

THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED. "INSECTICONS: DELUXE, PART 2."

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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 SOUTH AMERICAN JUNGLE - DAY.

SPLASH PANEL - OPTIMUS PRIME stands opposite four new DELUXE INSECTICONS: VENOM, CHOP SHOP, BARRAGE and RANSACK.

Each of these Insections display a UNIQUE ABILITY: Venom has created a FORCE-FIELD around his body, while Ransack appears to be SEMI-TRANSLUCENT.

Chop Shop's hands GLOW with a MAGNETIC POWER and a VEIL OF SMOKE surrounds Barrage.

BOMBSHELL points a COMMANDING FINGER towards Optimus Prime.

CAPTION: The South American Jungle...

BOMBSHELL

Now, Optimus Prime... you will feel the wrath of my **DELUXE INSECTICONS!**

PANEL 2:

IRONHIDE, BUMBLEBEE and PROWL look towards the MOUTH OF A CAVE in the background, situated beside a RIVER and its GUSHING WATERFALL.

PROWL

Prime! Jazz and the others must be in the cave!

IRONHIDE

Well, c'mon! Let's go get 'em outta there!

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT - Optimus Prime DASHES towards Venom with Prowl, Ironhide, WARPATH and MIRAGE, as BEACHCOMBER, POWERGLIDE and Bumblebee move off to the cave in the background.

OPTIMUS PRIME

I agree. Bumblebee, Beachcomber, Powerglide, find and free Jazz and the others. The rest of you, follow me!

BUMBLEBEE

You got it, Prime!

POWERGLIDE

Hey-hey, ol' Powerglide loves rescues!

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime fires his ION BLASTER towards Venom and Barrage, only to see the blasts BLOCKED by Venom's Trailbreaker-like FORCE-FIELD.

VENOM

Nice, try, Autobot. But, you underestimate our power! You underestimate... Venom!

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime holds his head in PAIN as Barrage attacks him with a Jazz-like LIGHT AND SOUND assault.

BARRAGE

You're no match for us, Prime!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ugh!

PANEL 3:

Warpath, Prowl and Ironhide find themselves surrounded by a THICK VEIL OF SMOKE.

IRONHIDE

What in the ..?

WARPATH

Hey! BOOM! I can't see! ZOWIE!

PANEL 4:

Within the smoke, a SEMI-TRANSLUCENT Ransack stands behind Warpath and Prowl.

RANSACK

That's the idea.

PANEL 5:

Ransack makes himself VISIBLE before SHOOTING Warpath, Prowl and Ironhide from behind with his BLASTER.

RANSACK (CONT'D)

Surprise!

PROWL

Uurghh!

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

INT. INSIDE THE INSECTICONS' CAVE.

Bumblebee, Powerglide and Beachcomber charge through the mouth of the cave to find JAZZ, TRAILBREAKER, SMOKESCREEN and WINDCHARGER strapped down on OPERATING GURNEYS in what appears to be Bombshell's MAD SCIENTIST LAIR.

BUMBLEBEE

Jazz!

JAZZ

Hey, little Bee! Get us outta here before that crazy bug comes back for more shenanigans!

PANEL 2:

Powerglide BURNS away at Smokescreen's restraints with the LASER on his forehead.

POWERGLIDE

There you go, Smokey, ol' pal. Freedom restored, thanks to your buddy, Powerglide!

PANEL 3:

Jazz and Trailbreaker now stand with Bumblebee, Smokescreen and Beachcomber, while in the background, Powerglide frees Windcharger.

BUMBLEBEE

What happened in here?

SMOKESCREEN

Bombshell removed our special ability cogs. We don't have our unique powers anymore.

JAZZ

Yeah, but those new Insection bozos do!

BEACHCOMBER

Whoa, not cool. Not cool at all.

PANEL 4:

Bumblebee turns away from Jazz to look off-panel.

BUMBLEBEE

Then, that means Prime is in more danger than we thought.

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

Chop Shop LIFTS Prowl, Ironhide and Warpath into the air with his magnetic powers.

WARPATH

Ugh! I can't move! WHAM!

IRONHIDE

It's Windcharger's magnetism
ability!

PROWI

Bombshell has stolen his power and given it to these new creations for their own twisted purposes.

PANEL 2:

Venom creates a BALL-SHAPED FORCE-FIELD around Ironhide, Prowl and Warpath, as Mirage shoots Barrage to save Optimus Prime from the audio assault.

MIRAGE

Oh, no you don't. Try this on for size!

BARRAGE

Aaagh!

PANEL 3:

Venom HURLS the force-field ball containing Prowl, Warpath and Ironhide towards Mirage and Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Mirage, watch out!

PANEL 4:

Mirage avoids the force-field ball, but it SLAMS directly into Optimus Prime, knocking him into the river.

In the sky above, SHRAPNEL soars onto the air and begins to GATHER LIGHTNING.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Urghh...

SHRAPNEL

Bombshell, your new toys are certainly impressive... impressive.

PANEL 5:

Shrapnel THROWS a BOLT OF LIGHTNING down from the sky towards Optimus Prime, now standing dangerously close to the waterfall.

SHRAPNEL (CONT'D)

But, so am I... I!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

As the lightning bolt strikes Optimus Prime, Ransack again makes himself INVISIBLE.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Urrrrrghhhhh!

PANEL 2:

In the river, with the waterfall behind him, Optimus Prime drops to one knee.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Ugh, Autobots! Be careful! These new Insections are more powerful than we...

PANEL 3:

Ransack becomes visible once more, having driven a large SWORD into Optimus Prime's back that now protrudes from his CHEST.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

... thought? Hurrrk!

RANSACK

Boo.

PANEL 4:

In the background, Bumblebee and Jazz cry out to Optimus Prime (still IMPALED by Ransack) as the Insectioon TOSSES Optimus Prime OVER THE WATERFALL.

BUMBLEBEE

Prime?

PANEL 5:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Optimus Prime FALLS down the waterfall and towards the reader.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Prime!

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

SPLASH PANEL, HIGH ANGLE, LOOKING DOWN - Bombshell, Shrapnel and KICKBACK now hover above the Autobots: Bumblebee, Prowl, Ironhide, Mirage, Powerglide, Beachcomber and Warpath, as well as Jazz, Smokescreen, Windcharger and Trailbreaker as Venom TRAPS THEM ALL in yet another force-field.

BOMBSHELL

Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha! Optimus Prime is no more! And you remaining Autobots are powerless to stop us!

PANEL 2:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Prowl watches through the HAZE of the force-field as all seven of the Insecticons TAKE OFF higher into the sky.

BOMBSHELL (CONT'D)

Come, my creations. Let me show you what great feast lies before us! Ha-Ha-Ha!

PANEL 3:

EXT. THE SKIES ABOVE SOUTH AMERICA - DAY.

In a V-SHAPE FORMATION, Bombshell leads the Insecticons through the sky.

Right to left: Kickback, Shrapnel, Barrage, Bombshell, Chop Shop, Venom and Ransack.

BOMBSHELL

You are more magnificent than I could have hoped for, my deluxe creations. Together, we can make the most of my new plans.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Venom as he turns to Ransack.

VENOM

(whispering)

Hmmmph. Never fear. Venom has plans of his own.

RANSACK

(also whispering)

Heh.

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE SOUTH AMERICAN JUNGLE - DAY.

WHEELJACK, RATCHET and PERCEPTOR stand before the force-field, speaking with Prowl and Ironhide through it's hazy, transparent barrier.

In the background, the DINOBOTS: GRIMLOCK, SWOOP, SLAG, SNARL and SLUDGE (all in robot-mode) begin to land from the sky above.

CAPTION: A few hours later...

WHEELJACK

It's a good thing we got here in time. This force-field isn't going to last much longer. If it had decayed on its own, it would have taken you all with it.

PROWL

Can you disable it out not?

PERCEPTOR

Yes, yes of course.

IRONHIDE

But what about Prime?

RATCHET

Seaspray is searching the river as we speak.

PANEL 2:

EXT. FURTHER DOWN THE RIVER - DAY.

In hovercraft-mode, SEASPRAY glides across the surface of the river.

RATCHET

(voice only, from Seaspray's cabin)

Seaspray, this is Ratchet. Any luck?

SEASPRAY

Not yet. But if Optimus Prime truly came this way after walkin' the plank, I'll find him.

PANEL 3:

EXT. BENEATH THE RIVER'S SURFACE - DAY.

Seaspray SUBMERGES deep into the river as though he were a SUBMARINE.

SEASPRAY

I've still got a few tricks up my sleeve.

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime lays LIFELESS on the river floor, as Seaspray approaches from the background.

SEASPRAY (CONT'D)

Shiver me timbers! Ratchet, I've found him! Looks like he's not too far from visiting Davey Jones' locker!

RATCHET

(voice only, from
 Seaspray's cabin)
Just get him topside, Seaspray.
I'll handle the rest.

PANEL 5:

EXT. THE SOUTH AMERICAN JUNGLE - DAY.

Grimlock now stands beside Ratchet and Wheeljack.

RATCHET

Seaspray has found Prime. Now, to get him back to HQ for medical treatment.

GRIMLOCK

But what about new Insectioons? Me, Grimlock want to munch metal!

WHEELJACK

Easy, pal. First things first. We're gonna need Prime fully functional if we're to find and stop those things. And besides...

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

EXT. MOUNT ST. HILARY - DAY.

The AUTOBOT ARK and its volcanic home sit beneath a VIVID, SUNNY DAY.

CAPTION: Meanwhile...

WHEELJACK

(captioned)

We don't even know where they're

headed...

PANEL 2:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, INTERROGATION ROOM.

RED ALERT stands before the seated pair of RUNAMUCK and RUNABOUT.

A table sits between Red Alert and the Deceptioons, while INFERNO and SILVERBOLT look on from the DOORWAY.

RED ALERT

I said, talk!

RUNAMUCK

Forget it!

RUNABOUT

Yeah! You don't scare us! You mighta got the best of us once*, but ain't no way we're sayin' nuthin' to a weirdo like you!

NOTE: Red Alert overcame the Battle-Chargers back in issue #15!

PANEL 3:

Like a hardened cop, Red Alert LEANS FORWARD to SLAM his hands on the table before Runamuck, but turns his head to look off-panel, DISTRACTED as his HORNS LIGHT UP.

Behind him, Inferno turns to Silverbolt.

NOTE: A faint buzzing sound effect echoes across the panel.

RED ALERT

Weirdo? Me? I'll show you who's a... wait, do you hear that?

INFERNO

Uh-oh, he's doin' it again.

PANEL 4:

INT. THE CORRIDOR.

Red Alert, Inferno and Silverbolt DASH out of the interrogation room and into the hallway, leaving the door AJAR behind them.

INFERNO

It's comin' from the volcano!

NOTE: The buzzing sound effect should now be bigger, almost covering the panel.

PANEL 5:

INT. INSIDE THE VOLCANO.

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Red Alert gazes up to see Venom, Chop Shop, Ransack and Barrage DESCENDING into the volcano.

Perched on the edge of the volcano, Bombshell watches with Kickback and Shrapnel.

RED ALERT

Insecticons? M-More Insecticons?

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE DESERT - SUNSET.

Jazz and Prowl lead Ratchet, Bumblebee and Smokescreen through the desert (all in vehicle-modes).

Flying in the sky above, Grimlock is carrying the still-unconscious Optimus Prime.

CAPTION: Several more hours later...

WHEELJACK

C'mon, we're almost home. We gotta get Prime on the medical slab before it's too late.

BUMBLEBEE

Wait, what's that up ahead?

PANEL 2:

BUMBLEBEE'S P.O.V. - In vehicle-modes, Runabout and Runamuck SPEED TOWARDS the reader.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Runamuck and Runabout? I thought they were locked up inside the Ark?

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT, BIRD'S EYE VIEW - Runamuck and Runabout continue on course, DISSECTING the convoy of Autobots (Bumblebee, Wheeljack, Ratchet, Prowl, Beachcomber and Windcharger) as they SWERVE out of the way.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

Whoa!

PROWL

Lookout, you maniacs!

PANEL 4:

Powerglide (in jet-mode) ZOOMS OVERHEAD of Prowl and Ironhide.

IRONHIDE

Whatever it is, somethin's got 'em real spooked!

PROWL

Powerglide, go ahead and check it out.

POWERGLIDE

You got it, Prowl. Ol' Powerglide loves reconnaissance!

PANEL 5:

Powerglide nears the Ark to find the ENTIRE MOUNT ST. HILARY now appears to have been turned into some kind of INSECTOID HIVE.

POWERGLIDE (CONT'D)

Yikes!

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

LOOKING DOWN FROM THE NOW-HIVE-LIKE VOLCANO - Prowl and Jazz lead the convoy of Autobots towards their home as Powerglide LOOPS BACK towards them.

JAZZ

Oh, man! The whole mountain has been funkified with... whatever that is.

IRONHIDE

Aw, this ain't good.

RATCHET

We've got to get inside. I still need certain parts from my med-bay to repair Optimus. I'm going in. Wait here.

BUMBLEBEE

I'm coming with you, Ratchet. If we all go in, we'll alert the Insecticons to our presence.

PROWL

All right, but be careful, Ratchet. Any sign of trouble, get out as fast as you can.

PANEL 2:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, ENTRYWAY.

Now in robot-mode, Bumblebee and Ratchet carefully TIPTOE into the ${\rm HQ}_{\:\raisebox{1pt}{\text{\circle*{1.5}}}}$

The walls and flooring are completely covered by an odd, HIVE-LIKE SUBSTANCE, like something out of Aliens.

BUMBLEBEE

What the heck is all this?

PANEL 3:

Ratchet finds Silverbolt essentially COCOONED against a nearby wall.

RATCHET

Silverbolt?!

PANEL 4:

Ratchet frees Silverbolt enough for the Aerialbot to speak.

SILVERBOLT

R-Ratchet? Ugh... get me outta this.

RATCHET

Easy, easy. Let me run a quick scan. Bumblebee, see if you can reach my med-bay. I need my surgical kit. And some power converters.

BUMBLEBEE

Sure thing, Ratchet.

PANEL 5:

Bumblebee runs off into the background, while Ratchet holds his MEDICAL SCANNER over Silverbolt's chest.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

Power converters! No problem.

SILVERBOLT

Be careful, Bee...

RATCHET

Quiet, Silverbolt. You need to rest. There's a... there's some kind of cloning bud implanted near your laser core!

(MORE)

RATCHET (CONT'D)

If it's not removed, I'm afraid you'll turn into an Insecticon!

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. RATCHET'S MEDI-BAY.

Bumblebee hurries into the room to find it is also covered in the hive-like substance.

BUMBLEBEE

Power converters, power converters. Why can't I find any power converters?

PANEL 2:

Bumblebee spies a SUITCASE-LIKE CONTAINER, reaching for it.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

A-Ha! Found you!

PANEL 3:

Bumblebee turns in HORROR as FOUR SHADOWS fall over him.

VENOM

No. Venom has found you!

BUMBLEBEE

Oh, no!

PANEL 4:

Venom, Barrage, Chop Shop and Ransack LURCH over Bumblebee as though they are about to devour him.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

Aaaaaaaqh!

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, ENTRYWAY.

Ratchet has now removed the cloning bud from Silverbolt, who is wearily getting to his feet.

Ratchet holds the bud (the metallic equivalent of a POLYP) in his left hand.

RATCHET

There you go, Silverbolt. Good as new. Lucky too. This thing could have turned real nasty, real fast.

SILVERBOLT

Thanks, Doc. But we've got to help the others. They're in the volcano.

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE VOLCANO.

SPLASH PANEL, LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Ratchet and Silverbolt gaze upward at the array of unfortunate Autobots now PLASTERED to the inside of the rocky volcano like a series of UNNERVING COCOONS: Red Alert, Inferno, Bumblebee (still holding the power converter case) and the other AERIALBOTS: AIR RAID, FIREFLIGHT, SLINGSHOT and SKYDIVE.

RATCHET

Oh, my. Wait a minute...

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Bombshell, Kickback and Shrapnel, also cocooned like their Autobot foes.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

Bombshell?!

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Silverbolt FOLDS HIS ARMS with DISDAIN, while Ratchet aims his BLASTER towards Bumblebee.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Those new Insecticons must have turned on their creators.

SILVERBOLT

Serves them right.

RATCHET

Maybe so. But we still have to help them. No one deserves this. But first, let's start with Bee.

PANEL 2:

Ratchet fires a FINELY-TUNED ENERGY BEAM up towards Bumblebee that DISLODGES the power converters case.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Got... to be... careful...

PANEL 3:

As the case lands at Ratchet's feet, Silverbolt turns to see Venom and Ransack about to attack.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

Got it!

SILVERBOLT

Uh, Doc?

VENOM

Ha-Ha-Haaaaaa!

PANEL 4:

Ratchet takes off with the power converters case, as Silverbolt takes on Venom and Ransack.

SILVERBOLT

Go, Ratchet! Get outta here and help Prime!

RATCHET

I'll be back, Silverbolt. I promise!

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, ENTRYWAY.

Ratchet returns to the Ark's entryway to find Prowl and Grimlock standing with Optimus Prime's lifeless body.

RATCHET

Prowl?

PROWL

We couldn't wait any longer. Prime needs urgent repair, now!

PANEL 2:

Chop Shop appears to lift Prowl and Grimlock into the air with his MAGNETISM POWERS.

PROWL (CONT'D)

Ugh! Not again!

GRIMLOCK

Put Grimlock down! Me, Grimlock not twinkle-toes!

CHOP SHOP

Oh, I'll put you down, all right.

PANEL 3:

Chop Shop PUSHES both Prowl and Grimlock into the Ark's rocky, mountain wall to SMASH THROUGH TO THE OUTSIDE.

GRIMLOCK

Ugh!

PANEL 4:

Ratchet watches behind Optimus Prime's body, UNNOTICED by the four Deluxe Insections as they fly through the Autobot-made wall opening.

VENOM

Come, Insections. Join Venom in finishing these fools off, once and for all!

PANEL 5:

Now alone with Optimus Prime, Ratchet opens his power converter case.

RATCHET

Hold on, Optimus. I'll have you good-as-new before you can say 'slippery Starscream'.

PANEL 6:

FROM ABOVE - Ratchet now sits on his knees before Optimus Prime's OPEN CHEST. (And no, The Matrix is NOT inside.)

RATCHET (CONT'D)

This won't take long.

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE ARK - SUNSET.

Beneath the SETTING SUN, Ironhide, Slag, Snarl, Seaspray and Jazz OPEN FIRE at the flying Barrage and Ransack.

Ransack is already TURNING INVISIBLE, while SMOKE pours from Barrage's hands and towards the Autobots.

IRONHIDE

There they are! Let 'em have it!

SLAG

Grrrr, me, Slag let them have it all!

PANEL 2:

Chop Shop uses his magnetic powers to slam Trailbreaker, Powerglide and Wheeljack together, as Venom begins to create a brand new, ENORMOUS FORCE-FIELD.

VENOM

That's it, Insecticons! Once we've defeated these fools, there will be no one to stop us!

PANEL 3:

Venom traps Swoop, Sludge, Snarl and Smokescreen in a new force-field, as the other three Deluxe Insections fly back towards the Ark.

VENOM (CONT'D)

Bombshell was so narrowminded. Thinking only of the short term Energon feast your HQ would provide. He couldn't see that when we turn you Autobots into Insecticons like us, we can plunder this entire planet for all its Energon! Ha-Ha-Ha!

SLUDGE

Uh, big Sludge not see what so funny.

PANEL 4:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, ENTRYWAY.

Ratchet now closes Optimus Prime's chest.

Unfortunately, Chop Shop, Barrage and Ransack stand behind him, ready to pounce.

RATCHET

There! Prime should be back online in a few moments.

BARRAGE

Not so fast, Autobot!

PANEL 5:

Ransack and Barrage hold Ratchet down, while Venom stands nearby.

VENOM

It is useless to resist, doctor. Your friends outside are helpless in yet another force-field cage. Once Venom implants you with a cloning bud, your medical knowledge will help turn your friends into more Insecticons faster than we ever could.

RATCHET

Ugh! No!

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Ransack and Barrage are BLASTED away from Ratchet by an offpanel attacker and sent HURTLING back into Teletraan-1.

Venom turns back to look behind him.

RANSACK

Aagh!

BARRAGE

Ughh!

VENOM

What?! Who?

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime stands FULLY-FUNCTIONAL, pointing his ion-blaster towards Venom.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Enough! Leave this place, Insecticons, or so help me...

PANEL 3:

Chop Shop REEFS the gun from Optimus Prime's hands with his magnetic power as Venom's hands GLOW with force-field energy.

VENOM

No, Prime. Nothing will help you.

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime swings a massive RIGHT HOOK into Venom's face.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Think again!

VENOM

Gah!

PANEL 5:

Chop Shop begins to DRAG Optimus Prime towards him with his magnetic powers. Prime is barely able to resist.

CHOP SHOP

Come here, Optimus. You cannot withstand the power of magnetism for long.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ugh! That's just the thing...

PANEL 6:

Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS. As always, his TRAILER appears behind him.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

... I don't have to!

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS back to robot-mode to dive out of the way, as his trailer is caught by Chop Shop's magnetism, SHOOTING through the air towards the Insecticon.

CHOP SHOP

What?!

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime's trailer COLLIDES with Chop Shop and SQUISHES him against the rear wall like the bug he is.

CHOP SHOP (CONT'D)

Gurrrghhhhh..!

PANEL 3:

Barrage BLASTS Optimus Prime with another Jazz-like LIGHT AND SOUND ASSAULT, as Ransack TURNS INVISIBLE.

BARRAGE

Ha! You are alone, Optimus Prime!

RANSACK

And we will destroy you.

OPTIMUS PRIME

You're wrong...

PANEL 4:

The rear of Optimus Prime's trailer OPENS to reveal ROLLER.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

... I'm never alone.

PANEL 5:

Roller fires a BLAST from its MOUNTED FIREARM to strike Barrage and DISENGAGE his audio attack.

BARRAGE

Gaagh!

OPTIMUS PRIME

I'd like you to meet Roller. He's handy to have around.

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

ROLLER'S COMPUTERIZED P.O.V. - Through an INFRA-RED SPECTRUM, Roller can see the colored outline of Ransack standing behind Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

And he can see all kinds of things!

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime dives to the left, as Roller BLASTS Ransack, causing him to become VISIBLE once more.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Excellent work, Roller!

ROLLER

BEEP-BEEP!

RANSACK

No! Impossible!

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime SLAMS his right fist into Ransack's face, PLANTING HIM into the floor like a stray JAVELIN.

RANSACK (CONT'D)

Hnnnf!

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime turns to see Venom has created yet another FORCE-FIELD BARRIER between himself and the Autobot Leader.

VENOM

Not so fast, Prime. Even your little toy cannot break through a force-field!

PANEL 5:

Ratchet STANDS UP behind Venom, wielding some kind of LASER SCALPEL device.

RATCHET

He doesn't have to.

PANEL 6:

Ratchet JAMS the laser scalpel into Venom's back as though it were a CATTLE-PROD.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

I'm already here!

VENOM

Aaarqqqhhh!

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime and Ratchet watch as all four of the Deluxe Insections FLEE, flying (rather haphazardly) towards the hole in the wall.

Chop Shop appears particularly BATTERED.

VENOM (CONT'D)

Insecticons! We must escape!

RANSACK

Flee! Flee!

RATCHET

You did it, Prime!

OPTIMUS PRIME

No, we did it, my friend. Now to get this place back to normal.

PANEL 2:

INT. RATCHET'S MEDI-BAY.

Ratchet stands in his medical center, using a FLASHLIGHT-LIKE DEVICE to SHINE SOME KIND OF LASER onto Bumblebee's arm.

Optimus Prime looks on at Silverbolt, Red Alert, Inferno and Fireflight as they stand in the background, now recovered from their Insection attack.

CAPTION: Later...

RATCHET

There you go, Bumblebee. That should do it.

BUMBLEBEE

Thanks, Doc. Feels good to be back to normal.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Yes, back to normal and free of those Insecticon cloning buds.

RED ALERT

Ugh, don't remind me.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT - Ratchet now stands with Jazz, Mirage, Trailbreaker and Windcharger, while Wheeljack lifts what looks like a TRANSPARENT LUNCHBOX into view.

MIRAGE

But, those new Insectioons still have our powers.

RATCHET

Don't worry, fellas. Give me some time and I'll be able to replace your missing cogs. They won't be as good as the **originals**, but Wheeljack will help me create something almost as good.

JAZZ

But, what happened to the original Insecticons? Don't tell me they skedaddled too?

WHEELJACK

Nope. Got 'em right here!

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Wheeljack's containment device. Kickback, Bombshell and Shrapnel (in tiny-insect-modes) are TRAPPED inside like a BUG CATCHER.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

This little baby will hold 'em, until we know what to do with 'em. At least they won't be able to cause anymore trouble.

PANEL 5:

Optimus Prime looks down towards Wheeljack and his bug catcher.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Indeed. But, what of their creations?

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE NEVADA DESERT - NIGHT.

In their various insect-modes, Venom, Barrage, Chop Shop and Ransack FLY through the sky above the NEVADA DESERT.

OPTIMUS PRIME (captioned)
All four remain at large...

PANEL 2:

Venom TRANSFORMS to point out an OASIS below.

Some kind of GOLDEN LIGHT is shining free of the oasis.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D) (captioned)
... and wherever they are...

PANEL 3:

SPLASH PANEL - While Chop Shop and Barrage (now in robot-mode) begin to land in the background, Ransack stands with Venom (also both in robot-mode), KNEE-DEEP in what appears to be a pool of GOLDEN ELECTRUM.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D) (captioned)
... I doubt we've seen the last of them.

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!