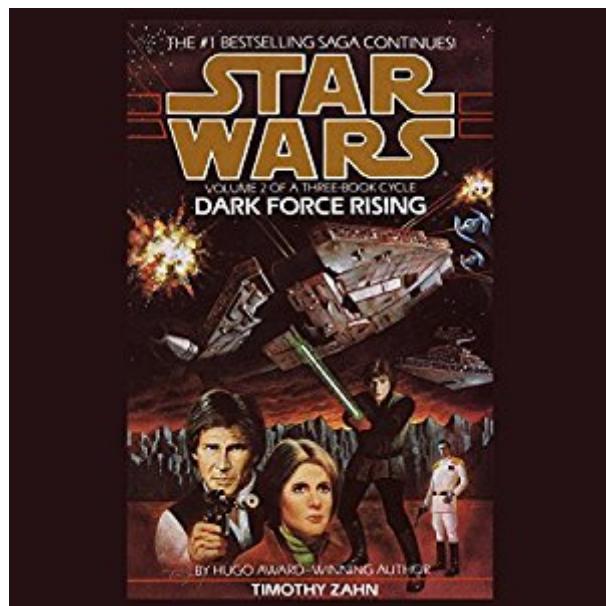


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# Star Wars: Dark Force Rising: The Thrawn Trilogy, Book 2



## **Synopsis**

The dying Empire's most cunning and ruthless warlord - Grand Admiral Thrawn - has taken command of the remnants of the Imperial fleet and launched a massive campaign aimed at the New Republic's destruction. With the aid of unimaginable weapons long hidden away by the Emperor on a backwater planet, Thrawn plans to turn the tide of battle, overwhelm the New Republic, and impose his iron rule throughout the galaxy. Meanwhile, Han and Lando Calrissian race against time to find proof of treason inside the highest Republican Council - only to discover instead a ghostly fleet of warships that could bring doom to their friends and victory to their enemies. Yet most dangerous of all is a new Dark Jedi, risen from the ashes of a shrouded past, consumed by bitterness...and scheming to corrupt Luke Skywalker to the Dark Side.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I have been a fan of Timothy Zahn since I read Thrawn Trilogy in the 90s. I've decided to read it again. Like the first book, Zahn did a good job in writing the story. Each chapter has a climax and a good plot to it. In each page, Zahn puts in a lot of detail in the story. And briefly describes each character, and has specific scenes for each character. It's a work of art. It doesn't stop there.

In the Thrawn Trilogy, Timothy Zahn kicks off the EU proper with a trilogy usually regarded as one of the EU's high points--and with good reason. Zahn definitely has a feel for Star Wars and his writing is perfectly suited for the task at hand. Thrawn is an extremely compelling character, as is

Palleon. Jorus C'boath is another interesting character, and Mara Jade is downright essential. Most good EU novels will follow the same sort of direction as what Zahn did in the Thrawn trilogy, and characters from these books will pop up time and time again in subsequent EU books.

Another great adventure in the infamous Thrawn trilogy. A must read, action packed thriller which sees a significant evolution of Mara Jade, and the gang.

I am loving this series. The second book is excellent. The author has captured the essence of each character perfectly. I can't wait to read the next book in the series. I recommend this series to all Star Wars fans.

In the first audio book, "Heir to the Empire", the story was read by Denis Lawson (Wedge Antilles), who did a credible job. With Anthony Daniels (C3PO) things have improved considerably. Daniels has a much better reading voice. He has great voice characterizations allowing the reader to easily keep the many characters straight. Once again the special effects are excellent (blaster fire, star ship engines, etc.). The audio is crisp and clear in a car environment. Timothy Zahn continues the story of the fledgling New Republic. Admiral Thrawn (of the Empire) is the last surviving Grand Admiral, and his plans to bring down the New Republic are slowly culminating. In addition to that threat the NR has also to deal with a new Dark Jedi. Zahn does a great job with the old "wheel within a wheel" type story. There are several (but not too many) threads running through the book that make it very entertaining and keep you longing for more. Well worth the purchase price (I can't add anything more to the publisher's review). Run time: 180 minutes.

I have always enjoyed Zahn's writing, and how he connects this Trilogy to the the first Star Wars Movies. I do recommend them. I had bought these to replace the Trilogy I owned when he first wrote them, and while it was listed as Hard Back, I was not aware of the term 'Turtle Back & School editions. As a result these books are no bigger then the standard paperback books they just have hadcovers on them. should have been clearer in there discription for people like myself who had no clue as to what Turtle Back ment. Aside from that they are well made books, holding inside great stories!

The second of Timothy's Zahn's Thrawn Trilogy picks up almost immediately after the Empire's thwarted attack at the Sluis Van Shipyards but immediately launches the characters back into

action. With the New Republic maintaining its tenuous position as the new major government in the galaxy, the Empire is still pushing to regain it's former position. Timothy Zahn brings an action-packed novel that has a mix of cannon and original characters that are so strongly written they feel like real people.

Dark Force Rising is the second book of three in the "Thrawn Trilogy". Thrawn is this blue guy with glowing red eyes who takes primary leadership of the empire after the fall of Vader and the emperor. This book picks up well from the first of this trilogy, Heir to the Empire. It preserves the fast and epic feel of the star wars films. This trilogy is as close to what occurs directly after "Return of the Jedi" as a casual fan such as myself would require. As for this book in particular, a great deal of setting up for the third book, "The Last Command" is occurring. Several new characters such as Niles Ferrier are introduced, and a few other conflicts get resolved as others are being initiated. Luke finally encounters C'Baoth, who is the only Jedi master left in the galaxy. Luke also makes more run-ins with Mara Jade, ex hand of the emperor. She's supposed to be hot, and totally into trying to kill Luke, due to a "Jedi spell" Darth Sidious put on her just before dying. Plus she just doesn't like Luke very much for killing her boss, so more plot development occurs between those two. All the classic characters from the movies are very busy with galactic bureaucracy, trading and negotiations as the war between the New Republic and the Empire continues to rage in the background. Thrawn seems perfectly content avoiding most of the main warring going on, and enjoys his time wasting precious empire resources wandering the galaxy on random hunches and flashes of self-ordained brilliance. He's a bit of a jerk in other words, but also extremely cunning. The novels are worth reading if you're a star wars fan, though the writer definitely rushed his way through this book. He writes so poorly. I swear he used the word "sardonic" to describe every single person's facial expression at least 3 times each. No joke! Check it out yourself! He Zahn just seems to lack artistic variability in characterization in this book. You can really tell he was just trying to pump this one out to the shelves to milk a thirty year old cash cow. Aside from Zahn's sacrilegious negligence to the saga, the story itself is fun, impacting and significant to the star wars legacy. This book very much excited me for the third one, which I am beginning presently. I just hope Zahn put more effort into giving characters a bit more variety in expression other in the third book, other than always being sardonic, getting chills or sweat dripping between shoulder blades (eww... Mara, stop sweating so much). I think the events really drive the novel, despite the poor writing. That's why I'd still recommend it to those who want to know what happens after the movies!

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