

STAR WARS Episode I: Mandalor Attacks

by

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Based on Star Wars by George Lucas. This is a work of
transformative fiction... aren't they all?

FADE IN:

INT. UNKNOWN -

It is dark. A man is chanting.

A ball of blue light starts glowing in the middle of the room.

As we swing around it, the man can briefly be seen in silhouette, wearing a large cloak with a hood.

FADE TO BLACK:

CAPTION

A long time ago in a galaxy far,
far away...

TITLE

STAR WARS, Episode I: Mandalor
Attacks

CRAWL

It is a time of unparalleled peace
for The Republic. 4,000 years since
The Old Republic fell to the evil
despot Mendo'Chat, it has been
rebuilt and is accomplishing its
progressive goals.

A reemergence of an old foe thought
destroyed by Mendo'Chat, the
ancient Mandalorians, threatens
what has been built. Attacks have
begun outside of Republic space,
but they grow ever closer.

The Republic is not without allies.
An ancient order known as the Jedi
work in secret to maintain the
balance of powers necessary for
peace. The only outsider to know of
their existence is the voice of The
Republic Senate, Palpatine, and he
is sworn to secrecy.

Recently knighted, Jedi Obi-Wan
Kenobi answers the summons of his
former mentor and head of the Jedi
Governing Council, Yoda, appearing

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CRAWL (cont'd)
before his masters for the first
time as a full-fledged Jedi.

Pan down to a nondescript planet, seemingly devoid of life.

INT. JEDI COUNCIL HALL -

YODA, a small green creature, sits in the center chair of a semi-circle. To his right are knight KI-ADI-MUNDI and Mon Calamari Master HEMFAAD. To his left is MACE WINDU. Other Masters fill the remaining seats.

Knight OBI-WAN KENOBI, wearing his new brown Jedi robes, kneels before the council.

OBI-WAN
What is thy bidding, my masters?

YODA
Pointed to a Potential, our sources
have. A final screening, your
mission is.

Obi-Wan stands, but his posture betrays his continuing servitude.

OBI-WAN
I am honored.

MACE WINDU
I was three years a Knight before I
performed my first screening. Do
you know what is required of you?

OBI-WAN
I am to meet the Potential and
determine if his link with the
force is strong enough to bring him
here to the Academy, or if it is so
strong that the Potential will be
dangerous outside.

WINDU
And...

OBI-WAN
(interrupting)
And if he is merely force sensitive
then we will let him be until we
eventually integrate him into our
Gentles. Where is this Potential?

(CONTINUED)

YODA
On Theed, he is.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
Take your droid with you.

OBI-WAN
Then there is a task for him at the screening?

KI-ADI-MUNDI
No, I... just would rather not have him around.

YODA
In transport 327, the necessary information is. Leave immediately, you will.

OBI-WAN
Yes, Master Yoda.

YODA
May the force be with you.

Obi-Wan turns and starts to walk out of the hall.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
Good luck.

Obi-Wan smiles as he passes through the doorway.

YODA
Attended to our business, we have. Over this meeting is.

The Jedi relax and chat.

Yoda gets out of his chair, his small stature dropping to the floor feet first.

Yoda grabs his Gimmer root walking stick from the chair, and we follow him as he laboriously makes his way back to his chamber.

INT. YODA'S CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

As Yoda enters, the door closes behind him.

He approaches a chair much more suited to his size.

Yoda sits.

(CONTINUED)

His shoulders slump, he he leans back.

He closes his eyes.

INT. JEDI LANDING PAD -

Obi-Wan and protocol droid C-3P0 walk up a ramp, boarding the transport.

C-3P0

... for instance it is not widely known that there was 41 dialects of the Jawa people. 42 if you count Bo'Tawa, but Bo'Tawa is obviously an-

WIPE TO:

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR -

PALPATINE mediates a discussion.

The entire Senate, QUEEN PADME AMIDALA of Naboo, CAPTAIN RAYMUS ANTILLES of Corellia, KING BAIL ORGANA of Alderaan, CHUNDAR of Kashyyyk, ITHORIAN SENATOR and others are there. Chundar wears a government-issue broadsword at his back.

PADME AMIDALA

Even if that were the case Senator, only the Universe itself should have the power to create life.

ANTILLES

It is not the creation of life we are discussing, but the copying of life-

PALPATINE

The Senator speaks out of turn, but he makes a good point.

AMIDALA

Our most ancient legends all tell tales of attempts to become or perform acts befitting Gods. All end badly. Let us heed the wisdom of our ancestors.

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE
Senator Chundar.

CHUNDAR
(Wookiee roar)

RAYMUS ANTILLES
That is outrageous!

BAIL ORGANA
Is it outrageous to preach caution
when dealing with the manipulation
of life itself? Legends have power
for a reason.

ANTILLES
Legends? There are "Legends" at
the door of the Republic and we do
nothing!

AMIDALA
You speak of the Mandalorians.

ANTILLES
The Mandalorians may be the stuff
of legend, but not of myth. They
are men like you or I.

BAIL ORGANA
Speaker Palpatine, are there any
ballots concerning the Mandalorian
attacks today?

PALPATINE
There are not.

BAIL ORGANA
Then perhaps the Captain should
restrict his comments to the matter
at hand.

ANTILLES
Those attacks are instrumental to
my argument.

AMIDALA
Then perhaps you should petition a
ballot for tomorrow's congress.

ANTILLES
This is obstructionist

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE

The floor is divided. Research into the area of cloning shall continue, but no attempt to clone shall be made until such time as the Senate can come to a decision. It's been a long day. Dismissed.

INT. JEDI TRANSPORT -

A young man, the PADAWAN, fourteen or fifteen years old pilots the ship. Obi-Wan sits next to him, C-3P0 behind.

C-3P0

I've even taken the time to look through the Jedi Archives, those that I can access anyway, and I have learned several dead languages, just in case of course...

OBI-WAN

(to Padawan)

Is this your first time on mission training?

PADAWAN

(nods)

I've trained with this model on-planet.

OBI-WAN

(puts hand on Padawan's shoulder)

You're doing just fine.

C-3P0

...for example, did you know that the same gesture can mean Yes, No, Money, or Death to you and your clan, depending on which planet you-

WIPE TO:

INT. PALPATINE'S CHAMBERS -

Two GUARDS flank the door as Palpatine and Amidala enter it.

(CONTINUED)

AMIDALA

I cannot see why you do not bring this to a vote.

PALPATINE

This is a divisive issue, Queen Amidala-

AMIDALA

(interrupting)

And we are further divided when we do not move on.

PALPATINE

(kindly)

Padme, would you have it rushed to a vote and the cloning approved?

AMIDALA

I feel strongly about this issue, but I would choose the well-being of the Republic and its Senate over getting my way.

PALPATINE

You are diplomatic as always, Queen.

AMIDALA

And you, Senator Palpatine, where do you stand on this divisive issue?

Palpatine walks to his desk and speaks as he sits.

PALPATINE

The answer to that is the answer to your first question. I believe more research is required before a decision can be made.

AMIDALA

While I may be amenable, Chundar opposes the very nature of the research.

PALPATINE

And Captain Antilles would say we were moving too slowly.

AMIDALA

And the concensus of the senate will be founded in compromise.

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE

There can be no whole concensus in a senate full of a thousand different cultures and conflicting ideologies. The idea is not to please everyone, but rather to lead the republic toward a desireable future, even if the methods may not be ideal.

Palpatine notices something on his display screen.

AMIDALA

The method can be as important as the outcome.

PALPATINE

It is late, and the day's proceedings have tired me. If you wish to suggest more research, I urge you to draft a Senatorial Petition, and I will personally guarantee that will be accepted in time for a First Stage Ballot to be discussed at tomorrow's congress.

AMIDALA

Thank you, Speaker.

PALPATINE

On the floor we may sometimes disagree, but you have earned my respect, so in this room I shall be Palpatine.

AMIDALA

Until tomorrow, then, Palpatine.

Amidala exits.

PALPATINE

(to guards)

Situation sixty-six in the Theed system.

GUARD #1

Yes, my Lord.

The Guards exit.

WIPE TO:

Obi-Wan and C-3P0 exit the ship.

C-3P0

This is exciting! A routine screening! You usually don't take me on your missions.

OBI-WAN

There usually isn't a Padawan waiting in the ship.

C-3P0:

I... don't follow.

OBI-WAN

Follow me. His district is this way.

INT. FENDO RESIDENCE - MINUTES LATER

OREHO FENDO opens the door to a robed man and a gold droid as the sun sets behind them. She is young, very young to have a ten year old child.

OREHO FENDO

Hello?

OBI-WAN

Hello. My name is Obi-Wan Kenobi-

C-3P0

(interrupting)

And I am C-3P0, human/cyborg relations.

Pause.

OBI-WAN

Yes. And we have come about your child.

OREHO

If this is about curfew, I've told him that he and his friends are not to-

C-3P0

(interrupting)

Oh, no. It's just a routine screening.

(CONTINUED)

(cont'd)

Screening?

OBI-WAN

Yes, thank you 3P0. We have heard amazing things about little Anakin. We feel he may qualify for a gifted program.

OREHO

You represent the city?

OBI-WAN

I represent your child. May we come in?

OREHO

Yes of course Mr...

OBI-WAN

Kenobi.

C-3P0

And I am C-3P0, huma-

OREHO

(interrupting)

Anakin should be home soon.

C-3P0

Well!

OBI-WAN

We are in no hurry.

OREHO

Sit down, tell me more about this gifted program.

Obi-Wan and Oreho sit. C-3P0 stands next to Obi-Wan.

OBI-WAN

I feel I should tell you that it is uncommon for us to take in a child of Anakin's age.

OREHO

Too young?

OBI-WAN

Too old. We have heard... such wonderful things, though.

(CONTINUED)

OREHO

I'd like to ask you about that,
too.

OBI-WAN

Oh?

OREHO

He's been doing very poorly at
school, as I'm sure you know. I
think that they are this close to
kicking him out. His recent late
night run-ins with the law... what
good things have you heard?

OBI-WAN

It is a widely accepted theory that
those who act out, and do poorly in
school, do so because they are
bored of not being used to their
full potential.

OREHO

(with a barely perceptible
positive mood change)

I... I never thought about it that
way.

ANAKIN FENDO

(from front door)

Hey mom! Ten minutes before curfew,
just like you-

Anakin sees his mother's guests and slows to a halt.

ANAKIN FENDO (CONT'D)

Who's this?

OREHO FENDO

Anakin, this is Mr. Obi-Wan Kenobi.
He's he

OBI-WAN

Hello, Anakin.

Anakin interacts with Obi-Wan in a detached manner that
suggests he is used to tip-toeing around people of
authority. He shakes Obi-Wan's hand.

ANAKIN

Mr. Kenobi.

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN

Oh, for now you can call me
Obi-Wan-

C-3P0

(interrupting)

And I am C-3P0, human/cyborg
relations.

ANAKIN

(suddenly interested,
animated)

Is this your protocol droid?
Awesome!

OREHO

Anakin loves machines. He took
apart my Correli receiver just last
week. I was pretty mad until he put
it back together right in front of
me.

OBI-WAN

That is gifted.

WIPE TO:

INT. YODA'S CHAMBER - THAT NIGHT

Yoda sits in his chair conversing with a two-dimensional
projection of Palpatine.

PALPATINE

The Senate is divided, and opinion
so inflamed I fear what would
happen if I were to take it to
vote.

YODA

A Mendocracy this is not. Yield to
the majority the Senate will.

PALPATINE

Master Yoda, if I may, what is your
stance on the clone issue?

YODA

Formed by Jedi lore, my opinion is.

PALPATINE

Ah. Then I guess I'll never know.
How is Obi-Wan doing?

(CONTINUED)

YODA

To perform a screening I have sent him. On Theed he is.

Palpatine's eyebrows raise.

PALPATINE

You should advise him to be careful. I have heard reports of Mandalorian raiders in that system.

YODA

Attacked a Republic Planet still has not been. Your warning still appreciated is.

PALPATINE

It is the least I can do. Give my regards to the council. I suppose I won't be giving yours to the Senate.

Yoda almost smiles, Palpatine's image flickers and fades.

WIPE TO:

INT. ORGANA'S CHAMBERS - THAT NIGHT

Bail Organa sits in front of a 2-D hologram of his wife, Breha Organa.

BAIL ORGANA

The House of Lords voted me Senator!

BREHA ORGANA

And you have been away on Curoscant ever since!

BAIL ORGANA

I have a duty to our people-

BREHA ORGANA

Family was your duty. Or am I not family enough for you?

BAIL ORGANA

I don't care about having children, I love you.

(CONTINUED)

BREHA ORGANA
And when you have no heir?

BAIL ORGANA
I trust the House of Lords to-
There is a chime at the door.

BAIL ORGANA (CONT'D)
Someone's at the door.

BREHA ORGANA
Duty calls.

BAIL ORGANA
I'll talk to you soon.

BREHA ORGANA
I love you, Bail.

BAIL ORGANA
And I you.

Bail turns off the holo-projector.

BAIL ORGANA (CONT'D)
Enter.

The door opens and Raymus Antilles enters.

BAIL ORGANA (CONT'D)
Raymus. It's quite late for a
visit, don't you think?

ANTILLES
A soldier does not keep regular
hours.

BAIL ORGANA
I'm not a soldier.

ANTILLES
So you keep reminding me. Where
are my manners?

Antilles extends a hand.

ANTILLES (CONT'D)
I'm sorry for calling so late
Organa, but I had to see you before
the session tomorrow.

Organa shakes Antilles' hand.

BAIL ORGANA

I assume this is about the cloning initiative.

ANTILLES

It is.

BAIL ORGANA

I don't see why you find this matter so urgent.

ANTILLES

With the Mandalorians attacking the outer worlds? War is my business, Organa. Mark these words; if we do not prepare now the core worlds will be vulnerable to attack.

BAIL ORGANA

I trust your expertise of course.

ANTILLES

Then we will bring the cloning initiative to completion, you and I. We must do it quickly, before Amidala can rally support. We will save the Republic.

BAIL ORGANA

I will bring about the will of my people, no more.

ANTILLES

Take credit for what you can, Organa. Glory doesn't come often to a politician.

WIPE TO:

Establishing shot of the Jedi Transport on the ground.

INT. JEDI TRANSPORT - CONTINUOUS

The Padawan sits in his chair, reading the monitors. Obi-Wan and C-3P0 enter. 3P0 powers down in a corner.

OBI-WAN

Still up, Padawan?

(CONTINUED)

(cont'd)

Yes master Kenobi. I'm studying for the examinations.

OBI-WAN

Is that so? If you're as good at your schooling as you are at flying you'll do fine. Would you like to hear the best piece of advice Master Yoda never gave me?

PADAWAN

Of course.

OBI-WAN

Good Jedi Knights can function for weeks without sleep, but the best Jedi Knights know the value of a good night's rest.

PADAWAN

Thank you Master Kenobi. (yawns) I think I'll take your advice.

The Padawan exits the cockpit.

Obi-Wan turns to the monitors and presses a few buttons. Yoda appears on the screen.

YODA

Obi-Wan. Met with the potential have you?

OBI-WAN

I have.

YODA

And what opinion formed have you?

OBI-WAN

His connection with the Force is very strong. It would be dangerous to leave him out here.

YODA

Dangerous at this age to take him in.

OBI-WAN

Yes, but it's more than just his sensitivity. I feel some sort... of connection with him. When I sat with him, and spoke, I could feel the force like a tether between us.

(CONTINUED)

YODA
Always been, these "tethers" have.

OBI-WAN
Not like this.

YODA
Explain.

OBI-WAN
In my experience, the Force that binds myself and other Jedi is ambient, like a sea all around us. What I experienced today was a definite link within that sea.

YODA
(distant)
Hmm. Forget sometimes that eight hundred years I have had to with the Force attune myself. Continue.

OBI-WAN
This boy deserves training. It will be difficult at first, to learn with the other initiates, but-

YODA
(interrupting)
Of this, you are sure?

OBI-WAN
Yes, Master Yoda.

YODA
Passed, such little time has. One discussion, you have had.

OBI-WAN
It is my understanding that most screenings last only one day.

YODA
Insufficient in this case the information is. Conduct a second interview tomorrow you will, then to me report.

OBI-WAN
Yes Master Yoda.

YODA
May the force be with you.

OBI-WAN
And you.

INT. YODA'S CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Yoda turns off his screen, sits back in his chair, closes his eyes, and sighs.

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR - THE NEXT MORNING

Palpatine's thoughts are elsewhere as he attempts to negotiate a discussion.

AMIDALA
I am sorry Senator, but there is no evidence that the recent increase in Mandalorian attacks is anything but their usual cycle of battle-lust.

ANTILLES
But there is a pattern now!

AMIDALA
There was a pattern before.

ANTILLES
This is different, and there are those here who agree.

There is a slight rabble-rabble.

ANTILLES (CONT'D)
Before the Mandalorians start attacking Republic worlds we must approve experimental cloning. If we do not start now we risk everything.

AMIDALA
And these clones? How will we ensure they join the army?

ANTILLES
They will be property of the Republic, raised to be soldiers.

There is a slight rabble-rabble.

(CONTINUED)

AMIDALA

And what of their hopes? Their ideals?

ANTILLES

They will be the hope of the Republic, they will uphold our ideals.

ORGANA

And whose ideals are those?

ANTILLES

The ideals of the majority.

ORGANA

And if, as happens from time to time, the majority strays from the path, does this clone army stray with them? With their ships, and guns, and destruction?

ANTILLES

Destruction is an unavoidable result of war. We are at war, your Highness, whether you realize it or not.

WIPE TO:

INT. JEDI TRANSPORT -

C-3P0 is standing at the door. Obi-Wan walks up to him.

C-3P0

Master Kenobi, will I be accompanying you to the city today? I thought that I might-

Obi-Wan hits him over the head with his lightsaber handle. 3P0's lights go out.

INT. ANAKIN'S ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Anakin tinkers with C-3P0. Obi-Wan is sitting.

ANAKIN

How'd he get the dent?

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN

Can't say.

ANAKIN

It's nice of you to let me look at him for you.

OBI-WAN

You seemed to have a hard time concentrating yesterday, I thought this might help.

ANAKIN

I haven't seen a protocol droid like this before.

OBI-WAN

It's a newer model, I believe.

ANAKIN

These optical filaments are practically microscopic!

OBI-WAN

How do you know so much about machines?

ANAKIN

I've always liked 'em, I guess. As long as I can remember.

OBI-WAN

You don't remember how you started?

ANAKIN

Well, I was good at it, so I just kept doing it. My fingers were good at separating the wires and stuff, if something was broken I could find out what was wrong with it. Are his psyotronic circuits set up like this on purpose?

OBI-WAN

You took apart your mother's Correli receiver and put it back together?

ANAKIN

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN

Have you ever built anything from scratch?

ANAKIN

I made mom an ion toaster out of parts I stole from a junkyard once... I mean-

OBI-WAN

Oh, the past is the past, yes?

ANAKIN

I think I figured it out. C-3P0 lights up, comes to life.

C-3P0

Wuh? Where am I? Master Kenobi!

OBI-WAN

Little Anakin was kind enough to fix you. I think you owe him some thanks.

C-3P0

Yes. (pause) Thank you, young Master Anakin. Master Kenobi, if I may-

OBI-WAN

(interrupting)

I think it's time to report back again, actually.

Obi-Wan rises from his seat.

OBI-WAN: (CONT'D)

We shall talk again before I leave.

C-3P0

I really-

ANAKIN

(interrupting)

I'll show you out. (yelling) Mom! Mister Obi-Wan's leaving!

The three of them (and 3P0) meet at the front door, and the Fendos follow Kenobi and his droid to the porch.

OREHO

What do you think his chances are?

(CONTINUED)

ANAKIN

Mom?

OREHO

Not now Anakin.

OBI-WAN

With my recommendation I am
confident he will be accepted.

OREHO

(pointedly)

Accepted to what?

ANAKIN

Mom?

OREHO

Not now Anakin. (to Obi-Wan) You've
been dancing around my questions
this whole time. Well, Mr. Kenobi?

ANAKIN

(screaming)

Mom!

Oreho's head is chopped off, seemingly by nothing.

Obi-Wan draws his lightsaber, immediately killing the
culprit in one motion, slicing through his armor and
disabling his invisibility cloak.

Over a dozen Mandalorians holding vibro-blades de-cloak and
start to attack.

Without being touched, Obi-Wan dispatches two with
ridiculous ease and they all cloak again.

OBI-WAN

Anakin! Come with me!

Obi-Wan takes off running, with Anakin not far off, and
C-3P0 trotting behind.

EXT. THEEDAN LANDING PAD - MINUTES LATER

Obi-Wan and Anakin run up until they are perhaps
seventy-five yards from their transport.

They both stop suddenly, and slowly turn around, Obi-Wan
drawing his Saber.

There are a dozen uncloaked Mandalorians with vibro-blades.

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN
Anakin! Get in the ship!

C-3P0 finally trots past. Anakin tugs on his hand.

ANAKIN
Come on! This way!

As Obi-Wan slices and dices the Mandalorians, remaining completely untouched, Anakin, and to a degree C-3P0, run away from the ship and towards a large rock just off the pad.

Just as Anakin gets behind the rock, and Obi-Wan ducks and rolls, the Padawan appears at the door of the ship and it blows the fuck up, killing the young pilot.

C-3P0 is flung against the rock by the blast and at least one appendage flies off.

When Obi-Wan rises, and finishes putting out his robe, there is no sign of Mandalorians.

OBI-WAN
(yelling)
Anakin!

Anakin slowly walks out from behind the rock.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)
(relieved)
Anakin.

Obi-Wan embraces Anakin for a moment.

ANAKIN
(suddenly sad)
There was someone in that ship,
wasn't there?

Obi-Wan hangs his head.

EXT. THEEDAN ALLEYWAY - A LITTLE LATER

Obi-Wan and Anakin sit with their backs to a wall. Anakin fixes C-3P0.

OBI-WAN
There are probably Mandalorians all
over the city. I can keep us safe
until-

(CONTINUED)

(cont'd)

(interrupting) You're trying to
distract me, like before.

OBI-WAN

I assure you the information I am
dispensing is of a life or death
nature-

Anakin stops his work and turns to Obi-Wan.

ANAKIN

(interrupting)
No, with the droid.

Anakin breaks down in tears.

ANAKIN

(CONT'D) My mom's dead!

Anakin cries uncontrollably and Obi-Wan tries to console
him.

Suddenly Obi-Wan pops his head up.

OBI-WAN

Stay here, Anakin. Stay right here.

Obi-Wan walks the length of the Alley, and pops out behind
Palpatine's personal guards.

There are throngs of people about.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)

Thank god you're here.

GUARD #2

Sir?

OBI-WAN

Well surely you're here about the
Mandalorians.

GUARD #2

Of course.

OBI-WAN

That was quick.

GUARD #1

We've been following this lot for
days We would have stopped it
sooner but we weren't expecting it.

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN
You'd been following them and you weren't expecting this?

GUARD #1
They had attacked a mining colony on the outskirts of Theedan territory yesterday. It is unlike them to strike again so soon.

OBI-WAN
I see.

Guard #2 points down the alley.

GUARD #2
(to Guard #1)
We should check on that boy.

OBI-WAN
How did you know that my son was down there?

GUARD #1
Your son, sir?

OBI-WAN
Yes, we both escaped when our home was attacked.

Guard #2 walks down the alley. Obi-Wan's stance tenses.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)
We live alone, thank god.

GUARD #2 (O.S.)
What's your name?

ANAKIN (O.S.)
Anakin.

C-3P0 (O.S.)
And I am C-3P0, human/cyborg relations.

OBI-WAN
If you don't mind I'd like to go call some relatives and tell them we're safe.

GUARD #1
Of course.

(CONTINUED)

Guard #2 shows up from the alley with Anakin and 3P0 right behind.

GUARD #2
What about these, sir?

GUARD #1
We have to leave them with their father.

The guards' comm crackles to life.

COMM VOICE
Code 7R in the Shaden District.

GUARD #1
Let's go. Good luck to you and your son, sir.

OBI-WAN
Thank you. The guards exit.

C-3P0
(calling after)
Goodbye!

EXT. THEEDAN SIDEWALK - MINUTES LATER

Obi-Wan has found a street with little to no traffic. Anakin and C-3P0 stand off to the side. Obi-Wan inserts a comm card into a slot under a screen that is mounted on the wall. Some characters flash across the screen and then Ki-Adi-Mundi appears.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
We just heard. Are you okay?

OBI-WAN
What do you think?

KI-ADI-MUNDI
The Potential?

OBI-WAN
He is unharmed.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
And the droid?

OBI-WAN
He's fine.

(CONTINUED)

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Oh.

OBI-WAN

We need a ship.

Ki-Adi-Mundi takes a deep breath.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

I feared as much. Let me tell Yoda.

OBI-WAN

Are there any Gentles in the area
with ships?

Ki-Adi-Mundi checks another screen.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Yes, there's one in the system. He
can get to you within an hour.

OBI-WAN

Thank you master Mundi. I do have
one more favor to ask you...

WIPE TO:

INT. PALPATINE'S CHAMBERS - THAT NIGHT

Guards 1 & 2 stand at attention in front of Palpatine.

GUARD #1

We ran into the Jedi you warned us
about.

PALPATINE

Were there any problems?

GUARD #1

We did not engage as ordered. He
definitely knew we were Force
sensitive.

PALPATINE

I see. And the child?

GUARD #2

The Jedi took him.

GUARD #1

He seemed to be very strong.

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE

Thank you commander, I already have that situation under surveillance.

GUARD #1

Will that be all my Lord?

PALPATINE

No. You have another mission...

WIPE TO:

INT. JEDI LANDING PAD - THAT NIGHT

Yoda stands in front of a descending transport. Its door opens and Obi-Wan, 3P0, Anakin, and a male Gentle exit.

YODA

Good to see you it is.

GENTLE

(to Anakin)

I'll show you to some quarters.

ANAKIN

C'mon 3P0!

The Gentle, Anakin, and 3P0 exit.

YODA

Your fault young Liam's death was not.

OBI-WAN

There's more going on than just Mandalorian raids, Yoda. I don't know what it is yet, but-

YODA

(interrupting)

Come. To my chambers follow. Much to discuss we have.

WIPE TO:

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR - LATE THAT NIGHT

The room is abuzz with rabble-rabble.

(CONTINUED)

AMIDALA

What Senator Antilles speaks of is absolute madness.

ANTILLES

No, Queen Senator, I speak of political realities and facts of life. It is you who comes before this great alliance of planets and trivializes our works with talk of "our most ancient legends."

Rabble-rabble.

ANTILLES (CONT'D)

I do not deal in legends. I, and my people, deal in recordable history, past & present, for on my world there is a saying: Those who do not heed the past are doomed to bear it out again.

Rabble-rabble.

AMIDALA

We have fought the Mandalorians before, without the aid of cloning.

ANTILLES

Oh yes, four-thousand years ago the Old Republic defeated much of an encroaching Mandalorian force-

ITHORIAN SENATOR (SUBTITLE)

And even then they were not driven back to their home until the dark days of Mendo'Chat, after he had turned his bottomless war machine from that same Republic.

ANTILLES

We are that same Republic, reborn, and if we do not move with the times we will suffer the same fate: weakened against war-mongers, and succumb to political ambitions, whether from within or without. I call for a vote on the Cloning Initiative, now.

PALPATINE

I will not allow completion of such an Initiative during an Emergency

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE (cont'd)

Congress and there is precedent enough to that effect that you will allow the vote to wait until tomorrow's Daily Congress, yes Senator Antilles?

ANTILLES

These others may need the night to speak with their constituents, but I know what the people of Corellia say, and my vote will be the same tomorrow as it would be tonight. Let the will of the Senate be done, I just pray there is not another attack during the delay.

Rabble-rabble.

AMIDALA

I second the Speaker's motion. Ethical decisions should not be made for political reasons, no one should be asked to think their clearest in the wake of such a terrible tragedy.

PALPATINE

Is there a third?

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

ANTILLES

(aside) I thought as much.

PALPATINE

Senator Antilles! Everyone shall have the night to deliberate, discuss, and soul-search, it is decided.

There is some chatter and movement as if the Senators are preparing to leave.

PALPATINE (CONT'D)

(to Amidala)

However this will come to a vote, tomorrow. That is decided as well. Emergency Congress dismissed.

INT. AMIDALA'S CHAMBERS - LATER THAT NIGHT

Amidala stands over her desk, shuffling papers. The doorbell chimes.

CHUNDAR (OVER SPEAKERS)
(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA
Come in.

The door slides open, Chundar steps inside.

CHUNDAR
(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA
And to you, Senator.

CHUNDAR
(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA
Not too late, I hope. We still have quite a night ahead of us, if you will help me.

CHUNDAR
(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA
How quickly can you pack?

WIPE TO:

INT. JEDI COUNCIL HALL - LATER THAT NIGHT

Ki-Adi-Mundi sits at a screen, going over Gentles reports. Obi-Wan exits Yoda's chambers.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
Lots to report?

Obi-Wan says nothing, and that is answer enough for Mundi.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (CONT'D)
I looked into your friends from Theed.

OBI-WAN
And?

(CONTINUED)

KI-ADI-MUNDI

They're not ours.

OBI-WAN

We don't integrate all Force-sensitives, though, perhaps...

KI-ADI-MUNDI

I've been going over back-records. I'm still looking, but if your age descriptions were right, they were never even suggested for Potentialhood.

OBI-WAN

Is that very unlikely?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

For two Force-sensitives to remain undetected? Not very. But for both of them to come together, and not through companionship but through uniform... it grows more suspicious. Were they only slightly sensitive?

OBI-WAN

Quite the opposite, they were strong for sensitives, very strong. One of them might even have been eligible for training, though I doubt he'd make it past knight, if that.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

That makes their being passed over originally all the more unlikely.

Obi-Wan thinks for a moment.

OBI-WAN

Could they have been deleted from the digital database?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

I was at the archives with Master Yoda just last week, updating and double-checking the Gentles section. I don't have access to the rest of the archives, but my section is all in order. Do you think we've been infiltrated?

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN

No, but... We have no records of these men... Yet I would swear Master Yoda knows about them.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

There is little Master Yoda does not know.

OBI-WAN

Yes, but this is knowledge he wishes to hide. I was his apprentice, and you have served beside him on the council for many years. Is it not unlike him to keep secrets?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Perhaps you know him better than I. I will continue to look into this matter. You should continue to keep your eyes and ears open, but you have to present Anakin to the council tomorrow, and we will probably want you present while we discuss the Theed situation. I suggest that you prepare, and get what sleep you can.

OBI-WAN

Thank you for your help, master Mundi.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

For coordinator of the Gentles this has been an exciting and welcome distraction. (suddenly serious) I think that we should put off telling Master Yoda of this until we know more... it may be nothing.

OBI-WAN

Your counsel, as always, is wise, master Mundi.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Goodnight Obi-Wan...

It is dark, Obi-Wan kneels before a candle, eyes closed.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (CONT'D) (V.O.)
And get some sleep!

The camera slowly pans around Obi-Wan's head. The voices we hear now come from inside it.

OBI-WAN
-but the best Jedi Knights know the
value of a good night's rest.

PADAWAN (V.O.)
Thank you, Master Kenobi.

YODA (V.O.)
-young Liam's death...

The audio from the explosion is played and the candle goes out.

WIPE TO:

INT. AMIDALA'S CHAMBERS - EVEN LATER THAT NIGHT

Amidala is putting the finishing touches on her packing. The doorbell chimes.

AMIDALA
Come in.

The door slides open.

AMIDALA (CONT'D)
The transport leaves in...

It is not Chundar at the door, but Palpatine.

AMIDALA (CONT'D)
I-

PALPATINE
(interrupting)
You needn't try to explain yourself
away. It's actually why I came.

AMIDALA
Why is that, Speaker?

PALPATINE
Palpatine, please.

(CONTINUED)

AMIDALA

Well, Palpatine... are you here on business?

PALPATINE

Of a sort. There is a little known procedural law that states that if enough Senators from both the core and border worlds are not at Congress they may not cast absentee votes, but furthermore, that the Senate may not bring any third-stage ballots to vote in their absence.

AMIDALA

It is called the Impromptu Partial Recess Clause.

PALPATINE

Well we musn't hold that against it. At the time it was conceived it was thought to be responsible policy because no doubt it was deemed impossible to traverse party lines so completely.

Palpatine pulls a portable screen from his Speaker's robes.

PALPATINE (CONT'D)

Yet on this list of departed and departing Senators, I see not only you and Chundar, and several other border world delegates, but Organa of Alderaan, as well as... you needn't give me that look, Padme. This is Coruscant, you have spies spying on me, I have spies spying on your spies... We all spy on each other. You once said you would put the well-being of the Senate above getting your way. You must call this off.

AMIDALA

Now is not the time to... Even if I knew what you were talking about, what reason would I have for stopping?

PALPATINE

The reason is two-fold. First; this is a dangerous time to leave the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE (cont'd)

Senate all but gelded, and second; your world is far on the fringe of our space. It is dangerous for you to be there. I would hate to think what would happen if the one truly free-thinking voice in the Senate was silenced by some avoidable accident. I have a bad feeling about this.

AMIDALA

I appreciate your concern, Palpatine, but Naboo needs me. Internal policy in the wake of the Mandalor attacks. You understand. Palpatine turns to go.

PALPATINE

Of course. We all do what we must for our Republic. Have a safe journey.

WIPE TO:

Obi-Wan and Anakin stand in front of the main entrance, facing the closed door.

ANAKIN

So these guys are all... Jedi? The Council?

OBI-WAN

Everyone on this planet is a Jedi... or a Gentle.

ANAKIN

Oh. They stand a while.

ANAKIN (CONT'D)

Which one am I?

OBI-WAN

Right now you're Anakin. My guess is circumstances have forced your acceptance, and with the depth of your attunement I can't see them confining you to duties requiring just Force-sensitivity.

(CONTINUED)

ANAKIN

Oh.

They stand a while.

ANAKIN (CONT'D)

What's the Force again?

OBI-WAN

It's... hmm. That's sort of hard to explain. The door starts to slide open.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)

I will say only that you will know it when you feel it.

Obi-Wan and Anakin step into the Council Hall

INT. JEDI COUNCIL HALL - CONTINUOUS

The Council shifts in their seats.

Ki-Adi-Mundi looks amazed.

Yoda does not flinch.

YODA

Anakin Fendo, you are.

ANAKIN

Yes.

YODA

Told you some of the Force, and Jedi, has Obi-Wan?

ANAKIN

Ummm, yeah.

YODA

Become clear in time, all will. Any relatives have you, on Theed? Elsewhere?

ANAKIN

No sir. My mother was the last.

WINDU

No Anakin. You now carry the Fendo name into the ranks of the Jedi. You will school here and train to be a Knight.

(CONTINUED)

ANAKIN

I... I will?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Yes.

ANAKIN

So... that's it?

WINDU

Today the droid will give you a tour of the facilities, and tomorrow you will begin your schooling.

There is a pause.

ANAKIN

Thank you.

YODA

(to Obi-Wan)

Take him to the droid, you will, and rest. A new assignment this afternoon you will be given.

OBI-WAN

Don't you wish me here to discuss the Mandalorians?

WINDU:

Your insight is not required at this time.

OBI-WAN:

Yes, Masters. Obi-Wan and Anakin leave.

WIPE TO:

INT. A HALLWAY SOMEWHERE IN THE JEDI ENCLAVE - A LITTLE LATER

Ki-Adi-Mundi leans against the wall. Obi-Wan faces him.

OBI-WAN

I didn't expect it to go so... smoothly.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

You know very well that you gave us no choice. Personally, I think you

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KI-ADI-MUNDI (cont'd)
did the right thing, but there are many members of the council who are not very happy with you now.

OBI-WAN
I stand by my actions.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
As a fellow Knight I expect no less. Just don't be surprised if starting tomorrow you spend a lot more time off-planet than the average graduate.

OBI-WAN
I shall be glad of the challenge.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
And they shall be glad to be rid of you.

Mundi puts his hand on Obi-Wan's shoulder.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (CONT'D)
You are the most promising Knight I have seen since my tenure on the council, and your handling of this situation only furthers my opinion of you. Though it may surprise you: save Yoda, I have not made many friends on the council. I am too "outspoken," and long past dreams of Masterhood. I pray that this Theed situation does not hold you back as I have been.

OBI-WAN
I... I don't...

KI-ADI-MUNDI
Oh, don't feel bad for me. I would rather have the approval of one Yoda than a thousand council members. And it's not often a Knight is allowed to serve on the Council. I like to think that I give the misfits, like you and I, and like little Anakin, hope for their future.

OBI-WAN

My future... it doesn't seem as sure as it did a few days ago.

KI-ADI-MUNDI:

The Universe is changing Obi-Wan. The reality in which you train a Padawan will not be the same reality in which Yoda trained you. We Jedi are so used to shaping the future, to having it play out according to our plans... I will let you in on a secret: For the first time in a long time, the Council doesn't know what's coming, and it scares the hell out of them.

WIPE TO:

EXT. CUROSCANTIAN LANDING PAD -

That same morning Chundar and Amidala stand in front of a Naboo Transport.

(cont'd)

(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA

I'm touched, really, but if you don't go to Kashyyk it would jeopardize the implementation of the Impromptu Partial Recess.

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA

Oh. So now the Queen of Naboo cannot take care of herself?

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA

No, of course I knew that's not what you meant... it's just that this is so important, I-

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

(CONTINUED)

AMIDALA:

Only if you promise to go straight to Kashyyyk the moment you see me safe in my palace.

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

AMIDALA

I don't think I've ever told you what a good friend you've been, Chundar. It's hard enough to find allies in this place, and you remain as close to my heart as anyone on Naboo.

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

Amidala laughs a little and turns toward the ship.

AMIDALA

Come on. If we don't leave soon we'll still be on planet when the congress starts.

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR - JUST A LITTLE LATER

The room is only two-thirds full.

Antilles has the floor.

ANTILLES

This is nothing short of treason! Bureaucratic terrorism against the Republic! I demand that all involved be censured!

PALPATINE

Though I cannot say I approve of the tactics these Senators employ-

ANTILLES

(interrupting)

They are Amidala's tactics, there is no doubt of that.

PALPATINE

These Senators have broken no law, whatever their motives might be.

(CONTINUED)

ANTILLES

Then I call for a first-stage ballot to repeal this archaic "Imptomptu Partial Recess" Clause.

PALPATINE

I have not yet taken a stance on the IPR issue, but second the motion for a first-stage ballot. Is there a third?

There is an alien sound from somewhere in the room.

PALPATINE (CONT'D)

Very well, Senator Antilles, draw up the necessary papers tonight and tomorrow we shall vote on a first-stage ballot committee-

REE-YEES SENATOR (SUBTITLE)

(interrupting)

This is madness! We spend months wading through red-tape while the Mandalorians roam our borders! Perhaps my homeworld is the next to be attacked.

Rabble-rabble.

REE-YEES SENATOR (CONT'D)

I refuse to be a part of these proceedings until the Senate is willing to put the good of the Republic above its own paper-trails!

The Ree-Yees Senator leaves.

There is a rabble-rabble.

ANTILLES

You see?! You see what the antics of Amidala and her lapdog have done? While the Queen holds her breath until she gets her way the Senate falls apart and over a hundred worlds suffer! I will do the required paperwork tonight, Speaker. I just hope there is a Senate to bring it to tomorrow!

Antilles leaves. There is a Rabble-rabble followed by an awkward silence.

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE

If there is no other business?

INT. JEDI COUNCIL HALL - THAT AFTERNOON

The Council is assembled.

Obi-Wan stands before them.

OBI-WAN

What is thy bidding, my masters?

WINDU

Your experience on Theed has shown us we can no longer allow the Mandalorians to act upon their violent instincts unchecked.

HEMFAAD

But before we can take action we must understand their new strategy.

YODA

A reconnaissance mission your new assignment is.

WINDU

You are to travel to the edge of Republic space, find the main Mandalorian fleet, and track their movements; listen in on their inter-ship communications. Stealth and secrecy are of the utmost importance so it will be unwise to send any transmissions, to us or to anyone else.

OBI-WAN

I understand.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

You are not to engage the Mandalorians for any reason. When the Jedi act it will be a coordinated effort.

OBI-WAN

Of course.

WINDU

A ship has been prepared for you. Your mission begins as soon as you are done packing.

(CONTINUED)

YODA

Any questions have you?

OBI-WAN

Just one. Am I taking C-3P0?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

For reasons beyond even my
comprehension Anakin finds comfort
in the droid. I suppose we shall
have to suffer his presence here.

OBI-WAN

Then I shall leave as soon as
possible.

YODA

If in fourteen days heard from you
we have not, contact you we will.
May the Force be with you.

Obi-Wan bows and turns to leave.

EXT. NABOO ROYAL LANDING PAD -

Establishing shot of Amidala's transport landing.

INT. NABOO ROYAL PALACE MAIN HALL - MINUTES LATER

Chundar and Amidala walk through humongous self-opening
double doors.

The hall is empty.

AMIDALA

I expected a larger welcoming
committee, all things considered.

CHUNDAR

(Wookiee roar)

Amidala sits down in her throne.

AMIDALA

No, I wouldn't worry about it. We
came on very short notice, and when
the Queen is away most business is
conducted at the Parlaimentary Hall
across the Capital. I suspect my
cabinet will join me in a few
minutes.

(CONTINUED)

CHUNDAR
(Wookie roar)

AMIDALA
I really must insist that you get
on your way to Kashyyyk. If you do
not everything we are working for
will be in jeopardy. Don't worry
about me, I'll be-

Two Mandalorians de-clock on either side of the throne.
Their armor is different from the others we have seen.

They seem more technologically advanced and convey a higher
rank.

Their vibroblades too seem special.

Chundar lets out a Wookie war cry and pulls his
government-issue broadsword from the sheath on his back,
charging one of the Mandalorians.

Both Mandalorians fight Chundar to the middle of the hall
and disarm him.

Chundar keeps fighting, unarmed, getting severely wounded by
one before knocking the other across the room. Unfortunately
as he tuns around to take care of the first, he is run
through by its vibrosword.

Chundar is dead.

The Mandalorian who was knocked down gets up and dusts
himself off.

Amidala is distraught, but does not move from the throne,
obviously afraid for her life.

Mandalorian #1 bows sarcastically.

MANDALORIAN #1
My Queen.

WIPE TO:

INT. PALPATINE'S CHAMBERS -

Palpatine sits at his desk. His guards are not in the room.
Antilles is on his screen.

(CONTINUED)

ANTILLES

I love the Senate, Speaker, but if the Mandalorian attacks continue action will have to be taken quicker than this institution is capable of.

PALPATINE

Just what are you suggesting, Senator?

ANTILLES

Nothing treasonous, if that's what you're thinking. I am merely saying that if the safety of our galaxy is at stake I will support you as an Emergency Wartime President. There are times when the government must act with the certainty of one voice.

PALPATINE

Oh, I very much hope it does not come to that. There hasn't been an Emergency Presidential Appointment in the history of the Republic, neither this one nor its ancient counterpart.

ANTILLES

I too hope it does not come to it, though it is more in the hands of the Mandalorians than our own. I have work to do, and I'm sure you are even busier than I. Good day, Speaker.

PALPATINE

Good day.

Palpatine ends the transmission, but the screen beeps again almost right away. When Palpatine answers it, we see it is Yoda.

PALPATINE (CONT'D)

Ah, Master Yoda! How are things over your way?

Suddenly, as if remembering:

PALPATINE (CON'T)

I trust Obi-Wan is safe?

(CONTINUED)

YODA

More than Mandalorians are required to my apprentice subdue. Related he is to this call's purpose.

PALPATINE

Oh?

YODA

To the border of Republic space we have sent him. Tracking the Mandalorians his mission is.

PALPATINE

What does this have to do with me?

YODA

Relay his findings to you I will if any information you acquire relay to me you will.

PALPATINE

Ah, excellent! Of course! More information means more informed decisions.

YODA

Thank you I do, Speaker. Now much business I have.

PALPATINE

Of course, and if I hear anything I will get in contact with you.

Yoda blips off.

The screen beeps again.

Palpatine receives the transmission, it is Mandalorian #1.

MANDALORIAN #1

My Lord.

PALPATINE

What is it?

MANDALORIAN #1

In relation to your instructions, not to kill any Senators, sir.

Palpatine raises his eyebrows.

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE
(slowly)
Yes?

MANDALORIAN #1
We ran into resistance on Naboo,
had no choice but to kill the
Wookie.

PALPATINE
But Amidala is unharmed?

MANDALORIAN #1
Yes, my Lord.

PALPATINE
This may be even better. Just make
sure Amidala survives.

MANDALORIAN #1
Any new instructions, sir?

PALPATINE
Hold position and await further
orders.

MANDALORIAN #1
Yes, my Lord. Palpatine blips the
screen off.

WIPE TO:

INT. OBI-WAN'S QUARTERS -

Obi-Wan has just finished packing. He has only one small
package, but his room is still nearly empty. His doorchime
sounds.

OBI-WAN
Come in.

The door opens and Ki-Adi-Mundi steps in.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)
Is there a change of plans?

KI-ADI-MUNDI
Hm? Oh, no. I just thought I might
see you off, impart the last minute
advice the rest of the Council
won't give you.

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN

They're really mad about Anakin, aren't they?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Not Anakin. Whether they like it or not everyone knows you did the right thing in bringing Anakin here. That boy is powerful, very powerful, and to have him outside would be unacceptable.

OBI-WAN

So the Council isn't upset with me?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

They are concerned. They are concerned because you proved you will think for yourself, that you won't just do whatever they say without question. They crave absolute control and you threaten that.

OBI-WAN

So that's why they're sending me out again right away, to test my loyalty.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

That's the thing, Obi-Wan. Most of the Council is mad, some more than others, but Yoda has always been an exception. Master Yoda was proud of how you acted under pressure. He hasn't said as much, but you know my senses.

OBI-WAN

Of course. Are you saying the Council is outvoting the HeadMaster?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

No, Obi-Wan. I'm saying Yoda was the one pushing to send you on this mission.

OBI-WAN

But why?

Yoda sits in his chair, thinking hard with a pinch of melancholly.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (V.O.)
I wish I knew. There has been... a
shifting in the Force, Obi-Wan.
Today's world is more dangerous
than yesterday's.

INT. JEDI LANDING PAD - a LITTLE LATER

Ki-Adi-Mundi sees Obi-Wan to his ship and says goodbye.

The scene plays out in silence and ends with Obi-Wan boarding his transport.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (V.O.)
I wish I could tell you more...
just be careful and come back
soon...

EXT. SPACE - MINUTES LATER

Medium shot of the Jedi Planet.

Obi-Wan's ship flies away.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (V.O.)
Ironically, the Council needs your
influence more than ever.

WIPE TO:

INT. NABOO ROYAL PALACE MAIN HALL - JUST THEN

Amidala sits on her throne, flanked by two footsoldier
Mandalorians

WIPE TO:

EXT. ALDERAAN - JUST THEN

Establishing shot of the Alderaanian Palace.

INT. ALDERAANIAN PALACE -

KING BAIL ORGANA sits with his wife, QUEEN BREHA ORGANA. Her head rests on his shoulder.

The doors fling open and a young aide stands in the doorway, a little embarrassed.

AIDE

Your highness! You told me to screen all calls from Curoscant.

BAIL ORGANA

Yes, I did. So what are you doing here?

AIDE

He kept calling back, your highness. I told him that even though you weren't here I would look anyway, just to stall him. He's very insistent, your highness, I thought you should know.

ORGANA

Who keeps calling back?

AIDE

The Corellian representative, your highness: Captain Antilles

ORGANA

He is still on the line?

AIDE

Channel red27, sir.

ORGANA

Thank you.

The aide leaves.

ORGANA (CONT'D)

I'd better take this, dear. Alderaan and Corellia have been allies a long time. Antilles would have me throw that away because I wish to spend a day with my wife.

BREHA ORGANA

Do you want me to stay here?

(CONTINUED)

ORGANA

You should probably just go back to the main hall. I'll catch up to you soon.

BREHA

Alright dear.

Breha kisses Organa on the forehead and then leaves. Organa turns on his 2-D projector.

ANTILLES

Organa, you turncoat!

ORGANA

Hello, Raymus. How's Nora?

ANTILLES

You once told me that you rather allow murder to be legalized than disrupt the will of the Senate!

ORGANA

Is that why you interrupted this precious time with my wife, to reminisce?

ANTILLES

Oh, don't play dumb with me, Organa! You're part of this IPR scandal and everybody knows it. What I can't understand is why.

ORGANA

Assuming I even know what you're talking about, why shouldn't I?

ANTILLES

Why shouldn't you? You and I had an agreement, that's why! You told me you supported the cloning initiative!

ORGANA

More to the point, I told you the people of Alderaan support the initiative, but why argue details?

ANTILLES

Well then, have the "people of Alderaan" changed their minds since we spoke?

(CONTINUED)

ORGANA

No, they have not, and I still plan to vote yes on the initiative-

ANTILLES

(interrupting) You cannot seriously expect me to believe you left on the eve of the vote just to spend time with your wife!

ORGANA

Please, if you would let me finish. I plan to vote yes at the proper time. The proper time is not when everyone is scared out of their wits from the first Mandalorian attack in our space for four-thousand years. If we vote now fear will prevail, not logic.

ANTILLES

You sound just like her, Bail. Did Alderaan turn conservative when I wasn't looking?

ORGANA

You've taken a horrible tragedy and turned it into a political advantage. To be honest I'm a little disappointed.

ANTILLES

I am doing what is best for the Republic!

ORGANA

You're a good man, Raymus, and I believe that that is what you always try to do. But right now we should be working on relief for Theed, and gathering information, yet you insist on pushing this science bill through right now.

There is a silence.

ORGANA (CONT'D)

Relief ballots only have two stages. Try to get something done while I see my wife. I'll be back in a couple of days, to vote yes on the cloning initiative. Goodbye, Raymus.

Organa turns off his projector.

INT. ANAKIN'S ROOM - MORNING

Anakin sits on the edge of his bed, combing his hair.

There is a chime at the door.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
(through speaker)
Anakin? It is Master Mundi of the
council. May I come in?

ANAKIN
Yeah.

The door opens and Mundi enters.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
Are you ready to be taken to your
first class?

ANAKIN
I dunno. I heard all the kids are
going to be really young.

KI-ADI-MUNDI
You'll soon catch up. You have
quite a gift.

ANAKIN
Why?

KI-ADI-MUNDI
The Force acts in ways that even I
cannot fully fathom. It has seen
fit to make you special.

ANAKIN
What if I don't want to be special?

KI-ADI-MUNDI
One should never pretend to be
something they are not.

ANAKIN
And what am I?

KI-ADI-MUNDI
A Jedi. A Fendo. Alive. Do any
of these displease you?

(CONTINUED)

ANAKIN

I guess not.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Then be yourself proudly. I have
have found there is little else to
be. Come, you'll be late for
class.

Mundi extends his hand and Anakin takes it.

They exit the room.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SPACE -

Establishing shot of Obi-Wan's ship leaving hyperspace near Naboo.

INT. OBI-WAN'S COCKPIT

OBI-WAN

R2, scan on those frequencies I
gave you.

Three Mandalorian Raider ships scream on approach.

R2-D2

(astromech whistles)

OBI-WAN

I see them.

A space battle ensues. Obi-Wan initially has to retreat,
but through some fancy flying causes two of them to crash
into each other, resulting in an impressive explosion.

Obi-Wan banks hard and fires on the remaining Raider, but
his projectiles fly wide.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)

There's something wrong with the
targetting systems. They appear to
be jammed.

R2-D2

(astromech whistles)

The Raider banks back into attack position on Obi-Wan's ship
and flies toward him. Obi-Wan continues to fire wide.

(CONTINUED)

OBI-WAN
The sooner the better, R2.

R2-D2
(astromech whistles)

Just as the Raider starts to fire it's guns, Obi-Wan's projectiles suddenly realign and strike the target hard, blowing it into fiery pieces.

Obi-Wan's ship turns toward and flies at Naboo.

WIPE TO:

EXT. NABOO TROPICAL FOREST

Obi-Wan lands his ship in a small clearing.

It just barely fits.

Two Mandalorian guards stand on either side of an archway.

Obi-Wan drops down, slicing one in half diagonally and chopping off the other's head before he can react.

His lightsaber is blue. He switches it off and moves on.

INT. JEDI CLASSROOM -

Anakin sits with very small children, most of them are six years old or younger.

The female alien teacher, KNIGHT JUNOA stands in front of the class

JUNOA
Master Windu, from the Council, has agreed to be our guest speaker today, as the subject matter is of personal interest to him. You should all feel very honored, boys and girls: Master Windu.

(cont'd)

Thank you, Junoa. I have agreed to come here today to dispense a little wisdom about lightsabers. Now you are all still much too young to use one, but while you learn of Jedi culture in Knight...

(CONTINUED)

There is a titter or two from the students.

WINDU (CONT'D)

Sorry, master Junoa's class, it is necessary that you acquire the knowledge of the most ancient aspect of our culture that yet remains unchanged...

EXT. THE STREETS OF THE NABOO CAPITAL

Obi-Wan is being surrounded by over half a dozen Mandalorian foot soldiers, all with vibroblades.

He has his lightsaber handle in his hand.

WINDU (V.O.)

The lightsaber is the official weapon of the Jedi, and has been for as long as we have records, and just ask Yoda, that's a long time.

As Windu speaks Obi-Wan activates his lightsaber and starts to lay to rest all the Mandalorians without even having to block a blow.

WINDU (V.O.)

The lightsaber is an extremely lightweight poly-metal hilt, which contains two crystals: an emitter, or "power" crystal, and a focusing crystal.

INT. JEDI CLASSROOM -

Mace's lightsaber handle is in his hand. He activates it, swinging it around. It is blue. The kids are amazed and nervous.

WINDU:

When activated the blade weighs almost nothing...

EXT. THE STREETS OF THE NABOO CAPITAL -

The previous scene continues.

Obi-Wan is similarly successful with the rest of the Mandalorians.

(CONTINUED)

WINDU: (V.O.)

Yet it will cut through doors,
droids, and among other things,
people. The blade is white-hot so
anything with, say, blood will have
their wound instantly cauterized
by the blade itself.

All the Mandalorians are down. Obi-Wan runs on.

INT. JEDI CLASSROOM -

The children are all aghast and frozen in place.

Anakin raises his hand.

Windu deactivates his 'saber.

WINDU:

Yes, Anakin.

ANAKIN:

Wouldn't that be pretty dangerous
to use against a long-range weapon?
Why not just use a blaster?

Windu smiles.

EXT. THE STEPS OF THE NABOO ROYAL PALACE

There is a veritable army of Mandalorians with Blaster
Rifles on the steps all firing at an approaching Obi-Wan.

Obi-Wan calmly twirls his lightsaber, deflecting the shots
back and picking them off one by one.

WINDU (V.O.)

When we become Jedi we pledge
ourselves to truth, to protection
of the innocent, and most
importantly, to honor. We do not
hide behind a weapon that allows us
to kill from far away, without
being face to face.

INT. JEDI CLASSROOM -

Windu's eyes light up.

WINDU

Though it has not happened since well before my lifetime, a lightsaber duel is the ultimate battle of skill and talent. There can be no greater honor.

Reaction shot from kids gives a beat.

WINDU (CONT'D)

A blaster is clumsy and impersonal.

EXT. THE STEPS OF THE NABOO ROYAL PALACE -

Obi-Wan deflects two last bolts and approaches.

WINDU

Besides, a trained Jedi with a lightsaber has an unfair advantage over any non-Jedi, even one with a blaster.

All the Mandalorians are dead from blaster-fire.

Obi-Wan enters the palace.

INT. JEDI CLASSROOM -

WINDU

Now you won't get to make your own lightsaber until your final year. You'll train with a Master the two years before that, but will use only training-sabers and only in the presence of your Master.

Something on Windu's belt beeps. He looks at it.

WINDU (CONT'D)

That is all the time I have, but I hope to see all of you in the future. Also, every year I take just one student to train in the dangerous eighth style. If you study hard, maybe in a few years it will be one of you.

Windu whispers in Junoa's ear, Junoa nods.

(CONTINUED)

Windu exits.

JUNOA

Well tomorrow I think we should all
compose a big thank you note
together, make it an art-project,
yes?

The little kids are happy.

Anakin rolls his eyes.

INT. DOUBLE STAIRCASE IN THE NABOO PALACE -

Obi-Wan runs in and looks around.

A door upstairs opens and Mandalorian #1 steps out and
starts creeping down the staircase, vibroblade in hand.

Mandalorian #2 enters behind Obi-Wan.

Obi-Wan hears the humming and glances behind himself.

Mandalorian #1 takes off his helmet and it is Guard #1.

On Obi-Wan's reaction shot you can see Mandalorian #2 take
off his helmet and reveal he is Guard #2.

A huge fight ensues and Obi-Wan wins.

Both guards are dead.

This takes a very long time, several minutes.

My description doesn't do it justice, really.

Obi-Wan deactivates his lightsaber and takes Mandalorian
#1's vibroblade, then runs on.

WIPE TO:

EXT. YODA'S CHAMBER -

Yoda is talking to Palpatine over the holo-phone.

PALPATINE

On Naboo? This is awful!

YODA

Came too late our intelligence did.
Also, stopped all activity has, yet
left they have not.

(CONTINUED)

PALPATINE

This is most unusual.

YODA

To investigate you send someone, I suggest.

PALPATINE

Thank you Master Yoda. I'll return the favor, I swear.

The holograph blips off, and Yoda exits his chamber into the hall just as Mace Windu enters, completing the council.

WIPE TO:

INT. NABOO ROYAL PALACE MAIN HALL -

Amidala sits on her throne scared out of her wits.

Obi-Wan runs in wielding the vibroblade.

AMIDALA

Who are you?!

OBI-WAN

I'm Ob-Wan Kenobi, I'm here to rescue you.

AMIDALA

They'll kill us!

OBI-WAN

I don't think there are any left.

EXT. THE STREETS OF THE NABOO CAPITAL -

Obi-Wan and Amidala run through the bodies toward the landing pad.

EXT. NABOO ROYAL LANDING PAD -

Amidala steps into her ship.

OBI-WAN

Do you have an astromech droid; an R-1 unit, or anything that can fly a ship?

(CONTINUED)

AMIDALA

Who the hell are you? How did you
do all that?

OBI-WAN

I was just in the neighborhood, saw
there was some trouble and thought
I could help.

Obi-Wan starts to walk away.

AMIDALA

Wait! When will I see you aga-

The hatch to Amidala's ship closes.

WIPE TO

EXT. SPACE -

The planet Naboo takes up most of the screen.

Music swells.

Amidala's ship leaves first, followed quickly by Obi-Wan's.
They are going in different directions.

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR -

(Silent, under music.)

Everyone is in an uproar.

Amidala walks in.

Everything stops.

INT. JEDI COUNCIL HALL -

(Silent, under music.)

Everyone is in an uproar.

Obi-Wan walks in, drops the vibroblade on the floor in front
of him.

Everything stops.

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR -

(Silent, under music.)

Everyone stares at Amidala, she is making some sort of speech.

Antilles jumps for joy and obviously wishes to speak.

INT. JEDI COUNCIL HALL -

(Silent, under music.)

Everyone is yelling at Obi-Wan. He is trying to defend himself.

Ki-Adi-Mundi seems nervous and can't get a word in edgewise.

INT. REPUBLIC SENATE FLOOR -

(Silent, under music.)

Close-up of Palpatine smiling.

(Silent, under music.)

Close-up of Yoda, who is tired, sad/annoyed.

The music dies.

WIPE TO:

INT. RAYMUS ANTILLES' CHAMBERS -

Antilles pours himself a glass of hard alcohol, whiskey-like in color and consistency.

The door chimes.

ANTILLES

Who is it?

AMIDALA

(through speaker)
Queen Padme Amidala.

(CONTINUED)

ANTILLES

Enter.

The door opens. Amidala enters.

ANTILLES (CONT'D)

Queen.

AMIDALA

Captain. I came to apologize.

ANTILLES

For the Emergency Recess?

AMIDALA

For doubting you.

ANTILLES

The bill was passed. Everything has worked out.

AMIDALA

Chundar is dead.

A beat.

ANTILLES

Of course. My apologies. Take comfort, his was a soldier's death.

AMIDALA

Naboo and Corellia have never been allies.

ANTILLES

They say we have little in common.

AMIDALA

I think today has changed that. My people... I, am not accustomed to war. If you were to...

ANTILLES

I will be of what service I can.

AMIDALA

Thank you, Captain. Naboo is in your debt.

WIPE TO:

INT. ANAKIN'S QUARTERS -

Anakin stands in the middle of the room, miming lightsaber swinging action.

C-3PO makes the accurate if badly dubbed sound effects.

The doorbell chimes. Anakin stops and so does C-3PO.

ANAKIN

Come in.

The door opens and Obi-Wan walks in.

ANAKIN (CONT'D)

Obi-Wan!

Anakin runs up as if to hug him, then extends his hand.

Obi-Wan shakes it.

OBI-WAN

I suppose I should be asking you to call me Master Kenobi.

ANAKIN

I thought you were just a knight.

OBI-WAN

Well... it's a title, and an honorific. I'd actually prefer if you called me Obi-Wan, but in front of the Masters it might be best if we followed...

ANAKIN

Tradition.

OBI-WAN

Yes, tradition.

C-3PO:

Master Kenobi, I want to say what an honor it was helping you with your last mission.

OBI-WAN

Thank you, 3PO.

Obi-Wan turns to Anakin.

(CONTINUED)

C-3P0

It started going downhill at there
end there, but I think we pulled it
through.

Obi-Wan turns to Anakin

OBI-WAN

You're really enjoying the droid
aren't you?

ANAKIN

Yeah! I've been fixing him...
upgrading him and stuff, and he
talks alot. I already know a lot of
things.

OBI-WAN

How?

ANAKIN

I listen.

OBI-WAN

Then I guess I have some bad news.
I have to bring 3PO with me on
another mission.

ANAKIN

Another mission!

OBI-WAN:

I'll be out on a lot of them now,
it seems.

ANAKIN

When are you leaving?

OBI-WAN

Immediately.

ANAKIN

Then I guess this is goodbye.

OBI-WAN

I'll be back now and then, to see
you.

Obi-Wan leans down and hugs Anakin.

OBI-WAN (CONT'D)

Goodbye, Anakin.

(CONTINUED)

ANAKIN

Goodbye.

OBI-WAN

Come on, 3PO.

Obi-Wan and C-3PO exit.

INT. JEDI ARCHIVES -

Mundi and Yoda stand over different shelves going through data.

They persue in silence for a moment.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

I know, Yoda.

YODA

Know what, you do?

KI-ADI-MUNDI

I do not know.

YODA

Speak in riddles, you do.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Something is going on. I felt it, ten years ago.

Yoda stops and looks up.

KI-ADI-MUNDI (CONT'D)

I am attuned to the force in ways even you are not. Ten years ago the force was strengthened, replenished. Something we had lost has returned. It was the boy, wasn't it?

YODA

Perhaps.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

How long have you been searching for him?

YODA

Little it matters.

(CONTINUED)

KI-ADI-MUNDI

And the prophecy. The Son of Suns
who will bring balance to the
Force. Has the time come?

Yoda slowly walks away, down the long corridor towards the door.

KI-ADI-MUNDI

Where are you going?

YODA

The archives, you will
search. Find the answer, you may.

WIPE TO:

INT. PALPATINE'S CHAMBERS -

Palpatine is on his screen-phone.

We can only see Palpatine, not the person he is talking to, but from his voice he is a little boy, perhaps ten years old.

INFORMANT

They just sent Obi-Wan off on
another mission. The council's
really mad at him for getting
involved in the Theed situation.

PALPATINE

And the boy?

INFORMANT

He's in the beginning classes with
the little kids. Hopefully I'll
have more on him in a couple of
weeks.

PALPATINE

Very well. Contact me next week.
Goodbye.

INFORMANT

Goodbye.

Palpatine touches the screen and a small noise chimes as it shuts off.

END CREDITS: