

THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED. "A REAL AMERICAN HERO."

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. G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - DAY.

WIDE SHOT - DEATHCOBRA stands in the center of the panel, ARMS FOLDED, with a SMIRK that would make Starscream jealous.

Surrounding him at his feet stand CLUTCH, GUNG-HO, ROADBLOCK, WILD BILL, BLOWTORCH and LADY JAYE; each of them with WEAPONS DRAWN on the relaxed-looking Transformer.

CAPTION: G.I. JOE Headquarters...

GUNG-HO

All right, does someone want to tell me how we bring this thing down?

ROADBLOCK

We could try missiles?

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Lady Jaye and Clutch, looking up off-panel. Deathcobra's SHADOW falls across them both.

LADY JAYE

That's a great idea, Roadblock. How about you boys keep that... thing right here while I'll go get one. Or a hundred.

CLUTCH

Let me come with you, Lady Jaye. Can't have you carrying one all by yourself now, can we?

PANEL 3:

Roadblock turns to see DUKE and SCARLETT driving into frame in HOUND'S Jeep-mode.

DUKE

Quiet, all of you! You're not helping.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT, FROM BEHIND - Duke steps away from Scarlett and Hound, passing between Wild Bill and Roadblock to face off against Deathcobra.

DUKE (CONT'D)
Let's try diplomacy first.

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

OVER DUKE'S SHOULDER, as he looks up at Deathcobra.

The towering Transformer GLARES down at Duke as though slightly inconvenienced.

DUKE (CONT'D)

Uh, hello. We are G.I. JOE. Who are you? Where do you come from? I know there is much we can learn from each other if we can co-exist.

DEATHCOBRA

Co-exist?

PANEL 2:

SIDE ANGLE - Duke stands fists on hips, opposite Deathcobra, whose intimidating pose towers before the G.I. JOE leader.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

Co-exist with lesser lifeforms? Entering your air space undetected was a **trivial** matter. Your **primitive** radar systems were easily fooled, your weapons have no effect on me, and you want to **co-exist**?

PANEL 3:

Deathcobra stands ARMS OUT, PALMS UP, gesturing to the G.I. JOE base around him.

Duke continues to stand his ground.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

You are funny, flesh-creature. Why should I co-exist with such a technologically-inferior species?

DUKE

Well, for one...

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT - Duke looks back over his shoulder to see Hound TRANSFORMING beside Scarlett.

In the distance, OPTIMUS PRIME, JAZZ, BUMBLEBEE, IRONHIDE, PROWL, WHEELJACK, CLIFFJUMPER and TRACKS drive into frame. They are being welcomed into the base by even more JOEs: THE FRIDGE, SLIP-STREAM, COVER GIRL and BAZOOKA.

DUKE (CONT'D)

... we have some technologically-advanced friends!

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime stands opposite Deathcobra with OPEN ARMS.

Behind him, Ironhide, Prowl and Jazz TRANSFORM to stand with SGT. SLAUGHTER, LAW and ORDER, and ROCK 'N ROLL.

OPTIMUS PRIME

My name is Optimus Prime, leader of the Autobots. We crashed here on Earth millions of years ago with several Deceptions, including their leader, Megatron.

PANEL 2:

SIDE ANGLE - Optimus Prime stands opposite Deathcobra, who remains ARMS FOLDED.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

We remained inactive on this planet until recently, when we, along with the Deceptions, were restored to operational status by our ship's computer. And since that time, we've been involved in a constant battle with Megatron and his forces.

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime POINTS to the Decepticon/Cobra logo on Deathcobra's chest.

Behind Optimus Prime, Hound stands with Duke and Scarlett.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

You bear the Deception logo on your chest. But tell me, friend... were you given a choice? Or did Megatron force it upon you?

DEATHCOBRA

Greetings, Optimus Prime. I... am Deathcobra. And I know only one thing...

PANEL 5:

Deathcobra delivers a MORTAL KOMBAT-STYLE UPPERCUT into Optimus Prime with such force, the Autobot Leader is sent HURTLING BACKWARDS into the air.

In the distance, Hound, Duke and Scarlett share the same HORRIFIED EXPRESSION.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

You talk too much!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Uuugh!

HOUND

Prime!

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

FROM ABOVE - Optimus Prime lays DAZED on his back. Hound KNEELS beside his fallen commander, gripping his arm.

DEATHCOBRA

(off-panel)

Ha-Ha-Ha! And to think, Megatron warned me you would pose a challenge. I'm disappointed. Most disappointed, indeed.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - Deathcobra's face fills the center of the panel, while either side of him in the background, several COBRA AERIAL VEHICLES can be seen, including: VIPER GLIDERS, RATTLERS and one NIGHT RAVEN.

Alongside the Cobra vehicles, flies MEGATRON, as well as BLITZWING, THUNDERCRACKER and SKYWARP (all in jet-modes).

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

And as for the rest of you...

PANEL 3:

Deathcobra POINTS DOWN at Optimus Prime, still being attended to by Hound.

The combined Deception/Cobra forces continue to approach from the background.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

... stand down and surrender, or share this one's fate.

PANEL 4:

FROM BEHIND DUKE - Deathcobra remains CONFIDENT, as Megatron lands beside him with CONCRETE-CRACKING FORCE.

Behind them, Thundercracker, Skywarp and Blitzwing TRANSFORM to land in robot-mode.

THE BARONESS leaps free of Skywarp's cockpit to also land on her feet.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

This is **not** up for negotiation.

DUKE

Good...

PANEL 5:

Duke stands solid alongside Scarlett. Behind them, Hound helps Optimus Prime to sit up.

DUKE (CONT'D)

... Because G.I. JOE doesn't negotiate with terrorists.

SCARLETT

YO JOE!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

Megatron and Deathcobra stand CONFIDENTLY, while The Baroness stands in the foreground.

THE BARONESS

Defiant, aren't they, Megatron?

MEGATRON

They are indeed, my dear. But, you should know, humans... defiance will only hasten your termination!

PANEL 2:

Megatron and The Baroness look on as Hound helps a SHAKY Optimus Prime stand.

Duke and Scarlett watch from near Hound's feet.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

This is your final opportunity to surrender and spare your worthless lives... as short as they may be.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Megatron...

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Megatron and his BORED EXPRESSION.

MEGATRON

Oh, please. Spare me your righteous dribble, Prime.

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime catches Megatron off-guard by firing his ION-BLASTER into the Deception's shoulder.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

What? No!

PANEL 5:

HERO SHOT - Optimus Prime stands PROUD, his ion-blaster SMOKING from its barrel.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Anything for you, Megatron.

PAGES SIX & SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

DOUBLE SPLASH PAGE - Optimus Prime stands on the left, pointing a COMMANDING FINGER towards the enemies on the right.

At Optimus Prime's feet, Duke, Gung-Ho, Blowtorch and Roadblock CHARGE FORWARD, WEAPONS DRAWN.

Further back, Ironhide, Prowl, Jazz, Hound, Cliffjumper and Bumblebee enter the battle in their vehicle modes.

(Sgt. Slaughter hangs out of Ironhide's van. Law and Order sit up front in Prowl's police-car-mode, while The Fridge rides inside of Cliffjumper.

Rock 'n Roll rides with Jazz, Scarlett sits behind the wheel of Hound's Jeep-mode and Lady Jaye is driving Bumblebee.)

Tracks has launched his flying-car-mode into the air, with Bazooka and Slip-Stream as passengers.

In the background, amid the G.I. JOE Command Center, various vehicles appear beside Wheeljack and Cover Girl, including: an APC (AMPHIBIOUS PERSONNEL CARRIER), THE WOLVERINE (ARMORED MISSILE VEHICLE) and several COMBAT JET SKYSTRIKERS (XP-14F).

On the right, Deathcobra STANDS READY, as Megatron remains SLUMPED TO THE GROUND.

The Baroness jumps into Skywarp's jet-mode cockpit, while behind them, Thundercracker and Blitzwing TRANSFORM to their own alt-modes to ROCKET into the sky to join the Cobra aerial forces.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

Autobots, attack!

DUKE

YO JOE!

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime lifts his ion-blaster towards Megatron, as the Deception scrambles to his knees.

Megatron CLUTCHES at his SMOKING SHOULDER WOUND.

OPTIMUS PRIME

This doesn't need to go any further, Megatron. Stand down!

MEGATRON

Oh, how I tire of your heroic nonsense, Prime. Defeating you today will be so satisfying. I can almost taste victory.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to truck-mode to speed towards and SLAM into Megatron.

But, Megatron wraps his hands around Optimus Prime's cab.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Just remember, you made me do this.

MEGATRON

Uughh... Come now, Optimus...

PANEL 3:

Megatron ROLLS, using his legs to FLING Optimus Prime's cab high above him.

Optimus Prime begins to TRANSFORM in mid-air.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

... This is almost too easy!

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Megatron. He turns to watch as Optimus Prime LANDS ON HIS FEET behind him.

OPTIMUS PRIME

You haven't won yet, Megatron.

MEGATRON

No, not yet...

PANEL 5:

Megatron BACKFLIPS to TRANSFORM to gun-mode, landing in the hands of the smiling Deathcobra.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Deathcobra! Finish him off!

PANEL 6:

Once again, Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to truck-mode, speeding towards Deathcobra.

But using Megatron as a weapon, Deathcobra is able to BLAST Optimus Prime's FRONT-RIGHT TIRE, OBLITERATING it completely.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Huurgh!

DEATHCOBRA

Heh.

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

Scarlett pulls up in Hound to allow Duke to jump into the vehicle.

In the distant sky, the Cobra aerial forces close in on the base.

CAPTION: Meanwhile...

SCARLETT

This is pretty intense, Duke! What do we do?

DUKE

We've got to keep those Cobra troopers from landing in the HQ.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Scarlett. She turns back to someone off-panel, yet POINTS FORWARD WITH AUTHORITY.

SCARLETT

Solider! Focus your fire on the sky! Those troopers must not touchdown on JOE soil!

THUNDER

(off-panel)

You got it.

PANEL 3:

As the Cobra troopers rain down a HAIL OF FIRE, THUNDER, manning a JOE SLUGGER, fires back into the sky with the vehicle's attached MACHINE GUN.

THUNDER (CONT'D)

YO JOE!

PANEL 4:

Jazz shields Rock 'n Roll from harm, while both Sgt. Slaughter and Ironhide FIRE UP towards Skywarp (piloted by The Baroness) as the Deception jet flies by with a BOMBING RAID.

JAZZ

Yowza! This is gettin' a little too uncool, man!

IRONHIDE

Nah, this is just how we like it. Ain't that right, Sarge?

SGT. SLAUGHTER

You said it, big guy. Let's take down this terrorist scum!

PANEL 5:

Lady Jaye continues to drive Bumblebee's VW-mode, DODGING AND WEAVING between several BOMB BLASTS with an S-SHAPE MANEUVER.

BUMBLEBEE

Wow! I think you might be even better behind the wheel then I am, Lady Jaye!

LADY JAYE

Just leave it to me, Bumblebee. We'll win this one yet!

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. ABOVE THE G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - DAY.

STARSCREAM (in jet-mode) ZOOMS into view.

In his cockpit, sits COBRA COMMANDER.

STARSCREAM

Well, I think it's time we made our presence felt. What do you say, Commander?

COBRA COMMANDER

Oh, yesss. Yes, indeed. Night Raven pilot, return fire! We must land immediately!

PANEL 2:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - The Night Raven flies over the JOE airstrip, as its bay doors open to launch a SOLITARY MISSILE.

The vehicle's STRATO-VIPER pilot can be seen speaking into his RADIO.

STRATO-VIPER

Missile lock acquired, Commander. Firing now!

PANEL 3:

EXT. G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - DAY.

Back on the ground, Thunder bails out of his JOE Slugger, avoiding the COMBINED ATTACK by the Night Raven and Starscream.

THUNDER

Whoa! Hit the deck!

PANEL 4:

Thunder begins to lift his face off the ground to notice a pair of BLACK BOOTS before him.

SGT. SLAUGHTER

Pathetic.

THUNDER

Huh? Sarge?

PANEL 5:

FROM BEHIND THUNDER - He looks up to see Sgt. Slaughter before him, standing with Blowtorch and Roadblock.

Behind the JOEs, stands Ironhide.

SGT. SLAUGHTER

On your feet, maggot! Cobra isn't gonna beat themselves up. You gotta fight back!

THUNDER

But, Sarge... there are **giant** robots out here, wrecking each other! Waves of Cobra inbound, and... and a Night Raven! We're outgunned and outmanned!

PANEL 6:

Blowtorch helps Thunder climb into the rear of Ironhide's van-mode, as it PEELS OUT.

Sgt. Slaughter is already behind the wheel.

SGT. SLAUGHTER

I like those odds.

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

Prowl looks over his shoulder to see Deathcobra STALKING Optimus Prime's overturned cab.

Wheeljack stands beside Prowl, looking at some kind of HAND-HELD SCANNING DEVICE.

PROWL

So, what's the situation, Wheeljack? What **is** that thing? It's giving Prime a run for his money.

WHEELJACK

It's life, Prowl. But, not as we know it.

PANEL 2:

Wheeljack continues to explain, as Prowl fires his ACID PELLET GUN at an off-panel target.

Cover Girl and Law stand at Prowl's feet, also firing their firearms at off-panel enemies.

Order BARKS UP A STORM.

PROWL

It's alive?

WHEELJACK

Kinda. Its brain functions are a mix of several artificial intelligence programs. Not to mention, Deathcobra's neural algorithms seem to be a derivation of Megatron's own.

PANEL 3:

Law and Cover Girl look up to speak with Wheeljack, yet only the Autobot's giant foot appears in frame.

LAW

So, does it have any weak spots?

COVER GIRL

Yeah. If it's just a machine, it's gotta have some kind of off switch!

PANEL 4:

Prowl looks on as Wheeljack POINTS to Deathcobra in the distance.

The newly-created robot stands oblivious to the two Autobots, standing with his back to them both.

WHEELJACK

Only one, as far as I can tell. Whatever metals Cobra made him out of, their structural integrity is weakest around a small section of his back.

PROWL

That's it?

WHEELJACK

That's it.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Prowl's face. He seems LESS THAN PLEASED.

PROWL

Wonderful.

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

EXT. ABOVE THE G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - DAY.

The Night Raven ZOOMS over the base, dropping RAVEN BOMBS down onto the airstrip.

Behind the Night Raven, Starscream's jet-mode comes into view.

COBRA COMMANDER

(from Starscream's

cockpit)

Ssssso, what do you think of our Night Raven, Starscream?

STARSCREAM

Not bad for something piloted by flesh-creatures.

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE NIGHT RAVEN'S COCKPIT.

The aircraft's Strato-Viper pilot turns back from his reverse cockpit seat to SHOUT to his partner.

STRATO-VIPER

I don't believe it! Something has a lock on us!

PANEL 3:

EXT. ABOVE THE G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - DAY.

The flying-car-mode of Tracks ROCKETS through the sky. In its cabin, Bazooka looks over at Slip-Stream, who in turn, looks down at the STEERING WHEEL with AMAZEMENT.

SLIP-STREAM

Well, I can't say I've ever flown in a car before!

TRACKS

You should really make a habit of it, my friend. It's the only way to travel.

PANEL 4:

Tracks fires his BLACK BEAM to create a CLOUD OF DARKNESS around the Night Raven.

TRACKS (CONT'D)

Now, watch as I put the night in Night Raven.

PANEL 5:

Enveloped by blackness, the Night Raven begins to SPIRAL OUT OF CONTROL.

STRATO-VIPER

Uh-oh! Mayday! Mayday!

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Bazooka. He leans out of Tracks's passenger side window, aiming a... BAZOOKA of his own.

TRACKS

Over to you, soldier.

BAZOOKA

Easy... easy...

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Bazooka's missile strikes the Night Raven, sending it CAREENING towards the surface.

BAZOOKA (CONT'D)

Gotcha!

PANEL 2:

THREE-QUARTER-VIEW of the plummeting Night Raven.

The cockpit of the plane DROPS OUT from under its body, while simultaneously, a ONE-MAN-DRONE detaches from the rear of the aircraft.

STRATO-VIPER

We're going down! We have to bail out! Eject!

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON the one-man-drone, revealing its pilot is STORM SHADOW.

The Cobra ninja speaks into the cockpit's RADIO.

In the background, two Strato-Vipers PARACHUTE TO SAFETY.

STORM SHADOW

Cobra Commander, the Night Raven is lost. I'm engaging with the hostiles on the ground.

COBRA COMMANDER

(voice from the radio)
Understood. Do not fail me, Storm
Shadow!

PANEL 4:

INT. INSIDE STARSCREAM'S COCKPIT.

Cobra Commander looks out through the cockpit to see Tracks flying nearby with Slip-Stream and Bazooka.

COBRA COMMANDER

Accursed JOEsss. Starscream... Are you ready to show me your Deception aerial prowesss?

STARSCREAM

Oh, mighty Commander...

PANEL 5:

With Cobra Commander still aboard, Starscream's jet-mode CHASES Tracks across the sky, firing NULL RAYS towards the flying Autobot and his JOE passengers.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

... I thought you'd never ask!

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

INT. INSIDE THE DRONE'S COCKPIT.

STORM SHADOW'S P.O.V. - On his computer screen, the ninja can see Ironhide on the ground below, standing beside Sgt. Slaughter as he climbs into his TRIPLE-T-TANK.

The computer's CROSSHAIRS are trained on Sgt. Slaughter.

STORM SHADOW

I have you now.

PANEL 2:

EXT. G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - DAY.

Sgt. Slaughter LEAPS from the Triple-T-Tank, as Storm Shadow's one-man-drone's AERIAL ASSAULT strikes the vehicle.

SGT. SLAUGHTER

Whoa!

PANEL 3:

FROM BEHIND - Sgt. Slaughter stands, fists on hips, looking towards the one-man-drone as it lands.

SGT. SLAUGHTER (CONT'D) Get out here, you snake, and face me like a man!

PANEL 4:

OVER SGT. SLAUGHTER'S SHOUDLER - Storm Shadow SPRINGS FREE of the one-man-drone.

SGT. SLAUGHTER (CONT'D)

Finally.

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - Sgt. Slaughter and Storm Shadow FACE OFF like two western gunslingers.

SGT. SLAUGHTER (CONT'D)

Storm Shadow, huh? Pretty scary name for a grown man wearin' pajamas.

STORM SHADOW

Your jokes can't save you now.

PANEL 6:

Sgt. Slaughter SWINGS A PUNCH towards Storm Shadow, who dodges the blow (like a ninja) and presses his FINGERS just below the Sarge's DOG TAGS.

STORM SHADOW (CONT'D)

Pitiful.

SGT. SLAUGHTER

Huh, what's this?

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Storm Shadow performs a ONE-INCH-PUNCH on Sgt. Slaughter, violently sending him backward to crash against the burning Triple-T-Tank like a RAGDOLL.

SGT. SLAUGHTER (CONT'D)

Hmmmph.

PANEL 2:

Sgt. Slaughter remains still, SLUMPED against the burning Triple-T-Tank, his hat covering his face.

Storm Shadow moves in for the kill, removing his SWORD from its sheath.

STORM SHADOW

Your end comes now, 'Sarge'.

PANEL 3:

HIGH ANGLE, LOOKING DOWN - Storm Shadow looks up. His eyes WIDEN with fear as IRONHIDE'S SHADOW falls across the ninja.

IRONHIDE

(off-panel)

Now, just wait a minute there, pal...

PANEL 4:

FROM BEHIND STORM SHADOW, as the ninja is CONFRONTED by Ironhide's much-larger presence.

IRONHIDE (CONT'D)

Let's see you try those fancy moves on me!

PANEL 5:

Storm Shadow hurls a SMOKE PELLET into the ground, creating a VEIL OF MIST around him.

STORM SHADOW

Another time, robot.

IRONHIDE

(off-panel)

What in the wired world of Cybertron?

PANEL 6:

Ironhide appears FRUSTRATED as the smoke clears.

Storm Shadow is GONE.

At the Autobot's feet, Sgt. Slaughter regains his footing.

IRONHIDE (CONT'D)

That one's even more slippery than that no-good Skywarp!

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

In a DEFENSIVE STANCE, Optimus Prime FIRES his ion-blaster at Deathcobra from the opposite side of the panel.

Deathcobra continues to wield Megatron's gun-mode.

In the background, COBRA ANDROID TROOPERS or B.A.T.(s) can be seen parachuting towards the airstrip, firing LASER WEAPONS at the JOEs: FOOTLOOSE, DUSTY, STALKER and TAURUS.

STALKER

They're penetrated our defenses! Bring 'em down, boys!

PANEL 2:

Deathcobra uses Megatron's gun-mode to BLAST Optimus Prime's rifle from his grasp.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Aaagh!

MEGATRON

Yes, Deathcobra... Excellent, excellent!

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime and Deathcobra stand WRESTLING over control of Megatron's gun-mode.

DEATHCOBRA

You cannot stop me, Prime.

PANEL 4:

Deathcobra LIFTS A KNEE into Optimus Prime's mid-section, hunching him over in pain.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ooof!

DEATHCOBRA

You will be defeated!

PANEL 5:

Deathcobra fires Megatron's gun-mode with a blast that penetrates Optimus Prime's RIGHT SHOULDER, sending SPARKS, FIRE and FLAME shooting forth from the Autobot's mechanical body.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Aaagh, no!

PANEL 6:

Smoke pouring from his shoulder wound, Optimus Prime sits HELPLESS as Deathcobra takes aim once more with Megatron's gun-mode.

DEATHCOBRA

And now it ends.

MEGATRON

Finish him off, Deathcobra . Do it now!

OPTIMUS PRIME

N-No... wait. You... you d-don't have to do this. You don't have to be... one of **them**.

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

PANEL 1:

CLOSE ON Deathcobra's CONFLICTED face.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

It... doesn't have to be like this, Deathcobra. You can still choose. Let me show you... there is another way.

MEGATRON

(off-panel)

No! Destroy him now!

PANEL 2:

Deathcobra points towards Optimus Prime, while simultaneously addressing Megatron in his other hand.

DEATHCOBRA

Enough! Your undying need for peace is a fool's errand, Optimus Prime. And you, Megatron... you and Cobra's thirst for conquest is irrational.

PANEL 3:

Deathcobra TIGHTENS HIS GRIP on Megatron, causing the metals of Megatron's alt-mode to CRACK under the stress.

In the background, Starscream lands on his feet. Further back, Cobra Commander sails safely towards the ground in a parachute.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

This mindless insanity must end. It must be stopped.

MEGATRON

What? No! I command you to release

PANEL 4:

OVER STARSCREAM'S SHOULDER - The Deception Air Commander looks towards the background, where Deathcobra continues to crush Megatron's gun-mode in his grip.

Optimus Prime watches on from the ground.

STARSCREAM

Incredible! If Deathcobra can destroy both Optimus Prime and Megatron, he might make the perfect second-in-command for my new Deception Empire!

PANEL 5:

Deathcobra stands in the foreground, having all-but-pulverized Megatron's gun-mode into scrap.

In the distance, Blitzwing TRANSFORMS from jet-to-robot-to-tank to land beside Starscream and TAKE AIM at Deathcobra.

MEGATRON

N-No... I... am... M-M-Mega...

DEATHCOBRA

I'm sorry. It is the only way.

BLITZWING

Hey, nobody does that to Megatron!

PANEL 6:

WIDE SHOT - The panel is SPLIT into three distinct frames.

On the left, Optimus Prime raises his hand and cries out with DESPAIR.

In the center, Blitzwing's tank turret fires a MIGHTY BLAST.

On the right, Starscream's pose mimics Optimus Prime's, but for entirely different reasons.

OPTIMUS PRIME

No!

BLITZWING

Traitor!

STARSCREAM

No!

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Blitwing's blast strikes the center of Deathcobra's back - the weak point Wheeljack and Prowl discussed earlier.

DEATHCOBRA

Uurk?!

PANEL 2:

REVERSE ANGLE - An EXPLOSION erupts from Deathcobra, obliterating his chest and the once proud Deception/Cobra badge.

He releases Megatron's gun-mode to send it sailing into the air.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

Aaaaargh!

PANEL 3:

Blitzwing (now in robot-mode) kneels down to lift Megatron's shattered alt-mode from the dirt.

Starscream stands in the background, arms folded, pouting like a spoiled child.

MEGATRON

Internal mechanisms... damaged.
Repair systems... faulty. Energon reserves... almost exhausted.
Must... be... reconstructed...

BLITZWING

You got it, boss.

PANEL 4:

Blitzwing tosses Megatron's gun-mode into his cockpit as he TRANSFORMS to jet-mode and takes off into the sky.

Starscream TRANSFORMS to his own jet-mode to follow, while Cobra Commander watches from the ground, SHAKING HIS FIST IN ANGER.

BLITZWING (CONT'D)

Let's get outta here!

STARSCREAM

Blitzwing, you conniving, no-good...

COBRA COMMANDER

Wait, you're leaving? Where are you going? Come back here, you cowardsss!

PANEL 5:

EXT. ABOVE THE G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - SUNSET.

Skywarp and Thundercracker RETREAT in jet-modes towards the HORZON and the SETTING SUN.

The Baroness DRIFTS through the air in her parachute, holding a RADIO to her bespectacled face.

THE BARONESS

The Deceptions are abandoning us, Commander. Without them, we cannot win. We must flee!

COBRA COMMANDER

(voice from the radio)
I fear you are correct, my dear.

PANEL 6:

EXT. G.I. JOE HEADQUARTERS - SUNSET.

WIDE SHOT - Cobra Commander DASHES towards the reader, leading his various troops (including Storm Shadow) into a retreat.

In the background, Cliffjumper and Hound join The Fridge and Roadblock in firing towards the Cobra troops.

COBRA COMMANDER

Retreat! Cobra, retreat!

PANEL 7:

SMALL INSERT PANEL, CLOSE ON Cobra Commander's helmeted face.

COBRA COMMANDER (CONT'D)

But, this is **not** over...

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime kneels beside Deathcobra, whose mid-section and chest are IRREPARABLY DAMAGED.

DARK SMOKE rises from his body. SPARKS shoot from his chest.

In a circle around Optimus Prime and Deathcobra, stand Prowl, Wheeljack, Ironhide, Duke, Sgt. Slaughter and Scarlett.

WHEELJACK

(to Prowl)

It seems Megatron's subroutines worked a little **too** well. Deathcobra inherited Megatron's predilection for treachery and betrayal.

PROWL

But, I'm guessing Megatron didn't expect to be the one being betrayed.

OPTIMUS PRIME

I am sorry, Deathcobra.

DEATHCOBRA

Do not grieve, Optimus Prime. You are the only being to have shown me kindness.

PANEL 2:

Hound now joins the group, looking down as Optimus Prime CRADLES Deathcobra's hand.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

I was constructed out of blind ambition. Built merely as a tool for Megatron and Cobra in their quest for absolute control of this world. A world... I am not long for.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Deathcobra's face.

No longer are his eyes DECEPTICON RED.

Now they are AUTOBOT BLUE.

DEATHCOBRA (CONT'D)

But, I'm free of that now. Now I will know **true** peace. I'm going to a quiet place. A calm place. A p... p... peaceful... place.

PANEL 4:

SPLASH PANEL - Optimus Prime and Deathcobra are surrounded by Hound, The Fridge, Prowl, Wheeljack, Ironhide, Gung-Ho, Roadblock, Bumblebee, Lady Jaye, Sgt. Slaughter, Scarlett and Duke.

Deathcobra's eyes have changed once more, now to a LIFELESS GRAY.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Rest easy, soldier.

BUMBLEBEE

Wow, in the end, he was a hero.

DUKE

Yes. A real American hero...

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE COBRA TERROR DROME - NIGHT.

The fearsome Cobra fortress is bathed in MOONLIGHT.

CAPTION: Sometime later...

PANEL 2:

INT. DESTRO'S LABORATORY.

DESTRO stands before a COMPUTER DATA SCREEN, speaking with the digital image of Cobra Commander, now wearing his HOOD instead of his helmet.

DESTRO

The Deceptions retreated? Where did they go?

COBRA COMMANDER

(from the screen)

Who knowsss? We couldn't track them! What's important, isss...

PANEL 3:

Destro looks to the ceiling as a RUMBLING SOUND echoes throughout the panel.

DESTRO

Wait, what is that?

PANEL 4:

Destro stands FROZEN, arms raised in TERROR as Blitzwing and Starscream TEAR OPEN the walls of his laboratory.

DESTRO (CONT'D)

No! Wait!

STARSCREAM

We wait for no one, flesh-creature!

PANEL 5:

Megatron's gun-mode LEAPS from Blitzwing's hand to TRANSFORM into the DILAPIDATED Deception leader, landing on his hands-and-knees before Destro.

MEGATRON

Destro!

PANEL 6:

CLOSE ON Megatron's battered face.

It is the worst he's ever looked. And the ANGRIEST.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

About that upgrade...

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!