

B.R.T. Special

Haxxmas 2010

**featuring the
B.R.T. Christmas Stars**

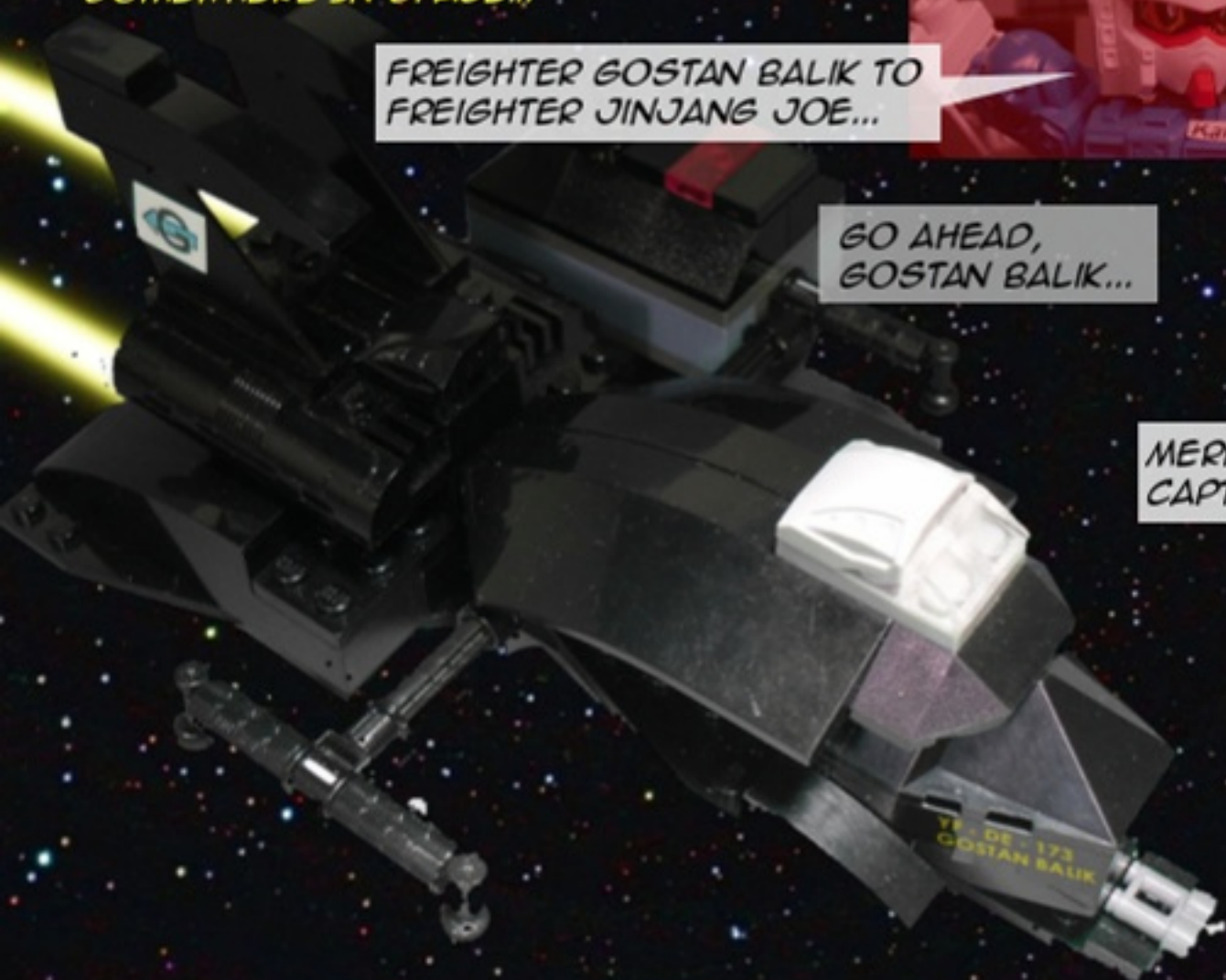
CHRISTMAS EVE...
SOMEWHERE IN SPACE...

FREIGHTER GOSTAN BALIK TO
FREIGHTER JINJANG JOE...

GO AHEAD,
GOSTAN BALIK...

MERRY CHRISTMAS,
CAPTAIN IMBI.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS,
CAPTAIN KAHN.
GOT ANY BIG
PLANS?



WE'RE PICKING UP SOME PASSENGERS
FOR A CHRISTMAS PARTY AT SIDEWAYS'.

THE RESTAURANT AT THE END OF
THE MULTIVERSE AH?
GOT TO CROSS SOME DICEY
HYPERSPACE, ALONG THE WAY...

YF-DE-048
JINJANG JOE

YES, ALL I WANT
FOR CHRISTMAS
IS A FIGHTER
ESCORT...



KAHN! CHECK YOUR SCANNERS!
I THINK YOUR WISH IS GRANTED.

GOSTAN BALIK,
DO YOU COPY?
THIS IS SOLO-1
"FALLDOWN"...

SPACING WITH
ME IS SOLO-2
"BACKUP"...





BACKUP, HONEY!
HOW'S THE RIDE
ON THAT RELIC?



SMOOTHER THAN
THAT SHAKY
SCIENCE PROJECT!



NO KIDDING! THIS ONE'S GOT MORE
WAVE MOTION THAN THE YAMATO!

SOLO-1, WHO IS THAT WITH YOU?



SOLO-3 IS E. C. R. FORMER.
HE'S A CRUISER VEC, SO ANYTHING THAT CAN
TURN WITHIN A HIC OR TWO IS SLUMMING IT.




HE'S HERE TO FLY COVER?

NOT QUITE. YOU'LL RECALL ALL OF THOSE, UH,
NAVIGATIONAL DIFFICULTIES YOU HAD, WHICH
ENDED UP GETTING YOU LOST? AND THAT
CONTAINER YOU DIDN'T INSPECT, WHICH ENDED
UP BEING FULL OF STOWAWAYS? AND THE
IMPERIAL ENTANGLEMENTS, THE UNDELIVERED
CARGOES...

UH, I CAN EXPLAIN...



SEE, THE ALLIANCE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE A REPEAT OF THAT. IT JUST LOOKS BAD.
SO THEY'RE SENDING E.C.R.F ALONG. HE KNOWS THE ROUTE. IT'S A TOUGH ONE.
TOUGH BEYOND YOUR WILDEST IMAGINATION, YOU MIGHT SAY -



BUT...NAVIGATING
IS MY JOB!

GO NAVIGATE YOURSELF TO
THE ALLSPARK, TYCHO!

JUST GIVE ME
A CUP OF SPICE,
AND I'LL GET
US THERE-

STOP YOUR BICKERING,
OR WE'LL ALL GET
SCROOGED!

NOW, CAPTAIN, THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
'FORMER IS JUST HERE TO HELP THINGS GO SMOOTHLY.
I'M NOT SURE WHY THE ALLIANCE IS SO CONCERNED ABOUT
A CHRISTMAS GATHERING. I'VE HEARD THERE MIGHT HAVE
BEEN SOME TEMPORAL FALLOUT INVOLVED WITH
LAST YEAR'S PARTY, THOUGH, AND YOU KNOW HOW
SERIOUSLY THE ALLIANCE TAKES THAT. IN FACT-

QUESTION, FALLDOWN.
WHERE DOES YOUR
FLIGHT SPACE FROM?

THE STAR DESTROYER *EXPOSITOR!*

-WHY DO YOU ASK?

→JEAN-LUC!←



VAROOOOM!



PARTY PARTY PARTY!
THIS IS GOING TO
BE SO MUCH FUN!

YEAH, PARTIO, LAST
YEAR'S BASH SOUNDED
LIKE A REAL **BLAST**...

THIS YEAR'S GOING TO BE DIFFERENT, POMOCK!
WE'RE GOING TO BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING!

...I'VE GOT MY GUNS, AND MY ARMOR,
AND, OF COURSE, YOU TWO - IT TURNS
OUT YOU QUALIFIED AS CARRY-ON
COMPACT PERSOCOMS...

HMF. 'CHI'
TO YOU, TOO,
BURNOUT...

THERE'S MORE, POMOCK! BURNOUT - THE OTHER ONE -
HE GAVE ME A REMOTE PRELOADED WITH THAT 'MIRACLE
CODE' HE DUG UP. ONE CLICK AND WHAM! HOME.
NOT LIKE LAST CHRISTMAS, AT ALL!

YES, BUT...

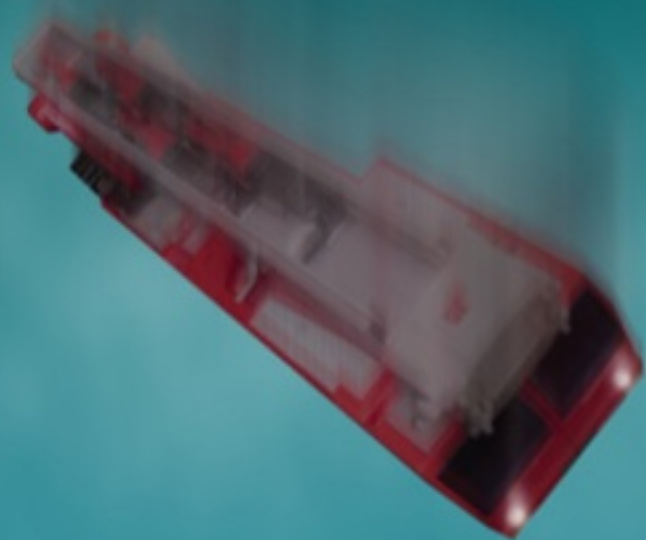
BUT WE WON'T NEED IT, PARTIO! THIS PARTY'S GOING
TO BE GOOD. BIG CROWD, MY SOURCES SAY. TOTAL
UNTAPPED MARKET. GOING TO MOVE A TON OF
VOCALOID, THIS YEAR, COUNT ON IT!

BUT,
BURNOUT-!

...I'M READY! I'VE GOT
CARDS, AND SAMPLES, AND
I'M UPLOADING A WHOLE
ROCKLORD SALES SEMINAR
SERIES ON DATATRACK TO
MY MEMORY, RIGHT NOW-

IS THAT WHY
YOU'RE DRIVING
OVER A CLIFF?!





AAAAUGH!

WHUMP!



TCP
PACKETS OF
PERFECTION

ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF
TRANS+CRAZY
POPCORN

U

URGH...

EVERYONE...OKAY?

WE'RE FINE!
YOU OKAY, BURNOUT?

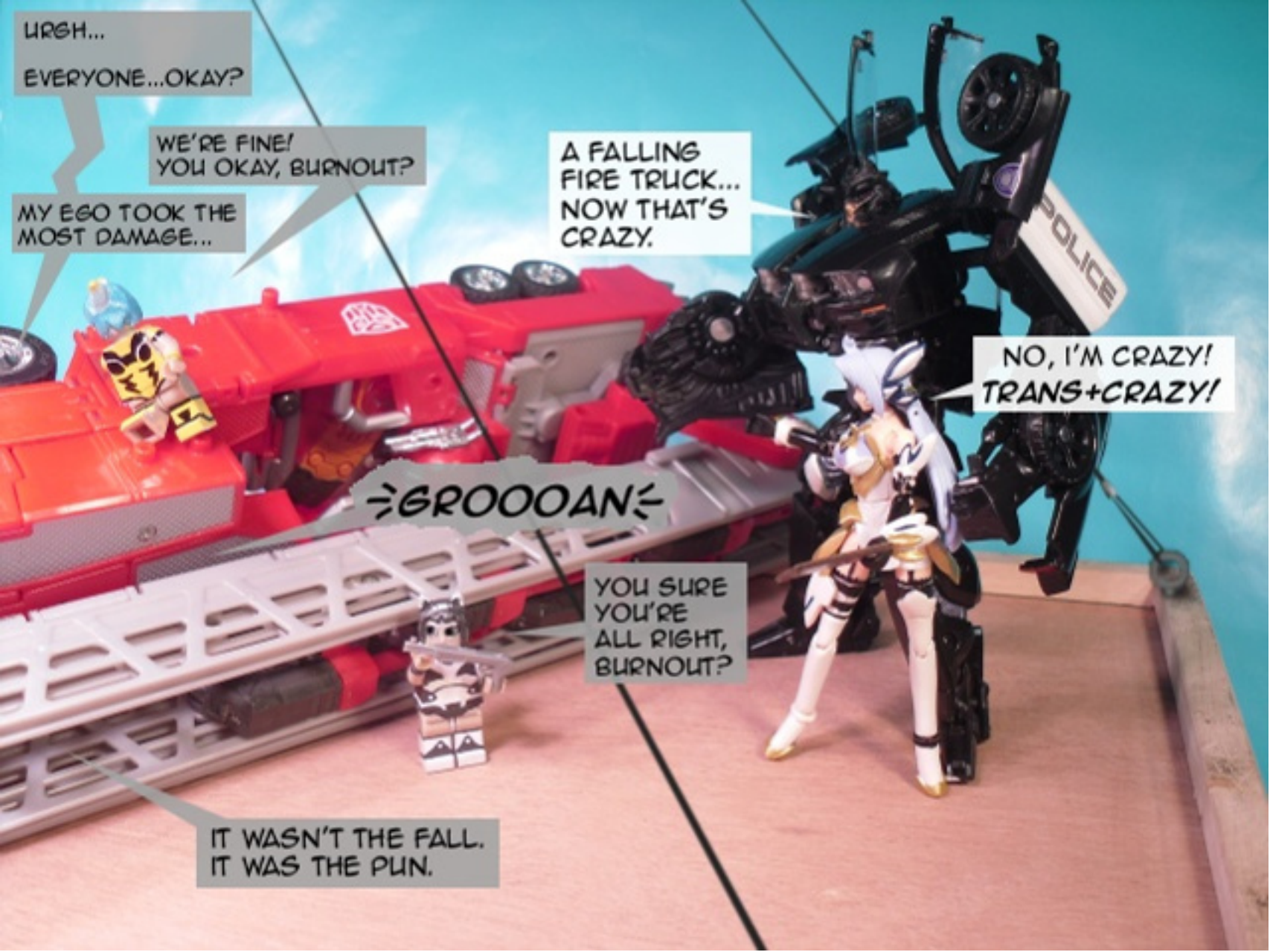
A FALLING
FIRE TRUCK...
NOW THAT'S
CRAZY.

NO, I'M CRAZY!
TRANS+CRAZY!

≡GROOOAN≡

YOU SURE
YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT,
BURNOUT?

IT WASN'T THE FALL.
IT WAS THE PUN.





VOCALOIDS, TC.

TAKE THAT LAST BIT, WHEN WE DROPPED IN. PRATFALL. STOCK-IN-TRADE. BUT YOU WANT SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING FRESH...

SO YOU BACK IT UP WITH HATSUNE MIKU SINGING "FALLEN DOWN". THAT'S IMPACT. TAKES IT TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL.

I'M LISTENING, BURNOUT, I REALLY AM...A BIT BUSY, JUST NOW...

FORGIVE ME, TC. TELL YOU WHAT...YOU LIKE MUSIC? I'VE GOT SOME SAMPLES...

YEAH, MUSIC, FINE...

I CAN SEE MY HOUSE FROM HERE!



MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE!

THE SHIP IS IN ORBIT, AND TAKING ON STORES. WE'LL SOON BE BOARDING THE SPACE ELEVATOR...

THOSE OF YOU ON MY LEFT ARE CLEARED TO BOARD, DIRECTLY...



...THOSE OF YOU TO MY RIGHT
HAVE BEEN RANDOMLY SELECTED
FOR AN ADDED ECCHI-RAY SCAN.
THIS PROCESS IS COMPLETELY
SAFE AND NON-INTRUSIVE...



ECCHI-RAY SCAN

TNA

REMEMBER,
THIS IS FOR
EVERYONE'S
PROTECTION...



JUST A MINUTE, YOU.
WHY IS IT ALL FEMMES
OVER HERE?!

UM...RISK LEVELS,
MOONSCREAM...YOU
ARE A DECEPTICON...



...NOW, THIS NEXT ONE
IS A FINE VOCALOID
COVER OF A CHRISTMAS
FAVORITE BY MARI-

INCOMING!

AUGH!

I DON'T WANT A LOT FOR CHRISTMAS
THERE IS JUST ONE THING I NEED...

MERRY CHRISTMAS,
LITTLE BOY!

HAVE YOU BEEN GOOD?

I DON'T CARE
ABOUT THE PRESENTS
UNDERNEATH MY
CHRISTMAS TREE...

NOT...REALLY.

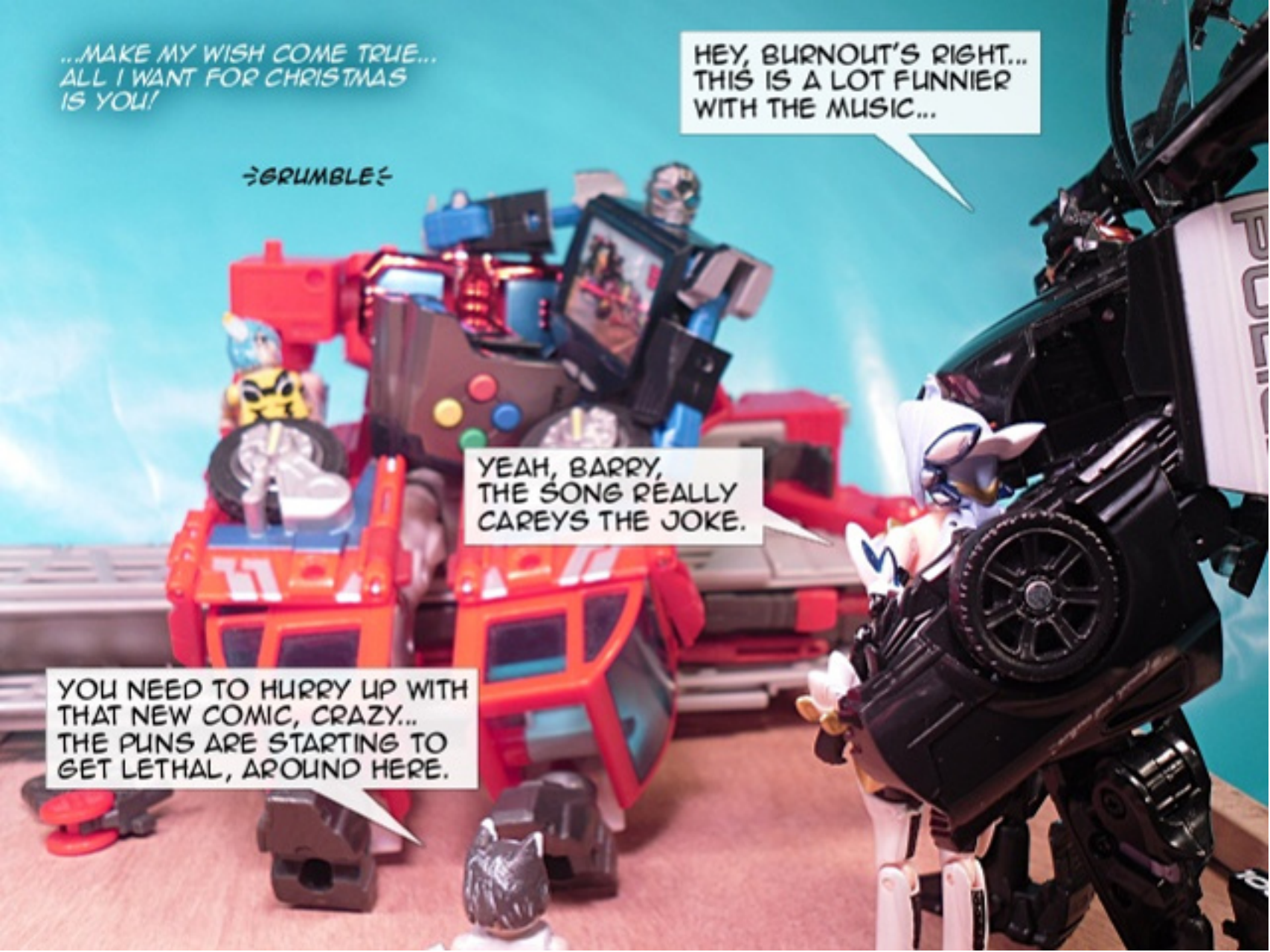
...MAKE MY WISH COME TRUE...
ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS
IS YOU!

HEY, BURNOUT'S RIGHT...
THIS IS A LOT FUNNIER
WITH THE MUSIC...

→GRUMBLE←

YEAH, BARRY,
THE SONG REALLY
CAREYS THE JOKE.

YOU NEED TO HURRY UP WITH
THAT NEW COMIC, CRAZY...
THE PUNS ARE STARTING TO
GET LETHAL, AROUND HERE.



YOU'VE GOT YOUR DJ, MR. HOBBY.
YOU'VE GOT YOUR BEATBOX...

VOCALOID BACKUP SINGERS,
DANCERS...THEY COULD GET
YOU OUT OF THE CLUBS,
BRING YOUR RHYMES
TO THE WORLD!

ISN'T SHE CUTE,
SNOWCRASH?!

HEE
HEE!


WHAT IS IT?
A MINICON?
A KISS PLAYER?

CAN THEY LAY A
PAGE OUT? MAKE THE
GRAPHICS SHOUT?
I'VE GOT A NEED FOR
SPEED, GETTING
COMICS OUT...

...I'M TALKING
PHOTOSHOP, POP!

WE'RE BUSOU SHINKI,
AND THOSE ARE
FIGHTING WORDS!

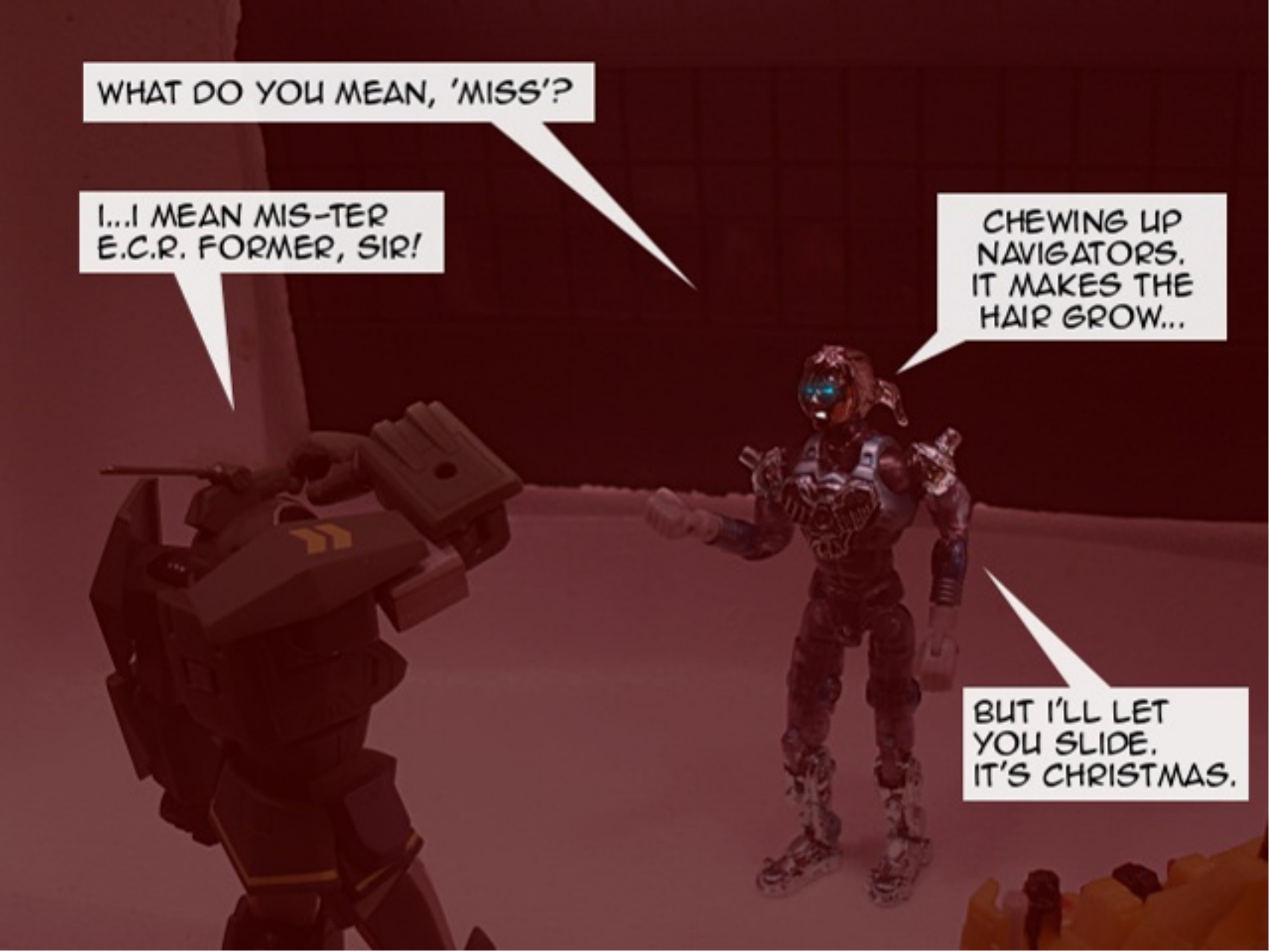
UM...WELL...THEY'RE VERY ADAPTABLE...
-DO YOU LIKE GRANDMASTER FLASH?
HERE'S A COVER RIN KAGAMINE MADE...



WHO'S THAT OVER THERE
WITH THE LONG HAIR, SUN?

IS SHE ONE OF THE PASSENGERS?

EXCUSE ME, MISS?
THIS IS A RESTRICTED AREA-



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, 'MISS'?

I...I MEAN MIS-TER
E.C.R. FORMER, SIR!

CHEWING UP
NAVIGATORS.
IT MAKES THE
HAIR GROW...

BUT I'LL LET
YOU SLIDE.
IT'S CHRISTMAS.

BUT...YOU KNOW WHAT'S MAKING IT
FEEL LESS LIKE CHRISTMAS, MR. TYCHO?

DIRT. RUST. CHIPPING PAINT. LOOK AT IT.
THIS SHIP IS A DISGRACE!

I'LL SEE THAT IT'S
CLEANED UP, SIR!

NOT YET.
YOU'RE GOING
TO SHOW ME
AROUND THE
WHOLE SHIP,
FIRST.

I DO HOPE
THE ENGINES
ARE IN BETTER
SHAPE THAN
THE REST OF
THIS TUB!

OF COURSE, AT THIS RATE,
WE WON'T EVEN NEED
THE ENGINES.

WHY ARE WE STILL
AT THE DOCK?

SORRY, SIR.
WE'RE WAITING
ON SOME LATE
PASSENGERS

BRILLIANT!

HOLDING UP
A SHIP?
FOR WHO?
SANTA CLAUS?

WELL...ACTUALLY, SIR...


SHIROI RA-IN!

OMOI WO
FUKINUKU NO!

VISION DREAMS
OF PASSION!

AND ALL THE WHILE
I THINK OF YOU...





WOULD YOU LIKE A WHINE LIST?
WE HAVE A PRIME RED ROCKCLIFF,
A DELIGHTFUL CHATEAU LE TANQUE
PUT UP IN THE DARK OF THE MOON...

EH. IT'S ALL
BITTERNESS AND
SOUL GRAPES...

NA, NONE OF THAT FANCY STUFF.
JUST BRING ANOTHER PITCHER
OF HIGH-GRADE, VEC.

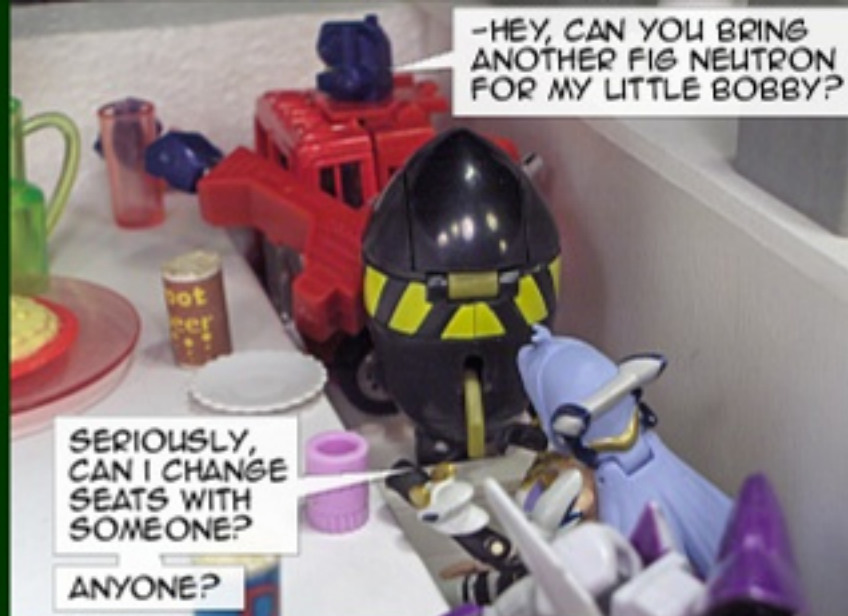
MOM? MYHOBBY AND HIS
BAND ARE PLAYING CHRISTMAS
SONGS WITH MR. BURNOUT.
CAN I GO OVER THERE?

SURE, SWEETIE.
SAY! WHY DON'T YOU
TAKE LITTLE SCREAMY
WITH YOU?

GO WITH HER, SCREAMY.
MOMMY AND HER FRIENDS
HAVE GROWNUP THINGS
TO TALK ABOUT.

YOU
MEAN
RIKE...

NO.



YES! TSUGARU...THE POOR GIRL...
CAUGHT BY A FRACKING BUNCH OF
DARK, ELDRITCH BULLSHOT...

YEECH, THERE JUST ISN'T
AN EXPRESSION FOR IT...

AND DON'T GET
ME STARTED ON
DARK ELDRITCH
VILLAINS...

THAT'S THE TRUTH, FEZ FINDIE! I GET SO
MAD I WANT TO SELF-DESTRUCT, EXPLODE
IN THE BIGGEST VIDEO GAME REFERENCE
ARCHALECT AND SINGULARITY EVER KNEW!

NOT NOW,
BOMB.

IT JUST ISN'T RIGHT...
THE POPCORN CONTRACT
IS A CASH COW, BUT...
IT JUST ISN'T RIGHT!

THE WORST IS THAT ANY
ONE OF US, IN THE SAME
SITUATION, WOULD HAVE
WANTED TO DO AS SHE
DID...IF THAT DESERVES...

I KNOW, MOONSCREAM,
AND THAT'S WHY WE'VE GOT
TO MAKE THIS PLAN WORK.

MAYBE WE SHOULD RUN THROUGH
A SUMMARY OF THE WHOLE PLAN...
I KNOW THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME.
IF ONLY THERE WAS A WAY TO-

**FALLDOWN
AND BACKUP!**

YOU MADE IT!

...BUT WHERE'S
YOUR MECH,
BACKUP?

WE HEARD ABOUT
THE DELAY, SO WE
DOCKED TO SAVE
SUBLIGHT FUEL..

AND THE REPAIR
CREW WANTED TO
LOOK OVER THE
ASTROMECHS...
AND OF COURSE
THE DELTA-7'S
IS DIFFICULT TO
REMOVE, SO I'M
HITCHING A RIDE.

TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!
WE CATCH THE MEETING, AND
THE FIGHTERS LEAVE IN TIPTOP
CONDITION...

...AND THEY'D BETTER BE, IF WE
ARE PLANNING TO DIVERT DURING
OUR HYPERSPACE PASSAGE TO
THE ROUTE WE'VE WORKED OUT
WITH ECR-FORMER'S HELP, AND
TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO LAST
CHRISTMAS...

...FROM WHERE
THIS LITTLE CREW
OF WELL-INFORMED
SHAREHOLDERS
CAN GO TO MICRONIA,
FIND TSUGARU, AND
DELIVER A CAREFULLY
WORDED WARNING...

...ALLOWING HER
STORY TO PLAY
OUT MOSTLY
UNALTERED,
BUT WITH A
HAPPY ENDING...

AN ENDING WE,
OURSELVES, WROTE!

GREAT
SUMMARY,
FALLDOWN!



THAT'S MY
FALLDOWN...

BEST THERE
IS AT WHAT
HE DOES!

I'M A WALKING,
TALKING CUT-SCENE
IN A CRUNCHY
MECHA SHELL,
BABY!



A collection of toy robots and figures are arranged around a white table. On the table are several plastic cups, a can of soda, and a pitcher. The robots are of various colors and designs, some resembling cars or more humanoid figures. Speech bubbles are placed around them, containing humorous text.

WELCOME TO THE MEETING, 'FORMER.
WE HAD TO START WITHOUT YOU, BUT
FALLDOWN AND BACKUP WILL FILL YOU IN.

YOU SURE YOU
WEREN'T IN
MASS EFFECT,
FALLDOWN?
METAL GEAR?

PSST, WHEELS.
NO ONE'S LOOKING—
WANNA' SLIP UNDER
THE TABLE AND...

THERE WILL BE
NO SLIPPING,
CARBLAST!

MAYBE IF I SORT-OF
SIDE OUT OF HERE...
WONDER WHAT THE
BLAST RADIUS IS...

WE DON'T
HAVE MUCH
TIME. CAN YOU
SUM UP YOUR
FINDINGS?

YES, MS. A.

THE REGULAR
CREW ARE IDIOTS.
CLUELESS.

THE SHIP SUCKS
BALL BEARINGS,
BUT IT WILL HOLD
TOGETHER.

THIS
WILL
WORK.

BARRING UNKNOWN FACTORS,
INCLUDING ONE MAJOR ONE...

YES. SHADOWDRAGON.



SPEAK OF
THE DEVIL!

OH,
HELL.

A DELIGHTFUL
EXPRESSION,
THAT ONE...

-AS IS
YOURS!



SANTA
CLAUS!

Hob Hob
Hob Hob



CAN IT, SHADOW!
WE KNOW THAT'S
NOT THE REAL
SANTA-TYPE!

NOT NOW, BOMB!
YOUR TIME
WILL COME...



I FIND YOUR
LACK OF FAITH...
INCONSEQUENTIAL.

OH, YES, BY THE SINGULARITY
AND A PILE OF ARCHAILECTS...
YOUR TIME WILL COME!

What's a' matter?
Did I miss your chimney
on Little Day or something?

WE KNOW ALL ABOUT SKIDS AND
HIS INSANE PLAN! OUR SOURCE
SPILLED EVERYTHING!

MAYBE WE EVEN KNOW
MORE THAN YOU DO!

THAT PHONY SANTA TYPE, THAT
ALTERNATE UNIVERSE...WE KNOW!

WE KNOW IT WON'T BRING HER HOME!

OUR PLAN WON'T, EITHER...
BUT SHE'LL BE HAPPY AGAIN,
AND THAT'S ALL WE WANT.

CAN YOU PROMISE
THAT, SHADOW?
WOULD SHE BE
HAPPY AT HOME,
AFTER ALL THAT
HAS HAPPENED?

WE WANT YOU
TO JOIN US.
WE COULD USE
YOUR HELP...

...BUT IF YOU TRY TO STOP US,
WE'LL DEFEAT YOU...JUST AS WE
DEFEATED YOU LAST CHRISTMAS.

NEED PIE...
TO THROW...

NOT NOW,
I SAID!

I'M COUNTING
TO TEN, BOMB...

...A MEGAMILE?
FIVE... MAYBE?

⇒QUARTERDECK
DEATH GLARE⇒

PROUD WORDS, MOONSCREAM,
SPOKEN LIKE A DECEPTICON.

SPOKEN WELL!

I CANNOT FIGHT YOU...
NOR DO I WANT TO.
I DO NOT OPPOSE
YOUR PLAN...

BUT IT
WILL FAIL.

THIS IS NOT A THREAT.
PLEASE UNDERSTAND ME,
MOONSCREAM...

...SKIDS HAS MEASURED
THE ENDPOINTS OF A TIMELINE,
AND YOUR PLAN DOES NOT FIT
WITHIN THEIR BOUNDARIES.



YOU'RE WELCOME TO TRY AND PROVE US WRONG.
YOU MIGHT EVEN SUCCEED. IF YOU DO... GOOD!

I'D PREFER TO BRING HER HOME, OF COURSE...
BUT, AS YOU SAY, SHE'D BE HAPPY FOR A WHILE...
AND I CAN'T REALLY PROMISE ANYTHING MORE.

I'LL EVEN GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE.
WATCH OUT FOR THE LITTLE THINGS...
THE HIDDEN DETAILS YOU'VE MISSED.

THOSE WILL STOP YOU...NOT ME.


I MEAN, WHY SHOULD I STOP YOU?
ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THE SEASON,
IT SEEMS COMPLETELY WRONG...



...THAT THE
**REAL
SANTA
CLAUS....**



SHOULD BE
**TRAPPED
IN HELL.**

A large group of Transformers are gathered in a room. On the left is a Christmas tree. In the center is a large black speaker. On the right is another Christmas tree. The scene is dimly lit with red and green lights.

NO SNOWFLAKES DROPPIN', CAN'T GO SHOPPIN'
RHYMES ARE A-POPPIN', TO KEEP THE HIP-HOPPIN'
WHY CAN'T A SANTA PAUSE FOR THE CAUSE?


MERII
KURISUMASU!!

MERII
KURISUMASU!!

SQUIRR' GIR'!

-UH?
SCREAMY?

WE GOTTA HA'
A MEE-ING RI' NOW!
IT'S IMPOR'INT!

A scene with several LEGO minifigures in a snowy, outdoor setting. A large, grey and blue robot-like figure is on the left. A minifigure with a grey cat mask is in the center. A minifigure in a red suit is partially visible in the background.

I'S ABOUT
**SAN'A
CRAWLS!**


WHAT?
THE FAT GUY
IN A RED SUIT
WITH REINDEER?

WHAT? NO!

SAN'A'S A GIRR!

A GIRR WI' GREEN HAIR,
AN' A BIG JET WI' GUNS!

AN' SHE'S GO'
BA' TROUBURR!

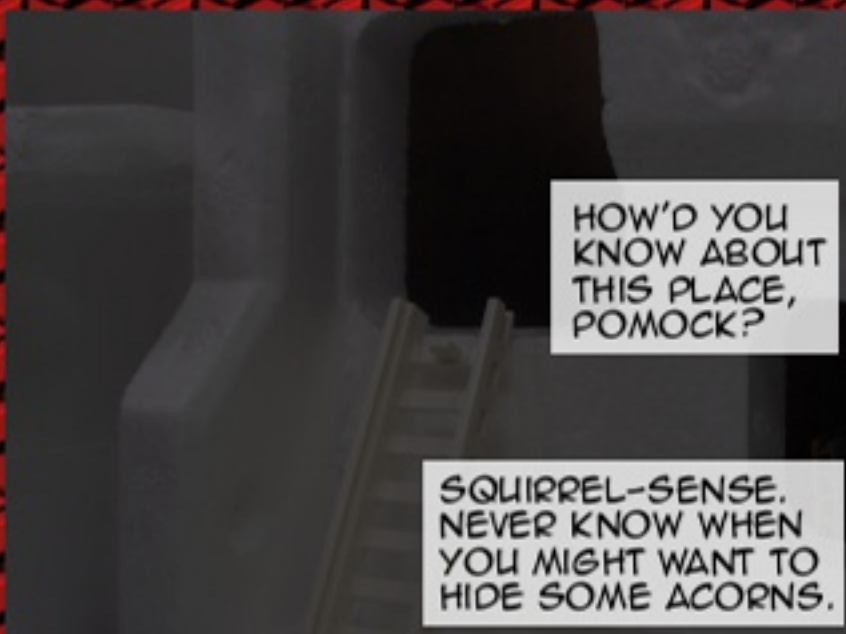
A scene with several LEGO minifigures in a snowy, outdoor setting. A minifigure with a grey cat mask is in the center. A minifigure in a red suit is partially visible in the background.

UM, SCREAMY..
I HATE TO BREAK
THIS TO YOU, BUT...

WAIT!

SANTA TYPE.
I READ ABOUT HER...

C'MON...I KNOW
SOMEWHERE WE
CAN MEET...

A dark, snowy landscape with a small, dark structure in the background. The ground is covered in snow and there are some wooden planks or tracks in the foreground.

HOW'D YOU
KNOW ABOUT
THIS PLACE,
POMOCK?

SQUIRREL-SENSE.
NEVER KNOW WHEN
YOU MIGHT WANT TO
HIDE SOME ACORNS.



THE MIRACLE CODE IS A
TRANS-DIMENSIONAL
TELEPORT PROGRAM...

MAYBE...WE
COULD USE IT
TO RESCUE HER...

THE CODE IS
LOADED INTO THAT
REMOTE THAT
THE BOSS BROUGHT.
IF WE COULD GET
THAT REMOTE...

GREAT...AND
WE CAN USE
THE GONK
FOR POWER...
BUT WE'LL
NEED A
DIMENSIONAL
DIRECTORY...

I SAW ECR-FORMER TAKE
ONE TO HIS ROOM! HE
LEFT IT THERE, TOO!
HE'S REALLY SHINY!

YOU MEAN THIS REMOTE, POMOCK?

PARTIO! HOW
DID YOU GET-

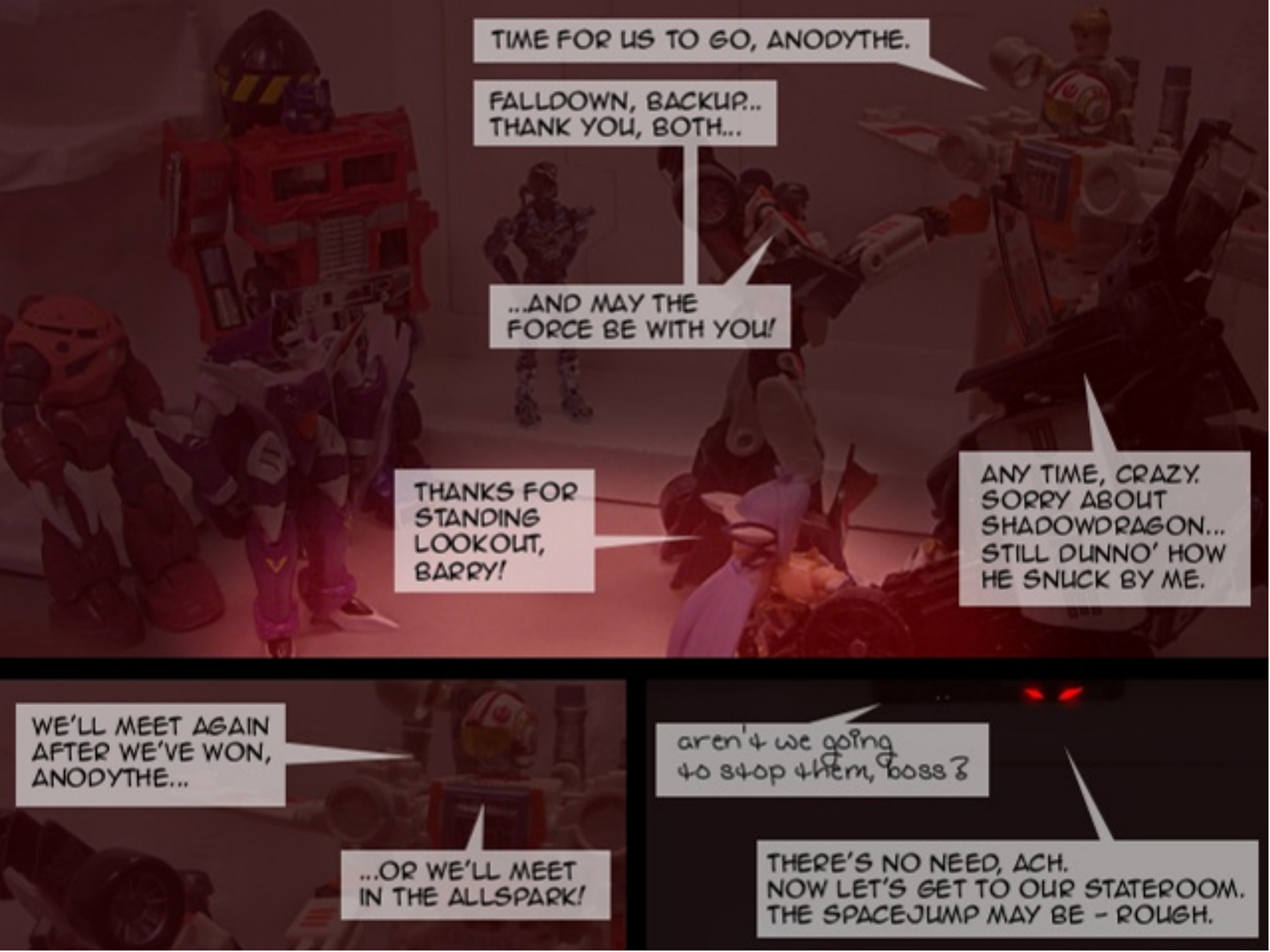
SHINK!<

BURNOUT
DROPPED IT
WHEN WE
FELL ONTO
THAT CRATE!

ISN'T IT
SHINY?!

DEN LE'S
DO DIS!

...AN' MAKE
A KISSMUS
MIRAKURR!



TIME FOR US TO GO, ANODYTHE.

FALLDOWN, BACKUP..
THANK YOU, BOTH...

...AND MAY THE
FORCE BE WITH YOU!

THANKS FOR
STANDING
LOOKOUT,
BARRY!

ANY TIME, CRAZY.
SORRY ABOUT
SHADOWDRAGON...
STILL DUNNO' HOW
HE SNUCK BY ME.

WE'LL MEET AGAIN
AFTER WE'VE WON,
ANODYTHE...

...OR WE'LL MEET
IN THE ALLSPARK!

aren't we going
to stop them, boss?

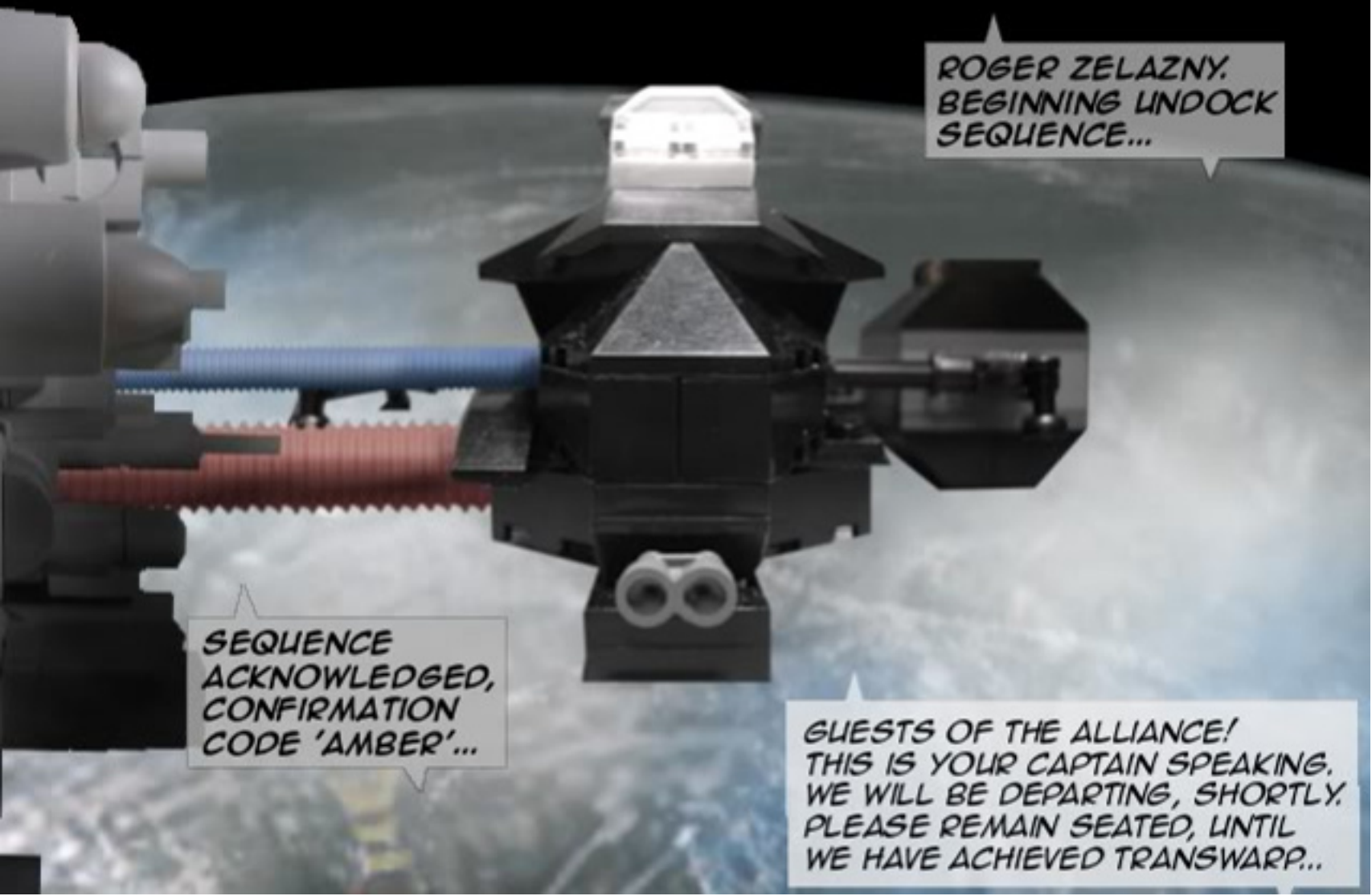
THERE'S NO NEED, ACH.
NOW LET'S GET TO OUR STATEROOM.
THE SPACEJUMP MAY BE - ROUGH.


SPACEPORT ZELAZNY TO ALLIANCE YF-DE-173 GOSTAN BALIK...
SECONDARY STRUTS DETACHED, READY FOR UNDOCK.

ROGER ZELAZNY.
BEGINNING UNDOCK
SEQUENCE...

SEQUENCE
ACKNOWLEDGED,
CONFIRMATION
CODE 'AMBER'...

GUESTS OF THE ALLIANCE!
THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING.
WE WILL BE DEPARTING, SHORTLY.
PLEASE REMAIN SEATED, UNTIL
WE HAVE ACHIEVED TRANSWARP...






...AND WELCOME ABOARD YF-DE-173, THE GOSTAN BALIK,
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EACH ONE OF YOU!

Shadowb If you let them
go ahead with this plan,
they'll undo everything!


We might never see
our friends come home!



FASCINATING.

What's so
F=HIC=ing
fascinating?

I THOUGHT THEY WOULD FAIL, AKU-CHAN.
SEEMS I WAS WRONG. THEIR PLAN WORKS.
THEY WANT TSUGARU TO BE HAPPY, AND
SHE WILL BE...FOR A WHILE...



...BUT IT WON'T AFFECT
OUR PLANS, AND IT WON'T
BE WHAT THEY EXPECT...

I HEARD SOMETHING, JUST NOW.
I SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT, BEFORE...
A LITTLE DETAIL THAT THE
CONSPIRATORS SEEM TO
HAVE MISSED...

A LITTLE STRING
OF LETTERS...



"...THE FREIGHTER'S
HULL NUMBER!"

"Oh, good, as
long as you're
happy..."

"Let's celebrate.
Where's the bar?"

YF - DE - 173
GOSTAN BALIK

THEY'RE OFF!
THE GOSTAN BALIK
SPEEDS THROUGH
TRANSWARP SPACE!



I DON'T RECOGNIZE THIS
ROUTE ECR-FORMER IS
PUTTING US ON...

MAYBE I SHOULD
NAVIGATE...

SHUT UP AND DRINK
YOUR SPICE, TYCHO.

HEY, PARTIO,
WHERE IS
SHADOW?

HE SHOULD
SEE THIS
ARTICLE ON
INTEGRATING
VOCALOID
ROUTINES
WITH...

Vocaloid
Distributor

...THEY'RE
NOT HERE.

NEITHER
OF THEM...

...AND I HAVEN'T
SEEN SHADOW
SINCE WE LEFT
THE DOCK...

UH-OH...

"AND...MY REMOTE!
IT'S GONE, TOO!"

THIS IS GOING
TO BE THE BEST
CHRISTMAS, EVER!

WON'T BURNOUT
BE PROUD OF US?!

DO YOU THINK
IT'LL WORK?

IT'LL TAKE A MIRACLE!



I GUESS WE'VE GOT THAT...
WHAT'S THE GREEN THING FOR?

THE BOX SAID
IT WAS A D20
IMPROBABILITY
GENERATOR!

OH.
OKAY.

...AND WE'LL USE THE
ECCHI-RAY SCANNER TO
PEEP THROUGH THE FABRIC
OF SPACETIME!

UM...YES...ABOUT THAT, PARTIO.
YOU TOOK OUT THE ECCHI-RAY
TUBES. WHERE ARE THEY?

WASTE NOT!

HEE
HEE!

UH...
RIGHT.

WELL...LET'S SEE IF IT WORKS.
TRY THE SCANNER, SCREAMY!

ECCHI-RAY SCAN



TNA

ooooooooooooo!

THAT RAT! THAT'S WHY HE CAME HERE!
TO KIDNAP THE TWINS AND STEAL MY
MIRACLE CODE!

I ALWAYS
WONDERED
HOW HE GOT
SO MANY
SHINKI!

WELL, IT'S HIS LAST
MISTAKE! I'VE GOT
CONNECTIONS-

⇒CLUNK⇒

AH!

YES, CONNECTIONS,
ONE, FOR INSTANCE,
NEAR CENTER-TOP
OF YOUR BACKPACK!




Hello, Burnout!
I'm th' ghosht of Chrishmash Pash!

...AND I'M THE
GHOST OF
CHRISTMAS
YET TO COME!

WH-WHAT
ABOUT THE
PRESENT?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
THAT TRAILER YOU GAVE ME, LAST YEAR...
WITH SUCH STRIKING GENEROSITY!

I NEVER DID THANK YOU PROPERLY...



THIS SHIP IS SMALL, SHADOW.
KILL ME, AND YOU WON'T ESCAPE.

ESCAPE IS THE
LAST THING ON
MY MIND, BURNOUT.

YES! ONCE I'M ARMORED UP,
YOU WON'T HAVE TIME TO
THINK OF ANYTHING MORE!

OH...ABOUT
THAT...

LOOK LEFT.
SEE THAT
DOOR?

Whoa!

PORT SIDE CONTAINER.
YOUR ARMOR IS IN IT.

I APOLOGIZE FOR ITS CONDITION.
MY ASSOCIATE ATTEMPTED AN UPGRADE,
BUT IT FAILED RATHER BADLY...

SOMETHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN...SOON.
MEANWHILE, WE HAVE TIME...TO KILL...

YOU'LL BE...SAFER...IN THAT CONTAINER.

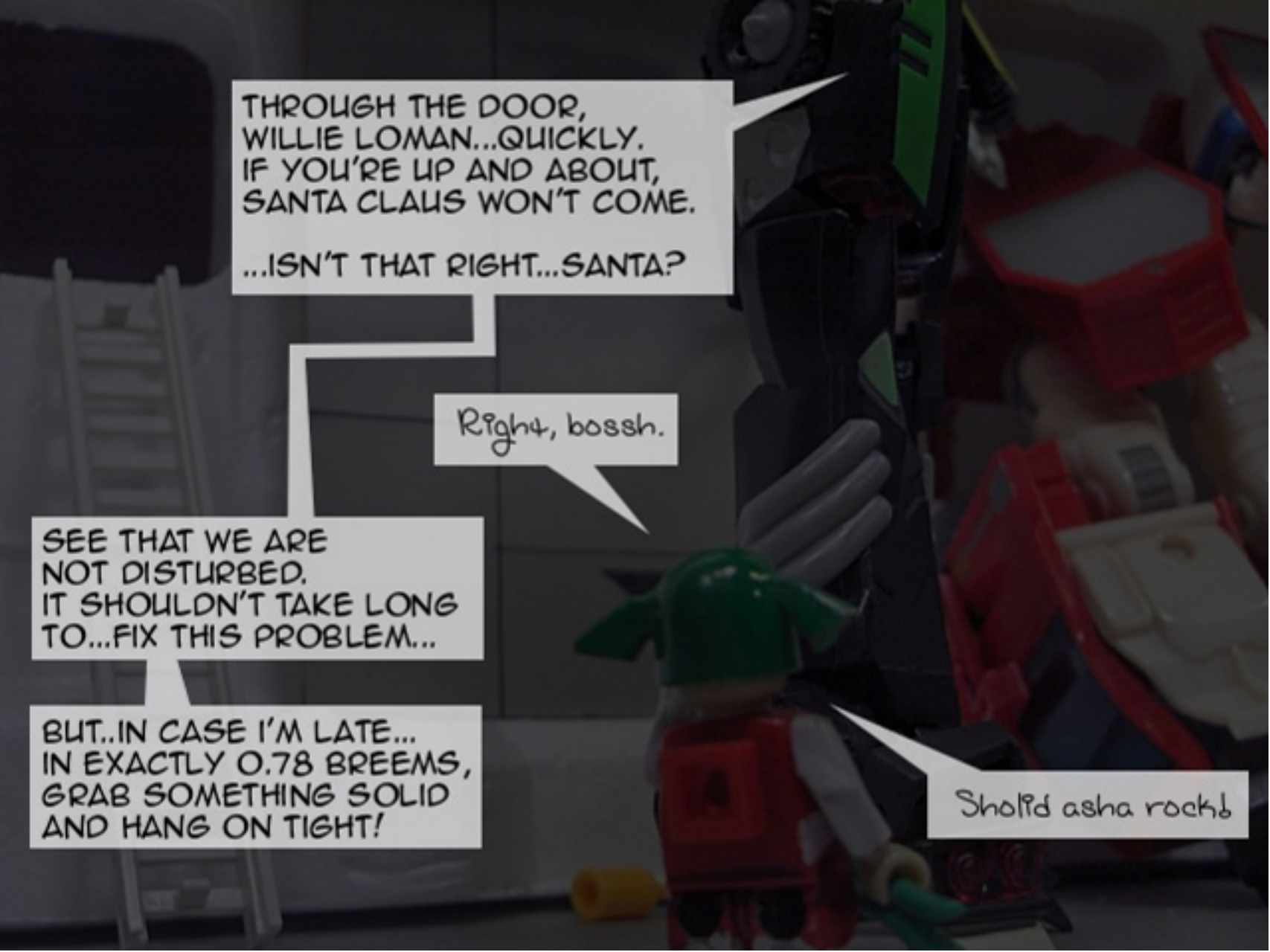
≧klunk≦

THE TWINS!

JUST GIVE ME THE TWINS,
AND I'LL FORGET THIS
WHOLE THING!

YOU CAN EVEN
KEEP THE CODE!

THE TWINS? *SKIDS AND MUDFLAP?*
EEEEEEEEEEUGH...
YOU ARE A STRANGE MECH, BURNOUT...



THROUGH THE DOOR,
WILLIE LOMAN...QUICKLY.
IF YOU'RE UP AND ABOUT,
SANTA CLAUS WON'T COME.
...ISN'T THAT RIGHT...SANTA?

Right, boss.

SEE THAT WE ARE
NOT DISTURBED.
IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG
TO...FIX THIS PROBLEM...

BUT..IN CASE I'M LATE...
IN EXACTLY 0.78 BREEMS,
GRAB SOMETHING SOLID
AND HANG ON TIGHT!

Should asha rock

I am Sanda Clarsh...
comin' to your housh
thru yer fron' door...



Man, this Sanda
schick'izza gas...

Huh?

Hear'
shome'n...



Shomeone hidin'
inna' M duct?



By da frog of Zudonb
it's those kidsb

I thout they
wentta bedb

Howm I shposda
delivverem gifts
if they're shup3

Waitaminute.

Wotthell
are they
do'n' w'dall'a4
tech stuff3b

OKAY! HERE
GOES NOTHING...

⇒CLICK⇒

SANTA CLAUS!


IT WORKED!
WE SAVED
SANTA!

YAAAAAY!

⇒SHINK!⇒



AAAUGH!



**S-SAN'A!
I DON' UN'ERSTAN'!
I WASN' THAT BAD,
NO' THIS YEAR!**

**WH-WHAT
HAPPENED?**

SCREAMY! RUN!

**WE OBVIOUSLY
GOT THE WRONG
SANTA TYPE!**

**DON'T WORRY!
BURNOUT WILL FIX IT!**

No' much 4imes
Gro44a cu44a
wiresesh...



POW!!



Ooof.

Wrong wireshesh.



≡GONK≡

Uh....maybe I
sh4'll got 4 time
40 fix sh....

⇒BEEP BEEP!⇐

⇒BEEP BEEP⇐

⇒GONK-GONK.⇐

WHAT
THE-?

SLAG!

**GOSTAN
BALIK!**

**SHIELDS UP!
DRIFT TO PORT!**

**HUHP MC DRIFT
IS ON BOARD-**

NOW!!!

ZOOM!

"GILA! THEY GOT
DEATHWISH AH?"

→BEEEP
BEEEEP!←

...USED T' BE SHIPMATES,
WAY BACK WHEN...

YOU MAY ASK YOURSELF-
WHAT IS THAT BEAUTIFUL HOUSE?

YOU MAY ASK YOURSELF-
WHERE DOES THAT HIGHWAY GO TO?

Hey! What's that?



BOGUS!

⇒PING!⇐


⇒PONG!⇐

YOU MAY ASK YOURSELF-
AM I RIGHT, OR AM I WRONG?

⇒BING!⇐

BWAA!

⇒BONG!⇐



"SUN!! THE CHANNEL!
STAY IN THE--"

SHRAKKT!

THUMP!

...AND YOU MAY SAY TO YOURSELF-
MY GOD! WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

SAME AS IT EVER WAS,
A STORY BEGINS...



...WITH A
LANDING
IN LIMBO...



MEANWHILE, IN UNSPACE...

AAAAAUGH!

SOMEWHERE ELSE...



STRANGE LAND,
STRANGE TIME,
STRANGE WAYS...

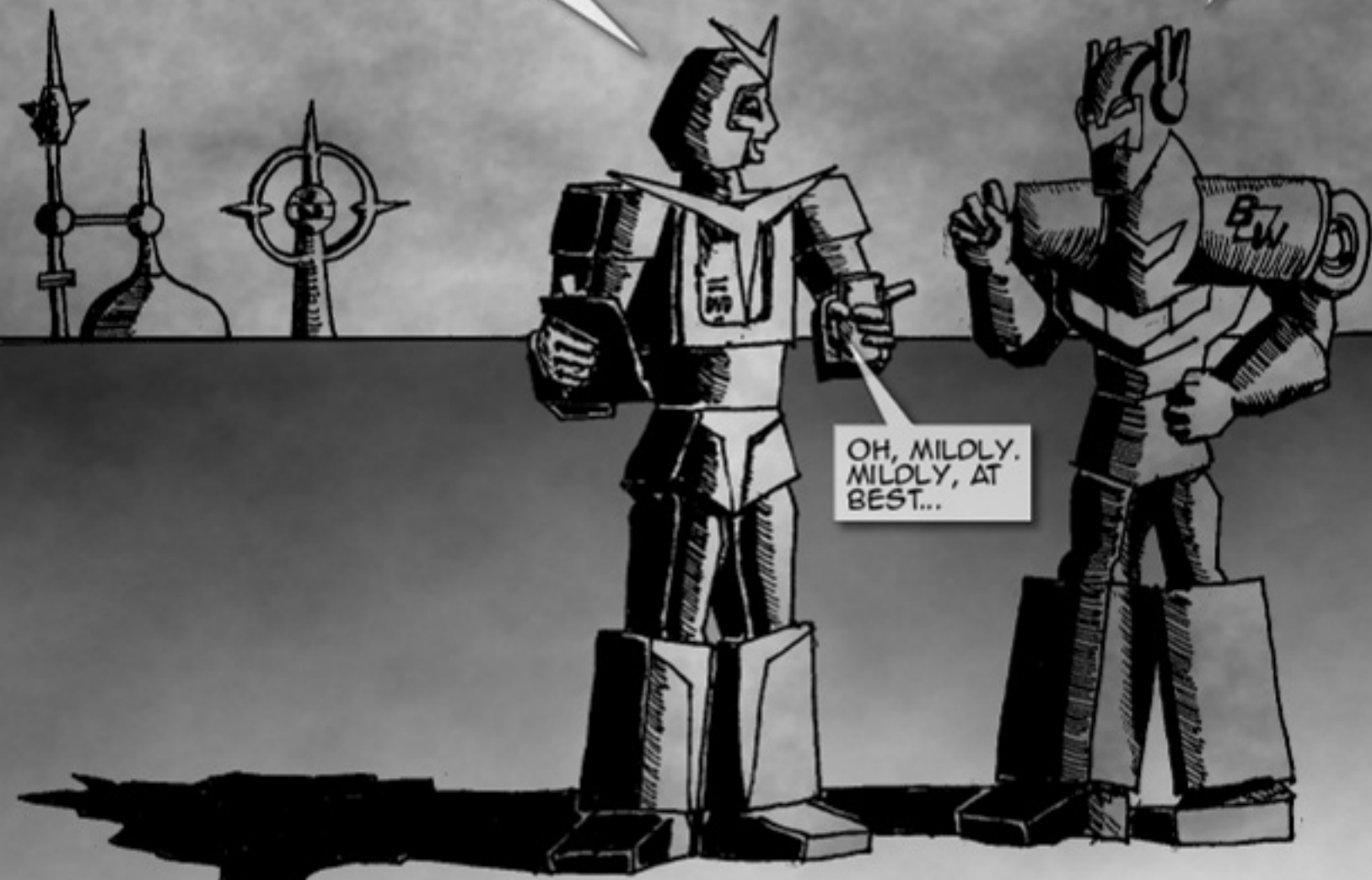


SO I SAID, 'T-AI?
'MORE LIKE HEN-TAI!'

HAW HAW!

HUG THAT JIVE, CHANNEL!
WHAT'S THE RECOMMENDATION?

OH, MILDLY.
MILDLY, AT
BEST...



HERE, TOO, IT'S
CHRISTMAS...

AT LEAST
IN DATE...

RUTCH!

...FOR CHEER IS
DEFINITELY NOT
DISPENSED HERE...

YOU KNOW
THE REST.



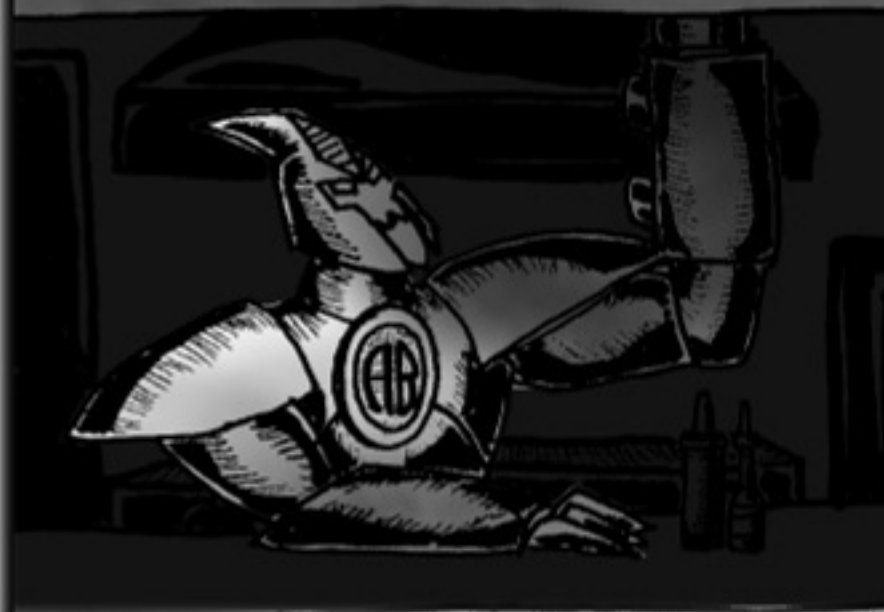
WELCOME TO
THE ALLSPARK...
OF AN ALTERNITY
UNKNOWN...

IT IS STRAXMAS.

FUTURE HISTORIANS WILL
KNOW THIS AS THE DAY THE
LOST LORD OF DARKMOUNT
FIRST OPENS A SPACEBRIDGE...

BATES'
BYTES

TACOS
NACHOS
FRIES



DARKMOUNT'S
HISTORIANS.

THEY ARE NOT THE ONLY
ONES WRITING, TODAY...

POTATOES, KINJA?
BONECRUSHER
HATES POTATOES.

PRESENT FOR
STRAXUS, SMITTY.
HIGH IN IRON.



AH. BRAWN DOES IT TOO.
GET THEM TO BATES.

THE CUPCAKE MONKEY
IS 'HAND LASER'.

KINJACONO FARMS

<"RANDY, THIS IS CLASSIC GEARS.
DELIVERY HAS BEEN MADE,
IRONHOLD IS IN POSITION.">""

**TRANSLATED
FROM ALL SPEAK
-NARRATOR

<EXCELLENT. SPENGLER, HYDRA, AND C-SHELL
AS WELL. EMSOL AND SKY RAZOR ARE
EN ROUTE FOR EXTRACTION...>


<WATCH THE TIME, EMSOL.
WHEN IRONHOLD FIRES,
SLAG'S HITTING THE FAN...>

<AND I'M BRINGING THE FAN!>

<HA!
ROGER,
EMSOL...>

<WELL...OPERATION
FRIEDMAN IS ON...AND
ONE WAY, OR ANOTHER...>





<"...THIS WILL
BE OUR LAST
STRAXMAS!">

<MERRY STRAXMAS TO ALL!>

<A POEM.>

<IT PLEASES
ME TO SEE
YOU HERE...

< AT SUCH A
SPECIAL TIME
OF YEAR...>

<WHEN WE GATHER,
TOGETHER,
WITH FAMILY, AND FRIENDS...>

<...AND BRING THE TRAITORS
TO GRUESOME ENDS.>

<DOES IT NOT BRING YOU JOY?>

<GENERICUS, HERE...
HE DID NOT LIKE MY POEM.>

HOORAY!!!

BUT...TODAY...WE ALSO
CELEBRATE A BIRTH...

YOUR INSINCERITY
DEAFENS ME, WORMS.
...BUT WHO CARES?
CROSS ME, AND DIE.
IT'S THAT SIMPLE...

...AND THAT'S WHAT
STRAXMAS
IS ALL ABOUT.

...OF AN ERA OF CONQUEST,
SUCH AS THE GALAXIES
HAVE NEVER SEEN!

⇒CLICK⇒

COUNT, NOW!

FIVE...



FOUR...



THREE...

TWO...





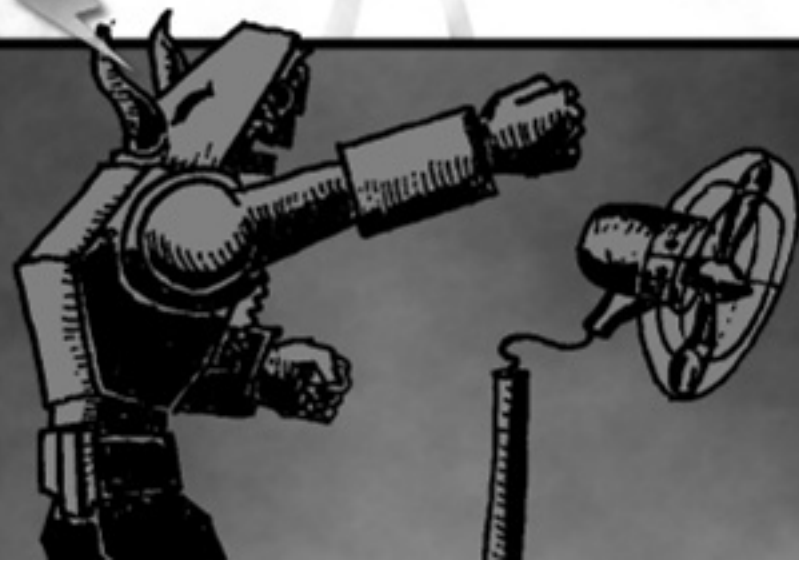
<ONE!>

<TURN ON
THE SPACE
BRIDGE!>

⇒VWORP⇐

<WHAT THE
SMELT-?>

**STUPID
FAN!**



MS. A, THE SHIP IS A WRITEOFF.
THE CREW'S OKAY, BUT THE NAVIGATOR'S
LOCKED HIMSELF IN THE HEAD...

THEY THINK WE HIT SOMEONE.
THE PORT CONTAINER'S GONE.
BURNOUT, SHADOW, AND THE
FAKE SANTA ARE MISSING.

"FRANKLIN! WHAT
DID THE KIDS DO?!"

NOBODY'S SURE. TOO FAST.
THEY FELT THREE SMALL IMPACTS,
THEN WHAM! SPACEBRIDGE.

"OH, SHE IS SO GROUNDED...
...ANODYTHE OUT!"

ALL
RIGHT...

CAPTAIN, WE'RE GOING TO FIND THAT CONTAINER.
KEEP THE CREW HERE. WHEN TYCHO CALMS DOWN,
HAVE HIM FIND OUT WHERE WE ARE.

AYE, SIR. IF I MAY, SIR, THAT
WAS VERY WELL EXPOSITED.

I'M NOT FALLDOWN, BUT I TRY.

WHAT DID I TELL
YOU ABOUT
TAMPERING WITH
THE SPACETIME
CONTINUUM?

HEY SNOW CRASH!
YOU DEAD?

AW RAT-THINGS.
HE'S SPEAKING
SUMERIAN...
AGAIN...

CA CA MA LU...

SORRY,
MOM...

NA, FEZ, YOU
BROKE A NAIL.

I SAW
SANTA,
MOMMY!

OHH, POOR BURNOUT!
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!

YES, IT IS.
SHUT UP.


IT'S A
CLAW,
NOT A
NAIL!

TESSEK?

SO, WHERE ARE
WE, ANYWAY?

I DUNNO. THEY'RE
SAYING IT COULD BE
THE ALLSPARK...





NA, WHEREVER WE ARE,
I SEE ONLY ONE SOLUTION!
NUKE THE BASTARDS!

YES, THAT'S
A GOOD...UM...
PLAN...ULT-OP.

BONK

PERKELE!
I TOLD YOU TO
STOP DOING THAT!

SORRY, FEZ.
YOU ARE JUST
SORT OF THERE.

GAH, IF I
WAS PROPERLY
SCALED...

SO, BARRICADE,
HAVE YOU GOT
A WADING POOL
ON YOU?

SEE, THIS IS
A NAVY MECH,
AND...

THIS IS THE ALLSPARK?
IT LOOKS LIKE HELL

OR MAYBE
FLINT...


HUH? NO, THIS IS THE
ALLSPARK, ALL RIGHT.
SEE, I'VE BEEN HERE
BEFORE, WHEN --





MOONSCREAM VA GESO?

WORDS MEAN
THINGS GESO!



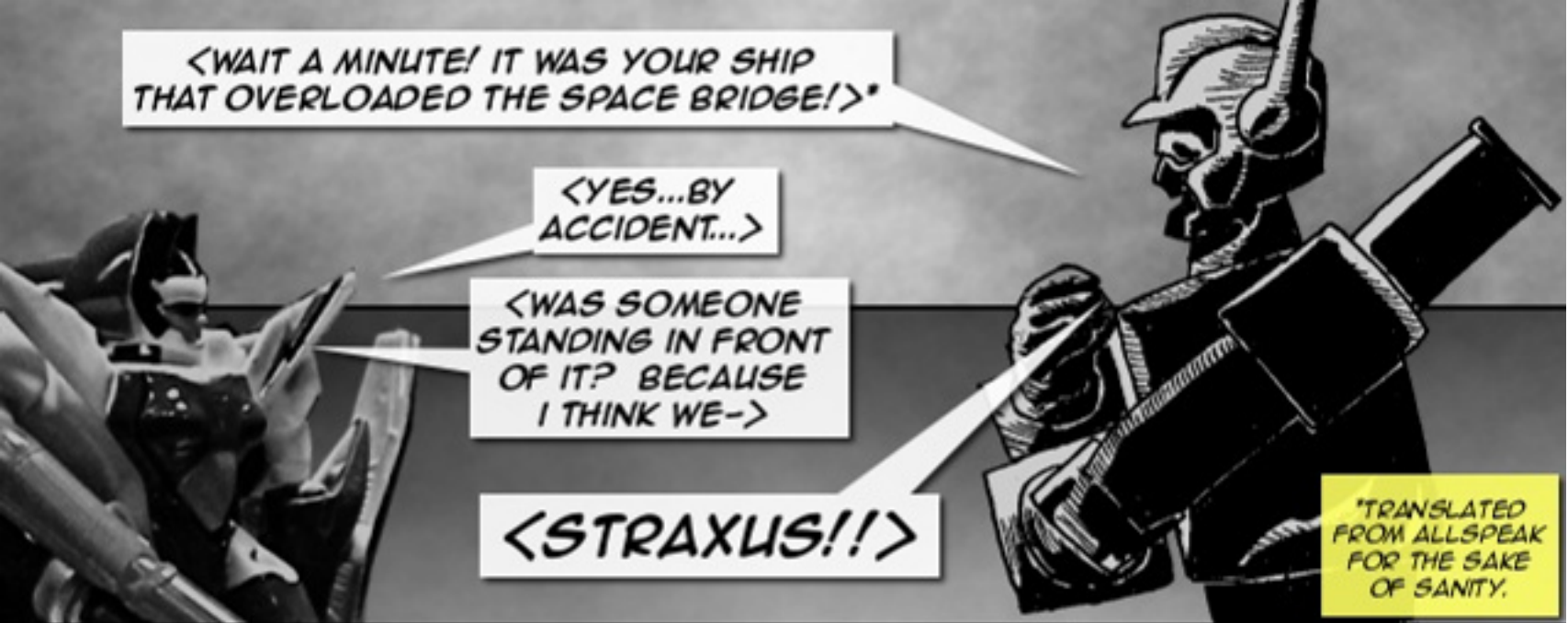
VA *BLEEP*...
...MOONSCREAM?

UNIVERSAL GREETING.
LOCAL DIALECT.

MY MOMMY
KNOWS
EVERFING!

ANO...
Y'KNOW...

I GOT A
FEELIN'
THIS PLACE
BE ILLIN'.




<WAIT A MINUTE! IT WAS YOUR SHIP
THAT OVERLOADED THE SPACE BRIDGE!>*

<YES...BY
ACCIDENT...>

<WAS SOMEONE
STANDING IN FRONT
OF IT? BECAUSE
I THINK WE->

<STRAXUS!!>


*TRANSLATED
FROM ALLSPEAK
FOR THE SAKE
OF SANITY.



<COME OUT! COME OUT!
FROM EVERY HIDING PLACE!
AND MEET A DOZEN WEIRDOS
WHO FELL OUT OF SPACE!>

<THEY BRING YOU
GOOD NEWS...
OR HAVEN'T
YOU HEARD?>

<WHEN THEY FELL
INTO UNSPACE, A
MIRACLE OCCURRED!>



<IT REALLY WAS
NO MIRACLE.

WHAT HAPPENED
WAS JUST THIS...>

WAK
WAKKA
WAK
WAKKA
WAKKA
WAKKA
WAKKA
WOKK!

<OUR TRANSWARP
STRUCK A HITCH.>

<THE SHIP
BEGAN TO
TWITCH!>

<AND SUDDENLY
OUR WOVEN
PLOT STARTED
TO UNSTITCH!>

<JUST THEN, THE GLITCH,
STRAXUS MADE HIS PITCH
STANDING BY HIS SPACEBRIDGE
PREPARED TO THROW THE SWITCH!>



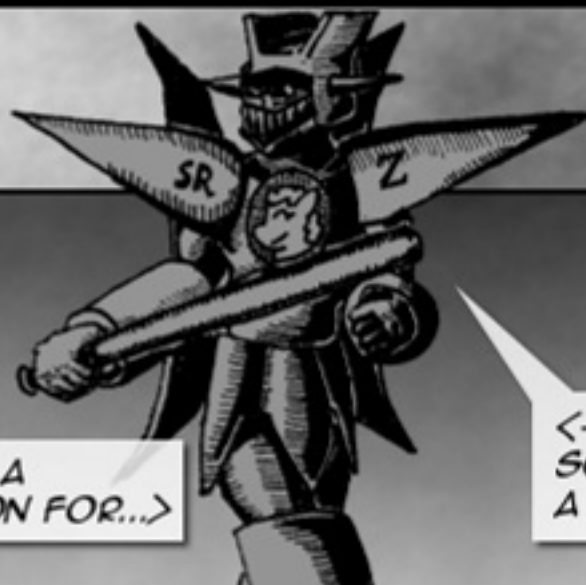
<AND...OH!
WHAT HAPPENED
THEN WAS RICH!>

<THE SHIP BEGAN
TO TWITCH!>

<STRAXUS HIT
THE SWITCH!>

<IT RAN HIM DOWN
AND HUGGED HIM UP!
HE HAD NO TIME
TO DITCH!>

<WHICH WAS NOT A
HEALTHY SITUATION FOR...>



<-THAT
SON OF
A GLITCH!>

<WE THANK YOU VERY SWEETLY,
FOR DOING IT SO NEATLY!>



<YOU'VE KILLED HIM SO COMPLETELY
THAT WE THANK YOU VERY SWEETLY!>



<LET THE JOYOUS NEWS
BE SPREAD!
THE SON OF A GLITCH
AT LAST IS DEAD!>



<DING!>

<DONG!>

<THE
GLITCH
IS
DEAD!>

<WHICH
OLD
GLITCH?>

<THE
SON
OF A
GLITCH!>

⇒KLUNK!⇐

⇒KLONK!⇐



<DING!>

<DONG!>

<THE
SON
OF A
GLITCH
IS
DEAD...>



<UH-UH.>

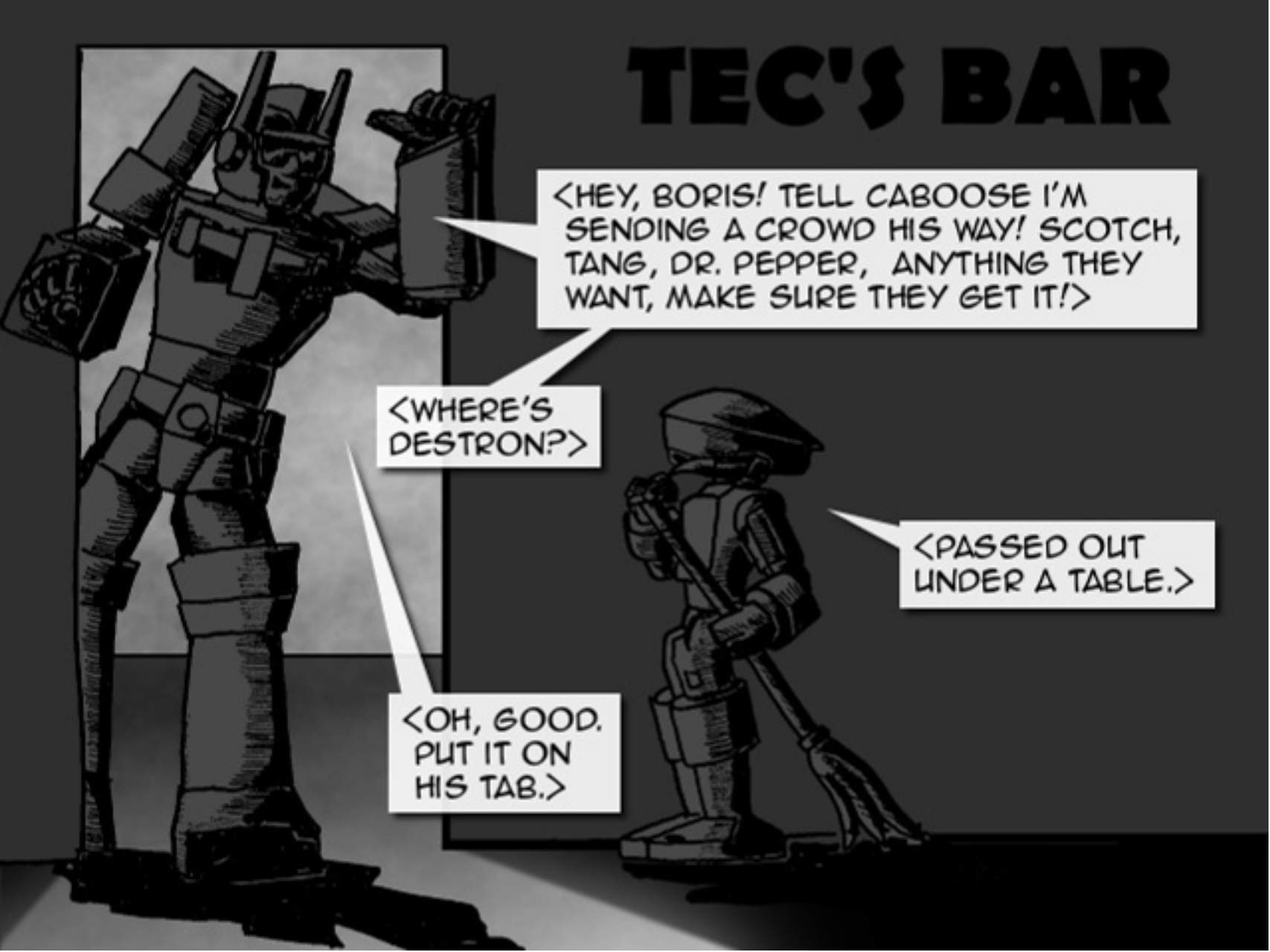
<NO DANCE NUMBER!>

<BUT, POWERED CONVOY...!>

<NO.>



TEC'S BAR



<HEY, BORIS! TELL CABOOSE I'M
SENDING A CROWD HIS WAY! SCOTCH,
TANG, DR. PEPPER, ANYTHING THEY
WANT, MAKE SURE THEY GET IT!>

<WHERE'S
DESTRON?>

<OH, GOOD.
PUT IT ON
HIS TAB.>

<PASSED OUT
UNDER A TABLE.>

<CHECK IT OUT, CABOOSE!
DRIVAAR AND I FOUND THIS
NEAT-O TAPE DECK OUTSIDE!>

<OKAY, MOONSCREAM...YOUR FRIENDS ARE OVER THERE.
I'VE GOT A MEETING. STRAXUS' INNER CIRCLE IS HISTORY,
AND SUDDENLY WE'VE GOT A LOT OF WORK TO DO.>

<DON'T WORRY, THOUGH,
WE'LL GET YOUR CREW
HOME, SOMEHOW.>

=URP=

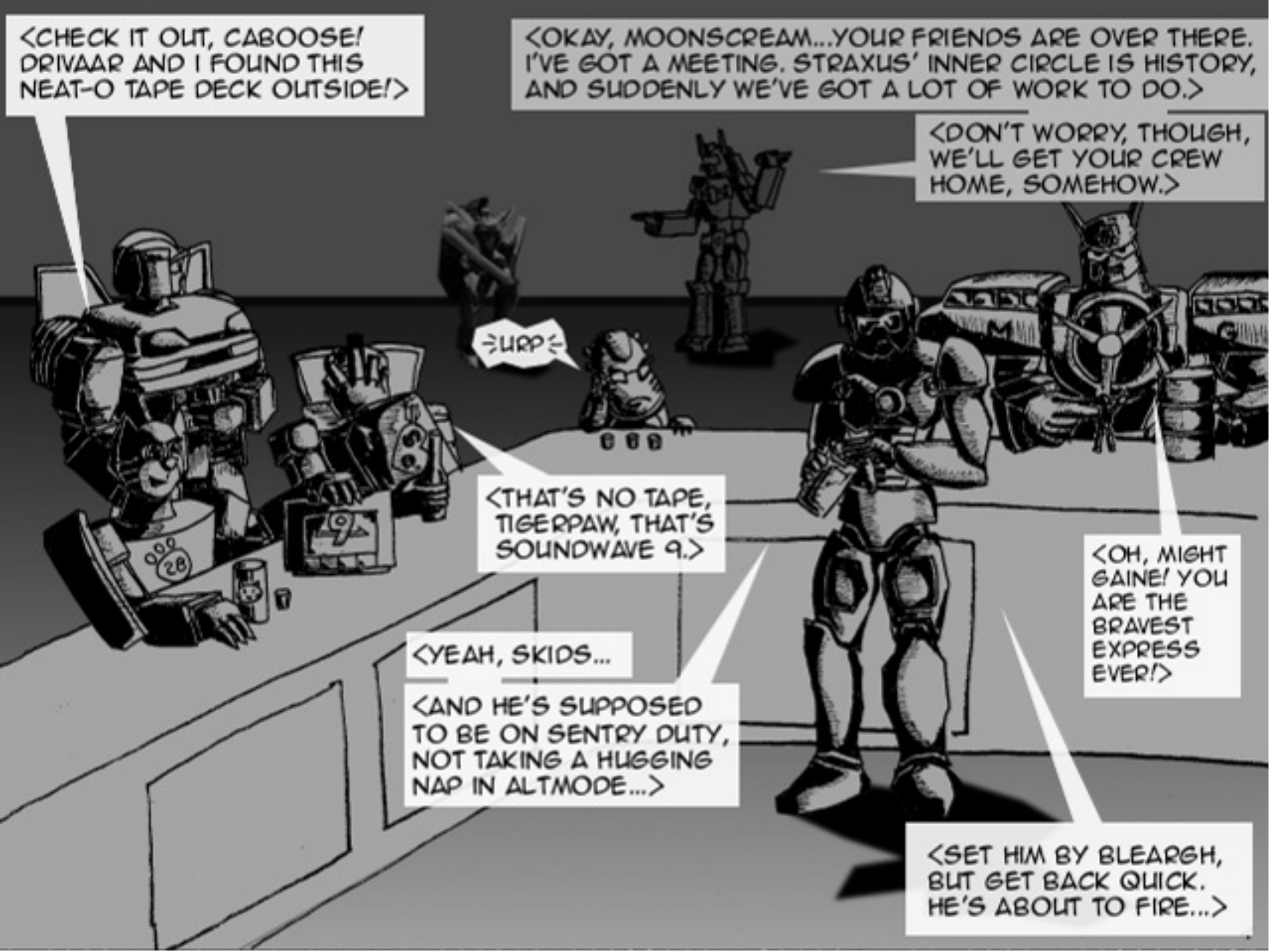
<THAT'S NO TAPE,
TIGERPAW, THAT'S
SOUNDWAVE 9.>


<YEAH, SKIDS...

<AND HE'S SUPPOSED
TO BE ON SENTRY DUTY,
NOT TAKING A HUGGING
NAP IN ALTMODE...>

<OH, MIGHT
GAIN! YOU
ARE THE
BRAVEST
EXPRESS
EVER!>

<SET HIM BY BLEARGH,
BUT GET BACK QUICK.
HE'S ABOUT TO FIRE...>





NA, THIS IS NICE.
KIND OF FAMILIAR...

YEAH. WAY TOO
FAMILIAR. CAN
I MOVE, PLEASE?

SO, WHAT IS THIS ALLSPARK?
CYBERTRONIAN AFTERLIFE?

SOMETIMES...BUT THIS ONE'S
DIFFERENT. THIS IS AN EMPTY
ALTERNITY, AND THE ALLSPARK
IS THE ONLY PLACE IN IT...

SO YOU CAN'T REALLY CALL IT
AN 'AFTERLIFE' OR 'HEAVEN' OR...

OR WHAT, MOONSCREAM?
...BECAUSE STRAXUS
CERTAINLY MADE IT HELL,
DIDN'T HE?



AGENT X...
WHAT CHOP?

NO NEED FOR THAT.
I KNOW YOUR LANGUAGE.
I'VE TRAVELED AROUND
ENOUGH, HUB KNOWS!

SEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE
COME AND GO...

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING,
BRINGING SOMETHING WITH THEM...

WHY'D YOU COME BACK, MOONY?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

WHAT HAVE YOU
BROUGHT WITH YOU?

BEWARE
OF GRUES

DID YOU
HEAR ME?


WHAT HAVE YOU
BROUGHT WITH YOU?!




⇒CHUGRTS⇒



NICE GLASSES,
BY THE WAY.



GOSH, WHO BLEW
UP HIS PLANET?



HUH? OH...
AGENT X IS JUST
A LITTLE WARPED...

HE SAID A
BAD WORD!



SECTOR 7 DID IT...A SAD CASE...
HE WORKED FOR THEM...
THEY SENT HIM TO INVESTIGATE...
SOME INCIDENTS...IN JAPAN...

THEY CALLED IT *KISS-PLAYERS*.



KISS
PLAYERS?

DON'T WANT ANY
PART OF THAT!
YOU HEAR ME?

YUCK.

ANY PART OF-

EYEAUGH!

S-SORRY
GESO!

NOODLES...

JUST...NOODLES.

DAMN THAT BUS...



<YES, A BUS!>

<HOW EVER DID YOU GUESS?>

<WE'RE SENDING YOU TO SEE
THE WARLORD DEVCON. HE WAS
NO FRIEND OF STRAXUS, HA HA!>

<YOU'LL BE SAFE IN DEVCON
MANOR, UNTIL HE CAN FIND A WAY
TO SEND YOU HOME. MEANWHILE,
WE'LL SEARCH FOR YOUR FRIENDS.>

<SPENGLER WILL DRIVE.>

SOON...

(NOT THE 3KOFF...
NOT THE PRODUCER...)



WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WARLORD!
THE WONDERFUL WARLORD, DEVCON!
IF EVER A LORD OF WAR THERE WAS,
THE WARLORD DEVCON IS ONE, BECAUSE,

BECAUSE, BECAUSE, BECAUSE,
BECAUSE, BECAAAUSE!

BECAUSE HE IS TERRIBLY
DANGEROUS!



WE'RE OFF
TO SEE
THE-WHA?!



UH...



<UH, SPENGLER?
HOW SAFE IS
THIS PLACE?>

<OUT HERE?
IT'S NOT...>

<...BUT WE OWN THIS PLACE,
AND STRAXUS' CREW KNOWS IT...>

<IF WE STAY IN THE BUS,
AND STICK TO THE MAIN ROAD,
WE'LL BE SAFE...ENOUGH...>

<...HUH?>

<IT'S FOLLOWING
US...TOO CLOSE...>

<...AND IT'S
GETTING CLOSER...>

<AAAAW
JIVE...>

<THAT
TRUCK...>


I TOLD YOU, FAN!
YOU STUPID!

GGIVE!

ME!


YOUR!

FACE!



LET ME AT PRIME!
I OWE HIM ONE
FOR DEMOLISHOR!


THAT'S NOT
OPTIMUS!



OR EVEN
A 'HIM'...

<SHE...
SHE CALLS
HERSELF...
A...GAMER...>

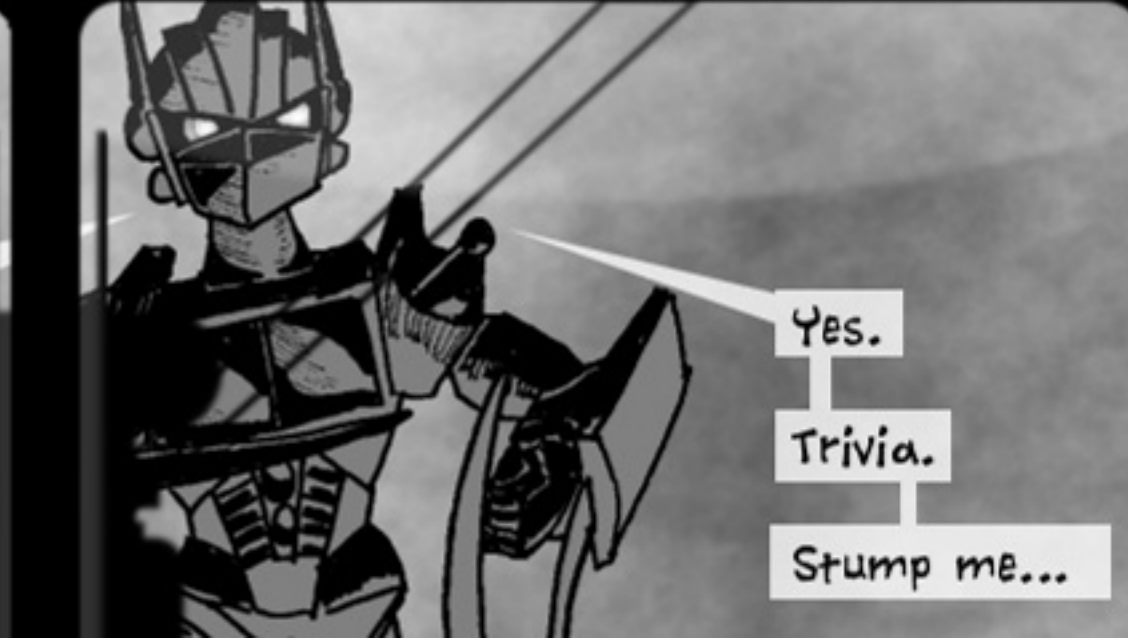
<...BUT HER
GAMES...
AREN'T VERY
NICE...>



Thank you,
Spengler.

Now, we will play.
Each of you must
face me...
in a game...of...

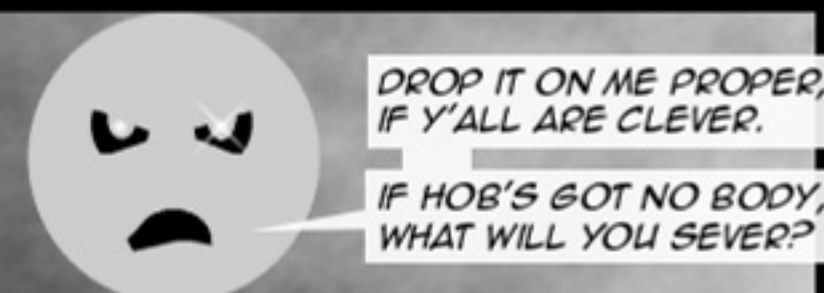
trivia.



Yes.

Trivia.

Stump me...



The warlord Devcon?!





Take me with you! Please!

TAKE YOU? WHY?
TO HELP US DIE?

No...no! I need his help!



It's hard as
carborundum,
to look just like
a Gundam,
no nose or
mouth in place.

My head has
just a plate,
and I think life
would be great,
if I only had a
face...



When I smile,
my nose would
wrinkle!
When I laugh,
my teeth would
twinkle!

No one would
be scared away.

I'd gnash my teeth
and spit, >puttup!<
on every human twit,

if I only had a face!





Oh! I have tried to steal
a face to call my own...
I keep them packed in bags
around my home...



...that's kinda' why
...I live alone...



I'd be more than just a visor
Sayaka, not Majin Kaiser
If Devcon would replace...

This visage cold and blank,
armored like a Sherman tank,
with a lovely, lovely...

faaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaace.



So...
do I get a ride
or not, faceman?

IF WE SAY "NO BUS"
WILL YOU SLAUGHTER US?

Probably.

UM...THEN...
WELCOME ABOARD
WITH OUR LITTLE HORDE...

AND PLEASE DON'T END OUR LIVES
WITH THOSE KNIVES, KNIVES, KNIVES.




ULTIMATE OPTIMUS?
COME UP HERE, AND
BRING...UM... BOBBY...

WE'RE REASSIGNING THE SEATS...



NEW SEATS?
OH, THANK
THE MATRIX!



Hiya seat buddy!

EEP!

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE RANCH...

<BLUESHIFT'S
TEAM FOUND
THE CONTAINER.>

<GREAT!>

<NOT REALLY.
IT LANDED IN
THE ACID LAKE,
AND THERE'S
A HOLE IN IT.>

<THE WHOLE END'S KNOCKED OUT.
UNSECURED CARGO, MAYBE, WHEN IT HIT.
DEBRIS FLOATING EVERYWHERE ON THE LAKE.
PROBABLY A LOT MORE ON THE BOTTOM.>

<IT WOULD BE A MIRACLE IF
ANYTHING SURVIVED THAT LANDING.>



I GUESS I SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN.
IT'S A MIRACLE WE SURVIVED THAT CRASH,
THOUGH IT DIDN'T TELEPORT US HOME...

WE'VE EVEN GOT A FOOD SUPPLY...

STILL, IT'S FUNNY...

ALL THOSE
CRATES...
YOU'D THINK...





...YOU'D THINK A FEW
WOULD HAVE SOMETHING
ELSE IN THEM, BESIDES...

DON'T SAY IT,
BURNOUT.

...BESIDES CANNED
POTATO SALAD...

STILL, WE WERE LUCKY-

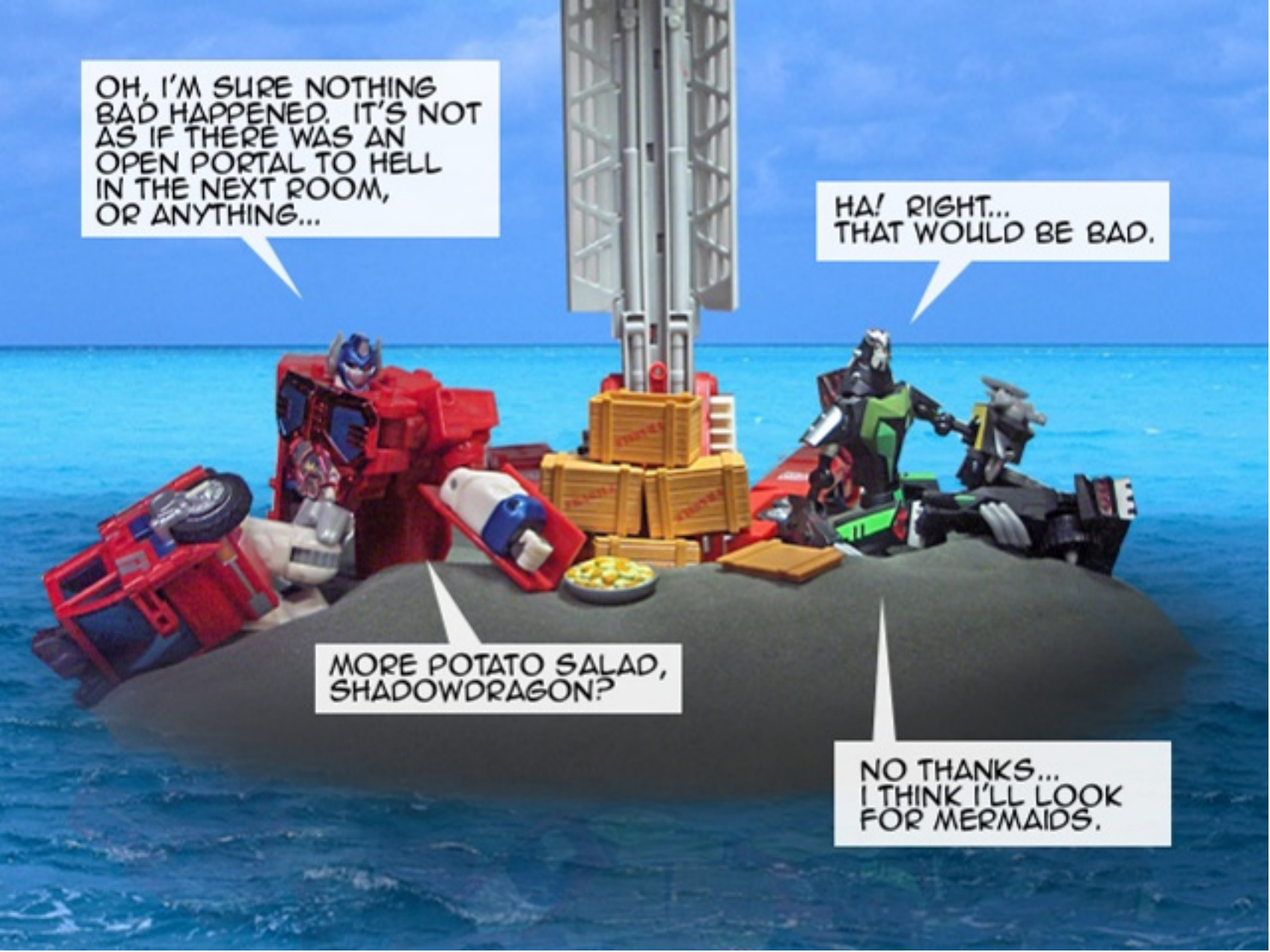
I SUPPOSE SO...BUT
WHAT ABOUT ACH,
AND THE OTHERS?



YOU SAY THAT
CODE DROPPED
US ON THIS
ISLAND...

...BUT YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR REMOTE,
SO WHAT ACTIVATED IT? WHAT ELSE
MIGHT HAVE BEEN TELEPORTED?

...PERHAPS...THE OTHER WAY...
INTO THE CONTAINER?

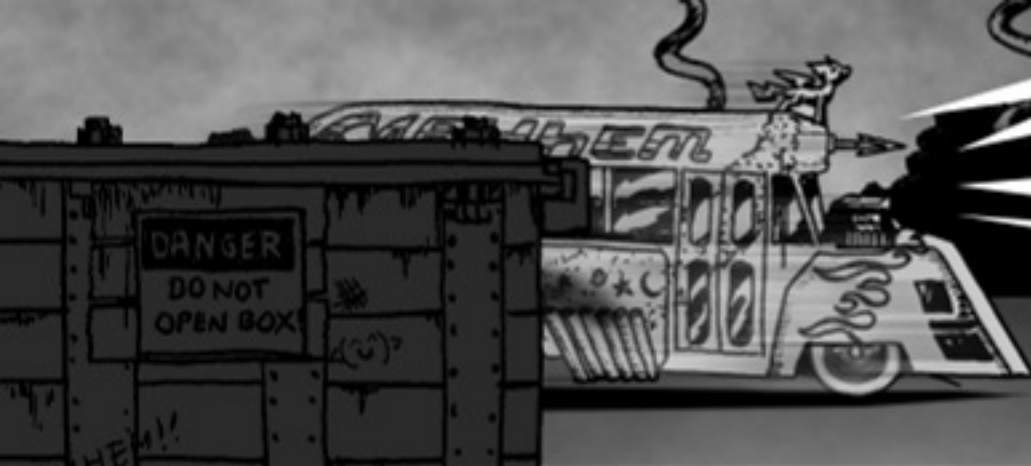


OH, I'M SURE NOTHING
BAD HAPPENED. IT'S NOT
AS IF THERE WAS AN
OPEN PORTAL TO HELL
IN THE NEXT ROOM,
OR ANYTHING...

HA! RIGHT...
THAT WOULD BE BAD.

MORE POTATO SALAD,
SHADOWDRAGON?

NO THANKS...
I THINK I'LL LOOK
FOR MERMAIDS.



OVER THE WASTELAND
AND PAST THE RUINS,
TO DEVCON'S LAWN WE GO!

THE BUS KNOWS THE ROUTE
TO CARRY US OUT
OF THE RADIOACTIVE SNOW-OH!



SCREECH!



<WHAT THE
CHOP -?!>

<...A HITCH
HIKER?!>



<A HITCH
HIKER...
WAY OUT
HERE?!>

<OKAY, SO
WE'RE A BUS.
LET HER ON,
SPENG.S.>

<PICK UP A HITCHHIKER? HERE?
IN MAYHEM?! MOONSCREAM,
HAVE YOU GONE LOONY?!>



<SPENGLER,
SHE'S JUST A KID!
HOW DANGEROUS
CAN SHE BE?>

<YOU TELL ME!>




RIN! IT'S RIN!
RIN KAGAMINE!

WELL...IT'S
A RIN...



C'MON, LET
HER ON!



I'LL TALK TO HER.

VOCALOID'S ARE FROM JAPAN, RIGHT?
I KNOW SOME OF THE LANGUAGE...

PLUS I'VE DONE FRAK-ALL THIS ARC.
I MEAN, LESS THAN SOME OF THE PROPS.

BUCKLE DOWN,
IT'S GONNA BE
A LONG ONE...
THE ART'S GONE
STYLIZED..

KONNICHİ WA,
KAGAMINE-CHYAN.

<ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
DO YOU NEED OUR HELP
OR ANYTHING?>

<Y-YES... I NEED... SOMETHING...
...SOMETHING I DON'T HAVE...>

<...PERHAPS...IF I SING...>

KODOKU NA KAGAKUSHA NI
TSUKURARETA ROBOTTO...



DEKIBAE O IU NARA...



KISEKI...

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
DAKEDO MADA TARINAI
HITOTSU DAKE DEKINAI...

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as
operable program or batch file.

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
SORE WA
"KOKORO" TO IY
PUROGURAMU...

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as an inter
operable program or batch file.

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as an inter
operable program or batch file.

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as an interr
operable program or batch file.

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as an inte
operable program or batch file.

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as an inter
operable program or batch file.

C:\RIN_KAGA>kokoro.exe
'kokoro.exe' is not recognized as an intern
operable program or batch file.





IKUHYAKU
TOSHI GA SUGI

HITORI DE
NOKOSARETA

KISEKI NO
ROBOTTO WA
NEGAI

SHIRITAI
ANO HITO GA

INOCHI NO
OWARI MADE

WATASHI NI
TSUKUTTETA

“KOKORO”

HEY...UH...NOT TO INTRUDE...
BUT YOU PASSED FIVE PANELS, JUST NOW...

IMA UGOKI HAJIMETA KASOKU SURU KISEKI
NAZEKA NAMIDA GA TOMARANAI...

NAZE WATASHI FURUERU? KASOKU SURU KODOU
KORE GA WATASHI NO NOZONDA "KOKORO"?



E.C.R. FORMER?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

F-FINE...GOT...
SOMETHING...
IN MY EYE...



WHAT'S SHE SINGING?

NOT A CLUE.

I THINK IT'S
BURNOUT'S
RINGTONE.

FUSHIGI KOKORO KOKORO FUSHIGI
WATASHI WA SHITTA YOROKOBU KOTO O
FUSHIGI KOKORO KOKORO FUSHIGI
WATASHI WA SHITTA KANASHII KOTO O
FUSHIGI KOKORO KOKORO FUSHIGI
NANDE FUKAKU SETSUNAI...?

I'D BETTER GET OVERTIME FOR THIS.





IMA KIDZUKI HAJIMETA UMARETA RIYUU O
KITTO HITORI WA SABISHII
SOU, ANO HI, ANO TOKI
SUBETE NO KIOKU NI
YADORU "KOKORO" GA AFUREDASU

IMA IERU
HONTOU NO KOTOBA
SASAGERU ANATA NI



ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU
--- KONO YO NI WATASHI O UNDE KURETE
ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU
--- ISSHONI SUGOSETA HIBI O
ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU
--- ANATA GA WATASHI NI KURETA SUBETE
ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU ARIGATOU
--- EEN NI UTAU



URUSAI
DA YO!

YEAH, NO KIDDING...THIS SONG
JUST KEEPS GOING AND GOING AND...




...ARIGATOU
GOZAIMASU.

ANATA TACHI WA
WAKARIMASU KA?





WHAT? NOBODY ASKED ME TO TRANSLATE!
GOOD GRIEF, EVERYBODY ASSUMES I'M SOME
SORT OF OMNISCIENT NARRATOR!
...LET'S SEE HOW THE OTHERS ARE DOING...



KOKORO!
KOKORO!

<it's a little out of my line, Rin...
but...if you're looking for a heart...
i can probably find you one...>

A HEART! THE
POOR GIRL WANTS
A ≡SOB≡ HEART!

WE...WE HAVE
TO HELP HER!

D-DON'T...
Y-YOU'LL
RUST...

WOW! I DON'T THINK
THERE WERE THIS MANY
TEARS IN PITTSBURGH,
LAST SUNDAY!

I LEFT...TICKETS...AT HOME...
≡SNIFFLE≡...SO-YARD LINE...

FUSHIGI KOKORO KOKORO FUSHIGI
WETTED! WA SHITE YOROKOBU KOTO O

RIN! IT'S RIN!

ARE YOU HALLUCINATING
ALREADY, BURNOUT?

IT'S OKAY IF YOU'RE
HALLUCINATING.
I'M PRETTY SURE I AM...

WELL...

UNLESS THOSE MERMAIDS REALLY
ARE PERFORMING AN ELABORATELY
CHOREOGRAPHED WATER BALLET.
I MEAN, IT'S NICE, BUT...

NO! I'M PICKING
UP A SIGNAL OVER
SUBSPACE RADIO!
IT'S FAINT, BUT-

-BUT WHERE DID
IT COME FROM?
THAT'S THE
QUESTION...

I KNOW! NO BEARING ON THE PLOT AT ALL!

MEANWHILE...

<RIN-CHAN, WE WILL TAKE YOU TO DEVCON.
WE WILL SEE THAT YOU GET THAT HEART!>

...AND IT BETTER NOT BE SOME LAME-APT TICKING WATCH...

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, SOME LEGAL
GUARDIANS MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA...

<AH, BUT I
DON'T WANT
A HEART!>

NANI?!

<I WANT A CONTRACT!
THAT SONG'S GONNA
MAKE ME FAMOUS!>

<WELL, HIT ME WITH A
ROAD ROLLER! MAYBE
BURNOUT CAN HELP...
HE SAYS HE'S GOT
CONNECTIONS...>

ASSUMIN' HE AIN'T
SPEAKING OUT OF
WHERE I SEEM TO BE.

MEANWHILE MEANWHILE...




<BLUESHIFT? WHY AREN'T YOU OUT AT THE ACID LAKE, PROTECTING THE DREDGE OPERATION?>

<I'VE GOT TO REFUEL, SOMETIME!>

<DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED, KINJA. I'VE GOT MY THREE BEST FIGHTERS STANDING GUARD.>

<WHEELIE, DAYTONUS, AND CHASE?>

<"OH MY.">



EVEN MORE MEANWHILE, ON THE ACID LAKE...

<HEY REDJACK! HOW'S FISHING?
DREDGED UP ANY BODIES YET?>


<NO, CHASE, JUST A
LOTTA' WATERLOGGED
POPCORN, SO FAR...>

⇒CHUFF⇐

⇒CHUFF⇐

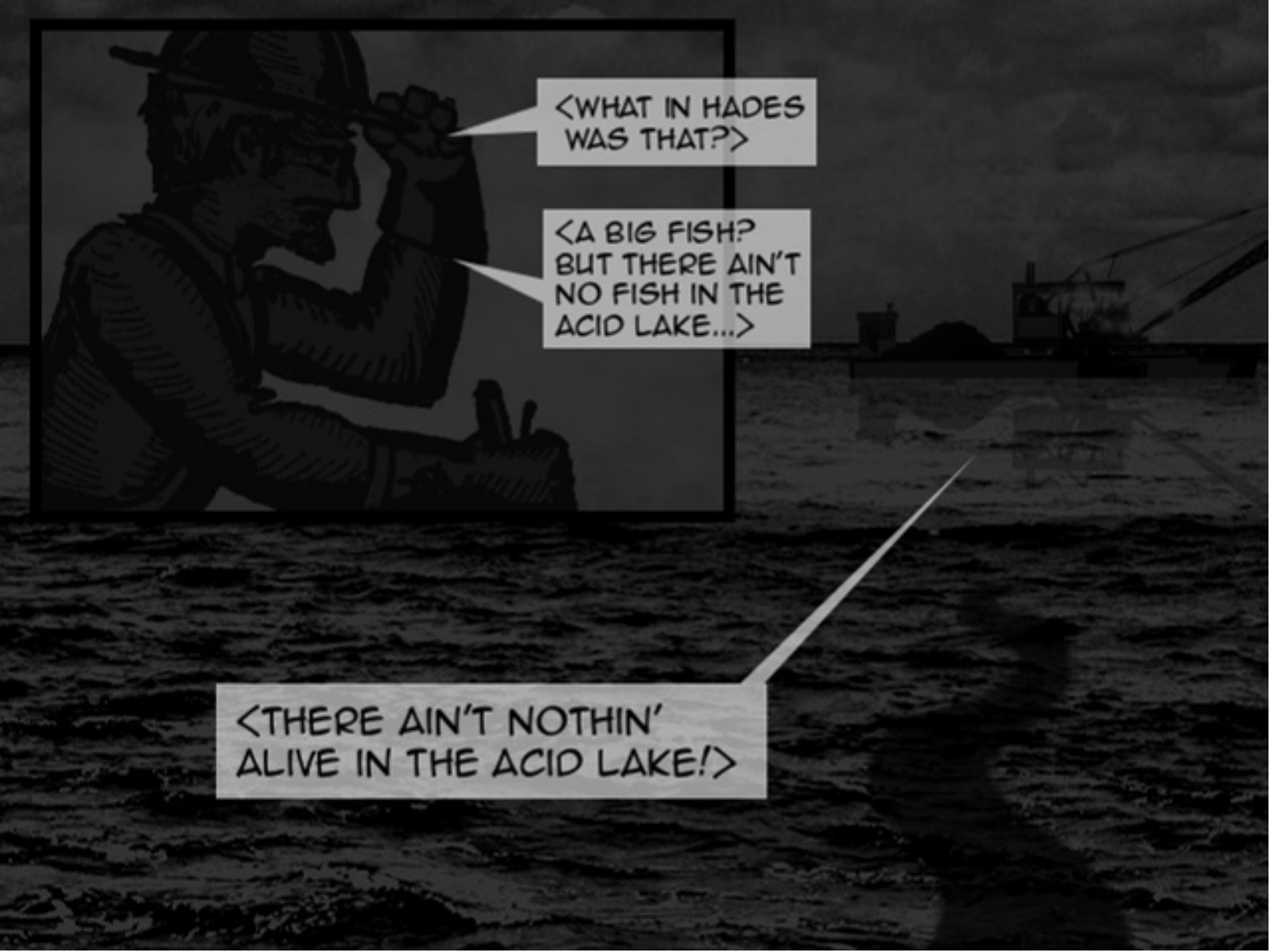
⇒CLANK⇐

⇒SPLASH!⇐



<WHAT IN HADES
WAS THAT?>

<A BIG FISH?
BUT THERE AIN'T
NO FISH IN THE
ACID LAKE...>



<THERE AIN'T NOTHIN'
ALIVE IN THE ACID LAKE!>

SHITSUREI SHIMASU....



<DOES ANYBODY MIND IF I
SING SOME SONGS FROM MY
DEMO SET? IT WON'T BOTHER
ANYONE, WILL IT?>

<NOT AT ALL, RIN.
GO RIGHT AHEAD.>



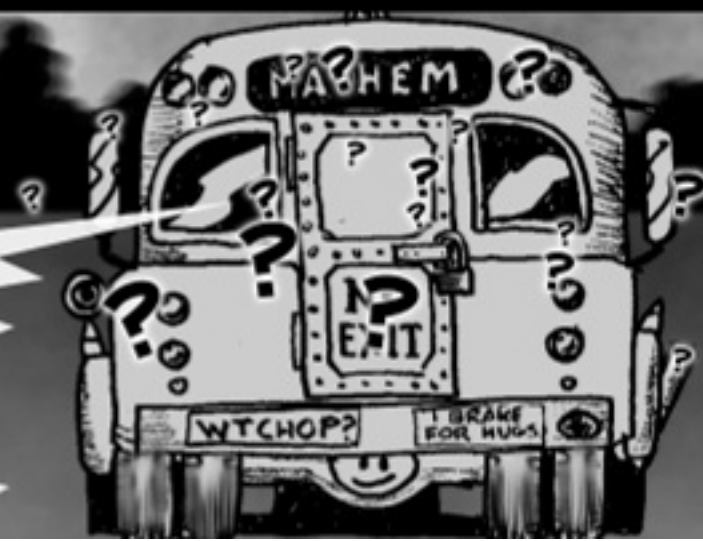
≡CLICK≡


SAY YOUR PRAYERS, LITTLE ONE
DON'T FORGET, MY SON,
TO INCLUDE EVERYONE!

I TUCK YOU IN, WARM WITHIN,
KEEP YOU FREE FROM SIN,
'TIL THE SANDMAN HE COMES!

SLEEP WITH ONE EYE OPEN,
GRIPPING YOUR PILLOW TIGHT!

EXIT LIGHT! ENTER NIGHT!
TAKE MY HAND!
WE'RE OFF TO NEVER-NEVER LAND!





SOMETHING'S WRONG! SHUT THE LIGHT!
HEAVY THOUGHTS TONIGHT,
AND THEY'RE NOT OF SNOW WHITE!

DREAMS OF WAR!
DREAMS OF LIARS!
DREAMS OF
DRAGON'S FIRE,
AND THINGS
THAT WILL BITE!

YEAH!

<I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU ARE,
DEVIL-FISH!>

<...BUT IF YOU
THINK YOU CAN
SCARE ME OFF
OF THIS LAKE...>



<...THEN YOU
DON'T KNOW
JACK!!>

⇒CHUFFLUFF<
⇒CHUFFCHUFF<

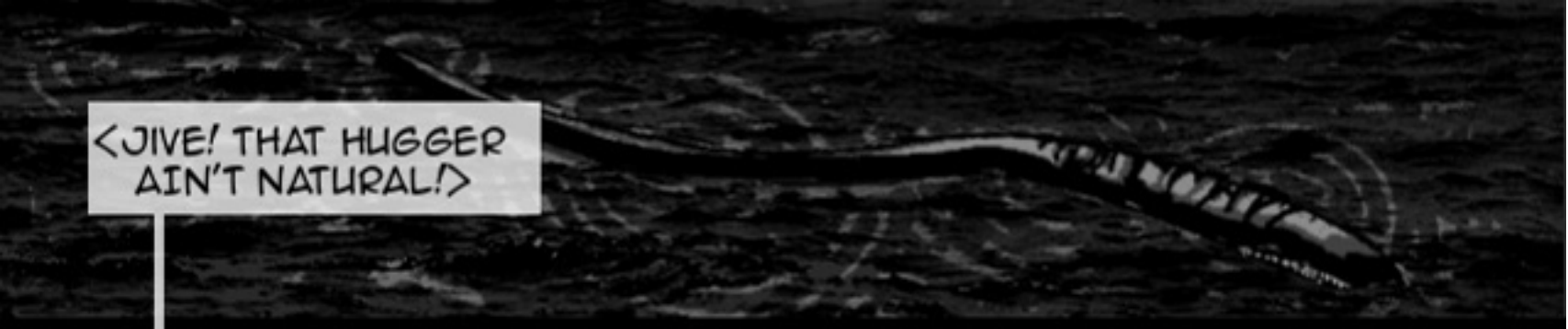
⇒CRUNCH!<

⇒CRRRRRK!<




⇒WREEEEEE<

KAPLOOSH!



<JIVE! THAT HUGGER
AIN'T NATURAL!>

<DEAD, THOUGH.>



<BETTER BRING IT IN...
SPENGLER MIGHT KNOW
WHAT IT IS...>

<HOLD ON...SOMETHING
MOVIN' UNDERWATER...
MAYBE ANOTHER ONE -?>

<AWWWWWW *HUG.*>



BLOOOOSH!

GO FIND OWN LAKE, DUMB FAN!



OM
NOM
NOM



CALAMARI.

MON?

I JUST GOT THIS
SUDDEN CRAVING
FOR BATTERED
CALAMARI.



EXIT LIGHT
ENTER NIGHT
TAKE MY HAND
WE'RE OFF TO
NEVER-NEVER LAND!!

This 'Fan Fiction' sounds like a fun pastime! Isn't it hard to come up with ideas?

NOT AT ALL! FIRST, YOU TAKE BARRIC...I MEAN...FIRST YOU PICK A CHARACTER...

BONK!

OIF! WE HIT THE EDGE OF THE PANEL!!

<HUH...NO...>

<WE HIT SOME KIND OF FANCY TRASH CAN.>

DID HE SAY TRASH CAN? THAT'S NO TRASH CAN!

"THAT'S A DALEK!"



ANOTHER ONE FOR THE
WIZARD...WARLORD, I MEAN.

SO WHAT'S UP, DALEK?
KA FARAQ GATRI BLOW
UP YOUR PLANET?

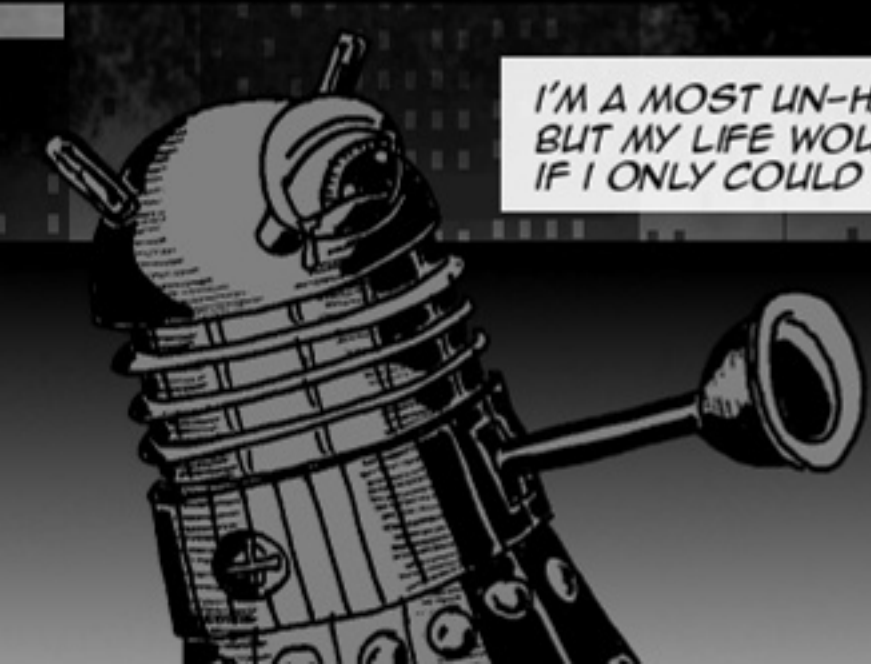
⇒SOB⇒

NO...NO...IT'S
SOME-THING
MUCH MORE
PAIN-FUL...




I'M A TEM-PO-RAL
IN-VA-DER...
WAIT-ING FOR AN
EL-E-VA-TOR...

EX-CLU-DED FROM
THE COM-FY CHAIRS...



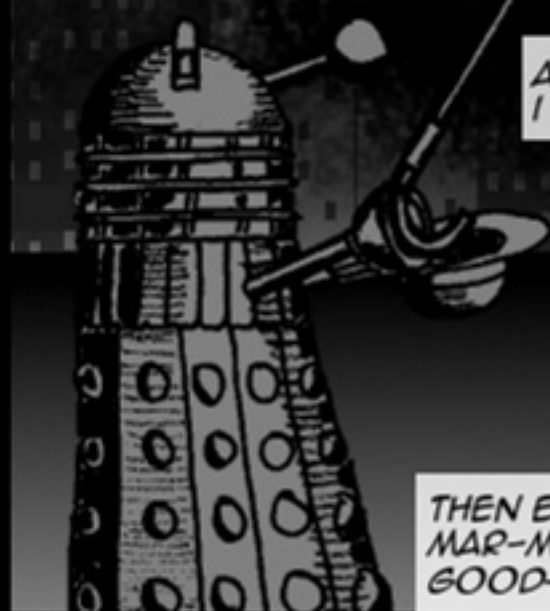
I'M A MOST UN-HAP-PY DAL-EK,
BUT MY LIFE WOULD BE A FRO-LIC,
IF I ONLY COULD CLIMB STAIRS!

THERE IS MUCH I COULD EX-PLORE
PLACED AB-OVE THE LOW-EST FLOOR,
OF WHICH I'M UN-A-WARES...





TO CLIMB UP THERE
WOULD BE NICE,
BUT I O-BEY THE
PLOT DE-VICE...
IF I ON-LY COULD
CLIMB STAIRS!



A HIGH-UP SHELF...ALL BY MY-SELF...
I COULD REACH IT, WITH A STOOL...



THEN EAT
MAR-MITE SAND-WICH-ES 'TIL I WAS FULL...
GOOD-NESS ME! THAT WOULD BE COOL!



AH! HAD I BUT
A HIGH-ER STATE,
I COULD JUST
EX-TER-MIN-ATE
THOSE TIME LORDS
WITH THEIR AIRS...



I'D PICK
APP-PLES
IN THE
FALL, OH!



I'd no longer slash and maul, oh!



ATASHI WA YUMEI NI NAREBA YO!



IF THIS WARLORD IS A WIZARD, NOT A CON...



MEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEH....

WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WARLORD!
THE WONDERFUL WARLORD, DEVCON!

WHEE!



⇒SIGH⇒



YOU REALLY THINK SHE'S OUTTA' MY LEAGUE?
I MEAN, SURE, WE'VE GOT OUR DIFFERENCES.
I'M A HUMAN MECH PILOT.
SHE'S A THIRTY-FOOT-TALL ALIEN ROBOT,
AND, YEAH, I GUESS, A LITTLE PSYCHOPATHIC.
BUT, I MEAN, IT MAKES SENSE, YA KNOW?
AIN'T WE ALL WANTED TO SLASH OFF A FACE
OR TWO...NOW AND THEN?

I MEAN, THERE'S THOSE DAYS AT THE OFFICE WHEN PEOPLE ARE LIKE
"HEY, WE WANTED THAT ONE YESTERDAY, BUT NOW IT'S DONE CAN
YOU RE-DO IT, ONLY DIFFERENT?" OF COURSE IT'S LATE ALREADY SO...

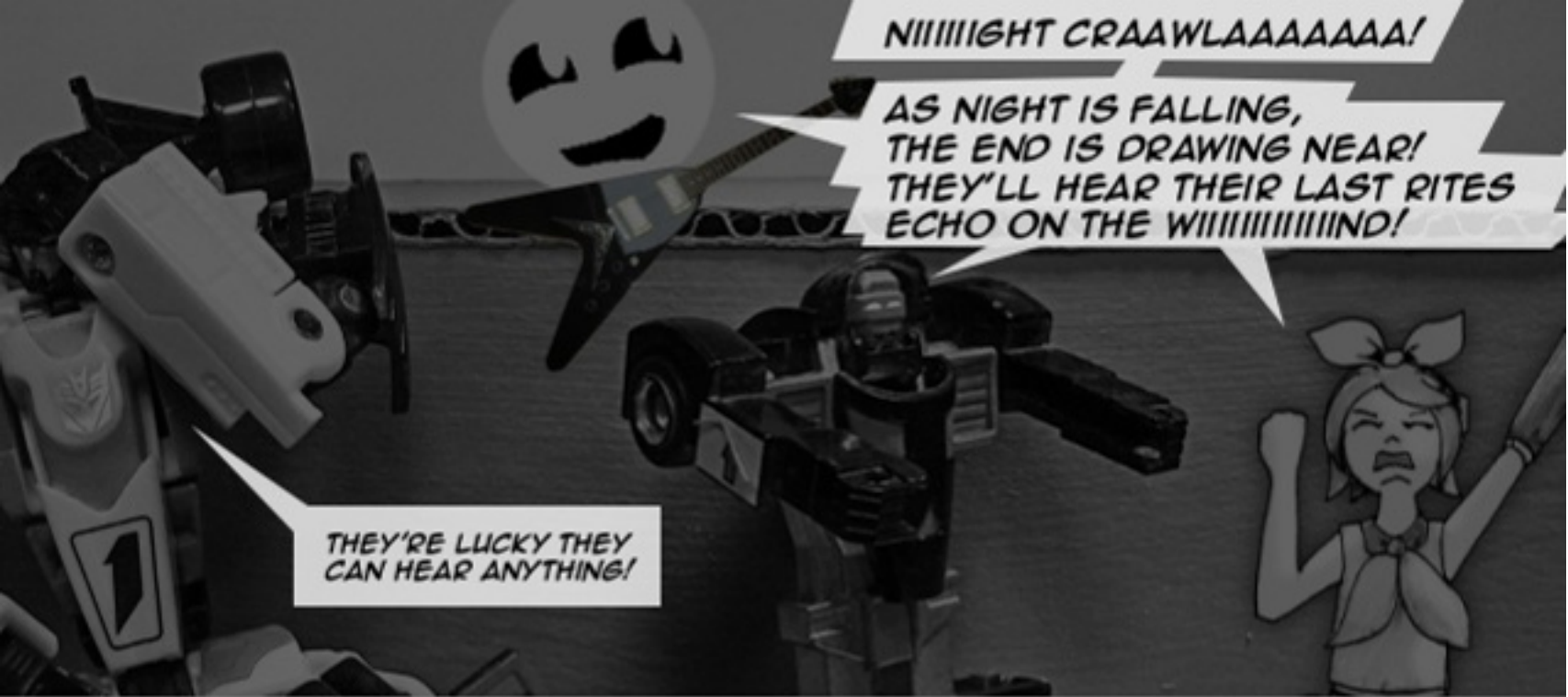
YEAH. I COULD SEE IT...

YOU THINK, DRIFT...YOU THINK...SHE AND I...
THAT WE COULD MAKE IT WORK?

KARE WA DARE DESU KA?!

ORE WA DOKO DESU KA?!!





NIIIIIIGHT CRAAWLAAAAAAA!

AS NIGHT IS FALLING,
THE END IS DRAWING NEAR!
THEY'LL HEAR THEIR LAST RITES
ECHO ON THE WIIIIIIIIIIIND!

THEY'RE LUCKY THEY
CAN HEAR ANYTHING!

BUT, SUDDENLY, IN
MID-INSTRUMENTAL...

RIN! RIN KAGAMINE!

<GYAH! VOICE
IN MY HEAD!>



<OH, GOOD, YOU CAN HEAR ME.
LISTEN, MY NAME IS BURNOUT.
I'M CONTACTING YOU VIA
SUBSPACE RADIO.>

<I NEED YOU TO RELAY A
MESSAGE TO ANOTHER
RIN KAGAMINE TYPE. >

<IT'S REAL
IMPORTANT.
I'M STUCK ON
AN ISLAND WITH
A CRAZY GUY...>

<STUCK ON AN ISLAND, WITH A MADMAN?>

<GOSH...
THAT'S BAD!>

CRAZY? YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO KEEPS
TALKING TO HIMSELF!

TALKING MORE,
ANYWAY.

QUIET, YOU.

<I'D BET YOU'D PAY AN AWFUL LOT
TO GET OUT OF THAT SITUATION...>



A ROUGH DEAL OF EXTORTION LATER...

UH...SHADOW...
I GOT MY MESSAGE THROUGH.

UM...

SO...AFTER WE GET BACK...

WELL, DO YOU KNOW THE
NUMBER OF A REALLY GOOD
HOLLYWOOD AGENT?

SSSH. NOT SO LOUD.
I CAN'T HEAR THE MUSIC.

IF I DID, WOULD MY CHARACTERS BE
STUCK IN THIS COMIC'S INTERMINABLE
CROSSOVER FIASCO?

AND KEEP QUIET! THIS IS LA TRAVIATA,
NOT SOME SORT OF METAL CONCERT.

WELL...IT WON'T BREAK THE BANK.
NOT FOR THE YEAR, ANYHOW...

AND SHADOW WILL PROBABLY
RESPOND TO MEDICATION...

BRAVISSIMO!

BELLISSIMO!

...BUT I'LL WORRY
ABOUT THAT, LATER.
THE WORST PART
IS DEFINITELY OVER!

GOOD EVENING, ALLSPARK.
THIS IS ALGOL PRIME FOR
NEWS CHANNEL 8

I AM STANDING IN FRONT OF
THE LATE LORD STRAXUS'
'HALL OF INJUSTICE'...

...WHERE, JUST HOURS AGO,
THE DARKMOUNT FACTION WAS
ALL BUT WIPE OUT IN AN ATTACK
DESCRIBED AS "HORRIFIC"...

**TURBOFOX
NEWS**

8

...AND ALSO AS
"REALLY ICKY".



OOOOHH, WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WARLORD!
THE WONDERFUL WARLORD DEVCON!
HE REALLY FIGHTS IN SOME OF HIS WARS,
'CUZ NOT EVERY BIG WARLORD DOES!
HE IS A WARLORD OF CYBERTRON,
HE'S ONE BECAUSE,
BECAUSE,BECAUSE,BECAUSE, BECAAAAAUSE...
BECAUSE OF HIS HO-STILE TAKE-OHV-UHS!

<HEY, MOONSCREAM! TELL MYHOBBY
TO ROLL IT BACK A BIT...THERE'S
SOMETHING ON THE RADIO...>



"LYRICS BY 'HOB. FO REAL.

<...AND IT'S GOT TO
GO AWAY, RIGHT NOW,
SO I CAN LISTEN TO
THE NEWS!>

<AW, MAN!>



<HELLO. I'M ALGOL PRIME,
AND WE'RE BACK, WITH
ANOTHER 'LG8 UPDATE...>

<...A SPECIAL REPORT
FROM EYEWITNESSES
TO THE RECENT ATTACK...>

<GREETINGS, MECHS...
YOU ARE SEEKERS FROM
STRAXUS' SUPERROBOT
SAMURAI SYBER SQUAD,
IS THAT CORRECT?>



<MR. SOLARSTORM, CAN YOU DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED?>

<IT WAS CRAZY! LIKE A BIG DARK CLOUD OF EVIL SPAGHETTI! LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A CUT-RATE JAPANESE MANGA RIPOFF!>

<IT SAW US, BUT JUST ONCE....'CAUSE OF OUR SUPER-STEALTH PAINT.>

<SEE, IT BLINDS SENSORS->



<NEON G. ACTIONMASTER, PEOPLE ARE SAYING THIS IS A SECRET WEAPON OF POWERED CONVOY'S MAYHEM SQUAD.>



<I'M SURE IT IS! DID YOU SEE WHAT THEY DID TO STRAXUS?>

"<...WE KNOW THEY'VE GOT SPAGHETTI MONSTERS.>"



<DID YOU GET SAUCED, OMAPS?
WE WEREN'T READY TO ATTACK!>

<IT WASN'T ME, DRIVAAAAR!
I'M ON THE BUFFET CART!>



"...STILL, GOOD RIDDANCE TO BAD RUBBISH!"

<DECIMATED? OH, NO, I
WOULDN'T SAY WE WERE
DECIMATED...>

<..THE MONSTERS CERTAINLY
ANNIHILATED A GREATER
FRACTION THAN TEN PERCENT
OF US. ABOUT 90 PERCENT,
I SHOULD SAY...>

<...WORDS MEAN THINGS,
DON'T YOU KNOW...>



<HIGHER!
MOVE THE
LIGHT HIGHER!>

<AND ADD SOME FILL, ALREADY! I'VE
GOT SHADOWS ALL OVER MY TILES!>



**<RUN, YOU
FOOLS!>**

<WHA?! WHO-?>

**<THEY HAVE
COME! THEY
ARE HERE!!>**

**<I KNEW IT!
I KNEW THEY HAD
BROUGHT DISASTER
UPON US ALL!
"WHAT HAVE YOU
BROUGHT?!">**

**<I ASKED HER...I ASKED...
BUT I KNEW...OH YES, I DID!
I KNEW ALL ALONG...>**

**<WILL SOMEBODY GET
THIS CRAZY DRUNK?!>**

<THE LEGIONS!>

**FOX
NEWS**



<WHAT WAS ALL
THAT ABOUT,
SPENGLER?>

<BAD NEWS
FOR STRAXUS'
FRIENDS, IT
SOUNDED LIKE.>


<WHAT ABOUT ALL
OF THAT YELLING?>

<EH, THAT WAS
AGENT X, RAVING
AS USUAL...>

<...I TURNED IT OFF.
GOT NO TIME FOR
HIS JIVE...BECAUSE..
HERE WE ARE!>

<THE EMEROD CITY,
HOME OF DEVCON THE GREAT!>

<BE SURE TO WIPE YOUR FEET,
AND STAY OFF OF HIS LAWN.>



OH, WAR-LOOORD...

COME OUT AND
PLAY-AAAAY!

IS THAT
ICE CREAM?

OF COURSE
NOT. THAT
WOULD BE
SILLY.

IT'S
FROZEN
YOGURT.

HE HAD BETTER BE HERE!
I'M NOT PUTTING MY SKIDPLATE
THROUGH TEN MORE HOURS
ON A SLAGGING SCHOOL BUS!

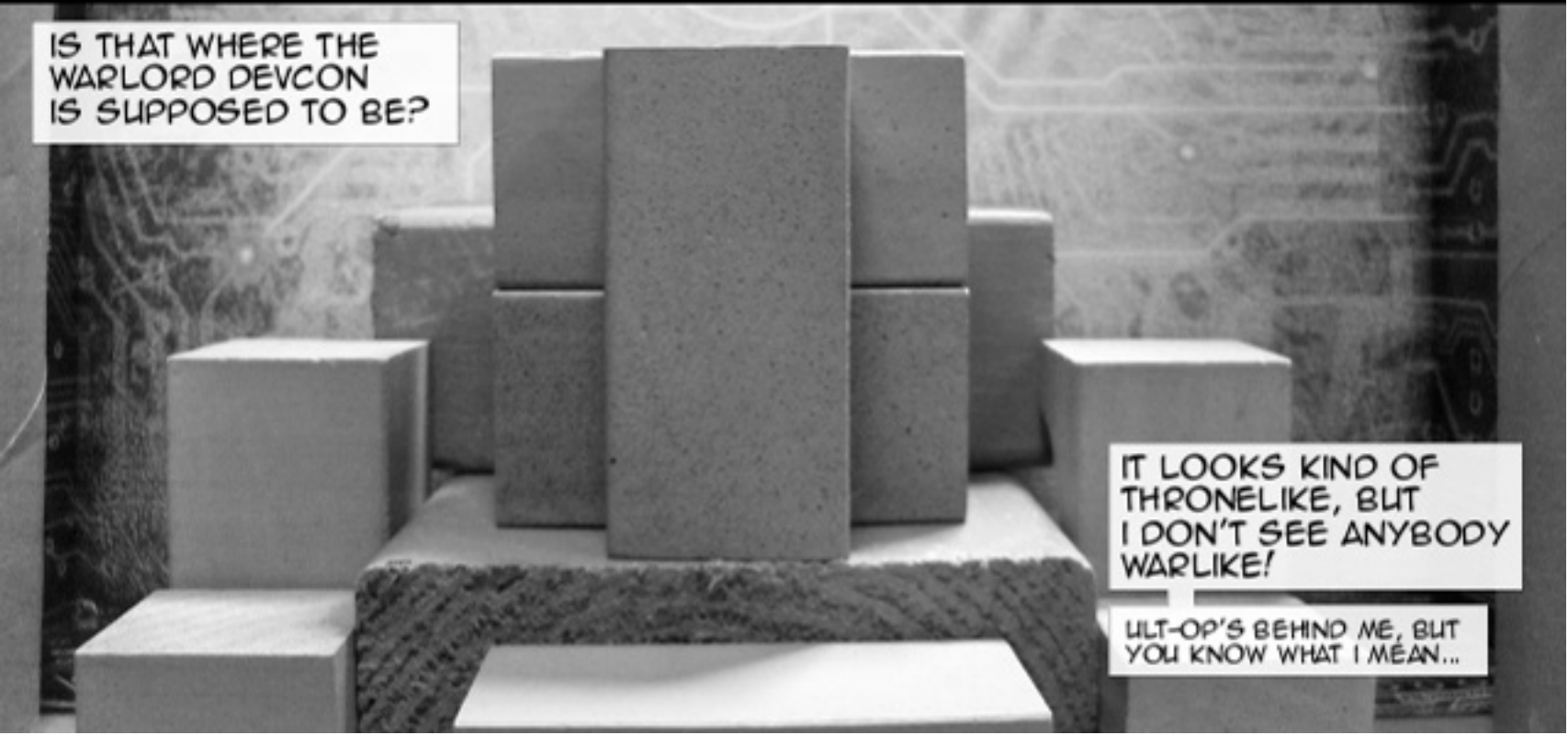


MY AUDIO SENSORS!

THAT NOISY RIN!
IF SHE HAD ANY PARENTS,
I'D HAVE A GOOD MANY
WORDS FOR THEM!

YOU MEAN WORDS
LIIIIIKE...


HEY!
...EVERYONE?
OVER THERE...



IS THAT WHERE THE
WARLORD DEVCON
IS SUPPOSED TO BE?

IT LOOKS KIND OF
THRONE LIKE, BUT
I DON'T SEE ANYBODY
WAR LIKE!


ULT-OP'S BEHIND ME, BUT
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN...



GGGH! IF THIS DEVCON MORON STANDS US UP, I WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS... STARTING WITH LEVELING THIS MISERABLE HEMORRHOID OF A PALACE...

IF HE DOESN'T GET HERE, AND SOON...

ACTUALLY, 'FORMER, HE MIGHT BE HERE ALREADY...



SEE, IN THE MOVIE, OZ WAS JUST THAT FLOATING HEAD THING, BUT IN THE BOOK, HE APPEARED AS A BUNCH OF DIFFERENT THINGS....

ONE OF THEM WAS JUST A VOICE...

SO WE REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT... COUNT ON SOMETHING SURPRISING AND PROBABLY HORRIFYING...

SO I'M JUST GONNA SIT HERE WITH MY FROZEN YOGURT UNTIL...

≡ZOT!≡



THPPPPBBBTF!



HI HI!

MEE-SA
DEVCON,
THE BIG-BIG,
THE BAD-BAD!

YOU-SA
COME
FORWARD!

OH, PERFECT...JUST PERFECT...
FROM THE LAND OF OZ....
TO GUNGAN DIM!

<GREETINGS, OZ,
THE BIG AND DUMB.>

<I AM MOONSCREAM,
THE ANGRY AND
PISSSED-OFF.>

<YOU-SA SEND US HOME, 'KAY?
OR WE-SA FIND THE WICKED
WITCH'S BROOMSTICK AND
SHOVE IT UP YOUR SORRY

<HOW
RUDE!>

<OKAY. 'PLEASE'.>

<AND ANOTHER THING...
WE'VE GOT THREE FRIENDS
WHO NEED HELP. HELP THEM...
AND NO LAME COP-OUT SOLUTIONS...>



<..FOR INSTANCE, THERE
WILL BE NO BRAN CEREAL,
SAWDUST-STUFFED HEARTS
FROM THE COUNTY FAIR,
OR 'LIQUID COURAGE' FROM
YOUR LIQUOR CABINET...>

<ANYTHING LIKE THAT,
AND YOUR NEW NAME
WILL BE "JAR JAR
NIMBUS 2000"...">

UM...

<YOU-SA SHUT UP.>

<NOR WILL THERE
BE ANY PHONEY
DIPLOMAS, TICKING
WATCHES, OR FORGED
TESTIMONIALS...>

UH...

<...UNLESS YOU WANT
TO BE SCOURGE'S
NEW FAVORITE SWEEP...>

<YOU WILL NOT CLAIM 'THEY HAD IT ALL ALONG', AND IF
YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT ESCAPING IN A BALLOON...>

HEY, POMOCK!
CHECK IT OUT!



<...EH, LET'S JUST SAY
WE'VE GOT ENOUGH WEAPONS
TO LEVEL A SMALL COUNTRY,
AND I'M STARTING TO WONDER
WHY WE HAVEN'T, YET...>

BIG SHINY PULL-SWITCH!

SHOOP!

**OH MY
GOODNESS!**

**GIRL,
LOOK AT HIM!**

**IS THAT THE
WARLORD DEVCON?**

**THEN SOMEONE'S
GOING TO PAY,
OOOOOOOOOO!**

PLEASE DON'T ASSAULT ME, FURRIES!
IT'S TRUE, I'M THE WARLORD, DEVCON...

FURRIES?

...AND, WELL, A HUMBUG...
BUT I REALLY MEAN WELL!
AND, IN THE END, ISN'T THAT...

HEY...

...IF YOU'RE DEV,
THEN THAT BIG
NULL IS JUST...

-CATHARSIS!!

ZOT!

SPKOW!

BLAMMO!

THEW!

ZOT!





JAR JAR'S DEEEEEAD!
LOST HIS HEEEEAD!
HE WAS FAKE! WE FELT ILL!
NOW HE'S FRIIIIED!

YOU'RE A DEADER
MAN THAN I AM,
SUNGAN DIM.

MOMMY? WHA'S
'CAT FARSES?'

IT MEANS 'DUMPING
THE OLD LITTERBOX!'
RIGHT, POMOCK?

UM....QUIET, PARTIO...

≡SLIIIIIDE≡

SO, WHAT
ABOUT
DEVCON?

⇒KA-KLIK⇐

⇒KA-KLIK⇐

UH...

⇒KA-KLIK⇐



PINK RANGER!



WHERE?!





OOF.

I CAN'T BELIEVE
YOU FELL FOR
THE OLDEST
TRICK IN
THE BOOK!

PLEASE, 'CRAZY!
I DIDN'T MEAN...

I AM NOT
SPEAKING
TO YOU.

WHERE'S THE PINK RANGER, POMOCK?
I STILL DON'T SEE THE PINK RANGER!



**YOUR HEAD WILL
ROLL, KNOCKOFF!**

**HA! HA! HA!
YOUR POWERS ARE
USELESS HERE,
AQUAMAN!**



⇒TINK!⇐



Too small...

≡sigh≡

ANYBODY ELSE
WANT THIS ONE?

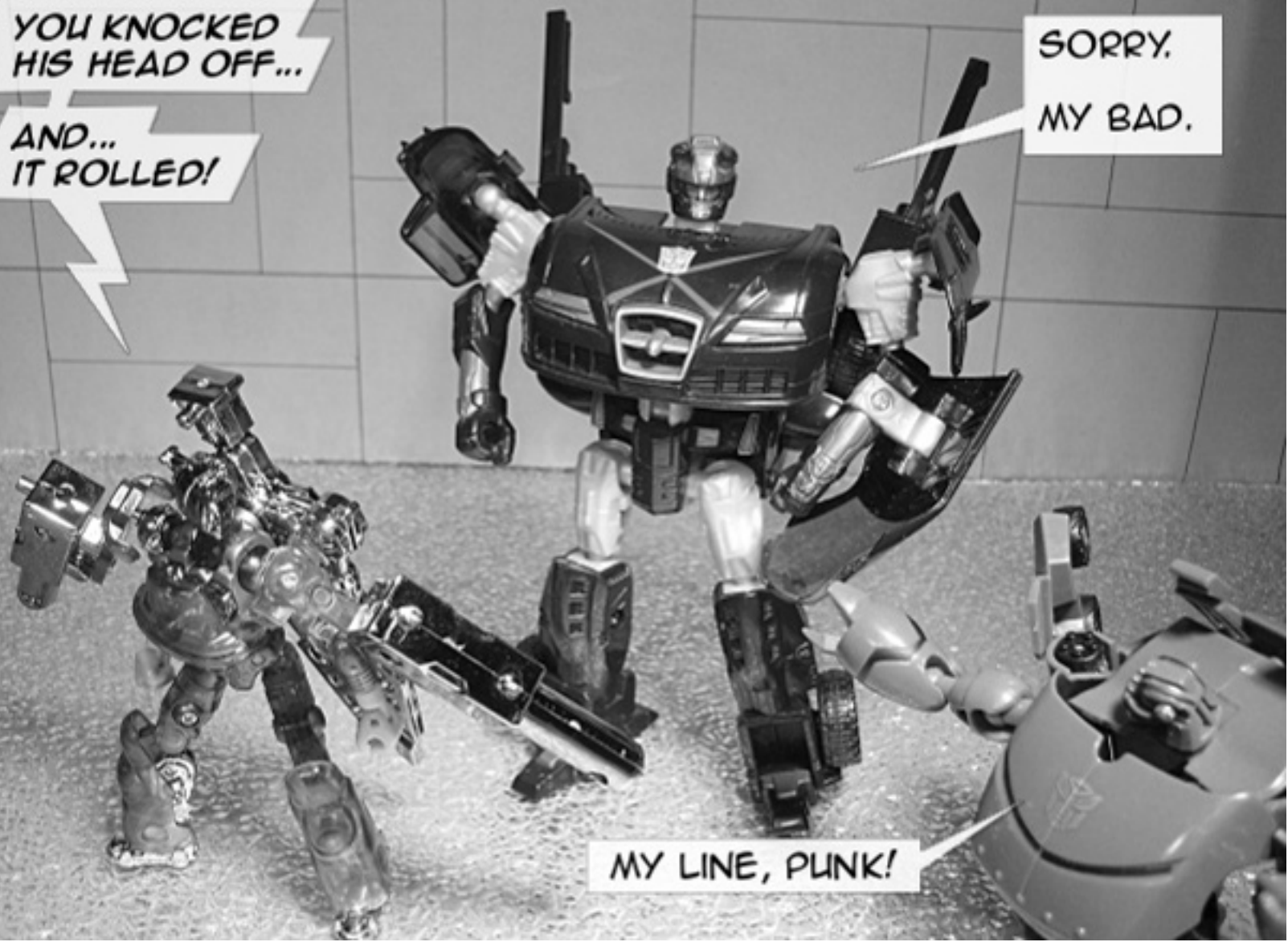


**YOU KNOCKED
HIS HEAD OFF...**

**AND...
IT ROLLED!**

**SORRY.
MY BAD.**

MY LINE, PUNK!






HE'S DEAD!
YOU'VE
KILLED HIM!

ALL HAIL
AGENT X!
THE -


YOU LOOK
DIFFERENT.

I SHAVED.

LISTEN. I'M NOT
THE TRAUMATIZED,
DERANGED, DIESEL
GUZZLING FORMER
OPERATIVE YOU ALL
THINK I AM...



IN FACT, I AM A
TRAUMATIZED,
DERANGED,
DIESELHOLIC...



...CURRENT AGENT!
AND YOU'VE GOT TROUBLE.
TROUBLE WITH A CAPITAL 'T'
AND THAT SOUNDS LIKE 'D'
AND 'D' STANDS FOR-

-DRIVING WHILE
OVERENERGIZED?

THAT WOULD BE YOUR TROUBLE, I THINK.
I SUPPOSE WE COULD SAY YOU RAN OVER THAT
PEDESTRIAN IN SELF-DEFENSE...I THINK I KNOW
A COURT SOMEWHERE THAT MIGHT BUY THAT...

DEVCON? HA! HE WILL
RESPAWN. OR SOMETHING.
NO MATTER...

BESIDES, I WASN'T-

WHERE WAS I? 'NO MATTER'...YES!
NONE. THIS ALTERNITY COLLAPSED...
INTO A GRAND BLACK HOLE.

BUT IT ISN'T ENTIRELY GONE...
ALL THE INFORMATION STILL
EXISTS...CONTAINED WITHIN
THE BLACK HOLE...

TO READ THIS MEMORY,
THE ALLSPARK...A VAST
COMPUTER. COUNTLESS
OTHER, MICROSCOPIC
BLACK HOLES, LINKED...

...RECREATING A LOST UNIVERSE
AS THIS VIRTUAL WORLD...

HIT THE LIGHT
SWITCH, SOMEONE...



THIS PLACE IS REAL...YET IT IS A DREAM...
MANY COME HERE...BRINGING THEIR DREAMS.
HERE, THEY CAN BE WHATEVER THEY WANT...
BUT NOT WHAT THEY THINK THEY WANT...
WHAT THEY REALLY WANT.

DANGEROUS!
LOOK AT STRAXUS...
AND HE WON'T
WAKE UP, HA HA!

BUT WHAT YOU HAVE BROUGHT...
I WAS SENT HERE TO WATCH OUT
FOR THEM...DAMAGED ALREADY,
YOU SEE. EXPENDABLE, HA HA!
AND NOW...THEY HAVE COME...

A NIGHTMARE INVASION...





AAAAUGH!

WHOOPS!
SORRY, THIS WAS FOR MOVIE NIGHT AT TEC'S...
GIMME A MINUTE TO LOAD UP THE RIGHT FILM...

GAH! RIDDLES!
RIDDLES, AND
TECHNOBABBLE!

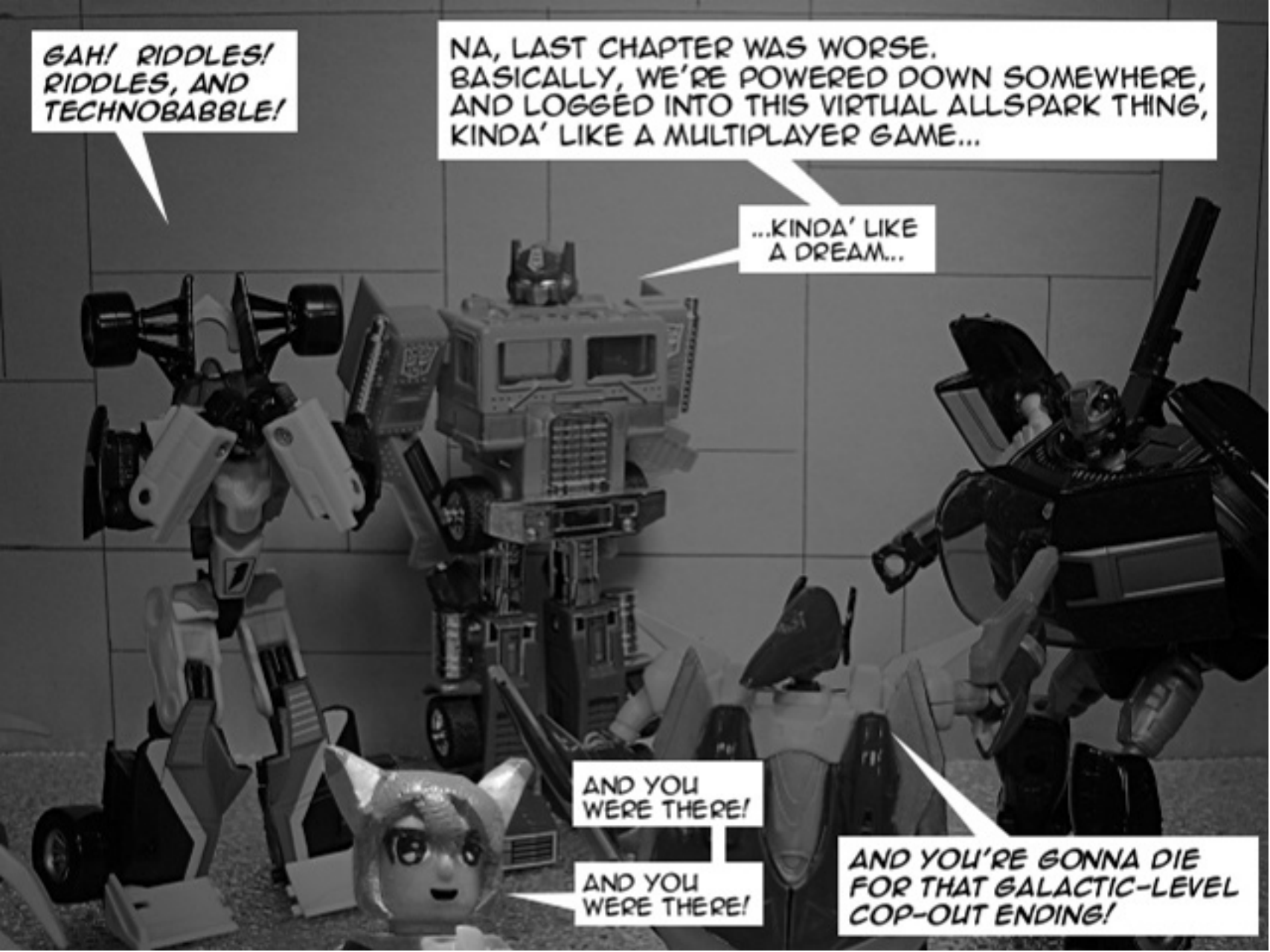
NA, LAST CHAPTER WAS WORSE.
BASICALLY, WE'RE POWERED DOWN SOMEWHERE,
AND LOGGED INTO THIS VIRTUAL ALLSPARK THING,
KINDA' LIKE A MULTIPLAYER GAME...


...KINDA' LIKE
A DREAM...

AND YOU
WERE THERE!

AND YOU
WERE THERE!

AND YOU'RE GONNA DIE
FOR THAT GALACTIC-LEVEL
COP-OUT ENDING!





...LIKE MOST OF MY DREAMS, THAT IS. EXCEPT WITHOUT THE EXPLOSIONS,
AND MY FEMMEBOT ENTOURAGE. SEE, I HIRED MICHAEL BAY TO DIRECT...

IT IS NOT A
COP-OUT,
MOONSCREAM!

...BECAUSE 'D'
STANDS FOR...
DAEMON!

LOOK UPON
THE LEGION!

⇒CLICK⇒



POMOCK!
THOSE
THINGS!

OUR P-
PORTAL!

LINKAGE...

AGENT X!
WHAT ARE
THE LEGION?



LEGION.

FROM THE LATIN,
'LEGERE'...

...TO TRAVERSE,
TO SELECT,
TO GATHER,
TO STEAL...

PROGRAMS.
DAEMONS...

MORE SCIENCE GONE WRONG...
NOT MATERIAL, BUT THEY'RE REAL, HA!
CROSSING ALTERNITIES, FROM MIND
TO MIND...MINING THE DATA...

...AND IF YOU DREAM OF THE LEGION...

**...YOU WILL NOT
WAKE UP!**



OCCASIONALLY,
THE LEGIONS HAVE
BROKEN INTO THE
MATERIAL REALM...

THAT TIME, IN JAPAN...


ACTUALLY...LET'S NOT GO INTO THAT INCIDENT.



EEEEEEUGH...



WAKARIMASHU YO...



THEY CROSSED INTO THE MATERIAL WORLD...
WHAT ABOUT THE REVERSE?
SUPPOSE SOMEONE, PERHAPS IN A DREAM,
BROKE INTO THEIR REALM...ATTACKED THESE LEGION.
AGENT X, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO HER?



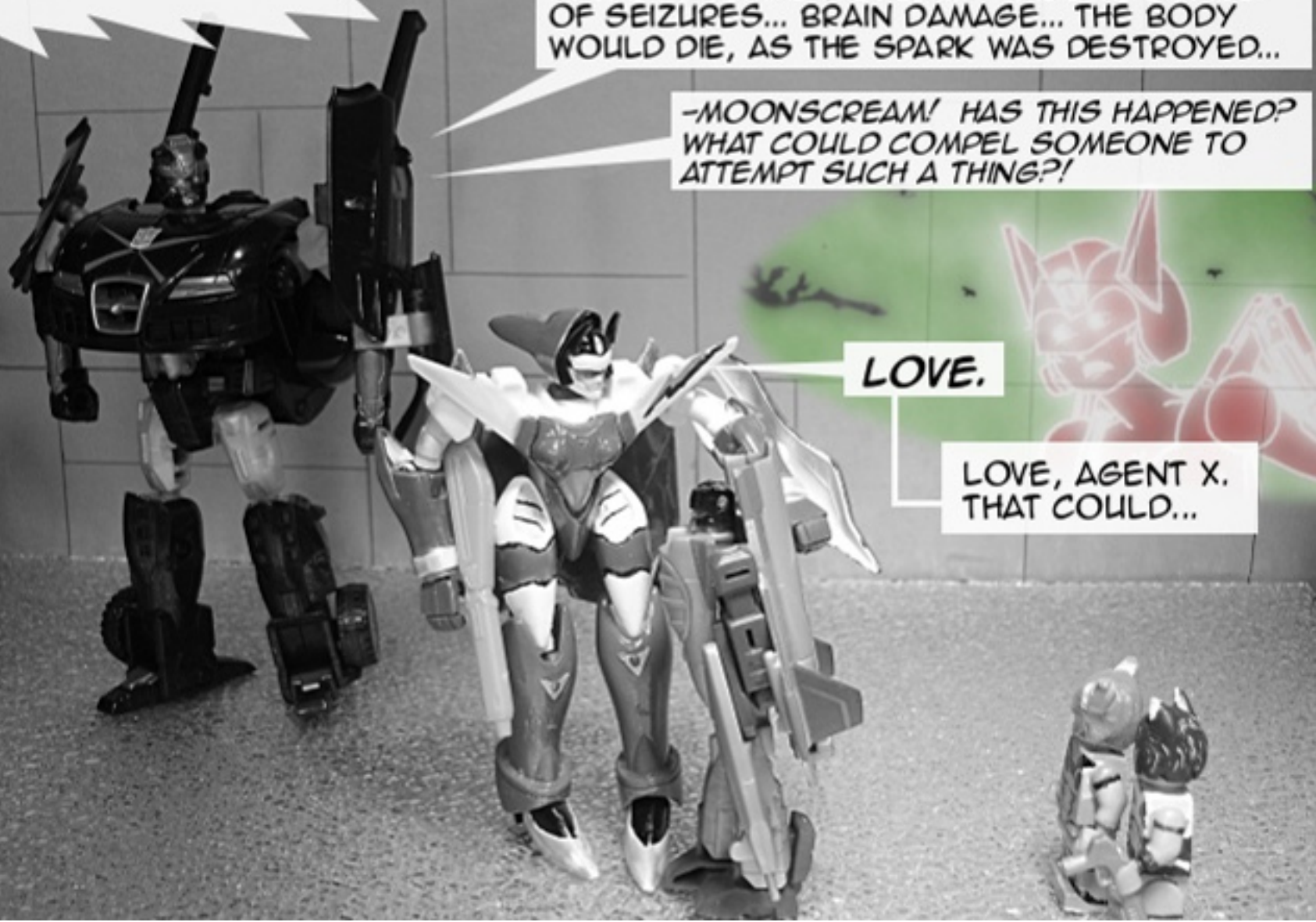
MADNESS!

IN THEIR WORLD - DEVoured, PIECE BY PIECE!
IN THE MATERIAL WORLD...A MASSIVE SERIES
OF SEIZURES... BRAIN DAMAGE... THE BODY
WOULD DIE, AS THE SPARK WAS DESTROYED...

-MOONSCREAM! HAS THIS HAPPENED?
WHAT COULD COMPEL SOMEONE TO
ATTEMPT SUCH A THING?!

LOVE.

LOVE, AGENT X.
THAT COULD...



LOVE...

...THEN IT
ALL WENT
TO HELL...



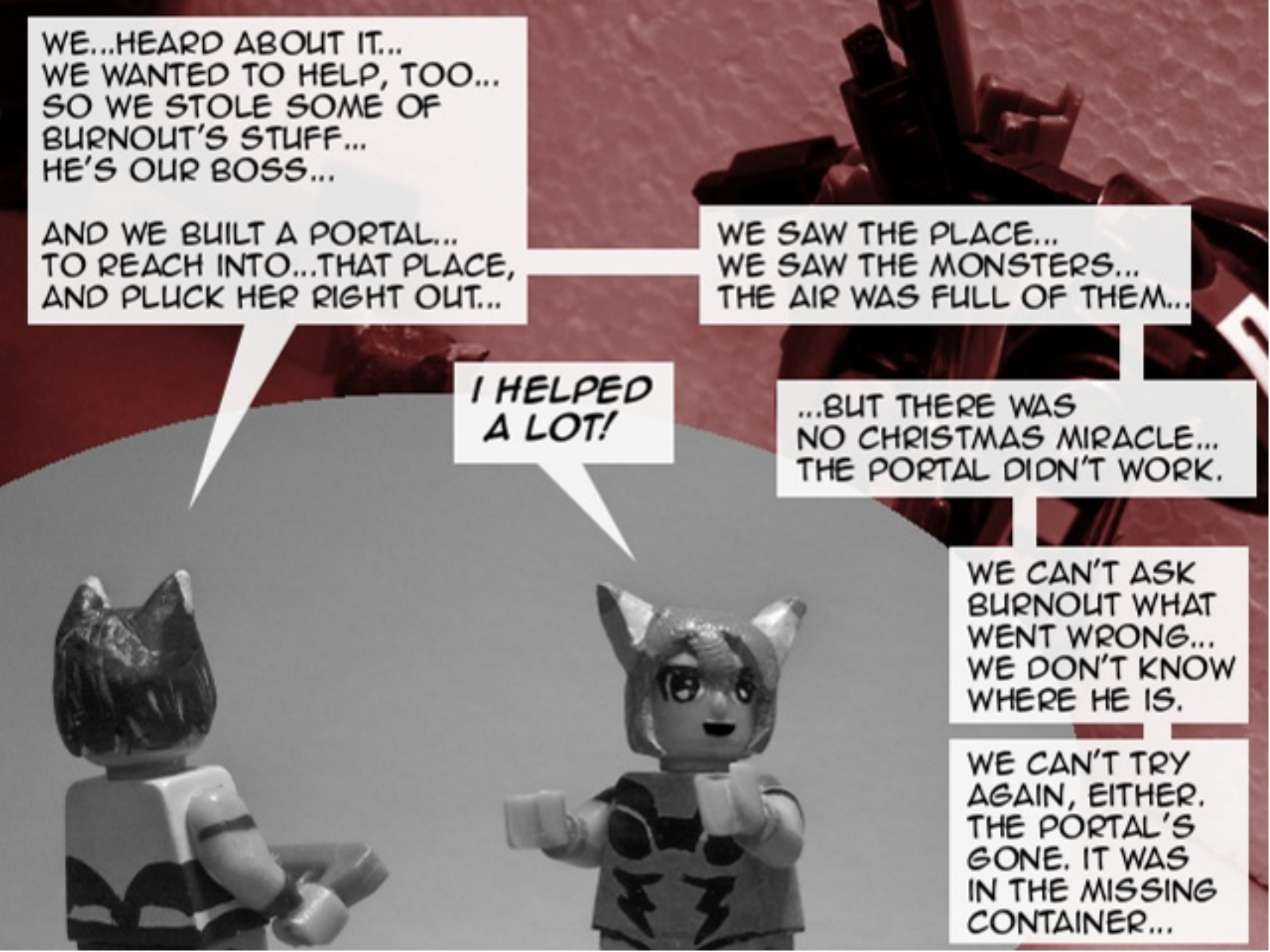
WE WANTED TO
HELP HER.

WE THOUGHT WE
COULD WARN HER.

WE WENT BACK
IN TIME...

MOMMY!

...AND WE ENDED UP...HERE.



WE...HEARD ABOUT IT...
WE WANTED TO HELP, TOO...
SO WE STOLE SOME OF
BURNOUT'S STUFF...
HE'S OUR BOSS...

AND WE BUILT A PORTAL...
TO REACH INTO...THAT PLACE,
AND PLUCK HER RIGHT OUT...

*I HELPED
A LOT!*

WE SAW THE PLACE...
WE SAW THE MONSTERS...
THE AIR WAS FULL OF THEM...

...BUT THERE WAS
NO CHRISTMAS MIRACLE...
THE PORTAL DIDN'T WORK.

WE CAN'T ASK
BURNOUT WHAT
WENT WRONG...
WE DON'T KNOW
WHERE HE IS.

WE CAN'T TRY
AGAIN, EITHER.
THE PORTAL'S
GONE. IT WAS
IN THE MISSING
CONTAINER...

BUT THE CONTAINER'S
NOT MISSING! IT'S IN...

...THE LAKE...

...THE LAKE THAT
THE LEGIONS...
CRAWLED OUT OF...

OHHHHH
JIVE.

YUP.

PARTIO...
YOUR PORTAL
WORKED...

YAY!
I'M A
SMART
FERRET!

...AND IT'S LETTING ALL
THE MONSTERS IN!

OH NO!
BURNOUT'S
GOING TO
BE MAD!

PARTIO...
BURNOUT WAS
PROBABLY THE
FIRST TO GO...

WAAAAAAAH!


MY NOSE ITCHES.

BEHIND MY
FACEPLATE.
LRRRRRGH....


DON'T CRY...
LITTLE...

...DUMMY...

PLEASE DON'T CRY.
SOON...YOU WILL NOT
REMEMBER THIS...BECAUSE...

A black and white photograph of several Star Wars Stormtroopers in a hallway. One trooper in the foreground on the left is pointing his right hand towards the center of the frame. Other troopers are visible in the background, some holding rifles. The scene is set in a tiled hallway with a doorway visible in the distance.

THE MONSTERS ARE NEAR. THEY ARE COMING...

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a Stormtrooper's head and upper body. The trooper is holding a blaster rifle with both hands, aiming it forward. The background is a tiled wall.

AND WITH THAT PORTAL...
MORE WILL FOLLOW...
...OR WORSE THINGS.

MY FRIENDS,
THE END.



CRAZY.

BARRY.



BARRY, I...

...I'M SORRY I
BROUGHT YOU
HERE...

'CRAZY...
...NO.

IF HE'S RIGHT, AND THIS IS THE
LAST CHAPTER...WELL..LET'S WRITE IT TOGETHER.

AND...WHEN WE GET TO THE LAST LINE...



WELL...

...I WANT THIS
TO BE THE
LAST THING
I REMEMBER...

SO...JUST...LOOK AT ME...LIKE THAT.
FOR A LITTLE BIT MORE, OKAY 'CRAZY-

HALT!!

WHO GOES THERE?!

**OW! CAREFUL!
MY RIBS ARE
ONLY 440
STAINLESS!**

**SHOW
YOURSELF,
OR I'LL BE
FORCED TO
LAUNCH
THE ARM!**



I REPRESENT...
THE LOLLIPOP
GUILD!




THE...
LOLLIPOP...
GUILD?



THE LOLLIPOP
GUILD LAH!





...AND IN THE NAME
OF THE LOLLIPOP
GUILD...

...AW, SCREW IT! WE JUST FLEW THROUGH
A VAST VORTEX OF VILE VERMICELLI, AND
WE'RE NUTS ENOUGH TO TRY IT AGAIN!
SO, WHAT WE WANNA KNOW, IS...

HOW CRAZY
ARE YOU?



...AND THAT'S THE PLAN. WE RUN BACK TO THE
SHIP, BACK THROUGH THE ARMY OF...
...LEGIONS, RIGHT? WEREN'T THOSE IN-

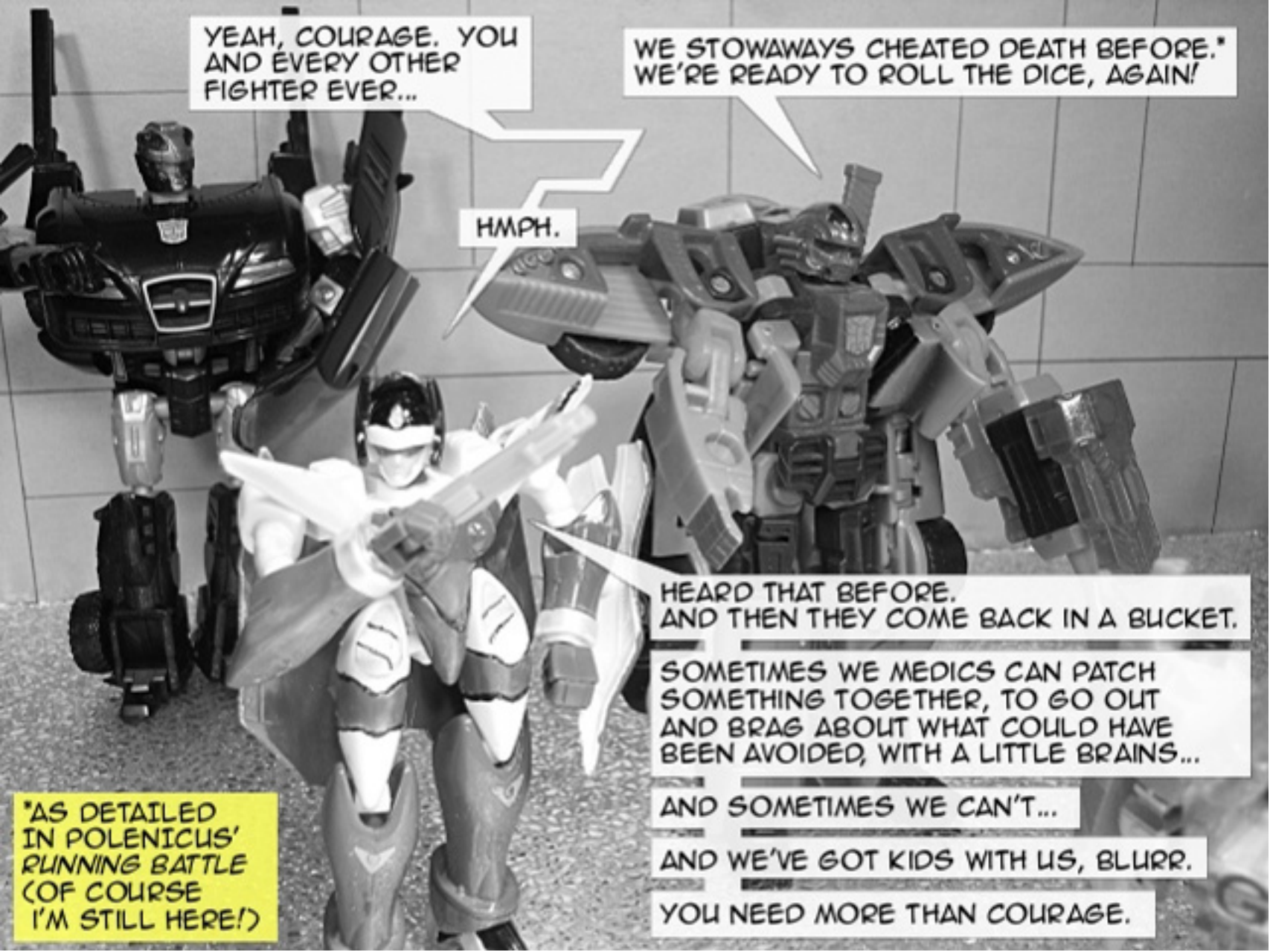
NEVER
MIND.

...AND AGAINST
ALL OF THEM,
WE HAVE...?

ENERGON
WEAPONS!

AND BURNING
MECHLY COURAGE!





YEAH, COURAGE. YOU
AND EVERY OTHER
FIGHTER EVER...

WE STOWAWAYS CHEATED DEATH BEFORE.*
WE'RE READY TO ROLL THE DICE, AGAIN!

HMPH.

HEARD THAT BEFORE.
AND THEN THEY COME BACK IN A BUCKET.

SOMETIMES WE MEDICS CAN PATCH
SOMETHING TOGETHER, TO GO OUT
AND BRAG ABOUT WHAT COULD HAVE
BEEN AVOIDED, WITH A LITTLE BRAINS...

AND SOMETIMES WE CAN'T...

AND WE'VE GOT KIDS WITH US, BLURR.

YOU NEED MORE THAN COURAGE.

*AS DETAILED
IN POLENICUS'
RUNNING BATTLE
(OF COURSE
I'M STILL HERE!)




MOONSCREAM...

...THIS TIME...
COURAGE MIGHT
BE ENOUGH...

OH?

THE LEGION ARE PROGRAMS.
THEY DON'T THINK, THEY PROCESS,
AND LOGIC IS MEAT AND DRINK...
A, THEREFORE B, THUS C...
A RATIONAL MIND IS QUICKLY
STRIPPED TO A SKELETON...



BUT...SOME THINGS ARE BEYOND
SUCH LOGIC. COURAGE...LOVE...
WHAT DOES A CALCULATING
MACHINE KNOW OF THOSE?

IT WILL LOOP AND LOOP, IN SEARCH
OF AN UTILITARIAN EXPLANATION...
THOUGH THE LOOP WILL TIME-OUT.
THIS ISN'T STAR TREK...

...AND...IN PRACTICE, ENOUGH WILL BE TAKEN...
WHAT GOOD IS LOVE, WITHOUT A SCRAP OF
MEMORY, WITHOUT NAMES?

BUT...

CRAZY IDEAS...
MIGHT BUY A
FEW SECONDS
AT A TIME...

...AND...I'M
CRAZY ENOUGH
TO RISK IT! HA!

GOOD
MECH!

⇒KA-KLANK!⇐

BUT!

...I'M NOT COMPLETELY INSANE,
AND I SUGGEST A CHANGE IN
THE OBJECTIVE...

POLICE



YOU'VE COME FROM THE SPACESHIP?

YES. RUSH HOUR WAS HELL.

THE RETURN WILL BE WORSE...
AND THEN WHAT? IF YOU PLAN TO
FLY OUT, THINK AGAIN...I'VE TRIED...

WE PLAN TO SURVIVE!
SAFETY IN NUMBERS,
WE DIG IN, FIGHT...

NO SAFETY
ANYWHERE.

FOXHOLES?
DIG A GRAVE
AND LIE IN IT, HA!

SO CONVENIENT.

BUT NOT SO HEALTHY, YOU KNOW?
THE FIGHT CAN'T BE WON, NOT AS LONG
AS THAT PORTAL STAYS OPEN.

BUT...

...MAYBE...YOU COULD
CLOSE IT. KERCHUNK!

THE PORTAL IS IN THE ACID LAKE.
THE ACID LAKE IS CLOSER THAN YOUR SHIP.
LOCALLY, THE LEGIONS WILL ALREADY
HAVE...ASSIMILATED...

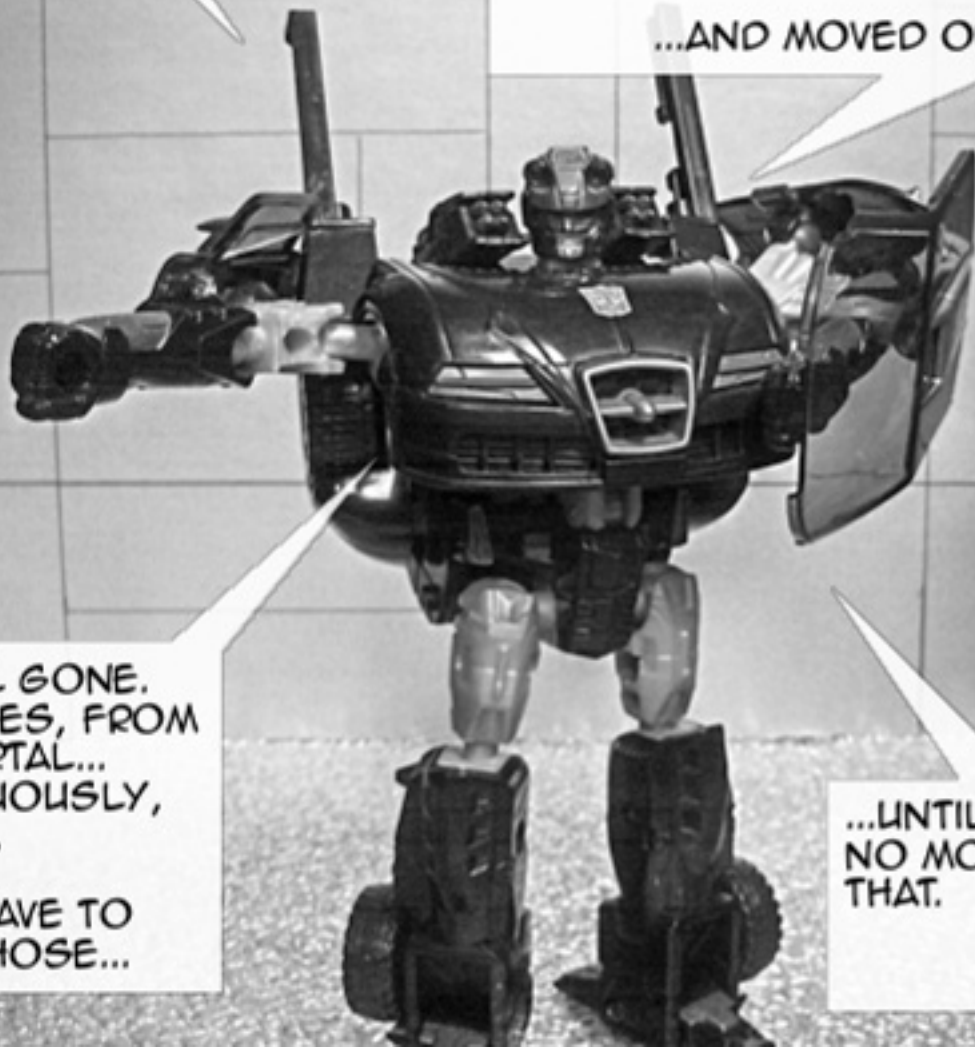
...AND MOVED ON TO THE NEXT FIELD.

NOT ALL GONE.
NEW ONES, FROM
THE PORTAL...
CONTINUOUSLY,
MAYBE...

WE'LL HAVE TO
FIGHT THOSE...

...UNTIL THE PORTAL IS OUT.
NO MORE COMING IN, AFTER
THAT.

...AND THEN...



...AND THEN, WE'RE ALL DEAD.
BECAUSE THE LEGION ALREADY
HERE HAVE COME SWARMING
BACK...

DAMN!

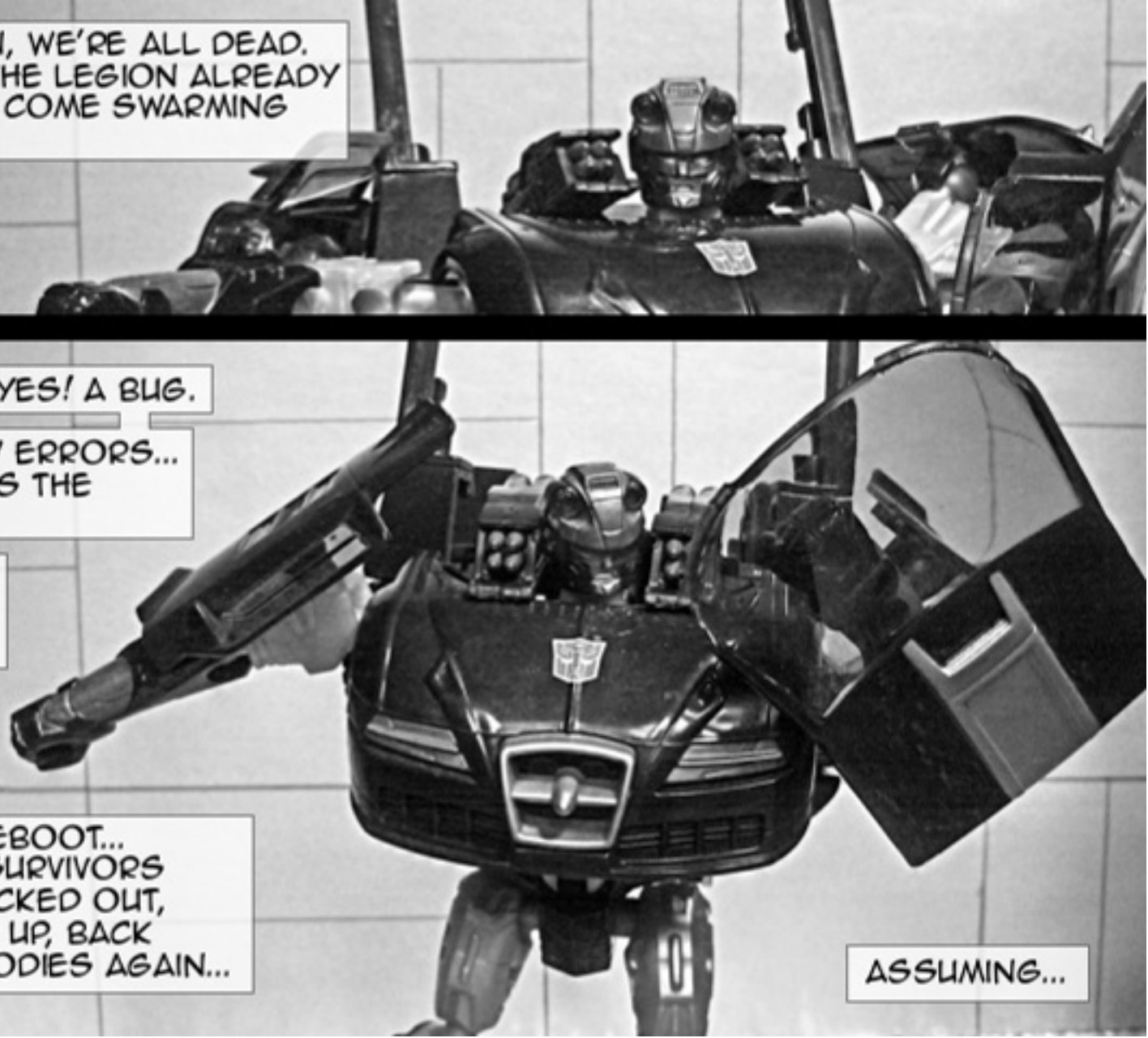
UNLESS... YES! A BUG.


OVERFLOW ERRORS...
SOMETIMES THE
SYSTEM...

IF WE DO
ENOUGH
DAMAGE...

CRASH. REBOOT...
AND ANY SURVIVORS
WILL BE KICKED OUT,
WILL WAKE UP, BACK
IN THEIR BODIES AGAIN...

ASSUMING...





ASSUMING...THEY EXIST...
MAYBE NOTHING BUT
PIECES...FLOATING IN
THE VOID...AND THERE IS
NO GUARANTEE THE
SYSTEM WILL REBOOT...

AN EXPLOSION...AT LEAST...
MUST...DENY THE LEGION...



*ULTIMATE
OPTIMUS.*

WE WILL NEED A
VERY BIG BOMB.



MOST BESZÉLNEK MAGYARUL!


*CONSIDER THAT PORTAL
OBLITERATED, VEC!*

GOOD.
THEN-

HAP-
PY DAYS
ARE HERE
A-GAIN...

NO!

Walle-
Marte





IF HONOR YOU
CALL MUTINY, THEN
SERVILE NEVER
LET ME BE!

DID YOU NOT HEAR
WITH YOUR OWN EAR
WHAT SORT OF MISSION
BROUGHT US HERE?

A TASK OF JUSTICE,
BRINGING AID...
TO HELP A GIRL
WHOM FATE BETRAYED!

DESTROY THAT PORTAL, IN THAT LAKE?
AS WELL DESTROY ALL HOPE, YOU SNAKE!
ACROSS THAT GATEWAY, LOST IN HELL,
TSUGARU BATTLES DEMONS FELL!

Y'ALL WITH
ME, MECH?



THROUGH THAT PORTAL, WE MUST DESCEND...
TO HELL. TO FIGHT! TO SAVE...OUR FRIEND!



G-GHAK!

AW, COME ON,
MY RHYMES
WEREN'T THAT
BAD!

MEDIC!
MEDIC!

THE CRAZY
OVERFUELED
VEC IS HAVING
UNEXPECTED
PROBLEMS!

...THAT, OR THE CUT-SCENE
IS OVER, AND WE'LL BE
GOING INTO BATTLE MODE.
I WONDER IF THIS PLAYS
LIKE ULTIMA...


BLRRRK!

BRRRRGGGGHAAARGH!!



CHESTBURSTER!!!

UNFORTUNATELY,
THIS IS NOT THE
WORST THING I'VE
SEEN ALL DAY.



Merry
Kissmash,
wunana11b

SAATANAN PERUNASALAATTI!
IT'S THAT HELVETILLINEN FAKE
COSPLAY CHRISTMAS ELF!



SO...UHH...X...
YOU PICKED UP A NEW HOBBY
WHILE YOU WERE IN JAPAN
FIGHTING LEGIONS, OR SOMETHING?

I MET HER AT THE BAR! SHE'S MY DRIVER!
I'M NOT CRAZY ENOUGH TO DRIVE DRUNK!


SHE...WAS...DRIVING?
THAT'S ONE TO TELL
THE JUDGE...

IT'S A
CRAZY
SANTA!

WHAT
THE
CHOP?!

I'm Aggh...
uggh...
I'm Akub

...an' I'm
ony'here 40
cut4acrap6

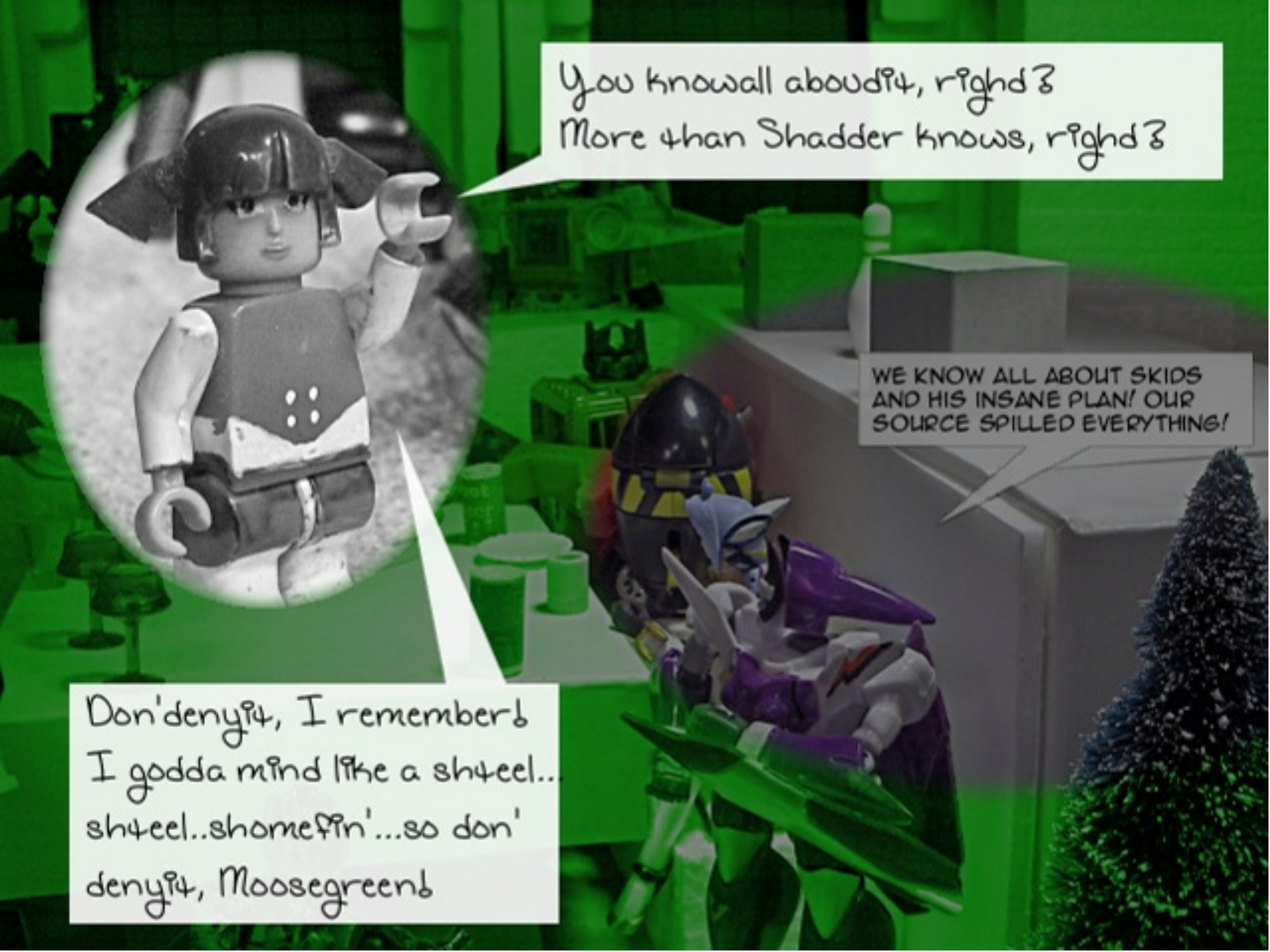


I furd you hawking
abou' 'a4 sh4argade thing...
you can go thro' it if you wan'...

...bu4shu ain' gon'
fin' Tsh...4shrggh...
Tshrrghrr-rr...
San'a Claus...

'cause she's no' there.
It looksh alr', bu4 it sha'
wrong place, wrong time,
somethin'...

anna' legions bein' here provi4b



You know all about it, right?
More than Shadder knows, right?

WE KNOW ALL ABOUT SKIDS
AND HIS INSANE PLAN! OUR
SOURCE SPILLED EVERYTHING!

Don't deny it, I remember
I got a mind like a steel...
steel...shomefin'...so don'
deny it, Moosegreen!

THA' IS NO' MY MOMMY'S NAME!!
MY MOMMY'S NAME IS...
...IS MOMMY!

IT'S OKAY, SCREAMY. SHE'S...UUUUUM...
...SHE'S THE WAY I SAID YOUR DADDY WAS
...A FEW YEARS BACK...FOR A FEW MONTHS...

OHhhh, RI'...AFTER HE FOUN' OU'
HE WAS GONNA ROOK RIKE A BI' UGRY
HAMSTER-CHIGGEN-WASPINATOR...

DIDN'T STOP
HIS FANGIRLS.

NEEP
BEEP!

REALLY?
I'M A
GEMINI!

You know she's sh4uck, yeah.
Soda'we. Can' crack her outaplace.
An' belief id', we been 4ryn' lotsh...

You know'at much.

MAYBE I DO.

CAREFUL, MOMMY!
IT MI' BE A TRAP!

Yea, id's a 4rab.
For'a demonsh 400b
No pullinem oudb

BUT-

CLICKA
BEEP?

OF COURSE!
I'D LOVE TO
GO OUT FOR
COFFEE!

WHEN
DID YOU
LEARN
MICRON?

WHAT'S
MICRON?

But your pordal, kidsh...it brought'a demonsh.
They weren' sh4uck...it wasna shame place...
or...it sh no' locked now...an Hell's busted loosh...

DON' SAY THA' WOR'!
THA' IS A BA' WOR'!

SCREAMY! NO
SCREAMING!

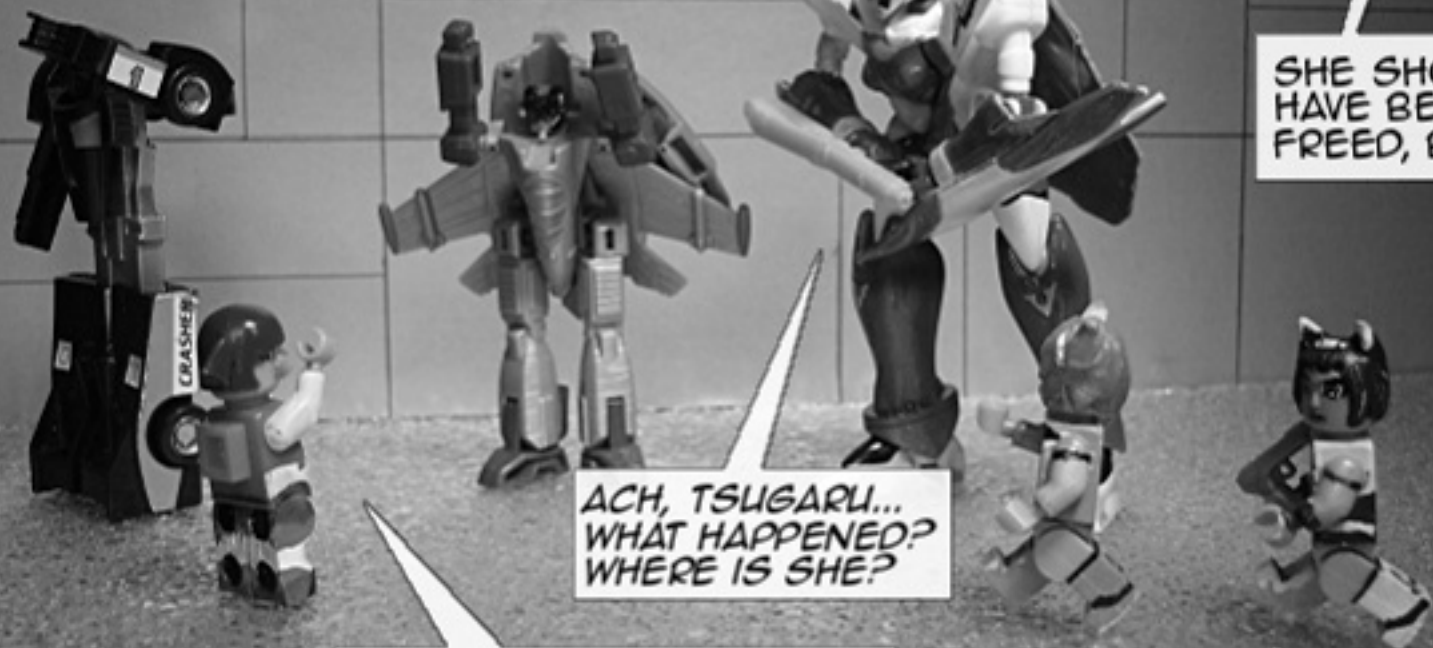
"THE SINGULARITY TRAPS ALL...
HERE THEY ARE HELD...THUS THE
WORLDS ARE PRESERVED..."


BUT...NOW...
THE TRAP...
IS OPEN...

SHE SHOULD
HAVE BEEN
FREED, BUT-

ACH, TSUGARU...
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE IS SHE?

I...don't...know...
I've...been...trying...
not to think...about it.






SO...

THAT'S HOW
CHRISTMAS
ENDS...

THE BAD
GUYS WIN...



NO. I WON'T
BELIEVE IT.

CHRISTMAS
DOESN'T END
THAT WAY.



MAYBE THE PORTAL'S OPEN
BECAUSE BURNOUT'S MIRACLE CODE
OVERPOWERED THE SINGULARITY.

MAYBE SHE
SLIPPED THROUGH.

MAYBE SHE'S
OUT THERE NOW,
LIGHTING UP THE
CLOUDS AND
HACKING UP THE
CYBERDEMONS...

...AND I'M GOING TO HELP.



I'M GOING TO TAKE MY SILVER SHOES, AND CLICK THE HEELS, THREE TIMES. AND I'M GOING TO LIGHT 'EM UP AND FLY THAT BOMB TO THE ACID LAKE...

...I'M GOING TO BLOW UP THAT PORTAL, SEND US HOME...AND HER, WITH US... AND WHEN I'M BACK IN MY OWN ALLUMINUM, I'M GOING TO FLY TO ENTROPOLIS...IN TIME TO BE THERE WHEN SHE WAKES UP...

*AND I'M GOING TO WISH SANTA
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!!*

...YOU GONNA' COME WITH?





HUG YEAH!



→THUD←
→THUD←
→THUD←

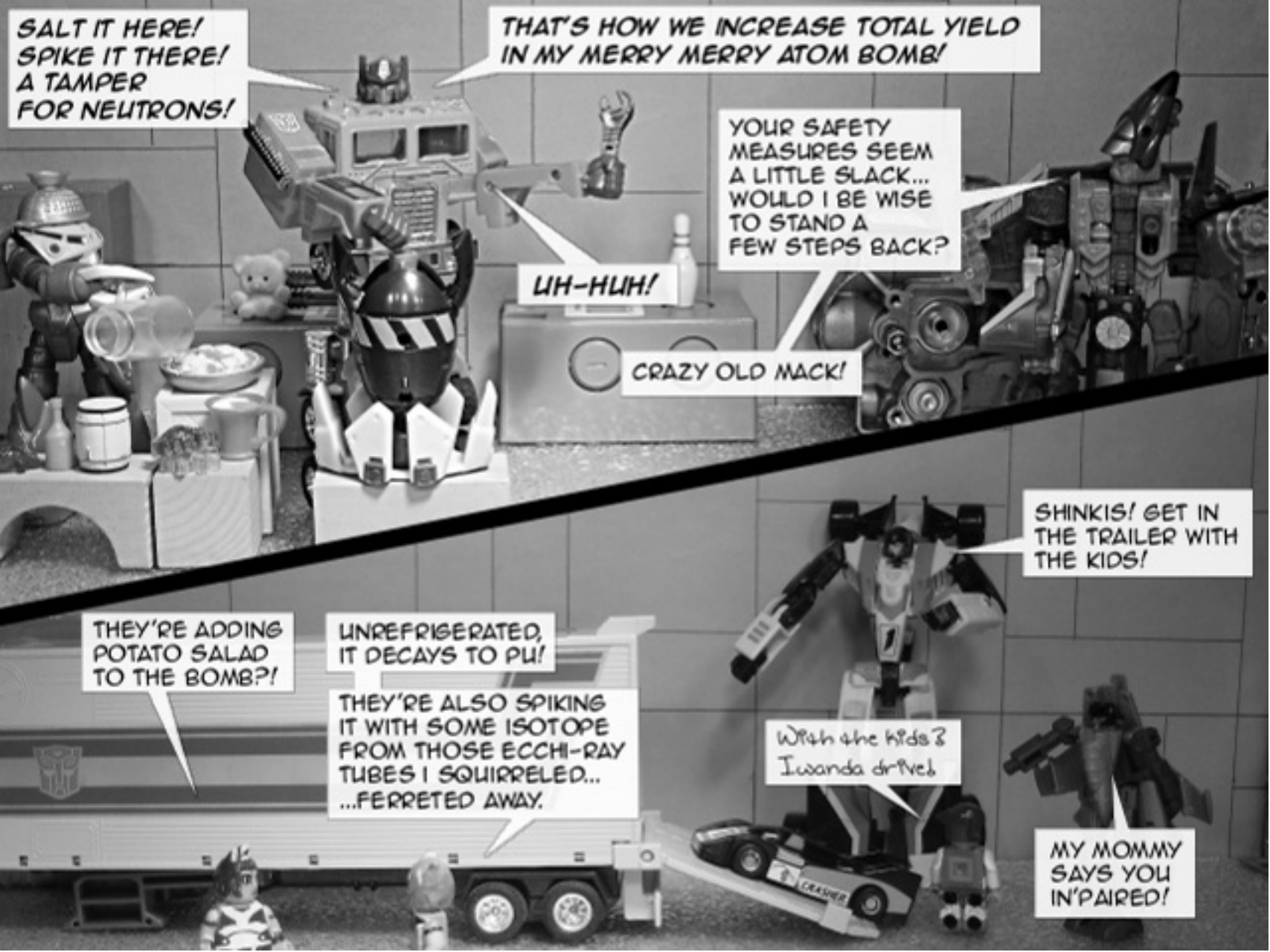


WELL!

THEN...I GUESS...

IT'S ON!

YEEEEAH.



SALT IT HERE!
SPIKE IT THERE!
A TAMPER
FOR NEUTRONS!

THAT'S HOW WE INCREASE TOTAL YIELD
IN MY MERRY MERRY ATOM BOMB!

YOUR SAFETY
MEASURES SEEM
A LITTLE SLACK...
WOULD I BE WISE
TO STAND A
FEW STEPS BACK?

UH-HUH!

CRAZY OLD MACK!

THEY'RE ADDING
POTATO SALAD
TO THE BOMB?!

UNREFRIGERATED,
IT DECAYS TO PU!

THEY'RE ALSO SPIKING
IT WITH SOME ISOTOPE
FROM THOSE ECCHI-RAY
TUBES I SQUIRRELED...
...FERRETED AWAY.

SHINKIS! GET IN
THE TRAILER WITH
THE KIDS!

With the kids?
Iwanda drove!

MY MOMMY
SAYS YOU
IN'PAIRED!

OUR ENEMY,
THE LEGION.

QUIET, INVISIBLE TO
RADAR, EMITS VIRTUALLY
NO HEAT, BUT HAS NO
RANGED ATTACKS.



THE ENEMY WILL ATTEMPT
TO ENGULF A TARGET,
PRYING OFF FRAGMENTS
TO ASSIMILATE.

EXPECT THEIR POWER
TO INCREASE GREATLY
AS MORE MATERIAL
IS ASSIMILATED.

FLIERS, YOU WILL BE
OUR FIRST LINE OF
DEFENSE.



PREFER TO USE PROJECTILE OR DIRECTED-ENERGY WEAPONS.
SHOULD YOU BECOME ENTANGLED, HEAD FOR THE GROUND.
THE ENEMY WILL DETACH TO CHANGE FORM, ALLOWING ESCAPE.
DO NOT WASTE TIME ON ANY ONE TARGET -

-AND PROTECT YOUR
AFTERBURNERS!



AGENT X! ONE MORE
REMARK, AND I'LL HAVE
YOU KEELHAULED!




WHAT GETS PAST THEM...

...THAT'S YOURS, GROUND TEAM.
TRANS-CRAZY...PAY ATTENTION...

...TRANS-CRAZY, YOU AND ULT-OP ARE OUR HEAVY HITTERS.
WHEN WE NEAR THE LAKE, YOUR ROLE WILL CHANGE.
OPS IS STAYING WITH HIS TRAILER, TO PROTECT THE KIDS...

...WHILE YOU AND
BARRICADE WILL
ASSIST WITH
THE DELIVERY.


THE DELIVERY.



NOW, DON'T YOU WORRY!
I'LL BE CARRYING IT.

THIS MECH'S GOT THE CLAWS FOR THE JOB,
AND I'VE BEEN DYING TO TAKE IT FOR A NICE SWIM!
YOU TWO, AND 'FORMER, JUST HAVE TO KEEP
THOSE HELVETILLINEN LOVECRAFT RIPOFFS AT BAY.

AND BY BAY, I MEAN MICHAEL.



YOU HAVE YOUR
INSTRUCTIONS.
GODSPEED,
EVERYONE.

WE'LL MEET IN
ENTROPOLIS...

...OR WE'LL MEET
IN THE ALLSPARK.

...THE REAL
ALLSPARK.



LADY PRIME!
YOUR PARDON...
I WAS JUST...

THAT IS TO SAY,
I WANTED TO ASK
YOU...

...YOU, I...IN THE
TIME WE HAVE LEFT...

NOT TO OVERSTEP
MY BOUNDS, BUT...
DO YOU THINK...

PERHAPS...
...A HUG?

FORGOT THE
LOCAL SLANG,
DIDN'T YOU?

PERKELE...

GOODBYE TO ONE ALLSPARK,
HELLO TO ANOTHER, PERHAPS, MS. A?

I WOULDN'T KNOW, FEZ.
I'M NOT CYBERTRONIAN.
I'VE NOT HEARD THEY
LET OUR KIND IN...

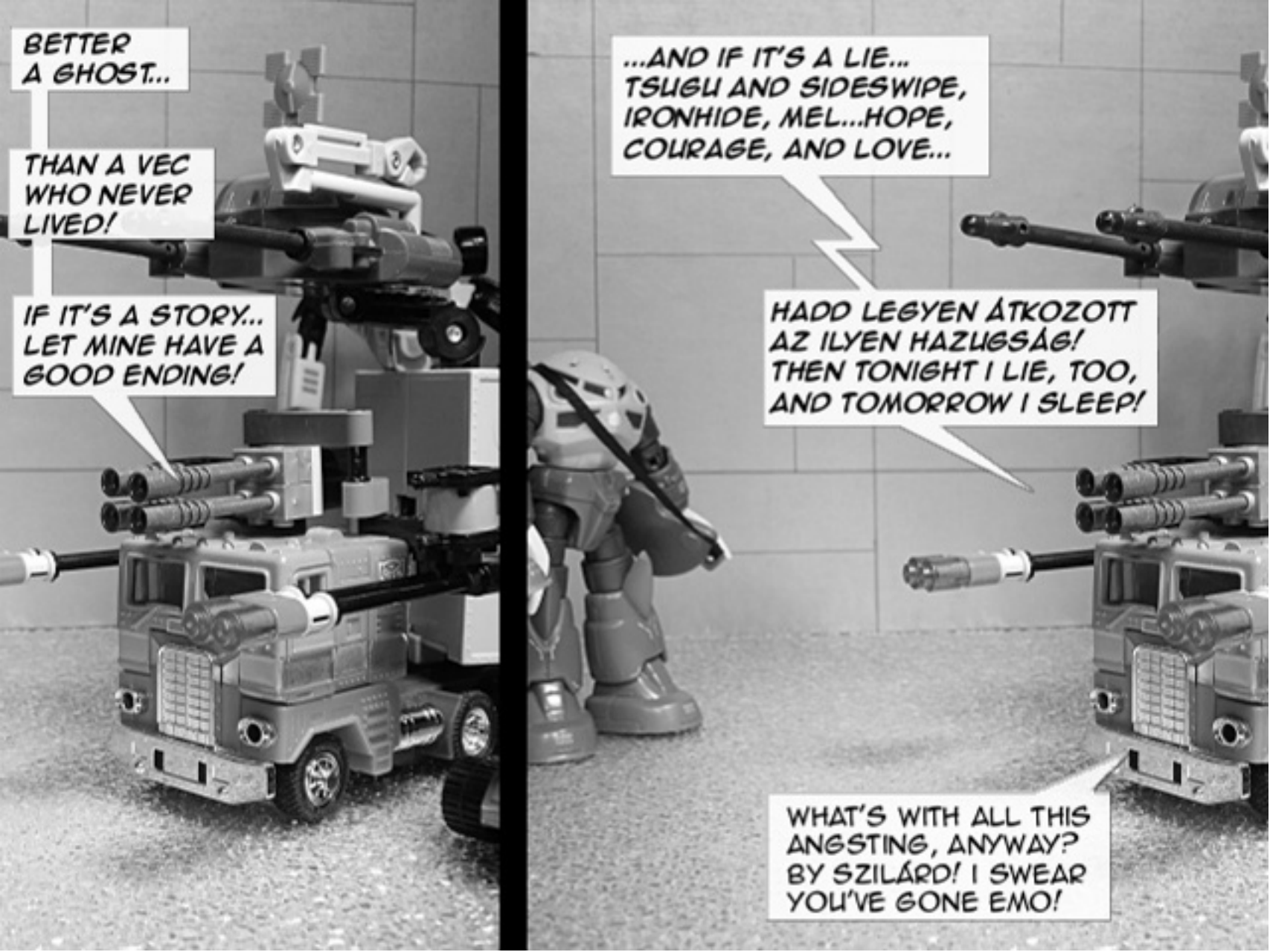
YEAH, AND I'M EVEN LESS
CYBERTRONIAN THAN YOU...
THIS ALLSPARK, THAT ONE,
TO A HUMAN, WHAT IS IT?

⇒CRACKLE⇐

...WHAT IS IT? MAYBE, NOT MUCH.
A GHOST OF A DEAD WORLD, LIKE THIS
PLACE? MAYBE, NOT EVEN THAT...
...A BEDTIME STORY FOR CHILDREN...

A LIE.

⇒ZZZT!⇐



BETTER
A GHOST...

THAN A VEC
WHO NEVER
LIVED!

IF IT'S A STORY...
LET MINE HAVE A
GOOD ENDING!

...AND IF IT'S A LIE...
TSUGU AND SIDESWIPE,
IRONHIDE, MEL...HOPE,
COURAGE, AND LOVE...

HADD LEGYEN ÁTKOZOTT
AZ ILYEN HAZUGSÁG!
THEN TONIGHT I LIE, TOO,
AND TOMORROW I SLEEP!

WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS
ANGSTING, ANYWAY?
BY SZILÁRD! I SWEAR
YOU'VE GONE EMO!



EMO...?

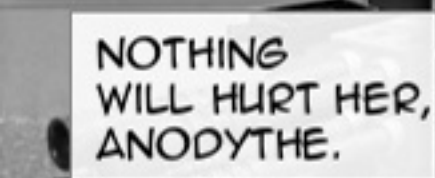
ME...?!



NEVER!!



ULT-OP...DON'T
FORGET...THE KIDS
ARE DEPENDING
ON YOU...



NOTHING
WILL HURT HER,
ANODYTHE.

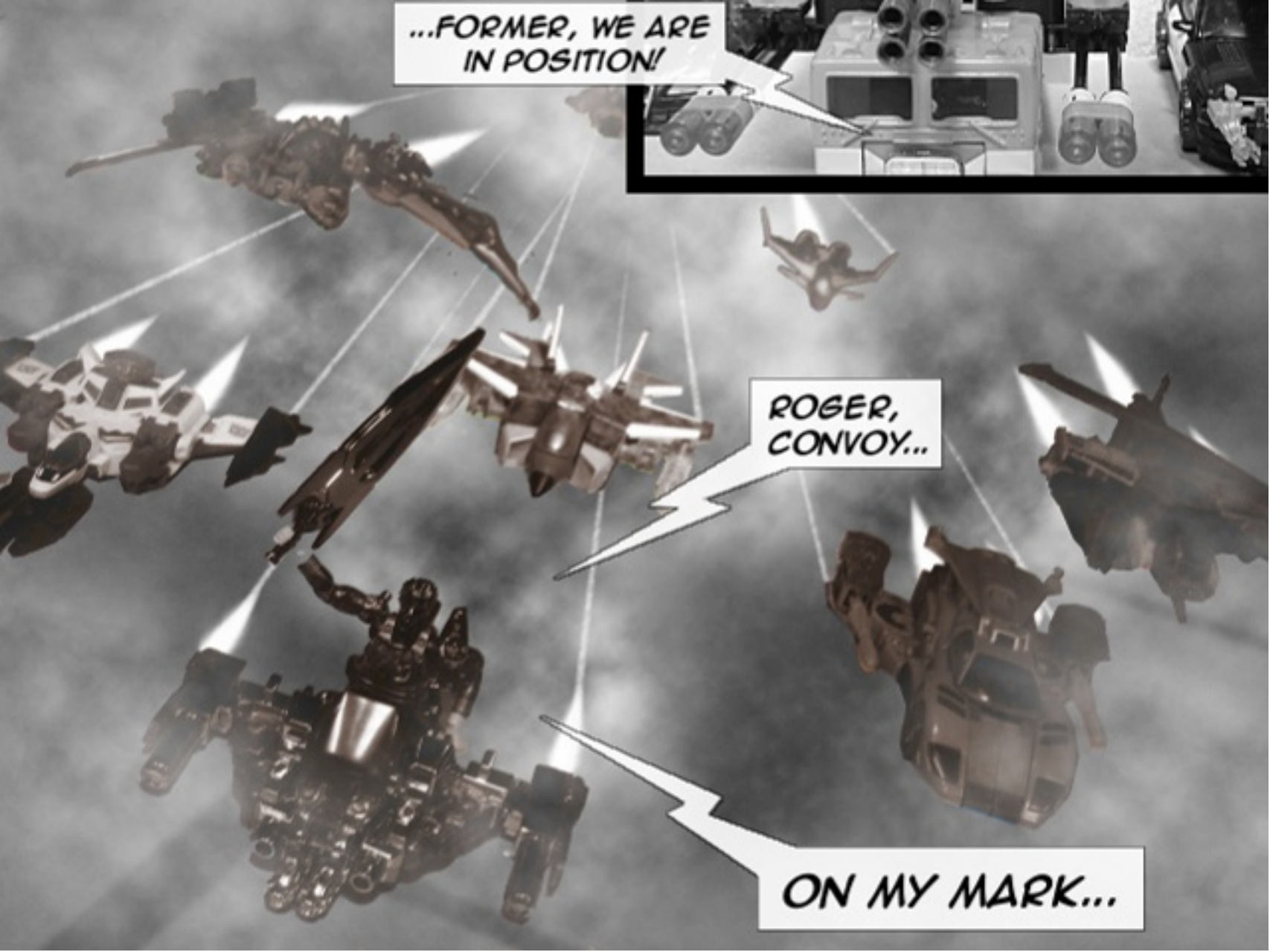


THAT IS MY LIFETIME
GUARANTEE!

...FORMER, WE ARE
IN POSITION!

ROGER,
CONVOY...


ON MY MARK...





-GO!!


**NOT
THE END!!**



Fez!



Fez Findie!



...come back here.
There's less wind.



BEST
SUICIDE
MISSION
EVER!

I'M HAPPY FOR YOU.
I MEAN IT...

...TAKE THE
HEADBAND...

⇒FWIP!⇐

YOU'LL NEED IT!

Nitro Jelly...
nomore jelly...
why? why? why?

Echob Echob Echob
Big 4 trailer...

THAT'S...PROBABLY NOT THE
BEST SPOT IN THE HOUSE...

C'MON, I WANT TO
SIT NEXT TO RIN!



You sheared?
S'aight My'are.

I AM NO' SCARED!!
I AM A WARR'ER!
JUS' LI' MY DADDY!

WARR'ERS ARE
NO' EVER SCARED!





BARRY...

WHEN IT...
HAPPENS...
WHAT WILL
IT...BE LIKE?

WILL WE BE HERE...
AND THEN...NOTHING?
BUT HOW CAN THERE
BE NOTHING?



CRAZY...

I DON'T KNOW...
I'M SCARED, TOO...
I DON'T WANT TO DIE...

BUT...

I'M GOING WITH YOU, CRAZY.
WHEREVER WE'RE HEADED...

"AND, HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW... MAYBE WE'LL LIVE!"



BLURR, I DON'T LIKE
OUR CHANCES...

...ESPECIALLY WITH THAT DARK CLOUDBANK
UP AHEAD. YOU SEE IT? OVER THE LAKE.

COPY, MOONSCREAM. IT WAS CLEAR WHEN WE
FLEW IN...RADAR'S NOT PICKING UP ANY RAIN...
BUT IT DOES LOOK LIKE A SQUALL LINE OR -



SLAG!!

**THAT'S A SWARM,
NOT A STORM!**

WE THINK, WE SLAG
CHANGE NAME...



HERE COME THE LEGIONS!

SLAG!!

*THAT'S A SWARM,
NOT A STORM!*

To be continued...

*WE THINK WE SLAG
CHANGE NAME...*

(in chapter 13-s1)

**more blurry theater at
www.blurryrobot.com**

HERE COME THE LEGIONS!