion that Plato put forth that one cannot avoid popular culture, and it is better to teach by popular examples than by those examples that no one will understand. As a result, I say that this series is a good one if you want to get acquainted with philosophy in a "friendlier" setting than a classroom, though the average reader will still have to think more deeply than they usually do. Which is why this is a good book. It's an introduction to critical thinking about philosophy. It causes you to question the nature of good and evil. (ie. The notion of Lying Jedi and Truthful Sith). And again, all of it is heavier thinking than the average movie watching TV viewer is used to doing, but it's worth it. It can open your eyes to philosophical notions that you hadn't really fathomed before. (ie... There is a wonderful article on Stoicism as represented by Yoda. I had no idea that stoicism was a philosophical movement, I just thought it described a certain quality. And even that was the vaguest of notions.) There were certain aspects (philosophical not stylistic) of the book that I didn't really care for, understand fully, or agree with. But to be fair, the editor also put a note in the introduction saying that he didn't really agree with everything in it either. It does, after all, cover a wide berth of philosophical issues. No one can possibly agree with all philosophies. So if you are like me, and probably watch too much TV, but occasionally let slip the surly bonds of your couch and reach out to learn something new, this is the book for you.

The Star Wars films continue to revolutionize science fiction, creating new standards for cinematographic excellence, and permeating popular culture around the world. The films feature many complex themes ranging from good versus evil and moral development and corruption to religious faith and pragmatism, forgiveness and redemption, and many others. The essays in this volume tackle the philosophical questions from these blockbuster films including: Was Anakin predestined to fall to the Dark Side? Are the Jedi truly role models of moral virtue? Why would the citizens and protectors of a democratic Republic allow it to descend into a tyrannical empire? Is Yoda a peaceful Zen master or a great warrior, or both? Why is there both a light and a dark side of the Force? Star Wars and Philosophy ponders the depths of these subjects and asks what it truly means to be mindful of the "living force."

...holds implications for all with its solid link between popular culture, philosophy, and social insights. -- The Bookwatch, September 2005 Just the thing to read while queuing for tickets, or perhaps as a source of readings for your theme wedding. -- Book News, Inc., May 2005