

THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED. "DEACTIVATED BY DAWN."

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

PAGE ONE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE SHORE OF SEAGRASS ISLAND - DUSK.

WIDE SHOT - With SUNSET upon them, OPTIMUS PRIME stands on the pristine beach of SEAGRASS ISLAND. Beside him is both BEACHCOMBER and RATCHET, while behind them, driving down the RAMP of SKYFIRE'S jet-mode, is SMOKESCREEN, TRAILBREAKER and HUFFER (all in vehicle-modes).

A LAVISH JUNGLE sits behind the Autobots, and far in the distance is what remains of Lord Chumley's PURPLE, PYRAMID-SHAPED, GLASS CITADEL.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Seagrass Island. It's been a while since we've been to this place.*

RATCHET

Don't remind me. At least this time, we know Chumley and his followers are safely locked up in prison.

BEACHCOMBER

Like, wow! I forgot how beautiful this place was, oooh yeah!

CAPTION: *Back in Issues 10 and 11.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Yes, Beachcomber, it **is** beautiful. Unfortunately, the things we followed here are not.

PANEL 3:

Ratchet looks up to see Skyfire behind him, holding what appears to be a HAND-HELD, SCIENTIFIC SCANNER.

RATCHET

Are you sure this is where they are, Skyfire?

SKYFIRE

Absolutely, Ratchet. There's been a string of unusual Energon readings all the way here. Besides, my scanner never lies. Those so-called **ahem** 'ghosts', are here somewhere.

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

Huffer and Trailbreaker address Skyfire.

HUFFER

What's the matter, big guy? You don't believe in ghosts?

SKYFIRE

Ghosts? Of course not. I'm a scientist.

TRAILBREAKER

Well, I don't know what they are, but they're real, that's for sure. I saw them myself!*

CAPTION: *In Issue 25.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Skyfire.

SKYFIRE

I've no doubt they're real. But whatever has become of Octopunch's old survey team, we need to find out with science, not silly superstitions.

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime issues orders to Beachcomber, Huffer and Ratchet.

OPTIMUS PRIME

I agree. One thing is for certain... we **must** not stop until we find and ascertain **exactly** how dangerous these creatures truly are.

PANEL 4:

EXT. THE JUNGLE - DAY.

SPLASH PANEL, FROM BEHIND - Deep in the JUNGLE, the CRYSTALLINE, MONSTROUS FORMS of BUGLY, FINBACK and SUBMARAUDER look through the UNDERGROWTH, eerily watching Optimus Prime and the others on the beach in the distance.

OPTIMUS PRIME

We might be here for a while. Let's set up camp, then begin our search.

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. SEAGRASS ISLAND CAMPSITE - NIGHT.

With the MOON now shining down from the sky, Optimus Prime, Skyfire and Trailbreaker stand together in their makeshift CAMP.

Skyfire again holds his scientific scanner.

CAPTION: One hour later...

OPTIMUS PRIME

Skyfire, what does your equipment say now?

SKYFIRE

It's strange, Prime. Very strange. I've never seen anything like this before. There does appear to be several unusual life-readings on the island, but I can't tell what they are, or even pinpoint their location.

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime turns to look down at Huffer and Beachcomber.

HUFFER

Really, Skyfire? I should known better than to think you'd know what you were doing. Whatta you say we hurry up and get this over with? This place gives my couplings the creeps.

BEACHCOMBER

Whoa, take it easy, Huffer. Like, this place is majestic, baby.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Majestic or not, it seems we'll have to search this island the old-fashioned way.

PANEL 3:

Ratchet stands with Smokescreen and Trailbreaker.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Split up. Search the island and radio in if you see anything.

PANEL 4:

Huffer again COMPLAINS to Optimus Prime.

HUFFER

But, what if we do find somethin', Optimus? We don't even know what we're up against. This is hopeless!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Just do your best, Huffer. Now, Autobots...

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - In their various vehicle-modes, the Autobots DISPERSE.

Optimus Prime drives towards the front of the panel with Skyfire ZOOMING OVERHEAD. Huffer and Beachcomber each RACE over the sand, heading off in separate directions.

In the background, Trailbreaker and Smokescreen MOVE INTO THE JUNGLE as Ratchet cruises over the HORIZON towards the smashed citadel.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

... ROLL OUT!

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE JUNGLE - NIGHT.

Encompassed by LUSCIOUS GREENERY, Smokescreen treads carefully through his TROPICAL surroundings.

CAPTION: A little later...

SMOKESCREEN

Hmmm, Beachcomber was right. This place is rather beautiful.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Smokescreen's face as he turns to look behind him.

SMOKESCREEN (CONT'D)

Huh? What was that?

PANEL 3:

Despite his misgivings, Smokescreen STANDS ALONE amidst the jungle.

SMOKESCREEN (CONT'D)

Nothing. Heh, I've been hanging around Red Alert too long.

PANEL 4:

"EVIL" P.O.V. - An UNSEEN FORCE drifts through the jungle towards Smokescreen in the distance.

EVIL FORCE

(off-panel)

HGNNNNUUUUUURRRRRRRRRRRRRRRHHHHH....

PANEL 5:

STILL "EVIL" P.O.V. - The force CLOSES IN on Smokescreen as he finally LOOKS BACK, now DEEPLY STARTLED.

SMOKESCREEN

What the..?

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Smokescreen's HORRIFIED FACE. Faintly REFLECTED in his OPTICS is the GRUESOME IMAGE of BOMB-BURST.

SMOKESCREEN (CONT'D)

Aaaaaaaqhhh!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE JUNGLE - NIGHT.

PANICKED, Trailbreaker runs through the jungle, covered in a mass of VINES, LEAVES and TREE ROOTS; coating him as though he has just BROKEN FREE of some kind of trap.

TRAILBREAKER

No! Get away, get away!

PANEL 2:

"EVIL" P.O.V., FROM ABOVE - A similar unseen force DESCENDS upon an UNSUSPECTING Trailbreaker.

EVIL FORCE

(off-panel)

HGNNNNUUUUURRRRRRRRRRRRRRHHHHH....

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Trailbreaker's FRIGHTENED face. Like Smokescreen, a TERRIFYING IMAGE is reflected in his EYES; only this time, it is Finback.

TRAILBREAKER

Yaaaaghhh!

PANEL 4:

EXT. NEAR THE CITADEL - NIGHT.

Nearing the ruins of Chumley's citadel, Ratchet looks back to investigate behind him.

RATCHET

Trailbreaker? Was that you? Hello?

PANEL 5:

"EVIL" P.O.V. - This time, the force RUSHES UP on Ratchet from the side.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Trailbreaker?

EVIL FORCE

(off-panel)

HGNNNNUUUUUURRRRRRRRRRRRRRRHHHHH....

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Ratchet's TERRIFIED expression. It is now Bugly's FRIGHTFUL FACE that is reflected in Ratchet's eyes.

RATCHET

Noooooooo!

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A BEACH ON SEAGRASS ISLAND - NIGHT.

CAPTION: Elsewhere...

SPLASH PANEL - Both Optimus Prime and Skyfire are UNDER ATTACK by the GHOSTLY FORMS of SKULLGRIN and IGUANUS. Both creatures appear as their G1 MONSTER PRETENDER FORMS, albeit somewhat TRANSLUCENT.

Both Autobots have discovered their BLASTER FIRE is ineffective.

OPTIMUS PRIME

What on Cybertron is this evil?

SKYFIRE

I don't believe it! And our weapons aren't having any effect on them!

PANEL 2:

BACK-TO-BACK with Optimus Prime, Skyfire looks to his scientific scanner.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)

Optimus! These creatures seem to be composed of **anti-**Energon radiation!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Anti-Energon? What does that mean?

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Skyfire's HANDS as he RECONFIGURES his blaster.

SKYFIRE

It means, if we set our blasters to fire a near-pure, **positive**-Energon-pulse, it might be enough to stun these monsters in their tracks!

PANEL 4:

Both Skyfire and Optimus Prime fire at the SEMI-TRANSPARENT SPECTERS of Skullgrin and Iguanus.

Now altered to produce a different type of blast, the Autobot weapons-fire no longer appears as its customary yellow color. Instead, it is now BLUE.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)

That's it, Optimus! It's our only chance!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Good work, Skyfire! Now, let's show these creatures what Autobots can really do!

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A DIFFERENT PART OF THE BEACH - NIGHT.

Beachcomber looks back at the HORIZON. Several FIREWORKS-LIKE ENERGY BLASTS appear over its crest, clearly the result of Optimus Prime and Skyfire's current skirmish.

BEACHCOMBER

Hey, wow. What's all the commotion, baby?

PANEL 2:

Beachcomber TRANSFORMS to his dune-buggy-mode and RACES towards the horizon.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Whoa, don't leave me hangin', guys. Wait for me!

PANEL 3:

EXT. A BEACH ON SEAGRASS ISLAND - NIGHT.

Beachcomber arrives, TRANSFORMING back to robot-mode to find Optimus Prime squaring off against Skyfire, now POSSESSED by Iguanus.

Skyfire remains in the center of the ghostly creature's CLOUD-LIKE AURA, as the SPECTRAL FORM of Iguanus SURROUNDS Skyfire as though it were a PUPPETEER controlling his every move.

SKYFIRE

Aaaargghh! No..!

IGUANUS

Bwa-ha-ha-ha!

BEACHCOMBER

Whoa, what the heck?! Not cool, man. Not cool at all!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Be careful, Beachcomber! These phantoms have possessed Skyfire with their demonic evil!

PANEL 4:

Beachcomber watches as Skullgrin ATTACKS Optimus Prime, trapping the Autobot Leader within his own SUPERNATURAL AURA. Optimus Prime drops his ION BLASTER.

BEACHCOMBER

Optimus!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Uuughh! Quickly, Beachcomber! Use my ion blaster! It's... ugh! It's been reconfigured to stun these ghastly apparitions!

PANEL 5:

Beachcomber STRAINS to lift the massive ion blaster from the ground, while behind him, Skullgrin takes FURTHER CONTROL of Optimus Prime's body.

BEACHCOMBER

Ugh! But, Optimus... I don't know if I can do this!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Gaaaghhh! You must, Beachcomber! Hgnnn... you're our... only hope!

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

The possessed Skyfire/Iguanus LUNGES towards Beachcomber.

BEACHCOMBER

Uh-oh! Bummer, man!

SKYFIRE

JOIN... US..!

NOTE: Although Iguanus surrounds Skyfire to imply his

possessed state, Skyfire's usually-blue eyes are now a ZOMBIFIED WHITE.

PANEL 2:

Beachcomber BLASTS Skyfire/Iguanus with Optimus Prime's ion blaster, painfully FREEZING the creature where it stands, yet SLAMMING Beachcomber backwards into the ground.

BEACHCOMBER

Ugghh!

SKYFIRE

N00000!

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime's hand CLAMPS DOWN on Beachcomber's shoulder.

BEACHCOMBER

Huh?

PANEL 4:

Beachcomber turns to see that Optimus Prime is FIGHTING OFF his possession. Skullgrin's apparition is SMALLER than it was previously; far less in control of the Autobot Leader.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Optimus?

OPTIMUS PRIME

Can't... hold on... much longer. Go, Beachcomber...

PANEL 5:

FROM ABOVE - Optimus Prime HURLS Beachcomber (and the ion blaster) into the air and away from the beach, sending the mini-bot CAREENING over the jungle and towards the distant citadel.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

GO!

BEACHCOMBER

Hey! Whoooaaaa!

PANEL 6:

On the beach, Optimus Prime has now FALLEN TO HIS KNEES, surrounded once more by Skullgrin's DEMONIC VISAGE. Like Skyfire, Optimus Prime's eyes have also become SICKLY WHITE.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Aaaaaaaghhhh!

SKULLGRIN

На-На-На-На!

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE CITADEL - NIGHT.

FROM ABOVE - The shattered remnants of the H.A.T.E. ORGANIZATION'S HQ stands like a beacon amid the tropical jungle, as Beachcomber HURTLES out of the sky and towards its GLASS CONSTRUCTION.

BEACHCOMBER

Like, no way... This is gonna hurt!

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE CITADEL, DR. ARKEVILLE'S LABORATORY.

LOOKING UP - Beachcomber and the ion blaster SMASH through what's left of the GLASS CEILING to tumble towards the floor and CRASH onto a Transformer-sized OPERATING GURNEY (last seen in Issue 11).

Although Dr. Arkeville has not been here for some time, his BARBARIC TOOLS and HIDEOUS, ROBO-SURGICAL CONTRAPTIONS remain affixed to the laboratory's walls.

BEACHCOMBER

Uggh!

PANEL 3:

Beachcomber looks around at his new surroundings.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Workshed.

PANEL 4:

Beachcomber spins around to the DOORWAY to find Ratchet BURSTING into the lab, POSSESSED by Bugly. Just like Skyfire and Optimus Prime before him, Ratchet's eyes are WHITE, and he is surrounded by the image of Bugly's ghostly form.

RATCHET

Beachcomber. JOIN... US..!

BEACHCOMBER

R-Ratchet?

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Ratchet's CLAWED FINGERS as they DIG INTO Beachcomber's RIGHT FOREARM.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Aaaaaaghh! No, get away!

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Beachcomber's face as he looks back to see a CHAINSAW-LIKE DEVICE hanging on the wall directly behind him.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Ratchet, please!

RATCHET

(off-panel)

You're mine, Beachcomber!

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

Beachcomber now wields the chainsaw like a BROADSWORD, swinging it to DECAPITATE Ratchet with one SWIFT SLICE.

BEACHCOMBER

No, get away from me!

PANEL 2:

As Ratchet's HEADLESS BODY staggers towards him again, Beachcomber looks down to his HAND and his own personal ENERGON DISPENSER.

NOTE: The Energon dispenser should look exactly like Kup and Hot Rod's from the 1986 Movie.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Well, Prime **did** say pure Energon might work.

PANEL 3:

Beachcomber TOSSES several ENERGON GOODIES towards the headless Ratchet/Bugly creature.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Try these on for size, baby... oooh!

PANEL 4:

Three of the Energon goodies STICK to Ratchet's body, BURNING his metal hide as though they were made from a CORROSIVE ACID, affecting the Autobot medic like HOLY WATER would against a VAMPIRE.

Bugly's ghost reacts in AGONY.

BUGLY

AAAAAAAGHHHHH! NOOOOOO!

PANEL 5:

Bugly's apparition appears to be fading away into NOTHINGNESS.

BUGLY (CONT'D)

No! It's... impossible..!

PANEL 6:

Ratchet's headless body falls CHEST-FIRST into the floor with a heavy CLANK.

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

Beachcomber looks at his RIGHT HAND. Tendrils of what look to be BLACK SPIDER-WEBS are PAINFULLY CRAWLING up his forearm; infecting him with EVIL.

BEACHCOMBER

Aaarghh, no! Ratchet's attack! It's making me like him! What a downer, man!

PANEL 2:

Beachcomber lifts the chainsaw into frame.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Only one thing to do!

PANEL 3:

On his knees, Beachcomber SLICES the chainsaw THROUGH HIS OWN FOREARM, severing it from his body.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Aaaaaaghh!

PANEL 4:

Now missing his right forearm, Beachcomber SLUMPS to the floor, EXHAUSTED.

RATCHET

(off-panel)

Beachcomber... You did it.

PANEL 5:

Beachcomber looks across the lab to see Ratchet's HEAD is talking to him. Free of possession, Ratchet's eyes have returned to their regular AUTOBOT BLUE.

BEACHCOMBER

Ratchet?

RATCHET

Yes, it's me. You did it, Beachcomber. You saved me. Well, most of me. And that thing is gone. For good.

PANEL 6:

Beachcomber lifts Ratchet's head from the floor.

BEACHCOMBER

Ratchet, what are these things? What do they want?

RATCHET

Best I can tell, they want what we have... life. Life in the form of Energon, which they've sucked out of this entire island. So now, they're targeting us. If we're not careful, we'll all be DEACTIVATED BY DAWN!

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

Beachcomber now kneels on the floor beside Ratchet's head, looking into his Energon dispenser.

BEACHCOMBER

Oh, wow. Like, this is heavy.

RATCHET

It seems while those creatures are possessing our bodies, the Energon within us doesn't hurt them. But attacking them from the **outside** with **pure** Energon will undo their hold over the other Autobots and set them free. It's up to you, Beachcomber. Save them!

PANEL 2:

Beachcomber remains UNCERTAIN, despite Ratchet's encouragement.

BEACHCOMBER

But, I'm just a peaceful geologist! I'm not up for this kind of craziness, baby!

RATCHET

You have to, Beachcomber! By now, all of the others have probably been possessed, too!

BEACHCOMBER

But, like... I've only got one Energon goodie left.

PANEL 3:

Ratchet watches as Beachcomber pours his Energon dispenser over the chainsaw's blade, coating it with pure Energon.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Guess we'll have to make it last.

RATCHET

That's it, Beachcomber. Coating that blade will introduce pure Energon into the other Autobots' bodies and destroy those monsters. All we need to do is disassemble them carefully, and I can repair them all once I'm back on my feet.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Beachcomber's RIGHT FOREARM as he JAMS the NOW-GLOWING chainsaw into his stump to REPLACE HIS MISSING HAND.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Ratchet's face, as CHAINS wrap his head ACROSS BEACHCOMBER'S BACK.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Are you ready, Beachcomber? I know you're not a fighter. Can you handle this?

BEACHCOMBER

Yeah...

PANEL 6:

WIDE SHOT - Beachcomber stands in the center of the laboratory, Ratchet's head STRAPPED to his back. In his LEFT HAND, he holds Optimus Prime's ion blaster, while the chainsaw has become his RIGHT HAND.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Let's go carve ourselves some ghosts.

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. JUST OUTSIDE THE CITADEL - NIGHT.

With Ratchet's head still STRAPPED to his back and armed with his chainsaw and ion blaster, Beachcomber exits the citadel, only to see Huffer (now possessed by Submarauder) about to ATTACK.

NOTE: Once again, the ghostly image of Submarauder surrounds Huffer like a piece of fruit floating in Jell-O. Huffer, like the others, also has white eyes.

BEACHCOMBER

All right, so like, where should we... YOW!

HUFFER

GAAAAAARRRRGGGGHHHHH!

PANEL 2:

HUFFER'S P.O.V. - Beachcomber swings his chainsaw-arm towards the front of frame.

BEACHCOMBER

Aaaaghhh!

HUFFER

(off-panel)

UUURGHHH! NO!

PANEL 3:

Huffer collapses to the ground, an open slice in his body now GLOWING PURPLE from the pure-Energon-coated chainsaw.

HUFFER (CONT'D)

Urk!

PANEL 4:

Submarauder's spirit RISES UP from out of Huffer's body, seemingly DISINTEGRATING in the air.

SUBMARAUDER

No! How can this be? Aaaaaghhh!

PANEL 5:

Submarauder's ghostly form floats away on the breeze as Beachcomber looks on, BEWILDERED.

BEACHCOMBER

Whoa. One down, baby.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Ratchet's face.

RATCHET

Keep moving, Beachcomber. Don't worry about Huffer, he'll be fine. You **saved** him. But now, we need to save the others!

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE JUNGLE - NIGHT.

CAPTION: Later...

Beachcomber looks around to see a VALLEY OF SMOKE has suddenly appeared, surrounding he and Ratchet.

BEACHCOMBER

Hey, wait a minute. Where did all this smoke come from?

PANEL 2:

"EVIL" P.O.V. - Again, an unseen entity rushes towards Beachcomber FROM BEHIND.

EVIL FORCE NNNNNNNNRRRRRRRRRRGGGGGHHHHHH...

PANEL 3:

Beachcomber DIVES to the ground to avoid the attacking, whiteeyed Smokescreen, now possessed by Bomb-Burst's phantasmal form.

Ratchet's head FALLS FREE of Beachcomber's back.

SMOKESCREEN

Beachcomber! There's NO ESCAPE!

BEACHCOMBER

Smokescreen, no!

PANEL 4:

From the ground, Beachcomber lifts the ion blaster to shoot the spectral Bomb-Burst BETWEEN THE EYES. Within the center of the apparition, Smokescreen reacts as though he, himself has been shot, reaching for his face.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Let's see how you like Prime's boomstick!

SMOKESCREEN

Aaaaaghhh! But, Beachcomber... I thought we were friends!

PANEL 5:

Beachcomber SLICES Smokescreen IN TWO AT THE WAIST, up-ending Smokescreen's TORSO to cause Bomb-Burst even more AGONY.

BEACHCOMBER

Sorry, bud. You got real ugly.

BOMB-BURST

GAAAAAGHHHHHH!

PANEL 6:

With Smokescreen's SEVERED TORSO beside him on the ground, Beachcomber looks up to see that Bomb-Burst is SPIRALING into the air like a VORTEX, DISAPPEARING as though he were being SUCKED INTO A DRAIN in the sky.

BOMB-BURST (CONT'D)

Impossible! NOOOOOOO!

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE BEACH - NIGHT.

CAPTION: Later...

Beachcomber TRUDGES across the sand, DRAGGING Ratchet's head behind him.

BEACHCOMBER

Like, I don't know, Ratchet. I still feel kinda funky about what we did to the others. It's uncool, man... wow.

RATCHET

I keep telling you, Beachcomber, the others are **fine**. You haven't done any critical damage. Just enough to free them from **whatever** those things are.

PANEL 2:

Trailbreaker (possessed by Finback) BURSTS FREE of the jungle to threaten Beachcomber with his spectral form. Again, just like the others, Trailbreaker's eyes appear white, with his body IMMERSED within Finback's translucent visage.

BEACHCOMBER

Whoa! Trailbreaker?

PANEL 3:

Beachcomber fires the ion blaster, only to see that Trailbreaker has extended a FORCE-FIELD around himself and Finback. As such, Beachcomber's blasts simply BOUNCE OFF harmlessly.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

Oh no! A force-field? That ain't cool!

TRAILBREAKER

Bwa-Ha-Ha-Ha!

PANEL 4:

Mimicked by Trailbreaker within his aura, Finback's MASSIVE FIST knocks Beachcomber to the ground.

FINBACK

We want what you have... LIFE! And one way or another, we'll take it! I'll swallow your spark!

BEACHCOMBER

Uughh!

PANEL 5:

Finback CLASPS Beachcomber's body. His SHARK-LIKE head OPENS-WIDE like it's about to BITE Beachcomber in half.

FINBACK

I'll swallow your spark! I'll swallow your spark! I'll...

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Finback's JAWS as the ion blaster is suddenly SHOVED into his mouth.

FINBACK (CONT'D)

... Huh?

BEACHCOMBER

(off-panel)

Like, swallow this.

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Still on the ground, Beachcomber FIRES the ion blaster into Finback's face, causing Trailbreaker to react in pain. In the distance, Skyfire's jet-mode (surrounded once again by the ghost of Iguanus) ZOOMS into view from the sky above.

FINBACK

GAAAAAGGHHHHH!

TRAILBREAKER

Yaaaarghh!

SKYFIRE

I see you, Beachcomber!

PANEL 2:

Still dragging Ratchet's head, Beachcomber RUNS across the sandy beach. Overhead, Skyfire/Iguanus is CLOSING IN.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)

You cannot hide from us!

PANEL 3:

As Skyfire/Iguanus SWOOPS DOWN parallel with the sand, Beachcomber LEAPS into the air to HORIZONTALLY SLICE Skyfire's jet-mode in half with his chainsaw.

BEACHCOMBER

Like, who's hiding? Ooooh, yeah!

PANEL 4:

While Iguanus FADES TO NOTHINGNESS in the background, one half of Skyfire's jet-mode PIERCES the Finback ghost to IMPALE Trailbreaker.

IGUANUS

N00000000!

TRAILBREAKER

Gugh?

PANEL 5:

Now lying on his back, SKEWERED into the sand by half of Skyfire, the Trailbreaker/Finback creature mocks Beachcomber, who looks on with BLANK EXPRESSION.

BEACHCOMBER

I'm sorry, Trailbreaker.

TRAILBREAKER

Of course you are! You could **never** be like **US!** You're too much of a little-goody-two-shoes. Little-goody-two-shoes! Little...

PANEL 6:

Beachcomber walks towards the front of the panel, his chainsaw-arm glowing once more.

Behind him, on the ground, Trailbreaker lies in several pieces: head and limbs now separated from his body and the apparition of Finback.

BEACHCOMBER

I ain't that good.

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Finback EVAPORATES behind Beachcomber, as he turns towards the SOUNDS OF AN ENGINE behind him.

FINBACK

Aaaaaaagghhh!

BEACHCOMBER

Huh? Is that..?

PANEL 2:

In truck-mode, Optimus Prime (surrounded by the aura of Skullgrin) RACES over the beach and towards the front of frame.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Beachcomber!

PANEL 3:

Still encased by Skullgrin, Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to once again challenge his mini-bot opponent.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Beachcomber, face me!

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's face (complete with white eyes.)

BEACHCOMBER

(off-panel)

Yo, Prime...

PANEL 5:

Beachcomber stands, chainsaw held high, ion blaster at the ready, poised like BRUCE LEE.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

... Let's go.

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime REACHES for Beachcomber with his hand, surrounded by the ETHEREAL CLAWS of Skullgrin's ghost.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Join us, Beachcomber... JOIN US!

BEACHCOMBER

Whoa! Like, no way, Optimus! You gotta snap out if it, man!

PANEL 2:

BEACHCOMBER'S P.O.V. - Optimus Prime PAUSES as Beachcomber holds out his AUTOBOT BADGE before his leader. Only Beachcomber's left hand and arm are visible in the panel.

BEACHCOMBER (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Please, Optimus! You gotta remember me! You gotta remember... THE AUTOBOTS!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Auto... Autobots?

PANEL 3:

With Optimus Prime/Skullgrin DISTRACTED, Beachcomber HURLS Ratchet's head towards him.

RATCHET

Beachcomber, what are you doing?

PANEL 4:

Returning to EVIL, Optimus Prime CATCHES Ratchet's head like a BASKETBALL.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Oh no! Optimus, please!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Hrrrrrghhhh...

PANEL 5:

FROM OUT OF NOWHERE, Beachcomber dives into the frame to SLICE OFF Optimus Prime's hands at the wrists as though were COUNT DOOKU.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

... Urrrgh?

BEACHCOMBER

Ha!

PANEL 6:

With two SEVERED HANDS, Optimus Prime drops Ratchet's head, while Beachcomber has now SAWED-THROUGH Optimus Prime's LOWER LEFT LEG, causing the Skullgrin apparition to CRY OUT.

SKULLGRIN

N00000000!

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

As Optimus Prime COLLAPSES into the sand, Skullgrin EXITS his body to SURGE towards Beachcomber like an ANGRY DEMON.

SKULLGRIN (CONT'D)

You pathetic mini-bot! You're MINE!

BEACHCOMBER

Come get some.

PANEL 2:

Skullgrin's specter has now all-but CONSUMED Beachcomber, engulfing the little Autobot with its cloud-like aura. Beachcomber has not conceded defeat, however. He remains SWINGING his chainsaw and firing the ion blaster within Skullgrin's form.

SKULLGRIN

Bwa-Ha-Ha-Ha! It's over, Beachcomber! Wait... stop!

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Ratchet's head, now lying in the sand.

RATCHET

Beachcomber! You're doing it! That thing is weakening!

PANEL 4:

Still trapped within Skullgrin's cloud, Beachcomber TRANSFORMS to his dune-buggy-mode, the chainsaw now STANDING TALL from his roof like a SHIP'S MAIN SAIL, carving into Skullgrin's supernatural aura.

As such, Skullgrin now suddenly appears FRIGHTENED.

SKULLGRIN

What are you doing?

BEACHCOMBER

Yeah, like... who's laughing now?

PANEL 5:

Beachcomber DRIVES THROUGH what remains of Skullgrin and towards the front of frame, as the creature EXPLODES with a FLURRY OF LIGHT, splitting him into FRAGMENTS and UTTERLY DESTROYING HIM.

SKULLGRIN

AAAAAAAAGGGHHHHHHH!

BEACHCOMBER Who's... laughing... NOW?!

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

With the ASTRAL REMAINS of Skullgrin DRIFTING AWAY on the breeze, Beachcomber KNEELS DOWN beside Ratchet's head and a DAMAGED Optimus Prime, now free of possession.

RATCHET

Beachcomber, you did it! You saved us all! Now that those things are gone, I can instruct you how to repair me. And likewise, I can repair Huffer and the others.

OPTIMUS PRIME Indeed. Well done, Beachcomber.

PANEL 2:

OVER OPTIMUS PRIME'S SHOULDER - Beachcomber appears quite MELANCHOLY, with an almost BLANK, PTSD-LIKE expression.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
But that was quite an ordeal you
just put yourself through. Are you
all right? How do you feel?

BEACHCOMBER

I feel..

PANEL 3:

EXT. THE BEACH - DAWN.

SPLASH PANEL - The SUN has begun to RISE over the horizon.

With Optimus Prime and Ratchet's head looking towards him from the background, Beachcomber stands in the center of the panel, looking off to the distance with a SUDDEN INTENSITY.

His chainsaw-hand hangs down beside him on his right, while his left arm holds the ion blaster across his shoulders like a LUMBERJACK'S AXE.

His victory is complete.

BEACHCOMBER

... Groovy.

THE END

We want to thank each and every one 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 an ongoing comic book series. Thank You All!