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THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.
"JHIAXUS RETURNS."

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Casey Coller &
John-Paul Bove.

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 CREST OF A ROCKY PEAK, NEAR MOUNT ST. HILARY - DAY

FROM BEHIND - BANZAI-TRON stands on a ledge, overlooking the HORIZON and the AUTOBOT ARK, wedged in its volcanic home.

BANZAI-TRON
All right, all right. Come one, come all. Come in, come on down, come right now. Wherever you are, whoever you are...

PANEL 2:

Banzai-Tron LOOKS UP to see both MINDWIPE and WEIRDWOLF descending towards him from the sky (both in their animal-modes).

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
... time to join the party.

MINDWIPE
Enough of your inane babble, Banzai-Tron. We are here.

WEIRDWOLF
Yes. Come all this way to hear you talk, we did not.

BANZAI-TRON
Ooooh, touché, my animal-alt-mode-myrmidons. Let's just hope **this** mission goes better than the last one, huh?

PANEL 3:

Banzai-Tron raises his palms in SUBMISSION as Mindwipe HOVERS in front of the Action Master with his GLOWING VAMPIRE-BAT EYES.

Weirdwolf TRANSFORMS to robot-mode to watch with a SLY SMILE.

MINDWIPE
That was not out fault, Banzai-Tron. **We** completed **our** part of the information exchange. **We** did an exceptional job. Perhaps, I should persuade you to agree?

BANZAI-TRON
No, I'm good, you batty little mind controller. No need for the theatrics, sir.

WEIRDWOLF
Then maybe getting to work, we should start, yes?

BANZAI-TRON
Wow. **You** are quite the verbal conundrum. I like it. Anyways... yes, I agree, Wolfie. Let's do this.

PANEL 4:

Banzai-Tron leads Mindwipe and Weirdwolf down the mountain and towards the reader.

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
Let's go get Jhiaxus.

PAGE TWO:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE OPEN PLAINS NEAR MOUNT ST. HILARY - DAY

Banzai-Tron speaks into a POP-UP WRIST COMMUNICATOR, as Mindwipe (now back in robot-mode) and Weirdwolf stand behind him.

Once again, the Autobot Ark can be seen in the distance, only now much closer than before.

CAPTION: Soon after...

BANZAI-TRON
Okay, Leozack. What's the status of your little subterranean escapade? Are we havin' fun yet?

PANEL 2:

INT. UNDERGROUND

In a confining cavern, THE DESTRONS are busily mining the innards of a subterranean expanse.

DRILLHORN is excavating the MOLTEN ROCK in his drill-tank-mode, while HELLBAT, GUYHAWK, KILLBISON and JALLGUAR burn away at the rocky cave with various ENERGON BLASTERS.

LEOZACK stands nearby, speaking into a HAND-HELD COMMUNICATOR.

MAGMA surrounds the industrious Decepticons. It is clear they have been working at this for some time.

LEOZACK
Banzai-Tron. So nice to hear from you when almost all of the hard work is done.

HELLBAT
Heh-heh.

BANZAI-TRON
(captioned)
Oh, Leo... you know you're my favorite. For now. What's your status?

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Leozack.

Behind him, Jallguar and Guyhawk continue their excavations.

LEOZACK
We're close. **Real** close.

BANZAI-TRON
(off-panel)
Lovely. Tell your team to hurry it up. I don't think we're gonna have the luxury of clandestine tactics for much longer.

PANEL 4:

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

The MIDDAY SUN shines down upon the Ark.

BANZAI-TRON
(captioned)
Sooner or later, one of those do-gooders is gonna notice somethin' ain't right beneath their clumsy Autobot feet.

RED ALERT
(voice only, coming from the Ark)
Optimus Prime! Optimus Prime!

PAGE THREE:

PANEL 1:

INT. INSIDE THE ARK, MAIN CONTROL ROOM

WIDE SHOT - OPTIMUS PRIME turns away from HOT ROD, SMOKESCREEN and BLUESTREAK.

He looks back at RED ALERT, now approaching him from across the room and having left TELETRAAN-1 behind.

In the background, WHEELJACK, BRAWN and WINDCHARGER stand looking at the supercomputer's DATA SCREEN, plastered with the words: ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

HOT ROD
Whoa!

OPTIMUS PRIME
What is it, Red Alert?

RED ALERT
Trouble, sir. Teletraan-1 is detecting an unusual amount of seismic activity beneath us!

PANEL 2:

OVER OPTIMUS PRIME'S SHOULDER - He looks down towards Wheeljack and Teletraan-1.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Beneath us?

WHEELJACK
Directly beneath us, Prime. Whatever's down there, it's movin' and movin' fast. High Energon readings too. **Real** high.

PANEL 3:

Now Optimus Prime turns away from Wheeljack and Teletraan-1 to address several more Autobots: HOIST, GRAPPLE and WARPATH.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Then it would seem we are under attack. Autobots, follow me...

PANEL 4:

EXT. OUTSIDE THE ARK - DAY

SPLASH PANEL - Now all in their various vehicle-modes, Optimus Prime leads Hot Rod, Bluestreak, Brawn, Grapple, Hoist, Smokescreen, Red Alert, Warpath, Wheeljack and Windcharger out of their HQ and towards the reader.

OPTIMUS PRIME
... And roll out! Time to find out exactly what we're dealing...

PAGE FOUR:

PANEL 1:

FULL SPLASH PAGE, FROM BEHIND Optimus Prime - He SCREECHES to a halt, as the Destrons' combined from of LIOKAISER bursts free from the ground like an ancient titan, soaked in SMOULDERING LAVA.

Between the fingers of his gigantic LEFT HAND, he holds the BRAIN MODULE of Jhiaxus.

MORE LAVA flies free of the great eruption, sailing through the air and creating POOLS of the molten substance on the ground below.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
... With?

LIOKAISER
Raaaarrgghhh!

PAGE FIVE:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime, Wheeljack, Hot Rod and Smokescreen TRANSFORM to robot-mode to wield their various FIREAMRS. Wheeljack points off panel with his left hand.

SMOKESCREEN
Well, he's new.

WHEELJACK
Is that a brain module?

HOT ROD
How many combiners do the Decepticons have, anyway?

OPTIMUS PRIME
I don't know, Hot Rod. But, what I **do** know is...

PANEL 2:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP - Optimus Prime and Smokescreen fire their BLASTERS up towards Liokaiser, while Hot Rod unleashes laser energy from his FOREARM TURRETS.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
... This one goes no further.

PANEL 3:

Warpath (still in tank-mode) fires a BLAST that strikes Liokaiser's LEFT ANKLE.

Brawn and Windcharger stand beside Warpath in robot-mode, also firing their blasters towards Liokaiser.

WARPATH
BLAM! Sounds like a plan to me, Prime! BOOM!

BRAWN
Ugh, can't you just shoot a 'Con without all the racket?

PANEL 4:

OVER LIOKAISER'S SHOULDER - The giant Destron combiner looks down to see Grapple, Hoist and Bluestreak at his feet.

GRAPPLE
Uh, perhaps a little less aggression and a little more strategy is in need, Warpath.

HOIST
You can say that again, old chum.

PANEL 5:

Hoist, Grapple and Bluestreak DIVE TO SAFETY, as Liokaiser's DOUBLE-FISTED ATTACK strikes the ground with FEROCITY.

HOIST (CONT'D)
Look out!

PAGE SIX:

PANEL 1:

FROM BEHIND OPTIMUS PRIME - He watches as Bluestreak, Grapple and Hoist TRANSFORM to their vehicle-modes to escape yet another wayward attack from Liokaiser's fist.

LIOKAISER
Uuughh! You only delay the inevitable, Autobot cowards!

OPTIMUS PRIME
Cowards?

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
You hide beneath the surface. You plot against us using every dastardly tactic in the data pad. You assault us without warning, and **we** are the cowards?

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime CHARGES FORWARD towards the reader.

Behind him, Hot Rod and Brawn look on in AWE of their fearless leader.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
It is **you** who are the cowards, Decepticon.

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime LEAPS into the air, avoiding Liokaiser's clumsy HULK-LIKE attempt to crush the Autobot between his GIANT HANDS.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
Do you hear me? My Autobots are not afraid of you.

PANEL 5:

Optimus Prime delivers a THUNDEROUS PUNCH to the face of the much larger Liokaiser, a vicious blow that CRACKS one of the Destron's OPTICS.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
And neither... am **I!**

LIOKAISER
Aack!

PAGE SEVEN:

PANEL 1:

EXT. BLACKROCK ESTATE - DAY

A PALATIAL MANSION sits behind a massive IRON FENCE. Its sturdy, secured GATES are decorated with a sign that reads: BLACKROCK MANOR.

CAPTION: Elsewhere...

ETHAN ZACHARY
(captioned)
How are you feeling today, Ms. Blackrock?

PANEL 2:

INT. INSIDE THE MANSION, A LAVISH BEDROOM

In the background, ETHAN ZACHARY stands in the doorway of an impressive, MINIMALIST BEDROOM, made up to look more like a PRIVATE NURSING WARD.

Several MEDICAL MACHINES line the edges of the frame, but sitting in the foreground, confined to a PROFESSOR X-like WHEELCHAIR... is JANE BLACKROCK.

Adding to the SILVER BANDAGES wrapped around her forehead, she wears a SLIM-FITTING, SILVER ROBE. Her RIGHT HAND is cloaked in some kind of black-and-purple METALLIC FABRIC, forming a GLOVE-LIKE garment that she slams down onto her chair in frustration.

JANE BLACKROCK
What kind of question is that, Ethan?! How do I feel? The same way I've felt since those Transformers did this to me*.

**CAPTION: ***See issue #84

PANEL 3:

Ethan watches as Blackrock lifts her right hand before her face.

JANE BLACKROCK (CONT'D)
I'm trapped in this chair. I can't walk, can't stand up. All I can do is lift my **one** good limb.

ETHAN ZACHARY
It's only been six weeks, Ms. Blackrock. The accident you suffered wasn't what anyone would call **normal** . I'm sure your recovery...

PANEL 4:

Ethan STEPS BACK as Blackrock CLENCHES her good hand into a FIST.

Small, harmless PURPLE SPARKS emanate from her fingertips.

JANE BLACKROCK
Isn't progressing fast enough! And these... sparks, or whatever you call them... what are they? At first, it was like a power surge. They helped me maintain control of my right arm. But now, they're lessening. Getting weaker. Like me.

ETHAN ZACHARY
Uh, well, that's why I'm here today, Ms. Blackrock. The lab boys have finally secured that... thing you were searching for. They think with the right amount of study, they should be able to reverse-engineer its components and... help you.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON Blackrock's EAGER FACE.

JANE BLACKROCK
You mean item D-106? We've got it? Really?

PANEL 6:

OVER BLACKROCK'S SHOULDER - She looks up to see Ethan is now holding an COMPUTER TABLET-LIKE DEVICE, showing her its SCREEN.

The image displayed is that of BUZZSAW'S inert body, sitting in some kind of RESEARCH LABORATRORY.

ETHAN ZACHARY
Oh, yes. We have it.

PAGE EIGHT:

PANEL 1:

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

The battle rages on.

Hot Rod and Smokescreen continue to fire upon Liokaiser as the giant Decepticon attempts to STOMP on Optimus Prime.

Optimus Prime has DIVED to safety.

CAPTION: Meanwhile...

SMOKESCREEN
This big guy doesn't know when to quit, does he?

HOT ROD
Nope. Guess we're gonna have to teach him!

PANEL 2:

As Optimus Prime, Hot Rod and Smokescreen fire various beams of energy up at Liokaiser in the background, Banzai-Tron, Mindwipe and Weirdwolf arrive in the foreground, floating into frame to land on their feet near the Ark's entryway.

MINDWIPE
Quickly, we must not delay.

WEIRDWOLF
Into the heart of the Autobots' HQ, we must go.

BANZAI-TRON
Then right this way, my animalistic antagonists...

PANEL 3:

Red Alert turns away from the (off-panel) battle to see Banzai-Trion leading Mindwipe and Weirdwolf into the Ark.

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
... Follow me.

RED ALERT
Decepticons? Not on my watch.

PANEL 4:

INT. WHEELJACK'S LABORATORY

Mindwipe, Banzai-Tron and Weirdwolf enter the workshop.

In the background, within a SEALED, TRANSPARENT DISPLAY CASE, sits the gun-mode of MEGATRON'S FORMER BODY.

CAPTION: Minutes later...

BANZAI-TRON
Bullseye! Now, did I deliver, or did I deliver?

MINDWIPE
On this occasion, it would appear your bravado was not understated.

WEIRDWOLF
Indeed. True to your word, you are. Our target, in reach it is.

HUFFER
(off-panel)
Uh, excuse me...

PANEL 5:

FROM BEHIND Banzai-Tron, Mindwipe and Weirdwolf - the Decepticons have turned to face the laboratory's DOORWAY, and the FOUR AUTOBOTS now confronting them.

KUP, HUFFER, HOUND and BLASTER stand READY FOR BATTLE.

HUFFER (CONT'D)
... What exactly do you think you're doing?

KUP
Lousy Decepticons. Ready to take out the trash, lads?

BLASTER
You know it, Kup. Time to drop these turbo-turkeys outta the Top 40... for good!

PAGE NINE:

PANEL 1:

Mindwipe TRANSFORMS to vampire-bat-mode.

MINDWIPE
I think not.

PANEL 2:

Kup, Huffer, Hound and Blaster stand HELPLESS, as Mindwipe's GLOWING RED EYES emit circular waves of HYPNOTIZING ENERGY towards all four Autobots.

MINDWIPE (CONT'D)
None of you can resist my power. Just one look from me and you've lost.

KUP
Uh...

PANEL 3:

Weirdwolf SMASHES open the display case containing the Megatron gun with his fist.

WEIRDWOLF
Excellent work, Mindwipe. Most impressive, your powers are.

PANEL 4:

Weirdwolf watches as Banzai-Tron SEIZES the Megatron gun.

BANZAI-TRON
You can say that again, Wolfie. Now, let's get what we came for and get out of here.

RED ALERT
(off-panel)
Uh, I don't think so...

PANEL 5:

Mindwipe, Weirdwolf and Banzai-Tron DIVE FOR COVER, as Red Alert enters the laboratory, firing his PARTICLE BEAM RIFLE towards the Decepticons.

RED ALERT (CONT'D)
Get out of my Ark!

PAGE TEN:

PANEL 1:

Red Alert continues to fire upon Banzai-Tron, BLASTING the Megatron gun from his hand.

BANZAI-TRON
Whoa! Easy there, fella. Can't we talk about this?

RED ALERT
I'm done talking. This calls for action.

PANEL 2:

Mindwipe moves closer to Red Alert.

MINDWIPE
Indeed. **Hypnotic** action.

RED ALERT
Huh?

PANEL 3:

OVER MINDSWIPE'S SHOUILDER - Red Alert appears DAZED, as his horns now GLOW with a SPOOKY PURPLE RADIANCE.

RED ALERT (CONT'D)
Uh... uh...

MINDWIPE
Yessss, that's it. Relinquish your mind to me, Autobot. My, how easy it is to plunder this one's troubled psyche.

PANEL 4:

Banzai-Tron retrieves the Megatron gun as Mindwipe looks on.

Red Alert, Kup, Blaster, Huffer and Hound stand CATATONIC under Mindwipe's control.

BANZAI-TRON
Nice work, Wipers. Now let's leave these automatons behind and get out of here before more good guys show up.

MINDWIPE
An excellent idea, Banzai-Tron. Since we now control this weapon...

PANEL 5:

INT. INSIDE THE ARK, A CORRIDOR

HERO SHOT - Mindwipe, Weirdwolf and Banzai-Tron (still holding the Megatron gun) make their way down one of the Ark's halls with PRIDE.

MINDWIPE
... Nothing can stop us! Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

PAGE ELEVEN:

PANEL 1:

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

Back outside the HQ, Optimus Prime looks on as Liokaiser struggles to withstand the combined assaults of Brawn, Grapple, Hoist, Bluestreak, Hot Rod, Smokescreen and Warpath (in tank-mode).

CAPTION: Meanwhile...

LIOKAISER
Uugh... Aaaagh!

HOT ROD
He's weakening! Keep it up, guys!

WARPATH
Hot Rod is right! KABOOM! Keep up the firepower! Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha! CLANG!

OPTIMUS PRIME
Excellent work, Autobots. Now...

PANEL 2:

Optimus Prime turns his head, noticing that Mindwipe, Weirdwolf and Banzai-Tron (wielding the Megatron gun) are sneaking out of the Ark.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
Wait...

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime FIRES his ION-BLASTER towards Banzai-Tron, Mindwipe and Weirdwolf. Hot Rod also fires his forearm turrets towards the villains.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
Autobots, open fire!

HOT ROD
You got it, Prime!

BANZAI-TRON
Uh-oh, busted! Although, silver lining time.

PANEL 4:

Banzai-Tron RETURNS FIRE with the Megatron gun, causing Optimus Prime and Hot Rod to dive to safety.

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
I've always wanted to do this!

PAGE TWELVE:

PANEL 1:

Hot Rod helps Optimus Prime to his feet. But Optimus Prime is more focused on his POP-UP FOREARM COMMUNICATOR, now echoing an Autobot transmission.

COSMOS
(voice only, from the communicator)
Optimus Prime, do you read me? This is Cosmos, orbiting the Earth. We've got company, but... I don't know how to describe it.

HOT ROD
Spit it out, Cosmos. What is it?

PANEL 2:

EXT. SPACE, BETWEEN EARTH AND THE MOON

COSMOS hovers alone in his UFO-mode.

COSMOS
Again, I'm not sure. It's...

PANEL 3:

SPLASH PANEL - THE SWARM has arrived.

Its INSECT-LIKE MASS sails through space, passing Cosmos and THE MOON on its way towards EARTH.

COSMOS (CONT'D)
... It's some kind of **SWARM**!*

**CAPTION: ***See issue #75

PAGE THIRTEEN:

PANEL 1:

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

Windcharger and Brawn watch as Warpath (in tank-mode) fires one more BLAST into Liokaiser's back, SPLITTING the combiner into his six individual Destron components.

WARPATH
BAM! Thar she blows! Mu-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

BRAWN
They've separated! C'mon, time to finish 'em off!

PANEL 2:

Each of the six Destrons sit BATTERED on the ground, held at gunpoint by Brawn, Windcharger and Grapple.

Smokescreen SNATCHES the Jhiaxus brain module from a WEARY Leozack's hand.

SMOKESCREEN
Show's over, Decepticons. Hand over whatever... or **whoever** this is.

LEOZACK
You shall discover the truth soon enough, Autobot. We are not beaten yet.

PANEL 3:

Wheeljack joins Optimus Prime and Hot Rod in fighting Banzai-Tron and his Megatron gun, firing his SHOULDER MISSILE towards the Decepticon.

WHEELJACK
Time to test a few of my modifications in the field.

PANEL 4:

Wheeljack and Hot Rod leap out of the way as Mindwipe and Weirdwolf RETURN FIRE towards them.

Meanwhile, Optimus Prime drops to one knee, aiming his ion-blaster directly at Banzai-Tron.

HOT ROD
Whoa!

OPTIMUS PRIME
Enough, Banzai-Tron! End this **now** before its too late!

PANEL 5:

Banzai-Tron stands tall, PROUDLY lifting the Megatron gun above his head with one hand, while POINTING with the other to something off-panel.

BANZAI-TRON
Big words, Prime. But, I don't think you realize just how **little** control you have of this situation. Observe!

PAGE FOURTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime looks up to see The Swarm is on its way, speeding through the daytime sky.

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
(off-panel)
See?

OPTIMUS PRIME
What on Cybertron is that?

PANEL 2:

The Swarm GLIDES towards Banzai-Tron, who stands his ground with the Megatron gun above his head.

BANZAI-TRON
C'mon... come to papa.

PANEL 3:

The Swarm SITS IDLY, hovering before Banzai-Tron as though waiting for instructions.

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
That's it. Good boy. Now...

PANEL 4:

Banzai-Tron POINTS the Megatron gun towards Optimus Prime, and the Swarm RUSHES towards him like a cloud of danger and death.

BANZAI-TRON (CONT'D)
Sick 'em!

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - Optimus Prime TRANSFORMS to truck-mode to escape the path of the rampaging Swarm. Behind him, Smokescreen leads a new charge alongside Brawn, Bluestreak and Windcharger.

SMOKESCREEN
Prime, watch out!

PANEL 6:

The Swarm CHANGES DIRECTION to fly towards Smokescreen in its CLOUD-LIKE MASS.

SMOKESCREEN (CONT'D)
Hey! What the...?

PAGE FIFTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Optimus Prime stands in front of Smokescreen like a PROTECTIVE PARENT.

SMOKESCREEN (CONT'D)
Prime?

OPTIMUS PRIME
One side, Smokescreen. I'll handle this.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime. His fingers begin to UNLOCK his CHEST COMPARTMENT.

Grapple, Bluestreak and Brawn WATCH IN HORROR from the background.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
But, not by myself.

PANEL 3:

FROM BEHIND / WITHIN THE SWARM'S P.O.V. - The mass of evil rushes towards Optimus Prime, who now wields THE MATRIX before him.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
(softly)
Matrix, help me.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT - The Swarm SPLITS apart. It swirls around Optimus Prime, avoiding the Matrix like wasps avoiding a flame.

Smokescreen looks on with SHOCK.

SMOKESCREEN
Prime!

PANEL 5:

Leozack has snuck up behind Smokescreen.

LEOZACK
You should be more concerned about yourself, Autobot.

SMOKESCREEN
Huh?

PANEL 6:

Leozack PUNCHES Smokescreen across the jaw, knocking the Autobot off his feet.

The brain module of Jhiaxus falls free of his hand.

PANEL 7:

SMALL INSERT PANEL - Leozack's hand lifts the brain module from the dirt.

LEOZACK
And now...

PAGE SIXTEEN:

PANEL 1:

Leozack TOSSES the brain module towards the edge of the frame.

LEOZACK (CONT'D)
Banzai-Tron! Now!

PANEL 2:

Banzai-Tron POINTS the Megatron gun towards the mid-air brain module.

BANZAI-TRON
You heard him, Swarm. Do your thing!

PANEL 3:

The Swarm BUZZES around the now-floating brain module. It appears to be RECONSTRUCTING some kind of BODY.

PANEL 4:

It GROWS LARGER, taking the shape of a familiar foe.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE ON THE SWARM - Within its cloud-like energies, two RED OPTICS spring to life.

PAGE SEVENTEEN:

FULL SPLASH PAGE - JHIAXUS has returned; FULLY RE-FORMED, larger and more intimidating than ever.

He CLENCHES his left fist with a SMIRK.

JHIAXUS
Excellent.

PAGE EIGHTEEN:

PANEL 1:

OVER OPTIMUS PRIME'S SHOULDER - Banzai-Tron hands the Megatron gun to Jhiaxus.

BANZAI-TRON
Good to have you back, boss. It's all yours.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Jhiaxus! What is the meaning of this? What have you done?

BANZAI-TRON
Oh, the timeline's are a-changin', Prime. This generation is about to get a whole new shake-up, courtesy of the big-bot here.

PANEL 2:

Jhiaxus lifts his hands to reveal SWARM-LIKE ENERGY now radiating from his fingertips.

JHIAXUS
Power, Optimus. Unlimited power.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE ON Jhiaxus's face.

JHIAXUS (CONT'D)
But, today is not the day for answers, Prime. You'll see what I have in store for you and your entire timeline soon enough. But, for now...

PANEL 4:

Optimus Prime watches as Jhiaxus TRANSFORMS to jet-mode, flying into the air with Mindwipe, Weirdwolf and Banzai-Tron (who all remain in robot-modes).

JHIAXUS (CONT'D)
... We take our leave.

PANEL 5:

Wheeljack turns to see Kup, Red Alert, Blaster, Huffer and Hound STAGGERING out of the Ark's entryway. Each of them appears WOOZY.

WHEELJACK
Kup, are you all right?

KUP
Ugh, did someone get the serial number of the Guardian robot that stomped all over my cerebral circuits?

PAGE NINETEEN:

PANEL 1:

As Jhiaxus and the other Decepticons fly higher into the sky, the six Destrons (led by Leozack) have joined them in their escape.

ANGRY, Hot Rod POINTS UP at them from the ground beside Optimus Prime.

HOT ROD
C'mon, they're getting away! We have to go after them, right?

OPTIMUS PRIME
No, Hot Rod. There has been enough violence for one day.

PANEL 2:

Hot Rod stands opposite Optimus Prime.

HOT ROD
But, what was that Swarm? How did it reconstruct Jhiaxus? And how can he now control it?

PANEL 3:

Optimus Prime and Hot Rod turn to see Kup and Red Alert have joined them.

KUP
Yeah, and why is he recruitin' second rate cons like Weirdwolf and Mindwipe?

RED ALERT
And what's the connection to Megatron's old alt-mode?

OPTIMUS PRIME
Good questions, my Autobots. I'm afraid I do not know the answers.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE ON Optimus Prime's face.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT'D)
But, I'm going to find out.

PAGE TWENTY:

PANEL 1:

EXT. THE SKIES - DAY

Jhiaxus continues to SOAR UPWARD in his jet-mode, surrounded my Banzai-Tron, Mindwipe, Weirdwolf and all six Destrons.

BANZAI-TRON
Well, that couldn't have gone any better. Right, boss?

JHIAXUS
Correct, Banzai-Tron. Not only have you brought me back to my glorious, functioning status, but we are now armed with the universal power of The Swarm.

PANEL 2:

EXT. THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE - DAY

As Jhiaxus ascends into the atmosphere, Banzai-Tron flies up beside him.

JHIAXUS
This new future I have in mind is coming to fruition.

BANZAI-TRON
Sounds good, your oh-so-forward-thinking masterfulness. But, what's next?

PANEL 3:

EXT. SPACE, THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

SPLASH PANEL - A DECEPTICON STARSHIP lies in wait. This one is adorned with the GENERATION 2 Decepticon logo.

Jhiaxus and his Decepticon crew sail towards it.

JHIAXUS
Next, Banzai-Tron?

PANEL 4:

The Decepticon ship ZOOMS OFF, away from the Moon and towards the reader.

JHIAXUS (CONT'D)
(captioned)
Next, we get to work.

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!