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# THE TRANSFORMERS REANIMATED



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THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.  
"WAY OF THE NIGHTBIRD, PART 2."

Written by

Greig Tansley &  
Youseph "Yoshi" Tanha.

Art by  
Umi Miyao.

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. FUJIYAMA INDUSTRIES - NIGHT.

FULL SPLASH PAGE - STARSCREAM and NIGHTBIRD stand over the BATTLE-WEARY pair of MEGATRON and OPTIMUS PRIME.

In the background, Nightbird's THREE NINJA-BOT TEAM MEMBERS stand over the SIMILARLY-BATTERED group of JAZZ, IRONHIDE, SOUNDWAVE and SKYWARP.

As in the previous issue, Nightbird's squad are IDENTICAL to her, save for their coloring. Where Nightbird is PURPLE, her teammates are colored BLUE, RED and ORANGE, respectively.

**CAPTION:** Fujiyama Industries...

STARSCREAM  
Ha-Ha-Ha! Victory is **MINE**! Not even  
Optimus Prime and the 'almighty'  
Megatron can stand against me and  
my Nightbird allies!

**PAGE TWO:**

**PANEL 1:**

Starscream turns to Nightbird, as more of the Fujiyama Industries building can be seen over her shoulder.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
I'm going to take my time  
destroying these two so-called  
'leaders', but in the meantime...  
Nightbird, take your squad and free  
the Combaticons from this human  
facility!

**PANEL 2:**

DR. FUJIYAMA attempts to CONFRONT Starscream, although his size makes it difficult to do so, as Starscream LOOKS DOWN to his feet at the much-smaller human.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
What're you doing? You can't free  
those hooligans!

STARSCREAM

Quiet, Doctor! You'll soon have much work to do, once you begin creating even **more** ninja-bots for me!

**PANEL 3:**

Nightbird and her team moves towards the facility in the background.

In the foreground, Starscream KNEELS to GLOAT in Megatron's face as the Decepticon Leader remains battered on the ground.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Go, Nightbird. Once Onslaught and his team see it is **I** who have rescued them from human incarceration, they'll join us in my new **DECEPTICON ARMY!**

MEGATRON

(weakly)

S-Starscream... you traitorous...

STARSCREAM

Quiet, Megatron. I want you to see this.

**PANEL 4:**

OVER STARSCREAM'S SHOULDER, as he watches Nightbird and her team move closer to the facility and past several WEARY AUTOBOTS on the ground, including: BUMBLEBEE, HOUND and TRAILBREAKER.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Ha-Ha-Ha! That's it! Tear this place apart! Free the Combati...

**PANEL 5:**

AN EXPLOSION ERUPTS from within Fujiyama Industries to knock Nightbird and her teammates BACKWARDS off their feet.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

... **WHAT?!**

**PAGE THREE:**

**PANEL 1:**

Four of the five COMBATICONS: ONSLAUGHT, VORTEX, BLAST OFF and BRAWL stand free of the now-flaming facility, clearly having BURST THROUGH one of its once-solid-walls.

ONSLAUGHT

I don't think so, Starscream.

BRAWL

Yeah, we don't need **your** help to break outta a puny fleshing laboratory.

BLAST OFF

Indeed. Such an uncivilized hovel like this holds no such challenge for the Combaticons.

**PANEL 2:**

Soundwave has clambered to his knees, releasing his CASSETTE MINIONS: RUMBLE, FRENZY and RATBAT from his chest, TRANSFORMING mid-flight as they sail towards Dr. Fujiyama.

SOUNDWAVE

Rumble, Frenzy, Ratbat... eject.  
Operation: Asset acquisition.

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream looks on as Ratbat SIEZES Dr. Fujiyama in his talons, lifting him off his feet. Rumble cannot help but TAUNT Starscream.

DR. FUJIYAMA

Aaaaagh!

RUMBLE

Yo, Starscream! You want this human so bad?

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream CLENCHES HIS FIST in anger as Rumble and Frenzy FLY OFF into the sky with Ratbat, who continues to carry Dr. Fujiyama away from the scene.

RUMBLE (CONT'D)

Come and get him!

DR. FUJIYAMA

No! Stop! Help me!

STARSCREAM  
Rumble, you half-pint! Come back  
here with my scientist!

**PANEL 5:**

LOW ANGLE - Megatron lifts his FUSION CANNON from the ground to aim it at Starscream's back. Starscream is too busy SHAKING HIS FIST in the air with rage to notice.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
Rumble! I'll get you for this!

MEGATRON  
Not so fast, Starscream...

**PANEL 6:**

Megatron has regained his footing, BLASTING Starscream in the back.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)  
First, you will answer to **MEGATRON!**

STARSCREAM  
AAAAAAAAGGHHHHH!

**PAGE FOUR:**

**PANEL 1:**

Starscream now appears on the ground, SMOKE rising from his SCORCHED body. However, apart from his pride, he remains relatively UNHURT.

Megatron stands over him, his fusion cannon again aimed at his treacherous, former-second-in-command, as we can see that both Optimus Prime and Bumblebee have made it back their feet in the background.

BUMBLEBEE  
Wow, it's a good thing Megatron is so low on Energon, or there'd be nothing left of Starscream than a pair of boots.

MEGATRON  
This is it, Starscream. This is the end for you.

STARSCREAM  
Ughhh, n-no... no, I **won't** be defeated. Not like this! Nightbird, help me!

**PANEL 2:**

A NINJA STAR strikes Megatron's fusion cannon, causing him to turn his head OFF-PANEL.

MEGATRON  
What? Who dares?

**PANEL 3:**

WIDE SHOT - Starscream TRANSFORMS to jet-mode and ZOOMS into the sky, followed by Nightbird and her three ninja-bots.

Megatron continues to fire energy blasts up at Starscream to no avail, as Optimus Prime turns to Jazz.

STARSCREAM  
Nightbird, follow me!

MEGATRON  
Curse you, Starscream!

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Quickly, Jazz, we need to save Dr.  
Fujiyama!

**PANEL 4:**

Megatron stands with Onslaught, Vortex and Brawl, as SWINDLE creeps into the frame in the distance.

MEGATRON  
No, the human is **mine**! Combaticons,  
take care of these Autobots!

ONSLAUGHT  
You got it, Megatron.  
Combaticons...

**PANEL 5:**

The Combaticons begin to MERGE together into their GESTALT FORM, as Megatron and Soundwave LAUNCH into the air in the background.

Beside them, both THUNDERCRACKER and Skywarp TRANSFORM into their jet-modes to take off as well.

ONSLAUGHT (CONT'D)  
... form Bruticus!

MEGATRON  
Decepticons, to the air!

**PAGE FIVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

BRUTICUS now TOWERS OVER Ironhide, Hound, Optimus Prime and Trailbreaker.

IRONHIDE

Uh-oh.

**PANEL 2:**

FROM ABOVE - Optimus Prime orders the counter attack to Jazz, Hound, Trailbreaker, Ironhide and Bumblebee.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Autobots, take down Bruticus!

JAZZ

You got it, Prime!

**PANEL 3:**

Bruticus attempts to STOMP on Bumblebee, who escapes by TRANSFORMING into his Volkswagen-mode to SPEED AWAY from the behemoth's foot as it slams into the ground.

BUMBLEBEE

Whoa!

**PANEL 4:**

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP AT BRUTICUS as he lifts BOTH FISTS into the air, ready to deliver a DOUBLE-HANDED BLOW.

BRUTICUS

Autobots must be eliminated!

**PANEL 5:**

Trailbreaker begins to create a FORCE-FIELD around himself, Optimus Prime, Jazz, Hound, Bumblebee and Ironhide.

TRAILBREAKER

Hold on, everyone. I've got this!

**PAGE SIX:**

**PANEL 1:**

Bruticus brings his double-handed blow down upon the force-field that now protects the Autobots beneath its DOME-LIKE SHIELD.



BRUTICUS

Uuughhhh!

BUMBLEBEE

Just in the nick of time,  
Trailbreaker!

**PANEL 2:**

Standing beside Hound, Ironhide looks to Optimus Prime for leadership.

IRONHIDE

Now whatta we do, Optimus? We can't stay inside this thing forever.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Indeed not, Ironhide. But, we need a plan of attack if we're to defeat the sheer might of Bruticus.

HOUND

All of the Decepticons are running low on Energon. A **combined** strike might just be enough.

**PANEL 3:**

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's face.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Then that's **exactly** what we're going to do. Trailbreaker, on my mark, drop the force-field. The rest of you...

**PANEL 4:**

Trailbreaker has caused his force-field to DISSIPATE, as Optimus Prime, Ironhide, Bumblebee, Jazz and Hound each fire their various BLASTERS up towards Bruticus, striking his CHEST.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

... **FIRE!**

**PANEL 5:**

Bruticus SPLITS APART into his separate Combaticon components with a SURGE OF ENERGY.

ONSLAUGHT

Ughh, no! Not... enough...  
Energon... to withstand... that  
assault!

**PAGE SEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Ironhide, Jazz, Bumblebee and Hound stand over the DEFEATED  
Combaticons.

BUMBLEBEE

Wow, they really **are** low on  
Energon. That worked great!

JAZZ

You know it. It's the new Number  
One on my personal top 40!

**PANEL 2:**

Optimus Prime turns to Jazz.

OPTIMUS PRIME

But what of Dr. Fujiyama? We **must**  
save him from the Decepticons  
before it's too late.

**PANEL 3:**

Optimus still speaks with Jazz.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Jazz, contact Blaster. I need him  
to patch me through to our air  
support.

JAZZ

Sure thing, Prime.

**PANEL 4:**

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

The AUTOBOT ARK sits in its mountain home, under the light of  
the MOON and the STARS.

JAZZ

(captioned)

Jazz to Blaster. Come in, Blaster,  
do you read me?

**PANEL 5:**

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

BLASTER picks up Jazz's transmission, surprising both GEARS and HUFFER.

JAZZ  
(from Blaster's chest)  
Blaster, we got a situation. Roger  
me, Wilco me, anything.

BLASTER  
Hey, I'm picking up an emergency  
Autobot transmission!

GEARS  
Then answer it, already!

HUFFER  
Yeah, so we can go back to having  
**some** peace and quiet!

**PANEL 6:**

Blaster TRANSFORMS to his boom-box mode.

BLASTER  
Readin' you loud and proud, Jazz,  
my man. Go ahead!

**PAGE EIGHT:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE ROOF OF A TALL SKYSCRAPER, PORTLAND - NIGHT.

**CAPTION:** Meanwhile...

Rumble, Frenzy and Ratbat SURROUND a FRIGHTENED Dr. Fujiyama on the roof of a tall building.

Megatron, Soundwave, Thundercracker and Skywarp (in jet-modes) approach from the sky in the background.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Let me go, you mechanical maniacs!

RUMBLE  
Quiet down, human. Unless you wanna  
find out just how fast it takes to  
hit the ground from up here.

**PANEL 2:**

Dr. Fujiyama watches as Megatron and Soundwave LAND on the rooftop, while Skywarp and Thundercracker TRANSFORM to robot-mode to do the same.

MEGATRON

There's no need for that, Rumble.  
After all, the good doctor will  
soon prove useful to me.

DR. FUJIYAMA

W-What are you talking about?

**PANEL 3:**

Megatron LOOKS DOWN at Dr. Fujiyama.

MEGATRON

Your ninja robots are impressive.  
Even better than before. I want  
**more** of them, and **you** will build  
them for me.

**PANEL 4:**

CLOSE ON an angry Dr. Fujiyama.

DR. FUJIYAMA

What? No, I created Nightbird to be  
a force for **good**, not evil! I won't  
pervert that dream to help **you**!

**PANEL 5:**

LOW ANGLE, FROM BEHIND DR. FUJIYAMA - Megatron TOWERS over Dr. Fujiyama, using his fusion cannon to almost SWALLOW the diminutive human scientist.

MEGATRON

Oh, yes you will, Doctor. Unless  
you'd rather I reduce you to atoms?

**PANEL 6:**

Megatron has now picked up Dr. Fujiyama by the back of his suit jacket to dangle him HELPLESSLY before the Decepticon leader's face.

DR. FUJIYAMA

No, no please!

MEGATRON  
Then do as I say!

**PAGE NINE:**

**PANEL 1:**

Thundercracker TRANSFORMS to jet-mode as Megatron TOSSES Dr. Fujiyama towards the OPEN COCKPIT.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)  
Take care of this human,  
Thundercracker. He has much to do.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Hey!

**PANEL 2:**

Thundercracker's cockpit closes to seal Dr. Fujiyama inside.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Sure thing, Megatron.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
No, let me go!

**PANEL 3:**

Megatron turns his head to look towards Soundwave and Skywarp.

SOUNDWAVE  
What is our destination? Current  
Decepticon hideout contains  
inadequate resources to build ninja-  
bots.

SKYWARP  
And the Autobots are sure to be  
guarding what's left of Fujiyama  
Industries.

**PANEL 4:**

CLOSE ON Megatron's face.

MEGATRON  
Fear not, Skywarp. I know of  
**another** facility that will cater to  
our needs.

**PANEL 5:**

WIDE SHOT - Megatron once again LAUNCHES into the sky, followed by Soundwave and his cassettes.

Thundercracker takes off with Dr. Fujiyama, while Skywarp TRANSFORMS to jet-mode to join him.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Follow me!

**PAGE TEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. HIGH IN THE SKY - NIGHT.

ZOOMING THROUGH THE CLOUDS, both SKYFIRE and the much-smaller POWERGLIDE sail under the light of the moon.

**CAPTION:** Elsewhere...

OPTIMUS PRIME

(echoing from Skyfire's  
jet-mode)

Skyfire, do you read me? We require your assistance.

SKYFIRE

Optimus Prime? How can I help?

OPTIMUS PRIME

Megatron has abducted a human scientist and taken to the skies. I need your aerial skills to help track them down.

**PANEL 2:**

Powerglide continues to fly beside Skyfire.

POWERGLIDE

Hey-hey! Is that all? Man, we can handle that like a breeze! Right, Skyfire, ol' buddy?

OPTIMUS PRIME

(still echoing from  
Skyfire's jet-mode)

Powerglide?

SKYFIRE

My radar is actually detecting hostile aircrafts not far from here, moving towards the west.

**PANEL 3:**

Skyfire ZOOMS off into the distance, while Powerglide attempts to keep up.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)  
I'll check it out!

POWERGLIDE  
You mean, **we'll** check it out. And  
awa-aa-ay we go!

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES - NIGHT.

Megatron, Soundwave, Thundercracker and Skywarp (in jet-modes) arrive at QUANTUM LABORATORIES.

Dr. Fujiyama remains trapped in Thundercracker's cockpit.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Quantum Labs? Why are we here? This  
place isn't part of my  
conglomerate.

MEGATRON  
No, but since Fujiyama Industries  
are currently in need of repair,  
**this** installation will meet our  
needs.

**PANEL 5:**

Thundercracker TRANSFORMS to robot-mode, freeing Dr. Fujiyama from his cockpit to DUMP the human onto the ground.

Megatron stands nearby.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)  
Not to mention, Doctor, **this**  
facility just so happens to contain  
a rare supercomputer of its own,  
one that will easily be able to  
bring your ideas to fruition.

DR. FUJIYAMA  
Ugghh! What? What are you talking  
about? What supercomputer?

**PANEL 6:**

CLOSE ON Megatron's SMUG face.

MEGATRON

One that once helped me almost  
destroy the Autobots. **TORQ III!**

**PAGE ELEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. WITHIN A MOUNTAIN CREVASSE - NIGHT.

Skyfire and Powerglide BLAZE their way through a ROCKY  
CANYON, surrounded on all sides by STEEP, CLIFF FACES.

**CAPTION:** Meanwhile...

SKYFIRE

C'mon, Powerglide, keep up! Those  
hostiles we were tracking have  
settled near Quantum Labs. It's **got**  
to be the Decepticons!

POWERGLIDE

It sure does, but now **I'm** pickin'  
up five more bogies closing in  
fast!

SKYFIRE

What? **Five**? What on Cybertron could  
they be?

**PANEL 2:**

From OUT OF NOWHERE, Starscream (in jet-mode) drops into  
frame, accompanied by Nightbird and her three ninja-bots.

Starscream has immediately begun to OPEN FIRE towards  
Skyfire, the four ninja-bots have surrounded Powerglide.

STARSCREAM

Quantum Labs? **That's** where Megatron  
went? Thanks for the tip, you  
oversized Autobot buffoon!

SKYFIRE

Starscream? Ugh! I should have  
known you'd be lurking about  
somewhere!

POWERGLIDE

Uh, yeah... but this time, he's got  
friends! Whoa!



**PANEL 3:**

Skyfire TRANSFORMS to robot-mode in mid-air and collides with all four of the ninja-bots, knocking them away from Powerglide.

SKYFIRE  
Hold on, Powerglide!

POWERGLIDE  
Ha-Ha! Now, that's the ticket!

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream again drops into frame to BLAST Powerglide from behind.

STARSCREAM  
Loudmouthed fool! You think you can  
escape from **me**?

POWERGLIDE  
Yaagh!

**PANEL 5:**

Powerglide SPIRALS towards the rear of the frame ON FIRE, as Nightbird and her teammates have begun to attack each of Skyfire's limbs as though they were a pack HYENAS taking down a mutual prey.

Each of the ninja-bots attack with their various WEAPONS: Nightbird with her NUNCHAKUS, the red ninja-bot with her SWORDS, the blue ninja-bot with a SPIKED STAFF and the orange ninja-bot with a pair of dagger-like SAIS.

Skyfire is also now on fire, SPARKS flying from several of his joints.

SKYFIRE  
Powerglide! Ugh, what **are** these  
things? Ow!

**PANEL 6:**

As Skyfire now also PLUMMETS towards the ground, Starscream, Nightbird and the three ninja-bots CHANGE COURSE to cruise off into the night sky.

STARSCREAM  
Excellent, Nightbird. I never **did**  
like that overgrown wannabe. Now,  
onto Quantum Laboratories!

SKYFIRE

Ughh! Blaster, come in, Blaster!

**PAGE TWELVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

Back inside the Ark, Optimus Prime, Jazz and Ironhide stand before Blaster's boom-box-mode as it receives Skyfire's distress call.

SKYFIRE

(echoing from Blaster's  
boom-box-mode)

Blaster, do you read me? Ughhh...  
Powerglide and I are going down.  
Starscream... he's headed to  
Quantum Laboratories... And so is  
Megatron!

IRONHIDE

Starscream? Why that no-good, dirty  
little...

OPTIMUS PRIME

Take care of yourself, Skyfire.  
We'll handle Megatron.

JAZZ

Well, we'd better hurry. Sounds  
like we got double the Decepticon  
trouble, now!

**PANEL 2:**

HERO SHOT - Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to semi-trailer-mode.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Then let's roll for it!

**PANEL 3:**

EXT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES - NIGHT.

Quantum Laboratories remains quiet... on the outside.

OPTIMUS PRIME

(captioned)

I just hope we're not too late.

**PANEL 4:**

INT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES, TORQ III CHAMBER.

With his LEFT HAND, Megatron again holds Dr. Fujiyama up by the back of his suit jacket, dangling him before another pair of scientists; DR. ANDREWS and DR. GATES (from "*Day of the Machines*").

DR. ANDREWS  
What are you talking about?

DR. GATES  
We can't reactivate TORQ III! We were never able to initiate a solid safeguard procedure to contain his AI!

MEGATRON  
Do not defy me, humans. I want that supercomputer up-and-running, and I want it **NOW!**

**PANEL 5:**

Still grasping Dr. Fujiyama in his left hand, Megatron now aims his fusion cannon down towards Dr. Gates and Dr. Andrews, as they RELUCTANTLY begin reactivating the TORQ III computer controls.

DR. ANDREWS  
Okay, okay! Take it easy!

DR. GATES  
We'll do as you ask, just don't hurt us!

MEGATRON  
Excellent.

**PANEL 6:**

CLOSE ON the TORQ III computer's DATA SCREEN - The familiar PINK FACE of TORQ III appears (also last seen in "*Day of the Machines*").

TORQ III  
I am TORQ III. I am ... restored!

**PAGE THIRTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES - NIGHT.

Starscream, Nightbird and her ninja-bots LAND ON THEIR FEET before the laboratories.

A HUGE HOLE mars the front entrance to the building, leaving no doubt that the Decepticons entered in a hurry.

STARSCREAM  
Quickly, Nightbird! Megatron and  
his flunkies must already be  
inside. Follow me!

**PANEL 2:**

INT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES, A CORRIDOR.

Starscream, Nightbird and her ninja-bots TEAR THROUGH a narrow hallway within the confines of the laboratories.

**PANEL 3:**

INT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES, TORQ III CHAMBER.

Soundwave TURNS HIS HEAD to the right, looking off-panel, as Megatron stands TRIUMPHANTLY before the data screen face of TORQ III.

SOUNDWAVE  
Megatron, we have incoming.

**PANEL 4:**

WIDE SHOT, FROM BEHIND Nightbird and her teammates as they CHARGE into the TORQ III chamber.

The red ninja-bot attacks Thundercracker on the left, the orange ninja-bot lunges towards Soundwave on the right, while the blue ninja-bot delivers a FLYING KICK to Megatron's face in the center of frame.

Meanwhile, Starscream STEALTHILY creeps into the room's doorway in the foreground.

STARSCREAM  
That's right, Megatron. Surprise!

**PANEL 5:**

With Megatron UNDER ASSAULT by the blue ninja-bot in the background, Starscream and Nightbird approach TORQ III.

TORQ III  
I am TORQ III. You are trespassing  
on these grounds. **I** control Quantum  
Laboratories.

STARSCREAM  
Ha! Not for long. Nightbird, now!

**PANEL 6:**

Nightbird INJECTS a set of CLAW-LIKE FINGERNAILS directly  
into TORQ III's access ports, causing TORQ III's face to  
SWIRL and DISTORT on the data screen.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
That's it, Nightbird. Override this  
creature's AI to obey **MY** commands!

TORQ III  
I... I am... TORQ III. I... will  
obey.

STARSCREAM  
Ha! Then download Nightbird's  
design schematics, and initiate the  
manufacture of **more** of these ninja-  
bots.

**PAGE FOURTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES - NIGHT.

The vehicle-modes of Optimus Prime, Jazz, Ironhide,  
Bumblebee, Trailbreaker and Hound arrive outside Quantum  
Laboratories.

Once again, the damage to the building is obvious, even worse  
than before (thanks to Starscream's squad).

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Autobots, we've arrived.

HOUND  
And it looks like we weren't the  
first.

IRONHIDE  
I'll say. Let's get on in there and  
start takin' down those Decepti-  
bums.

**PANEL 2:**

Jazz looks towards Optimus Prime as he and Ironhide gaze upon the laboratories. The SFX of BATTLE appear plastered all over the panel.

JAZZ  
From the sounds of things, they're  
fightin', already!

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Starscream. And no doubt,  
Nightbird. Be careful, Autobots...

**PANEL 3:**

INT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES, TORQ III CHAMBER.

Megatron DESTROYS the blue ninja-bot by blowing a hole in its torso with his fusion cannon.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
(captioned)  
... Megatron is most dangerous when  
cornered.

MEGATRON  
Enough!

**PANEL 4:**

With the remains of the blue ninja-bot at his feet, Megatron turns to see Optimus Prime and Jazz CHARGING into the TORQ III chamber.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Hold it right there, Megatron!

MEGATRON  
What? Optimus Prime? No, this  
doesn't concern you! This is none  
of your business!

**PANEL 5:**

Optimus Prime and Megatron are now LOCKED TOGETHER in an all-too-familiar grappling pose.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
When it comes to you, Megatron,  
**everything** is my business.

**PANEL 6:**

Soundwave once again OPENS HIS CHEST to release the cassettes: Rumble, Frenzy, Ratbat, LASERBEAK and RAVAGE.

SOUNDWAVE  
Eject. Operation: Reinforcements.

**PAGE FIFTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Nightbird remains connected to TORQ III through her hands, as Ironhide PUNCHES Starscream across the face with a RIGHT-HOOK.

IRONHIDE  
I think that's enough meddlin'  
outta you, Starscream.

STARSCREAM  
Ugh! You ignorant moron!

**PANEL 2:**

CLOSE ON the data screen of TORQ III. It now displays the INTERNAL SCHEMATICS of Nightbird's robotic design.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
(off-panel)  
You're too late!

**PANEL 3:**

Optimus Prime drives an UPPERCUT into Megatron's stomach.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
You're low on Energon, Megatron.  
You should not have come here.

MEGATRON  
Guuughh!

**PANEL 4:**

Thundercracker and Skywarp fire their arm rifles through the body of the red ninja-bot, while Rumble and Frenzy sit atop its shoulders, pounding it with their PILEDRIERS.

RUMBLE  
All right! No time to frown! Take  
this thing down!

**PANEL 5:**

Trailbreaker LIFTS Ravage off of a prone Bumblebee on the ground by the "scruff" of his neck.

TRAILBREAKER  
Whoa, hold on little buddy!

BUMBLEBEE  
Phew! Thanks, Trailbreaker!

**PANEL 6:**

Trailbreaker TRAPS Ravage within a DOMED FORCE-FIELD.

TRAILBREAKER  
Ha-Ha, that'll hold you!

RAVAGE  
MRREEOWWW!

**PAGE SIXTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

In front of TORQ III's data screen, Starscream has gained the upper hand over Ironhide, blasting the Autobot with his arm rifles.

IRONHIDE  
Aaagh!

STARSCREAM  
Obsolete old fool! You're no match for me!

**PANEL 2:**

Starscream turns back to face Nightbird and TORQ III, whose face has reappeared on the data screen.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
Hurry up, TORQ III! Start building my army of ninja-bots!

**PANEL 3:**

A POWER SURGE from within TORQ III sends energy into Nightbird to ELECTROCUTE her. Starscream looks on with concern.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
What?

**PANEL 4:**



SMOKE rising from her hands, Nightbird DISCONNECTS from TORQ III and falls to the floor with a 'CLINK'.

**PANEL 5:**

Soundwave stands emitting actual SOUNDWAVES towards the orange ninja-bot, holding it in place as Thundercracker and Skywarp BLAST it with their combined arm rifle attack.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Nice one, Soundwave.

SKYWARP  
Yeah, I think we're gettin' the  
hang of this!

**PANEL 6:**

Still SPARRING with Megatron, Optimus Prime looks over his shoulder to see the orange ninja-bot fall to the floor.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Megatron, cease this mindless  
destruction!

MEGATRON  
Never, Optimus Prime! You will be  
the next to fall!

**PAGE SEVENTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Optimus HURLS Megatron through the nearest wall, HEAD-FIRST.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
I don't think so, Megatron!

MEGATRON  
Noooooooooo!

**PANEL 2:**

EXT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES - NIGHT.

Megatron CRASHES through the already-damaged walls of the laboratories to land FACE-DOWN in the street.

MEGATRON  
Ugh! Curse you, Prime!

**PANEL 3:**

INT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES, TORQ III CHAMBER.

Nightbird STAGGERS to her feet to see Jazz and Hound battling Soundwave, Rumble and Ratbat.

**PANEL 4:**

Nightbird turns her head to see her three fallen ninja-bots, now nothing more than shattered, smoking husks on the floor.

**PANEL 5:**

NIGHTBIRD'S P.O.V. - Through her DIGITAL VISION, the words 'OVERRIDE COMPLETE. RESUME REGULAR PROGRAMMING', appear across the panel.

**PANEL 6:**

STILL NIGHTBIRD'S P.O.V. - Again looking through her digital vision, she looks upon Optimus Prime, Soundwave and Starscream locked in a THREE-WAY-BATTLE.

The words across the panel now read, 'LOGIC CIRCUITS ACTIVE. ONLY VIABLE SOLUTION TO CONSTANT THREAT OF FURTHER CORRUPTION: SELF DESTRUCTION'.

**PAGE EIGHTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Nightbird once again connects her claw-like fingers into TORQ III's access ports. TORQ III seems UNIMPRESSED.

TORQ III  
I am TORQ III. What are you doing?  
Stop!

**PANEL 2:**

SPARKS fly from the computer terminal as some kind of ELECTRICAL ENERGY flows from Nightbird into TORQ III. The supercomputer's face has begun to distort and swirl into something hideous.

TORQ III (CONT'D)  
Stop! Systems are being  
overridden... massive CPU failure  
imminent!

**PANEL 3:**

Hound and Jazz notice the commotion, as Starscream rushes to TORQ III and Nightbird's side.

JAZZ

Whoa, check out the hubbub!

STARSCREAM

Nightbird, what are you doing?!  
Stop this at once!

**PANEL 4:**

Still connected to TORQ III, Nightbird manages to lift a solid SIDEKICK into Starscream to knock him to the floor with a THUD.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Aaaagh! You no-good automaton!  
You'll doom us all!

**PANEL 5:**

WIDE SHOT - As the room begins to shake, Optimus Prime orders the retreat to Ironhide and Trailbreaker.

Dr. Gates, Dr. Andrews and Dr. Fujiyama climb into Bumblebee's Volkswagen-mode, while in the background, Skywarp, Thundercracker and Soundwave escape through the hole in the wall created by Megatron earlier.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Autobots, we must leave this place  
at once!

BUMBLEBEE

C'mon, Doctors! Pile in!

THUNDERCRACKER

Yeah, let's get outta here!

**PANEL 6:**

CLOSE ON TORQ III'S now-monstrous face.

TORQ III

System overload. Total destruction  
in 5... 4... 3...

**PANEL 7:**

CLOSE ON Nightbird's emotionless face.

TORQ III (CONT'D)

(off-panel)  
... 2... 1...

**PAGE NINETEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

The TORQ III supercomputer EXPLODES, engulfing Nightbird in a TORRENT OF FLAMES.

**PANEL 2:**

EXT. QUANTUM LABORATORIES - NIGHT.

Outside, Optimus Prime checks on the conditions of Dr. Fujiyama, Dr. Gates and Dr. Andrews.

Behind them, Skyfire and Powerglide have arrived, TRANSFORMING to robot-mode to land nearby.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Are you all right? Are any of you hurt?

DR. FUJIYAMA  
We're fine.

POWERGLIDE  
Hey, looks like we missed a party!

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream's jet-mode BURSTS free of the labs like a bottle-rocket to shoot straight up into the night sky.

STARSCREAM  
Of all the low-down, dirty... I'll get you for this, Optimus Prime! And you too, Megatron! You haven't seen the last of **Starscream!**

**PANEL 4:**

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Ironhide and Jazz watch Starscream continue to zoom off higher into the sky, while Megatron, Soundwave, Thundercracker and Skywarp follow.

IRONHIDE  
No kiddin'.

JAZZ  
Looks like Megatron and his bozos are makin' a getaway, too!

MEGATRON  
Decepticons, this day is lost. Retreat. **RETREAT!**

**PAGE TWENTY:**

**PANEL 1:**

As the Decepticons disappear far off in the distant night sky, Ironhide DROPS HIS HEAD with SORROW as Hound, Skyfire and Powerglide look on.

While Powerglide seems OBLIVIOUS to the situation, Skyfire is making the 'QUIT IT' gesture towards his throat with his hand.

HOUND

Well, that's the end of that!

POWERGLIDE

The end of what, exactly? Did we miss something good?

IRONHIDE

Aw, man, I feel bad for poor Nightbird. I was wrong about her. She saved us from TORQ III and more of those Starscream-controlled ninja-bots. She saved us **all**.

**PANEL 2:**

Bumblebee now stands with a SULLEN Dr. Fujiyama.

BUMBLEBEE

Gee, Doc. Do you think you'll ever build more robots like Nightbird?

DR. FUJIYAMA

No. It's clear to me now. Nightbird was never meant for this world. I will honor her sacrifice. There will be no more ninja-bots. Ever.

**PANEL 3:**

Bumblebee places a SUPPORTING HAND on Dr. Fujiyama's shoulder as Hound steps forward.

BUMBLEBEE

It's a shame both Fujiyama Industries **and** Quantum Labs have been so heavily damaged. There probably isn't even any security footage to remind us of Nightbird's heroism.

HOUND

Hold on, Bee. **I** can help with that.

**PANEL 4:**

Hound fires his HOLOGRAM GUN, creating a SEMI-TRANSLUCENT image of Nightbird in all her glory.

Dr. Fujiyama is OVERJOYED, while Optimus Prime and Ironhide look on with CONTENTMENT behind him.

DR. FUJIYAMA

Oh, my. It's perfect! Thank you,  
Hound! And thank **you**, Nightbird.

**PANEL 5:**

CLOSE ON the face and torso of the holographic Nightbird.

DR. FUJIYAMA (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Goodbye.

**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!