



THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.

"AUTOBOTS UNDER ARREST!"

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Based on the original cartoon series, The Transformers: ReAnimated, bridges the gap between the end of the seminal second season and the 1986 Movie that defined the childhood of millions.

PAGE ONE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A BRAND NEW ENERCON REFINERY - DAY.

Before an EXCITED CROWD OF REPORTERS AND ONLOOKERS, OPTIMUS PRIME and his AUTOBOTS: PROWL, WHEELJACK, RATCHET, RED ALERT, INFERNO and GRAPPLE all stand behind JANE BLACKROCK, a THIRTY-SOMETHING BUSINESSWOMAN, positioned behind a PODIUM and dressed in the finest 1980S PANTSUIT.

BLACKROCK

...and as CEO of Blackrock-Industries, it gives me great pleasure to finally open this new Energon refinery!

PANEL 2:

Blackrock looks up at Optimus Prime, as Wheeljack stands beside his leader.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)

Thanks to the Autobots and their willingness to share their Cybertronian technology, this revolutionary new power plant will provide much-needed energy to humans and Transformers alike, across the globe! Thank you, Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Please, Ms. Blackrock, the credit should go to the true mastermind of this joint venture, our chief inventor, Wheeljack.

WHEELJACK

Aw, shucks.

PANEL 3:

Blackrock continues to address the crowd from behind her podium as THE SOUNDS OF JET-ENGINES fill the panel.

BLACKROCK

Then, I thank **you**, Mr. Wheeljack. This facility is now capable of producing a near-unlimited amount of Energon, fit for...

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Blackrock, as she turns her head to the sky.

MEGATRON

(from off panel)

Unlimited Energon, you say?

BLACKROCK

Huh?

PANEL 5:

The DECEPTICONS have arrived. MEGATRON, SOUNDWAVE and STARScream begin to land near the podium, while ASTROTRAIN, BLITZWING and the CONSTRUCTICONS: HOOK, SCRAPPER, BONECRUSHER, MIXMASTER, LONGHAUL and SCAVENGER, remain high above in the background with THUNDERCRACKER and SKYWARP.

MEGATRON

Then let us take it off your hands!

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

Prowl, Grapple and Red Alert CHARGE INTO BATTLE against Astrotrain and Blitzwing, as Optimus Prime steps forward to confront Megatron.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Megatron, your presence here only proves the folly of your crusade. Leave this place!

MEGATRON

Spare me your righteous indignation, Prime. I want that Energon. And whatever Megatron wants...

PANEL 2:

Megatron blasts Optimus Prime with his arm-mounted FUSION CANNON.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

...Megatron gets! HA-HA-HA-HA-HAAAA!

OPTIMUS PRIME

GAHH!

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime COLLAPSES TO THE GROUND as Megatron turns to his troops.

MEGATRON

Constructicons, initiate Phase Two!

PANEL 4:

The Constructicons TRANSFORM AND MERGE INTO DEVASTATOR, snapping together to create the giant Decepticon's (so far) headless body.

PANEL 5:

Devastator's fearsome face appears atop his mighty shoulders.

DEVASTATOR

Prepare for DEVASTATION!

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

Ratchet and Inferno stand together, mouths wide-open with astonishment.

INFERNO

Uh-oh.

PANEL 2:

Devastator sweeps Ratchet and Inferno aside with ONE MASSIVE, BACKHANDED BLOW.

RATCHET

Lookout!

INFERNO

Oof!

PANEL 3:

Devastator now attacks the Energon facility. His enormous hands tear through the structure as though it were made of porcelain. In the foreground, a tiny (by comparison) Wheeljack stands aghast.

DEVASTATOR

Raaaaargh!

WHEELJACK

No, not the Energon!

PANEL 4:

As the surrounding crowd of humans flee in terror, Blackrock looks up while the facility begins to crumble around her.

BLACKROCK

Noooo!

PANEL 5:

Blackrock is soon trapped by falling debris, burying her beneath a MOUNTAIN OF RUBBLE.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)

(muffled)
Help me!

PANEL 6:

Blackrock is now completely entombed by the debris. All but her RIGHT HAND.

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

With Optimus Prime on his HANDS AND KNEES, Megatron kicks the Autobot leader in the MID-SECTION.

MEGATRON
Stay down, Prime, and I promise to make this quick.

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime delivers an ALMIGHTY UPPERCUT to Megatron's face.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Enough!

PANEL 3:

Starscream, Thundercracker, Skywarp, Astrotrain and Blitzwing are engaged in a STAND-OFF FIRE-FIGHT with Prowl, Red Alert and Grapple.

PROWL
We're outnumbered!

RED ALERT
And outgunned!

STARSCREAM
Well, Soundwave? What are you waiting for?

PANEL 4:

Soundwave stands before Devastator and a destroyed Energon refinery, knocking Wheeljack to the ground with a SOLID RIGHT-HOOK.

SOUNDWAVE

Autobot threat level: Neutralized.

WHEELJACK

Ugh!

PANEL 5:

Soundwave presses the EJECT BUTTON on his shoulder and two of his minions fly free of his chest.

SOUNDWAVE

Rumble, Frenzy... eject.
Operation: Resource Retrieval.

PANEL 6:

With empty ENERCON CUBES in their hands, both RUMBLE and FRENZY approach the SMOULDERING RUINS of the Energon facility.

RUMBLE

Okay, let's do what the boss says
and get outta here!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

RAW ENERCON emanates from the shattered facility like STEAM, as Devastator stands amongst the wreckage. Rumble and Frenzy can be seen in the foreground, dwarfed by Devastator.

PANEL 2:

With Soundwave watching over their shoulders, Rumble and Frenzy's Energon cubes begin to fill; however, instead of the CUSTOMARY PURPLE, this Energon is A SICKLY-YELLOW COLOR with a LIME-GREEN GLOW.

RUMBLE (CONT'D)

Hey, what's goin' on? **Yellow**
Energon?

SOUNDWAVE

Color irrelevant. Continue
retrieval.

PANEL 3:

Rumble and Frenzy continue to fill Energon cubes, adding to the NOW-SIZEABLE STACK that surrounds them like JENGA BLOCKS. Soundwave presses one of the COMMUNICATION BUTTONS on his waist, which GLOWS PURPLE with activation.

SOUNDWAVE (CONT'D)

Blitzwing. Astrotrain. Your
transportation services are
required.

PANEL 4:

Amidst the battle with the Autobots, Astrotrain and Blitzwing TRANSFORM into SHUTTLE and JET-MODE, respectively, and ZOOM INTO THE SKY, leaving Devastator to continue the fight.

BLITZWING

Roger that, Soundwave.

ASTROTRAIN

On our way!

PANEL 5:

Astrotrain lands beside Soundwave, Rumble, Frenzy and the collection of Energon cubes, as Blitzwing TRANSFORMS back into robot-mode to land on his feet.

SOUNDWAVE

Commence loading Energon.

PANEL 6:

The Energon cubes have now been stacked INSIDE Astrotrain's shuttle-mode, as Blitzwing, Rumble and Frenzy load the final three. Nearby, Soundwave again presses his waist's communication button.

SOUNDWAVE (CONT'D)

Mission complete, Megatron.
Recommendation: Evacuation.

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

Megatron looks over his shoulder to see Soundwave standing beside Astrotrain, now LOADED WITH ENERAGON CUBES. Blitzwing stands next to Soundwave with a satisfied THUMBS-UP.

MEGATRON

Excellent.

PANEL 2:

As Megatron begins to FLY AWAY, he fires one last, wayward shot at Optimus Prime.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Until next time, Prime.

PANEL 3:

SHOT FROM BEHIND Optimus Prime, Prowl and Wheeljack, we see the Decepticons flying off into the distance. Starscream, Skywarp, Thundercracker, Astrotrain and Blitzwing are now in aerial-alt-mode, while the Constructicons have returned to their separate selves, flying in robot-mode beside Soundwave, Rumble, Frenzy and of course, Megatron.

PROWL

They're retreating already? What was that all about?

PANEL 4:

Wheeljack holds a HAND-HELD SCIENTIFIC SCANNER as he addresses Optimus Prime.

WHEELJACK

Bad news, I'm afraid. According to my scanner, the Decepticons have made off with a significant supply of the new, refined Energon!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Then we must immediately...

HUMAN #1

(from off-panel)

Help! Someone help us!

PANEL 5:

Several humans drag an UNCONSCIOUS Jane Blackrock free of the rubble.

HUMAN #2

Hurry! She's hurt!

PANEL 6:

Prowl TRANSFORMS into his POLICE-CAR-MODE as Ratchet TRANSFORMS into AMBULANCE-MODE and allows the humans to load Blackrock into the rear of the medical vehicle.

RATCHET

Quick! Let's get her to the nearest hospital!

PROWL

I'll lead the way!

PANEL 7:

With SIRENS BLARING, both Ratchet and Prowl SPEED AWAY TOWARDS THE HORIZON, while Optimus Prime stands with Wheeljack. In the background, Inferno (in FIRE-TRUCK-MODE) is already DOUSING FIRES, as Grapple (in CRANE-MODE) has begun sorting through the debris.

WHEELJACK

Gee, I hope she'll be all right.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Indeed, but this only highlights the danger Megatron poses to the Earth. We must return to the Ark to ascertain his plan.

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK.

Optimus Prime, Ratchet, Prowl, JAZZ and IRONHIDE stand around Wheeljack as he BUSILY TYPES into TELETRAAN-1'S DATA TERMINAL.

CAPTION: Twenty-four hours later...

OPTIMUS PRIME

Any sign of further Decepticon activity, Wheeljack?

WHEELJACK

Nothing yet, Prime.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Keep searching. With the new, refined Energon, Megatron will be more dangerous than ever.

BUMBLEBEE

(from off-panel)

Optimus Prime, come quick!

PANEL 3:

In a WIDER SHOT, BUMBLEBEE, SKIDS and CLIFFJUMPER have raced into the room.

SKIDS

The humans, Optimus. They're
outside.

CLIFFJUMPER

And they don't seem too happy!

PANEL 4:

EXT. MOUNT ST. HILARY AND THE SITE OF THE ARK -
DAY

Bumblebee, Skids and Cliffjumper lead Optimus
Prime outside into the DAYLIGHT, with Prowl,
Ratchet, Ironhide and Jazz in tow. Inferno,
Grapple and Red Alert are already outside.

OPTIMUS PRIME

What seems to be the situation,
Bumblebee?

BUMBLEBEE

I'm not sure...

PANEL 5:

Looking in from further away from the Ark,
Optimus Prime and his Autobots can barely be seen
in the background, as a SQUADRON of POLICE,
MILITARY and other ASSORTED GOVERNMENT VEHICLES
have amassed before the base.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

(captioned)

... but it doesn't look good.

PANEL 6:

With Prowl beside him, Ratchet lifts his hand to
his face to shield his eyes from the harsh
sunlight.

RATCHET

Wait, is that..?

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

Blackrock is now FRONT-AND-CENTER of the convoy, seated in a WHEELCHAIR with ONE LEG IN A CAST, AN ARM IN A SLING and a BANDAGED HEAD. In her healthy hand, she holds a MEGAPHONE to speak into.

BLACKROCK

Optimus Prime! I am hereby pressing charges against you and your operatives!

PANEL 2:

Jazz turns to Ironhide.

JAZZ

Pressing charges? What does that mean?

IRONHIDE

Heck if I know, but I don't like the sound of it.

PANEL 3:

LAWRENCE MUDD, ESQUIRE, a tall, lanky man IN A CHEAP SUIT, now stands beside Blackrock as she continues to speak through the megaphone.

BLACKROCK

This is my attorney, Lawrence Mudd, Esquire. He has advised me to fully embrace my rights as a citizen of the United States of America and bring a lawsuit against the Autobots for my pain and suffering!

PANEL 4:

Ratchet stands with Prowl, Ironhide and Jazz, while Optimus Prime looks on.

PROWL

Pain and suffering?

RATCHET

But, **we** took you to the hospital!

IRONHIDE

That's right! Let me teach these hooligans some manners, Prime!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Not so fast, Ironhide. We must deal with this peacefully.

PANEL 5:

Optimus Prime moves closer to Blackrock and Mudd. Behind him, Prowl, Ratchet, Wheeljack, Inferno, Red Alert and Grapple stand together with a series of CONFUSED EXPRESSIONS.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Ms. Blackrock, what is the true meaning of all this?

MUDD

You heard her, Mr. Prime...

OPTIMUS PRIME

Optimus.

MUDD

You heard her, Mr. Optimus. My client has decided that you and your Autobots must face justice for their actions, or in this case, **in-action** during the Energon refinery incident.

PANEL 6:

Mudd stands before the combined government forces.

MUDD (CONT'D)

And as you can see, we have a substantial amount of back-up

should you decide you are above
the law.

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

Ironhide confronts Mudd, while Optimus Prime
seems more compliant. Skids stands by his side.

IRONHIDE

Now, you listen to me, you no-
good...

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ironhide, stop. Mr. Mudd is
correct. We will not resist.

IRONHIDE

But, Prime!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Listen, to me, old friend. We are
guests here on this planet. And as
such, we will obey its laws.
Skids, I feel your theoretician
skills are about to come in handy.
Autobots...

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to VEHICLE-MODE, as does
Prowl, Ratchet, Wheeljack, Grapple, Inferno, Red
Alert and Skids.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

... transform, and roll out!

PANEL 3:

Jazz, Ironhide, Bumblebee and Cliffjumper watch
as the government convoy escorts Optimus Prime
and the others away.

JAZZ

Now whatta we do?

BUMBLEBEE

I don't know, Jazz. Without Prime,
there's no one to issue orders...

PANEL 4:

EXT. THE DECEPTICON UNDERSEA BASE - UNDERWATER.

The imposing DECEPTICON BASE sits on the BOTTOM
OF THE OCEAN.

BUMBLEBEE

(captioned)

... and we still don't know what
the Decepticons are up to with all
that stolen Energon!

PANEL 5:

INT. INSIDE THE DECEPTICON BASE.

Megatron stands with Soundwave, Starscream,
Astrotrain and Blitzwing, as well as
Thundercracker and Skywarp, all poised in
DOMINANT, CONFIDENT POSES and surrounded by an
UNCANNY, YELLOW-GREEN AURA.

ASTROTRAIN

This new Energon is wonderful!

BLITZWING

Yeah, I feel mightier than ever!

STARSCREAM

I agree, Blitzwing. In fact, I
feel like I could crush the
Autobots all by myself!

PANEL 6:

With the aura-enhanced Constructicons behind him,
Megatron smiles.

MEGATRON

Then, I say it's time for a **real**
test.

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. A COURTROOM.

CAPTION: Another twenty-four hours later...

IN A SPLASH PANEL, Optimus Prime, Prowl, Ratchet and Wheeljack sit on one side of AN ENORMOUS COURTROOM, with Grapple, Red Alert and Inferno seated on the other. JUDGE BURR, an elderly, bald man with a grey beard, presides over the room, which includes a GATHERING OF THE PUBLIC, THE JURY, the PLAINTIFFS: Blackrock (seated in her wheelchair) and Mudd, as well as stand-in Autobot defense lawyer, Skids. The judge's BAILIFF also stands beside Burr's BENCH.

NOTE: Judge Burr should resemble famous *Transformers* voice director, Wally Burr. His bailiff also resembles voice actor, Arthur Berghardt.

BAILIFF

All rise! The matter of Blackrock versus Prime is now in session! The honorable Judge Burr presiding.

PANEL 2:

Skids stands before the judge.

JUDGE BURR

I assume the accused has representation?

SKIDS

Yes, Your Honor. Autobot Skids for the defense, and I intend to prove that this frivolous lawsuit is a waste of the court's time.

PANEL 3:

Beside a STILL-BANDAGED-UP Blackrock, Mudd STANDS FROM HIS SEAT, surprising Skids. Judge Burr looks on.

NOTE: In this panel, Mudd's objection should evoke the image of the video game cover for *Phoenix Wright: Ace Attorney*.

MUDD

Objection!

JUDGE BURR

Settle down, Mr. Mudd. Mr. Skids, I hope you understand the seriousness of this case. We are ready to begin. And the jury...

PANEL 4:

The jury sits waiting to hear the details of the court case.

JUDGE BURR (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

... will decide your clients' fate.

NOTE: This jury should resemble a 'who's who' of famous *Transformers* voice actors. Their surnames should be printed on their shirts' juror ID cards. Their suit colors should somewhat match the looks of their respective characters.

BACK ROW: Peter Renaday, Michael Bell, Roger C. Carmel, Corey Burton, Casey Casem, Alan Oppenheimer.

FRONT ROW: Gregg Berger, Scatman Crothers, Peter Cullen, Frank Welker, Chris Latta/Collins, Dan Gilvezan.

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK.

Bumblebee, Jazz, Ironhide and Cliffjumper stand in a circle within the Ark, alongside SUNSTREAKER and SIDESWIPE. BLASTER and PERCEPTOR can be seen in the background near Teletraan-1.

BUMBLEBEE

What are we going to do if Optimus Prime isn't able to convince the humans he didn't do anything wrong?

CLIFFJUMPER

Never mind that. What do we do about finding a new leader in the meantime?

IRONHIDE

Well, my best leadership days are behind me. So, I nominate Jazz to take over for now. He's already one of Prime's right-hand bots.

JAZZ

Uh-uh, no way, Jose! I'm not the main man for the job. I'm a cool-cat, not a diplomat!

SIDESWIPE

Well, don't look at me. I'm a warrior, not a leader.

SUNSTREAKER

Yes, and I'm far too handsome to be placed in the firing line.

PANEL 2:

An image of the courtroom can be seen on Teletraan-1's DATA SCREEN. Blaster stands beside Perceptor as he tries to attract the attention of the other Autobots.

PERCEPTOR

If you're all quite finished altercating the characteristics required to assume Autobot authority, I believe we have

successfully infiltrated the
courtroom's closed circuit
broadcast.

BLASTER

In other words, come take a glance
at this legal circumstance!

PANEL 3:

All eight of the Autobots are now gathered around
Teletraan-1. On its data screen, Mudd can be seen
questioning Ratchet.

MUDD

(via the data screen)

So, Mr. Ratchet. I put it to you,
that...

PANEL 4:

ALARMS SOUND as the image on Teletraan-1 switches
to an OMINOUS ALERT ICON.

PANEL 5:

LOOKING AT THE AUTOBOTS FROM THE DIGITAL P.O.V.
OF TELETRAAN-1, Perceptor stands in the center of
the group, hands planted on the COMPUTER KEYS
before him. A TRANSPARENT OVERLAY (in reverse) of
the alert message which reads: DECEPTICON
ACTIVITY DETECTED, can be seen imposed over the
panel as though we are looking in from behind
Teletraan-1's data screen.

PERCEPTOR

It's the Decepticons! They're
attacking the city!

PANEL 6:

Sideswipe, Sunstreaker, Bumblebee and Cliffjumper
TRANSFORM into their vehicle-modes, as Ironhide
turns to Jazz. Blaster and Perceptor remain
stationed at Teletraan-1.

IRONHIDE

Well then, c'mon! We gotta go! We can fight over who is or **isn't** the leader on the way!

BLASTER

We'll keep track of the trial.

PERCEPTOR

Indeed. Good luck...

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE BUSY CITY - DAY.

PANEL 1:

IN A SPLASH PANEL, with new, powered-up auras still intact, the Decepticons are FEROCIOUSLY DECIMATING the city with a variety of ENERGY BLASTS. Megatron fires his fusion cannon into a SKYSCRAPER. Soundwave does the same with his CONCUSSION BLASTER GUN, while Blitzwing (in TANK-MODE) shoots at a target off-panel. Near the horizon, Starscream, Thundercracker and Skywarp (all in JET-MODE) LAY WASTE to more of the dilapidated metropolis.

PERCEPTOR

(captioned)

... I think you're going to need it!

MEGATRON

Ha! With this new Energon at our disposal, none shall defeat us!

PANEL 2:

Devastator has literally TORN OFF THE UPPER HALF OF A BUILDING, holding it OVER HIS HEAD as Astrotrain (in shuttle-mode) fires at the building's lower half.

DEVASTATOR

Destroy! Destroy!

ASTROTRAIN

You said it, big guy!

PANEL 3:

Megatron is BLASTED IN THE CHEST by SEVERAL SEPARATE ENERGY BEAMS, fired by a series of off-panel opponents.

MEGATRON

And where is the great Optimus Prime in my moment of triumph? Has he skulked away like the coward he... WHAT?!

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

FROM MEGATRON'S P.O.V., Jazz, Ironhide and Bumblebee stand with their SMOKING GUNS held high. Sideswipe, Sunstreaker and Cliffjumper can be seen in the background, also preparing to attack with ASSORTED FIREARMS.

IRONHIDE

He's a little preoccupied right now, bucket-head.

BUMBLEBEE

Yeah, but we'll gladly chase you back down whatever hole you crawled out of!

PANEL 2:

With his hands on his hips, Megatron stands COMPLETELY UNHARMED before the shocked Autobots.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

What the?

MEGATRON

HA-HA-HA! You pathetic fools never cease to amuse me! Even before

today, none of you could match me.
But now, with this new Energon?

PANEL 3:

Megatron fires an UNUSUALLY-INTENSE BLAST at Jazz, Ironhide and Bumblebee, sending them all FLAILING THROUGH THE AIR.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

I am invincible!

IRONHIDE

Aaaah!

BUMBLEBEE

Yow!

PANEL 4:

Still in jet-mode, Starscream, Thundercracker and Skywarp BOMB-DIVE Cliffjumper, Sideswipe and Sunstreaker with a HAIL OF FIRE, while Blitzwing (in tank-mode) also fires several shots towards them which OBLITERATES THE GROUND BENEATH THEIR FEET. Like Megatron, their attacks seem more powerful than normal.

SIDESWIPE

Aaaah!

SUNSTREAKER

Urrk!

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Starscream, Thundercracker and Skywarp TRANSFORM in mid-air to then land beside Megatron, who now stands triumphantly with Soundwave over the six fallen Autobots. Blitzwing remains in tank-mode in the background, while Astrotrain stands nearby CLUTCHING AT HIS STOMACH.

STARSCREAM

This was all too easy, Megatron.
When do we get to crush the
Autobot Ark?

ASTROTRAIN

Yeah, when do we... HURRRGHHH!

PANEL 2:

Megatron looks on as Starscream, Thundercracker,
Skywarp and Soundwave FALL TO THEIR KNEES in
agony.

SKYWARP

Gaah! What's happening to us?

THUNDERCRACKER

Uuugh! My insides are on fire!

SOUNDWAVE

Diagnosis: Tainted Energon.

MEGATRON

What?

PANEL 3:

Megatron finally succumbs to the same fate as his
subordinates, dropping to one knee in pain as
Starscream crawls towards his leader on his HANDS
AND KNEES.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Ugh, no! This cannot be!

STARSCREAM

The human, Megatron. The human who
created this poisoned Energon. We
must find her!

PANEL 4:

A HUNCHED-OVER Megatron CLENCHES HIS FIST with
rage.

MEGATRON

Yes, come Decepticons. We will find this human and make her perfect the refined Energon... or she will face my wrath!

PAGE FIFTEEN:

NOTE: This page should be laid out in a twelve-panel grid (three panels wide, four high) with many repeated images, giving the impression that Mudd is asking the same question to different Autobots.

INT. THE COURTROOM.

PANEL 1:

CLOSE ON Ratchet.

MUDD
(off-panel)
So, during the Decepticon attack, you were engaged in the battle?

RATCHET
Well, not exactly.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Wheeljack.

WHEELJACK
I'm more of an inventor.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Grapple.

GRAPPLE
I tried my best, but I'm an architect at heart, not a warrior.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Inferno.

MUDD

(off-panel)

You're a designated search-and-rescue Autobot. That must mean you were busy making sure the surrounding people were safe, am I right?

INFERNO

We would have, but then Devastator attacked us.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Prowl.

PROWL

At the time of said incident, we were... incapacitated.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Red Alert.

RED ALERT

We were distracted by... hey, do you hear something?

PANEL 7:

CLOSE ON Ratchet.

MUDD

(off-panel)

So, if you **weren't** fighting the battle, and you **weren't** rescuing people in danger, what **were** you doing?

RATCHET

I'll say it again. **We** were the ones who took your client to the hospital.

PANEL 8:

CLOSE ON Wheeljack.

WHEELJACK

It all happened so fast. I had to try and secure the Energon supply before it blew.

PANEL 9:

CLOSE ON Grapple.

GRAPPLE

Like I said, architect, not warrior.

PANEL 10:

CLOSE ON Inferno.

MUDD

(off-panel)

And after all that, you weren't even able to save the Energon refinery, let alone my client. Correct?

INFERNO

I told you what happened. Devastator happened.

PANEL 11:

CLOSE ON Prowl.

PROWL

Incapacitated. IN-CA-PAC-I-TA-TED.

PANEL 12:

CLOSE ON Red Alert.

RED ALERT

Again, we... no, seriously, do you hear something?

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Mudd stands before Judge Burr, while Skids struggles to be heard.

MUDD

You see, Your Honor? None of these so-called 'heroes' can deliver a straight answer!

SKIDS

I object! Your questions are designed to provide a false narrative!

MUDD

Oh, really? Then perhaps I should cross-examine the person with **all** the answers? The one **truly** responsible for my client's current predicament...

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON OPTIMUS PRIME.

MUDD (CONT'D)

(from off-panel)

...Optimus Prime!

OPTIMUS PRIME

I am happy to answer any questions you feel fit to ask, Mr. Mudd.

PANEL 3:

Mudd points a HOSTILE FINGER towards Optimus Prime.

MUDD

Really? Then answer me this! Are you, or are you not..?

PANEL 4:

IN A SPLASH PANEL, the roof of the courtroom is TORN OPEN by the MIGHT OF AN ATTACKING DEVASTATOR. Optimus Prime, Mudd, Skids and Judge Burr shield themselves from harm.

JUDGE BURR

What on Earth?!

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Once again, debris falls towards a HELPLESS, WHEELCHAIR-BOUND Blackrock. Mudd runs away to save his own life.

MUDD

Aaaah! Run for your lives!

BLACKROCK

Where are you going? Help me, you idiot!

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime shields Blackrock from harm by using HIS OWN BODY to block the falling debris.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)

Op-Optimus?

OPTIMUS PRIME

Don't worry, Ms. Blackrock. This time, you'll remain safe.

PANEL 3:

Prowl jumps into action, issuing orders to Ratchet, Grapple and Inferno as Megatron, Soundwave, Blitzwing and Starscream enter through the torn-open roof. Inferno, Grapple and Red Alert are already assisting the humans in fleeing from harm's way.

PROWL

Go! Evacuate the humans!

INFERNO

Quick! Follow us to safety!

RATCHET

This way!

PANEL 4:

Prowl, Red Alert and Skids fire at the incoming Starscream, Blitzwing and Soundwave, while Wheeljack protects Judge Burr from danger.

WHEELJACK

Lookout, Your Honor!

STARSCREAM

Where is she? Where is the human that poisoned us?

PANEL 5:

Still shielding Blackrock beneath his body, Optimus Prime looks up as MEGATRON'S SHADOW falls across them both.

MEGATRON

Well well well, Optimus Prime. Still cowering with the rest of the animals?

OPTIMUS PRIME

Megatron.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Megatron's face. Some kind of CORROSIVE LIQUID is now seeping from his EYES and MOUTH.

MEGATRON

Hand over the human, Prime. She will pay for what she's done to me!

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

IN ANOTHER SPLASH PANEL, Blackrock looks up in awe, as Optimus Prime DRIVES A POWERFUL PUNCH into Megatron's chest, a blow that sends the Decepticon leader HURTLING ACROSS THE COURTROOM to crash through its walls.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Not today, Megatron!

MEGATRON
Aaagh!

PANEL 2:

Now PARTIALLY-BURIED IN RUBBLE, with a SEVERELY DENTED CHESTPLATE, Megatron sits with SPARKS FIZZING FROM SEVERAL OTHER MINOR WOUNDS.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
This is not over, Prime. Nothing will stop us from...

BUMBLEBEE
(off-panel)
Excuse me?

PANEL 3:

A returning Bumblebee, Jazz, Ironhide, Sideswipe, Sunstreaker and Cliffjumper now stand surrounding Megatron, their guns trained on their enemy.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)
What were you saying, Megatron?

MEGATRON
No. This day is lost! Decepticons, retreat!

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

Megatron and his minions flee by flying up and through the fissure in the courtroom's ceiling, as Prowl, Skids, Red Alert, Jazz and Ironhide chase them off with several laser blasts.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Savor your victory, Optimus Prime. It will be your last!

IRONHIDE

Ah, can it, Mega-mouth.

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime, Prowl and Ratchet attend to Blackrock, still in her wheelchair.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Are you all right, Ms. Blackrock?

BLACKROCK

Yes, yes I'm fine. **Thank you,**
Optimus Prime.

PANEL 3:

Blackrock looks up at the Autobots above her: Optimus Prime, Ratchet, Prowl and Wheeljack. Just over her shoulder, stands a RATHER-DISHEVELLED Mudd.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)

But this latest incident has made me reconsider my lawsuit. You Autobots **do** care for us humans. It was the Decepticons that endangered us. It was the Decepticons that caused my injuries.

MUDD

Wait, what?!

PANEL 4:

Mudd openly pleads his own case to Blackrock with a whine.

MUDD (CONT'D)

But... but... this case is my big break! It was supposed to make me rich!

BLACKROCK

Rich? I thought you cared about justice, not lining your own pockets! You know what, Mr. Mudd?

PANEL 5:

Blackrock points an ANGRY FINGER towards a NOW-WHIMPERING Mudd.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)
YOU'RE FIRED!!!

PANEL 6:

Optimus Prime, Prowl, Ironhide, Skids, Ratchet and Wheeljack stand in a circle around both Blackrock and Judge Burr. In the background, Mudd SLINKS AWAY past the LAUGHING TRIO of Bumblebee, Sideswipe and Sunstreaker.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)
Your Honor, I formally drop **all** charges against the Autobots.

JUDGE BURR
Case dismissed!

PROWL/RATCHET/SKIDS
HOORAY!

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime and Wheeljack stand before Blackrock.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Thank you for your change of heart, Ms. Blackrock. We Autobots do indeed value all human life, and we will continue to strive to protect your people from the Decepticons.

BLACKROCK
I know you will, Optimus. But, it's a real shame about the Energon refinery. Not only did the Energon we produced end up

spoiling, but the whole facility
is now nothing but wreckage!

PANEL 2:

SHOT FROM BEHIND Blackrock, Optimus Prime turns
to Wheeljack.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Surely, something can be done to
repair and improve the refinery?

WHEELJACK

Absolutely. What do you say, Ms.
Blackrock? Ready to try again? I'm
sure that together, we can make
the new Energon safer and even
better than ever!

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Blackrock's smiling face.

BLACKROCK

Well, since you put it that way,
I've only got one thing to say.

PANEL 4:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE COURTROOM - DAY.

A smiling Blackrock now sits in the passenger's
seat of Wheeljack's CAR-MODE, POINTING OFF INTO
THE DISTANCE with UNABASHED EXCITEMENT. Some
distance behind Wheeljack, ALL OF THE OTHER
AUTOBOTS: Optimus Prime, Prowl, Ratchet, Red
Alert, Inferno, Grapple, Skids, Ironhide,
Bumblebee, Jazz, Cliffjumper, Sideswipe and
Sunstreaker, follow behind in their own alt-
modes, as Judge Burr and SEVERAL OTHER HUMANS
wave goodbye.

BLACKROCK

Roll out!

THE END

We want to thank each and everyone of you who took the time to read our script. If you liked what you read here and would like to see more stories in the Transformers G1 cartoon universe, Greig and I would love to keep writing. You could help by contacting IDW Publishing by E-Mail (letters@idwpublishing.com) or on Twitter (@IDWPublishing), and let them know you want to see Transformers: REANIMATED written by Yoshi and Greig Tansley as a ongoing comic book series.

Thank You All!