

**Short Review: “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” (2016) by Dr. John L. Flynn**



**Star Wars: The Force Awakens** (2016). Lucasfilm/Disney, 120 min. Director and

Screenwriter: J.J. Abrams (with Lawrence Kasdan). Producer: Kathleen Kennedy.

Based upon characters created by George Lucas Starring: Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Adam Driver, Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Oscar Isaac, Max Van Sydow, Anthony Daniels, Peter Mayhew, Andy Serkis, Kenny Baker.

For years we waited for George Lucas to give birth to a new trilogy of Star Wars films, if only to make up for the dismal Episodes 1-2-3. But instead George decided to sell his greatest creation to Disney. We fans thought that would be the end of it. We had no way of knowing that J.J. Abrams, who had breathed new life into “Star Trek” and “Mission Impossible,” would take the helm of the new Star Wars film and restore the Force. Credit Abrams for re-awakening the Force, and bringing our beloved Han Solo, Chewbacca, Princess Leia, R2 and 3-PO, and even Luke Skywalker back into the Star Wars universe. “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” is both familiar and new, with a brand new group of Rebels (Daisy Ridley, Oscar Isaacs, B-B9, and John Boyega) picking up the baton from

our family of established heroes. Even the new bad guy is familiar; Kylo Ren, the grandson of Darth Vader, has joined forces with the new Empire to destroy the rebellion once and for all with a new Death Star. For 120 minutes, I was a child again, watching Star Wars for the first time! Thank you, Walt Disney, George Lucas, and J.J. Abrams. The circle of my life now feels complete.

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