The Empire Strikes Back (1980) is the second film in the Star Wars film series. The film picks up where the first film, A New Hope, left off. The story follows the adventures of Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia Organa, and Han Solo, as they embark on a mission to rescue Han from the clutches of the evil Empire. The film is directed by George Lucas and produced by American International Pictures. It is the second installment in the Star Wars franchise and was released on December 20, 1980. The film was well-received by audiences and critics alike, and it went on to become one of the most successful films of all time. The Empire Strikes Back is known for its iconic characters, memorable quotes, and thrilling action sequences. It has been hailed as a classic of its genre and is considered by many to be one of the greatest films ever made.