

## **Talking about Quinlan Vos with Jan Duursema**

07/18/2006, by Sifo Dyas

Hi Humberto--here you go! :D

### **Hi Jan, thanks for your time. I would like to ask you a question a lot of fans want to know. How does the idea begin to create Quinlan Vos?**

John Ostrander and I asked our editor Peet Janes--who was editing Star Wars at that time if we could take a background character from The Phantom Menace, make him a Jedi and and tell a story about him.

### **Where did his name come from?**

John thought of his name. I think he wanted to make us think of Qui-Gon Jinn--so Quinlan Vos.

### **Did you or John think that Quinlan Vos become a central character in Star Wars: Republic from a beginning?**

No. I thought we would get to do one 4 part arc story with Quin and Aayla and that would be the end of it. Though we had hopes to do more stories with the character, John and I never imagined Quin would become as popular a Star Wars character as he became.

### **There are two very specials Quinlan's tales. The first one is Heart of Fire, the tale where Quinlan Vos met Xiaan Amersu. Why was Heart of Fire edited out of the regular series?**

Heart of Fire was not edited out of the regular series. The 3 part story was used in the Dark Horse Extra as part of an advertising campaign for the Star Wars Republic series.

### **The second tale is Ghost (Star Wars Tales 11). Is it canon?**

I'd like to think so. I wrote that story so it could be read in two ways. 1--Quin was actually there and helped out Han. 2--He really was a ghost. I like version 1.

### **How do you decide that Quinlan Vos survived Order 66?**

We were given a choice on how to end the series and Quin's story. He could die or he could live. We considered both endings. Some folks think we couldn't kill the character--but that ending was written as well. LF liked the ending we used better. I think possibly because it gave a faint glimmer of hope in a very dark galaxy.

### **What does Lucasfilm think about the character?**

I think they like him. He got to survive Order 66, didn't he?

### **Is it possible you are creating a new project for Quinlan Vos?**

Not right now. With the talk of TV series and cartoons happening in between Episodes 3 and 4 and with the exception of the Dark Times series, that era is pretty much off limits to us.

### **What do you think about the fans who admire a character created by you than other classic characters like Luke Skywalker or Han Solo?**

I always appreciate all the fans who enjoy the EU as well as the OT--and I'm really thrilled to have created an EU character who has good standing with the fans. As much as I love the Star Wars films, it's cool to think that Star Wars can go beyond the films and encompass characters like Quin and Aayla.

### **Has Quinlan Vos a cameo in Episode I?**

As I mentioned, John and I picked out a character from Episode 1 who became Quinlan Vos. It's funny, but later on LF licensing tried to find out who the man with the yellow stripe was-- and no one knew. Very mysterious--but that's a Jedi for you, right? ;p

**Can you talk us about your participation in Celebration III?**

I had a great time there! Got to meet a lot of fans, sell some Quin and Aayla posters in the art room. Everyone at the convention was really nice. I guess coming together with the common interest of loving Star Wars makes for a good time.

**What new plans do you have for Star Wars?**

Right now I am working on Star Wars Legacy for Dark Horse comics. This takes place about 140 years after RotJ and is about Cade Skywalker--a direct descendant of Anakin and Luke. Though trained as a Jedi, Cade was driven from the Jedi Temple at Ossus by the Sith and went off into the galaxy to become a smuggler and bounty hunter. It's been amazing fun and a real challenge to create a whole new era in the Star Wars Galaxy, but John and I have been having a blast creating new characters and stories.

**What are your new personal plans?**

To keep drawing Star Wars, to try to become a better artist, to become better at sword forms and to try to be a good parent to my kids.

**Do you want to give a message to all the peruvian fans of your work?**

I guess I would just like to say 'Thank you' for reading my books. I hope you are enjoying the stories I have worked on and will continue to enjoy them. Even though Peru seems far away from me in distance, the fact that we are all Star Wars fans brings us closer. Maybe it's not such a huge galaxy after all.

**Has been a pleasure...**

Oh, thank you. Me too