



THE TRANSFORMERS REANIMATED

PROJECT STEADFAST

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THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.
"MINI-BOT MADNESS."

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

FULL SPLASH PAGE - With the ARK in the distance, WHEELJACK stands alongside PROWL, SMOKESCREEN and RATCHET, holding the orb-shaped ADVANCED-COMPUTER-ENHANCER, or ACE for short (last seen in #9 *Down Under Blunders*).

Also in the background stands a SLEW OF MINI-BOTS. To the left, BUMBLEBEE converses with GEARS, BEACHCOMBER and CLIFFJUMPER. On the right, WARPETH, SEASPRAY, HUFFER and WINDCHARGER are grouped together, while BRAUN looks up to see both COSMOS and POWERGLIDE sailing into frame from the sky above.

PROWL

You're sure about this, Wheeljack?
That ACE prototype isn't to be trifled with.

WHEELJACK

Don't worry, Prowl, I've been studying this little wonder ever since you brought it back from Australia.

SMOKESCREEN

Speaking of which... whatever happened to our newest recruit?

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

Smokescreen turns to look at Prowl, who seems less-than-impressed at the sight of an SUV VEHICLE cruising towards them through the surrounding desert. Driving on either side of the SUV are the vehicle-modes of IRONHIDE and OPTIMUS PRIME.

Approaching from the HORIZON, all three vehicles bring with them a RAGING DUST CLOUD.

PROWL

Here he comes now. Got an escort all the way here from Prime, himself.

PANEL 2:

As Optimus Prime and Ironhide TRANSFORM into robot-mode, the SUV TRANSFORMS into OUTBACK, who appears OVERJOYED at seeing the others.

Especially Prowl.

SMOKESCREEN

Outback? Is that you?

OUTBACK

That's me name, mate! Good to meet ya! G'day, Prowl! Long time no see.

PROWL

Long enough, Convi... uh, **Outback**. Are you well?

OUTBACK

Mate, any better and I'd be twins.

PANEL 3:

Outback looks around to see Warpath, Bumblebee and Huffer moving towards him.

OUTBACK (CONT'D)

So what's the dealio? Are all you blokes Autobots, too? 'Cause fair dinkum, if you are, there must deadset be an assembly line of you fellas, eh?

BUMBLEBEE

Yes, Outback, we **are** all Autobots!

HUFFER

Oh, man. When you said he spoke funny, Prowl, I never thought you meant he'd be **this** difficult to understand! Ugh!

WARPATH

Hey, I kinda like it! BOOM! KAPOW!

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime and Ironhide move towards Wheeljack.

WHEELJACK

Optimus, I'm glad you're here. We were just about to get started.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Indeed. Tell me more about this plan to boost our Autobot forces.

IRONHIDE

Yeah, is it gonna help us kick some more Decepticon butt, or what?

PANEL 5:

Optimus Prime LOOKS DOWN at Wheeljack, who is once again holding the ACE in his hands. Ironhide appears CONFUSED.

WHEELJACK

Well, it's fairly simple. I've been studying the ACE prototype and its highly-adaptive nature. Not only does it **boost** the learning power of any computer system we connect it to, but it also **combines** crucial operatin' systems into entirely new elements!

IRONHIDE

Uh, which means?

PANEL 6:

Bumblebee and Cliffjumper stand beside Wheeljack as he continues to explain his plan to Optimus Prime.

WHEELJACK

If we were to use the ACE in the right way, it could combine the **mini-bots** into a new entity and boost their rather... well, weaker power levels.

BUMBLEBEE

We could become a **combiner** ? Like Superior? Or Defensor?

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime seems CONCERNED, although Wheeljack continues to explain. Ratchet stands nearby.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Or **Abominus** . I'm not sure, Wheeljack. What are the odds of something going wrong?

WHEELJACK

Minimal, Optimus. I've run the simulation over a hundred times. And so has Teletraan-1.

RATCHET

He's right. I've looked over any potential medical issues, and the risk factor is minor.

PANEL 2:

FROM ABOVE - Optimus Prime looks down towards Bumblebee, Cliffjumper and Warpath.

OPTIMUS PRIME

I see. Then, the next question is this. Do you all **want** to become a combiner? I cannot make this decision for you. Each and every one of you have to make it for yourself.

BUMBLEBEE

Are you kidding? I've had enough of being a Decepticon punching bag. Sign me up!

CLIFFJUMPER

Yeah, if it's a chance to kick some more Decepticon chassis, then I'm in too. Sounds fun.

WARPATH

It sure does! BAM!

PANEL 3:

Huffer, Brawn and Powerglide offer their own opinions to Bumblebee and Beachcomber.

HUFFER

Hey, it ain't all about **you**, Bumblebee! What if something **does** go wrong? I mean, if Wheeljack says it's okay, it **must** be a lousy invention, right?

BRAWN

And not **all** of us are underpowered. I can handle myself with the best of them. Takes more than one shot to do me in.

POWERGLIDE

And what about our individuality?
I'd hate to lose **this** winning
personality in a sea of mediocrity.
The world would be worse off, for
sure!

BUMBLEBEE

Guys, this is a chance to become
something **greater** than ourselves.
If it helps defeat Megatron, how
can we say no?

BEACHCOMBER

Yeah, and it's all about harmony
and cohesion, baby. Oooh!

PANEL 4:

SPLASH PANEL - FROM BEHIND both Optimus Prime and Wheeljack,
as the squad of ALL TWELVE mini-bots seem to be in (relative)
agreement.

Bumblebee, Cliffjumper, Outback, Warpath and Beachcomber
stand to the front, RAISING FISTS into the air with
ENTHUSIASM.

To their LEFT, Powerglide, Huffer and Gears appear to be in
HESITANT AGREEMENT with them, while on the RIGHT,
Windcharger, Brawn, Seaspray and Cosmos all seem EXCITED.

POWERGLIDE

Okay, what the heck. Let's do this!

GEARS

Sure. Whatever.

BUMBLEBEE

This is it! I can't wait!

SEASPRAY

Yo-ho, Wheeljack. Let's get this
voyage underway!

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

Prowl and Smokescreen stand on either side of Wheeljack, as
he holds the ACE in his hands.

PROWL

I sure hope you know what you're
doing, Wheeljack.

WHEELJACK

Heh. No problem. This is gonna be great. You'll see.

PANEL 2:

BIRD'S EYE VIEW - Wheeljack now stands in the center of a large CIRCLE, formed by the twelve mini-bots. The ACE has begun to GLOW in his hands.

CAPTION: Several minutes later...

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)

Okay, everybody. Try to relax and let the ACE work its magic.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Wheeljack's finger as it presses down on the ACE's ACTIVATION BUTTON.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)

Here... we... go!

PANEL 4:

VIVID ENERGY SHOOTS FORTH from the ACE to strike Windcharger, Huffer, Seaspray and Beachcomber, surrounding them in a BRIGHT-YELLOW HAZE.

HUFFER

Whoa! What the heck, Wheeljack! You never said it'd be yellow!

BEACHCOMBER

Hey, I kinda dig it, baby!

PANEL 5:

The same energy has now surrounded Cosmos, Cliffjumper, Brawn and Warpath.

WARPATH

WHACK! This is gonna be fun! ZING!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

SPLASH PANEL - Wheeljack watches from a distance to see the mini-bots are still surrounded by the ACE's energy, TRANSFORMING into their COMBINER FORM. Each component of this new ENTITY sits hovering in the air, inches away from joining together to form various BODY PARTS.

Windcharger and Huffer have each morphed into a set of FEET and LOWER LEGS. Just above them, Seaspray and Beachcomber now appear as a set of UPPER LEGS, while Cosmos has formed the soon-be-combiner's ABDOMEN and Cliffjumper has become its CHEST.

ARMS have now formed to float either side of the chest. Brawn has become the UPPER LEFT ARM, joined by Gears as its FOREARM and FIST. Likewise, Outback has become the UPPER RIGHT ARM, with Warpath now its FOREARM, his TANK TURRETT also forming a FUSION CANNON-LIKE WEAPON.

WHEELJACK

Wow!

PANEL 2:

Wheeljack holds the ACE towards Powerglide as its yellow energies surround him.

BUMBLEBEE

See you on the other side,
Powerglide.

POWERGLIDE

Ha-Ha! Get ready world. You're
about to see the most magnificent
combiner ever created, all thanks
to yours truly!

PANEL 3:

Powerglide TRANSFORMS into jet-mode and ROARS into the sky, while Bumblebee is finally CONSUMED by Wheeljack's ACE-INDUCED ray.

POWERGLIDE (CONT'D)

And awaa-aa-aay we go!

BUMBLEBEE

Whoa! I can feel it. I can feel the
POWER!

WHEELJACK

Easy, pal. Easy.

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

Powerglide ZOOMS into frame to attach to the HEADLESS combiner's back, forming an ANGELIC set of WINGS, as Bumblebee LIFTS off the ground, TRANSFORMING into a BOX-LIKE SHAPE.

BUMBLEBEE
Wheeljack? Is this..?

WHEELJACK
You're okay, kid.

PANEL 2:

Bumblebee has now become the HEAD and FACE of the new combiner, SNAPPING into place to complete his transformation.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)
(off-panel)
Just think of it as being the
brains of the operation.

NOTE: Bumblebee's new form as the combiner's head resembles the face of his G1 toy, complete with mouth-plate and visor.

BUMBLEBEE
Yes! We did it!

PANEL 3:

SMALL, INSERT PANEL - CLOSE ON Wheeljack's face.

WHEELJACK
You sure did, Bumblebee. Behold...

PANEL 4:

SPLASH PANEL - The new mini-bot combiner: STEADFAST, stands in a HEROIC POSE, towering over Wheeljack, Optimus Prime and Prowl. The glow from the ACE has now vanished, yet Wheeljack holds it VICTORIOUSLY over his head.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)
... **STEADFAST!**

PROWL
Unbelievable!

NOTE: Steadfast is larger than the sum of his individual components. He is easily the size of Defensor or Superior, but not as large as Omega Supreme.

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A SOLAR POWER PLANT, OUTSIDE OREGON CITY - DAY.

Standing amidst a sea of SOLAR PANELS, both PERCEPTOR and GRAPPLE gaze upon their creation alongside BLASTER and INFERNO.

OREGON CITY can be seen on the HORIZON.

At the Autobots' feet stands JANE BLACKROCK. While she carries a CLIPBOARD and wears a yellow HARDHAT, she seems PRE-OCCUPIED with something off-panel.

CAPTION: Meanwhile, near Oregon City...

PERCEPTOR

Excellent work, Grapple. This new solar Energon plant is just what we needed.

GRAPPLE

I can't take all the credit, Perceptor. If it wasn't for Ms. Blackrock here, we'd never have been able to...

BLACKROCK

Uh, guys? I think we might be in trouble!

PANEL 2:

In the foreground, Blackrock POINTS into the sky to reveal MEGATRON flying in the distance, accompanied by SOUNDWAVE, ASTROTRAIN and BLITZWING.

BLACKROCK (CONT'D)

DECEPTICONS!

PANEL 3:

Grapple turns to Blaster, who has already TRANSFORMED into his boom-box-mode.

GRAPPLE

Oh, no. Blaster, quick!

BLASTER

Way ahead of you, Grapple, my man. Optimus Prime, do you read me? We've got incoming Decepticons! Requesting **immediate** backup!

PANEL 4:

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

Optimus Prime looks up at Steadfast as he FLEXES his arms like a powerful BODY BUILDER.

In the background, Smokescreen RUSHES towards Optimus Prime, a COMMUNICATOR in his hands.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Incredible! Are you all right...
Steadfast?

STEADFAST

All right? Optimus Prime, I feel
fantastic!

SMOKESCREEN

Optimus! It's Blaster! They're in
trouble!

BLASTER

(through the communicator)
Optimus Prime, we need urgent
support at the new Oregon City
solar facility! Megatron and the
Decepticons are ready to tear this
place apart!

PANEL 5:

Optimus Prime again looks up to Steadfast.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Smokescreen, tell Blaster we're on
our way. It's a little early, but
are you ready to test yourself in
the field, Steadfast?

PANEL 6:

FROM ABOVE - STEADFAST ROCKETS INTO THE AIR, leaving Optimus Prime, Ratchet and Wheeljack watching from the ground below.

STEADFAST

I'm more than ready, Optimus! I'll
meet you there!

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A SOLAR POWER PLANT, OUTSIDE OREGON CITY - DAY.

Hiding behind several DAMAGED SOLAR PANELS, Perceptor and Grapple shield Blackrock from harm. Inferno and Blaster return fire towards their off-panel enemies as Decepticon LASER FIRE whizzes through the air.

PERCEPTOR

Did you get through to Prime?

BLASTER

Ten-four, good buddy! They're on their way!

INFERNO

I hope they hurry. We're seriously outgunned here!

PANEL 2:

Megatron stands with Soundwave amid the field of solar panels, many of them now ON FIRE. Beside Megatron, Blitzwing TRANSFORMS into tank-mode.

MEGATRON

These pathetic Autobots can hardly even put up a fight! Blitzwing, end this **now!**

BLITZWING

You got it, Megatron!

PANEL 3:

FROM ABOVE - Megatron turns his head to look up into the sky as a LOOMING SHADOW falls across his face.

MEGATRON

Wait... what is **that?**

PANEL 4:

SPLASH PANEL - Steadfast FALLS from the sky to land before the Decepticons in the classic SUPERHERO POSE. Megatron, Astrotrain and Soundwave STEP BACK with SURPRISE, while Blitzwing has already aimed his tank turret at the new Autobot combiner.

STEADFAST

Hold it, Megatron! Now you've got **me** to contend with!

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

Steadfast SWINGS Blitzwing by his tank turret into Astrotrain, taking them both out with one mighty blow.

STEADFAST (CONT'D)
Uh-uh! Not today, Triple-Jerks!

BLITZWING
Ughh!

PANEL 2:

Steadfast PUNTS Soundwave into the distance.

STEADFAST
You can't kick **us** around anymore!

PANEL 3:

FROM BEHIND Megatron as Steadfast TOWERS over him.

STEADFAST (CONT'D)
And you're next, Megatron!

MEGATRON
I don't think so, fool. You may be powerful... but I am **MEGATRON!**

PANEL 4:

Megatron looks back over his shoulder to see the vehicle-modes of Optimus Prime, Smokescreen, Prowl and Ironhide moving in from the HORIZON.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
More Autobots?

PANEL 5:

Steadfast watches as Megatron, Soundwave, Blitzwing and Astrotrain FLEE into the sky.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
This isn't over, Autobot. We will meet again!

STEADFAST
Count on it!

PANEL 6:

Standing with Optimus Prime, Blackrock LOOKS UP at Steadfast. Behind them, Inferno is DOUSING the flames with his fire-truck-mode.

BLACKROCK

Optimus, who is **this**? He **saved** my solar power facility!

OPTIMUS PRIME

This is Steadfast, Ms. Blackrock. Our newest warrior in the fight against the Decepticons.

BLACKROCK

Well, whatever your name is... thank you! Thank you very much!

STEADFAST

You're welcome, Ms. Blackrock. Glad I could help.

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE TEMPORARY DECEPTICON BASE - DAY.

The DECEPTICON BASE (shaped like a massive faction symbol) sits wedged into its rocky, mountain home.

CAPTION: Several hours later...

STEADFAST

(captioned)

I only wish that was the **last** we'll see of the Decepticons.

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE DECEPTION BASE, MAIN COMMAND CENTER.

Megatron FURIOUSLY holds Blitzwing BY THE THROAT, dangling him off the floor while Astrotrain NERVOUSLY looks on.

MEGATRON

Who was that Autobot? How could he embarrass us like that? I want answers!

PANEL 3:

Megatron DROPS Blitzwing to the floor, as Soundwave turns back from the nearby SUPERCOMPUTER and its image of Steadfast.

SOUNDWAVE

Megatron, battleground analysis complete. New Autobot identity discovered.

MEGATRON

What? Who is he?

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON the computer screen. It has been divided into a GRID, split into twelve separate squares, each displaying the face of the Autobot mini-bots: Bumblebee, Brawn, Huffer, Cliffjumper, Powerglide, Beachcomber, Outback, Warpath, Windcharger, Gears, Cosmos and Seaspray.

Megatron and Soundwave's shoulders appear on the far left and far right of the panel, respectively.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Mini-bots? That new warrior is made up of pathetic little Autobot minions?

SOUNDWAVE

It seems the Autobots have improved their combiner technology.

PANEL 5:

Megatron points at Soundwave, who ejects LASERBEAK from his CHEST COMPARTMENT.

MEGATRON

Then I want that technology for the Decepticons! Soundwave, send Laserbeak to scout the Autobot Ark for Intel!

SOUNDWAVE

As you command, Megatron.

PANEL 6:

EXT. THE SKIES OVER THE TEMPORARY DECEPTICON BASE - DAY.

Laserbeak SOARS into the air, on course towards the HORIZON.

MEGATRON
(captioned)
Find this technology, Laserbeak,
and bring it me!

LASERBEAK
SQWARRRRRRK!!!

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

Wheeljack and Ratchet look on as Gears, Bumblebee and Huffer stand before TELETRAAN-1, celebrating their victory. Off to the side, both Beachcomber and Powerglide appear LESS THAN SATISFIED.

GEARS
Wow, that was the most amazing
thing ever! I can't believe how
exciting that was!

HUFFER
Yeah, it was groovy, baby. Wow!

BUMBLEBEE
BLAM! I'll say! KA-ZAM! Did you see
the look on Megatron's face? ZORCH!

POWERGLIDE
It wasn't **that** great.

BEACHCOMBER
Yeah, exactly. I'm just surprised
one of Wheeljack's inventions
actually worked for once.

PANEL 2:

Ratchet and Wheeljack turn to one another.

RATCHET
Uh, do they sound a little strange
to you?

WHEELJACK
I was just gonna say the same
thing.

PANEL 3:

Wheeljack approaches Beachcomber and Bumblebee.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)
Are you guys okay? You sound...
different.

BEACHCOMBER
Oh, here we go. Looking for some
credit or a pat on the back,
Wheeljack?

BUMBLEBEE
WHAM! I'm fine, Wheeljack. ZING!
Why do you ask?

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Wheeljack's face. Over his shoulder, Ratchet is
conversing with Seaspray and Cliffjumper.

WHEELJACK
Seriously? Listen to yourselves!
Gears, you're as excitable as
Bumblebee. Beachcomber, you're
complaining on a Huffer-like level,
and Bee, you've picked up all of
Warpath's crazy verbal ticks.

SEASPRAY
Mate, I dunno what you think's
goin' on. They all sound pretty
Bonza to me.

CLIFFJUMPER
Yo-ho! He's right! I think you've
been cooped up in here too long,
land-lubber!

RATCHET
Seaspray? Since when did you have
Outback's accent? And Cliffjumper,
are you gargling marbles?

PANEL 5:

Ratchet and Wheeljack turn to one another again.

RATCHET (CONT'D)
Uh-oh.

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

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

CAPTION: The following day...

WIDE SHOT - With several mini-bots (Brawn, Powerglide, Warpath and Bumblebee) LINED UP in the background, Ratchet and Wheeljack explain things to Optimus Prime.

RATCHET

As you can see, Prime. Merging together has affected the mini-bots' personalities.

OPTIMUS PRIME

A mind swap?

WHEELJACK

Not quite. It's more like each of their little idiosyncrasies have bled-over to re-route their individuality.

BRAWN

Not me! I've always been a dazzling daredevil! The galaxy's greatest adventurer! Hey-hey!

POWERGLIDE

Oh, pipe down, loudmouth. No one wants to hear it.

WARPATH

I don't know how it happened, but this makes me so **mad!** I just wanna bust some Decepticon heads!

BUMBLEBEE

KLUNK! POW!

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Yes, I see. Brawn **does** seem a little more... Powerglide-ish. And Powerglide, himself seems even grumpier than Gears. Not to mention how Warpath is **definitely** now feisty like Cliffjumper.

PANEL 3:

FROM HIGH ABOVE - As Optimus Prime talks with Wheeljack and Ratchet far below on the ground, in the foreground of the frame, Laserbeak CRUISES towards the peak of Mount St. Hilary's VOLCANO.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

What can be done about this? We have to find a way to return them to normal.

WHEELJACK

Already on it, Optimus. Right now, the ACE prototype is connected to the computer in my workshop.

RATCHET

We should have the answers we need within a couple of astro-hours.

PANEL 4:

INT. INSIDE THE VOLCANO.

Laserbeak GLIDES down into the mountain.

PANEL 5:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

Laserbeak FLIES through the empty Ark.

PANEL 6:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, WHEELJACK'S WORKSHOP.

Laserbeak ZOOMS into the LABORATORY to see the ACE prototype connected to another of Wheeljack's many computer terminals.

PANEL 7:

EXT. HIGH ABOVE MT. SAINT HILARY - DAY.

With the ACE prototype now SECURED in his TALONS, Laserbeak FLEES the mountain volcano and sails HIGH into the sky.

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. INSIDE THE DECEPTION BASE, MAIN COMMAND CENTER.

Megatron now holds the ACE prototype in his hand, SMILING with a WICKED GRIN. Behind him, Laserbeak rests on Soundwave's arm, while both RUNABOUT and RUNAMUCK stand nearby.

MEGATRON
Excellent, Laserbeak. I knew you wouldn't fail me.

RUNAMUCK
Uh, be careful with that, Megatron.

RUNABOUT
Yeah, it tends to cause all kinda trouble.

PANEL 2:

Megatron turns to find BOMBSHELL has entered the command center through its TWIN DOORS.

MEGATRON
Nonsense. Now that **I** hold this weapon, we shall use it to defeat the Autobots at their own game.

BOMBSHELL
You called for me, Megatron?

PANEL 3:

Megatron hands the ACE to Bombshell.

MEGATRON
Yes, Bombshell. I require your devious mind. Take this Autobot mechanism. Study its power and create a new warrior even greater than that sanctimonious Steadfast.

PANEL 4:

Bombshell stands before Megatron with Runamuck and Runabout behind him.

BOMBSHELL
Create a new warrior? From what?

MEGATRON
From our forces, of course! Any Decepticon that refuses will answer to me.

(MORE)

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

And Runamuck and Runabout have already volunteered. Isn't that right?

PANEL 5:

Runabout and Runamuck turn to one another.

RUNAMUCK

Uh, yeah. Of course.

RUNABOUT

Yeah. Wonderful.

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

Standing before Teletraan-1, Optimus Prime, Ratchet, Bumblebee and Seaspray turn to see Wheeljack CHARGING into the room. He is PANICKED.

WHEELJACK

Optimus Prime! Optimus Prime! It's gone!

SEASPRAY

Mate, what's the commotion? You seem crankier than a cut snake.

BUMBLEBEE

Yeah, Wheeljack. BOOM! What's the matter? BANG!

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Wheeljack.

WHEELJACK

It's the ACE! It's gone! I can't find it anywhere!

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime attempts to calm Wheeljack. Behind them, Ratchet notices Teletraan-1 LIGHT UP with the word: WARNING, plastered all over its DATA SCREEN.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Slow down, Wheeljack. We'll get to the bottom of this.

RATCHET

Uh, Prime? I think it's going to have to wait.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Teletraan-1's data screen. Megatron appears to have returned to the Blackrock solar power facility.

RATCHET (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

It's Megatron! He's returned to the solar power facility.

PANEL 5:

Gears, Bumblebee, Huffer and Powerglide all look up at Optimus Prime.

GEARS

Well, whatta we waiting for? Let's go get him! C'mon, guys!

BUMBLEBEE

I agree! BLAMMO!

OPTIMUS PRIME

No, not right now. Until you're all back to normal, the other Autobots and I will deal with Megatron.

HUFFER

Like, wow... maybe we could just relax a little, oooh.

POWERGLIDE

Yeah. You're probably right. I'd only get in the way. *sigh*

PANEL 6:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE AUTOBOT ARK - DAY.

Optimus Prime, Smokescreen, Prowl, Ironhide and Wheeljack (now all in their vehicle-modes) drive out of the Ark.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Autobots, **ROLL OUT!**

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A SOLAR POWER PLANT, OUTSIDE OREGON CITY - DAY.

Megatron watches as RUMBLE and FRENZY stand filling ENERCON CUBES from the facility's solar panels.

MEGATRON
Excellent. Rumble, Frenzy, continue
your Energon collection.

PANEL 2:

Megatron turns his head with a smile, as the sounds of MOTOR ENGINES echo across the land.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Ha! Predictable as usual, Optimus
Prime. But this time, your heroics
will lead to your doom.

PANEL 3:

With the vehicle-modes of Prowl and Ironhide behind him, Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to confront Megatron. Beside them, Wheeljack also TRANSFORMS to NERVOUSLY POINT up at the sky.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)
Welcome, Optimus Prime. Welcome to
your ultimate demise.

OPTIMUS PRIME
I don't think so, Megatron.
Whatever you're up to, it ends **now**.

WHEELJACK
Uh, Prime? Look!

PANEL 4:

SPLASH PANEL - Megatron GLOATS in the background, as his newest warrior: INFESTUS, lands between he and Optimus Prime. Like Steadfast before him, Infestus is also a LARGE COMBINER, constructed from several Decepticons.

Runamuck and Runabout form his FEET with THRUST and DIRGE as his legs. Infestus's BODY and CHEST is comprised primarily of RAMJET and Soundwave, while both Astrotrain and Blitzwing have become the warrior's UPPER ARMS.

KICKBACK and SHRAPNEL form its FOREARMS. Finally, Bombshell has become the HEAD, giving Infestus an INSECTOID-LOOKING FACE.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Megatron, what have you done?

MEGATRON

I've created the ultimate warrior,
Prime. **INFESTUS!**

NOTE: Like Steadfast, Infestus is also larger than the sum of his parts. Although, being that he is made from larger Transformers than the mini-bots, Infestus is easily the size of Omega Supreme.

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Infestus SWINGS a DOUBLE-AXE-HANDLE into the ground, as Optimus Prime narrowly avoids the assault.

INFESTUS

RRRRRAAAAAAAGHHHH! Crush... Prime!

OPTIMUS PRIME

You'll have to do better than that!
Autobots, return fire!

PANEL 2:

FROM ABOVE - Smokescreen, Prowl and Ironhide OPEN FIRE up towards an off-panel Infestus.

IRONHIDE

Yeah, you don't need ta tell us
twice. Let him have it, fellas!

PANEL 3:

Infestus stands IMPERVIOUS to the LASER FIRE shot at him by Ironhide, Prowl and Smokescreen, as the Decepticon beast REACHES for Wheeljack.

IRONHIDE (CONT'D)

What the heck?

PROWL

Our weapons have no effect on it!

WHEELJACK

Uh-oh. Oh, no!

PANEL 4:

Infestus raises Wheeljack into the air, high above his head, seemingly ready to hurl him towards Prowl, Smokescreen and Ironhide, all of whom continue to helplessly fire their weapons at their enemy.

WHEELJACK (CONT'D)
Hey! Put me down, you mechanical-
monstrosity!

PROWL
Hold on, Wheeljack!

PANEL 5:

Infestus indeed HURLS Wheeljack to the ground, colliding with Smokescreen, Prowl and Ironhide as though the Autobot inventor were nothing more than a STRAY BASEBALL.

WHEELJACK
Hey!

PROWL
Watch out!

IRONHIDE
Why you, overgrown...

INFESTUS
Bah-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

PANEL 6:

Looking up at the monstrous combiner that towers above him, Optimus Prime CONFRONTS Infestus, who GRINS through INSECTICON TEETH.

OPTIMUS PRIME
That's enough! It is time to end
this violent crusade, right now!

INFESTUS
Ha-Ha-Ha! You can **try**, Optimus
Prime.

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. THE AUTOBOT ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM.

SPLASH PANEL - Several mini-bots: Huffer, Bumblebee, Seaspray, Brawn and Powerglide, stand in front of Teletraan-1.

They watch its screen as Infestus holds Optimus Prime over his head, ready to TEAR HIM IN TWO.

BUMBLEBEE

Uh-oh, CRACK! That thing has
overpowered Optimus Prime! BONZO!

HUFFER

Hey... like, that's not cool, man.
Not cool at all.

SEASPRAY

Mates, we gotta do somethin', eh?
We can't just sit around here like
a pack o' drongos! We need to save
Prime!

BRAWN

Seaspray's right! And I, being the
brave and impressive daredevil I
am, can lead us to victory!

POWERGLIDE

Yeah. Whatever. We'll probably mess
this up too. *sigh*

PANEL 2:

Beachcomber stands with Cliffjumper and Gears.

BEACHCOMBER

I don't like this idea. Last time
we got all mixed up! What happens
if something even **worse** happens
this time? Ugh, it's hopeless! This
is all Wheeljack's fault.

CLIFFJUMPER

Don't be a naysayer, my little
buccaneer! I say we swab the poop-
deck and cast off to adventure!

GEARS

Yeah! C'mon, everyone! This is our
chance to be heroes once again! We
have to do **something!**

PANEL 3:

Bumblebee stands surrounded by Powerglide, Gears, Outback and
Cosmos, as each of them once again GLOW with their COMBINER-
ENERGIES.

BUMBLEBEE

That's the spirit! KAZOWY! Let's do
this!

PANEL 4:

EXT. HIGH ABOVE MOUNT ST. HILARY - DAY.

SPLASH PANEL - Steadfast FLIES FREE of the Ark's volcano, rapidly ascending into the sky.

STEADFAST
Hold on, Optimus! Help is on the way!

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. A SOLAR POWER PLANT, OUTSIDE OREGON CITY - DAY.

Infestus STANDS OVER the beaten forms of Optimus Prime, Smokescreen and Ironhide. Although Optimus Prime has managed to LIFT his chest from the ground, like the others, it is obvious he has sustained HEAVY DAMAGE.

Megatron HOVERS in the air beside Infestus, pointing at Optimus Prime in TRIUMPH with one hand, while holding the ACE in the other.

MEGATRON
Ha-Ha-Ha! How does it feel to be humbled, Optimus Prime? How does it feel to know that the Autobots are **finished?**

STEADFAST
(off-panel)
Hey, we're not finished yet!

PANEL 2:

Steadfast returns to PUNCH Megatron to the ground as Infestus moves into a FIGHTING STANCE.

MEGATRON
What? You again? Gaaaagh!

PANEL 3:

Infestus drops a vicious HAYMAKER into Steadfast's GUT.

INFESTUS
No more Autobots! Make you gone!

STEADFAST

Oooof!

PANEL 4:

With both hands CLASPED TOGETHER, Infestus lifts them into Steadfast's CHIN, knocking him OFF HIS FEET.

INFESTUS

Destroy you!

PANEL 5:

Infestus is now CROUCHED over Steadfast, his Insecticon-hands TIGHTENING around the Autobot's THROAT. Over Infestus's shoulder, Megatron can be seen SITTING UP, but LAUGHING MANIACALLY in the distance.

INFESTUS (CONT'D)

No... more... Autobots!

STEADFAST

Ughhhh! He's... too powerful!
Can't... fight back! Unless...

PANEL 6:

STEADFAST'S P.O.V. - Looking down the barrel of his "Arm-Mounted-Warpath-Tank-Turret-Fusion-Cannon", Steadfast LINES UP Megatron (now on one knee, yet still holding the ACE) in its SIGHTS.

STEADFAST (CONT'D)

This might be our only chance!

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

In the background, still under-siege from Infestus, Steadfast FIRES towards the foreground to BLAST Megatron and the ACE.

MEGATRON

Aaaagh!

PANEL 2:

Megatron DIVES TO SAFETY as the ACE EXPLODES.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

No! Curse you, Autobot! What have you done?!

PANEL 3:

Both Steadfast and Infestus are now CONSUMED by a vivid, YELLOW GLOW, as they are SEPARATED by an UNSEEN FORCE.

INFESTUS
Destroy... huh?

STEADFAST
Whoa!

PANEL 4:

OVER OPTIMUS PRIME'S SHOULDER - Steadfast is gone. All that remains are several mini-bots: Bumblebee, Gears, Windcharger and Beachcomber - each of whom appear DAZED and CONFUSED (especially Beachcomber).

OPTIMUS PRIME
You did it, Steadfast! Wait...
what's happened?

BUMBLEBEE
Uuughhh.

PANEL 5:

OVER MEGATRON'S SHOULDER - Like Steadfast, Infestus is also gone, replaced by the BATTERED unit of Blitzwing, Thrust, Bombshell and Soundwave.

BLITZWING
Ugh, what happened?

SOUNDWAVE
Stabilization was lost. We have
returned to normal.

MEGATRON
No. It cannot be. Decepticons,
follow me!

PANEL 6:

Optimus Prime, Prowl, Smokescreen and Ironhide CHASE OFF Megatron and several other Decepticons with laser fire as they FLY towards the HORIZON.

PROWL
The Decepticons are retreating!
Keep firing!

SMOKESCREEN
Yeah! And it's all thanks to
Steadfast and the mini-bots!

IRONHIDE

Ha-Ha! Who'd a thunk it? The little
guys did it!

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

Wheeljack helps Bumblebee to his feet, while Warpath and
Beachcomber stand nearby.

WHEELJACK

Are you okay, little buddy?

BUMBLEBEE

Yeah, I think so, Wheeljack. Just
got the wind knocked out of me
there.

BEACHCOMBER

Hey, you sound like yourself again,
baby. Oh, wow! Like, so do I!

WARPATH

POW! Me too! TH-WACK!

PANEL 2:

Ironhide SCRATCHES HIS HEAD, while Powerglide EXCITEDLY turns
to Gears, Huffer and Outback.

POWERGLIDE

Hey-hey! No need to be down, guys!
Everyone's favorite Powerglide is
back!

GEARS

Oh. Wonderful.

HUFFER

Oh, for cryin' out loud! Why do
these things keep happening to **me**?

IRONHIDE

Huh. Mergin' back into Steadfast
musta **undone** the weird mind-meld
you guys had goin' on there for a
while.

OUTBACK

Ha. Bonza, mate. Bonza.

PANEL 3:

Bumblebee and Prowl look up at Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Yes. And destroying the ACE seems to have undone its **other** creation. Infestus is no more. But, it would seem... that neither is Steadfast.

PROWL

You mean, the mini-bots can **never** combine ever again?

BUMBLEBEE

That's okay. As fun as it was, I don't know if we're all cut out to be **one** massive bot after all.

PANEL 4:

Brawn, Cliffjumper, Seaspray and Windcharger stand IN SOLIDARITY with Bumblebee.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

But, hey. We're still a team, right?

BRAWN

You bet, pal. We'll be ready to stop Megatron, no matter what his next scheme is.

SEASPRAY

Big **or** small!

PANEL 5:

SPLASH PANEL - Optimus Prime watches in the distance as Powerglide leads the team of mini-bots into the foreground. Together, they RACE AWAY in their TRANSFORMED, vehicle-modes.

With Cosmos, Powerglide zooms over the top of Bumblebee, Cliffjumper, Brawn and Beachcomber in the center of the panel, while Outback, Gears and Huffer are positioned a little further back and to the RIGHT.

On the LEFT, bringing up the rear, are Seaspray, Windcharger and Warpath.

With one large, COMBINED SPEECH BUBBLE, the mini-bots shout...

ALL MINI-BOTS

And awa-aaa-ay we go!

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!