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# Star Wars Darth Vader #9 Review: The Logic Behind The Legend

Posted on [January 15, 2021](#) | by [Hannibal Tabu](#) | [Comments](#)

## Star Wars Darth Vader #9

8.5/10

The Dark lord of the Sith is back, using only hits wits and will to fend off some of the most dangerous parties in the galaxy on his way to understanding.

One of the challenges with the newly canonical comic books is the need to balance the menace and mastery of Darth Vader against the desire to deepen his sense of loss and, in some ways, justify his failures. *Star Wars: Darth Vader #9* is one of the rare ones that perfectly balances the struggle between the Anakin that had to die (to be reborn at the end) and the legend of Vader that fell across the galaxy.

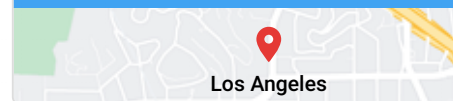
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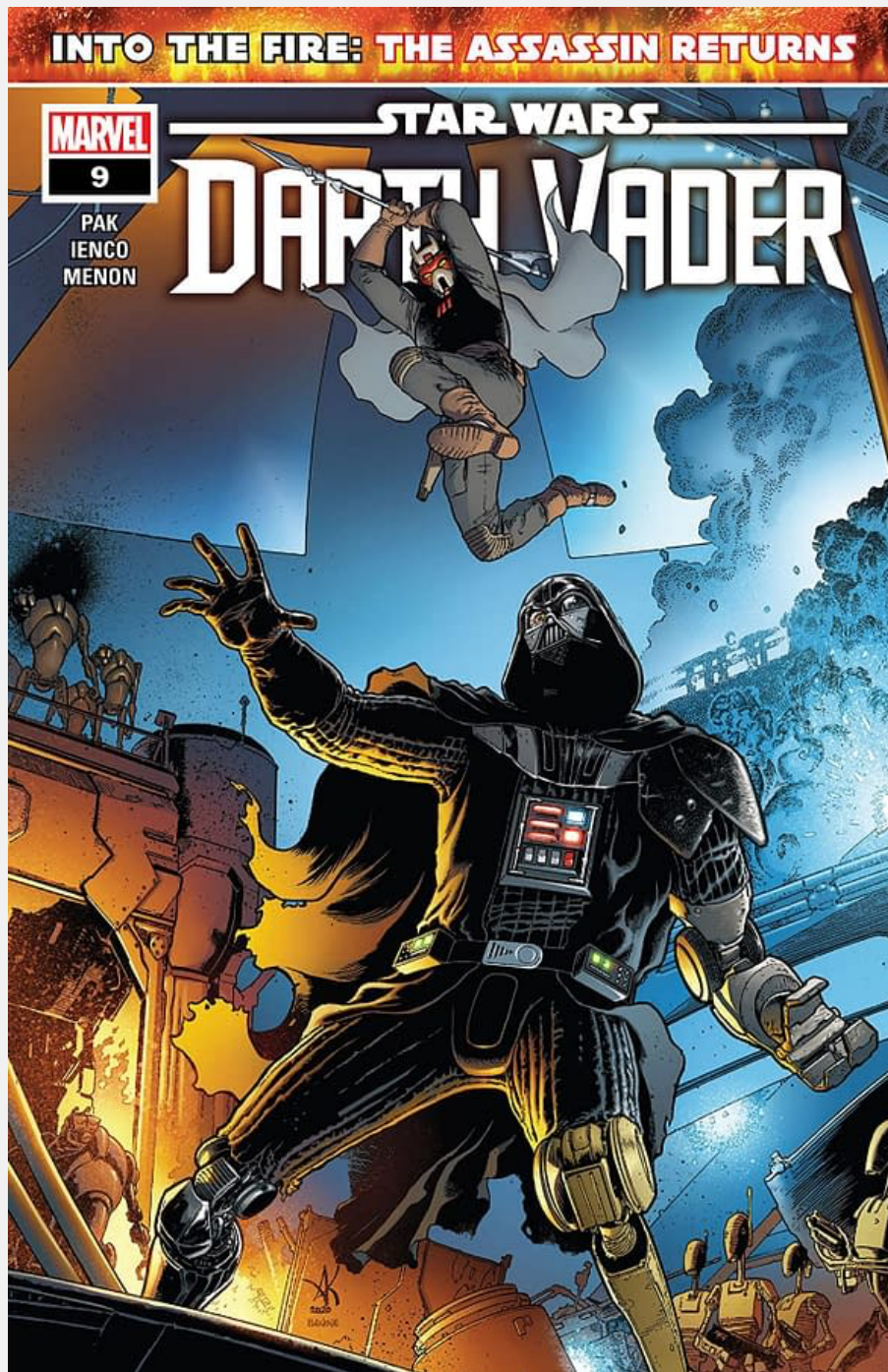
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Star Wars: Darth Vader #9 Cover. Credit: Marvel

Vader has incurred the wrath of his master and been sent to Mustafar, forbidden to use the Force, and set upon by one of Palpatine's hand-picked assassins (not a Hand, don't get excited, EU fans). If Vader wins, yay, he's fine. If not, he dies. There was a lot of wind up for this in previous issues that were a mixed bag in how well it did things, but every key piece of information you need is here in

Future State: Harley Quinn #1 Review: A Mean Spirited Good Time

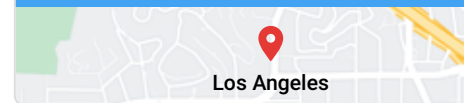
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this issue.

The Greg Pak script does a great job introducing every of the Bestooni murderers after Vader — including Ochi and the Droid Crush Pirates — and the Sith Lord himself. Likewise, the artwork from Raffaele Ienco, Neeraj Menon, and Joe Caramagna have some very big surprises and superbly engaging shows of Vader's cunning and effectiveness, even when backed against the wall.

Deeply tied to all three film trilogies and carrying a lot of narrative weight with grace, this is the logic behind the legend. **RATING: BUY.**

### [Star Wars: Darth Vader #9](#)

By Greg Pak, Raffaele Ienco, Aaron Kuder

THE ASSASSIN RETURNS! In his search for vengeance in the depths of MUSTAFAR, DARTH VADER has seized the mysterious key to the EMPEROR'S greatest secret. But the key itself needs a key – which only the deadly assassin OCHI OF BESTOON seems to have. Vader and Ochi are in for the fight of their lives with the fate of the Emperor in the balance – but how much of this is all PALPATINE'S plan? And what happens when the SITH LORD and the SITH ASSASSIN start to figure that plan out?

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### About [Hannibal Tabu](#)

Hannibal Tabu is a writer, journalist, DJ, poet and designer living in south Los Angeles with his wife and children. He's a winner of the 2012 Top Cow Talent Hunt, winner of the 2018-2019 Cultural Trailblazer award from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, his weekly comic book review column THE BUY PILE can be found on iHeartRadio's Nerd-O-Rama podcast, his

reviews can be found on BleedingCool.com, and more information can be found at his website, [www.hannibaltabu.com](http://www.hannibaltabu.com). Plus, get free weekly web comics on the Operative Network at <http://bit.ly/combatshaman>.



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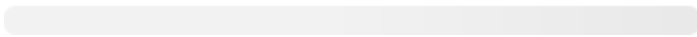
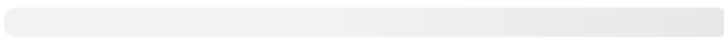
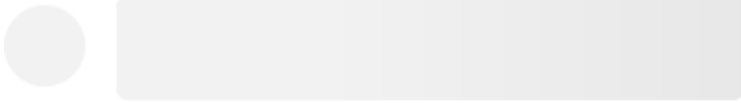
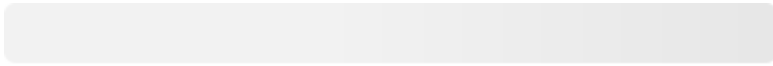
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