

[with] him being the bad guy and having the double-ended lightsaber?

Judging by the response from the fans, I think it was a combination of the character's attitude, the make-up, the look and the double-ended lightsaber, plus my skills and my martial arts. But it's hard to say.

I never credit myself for anything I do; I always ask other people what they think. When they say to me, "Darth Maul was the coolest thing in the movie," I ask them why they think that. I ask them what they think made the character a success. If I hadn't played the part, would I have thought Darth Maul was the coolest thing?

Without you Darth Maul wouldn't have been quite the same, would he?
I don't know. I hope not! [Laughs].

Actually, I would have liked to have seen someone else do that role, to see if it had the same impact. I was just lucky. I was really lucky to get the opportunity to play that role and show what I can do.



Going right back to the beginning, what was the appeal of working on Episode I?

First of all, it was another job opportunity for me. I had worked as a stunt double [on *Mortal Kombat: Annihilation*] and that was my breakthrough getting into movies, which is what I always wanted to do. So I used my martial arts background to get me into the movies, but I didn't know what to do after *Mortal Kombat*.

When I got the call to work on *Star Wars*, I jumped at the chance. But I didn't think, 'This is it!' I just thought, 'I've got another job and another opportunity to show what I can do and have fun.'

So for me, it wasn't until I was actually working on the film and people were going, "It's *Star Wars*! It's *Star Wars*!" that I started to realise how big it was. I thought it was fate as well, because I grew up on *Star Wars*. [The original] *Star Wars* was the first film I saw on the big screen when I was a kid. I think for any *Star Wars* fan to end up working on *Star Wars* would be fate or luck. So for me, I felt privileged to be on it.

