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THE TRANSFORMERS

REANIMATED



THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.
"OIL, TOIL & TROUBLE."

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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 DECEPTICON TEMPORARY BASE - DAY.

Semi-hidden within a shadowy MOUNTAIN RANGE, the SPLINTERED SHELL of a GIANT DECEPTICON SYMBOL sits carved among the cliffs.

The edges of this Decepticon logo have worn away, while several FISSURES appear ready to divide what remains of the base entirely.

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

MEGATRON
(captioned)
Report, Shockwave.

SHOCKWAVE
(captioned)
We continue to move forward with
your plan, mighty Megatron.

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE DECEPTICON BASE, CONTROL ROOM.

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP at Megatron's face as he leans over a COMPUTER TERMINAL SWITCHBOARD.

The GLOW of the screen gives his STERN EXPRESSION a PURPLE HUE as SHOCKWAVE'S cycloptic face can be faintly seen reflected in Megatron's RED OPTICS.

SHOCKWAVE
(off-panel)
We continue to assault Autobot
insurgent cells as we locate them.
However, all this combat is coming
at a heavy cost. I fear that if we
do not soon receive a new shipment
of Energon, we will lose the
advantage we've fought so hard to
achieve.

PANEL 3:

Shockwave's digital image WINKS OUT and vanishes from the data screen, as Megatron SMASHES his fist down onto the control panel like a TEN-TON-HAMMER.

SHOCKWAVE (CONT'D)
Shockwave, out.

MEGATRON
ARRGGGH!

PANEL 4:

INT. THE CORRIDOR.

Megatron exits the control room to wander into its adjoining HALLWAY. At the end of this corridor, an OPEN DOOR beckons Megatron's attention.

RUNABOUT
(voice only, from the open
door)
I don't know, Runamuck... I mean, I
was as keen as you were to finally
join up with the Mighty Megatron...

PANEL 5:

INT. INSIDE THE OTHER ROOM.

RUNAMUCK and RUNABOUT stand with their backs to the doorway, clearly complaining about their current lot in life.

Unseen by the two Battle-Chargers, Megatron has poked his head around the doorway's edge.

RUNABOUT
... but ever since we joined up
with the Decepticons, it's been
nothing but disappointment.

RUNAMUCK
I know what you mean, Runabout. I'm
gettin' real tired of havin' our
chassis handed to us by the
Autobots. I hate to say it...

PANEL 6:

EXT. THE CORRIDOR.

Megatron continues to stroll down the corridor. His posture and body language is one of DEFEAT.

RUNAMUCK
(voice only, from the open
door)
... but maybe Megatron just ain't
what he used to be.

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE DECEPTICON BASE, ANOTHER CORRIDOR.

RUMBLE walks along another DELAPIDATED, internal HALLWAY, exchanging words with FRENZY while gesturing to his fellow mini-cassette with a casual WAVE OF HIS HAND.

CAPTION: Several astro-minutes later...

RUMBLE
Hey, Frenzy. Why the long face,
Ace?

PANEL 2:

Frenzy, with a concerned look on his face, replies to Rumble.

FRENZY
I just finished doing an inventory
of our Energon supply.

RUMBLE
Is that all? That's easy work. So
why so glum, chum?

PANEL 3:

Frenzy remains concerned, while Rumble becomes ELATED.

FRENZY
Yeah. It's easy work, all right. I
finished in record time.

RUMBLE
That's great! Now you, me and
Soundwave can go and...

PANEL 4:

A look of realization crosses Rumble's simple face as Frenzy interrupts him.

FRENZY

Rumble, you nitwit. I finished in record time because we don't have hardly any Energon left.

RUMBLE

Oh.

PANEL 5:

Frenzy continues to walk with a WORRIED look upon his face, looking forward as he walks down the corridor.

FRENZY

Yeah. When Megatron finds out, he's gonna be none too pleased.

RUMBLE

Man, how did it get **this** bad?

PANEL 6:

As Rumble and Frenzy turn a corner, looking at each other, we see their heads slam face-first into Megatron's legs.

There can be no doubt Megatron has heard EVERYTHING.

FRENZY

I don't know, Rumble. I mean, Megatron is supposed to be this great leader and yet... here we are with hardly any Energ-Oof!

RUMBLE

Ow!

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE DECEPTICON TEMPORARY BASE - DAY.

SOUNDWAVE can be seen standing within one the Decepticon logo's 'eyes', looking out to see the outlines of BOMBSHELL and KICKBACK in the distance.

Both in robot-mode, Bombshell and Kickback appear to be carrying their fellow Insecticon, SHRAPNEL.

CAPTION: Meanwhile...

SOUNDWAVE

Megatron, your presence is required
at once. The Insecticons have
returned.

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE DECEPTICON BASE, CONTROL ROOM.

OVER MEGATRON'S RIGHT SHOULDER - Shrapnel is on his knees,
head lowered, looking LIFELESS. Bombshell stands on his right
and Kickback on his left.

CAPTION: Mere astro-minutes later...

MEGATRON

Insecticons, report!

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON the faces of Bombshell and Kickback.

BOMBSHELL

Returning from our reconnaissance
mission, we stopped for feeding
when we were attacked.

KICKBACK

By an Autobot.

PANEL 4:

Megatron looks DISPLEASED as we now observe Soundwave
standing by his side.

MEGATRON

The proud Insecticons were bested
by a single Autobot? Have I put too
much faith in your team's
abilities, Bombshell?

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Shrapnel, unable to look up as he replies to
Megatron.

SHRAPNEL

(weakly)

Perhaps if you had sent us out
fully-charged, we wouldn't have
been so easily overpowered...
powered.

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

Megatron LIFTS Shrapnel up by his throat. The Insecticon is too weak to even struggle, as Bombshell and Kickback watch on in HORROR.

SHRAPNEL (CONT'D)
(weakly)
Ugh...

MEGATRON
(yelling)
I don't want excuses! I want results! Did you complete your mission or not?

PANEL 2:

Bombshell steps forward, eagerly holding a DATA CHIP towards Megatron.

BOMBSHELL
Yes! It's all right here.

PANEL 3:

Megatron looks at Bombshell as he tosses Shrapnel aside.

MEGATRON
Give me that!

PANEL 4:

Megatron holds the data chip between his thumb and index finger. Kickback and Bombshell can be seen in the background.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
You were able to survey the entire area?

KICKBACK
Yes. We remained undetected.

PANEL 5:

Megatron hands the data chip to Soundwave.

MEGATRON
Soundwave, extract and analyze the data on this chip immediately.
(MORE)

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

It may very well hold the key to re-energizing our forces both here and on Cybertron.

SOUNDWAVE

As you command, Megatron.

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

FROM BEHIND Soundwave as he sits at a nearby terminal, pressing buttons beneath a LARGE VIEWSCREEN, displaying a crude map of the PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

Overlaid upon the map are several CRISSCROSSING LINES, indicating the different rail routes of various trains.

All the while, Megatron stands to Soundwave's left, looking up at the screen.

SOUNDWAVE (CONT'D)

The reconnaissance team has isolated all Earth freight routes of raw energy.

MEGATRON

Excellent. Perhaps the Insecticons are not entirely useless after all.

PANEL 2:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP at both Megatron and Soundwave. The GLOW from the viewscreen reflects off their metal skin.

Soundwave continues to press buttons on the panel beneath his hands.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Isolate the nearest sector containing a large quantity of this raw energy, Soundwave.

SOUNDWAVE

Isolating.

PANEL 3:

FROM BEHIND - Megatron watches as Soundwave points up at a RED BLIP on the viewscreen's top left corner, with accompanying DATA that reads: "46.269997, -119.100604".

SOUNDWAVE (CONT'D)
Here is the location of the raw
energy, Megatron.

MEGATRON
Excellent.

PANEL 4:

With Soundwave still seated at the terminal, Megatron turns around and walks toward the reader, DETERMINATION etched on his face, while speaking into the POP-UP COMMUNICATOR on his forearm.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Astrotrain! Report to the launch
deck. You're coming with me.

PANEL 5:

Megatron continues to walk towards the reader, but now with a SLY SMILE upon his face.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
I'm about to solve our energy
problems. Once and for all.

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A STRETCH OF RAILWAY LINE, FLANKED BY MOUNTAIN RIDGES - DAY.

WIDE SHOT - The sun sits high in the sky, above the giant OPTIMUS PRIME. He carries a STEEL RAILROAD TRACK in each hand.

Behind the Autobot leader are HOUND and HUFFER, lifting up the WOODEN RAILROAD TIES and placing them in human-driven DUMP TRUCKS.

The HUMANS in the dump trucks, as well as those supervising from the ground, are dressed a lot like SPIKE and SPARKPLUG WITWICKY, with yellow boots, blue jeans, white shirt, grey over-shirts and yellow construction hats.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Step it up, Autobots! Wheeljack and
his crew are ahead of schedule.
Let's not be the reason he has to
slow down.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Hound and Huffer still pulling railroad ties from the ground and placing them in nearby dump trucks.

HUFFER

Maybe if Wheeljack could bother to get his hands dirty, we wouldn't have to work so hard.

HOUND

Take it easy, Huffer. We can handle this. Besides, Wheeljack would just trip us up with all his calculations on efficiency. All this task requires is good-old Cybertronian know-how.

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime now stands before Hound and Huffer as TRAILBREAKER arrives, TRANSFORMING from vehicle-mode to robot-mode.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Hound is right, Huffer. It might be a dirty job, but some bot's gotta do it.

PANEL 4:

Trailbreaker now approaches Optimus Prime.

TRAILBREAKER

I just dropped off a load of that fancy new track, Prime. That should keep Wheeljack and Sparkplug busy for a while.

PANEL 5:

Optimus Prime now POINTS over the nearby railroads, as Trailbreaker moves forward.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Excellent work, Trailbreaker. Now, let's help the humans gather up the railroad spikes while Hound and Huffer keep removing track.

TRAILBREAKER

You got it, Prime!

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A RAIL YARD, PASCO, WASHINGTON STATE - DAY.

CAPTION: A rail yard. Pasco, Washington State...

SPLASH PANEL - In a RAIL YARD filled with TRAIN ENGINES, BOX CARS, COAL, OIL and FLAT CARS, WHEELJACK and SPARKPLUG are seen in the foreground, standing with their backs to the reader.

Sparkplug holds paper BLUEPRINTS of the job at hand, while Wheeljack is seen holding a futuristic COMPUTER TABLET in his left hand while directing others with his right.

Before Wheeljack is GRAPPLE (in crane-mode) lowering a new segment of Cybertronian-engineered track; track that he has retrieved from Optimus Prime's TRAILER, sitting alone, off to the side of the panel. Several more segments of track remain inside the trailer.

Along the elongated length of track being lowered by Grapple are several HUMAN WORKERS, again dressed like Sparkplug, all working together with WRENCHES to tighten down the newly-laid track, checking that its circuitry is functional.

NOTE: The emotion created by this panel should be a vision of an ideal future. A utopian example of Autobots and humans working together; a hint of a peaceful and prosperous co-existence.

WHEELJACK
Excellent work, Grapple.

PANEL 2:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP AT WHEELJACK - Over Sparkplug's left shoulder, Grapple can be seen pulling out another piece of rail from Optimus Prime's trailer.

SPARKPLUG
You know, Wheeljack, this new track you invented along with Ms. Blackrock is coming along fast. We might be able to reach Walla Walla by week's end.

WHEELJACK
By my calculations, Sparkplug four-and-a-half-days, to be exact.

PANEL 3:

LOOKING DOWN at Sparkplug from over Wheeljack's right shoulder - the humans can be seen continuing to work on the new line. HOIST is protectively overseeing the workers to help prevent accidents.

Meanwhile, in the background of the train yard, several idle RAIL CARS can be seen.

SPARKPLUG

Just think about it. Thanks to Cybertronian technology and good old-fashioned human engineering, we'll have the most advanced and efficient rail line ever. It will surely help in the construction of this new Autobot City of yours.

WHEELJACK

That's right. And if our initial testing is a success, we can deploy similar lines not just across the country, but also the world, improving transportation efficiency and capacity at a fraction of the current energy requirements.

PANEL 4:

Sparkplug SMILES as he remains standing with Wheeljack. His blueprints are now rolled up in his left hand as he stands with his fists on his hips, looking out over the rail project.

Wheeljack taps on his tablet.

SPARKPLUG

The future is starting to look bright, Wheeljack. For both our kinds.

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

EXT. SOME DISTANCE AWAY, AN EMPTY STRETCH OF TRACK - DAY.

Megatron and the Triple-Changer, ASTROTRAIN walk towards the reader, either side of the empty railroad track that dissects the panel.

ASTROTRAIN

This is going to be too easy, Megatron.

MEGATRON

I know. Our only limitation is your
maximum towing capacity,
Astrotrain.

PANEL 2:

Still walking to the reader, Astrotrain holds his stomach as he laughs, while Megatron has a determined expression.

ASTROTRAIN

Ha-Ha! There aren't enough cars on
this continent to keep me from
reaching 400 miles per hour.

MEGATRON

Lets hope you are not exaggerating
your abilities Astrotrain...

PANEL 3:

Still walking towards the front of frame, Megatron's DETERMINED expression seems to burn a hole into the reader's eyes, as Astrotrain CRACKS HIS KNUCKLES like a pro.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

... Because I plan to collect
enough oil to help repower and
retake the Cybertronian city of
Iacon!

ASTROTRAIN

It'll be like taking Energon
goodies from a mini-con. Ha-Ha!

PANEL 4:

Megatron now points ahead with his FUSION CANNON. The rail yards can be seen on the HORIZON.

MEGATRON

Ah, there it is. The human rail
yard. All the raw liquid energy we
could ask for.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Astrotrain's CONFUSED FACE.

ASTROTRAIN

Are those... Autobots?

PANEL 6:

SIDE VIEW, profiling both Megatron and Astrotrain's faces.

MEGATRON

What?!

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - Astrotrain TRANSFORMS and lands on the train track, the rear of his train-mode now REVERSING towards the front of frame as Megatron walks alongside him.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Transform, Astrotrain.

PANEL 2:

Megatron leans down to Astrotrain and delivers his orders.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Couple up to the first set of oil cars. Then await for my signal before joining to the rest and transporting them to our rendezvous location.

ASTROTRAIN

But, Megatron. The Autobots. We don't know how many there are. We should get reinforcements.

MEGATRON

NO! I am the Mighty Megatron! I need no reinforcements!

PANEL 3:

Megatron looks off-panel in the direction of the Autobots, clutching his fist.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Too many times the Autobots have ruined my plans. Too many times have we returned emptyhanded. Not today. I will **not** be stopped.

PANEL 4:

Megatron stands tall beside Astrotrain.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Go, Astrotrain. And await my signal.

ASTROTRAIN
Yes, Megatron.

PANEL 5:

Astrotrain continues to reverse along the track in the same direction that Megatron defiantly walks. Nearby, several OIL CARS sit on the adjoining track.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Astrotrain's purple coupling unit connecting to the black coupling unit of an oil car with an audible "CLANK".

ASTROTRAIN (CONT'D)
Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A RAIL YARD, PASCO, WASHINGTON STATE - DAY.

Megatron PEEKS over a box car to something off-panel.

CAPTION: Soon after...

MEGATRON
Hmmm. Predictable.

PANEL 2:

OVER MEGATRON'S SHOULDER - Wheeljack appears in the distance, waving down Grapple's placement of track. Hoist observes as Sparkplug is looking at his paper blueprints.

Several other human construction workers busily scurry about.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
These Autobots are not prepared for
a fight. Fools.

PANEL 3:

Megatron LEAPS on top of the box car like KING CONAN.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Autobots!

PANEL 4:

From the background, Megatron fires his fusion cannon to BLAST Hoist in the back and create a wave of AGONY that encompasses the Autobot's entire body.

HOIST

Arrrgh!

PANEL 5:

Hoist FALLS face down on the ground as SMOKE RISES from Megatron's fusion cannon. The construction workers run every which way in terror.

MEGATRON

Leave now, humans...

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Megatron's SMIRKING face.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

... While I allow it.

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

CLOSE ON two black coupling units linking together with an audible "CLINK".

In the background, the sounds of Megatron's battle can be heard.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

No one can stop the might of
Megatron!

ASTROTRAIN

(off-panel)

That must be the signal.

PANEL 2:

Grapple, with a piece of upgraded track still dangling from his boom, TRANSFORMS into robot-mode and HEAVES it at an off-panel Megatron.

GRAPPLE

Urgh! Get out of here, Megatron!

PANEL 3:

Megatron bats the rail away with his fusion cannon arm while staring down the off-panel Grapple.

MEGATRON

You should have run while you had the chance, Autobot. Now, your foolishness will cost you **severely**.

PANEL 4:

OVER WHEELJACK'S LEFT SHOULDER - His left arm is raised to reveal a VIEWSCREEN has popped out of his forearm. On the screen is the face of Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

(from the viewscreen)

Yes, Wheeljack?

WHEELJACK

We're under attack, Optimus Prime. It's Megatron!

OPTIMUS PRIME

(from the viewscreen)

Find cover, Wheeljack. We're on our...

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - A blast from Megatron's fusion cannon strikes the newly-laid train track. The resulting EXPLOSION sends pieces of track and debris, as well as Hoist, Grapple and Wheeljack, FLYING back through the air.

WHEELJACK

Aaaaagghhh!

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

Megatron STEPS DOWN from his box car.

MEGATRON

Incredible.

PANEL 2:

Megatron now SAUNTERS towards the fallen Autobots.

Wheeljack and Hoist lie SEMI-CONSCIOUS on the ground before him.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
I came here merely for the oil in
these cars.

PANEL 3:

Megatron continues walking, HANDS OUT, PALMS UP.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
But this... this is too perfect.

PANEL 4:

Megatron now stands over a prone Wheeljack, fusion cannon pointed down at the Autobot's head.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Say goodbye, Autobot.

PANEL 5:

Megatron is KNOCKED OFF HIS FEET by a piece of track swung into his midsection like a BASEBALL BAT.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Oooooof!

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

HERO SHOT - Grapple stands with Sparkplug like a proud baseball player, resting his piece of rail like a bat over his shoulder.

GRAPPLE
You talk too much.

SPARKPLUG
Ha-Ha. He sure does, Grapple.

PANEL 2:

FROM BEHIND - Megatron looks up from the ground to aim his fusion cannon towards Grapple and Sparkplug.

MEGATRON
You'll regret that!

PANEL 3:

Sparkplug watches with fear, as Grapple is BLASTED BACKWARD and OFF THE GROUND by Megatron.

More newly-laid track is also blasted away, as well as the piece that was in Grapple's hand.

GRAPPLE

Ugghh!

SPARKPLUG

Grapple!

PANEL 4:

Grapple IMPACTS with Optimus Prime's trailer and falls to the ground with an audible 'THWACK'.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Grapple's face in the dirt.

GRAPPLE

(weakly)

Someday... I just want to build
something... that doesn't get
trashed.

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Megatron now stands before Grapple with his fusion cannon trained upon him. The barrel of the cannon GLOWS INTENSELY.

MEGATRON

I will **enjoy** this, Autobot!

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - The sides of Optimus Prime's trailer drop open to spill LENGTHS OF TRACK onto the ground, as the MISSILE-ARMED REPAIR DRONE, now controlled by Sparkplug, springs to life to blast Megatron in the chest.

Megatron's arms FLAIL WILDLY as he pitches backwards.

SPARKPLUG

Not as much as I will, Megatron!

MEGATRON

Urggh!

PANEL 3:

ON ALL FOURS, Megatron clutches his SCORCHED and battle-damaged chest.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Enough!

PANEL 4:

Sparkplug sits within the drone's cockpit, a serious expression on his face.

SPARKPLUG

Surrender, Megatron, or I'll blast you again!

PANEL 5:

Megatron stands, but still clutches his chest as he leans forward.

MEGATRON

Hah! Surrender? To **you**? Never!

PANEL 6:

Megatron leaps into the air to fly away, as Sparkplug opens fire, but misses.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

You haven't seen the last of me!

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. AN EMPTY STRETCH OF TRACK, SEVERAL MILES OUTSIDE THE RAIL YARD - DAY.

CLOSE ON Astrotrain's left side as he chugs along the track.

ASTROTRAIN

Megatron, do you read me? I have successfully acquired all the oil cars. Currently making my way to the rendezvous point.

MEGATRON

(off-panel)

Guh... Well done, Astrotrain.
Ughnn.

PANEL 2:

EXT. THE SKIES ABOVE ASTROTRAIN - DAY.

HIGH ANGLE, LOOKING DOWN UPON Megatron as he flies above Astrotrain below. The Decepticon leader still has one hand clutching his chest as he communicates with his Triple-Changer.

MEGATRON

I am... uggh... closing in on your location now.

PANEL 3:

HEAD ON SHOT of Astrotrain, as Megatron SWOOPS in on his left side to fly alongside the speeding bullet train.

ASTROTRAIN

You did it, Megatron! You dealt with those scumbag Autobots so we could extract all of this raw Earth oil!

PANEL 4:

SIDE ANGLE, FROM THE LEFT OF MEGATRON as he continues to fly alongside Astrotrain.

MEGATRON

Yes, I did. Now, Astrotrain, show me that you weren't exaggerating earlier. Let's see how fast you can really go!

PANEL 5:

Astrotrain replies, much to Megatron's SURPRISE.

ASTROTRAIN

Uh, could be a problem with that, boss. Sensors indicate Autobot activity just a few Earth miles ahead.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Megatron's ENRAGED face, looking directly towards the reader.

MEGATRON

How many?

ASTROTRAIN

(off-panel)

Just the one.

MEGATRON
(screaming)
PRIME!

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. EMPTY STRETCH OF TRACK SEVERAL MILES AHEAD OF ASTROTRAIN
- DAY.

In the center of the panel, Optimus Prime walks in the middle of the train track towards the reader. He holds his ION BLASTER with both hands across his waist.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's eyes as he 'squints', looking down the track.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Hmm.

PANEL 3:

FROM THE WAIST UP, RIGHT PROFILE SHOT of Optimus Prime as he fires one shot from his ion blaster. Its barrel is already GLOWING ORANGE, ready to fire off another round.

PANEL 4:

LEFT PROFILE SHOT of Megatron as he rolls CLOCKWISE in the air to avoid Prime's blast as it flies by.

MEGATRON
(whispers)
Not today, Prime.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Megatron's STEELY GLARE.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
(whispers)
You will **not** defeat me.

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Megatron SWOOPS DOWN to collide his shoulder with Optimus Prime's midsection, causing the Autobot leader to flail his arms as he is knocked off-balance.

OPTIMUS PRIME
(yelling)
No, Megatron! Stop!

MEGATRON
(crying out)
ARGH!

PANEL 2:

Isolated in the panel, Megatron is down on one knee. He looks down at his fist.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
I told you... You will not stop me
today, Prime. Today will be **my**
victory, not yours.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's face and chest as he lays on his back. His windshields are cracked.

OPTIMUS PRIME
You may be right. But, you will
have to earn it.

PANEL 4:

As Optimus Prime gets his knees under himself, Megatron raises his fusion cannon at the Autobot leader to blast him.

MEGATRON
Easily. Ha-Ha!

PANEL 5:

Megatron looks down with disappointment as he stands above Optimus Prime's prone, positioned body as he lies face down.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
What? Was that it? How
disappointing.

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

LOOKING DOWN on the two Transformers, Megatron pushes Optimus Prime's body over with his foot, only to find an ion blaster pointed at him.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Come now, Megatron....

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime FIRES his ion blaster up into Megatron's chest.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
... I never disappoint.

MEGATRON
Aaaagh!

PANEL 3:

Wobbly on his feet, Megatron's chest appears scarred as SPARKS burst free of several cracks in his metal body.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Dirty tactics, Prime. Not something
I'd expect from a 'brave and
valiant soldier' like you. I almost
admire you for it.

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime approaches a weary-looking Megatron.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
But, I already told you...

PANEL 5:

Megatron delivers a *Mortal Kombat* UPPERCUT on Prime. The attack LIFTS Optimus Prime off the ground.

OPTIMUS PRIME
(crying out)
Argh!

MEGATRON
... You will **not** stop me today!

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

Megatron DRAGS the UNCONSCIOUS Optimus Prime's SUPINE BODY across the train tracks, while communicating with Astrotrain via his pop-up wrist communicator.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Astrotrain. How long until you
reach my location?

ASTROTRAIN
(voice only, from the
communicator)
One hundred and thirty-three astro-
seconds.

PANEL 2:

Megatron now stands over Optimus Prime's body, laid across the railroad track like some damsel-in-distress from an old silent film.

MEGATRON
Excellent.

PANEL 3:

Megatron flies into the air much like SUPERMAN, leaving the Autobot leader behind.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Increase to full speed. I will meet
you at the rendezvous point.

ASTROTRAIN
(voice only, from the
communicator)
Yes, Megatron.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's WORRIED face.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Ugh?

PANEL 5:

Now rolled over onto his chest, Optimus Prime reaches out to the ground with his right arm.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
Low on... power. Got to... make
this... count.

ASTROTRAIN
(off-panel)
Whooo-tooooot

PANEL 6:

Optimus Prime has pulled himself free of the train tracks in the nick of time, avoiding death as Astrotrain goes careening by like some WAYWARD COMET.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Ughh! Made it!

PANEL 7:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's CONCERNED face.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
But, Megatron was right. I **couldn't**
stop him. Not today.

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

INT. INSIDE THE TEMPORARY DECEPTICON BASE, CARGO HOLD.

SPLASH PANEL - Megatron and Astrotrain stand with Frenzy, Rumble, Soundwave, the Insecticons, DIRGE, THUNDERCRACKER, SKYWARP, THRUST and RAMJET.

Each of them appear with a renewed vigor. Any sign of previous injury is gone.

They look BETTER THAN EVER.

Surrounding the Decepticons, is a giant collection of glowing ENERGON CUBES.

OPTIMUS PRIME
(captioned)
Which means this war is far from
over...

FRENZY
It's incredible, Megatron. You've
restored our Energon reserves. We
have more than we know what to do
with!

MEGATRON
Astrotrain, load up your cargo hold
with all the Energon you can carry.
Soundwave, contact Shockwave on
Cybertron. I want an update on **his**
progress.

PANEL 2:

Megatron stands with Thundercracker behind his left shoulder.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
The rest of you, get ready.

THUNDERCRACKER

What for Megatron?

MEGATRON

We're going home. And soon...

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Megatron's smirking, VICTORIOUS face.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

... Iacon will be ours.

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!