Bythelens – Screenwriter's Toolkit Location Template Sheet

Name of Location:

Mos Eisley Cantina

Physical Relationship to Film World:

On Tattooine, within reach by Speeder of Luke's family farm and Ben's home.

Importance to story:

Where Han and Chewbacca and the Millennium Falcon are introduced as allies. Where we first see Ben as a Jedi, using his lightsaber. Where we learn of the dismissive attitude of people towards droids. Where we learn the Galaxy is a violent and disreputable place. Where we are introduced to the variety and cultural differences between the many species that make up the universe.

Character Interactions:

Luke is unfamiliar with the cantina. Ben knows it or similar places. Han and Chewbacca use it as a marketplace for selling their skills. Bounty hunters pursue their prey there because it attracts people of interest to them. Jabba the Hutt is mentioned, Stormtroopers arrive looking for the droids.

Tonal representation:

"A wretched hive of scum and villainy." The environment is lawless, dangerous, violent and corrupt. Dirty and seething with secrets. It is also welcoming to those able to protect themselves; there's music, culture and plenty of opportunity to make deals, including illegal ones.

Events at Location:

Luke and Ben arrive looking for transport. Luke's droids are made unwelcome. Luke encounters a violent thug. Ben deals with him. Ben finds Han and Chewbacca and they negotiate passage on the Millennium Falcon. Han is confronted by Greedo and kills him. We learn of the crime-lord Jabba. The protagonists flee after Imperial troops arrive.