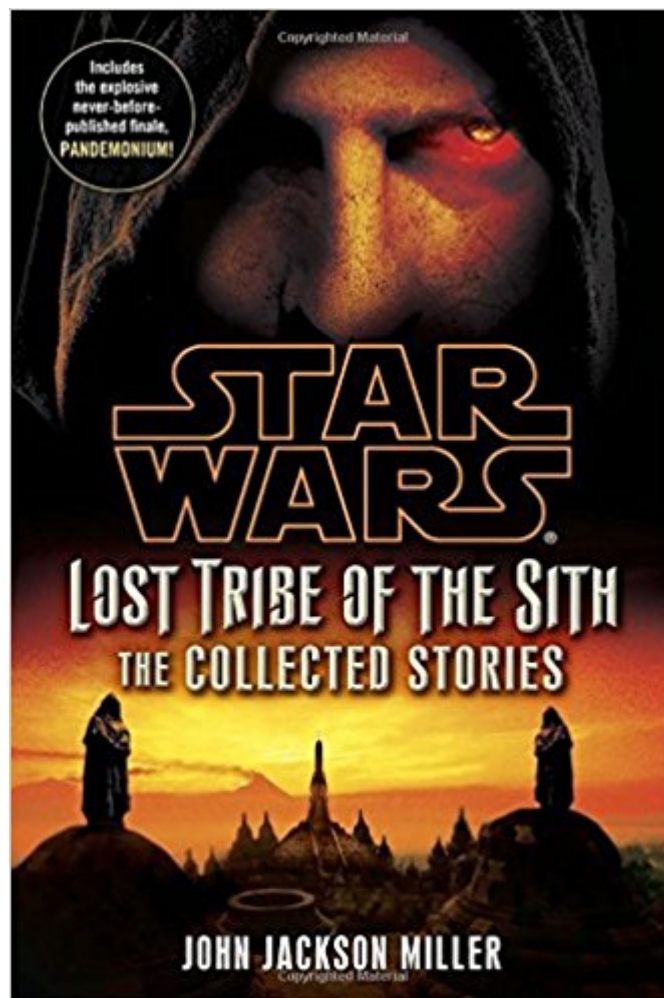




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Star Wars: Lost Tribe Of The Sith - The Collected Stories (Star Wars: Lost Tribe Of The Sith - Legends)



Synopsis

At last in one volume, the eight original installments of the epic Lost Tribe of the Sith eBook series . . . along with the explosive, never-before-published finale, Pandemonium! — more than one hundred pages of new material! — Five thousand years ago. After a Jedi ambush, the Sith mining ship Omen lies wrecked on a remote, unknown planet. Its commander, Yaru Korsin, battles the bloodshed of a mutinous faction led by his own brother. Marooned and facing death, the Sith crew have no choice but to venture into their desolate surroundings. They face any number of brutal challenges — vicious predators, lethal plagues, tribal people who worship vengeful gods — and like true Sith warriors, counter them with the dark side of the Force. — The struggles are just beginning for the proud, uncompromising Sith, driven as they are to rule at all costs. They will vanquish the primitive natives, and they will find their way back to their true destiny as rulers of the galaxy. But as their legacy grows over thousands of years, the Sith ultimately find themselves tested by the most dangerous threat of all: the enemy within.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Fate of the Jedi novels introduce readers to a hidden Sith society, living apart from the rest of the galaxy for five thousand years. But how did they come to be? Lost Tribe of the Sith answers that question. Spanning millennia, this series of short stories introduces the original unlikely castaways --

and shows how their society was shaped. *Lost Tribe of the Sith - The Collected Stories* includes the original eight short stories, plus *Pandemonium*, and all-new novella -- and, for the first time, maps of the world the Sith are stranded on. The chronicles of the Lost Tribe continue in a new comics series from Dark Horse -- but they all begin here!

Author and game designer John Jackson Miller is the author of *Star Wars: Knight Errant* and the *Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith* eBook series, as well as nine *Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic* graphic novels. His comics work includes writing for *Iron Man*, *Mass Effect*, *Bart Simpson*, and *Indiana Jones*. He lives in Wisconsin with his wife, two children, and far too many comic books.

John Jackson Miller has been amassing an impressive list of *Star Wars* contributions, notably with his superb run writing the Dark Horse comic series *Knights of the Old Republic* and then continuing into the *Knight Errant* series, which is still ongoing. *Knight Errant* saw him public an excellent full-length novel as well. Here, Mr. Miller writes something with a scope between the comics and the books: nine short stories originally published as e-books (well, at least eight were, with the ninth being exclusive to this trade paperback). These stories were released as free downloads initially and have now been collected into this compendium. I'm old-fashioned when it comes to reading fiction and so was quite pleased to have these tales in print form. The stories contained within *Lost Tribe of the Sith: The Collected Stories* span slightly over two thousand years of galactic history, starting five thousand years before the Battle of Yavin. The Sith vessel *Omen* experiences a catastrophic crash on a remote and desolate planet. The crash itself is quite interesting as it completes the story of what happened with the two Sith vessels on a doomed mining mission at the outset of Paul S. Kemp's *Crosscurrent*. The Sith Lord commanding the vessel, Yaru Korsin, sets off to build a new civilization with the extremely limited resources available on this new world.

Fortunately for the Sith, they quickly meet a native people and are able to start leveraging their existing mythology and beliefs to benefit the Sith. There are several tensions presented in the first few short stories (which tell one complete story before time jumps forward) which are dramatic and intriguing. The first is between the Sith of human/alien origin and the Massassi who have traditionally been subjugated by the Sith. The Massassi do not adapt well to the alien environment, to say the least, and there is a quick rebalancing among the survivors of *Omen's* crash. The other tension of greatest interest is between the native Keshiri and the Sith accidental invaders. At first a Keshiri named Adari is excited to meet the new visitors but over time she is saddened to realize the underlying evil of the Sith culture and she starts to see a need for the Keshiri to protect

themselves. The fifth story of the nine jumps forward over one thousand years to the time of the Knights of the Old Republic and Darth Revan. Several stories cover this era and then we have a final jump forward to 2975 BBY (Before the Battle of Yavin) as the book concludes. Mr. Miller does a good job of connecting these stories together and presents the overall evolution of a stable Sith society in a convincing manner. No easy trick considering Sith nature is to prey upon the weak and not help those in need. These Sith evolve into a more secure society than any others we've seen presented in the Star Wars galaxy to date. I favor full-length novels over short stories, as I often struggle to get into a short story in the limited pages it is allotted, but Mr. Miller does well in making these chronologically disparate tales hang together. Some characters do not have much opportunity to develop but giving several stories in a row to the same group gives the main ones a little room to grow. The world the Sith are stranded on is compelling, with its lack of raw materials and general remoteness from the galaxy at large. The Lost Tribe of the Sith plays a major role in the Fate of the Jedi saga and so I chose to read this collection just before plunging into those nine books. Even though its characters do not appear in Fate of the Jedi, the background it gives to this unique Sith group is welcome. The story of the Lost Tribe is also being expanded upon in an ongoing Dark Horse comics series. I wouldn't recommend this story collection to a casual Star Wars reader but I would definitely do so to anyone interested in reading Fate of the Jedi or learning more about a different take on a Sith society.

I enjoyed this "series" much more than the Fate of the Jedi series it leads up to. John Jackson Miller manages to create a compelling history for the planet Kesh. While it does not achieve the complexity, subtlety, and scale of Tolkien's Middle Earth, it is still impressive considering the majority of the story is told through a single volume of short stories (if you don't include the five issue comic series, which I haven't read). It was interesting to see how a colony of Sith cope with crash landing on a planet with no hope of escape. In this scenario my gut reaction would be that things are not going to end well, with various factions forming to destroy each other, infighting, and power grabs. While this does happen frequently throughout the history Miller has created, there are occasionally leaders that exhibit one of the Sith's most under underrated attributes, the ability to plan for the long game.

The first eight of these collected stories were released as free e-books with the ninth, and final, story being finally released in this book. It appears that the free bits may have disappeared with the collected stories version coming out. What a pain - I wrote reviews for those stories that are now

marked "unavailable". Such is life. Anyways, as this is the collected stories, here are my collected reviews with a review for the ninth story added at the end. (spoiler alert level - medium).

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #1: Precipice Here come the Sith - A Sith ship (the Omen) crashes and the kindly sweet Sith emerge to teach the locals how to get along in peace and kindness. Actually, the Sith are nice at first. This "Lost Tribe of the Sith" episode gives a nice view of how the Sith under Naga Sadow thought and acted. It is also interesting in that it details some of the interplay between the human and Sith races. Overall, this is the tale of arrival and setting up to take control of a new planet.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #2: Skyborn Meet the Natives - The Sith arrived and set up camp in the previous episode (Precipice), now it's time to say hello to the neighbors. A local woman introduces the Sith to the local powers that be who are, essentially, dragon riders and the top caste of Kesh society. It turns out they worship deities called the "Skyborne" (opportunity knocks). The Sith form social alliances with various locals to both protect themselves from the far larger local population and to gather some local power. The Sith are also busily trying to gather resources to fix their ship and get back to the war.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #3: Paragon Meet the New Boss - In this episode, the Sith have taken over Kesh and have mostly given up on ever leaving. It is the effort to fix the ship, however, that had them cooperating so well with each other. Now they are indulging their normal tendencies to fight one another and decide just who is the new boss of Kesh. As long as it isn't a Kesheri (Kesh native), of course. It's nice that the eugenics program is making the Sith so easy to look at, and a lot less red.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #4: Savior The Locals Strike Back - The Sith have taken over. Most of the Kesh locals now believe that the Sith actually are the "Skyborn" deities and should be prayed to. The Sith, meanwhile, have figured out they aren't going to be leaving anytime soon. As this episode progresses, some locals recognize the Sith for what they are and try to undermine them. Interestingly, the local Kesh use Sith-style deceit to advance their cause. Maybe they've learned well from their new masters? Good luck with deceiving the Sith.

Side note - the tension finally disappears between the human race and Sith race. It's all part of a eugenics program.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #5: Purgatory Let the in-fighting continue - The earlier episodes of this series detailed the Sith taking over the planet. In this episode, they've ruled Kesh for a thousand years. Things are a bit different. For one thing, the original Sith shipwreck contained a bunch of relatively weak and untrained Sith. They were soldiers and sailors, not Lords. No one was even close to being a Sith lord. Now things are different. The Sith don't seem all that stronger in the Force, but they've grown into their mantle of power. In other words, they are a bunch of scheming psychopaths but force choking isn't a big thing. Into all that, an oddly serene dirt farmer catches a young Sith's attention.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #6: Sentinel There are two

sides to the force - This installment follows immediately from the fifth (Purgatory). It turns out that it's pretty hard to completely deceive a Sith who has risen to rule an entire continent. It's much easier to blow them up with a little republic ship. Meanwhile, an ex-Jedi (not fallen, just separated) and a Sith hook up and tune out.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #7: Pantheon

Dust to Dust - The first few episodes of this series covered the rise of the ship wrecked Sith to rule Kesh. The next couple episodes cover events a thousand years later when the Sith run the place and are at the top of their game. With this seventh installment, another thousand years have passed. The original shipwreck crew have become mythical beings and the nearly complete lack of natural resources on Kesh has brought the Sith low as they no longer reach for the stars or understand their own birthright. In other words, it's kind of like the dark ages in Europe with less opportunity for reprieve. Meanwhile, a scholar tries to tie things together, keep the peace, and preserve what heritage remains. It isn't an easy task with either barbarians or with Sith. Sith barbarians are even nastier to deal with.

Another chunk of interest is how wrecked everything is from lack of care.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #8: Secrets

Losing their religion - The Sith have completely lost faith in having any reason to cooperate. The last one standing is the winner. The Sith have pretty much decided to wreck the place and kill whoever is available for killing. That and maybe it's time to finish off the old abandoned temple.

Meanwhile, that scholar heads back to the Omen to discover some secret knowledge. What he finds is a map. A camera on the Omen had survived the crash and had also recorded images of Kesh as the Omen headed in. The Sith decide to curb their murderous rampage return to that old school style of treachery and assassination.

Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith #8: Pandemonium

Let's do it, do it, do it again - It turns out that the Omen had crashed into about the worst place on Kesh. It's a continent of pretty much dirt and Keshiri. No decent metals and there isn't even good enough wood to go sailing and looking for more stuff to take over. It left the Sith with little to do but breed and in-fight for a few millenia.

But... in the previous story "Secrets", they turned up a map showing a second and much nicer continent and decide to head on over for a little how-do-you-do (conquest). A Sith Lord (Sithepher Columbus?) and friends make their way to that bigger and more resource rich continent that is full of unconquered Kesheri. In the negative column, all those unconquered Kesheri know about the Sith, really hate them, and have been preparing. What's a Dark Lord to do? Infiltrate, of course. After all, love and hate are different sides of the same coin.

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