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# THE TRANSFORMERS REANIMATED



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THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.  
"WAY OF THE NIGHTBIRD, PART 1."

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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 SKIES - DAY.

In their jet-modes, THUNDERCRACKER and SKYWARP cruise through the sky.

SKYWARP

Ugh, I haven't had a decent Energon recharge in weeks!

THUNDERCRACKER

Feeling is mutual, pal. But, just hold on a little longer. We're almost there.

**PANEL 2:**

EXT. ABOVE THE DECEPTICON TEMPORARY BASE - DAY.

Skywarp and Thundercracker descend towards a MOUNTAIN RANGE, and the SHATTERED HUSK of a HILL-SIZED, DECEPTICON SYMBOL, seemingly carved into the rock.

The tips of the once-proud Decepticon logo have crumbled away, and several GIGANTIC CRACKS threaten to split the base in half at any moment.

**NOTE:** This hideout is what remains of the temporary Decepticon Base first seen in the episode, *'Enter the Nightbird'*.

SKYWARP

I know we've been on the run ever since that Piranacon thing destroyed our underwater base, but did we have to come back **here**? This place is a dump!

THUNDERCRACKER

I know, right? I miss the old base.

**PANEL 3:**

INT. INSIDE THE SHATTERED TEMPORARY DECEPTICON BASE.

Skywarp and Thundercracker enter through what looks to be a GIANT HOLE in the ceiling.

They TRANSFORM and land beside several Decepticons, including: RUMBLE, SOUNDWAVE and MEGATRON.

RUMBLE  
(turning back to  
Soundwave)  
Hey, boss? They're back.

**PANEL 4:**

Thundercracker and Skywarp walk past Rumble to move towards Megatron and Soundwave.

MEGATRON  
Skywarp, Thundercracker... welcome back. Were you able to source any new supplies of Energon?

SKYWARP  
Uh, not really, Megatron.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Yeah, that's a big negative. We could barely find anything worth plundering at all. At least, nothing that wasn't already being guarded by those lousy Autobots or their human allies.

SOUNDWAVE  
Results unacceptable. We require Energon to re-establish this base of operations.

**PANEL 5:**

Skywarp and Thundercracker become AGITATED by Soundwave as Megatron looks on.

SKYWARP  
Unacceptable? I don't see **you** goin' out there to look, you walking music box!

THUNDERCRACKER  
Yeah, no kiddin'. You're the ones with the minions, Soundwave. Why aren't **they** doing all this dirty work?

MEGATRON  
Thundercracker! Skywarp! Cease this inane babble immediately.  
(MORE)

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

I'm ordering you to rendezvous with the Combaticons at their current location. This time, do **not** fail me.

**PANEL 6:**

Thundercracker and Skywarp TRANSFORM and fly back towards the ceiling's aperture, while Megatron stands with Soundwave and Rumble.

SKYWARP

You got it, Megatron.

SOUNDWAVE

Current Energon reserves are dwindling, Megatron.

MEGATRON

I know, I know. This current predicament is indeed troublesome. And it's all **his** fault...

**PAGE TWO:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE EARTH'S TROPOSPHERE - DAY.

Powering through the skies in his jet-mode, STARSCREAM is being PURSUED by the CONEHEADS: DIRGE, THRUST and RAMJET (also in jet-modes).

MEGATRON

(captioned)

... **STARSCREAM!**

DIRGE

Give it up traitor! We've got your number!

THRUST

Yeah! Megatron wants your head, and we're gonna deliver it to him!

STARSCREAM

Ha! You binary-buffoons think you can match it with **me**?

**PANEL 2:**

Starscream BANKS LEFT to avoid a BLAST from Ramjet's ENERGY BLASTS, that instead strike Dirge's right wing.

DIRGE  
Aaaaagh! Watch where you're  
shootin', Ramjet!

STARSCREAM  
Ha! Pathetic fools!

**PANEL 3:**

As Dirge SAILS OUT-OF-CONTROL towards the ground, Starscream has managed to maneuver behind both Ramjet and Thrust, FIRING HIS OWN LASERS to strike both of their REAR EXHAUSTS.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
You three are nothing compared to  
me. **Nothing!**

**PANEL 4:**

As Thrust and Ramjet join Dirge in falling out of the sky, Starscream engages his BOOSTERS to rocket even higher into the atmosphere.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
Lousy, no-good coneheads. That's  
the last time I ever offer **them** a  
chance to join my new, Decepticon  
regime.

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. THE UPPER STRATOSPHERE - DAY.

Starscream now cruises at an even higher altitude. STARS appear above him, while the continent of NORTH AMERICA can be seen far below.

STARSCREAM  
Nevertheless, if my dream is to be  
realized, I **will** need more help.

**PAGE THREE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - DAY.

Standing in the left foreground, African-American reporter, HANNAH MCCORMACK addresses the reader, delivering her latest NEWS REPORT.

Behind her, DR. FUJIYAMA stands before his own LABORATORIES, before a CROWD OF GATHERED PRESS. Beside him, towering over the scientist, is the REJUVENATED female ninja robot, NIGHTBIRD.

HANNAH MCCORMACK

... Thanks, Tom. As you can see, I'm here at Fujiyama Industries, where CEO and self-proclaimed '*famous scientist*' Dr. Fujiyama is about to reactivate his once-failed robotic creation.

DR. FUJIYAMA

Welcome, friends! Welcome to a monumental day in scientific history! The return... of **NIGHTBIRD!**

**PANEL 2:**

OVER HANNAH'S SHOULDER - She has now turned to look back at Dr. Fujiyama and Nightbird, as the doctor tries to alleviate the concerns of the worried crowd.

RANDOM CROWD MEMBER #1

Are you crazy, Dr. Fujiyama? That thing is dangerous!

RANDOM CROWD MEMBER #2

Yeah! That thing almost destroyed the Autobots last time! Why would you reactivate it?

RANDOM CROWD MEMBER #3

Yeah!

DR. FUJIYAMA

My friends, there is nothing to worry about. Nightbird has been fully reprogrammed. Her new synaptic brainwaves can only allow her to serve as a force for **good**, not **evil!**

**PANEL 3:**

Dr. Fujiyama turns back to reveal THREE NEW NIGHTBIRD-LIKE ROBOTS, standing further behind him. Each of the new robots are virtually identical to Nightbird; however, where Nightbird's FACE-MASK and BELT is colored PURPLE, the new robots are colored RED, ORANGE and BLUE, respectively.

DR. FUJIYAMA (CONT'D)  
As are Nightbird's **new** teammates,  
each built from the basic design  
schematics of Nightbird, herself!

**PANEL 4:**

Dr. Fujiyama now stands with his four ninja-bots. The original Nightbird has lifted her NUNCHAKUS into view, while the other three each carry similar weapons: The red ninja holds a twin-set of SWORDS, the orange ninja carries a SPIKED STAFF and the blue ninja sports a pair of DAGGER-LIKE SAIS.

DR. FUJIYAMA (CONT'D)  
As you can see, this new security  
force will help eradicate what's  
left of the Decepticons! And any  
**other** dangerous threats, for that  
matter.

**PANEL 5:**

The crowd now CHEERS towards Dr. Fujiyama, Nightbird and her POSING warriors in the background.

Hannah turns to her CAMERAMAN and SOUND TECH, touching a finger to her ear.

CROWD  
(chanting)  
Nightbird! Nightbird! Nightbird!

HANNAH MCCORMACK  
Well, this was a letdown. Wait...  
what?!

CAMERAMAN  
What is it, Hannah?

**PANEL 6:**

OVER THE CAMERAMAN'S SHOULDER - Hannah point to a NEWS HELICOPTER and its PILOT, sitting in the distance.

HANNAH MCCORMACK  
We've got another story to cover,  
and it's happening right now! A  
Decepticon attack at Lundgren Power  
Station! C'mon, get to the chopper!

**PAGE FOUR:**

**PANEL 1:**



Dr. Fujiyama now stands beside Hannah. Behind *him*, stands Nightbird.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Decepticons? Sounds like a job for  
Nightbird and her team!

HANNAH MCCORMACK  
Dr. Fujiyama, this really isn't the  
time to...

**PANEL 2:**

SPLASH PANEL - Hannah watches alongside her cameraman and sound tech as Nightbird and her three teammates LAUNCH INTO THE SKY like a set of GUIDED MISSILES.

Dr. Fujiyama proudly PUMPS HIS FIST into the air with enthusiasm.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Nonsense! Nightbird and her team  
will make short work of any  
Decepticons! Go, Nightbird!

CAMERAMAN  
They fly now?

SOUND TECH  
I guess so.

**PANEL 3:**

Hannah, her cameraman and sound tech charge towards their waiting helicopter, as Nightbird and her team fly away towards the HORIZON.

HANNAH MCCORMACK  
(to the chopper pilot)  
C'mon, let's get this thing in the  
air! We can't miss out on this  
scoop!

PILOT  
You got it, boss!

**PANEL 4:**

The helicopter follows Nightbird's team through the sky, heading towards the horizon and the SETTING SUN.

HANNAH MCCORMACK  
Pulitzer Prize, here we come!

**PAGE FIVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MOUNT ST. HILARY - DAY.

As the sun begins to set, the AUTOBOT ARK sits in its dormant, mountain home.

**CAPTION:** Meanwhile...

WHEELJACK  
(captioned)  
I can't believe it!

**PANEL 2:**

INT. INSIDE THE AUTOBOT ARK, CONTROL ROOM.

WHEELJACK stands PERPLEXED beside RATCHET, while OPTIMUS PRIME watches TELETRAAN-1 alongside JAZZ, IRONHIDE and BUMBLEBEE.

Teletraan-1's DATA SCREEN displays the image of Hannah's helicopter in aerial pursuit of Nightbird's team.

WHEELJACK  
What is Dr. Fujiyama thinking  
reactivating Nightbird? This can't  
be good!

OPTIMUS PRIME  
It certainly is unexpected.

IRONHIDE  
I'll say! That no-good ninja-bot  
shoulda been melted down for scrap!

**PANEL 3:**

With Bumblebee, Jazz turns to confront Ironhide.

JAZZ  
Whoa, bud. Why so hostile?

BUMBLEBEE  
Yeah, Ironhide. If Nightbird **has**  
been reprogrammed for good, who are  
we to decide who gets scrapped?

IRONHIDE

I'll tell ya who we are... We're the Autobots! We're the ones that've gotta clean up the mess these ninja-bots cause!

**PANEL 4:**

Ever the diplomat, Optimus Prime stands between Ironhide and Jazz to serve as the voice of reason.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Easy, Autobots. You're both correct in your own ways. Hostility should never be our first response, Ironhide. However, Jazz, we must indeed investigate this latest Decepticon activity with caution.

**PANEL 5:**

Optimus Prime and Bumblebee are now joined by HOUND and TRAILBREAKER.

HOUND

Well, we'd better get moving if we're going to confront those Decepticons out at Lundgren Power Station.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Indeed. Bumblebee, stay here and monitor the situation with Wheeljack and Ratchet. The rest of you, transform...

**PANEL 6:**

EXT. JUST OUTSIDE THE AUTOBOT ARK - DAY.

In their vehicle-modes, Optimus Prime leads Jazz, Ironhide, Hound and Trailbreaker out of the Ark in their familiar-looking convoy.

OPTIMUS PRIME

... and **ROLL OUT!**

**PAGE SIX:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. LUNDGREN POWER STATION - SUNSET.

FROM ABOVE, LOOKING DOWN - Bathed in the ORANGE GLOW of a SPECTACULAR SUNSET, Hannah's helicopter follows close behind Nightbird and her squad as they approach the LUNDGREN POWER STATION, currently UNDER SIEGE by the individual COMBATICONS; ONSLAUGHT, BRAWL, SWINDLE, VORTEX and BLAST OFF.

HANNAH MCCORMACK

C'mon, Bobby, we gotta keep up with those ninja-bots! This footage will get us noticed worldwide!

PILOT

No problem. But, we got company!

**PANEL 2:**

The jet-mode of Starscream FEROCIOUSLY BUZZES by the helicopter, narrowly avoiding contact and threatening to upend it.

HANNAH MCCORMACK

Whoa!

STARSCREAM

Out of my way, puny fleshlings!

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream TRANSFORMS to land on his feet, CONFRONTING Onslaught and Swindle. In the sky above, Nightbird's team continues to approach from the distant sky.

ONSLAUGHT

Starscream? What're you doin' here?

SWINDLE

Yeah, I thought you'd be long gone by now.

STARSCREAM

Quiet, Swindle, you two-faced, little wire-weasel!

**PANEL 4:**

OVER ONSLAUGHT'S SHOULDER - As Starscream attempts to appease Onslaught, a giant NINJA STAR strikes Starscream's LEFT SHOULDER WING.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Onslaught, listen to me. Come with me and join **my** Decepticon army. Together, we can... **huh?!**

**PANEL 5:**

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Starscream turns, along with Onslaught and Swindle, to see Nightbird and her team DESCENDING from the sky above, each brandishing their various ninja weapons.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

What? Nightbird?

**PAGE SEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Nightbird's three teammates land on their feet to attack several Combaticons. The orange ninja-bot STUNS Vortex's head with her staff, the red ninja-bot SLICES Blast Off across the chest with her swords, while the blue ninja-bot STABS both Sais into each of Brawl's shoulders.

VORTEX

Ooof!

BLAST OFF

What the heck are these th-Urrrrrrk!

BRAWL

Aaaaagh!

**PANEL 2:**

Starscream HOVERS up off the ground to safety, as Nightbird approaches Onslaught.

ONSLAUGHT

I thought they put this ninja-bot on ice? Guess I'll have to shut it down **permanently!**

STARSCREAM

Hmmm, interesting. **Most** interesting.

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream watches from above as Onslaught hurls a wayward HAYMAKER towards Nightbird, who easily leans back to avoid the attack like Neo from *The Matrix*, simultaneously lifting her nunchakus into Onslaught's chin.

ONSLAUGHT

Now, hold still and I'll make this... Ughhh!

**PANEL 4:**

WIDE SHOT - The remaining Combaticons lay defeated in the background, guarded by Nightbird's squad.

On the left of frame, Onslaught falls FACE-FIRST to the ground before Nightbird, while Starscream SWOOPS in to drag Swindle up into the air towards the right of frame.

STARSCREAM

Boisterous fools! You're too low on Energon to engage in battle!

SWINDLE

Whoa! Th-thanks, Starscream, old buddy!

**PANEL 5:**

FROM ABOVE - Starscream drags Swindle higher into the sky, as Nightbird and her team watch on from the ground below, seemingly content to have captured four-out-of-five Combaticons.

STARSCREAM

Keep your groveling to yourself, Swindle. You owe me... **again**.

SWINDLE

Uh, yeah, sure. Whatever you say... boss.

**PAGE EIGHT:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. LUNDGREN POWER STATION - SUNSET.

**CAPTION:** Thirty minutes later...

The Autobots have arrived at the power station. Optimus Prime stands before Dr. Fujiyama with Jazz, while Ironhide, Trailbreaker and Hound TRANSFORM to their robot-modes behind them.

Off in the distance, Hannah McCormack is delivering her report to her cameraman and sound-tech.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Dr. Fujiyama, we came as fast as we could. Where are...?

DR. FUJIYAMA

The Combaticons? Quite under control, I assure you.

JAZZ

Huh? What're you talkin' about, Doc?

HANNAH MCCORMACK

... And that about wraps things up here. For TFN, I'm Hannah McCormack.

**PANEL 2:**

Standing in the foreground, Dr. Fujiyama looks back over his shoulder to see Nightbird and her three teammates escorting the ENERGY-SHACKLED Combaticons away from the power station.

DR. FUJIYAMA

As you can see, Nightbird and her squad are in complete command of the situation. These Decepticon brutes will soon be escorted back to Fujiyama Industries, where I'll imprison them, myself.

**PANEL 3:**

Jazz and Ironhide appear AGITATED by Dr. Fujiyama's plans, while Optimus Prime has KNELT DOWN to reason with the overzealous human.

JAZZ

Take 'em back to your labs? What're you, **crazy**?

IRONHIDE

Jazz is right. You ain't never gonna be able to contain four vicious Decepti-creeps like them. Not for long, anyways.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ironhide and Jazz are correct, Dr. Fujiyama. I highly suggest you listen to reason.

(MORE)

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

These Decepticons are dangerous.  
You cannot underestimate the risks  
involved in detaining them.

**PANEL 4:**

Still on one knee, Optimus Prime attempts to reason with Dr. Fujiyama once more; however, the scientist dismisses Optimus Prime with a CAREFREE WAVE of his hand, ANGERING Ironhide.

DR. FUJIYAMA

Nonsense, Optimus Prime. I  
appreciate your concern, but **my**  
facilities are state-of-the-art.  
They'll more than contain these  
robotic ruffians.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Dr. Fujiyama, I cannot stress  
how...

IRONHIDE

You must be some kinda fool not to  
take Optimus Prime's advice! Don't  
ya know how **dangerous** four cooped-  
up Combaticons can be? Why, I  
oughta...

**PANEL 5:**

In the background, Optimus Prime holds Ironhide at bay with a gentle hand on his chest.

But in the foreground, Nightbird has turned her attention towards the kerfuffle.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Easy, Ironhide.

IRONHIDE

But, Prime!

**PANEL 6:**

NIGHTBIRD'S P.O.V. - Ironhide appears in Nightbird's DIGITAL DISPLAY, a CROSSHAIRS trained on the Autobot's unhappy face.

**CAPTION:** The words, HOSTILITY DETECTED - NEUTRALIZE THREAT, appear above and below Ironhide's face, respectively.

IRONHIDE (CONT'D)

Someone's gotta talk some sense  
into this know-it-all!



**PAGE NINE:**

**PANEL 1:**

Nightbird LEAPS towards Ironhide, spinning her nunchakus in her right hand, ready to strike.

IRONHIDE (CONT'D)  
Huh?

**PANEL 2:**

Nightbird CLUBS her nunchakus into Ironhide's jaw, sending him TUMBLING BACKWARDS.

IRONHIDE (CONT'D)  
Ughhh!

**PANEL 3:**

Both Hound and Jazz lift their BLASTERS, ready for action, while behind them, Optimus Prime REACHES OUT with both hands to alleviate their potential retaliation.

JAZZ  
Whoa, what was that?

HOUND  
Looks like Nightbird isn't so  
'peaceful', after all.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
No, wait! Stand down, Autobots!

**PANEL 4:**

The three members of Nightbird's squad ATTACK Optimus Prime with their various weapons.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)  
Wait! Ugh! Stop this madness!

**PANEL 5:**

Skywarp and Thundercracker have finally arrived, ZOOMING INTO FRAME as Optimus Prime defends himself from Nightbird's three teammates.

SKYWARP  
Ha-Ha! Looks like we arrived just  
in time for the show!

THUNDERCRACKER

Yeah! Let's give those ninja-bots a hand! We'll be Megatron's favorites for **life** if we take down Prime!

**PANEL 6:**

Optimus Prime joins Nightbird's three teammates in DIVING TO THE GROUND, as they avoid Thundercracker and Skywarp's FLYBY AERIAL ASSAULT.

As Skywarp peppers the ground with ENERGY BLASTS, Thundercracker releases one of his signature SONIC BOOMS.

SKYWARP

Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha! Now we're talking!

**PAGE TEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

While Nightbird contains Jazz in a SLEEPER HOLD, she LOOKS UP to watch Thundercracker and Skywarp fly overhead.

JAZZ

Hey, take it easy, lady! We ain't your enemies!

**PANEL 2:**

NIGHTBIRD'S P.O.V. - Again looking through her DIGITAL VISION, Thundercracker and Skywarp now also appear marked by a set of crosshairs and the words, HOSTILITY DETECTED - NEUTRALIZE THREAT, just as Ironhide was earlier.

**PANEL 3:**

FROM ABOVE - Nightbird releases Jazz and SOARS into the sky like a rocket.

JAZZ (CONT'D)

Now where's she goin'?

**PANEL 4:**

In the air above, Nightbird now CLINGS to Skywarp's jet-mode like a SPIDER, while Thundercracker flies alongside him.

SKYWARP

Whoa! What're you doin'? Prime's the enemy, not me!

THUNDERCRACKER

This crazy ninja-bot wants to  
attack **all** of us!

**PANEL 5:**

Beside Thundercracker, Skywarp VANISHES with a FLASH of his TELEPORTATION POWERS, leaving Nightbird with nothing to cling to but thin air.

SKYWARP

We don't have the Energon for this.  
Let's get outta here!

THUNDERCRACKER

You're right. Megatron will wanna  
know about this.

**PANEL 6:**

Thundercracker ZOOMS AWAY, knocking Nightbird back towards the ground with another of his sonic booms.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

Here's a parting gift, Nightbird!  
Ha-Ha-Ha!

**PAGE ELEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Nightbird CRASHES into the surface in the background, while Dr. Fujiyama SHOUTS at Optimus Prime, who is again under assault by the blue and red ninja-bots.

DR. FUJIYAMA

Look what you've done! Nightbird  
had two more Decepticons in her  
grasp! You Autobots are ruining  
everything!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Dr. Fujiyama, call off your ninja-  
bots! This is all a big  
misunderstanding!

**PANEL 2:**

As Nightbird and the orange ninja-bot appear ready to continue the fight against Jazz and Ironhide in the background, Dr. Fujiyama STEPS FORWARD before the group of Optimus Prime, Hound and Trailbreaker to subdue the red and blue ninja-bots.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Stop... **STOP** ! Stand down, stand  
down!

**PANEL 3:**

EXT. THE SKIES OVER THE LUNDGREN POWER STATION - SUNSET.

Both Starscream and Swindle HOVER high in the sky, looking down at a BIRD'S EYE VIEW of the power station, the Autobots, Nightbird, her ninja-bots and Dr. Fujiyama.

SWINDLE  
Did you see that, Starscream? Look  
how easily those things handled the  
Autobots. Nightbird is more  
powerful than ever! Maybe we should  
get outta here like Thundercracker  
and Skywarp did?

STARSCREAM  
Hold your hydro-horses, Swindle.  
Nightbird may indeed be more  
powerful, but if I know my  
automatons, she's likely to be  
susceptible to **something**!

**PANEL 4:**

Now in jet-mode, Starscream escapes the scene, leaving Swindle struggling to keep up behind him in his flying robot-mode.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
And I think I may have just the  
thing!

SWINDLE  
Whoa, wait for me!

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. LUNDGREN POWER STATION - SUNSET.

Nightbird and her squad now stand relatively-inert in the background, as Dr. Fujiyama continues to converse with Optimus Prime.

Behind Optimus Prime, Jazz and Ironhide turn to one another, clearly concerned.

DR. FUJIYAMA

I apologize, Optimus Prime. You and your Autobots were never our intended targets. However, I **will** still be taking the Combaticons into custody.

OPTIMUS PRIME

I strongly advise you to reconsider, Dr. Fujiyama. Those Decepticons are far too dangerous to be contained in a human research center.

**PANEL 6:**

Dr. Fujiyama now sits on Nightbird's shoulder, as her squad has begun to move the four still-shackled Combaticons off towards the distance.

Optimus Prime watches alongside Ironhide and Hound.

DR. FUJIYAMA

I have made all the necessary preparations, I assure you. Now, if you don't mind, we have work to do.

IRONHIDE

Whatta we do, Prime? Those Decepticons won't stay contained for long.

HOUND

Yes, and they might be Decepticons, but they're also Cybertronians. Does Dr. Fujiyama have the right to imprison them at all?

OPTIMUS PRIME

I don't know, Hound. But what I am sure about... is that this situation is far from over.

**PAGE TWELVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

The laboratories now sit covered in darkness.

**CAPTION:** Later that night...

**PANEL 2:**

INT. INSIDE FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES, A LABORATORY.

Each of the four captured Combaticons remain secured to GURNEY-LIKE metal slabs. In the background, RAVAGE creeps his way in through the lab's OPEN DOOR.

**PANEL 3:**

CLOSE ON Ravage.

RAVAGE  
\*\*sniff sniff\*\*

**PANEL 4:**

INT. THE HALLWAY.

Ravage has now stepped back into the corridor to peer into the labs from around its doorway.

Dr. Fujiyama and his ASSISTANT can be seen inside the lab, looking up at the secured and unconscious Vortex, still strapped to his metallic gurney.

ASSISTANT  
What do we do with this one,  
Doctor?

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Ah, the one known as 'Vortex'.  
Alternate mode of an attack  
helicopter. **His** parts will no doubt  
come in handy for Nightbird's next  
round of upgrades.

**PANEL 5:**

Ravage moves away from the laboratory's doorway and down the hallway; towards the reader, seeking an escape.

**PANEL 6:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

Ravage continues to escape, leaving the labs behind.

**PAGE THIRTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

INT. INSIDE THE SHATTERED TEMPORARY DECEPTICON BASE.

**CAPTION:** A little later...

Ravage has returned to the makeshift Decepticon base, walking past Thundercracker and Skywarp to move towards Megatron and Soundwave.

SOUNDWAVE  
Ravage returns, Megatron.

MEGATRON  
Indeed he does, Soundwave. It seems we're about to learn how accurate your intel is, Thundercracker.

**PANEL 2:**

Ravage TRANSFORMS to cassette-mode and sails towards Soundwave, who is now TRANSFORMING into his tape-deck mode.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)  
(off-panel)  
Soundwave, play back Ravage's findings.

SOUNDWAVE  
As you command, Megatron.

**PANEL 3:**

Megatron, Thundercracker and Skywarp watch on as Soundwave replays Ravage's recordings.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
(from Ravage's cassette)  
*Ah, the one known as 'Vortex'. Alternate mode of an attack helicopter. **His** parts will no doubt come in handy for Nightbird's next round of upgrades.*

MEGATRON  
You were right, Thundercracker. Nightbird's return may be more distressing than first thought.

**PANEL 4:**

CLOSE ON Megatron's face as he STROKES his chin. Thundercracker can be seen behind him.

THUNDERCRACKER

So, you want us to destroy her,  
right? Wipe out that facility for  
good?

MEGATRON

Perhaps. Although, perhaps we can  
use this situation to our  
advantage. If Nightbird can be  
turned to the Decepticon cause, she  
would prove to be a powerful ally.

**PANEL 5:**

WIDE SHOT - Megatron now stands with Thundercracker, Skywarp  
and Soundwave.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Decepticons, follow me.

**PANEL 6:**

EXT. ABOVE THE DECEPTICON TEMPORARY BASE - NIGHT.

Megatron FLIES out of the temporary base with Soundwave  
beside him. Behind them, Skywarp and Thundercracker follow  
close behind in their jet-modes.

MEGATRON

To victory!

**PAGE FOURTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MOUNT ST. HILARY - NIGHT.

The Ark rests beneath the MOON and the nighttime stars.

IRONHIDE

(captioned)

I still say we shoulda taken  
matters into our own hands, Prime!

**PANEL 2:**

INT. INSIDE THE AUTOBOT ARK, CONTROL ROOM.

Ironhide stands arguing with Optimus Prime before Teletraan-  
1, whose data screen now replays the images of Nightbird's  
team taking the four Combaticons into custody.



Jazz and Wheeljack look on from behind Optimus Prime, while Bumblebee and Ratchet are busily paying attention to Teletraan-1.

OPTIMUS PRIME

I understand your concerns, old friend. But, we must respect the humans' ways.

IRONHIDE

I'm tellin' ya, no good is gonna come from havin' those Combaticons all locked up like that!

**PANEL 3:**

Wheeljack INTERJECTS between Optimus Prime and Ironhide.

WHEELJACK

Ironhide might be right, Optimus. While you were gone, Teletraan and I did a little digging, and it seems as though Nightbird's neural network is highly susceptible to **alpha** radiation. One major blast, and her obedience circuits will accept orders from **anybody**!

**PANEL 4:**

While Wheeljack continues to explain to Optimus Prime, Ironhide again becomes ENRAGED.

Jazz and Bumblebee enter the frame behind him.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)

If we were able to find out this information, others can too.

IRONHIDE

See? I told ya we shoulda melted her down when we had the chance!

JAZZ

Whoa, take it easy, bud! We can't go around deactivating cats just 'cause they might have a screw loose!

BUMBLEBEE

Yeah, Jazz is right! If anything, Nightbird needs our **help**!

**PANEL 5:**

Ratchet calls everyone's attention back towards Telettraan-1's data screen. It now displays Megatron standing before Fujiyama Industries.

RATCHET  
And we'd better hurry. Look!

OPTIMUS PRIME  
(off-panel)  
Megatron!

**PANEL 6:**

Optimus Prime stands with Jazz.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)  
Megatron must not be allowed to cause anymore harm, especially if he's looking to take control of Nightbird. Jazz, rally the others and follow me!

**PAGE FIFTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

Megatron BLASTS the laboratories with his FUSION CANNON, while Skywarp and Thundercracker attack with their arm rifles.

MEGATRON  
Fujiyama! I want Nightbird! Bring her to me! **MEGATRON** commands it!

**PANEL 2:**

INT. INSIDE FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES, A LABORATORY.

Standing beside the gurney-secured Vortex and Onslaught, Dr. Fujiyama looks to a nearby MONITOR to see Megatron's MANIACAL FACE.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
More Decepticons? Here?

ONSLAUGHT  
Oh, you're gonna get it now!

VORTEX

Ha-Ha! Yeah, you're done for now,  
fleshling!

**PANEL 3:**

Dr. Fujiyama turns to Nightbird and her three ninja-bots.

DR. FUJIYAMA

Nightbird, protect this facility.  
Destroy those Decepticons!

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

Back outside, Nightbird and her squad FLY FREE of the labs to  
soar towards Megatron, Skywarp and Soundwave.

SOUNDWAVE

Retaliation has arrived, Megatron.

MEGATRON

As we knew it would. Destroy the  
other three, but leave Nightbird  
for me!

**PANEL 5:**

While Soundwave, Thundercracker and Skywarp battle the ninja-  
bots in the background, Megatron FACES OFF against Nightbird.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Do you remember me, Nightbird? I am  
Megatron, leader of the Decepticons  
and your rightful master. Join me!

**PAGE SIXTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. NOT TOO FAR AWAY - NIGHT.

Nearby, Starscream and Swindle watch as Skywarp and  
Thundercracker battle the blue and orange ninja-bots in the  
distance.

SWINDLE

Whoa, our guys aren't doin' so  
well, huh?

STARSCREAM

**Our** guys, Swindle? They are not **our** guys. Megatron and his mindless followers are as much our enemy as the Autobots. But, no, they're not doing well at all.

**PANEL 2:**

Starscream ATTACHES a BIZARRE NOZZLE to the end of his right arm rifle, as Swindle looks on with CURIOSITY.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Megatron has foolishly led his low-on-fuel troops into a battle they are not prepared for. No matter. Soon, **I** will be in complete control of the situation.

SWINDLE

What is that thing, anyway?

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream watches as Optimus Prime, Jazz, Ironhide and Bumblebee arrive at the labs in their vehicle-modes.

STARSCREAM

All in good time, Swindle. It looks like my coming victory will be even greater than I first imagined.

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

Megatron turns away from Nightbird to see Optimus Prime and Ironhide have joined the red and blue ninja-bots in the battle against Skywarp and Soundwave.

SKYWARP

What? Autobot? What're you doing here?

IRONHIDE

We're here ta kick your tailpipes, once and fer all!

MEGATRON

No...

**PANEL 5:**

Nightbird CLUBS her nunchakus across Megatron's face, cracking one of his OPTICS.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)  
Ughhh! No, Nightbird, stop!

**PANEL 6:**

Nightbird delivers an ALMIGHTY JUMPKICK into Megatron's midsection, sending the Decepticon leader HURTLING through the air.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)  
Baaaah!

**PAGE SEVENTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

As Megatron sails towards Optimus Prime, the Autobot leader SMASHES a DOUBLE-HANDED blow into Megatron, sending him FACE-FIRST into the ground.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
You shouldn't have come, Megatron.

MEGATRON  
Ugh!

**PANEL 2:**

Optimus Prime holds his ION BLASTER to Megatron's shattered face. Behind them, Nightbird and her squad have CAPTURED Skywarp, Soundwave and Thundercracker.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Your forces are defeated. It's  
**over**, Megatron.

**PANEL 3:**

EXT. NOT TOO FAR AWAY - NIGHT.

In the background, Optimus Prime and Jazz appear to be ARRESTING Megatron.

Starscream stands in the foreground, raising his right arm's (modified) rifle towards his fellow Transformers.

Swindle remains just behind Starscream, clearly upset by this latest turn of events.

STARSCREAM

Ha! The 'mighty' Megatron, now reduced to an Autobot prisoner! Now, the Decepticons will see that I should rule!

SWINDLE

What are you doin', Starscream? We're gonna help Megatron, right?

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream turns to BLAST Swindle from his left arm's (regular) rifle.

STARSCREAM

Quiet! I've had enough of your whining, Swindle!

SWINDLE

Aaaaagh!

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime, as he turns his head to see Starscream and Swindle behind him in the distance.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Starscream?

**PAGE EIGHTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

WIDE SHOT - Optimus Prime, Jazz and Bumblebee STAND BACK IN SHOCK, as Starscream fires his modified arm rifle towards them to strike Nightbird IN THE BACK.

STARSCREAM

Oh, you'll find out soon enough, Prime... Once I give Nightbird a solid does of alpha radiation!

BUMBLEBEE

Alpha radiation? Oh, no!

**PANEL 2:**

CLOSE ON Nightbird's eyes as they TURN RED.

**PANEL 3:**

Nightbird lifts a SIDE-KICK up into Optimus Prime's chin, while Jazz and Bumblebee move towards Starscream, who has already TRANSFORMED to jet-mode to take off into the air.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Nightbird, wait! **GUGHH!**

BUMBLEBEE  
Starscream, you sneaky little...

JAZZ  
C'mon, we gotta make him reverse that alpha ray and turn Nightbird back from kill to chill!

STARSCREAM  
Ha! Fat chance, Auto-dolts!

**PANEL 4:**

Nightbird lifts a KNEE into Optimus Prime's MIDSECTION.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Urrghh!

**PANEL 5:**

Ironhide attempts to help Optimus Prime, only to be CLUBBED once again by Nightbird's nunchakus.

IRONHIDE  
Hold on, Prime, I'm ... **OW!**

**PAGE NINETEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Optimus Prime and Ironhide have fallen to their HANDS AND KNEES. Nightbird turns to her three ninja-bots as Hound and Trailbreaker RUSH towards her.

HOUND  
Uh oh! I hope she isn't doing what I think she's doing!

**PANEL 2:**

CLOSE ON the faces of the three ninja-bots as their eyes also shift to a GLOWING RED COLOR.

**PANEL 3:**

Nightbird and her team ATTACKS.

Hound is SLICED across the chest by the red ninja-bot, Trailbreaker is SET UPON by both the orange and blue, while Nightbird has BACK-FLIPPED over a STUNNED Jazz.

HOUND (CONT'D)  
She's taken control of the others!  
Aaaaarghh!

JAZZ  
Uh oh, this ain't good!

**PANEL 4:**

Nightbird lands to PUNCH Bumblebee to the ground, while KICKING Jazz in the face.

Behind her, the red and orange ninja-bots have once again attacked Ironhide, delivering several decisive blows to his head and body.

BUMBLEBEE  
Aaaagh!

JAZZ  
Not cool! She's just too powerful!

**PANEL 5:**

Leaving a beaten Jazz on the ground behind her, Nightbird FLIES FORWARD like SUPERMAN and POUNDS both fists into Optimus Prime's face, CRACKING his iconic FACE PLATE.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
No, Nightbird, let us help you...  
UUUGGHHHHH!

**PANEL 6:**

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Nightbird stands with her foot PRESSED DOWN against Optimus Prime's head, while Starscream TRANSFORMS to robot-mode to land behind her.

STARSCREAM  
Excellent work, Nightbird. You'll make a fine lieutenant in **MY** new Decepticon army!

**PAGE TWENTY:**

**PANEL 1:**



SPLASH PAGE - Nightbird (with her squad in the background) remains with her boot all-but-crushing the head of a battered Optimus Prime, while Starscream aims both arm rifles down at a fallen, nearby Megatron.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

But, now... let's end this. Once  
and for all!

**CAPTION:** TO BE CONTINUED...

**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!