

THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED. <u>"PIRANACON, PART 1."</u>

Written by

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Based on the original cartoon series, The Transformers: ReAnimated, bridges the gap between the seminal second season and the 1986 Movie that defined the childhood of millions. PAGE ONE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE SKIES ABOVE THE PACIFIC OCEAN - DAY.

SPLASH PANEL - STARSCREAM (in jet-mode) ZOOMS over the OCEAN WAVES, rocketing towards an UNDISCLOSED DESTINATION, while sea water RISES UP behind his rear thrusters like MOSES parting the RED SEA.

CAPTION: The North Pacific Ocean...

STARSCREAM That idiot had better deliver. If I am to become Decepticon Leader, I cannot waste anymore opportunities.

PANEL 2:

EXT. THE PONTOON - DAY.

SMALL INSERT PANEL - Starscream nears what appears to be a CIRCULAR and METALLIC, BARGE-LIKE PLATFORM, floating on the calm surface of the ocean.

Standing upon the pontoon, SWINDLE waves at Starscream as though reuniting with a long-lost friend at the airport.

STARSCREAM

Swindle!

SWINDLE Hey, Starscream! You made it!

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

Starscream TRANSFORMS to land on the pontoon as Swindle moves to greet him.

STARSCREAM Of course I made it, you cathodicclown! I'm the one who told you to be here! Did you bring it? Did you bring me what you **promised**?

SWINDLE Sure! After all, I'm a Con who can get you things.

PANEL 2:

OVER STARSCREAM'S SHOULDER - Swindle's expression immediately appears SHEEPISH.

STARSCREAM Then where is it? Give it to me!

SWINDLE Well, I don't have it **on** me, if you catch my drift. My uh... **courier**, yeah that's it. My courier hasn't arrived yet.

STARSCREAM

WHAT?!

PANEL 3:

Starscream THREATENS Swindle by holding his NULL RAY to the much-smaller Deceptioon's head.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) Do you know how long I've waited for this? If you're trying to, well, **Swindle** me, I'll...

SWINDLE Whoa! Take it easy, Starscream! We're all Cons here, buddy!

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Swindle's PANICKED FACE as the barrel of Starscream's null ray is now pressed against his cheek.

STARSCREAM

(off-panel) Don't make me destroy you, Swindle. You only exist because I liberated you from that Cybertronian Detention Center!

SWINDLE

Of course, of course! Relax, pal. He'll be here. Trips into deep space take a while, y'know? Not to mention, sneakin' into and stealin' information from Shockwave's historical databanks.

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - As Starscream continues to threaten Swindle, the sneaky little Combaticon POINTS towards the sky and an AIRCRAFT far in the distance.

SWINDLE (CONT'D) Look, Starscream! He's here!

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON - BLAST OFF (in shuttle-mode) as he descends from the clouds.

SWINDLE (CONT'D) (off-panel) Blast Off!

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

Blast Off TRANSFORMS to land on the pontoon beside Swindle. Starscream stands UNIMPRESSED, his hands IMPATIENTLY resting on his hips.

> STARSCREAM This is your interstellar courier, Swindle? If I wanted help from a shuttlecraft, I'd call Astrotrain.

> BLAST OFF Astrotrain? That riffraff isn't fit to fly a paltry supply mission, let alone brave the wonders of the cosmos to deliver...

PANEL 2:

Starscream REACHES towards the ANCIENT STRONGBOX now in Blast Off's hands.

NOTE: The strongbox resembles a CYBERTRONIAN TREASURE CHEST, complete with a TENTACLED, SQUID-LIKE LOGO, representing a BEING with an ANGRY SKULL for a face.

BLAST OFF (CONT'D) ... this!

STARSCREAM All right, already! Just give it to me before I... SWINDLE Whoa, cool your jets, Starscream. Blast Off, you heard him. Hand it over.

PANEL 3:

Blast Off hands the strongbox to Starscream

STARSCREAM Yes! Finally! The power of...

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON the strongbox.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (off-panel) ... **PIRANACON**!

PANEL 5:

Starscream CRADLES the strongbox like GOLLUM would clasp the ONE RING.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) At last! The means to rule the Decepticons, and then the **universe**, is mine! All mine!

SWINDLE So, what exactly is that thing, anyway?

BLAST OFF Yes, and are you sure we should be conducting these clandestine proceedings out in the open like this?

PANEL 6:

FROM BEHIND, BETWEEN SWINDLE AND BLAST OFF - Starscream has now casually tucked the strongbox under his LEFT ARM, lifting his RIGHT HAND into the air to showcase the trio's aquatic isolation.

> STARSCREAM What are you blabbering about? Look around you. There's not likely to be anyone within five hundred miles!

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

EXT. 300 MILES OFF THE COAST - DAY.

CAPTION: Four hundred and ninety-nine miles away...

CARLY and SPIKE are both RELAXING onboard the deck of SEASPRAY'S hovercraft-mode. Carly is busy SUNBATHING in her SWIMSUIT, while Spike moves towards her carrying a TRAY OF COLD DRINKS and wearing what looks like red, BAYWATCH shorts.

BLASTER'S boombox-mode sits beside Carly, PUMPING OUT music.

SPIKE Wow, it's a real scorcher today! Thirsty, Carly?

CARLY Thanks, Spike.

BLASTER (music from his speakers) We're no strangers to love, You know the rules and so do I, A full commitment's what I'm thinking of, You wouldn't get this from any other guy...

SEASPRAY Hey, if it's too hot up there, then jump on in! The water's fine!

PANEL 2:

Carly SIPS her drink beside Blaster in the foreground as behind her, a SMITTEN Spike can only stare with PUPPY LOVE.

CARLY It's nice to get away from the hustle-and-bustle and relax. This mini-vacation is just what we needed.

SPIKE It sure is, Carly. Do you, uh... wanna go for a swim? www.TransformersReAnimated.com

BLASTER (music from his speakers) I just wanna tell you how I'm feeling, Gotta make you understand...

PANEL 3:

FROM ABOVE - Carly stands, while Spike seems upset at the music pouring from Blaster's speakers.

BLASTER (CONT'D) (music from his speakers) Never gonna give you up, Never gonna let you down, Never gonna run around and desert you...

SPIKE Whoa! Blaster, do you think you could switch to something else?

BLASTER Sure thing, my man!

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Spike as he turns to look behind him. Carly is poised on the edge of the deck, ready to dive into the water.

CARLY Don't worry about the music, Spike. Do you want to come swimming or not?

SPIKE Uh, yeah, of course!

PANEL 5:

FROM BELOW - Carly LEAPS OFF Seaspray's deck, while Spike remains up above, watching Carly as she dives towards the water.

CARLY Then come on!

SEASPRAY

Bottoms up!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE PONTOON - DAY.

Starscream sits on his knees IN AWE of the strongbox before him. Behind him, both Swindle and Blast Off remain confused.

SWINDLE I still don't get it. Why exactly is this thing so important?

STARSCREAM

It is the key to unleashing an ancient power. An unstoppable being I once encountered eons ago. Before the war. Before even Megatron and the Decepticons.

BLAST OFF Before **Megatron**? It's hard to even fathom such a time.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Starscream's ALMOST-REPENTANT face.

STARSCREAM Well, there was. And it was wonderful. A time without conflict.

PANEL 3:

INT. STARSCREAM'S WORKSHOP, CYBERTRON.

IN A SPLASH PANEL, a FLASHBACK reveals a HIGH-TECH LABORATORY, decorated with several MECHANICAL CONTRAPTIONS and COMPUTER-LIKE CONSOLES, all connected via conduits to a circular, WINDOW-LIKE device situated at the rear of the room.

We'll soon learn it is an inactive PORTAL GENERATOR.

A PRE-DECEPTICON Starscream stands with his back to the reader, hands on hips and calling out to his fellow scientist: SKYFIRE, who stands working on another COMPUTER TERMINAL beside the portal generator.

NOTE: Since Starscream has not yet devoted his life to war, he is not wearing his arm-mounted NULL RAYS.

CAPTION: Nine and a half million years ago...

STARSCREAM (captioned) A time of discovery and exploration.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (in-panel) Well, Skyfire? Is the portal device ready yet?

SKYFIRE It is. But, I'm still not sure we should **actually** use it.

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

Starscream CONFRONTS Skyfire before the portal generator.

STARSCREAM Why not? As explorers, what better place to explore than another **dimension**? If the rumors are true, then your space/time coordinates will open a rift into another plane of existence! A potential treasuretrove the likes of which Cybertron has never known!

SKYFIRE Well, when you put it like that.

PANEL 2:

Starscream TURNS to look behind him to see OCTOPUNCH (represented here by his non-Pretender, inner robot form).

Despite appearing as a regular Cybertronian, Octopunch is outfitted with what looks like a CYBERNETIC SPACESUIT, encapsulating his entire body, except for his head.

> STARSCREAM Besides, the expedition is ready to go. Isn't that right, Octopunch?

> > OCTOPUNCH

Yes, sir.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT - Octopunch introduces his team to Starscream and Skyfire.

Like him, they too appear as their non-Pretender, inner robot forms, also wearing IDENTICAL cybernetic spacesuits to Octopunch, and also without helmets.

The team consists of: BUGLY, FINBACK, BOMB-BURST, SKULLGRIN, IGUANUS and SUBMARAUDER.

OCTOPUNCH (CONT'D) I'd like to introduce my squad: Bugly, Finback, Bomb-Burst, Skullgrin, Iguanus and Submarauder.

STARSCREAM

Excellent.

PANEL 4:

As Octopunch PULLS ON his helmet, one that resembles that of an old-fashioned DEEP SEA DIVER, Skyfire continues to converse with Starscream.

SKYFIRE

So, you're sure those environmental suits will protect them from... whatever's on the other side?

STARSCREAM Of course! I designed them myself.

PANEL 5:

Starscream POINTS to the front of the panel (and the out-offrame portal generator), while Skyfire and Octopunch stand either side of him.

> SKYFIRE Well, if you're certain.

STARSCREAM Enough talk. Let's do this! Let us go where no Cybertronian has gone before!

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

The portal OPENS, controlled by Skyfire at his computer terminal. Octopunch leads Bugly and Finback towards the DAZZLING VORTEX.

SKYFIRE Okay. Portal is stable. Be careful, Octopunch. PANEL 2:

EXT. THE OTHER REALM - UNDERWATER.

Surrounded by a TRANSPARENT, ORANGE FLUID, Octopunch appears in the foreground, floating through an altogether-alien dimensional VOID.

Bugly FLOATS beside him, while Finback remains behind them both. Iguanus and Bomb-Burst continue the procession behind them, creating a trail that leads back to Skullgrin, Submarauder and the OPEN PORTAL far in the distance.

NOTE: Like Octopunch, each of the squad is now wearing identical helmets to his.

SKYFIRE

(captioned) Can you read me, Octopunch? What do you see?

OCTOPUNCH It's strange. Like nothing I've ever experienced before. This realm. It's... wet.

PANEL 3:

INT. STARSCREAM'S WORKSHOP, CYBERTRON.

CLOSE ON Starscream's face.

STARSCREAM Wet? What do you mean? What else do you see? What else can you...?

OCTOPUNCH (captioned) Wait. Something's wrong. Mayday, Starscream, Mayday!

PANEL 4:

FROM BEHIND - Starscream and Skyfire stand before the stillopen portal.

SKYFIRE What's the matter, Octopunch?

OCTOPUNCH (captioned) It's my team! We're being affected by this dimension. We're... transforming!

PANEL 5:

Starscream PUSHES past Skyfire to dash into the foreground.

STARSCREAM You're not making any sense, Octopunch. We can **all** transform!

OCTOPUNCH (captioned) Not like this! This is unnatural! This is... MONSTROUS!

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

With Skyfire standing behind him, Starscream curiously leans over the communication console.

OCTOPUNCH (CONT'D) (captioned) And that's not all! Please, Starscream! You've got to help us! Bring us back! There's something out here with us!

STARSCREAM What? What is it, Octopunch? What's there with you?

PANEL 2:

Skyfire pleads with Starscream, who remains more interested in gathering data from a panicked Octopunch.

SKYFIRE What are you doing? They're in trouble! Bring them back!

STARSCREAM Quiet! Say again, Octopunch. What's out there with you?

OCTOPUNCH (captioned) It's... it's...

PANEL 3:

While the HORRIFIC SCREAMS of Octopunch's squad ECHO through the laboratory, Skyfire PUSHES Starscream aside to SLAM his hand against the BIG RED BUTTON on his computer console. Written on the button are the words: EMERGENCY RETURN.

> BUGLY (captioned) NO-NO-NO! AAAAAARRRGHHH!

IGUANUS (captioned) HELP US! HELP US!

FINBACK (captioned) SSSHHEEEAAAARGGGGGGH!

SKYFIRE Out of the way, Starscream! This ends NOW!

PANEL 4:

Both Starscream and Skyfire RECOIL from the portal as Octopunch RETURNS, now HIDEOUSLY DEFORMED with his spacesuit GRAFTED to his body and appearing like his G1 toy's classic PRETENDER SHELL design.

The face within his helmet is GROTESQUE. HUGE, GLOWING EYES sit above bulging FANGS, while each of his LIMBS have morphed into a variety of SQUID-LIKE TENTACLES and PISCINE feet.

He RAISES his MUTATED RIGHT HAND towards Starscream.

STARSCREAM Aaaaaghhh! What is that?!

SKYFIRE It's... Octopunch?!

OCTOPUNCH UURRAAAAGHLLLLGGHHH!

PANEL 5:

Octopunch LUNGES towards Skyfire.

SKYFIRE No, Octopunch, wait! It's me, Skyfire! We're...

PANEL 6:

FROM OVER Skyfire's shoulder - Starscream appears in the background with a hand-held LASER RIFLE to BLAST Octopunch before he can reach Skyfire. Surrounded by a cloud of energy, Octopunch's face tragically relays his AGONY.

OCTOPUNCH

GAAAGH?!

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

Starscream and Skyfire gaze upon the NOW-DEAD Octopunch as SMOKE rises from his DISGUSTING CORPSE.

SKYFIRE Starscream, what have you done? This is Octopunch! Our colleague, our **friend**!

STARSCREAM That **thing** is no longer Octopunch at all. Look at it. It is nothing more than a mindless creature. At least, it **was**.

PANEL 2:

Skyfire turns back towards his computer console as Starscream continues to tightly grip his rifle.

SKYFIRE No time to argue. Something **else** is about to come through the portal!

STARSCREAM It's Bugly and the rest of the squad! Quickly! Disengage the gateway, before...

SKYFIRE No, it's not the squad. This is something else. Something **bigger**.

PANEL 3:

SPLASH PANEL - In the MIDDLE of the panel, taking up almost the ENTIRE FRAME, the face of PIRANACON emerges from the portal, filling the laboratory with his EVIL VISAGE.

> PIRANACON Who disturbs my slumber? Who summons... **PIRANACON**?!

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

REVERSE ANGLE, PIRANACON'S P.O.V. - Starscream stands PETRIFIED, frozen with fear despite still holding his laser rifle. Skyfire looks to his friend to do something, ANYTHING.

> SKYFIRE Starscream! What are you doing? Blast it before it comes all the way through!

STARSCREAM

I... I...

PANEL 2:

Skyfire GRABS HOLD of Starscream's shoulders, as Piranacon's SHADOW begins to fall over them both.

SKYFIRE

STARSCREAM!

PANEL 3:

Piranacon has now managed to squeeze a few FINGERS into the laboratory alongside his face as though crawling free of a MANHOLE. Skyfire POINTS back towards the beast, pleading with Starscream to act.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D) Starscream! That thing is about to come through! Blast it! Blast it now!

STARSCREAM You're... you're right.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT - Skyfire watches with SHOCK, as Starscream doesn't blast Piranacon, but instead SHOOTS the computer console connected to the portal generator.

As the console EXPLODES into a shower of SPARKS, Piranacon's head RETREATS back into the portal with a cry of ANGUISH.

SKYFIRE Wait! What are you doing?

PIRANACON AAAAAAGGGGHHHH!

PANEL 5:

Skyfire and Starscream stand before an INACTIVE portal generator, its computer console now ABLAZE.

Starscream has dropped his rifle to the floor, while Skyfire ANXIOUSLY lifts both hands to his head as though suffering a NERVOUS BREAKDOWN.

Octopunch's still-smoking corpse remains nearby.

SKYFIRE Starscream... what have you done?

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

Starscream turns to move towards the laboratory's exit, leaving Skyfire VISIBLY SHAKEN.

SKYFIRE (CONT'D) Starscream, you destroyed the portal! You trapped Bugly and the others in that nightmarish dimension!

STARSCREAM

What I did, Skyfire... was **save** us. And Cybertron, for that matter. Who knows what horrors that creature may have unleashed upon this world had **I** not intervened?

PANEL 2:

Starscream EXITS the room, ignoring Skyfire's pleas.

SKYFIRE Starscream? Come back! Starscream? Starscream!

PANEL 3:

EXT. THE PONTOON - DAY.

CLOSE ON Starscream's face.

SWINDLE (off-panel) Starscream? Starscream!

PANEL 4:

With Starscream still on his knees before the strongbox, Swindle reaches for him while Blast Off stands CONFUSED behind his fellow Combaticon.

> SWINDLE (CONT'D) Hello? You still with us, pal?

PANEL 5:

Starscream rises to his feet, holding the strongbox and facing Swindle.

STARSCREAM Yes, I'm fine. Now, come.

PANEL 6:

EXT. BENEATH THE PONTOON, UNDERWATER - DAY.

Starscream, Swindle and Blast Off DESCEND below the surface, leaving the pontoon high above them. Starscream has the strongbox tucked beneath his left arm.

STARSCREAM (captioned) We've got work to do.

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. 300 MILES OFF THE COAST - DAY.

Carly and Spike FROLIC in the ocean. Seaspray continues to FLOAT behind them on the surface, while Blaster's boombox-mode plays even more music.

BLASTER

(music from his speakers) In every life we have some trouble, But when you worry you make it double...

SPIKE As much fun as this is, I don't know how much longer we should stay out here. Even with our SPF 15+ lotion, this sun isn't doing us any good.

SEASPRAY

Hey speak for yourself, landlubbers. I don't know how you live day-in and day-out without the soothing sensation of waves lapping against your hull.

PANEL 2:

REVERSE ANGLE - FROM BEHIND BLASTER, looking down from Seaspray into the water at Spike and Carly. While Spike is busily replying to Seaspray, Carly has lifted a matching pair of SCUBA MASKS and SNORKELS into view.

> BLASTER (music from his speakers) Don't worry, be happy, Don't worry, be happy now...

> > SPIKE

Uh, because we don't **have** hulls, Seaspray. I mean... never mind. We should also get out of the water before we turn into prunes.

CARLY

But, Spike. I wanted to try out the SCUBA equipment.

PANEL 3:

Carly LEANS IN CLOSE to Spike.

CARLY (CONT'D) Ten more minutes?

SPIKE (giddy) Uh, sure. Okay. Ten more minutes.

PANEL 4:

EXT. BENEATH SEASPRAY, UNDERWATER - DAY.

Both now wearing their masks and snorkels, Carly and Spike DIVE beneath Seaspray's hovercraft-mode, playfully descending further into the ocean.

NOTE: Carly appears to be a much better swimmer than Spike.

SEASPRAY That's the spirit, me hearties! PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE OCEAN FLOOR - DARK.

Lit only by the lights emanating from their ROBOT BODIES, Starscream, Swindle and Blast Off stand on the bottom of the SEA BED. Starscream's strongbox now rests at his feet.

> SWINDLE So, how does this work, exactly? And are you sure you want to bring that thing here?

> STARSCREAM Ah, Swindle. Poor, frightened Swindle. Yes, I want to bring that 'thing' here. Now be quiet and do as I say!

PANEL 2:

Starscream's CHEST COCKPIT opens, revealing an EERIE GLOW as he reaches in with his right hand.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) Here. Feast your eyes on what **true** power looks like.

PANEL 3:

Swindle and Blast Off watch with UNBRIDLED FASCINATION as Starscream now holds what look to be two GLOWING SHARDS of an ANCIENT-LOOKING TALISMAN.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) After the encounter that claimed Octopunch's squad, I became enthralled by the creature; what it was, where it came from, everything.

PANEL 4:

INT. STARSCREAM'S WORKSHOP, CYBERTRON.

FLASHBACK - Starscream's hands are cupped together, BEGGING Skyfire as he walks away from his friend.

STARSCREAM (captioned) But, Skyfire would not have it. He refused to help me reestablish **any** kind of portal into that nightmarish realm.

PANEL 5:

INT. A DINGY CYBERTRONIAN BOOK DEPOSITORY.

FLASHBACK - CYBERTRONIAN ELECTRO-LIGHT-EMITTERS (candles) are littered around Starscream as he sits at a DESK within the decrepit LIBRARY. A litany of open, metallic BOOKS are strewn around him. In the background, BOOKSHELVES appear to flow on forever, fading into the distant darkness.

Naturally, Starscream's demeanor is one of DISAPPOINTMENT.

STARSCREAM (captioned in the top left of the panel) So I searched. For **two centuries**, I searched for any reference I could find on the monster that called itself, '**Piranacon'**. What it was. How it could be controlled. If it could be controlled.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (captioned in the bottom right of the panel) Alas, I found nothing. And I was forced to look elsewhere.

PANEL 6:

EXT. THE BACKSTREETS OF PRE-WAR CYBERTRON, NIGHT.

FLASHBACK - Starscream stands in a DARK ALLEYWAY, conversing with two DISREPUTABLE Cybertronians: RUNABOUT and RUNAMUCK.

STARSCREAM

(captioned) I ventured into the more contemptible depths of Cybertron. Into its underbelly, where whispers became rumors, where rumors became legends. But none of them were able to quench my thirst for the truth.

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. PREHISTORIC EARTH, THE ARCTIC CIRCLE - DAY.

FLASHBACK - Starscream and Skyfire SOAR over the ice, calling back to the scene from 'Fire in the Sky'.

STARSCREAM (captioned in the top left of the panel) After another few years, all seemed lost. So, alongside Skyfire, I resigned myself to pointless exploration missions to measly little planets, all just to appease his scientific quandaries.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (captioned in the bottom right of the panel) I lost hope.

PANEL 2:

Just as it happened in that episode, Starscream LOSES SIGHT of Skyfire during a WILD SNOWSTORM.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (captioned) And then I lost Skyfire, too.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (in-panel) Skyfire? Where are you? **SKYFIRE**!

PANEL 3:

INT. DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS, CYBERTRON.

FLASHBACK - Inside their familiar COMMAND CENTER, both MEGATRON and SHOCKWAVE stand looking at the room's wall-mounted VIEWSCREEN.

Behind them, Starscream (now also a fully-fledged Decepticon warrior) peeks his head into the doorway to see Shockwave holding a TALISMAN in his hands, lifting it towards Megatron's face.

NOTE: It is the exact same talisman we saw Starscream remove from his chest earlier, only this time, it is in one, magnificent piece. STARSCREAM (captioned) But then, several **million** years later... hope.

MEGATRON Are you absolutely sure, Shockwave?

SHOCKWAVE Indeed, Megatron. This amulet holds the precise cybernetic configuration to summon and control the ancient being known as...

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Starscream's ASTONISHED expression. Reflected in his RED OPTICS is the image displayed on Shockwave's viewscreen: PIRANACON'S FACE.

SHOCKWAVE (CONT'D) (off-panel) ... Piranacon!

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - Starscream ENTERS the command center, moving towards Megatron like an eager puppy.

STARSCREAM Is this true, Megatron? You've found the means of controlling that thing?

MEGATRON You know of this beast, Starscream?

STARSCREAM Yes, I once... it's not important.

MEGATRON

Then you must also know that even with this amulet, summoning such an abomination would be an exercise in madness. If the legends are true, then no power on this planet could **truly** command the creature once unleashed. Not even me.

PANEL 6:

Starscream LURKS behind Megatron and Shockwave as they return to their viewscreen. Its image displays the talisman, now digitally separated into thirds.

STARSCREAM

(captioned in the top left of the panel)

Megatron, being the coward he is, refused to even entertain the idea of using Piranacon's power for himself. It was at this point I realized I would make a far greater Decepticon leader.

SHOCKWAVE

Shall I commence with the amulet's destruction, Megatron? After all, Piranacon **could** be a valuable ally against the Autobots.

MEGATRON

No. Destroy it at once, then scatter its components across the galaxy. A leviathan like Piranacon is far too unpredictable. Once it was finished with the Autobots, it would likely turn its attention to us. It must not return.

STARSCREAM

(captioned in the bottom right of the panel) But, I knew I'd have to stay quiet. Bide my time. Allow Shockwave to disperse the amulet, then track down the shards, myself.

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE OCEAN FLOOR - DARK.

Swindle and Blast Off each hold a piece of Starscream's glowing talisman as he OPENS the strongbox to reveal the third-and-final segment.

STARSCREAM And now... I have!

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON the hands of Starscream, Swindle and Blast Off as they move to join each of their amulet pieces together. Each shard now GLOWS even brighter than before. STARSCREAM (CONT'D) (off-panel) Careful. We only have one shot at this.

PANEL 3:

EVEN CLOSER on the three Decepticon hands. Now the talisman has been snapped back into ONE PIECE.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D) That's it!

PANEL 4:

An enormous SHOCKWAVE bursts from the now-complete talisman, knocking all three Decepticons off their feet.

SWINDLE

Whoa!

PANEL 5:

EXT. THE OCEAN WAVES - DAY.

FROM ABOVE - Looking down AS THE CROW FLIES, the shockwave spreads across the ocean in all directions.

PANEL 6:

EXT. 300 MILES OFF THE COAST - DAY.

Carly stands on Seaspray's deck, drying herself with her towel as both sets of SCUBA masks and snorkels rest at her feet.

Spike (with his towel flung across his shoulders) has lifted Blaster's boombox-mode up into his hands. However, he now frightfully looks off to the HORIZON to see a TIDAL WAVE rising in the distance.

BLASTER

(music from his speakers) Who's that lady, coming down the road? Who's that lady? Who's that woman, walking through my door? What's the score..?

SEASPRAY All right, you salty sea-dogs. Let's heave-ho and head back to the Ark for some... SPIKE

Uh, Seaspray? I think we've got trouble!

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Carly and Spike (carrying Blaster's boom-box-mode) RUSH towards Seaspray's cabin as the tidal wave approaches.

SEASPRAY Quick! Get inside and batten down the hatches!

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE SEASPRAY'S CABIN.

Carly and Spike gaze through Seaspray's WINDOWS as the WALL OF WATER begins to crash down upon them.

CARLY

Uh-oh.

SPIKE Uh, Seaspray? Any ideas?

SEASPRAY (from his cabin's control panel) Don't worry, my little buccaneers, I've got a few tricks up my sleeve.

PANEL 3:

EXT. 300 MILES OFF THE COAST - DAY.

Seaspray DIVES into the watery depths at the base of the tidal wave, submerging like a SUBMARINE.

SEASPRAY We'll avoid Davy Jones' locker yet!

PANEL 4:

EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY.

Seaspray GLIDES through the water as a SUBMERGIBLE CRAFT, leaving a hefty slew of bubbles trailing behind. Both Carly and Spike look out through the cabin's windows.

CARLY Where did that come from? Tidal waves don't just appear out of nowhere!

PANEL 5:

INT. INSIDE SEASPRAY'S CABIN.

With the ocean all around them outside, Carly turns to Spike with concern as Blaster relays an ominous set of voices through the speakers on Seaspray's CONTROL PANEL.

> BLASTER Hold onto your hats, while I connect to Seaspray's sonar detection system.

> SWINDLE (through Blaster's left speaker) What're you tryin' to do, Starscream? That blast nearly killed us!

STARSCREAM (through Blaster's right speaker) Oh, pipe down, Swindle. It's all part of the plan.

CARLY

Swindle?

SPIKE Starscream?

PANEL 6:

Spike and Carly SEATBELT themselves into the CHAIRS within Seaspray's cabin.

BLASTER

Decepticons? What're they doin' all the way out in the middle of the ocean?

SEASPRAY Who knows, matey? But whatever it is, we can't give 'em no quarter. CARLY You're right. We've got to stop them!

SPIKE Full steam ahead, Seaspray!

PANEL 7:

EXT. 300 MILES OFF THE COAST - DAY.

A SMALL INSERT PANEL - Seaspray LEAPS out of the water to continue above the surface, SPEEDING towards the HORIZON.

SEASPRAY

Yo-ho!

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE OCEAN FLOOR - DARK.

Starscream, Swindle and Blast Off STEP BACK, as the luminous talisman floats between them on its own accord.

What looks like the beginnings of a PORTAL (not dissimilar to the one Starscream and Skyfire opened back on Cybertron) SPARKS TO LIFE, emanating from the mysterious amulet.

While Blast Off seems ENTHRALLED, Swindle is DISTRACTED by something high above him, now looking through a BINOCULAR-LIKE VISOR that has dropped down over his regular optics.

BLAST OFF Is it supposed to do that?

STARSCREAM (elated) This is it! It's happening! It's happening!

SWINDLE Huh? Wait, what's that?

PANEL 2:

SWINDLE'S P.O.V. - Looking up towards the surface through his DIGITIZED, RED VISION, Swindle can see the BOTTOM HULL of Seaspray's hovercraft-mode arriving at the pontoon.

SWINDLE (CONT'D) (off-panel) An Autobot? Starscream, we got trouble!

PANEL 3:

FROM ABOVE - The portal GROWS LARGER as Starscream orders the others into action. He POINTS towards the surface as Blast Off (now in shuttle-mode) JETS up and towards the foreground, DRAGGING Swindle along with him like an oversized PILOT FISH.

STARSCREAM Then take care of it! After all, you **are** Combaticons, aren't you?

BLAST OFF Consider it done, Starscream. That Autobot shall soon rue the day he dare decided to...

SWINDLE Yeah-yeah, let's just go, already!

PANEL 4:

EXT. THE PONTOON - DAY.

As Spike and Carly step out of Seaspray's cabin to set foot on the pontoon, Blaster TRANSFORMS to robot-mode to join them.

> BLASTER C'mon, Seaspray! I'm picking up all **kinds** of funky audio readings from down below.

> SEASPRAY Take it easy, Blaster. We'll get to the **bottom** of this, ha-ha...

PANEL 5:

Blast Off ERUPTS from the waves like a GREAT WHITE SHARK attacking a hapless seal, UPENDING Seaspray and sending the much-smaller hovercraft hurtling away from the Decepticon's powerful shuttle-mode.

SEASPRAY (CONT'D) ... Haaaaghhhh?!

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE PONTOON - DAY.

Seaspray (now in robot-mode) lays DAZED on the pontoon. Both Spike and Carly stand beside him, trying to rouse their Autobot friend into action.

In the background, Blaster is WRESTLING with Blast Off (both in robot-mode), while Swindle SNEAKS UP BEHIND the smaller trio of Spike, Carly and Seaspray.

SPIKE Seaspray, are you all right?

SEASPRAY Ugh. Don't worry about me. I'm not sharkticon bait yet.

PANEL 2:

Spike and Carly DIVE towards either edge of the panel as Seaspray SITS UP to BLAST Swindle with a set of TWIN LASER PISTOLS.

> SEASPRAY (CONT'D) Ha-ha! Avast, ye matey! I'll make you walk the plank yet, Swindle!

SWINDLE Ow! You nautical nitwit!

PANEL 3:

Blast Off PUNCHES Blaster across the face.

BLAST OFF Take this, you loudmouthed buffoon!

BLASTER Yow! Not cool, dude! Not cool!

PANEL 4:

Blaster now lays at Blast Off's feet; however, instead of finishing off his opponent, Blast Off TURNS to look back at Seaspray, who is PEPPERING him with ineffective laser blasts.

BLAST OFF Those pitiful little guns may have taken down Swindle, but your blasts cannot pierce **my** admirable armor. SEASPRAY Aye, maybe not. But **his** will.

PANEL 5:

Blast Off LOOKS BACK to see Blaster now LIFTING his own MUCH LARGER and MORE POWERFUL RIFLE into view.

BLAST OFF

Oh, dear.

PANEL 6:

Blaster FIRES his GUN, knocking Blast Off away from the pontoon with a FULL-FORCE energy assault to the chest.

SEASPRAY Blow the man down, Blaster!

BLASTER

Roger that!

BLAST OFF

Ughhh!

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE OCEAN FLOOR - DARK.

Now ILLUMINATED by the portal, Starscream stands with his arms raised in TRIUMPH as a GIANT HAND emerges from the dazzling, inter-dimensional gateway.

STARSCREAM

At last!

PANEL 2:

EXT. THE PONTOON - DAY.

Swindle lies BEATEN on the pontoon, while an UNCONSCIOUS Blast Off floats upon the surface of the water, SMOKE RISING from his chest.

ELATED, Seaspray stands with Spike as Blaster looks back to check the condition of Blast Off. Meanwhile, Carly is CAUTIOUSLY looking over the side of the pontoon and into the water.

SEASPRAY Ha-Ha! We did it! We showed those no-good knaves!

CARLY But, where's Starscream?

PANEL 3:

LOOKING UP - Blaster towers over Seaspray as he stands behind the mini-bot, joining a NOW-FRIGHTENED Carly to also peer over the edge of the pontoon.

BLASTER Carly's right. We can't start jitterbuggin' just yet. We gotta...

CARLY Blaster, wait. What is **THAT**?!

PANEL 4:

OVER SEASPRAY'S SHOULDER - A DEMONIC SILHOUETTE appears to be RISING from the depths.

SEASPRAY (whispered) Shiver me timbers.

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

FULL SPLASH PAGE - The COLOSSAL Piranacon BURSTS FREE of the ocean, now LOOMING over the miniscule pontoon and its FLABBERGASTED Autobot occupants like something from a LOVECRAFTIAN NIGHTMARE.

Much larger than any COMBINER we've ever seen before, Piranacon reaches out like CTHULHU with a DEVILISH hand.

Starscream stands on the beast's left shoulder like a PIRATE'S PARROT, his scheming face BEAMING WITH JOY and wearing the glowing talisman around his neck.

STARSCREAM Behold, puny Autobots! **PIRANACON**! And he's all mine! Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

SPIKE Uh, guys? Whatta we gonna do now?

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SEASPRAY I think we're about to feed the fish!

CAPTION: TO BE CONTINUED...

THE END

We want to thank each and every one of you who took the time to read our script. If you liked what you read here and would like to see more stories in the Transformers G1 cartoon universe, Greig and I would love to keep writing. You could help by contacting SkyBound Entertainment by E-Mail (info@skybound.com) or on Twitter (@SkyBound), 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!