

Let's Over-Analyze 88 Seconds of the New Star Wars Trailer!

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First off, if you haven't seen the official international teaser trailer for JJ Abrams' new *Star Wars* movie, you can find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erLk59H86ww>.

Furthermore, you should also watch the Lego Version of the trailer (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0tLOARV-jk>) and the lovely George Lucas "Special Edition" parody (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v93Jh6JNBng>).

Okay, now that you have watched 88 seconds (and hopefully more) of *Star Wars* awesomeness, let's talk about the trailer.

The trailer brought many things to the table in a short amount of time while leaving everything to the imagination as well. It gave away pretty much nothing but told everything about the "feel" we'd be getting from this new edition to the saga.

After the mostly disappointing prequels, it seems *Star Wars* is back in the hands of someone who will continue to give it the justice it deserves. Now, I know JJ Abrams has had his flops, but hey, this is the man who brought you the best seasons of *Lost* and *Fringe* and called his production company "Bad Robot". He's pretty freaking awesome. Personally, I think the trailer showcases that Abrams wants to bring justice to these movies. First off, I caught absolutely no lens flares in the entire trailer. No. Lens. Flares.—Abrams' signature pizzazz factor, which is good because the cinematography that is *Star Wars* doesn't need and shouldn't have lens flares.

Other ways the trailer showed this was with how much it felt like the original trilogy. Reference (while there was the Millennium Falcon and a few parallels that could be made) the trailer wasn't shoving reference after reference down our throats like the prequels had (also there was no Jar-Jar in sight). One of the things missing from the prequels in my opinion was the lack of focus on the major characters. The prequels tended to focus on too many things at once—too many characters, story arcs, references. Eventually, this led to the movies' focus being on the entire state of the galaxy rather than what truly mattered to the audience and the storyline—the relationship between the padawan and his master, in this case Obi Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker.

In the new trailer, we were introduced to what is to be assumed our new trio. Just as in ancient Greek myths, three major characters embark on a quest/journey. In the original trilogy, it was Luke, Leia, and Han. In the prequels, it was meant to be Obi Wan, Padme, and Anakin. In the sequels, we have an unnamed Storm Trooper (I'll get back to this), a young woman from what looks to be the planet of Tatooine, and an X-Wing pilot. Some events, probably our old trio or possibly something else) will bring these three together to go about the "hero's journey." Those few shots of these people made me excited for the movie (Also that really beautiful scene of the X-Wing over the water. Such a pretty shot!)

Now to the unnamed Storm Trooper (although maybe he's Storm Trooper impersonator). This might just be the character I'm most excited about and the character we might have seen the most in the trailer. He's played by John Boyega. Many fans are upset about this casting choice in regards to the character's skin tone. Most fans of the movies (and not of the extended universe or other canonical information available) are under the impression all Storm Troopers are the clones seen in *Attack of the Clones*. However, this is not the case. Around 9 BBY in the *Star Wars*

universe, the Storm Troopers consisted of numerous clones from different DNA samples as well as human volunteers. This leaves the leeway to have a POC play a Storm Trooper in the new media. It should also be noted that there is no confirmation that Boyega is actually playing a Storm Trooper. He could easily be disguised as one just as Luke did in Episode IV.

We were also given hints to the state of the galaxy in the new movies. Most articles have sited the movie is to be taking 30 years post the original trilogy, which is a good timeline estimate based on what we've heard and seen in this trailer. The trailer hinted at some heavy Rebellion vs Empire themes still at work in the galaxy, which would makes since. Thirty years is enough time to build up forces for the New Galactic Republic but not nearly enough time for everyone in such a large galaxy to be on the same page yet. I'm betting the Empire is still at large on certain planets more than others but on the decline in most places. It would take a lot of work to expunge all the influences that had occurred the previous 18 years. On the same note, it's going to be tough for Luke to recruit Force-Sensitive creatures into a New Jedi Order. So there's probably a decent amount considering it's been thirty years, but we will not be anywhere near the height of the Jedi we saw at the beginning of the prequels.

Overall, I thought the trailer did what it was supposed to—tease and entice, get people excited for the movie next year. I know I am! It'll be cool to finally see a *Star Wars* movie in the theater with my dad, considering he watched it in drive-in's growing up.

Other good and funny *Star Wars* videos:

What If Episode I Were Good?: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgICnbC2-_Y

What If Episode II Were Good?: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JABug3AhYmw>