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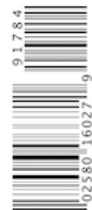
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# THE TRANSFORMERS REANIMATED



DIRECT EDITION



9 17 84  
1 02 580 160 27 19  
WWW.TRANSFORMERSREANIMATED.COM  
\$0.00 US

THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.  
"ALMIGHTY STARSCREAM."

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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. NEAR THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA - DAY.

**CAPTION:** Near the Grand Canyon, Arizona...

SPLASH PANEL - MEGATRON fires his FUSION CANNON to blow a hole through STARSCREAM'S BELLY, while SOUNDWAVE looks on from the background with THUNDERCRACKER and SKYWARP.

STARSCREAM  
AAAAAAAGHHHH! NO!

MEGATRON  
This is the end for you,  
Starscream! I should have done this  
a long time ago!

**PANEL 2:**

As Starscream falls to the ground, he fires his NULL RAY into Megatron's chest, but Megatron does not appear hurt at all.

STARSCREAM  
No! I won't let you do this! I  
should rule the Decepticons! **ME!**

MEGATRON  
Bah! Pathetic!

**PANEL 3:**

As Megatron reasserts himself, a HEAVILY-DAMAGED Starscream TRANSFORMS into his jet-mode to take off into the sky.

STARSCREAM  
You'll pay for this, Megatron!  
You'll see! I'm not finished yet!

**PANEL 4:**

Megatron and Soundwave watch from the ground as Starscream barely manages to escape, leaving behind a DIRTY CLOUD OF SMOKE as he sputters off into the distance.

SOUNDWAVE  
Shall we pursue him, Megatron?

MEGATRON

He's not worth wasting the Energon. Without our undersea base\*, we need to conserve all we can. Besides, with that wound, Starscream will not last the day. Let him flee one final time.

**CAPTION:** \*Destroyed by Piranacon in Issue #25!

**PAGE TWO:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OVER THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA - DAY.

**CAPTION:** Soon after, at the Grand Canyon...

Still in jet-mode, Starscream struggles to maintain his altitude over the GRAND CANYON, leaving behind an even darker plume of smoke than before, as he careens haphazardly through the air.

It would appear that Megatron was right. Starscream seems done for.

MEGATRON

(captioned)

He has nowhere to go.

STARSCREAM

Curse you, Megatron! I am **destined** to be leader of the Decepticons! I'll show you, I'll... wait.

**PANEL 2:**

CLOSE ON a ROBOTIC HAND, protruding from beneath a mass of FALLEN ROCKS AND DIRT. High above in the distant sky, Starscream is now descending towards it.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

What is that? **Who** is that?

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream TRANSFORMS to land on his feet beside the landslide and the hand buried beneath. Smoke continues to bellow from his body as he clutches his wound.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Another Cybertronian? Here?

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream fires his null rays into the pile of rocks, VAPORIZING them completely.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
Let's see who this is. Perhaps they'd be willing to join **my** new Decepticon army.

**PANEL 5:**

As the dust settles, Starscream steps back, surprised to see that the body beneath the rubble belongs to that of TRANNIS.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
What? Is that..?

**PANEL 6:**

CLOSE ON Trannis's face as his optics come to life with their EERIE, RED GLOW.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
(off-panel)  
... **Trannis?**

**PAGE THREE:**

**PANEL 1:**

A weary-looking Trannis SITS UP, while Starscream remains standing over him.

TRANNIS  
W-Where am I? What is this disreputable place? How long have I been here?

STARSCREAM  
It **is** you. But, how? I thought you were a myth. A Decepticon leader from a bygone era.

**PANEL 2:**

Trannis stands as Starscream half-heartedly lifts his right null ray towards him.

TRANNIS  
I can assure you, I am very much real. However, am I **not** the Trannis of **this** universe.  
(MORE)

TRANNIS (CONT'D)

I come from a superior, alternate dimension, where **my** Decepticons rule supreme!\*

STARSCREAM

Another dimension? Then **you're** the one Shockwave told us about.

**CAPTION:** \*As seen in Issue #21.

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream SMIRKS as Trannis reaches for his head.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Ha! I wish I could have seen the look on that expressionless dolt's face when you shot him in the back!

**PANEL 4:**

OVER STARSCREAM'S SHOULDER - Trannis stands before him, equally as injured as Starscream.

TRANNIS

It was glorious. But, my plans were foiled by those traitorous Decepticons on Cybertron, and now I find myself here, in urgent need of repair.

STARSCREAM

Then it would seem we are allies. I am Starscream, and I too have been betrayed by the Decepticons of this reality. So much so, that I **also** require urgent repair.

**PANEL 5:**

Trannis and Starscream SHAKE HANDS.

TRANNIS

Then let us form a partnership, Starscream. However, time is of the essence. Where shall we find these repairs we so desperately seek?

STARSCREAM

Don't worry, oh 'mighty Trannis'...

**PANEL 6:**

FROM ABOVE - Both Trannis and Starscream fly out of the Grand Canyon and into the sky (Trannis in his robot-form, Starscream now in jet-mode).

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
... I know just the person we need.

**PAGE FOUR:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. ARIZONA STATE PRISON COMPLEX, YUMA, ARIZONA - DAY.

**CAPTION:** Later, at the Arizona State Prison Complex...

A large PRISON COMPOUND sits spread out over the dusty, pale ground. Its BARBED-WIRE FENCES surround a set of boring, gray PENITENTIARY BUILDINGS, while several INMATES can be seen in the outside yards wearing traditional ORANGE JUMPSUITS.

Both Starscream and Trannis fly overhead.

TRANNIS  
What is this place? A flesh-  
creature prison? How can **they**  
possibly help us?

**PANEL 2:**

EXT. THE YARD - DAY.

WIDE SHOT - Several more inmates SCATTER as Starscream TRANSFORMS to land beside Trannis in the prison yard. With his back to the reader, a SOMEWHAT-FAMILIAR-SILHOUETTE watches from the foreground.

STARSCREAM  
Relax, Trannis, this prison holds  
one of the more remarkable, if not  
cunning humans...

**PANEL 3:**

REVERSE ANGLE, STARSCREAM'S P.O.V. - DR. ARKEVILLE stands looking up towards the reader. Also dressed in a standard orange jumpsuit, his CYBERNETIC ARMS and FACE stand out more than ever.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)  
(off-panel)  
... Dr. Arkeville!

DR. ARKEVILLE  
Starscream! Get me out of this  
place! They refuse to recognize my  
brilliance!

**PANEL 4:**

As Trannis looks on, Starscream KNEELS DOWN to address Dr.  
Arkeville on his level.

STARSCREAM  
Oh, I'll set you free, 'old  
friend'. But then you'll need to do  
something for **us**. We require urgent  
repairs!

DR. ARKEVILLE  
Yes, yes of course! Just get me out  
of this contemptible confinement.

**PANEL 5:**

Starscream FIRES his null rays to chase off several PRISON  
GUARDS, as Trannis TRANSFORMS into his motorcycle-mode beside  
Dr. Arkeville.

STARSCREAM  
Then we have a deal, Arkeville .  
Let's get out of here!

**PANEL 6:**

EXT. OUTSIDE THE PRISON - DAY.

Dr. Arkeville (now riding Trannis ) has BURST THROUGH the  
outer fences, leaving the prison behind while Starscream's  
jet-mode flies overhead.

Several more prison guards angrily shake their fists in the  
background as the villains escape.

DR. ARKEVILLE  
Ha-Ha-Ha! Farewell, you idiotic  
simpletons! Nothing can stop Dr.  
Arkeville: **GENIUS OF SCIENCE!**

**PAGE FIVE:**

**PANEL 1:**



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

The AUTOBOT ARK remains lodged within its mountain home.

**CAPTION:** Soon after...

TV REPORTER  
(captioned)  
... The stunning escape was made possible by two Decepticons...

**PANEL 2:**

INT. THE ARK'S MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

Gathered around TELETRAAN-1, OPTIMUS PRIME, BLASTER, JAZZ, RATCHET and BUMBLEBEE watch its DATA SCREEN to see a TV NEWS REPORT and its footage of the escaping villains.

TV REPORTER  
(from the data screen)  
... leaving the current whereabouts of Dr. Arkeville unknown.

BUMBLEBEE  
Whoa! A prison break? What's Starscream up to this time?

JAZZ  
Yeah, and what's the skinny on that maniacal-motorcycle, man?

RATCHET  
I don't even recognize who that is.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
I do.

**PANEL 3:**

Blaster looks on as Optimus Prime now stands before Teletraan-1.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)  
His name is Trannis, an ancient Decepticon long-thought to be nothing more than a Cybertronian legend.

BLASTER  
Well, it looks like we just got a little telecommunication-confirmation.

(MORE)

BLASTER (CONT'D)

But, what's he doing here on Earth?  
And why is he with that turbo-  
turkey, Starscream?

**PANEL 4:**

WIDE SHOT - Optimus Prime stands with Jazz, Bumblebee and Blaster.

OPTIMUS PRIME

That, I do **not** know. But, rest assured, I'm going to find out. Blaster, contact Skyfire at once.

BLASTER

You got it, Prime. One super-cool connection, coming through!

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. THE SKIES - DAY.

SKYFIRE cruises the skies in his jet-mode.

OPTIMUS PRIME

(captioned)

Skyfire, do you read me? I need you to be on the lookout for Starscream. It would appear he is developing some new nefarious plan.

SKYFIRE

If Starscream's involved, you can bet he's up to no good. I'll do a sector sweep and see what I can find.

**PANEL 6:**

Skyfire ZOOMS towards a SET OF MOUNTAINS on the horizon.

OPTIMUS PRIME

(captioned)

Thank you, my friend. But, be careful. Starscream proves to be more unpredictable with each solar cycle.

SKYFIRE

Don't worry about me, Optimus. I can handle Starscream, no matter **what** his plans are.

**PAGE SIX:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY - DAY.

FROM BEHIND - Starscream, Trannis and Dr. Arkeville stand before the BOULDER that blocks the way into Dr. Arkeville's old laboratory from the G1 episode, '*Countdown to Extinction*'.

STARSCREAM

I thought you said you had somewhere you could repair us, Arkeville? This old base of yours is trashed!

DR. ARKEVILLE

Calm down, Starscream. All will be revealed shortly.

**PANEL 2:**

INT. INSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET LABORATORY.

Just as Starscream said, Dr. Arkeville's old lab has indeed seen better days. He stands amidst its ruined array of scientific apparatuses, as Starscream and Trannis look in from the outside.

STARSCREAM

See? I was right. This place is a mess!

DR. ARKEVILLE

Once again, you underestimate me, Starscream. Do you think an intellectual such as I would have brought you here if I was not prepared?

**PANEL 3:**

Dr. Arkeville pulls a LEVER on the nearby wall.

DR. ARKEVILLE (CONT'D)

While it's true that **this** base of operations can no longer serve us...

**PANEL 4:**

FROM ABOVE - Starscream, Trannis and Dr. Arkeville LOOK DOWN, as a SECRET COMPARTMENT opens at their feet, revealing a secondary lab, built beneath the floor of the old one.

DR. ARKEVILLE (CONT'D)  
... **this** one will! Built underneath  
my former laboratory and hidden  
from prying eyes! Until now!

STARSCREAM  
An... **Underbase?**

**PANEL 5:**

Dr. Arkeville now stands on Starscream's shoulder as they climb down into the Underbase with Trannis.

DR. ARKEVILLE  
Ha! I suppose that name will  
suffice. Now, quickly! Time is of  
the essence!

**PAGE SEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY - DAY.

Still in jet-mode, Skyfire flies towards the mountain. The boulder that once blocked the cavemouth has been pushed aside.

SKYFIRE  
Optimus Prime, I think I've found  
them! The entryway to Dr.  
Arkeville's old lab has been  
unearthed. They have to be inside!

OPTIMUS PRIME  
(captioned)  
Good work, Skyfire.

**PANEL 2:**

INT. THE ARK'S MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

Optimus Prime again stands before Teletraan-1 with Jazz, Ratchet and Bumblebee. Blaster sits in boom-box-mode, connected to the supercomputer.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Autobots, prepare to roll out.  
Blaster, contact the others and  
tell them to meet us at the co-  
ordinates of Dr. Arkeville's lab.

BLASTER

No problemo , Prime! Ironhide, do  
you read me?

**PANEL 3:**

INT. THE UNDERBASE.

WIDE SHOT - Surrounded by his new secret Underbase, Dr. Arkeville stands before Trannis and Starscream, each of them laying on an interconnected GURNEY that appears to be monitoring their vital signs.

Several CABLES and CONDUITS run from one gurney to the other, as though Starscream and Trannis are awaiting some kind of TRANSFUSION procedure.

Dr. Arkeville is now wearing his signature, white LAB COAT over his orange prison jumpsuit.

STARSCREAM

How much longer is this going to  
take, Arkeville? My time is running  
out!

TRANNIS

Yes, I also tire of this delay.  
Repair us at once, human!

DR. ARKEVILLE

Calm yourselves, gentlemen. This  
contraption is doing exactly that.  
It will soon begin the bio-  
mechanical transfusion to heal you.  
Where one is weak, the other is  
strong, and soon, you will **both** be  
fully-rejuvenated! Ha-Ha-Ha!

**PANEL 4:**

AN ORANGE GLOW forms around both Starscream and Trannis as Dr. Arkeville's transfusion contraption begins its task.

TRANNIS

I feel it! It is reinvigorating me!

STARSCREAM

I feel it too! Ha-Ha-Ha! Arkeville,  
you've done it!

**PANEL 5:**

The glow has now turned into a DEEP PURPLE, further engulfing both Starscream and Trannis and causing Dr. Arkeville to RECOIL with concern.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Wait! Something's not right!

TRANNIS

What's happening! This infernal  
contraption... it's... it's...

DR. ARKEVILLE

No, something's wrong!

**PANEL 6:**

CLOSE ON Dr. Arkeville's face. As the purple glow is reflected on his skin, his expression is one of DREAD as a HIDEOUS SHADOW falls across him.

DR. ARKEVILLE (CONT'D)

Oh no.

**PAGE EIGHT:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY -  
DAY.

Skyfire (now in robot-mode) approaches the cavemouth entrance to Dr. Arkeville's lair.

Several STRANGE SOUNDS are emanating from within.

SKYFIRE

Something's happening in there. I  
can't afford to wait for the  
others. It's time to put a stop  
this, Starscream.

**PANEL 2:**

The cavemouth EXPLODES, sending Skyfire hurtling backwards.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)

Aaaagh! What was that?!

**PANEL 3:**

SPLASH PANEL - From the ground, Skyfire looks up to see the MERGED FORM of both Starscream and Trannis standing free of the Underbase.

It is half-Starscream, half-Trannis, ALL MENACE. An entirely NEW BEING, with attributes and features of both Decepticons, incorporated into one body.

Glowing purple energy radiates from the creature's body, now twisted and morphed into a bizarre, new threat.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)  
S-Starscream?

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
We... are Starscream! We... are  
Trannis! We... are... **ALMIGHTY!**

**PAGE NINE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE SKIES ABOVE THE MOUNTAINS - DAY.

DIRGE, RAMJET and THRUST (in jet-modes) fly by the mountains. Skyfire and the STARSCREAM/TRANNIS HYBRID appear on the ground below.

THRUST  
Hey! Check it out!

RAMJET  
Is that Starscream?

DIRGE  
What's he gotten himself into now?

**PANEL 2:**

CLOSE ON Ramjet.

RAMJET  
I don't know, but we'd better tell  
the boss! Megatron, do you read me?

**PANEL 3:**

EXT. NEAR THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA - DAY.

Megatron turns to watch Soundwave as he TRANSFORMS into cassette-player-mode.

SOUNDWAVE  
Megatron! Incoming transmission.

RAMJET  
(coming from Soundwave)  
Megatron! It's Ramjet! We found Starscream! We think.

MEGATRON  
What? Explain.

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY - DAY.

Ramjet BUZZES by Starscream/Trannis as they knock Skyfire into the dirt with a BACKHAND BLOW.

RAMJET  
He's merged with some other Decepticon! He... whoa! He seems more powerful than ever!

**PANEL 5:**

Soundwave returns to robot-mode as Megatron takes off into the sky. Beside him, both Skywarp and Thundercracker do the same, TRANSFORMING into their jet-modes.

MEGATRON  
What?! He must have discovered some new form of energy! And in that case, I must have it! Come, Decepticons! Let us see this new Starscream for ourselves.

**PANEL 6:**

EXT. THE SKIES - DAY.

Megatron and Soundwave fly beside the jet-forms of Skywarp and Thundercracker.

MEGATRON  
And I will make sure today is his last!



**PAGE TEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY - DAY.

Starscream/Trannis lifts an UPPERCUT into Skyfire's chin. GREEN ENERGY BEAMS also shoot from the creature's eyes to strike Skyfire's chest.

Dirge, Thrust and Ramjet stand smiling in the background like a bunch of high-schoolers watching a playground scrap.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
You are no match for us, Skyfire!  
Not anymore. We are **ALMIGHTY!**

SKYFIRE  
Ugh!

DIRGE  
Ha-Ha! This is great!

THRUST  
Yeah! Hit him again, Starscream!

RAMJET  
Pow! Ha-Ha-Ha!

**PANEL 2:**

Skyfire is down. SMOKE pours from his chest. FLUID leaks from his eyes and mouth.

Starscream/Trannis turns to fire its green eye beams directly towards the three Coneheads, who all narrowly dive to safety.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
RAAAARGH!

THRUST  
Hey!

RAMJET  
Watch out!

DIRGE  
He's crazy!

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream/Trannis watches as all three of the Coneheads FLEE THE SCENE in their jet-modes.

RAMJET  
Let's get outta here!

**PANEL 4:**

CLOSE ON the face of Starscream/Trannis, as it turns to look back over its shoulder.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
Huh?!

**PANEL 5:**

WIDE SHOT - A bevy of Autobots: Optimus Prime, Jazz, Bumblebee, Ratchet and IRONHIDE, SIDESWIPE and SUNSTREAKER (all in their various vehicle-modes) approach from over the horizon.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS (CONT'D)  
Autobots!

**PAGE ELEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Starscream/ Trannis now looks to the sky, as Megatron, Soundwave, Thundercracker and Skywarp (in jet-modes) approach from the air.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS (CONT'D)  
Megatron? **MEGATRON!**

**PANEL 2:**

Ironhide, Ratchet and Bumblebee TRANSFORM to their robot-modes, looking on as the monstrous form of Starscream/Trannis flies up towards Megatron above.

IRONHIDE  
What in the wide world of Cybertron is that?

BUMBLEBEE  
It's... Starscream?

RATCHET  
No, I think it's Trannis.

**PANEL 3:**

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Unfortunately, I think you're **both**  
right.

DR. ARKEVILLE  
(off-panel)  
They are.

**PANEL 4:**

Optimus Prime and Ironhide look down to see Dr. Arkeville at their feet. The edges of his lab coat are now torn and tattered, while most of his body is covered in what looks to be soot; the result of a recent explosion.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Dr. Arkeville, what madness have  
you unleashed this time?

IRONHIDE  
Speak up, before I smush you into  
the dirt fer good!

DR. ARKEVILLE  
This was not my intention, Optimus  
Prime! The foreign-dimensional  
properties of Trannis's body have  
corrupted the transfusion process.  
That thing is an abomination! A  
blight upon science! It must be  
terminated!

**PANEL 5:**

Starscream/Trannis fires his green eye beams to strike Soundwave, knocking him towards the surface as Megatron orders Thundercracker and Skywarp into battle.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
Megatron! We will destroy you!  
Destroy **all** of you!

MEGATRON  
What is this madness?  
Thundercracker, Skywarp...  
eliminate it immediately!

**PANEL 6:**

Starscream/Trannis SMASHES the jet-modes of Thundercracker and Skywarp together as though bashing together two ORCHESTRAL CYMBALS.

THUNDERCRACKER

Aaaagh!

SKYWARP

Gugh!

**PAGE TWELVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

Starscream/Trannis swings a LEFT HOOK into Megatron's face.

MEGATRON

Ughh! No!

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS

You cannot match our power,  
Megatron!

**PANEL 2:**

WIDE SHOT - Starscream/Trannis BLASTS Megatron with his green eye beams, sending Megatron HURLING towards the mountain below.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS (CONT'D)

We are **ALMIGHTY!**

MEGATRON

**NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!**

**PANEL 3:**

Optimus Prime, Dr. Arkeville, Sideswipe and Sunstreaker look on as Megatron SLAMS through the rock wall to CRASH into Dr. Arkeville's lab with a resultant EXPLOSION.

SIDESWIPE

Whoa, I don't think Megatron  
expected **that**.

SUNSTREAKER

Yeah, if this new Starscream can do  
that to Megatron, maybe he isn't so  
bad after all!

OPTIMUS PRIME

I wish that were true, Sunstreaker.  
But, if I know Starscream, it won't  
take long for him to turn his  
newfound power against **us**.

DR. ARKEVILLE  
I already told you, Optimus Prime!  
That creature must be eradicated at  
once! Before it destroys us all!

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream/Trannis looks down from the sky towards Optimus Prime, Sideswipe and Sunstreaker.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
Optimus Prime? We will destroy you!

**PAGE THIRTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Optimus Prime pushes Sideswipe and Sunstreaker to safety as Starscream/Trannis SWOOPS DOWN to pluck the Autobot Leader off his feet.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Sunstreaker! Sideswipe! Look out!

**PANEL 2:**

EXT. HIGH IN THE SKY - DAY.

SPLASH PANEL, ANGLED DOWN FROM UP HIGH - Starscream/Trannis seizes Optimus Prime in a powerful SLEEPER HOLD, launching even higher into the sunny sky.

OPTIMUS PRIME  
Ughh! Can't break free!

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
We cannot be defeated! We will  
crush you, Prime!

**PANEL 3:**

On the ground, Dr. Arkeville, Bumblebee and Ironhide look up to see Starscream/Trannis and Optimus Prime GRAPPLING in the sky.

IRONHIDE  
We gotta do somethin' to help  
Optimus!

BUMBLEBEE  
But how? They're too high! And none  
of **us** can fly!

**PANEL 4:**

Ironhide turns back to see Ratchet attending a seemingly-injured Skyfire. Skyfire's chest is BADLY BURNT, and as he attempts to stand, Ratchet is trying to stop him.

SKYFIRE

I can fly.

RATCHET

No, Skyfire, you're too badly hurt. You need to conserve your energon, or you might...

SKYFIRE

I have to try. It's Prime!

**PAGE FOURTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Sideswipe and Sunstreaker now stand beside Ratchet, still trying to stop Skyfire from getting up.

SIDESWIPE

I can do it. I'll use my rocket pack!

SUNSTREAKER

But, what about that creature? If it can handle Optimus Prime, what chance do you have, Bro?

**PANEL 2:**

Dr. Arkeville looks up towards Sideswipe, lifting his MECHANICAL HANDS into view.

DR. ARKEVILLE

Let me come with you. If I can get close enough, my cybernetic circuitry should disable that monster.

SIDESWIPE

Let's do it!

**PANEL 3:**

With Dr. Arkeville resting on his shoulders, Sideswipe LAUNCHES into the sky, powered by his rocket pack.

SIDESWIPE (CONT'D)

I sure didn't think we'd ever be teaming up like this, Doc.

DR. ARKEVILLE

Faster, you synthetic simpleton.  
Less talk, more action!

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. HIGH IN THE SKY - DAY.

Sideswipe and Dr. Arkeville zoom nearer to Optimus Prime, still caught in the clutches of Starscream/Trannis.

SIDESWIPE

Hold on, Optimus! We're coming!

**PANEL 5:**

Starscream/Trannis HURLS Optimus Prime towards the ground as Sideswipe and Dr. Arkeville approach from the rear.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS

Bah! Enough! Nothing will stop us!

**PAGE FIFTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY - DAY.

Ratchet and Skyfire look up to see Optimus Prime PLUMMETING towards the ground.

RATCHET

Prime?

SKYFIRE

He needs my help. Out of the way, Ratchet.

**PANEL 2:**

Skyfire TRANSFORMS to jet-mode to ROAR into the air towards the still-falling Optimus Prime.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)

Hold on, Optimus!

**PANEL 3:**

Skyfire CATCHES Optimus Prime with his jet-mode.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D)

Got you!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Thank you, Skyfire. You've saved me once again.

**PANEL 4:**

Skyfire swings down to CRASH into the ground as Optimus Prime leaps to safely land on his feet.

SKYFIRE

Jump, Optimus! I Don't know how much longer I can hold out! Aaaagh!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Skyfire!

**PANEL 5:**

As he lays in robot-mode, a battered Skyfire is attended to by both Optimus Prime and Ratchet.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Skyfire! I told you to be careful!

SKYFIRE

I... had to. Least I could do... for the leader of the Autobots.

RATCHET

Just hold on, Skyfire.

**PANEL 6:**

CLOSE ON Skyfire's face. His eyes have faded out to gray.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Skyfire?

**PAGE SIXTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. HIGH IN THE SKY - DAY.

Meanwhile, in the sky, Sideswipe maneuvers over the top of Starscream/Trannis, allowing Dr. Arkeville to drop down onto its shoulders.



SIDESWIPE  
Now, Doc! Go for it!

**PANEL 2:**

Dr. Arkeville digs his METALLIC FINGERS into the back of Starscream/Trannis's neck, clearly causing them PAIN.

DR. ARKEVILLE  
Now, Starscream, my 'old friend'...  
it's time to end this abhorrent  
perversion of science!

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
Aaaaagh! **NO!**

**PANEL 3:**

While Dr. Arkeville holds on for dear life, an ORANGE GLOW appears around Starscream/Trannis, who BLASTS Sideswipe's rocket pack with his green eye beams.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS (CONT'D)  
Nothing can defeat us!

SIDESWIPE  
My rocket pack!

**PANEL 4:**

WIDE SHOT - Without use of his rocket pack, Sideswipe PLUNGES, HEAD-FIRST towards the surface.

SIDESWIPE (CONT'D)  
Oh, noooooooooo!

**PAGE SEVENTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

HORRIFIED, Sunstreaker watches Sideswipe POUND into the dirt.  
HARD.

SUNSTREAKER  
Sideswipe!

**PANEL 2:**

Dr. Arkeville remains with his metallic fingers stuck deep into the neck of Starscream/Trannis. The expression on Dr. Arkeville's face is one of REGRET, but also ACCEPTANCE.

STARSCREAM/TRANNIS  
No! You will destroy us all!

DR. ARKEVILLE  
Then, so be it. Better that than to  
allow your hideous existence to  
continue! Such is the legacy of Dr.  
Arkeville - **GENIUS OF SCIENCE!**

**PANEL 3:**

SPLASH PANEL - A HUGE EXPLOSION FILLS THE SKY - sending the  
(now-separated) Starscream and Trannis SPIRALLING in  
different directions.

Starscream is flung off into the sky, while Trannis's robot-  
mode now falls towards the mountain below.

STARSCREAM  
Aaaaaagh! Curse you, Arkeville!

TRANNIS  
Noooooooooo!

**PAGE EIGHTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

INT. INSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET LABORATORY.

Megatron looks up as Trannis CRASHES into the laboratory.

MEGATRON  
What? You?

**PANEL 2:**

Megatron looks down to see that Trannis is trapped halfway  
between the laboratory and the Underbase below.

He has already lifted his fusion cannon towards the inter-  
dimensional Decepticon.

TRANNIS  
Megatron, wait! Free me from this  
place and we can rule together!

MEGATRON  
Together? I am Megatron! I share  
power with **nobody!**

**PANEL 3:**

Much to Trannis's anger, Megatron FIRES his fusion cannon into the Underbase below, IGNITING yet another explosion that has already begun to claim Trannis.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Enjoy your oblivion, Trannis. Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

TRANNIS

(fear etched on his face)

No...

**PANEL 4:**

SMALL INSERT PANEL - CLOSE ON Trannis's face, now engulfed by fire and flame.

TRANNIS (CONT'D)

Curse you, Megatron!

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. ARKEVILLE'S SECRET MOUNTAIN LABORATORY - DAY.

Bumblebee watches from the foreground, as in the distance, the mountain CAVES IN from the explosion. Even farther away in the sky, Megatron, Soundwave, Skywarp and Thundercracker make their escape.

BUMBLEBEE

Wow, I guess that's the end of Trannis.

**PAGE NINETEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Optimus Prime looks down as Ratchet and Sunstreaker KNEEL over the inert bodies of both Skyfire and Sideswipe. Like Skyfire, Sideswipe's eyes are now a lifeless gray color.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Indeed, Bumblebee. But, Starscream has escaped once again. And what is the condition of Sideswipe and Skyfire?

RATCHET

They're alive, but offline. When we get back to the Ark, I'm going to have to place them both in stasis-pods until I can find a way to repair them. **If** I can repair them.

SUNSTREAKER

Bro?

**PANEL 2:**

Sunstreaker holds Sideswipe's hand in his.

SUNSTREAKER (CONT'D)

Hang in there, pal. Hang in there.

**PANEL 3:**

Optimus Prime stands with Bumblebee, Ironhide and Jazz.

JAZZ

And what about Dr. Arkeville?

IRONHIDE

Vaporized. Ain't nothing left but itty-bitty atoms.

BUMBLEBEE

Wow. He saved us. He saved us all.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Yes. Despite his nature, it would appear his final act was one of valor.

**PANEL 4:**

FROM ABOVE - Optimus Prime looks down at Bumblebee, who is now scratching his head with CONFUSION.

BUMBLEBEE

Who'd have thought Dr. Arkeville would have become a hero? I can't believe it.

OPTIMUS PRIME

You're right, Bumblebee. But in all my many years, if I've learned one thing...

**PAGE TWENTY:**

**PANEL 1:**

SPLASH PAGE - Optimus Prime stands front-and-center, with Bumblebee, Jazz and Ironhide at his side. Behind him, Ratchet and Sunstreaker remain tending to Skyfire and Sideswipe, looking forward to their leader with HOPE.

In the sky behind the Autobots, a large, almost SPECTRAL, waist-up image of Dr. Arkeville appears - not to the characters, but to us, the readers.

Dr. Arkeville is no longer hampered by his cybernetic implants. Instead, he is seen here as the man he once was, before his life turned to evil; younger, more human, and most of all - HAPPY.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)  
... **Anything** is possible.

**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!