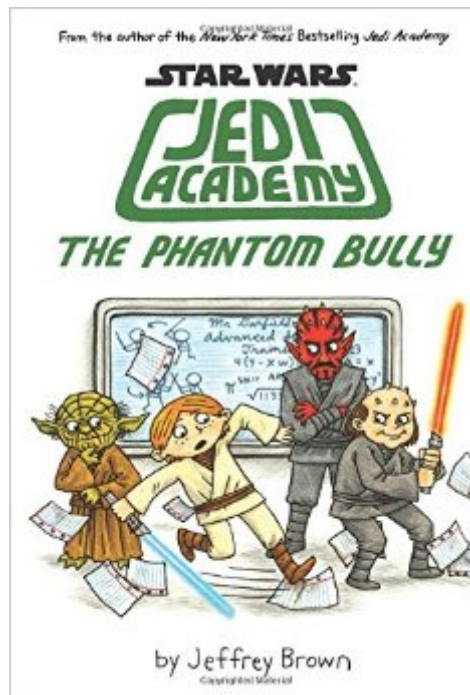


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The Phantom Bully (Star Wars: Jedi Academy #3)



Synopsis

Award-winning author/illustrator Jeffrey Brown returns for the third installation of the NY Times Bestseller *Star Wars: Jedi Academy!* It's hard to believe this is Roan's last year at Jedi Academy. He's been busier than ever learning to fly (and wash) starships, swimming in the Lake Country on Naboo, studying for the Jedi obstacle course exam, and tracking down dozens of vorpak clones--don't ask. But now, someone is setting him up to get in trouble with everyone at school, including Yoda. If he doesn't find out who it is, and fast, he may get kicked out of school! Why can't middle school just be easy. . . This incredible, original story captures all of the humor, awkwardness, fun, and frustrations of middle school--all told through one boy's comics, journal entries, letters, sketches, e-mails, and more.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: GN630L (What's this?)

Series: *Star Wars: Jedi Academy* (Book 3)

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc. (June 30, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545621267

ISBN-13: 978-0545621267

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (169 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,289 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction](#) #58 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels](#) #60 in [Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Before I stumbled across *The Phantom Bully*, I had not read any of the previous *Star Wars: Jedi Academy* graphic novels. So, I was coming into this one with a completely open and fresh perspective. The end result is that I was very entertained (even as an adult!) by the subject matter and the visuals and it really made me want to check out the previous two installments. For a basic plot summary, *Phantom Bully* tells the story of Roan, a boy going through what is

essentially the last year of 'Padawan Middle School'. Like many other YA middle school novels, this one touches on topics like added responsibility, tough/crazy teachers, first crush, bullies, and the bonds of friendship. Roan must navigate all those social situations while at the same time trying to prove himself to be a true Jedi student. Like I said, 'Phantom Bully' covers many of the same tried-and-true themes of other novels with similarly aged protagonists. What makes this one stand out, of course, is that it can use the Star Wars brand to do it! Star Wars may be one of the most recognizable/popular franchises ever created, so it has instant appeal in storytelling possibilities. In this case, not only does Roan have to 'survive middle school' (a common YA theme), but he has to do so with a professor who may be a Sith, another professor (Yoda) who talks backwards, Jedi mind tricks, an obstacle course featuring lightsaber battles, and a very diverse cast of characters/species all around him. To me, at least, that instantly ups the appeal of the story! Another thing that helps give the story a lot of visual flare (obviously important for a graphic novel) is that it ties in so well to the Star Wars previously-established universe.

This is the third installment on the Jedi Academy series. If you read the previous books, you are already know what to expect. However, this installment is not as intense as the previous book. Which means I could put it down to sleep, and pick it up next morning to finish. Yet, the charm of this series continues to its satisfying ending and a promise of more in the future, I wish. In this book, Brown tells us what happen to Roan on his third and final year of middle school in the Jedi Academy. As in the previous installments, this book is written in the fashion of a black and white comic book with interlaced pages from Roan's personal diary to give us an insight to Roan's mind and other notes such as letters and pages from the Padawan Observer to flesh out the Roan's world. This layout makes it easy to read, being easy on the comic pages and a bit more challenging on the dairies section for young minds. This time around we start with a Roan that have learned from his mistakes, but soon enough we learn that he is constantly bullied. So the challenge is constant through out the book, yet with the help of Roan's friends, even the challenge of a bully can be tolerated and eventually overcome. I can relate so much (sans the Jedi powers) that I just baffle how much Brown got right. And I love that the book didn't go too dark, when in many instances it could. We all need a ray of hope, and this book is just that. The good thing is that this book is only 176 pages long. I was able to finished in two days, because I started with my little one. However, being this short is also a bad thing, because I want more. Hopefully, the message in the last pages becomes a promise for more. PS.

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