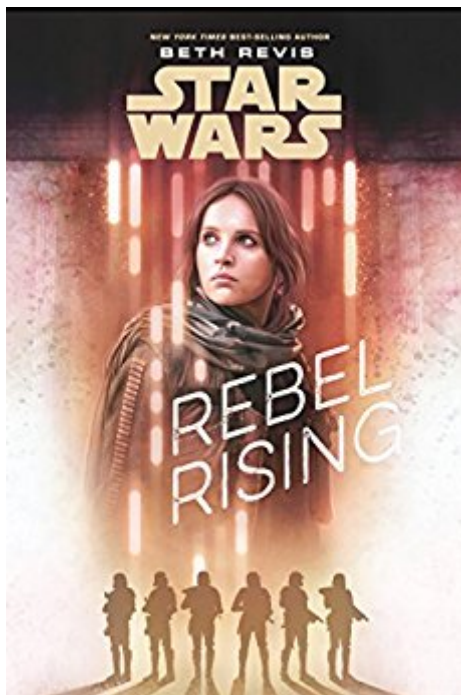


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Star Wars: Rebel Rising



Synopsis

New York Times bestselling author Beth Revis brings to life the early adventures and heartbreaks of the heroine of the smash hit movie *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*. When Jyn Erso was five years old, her mother was murdered and her father taken from her to serve the Empire. But despite the loss of her parents she is not completely alone—Saw Gerrera, a man willing to go to any extremes necessary in order to resist Imperial tyranny, takes her in as his own, and gives her not only a home but all the abilities and resources she needs to become a rebel herself. Jyn dedicates herself to the cause—and the man. But fighting alongside Saw and his people brings with it danger and the question of just how far Jyn is willing to go as one of Saw's soldiers. When she faces an unthinkable betrayal that shatters her world, Jyn will have to pull the pieces of herself back together and figure out what she truly believes in...and who she can really trust.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read the Kindle edition of this book. Set in the gap between the opening sequences of *Rogue One*, and the main bulk of the movie, *Rebel Rising* tells the story of how Jyn Erso goes from scared little

girl to Rebel. Even though it is written for young adults, any fan of Star Wars should enjoy the book. I know I did. This is recommended reading for any Star Wars fan. I only hope we get a similar treatment for Rey once a little more of her story is revealed in Ep. VIII.

MINOR SPOILERS AHEAD

We know from the movie that Jyn is rescued by Saw Gerrera and raised by him for many years before she is imprisoned by the Empire. We know she is a fighter. Saw rescues her from her cave, and takes her to his secret base. As a freedom fighter, the Empire says terrorist, Saw is all business. Food as nourishment only. Fighting practice. Code breaking. Falsifying papers. Missions. Saw raises Jyn as his own, and teaches her what she needs to know. Many rebels come and go, varying with the mission. We see some of the brutality that Saw's band is capable of, and what has caused him to not be part of the main Rebel Alliance. We also see when Saw abandons Jyn in the middle of a battle with a blaster and a knife. Jyn manages to find people to take her in, always bringing the Empire along in her wake.

The first time we see Jyn Erso in *Rogue One* she is a young girl. The second time we see her she is a grown woman serving time in an Imperial prison. That's a big gap of time which goes largely unexplored in the film. We know that she worked with Saw Guerrera and his group for a while until he eventually abandoned her. This is the book that fills in those gaps. It covers Jyn's exploits from the time Saw rescues her from her hiding spot on the Erso's farm to the time that rebels bust her out of an Imperial prison transport. We find that Jyn's life has been dark, brutal, and filled with crushing betrayals and heartbreak. It helps to explain why her character doesn't have a particularly sunny disposition in the movie. It does add to her character and would be worth a read for anyone who watched the movie and found themselves wanting to know more about her.

Beth Revis's novel, *"Rebel Rising"* gives Jyn Erso a solid backstory that fits in the "Star Wars" universe. You get taken on Jyn's journey from the precocious and loved child of Galen and Lyra Erso (from the *"Catalyst"* novel), to the hardened warrior she became under Saw's tutelage. You learn just how well-trained the Jyn in the film is, the Jyn who took down all those stormtroopers in Jedha. Her reactions to the disappointments, set backs, and atrocities feels genuine as does her discomfort with kindness. I recognize her in homeless teens I have met. She had to grow up at age 8. She's a scrappy survivor. The character of Jyn Erso in this novel melds pretty well into the character of Jyn in the film. The theme in this book that attracted my attention was the effect of conflict which was mirrored by Jyn's inner conflict. Whether its the Empire or the Rebels, you see through Jyn's eyes that their actions harm ordinary people who just want to live their lives without

interference, in peace.

At first I didn't realize it was a young adult novel. However I really enjoyed this background on Erso's early years. I think maybe Jyn's life could have been explored over a couple of different books. But this book goes from when she is found to the point we see her in the movie. I also did notice one part that an editor in the story didn't pick up on. It's after Saw picks her up, just after her mother was killed and they're in hyperspace. I'll leave it at that and see if anyone else can catch the error in the next couple of paragraphs. All in all it's a good book and loved the movie far more than TFA. But just my opinion.

This book is definitely written as an easier read for a more young adult age range than a traditional Star Wars book. It does however give some interesting context into Jyn's life between the moments we see her as a little girl to the introduction of her as an adult in Rouge One. I found for me personally the book was a slower read, and I had trouble wanting to read more than a little bit at a time. This could be because Jyn's character is constantly suffering in some way, physically or mentally, and that gets to be a bit tiring for me personally. But if you are a big fan of her character from the movie and want to know more about her backstory and the struggles that led up to her introduction in the film, this book will give you plenty to enjoy.

First Star Wars book I've ever set down and had no interest in finishing. It's a shame, I loved Catalyst and Rogue One. I just feel no emotional engagement to the characters as presented in this book. With both Saw and Jyn you would expect deep emotion but it just feels flat to me. Hopefully, I'll finish it at some point just to see where it leads in the story arc.

la pretty decent history and character study of Jyn Erso between her father being kidnapped and her being rescued by the Rebellion. Bogs down a bit in the middle. I also feel like the story of how Galen bought the Kyber necklace for Lyra was contradictory to what other canon stories have said about Lyra's knowledge of crystals and the Jedi. All in all, not bad. Just ok.

Rebel Rising tells the back story of Jyn Erso. The pacing is even, and the story, while a little formulaic and repetitive at times, is engaging and fun. Although billed as a "young adult novel", I would recommend this to any Star Wars fan - young or old.

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