



Transformers ReAnimated X
Episode 2

'Dark Victory – Part 2'

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Based on the original Transformers cartoon series...

... and inspired by the original Transformers Reanimated stories.
Transformers ReAnimated X continues the story after the original series.

PAGE 1:

PANEL 1:

CAPTION: Autobot City Earth, December the 29th 2007

WIDE SHOT - Optimus Prime, Ultra Magnus, Hotrod, Kup, Goldbug, Jazz and Perceptor are sitting together, discussing the coming mission to New Quintessa .

Spike and Nebulon Leader Gort, who are currently on Nebulon, are also linked into the conversation through a video screen

Captioned: They had just received information from the Autobots most important double-agent.

ULTRA MAGNUS

Punch has confirmed what our Quintesson guests have told us. The remaining Decepticons are in control of New Quintessa.

PANEL 2:

ULTRA MAGNUS (CONT.)

He also confirmed two other things, Cyclonus is their leader... and that Trypticon is there.

HOTROD

That means we need Fortress Maximus.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE SHOT at Spike on the computer screen.

SPIKE

That will be difficult. You know that Cerebros had completely sworn off fighting.

PANEL 4:

OPTIMUS

We promised Cerebros that after the last battle he would never have to fight again. That was one of the reasons I named him guardian of Nebulon.

HOTROD

Fortress Maximus is the only robot besides Metroplex who is actually able to take on Trypticon by himself. But unless Trypticon comes down here to Earth, Metroplex is...

Captioned:... could not fly, did not possess a flight capable or even mobile alt-mode... in one word: is permanently stuck on Earth. He doesn't even need to say it. They all know that.

PANEL 5:

ULTRA MAGNUS

Excuse me, but that might actually not be the case, at least not for much longer.

PERCEPTOR

We are currently working on a way to upgrade Metroplex and give him a spaceship form as second alt-mode.

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PANEL 1:

OPTIMUS

How long more will it take?

PERCEPTOR

It should be finished within the next 20 hours.

PANEL 2:

In this moment Optimus receives a call from the Throttlebot Chase.

CHASE

(Off panel/over the com)

Excuse me Optimus, I just want to tell you that Elita's shuttle is arriving.

CLOSE SHOT at Optimus face.

OPTIMUS

Elita.

Captioned: Elita One and the surviving members of her team had fled Cybertron during the Unicron Battle to the planet Athenia. But some time ago, after hearing of Optimus return from the dead, she had decided to leave the Athenia base to others.

PANEL 3:

CAPTION: Decepticon occupied New Quintessa System

EXT. On the surface.

The Autobot secret agent Punch - also known as the Decepticon Counterpunch - is trying to leave the star system and is lifting up from the ground and flying into the air

Captioned: Punch knows that the last message he had send to the Autobots had gone too far. He had been pretty sure that it would be discovered and traced back to him. But he had to warn the others. So he had send it anyway.

PANEL 4:

Punch is now waiting on the surface of an asteroid in some distance away for his contact to arrive.

Captioned: But leaving the SYSTEM is another matter. So he had also asked for a lift to get him away from here.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: His 'help' arrives a short time later.

A large grey space-rocket that is approaching the asteroid.

PANEL 6:

That in the next moment transforms into robot-mode.

LOW ANGLE – Punch's small frame standing in front of Omega Supreme's giant one.

OMEGA SUPREME

Autobot agent Punch located.

Punch changes into his Autobot-form.

PUNCH

It is good to see you Omega Supreme.

Captioned: Punch has hoped that he had gone away unnoticed. But as it turns out this hope has been in vain.

PAGE 3:

PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - The Insecticons Venom, Barrage and Ransack - along with a number of clones of Shrapnell, Kickback and Bombshell have come out and are flying towards them

Captioned: The Insecticons had been hiding in their small insect-modes behind a rock formation close by... and are now showing themselves.

PANEL 2:

VENOM

Attack.

They transform, either into robot-mode... or into their larger insect-forms.

Captioned: But it comes even worse.

PANEL 3:

LOW ANGLE - They see that Trypticon in his giant dinosaur mode is approaching the asteroid quickly.

PANEL 4:

... and flying out of his his mouth are 'CYCLONUS', a Sweep and another Shrapnell and Kickback clone.

'CYCLONUS'

Yes - it is **really** good to see you Omega Supreme.

PUNCH

This was a set-up. They have been tracing me the entire time. Sorry Omega.

Captioned: Punch and Omega Supreme realize that they has been watched and recorded the entire time if he knows what they had said to each other a minute earlier.

PANEL 5:

`CYCLONUS`

(CONT.)

You will be a great test subject. Thank you Counterpunch - or should I say Punch? - for bringing him here. You have really fulfilled your duty here... as a Decepticon.

He grins. It es an expression quite unlike the Cyclonus they met before.

OMEGA SUPREME

Identification inconclusive. Cyclonus - status: missing in space.

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT, LOW ANGLE: To Punch's and Omega Supreme's shock, before them three identical looking Cyclonus copies come flying out of Trypticon's mouth.

(Off panel:)

`CYCLONUS`

Ah, Omega - you make the mistake to believe that there is only ONE of us.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE SHOT at `Cyclonus`

`CYCLONUS`

(CONT.)

They are only mindless drones of course. Cloned with the help of my Insecticon friends.

PANEL 3:

CAPTION: Autobot City Earth

WIDE SHOT – ELITA ONE has just arrived. She is standing in front of the shuttle, with a group consisting of the three Female Autobots MOONRACER, FIRESTAR and GREENLIGHT and also GETAWAY, JOYRIDE and SLAPDASH behind her.

ELITA ONE

Optimus.

OPTIMUS

I am glad that you have returned.

PANEL 4:

Optimus lays his arms on Elita's shoulders.

Next to them Arcee is greeting the three other Female Autobots.

ELITA

I am happy that **you** are back Optimus. I am so glad that you are alive.

PANEL 5:

FLASHBACK:

CAPTION: The year 2005, in space close to Cybertron

INT. Inside their shuttle Elita and the members of her improvised team of three of her femmes and several other Autobots are watching in horror as the monstrous carnivorous planet they have already seen consuming the Moonbases 1 and 2, had now transformed into a gigantic planet-sized robot...

PAGE 5:

PANEL 1:

EXT. ... and is now attacking Cybertron. They see him smash his hand on the surface of the planet, crushing an area in the size of an entire sector and killing Matrix knew how many cybertronians.

Captioned: This should have only been a trip to retrieve Chromia and Lancer from their spy-mission on Cybertron. But first they had gotten a message from Earth that Autobot City had been attacked. That Optimus and several other Autobots were dead.

Then the Moonbases were getting destroyed by this monster... and now **this**.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT – The Autobots sitting in the cockpit with her – Moonracer, Getaway and Slapdash - are looking at Elita.

ELITA

Slapdash - get us out of this star system.

PANEL 3:

Flashback End:

CLOSE SHOT at Elita's face.

ELITA (quietly)

I left them behind Optimus. I left Chromia and Lancer to die.

Captioned: They had not survived Unicron's attack.

PANEL 4:

OPTIMUS

You made a decision that you believed would save the Autobots that you **could** save. You know how happy I am that **you** survived Elita.

Captioned: 'Did she? Or had all that happened, including the news of Optimus death, just broken her resolve?' she asked herself.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: Millions of light-years away, the planet Quol - Newly conquered Decepticon Territory.

EXT. The entire planet and the area of space around it has been turned into a battlefield.

WIDE SHOT - The orbit around the planet Quol is filled with the wrecks and debris of dozens of large wedge-shaped space-ships and hundreds of smaller fighters.

But only ships and fighters of the species called the kyrix.

None of the Decepticons.

Captioned: The failed attack on the Decepticon occupied planet Alera by the kyrix five days ago had been the beginning of probably one of the most brutal wars ever fought... Brutal yet entirely one-sided. The Decepticons had not lost a single man in the battle.

PANEL 6:

WIDE SHOT - At some places over the planet Decepticon F15 Seekers, Sweeps and some other airborne Decepticons are still hunting down and eliminating some remaining kyrix units.

Captioned: The Decepticons responded by attacking the closest and the last planet conquered by the kyrix less than two years earlier.

PAGE 6:

PANEL 1:

FLASHBACK: 30 minutes before

EXT. While the battle around is still going on,

three battleships of the kyrix are unleashing their combined fire-power down on the surface of the planet Quol.

Captioned: After half of their battleships had been destroyed, the remaining fleet of the kyrix has turned their weapons down on the planet. Despite that there are hundreds of millions of their own people on it... plus the few remaining members of the native species they had not managed to wipe out yet.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - Scene of laser blasts raining down on a city.

Captioned: They target cities that are completely blown off the face of the planet, military and civilian installations, forests, seas, entire areas that are turned to burning ash.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT – Scene of multiple vulcano's erupting on the surface.

Captioned: On top of that their bombardment is – as it seemed on purpose - activating several volcanos around the globe and trigger a series of eruptions that is devastating the rest of the planet's surface, destroy the biosphere and fill the atmosphere with burning ash and gas.

Everything that should make at least ORGANIC life impossible. Not realizing that the enemy robots were not controlled by another species, but the enemy species themselves.

PANEL 4:

FLASHBACK END:

INT. Inside one of the last intact kyrix battleships, that had been breached and entered by the Decepticons

The kyrix are an organic species, who has however augmented themselves with cybernetic implants.

The kyrix are over three meters tall. Their upper bodies somehow resembling that of grey colored squids, but walking on two massive legs. They have two pairs of green glowing eyes. In addition to a pair of broad arms, they also possess a couple of long tentacles at their waist.

The New Targetmasters Spinister, Quake and Needlenose and Headmasters Fangry, Horri-Bull and Squeezeplay are blasting 10 of them to atoms in mere seconds.

Captioned: Looking like something out of a human horror movie, the kyrix are a terrifying sight and a terrible threat to most other organics.

From what they had translated from them, the Decepticons know that the kyrix saw themselves as the optimum of life - the apex predators and perfect lifeforms, the only ones with the right to exist...

To the new Decepticon Head- and Targetmasters they are not much more than **target practice**.

PANEL 5:

Next to them, the Terrorcons and some others are overrunning and wiping out the rest of the crew that had once consisted of hundreds and are at the side also destroying some automatic defense weapons during it.

Captioned: The Decepticons had not really needed to breach the ship. They could have just as easily blown it apart like the others. But they wanted to test their new Head- and Targetmasters, whose bonding partners were not Nebulons but natives of the planet Alera. and gain some close up information on the kyrix species.

Besides that, some of their ground-troops simply wanted some sport.

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - Galvatron and Cyclonus just stand by and observe the fight, if you could even call it one, on board the ship. Both of them see this extermination as not even worth taking part in.

Standing in a close distance to them are Scourge, two Sweeps and beside them a black and purple colored female Seeker named Skywing.

Instead of the usual two sleek arm-cannons most standard Seekers usually carry, she has only one larger and broader one on her right arm. A weapon that is her Targetmaster partner.

Captioned: Skywing had been built only a few months ago on Alera. She is based on the technical data of Skywarp and possess the same teleportation-ability. And she has been created as a Targetmaster. Her partner is AIRA, a young female Alerian, who was the daughter of the Aleran's Leader Karid.

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: None of the kyrix they are fighting (or rather slaughtering) had tried to surrender. And Galvatron was not thinking that he would have been in any mood to accept it.

CYCLONUS

They are fighting to the last man. If they had even the **slightest** chance, I would respect their resilience.

But here it just seems a pointless waste out of false pride.

Next to him Aira flies from Skywing's hand and transforms out of gun-mode into humanoid form.

Cyclonus own partner Nightstick follows her example and is standing beside her, closely followed by the guns of the two Sweeps.

NOTE: This two Sweeps have become Targetmasters.

Captioned: Cyclonus has the impression that Nightstick and Aira had gotten quite close to each other, despite being different species. Not that this was the first time something like this had happened. In their case they are at least **both** humanoid shaped organics.

Cyclonus is thinking about a certain Autobot plane. By what he had last heard some years back, Powerglide and that crazy human of his had been still together back then.

PANEL 3:

LOW ANGLE – Aira facing up to Cyclonus:

AIRA

The kyrix never gave **us** any chance to surrender. Or anyone else.
Why should we give one to them?

CYCLONUS

It is the fate of of the beings who are not able to fight for themselves
- or not willing to - to be subjugated and serve the stronger ones.

This is the way the universe works.

Captioned: He is thinking about the wayward Autobots on the planet Paradron, who possessed power and were swimming in energon. But were not willing to fight for it, even when they were being invaded. So in Cyclonus opinion they had deserved to loose it.

PANEL 4:

CYCLONUS

(CONT.)

But there is also no need to slaughter them for no reason, like this creatures here do.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE SHOT - Aira removes her helmet and shows her actual blue-skinned humanoid face. She is the same female alerian who had stood at the side of her father when the Decepticons first arrived at Alera.

AIRA

Excuse me Lord Cyclonus, by all respect, but that is easy to say if
you are a giant powerful robot.

The kyrix never even gave us the **option** to serve them. They just
decided to exterminate us.

Behind her the Terrorcon Blot in his monster form is in this moment just blasting another kyrix soldier to ash.

Captioned: While Galvatron and the rest of them had been praised as saviors at first, the sober awakening came a short time later. They knew they were a conquered species.

But still ironically the far majority saw it as a far better alternative than extermination by kyrix. And so they staid loyal to the Decepticons. Or at least cooperated with them out of sheer necessity.

PANEL 6:

AIRA
(CONT.)

And they were technological so far ahead of us that it did not even matter if we decided to fight or not. So what chance did we ever had until YOU arrived?

Captioned: 'Lord Cyclonus', she said this words without any irony. She has truly accepted the Decepticons as her masters, simply because it was hers and her entire race's best chance.

But that does not keep her from speaking her mind from time to time.

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PANEL 1:

AIRA
(CONT.)

The truth is the weaker lifeforms are entirely at the mercy of the whims of the stronger ones. That is the way the universe works.

So thank you My **Masters**, for giving us this chance to survival.

Captioned: Her voice shows a strange mix of bitterness, resignation... and acceptance.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT – The other Decepticons around them have overheard their exchange and are now looking at her for a moment – Cyclonus, Skywing, Scourge, the two Sweeps... even Galvatron.

Captioned: The Decepticons around are looking at the small organic female. They did not have much to reply... not really. After all she had just declared her loyalty to them, even if she did it in a somewhat bitter and cynical tone. So why should they say anything against it?

PANEL 3:

CAPTION: Down on the planet Quol, a few hours later

EXT. Galvatron is now standing on the surface. In the middle of a burning devastated landscape.

Captioned: It is a victory... technically. The planet and all it's resources are his. This is what he was created for. To fight, battle and conquer... and still something about it feels empty.

Galvatron looks at the destruction around him.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: For a moment he imagines himself – himself at the time when he was still insane - destroying the place by himself.

NOTE: Imagined scenes

Galvatron shooting at buildings in the distance, blowing them up in large explosions, laughing wildly.

GALVATRON

(imagined)

Yes! Ha ha ha ha ha!

PANEL 5:

CLOSE SHOT - Galvatron standing smiling in front of the landscape he had set on fire.

GALVATRON

(imagined)

Beautiful. Yes - this is the beauty of destruction.

PANEL 6:

NOTE: Reality

Galvatron is just standing there motionless.

He suddenly thinks about how he had nearly destroyed his own home-planet while under some kind of mysterious mind-control. How much of his actions back then had been his own and how much something else?

Behind him Cyclonus, Scourge and a Sweep come flying in.

Captioned: Cyclonus is still the official Second in Command and Zarak outside of the regular Decepticon ranks. Inofficially however they are pretty much SHARE the role of Galvatron's Second.

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT of them transforming into robot-mode, with their Targetmaster partners and Lord Zarak in their exo-suits next to them transforming into their own `robot'-modes and landing beside them.

Zarak has, along with Nightstick, been sitting inside Cyclonus cockpit, a honor that normally only belonged to Galvatron.

Captioned: Cyclonus and the Hive leader had by now developed a strange mutual respect. Both respect the others skills and competence. Cyclonus is of course aware of Zarak's ambition, but he also knew that the Nebulon would not act against Galvatron, unless things changed drastically...

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE – Scourge is standing next to Galvatron, with the smaller Nebulons standing between them.

SCOURGE

Scans confirm there is no life left on the planet. We also found remains of several mass-graves on the parts of the surface that is still somewhat intact.

Obviously left from what happened to the native species of this planet.

The Nebulons, even Zarak, look a bit disturbed about this. The faceplates of their exo-suits (without those they would not even be able to survive here) giving a replication of the expression on their real faces underneath.

GALVATRON

I see. It does not matter. When the lava has cooled down enough we set up a base to exploit the resources that are still usable... then we move on.

Captioned: ... Not only because of the security-protocols inside Skorponok, but also because Zarak is intelligent enough to realize that most Decepticons would follow him and could easily terminate him whenever he was not in his city-sized super-form.

PANEL 3:

Cyclonus looks at Galvatron.

Galvatron is looking downwards.

CYCLONUS

Yes Galvatron. Is there anything else?

GALVATRON

No. there is not.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: Nebulon System

EXT. Omega Supreme in his space-rocket mode is approaching the planet Nebulon.

PANEL 5:

INT. Punch sitting behind Omega's consoles.

PUNCH

Autobots Omega Supreme and Punch calling for Fortress Maximus.

PANEL 6:

SPIKE

(over the com)

We hear you Punch, don't worry.

PUNCH

We need help. I had been found out. Decepticons are following us.

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PANEL 1:

INT. Inside Fortress Maximus base-mode.

WIDE SHOT at Spike and Cerebros having received Punch's distress-call with the Headmasters Highbrow, Hardhead and Chromedome standing behind them.

SPIKE

Alright Punch - tell Omega to land at our coordinates. We face them together.

CEREBROS

So much for not longer having to fight.

Captioned: But Cerebros too is getting ready. Despite hating this, he knows he has to. Decepticons were approaching the planet.

PANEL 2:

HIGHBROW

We are detecting both Trypticon and the battleship Revenge approaching the planet.

GORT

(from inside Highbrow's head)

We should call Earth and Cybertron for assistance.

PANEL 3:

EXT. Cerebros and Spike combine into Fortress Maximus and transforming into robot-mode. While at the same time Omega Supreme is landing close by.

PANEL 4:

Highbrow, Cromedome and Hardhead are meeting them, with Fortress Maximus standing close by.

CROMEDOME

Are you...?

PANEL 5:

But before he could finish his words, Punch suddenly opens fire on them. The blast hit Chromedone in the shoulder.

PANEL 6:

HARDHEAD

What the hell are you doing?

He jumps at Punch and put him into a stranglehold.

HIGHBROW

Wait.

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PANEL 1:

Highbrow reaches for something on Punch's forehead.

HIGHBROW

A cerebro shell. Like the Insecticon Bombshell has been using them.
He as being mind-controlled. Wait, that means...?

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT at Omega Supreme opening fire at Fortress Maximus.

With Trypicon and the Revenge at the same time descending down from the sky.

Captioned: They realize Punch is not the only one being mind-controlled.

PANEL 3:

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UPWARDS - Above them the locks of the Revenge open and coming out is Cyclonus – no, 4 of him...

and also... an army of hundreds of Insecticon clones.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE SHOT on Hardhead's face.

HARDHEAD

What the hell...?

Captioned: But they have bigger problems than the fact of having 4 versions of Cyclonus around.

PANEL 5:

SPLIT PANEL – On the left a close view on Omega Supreme's face... and on the right a flashback scene in Omega's mind, showing two Bombshell clones working on him, while 'Cyclonus' is standing by watching.

Captioned: Inside his mind, a part of Omega Supreme is trying to resist the mind-control. The part that was still aware. But it is like watching his own body moving in a dream.

PANEL 6:

NOTE: TEXT PASSAGE

Omega Supreme remembers the words of the false Cyclonus, as the Bombshell clones were preparing to cut him open.

'CYCLONUS'

(in memory)

*Yes – for you I think we should not simply **place** a cerebro-shell on you. We will do something a bit more thorough.*

Well - who would have thought? The great Omega Supreme - behind that facade of the hard and cold battle-machine, you are just a soft fool who couldn't get over the fact that your friend turned against you, aren't you?

You are a living contradiction. The last Guardian robot - you were never meant to guard cities and protect them. The truth is your kind was designed by the Quintessons to control and oppress other Cybertronians.

*You should be **glad** that I will bring you closer to your true purpose.*

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PANEL 1:

EXT.

WIDE SHOT of Fortress Maximus now facing Trypticon and the mind-controlled Omega Supreme at the same time.

To that comes the army of Insecticon clones, who are swarming the place and attacking from all sides.

He and the other Headmasters are outmatched.

SPIKE

We have to retreat.

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: Autobot City - Metroplex

INT. Inside a large hangar room inside Metroplex.

WIDE SHOT of Perceptor having brought Optimus, Ultra Magnus, Hotrod, Arcee and Daniel and Elita One and her group to show them the results of their work.

They had just gotten the message about the attack on Nebulon. All of them know the situation was urgent.

PERCEPTOR

Optimus - let me introduce you to what the humans would call our think-tank.

PANEL 3:

PERCEPTOR

(CONT.)

You already know Brainstorm and Arcana of course. And this are Ginrai – he also goes by the code name Hi-Q, his wife Lyra and Rev three of Nebulons best scientists. This are Lube and Hotwire, their fields are fuels and mechanics.

GINRAI is a young nebulon man around 30 with shoulder long black hair. Lyra is around the same age as her husband, with light blue eyes with long green hair.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT of Optimus and Ginrai facing each other, with Perceptor standing next to them.

GINRAI

It is a honor to meet you Optimus Prime. You Autobots freed us from the Hive after all.

OPTIMUS

It is good to meet you. And I did not do that much. It are Spike and Cerebros you should thank.

Captioned: 'They had saved them all,' Optimus thinks.

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT of a group of six Autobots, three of them in vehicle form and six Nebulons in Head- and Targetmaster suits next to them.

BRAINSTORM

Optimus - for the start let us introduce you to our new Head- and Targetmasters.

You know Nightbeat, Hosehead, Siren, Landfill, Quickmix and Scoop of course...

Captioned: The Autobots...

PANEL 6:

BRAINSTORM

(CONT.)

... and here the Nebulon volunteers Lug, Muzzle, Quig, Flintlock, Boomer and Tracer.

They transform demonstratively. The Headmasters merge with the Nebulons forming their heads as they turn into robot-form and the other three Nebulons becoming the weapons of the Targetmasters.

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PANEL 1:

ULTRA MAGNUS

This is all good and fine, but far more important are your modifications on Metroplex. Will he be able to move to Nebulon?

Perceptor is looking at Brainstorm, who in opposite to him had actually been here during the last couple hours.

PANEL 2:

BRAINSTORM

Yes. We have just finished it. We were not able to run a test yet, but it should work.

OPTIMUS

Very good.

PANEL 3:

GINRAI

There is something else. We are working on a third version of binary-bonding besides Head- and Targetmasters. We call it the Powermaster process.

OPTIMUS

Show it to us on the way Ginrai.

PANEL 4:

Optimus turns around to the Autobots standing next to him.

OPTIMUS

(CONT.)

Ultra Magnus, Hotrod - I want you two to lead the mission to New Quintessa, while I will be leading the one to Nebulon.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: A short time later. The mission to free New Quintessa has begun.

EXT. The same Quintesson Spaceship that had come five days earlier is now leaving Earth.

PANEL 6:

INT. Inside the ship

WIDE SHOT of a group of Autobots consisting of ULTRA MAGNUS, HOUND, PERCEPTOR, the TARGETMASTERS HOTROD, KUP, BLURR, POINTBLANK, SURESHOT and CROSSHAIRS, together with their Nebulon Partners...

... and the DINOBOOTS and TECHNOBOOTS.

Together with one of the two Quintesson Judges and the Quintesson General who had come to Earth to seek asylum.

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PANEL 1:

CAPTION: Autobot City Earth

EXT. Metroplex is transforming. But not into his regular base-mode, but into a space-ship. And he lifts off the ground.

PANEL 2:

INT. Inside Metroplex

BRAINSTORM

It is working.

ARCANA
(inside Brainstorm's head)
Yes it is. **Now** we will save Nebulon.

They hear Metroplex voice through the room.

METROPLEX
This is the first time I am leaving Earth. Thank you.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT of Ginrai a few minutes later explaining the details of the Powermaster process to Optimus Prime, Elita One and everyone else.

GINRAI
For the Powermaster process, the bonding partner combined himself with the energy-engine, letting the binary bonding optimize and even mentally manipulate the energon-flow.

PANEL 4:

OPTIMUS
I see.

GINRAI
Optimus - there is one thing I want to say. I want to volunteer to become a Powermaster.

Everyone's eyes turn to him.

PANEL 5:

GINRAI
(CONT.)
During the time of Zarak's tyranny, I had not been able to do much of anything, to make any difference. But now I have the chance to.

LYRA
I want to volunteer as well.

PANEL 6:

Optimus and Elita are looking at each other.

ELITA

So do I. I will become a Powermaster.

OPTIMUS

It seems you both have just found your partners Ginrai.

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT of the Autobots Getaway, Slapdash and Joyride standing besides the Nebulons Rev, Lube and Hotwire.

REV

And so do we.

GETAWAY

The same goes for us.

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: New Quintessa System. The Quintesson vessel has now reached the edge of the star system.

QUINTESSON JUDGE

I am still not convinced that this is a good idea.

ULTRA MAGNUS

Fine. But you were the one who asked for help. Quiet now. We are reaching the security parameter.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE SHOT - Ultra Magnus looks at Hound. His presence on this mission has a special reason, a very special one.

HOUND

Okay - then I guess it is my turn now.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT - Hound activates his hologram projector and he, Ultra Magnus, Hotrod, Kup and Blurr who were standing in front of the screen, are replaced with the picture of two QUINTESSON ALICON GUARDS and three SHARKTICONS.

Only the two Quintessons stay looking like they truly were.

PANEL 5:

A screen above the consoles before them activates and shows the face of a clone of the Insecticon Shrapnell.

GUARD 1

(Ultra Magnus)

We have captured two of our former masters and are bringing them in.

PANEL 6:

SHRAPNELL CLONE

Alright. You can land on landing-platform beta – beta.

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PANEL 1:

EXT. The surface of New Quintessa.

The ship has landed.

The two real Alicon guards who await them are completely surprised when they are grabbed and quickly overpowered, as the lock opens and Ultra Magnus and the Autobot Targetmasters appear instead of their fellow guards.

PANEL 2:

CLOSE SHOT of Perceptor holding one of the modified cerebro-shells they have taken from the Quintesson guards in his fingers.

PERCEPTOR

It is like we have thought, the Guards are all implanted with modified versions of Bombshell's cerebro shells.

HOTROD

Can you deactivate them?

PANEL 3:

PERCEPTOR

Yes - they are all linked to each other. I should be able to use this two to send a signal to shut them down.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: A short time later.

PERCEPTOR

This should be it.

He is holding a remote in his hand with one green button and a red one on it.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE SHOT of Perceptor's hand pressing the green button.

PANEL 6:

CAPTION: Outside - few minutes later.

WIDE SHOT - Ultra Magnus, Hotrod and the other Targetmasters, Hound, the Dinobots and the Technobots in their combined form as Computron are now easily overpowering the few Insecticon clones and Decepticons who had remained on New Quintessa.

With the guards now actually being on **their** side, after Perceptor had deactivated the cerebro shells and the Quintesson Judge had retaken command.

Most of their clone-opponents are mindless drones.

Ultra Magnus, Kup and Pointblanc are in this moment just blasting their way through a group of this clones.

PAGE 17:

PANEL 1:

CAPTION: Two who are certainly **not** drones however are THIS two clones of Bombshell.

WIDE SHOT - Two Bombshell clones firing their guns and shouting at them.

BOMBSHELL CLONES

(screaming)

No - it can't end like this. Kill them!

Kill them all!

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - In return Ultra Magnus and Hotrod shoot the two Bombshells right into their heads. The head of the one of the left completely explodes, while the one at the left has a large hole inside his.

PANEL 3:

As the two fall down dead, the rest of the clones around them stop moving in the same moment.

And most of them fall apart into their components. Without their two leading units, the clone army was being decapitated.

PANEL 4:

EXT. In some distance from the battlefield.

A single Sweep is trying to get away. He is running, attempting to get far enough away so that he could transform and fly off-planet without being noticed by the Autobots.

PANEL 5:

Then to his surprise around a corner Blitzwing is suddenly appearing in front of him.

SWEEP

Ah Blitzwing - good to see you. We need to get away from here.

PANEL 6:

But then, to his even greater surprise Blitzwing is pointing a gun at him.

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PANEL 1:

EXT. WIDE SHOT - Ultra Magnus, Hotrod and their team have gathered again.

They are now standing next to and surrounded by an army of thousands of Alicons and Sharkticons. Most of them in robot-mode.

And the Quintesson Judge and General, who had spend the battle inside their ship, are with them again.

ULTRA MAGNUS

It seems it is over. Your plan worked perfectly Hotrod.

QUINTESSON JUDGE

Yes - it is over. Guards, Sharkticons - arrest them.

He gives this order to the assembled Quintesson Guards and Sharkticons.

PANEL 2:

HOTROD

Do you really think we would trust you and not see this coming Quintessons? Perceptor NOW.

PANEL 3:

Perceptor pushes the other button on his remote. The red one this time.

And all the Quintesson Guards freeze and stop moving. Perceptor has reactivated the cerebro-shells for a moment, but not to control the guard's minds, but to put them into stasis.

The two Quintessons look around shocked.

PANEL 4:

QUINTESSON GENERAL

(Shouting at the motionless Alicons)

No. Move damn it.

But that still left the Sharkticons. The Judge turns to them.

QUINTESSON JUDGE

(shouting)

Sharkticons - kill them all. Execute them.

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - But the Sharkticons look unsure and hesitant. They are obviously scared to attack that many powerful Autobots.

Besides, they had not followed orders from the Quintessons for over a year now.

QUINTESSON JUDGE

I said **kill** them!

PANEL 6:

But in this moment Grimlock steps forward.

WIDE SHOT - Grimlock in dinosaur-mode with the other Dinobots behind him, glaring at the Sharkticons around them..

GRIMLOCK

Me Grimlock - some of you remember me, yes?

PAGE 19:

PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - The Sharkticons look at them, visibly intimidated.

Captioned: Many indeed remember the damage Grimlock and the other Dinobots had caused to them a few years ago... and how he told them to turn on the Quintessons.

PANEL 2:

The Sharkticons standing around Grimlock are turning their looks at each other.

GRIMLOCK

(CONT.)

Me say you were slaves... Me say you still **are** slaves. Just switched Masters.

Me say **stop** follow orders from people who not care if you live or die. Stop being slaves... Either that or face **us** Dinobots.

Captioned: The Sharkticons look from Grimlock to each other and back, similar like they had done it on the old planet Quintessa a few years earlier.

PANEL 3:

And then... they start to cheer for Grimlock.

ULTRA MAGNUS

Good work Grimlock.

GRIMLOCK

Thank you.

PANEL 4:

Magnus turns to the two Quintessons.

ULTRA MAGNUS

It seems your reign is over for good this time. We will free your guards from any programming that controls them, including yours.

And we will also arrest you and your fellows for crimes against other planets and sentient beings.

The Quintessons are staring at him in silent anger and rage, but there was nothing they could do about it.

They had lost. They had failed to regain control of their slaves' races. And now it seemed they and the rest of the Quintessons might have lost that control forever.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE SHOT at Hotrod.

HOTROD

Now it is over.

BLITZWING

(off panel)

Not completely yet. There is one last thing Hotrod.

PANEL 6:

They all look around and see the tripple-changer appearing out from between a couple of buildings. With Rumble walking next to him and Laserbeak sitting on his shoulder...

... and dragging an unconscious Sweep after him.

BLITZWING

We don't want to fight Autobots. We just want to talk. Don't shoot.

HOTROD

(off panel)

Blitzwing?

PAGE 20:

PANEL 1:

BLITZWING

Yes. I guess that's deya vu, right?

RUMBLE

You can call us secret envoys or something like that.

Captioned: They remember how Blitzwing had warned them about the Quintesson's trap a few years ago, that Galvatron did not want to listen about. Which had been the beginning of Blitzwing's and Galvatron's temporally falling out back then.

PANEL 2:

ULTRA MAGNUS

What do you three want?

BLITZWING

To make it short, the guy now leading us is looking exactly like Cyclonus. But Soundwave thinks he is not the real deal and so do we.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE SHOT at Blitzwing lifting the unconscious Sweep up a bit.

BLITZWING

(CONT.)

And we are pretty sure this guy knows more.

PANEL 4:

INT. A short time later the Sweep is sitting in chains on a chair inside the captured Quintesson ship. He is just regaining consciousness.

WIDE SHOT - The Sweep sees that he was surrounded by an circle of Autobots... and Decepticons? that consisted of Ultra Magnus, Hotrod, Kup, Blitzwing, Rumble and Laserbeak.

ULTRA MAGNUS

So I guess we can start now. Tell us, who is the guy who looks like Cyclonus?

SWEEP

What? What happened?

PANEL 5:

BLITZWING

You heard the question. We know perfectly well he is not Cyclonus.

SWEEP

Blitzwing? So you are colluding with the Autobots again?

RUMBLE

That comes from someone who helped an impostor taking over as leader?

PANEL 6:

KUP

Maybe we should follow an old tradition here and feed him to the Sharkticons.

SWEEP

No, no - I will talk. I will tell you everything.

Thank you for reading.

The three non-sentient Cyclonus copies introduced here, were of course created with the Insecticon cloning ability, as Bombshell-Cyclonus has hinted (An ability that the reformed Insecticons still possess, as shown in the Sweeps) and that the Insecticons helped him to reactivate.

Like I mentioned earlier, the idea that the second Cyclonus actually existed and then disappeared was inspired by the short film `10.000 pardons, you mean Bombshell...` where it was mostly played for laughs. Here however it is part of a more serious storyline.

xxx

For Optimus Prime's Powermaster partner, I preferred the japanise name Ginrai over the american Hi-Q, simply because it sounds and works more like an actual name. I however left him a nebulon, instead of a human like the japanise version, but made him younger than in the comics.

So his character is (for now) basically a mix of the marvel comic and the japanize version.

Ginrai/Hi-Q's wife Lyra is of course partly based on the character with the same name from the Wings Continuity comics.

The Decepticon Skywing and her partner Aira are OC's created by me.

xxx

Side Note: For this story, I also made the partners of the second set of Decepticon Head- and Targetmasters humanoid aliens of the from me invented alerian species, instead of nebulons. Well, the japanize continuity took even greater liberties in making them humans with Transtactors.

The next issue will be the final part of the pilot three-parter.