

THE TRANSFORMERS

ReAnimated X

Day of the
Thundercracker



Transformers ReAnimated X
Episode 4

'Day of the Thundercracker'

Written by

Jan-Peter Siebolds, a.k.a
Shadowwriter

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.

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Panel 1

CAPTION: The Year 2008. Triangulum Galaxy - Millions of light-years away from Cybertron and Earth, Decepticon territory. After the Plasma Energy Chamber send them to another part of the universe...

EXT. A spaceship is hanging motionless in space with a large pale-blue planet in the background

Captioned: In the orbit of a lifeless ice-giant in an unpopulated star-system close to the Alerian System.

PANEL 2:

INT. On the bridge of the ship is a group of completely grey colored, somehow simplistic designed looking robots with expressionless faces. On the outside they resembled Cybertronians, but they were just lifeless constructs – Drones.

Drone Robot

(with living pilot)

We are ready to start Lord Galvatron.

Captioned: The crew consists of non-sentient drone robots the Decepticon have built. Drones however controlled by a small group of sentient beings. Three alerians - volunteers, who are inside the heads of the three of the drone-robots and controlling them through a simplified version of the Headmaster process.

PANEL 3:

CAPTION: Inside Skorponok's spaceship-mode, in some distance away

WIDE SHOT - Galvatron, Cyclonus and Sixshot are standing beside Zarak, who is sitting in a large mechanized chair, without his Headmaster exo-suit.

Galvatron

Do it.

All four of them are watching the same ship on a large screen before them. The ship is now being surrounded by something that looks like a large blue glowing circle in space...

PANEL 4:

...and then the ship disappears. The screen now shows only empty space in the next moment.

Cyclonus speaks into a communicator.

Cyclonus

Scourge - has the transwarp-ship appeared at the correct location?

Captioned: The Decepticons are now in control of multiple planets. Some of them conquered, some willingly handed over, in exchange for 'protection' from the murderous kyrik species.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: A few lightyears away...

EXT. HIGH SHOT - Scourge is standing on the hull of Astrotrain's shuttle-mode, flanked by the Targetmaster Decepticons Misfire and Skywing (and her Targetmaster partners Aimless and Aira in gun-mode), Take off and his 'partner' Screech - a bird like robot, now piloted by a alerian pilot.

Scourge's advanced sensors are scanning the entire area of space as he looks around them.

With Take Off - whose sensors are also very advanced, but not nearly at the level of Scourge - assisting him.

Scourge

No Cyclonus - there is nothing to see here of it.

Captioned: Aside from this, the Decepticons are also working on another 'weapon'. An engine that will allows them to bend the laws of time and space and move anywhere in space instantious.

PAGE 2:

PANEL 1:

INT. Skorponok

Zarak

It seems this experiment has failed. For now at least.

Galvatron

Yes - but the transwarp technology works, technically. We are just not able to control it yet.

Zarak

Sadly the ability to send an object instantly to any point in the universe means little, if you can not control **where** it arrives.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - Galvatron, Cyclonus, Sixhot and Zarak

Sixshot

If it does not work in time, we will just have to breach their defenses and take out their weapons the next time before they can torch another planet. I volunteer to lead the charge.

Galvatron

Your offer is noted Sixshot. But it is not sure yet that the project has failed.

Scourge

(over the com.)

Wait.

PANEL 3:

EXT. With Scourge and his team.

Scourge

(cont.)

I have something. Yes - it is the signal of the ship. It is at the very edge of my sensor range.

Galvatron

(over the com.)

Follow it. Report everything you find.

Scourge

Yes Galvatron.

PANEL 4:

Scourge transforms into his space hovercraft-mode, while the others are entering Astrotrain's shuttle form...

... and they fly off to the source of the signal.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: Some time later... they have reached another star system.

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - Scourge and Astrotrain flying next to each other are approaching another planet.

Scourge

It is here. The ship is down there on the planet.

PANEL 6:

INT. Skorponok

Galvatron

That means it has crashed.

Cyclonus

Or worse - rematerialized on or **inside** of the planet.

Galvatron

(into the com.)

Scourge - find the ship... or whatever is left of it.

PAGE 3:

PANEL 1:

CAPTION: On the surface, some time later

WIDE SHOT - Scourge, Astrotrain, Skywing, Misfire and Take Off were now standing on the stoney surface of the planet.

Aira, Aimless and Scourge's own Targetmaster partner Fracas have transformed their exo-suits into 'robot' form and are standing next to them.

While Screech is in bird form sitting on Take Off's shoulder.

They are looking at the engines of the transwarp-ship, that are raging out of the side of a mountain that the ship had been rammed into.

Skywing

So much for retrieving the whole ship.

Misfire

Can you teleport inside?

Skywing

Of course I **can**. But since I have no idea what is in there, I will certainly not **do** it. I have no wish not materialize inside a wall of a rock.

PANEL 2:

Astrotrain

This kind of looks like the Ark did back on Earth, doesn't it?

Skywing

I wouldn't know. I was not alive back then.

Take Off points into another direction.

Take Off

Over there is an opening.

PANEL 3:

HIGH SHOT - Scourge sees it as well, the entrance to some kind of cave. It is unclear if it has been ripped open by the spaceship-crash or had been there before.

But it might lead them inside.

Scourge

Come - maybe we can get inside the ship and access the computer.

PANEL 4:

INT. The group of Decepticons is now walking inside the cave.

Misfire

(commenting)

Well - even if we don't find anything, we still have enough alerians with a DEATH WISH, for more suicide-missions like this.

Aira turns around and stares at him.

Skywing

You better look out what you say Misfire. My partner does not like it much.

Aimless (Misfire's partner)

Hey - it is not that what Misfire said is wrong. I know Aira's people are scared of this kyrix. But some of them are just too willing to throw away their li...

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: Suddenly they hear something in front of them.

WIDE SHOT - Fracas, Aira and Aimless transform instantly into Scourge's, Skywing's and Misfire's guns, which they are pointing in front of them...

... while Screech transforms into a battle-mask that covers Take Off's head.

But what they see then makes all of them freeze,

PAGE 4:

PANEL 1:

The the tunnel in front of them seems to just end and disappear a few meters before them... and instead there is... a dark mass of nothing... a black hole in the air?

Take off

My sensors are failing. They say there is nothing.

Scourge

It is LITERALLY NOTHING. It is some kind of rift in space. Right here in the tunnel.

PANEL 2:

HIGH ANGLE - But suddenly... some kind of black tentacles are bursting out of the black hole and targeting them.

Skywing
(shouting)

What?

Misfire
(shouting)

Ah!

They all open fire.

Their blasts are causing damage and manage to stop a few of them. The tentacles however did not seem to consist of any kind of regular matter and are just dissolving into nothing when destroyed.

But there are coming more and MORE of them out of the black hole.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE SHOT - The tentacles catch Scourge who is the closest and are wringing themselves around his body. They are strong, strong enough to hold even a Transformers.

Captioned: Fracas, after trying to save Scourge with a few blasts, transforms into robot-mode and barely manages to escape them.

PANEL 4:

NOTE: Blackened panel.

CAPTION: ... and then everything around becomes dark. As Scourge comes back to his senses he hears the loud sound of laserfire around him.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: As Scourge is able to see again, he is not longer at the same place as before. THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE.

WIDE SHOT - He sees that he is at Autobot City... and Soundwave, Blitzwing, Thrust and Shrapnell standing next to him?

CAPTIONED: He realizes where he is. Or rather when.

PANEL 6:

CAPTION: He is back at the Battle of 2005.

CLOSE SHOT from `Scourges' p.o.v - He is looking down at his own hands. Their are no sharp claws and their are two sleek blue Seeker cannons mounted at the sides of his arms.

Captioned: He is Thundercracker again. How? The last he remembers is the hole in space and the tentacles.

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PANEL 1:

CAPTION: It is the Year 2005, the Battle of Autobot City is in it's final phase.

SPLASH PANEL, HIGH SHOT - View of Autobot City from the air.

Starscream and Dirge are flying in jet-mode over the city and firing down at the robots fighting beneath them.

Captioned: What has happened? Had the transwarp-drive send him back in time? But then why was he in his old body? He has been Scourge for around 3 years now... and he thinks he was getting used to it.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - Thundercracker, with Soundwave and Blitzwing next to him, lifts off the ground and flies up right into the sky.

Soundwave

Thundercracker?

Captioned: Scourge - no Thundercracker - knows what is just about to happen... so he nearly instinctively gets away.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - A few moments later Optimus Prime appears in truck form, rams Thrust frontally and nearly drives Shrapnell over...

PAGE 6:

PANEL 1:

... then he transforms and shoots himself through the group of Decepticons to get to Megatron.

Captioned: Thundercracker has seen this scene before. The last time Thundercracker had been one of these Decepticons. What had led to the damage that caused him to be thrown out of Astrotrain...

PANEL 2:

HIGH SHOT - In some distance Thundercracker sees his old friend Skywarp (who would soon be turned into Cyclonus) lying injured on the ground, with the dead body of the Autobot Huffer lying in some distance to him.

PANEL 3:

CLOSE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - Thundercracker lands next to Skywarp.

Thundercracker

Hold on Skywarp. They got you pretty bad this time.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: The battle continues like before.

TWO SHOT, SPLIT PANEL - Megatron shooting Optimus Prime and of a damaged Megatron being carried away by Soundwave.

Captioned: With the same outcome.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: Inside Astrotrain's shuttle form, a short time later.

WIDE SHOT – Starscream is walking between the assembled Decepticons.

Starscream

Fellow Decepticons - Astrotrain has asked us to lighten our burden.

Several Decepticons around him are exchanging glances.

PANEL 6:

Bonecrusher

In that case I say, survival of the fittest.

PAGE 7:

PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - Thundercracker is looking around at the afraid looking seriously damaged Decepticons behind him. Skywarp, the Insecticons... and now Thrust as well.

While around him the other Decepticons are raising their hands to vote to throw the injured out of Astrotrain.

Thundercracker

(thinking)

It seems that without me, Thrust has taken more damage in the encounter with Prime and is not one of the seriously injured. Sorry Thrust.

PANEL 2:

Thundercracker turns around to Starscream.

Thundercracker

You have planned this, didn't you?

Starscream

What?

Thundercracker

There is no way Astrotrain wouldn't realize he doesn't have enough fuel from the moment he started. You two have conspired to have Megatron and the other wounded thrown overboard, didn't you?

PANEL 3:

Everyone around is now staring at Starscream.

Hook

Is that true?

Scrapper

You mean you put us all in danger, for another of your dumb plots?

Starscream

Oh Thundercracker - sometimes you are just too smart...

He aims his weapon at Thundercracker...

PANEL 4:

... and fires.

Thundercracker gets hit in the chest and falls down.

Starscream

(cont.)

... for your own good.

Thundercracker

(thinking)

Damn it. I was careless.

PANEL 5:

Skywarp

(enraged)

Starscream!

The damaged Skywarp raises his own weapon as he sees Thundercracker getting shot... too slow thanks to his bad state.

Starscream is faster and shoots him as well.

Skywarp falls down DEAD.

Thundercracker

(thinking)

No - this can not be! It cannot.

Starscream

Back off. TRUE or NOT, we are all in this situation now and you can either throw them out or try to get to Cybertron by yourselves.

But in the same moment he is being shot by Soundwave, Hook, Scrapper and Blitzwing at the same time.

Captioned: Starscream's dead body falls down close to Skywarp's. Thundercracker watches it with a small glim of satisfaction. But...

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PANEL 1:

CAPTION: ... it comes all just like it did before.

WIDE SHOT - The wounded, including Thundercracker, are being thrown out of Astrotrain... together with the corpses of Skywarp and Starscream.

A few bodies are already floating out in space, as Thundercracker is being thrown out by Ramjet.

Ramjet

I am sorry.

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: A short time later - they meet Unicron, just like before.

CLOSE SHOT – Megatron is being transformed into Galvatron, with Unicron's transformation-beam has already finished it's work on the lower half of his body and the upper one still in mid-transformation.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT - Thundercracker has been turned into Scourge once again. Shrapnell and Kickback having been turned into two Sweeps next to him.

They are watching Thrust and Bombshell being transformed.

NOTE: Scourge and the two Sweeps at the left side, looking at Thrust and Bombshell at the right.

Captioned: Scourge/Thundercracker knows Unicron does not care about their former identities and who they are. Just about a effective fighting force to destroy the Matrix.

PANEL 4:

... and they see THRUST being turned into Cyclonus in Skywarp's place. With the ... with Bombshell turning into a second Cyclonus beside him?

Captioned: Unicron's voice halled through space - "Cyclonus - the Warrior." So he gives Cyclonus identity to someone else. But this Cyclonus is not the same person Scourge has known before.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: Later - On the Planet of Junk

CLOSE SHOT - Ultra Magnus holding the Matrix with both hands in front of his body.

Galvatron

(off panel)

Sweeps - terminate him.

PANEL 6:

CAPTION: This time however there is a small difference.

WIDE SHOT of Scourge and three Sweeps flying over the Planet of Junk and firing laserblasts.

Scourge

Aim for the head.

Captioned: ... Ultra Magnus is destroyed beyond any chance of repair, even for the Junkions.

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PANEL 1:

CAPTION: Scourge/Thundercracker once again finds himself somewhere else. He would recognize this place everywhere.

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - Cyclonus, Scourge, the other Cyclonus and three Sweeps were flying over the surface filled with lakes of burning plasma.

Cyclonus (Thrust)

There he is.

Captioned: The Dwarf Planet Thrull... where they have found Galvatron after the Unicron Battle.

PANEL 2:

REVERSE ANGLE - They transform into robot-mode and land on a solid part of the surface, right next to where Galvatron is lying in one of the plasma-lakes.

Scourge

Sweeps - get Galvatron out of the plasma.

Captioned: Scourge suddenly remembers what had happened. Like before, Hotrod had managed to take the Matrix from Galvatron and become Rodimus Prime.

PANEL 3:

NOTE: Flashback

EXT. Unicron is in robot-mode, standing above the torn apart wreckage of Cybertron, as the light of the opened Matrix is filling the space next to him.

Captioned: But in **this** reality, it had been too late. Cybertron had already been destroyed.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: ... and Unicron had survived.

A damaged Unicron, with a missing arm and burn marks on his chest and upper body is standing in open space.

With the Battleship Revenge floating next to him.

Captioned: And he had enslaved the surviving Decepticons. The memory comes to Scourge as a pure shock. How had he not remembered this a moment before?

PANEL 5:

NOTE: Flashback End

Two of the Sweeps have dragged Galvatron out of the plasma.

But in the moment he opens his eyes, he suddenly starts screaming and pushes the two Sweeps holding him aside, striking one of them in the face in the process.

Galvatron

Arhh! Who disturbs my plasma bath?

Just as Scourge had expected.

PANEL 6:

Cyclonus

Galvatron - we were send here to retrieve you.

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PANEL 1:

CLOSE SHOT - Galvatron punches Cyclonus in the face.

Galvatron

Retrieve? Did I ask for that?

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT - Galvatron turns around and fires at the Sweeps and the Cyclonus copy. One of his blasts his the ground in front of one of the Sweeps. A second blast hits another one in the shoulder.

And a third one hits the Cyclonus look-alike, who is flying in jet-mode over the plasma lake behind them, flanked by the third Sweep.

Galvatron

Did I?

PANEL 3:

Galvatron continues with another blast that sends both the Cyclonus copy and the Sweep crashing into the plasma.

Captioned: `Just like OLD TIMES'. Scourge thinking: `Well - it did work the first time after all.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: Scourge just does the same thing he did before.

He stands in front of Galvatron, saluting him.

Scourge

Mighty Galvatron - I have learned your lesson. Now I not only know that you **are** the leader, but also why.

Galvatron

(looking confused)

Scourge... tell me... Cybertron, it is gone, isn't it?

Scourge

Yes My Lord.

PANEL 5:

Cyclonus Copy

We are here on order of Unicron. To bring you back to lead the Decepticons again.

Galvatron

(seemingly calm)

I see, on order of Unicron.

PANEL 6:

Cyclonus Copy

We are...

Galvatron raises his cannon and fires at him... and the Cyclonus copy's head blows up.

Galvatron

(absendmindedly)

On order from Unicron. Yes I understand.

Captioned: Scourge: `He is worse than ever before.'

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - They all are staring from Galvatron to the headless corpse and back. Nobody says something for a few moments.

Galvatron

And what exactly does Unicron want us to do?

Captioned: Scourge: 'Note to myself - never mention Orders from Unicron to **this** Galvatron if you can avoid it. Sorry Bombshell. Not that I ever liked you.

PANEL 2:

Cyclonus (Thrust)

He wants us to attack Earth and the Autobots on it.

Galvatron

Ah - yes, with Cybertron destroyed the remaining Autobots will have **fully** relocated to that planet.

Then **let** us do it.

Galvatron smiles.

PANEL 3:

CAPTION: The Year 2006, in an alternate world... Earth is burning. The entire Decepticon Army is attacking at multiple places all over the planet.

EXT. New York City

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - Dozens of Decepticons are flying over New York, reigning down death on the city or fighting Autobots on the ground and in the air.

Scourge himself, Cyclonus (Thrust), two Sweeps, Sixshot, Ramjet, Dirge, Darkwing, Dreadwind, Blitzwing and Octane are facing the Autobots Skylinx, the Aerialbots, Powerglide, Skyfire, Cosmos and three other Autobot jets in the air.

Skylinx in his 'Dinosaur' - mode has shot and blown up one Sweep, while Cyclonus missiles has hit and destroyed one Autobot jet whose name Scourge does not know.

On the ground the Decepticon Combiners Bruticus and Predaking are fighting Defensor and Omega Supreme. They are tearing down entire buildings in the process.

Besides them many other Autobots and Decepticons are fighting each other down on the ground.

Great parts of the city are devastated and standing in flames.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT, LOW ANGLE - Galvatron is levitating over the town.

And he is firing down at two Skyscrapers. The blasts of his particle-cannon blow-up the large buildings from the inside out and cause them to collapse into themselves... and kill or bury alive thousands of humans inside.

All that while Galvatron is laughing manically.

Galvatron

Ha ha ha ha ha!

Scourge is silently watching his leader for a few moments.

Captioned: Earth was burning... but so are the Decepticons. And Scourge only feels one thing. This is wrong, **all** of this. **Nothing** of this should have happened.

PANEL 5:

HIGH ANGLE - Scourge looks down and sees the corpses of Astrotrain, one Sweep and Runamuck, lying not far away from the ones of the Autobots Blurr, Inferno and the crashed and wrecked form of Silverbolt's jet-mode.

Scourge

(thinking)

This is not even a campaign, but a senseless massacre.

Captioned: 'Like back when you were under the influence of the Matrix?' he thinks sarcastically to himself.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE SHOT - on Scourge's face.

Captioned: Scourge knows that the same is happening all around the planet. Unicron does not care how many Decepticons die. He just wants to destroy the Autobots and especially the Matrix that is still in their possession... and Galvatron's madness is playing right into his hands.

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - In the next moment Scourge is himself hit by multiple blasts into his back.

To see behind him are the collapsed and burning remains of the two buildings Galvatron has just destroyed...

... and a few more Decepticon and Autobot jets fighting each other in the air.

Captioned: Scourge feels himself dieing as he is falling down.

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: ... and suddenly. It is the Year 2005 - Autobot City

EXT. Scourge - no, Thundercrackers finds himself back at Autobot City, at exactly the same spot next to Soundwave, Blitzwing, Shrapnell and Thrust.

Captioned: Thundercracker: `What in the world is going on here? Is this like this earth-movie with that ground-animal, where time always repeats again and again? Or am I maybe in some kind of simulation? But that thought vanishes as soon as he had it.'

PANEL 3:

HIGH SHOT - Thundercracker lifts up once again.

Soundwave

Thundercracker?

Captioned: He remembers this nightmare-future. Cybertron destroyed by Unicron and the Decepticons enslaved by him. It still feels wrong. He can remember some parts of it clearly, while others are just vague. Is any of this even real? Maybe he is actually lying somewhere in stasis and just hallucinating all this? it crosses his mind.

Or maybe he is dead and **this** was Hell?

PANEL 4:

HIGH ANGLE - He lands next to Skywarp once again.

Thundercracker

Hold on Skywarp. I am doing my best to help you.

Skywarp

Better take care of yourself, so that you don't end up the same way.

Thundercracker

Trust me. I won't.

PANEL 5:

CLOSE SHOT - Thundercracker is trying to provisorically patch up the worst of Skywarp's injuries, while at the same time constantly looks around in case a Autobot shows up.

Thundercracker
Sorry, but I have other things to do.

Skywarp smiles.

Skywarp
Don't worry. I'm still able to shoot any Autobot who comes close to me.

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PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT - Thundercracker flies off again. In some distance behind him Devastator is just fighting the Dinobots.

Captioned: He knows what he has to do. The last time he has just tried to let things play out, while keeping himself out of danger... and somehow made a terrible mess out of things. This time he will not let things to chance.

PANEL 2:

Thundercracker lands close to Optimus Prime and Megatron, with them fighting in the background. They are both locked in hand to hand combat.

PANEL 3:

Optimus just manages to break Megatron's grip, lift him up and throws him down to the ground. As Thundercracker stands behind him, with a wall separating him from the Autobot Leader.

PANEL 4:

Optimus picks up his weapon that he has lost during their fight earlier, just like Megatron had his fusion cannon.

But in just this moment Thundercracker shoots him in the back...once, twice.

Captioned: Optimus already damaged and weakened armor offers no real protection.

PANEL 5:

Optimus falls down, with an surprised and a bit shocked looking Megatron kneeling next to him.

Megatron
Thundercracker?

PANEL 6:

CAPTION: But in the next moment...

CLOSE SHOT - Thundercracker himself is being attacked, by the furious Autobot Hotrod, who charges into him even more furious.

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PANEL 1:

Hotrod has his arms around Thundercracker's throat as if he is trying to strangle him.

At the same time the Autobot uses his elbows to push his Seeker cannons at the sides, so that he can not use them against him.

Hotrod

You will pay for this.

Kup

(Off panel)

Out of the way Hotrod!

PANEL 2:

Hotrod smiles, releases Thundercracker and jumps out of the way...

... as in the same moment Kup shoots Thundercracker into the back, once twice.

Thundercracker

(thinking)

Just like Prime a moment ago. Maybe this is what the humans call karma.

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT, THUNDERCRACKER'S P.O.V - The last thing Thundercracker sees is that Megatron has picked up a gun and is shooting at the two Autobots. Kup has been hit and is falling down.

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: Then...

Thundercracker finds himself once again standing at exactly the same spot like before.

Captioned: Had he just died? Again? He had just gotten himself killed. What else could he do?

PANEL 5:

Soundwave
Thundercracker - are you alright?

Thundercracker realizes that he has just been staring absentmindedly into the air.

Thundercracker
Yes - yes I am.

Captioned: This time he would do NOTHING. He just stands by and waits for Optimus Prime to appear and fights his way through them. And hope that everything would play out as it should.

PANEL 6:

CLOSE SHOT – Optimus arrives in truck-mode and is ramming into Thrust.

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PANEL 1:

CAPTION: It did NOT play out as it should.

WIDE SHOT - Scourge is standing next to Cyclonus, the Sweeps...

... and their new leader Deathscream - a Unicron upgraded Starscream - on Cybertron.

In opposite to Cyclonus and Scourge, DEATHSCREAM looks pretty similar to his old self. Just taller, with purple legs instead his normal blue ones and the lower half of his wings colored purple.

Before them the giant form of Unicron's planet-mode is filling the sky.

Captioned: How did it come to this?

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: Optimus defeated and killed Megatron

WIDE SHOT - Optimus shooting a hole into Megatron's chest with his rifle.

Captioned: Why? Had it just been coincidence? Or was still something different? Maybe just some small details?

PANEL 3:

EXT. Astrotrain is flying up into Earth's orbit.

Captioned: Knowing his idea to return things like they WERE before has failed, Thundercracker makes one small comment at the RIGHT time.

PANEL 4:

INT. Thundercracker is sitting inside Astrotrain between the injured Skywarp, Shrapnell, Kickback and Bombshell.

Thundercracker

Hey Astrotrain - are you sure you have enough fuel to bring us back to Cybertron?

Astrotrain

Ahh – well...

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: The Decepticons decide to make a short departure back to Earth... to refuel.

EXT. Astrotrain has landed and the still functional Decepticons attack a nuclear power-plant somewhere.

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PANEL 1:

CAPTION: But on their way back to Cybertron they come across Unicron, who is just destroying Moonbase 1...

CLOSE SHOT - Unicron is eating the Moon.

PANEL 2:

CAPTION: ... and he offered Starscream greater power in exchange for destroying the Matrix.

WIDE SHOT - Starscream, Soundwave and Ramjet standing on top of Astrotrain's shuttle-mode.

PANEL 3:

CAPTION: The wounded being reformed into new warriors is part of the deal... just as Starscream himself.

DEATHSCREAM is standing in front of SCOURGE, CYCLONUS, an reformed RAMJET who looks like Cyclonus in Ramjet's colors and two SWEEPS.

PANEL 4:

CLOSE SHOT at Cyclonus

Captioned: Scourge: Cyclonus though is once again Skywarp. At least one thing is like it is supposed to be.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: But it once again ends like this...

WIDE SHOT - Unicron has transformed into robot mode and is attacking Cybertron. He has just now slammed his hand into the surface and crushed an area in size if an entire sector.

Starscream/Deathscream, Cyclonus and Shockwave are standing in shock and horror at the top of Decepticon Headquarters.

With Scourge standing next to them.

Deathscream

No, no no!

Shockwave

Decepticons - we are under attack... scramble. Defend Cybertron... if you can (voice shaking).

PAGE 17:

PANEL 1:

Scourge transforms and flies off... up into the sky towards Unicron.

Cyclonus

(shouting)

Scourge what are you doing!?

Shockwave

That is not logical.

PANEL 2:

But Scourge flies straight towards the Planet Eater.

Scourge

Unicron, Unicron - come and get me!

PANEL 3:

Unicron fires one of his eye-lasers at him...

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: ...and one moment later Thundercracker finds himself once again back at the same place in Autobot City...

WIDE SHOT - ... standing next to Soundwave, Blitzwing, Shrapnell and Thrust, Thundercracker starts to laugh wildly.

Thundercracker

Ha ha ha ha.. aha ha ha ha!

PANEL 5:

Soundwave

Thundercracker? What are you...?

Thundercracker

Ah - shut up!

PANEL 6:

Thundercracker flies off again and transforms into jet-mode..

Captioned: This time he **really** knows what he has to do.

PAGE 17:

PANEL 1:

WIDE SHOT, LOW ANGLE - Starscream is in this moment flying in jet form over the two Autobots Perceptor and Blaster and firing down blasts at them.

With the two Autobots shooting back at him.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - Thundercracker moves himself right behind Starscream... and fires.

PANEL 3:

LOW ANGLE - Starscream's heck explodes and he starts plummeting down screaming.

Starscream

Arhh!

And from the ground Blaster and Perceptor are starring in surprise at Thundercracker, who had just... defended them?

Blaster

What the...?

PANEL 4:

LOW ANGLE - Starscream comes down quite close to Optimus Prime and Megatron, who are just fighting each other, with Megatron holding a lightsaber in his hand...

... and he crashes in the ground next to them.

Both of them stop their duel for a moment.

PANEL 5:

WIDE SHOT - Just as Thundercracker flies down and transforms right before them. But he does not pay much attention to them and instead points his weapon at Starscream, who is on the ground before him still in jet-form...

PAGE 18:

PANEL 1:

... and starts shooting at him again and again.

Thundercracker's face has turned into a twisted grimace as he was doing this.

Optimus and Megatron just stare at him in bewilderment.

Megatron

(shouting)

Thundercracker - what in the world are you doing?

PANEL 2:

Thundercracker looks around to them, with Optimus and Megatron standing to both of his sides, looking as if he had not even noticed them before.

Thundercracker

Megatron. Starscream - he was planning to betray you, he...

He is however suddenly interrupted, as Dirge who has seen everything comes flying down firing at Thundercracker.

Dirge

(shouting)

You traitor!

... and Thundercracker shoots back.

PANEL 3:

He hits Dirge, who crashes into a wall close to them.

Optimus and Megatron however have used the short distraction to retrieve their weapons that they had lost as they disarmed each other during the earlier fight.

PANEL 4:

WIDE SHOT - Both Optimus and Megatron reach their guns at the same time.

Megatron

Enough of all this!

PANEL 5:

They fire at the same moment... and they BOTH hit EACH OTHER right into the chest. Their weakened armor serve no protection...

... and Optimus Prime and Megatron both fall down.

Thundercracker is only staring at what had just happened.

Captioned: He can just not believe it. Optimus and Megatron both died. Thundercracker killed Starscream and shot down Dirge.

PAGE 19:

PANEL 1:

CAPTION: ... and once again Thundercracker finds himself somewhere else. Someone is speaking to him. It is Hotrod - No, Rodimus Prime.

SPLIT PANEL - Rodimus is standing next to him... and Thundercracker sees an AUTOBOT SYMBOL on his OWN wings.

Rodimus

Thundercracker. We will try to take them under fire from two sides.

PANEL 2:

WIDE SHOT, HIGH ANGLE - They are standing on a battlefield somewhere on Cybertron.

On the opposing side he sees Shockwave, Soundwave, Ramjet, Astrotrain, Blitzwing the Stunticons, Wingspan, Pounce, Triggerhappy, Slugslinger and Misfire.

And on theirs Rodimus Prime, Ultra Magnus, Kup, Blurr, Arcee, Springer, the Protectobots, Fastlane, Cloudraker,... MIRAGE AND TRAILBREAKER?

Captioned: 'He always had his doubts about what they were doing? But actually switching sides and becoming an Autobot? Then he remembered what happened. He might not have had much choice.'

PANEL 3:

WIDE SHOT - Thundercracker is standing between Rodimus and Ultra Magnus and Kup, Mirage and Trailbreaker... and he is staring at the last two.

Rodimus

What are you waiting for Thundercracker? YOU, Kup, Blurr, Springer, Trailbreaker and Mirage go to the left.

Mirage

Ah Thundercracker - why are you staring at us like that?

Captioned: What is going on here? Mirage and Trailbreaker BOTH DIED years BEFORE the Battle of Autobot City. So if the past had changed from THAT point on, HOW could they be here?

PANEL 4:

CAPTION: No, this is all wrong. This is all - this is all... NOT REAL... he realizes. And it becomes dark again.

NOTE: Another Black Panel. A voice coming from the Darkness.

Voice

I see you are awake. You were resisting the Psychic Simulations I was feeding you with. It seems your mind has subconsciously created a scene you KNEW could not be real.

PANEL 5:

CAPTION: SCOURGE opens his eyes. What he sees is one of the most bizarre scenes he has ever watched... and he had seen many bizarre scenes.

WIDE SHOT – Scourge (not longer Thundercracker) realizes he is underwater. On all sides he can see these black tentacles forming themselves from the ground and moving around.

One of them - a small one - was connected to his forehead until a moment ago, but has released him now.

At the edges of the room is standing a line of creatures who remind him of Pretenders in monster form - looking like a mixture of robots and different alien creatures...

But they are nothing compared to what is standing next to them. Scourge recognizes this being instantly - PIRANACON.

But now just one, TWO of them. Two identical Piranacons are standing next to each other as if they are guarding the entrance.

Scourge remembers how the Autobots and the Decepticons once had to TEAM UP to stop ONE of these monsters from another dimension.

But these two are just standing there, completely quietly. As if something was commanding or CONTROLLING them.

... and in the center of the room. Something that looks like a blue and red shimmering globe of energy.

But Scourge knows that it is far more than that. He knows this was the BEING that has just been talking to him and the energy reading his sensors detect from this being are off any charts.

Voice

My Soldiers have raised your attention? You have met one of them before, yes.

Scourge

Who are you?

Voice

I have been given many names by the creatures of the different universes CHILD. But there is one I am best known by

– I am Devil Z.

Captioned: 'So he was right, he IS in Hell. This must be the place where the FIRST Piranacon originally came from,' Scourge realizes."

PAGE 20:

PAGE 1:

CLOSE SHOT - Scourge is still shackled by four of the black tentacles.

Scourge

Psychic Simulations? So NOTHING I have seen was real?

Devil Z/Voice

I admit SOME of it was based on other universes similar to yours that I have been watching from the distance. But I wanted to know more information about **your** reality and it's current state. Quiet now. Your comrades have arrived.

Captioned: The tentacles are carrying Scourge back through the rift...

PAGE 2:

WIDE SHOT, DIAGONAL ANGLE - ... back inside the cave from before...

... and he is hung up right in front of Galvatron, Cyclonus (and Nightstick in gun-form), Sixshot and two Sweeps, who are standing inside the cave.

Devil Z

I see you have arrived Megatron - No Galvatron.

Galvatron

This voice? You know of me? Have we met before?

Devil Z

In a sense. Your kind and your PREDECESSORS have tried to open a gate to my Realm before, as you might be aware of.

Your device that you call the Transwarp Drive has now opened a small rift into my dimension, but sadly it is not enough for my ARMIES to pass through.

PAGE 3:

Scourge
(shouting)

Galvatron - you must not let them through, you **must** not!

Devil Z

Don't be so hasty. Together no force in YOUR universe could stand in our way. And then we could open gate to another dimensions. Not only one universe but the entire MULTIVERSE could be ours.

Galvatron

You know, I heard such offers many times before. Many times of it, I had made them myself... and they were **never** trustworthy.
CYCLONUS, SIXSHOT - **now!**

PAGE 4:

At his word Cyclonus and Sixshot fire at the tentacles that are holding Scourge and disintegrate them.

Galvatron

Lets get out of here!

PAGE 5:

Astrotrain, Skywing, Misfire, Aira, Aimless, Fracas and Take-Off and Screech are waiting for them outside.

They see the others come running out of the cave... with the tentacles following closely behind them.

But as they are outside and in some distance Galvatron turns around, and transforms into cannon-mode... and fires.

Cyclonus

It is good to have you back Scourge.

PAGE 6:

The tentacles, the cave and the entire mountain have vanished in a giant explosion.

Galvatron

This should be it. There is no way anything is left of the transwarp drive or this 'gate'. Scourge I am curious about your report about this.

Next to him Fracas just transforms into gun-mode and in this moment arrives in Scourge's hand.

Scourge

Of course Galvatron.

END