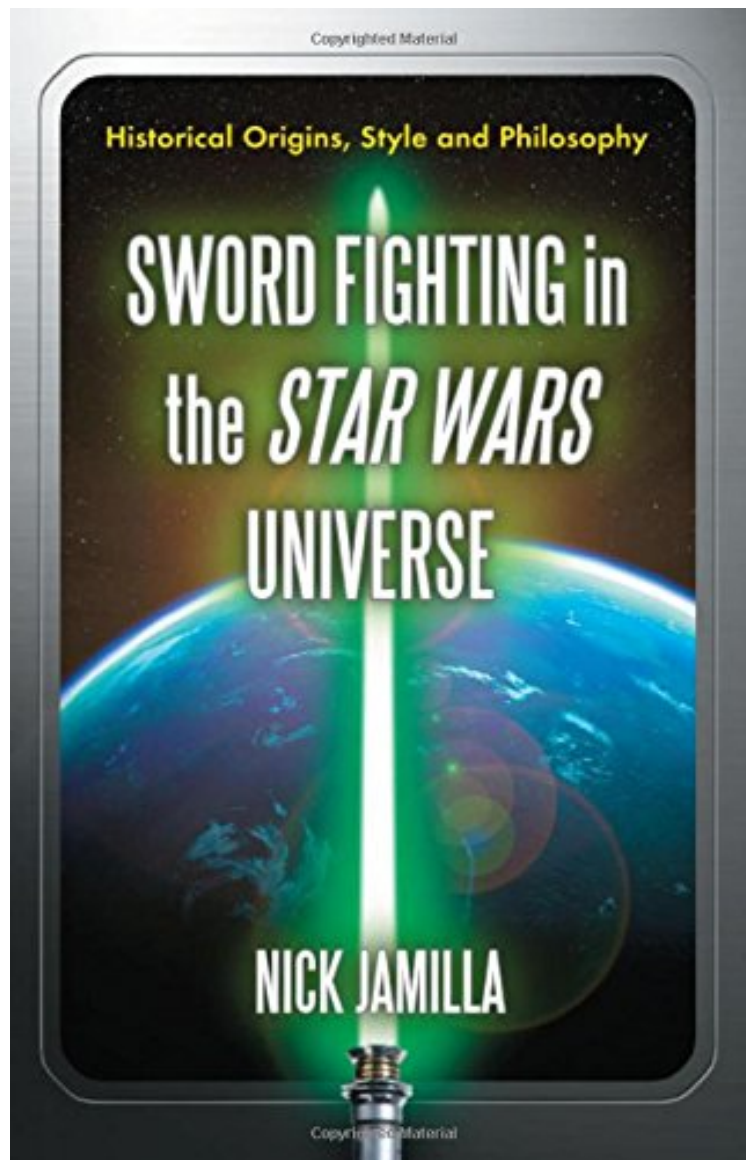


(Free read ebook) Sword Fighting in the Star Wars Universe: Historical Origins, Style and Philosophy

Sword Fighting in the Star Wars Universe: Historical Origins, Style and Philosophy

Nick Jamilla

ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2635477 in Books McFarland 2008-07-16 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.90 x .60 x 5.90l, .85 #File Name: 0786434619287 pages | File size: 61.Mb

Nick Jamilla : Sword Fighting in the Star Wars Universe: Historical Origins, Style and Philosophy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sword Fighting in the Star Wars Universe: Historical Origins, Style and Philosophy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Think like a JediBy L. Christopher BirdSword Fighting in the Star

Wars Universe, written by fencer, kendoka, and aikidoka, Nick Jamilla offers a critique of the martial aspects of the Jedi Knight as portrayed in the six Star Wars films in the context of the fictional world created by George Lucas, and contrasted with real-world corollaries of historical swordsmen. Not only does Jamilla focus on the techniques of the sword, but also on the philosophy of the use of a sword or lightsaber. There is a lot to this book. Jamilla goes into the history of warfare of antiquity and ventures far from the topic of Star Wars. He also goes into critiques of the Star Wars films that venture away from the topic of sword fighting. But this just goes to show the deep interest the author has in both fields; the passages where he is on topic of both Star Wars and Sword Fighting make the book worth every penny of the purchase price. I did notice several errors of facts as they relate to the Star Wars films such as misattributing lines to the wrong character or placing characters or scenes in the wrong Episode, but these are forgivable as it is likely to only be noticed by fans as pedantic as I am, and know the intent of the passage and does not detract from the lessons actually being taught. I can't help but feel a bit of kinship with the author with our similar backgrounds as martial artists. Many of his observations about the practice of martial arts coincide with my own that I have obtained both in my training and my career as an instructor. One that stands out that I have been trying to articulate recently is in Jamilla's words, "The martial artist eventually learns that the best technique is one that is instinctive and in harmony with the mind and body rather than cognitive and therefore slower." This book will not make you a swordsman, it is not instructional in nature, but it will help you get in the mindset of the mythical Jedi Knight.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sword fighting history with a tiny bit of Star Wars commentary. By Six8ten. The title of this book is somewhat misleading, as there is very little analysis of sword fighting in the Star Wars Universe, and what there is doesn't come in until the last 10% or so of the text and is very quick and sketchy while intermixed with a summary of the entire film (and not just the sword fighting). About the first half of the book is devoted to a general summarization of the history of the martial arts, and is very accepting of martial arts dogma, fiction, and fantasy (the type of stuff that many of the non-BS martial artists will scoff at and refer to as "Bullshido"). I almost expected an acceptance of the claims that such-and-such art was taught by Japanese demons in remote mountain areas, but thankfully the views presented on the martial arts were not that chained to their own dogma. This is somewhat forgivable as it is mixed with a lot of rational (if over-simplified for the sake of brevity) theorizing and some well-grounded analysis. Another large section of the book is taken up with tracing the development and changes in styles of warfare and weapons, again largely over-simplified out of necessity. This is followed by a summarization (long for a summary, brief for an in-depth look) at some of the historical antecedents (such as the orders of the Templars and Samurai class) to compare and contrast with the Jedi order. Once the book moves past the author's conjectures of what the role of the Jedi was in the realm of the Star Wars Galaxy, it finally does what the title promises and begins to look at the elements of sword fighting in Star Wars, comparing it to sword fighting techniques and making some very brief judgements of certain actor's stances, grips, etc. I wish these sections had been more in-depth, and less time had been spent on the first 80% of the book, as the actual commentary on sword fighting was very short.

About the Kindle version: There were a few instances of hyphenation left over from the print version format that ended up with words hyphenated in the middle of a line when viewed on the Kindle screen (may be different on a different text size). There are various footnotes throughout each chapter, but it is inconvenient to jump to the appendix and back as there was nothing done to allow this easily. The index at the back also lists page numbers and are not linked directly to the relevant spot in the text. The footnotes and index take up about 15% of what the little progress bar on the kindle considers the full book, which is not really a complaint on my part but more of a warning as I've seen some people complain that they didn't get "a full book" when they reach the end at 85% or so (regardless of the fact that it is the full text of the print version).

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sword Fighting. By Edward T. Hamilton. The book is well written, and interesting from a historical perspective, but it is a bit of a fraud. There is very little about sword fighting in the Star Wars universe. It's mostly a history of the sword, with long passages about the evolution of warfare. I know George Lucas studied myth when he created Star Wars, but I doubt he spent much time researching the history of the sword and the rise of gunpowder weapons when he created the lightsaber.

Unlike most makers of modern or futuristic films, George Lucas turned away from the standard special operatives or secret agents when he created the heroes for his epic Star Wars saga, employing instead time-honored traditions surrounding the sword. Part knight, part monk, the Jedi Knights were an order of swordsmen that helped rule the universe in accordance with law and lofty principles of justice and honor. Without the Jedi, there could be no Star Wars, and without the lightsaber sword, there could be no Jedi. This examination of the Jedi Knights, their adversaries the Sith and their lightsaber swordplay throughout all six episodes of the franchise evaluates the ways in which Lucas blended the speculative world of science fiction with the most ancient and epic tales of traditional samurai and Western swordsmen. It presents swordsmanship as a way of better understanding the Jedi Knights, focusing on the human movement and activity surrounding the weapon and the ways in which traditional Japanese martial arts were adapted for use in the films. Topics of discussion include the powerful effects of the master-apprentice relationship; the technical choreography used in the lightsaber scenes of the Star Wars films; and the historical precedents for the

Jedi order, including the Sohei fighting monks of Japan, the Janissaries and Mamelukes of Islam, and the knights of the Templar, Hospitaller and Teutonic orders.

About the Author An educator and writer, Nick Jamilla has represented the Philippines at the World University Games and the World Fencing Championships. He has taught fencing and martial arts, and created the lightsaber choreography for the independent Star Wars film Revelations.