

## CHAPTER 1

### A new student

Far away in Crystal City, on Christophsis, Anakin was ready to fight again.

'The droids are back!' he shouted to his clone troopers. 'More enemy droids are coming – lots more.'

'I told you that battle was too easy,' cried Obi-Wan. 'It was a mistake to send our ship away.'

'That wasn't my idea!' Anakin said quickly to his old Master\*.

He turned to the leader of the clone troopers and shouted, 'Captain Rex, you and your men follow me!'

They ran to the side of the street. The other troopers and their leader, Commander Cody, stayed with Obi-Wan. The Jedi's lightsaber was in his hand. This was going to be a hard battle. Lots of droids were coming. They were all strong and dangerous, and they all had guns.

Obi-Wan waited and then shouted, 'Now!'

The clone troopers ran at the droids. The sound was terrible as the droids started firing their guns.

But Obi-Wan was too fast for them. He started cutting at the droids with his lightsaber. First one fell, then another.



\* Jedi students call their teacher and other important Jedi 'Master'.

But it was no good; there were just too many. When one fell, another took its place.

'Where's General Skywalker? Why hasn't he attacked?' shouted Cody above the sounds of battle.

'Don't worry!' answered Obi-Wan. 'He knows the plan.'

Behind the other droids, three big insect droids ran on their long legs. Their red lights looked like scary eyes.

Now Anakin and his men were behind the enemy droids.

'Follow me,' Anakin told Rex.

He jumped on top of one of the big droids. Before it could do anything, the Jedi pushed his lightsaber into it. The droid fell, but Anakin did not stop. Moments later, he destroyed the second one.

Now Obi-Wan and his men were in front of the enemy droids and Anakin was behind them. The droids didn't know which way to attack. The battle was going well for the Republic army now. Their plan was working!

One of the battle droids talked to a hologram of their leader, General Loathsom. Like Count Dooku, Loathsom wanted to end the Republic.

'We cannot get past them,' the droid said.

'Then move back,' Loathsom ordered. 'We will use the shield.'

Anakin and Obi-Wan watched as the enemy started to leave. Both men knew that the battle was not over. Soon the droids were going to attack again.

Suddenly there was a sound from above. They looked up – it was a Republic ship!

'Help has arrived,' smiled Obi-Wan.

The door of the ship opened. The Jedi Knights were surprised when a young girl walked out.

'Who are you?' asked Anakin.