

Vader v. Fett

Overview

Han Solo is a mercenary who owes Jabba the Hutt \$10,000.00. Before he meets up with Luke Skywalker and the Rebel Alliance, Solo was smuggling for Hutt and dumped a cargo while being pursued. Hutt expects to be paid for the value of the cargo and has put a bounty of \$10,000.00 on Solo's head. Solo is actively trying to raise the money to pay Hutt. He's on the market for mercenary soldier work.

Solo is recruited by the Rebel Alliance to assist in their struggles against the Galactic Empire's Imperial Forces, led by the Emperor with the help of Lord Darth Vader. Solo is of great help, successfully *firing* on a fighter plane piloted by Vader, directly enabling Luke Skywalker's daring attack on the Imperial Death Star. The Death Star is destroyed in Luke's attack.

When Solo, Skywalker and Princess Leia take refuge at Landau Calrissian's City in the Clouds, Calrissian unexpectedly turns them over to Vader who carbon freezes Solo and turns him over to Boba Fett. It is not explained or evident in the movie why Vader uses Boba Fett.

Boba Fett delivers Solo to Jabba the Hutt, who hangs the carbonized Solo in his lair, calling him his "favorite decoration."

The droids, R2D2 and C3PO go to Jabba the Hutt with a holographic message from Luke Skywalker, seeking to bargain for Solo's release. In the holographic message, Skywalker gifts the droids to Hutt and asks for a response. Hutt keeps the droids but sends no response.

Shortly thereafter, Princess Leia, disguised as a bounty hunter, gains admission to Hutt's lair, leading Solo's sidekick, Chewbacca, with her into the lair. Hutt offers her \$25,000.00; she demands \$50,000.00. They compromise on \$35,000.00. She remains inside. She has been accompanied by Landau Calran, disguised as a guard. Now the droids, the Princess and Calrissian are all inside Hutt's stronghold. Princess Leia deactivates the carbonization during the night, assuming she is undetected. Solo comes to life, but they are immediately apprehended. Solo is very ill from the effects of the carbonization, and cannot see.

Luke Skywalker arrives, entering peacefully and insisting on Solo's release. Hutt drops Skywalker through the floor, rendering him "Bantha fodder," or food for Hutt's basement monster. Luke avoids being consumed, and kills the Bantha, but is detained by the guards. Calrissian is discovered.

Hutt decides to eliminate Luke, Solo, Chewbacca and Calrissian at the Dune Sea, in the sandy mouth of a monster-like hole that will devour them over the course of "1,000 years." Apparently, he intends to keep the Princess as sex slave (this isn't discussed but her newly supplied attire would seem to indicate so).

Hutt's entourage departs in a collection of low flying ships for the Dune Sea. Luke stages a miraculous counter attack, snatching a light sword shot into the air by R2. In the ensuing confusion, Luke, Solo, Calrissian, the Princess and the droids destroy the main ship containing Jabba the Hutt and escape by stealing one of the remaining ships.

They return to the Millennium Falcon.

Thereafter, Solo saves Luke's life when Luke almost dies of exposure at a Rebel site on an arctic planet. He also assists in the attack on the Empire's new ship and rescues Luke when Luke is near death after hand-to-hand combat with Darth Vader.

Instruction

Our presentation this year will be a contract suit between Darth Vader and Boba Fett. Boba Fett is the Bounty Hunter whom Vader hired to kidnap and confine Hans Solo. According to Mary Louise, whose sons are Star Wars fanatics, Boba Fett has become something of a cult hero with the kids.

Vader will testify that the Imperial Forces of the Empire would have prevailed had Hans Solo not resurfaced and turned the tide of the battle in favor of the Rebel Jedi Knights. He will describe the contract between him and Boba Fett. A military expert will testify for Darth Vader, giving examples of incidents in military history when the return or rallying by a leader led to an unexpected victory.

Boba Fett will claim that he honored the contract and that it was within his discretion to place Hans Solo with Jaba the Hutt for safekeeping. He will claim that he did everything expected of him and that Vader is suing because he hasn't paid Boba Fett completely. Boba Fett will be counter-claiming for a balance due on the contract. Boba Fett will present a fact witness who discredits Vader's expert. The fact witness may suggest that the expert has overstated his credentials or may point to some connection between Vader and the expert which was not yet disclosed. The claims of the fact witness should be explored in cross-examination of the military expert so that the expert has some opportunity to deny the claims. To further balance the evidence, the fact witness should be questioned in cross-examination about his connections to Boba Fett. The suggestion could be that he has received money from Boba Fett which the witness could explain away as having been a loan or purchase of personal property. My military historian husband will be providing me with a basic outline of the military expert's testimony. Your experts can follow the outline to the extent they wish.

Boba Fett is a woman. In the Star Wars movies, Boba Fett wears a large helmet like mask. Our masked Boba Fetts will remove the mask during their testimony and surprise the audience by this disclosure of their gender. Please consider choosing a woman to play the part as either the military expert or the fact witness, as well, so the children see a balanced presentation.

We will be shooting a teleconference video of the contract between Vader and Boba Fett. If I need your help with this, I'll be in touch. We will only shoot one video for use in all four courtrooms since both Vader and Boba Fett are masked we will not need to shoot separate videos.

Transcript of Video

VADER: This is Lord Vader of the Galactic Empire, seeking contact with Boba Fett [repeats] I seek contact with Boba Fett of Ord Mandell.

FETT: [appears on screen]

VADER: Let us dispense with the pleasantries. I seek your assistance with the detention of one Han Solo, an insignificant mercenary who causes me annoyance. I believe he can now be found in the Hath system, commanding a ship known as the Millenium Falcon.

FETT: [shakes his head]

VADER: The Imperial Star Fleet has determined his capture to be of the utmost importance. We are willing to pay a handsome bounty for his capture.

FETT: [shakes his head]

VADER: I am lead to understand that Jabba the Hutt has already placed a bounty of \$10,000.00 on this Solo's head, to collect for Solo's loss of property entrusted to him by Hutt.

Do you seek Solo at the behest of Jabba the Hutt?

FETT: [nods]

VADER: Will you serve the Galactic Empire in this matter? The Rebellion must be stopped and this Solo appears to be an important advisor to the Rebel Alliance.

FETT: [shakes his head]

VADER: Mr. Fett, I am not a patient man and the Emperor is not as forgiving as I am. Perhaps I can find new ways to motivate you. At minimum, I expect answers.

FETT: [shakes his head]

VADER: Perhaps you think you are being treated unfairly. It would be unfortunate if we had to establish a garrison on Ord Mandell, rendering your travel and movement somewhat inconvenient, would it not?

FETT: [answers by teletype] I expect to be paid by Jabba the Hutt. His payment is enough.

VADER: We can offer a substantial additional reward. You are free to use any methods necessary. We want him alive. No disintegrations.

FETT: [teletype] Jabba seeks him alive as well. What is a substantial additional reward?

VADER: \$35,000.00.

FETT: \$75,000.00.

VADER: [hesitates, gestures impatiently] If you accomplish this task within the next six days.

FETT: [teletype] Six days? What if he doesn't survive? He's worth a lot to me.

VADER: To you or to that slimy piece of worm ridden filth you're working for? This Solo may have done Jabba the Hutt some ill, but I will not be troubled by the petty disputes that arise between gangsters. He has done the Empire far more harm, personally attacking a fighter plane I piloted and facilitating the destruction of our Death Star. He is mine. The Empire demands your services.

FETT: I'm self-employed.

VADER: We have six days. And so you have six days. That vile gangster may have no cause for hurry, but the Emperor cannot wait. You will stay in communication with us. We expect he may seek refuge with Landau Cairisian. We will keep you advised.

FETT: [nods]

VADER: Six days. \$60,000.00. Good day.

FETT: [\$60,000.?. .1 asked for \$75,000.00.]

VADER: I am altering the deal. Pray I don't alter it any further.