

THE BURGER MENACE

by

Mark Wutka

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[mark@wutka.com](mailto:mark@wutka.com)

INT. EMPLOYEE LOCKER ROOM AT MCDONALD'S

ANAKIN and OBI-WAN stare at each other face to face. Only their heads are visible.

ANAKIN  
(Whining)  
But I want to be where the  
action is!

OBI-WAN  
You need to stay here, my young  
padawaan.

ANAKIN  
Why do you keep calling me that?

OBI-WAN  
It's a Jedi term of endearment.

ANAKIN  
Well, if I'm so dear, why can't I  
go with you?

OBI-WAN  
Because you need to learn to take  
orders.

INT. MCDONALD'S COUNTER

Anakin stands behind the counter. A lightsaber hangs off his belt. His nametag says "Anakin". CUSTOMER #1 walks up to the counter.

ANAKIN  
Hello. Welcome to McDonald's. May  
I take your order.

CUSTOMER #1  
Yeah.. uhh.. (gazes up at menu)..  
I'd like..

ANAKIN  
Hey! Come on! You had all that  
time in line to look at the menu.  
What were you doing?

CUSTOMER #1  
Uhh.. (looks at Anakin) Huh? Did  
you say something?

ANAKIN  
What do you want, sir?

CUSTOMER #1  
Yeah.. (looks at menu again)..  
I'd like a.. yeah.. Big Mac.. and  
uh.. medium.. no, large.. large  
fries.. and a large.. no..  
medium.. uh.. how big is the  
large drink?

Anakin's face darkens. Thunder rumbles in the distance.  
Anakin holds up his right hand in a fist, with the thumb and  
forefinger extended.

ANAKIN  
I find your lack of choice  
disturbing.

Customer #1 grabs his own throat with his eyes wide.

CUSTOMER #1  
(Struggling to breathe)  
Khhhh... khhhh...

Obi-Wan appears next to Anakin.

OBI-WAN  
What are you doing?

Anakin puts his fist down. Customer #1 releases his throat  
and takes huge breaths.

ANAKIN  
He was.. uhh.. choking. I was..  
um.. using the force to help him.

OBI-WAN  
(To Customer #1)  
I'm sorry about that, sir. Here,  
let me get you a free shake.

Customer #1 runs out. Obi-Wan turns to Anakin again.

OBI-WAN  
What did I tell you about using  
the force on customers?

ANAKIN  
Yeah, yeah. Whatever.

OBI-WAN  
If it happens again, you'll be  
back on cleanup.

Obi-Wan leaves. CUSTOMER #2 steps up to the counter. Customer  
#2 is a heavy-set man with a white shirt.

ANAKIN  
Hello. Welcome to McDonald's. May  
I take your order.

CUSTOMER #2  
Gimme two McRib sandwiches, large  
fries, extra ketchup and a large  
coke.

Anakin punches buttons on the register.

ANAKIN  
Five thirty-two.

Customer #2 hands him some money. Anakin turns, grabs a bag  
and drink and hands them to Customer #2.

ANAKIN  
Here. Thanks for coming.

CUSTOMER #2  
Oh, could I get some napkins,  
please?

Anakin glances left and right, then waves his hand from left  
to right in front of the customer.

ANAKIN  
You don't need any napkins.

CUSTOMER #2  
I don't need any napkins.

Customer #2 walks away. CUSTOMER #3 walks up to the counter.  
She is a slim woman.

ANAKIN  
Hello. Welcome to McDonald's. May  
I take your order.

CUSTOMER #3  
Yes, I'd like a cheeseburger and  
a Diet Coke, please.

Anakin pushes some register buttons.

ANAKIN  
Would you like some fries with  
that?

CUSTOMER #3  
No, thank you.

ANAKIN  
(Waving hand)  
You want fries with that.

CUSTOMER #3  
I want fries with that.

ANAKIN  
And a hot apple pie, large shake,  
and a box of cookies.

CUSTOMER #3  
And a hot apple pie, large shake,  
and a box of cookies.

Anakin grins and pushes buttons on the register.

ANAKIN  
That will be nine seventeen.

Customer #3 hands him some money, he hands her back some change. Anakin glances around, then points his fingers at various items, which come flying over and land on the tray. He hands the tray to Customer #3 ,who walks away. CUSTOMER #4 steps up to the counter.

ANAKIN  
Hello. Welcome to McDonald's. May  
I take your order.

CUSTOMER #4  
Yeah, hamburger, large fries,  
large coke.

ANAKIN  
Three fifty.

Customer #4 hands Anakin some money. He puts it in the register and turns to get the order.

CUSTOMER #4  
Hey, you didn't give me my  
change.

ANAKIN  
(Waves hand)  
I already gave you your change.

CUSTOMER #4  
You already gave me my change.

Anakin hands him a bag and a cup. As Customer #4 walks off, Customer #2 walks by. He has BBQ sauce and ketchup all over his face and hands, and also smeared all over his white

shirt. He leaves.

INT. MCDONALD'S EMPLOYEE BREAK ROOM

Anakin and PADME are facing each other. They are both standing absolutely erect, as if they are standing at attention, about an arm's length apart.

ANAKIN

Hello, Padme. I have been thinking about you.

PADME

Hello, Anakin. I have been thinking about you. Also.

ANAKIN

My heart burns for you like the twin suns of my home world, the desert planet of Tatooine.

PADME

Oh Anakin. Wrap your arms around me like the wrapping on a double cheeseburger.

Anakin reaches out and puts his hand on her shoulder, then does the same with the other hand.

PADME

Oh Anakin. I feel so comforted by you.

ANAKIN

Padme, you have ignited the passion in me the way the gas ignites the flames of the burger grill.

PADME

Oh Anakin. Kiss me before my break time is over and I have to go back to assembling sandwiches.

Anakin and Padme lean forward and exchange a very cold, brief kiss on the lips, then stand back up straight. Padme walks off. Anakin stares after her.

ANAKIN

She stirs my heart to passion. It is beating as fast as a speeder with a partially decayed propulsion regulator.

EXT. PARKING LOT OUTSIDE BURGER KING. THE MCDONALD'S CAN BE SEEN NEXT DOOR.

Anakin stands talking to PALPATINE.

ANAKIN

(Whining)

He's holding me back!

PALPATINE

Yes, I understand, young Anakin. Why, it would be unheard of to have someone of your excellent skills manning a mere register here at Burger King.

ANAKIN

Nobody understands me.

PALPATINE

Such a pity. Think of the great treasure they are all missing. You are truly one of the greatest employees that McDonald's has ever produced.

ANAKIN

I better get back before Obi-Wan gives me a hard time.

PALPATINE

Certainly, Master Anakin, please call on me any time.

Anakin starts walking away, out of view.

PALPATINE

Master Anakin! Look out for that pile of..

ANAKIN

(From off-screen)

Yuck!

PALPATINE

.. padawaan.

ANAKIN

(Off screen)

Aw, man! It's all over my shoe, too!

INT. MCDONALD'S EMPLOYEE LOCKER ROOM

Focus on a nameplate is that reads "Skywalker". Under it hangs a hairnet on a hook. Someone picks up the hairnet, pull back to show that it is Anakin. He ties it on and walks out. Pan to another nameplate reading "Chewbacca" and a much larger hook with a huge hairnet (8 feet high) in roughly the shape of a body. Pan to another nameplate reading "Beeblebrox" above two hooks, each holding hairnets. Finally, pan to another nameplate that says "Picard" with no hook at all.

INT. MCDONALD'S BURGER GRILL

Burgers are cooking on a grill. The sound of a servo motor starts and a little spatula comes out and methodically flips each burger. The source of the spatula is R2D2. Anakin stands next to him assembling sandwiches.

ANAKIN

How come I always have to assemble the burgers? I should be able to cook them, too. You're holding me back!

R2D2

Boop boop dweee dweee beedabop.

ANAKIN

Hey, you knew when you took this assignment that you didn't have any hands. You should have thought of that in the first place.

R2D2

Bzeee bzeee deedah.

ANAKIN

What did you call me?

R2D2

Bzeee bzeee deedah.

ANAKIN

Am not!

R2D2

Beeboop.

ANAKIN

Am not!

R2D2

Beeboop. Zee zee pip pip bleedawah.



ANAKIN

No, I can't be one because I don't even have a father.

R2D2

Bahbloop bloop?

ANAKIN

Yes, of course I understand how it works.

R2D2

Whee whee zEEP ploop bip?

ANAKIN

No, she was impregnated by the Force.

R2D2

Zee zee zee zee zee zee zee zee.  
Pzeewip blop blop.

ANAKIN

Why you..

Anakin tackles R2D2 and starts punching him. R2 extends a little antenna and starts zapping Anakin.

INT. MCDONALD'S BURGER GRILL

Anakin and R2D2 are back preparing burgers again. Anakin has a few burn marks on his face. R2D2 has a big dent on his head. Anakin starts to wrap a burger, then holds up his left arm in front of his face. The hand is gone. He starts looking all around. In the distance, a woman screams.

INT. MCDONALD'S EMPLOYEE LOCKER ROOM

Anakin is standing in front of a metal cabinet. He opens a drawer marked "Left". It is empty.

ANAKIN

Aww, man!

Anakin closes the drawer and opens another marked "Right". It is full of prosthetic hands.

INT. MCDONALD'S BURGER GRILL

Anakin is back at the burger prep station. He looks down at his hands, which are now two right hands. The right hand on the left arm isn't quite able to wrap the burgers, so he ends up mashing them into sort of a half-moon shape. Obi-Wan enters.

OBI-WAN  
 (Holding up half-moon shaped burger)  
 You've been sending us these for  
 twenty minutes. Is something  
 wrong?

ANAKIN  
 I'm all right.

OBI-WAN  
 Then what's the idea of sending  
 us these odd burgers?

ANAKIN  
 (Holding up both hands)  
 I mean, I'm all right.

OBI-WAN  
 (Shaking his head)  
 I told you to order spares,  
 Padawaan. You just never listen.  
 Go back and chop the lettuce,  
 I'll finish up here.

Anakin walks back behind the equipment, out of view. Obi-Wan takes over Anakin's position. Back behind the cooking equipment comes the sound of a lightsaber and bits of lettuce fly through the air accompanied by occasional flashes of blue.

OBI-WAN  
 Use a real knife, Anakin!

A hand goes flying through the air back where Anakin is.

ANAKIN  
 (from out of view)  
 Aww, man!

INT. MCDONALD'S EMPLOYEE BREAK ROOM

Padme is leaning over, whispering into Anakin's ear. Suddenly, his eyes get really big and he stands back up.

ANAKIN  
 Are you sure it's mine?

Padme slaps him.

PADME  
 No doubt.

Padme grabs his hair and yanks his head down to her belly. Faint whining baby voices can be heard.

PADME'S BELLY

I want to go to Taaaaashi station! No, not Alderaan! It's peaceful! Hey, stay on your side of the womb!

ANAKIN

We must get married.

PADME

No way.

ANAKIN

But, my love for you is like..

PADME

Cram it! I'm not marrying some guy whose life's ambition is to be the assistant manager at McDonald's.

ANAKIN

I would already be the assistant manager if it wasn't for Obi-Wan holding me back.

PADME

What else could you do, anyway? You never even finished school.

ANAKIN

I would have finished if it wasn't for the teachers holding me back.

PADME

Uh huh.

ANAKIN

What are you gonna do when he asks about his father?

PADME

I'll tell him what every mother tells her son when his father is a no good loser. I'll tell him that his father was the Force.

ANAKIN

NOOOO!

Anakin whips out his lightsaber and tries to hit Padme, but suddenly Obi-Wan is there blocking it with his own lightsaber. They start to fight. Shortly into the fight,

Obi-Wan cuts off Anakin's left hand.

ANAKIN

Aww, man!

The fight moves out into the cooking area. Anakin starts hammering on Obi-Wan, driving him towards the fry cooker. He knocks the lightsaber out of Obi-Wan's hand. As he raises his lightsaber to strike Obi-Wan, Obi-Wan reaches out and with one hand grabs Anakin's right wrist, while his other hand grabs Anakin's head and forces it right into the fry cooker. Anakin drops his lightsaber and flails around for a minute, then stops. Finally, Obi-Wan pulls Anakin's head out.

OBI-WAN

Eww. I find your lack of face disturbing. Oh yeah, you're fired.

EXT. THE BURGER KING DRIVE THROUGH MENU

A car with three headbangers pulls up to the drive-through menu. We hear the staticky sound of heavy breathing.

DARTH VADER

(very muffled, coming from speaker)

Welcome to Burger King. May I take your order.

DRIVER

Yeah, dude. We want, like, seven whoppers, five large fries, three large onion rings, and three large chocolate shakes. And dude, you need a hit from your inhaler, cause you sound bad!

DARTH VADER

Your order is now com-LETE. That will be thirteen twenty-two. Please drive around to the first window.

As the car pulls up to the window, the sound of heavy breathing gets louder. At the window stands Darth Vader in full costume. He has a nametag reading "Darth" and he is wearing a Burger King hat on top of his helmet.

HEADBANGER #2

Hey! Check out robo-cashier!  
Man, it looks so lifelike!

HEADBANGER #3 throws a wad of paper at Darth. Darth looks down at the paper, then at Headbanger #3. He holds up his fist with the thumb and forefinger extended.

HEADBANGER #3  
(choking)  
Khhh... khhh..

DARTH VADER  
That will be thirteen twenty-two.

Driver looks a little panicked as he digs through his pocket for the money. He throws it at Darth and then steps on the gas, shooting ahead to the next window. We see the car from Darth's viewpoint.

DRIVER  
(Yelling into the second window)  
Hey! Hurry up, old man, we don't  
have all day!

Blue lightning flashes out of the window hitting all three headbangers, who twitch violently.

FADE TO BLACK