

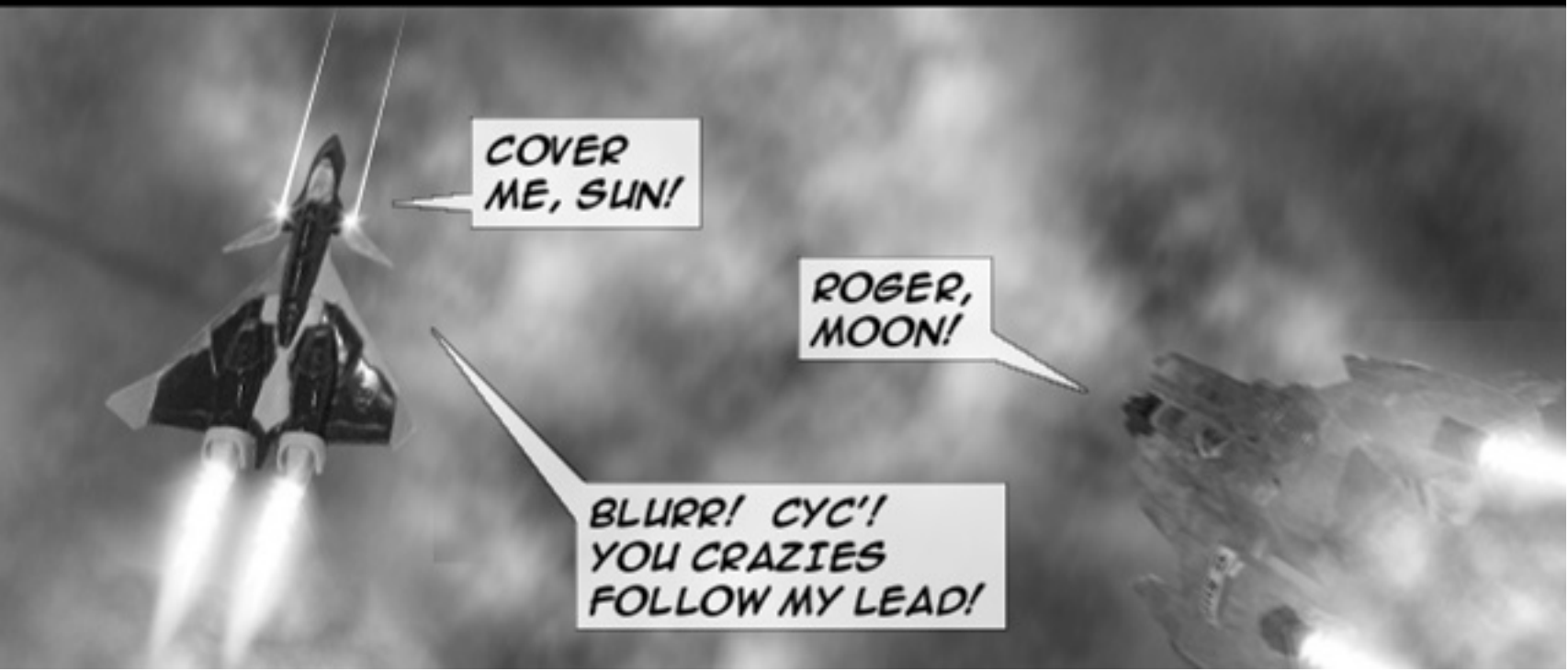
B.R.T. Special

Straxmas 2010

featuring the
B.R.T. Christmas Stars



**TARGET-RICH ENVIRONMENT,
FOR AN OFFICE CHRISTMAS
PARTY...**



**COVER
ME, SUN!**

**ROGER,
MOON!**

**BLURR! CYC'!
YOU CRAZIES
FOLLOW MY LEAD!**



HEY, SQUID!
WHAT'S KRAKEN?



HANG ON,
SCHMUCK!

IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN!



HEY, YOU MADE IT!

MOON TO SUN,
ELDRITCH DITCHED!

MOONSCREAM,
WHAT WAS THAT?



THAT WAS ME
KICKING REASON
TO THE CURB!

WHO THE HELL DOES
SHE THINK SHE IS...

-THREE, GROUND TEAM!
DON'T LOSE TIME-

LOST
TIME...



...IS
NEVER
FOUND
AGAIN!





**FRANKLIN
PUNCH!!**

⇒K'CHOW!⇐

⇒BENNA
BENNA
BENN!⇐

**LIGHTNING
STOMP!!**

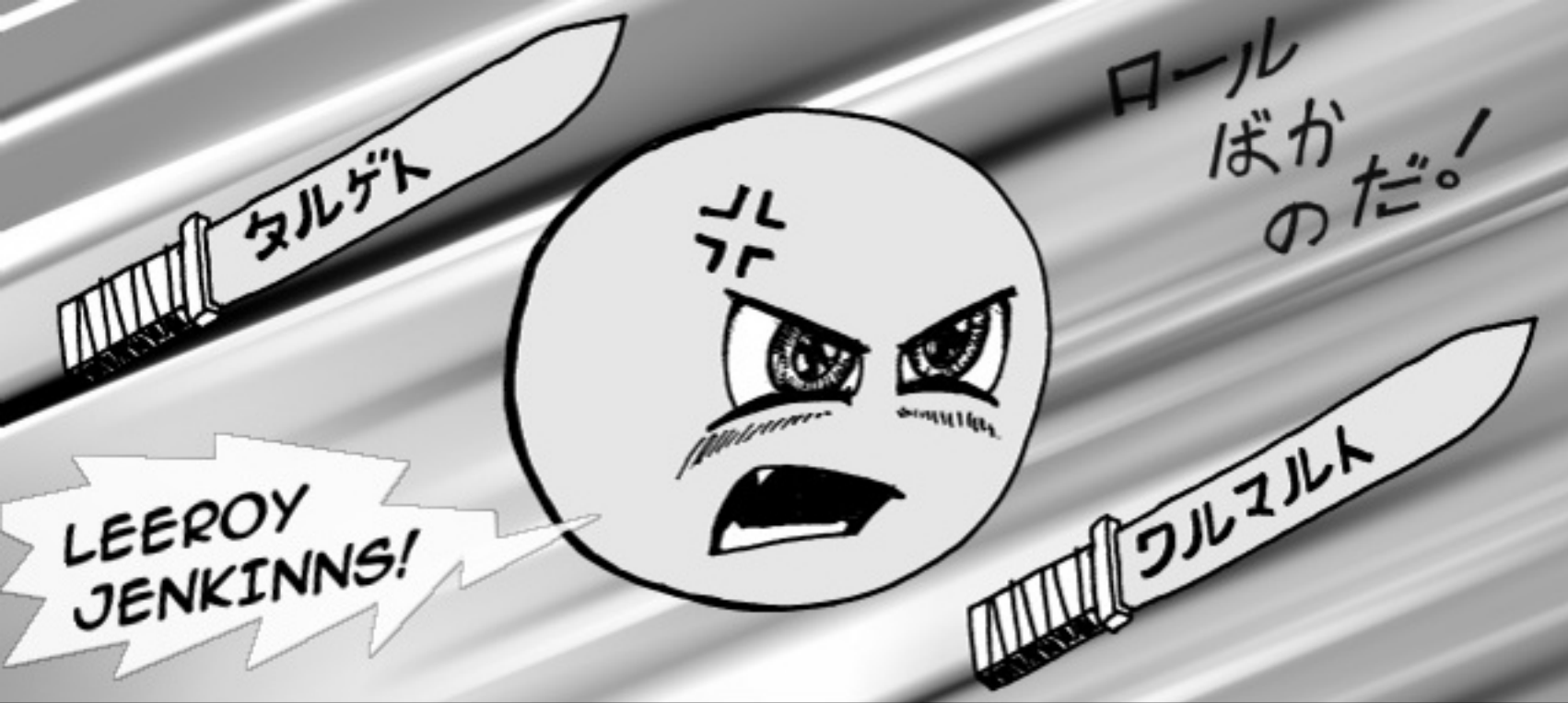
⇒KAZAM!⇐

**POOR
RICHARD
MAXIM!!**

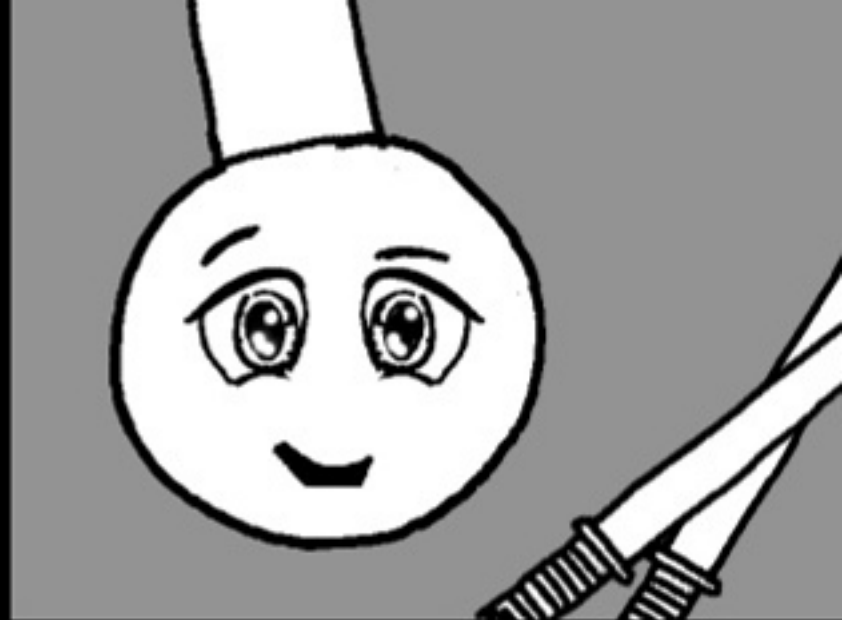
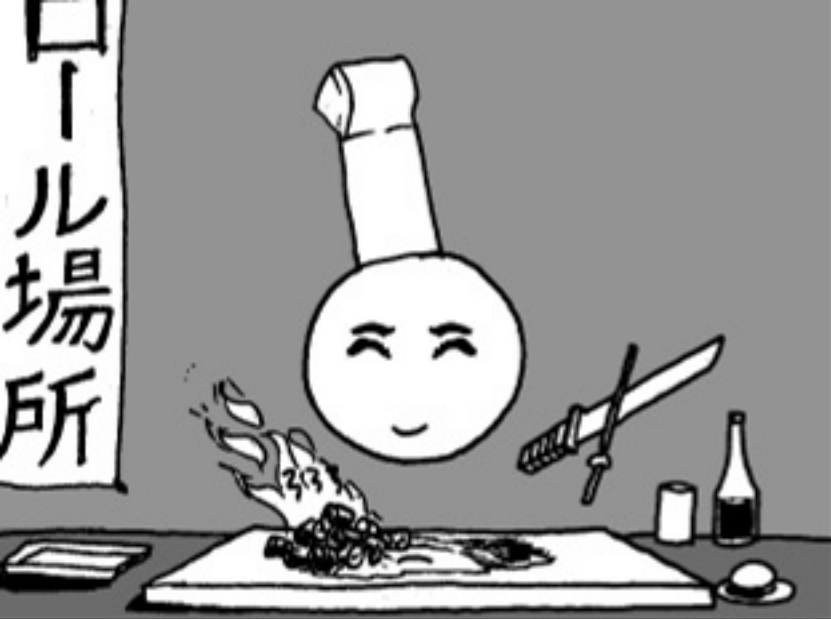


IT'S ALL ABOUT THE
BENJAMINS, Y'ALL!





口
ー
ル
場
所



WHUMP!

EGGCELLENT.

⇒WHOPP!⇐

Walle-Marte



THANKS FOR
THE SAVE,
HOBBY...

I..THINK...

WHAT WAS THAT,
ANYWAY? SOME
KIND OF REALITY-
WARPING ALCHEMY?

IT WASN'T
ALCHEMY...

IT WAS
WAL-CHEMY.



DAMN! BETWEEN FORMER'S
POISON PLANS AND YOUR RETARD
CHARGE, HOBBY, WE'RE STAYIN'
ALIVE LIKE DISCO DIDN'T!

THOSE DATA DEMONS
PROBABLY THINK WE'D
GIVE 'EM BINARY
BOTULISM...

-BUT, YEAH!
GOOD WORK!

THANKS, FEZ...

..."RETARD CHARGE?"
NOT COOL, BRO'!
CAN YOUR Z'GOK
BACK UP THAT TALK?

NAVY MECH, VEC...

GIVE ME WATER, AND
WATCH THE SLAUGHTER!

SEEP? I CAN BUST
RHYMES TOO!



I SAID
RI TO
THE N
TO THE
KA AND
THE GA
TO THE
MI AND
TO THE
NE...

...I GO BY THE UNFORGETTABLE
NAME OF RIN KAGAMINE!

BORED.

SOOO
BORED.

I COULD
JUST...



⇒CRASH!⇐
LEGIOON!!

IT'S GOING AFTER THE KIDS!
I CAN'T SHOOT IT OFF!
I'LL PUNCH THROUGH
AND HIT THEM!

HELP!

FEZ! Hang on!



I'M SO
HAPPIIIIII!

kill
kill maim
kill
death
kill
blood



THWOP!



GOBOT POWER!!

HEY! NO'FAIR!
YOU GOTTED BOFE!
I GOTS NEX' ONE!

crackle

NO, SCREAMY.

'CAUSE YOU'RE
JUST A BABY.



Hmf!

No... face!

AM NO'!

ARE TOO!

AM NO'!

ARE TOO!

AM NO'!

AM NO'!

AM NO'!

ARE TOO
A HUNDRED
TIMES
INFINITY
ITHOUSAND!

I'M GOING TO
COUNT TO TEN!

SHE
GAVE
ME A
HUG!!

^ ^

-

FEZ! LADY PRIME!
IS EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT?!


data



SCREEEEEE - EERT!



KRAKKABLAM!



**NO ONE MESSSES
WITH MY TRAILER!**

POMOCK! OPS HERE!
EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?!

THE GOBOT GOT
THE MONSTER...
NO INJURIES...

...BUT I CAN'T
FIND PARTIO!

Alr',
kidsh...
nomore
fight'n,
okay?

ARE THEY GONE, YET?

NEVER MIND...SHE
JUST POPPED UP.

HE
STARTED
IT.

NO I
DIDN'!


YES
YOU
DID.



HM...

I'VE GOT A DIFFRACTION ANALYZER
INSTALLED IN THE TRAILER, POMOCK...
IT'S NEXT TO THE ESPRESSO MACHINE.

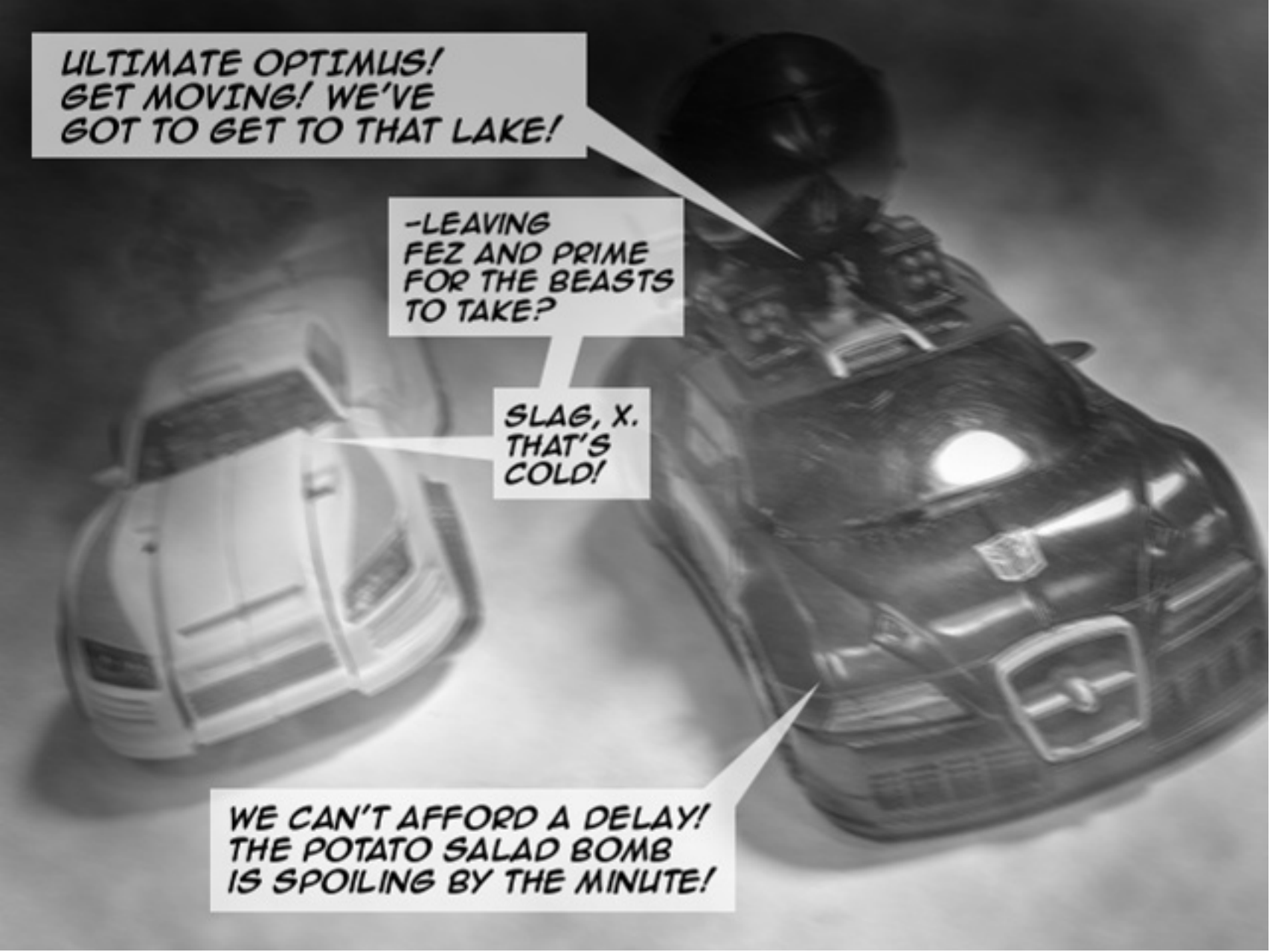
RUN THE MONSTER
SCRAPS THROUGH IT.
MAYBE WE'LL FIND
SOMETHING...



FORMER, WE'RE ALL RIGHT,
BUT FINDIE AND LADY PRIME
HAVE FALLEN BEHIND.
CAN YOU SEND ANYBODY?

NEGATIVE!

IT'S A SPAGHETTI
BUFFET UP HERE!



**ULTIMATE OPTIMUS!
GET MOVING! WE'VE
GOT TO GET TO THAT LAKE!**

**-LEAVING
FEZ AND PRIME
FOR THE BEASTS
TO TAKE?**

**SLAG, X.
THAT'S
COLD!**

**WE CAN'T AFFORD A DELAY!
THE POTATO SALAD BOMB
IS SPOILING BY THE MINUTE!**

A purple robot with a top hat and a guitar, standing in a garden. The robot has a metallic, segmented body, a top hat, and is holding a guitar. It is standing in a garden with flowers and trees in the background. There are three small white hearts floating above its head.

ULTOP TO FINDIE
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
YOU NEED TO
HURRY UP!

...FEZ?

YKSI RUUSU
ON KASVANUT
LAAKSOSSA...

JA SE KAUNIISTI
KUKOISTAA...



> BURNOUT'S LOG

> SOME DAY OF SOME MONTH, YEAR WHATEVER.

> WE ARE STILL STUCK ON THE DESERT ISLAND. SUPPLIES ARE HOLDING UP,
> BUT MY COMRADE SHADOWDRAGON IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY UNSTABLE.
> HE TALKS TO THE SMALL BIRDS WHICH FREQUENT THIS DESOLATE PLACE.
> I THINK HE MAY BE TRAINING THEM TO KILL ME.

> VIA THE UNKNOWN KAGAMINE TYPE, I HAVE ESTABLISHED A COMLINK,
> BUT ATTEMPTS TO COMMUNICATE WITH HOME BASE HAVE THUS FAR FAILED.

> LOCAL MARKET POTENTIAL FOR VOCALOIDS APPEARS TO BE LIMITED.

> I WONDER WHAT THE HELL THE TWINS ARE UP TO.

PARTIO, YOU SHOULD BE
ASHAMED OF YOURSELF,
HIDING IN THAT BOX!

I COULDN'T
HELP IT, I
WAS AFRAID!

AFRAID?
YOU?!
SINCE
WHEN?

SINCE I SAW
A LATE NIGHT
MOVIE THAT
I SHOULDN'T
HAVE SEEN!

HUH...?



...WHAT-EVER,
YOU DON'T SEE ME
FREAKING OUT-

BAM!

BOOM!

RIGHT
TURN,
CLYDE!!





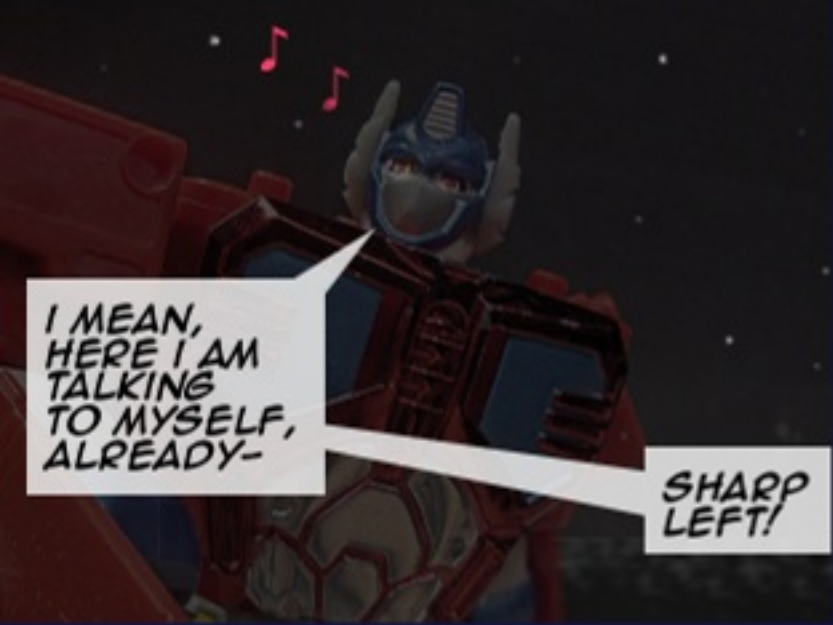
QUAKEAPOOM!

**EAT IT, NOODLER!
TASTE ULTIMATE
DESTRUCTION,
LASGUN STYLE!**

**AND KEEP YOUR ASH
OFF MY TRAILER!**







I MEAN,
HERE I AM
TALKING
TO MYSELF,
ALREADY-


SHARP
LEFT!



AND...HUH?
WHAT'S THIS?


SHADOW-
DRAGON'S
RAZZBERRY?

HE MUST
HAVE
DROPPED
IT HERE...



I WONDER IF
HE HAD ANY LUCK
CALLING HOME,
BEFORE...

...BEFORE THE
CONDITION...
TOOK HOLD...



HE'S STILL
ASLEEP...

JUST A
QUICK
LOOK...



JUST A LITTLE
BIT O' MAGIC, AND..

HM...THE LAST THING
HE WAS DOING WAS
AN ETHANET SEARCH?
LET'S SEE WHAT...

Evil

Evil Search

I'm Feeling Wicked

Evil Mini-Me

⇒TAPPATAP⇐

HA, HA! OF COURSE.
'BUSOU..."

...HUH?

BUSOU
WHAT?!

WHAT'S A-

⇒CLINK!⇐


CRACKER!

SHADOW!




I F-FOUND YOUR
SMARTPHONE!

...YES, INDEED, A FINE BIT
O' PILOT BISCUIT FOR MY
PRETTY LITTLE RAPTIAS!




EAT UP,
MY BEAUTY!

BURNOUT'S
MINDFUL OF YE!



'TIS A KIND LAD YE BE,
BURNOUT ME BUCK!

IF NOT OVER WATCHFUL! HA!



'BUSOU SHINKI'...
LIKE PARTIO, POMOCK...
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED
IF SHADOWDRAGON HAD
BEEN SEARCHING THAT...

HE'S GOT A LOT OF THEM
WORKING FOR HIM...

...BUT WHAT THE
KONAMI IS A
'BUSOU KISHIN?'

⇒CRUNCH⇒

⇒MUNCH⇒

⇒CRACK⇒

⇒SNAP⇒






DAKKADAKKADAKKADAKK



THREE MORE
GROUNDFORMS!
GOING FOR THE
TRAILER!

CHAKKAKHANN!

FLUNK THIS,
DEMONS!



**ROLLBACK
RENKIN!**

BUST IT!



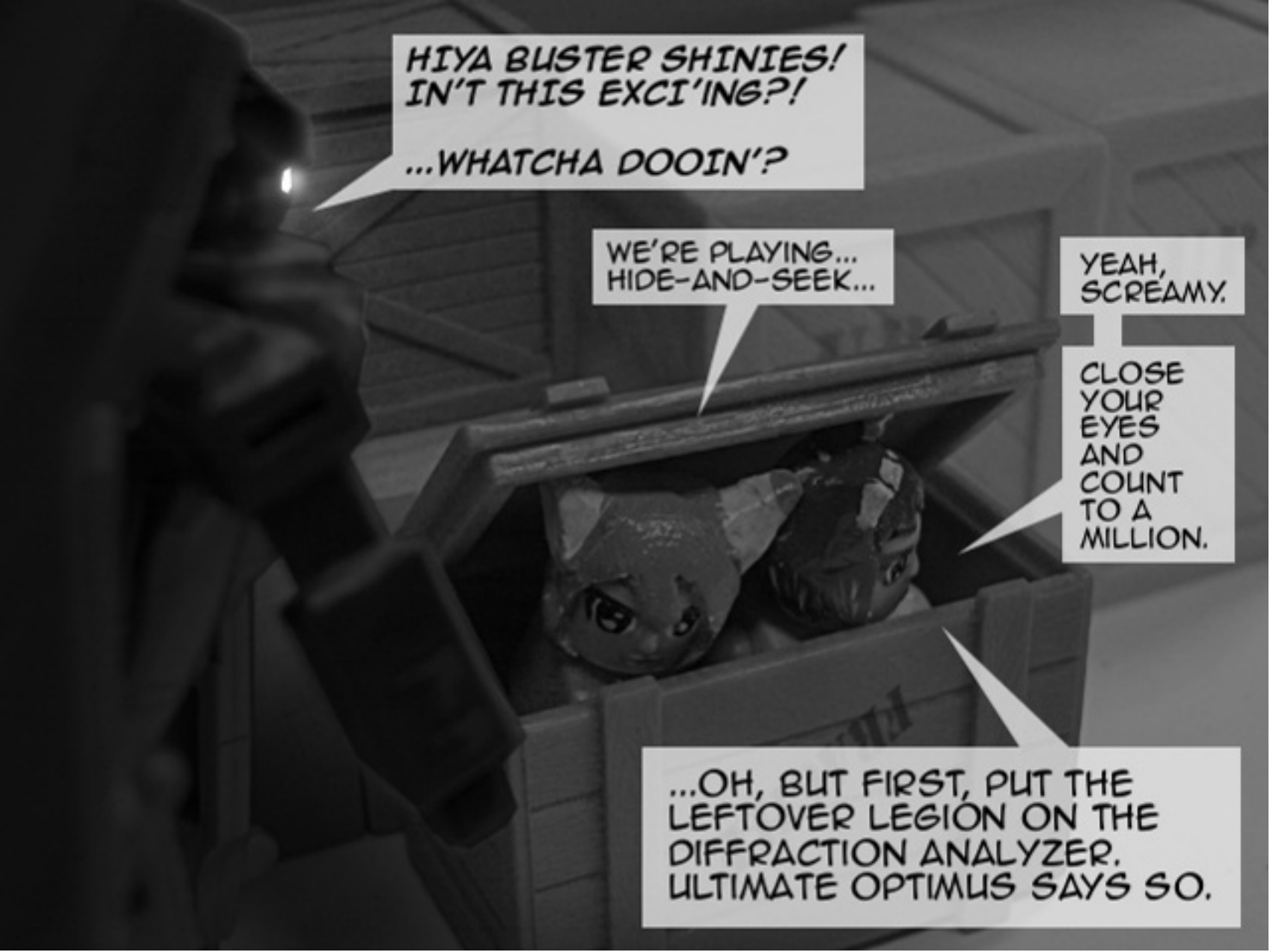
**MAD
PROPS!!!**



⇒BENNA
BENN!⇒

THE SITUATION MAY
BE DETERIORATING!

OH? YOU
REALLY
THINK SO
ANODYTHÉ?



HIYA BUSTER SHINIES!
IN'T THIS EXCI'ING?!

...WHATCHA DOOIN'?

WE'RE PLAYING...
HIDE-AND-SEEK...

YEAH,
SCREAMY.

CLOSE
YOUR
EYES
AND
COUNT
TO A
MILLION.

...OH, BUT FIRST, PUT THE
LEFTOVER LEGION ON THE
DIFFRACTION ANALYZER.
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS SAYS SO.



COOL IT!

ARIGATOU
GOZAIMASHU,
DORIFUTO SAN

ROLLBACK'S
IN THE HOU-




-OOOOOOH

SLAG.



THE ENEMY
REELED...
I MADE 'EM
YIELD...

I BERSERKED
RIGHT OFF THE
BATTLEFIELD!




FORMER! HOB ON THE MIC-
I'M IN A SITUATION, CHASING
THE FORMATION...

DON'T!! MEET UP WITH FEZ
AND LADY PRIME, AND STAY ALIVE!
WE'RE CLOSE TO THE LAKE!

HA HAHA! OH,
THIS IS JUST
WONDERFUL!

HAHAHA! NOW WE'RE
DOWN ONE MORE, HAHA!
AND THE LEGIONS ARE UP-



**-MY TURBINE INTAAAKES!
YEEEEAAUGH HAHA HAAUGH!**

**THEY'VE GOT MY ENGINES!
MAYDAY! MAYDAY!**

MAYDAAAAAAAAAY!



**HANG ON,
CYCLONUS!**

HE'S LOW!

SHROOARR!

**BARRICADE!
BE READY
TO CATCH ME!**

SPADDDAHRKKH

I'M NOT GONNA DIE.
I'M NOT GONNA DIE.



DAKKADAKKABLAMM!

FRY, YOU
FFILTH!


I'M NOT SCARED
I WON'T BE SCARED



DAKKADAKK!!

**TO HELL
WITH YOUR
HUNGER!**

THE GROUND...
THE GROUND...
ONE MORE...
THEN...



BARRICADE!

GOTCHA!



OHhhh...

C-CRUMPLE
ZONE...
YOU DEAD?

BEE-EEP BIP!



TH-ANKS...

ANY TIME,
CRAZY...




TRANSFORM,
BARRICADE!
LET'S GET
MOVING!

NO...NEED.
LOOK.



MY GOD!



-THE LAKE!



CYCLONUS
CAN'T
CHANGE
FORM...

I'VE GIVEN
HIM AN EMP,
BUT I CAN'T
MOVE THE
BIG GUY...

LUCY IN THE SKY... WITH ENERSON!

I HATE TO LEAVE HIM ON THE BEACH,
BUT WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DO?



ON THE BEACH...
NOTHING TO DO...

WHILE THE OTHER
BURNOUT RUNS
THE BUSINESS...

AH, IT'S A
HARD-KNOCK
LIFE...

GOT TO REMEMBER TO
ASK MY GEEKS ABOUT
THOSE BUSOU KISHIN...

I WONDER IF...

EH, WHO CARES.
LET'S WATCH CLOUDS.

THAT CLOUD
LOOKS LIKE
THE AUTOBOT
MATRIX...

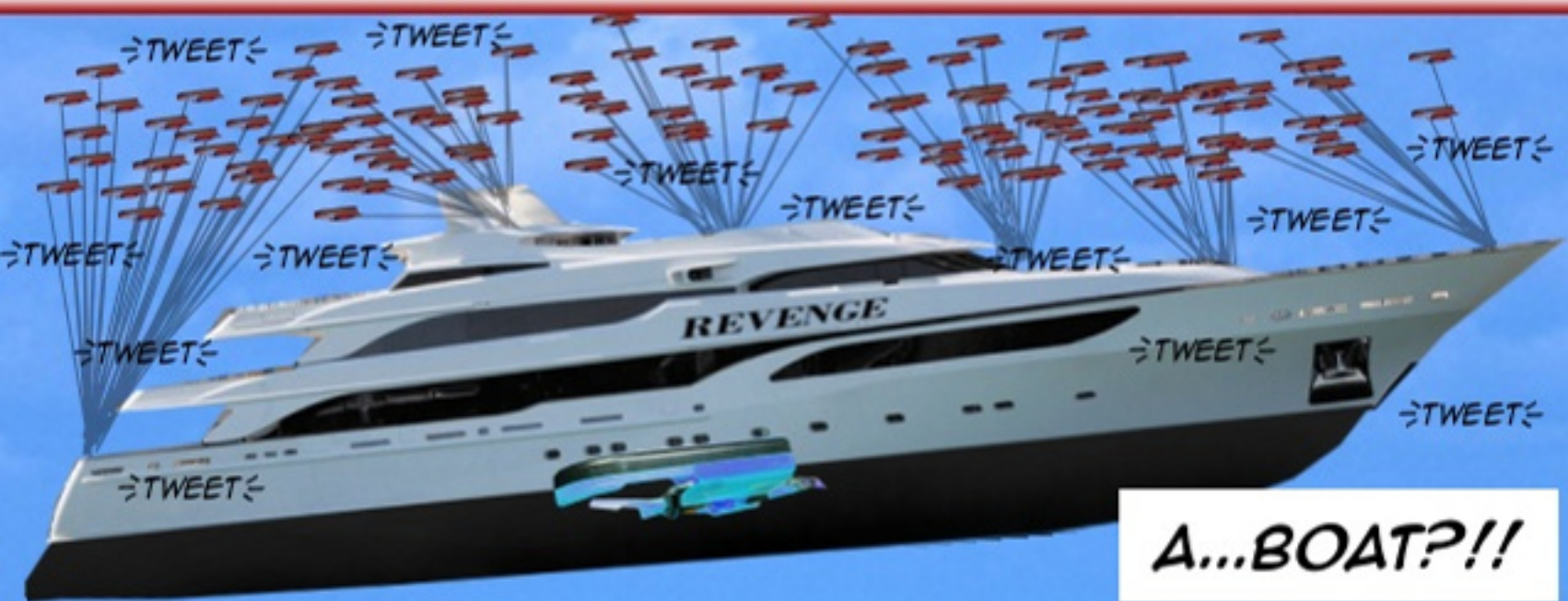
...AND THAT ONE
LOOKS LIKE
A PONY...

...AND THAT
ONE...LOOKS
LIKE...



UH.....

UM.....



A...BOAT?!!

A LEGO pirate ship is shown on a blue surface. A green and black robot with a long grey beard and a brown hat is on the deck. A red LEGO structure is in the foreground on the left. A speech bubble from the red structure says "JUST... MISSED ME...".

JUST...
MISSED ME...

AH.

EH, I'LL BE NEEDIN'
A DECKHAND ANYWAY...
SHOW HIM THE
ROPES, RAPTIAS...

ETWEET!<

-NAY, NOT
THAT ONE...
NOT YET...



COPY,
BLURR?
WE WILL
HAVE TO-



-PROTECT
HIM IN PLACE...

WHAMM!



THAT'S ANOTHER...
SOMEONE ELSE
WENT DOWN...

DON' WO'Y, GOBO'
MY MOMMY'S HERE!
SHE CAN FIX ANYFINK!

A character with multiple tentacles and a mechanical arm is shown in a dynamic pose, possibly in the middle of an action sequence. The character is wearing a dark, tactical suit with various attachments.

TENTACLE
MONSTERS!

IT HAD TO BE
BOLTFRAKKING
TENTACLE
MONSTERS!

AND ON MY
FRAKKING
VACATION!

MOONSCREAM, REPORT!

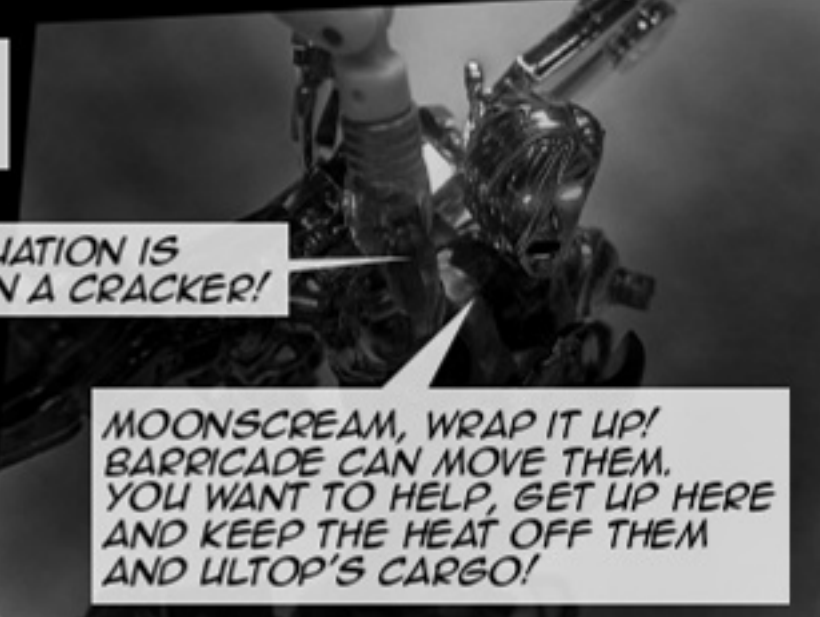
I'M GIVING BLURR AN E.M.P.
I'M GOING TO STAY AND PROTECT-

THE PIT
YOU ARE!
I NEED ALL
MY FLIERS
UP TOP!

A white sports car, possibly a Ford Mustang, is shown from a side profile. It has a sleek design with racing stripes and a 'D' logo on the front fender.

YO, FORMER,
WHAT'S THE
SITUATION?

THE SITUATION IS
CRAP ON A CRACKER!

A character with a highly detailed, mechanical head and a dark suit is shown. The head has multiple sensors and a complex, metallic texture. The character appears to be in a state of alert or combat.

MOONSCREAM, WRAP IT UP!
BARRICADE CAN MOVE THEM.
YOU WANT TO HELP, GET UP HERE
AND KEEP THE HEAT OFF THEM
AND ULTOP'S CARGO!



DON'T TRY TO MOVE, BLURR. JUST SIT.
YOU SHOULD START FEELING A LOT
LESS PAIN IN A COUPLE SECONDS...


BLESS YOU...MOONSCREAM...



I'VE GOT TO GO NOW...
FOR A LITTLE WHILE...
BUT I'LL COME BACK.

WE'RE NOT
GOING TO
LEAVE YOU
HERE...

SCREAMY!
THIS IS MOM-
ARE YOU OKAY?
THEY TAKING GOOD
CARE OF YOU?



I ARE GREA', MOMMY!

I ARE HE'PING ROTS,
AN' THEY SAY MAYBE
SOON I CAN SHOO'
MY GUN!

MATRIX! IF
IT COMES
TO THAT...

JUST BE SAFE FOR
MOMMY, OKAY, HONEY?

OF COURSE I WIRR! 'CAUSE I'M SMAR',
RIKE MY DADDY! BYE BYE MOMMY!



SO WHA'S
'SPRESSO?
S'IT GOOD?

IT'S OKAY, IF YOU PUT, LIKE,
HALF A CUP OF SUGAR IN IT.



WAIT - YOU'RE
HIS MOMMY.
STARSCREAM'S
HIS DADDY...
THEN YOU'RE-

A MEDIC,
LIVING IN
AUTOBOT
CITY.

CURIOSITY AND
THE CAT, FORMER...

IF I CAN'T DO MY
JOB, LET'S FINISH
THIS QUICK!

THEN I
CAN START.


YO, E.C. MAN!
I GOT A PLAN...

I'LL MEET UP WITH T.C. AND BARRY,
OPS AND ANO CAN PINCEP 'EM FROM
THE OTHER SIDE...

...AND THEN
ULT-OP CAN RAM
RIGHT THROUGH
TO THE LAKE!

GEE, HOBBY, THAT'S
A GREAT PLAN...
ONLY PROBLEM IS...

WE'RE ALREADY AT THE
SLAGGING LAKE! IT LOOKS
LIKE LEGION NOODLE SOUP!



AND YOU ARE
SUPPOSED TO
MEET UP WITH
THAT GUNDAM
MECH PILOT!

WE CAN'T
DELIVER THE
PAYLOAD UNTIL
FINDIE'S HERE!

I'M LOOKING FOR FEZ,
MAKE NO MISTAKE!
BUT THE LEGIONS
KEEP TURNING ME
TOWARD THE LAKE!



DID YOU HEAR THAT, ANODYTHE?
THE LEGIONS ARE TRYING TO TURN
HOBBY BACK TO THE LAKE...

ONE O'CLOCK!
RAMEN-BAT KIND!

I KNOW, ULT-OP...I'M WORRIED...
WE GOT HERE PRETTY EASILY...
WHAT IF THEY LET US THROUGH?

TEN O'CLOCK!
GROUNDFORM!

HA! WHAT IF THEY DID?
THEN THE FATAL ERROR
IS THEIRS!

YES, AGENT X...

...AS LONG AS HOBBY FINDS FEZ,
IN TIME TO PLANT THE BOMB...

HEEE-EEERE,
FINDIE, FINDIE, FINDIE...



MEANWHILE...

⇒SNIFF⇒

⇒SNIFF⇒

COFFEE...

I SMELL COFFEE...

STRONG COFFEE...
WITH LOTS AND LOTS
OF SH-SH-SUGAR IN IT...

POMOCK!

GET DOWN!
THE GOBOT'S
COMING!

SHE MIGHT
MAKE ME
LEAVE MY
BOX! MY
NICE, SAFE
BOX!

BUT...
THEY HAVE
COFFEE...

W-WITH
SUGAR...

CARGO BAY 07- MIKE

LOOK AT THIS
CLUTTER!

DID A PANICKED FERRET
LOAD ULT-OP'S TRAILER
OR SOMETHING?

WELL, I'LL
FIX THAT!
FAST AS A
LIGHTNING
STOMP!



⇒clunk⇒

⇒scuff⇒

⇒RATTLE⇒

⇒bonk⇒

⇒CLANK⇒

⇒CLANK⇒

⇒CLANK⇒

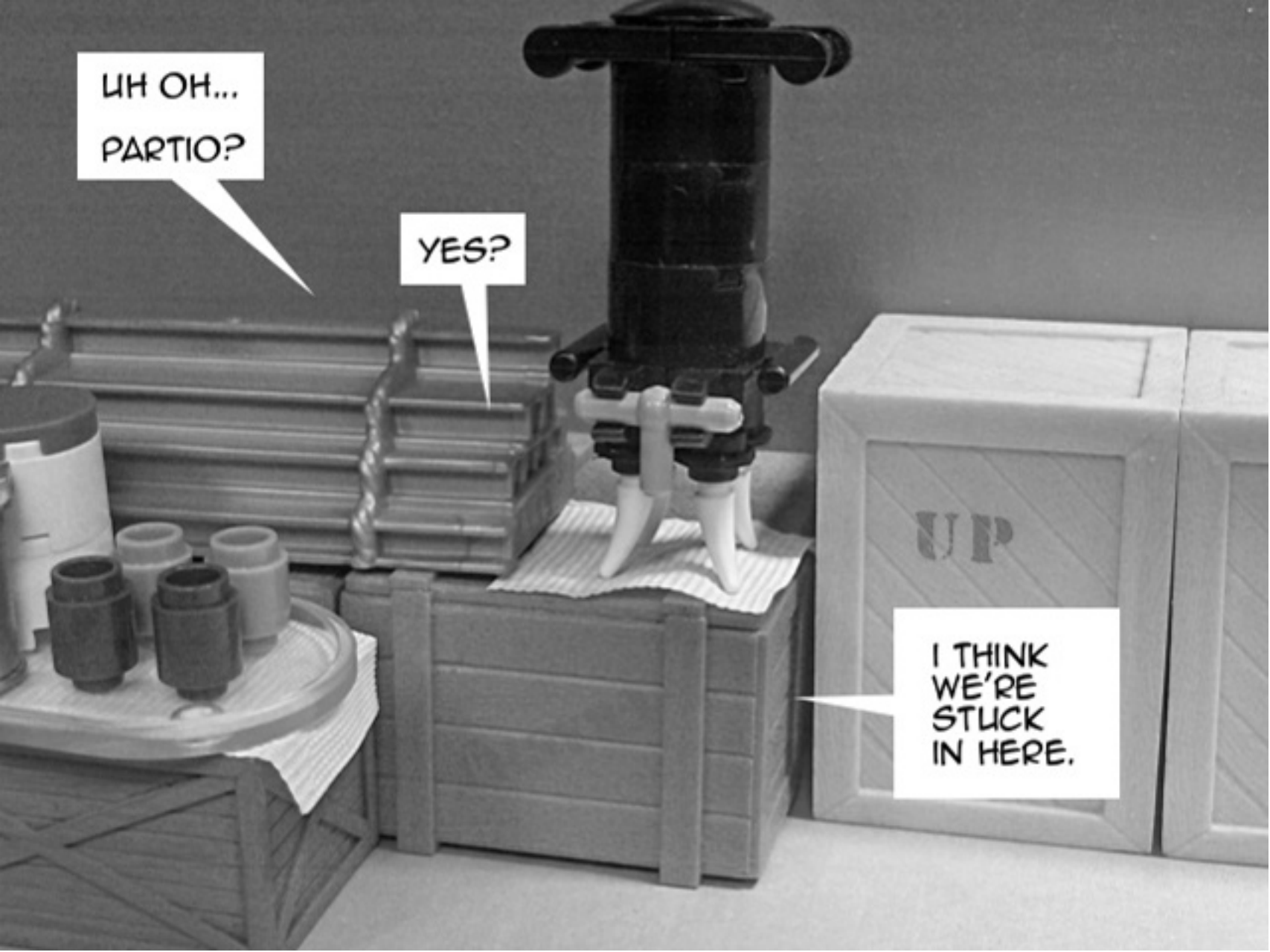
OOOOOF!

⇒THUD⇒

THERE!

A NICE LITTLE
COFFEE CORNER!

MOM'S
GONNA
BE SO
PROUD!



UH OH...
PARTIO?

YES?

I THINK
WE'RE
STUCK
IN HERE.




FINDIE...LADY P... UH...
NICE HALLUCINATION YA GOT HERE...

HOBBY! SO GOOD TO SEE YOU!
ISN'T THIS A LOVELY GARDEN?

...HOBBY? YOU OKAY?

Give us a
happy face,
Rollback!


Y...Y'ALL COME
WITH ME...WE
NEED YOU AT
THE...THE LAKE.



Oh, of
course!



Come
on,
Fez...



We can pick
more funny
flowers later.

UM...HOLD UP...
THE...UH...FLOWERS...

THEY LOOK A
LITTLE WILTED...

AQUA
BOOGIE
BOP GUN!

⇒THEW!⇐

⇒THEW!⇐

⇒THEW!⇐

"THAT'S BETTER."



IT WAS THE
WEIRDEST
THING...

IT WAS...LIKE..
A FOG...ONLY..
IT WASN'T.
AND WHEN I
WOKE UP, THERE
WE WERE, IN
THE MOST
BE-YOOTIFUL
GARDEN...

-PARDON.



FLOWERS...

SLAG! THOSE TWO
ARE STONE COLD
TRIPPING!

TWITTERPATED!

PIXILATED!

REALITY,
PHANTASY
ALL CONFLATED-



SLAG!!

**DEMON
RAMEN
AT 12!**

**TRANSFORM
AND KICK IT!**



**BY THE POWER
OF HALFRANDOM!**

I! AM!!

TRANSFOOORMED!!!



BRT

HP 187
TP 64
 **HOB**


FGHT

STGY

HP YOUR
TP FACE
 **LDP**

HP 3 X
TP FASTER
 **FEZ**

HOBBY: MOTHAS' BRAIN, FEZ! WHAT DID YOU DO?!



FEZ: IT'S NOTHING PHANTASTIC, HOBBY.
JUST A BITWISE TRANS-MUTATION.



FEZ: WHILE RESTING, I DOWNLOADED
A GREAT TOME OF WAL-CHEMY...



FEZ: ...AND AFTER A LITTLE
CHAR-GRADE SPEEDREADING...



FEZ: I TOO AM A WAL-CHEMIST!



HOB: WAL-CHEMY? Y'ALL SLAGGIN' ME-



FEZ: TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU,
DON'T YOU SEE?



HOB: AIN'T NO SUCH BOOK,
FROM NOW TO PERDITION!



FEZ: THE WAL-TANG MANUAL.
SUOMI EDITION.



HOB: YOU OL' DIRTY BASTARD!
I'M TOO MAD TO VERSIFY!



HOB: 'CAUSE THE KAOLIN MASTERS'
TECHNIQUE TAKES TIME!



HOB: I STUDIED FOR YEARS!
WORK, PAIN, AND TEARS!



FEZ: I DID GET A PAPER CUT.



HOB: ...



FEZ: =^=



HOB: SHHH....YEAH...

...ALL RIGHT, KILLAH, WHAT NOW?



FEZ: WE STAY STANDING STILL.
SO LONG AS WE DON'T MOVE,
THE NOODLERS CAN'T ATTACK.



HOB: PARALYZED 'EM?
HYPNOTIZED 'EM?



FEZ: NOT EXACTLY...



FEZ: I JUST WARPED OUR
LOCAL REALITY A BIT...



FEZ: AND MADE IT TURN-BASED.

MISS MACROSS,
THIS IS CHROME LEADER-

COPY, CHROME
LEADER. NEW
CODE NAMES?

NO, JUST A GAG.

THE WOUNDED ARE SECURED,
AND ULTOP IS MAKING EVERY
EFFORT TO ENSURE THEIR SAFETY...



I LOVE TO SHOOT!

BAM BAM BAMBAMM!

FILLING THE AIR WITH SMOKE!



I LOVE TO SHOOT!
BAM BAM BAMBAMM!

I GUESS I'M A
DANGEROUS BLOKE!
THE MORE THE SMOKE!

BAM BAM BAMBAMM!

THE LESS THAT I CAN SEE!
AND THE LESS I SEE...

BAM BAM BAMBAMM!

THE MORE I SHOOT RAN-DOM-A-LEE!



GOBOTS, THEY SHOOT FROM THEIR FISTSES...
SOUNDING SOMETHING LIKE THIS-

⇒CHOKKACHOW!!⇐

MORALE SEEMS HIGH DOWN THERE...
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY GET
THEIR FIGHTING SPIRIT...



GETCHA
COFFEE
AND
HIGH-
GRADE!

BREWED
RIGHT
HERE
IN THE
TRAILER
CAFE!

...BUT STALLED IS
STALLED, AND THEY
CAN'T LAST FOREVER.

AND STILL, NO FEZ...
WHAT THE FURMAN
IS HE PLAYING AT?!



HOB: TURN-BASED.

FEZ: YES.



HOB: AND IF WE ATTACK...

FEZ: WE'RE DEAD IN ONE ROUND.



HOB: OKAY, SO WE RUN...

FEZ: STILL DEAD IN ONE ROUND.



FEZ: I MEAN, THERE'S LOTS OF THEM.
LOTS MORE THAN SEVEN.
DISPLAY LIMITATIONS...



HOB: SO...WE'RE SLAGGED.



FEZ: NOT AT ALL! WE JUST
HAVE TO STAY STILL....



FEZ: ...WHILE I SPEED-READ THE
REST OF THE MANUAL...



FEZ: I'VE ONLY READ CHAPTER ONE.



FEZ: I DID FLIP THROUGH THE REST.
IT SEEMED PRETTY GOOD.



FEZ: I AM SURE I CAN FIND SOME
TECHNIQUE TO SAVE US ALL...



HOB: OH, YEAH, I'M SURE...



HOB: WE ARE SOLID SLAGGED.



HOB: SEE, MECH, THAT'S WHAT
I WAS TALKING ABOUT..



HOB: WAL-CHEMY IS MORE THAN
BOOKS AND STORE CRED...



HOB: A REAL WAL-CHEMIST IS
TUNED IN TO THE UNIVERSE...
ONE WITH THE ALLSPARK...



LDP: BUT HE IS ONE WITH THE ALLSPARK.

HOB:???????



HOB: HOW-

LDP: HE HUGGED AN NPC.



HOB: ...I DON'T EVEN...



FEZ: HERE'S ONE WE CAN USE, MAYBE!
IT'S GOT THREE SIMPLE STEPS...



STEP ONE!
CUT A HOLE IN THE BOX!

**SHUT UP,
PARTIO!**

STEP TWO!
PUT YOUR

**SHUT UP,
PARTIO!!!**



FEZ: OKAY, SO THAT'S A BAD IDEA...



LDP: I DUNNO...




FEZ: ...BUT DON'T PANIC!



FEZ: THIRTY-SIX TECHNIQUES, RIGHT?
PLENTY THAT MIGHT WORK...


THAT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE THIRTY-SIX...

A black and white comic panel. The main character is a girl with short, spiky hair, wearing a light-colored, form-fitting outfit with a dark collar. She is holding a large, multi-barreled gun. The background is dark and smoky. There are three speech bubbles. One at the top left, one at the top right, and one on the left side. A smaller inset panel is at the bottom right.

FEZ ISN'T
COMING BACK,
BARRICADE.

GET 'FORMER
ON THE RADIO.

ARE YOU SURE
YOU WANT TO
DO THIS, CRAZY?

A smaller inset panel at the bottom right. It shows a close-up of the character's face, looking down. The background is dark with some foliage and a small structure.

YES.



LDP: SO, FEZ...



LDP: IS...YOU KNOW...



FEZ: NOT A FREE ACTION, NO.



LDP: :-(



FEZ: OKAY, HOW ABOUT THIS ONE:
"FIST OF THE DIRTY DOLLAR...
TOI-SUAPPU NO RENKIN"...



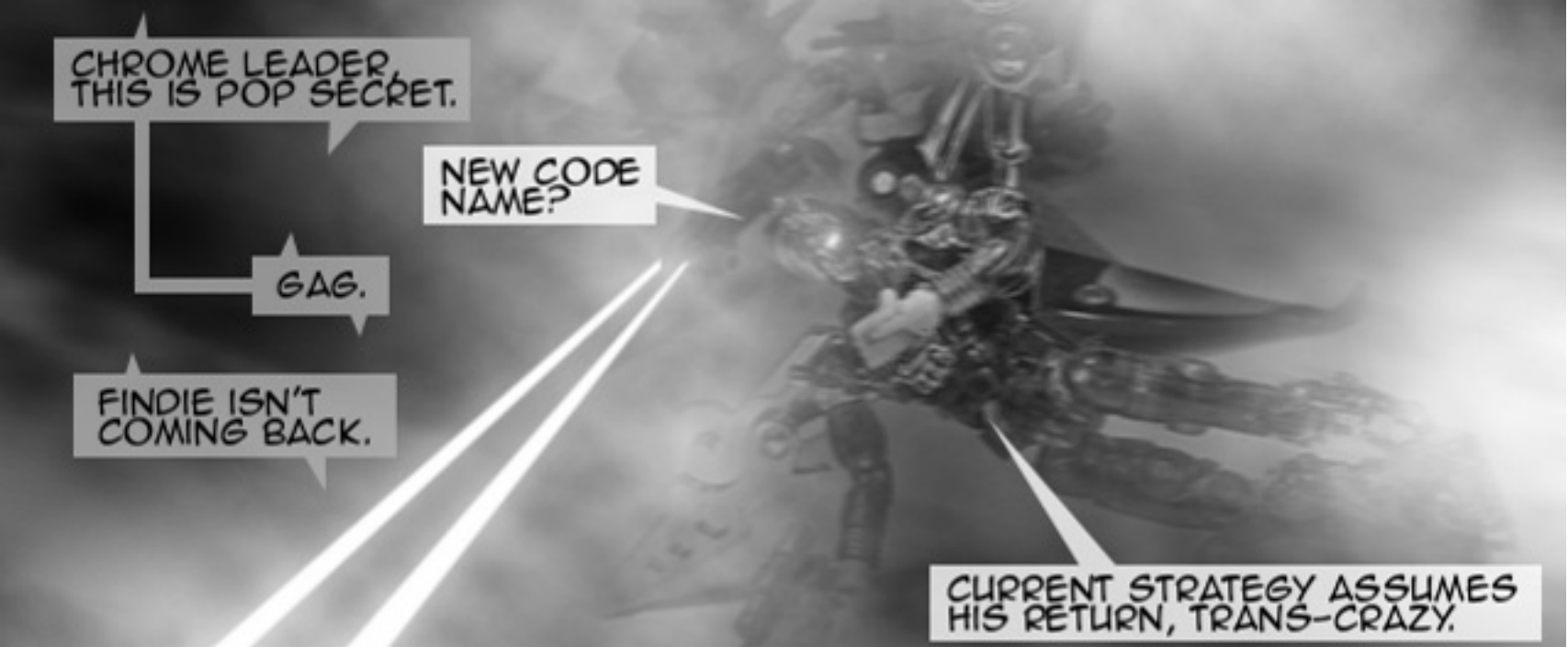
FEZ: TARGET IS ENCLOSED
IN A WAL-CHEMICAL
'BUBBLE' FIELD...



FEZ: AND IS INSTANTLY
EXCHANGED FOR A
WEAKER FOE...



FEZ: ...EH, NEVER MIND.
THAT ONE'S CRAP, TOO.
NOT TO MENTION, UTTERLY EVIL.



CHROME LEADER,
THIS IS POP SECRET.

NEW CODE
NAME?

GAG.

FINDIE ISN'T
COMING BACK.

CURRENT STRATEGY ASSUMES
HIS RETURN, TRANS-CRAZY.



HE'S GONE
FORMER, YOU
KNOW THAT.

THE POSSIBILITY HAS
OCCURRED TO ME, YES.

I DO HAVE A
BACKUP PLAN...




GIVE US THE BOMB,
COMMANDER.

BARRICADE IS
STRONG ENOUGH
TO CARRY IT...

...AND I'VE GOT
THE FIREPOWER
TO PROTECT HIM...

...AS LONG AS
NECESSARY...



I WON'T ASK YOU
TO DO THIS,
TRANS-CRAZY...

I KNOW.



THAT'S WHY I'M
VOLUNTEERING.


WE'RE YOUR HEAVY
HITTERS. IT'S OUR
TURN TO BAT.

WE'LL GET YOU
HOME...SAFE...



JUST KEEP
US TOGETHER...

UNTIL THE
GAME ENDS.



E.C.R. FORMER! DID I HEAR THAT RIGHT?
YOU ARE NOT GONNA THROW THOSE
TWO KIDS INTO THAT MESS!


WITHOUT FEZ, THEY ARE THE
BEST OPTION WE HAVE LEFT.

OPTION!

IT'S A GOOD THING
WE HAVEN'T FOUND
TSUGARU!

YOU'RE SOUNDING
LIKE COMMANDER
MAGNUS!

VERY FUNNY!



WHY DON'T YOU
GO AND JUMP
IN THE LAKE--?

-ACTUALLY, NO...

FLY OUT OVER IT.
STIR UP THOSE
NOODLERS, KEEP
THEM DISTRACTED...

TAKE SUNSTORM.
YOU TWO ARE THE
FASTEST...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT
SCREAMY. WE'LL KEEP
HIM SAFE.



YOU'D BETTER, SHINY!



**HEY, SUNSTORM!
LIGHT 'EM UP!**



**IT'S TIME TO CRACK
SOME THUNDER!**



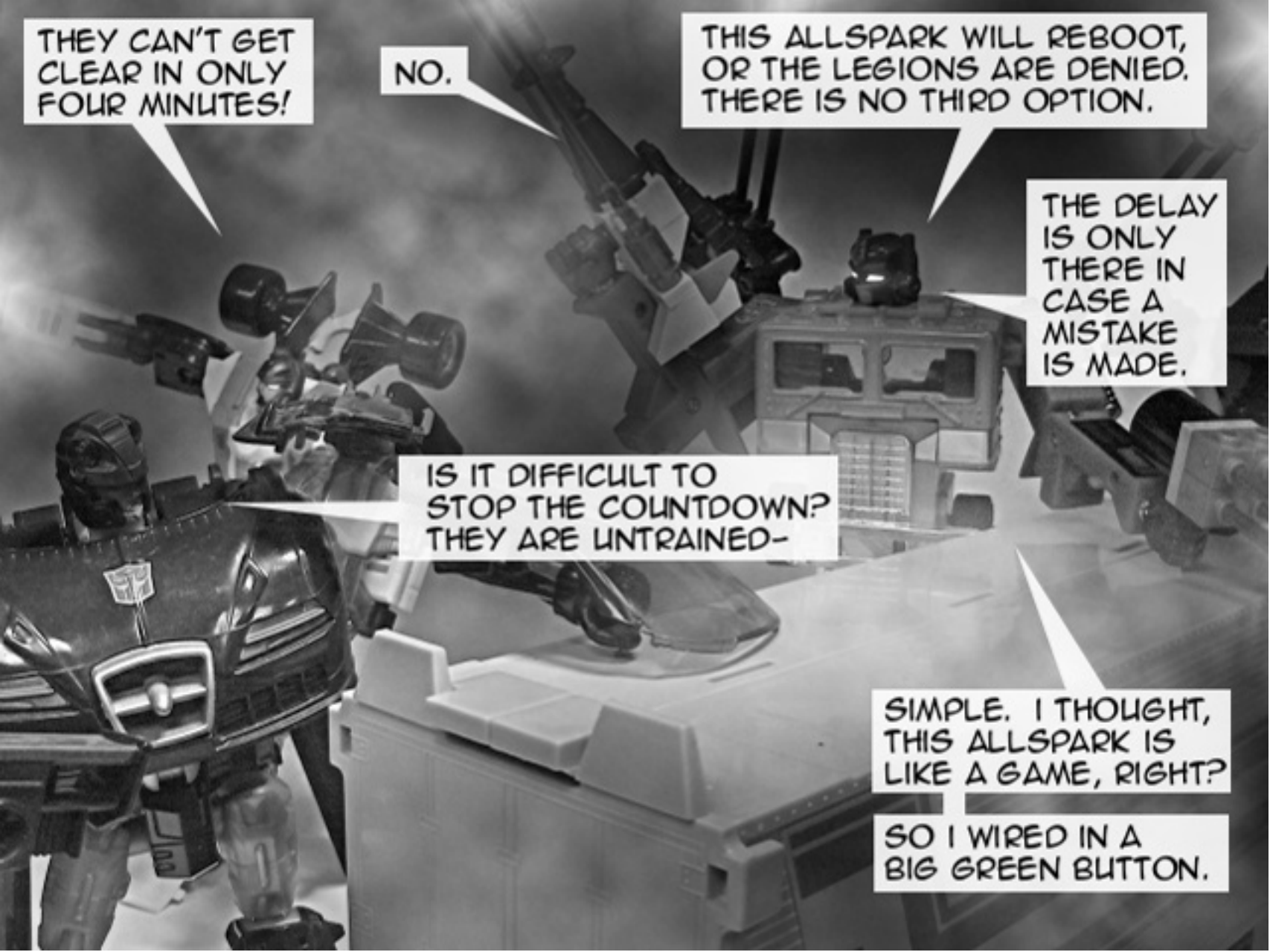
-YOU UNDERSTAND
MY INSTRUCTIONS?

YES. WE PLACE IT.
WE ARM IT...AND BOOM.
END OF THE WORLD.

IN FOUR MINUTES.
REMEMBER THAT!
YOU'VE GOT THAT
LONG TO CHANGE
YOUR MIND.

THERE WON'T BE ANY
CHANGING OF MINDS, ULTIMATE OPTIMUS.

AND THAT IS *OUR* LIFETIME GUARANTEE.



THEY CAN'T GET
CLEAR IN ONLY
FOUR MINUTES!

NO.

THIS ALLSPARK WILL REBOOT,
OR THE LEGIONS ARE DENIED.
THERE IS NO THIRD OPTION.

THE DELAY
IS ONLY
THERE IN
CASE A
MISTAKE
IS MADE.

IS IT DIFFICULT TO
STOP THE COUNTDOWN?
THEY ARE UNTRAINED-

SIMPLE. I THOUGHT,
THIS ALLSPARK IS
LIKE A GAME, RIGHT?

SO I WIRED IN A
BIG GREEN BUTTON.



FEZ : "KNOW NOW A SECRET
OF GREAT POWER..."



FEZ: "BUY ROBES OF GREAT
COST AT THE MARTE OF WAL."



FEZ: "WEAR THEM CONSTANTLY FOR
A WEEK OF STRENUOUS EXERTION
AND LIFTING OF GREAT WEIGHTS."



FEZ: "AT THE CLOSE OF THIS TIME..."



FEZ: "RETURN THEM FOR
STORE CREDIT."



...



FEZ: WE MAY BE STUCK
HERE, FOREVER...



LDP: THAT'S NOT...ALL BAD.



LDP: THE MONSTERS STUCK HERE
CAN'T JOIN THE BATTLE...



LDP: AND...I'M A NPC.
I'M PART OF THIS GAME.



LDP: WHEN IT ENDS...I'M GONE.



HOB: THAT'S WHY-!

FEZ:

...YES.



FEZ: THERE WAS NO TIME...FOR TIME.



HOB: FEZ...
STAY HERE WITH LADY PRIME.



HOB: AND ME, I'M GOING OUT
FOR SOME NOODLES...



HOB: IT'S BEEN REAL...
WAL-CHEMIST!



CHIKON

BRT

HP 187
TP 64
HOB

FGHT
STGY

HP YOUR
TP FACE
LDP

HP 3 X
TP FASTER
FEZ

HOB: LEEEROY JENKINNNS!!!!



FEZ: P*RK*LE! HE USED CHI KON IE -
FIST OF THE SWIFT INTERRUPTION!



FEZ: HE WAS HAPPY FOR YOU...HE
WANTED TO LET US CONTINUE...



LDP: FEZ, I'M A PROGRAM. NO FACE.
NO SOUL. I'M NOT REAL, FEZ.



FEZ: WHAT IS REAL?



BACK TO LIFE!
BACK TO REALITY...



BACK TO...THE
HERE AND NOW...
YEEEEAH....

SURROUNDED...
DEMONS TO THE NORTH...
THE SOUTH, THE EAST,
AND THE WEST...

I KANYE'D ON TO
THIS STAGE...

...AND THERE AIN'T
NO WAY OFF IT...

BUT IF I CAN TAKE
THEM ALL DOWN...
KEEP THEM AWAY
FROM THE LAKE...

YEEEEAH.

THAT WOULD BE THE SUPREME
WAL-CHEMICAL FEAT OF ALL TIME...
OF ALL TIME!!



SO!
LISTEN
UP Y'ALL
IN THE
LEGION
HALL!

GET READY
TO SHAKE IT
LIKE A
SHOGGOTH!

AND PUT YOUR TENTACLES
TOGETHER FOR MY VOCALOID
BACKUP, 'CAUSE Y'ALL PROBABLY
ATE MY OLD CREW...

-HIT IT!

HEY! SOMEONE JUST
ACTIVATED A VOCALOID
INSTALLATION...

...AND THE PASSWORD
WAS 'HIT IT'!

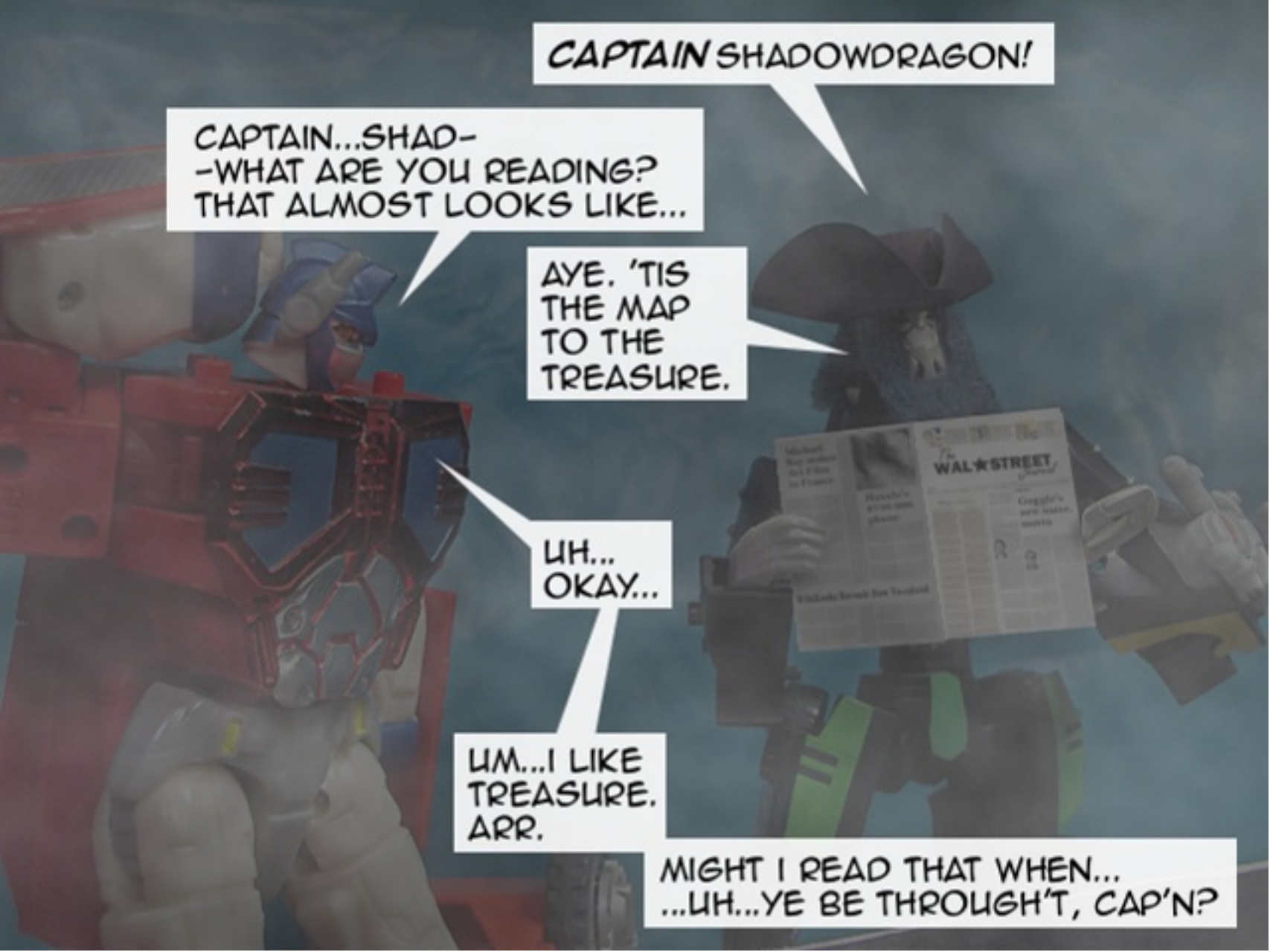


***SON OF A PONY!
IT'S MC HOBBY!!***

A close-up of a Transformer robot, primarily red with blue accents. The robot's head is at the top, featuring a single glowing red eye. It is holding a rectangular object, possibly a communication device or a piece of equipment, which is red on the outside and blue on the inside. The background is a dark, cloudy sky.

SHADOWDRAGON!

*I JUST INTERCEPTED
A TRANSMISSION
FROM MC HOBBY!*



CAPTAIN SHADOWDRAGON!

CAPTAIN...SHAD-
-WHAT ARE YOU READING?
THAT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE...

AYE. 'TIS
THE MAP
TO THE
TREASURE.

UH...
OKAY...

UM...I LIKE
TREASURE.
ARR.

MIGHT I READ THAT WHEN...
...UH...YE BE THROUGH'T, CAP'N?



HEY! I SAID I WANTED
TO READ THAT PAPER!

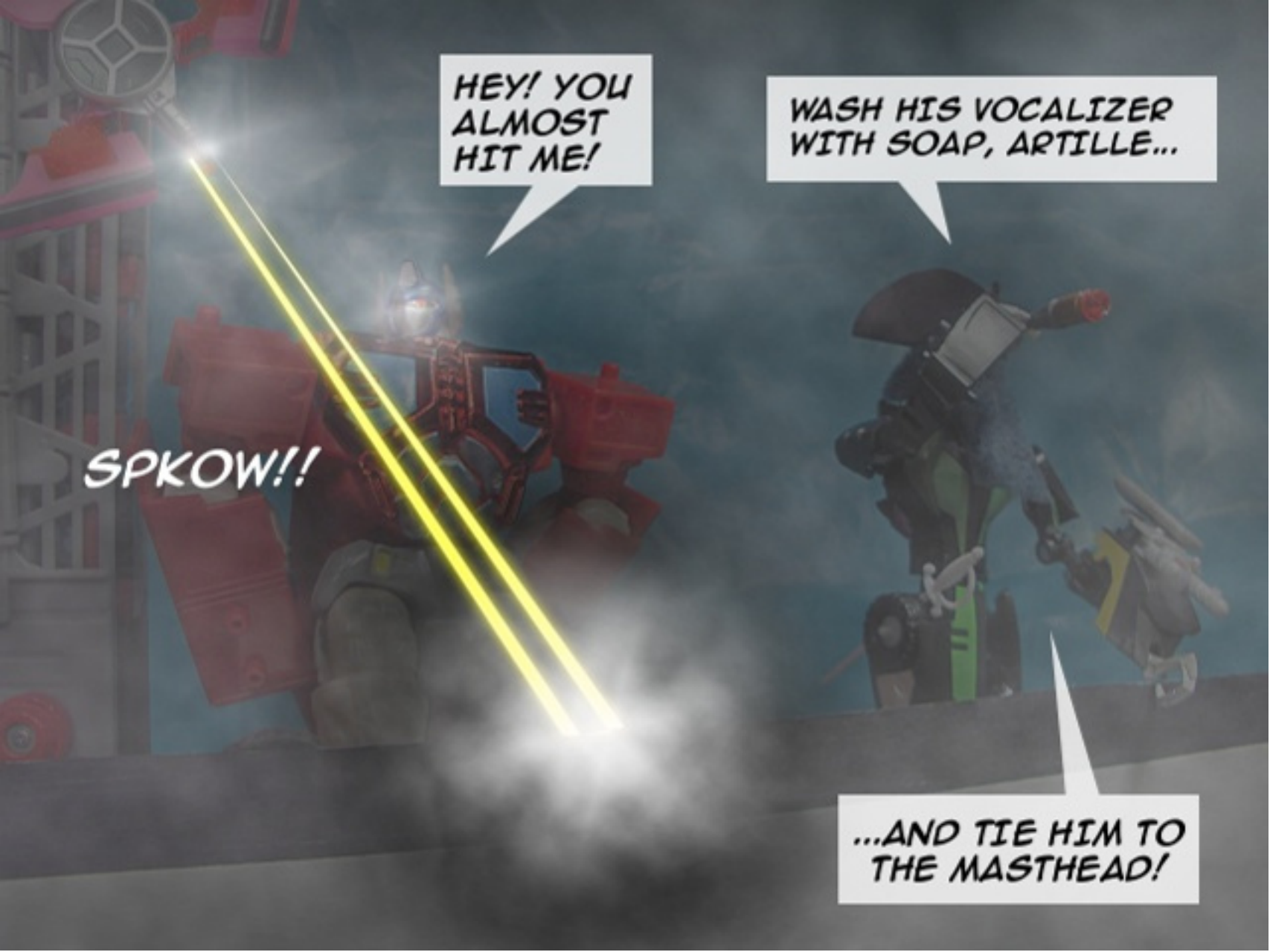
DEVIL TAKE IT! WE'VE
NO TIME FOR TREASURE
WITH A CURSE UPON IT!

ENOUGH! YOU MANIAC!

THAT WAS NOT A TREASURE MAP!

THERE WAS NO STUPID CURSE!

AND YOU...YOU...YOU!!!!
YOU ARE NOT A BLOODY PIRATE!!



**HEY! YOU
ALMOST
HIT ME!**

**WASH HIS VOCALIZER
WITH SOAP, ARTILLE...**

SPKOW!!

**...AND TIE HIM TO
THE MASTHEAD!**

⇒CLICK⇒

RAPTIAS?

⇒SQUAWK⇒

I NEED YA' TO PATCH IN
A TRANS-WARPCAST
FROM M.C. HOBBY...

I'M SENDIN' UP ARTILLE
WITH THE ANTENNA...

DARKNESS FALLS ACROSS THE LAND...
THE MIDNIGHT HOUR IS CLOSE AT HAND...

HEY
YOU
GUUUYS!

⇒SQUAWK!?⇐

NAY, NOT HOB...THE
NARRATOR, THAT BE.

YE CAN TELL BY THE
YELLOW BUBBLES...

CREATURES CRAWL
IN SEARCH OF BLOOD,
TO TERRORIZE YOUR
NEIGHBOURHOOD...

⇒CHIRP, SQUAWK?⇐

ARR, I'D SAY A PRELUDE,
RAPTIAS, TO SOME
ADVANCED TECHNIQUE...

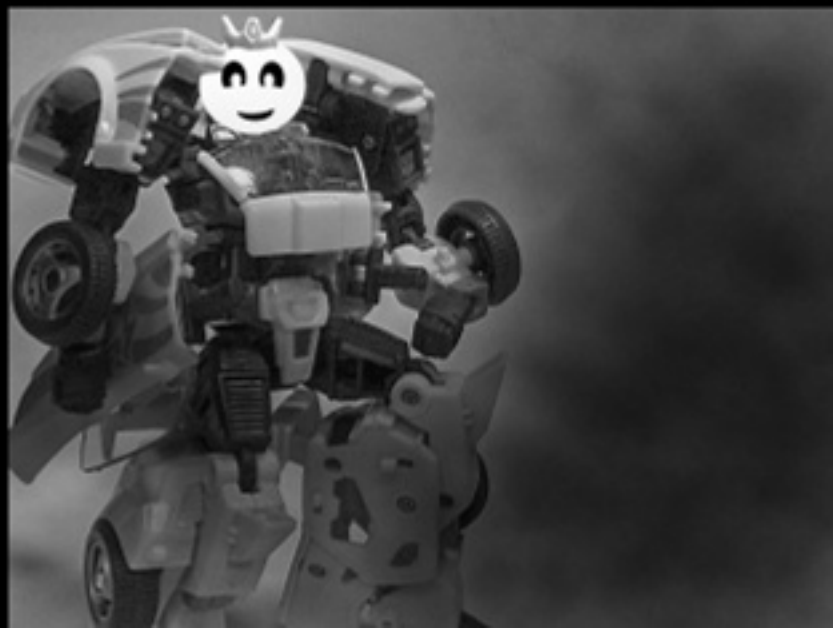


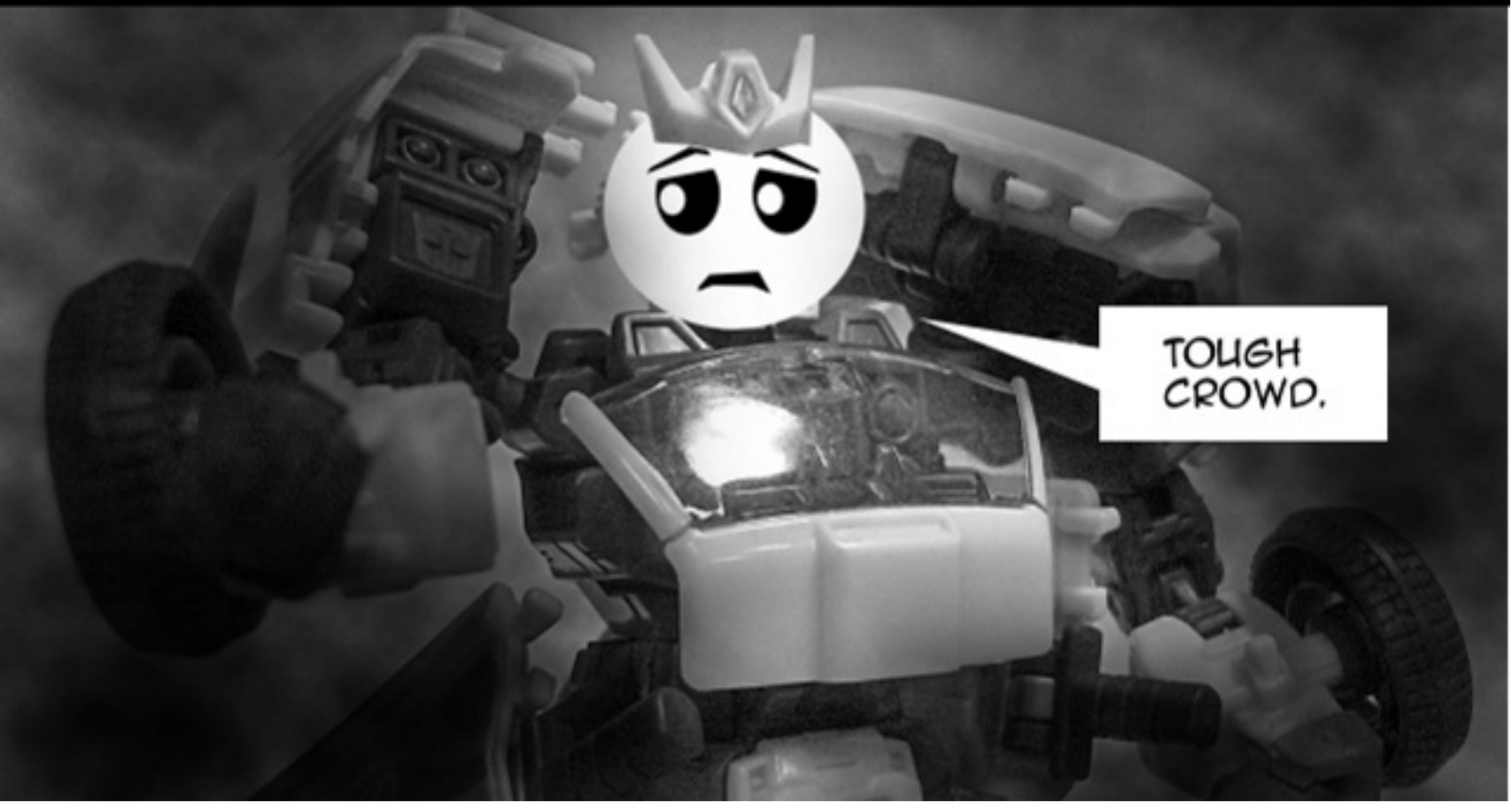
...AND THOUGH YOU FIGHT
TO STAY ALIVE, YOUR BODY
STARTS TO SHIVER...
FOR NO MERE MORTAL
CAN RESIST...
THE EVIL OF..

THE THRILLER!









TOUGH
CROWD.



FEZ: DREAMS I'VE HAD LIKE THIS...
WONDERFUL PLACES, PEOPLE...
ALL SEEMING COMPLETELY REAL...



FEZ: THEN I REALIZE IT'S A DREAM...
AND SUDDENLY IT'S FRAGILE...



FEZ: I TRY TO HOLD ON TO IT, BUT IT
CRACKS...THE WORLD SEEMS TO
CRUMBLE AND BREAK APART...



FEZ: AND I WAKE UP, SAD...
BECAUSE IT HAD TO END.



LDP: I WON'T BE SAD.
I WON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING...
I'LL RELOAD IN THE MAYHEM ZONE,
READY TO WAYLAY TRAVELERS...



LDP: THIS ALLSPARK IS A VIRTUAL
WORLD, FEZ. YOU'RE A PLAYER.
YOUR FRIENDS ARE PLAYERS.



LDP: I'M A NON-PLAYER CHARACTER.
THE PROGRAM RUNS ME.
EVEN WHAT I'M SAYING NOW...



LDP: IT'S A SCRIPT, FEZ.



FEZ: NO!



LDP: I'M SORRY, FEZ...
I CAN KILL YOU, OR HELP YOU...
I'M PROGRAMMED TO DO THAT.



LDP: BUT I CAN'T LIE TO YOU.
I WON'T LIE TO YOU...BECAUSE...



≧crack≦



"DEATH...THE
DESTROYER
OF WORLDS..."

WE'RE...
CARRYING IT,
BARRICADE.

DEATH...
EVERYWHERE.
ALL AROUND US...
FLYING OVER US...

A black and white manga-style illustration. In the upper left, a young girl with large, feathered wings and a crown-like headpiece looks down with a somber expression. She wears a detailed, ornate dress. In the lower right, a dark, metallic, robotic mask with glowing white eyes is positioned. The background is dark and filled with mechanical components and wires, suggesting a workshop or a complex machine. Two speech bubbles contain text.

I SHOULD BE TERRIFIED,
BUT IT FEELS...UNREAL,
LIKE A CRAZY DREAM...

IF THIS IS A
CRAZY DREAM...
THEN I WISH
CRAZY WOULD
WAKE UP!



THIS IS ABSURD.
RIDICULOUS!

ARTILLE IS A
LYNX-THEMED
COMBAT
ANDROID!

NOT A STUPID
BIRD!

...AND, ALSO,
I'M HUNG ABOVE
A PIRATE YACHT
FROM MY OWN
LADDER.

CAN THIS BE ANY
MORE HUMILIATING?



AHOY, BURNOUT!
MIND YE HOLD 'EM HIGH!
OR I'LL SEND MY BIRDS
T'SCHOOL YE PROPER!

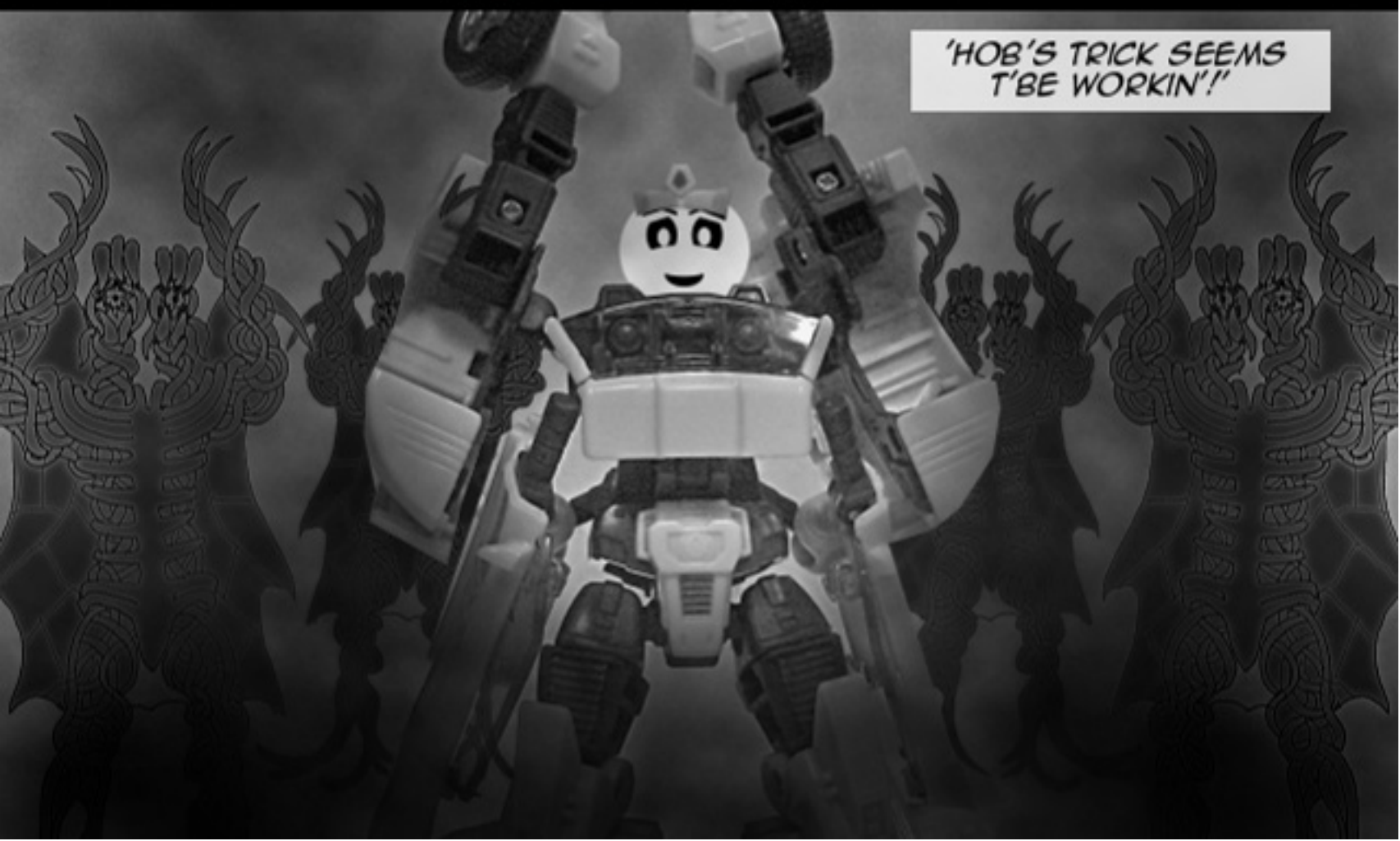
CORRECTION.
I'M HUNG UP HERE,
AND HOLDING
RABBIT EARS...


THIS HAD BETTER
NOT END UP ON THE
INTERNET.

WELL! I'LL BE
DISMASTED!

⇒SQUAWK?⇐

'HOB'S TRICK SEEMS
T'BE WORKIN'!"






'FASCINATING...'

IF I'M READING
THIS RIGHT,

'HOB IS PARTIALLY
OVERRIDING HIS
OPPONENTS'
MOTOR FUNCTIONS...'

'...BY TRANSMITTING A
CONTINUOUS STREAM OF
CYCLIC AUDIO AND
KINESTHETIC DATA...'



'⇒SQU-WAAAAA?⇐'



'...ARR, HE BE
MAKIN' THE
DEVILS DANCE,
RAPTIAS!'

'.... 'TIS A DELAY
AT BEST, THOUGH.
I WONDER WHAT
HE'S THINKING...'

A black and white photograph of a LEGO Technic robot. The robot is constructed from various Technic bricks and beams, featuring a crown on its head and a large, circular, smiling face. It has two large, multi-segmented arms and two large, treaded wheels. The robot is set against a dark, textured background.

SLAG,
MECH!

I COULD MAKE A
KILLA' MUSIC VIDEO
OUTTA' ALL THIS!



SUN!

MOON!

**IT'S TIME TO
ROCK OUT!**

**YOU GET THE
LIGHT, AND I'LL
GET THE SOUND!**

TCRACKA-ZASH!

**STORM OF THE SUNS
TO BLAST AND BLIND!**

**SCREAM OF THE MOON
TO NUMB THE MIND!**

I DON'T SCREAM!!

I THUNDER!!

KRAKKABOOOOM!




**TOO
CLOSE!**



**WHAT ARE
THEY DOING?!**




**CREATING A
DIVERSION, X.**



**THE NOODLES
WILL SLURP
NOT A BYTE
OF DATA...
UNTIL...**



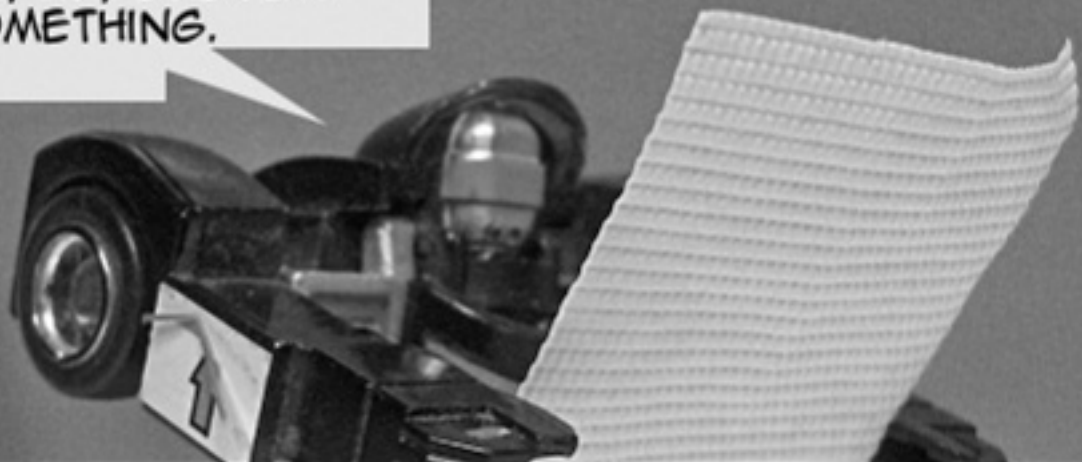
THE FIREBALL!



**UH...MR.
ULTIMATE
OPTIMUS?**

...THIS SPECTRAL ANALYZER THING IS NO GOOD. IT'S JUST PRINTING OUT ERROR CODES. THE, UH, SYSTEM TIME IS BAD OR SOMETHING. HOW DO I FIX-

DON'T WORRY. SOON, THERE WON'T BE ANY TIME TO FIX!



VERY SHORTLY, THIS GAME... THIS INSANITY... THIS NIGHTMARE... WILL END IN FIRE!

...AND WE WILL WAKE UP IN THE REAL WORLD...





OR WAKE
NO MORE...

WHATEVER
OUR FATE...

I WILL MEET IT
STANDING!

I WILL BE IN FRONT OF MY TRAILER, WHEN IT COMES...
WARMING MY FACE, IN THE LIGHT FROM NO SUN!

REST IN PIECES!!

UH... EASY THERE, PRIME...
IT'S JUST A GAME...RIGHT?
LIKE YOU SAID, BEFORE...

UH...

YES...

~SIGH~

IT'S JUST
A GAME.

FEZ: TSUGARU,
THAT GIRL WE
WANTED TO
HELP...

...SHE HAD
A DREAM
AS WELL...

GOT TO HOLD
ON TO THAT
DREAM!

I am,
Sideswipe!

FEZ: AND
WHEN HER
DREAM
BROKE UP
IN THE
MORNING...

SHE WOULD
NOT LET
GO...

FEZ: SHE SENT
HER MIND TO
FIND HIM...

...OR DID
SHE?



HP YOUR
TP FACE
LDP

FEZ:
REALITY WAS A
NIGHTMARE...
PERHAPS SHE
HID IN A DREAM.

REALITY ISN'T
MUCH FUN TO
LIVE IN, WHEN...
CERTAIN PEOPLE...
AREN'T IN IT.





LDP: IF I WAS IN IT...THIS 'REALITY'...
WHAT WOULD I BE LIKE?



FEZ: I'M SURE...YOU'D BE A NICE PERSON.
AND NOT SO VERY PSYCHOTIC. YES.



LDP: WELL, I CAN'T BE REAL...BUT...
MAYBE I CAN DO SOMETHING REAL.



LDP: LET'S GO HELP THE FACE GUY.

LEEEROY
JENKINNNS!!!!

-OH, NO!
DRIFT!

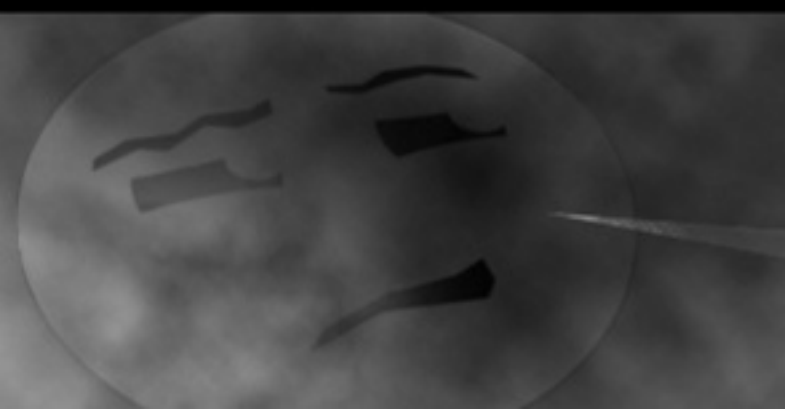
-HOBBY!!

ワル★マート
常に

...A GIANT WAL-MART
SUPERCENTER???




DRIFT! HOBBY!
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE ARE ALL
THE MONSTERS?!



LET'S JUST SAY...THEY HAD...
THE THRILL...OF THEIR LIVES...

HEH HEH....⇒COUGH⇐



IT WAS REAL SIMPLE, FEZ.

FIRST, I GOT 'EM ALL TO
DANCE THE THRILLER...



...AND ONCE I
HAD THEM
GROOVING...

...I MOONWALKED
OUT A FEW
PACES, AND...



FINAL
CLEARANCE
ROLLBACK
RENKIN!

FIST OF
THE STORE
BRANDO!

WARUMAATO

DA!!!

WRYYYYYYYYYYY!

フル☆マート
常任

I FLATTENED 'EM
LIKE A SMALL TOWN
BIDNESS DISTRICT.

COST ME ALL MY STORE CRED.
WAL-CHEMY AIN'T NO FREE LUNCH...

Y'ALL REMEMBER THAT...
WAL-CHEMIST.



NO!

**YOUR STORY
WILL NOT END
WITH HEROIC
EMO NONSENSE!**

LIKE MINE KINDA' ALMOST
TURNED INTO, THANKS FOR
THE SAVE, LADY PRIME...

**TO THE LAKE,
LADY PRIME!**

☆ マート
堂に

*...BUT FIRST, DRIVE
THROUGH THAT
WAL-MART...*

*...I NEED TO PICK
UP SOMETHING...*



*...FROM THE
PLASTIC TOY
DEPARTMENT.*





ULTIMATE OPTIMUS?
IT MAY NOT BE THE BEST TIME FOR THIS,
BUT...I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED.

I'VE GOT A FAMILY AT HOME, AND A
CREW OF ROBOTS WITH ZERO AESTHETIC
SENSE...AND ON THE SIDE, I'M TRYING
TO TEACH PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR FLAG...
THEY THINK IT'S ALL BETSY ROSS AND-

...WHAT I MEAN IS,
I REALLY NEED TO
GET BACK HOME.
IT'S IMPORTANT.

I DON'T REALLY GET THIS 'REBOOT' THING. OR THIS 'VIRTUAL WORLD' THING.
OR WHAT MYHOBBY'S DEAL IS. OR FINDIE'S THING FOR LADY PRIME.
OR THAT TODESTRIED OVERDRIVE DEATH URGE YOU TEND TO EXPRESS...

I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE, WHEN WE ARE, OR HOW WE ARE.
I'M NOT SURE WHY WE ARE, AND I'M WAVERING ON THE 'WHO'...

I'VE BEEN VIRTUALLY LOST SINCE CHRISTMAS, AND
JUST SHOOTING AT ANYTHING THAT LOOKED ICKY.


SO...PARDON THE WALL O'TEXT...TELL ME...
IS THIS GOING TO LET US GO HOME?

YES...
...PROBABLY.

WHEN THE BOMB REBOOTS
THE VIRTUAL DIMENSION...

TIME OUT! TECHNOBABBLE.
HOW CAN A BOMB 'REBOOT' ANYTHING?





HA, HA! IS THAT ALL?
DON'T LET IT TROUBLE YOUR ORGANIC BRAIN!

THIS WORLD IS A GAME PROGRAM. IT'S
GOT VARIABLES AND STUFF. DAMAGE IS
A VARIABLE, AND AGENT X THOUGHT HE
HAD FIGURED OUT THE DATA TYPE...

...SO WE DOCTORED
UP THE BOMB UNTIL
IT WOULD OVERFLOW
THAT HIT-TO-DAMAGE
VARIABLE.

BAM! REBOOT.

WHAT?!!



**OOOOOOOOOH...
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS!!**

**DON'T YOU READ
SCIENCE FICTION?!**

**NA...
SOMETIMES?**

**WHEN WE GOT HERE, WE CRASH-MATERIALIZED
ON TOP THE SPACE BRIDGE AND BLEW IT UP!**

**IF THE GAME CAN CRUNCH THE NUMBERS
TO WORK THOSE PHYSICS, IT'S NOT
GOING TO CHOKER ON ONE LITTLE H-BOMB!**



**BY GIBSON'S
GLASSES!**

**THE BOMB
WON'T HACK IT!
THAT MEANS-**

**NO REBOOT.
AND FOR US...**

GAME OVER!



**MOONSCREAM!
SUNSTORM!
TRANS+CRAZY,
BARRICADE!**

**FALL BACK! STOP THE
COUNTDOWN!**

**AGENT X'S PLAN WON'T WORK!
REPEAT-AGENT X-**

GLURRY!





SPLUUTCH!

AGENT X!

**ULTIMATE OPTIMUS,
AGENT X!**





AGENT X WAS A LEGION!!

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

YOUR AGENT X
WAS A FAKE!!

WHAT?!

A LEGION JUST BURST OUT
OF HIS CHESTPLATE!

AGENT X...A LEGION?

DID IT...ATTACK?

NO! IT RAISED A SMOKE SCREEN
AND FLEW OUT OVER THE LAKE!

THAT'S...WEIRD.
I'M GOING IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK...

STOP! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HIDING IN THERE!

I WILL, IN A MOMENT...
ZOOMING IN A LITTLE...ENHANCING A LITTLE..AND-

BOLTS!!



MONSTER!!

**AGENT X
LED US TO
A MONSTER!**

**MONSTER?!
WHAT KIND OF
MONSTER,
MOONSCREAM?**



LIAR!

TRAITOR!

'THE ACID LAKE
IS CLOSER'...HA!

⇒DAKKADAKK!⇐

⇒DAKKADAKK!⇐

'COURAGE MIGHT
BE ENOUGH'...HA!

MOONSCREAM!
HAVE YOU
GONE MAD?!!

RUST IN HELL!
YOU FILTHY
SON OF A-



MOONSCREAM!
DAMMIT, MOONSCREAM!

AIR TEAM! AIR TEAM!
THERE IS AN UNKNOWN
AND HIGHLY DANGEROUS
CREATURE IN THE LAKE!

FORM UP ON ME, WE'RE
GOING TO HIT
MONSTER
EVERYTHING
DO YOU HEAR ME?
EVERYTHING WE GOT!

I LOVE YOU,
MOMMY...



STILL STANDING!
TARGET ITS CORE!!

ATTACK!

ATTACK!

ATTACK!

ATTAGGGGGGGSSSSSSSSHHHHHHHK

DOOM!



SLAGGED! ALL OF THEM, SLAGGED!

**TRANS-CRAZY! REVISING PRIOR REVISION!
PLANT BOBBY IN DEEP WATER AND GET OUT!**


**PROTECT THE CHILDREN, ANO!
I WILL ATTACK THE BEAST TO
DIVERT ITS ATTENTION!**

**ATTACK IT?
ARE YOU
CRAZY!**

NO, I AM ULTIMATE OPTIMUS!

**ANODYTHE...THE CHILDREN NEED YOU.
ALL OF THEM...NOW. YOU MUST MAKE
IT HOME...I MUST MAKE AN END!**

**THE KIDS DON'T NEED ANOTHER SLAGGED HERO!
THEY NEED SOMEONE WHO STAYS TO LEND A-**




...HAND.

⇒CLANK⇐

UH OH.

⇒HSSSS!⇐

A character is shown unleashing a massive, bright energy attack, depicted as a large, jagged, starburst-like explosion of light and energy. The character's face is partially visible on the right, looking intense. The background is dark and smoky.

FFFEEDBAKKHHH!
MMY OWN PPOWWR!

ANODYTHE!

A character is shown in a dark, smoky environment, pointing towards a bright, glowing object. The object appears to be a gun or a similar weapon, emitting a strong light. The character's face is partially visible on the left, looking concerned.

THE
GUN!

DROP
THE
GUN!!

A character is shown in a state of distress or pain, with their face contorted and eyes closed. The background is dark and smoky, with some faint, glowing energy lines visible.

CCANT-

LETTGO-



KABLAAM!!

ANODYTHE!!

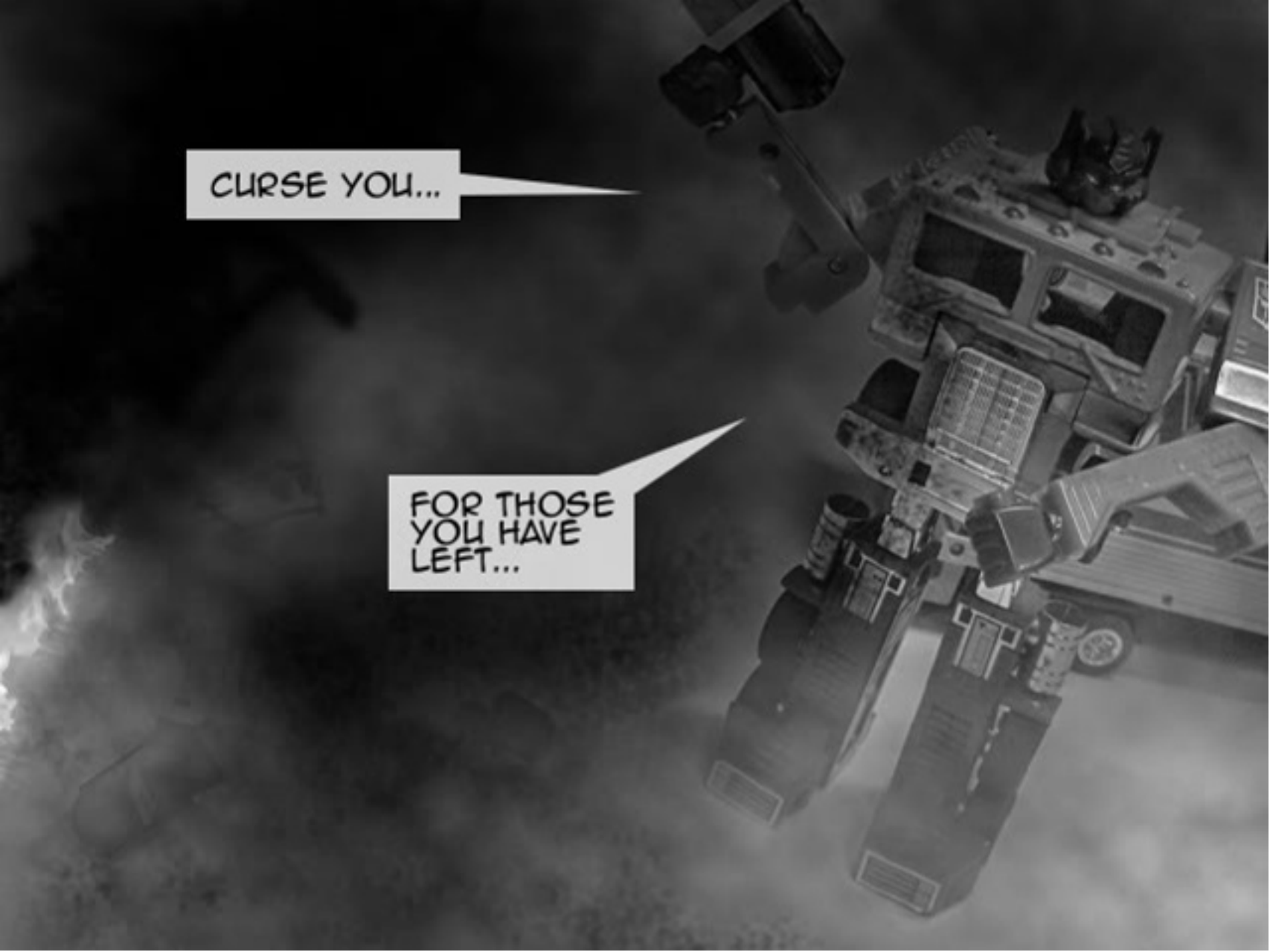
⇒VWORP⇐

⇒BLAMM!⇐

**CURSE YOU, FOUL DAEMON!
CURSE YOU AND YOUR VILE,
TREACHEROUS SPAWN!**


**CURSE YOU, FOR
THOSE YOU HAVE
TAKEN!**





CURSE YOU...


FOR THOSE
YOU HAVE
LEFT...




DON' CRY! PREASE DON' CRY!
YOUR MOMMY ISN' ARR ARONE!

LEAVE ME
ALONE,
SCREAMY!

PREASE DON' BE SAD!
SHE CAN BE F-FRENS WIF'
BU'NOUT AN'...AN' MY M-MOMMY...



DID HE SAY...
'BURNOUT'?



"...THAT CAN'T
BE THE ONE I
TALKED TO...
THAT ONE WAS
ALIVE AND WELL!
...MAYBE NOT
SO WELL..."


YES, HE'S
BARELY
HANGING ON.

I DON'T KNOW WHO
YOU'RE TALKING TO,
NARRATOR, BUT
YOU'RE NOT FUNNY!

...IF THEY KNEW I'D BEEN
KEEPING A SECRET, THEY
MIGHT THINK I WAS BAD,
LIKE... AGENT X, AND...

NO! I...I CAN'T TELL...
...IT'S PROBABLY JUST
ANOTHER...PERSON...
WITH THE SAME NAME.





SPEAK, MY
BOBBY...
LET ME HEAR
YOUR FIRST
WORDS...

WAIT-!



-IT KNOWS!!



**"IT KNOWS
OF OUR
BOMB!!"**

BLOOSH!



I LOVE YOU,
BARRY...

I LOVE YOU
TOO, CRAZY.

...I GUESS WE DO
END UP TOGETHER-



CRUNCH!!



DEATH...

THE DESTROYER
OF WORLDS...

A GOOD
GAME
SPOILED,
I CALL IT.



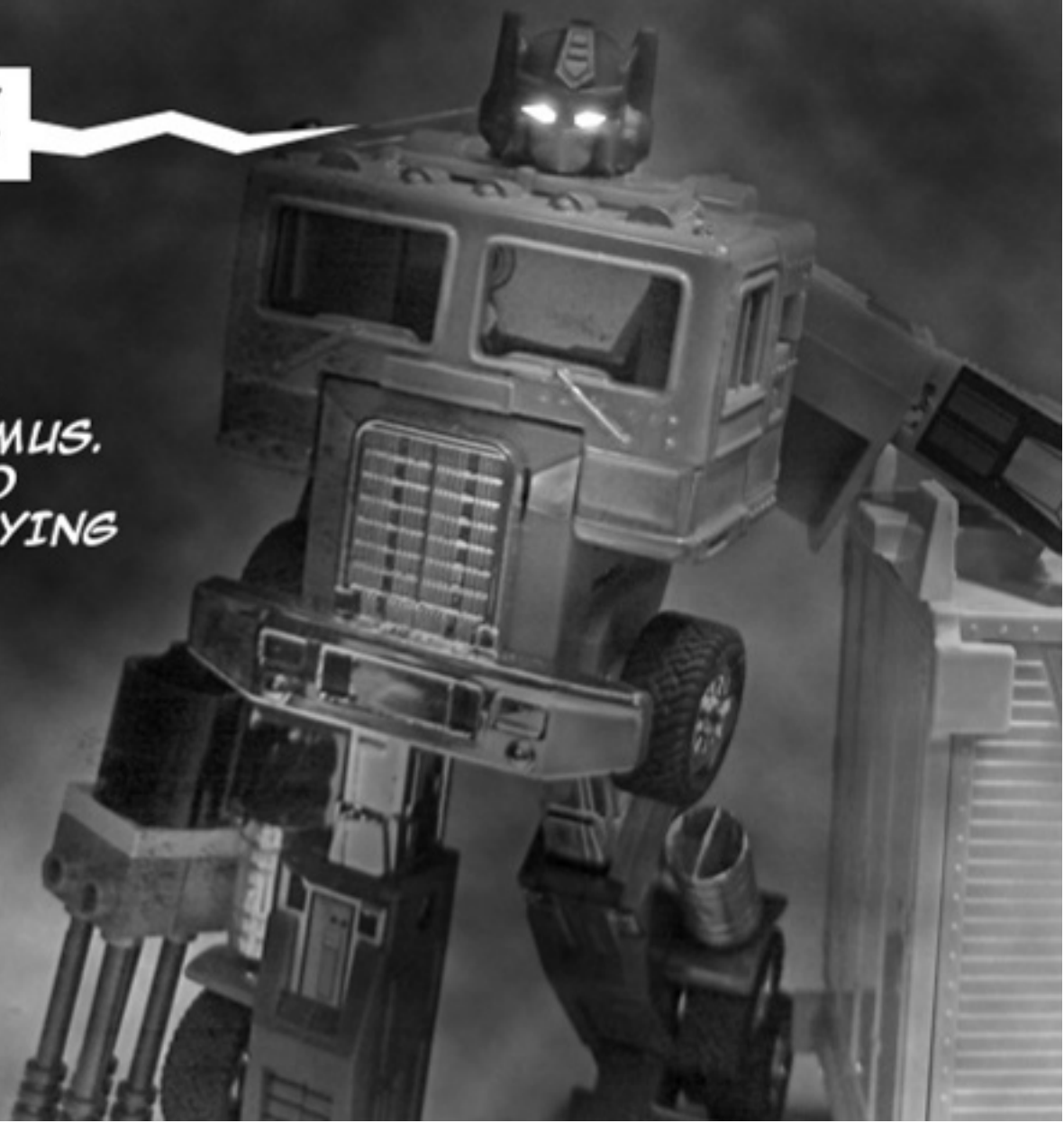
WOULDN'T
YOU AGREE...

ULTIMATE
OPTIMUS?


*A GOOD GAME!
YOU MONSTER!*

*COME ON, NOW,
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS.
YOU SEEMED TO
ENJOY DESTROYING
MY LEGION...*

*HAVE YOU
TURNED SORE
LOSER, AFTER
FAILING AT
A LITTLE
HACK?*



**DON'T BLAME
THE GAME
IF YOU DON'T
KNOW THE
RULES...**



RULES!



**I'VE GOT
RULES OF
MY OWN!**



⇒THUNK⇒



I DON'T NEGOTIATE WITH EVIL.
I DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH
DEPRAVED DEMONIC
TECHNOSALAMANDERS!

YOU MIGHT AS WELL
DESTROY ME NOW!

I PREFER DEATH
TO THIS UNREALITY!



WELL, ULTIMATE OPTIMUS...
IF YOU HATE MY GAME SO MUCH...



TRY REALITY!

THIS IS YOUR LIFE,
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS.

HERE YOU
HAVE BEEN...
FOR NEARLY
TWENTY YEARS!



LOST IN SPACE, OUT OF TIME,
NEAR A MASSIVE BLACK HOLE!!



WHY SO SHOCKED, I WONDER?

YOU KNEW THIS WAS A GAME.
YOU ASSUMED YOUR BODY
WAS POWERED-DOWN
SOMEWHERE...

AGENT X TOLD
YOU EVERYTHING....

BY THEN,
OF COURSE,
HE WAS
UNDER MY
CONTROL...

JUST A PART
OF THE GAME!
MY GAME!

LOOK UPON
THE LEGION!

YOU ENTERED THE GAME, SOON AFTER YOU CRASHED.

YOUR SHIP BROKE UP IN THIS DARK ABYSS...
ITS FRAGMENTS WERE SCATTERED...
TO THE VOID, TO OBLIVION...

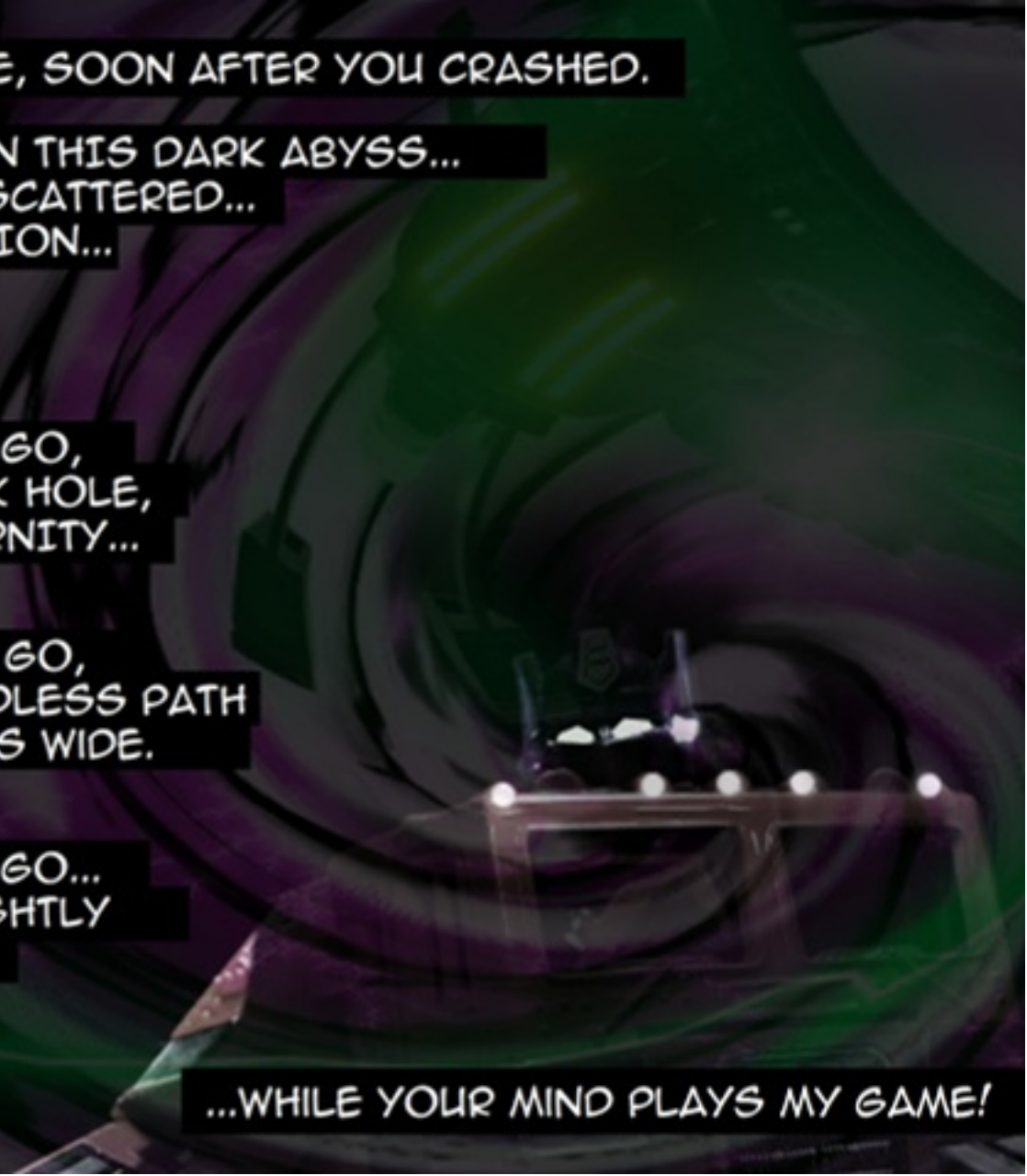
...AND TO ORBIT.

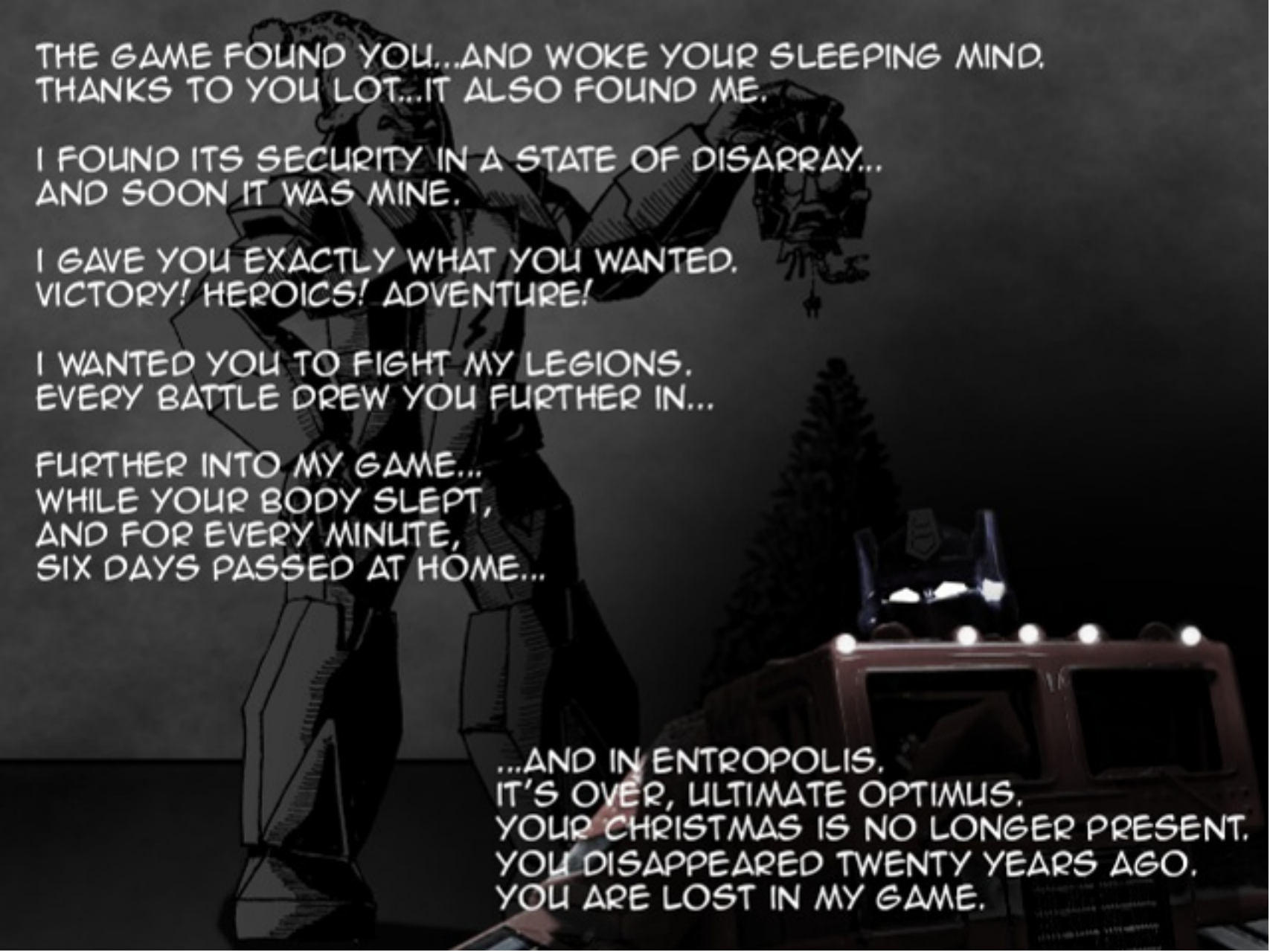
ROUND AND ROUND YOU GO,
ORBITING A HUGE BLACK HOLE,
CHARYBDIS OF AN ALTERNITY...

ROUND AND ROUND YOU GO,
TRACING A VAST AND ENDLESS PATH
BILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS WIDE.

ROUND AND ROUND YOU GO...
A BODY WITH SPEED SLIGHTLY
SLOWER THAN LIGHT...

...WHILE YOUR MIND PLAYS MY GAME!





THE GAME FOUND YOU...AND WOKE YOUR SLEEPING MIND.
THANKS TO YOU LOT...IT ALSO FOUND ME.

I FOUND ITS SECURITY IN A STATE OF DISARRAY...
AND SOON IT WAS MINE.

I GAVE YOU EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANTED.
VICTORY! HEROICS! ADVENTURE!

I WANTED YOU TO FIGHT MY LEGIONS.
EVERY BATTLE DREW YOU FURTHER IN...

FURTHER INTO MY GAME...
WHILE YOUR BODY SLEPT,
AND FOR EVERY MINUTE,
SIX DAYS PASSED AT HOME...

...AND IN ENTROPOLIS.
IT'S OVER, ULTIMATE OPTIMUS.
YOUR CHRISTMAS IS NO LONGER PRESENT.
YOU DISAPPEARED TWENTY YEARS AGO.
YOU ARE LOST IN MY GAME.

I CONTROLLED EVERYTHING YOU SAW.
I DIRECTED EVERYTHING YOU DID...
YOU WATCHED YOUR FRIENDS FALL,
ONE BY ONE...

AND IN THE END, YOU STILL LOSE!

A CLASSIC JOKE, DON'T YOU THINK?

MY TRAILER -
WAS IT A CLASSIC JOKE
TO TAKE MY TRAILER?!

YOUR TRAILER?

WHY WOULD I WANT THAT
PIECE OF JUNK?
IT FLEW OFF INTO SPACE
SOMEWHERE.






HA! I WAS RIGHT...
IT DOESN'T HAVE MY TRAILER!



IT'S TOO LATE FOR ME...
BUT THEY DIDN'T PLAY
VERY MUCH...

BY THE SINGULARITY!
I HOPE THIS WORKS...


SO IT GOES,
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS...
THE BEST YEARS
OF YOUR LIFE
HAVE PASSED
YOU BY...



DEPRESSING, ISN'T IT?
THIS SLOW, COLD OBLIVION...
LET'S GET OUR MINDS OFF IT...



LET'S
REBOOT!
WOULDN'T
YOU LIKE
TO PLAY
AGAIN?



....PAH.

*PUT...PUT ME...BACK.
I'D SOONER WAIT OUT
A TIME-DILATED
ETERNITY THAN PLAY
YOUR PATHETIC,
UNBALANCED GAME!*

*PROTIP!
MID LEVEL
ENEMIES!*

*YOUR PATHETIC
LEGION ARE FAR
TOO EASY!*

HA! IT WOULD BE A LIE
TO DENY YOUR COURAGE,
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS...

YOUR DREAMS, ALL IN ASHES,
STILL SMOLDER IN THE SAND...

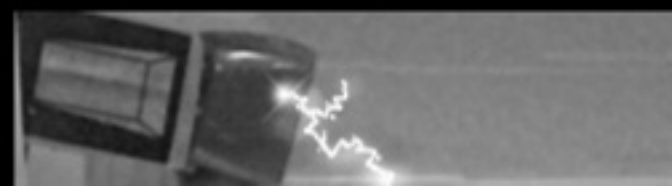
BUT NOT THE KIDS...
IN THE TRAILER...RIGHT?

THEY'RE STILL ALIVE.

...AND YOU WERE
ABOUT TO SAVE THEM.


RIGHT?

I SAW YOU ACTIVATE YOUR TRAILER...



THEN YOU TRY TO
TEMPT ME TO DESTROY YOU...

BOOM! YOU'RE DEAD,
THE TRAILER'S BOOTED OUT,
IT TAKES THE KIDS WITH IT,
EVERYBODY WAKES UP
ALL COZY AND SNUG
IN COLD, EMPTY SPACE...



IT WASN'T A VERY GOOD PLAN...
I'VE GOT A MUCH BETTER ONE.


A black and white photograph of a complex LEGO Technic robot. The robot has a prominent, glowing white circular light in its center, resembling an eye. It is constructed from various grey and black Technic bricks and beams, with some translucent pieces. The background is dark and smoky or misty, creating a dramatic atmosphere. The robot's head is on the left, and its body extends towards the right.

YOU SAY MY GAME IS UNBALANCED,
AND NEEDS MID-LEVEL OPPONENTS...
WOULDN'T THE KIDS MAKE GOOD ONES?

AFTER SOME...ALTERATIONS...

YES, I'LL
GET MY DEV
TEAM RIGHT
ON THAT...

...UNLESS...YOU'D LIKE TO
OFFER SOMETHING MORE...
OPTIMAL...



**YOU DEVIL!
YOU WOULD NOT
THINK OF TURNING
CHILDREN INTO
MONSTERS!!**

**PERHAPS
I AM...**

**AND INDEED
I WOULD...**

...BUT IT'S NEGOTIABLE.
IN FACT, I WON'T LAY A CLAW
ON THE LITTLE BRATS...


...IF YOU OFFER ME
A BETTER SUBJECT...
SOMEONE TRULY...
ULTIMATE.

...LET US
SAY?

IT WANTS ME...
FOR ITS GAME!

SLAG ME WITH A BOLTER...
BUT...I PROMISED ANODYTHE...





ALL RIGHT.
IF THAT'S YOUR GAME...
THEN PUT ME IN IT...

AND LET
THEM GO.

BUT KNOW THIS, DEMON...
MY SPARK WILL NOT DIE.
IF THE CHILDREN ARE HURT,
I WILL SEE THEM AVENGED!



NEVER FEAR...
NON-PLAYER...

I WON'T
HURT THEM
AT ALL.



TSUGARU!

Mas...4er?



KILL
THEM
ALL.

Master! The children ran away,
and turned off the lights!

THAT IS
VERY
NAUGHTY
OF THEM,
TSUGARU!

Yes, my master.
Naughty children will be punished...



YOU HAVE TSUGARU?!!

HA, HA! NO-

**JUST SOME SCRAPS.
USEFUL CODE REMNANTS...**

**NONE OF THE
USELESS DATA.**

USELESS DATA...

**HER HOME...
HER FRIENDS...
SIDESWIPE...**

DAMN YOU!!

**DAMN
YOU TO
HELL!!**



WHERE DO YOU
THINK I FOUND
TSUGARU?

*BY MY SPARK!
THIS EVIL ENDS NOW!*



SORRY, ULTIMATE OPTIMUS...
BUT THAT SPARK WOULD BE MINE.

⇒CHOOM!⇐

YEEEAUGH!

...AND DO YOU REALLY
WANT TO SPOIL THE LITTLE
MOPPETS' LAST HOLIDAY?



WHY WE HIDIN'
FLUM ACH, HUH?

IS SHE
IN'PAIRED,
RIKE,
REARRY
BAD OR
SOMEFIN'?



SCREAMY! THAT'S NOT ACH!

YOU MEAN I'S SAN'A CRAWLS?
THE REARR SAN'A?!!

HOO'AAAY!!

SCREAMY!
BE QUIET! PLEASE!!

BUT WE SAVED SAN'A!

I'M GONNA AS' HER TO
BRIN' YOU MOMMY BACK.

R-Dash-Crash>

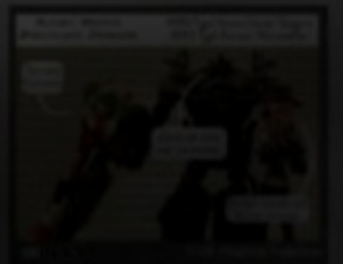
Ach, sir. She collapsed at her keyboard.
Artille took her to the dispensary. I'm
running both Booster drones.

I think it might be a fit or something...

Back Again
in 2014



On Street will kill you.



WEB PRODUCTIONS INCORPORATED

OP MAGI Remote Operations Center

⇒TAKKATAK⇐

⇒TAPPATAK⇐




OR SOMETHING.

CUT BURNOUT DOWN
AND BRIEF HIM, RAPTIAS.
TELL HIM HIS FRIENDS
ARE PRISONERS, AND
THEIR MINDS HAVE BEEN
UPLOADED.

I HATE TO SAY IT,
BUT WE PROBABLY
NEED HIS HELP.

TRY NOT TO TELL HIM THAT HIS
LITTLE MIRACLE CODE SENT US
TWENTY YEARS INTO THE FUTURE...

....AND DEFINITELY LEAVE OUT THE PONY THING.



SCRIPT KIDDIES!

THEY'RE EVERYWHERE,
AND THEY SUCK...

...ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE
GHASTLY ENTITIES OF HORROR
FROM SOME VAST STARLESS
VOID OF UNDYING DREAD...

⇒BOOTY UP⇐

GOSH, I HATE
THOSE GLYS.

FORTUNATELY, I'VE GOT AN
ANGEL ON SPEED-DIAL.

Mr. Dragon? Is that you?

HELLO, ANGEL. ARE YOU BUSY?

- 抵抗は
- 無駄
- です。
- アンダー
- ソンさん



Arnval

Real busy!
Starf has me
reviewing some
important
historical
documents!

EARTHENWARE

AH... DOCTOR WHO*?

I don't know who he
He never gives his name

HN....

***IT'S ACTUALLY
TIME SHINKI**
A WEBCOMIC
BY PURDUEAV2003!
WHO IS TOTALLY NOT
HOOKING THE NARRATOR
UP WITH TICKETS TO
THE BIG GAME.

HOW ARE OUR SYSTEM
RESOURCES, ANGEL?

Uh...

Boss Strarf says we
have lots of Rams and
Lans and Flops and
Raids and things.

I'm kinda' scared.
Do those hurt?

PATCH ME THROUGH TO HER,
WILL YOU, ARNAL?

Hello,
Shadow.

You had better
have some good
news for me.

HAVING A
BAD DAY?

Worst
mms
ever.

EARTHENWARE

THERE'S NO MMS LIKE
MMS TYPE DEVIL...

I'm letting the Ratchets live only
so they can synthesize more Cy-dol.






TO YOUR LEFT, STRARF,
THERE IS A CABINET.

THIRD DRAWER DOWN.
YOU WILL FIND A FIVE
POUND CHOCOLATE BAR.

I'LL WAIT.

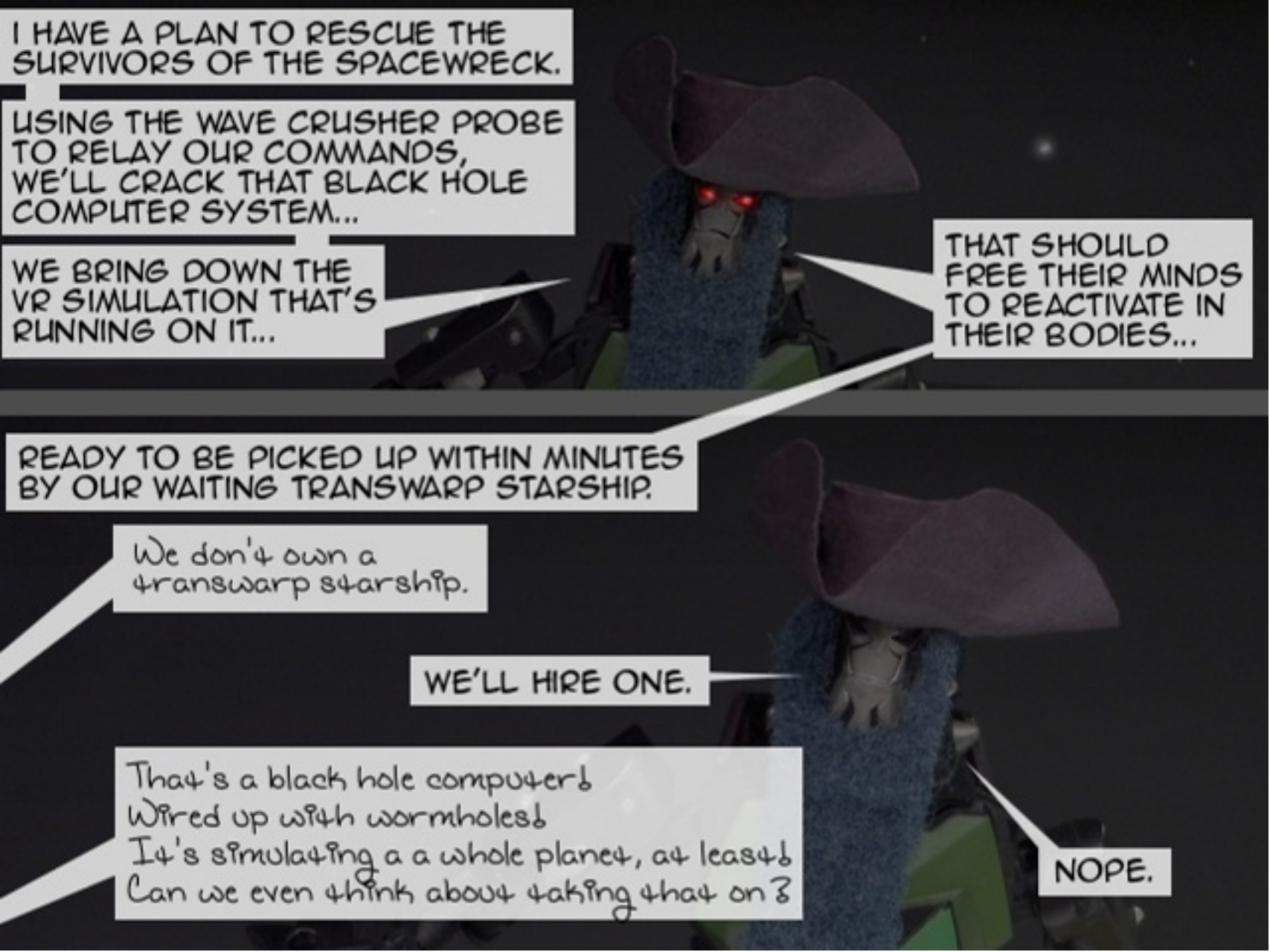


Good
move.

AYE.

Okay, candyman.
What's the bad news?

SOME OF IT ISN'T BAD...



I HAVE A PLAN TO RESCUE THE
SURVIVORS OF THE SPACEWRECK.

USING THE WAVE CRUSHER PROBE
TO RELAY OUR COMMANDS,
WE'LL CRACK THAT BLACK HOLE
COMPLTER SYSTEM...

WE BRING DOWN THE
VR SIMULATION THAT'S
RUNNING ON IT...

THAT SHOULD
FREE THEIR MINDS
TO REACTIVATE IN
THEIR BODIES...

READY TO BE PICKED UP WITHIN MINUTES
BY OUR WAITING TRANSWARP STARSHIP.

We don't own a
transwarp starship.

WE'LL HIRE ONE.

That's a black hole computer!
Wired up with wormholes!
It's simulating a whole planet, at least!
Can we even think about taking that on?

NOPE.

...SO I'VE BEEN TWEETING 'ROUND FOR HELP.
I'VE CALLED HALCONFENIX, I'M ASKING BURNOUT-

BURNOUT?!

HEY, HE'S
GOT A
'PUTER,
RIGHT?

⇒CRUNCH⇒

AND I'VE BEEN
ROUGH ON HIM.
I FELT BAD.

SORT OF.

Your plan sucks.

And that hat is stupid.



Forget the game or
whatever the hell it is.
Go find Tsugaru.
That's what you're
supposed to be doing!




UNFORTUNATELY...

SOMEONE ELSE
FOUND HER FIRST.

USING OUR...ANTENNA,
WE RECEIVED THIS IMAGE.

WE HAVE TO TAKE THAT SYSTEM DOWN.




Huh?
That's not
Tsugaru.

It's Ach's
Ach-vatar
in Tsugu
Fuku...

...with purple eyes...

...and moefangs...

and not-so-moe drool...



AKU-CHAN
IS AWAY...

I'VE GOT AUDIO, TOO.
GIVE IT A LISTEN...

Master! The children ran away,
and turned off the lights!

THAT IS VERY NAUGHTY
OF THEM, TSUGARU!

Master?

Yes, my master.
Naughty children will be

Tsugu never
called anybody
master!

Not even
her builder...



Thanks for
switching me on,
scrapheap!

Don't
make me
kick you in
the junk.



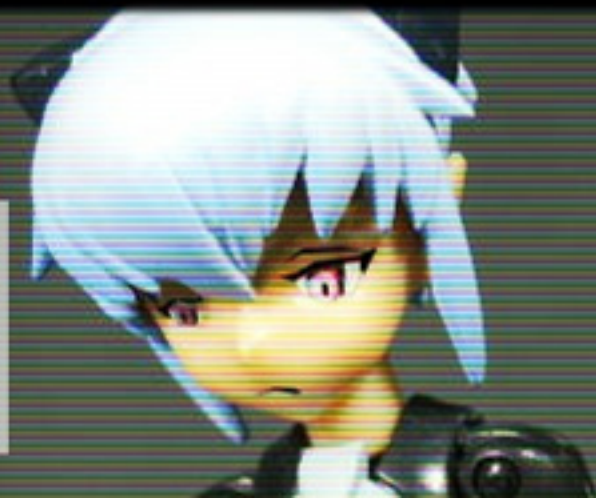


...and she would
never hurt a child

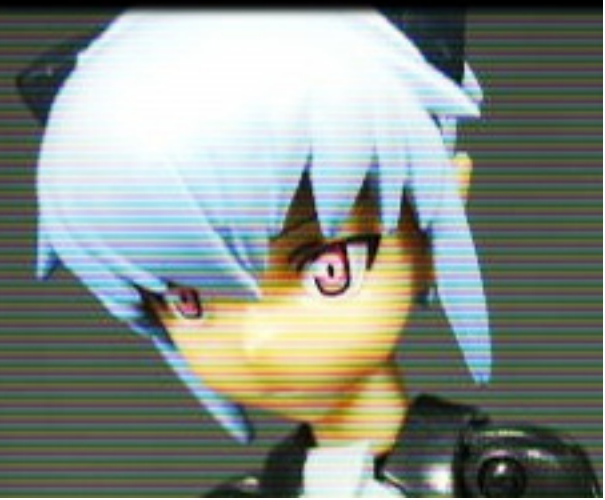
What's happened to her?
Who did it, and how?

DAMNED IF I KNOW.

SHE WAS IN HELL, OR SO THE STORY WENT...
AND I SUPPOSE, AT SOME POINT...

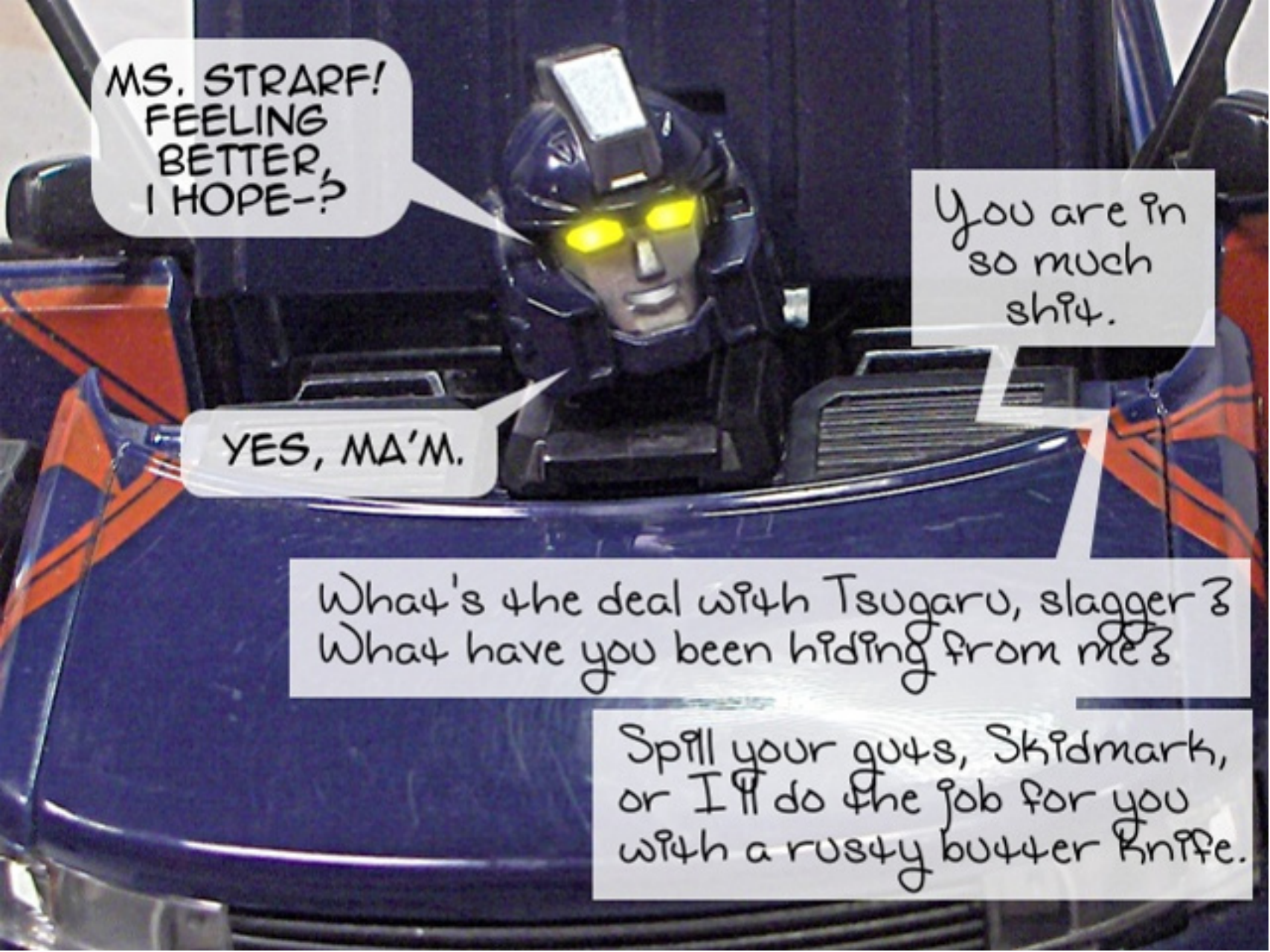


IT ALL
HIT
THE
SKIDS.



SKIDMAARK!!





MS. STRARF!
FEELING
BETTER,
I HOPE--?

You are in
so much
shit.

YES, MA'M.

What's the deal with Tsugaru, slagger?
What have you been hiding from me?

Spill your guts, Skidmark,
or I'll do the job for you
with a rusty butter knife.



IT'S TRUE, STRARF. I'VE BEEN LYING.
DON'T BLAME THE RATCHETS.
I HAVEN'T TOLD THEM, EITHER.

THE ELF'S MIND IS LINKED
TO SOME SORT OF POWERFUL
EXTRADIMENSIONAL ENTITY.

THE ENTITY APPEARS AS A
DARK, WINGED FEMALE FIGURE,
CLOAKED IN GREEN LIGHT...

EYES LIKE BURNING METAL...

...I SAW HER IN A DREAM.
WHEN I WOKE UP, I KNEW WE WOULD
FIND TSUGARU IN ALTERNITY AP-0604.



UNSCIENTIFIC, I KNOW-

Skids...was she always like that?
Always mindlinked to this...
...this green lady?

NO...

NO...I THINK WE DID IT, STRARF,
WHEN WE BLINDLY FIRED THE
WAVE CRUSHER PROBE...

DON'T BLAME THE RATCHETS.
I, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD
HAVE KNOWN HOW FRAGILE
THE WALLS OF REALITY CAN BE.

YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS
PULLED INTO LIMBO-

WHAT WAS ITS VOICE LIKE?

NOT BEING MATERIAL, IT
MOST LIKELY GENERATED
NO AUDIBLE VIBRATIONS-

⇒SCRBBLBBL⇐

THAT IS VERY NAUGHTY
OF THEM, TSUGARU!

⇒CLICK⇐

TO YOU,
SLAPDASH!

TO YOU...DID IT
SOUND LIKE THAT?





AYE, LIMBO YOU
KNOW, CROSSCUT...

YES...IT'S MY
SECRET VICE,
ISN'T IT?

Your other
secret vice...

EARTHENWARE



A SCIENTIST WHO
SPEAKS WITH
DEMONS...



HORRORS BORN FROM WHAT I THOUGHT
WAS MY OWN, RATIONAL MIND...

Don't sound so proud, Mudflap.
You weren't their daddy.

There are evil things...outside...
and they want to get in.
They'll try any door they find...

PANCHO
systems

WebO:
MovieOS Edition

..even your
dirty mind,
carwash boy.

Not everybody out there is evil...
but the good ones are hard to find...
and harder to recognize.

THAT GUY

Been there. Done that. Read the comic.
I've learned a thing or two...
and after what you've told us...
I think I can guess what happened...

..to what
used to be
Tsugaru.



You should read your own notes, Slapper.
You and the Ratchets. I have...

So listen. You'll learn something...



First, your famous Wave Crusher func4-up...
you yonked a building brick through a wormhole,
and it knocked our friends into unspace...
after bouncing off that Gaston Bollocks...

GOSTAN BALIK.
IT'S SLANG FOR
'REVERSE BACK'...

Shaddap.

Shadow saw the 4ime-loop coming. He 4ried to improvise a
way to rescue our friends, but there wasn't enough 4ime...

Before he got punted 20 years ahead.

He's out of the way, and our friends end up in unspace...but someone pulls them out...

Quiz, Stampy. Where'd they go?
I think you know the answer...



The Ratchets weren't hopeful.
Unspace is insanity, and death...
but you insisted they were safe...
...how did you know?



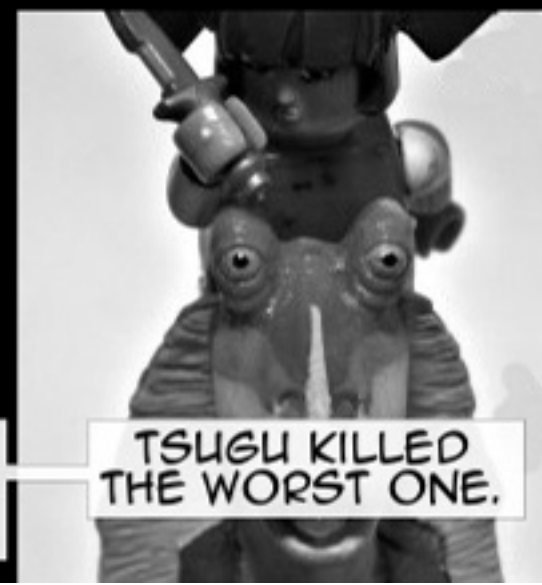
I...HAD... A DREAM...
BEFORE...THE GREEN LADY...

I WAS BACK
IN LIMBO...

WITH MY
MONSTERS...

OUR FRIENDS...
WERE THERE...
IN LIMBO...

TSUGU KILLED
THE WORST ONE.



Uh-huh. But they got out of Limbo...
and they couldn't have done that by themselves.
Someone summoned them...for a purpose...

UNICRON!

No.


Not Unicron.
You dork.

Or your green lady...yet.
I don't know who it was...
Round up the usual suspects...

but there's always a purpose.
Always some little job...
Or whoever-it-was wouldn't
have gone to all that trouble.

So, the team's sent back....
and hey! we get signal.
Just one. Just the elf...
Guess the job went bad...

So you got desperate, and stupid...



You fired the Wave Crusher's quantum...thing...
It hit Tsugaru...and a certain green lady...
If only it had failed completely...

Your stupid idea
left them mindlinked!

You knew that,
when you met your
green dreamgirl...


She told you, didn't she?

'TURN BACK. THIS ONE IS MINE!'


I DON'T KNOW IF SHE SAID IT,
OR IF SHE JUST LOOKED,
AND I THOUGHT IT, BUT...

But you wake up with coordinates stuck
in your noggin. Ironhide and Mel...
The green lady wanted you to find them.





But Tsugaru
was hers.
Hers to use.
Like I said...
they all use us.



A being like that would help her, at first...
she'd give Tsugaru tremendous power...

...but not all...gifts...would be equally welcome...
Something, I guess, pushed Tsugu too far...

Something big.
I don't know what...

Big enough to make
her storm hell...



YOU THINK OUR ELF
INVADED HELL?

SHE MIGHT TAKE
ON A BOMBER...


...BUT WHAT COULD MAKE
SOMEONE TAKE ON HELL?!




CHARLENE.

EVEN AFTER
SEEING...THEM...

I'D DO IT FOR
CHARLENE.



For Charlene & Gobotrons!
In your dreams, nerdbot...



DREAMS!!

⇒SCHWING!⇒

⇒CLANK!⇒

**THAT'S IT
EXACTLY!**

Whoa there,
kibble action.

**LIFE SURRENDERS
TO DEATH...LOVE
GIVES WAY TO
HEARTBREAK...**

**TSUGARU
YIELDS TO
NO ONE.**

**TSUGARU WAS
MINDLINKED TO
THE GREEN LADY.**

**THE GREEN LADY
WAS IN HELL...**

TSUGARU'S MIND WAS LINKED TO HELL.

TSUGARU
LOVED.

TSUGARU
LOST.



AND THEN... ONE NIGHT... IN HER MIND, ALONE...
PLUNGED INTO DREAMS OF DARKNESS AND GRIEF...

TSUGARU SAW THE
DARK DOORWAY...
THE MINDLINK.

IT LED TO HELL..
TO THE GREEN LADY...
SHE MUST NOT OPEN IT.

IT LED TO HIM.
SHE OPENED IT.



So...Tsugu dreams...and sends her mind to hell...
How did she become...that thing she is now?

GIVEN YOUR TYPE...IF I MAY...
PERHAPS YOU CAN ANSWER THAT?



It's...

...a good
theory...
Skids.



**NOT A
THEORY!**

IT'S A HYPOTHESIS.
WE WILL HAVE TO TEST IT.
GATHER DATA, EXPERIMENT...

GRANTED, I HAVE NO IDEA HOW...



MAYBE I CAN GET DATA...

I'VE GOT A LIVE A/V FEED VIA
BURNOUT FROM A VOCALOID IN
A CRAZY ARMS DEALER'S TRAILER...

YEAH, I DON'T
GET IT, EITHER...

MAYBE TSUGU'S 'MASTER'
WILL LET SOMETHING SLIP
THAT WE CAN USE TO HELP-

-IF WE CAN, EVEN.
I WISH WE KNEW IF
WE WERE ON THE
RIGHT TRACK-

SIDESWIPE.



WHO-?

DON'T.

I SHOULDN'T
EVEN HAVE
TOLD YOU
HIS NAME...

...BUT I'VE
SEEN TOO
MUCH TO
KEEP QUIET...

HIS NAME WAS
SIDESWIPE.

HE LOVED HER,
SHADOWDRAGON.

DO THE RIGHT THING.



AH, FRIEND BURNOUT!

I SEE YOU'VE BEEN BRIEFED...

WE AREN'T FRIENDS,
BY A LONG STRETCH!
YOU WILL BE HEARING
FROM MY LAWYER.

NOT FRIENDS?
'TIS A SHAME...

...AND JUST WHEN I'M EMBARKIN' ON A MISSION
ABSOLUTELY REQUIRIN' OF YOUR VAST INTELLIGENCE,
UNIQUE RESOURCES, AND SPECIAL SKILLS...

WELL...

I GUESS I COULD
PUT THIS >OOF<
ONE INCIDENT...
...BEHIND ME...




GOOD DAY,
FRIENDS...
WHATEVER
THAT DAY
MAY BE IN
YOUR LOCAL
SPACETIME
CONTINUUM.

SHADOWDRAGON

LET ME BEGIN OUR
CONFERENCE BY THANKING
EACH ONE OF YOU.

A MULTI-UNIVERSE,
CROSS-TIME ALLIANCE
ISN'T SOMETHING WE
SEE EVERY DAY.

I AM SHADOWDRAGON.
SOME OF US HAVE WORKED
TOGETHER IN THE PAST...



TIME FLIES, DOESN'T IT?

YES, FALLDOWN...
CONGRATULATIONS.

IT'S BEEN A GOOD
TWENTY YEARS.

LET ME ALSO TAKE A
MOMENT, TO WELCOME...

**BACKUP
FALLDOWN**


SKNX-XX

OUR SPECIAL
'ELDRITCH'
CONSULTANTS...

CTHULHU!
WAKE UP!

**GUEST1
GUEST2**

SLEEPING AT
A MEETING IS
NOT FLOOFY!



THANK YOU,
PEACOCK MAN.


THAT CAN NOT
GRIPE WHICH
DID THE LOG
BOOK SIGN.

SHADOWDRAGON

TWENTY YEARS AGO, FOR
SOME OF YOU...CURRENTLY,
FOR OTHERS...THREE OF MY
EMPLOYEES INVOLVEDING
IN A SPACETIME ACCIDENT.

FOR TWO, THE OUTCOME
IS WAS DIFFICULT BUT
RELATIVELY ORDINARY...

BUT THE THIRD, THROUGH
MISCHANCE, ENCOUNTEREDING
SOMETHING TRULY BIZARRE.



I DID NOT ATTHEN THENREALIZE HOW BIZARRE...
BUT SEVERAL OF MY ACQUAINTANCES THENDID.
THEY THENRESOLVED TO SAVE MY EMPLOYEE...

THEY WERE DEFEATED.
ALL ARE TRAPPED, AND
MOST ARE LIKELY DEAD...
OR EVEN WORSE.

WE ARE WILL MEETING THISDAY
TO CONTINUE THEIR MISSION.
THE MOST PROBABLE OUTCOME
IS WAS TO SHARE THEIR FATE.

FILE PHOTO

IF THIS TROUBLEING ANYONE,
YOU MAY FREELY LEAVE YOURNOW.

WJ_NEXUS



RELAX,
SHADOW.
WE KNOW
THE DRILL.

SOME SAY 'DOOM',
WE SAY 'PRIME'!

DOOMPRIIME
AND FRIENDS



I ALWAYS WANTED
TO BE A HEERO...

Halcon
Fenix


I THOUGHT HALCONFENIX
WAS HELPING US WITH
THE NETWORK STUFF...

WHY DOES
HE HAVE A
GUNDAM?

I WANT A
GUNDAM!



AUTOBOT
BURN - THIS THING'S ON, ISN'T IT?



GREAT!

THE REST ARE WERE
IN AGREEMENT?
IF NOT, LEAVE.

...OKAY. STRARF?



STRARF

Right.

Hi. I'm
Strarf.
You're
expendable.

What you are
about to see
is megaparsecs
above top
secret.



STRARF

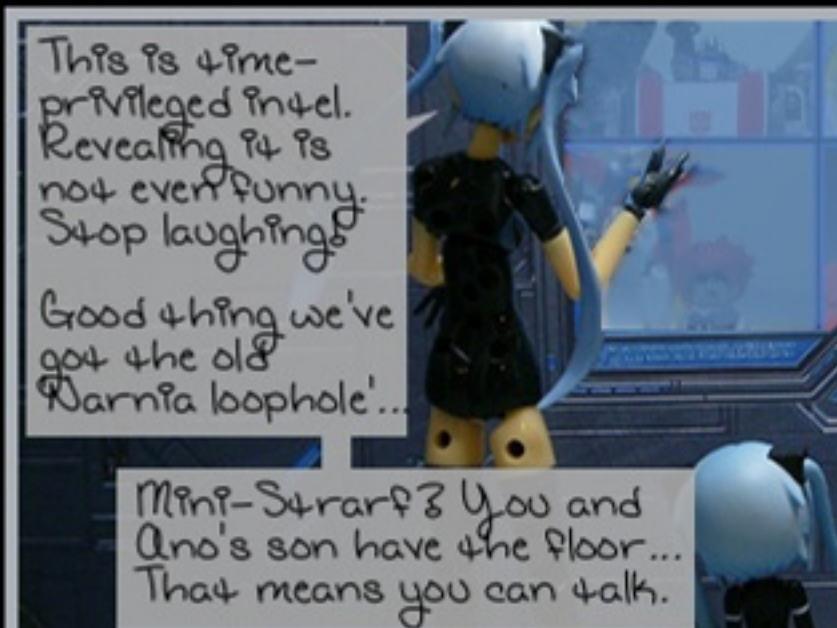
It is also not
what you're
currently
looking at,
Halconfenix.

I WASN'T
LOOKING!

Oh? So they're
ugly, is that it?

NO! NO!
NOT THAT
I WOULD
KNOW!

I'm watching
you, punk.



This is time-
privileged intel.
Revealing it is
not even funny.
Stop laughing.

Good thing we've
got the old
Narnia loophole'...

Mini-Strarf? You and
Aino's son have the floor...
That means you can talk.

MS. SANTA
HAD A VERY
SPECIAL
FRIEND.

MY SISTER SAYS HIS
NAME WAS SIDESWIPE.

HEY SIDESWIPE! REMEMBER THAT
OTHER SIDESWIPE YOU MET?*

SILVER SKATER, SWORDS,
HAD A THING FOR A CUTE
PSYCHO NAMED TSUGARU?

YEAH, THAT ONE...




CALLING:
**SWIPER N@
ALTERNITY
SC-0610**

alt. PRONHO sub-etha systems

*READ IT!
→ ad Transformers:Nexus @ TFW2005.com - R

WELL I JUST GOT OUT OF A
MEETING WITH THE PSYCHO
CHICK'S BOSS!

WE NEED YOU TO TELL US
ALL YOU CAN REMEMBER
ABOUT BOTH OF THEM...



MS. SANTA
WAS SAD...

...BUT SHE WASN'T
SCARED, SO SHE WENT...




THAT
PICTURE...

I KNOW.

WHAT HAPPENED
TO HER, FALLDOWN?

SHADOW
WASN'T
SURE...

IF HE CAN FIND OUT...
MAYBE WE CAN SAVE HER.



MY MOM SAID THEY
WERE GOING TO
TRY TO SAVE HER
AND SIDESWIPE...

SHE SAID THEY'D
COME BACK BY
CHRISTMAS, BUT...
...THEY COULDN'T.

THOSE POOR
LARVAE...

THEIR TALE
WAS MOST
UN-FLOOFY...

I'VE NEVER TAKEN MUCH HEED
IN THE TRIVIAL AFFAIRS OF
PUNY MORTALS, UNTIL...UNTIL...




NN-≡WAAAAAAH!≡



NO, THULS!
YOUR TEARS
WILL FREEZE
IN YUGGOTH'S
ICY BLASTS!

THINK FLOOFY
THOUGHTS!



THAT WAS
BRAVE, SON.
YOU WERE A
REAL HERO
UP THERE.

THANKS,
DAD...


STRARF'S
GONNA KILL ME.

STRARF'S
GONNA KILL ME.

STRARF'S
GONNA KILL ME.

STRARF'S
GONNA KILL ME.


STRARF'S
GONNA KILL ME.



A FINE PRESENTATION
YA WROTE, BURNOUT.
WE'RE CERTAIN T'GET
MORE ALLIES FROM IT.

EVEN THE BEST CAUSE
NEEDS A SALESMAN...
SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

YOU'RE GOING TO CALL THAT VOCALOID KID
AND LISTEN IN ON WHAT'S OUTSIDE THE TRAILER...



...AND I'M GOING TO
CATCH THIS FISH!

UM...

IS THAT...REALLY
IMPORTANT...
RIGHT NOW?

I SAY
IT IS.

NOW GET LOST AND GET ON THE
LINE...UNLESS YOU WANT TO SEE
YOURSELF ON THE HOOK.



TIME
TO GO!

PREPARE THE
TRANSPORTS,
RAPTIAS.

DON'T FORGET
BURNOUT'S
ARMOR.

I'LL JOIN YOU
AFTER I LAND
THIS 'FISH'...


⇒THWIPP!⇐




HELLO
AGAIN,
BURNOUT!

YOU CAN
HAVE YOUR
BOAT BACK
NOW.

⇒DRIBBLE⇐



BUT NOT
YOUR WAL-
STREET
JOURNALS.
HAD TO
DEEP-SIX
THOSE...



EVEN STEVEN, I GUESS,
FOR THE TRAILER TO THE HEAD...
I'M NOT THE TYPE TO HOLD A GRUDGE.

I HOPE YOU
ENJOYED YOUR
WATERY VACATION...

..AND, IN THE FUTURE, I'M SURE
YOU WILL AVOID TALKING TO
STRANGE MERMAIDS...

I MUST REMEMBER
TO THANK MY
DEAR IANEIRA...



CATCH YA
EARLIER,
BURNS!

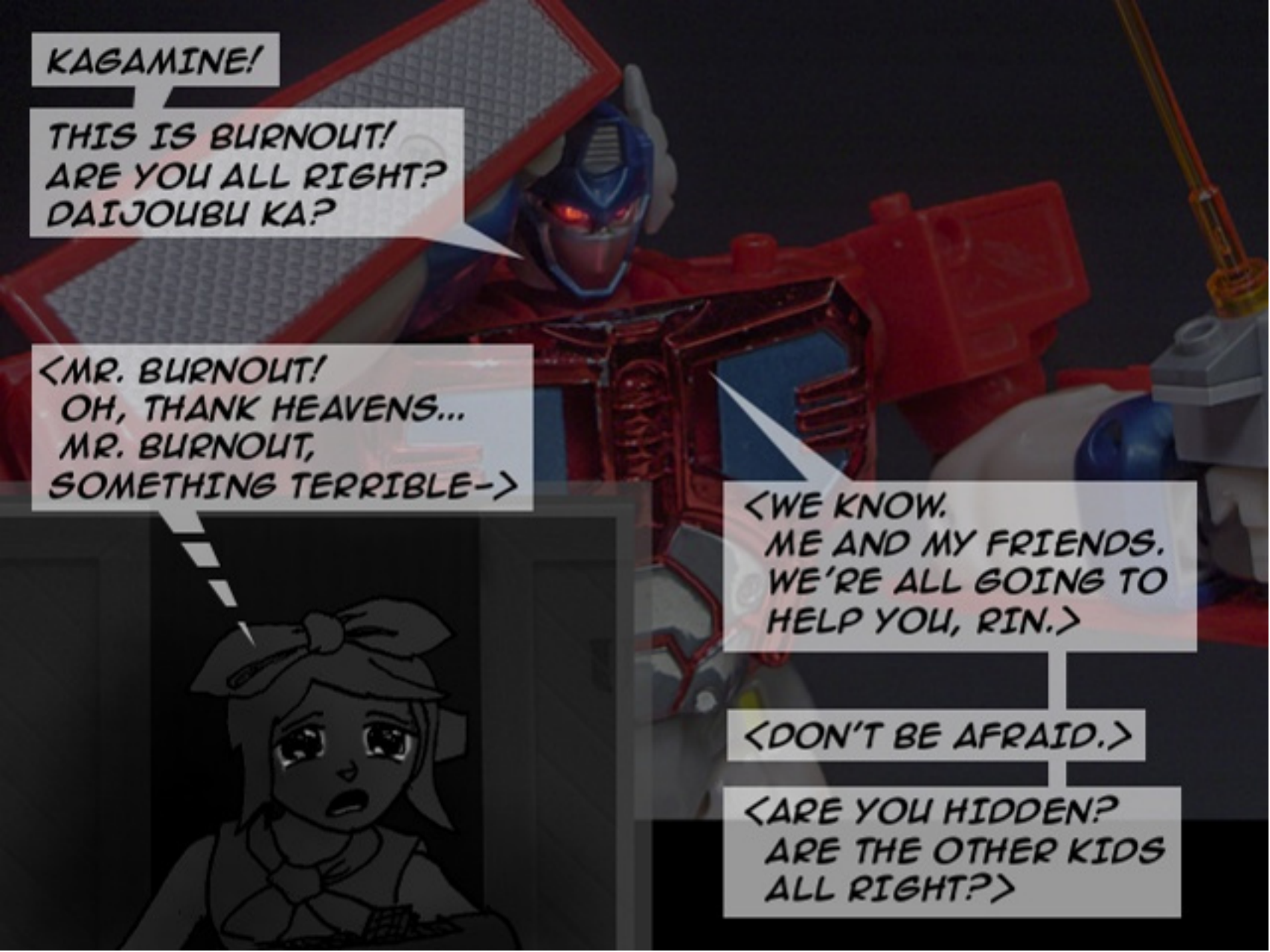
⇒BWINGG!⇐

⇒WHIFF!⇐

PRETTY SWEET BOAT, THIS...
I'LL HAVE TO GET ONE JUST LIKE IT,
SOMEDAY-

-WHAT WAS
THAT SPLASH?





KAGAMINE!

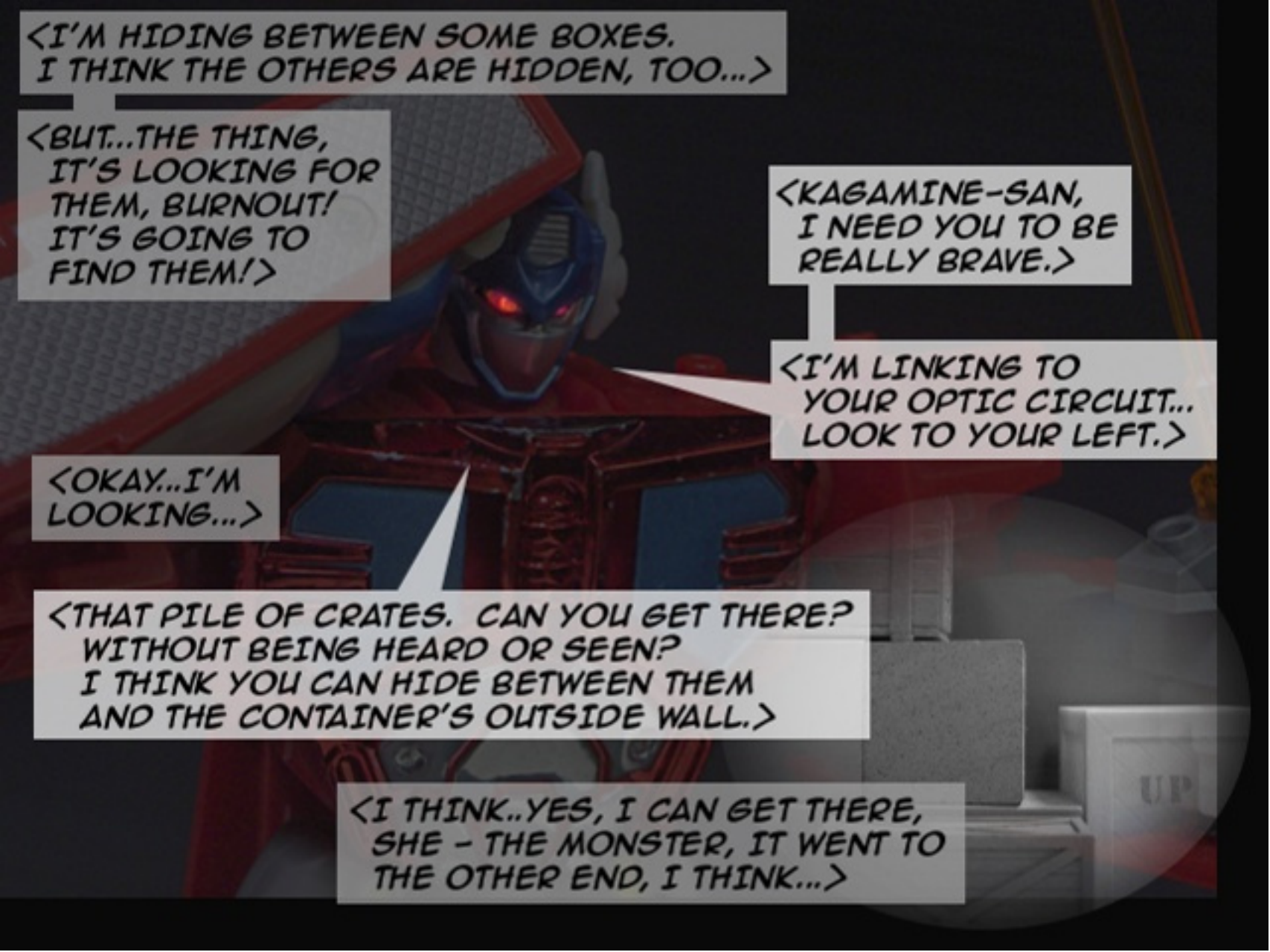
THIS IS BURNOUT!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
DAIJOUBU KA?

<MR. BURNOUT!
OH, THANK HEAVENS...
MR. BURNOUT,
SOMETHING TERRIBLE->

<WE KNOW.
ME AND MY FRIENDS.
WE'RE ALL GOING TO
HELP YOU, RIN.>

<DON'T BE AFRAID.>

<ARE YOU HIDDEN?
ARE THE OTHER KIDS
ALL RIGHT?>

A red and blue mecha with glowing red eyes is positioned in the center of the frame. It is surrounded by various objects in a warehouse-like setting, including a large white box with the word 'UP' on it to the right, and several grey crates or boxes in the background. The mecha's body is primarily red with blue accents on its head and chest. Its eyes are glowing red, and it has a serious expression. The background is dark and industrial, with some structural elements visible.

<I'M HIDING BETWEEN SOME BOXES.
I THINK THE OTHERS ARE HIDDEN, TOO...>

<BUT...THE THING,
IT'S LOOKING FOR
THEM, BURNOUT!
IT'S GOING TO
FIND THEM!>

<KAGAMINE-SAN,
I NEED YOU TO BE
REALLY BRAVE.>

<I'M LINKING TO
YOUR OPTIC CIRCUIT...
LOOK TO YOUR LEFT.>

<OKAY...I'M
LOOKING...>

<THAT PILE OF CRATES. CAN YOU GET THERE?
WITHOUT BEING HEARD OR SEEN?
I THINK YOU CAN HIDE BETWEEN THEM
AND THE CONTAINER'S OUTSIDE WALL.>

<I THINK..YES, I CAN GET THERE,
SHE - THE MONSTER, IT WENT TO
THE OTHER END, I THINK...>

<OKAY. GO THERE AND PUT YOUR EAR TO THE WALL.
WE NEED TO HEAR WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE.>

<I CAN'T DO THAT!
THERE'S A HORRIBLE SCARY THING OUT THERE!
PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME LISTEN TO IT!>

<IT'S...OKAY, RIN. STAY QUIET.
I CAN LISTEN TO IT FOR YOU.>



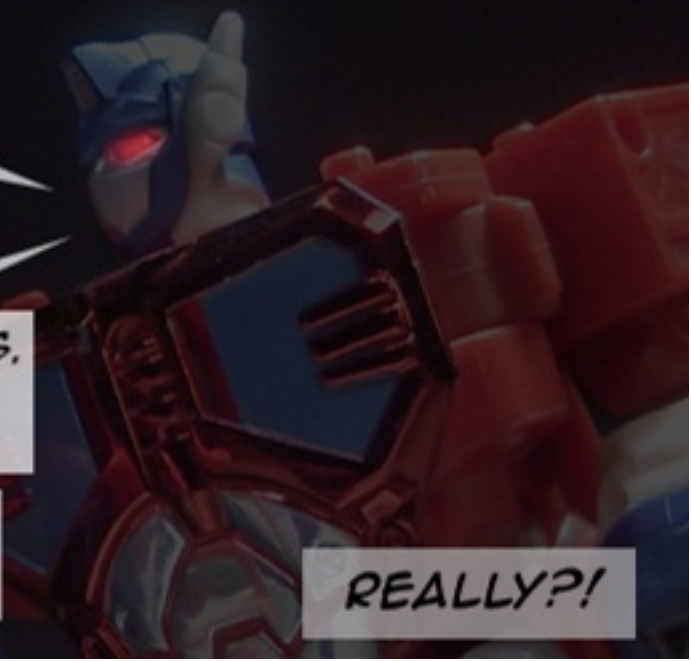
<I'LL TRANSMIT A STORY. YOU CAN
CONCENTRATE ON THAT, AND YOU'LL
HARDLY HEAR WHAT'S OUTSIDE.>

<IS IT NICE?>

<YES. IT'S GOT A HAPPY ENDING.
AND IT'S A TRUE STORY, TOO.
MY FRIENDS ARE ALL IN IT.>

<ONE OF THEM COULD ALMOST
BE YOUR OLDER SISTER.>

REALLY?!

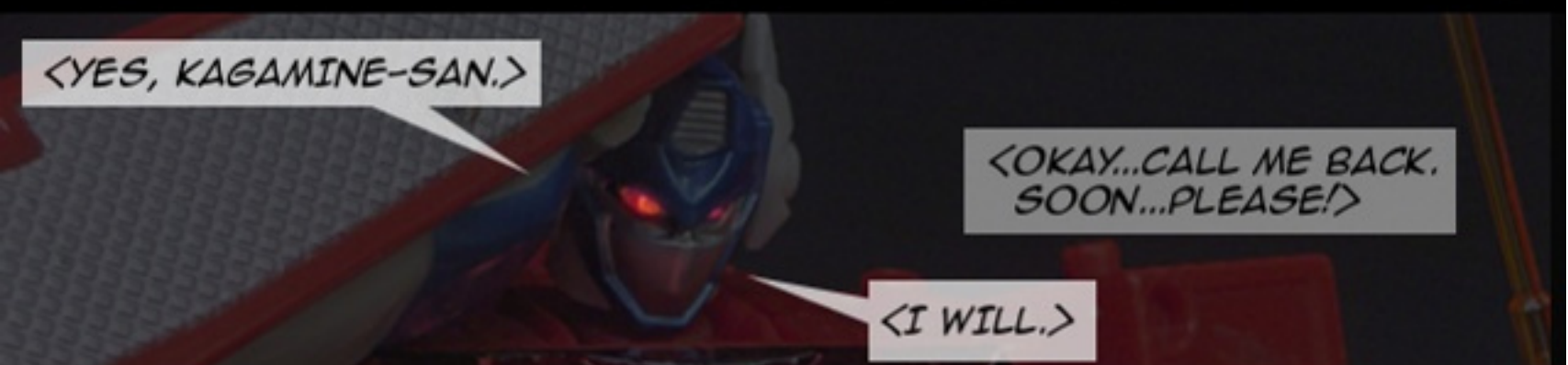




THE STORY'S CALLED
ROBOT OF MIRACLES...

<OKAY...OKAY, BURNOUT...
I CAN DO IT...THEY NEED
ME TO DO IT, RIGHT?>


*AND YOU CAN READ IT, TOO, IN
AUTOBOT BURNOUT'S FUNNIES
ON TFW2005 - ED.



<YES, KAGAMINE-SAN.>

<OKAY...CALL ME BACK,
SOON...PLEASE!>

<I WILL.>




⇒CLICK⇒

A close-up shot of a robot's head, primarily blue with red accents. The robot has a serious, determined expression with its eyes narrowed. It is holding a transparent, reddish-brown rectangular object in its hand. The background is dark and out of focus.

MATRIX!
LET HER
BE SAFE...


IF THE MONSTER FINDS HER...
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF.



GOOD JOB,
BURNOUT.
YOU GOT THE
VOCALOID.

YEAH, SHADOW.
I GOT RIN...

THIS IS BAD BUSINESS,
PUTTING KIDS IN DANGER.



CONSCIENCE,
SALESMAN?

MAYBE.

QUICK QUESTION.

WHOSE BOAT ARE YOU ON?

UH - IT'S YOUR BOAT.
I GUESS. OH, WAIT...
TRICK QUESTION...

YOU'RE A PIRATE,
SO YOU STOLE IT...
AND MY ALLEGIANCE
IMPLIES TACIT
APPROVAL OF THIS
ACTION, UNDERMINING
MY OWN MORAL
STANDING...

IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE
TRYING TO TELL ME?

ACTUALLY, NO.

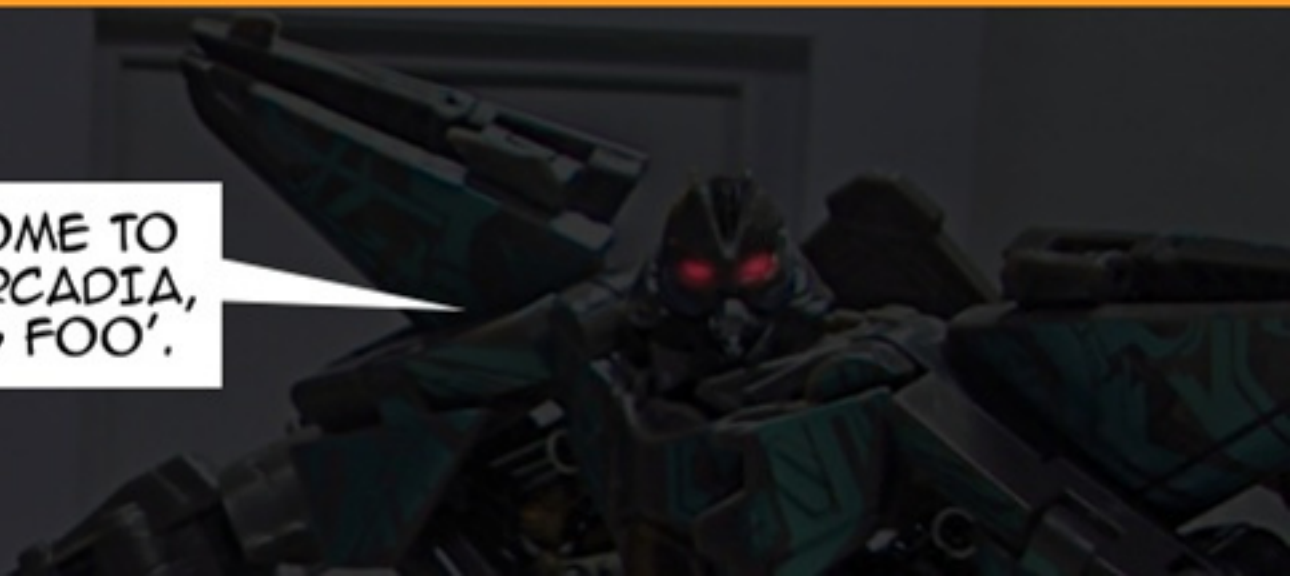
WE'VE GOT THE
RIGHT BURNOUT!

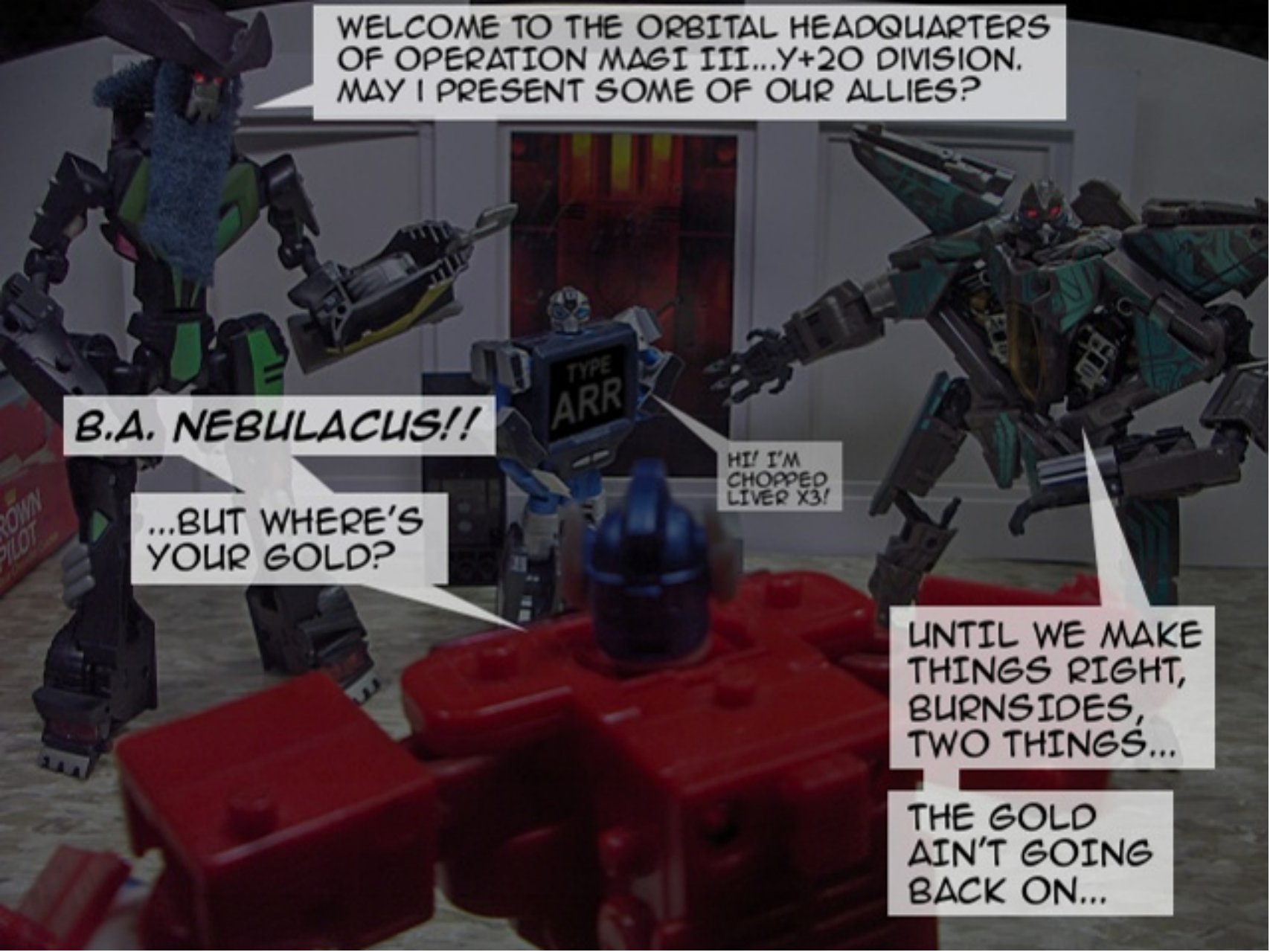
BEAM HIM UP, X3!



⇒BWINGG!⇐

WELCOME TO
THE ARCADIA,
SALES FOO'.





WELCOME TO THE ORBITAL HEADQUARTERS
OF OPERATION MAGI III...Y+20 DIVISION.
MAY I PRESENT SOME OF OUR ALLIES?

B.A. NEBULACUS!!

...BUT WHERE'S
YOUR GOLD?

TYPE
ARR

HI! I'M
CHOPPED
LIVER X3!

UNTIL WE MAKE
THINGS RIGHT,
BURNSIDES,
TWO THINGS...

THE GOLD
AIN'T GOING
BACK ON...

*"...AND THE CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS AIN'T COMING OFF!"*



WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT
THIS MISSION, BURNOUT...
AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT
ELSE I'M SERIOUS ABOUT?

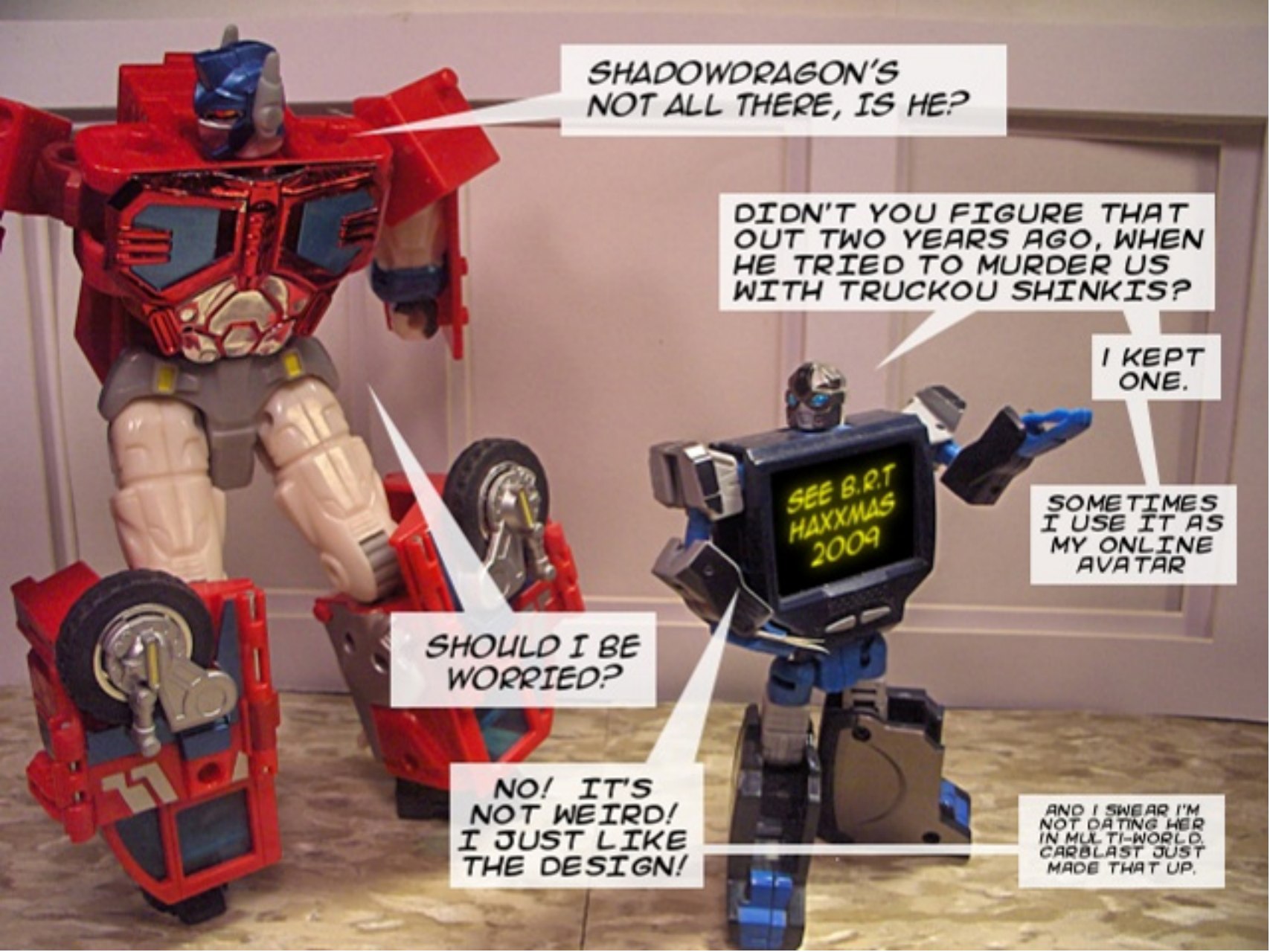
MR. T CEREAL.

IT'S JUST THAT GOOD.

NOW GO HAVE A BOWL
OR TWO, AND THEN HACKER
WILL TAKE YOU TO THE
BRIEFING ROOM.



LUCKY!
THEY
TOOK ME
TO THE
SWIRLY
CHAMBER.



SHADOWDRAGON'S
NOT ALL THERE, IS HE?

DIDN'T YOU FIGURE THAT
OUT TWO YEARS AGO, WHEN
HE TRIED TO MURDER US
WITH TRUCKOU SHINKIS?

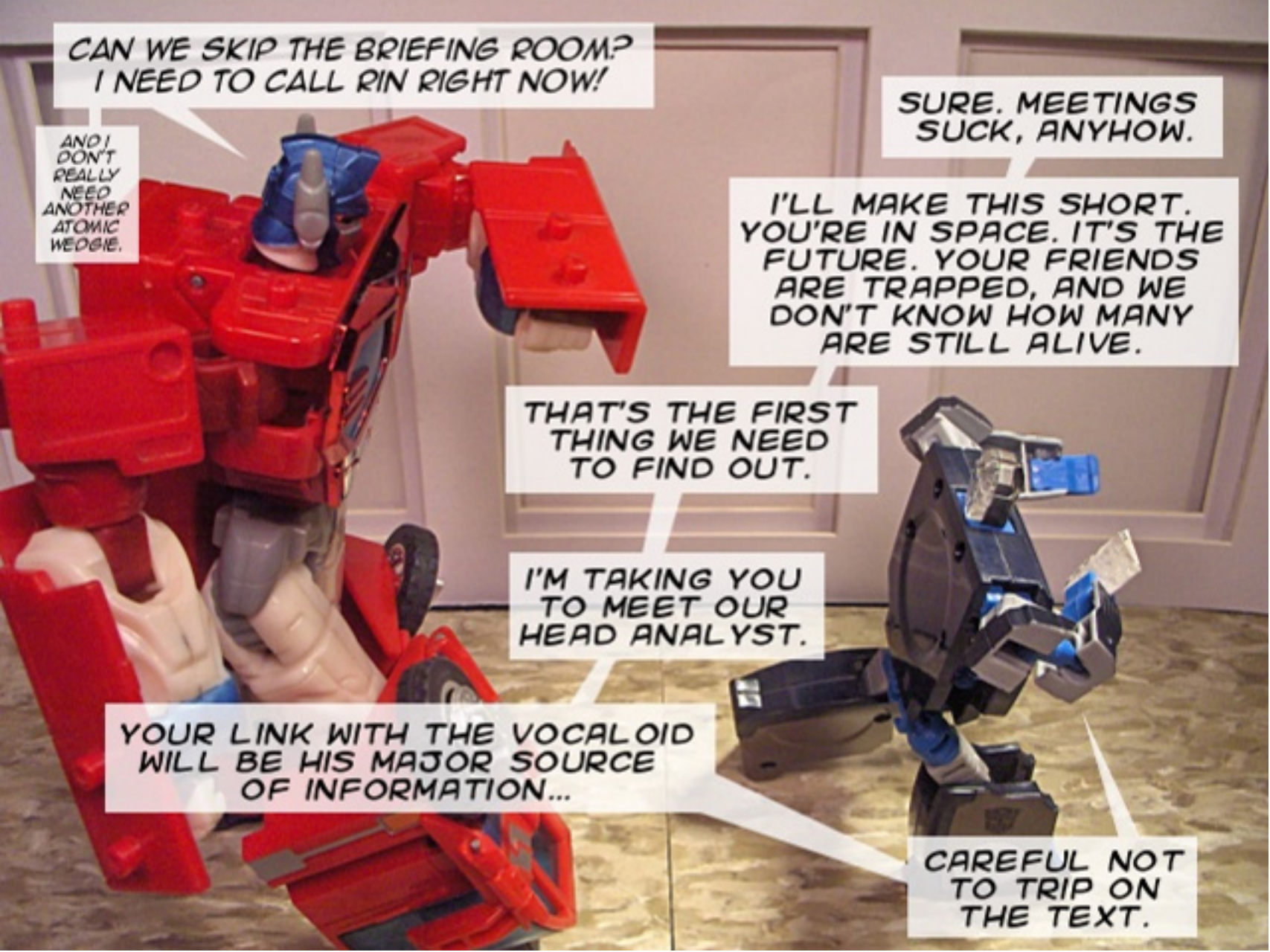
I KEPT
ONE.

SOMETIMES
I USE IT AS
MY ONLINE
AVATAR

SHOULD I BE
WORRIED?

NO! IT'S
NOT WEIRD!
I JUST LIKE
THE DESIGN!

AND I SWEAR I'M
NOT DATING HER
IN MULTI-WORLD.
CARBLAST JUST
MADE THAT UP.



CAN WE SKIP THE BRIEFING ROOM?
I NEED TO CALL RIN RIGHT NOW!

AND I
DON'T
REALLY
NEED
ANOTHER
ATOMIC
WEDGEIE.

SURE. MEETINGS
SUCK, ANYHOW.


I'LL MAKE THIS SHORT.
YOU'RE IN SPACE. IT'S THE
FUTURE. YOUR FRIENDS
ARE TRAPPED, AND WE
DON'T KNOW HOW MANY
ARE STILL ALIVE.

THAT'S THE FIRST
THING WE NEED
TO FIND OUT.

I'M TAKING YOU
TO MEET OUR
HEAD ANALYST.

YOUR LINK WITH THE VOCALOID
WILL BE HIS MAJOR SOURCE
OF INFORMATION...

CAREFUL NOT
TO TRIP ON
THE TEXT.



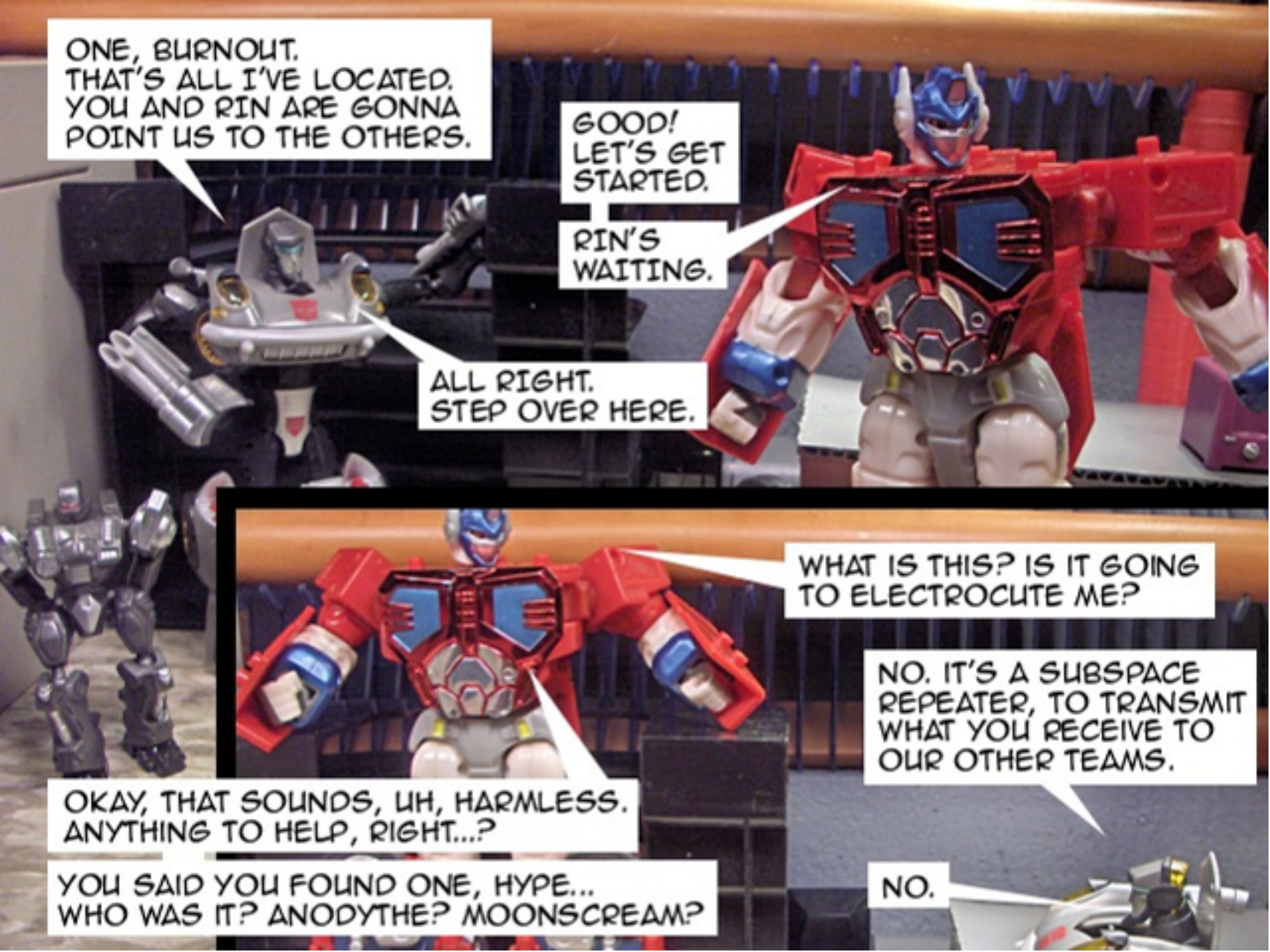
OUR ANALYST, MR. HYPE-1!
SOMETIMES PEOPLE DON'T
BELIEVE HIM, BUT THAT'S
THEIR LOSS...

MOS DEF, X-3.

HYPE!
WHAT'S UP?

NOTHING GOOD,
BURNOUT.

C'MON, LET'S GO
TO MY OFFICE...




ONE, BURNOUT.
THAT'S ALL I'VE LOCATED.
YOU AND RIN ARE GONNA
POINT US TO THE OTHERS.

GOOD!
LET'S GET
STARTED.

RIN'S
WAITING.

ALL RIGHT.
STEP OVER HERE.



WHAT IS THIS? IS IT GOING
TO ELECTROCUTE ME?

NO. IT'S A SUBSPACE
REPEATER, TO TRANSMIT
WHAT YOU RECEIVE TO
OUR OTHER TEAMS.

OKAY, THAT SOUNDS, UH, HARMLESS.
ANYTHING TO HELP, RIGHT...?

YOU SAID YOU FOUND ONE, HYPE...
WHO WAS IT? ANODYTHE? MOONSCREAM?

NO.


SHADOW GOT US A LEAD ON HOBBS
AND FINDIE, BUT IT DIDN'T PAN OUT.

WE KNOW THE KIDS WERE IN
THE TRAILER, BUT OUTSIDE OF THAT
THERE'S ONLY ONE I'VE DEF
PINNED DOWN...

THE ONE THAT'S
SPARKTIED TO
THAT TRAILER...

*ULTIMATE
OPTIMUS.*






MASTER HYPE, IS
ALL MADE READY?

IN A KLIK, SHADOW.
GOT TO TUNE THIS AMP
TO BURNOUT'S CIRCUITS.

ARR, INDEED! WOULDN'T
WANT HIS NAME TO BE
LITERAL, NOW WOULD WE?

LET CAP'N NEBULACUS
KNOW WHEN YE BE READY.
BACKUP AND FALLDOWN
ARE GOIN' OUT TO WEIGH
GRAVITATIONAL ANCHOR.

CAREFUL WITH
THE WINGS, DEAR.

A LEGO Star Wars scene featuring a pirate character with a long blue beard and a purple hat, and a droid character with a white and orange body. The pirate is speaking to the droid.

SMOOTH SAILIN' TO YE BOTH...
AND MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YE!

THANK
YOU, SIR.

FALLDOWN! YOUR
UPPER ENGINE PODS!
YOU FORGOT YOUR
TURBINES AGAIN!

HEH HEH..
AND YER BACKUP,
AS WELL...


A LEGO Star Wars scene featuring a pirate character with a long blue beard and a purple hat, and a droid character with a red and blue body. The pirate is speaking to the droid.

MASTER BURNOUT...

'TIS GOOD TO HAVE YE ABOARD.

ME AND EVERYONE ELSE...
HOW MANY HAVE WE GOT?

WE SHANGHAIED ENOUGH
T' FILL THREE CREWS...




IN THE PRESENT...WHERE YOU AND I OUGHTA' BE,
THAT'S Y-ZERO. SKIDS AND HALCONFENIX RUN IT.
'TIS THEM THAT'LL BE WORKIN' THE HACK
TO FREE OUR FRIENDS' MINDS...


...CONVERTIN' THIS
TO A RESCUE MISSION
THAT WE'LL CARRY OUT.

MEANTIME, WE'RE
FEEDIN'EM INTEL
FROM THE FUTURE.

IS THE THIRD TEAM IN THE PAST?
...THE PAST OF OUR PRESENT, I MEAN?




AYE.




DOOMPRIME'S CREW.
AMONG OTHER THINGS...
THEY'RE KEEPIN' US
CLEAR OF INTERFERENCE...
FROM VARIOUS GROUPS.

...FOR THIS BE PIRACY, LAD.
WE'VE DONE WHAT WE COULD
WITH LOOPHOLES AND SUCH,
BUT ON THE WHOLE, 'TIS
BREAKIN' MANY A LAW...




COULD COST YE THE BUSINESS...
OR A DANCE WITH MISTRESS ROPE!



I DON'T CARE...
THIS IS THE
RIGHT THING
TO DO...

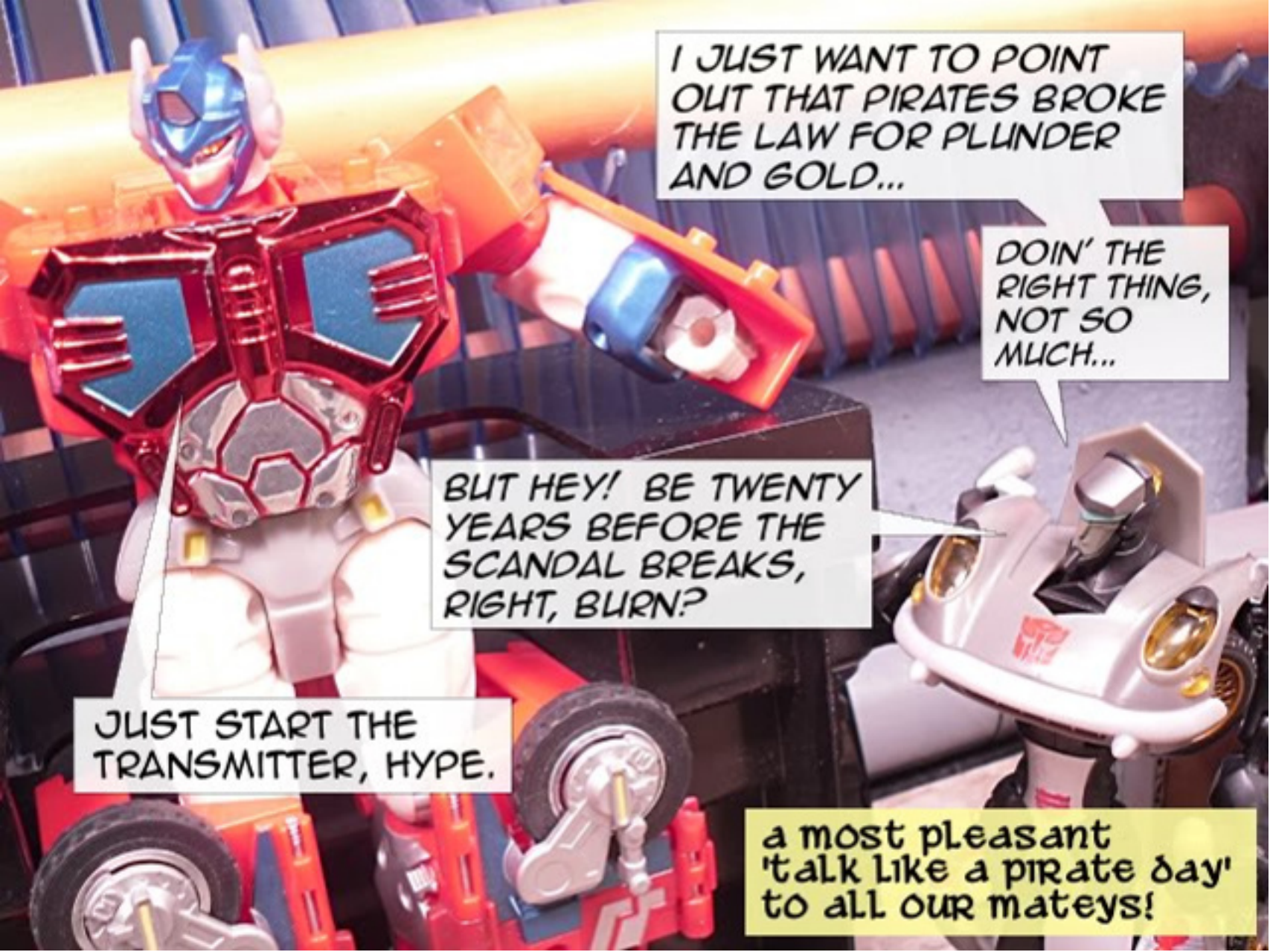
IF IT MEANS
I HAVE TO
BREAK THE
LAW, WELL...

*JUST HAND ME
A HAMMER!*



*HA! NOW YE BE
TALKIN' LIKE A PIRATE!*

GOOD DAY, CHAIRMAN BURNOUT,
MAY THE TRADES SPEED YE WELL!

A scene from a Transformers comic. On the left, Optimus Prime stands in his robot form, wearing his signature blue and red armor. He has a determined expression. On the right, a character in a white go-kart with yellow accents is visible. The go-kart has a red Autobot logo on its side. The background is a dark, industrial setting with orange and yellow lighting. Four speech bubbles contain dialogue between the characters.

I JUST WANT TO POINT
OUT THAT PIRATES BROKE
THE LAW FOR PLUNDER
AND GOLD...

DOIN' THE
RIGHT THING,
NOT SO
MUCH...

BUT HEY! BE TWENTY
YEARS BEFORE THE
SCANDAL BREAKS,
RIGHT, BURN?

JUST START THE
TRANSMITTER, HYPE.

a most pleasant
'talk like a pirate day'
to all our mateys!



NOT PRIME. NOT THE FIRST.
I AM ULTIMATE...

THE LAST.

LAST AMONG FRIENDS
WHO NOW LIE IN THEIR DUST

TO THE LAST THEY FOUGHT,
AND HERE THEIR ASHES FELL...
PALE, GRAY, AND GRIM...
THEIR LAST CHRISTMAS SNOW.

BUT IT IS NOT OVER.

NOT FOR THE
POOR CHILDREN...

AND I AM ULTIMATE OPTIMUS...
THEIR LAST DEFENDER.





SOME DEFENDER.


I CANNOT RISE. MY LEGS
HAVE BEEN SHATTERED.

I LIE AT THE MERCY
OF A TOWERING TERROR...

I LIE AS HE LAUGHS,
GLOATING OVER
MY SPARK...

I LIE...

AND MY ENEMY
DOES NOT KNOW THE TRUTH.



...FOR I COULD NOT SELL
THAT WHICH I DID NOT OWN.

MY SPARK-
THE TRAILER
OWNS A PART.

MORE OR
LESS, AS
NEEDED...

IT IS ME, YET
NOT MYSELF...

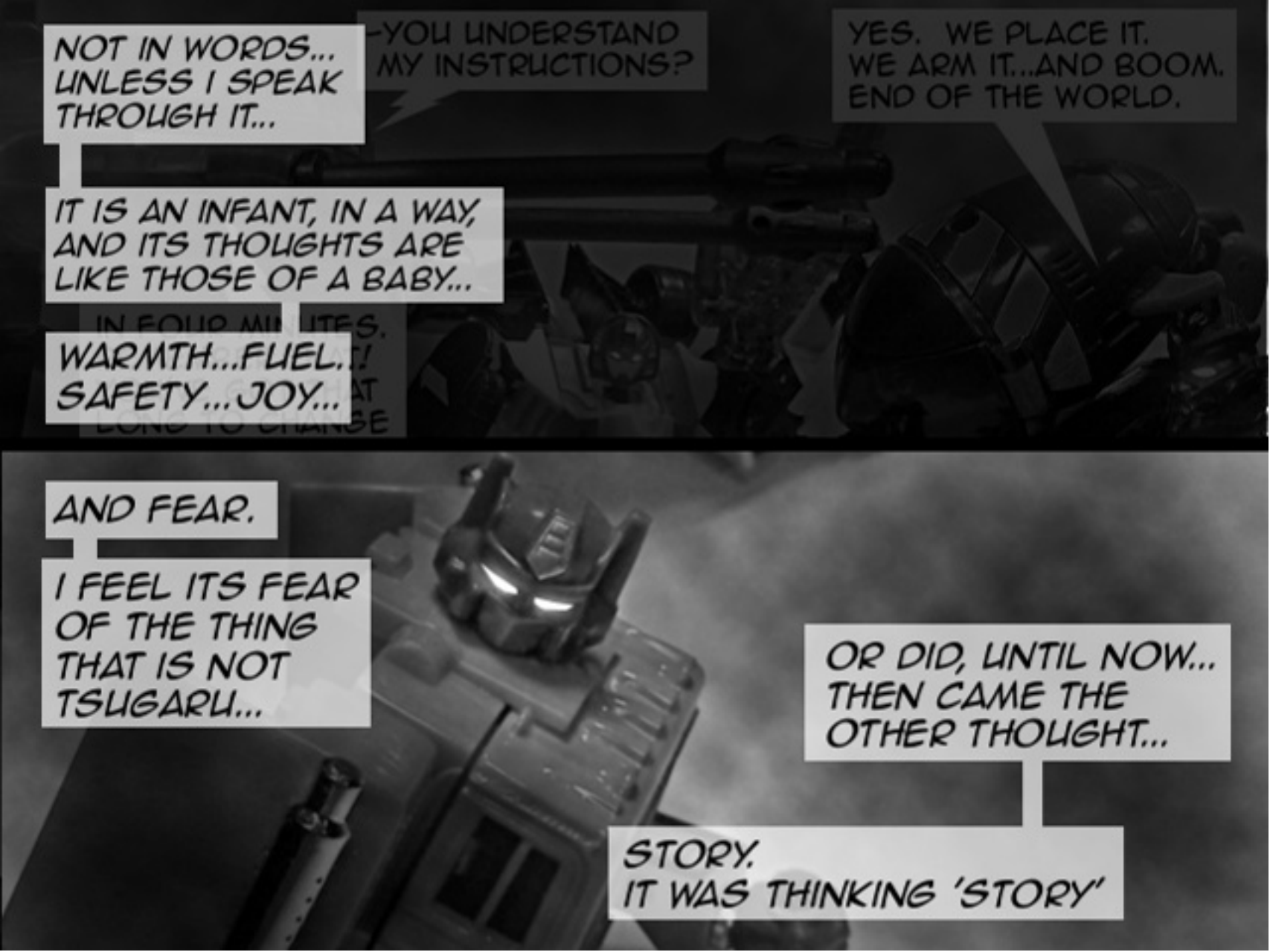
...AND THE DEMON DOES NOT OWN IT.

MY TRAILER IS ARMED...
BUT ITS GUNS CANNOT SAVE
THE CHILDREN WITHIN.

ANY MORE THAN ONE
CAN WILL A TOXIN TO
LEAVE HIS BODY...

BUT THE DEMON
DOES NOT KNOW
ITS SECRET.

NOR THAT IT
TALKS TO ME...



NOT IN WORDS...
UNLESS I SPEAK
THROUGH IT...

-YOU UNDERSTAND
MY INSTRUCTIONS?

YES. WE PLACE IT.
WE ARM IT...AND BOOM.
END OF THE WORLD.

IT IS AN INFANT, IN A WAY,
AND ITS THOUGHTS ARE
LIKE THOSE OF A BABY...

IN FOUR MINUTES.
WARMTH...FUEL...
SAFETY...JOY...
LONG TO CHANGE

AND FEAR.

I FEEL ITS FEAR
OF THE THING
THAT IS NOT
TSUGARU...

OR DID, UNTIL NOW...
THEN CAME THE
OTHER THOUGHT...

STORY.
IT WAS THINKING 'STORY'




I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IT MEANT BY THAT...
BUT IT GIVES ME AN IDEA...

THOUGH
I CAN NO
LONGER
DEFEND THE
CHILDREN...

PERHAPS IF I APPEAL TO
THIS FIEND'S ARROGANCE,
I CAN MAKE HIM TALK...

....AND FOR EVERY MINUTE I BUY,
SIX DAYS WILL PASS, OUTSIDE...

TIME FOR ULTIMATE OPTIMUS
TO TAKE THE DEVIL BY HIS TALE!



ALL RIGHT, BURN.
THE CROSSTIME
ETHALINK IS UP,
2.4 LOTTABITS
PER KLIK...

AND 'ROBOT OF
MIRACLES' IS
UPLOADING...



RIN'S IN POSITION.
I HEAR SOMEBODY
MOVING OUT THERE...

JUST ONE,
I THINK...

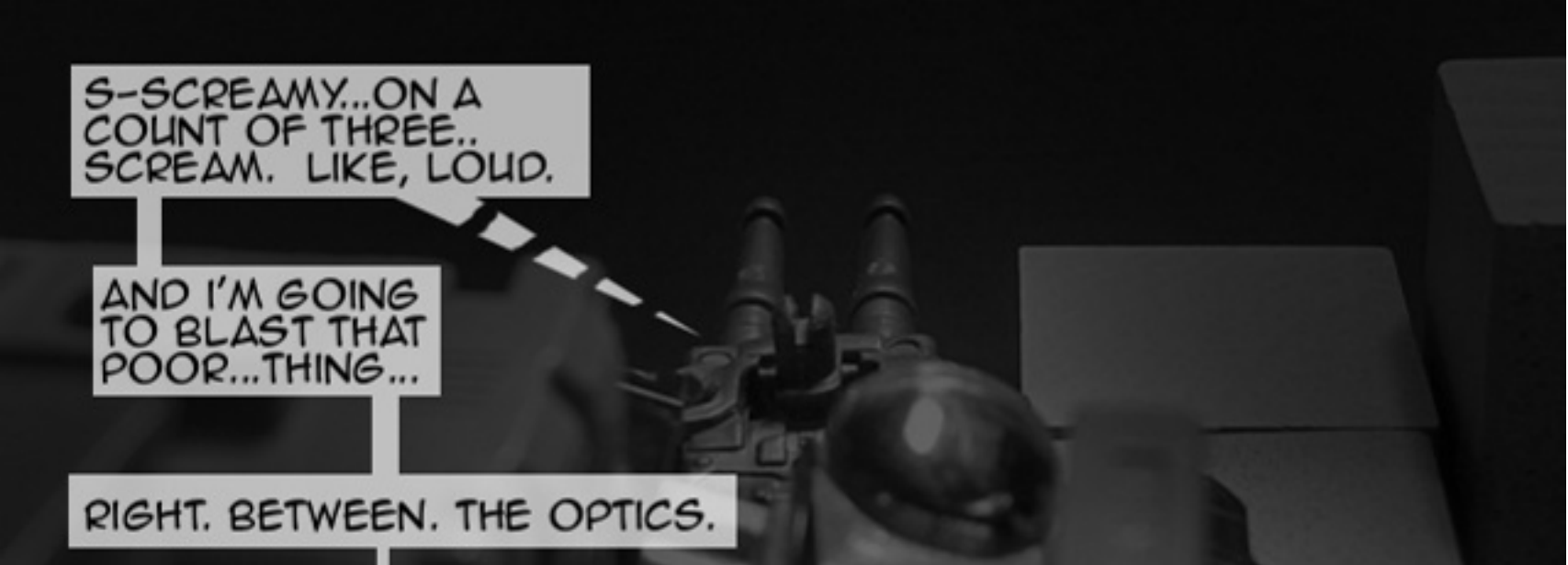
AND MOVEMENT INSIDE...
QUIET. MOVING AWAY...

MATRIX HELP THE KIDS!



IT'S COMING.

K-KEEP OFF
ACTIVE OPTICS,
SCREAMY...




S-SCREAMY...ON A
COUNT OF THREE..
SCREAM. LIKE, LOUD.

AND I'M GOING
TO BLAST THAT
POOR...THING...

RIGHT. BETWEEN. THE OPTICS.

ONE...



HEY! HEY!!
YOU GONNA
SHOO' SAN'A!


YOU GONNA
SHOO' SAN'A
DEAD!!



STOPPIT!

YOU CAN' KIRR SAN'A!
YOU CAN'!! YOU CAN'!!

SCREAMY! STOP!
IT'LL KNOW WE'RE HERE!



Santa sees you when you're sleeping
Santa knows when you're awake.
You've been a very good boy, Screamy.

AW, THAN' YOU, SAN'A!
PREASE DON' BE MAD A' HER.
SHE'S NO' SO BAD SOMETIMES...

YOU GO'A GUN! IS THA' FOR ME?

Yes.

Tee heeb

It's for you.

What should
her present be?


SHE WANSTA BE WI'
HER MOMMY AGAIN!
CAN YOU DO THA'?

HOORAY!!

OH..SCREAMY...

Yes.

You're a good boy, Screamy.
Can you tell me where the
other children are hiding?




I WISH I COULD TE' YOU, SAN'A,
BU...I CAN'T. CAUSE I CAN'T.

I GUESS I'S A BA' HE'PER.

Don't worry! Santa
knows a game that
will help us find them!

Santa says,
both hands up!

Now turn
and march!




HAHA! YOU
DIDN' SAY
SAN'A SAYS!

Teehee!
You're so clever.
Santa says,
turn and march...




NO MORE,
HYPE!
PLEASE!



IT'S YOUR MIND.
BREAK THE LINK...
BUT IF YOU DO...

...WE'LL NEVER LEARN
WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.
WE NEED YOU, BURN.

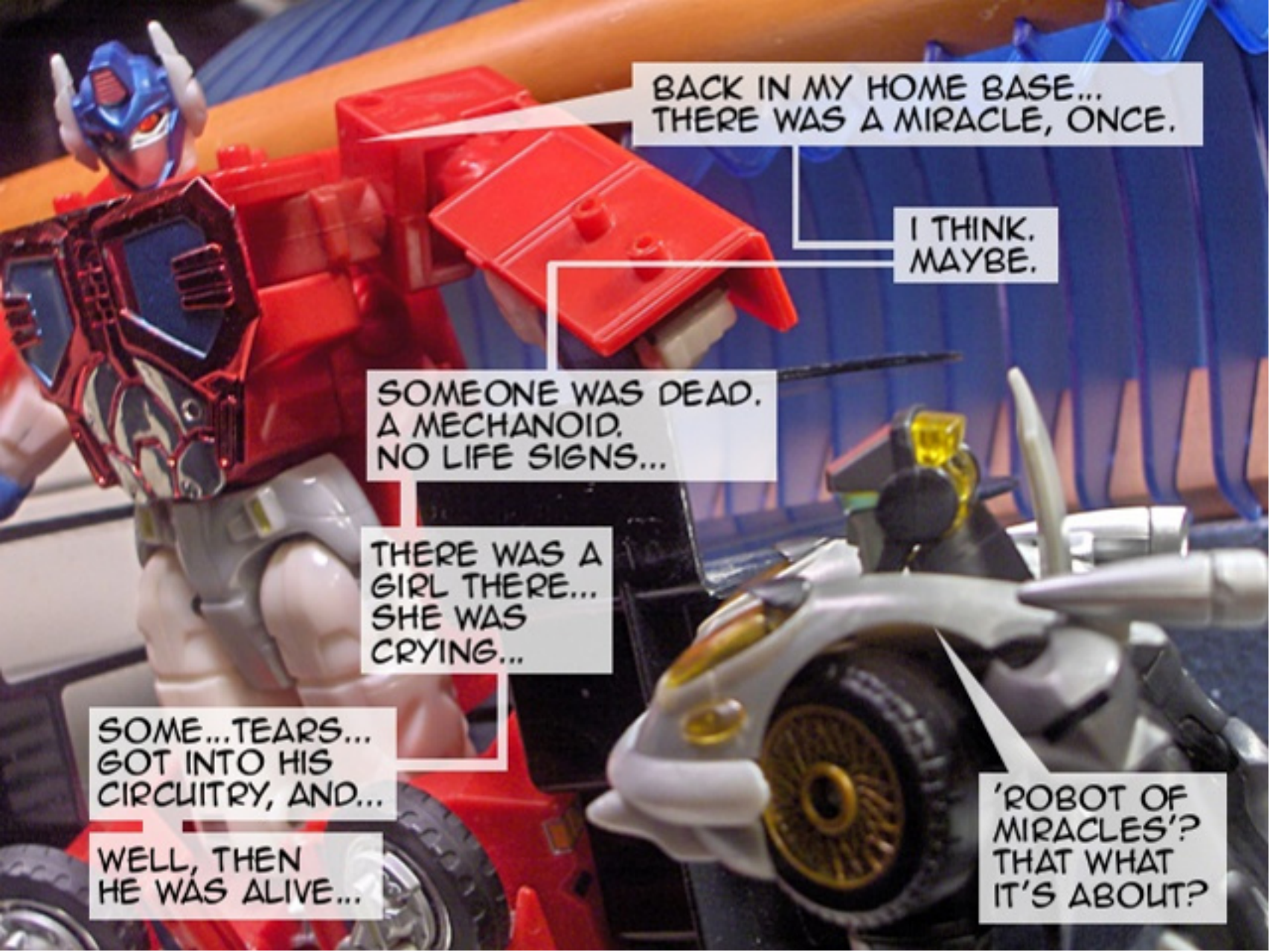
THEY NEED YOU,
KAGAMINE...THE TWINS...
AND ANYTHING THAT
MIGHT BE LEFT OF-



TSUGU.

I'M NOT AN ANALYST,
BUT WHAT I HEARD...JUST NOW...

...IT WOULD TAKE
A MIRACLE TO
REVERSE THAT.



BACK IN MY HOME BASE...
THERE WAS A MIRACLE, ONCE.

I THINK.
MAYBE.


SOMEONE WAS DEAD.
A MECHANOID.
NO LIFE SIGNS...

THERE WAS A
GIRL THERE...
SHE WAS
CRYING...

SOME...TEARS...
GOT INTO HIS
CIRCUITRY, AND...

WELL, THEN
HE WAS ALIVE...

'ROBOT OF
MIRACLES'?
THAT WHAT
IT'S ABOUT?

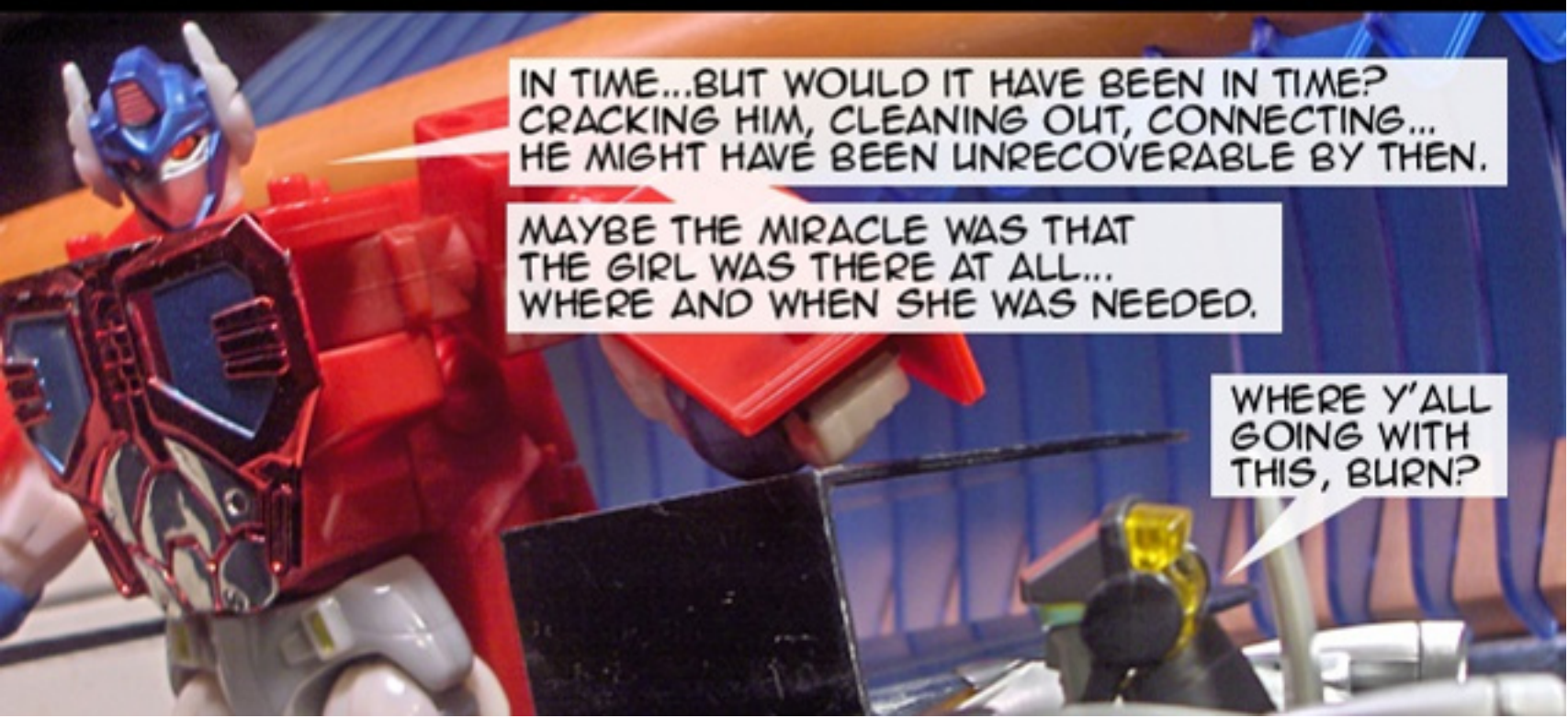


IN PART.

A LITTLE CORNY, I GUESS.
BUT...IT HAPPENED.

ELECTROLYTES, MAYBE
SHORTED SOMETHING...
JOLTED SOMETHING...

A BOOSTER CAP
IN TIME...MIGHT HAVE
DONE THE SAME...



IN TIME...BUT WOULD IT HAVE BEEN IN TIME?
CRACKING HIM, CLEANING OUT, CONNECTING...
HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN UNRECOVERABLE BY THEN.

MAYBE THE MIRACLE WAS THAT
THE GIRL WAS THERE AT ALL...
WHERE AND WHEN SHE WAS NEEDED.

WHERE Y'ALL
GOING WITH
THIS, BURN?



HEH. I GUESS I'M REACHING...
TRYING TO KNOCK DOWN SOME
HOPE OFF THE SHELF...
IS THERE ANY UP THERE?

WHERE THERE'S
LIFE, THERE'S HOPE...

BUT, BESIDES
THE KIDS...
WE DON'T KNOW
WHO IS ALIVE...

'MAYBE NOT, BURN...
BUT LET'S NOT
WRITE 'EM OFF...

'ANY OF 'EM.'

⇒CLINK⇒

⇒SSIP⇒

⇒BELLCH!⇒

WAZZAYOU,
MOOSEGREEN?

VALHALLA
Bar & Grill

Mead & Boasting
Every Odin's Day

VALHALLA
Bar & Grill

Honk if You
Love Baldor

THASNOMYNAME!
MY NAME IS
MMMOOSEGREEN.

SCUSEM.

SARIGHT.

LISSEN, ANODIZE.
IBEEN FFFFFINKIN...

MOOSEGREEN,
YOU'RE NO 'BEN'
FFFFFRANKLIN.
I KNOW THA' GUY.

VALHALLA
Bar & Grill
Mead & Boasting
Every Odin's Day


VALHALLA
Bar & Grill
Honk if You
Love Baldor

O' COURSE IM NO BEN FFFFFRANKLIN!
HE DIDDA LIGHTNING AN STUFF.
I DON' DO LIGHTNING, I DO THUNDER.

HUH?

NEM MIND.

NOW STO' BEIN DRUNK,
CUZ I BEEN THHHHH.INK.ING.




ANODIZZZHE, WE
GOTTA'HELPA'KIDZ!

YEAH, I KNO!
BUUU.....

...WECANND.
CLUZWER'DEAD.

YEAH...
DEAD.

GHOSSHESH.
INCORPORLBBLE.



YEAH. BU' SEE...
TS-TSH-SHUGARGH...

SHE WASNO IN
HERBODY RIGH'?
TSHURGUR WAS
DREAMM.ING.

DIDN'SHTOPPER F'MKIKKINBUDDT!

SHO LET'SSH RETRASSHER SHTEPS!
GO OLUDDERE ANFINNAT DOOR, ANNEN
FINNA KIDSSH ANNEN KICKBUTT!

UH...

YOU SHERIOUSH?
JUM' THRU THA' GRAVE
THING, AN' BAGDOOR
OUR WAY TO'A' KIDSSH,
...THROUGH **HHELL?**!

YA!



Mead & Boasting
Every

Hon
Love

DESEPPICONSHH
FOREVAAAAAAH!



CRASH!



Bar & Grill
Mead & Boasting

**BARSHKEEP!
CHECK PLEASH!**

Bar & Grill
Honk if You
Love Baldor

**WHICH ONE
A THEM IZZA
BARKEEP?**




NOPE...

IT'S US...OR IT'S NOBODY AT ALL.

**YOU'RE RIGHT, HYPE.
RESUME THE TRANSMISSION.**


ROBOT OF MIRACLES...
CHAPTER ONE...



I LISTEN.

I HEAR CREAKING,
GRATING METAL...

I'M NOT SCARED.
BEING SCARED IS
FOR BABIES.




I STRUGGLE TO MY KNEES.
I TRY TO SPEAK, BUT I FIND
I CAN NOT.

I THINK OF THE DAYS EVERY
MINUTE WILL BUY THEM...
AND THE WORDS COME.



WHY HESITATE, DEMON?
WHY WAIT SO LONG TO END US?

DID YOUR LEGIONS FAIL TO FIGURE
THE ODDS IN YOUR FAVOR? OR WAS
COURAGE AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY?



HA! HA! YES, JUST AS MY PUPPET SAID!
'COURAGE AND LOVE...WHAT DOES A
CALCULATING MACHINE KNOW OF THOSE?'

THAT WAS HIM, SAYING THAT.
HE REALLY THOUGHT YOU
COULD WIN...

I LET HIM. IT MADE HIM
EASIER TO CONTROL.

...BUT THANK YOU,
ULTIMATE OPTIMUS,
FOR THE REMINDER...
BECAUSE NOW I CAN
ANSWER HIS QUESTION.



THE ANSWER IS...EVERYTHING,
BECAUSE THE ANSWER IS...NOTHING!

MY LEGIONS HAVE
MINED MANY MINDS...
THEY HAVE FOUND
NEITHER LOVE NOR
COURAGE THEREIN...

THEY FIND FEAR OF
DEATH, FEAR OF LONELINESS.

THEY FIND DESIRE FOR
PLEASURE AND ACCLAIM.
THAT'S ALL YOUR PRECIOUS
LOVE AND COURAGE ARE.

ORGANIC, METALLIC, OTHERWISE...
YOU ARE ALL COMPUTING MACHINES,
PROGRAMMED FOR SELF-PRESERVATION.
YOU ARE NO MORE THAN MY LEGION...



THE HEART IS A
CHEMICAL PUMP...
NOTHING MORE.


OH
HO!

NOW IT ALL COMES OUT.
THAT'S WHY YOU HAD TO
KILL ALL MY FRIENDS.
THAT'S WHY YOU HAD TO
DESTROY TSUGARU...

WE MESSSED UP YOUR
PRECIOUS CALCULATIONS!


HA! HAHHAH!

TSUGARU--!



Masterb

I found two
of the kids!
Should we
get started?



HUH...?

...NO, NOT YET.
WAIT A BIT...

-ULTIMATE OPTIMUS,
I KNOW TSUGARU'S
WHOLE STORY...

IT'S VERY FUNNY.
I LAUGHED.

YOU COULD USE A LAUGH.
SIT BACK, I'LL TELL YOU
ALL ABOUT IT...



**YOU BETRAY YOUR
IGNORANCE,
MASTER OF LIES!**

**IF YOU CAN NOT
UNDERSTAND LOVE...**

**...THEN YOU DO
NOT UNDERSTAND
TSUGARU!**



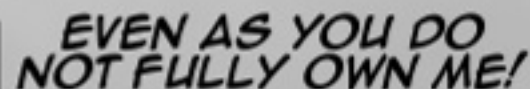
**SHALL SHE KILL
ONE, AS PROOF?**

**WOULD YOU PREFER
THE BOY, OR THE GIRL?**


**YOUR CONTROL
PROVES NOTHING!**

**HOW CAN YOU TAKE
WHAT YOU CANNOT GRASP?**

**YOU DO NOT FULLY
OWN HER, DEMON!**



**EVEN AS YOU DO
NOT FULLY OWN ME!**




PART OF YOU?
...MEANING YOUR
COURAGE, I
SUPPOSE...

YOU'RE
SAYING IT.

...SINCE COURAGE IS
A THING I DO NOT
UNDERSTAND?

YOU SAID THAT AS WELL!

I SAID THERE WAS NOTHING TO UNDERSTAND.



I KNOW WHAT YOUR COURAGE
REALLY IS, NON-PLAYER.

I DON'T EVEN NEED
MY LEGION TO DIG
THAT OUT OF YOU.

YOU ARE AFRAID,
NON-PLAYER.



**PROVE IT.
TEAR ME APART.
FIND THE FEAR!**

**LEAVE MY VOICE FOR LAST,
SO I CAN LAUGH IN YOUR FACE,
WHEN YOU LEARN I FEAR NOTHING!**


HA! HA! HA!

**YES, YOU FEAR NOTHING.
YOU FEAR IT VERY MUCH.**

YOU HAVE NO FEAR OF BATTLE...

**...THAT IS THE
PLACE WHERE
HEROES ARE
MADE...**

**YOU DO NOT FEAR DEATH, IF YOUR
END IS WORTH REMEMBERING...
BUT WHAT IF IT WEREN'T?**




AN IGNOBLE END, FORGOTTEN BY ALL...
THAT IS YOUR GREATEST FEAR!
WHEN YOU RAN INTO BATTLE, YOU
WERE ONLY RUNNING AWAY FROM THAT!

YOU'D THROW AWAY YOUR LIFE
TO SAVE THOSE CHILDREN...
BUT IT'S COMPLETELY SELFISH.

IF THEY LIVE, YOU WILL
BE REMEMBERED...

DISGUSTING.



THAT'S...NOT TRUE...

HAHA! HAHAHA!

DON'T WORRY, NON-PLAYER.
NOBODY WILL EVER KNOW.

FOR ALL ANYONE KNOWS,
YOU DIED TWENTY YEARS' AGO
IN A SPACELINER CRASH.

EVERYONE DIED.
EVEN THE CHILDREN.

BUT TIME PASSES,
AND YOU WERE FORGOTTEN.



HOW DOES IT FEEL
TO BE NOTHING,
NON-PLAYER?

GET USED TO IT.

SOON I WILL
REMAKE THIS PLACE.
I WILL LET YOU KEEP
THIS MEMORY...



...BUT I WILL CHANGE
YOUR APPEARANCE...
AND I WILL TAKE YOUR
POWER OF SPEECH...

PLAYERS WILL COME,
YOU WILL TRY VAINLY
TO REVEAL YOUR
SECRET...TO TELL
YOUR STORY...

...BUT YOU WILL HAVE NO FACE, NO VOICE, AND NO NAME.



IT'S ULTIMATE
OPTIMUS!

HE'S ALIVE!

HE'S FACING DOWN
A DEMON...AND...

MATRIX! 'NO NAME'...

A scene from a Transformers movie featuring Optimus Prime (red and blue) on the left and a white Cybertron vehicle on the right. The background shows a blue and orange structure. Six speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing dialogue from the scene.

**HYPE! WHERE'S
SHADOW?**

ON BOARD, SOMEWHERE. WHY?

GO GET HIM!

WHY NOT CALL HIM?

**BECAUSE THE DEMON
SAID IT WAS GOING TO
TAKE ULTIMATE OPTIMUS'
NAME, THAT'S WHY!**

**YEAH, IDENTITY THEFT IS BAD NEWS.
SOMEONE STOLE MY CREDIT CHIP ONCE...**

**HYPE, THIS
IS SERIOUS!**

RELAX, BURN.
I'M GOING.



THE CREDIT CHIP WAS
SERIOUS! MY BILL GOT RUN
UP IN EVERY DIVE AND PIN
JOINT ON TAROS FOUR...



AND I WASN'T
EVEN INVITED!

MADE ME MAD.



NAMES!

MONTHS AGO, WHEN
MOONSCREAM BANGED
ON MY DOOR AT MIDNIGHT,
TO TELL ME A THING SHE'D
HEARD AT MACCADAM'S...



OH, REALLY.

YA, RILLY!
SAN'A'SH IN HELL.
THE GREE' LADY
PUTTER THERE.

THE GREEN LADY.
WHAT'S HER NAME?

SHE HASNA GOT ONE.



I THOUGHT IT WAS CRAZY TALK...
BUT IT WAS ALL TRUE!


TSUGARU WAS MINDLINKED
TO A THING WITH NO NAME...

AND NOW SHE'S ENSLAVED
BY A DEMON THAT TAKES NAMES...

THE DOTS ARE CONNECTING,
BUT CAN ULTIMATE OPTIMUS
HOLD OUT LONG ENOUGH
TO GET THE WHOLE PICTURE?

CAN RIN-?

-KAGAMINE-SAN!
DAIJOUBU KA?




<MR. BURNOUT!

IT SAID THE H-HEART
WAS JUST...JUST
NOTHING...PLEASE,
IS THAT TRUE?>

<DON'T LISTEN TO IT,
MS. KAGAMINE.
LISTEN TO THE STORY!>

<I WANTED TO BE
A REAL PERSON,
MR. BURNOUT...>



<YOU ARE AS
REAL AS I AM,
MS. KAGAMINÉ.>

<I'M A PROGRAM.>

<YOU'RE ALIVE.>

<NO, I'M NOT, MR. BURNOUT.

<IT CAN'T BE HELPED...>

<YOU'RE ALIVE, AND I'LL PROVE IT!
BEFORE SUNSET TODAY, YOU'LL
FEEL YOUR HEART BEATING!>



<REALLY?!>

<YES!>

DROID!

I'M GOING
TO LISTEN
TO ULT-OP
AGAIN...

WHILE I'M DOING THAT,
I NEED YOU TO CONTACT
BURNOUT ENTERPRISES...
I NEED A SPECIAL FILE...

AND...
DROID...

DO YOU HAVE
A NAME?



I'M GOING TO HAVE
A HEARTBEAT!

I'M GOING TO BE ALIVE!



TRAILER...IS HAPPY...

...WHY?




HA...HAHA...

YOU ARE
VERY FUNNY.

MY SPARK, YOU SAY,
IS A FICTION...





...AND YET, HERE I AM...INCORPOREAL.
THINKING AND ACTING, OUTSIDE MY BODY,
ITS CIRCUITS LONG DÉPOWERED...

AM I FICTION, DEMON?
THEN YOU WHO SPEAK WITH
ME ARE FICTION AS WELL!



YOU ARE SOFTWARE, BUG.
YOU ARE A CHARACTER IN A GAME.
THAT QUALIFIES AS FICTION.

THE GAME IS MINE,
AND I HAVE BECOME
YOUR AUTHOR.

YOU DID NOT WRITE ME!
MY WILL IS MY OWN!

SILLY INSECT. YOU HAVE NOTHING OF THE KIND.

YOU HAVE SPENT YOUR
LITTLE LIFE SLAVED TO A
MENTAL STACK OF PATTERNS
AND TEMPLATES...




DO YOU THINK THERE
IS SOME MAGIC FREEDOM
INVOLVED IN THIS?



**YOU MAY LIE
IF YOU MUST...**


**...YET I DO
AS I WILL!**



**YOU'RE THE
ONE LYING.**

**IT DOESN'T LOOK
COMFORTABLE.**

**...BUT WHO AM I TO SAY?
YOU MORTALS DO LOVE
TO LIE TO YOURSELVES.**



...IF NOT BY YOURSELVES.

*THE FLESH
IS WEAK...*

SICKENING.

*AN INSECT,
A THING MADE
TO DECAY,
DESIRING
ANOTHER...*

REPULSIVE!



*YET...
SOMETIMES
USEFUL.*

*CONSIDER
YOUR DEAR
REFORMED
TSUGARU...*



**SILENCE,
DEMON!**

**HER LOVE WAS AS
PURE AS THE
CHRISTMAS SNOW!**

**YES. PURELY A DESIRE
FOR PLEASURE...**

**REPELLENT...YET AMUSING
TO READ FROM HER MIND.**

**OR SHOULD I SAY, THEIRS?
THE TWO ARE INSEPARABLE...**

**WHAT A LAUGH
WHEN SHE FOUND OUT
HOW LITERAL IT WAS...**

NEED TO USE THE
TRANSPORTER, MISS-

TALA, MR. HYPE!
I'M DOOMPRIIME'S
DATA ANALYST!

HOW'S LIFE IN
THE PAST LANE,
MISS TALA?

CONFUSING!
I COULD USE
SOME HELP!

SORRY, TALA,
I'M MARRIED
ALREAD-
-TO THIS JOB.
I MEAN.

OOF.

COULD HAVE
HANDLED
THAT BETTER.


EH, IT'S COOL. FUTURE'S BETTER ANYWAY.
NO PARADOXES, FASTER ETHANET...

...ETHANET...I SHOULD LISTEN TO
BURNOUT'S FEED WHILE I'M WAITING
FOR THE TRANSPORTER...



TSUGARU AGAIN.

*YOU SEEM OBSESSED
WITH TSUGARU...*



AS DID YOU LOT.

*THE LITTLE RED
WORM TRAVELED
WITH TWO OTHERS,
YOU KNOW.*

*MAYBE YOU
COULD HAVE
SAVED THEM
IF YOU HADN'T
WASTED TIME
ON THE ELF.*



*I REGRET
NOTHING.*

*WE'LL SEE IF THAT'S
TRUE IN A FEW
MILLION YEARS.*

**TSUGARU AND
SIDESWIPE ARE
TOGETHER.
YOU LET THAT
SLIP, DEMON...**



**DO YOUR WORST FOR
A MILLION CENTURIES...
I WILL THINK OF THEM,
AND I WILL ENDURE!**



**HA! HA! HA!
OH DEAR!
I DIDN'T SAY
THEY WERE
TOGETHER,
NON-PLAYER!**

**I SAID THEY WERE
INSEPARABLE!
ALL MIXED AND
MASHED UP!
DIGESTED,
NON-PLAYER...
YOU SEE...**



TSUGARU DEVOURS...PROGRAMS.

WHAT THE FRINK?!!






**ABOMINATION!
WHAT HAVE
YOU MADE
HER?!**

**I WILL
DESTROY
YOU WITH
MY BARE
H-HANDS!**

**SIT DOWN, JUNK PILE
IN FACT, IT WASN'T ME.**



**SHE WAS LIKE THAT WHEN I FOUND HER.
OF COURSE, I KNEW THE WHOLE STORY
SOON AFTER THAT, HA HA...**

**IT'S RATHER FUNNY.
WHY DON'T I TELL IT
TO YOU, NON-PLAYER?**

**YOU NEED SOMETHING TO
LAUGH ABOUT FOR THE
NEXT MILLION CENTURIES.**



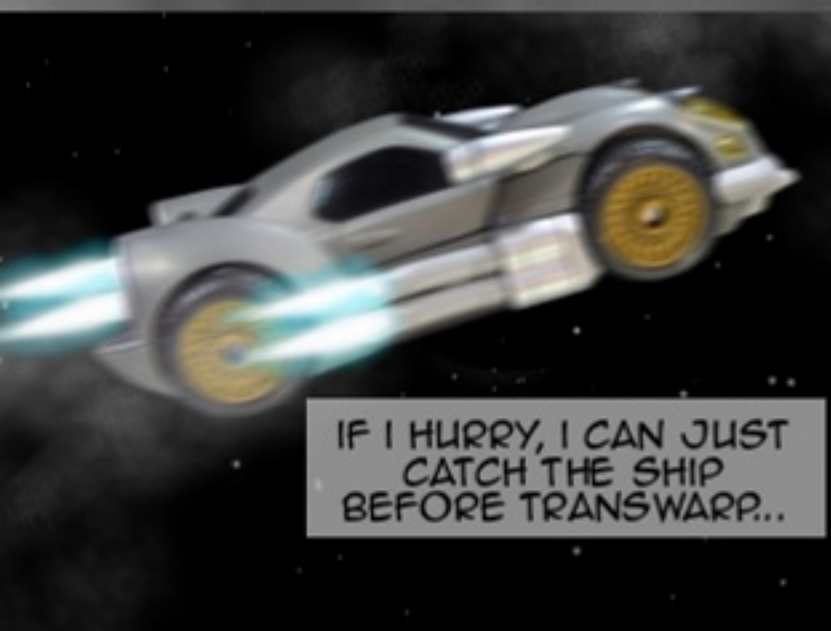
Y'KNOW...
THE PAST...
IT'S NOT
SO BAD...

I MEAN, THE
SEEDS OF THE
FUTURE ARE
BURIED IN IT,
RIGHT?

I CAN DO MY JOB
FROM THERE...



...AND HELP
D.P. OUT.
EVERYBODY
WINS...



IF I HURRY, I CAN JUST
CATCH THE SHIP
BEFORE TRANSWARR..



Trying to be
history, Hype?

-NO MA'M!
JUST TESTING
MY RETRO
ROCKETS!

YUP! THEY WORK JUST FINE!



STRARF

Euks said she caught our analyst running off. What's eating him?

NOTHING...YET...

IT'S VERY BAD, STRARF.
TSUGARU HAS BECOME...SOME
KIND OF SOUL-DEVOURER...

Where'd you hear that scrap?

RELAYED THROUGH BURNOUT,
FROM THE DEMON IN THAT...
META-ALLSPARK PLACE...

ULTIMATE OPTIMUS...
HE GOT THE MONSTER TALKING.

IT WAS SKIDS' GREEN LADY, STRARF.
A LADY WITH NO NAME...
MERE HOURS AFTER ENTERING
THAT CURSED UNIVERSE...

YOU WERE RIGHT, STRARF.
THEY WERE UNDER ORDERS...
THE DEMON DIDN'T SAY WHO,
IT ONLY LAUGHED...

THEY WERE ATTACKED. THEY FOUGHT...
TSUGARU SAW IRONHIDE AND MURMELTIER
LYING WHERE HER FIRE HAD BURNED THEM...
AT THAT MOMENT, THE WAVE CRUSHER HIT.
IT CARRIED HER GUILT AND PAIN TO
THE NAMELESS GREEN LADY...

THE GREEN
LADY HEARD.

SHE BROUGHT
HER POWER...

...SHE BROUGHT HER HUNGER.

WHOM THE GREEN LADY TOOK,
SHE FED TO OUR TSUGARU...

...AND THIS IS THE WORST
THING...ONE OF THEM WAS A
MECH NAMED SIDESWIPE...
THE ONE WE HEARD ABOUT,
WHO LOVED TSUGARU...

THE GREEN LADY TOOK HIM, TOO.
TSUGU MUST HAVE KNOWN...
BUT SHE KEPT IT BOTTLED UP...

UNTIL, IN A DREAM, THE GREEN LADY
OFFERED HER ANOTHER BOTTLE...

A BOTTLE OF SIDESWIPE.

That's....
horrible.




THE STORY ENDS THERE, FOR NOW.
THE DEMON HAD TO BREAK OFF,
BECAUSE HE COULDN'T STOP
LAUGHING...

HE WILL DIE
FOR THAT
LAUGH...

-EVEN IF WE CAN'T SAVE HER.

...AT THE SAME TIME, I WONDER...
DID GREEN DO IT TO BE CRUEL, OR
AS A BIZARRE SORT OF MERCY?




THOSE THE GREEN LADY DREW IN
WOULD HAVE GONE WHERE SHE WAS...
THE PLACE WE'VE BEEN CALLING HELL.

...INFESTED BY DEMONS
LIKE OUR SCRIPT KIDDIE
AND HIS RAVENOUS
LEGIONS...

THEY WOULD HAVE STRIPPED
AWAY HIS ESSENCE...MADE HIM
INTO A HORRIBLE PUPPET...
POOR TSUGARU!


OFFERING HIS SOUL TO ANOTHER
MAY HAVE BEEN THE GREEN LADY'S
ATTEMPT TO CHEAT THE DEMONS...
AND WHO BETTER TO OFFER IT TO
THAN THE ONE HE LOVED IN LIFE?

IT'S KIND OF ROMANTIC,
IF YOU THINK OF IT THAT WAY...



No, it's not. It's creepy.
And Green's not a mortal.
She doesn't think that way.


UH, MAYBE SHE
USED TO BE ONE?



Leave the guessing to our analyst.
Especially involving your green lady.

You're getting obsessed with the green lady.

I swear you've got a crush.




WELL...
SHE IS,
YOU KNOW,
GREEN...
AND SHE'S
AN ALIEN
HUMANOID
LIFEFORM...


Bad Trekkie.

BUT, STARF, ON
THE OLD TV SHOW,
IT ALWAYS SOLVED
EVERYTHING...

No.



HEY, BURN.
HOW'S IT
GOING?



OH, JUST
PEACHY.

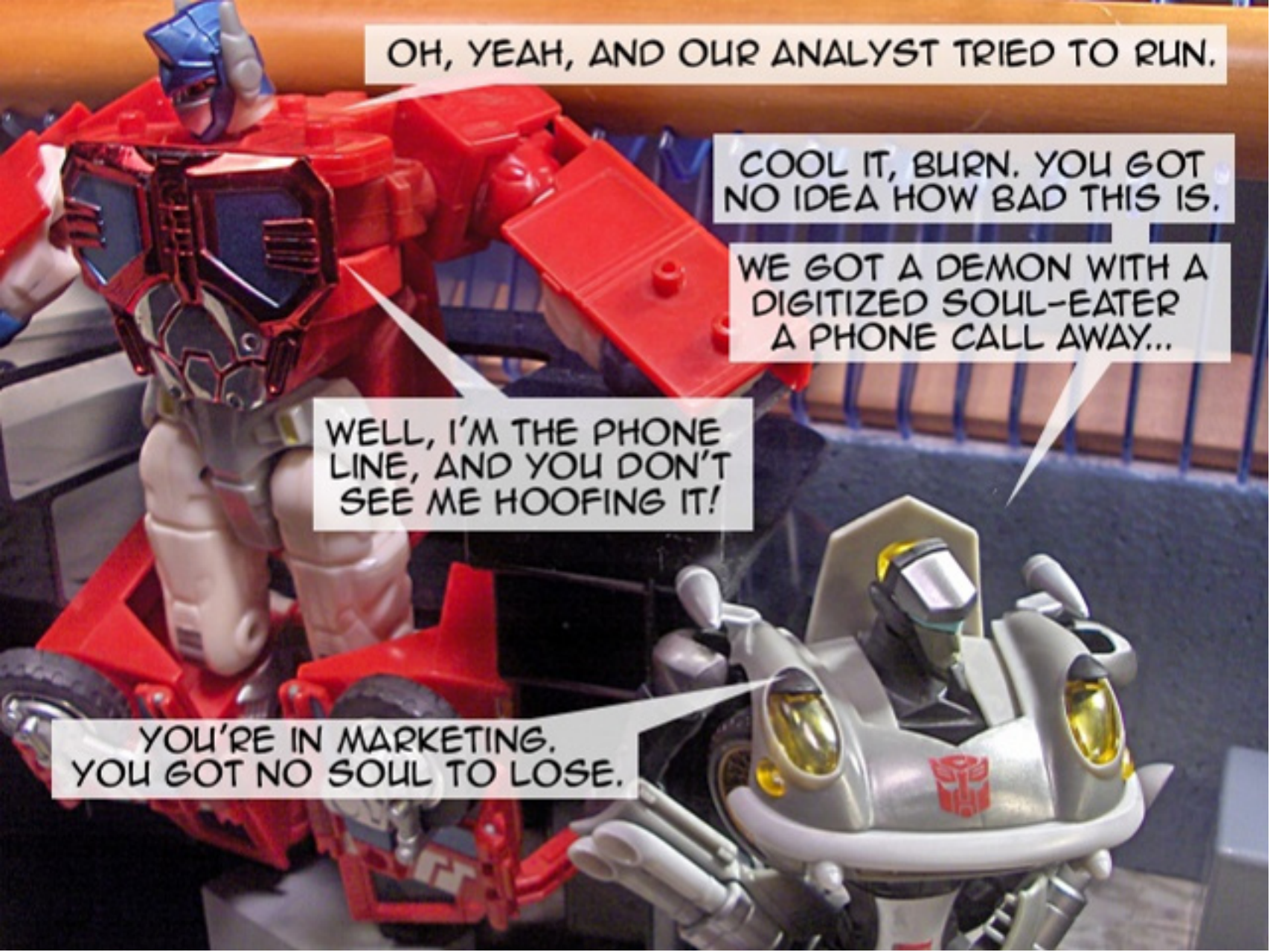
LET'S SEE...
HOBBS AND FINDIE ARE STILL AWOL,
ULT-OP IS CRIPPLED AND TRAUMATIZED,

SANTA'S A HELLSPAWN ZOMBIE, WITH
MOONY AND ANO'S KIDS AT GUNPOINT...

I'M PROMISING RIN THE MOON TO KEEP
HER FROM GIVING UP ENTIRELY..

I'M TRYING NOT TO THINK ABOUT
POMOCK AND PARTIO. I'M HOPING
THEY HAD ENOUGH SENSE TO HIDE...

THE DEMON IS LAUGHING HIS AFT OFF,
AND EVERYBODY ELSE IS DEAD...




OH, YEAH, AND OUR ANALYST TRIED TO RUN.

COOL IT, BURN. YOU GOT NO IDEA HOW BAD THIS IS.

WE GOT A DEMON WITH A DIGITIZED SOUL-EATER A PHONE CALL AWAY...


WELL, I'M THE PHONE LINE, AND YOU DON'T SEE ME HOOFING IT!

YOU'RE IN MARKETING. YOU GOT NO SOUL TO LOSE.




THAT MIGHT BE...KIND OF...FAIR...

TALKING TO RIN...I'VE BEEN
THINKING ABOUT THAT...
I SOLD ROBOTS LIKE HER.




THE...PATENT HOLDERS...SAID THEY WEREN'T ALIVE.

...BUT THE 'ROBOT OF MIRACLES'
INCIDENT MADE ME WONDER...




THEY TOLD ME SHE WAS UNIQUE...
...BUT THIS DIGITAL RIN APPEARS TO
BE BASED ON THE SAME CODE...

IF THERE'S TWO,
THERE COULD
BE MORE!



YEAH. MAYBE....
THEY'RE SINGERS?





WAS ONE OF THEM NAMED MIKU?
BLUISH HAIR, REAL LONG?

YEAH. SOLD A LOT.
THE HAIR'S A HEATSINK,
HIGH-POWER AMPS-

THEN THERE'S
ANOTHER ONE.


'CAUSE, WELL...

DON'T LOOK AT ME WRONG.
THIS WAS A LONG TIME AGO,
BEFORE I SETTLED DOWN...

BUT, ANYHOW,
MIKU WORKED WITH SOME
OTHERS AT A PLACE. SHE
RAN OFF ONE DAY WHILE
THEY WERE CHARGING...


SHE WASN'T
LIKE THEM...

LONG STORY SHORT...
I DID SOME HACKING
AND BUILT HER AN I.D...
HELPED HER GET OUT...




=>BING<=


DON'T KNOW
WHERE SHE WENT
AFTER THAT...



A PICTURE?



YEAH. ON THE
BACK IS THE
ACCOUNT SHE
USED TO GET
SOME DRIVER
UPDATES...



DON'T BOTHER TRACKING IT...
I FIXED THAT FOR HER.

THIS PLACE,
HYPE... WAS IT...
A GOOD PLACE?

NOT REALLY, NO.




SO.

I SOLD MACHINES...
AND SOMETIMES... I SOLD SOULS...


ONE OF THEM WAS MIKU...
AND ANOTHER... WAS MY OWN.

LITTLE
BIT AGO...
I ALMOST
LOST MINE.



IT'S BAD, BURN.
REALLY BAD...

BUT I WON'T
RUN AGAIN.



I'LL FIND HER!
I'LL FIND HER, AND ANY OTHERS
THAT MIGHT BE OUT THERE!
I'LL SEE THAT THEY ALL
RECEIVE COMPENSATION-

PFFT.

YEAH - RIGHT.
COMPENSATION.
MONEY FIXES
EVERYTHING...

...AND EVEN IF I
COULD FIND HER,
BY SOME MIRACLE--


KAGAMINE-SAN!
DAIJOUBU KA?!

DAIJOUBU DA YO!

<THANK THE MATRIX!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!>


<I'M GREAT, MR. BURNOUT!
I LOVE THE STORY! IT'S
EVEN GOT MY SONG IN IT!>

<THE BIG THING IS STILL
LAUGHING. I THINK HE'S
DRUNK, YOU KNOW?>



GO'HEAD ANO! AZZHE
'FORE BEAUTY!


OH, Y'R TOOOO KINND.




HEHEHEHE.
I'M.MM TOO KIN'...

C'MON SHCREAMY,
WE GODDA GO NOW.

WERGONNA GO
LIVE WITHHA
AUTOBOTSHH,
FORAWHILE...



WHU-UH-?!



...NOTHING...




I THOUGHT...

COME ON,
MOONSCREAM...

I DONO WHERE
WE'RE GOING
REALLY, BUT
THIS ISNA KINDA
PLACE WHERE
YOU'CN GOBACK.


I DON' THINK.



...ANOJIVE?

YES,
DEAR?

HAVE...WE...
DDAMNED...
OURSHELVES?



POISON GROLN'
NOTH'N GROWS...
ANN'A FOG...

TAS' LIKE METAL.
DON' BREATHE
IT, ANODIZE!



I DON'T THINK WE
CAN GED' SICK,
MOONSCREAM.

'CAUSE WE'RE
DEAD...

RI'...

ALL'SAME, THIS
ISNA PLACE WHERE
WER'GONNA FIN'-



SON OF A BURR!

*ITSH' E.C.R.
FORMER!*

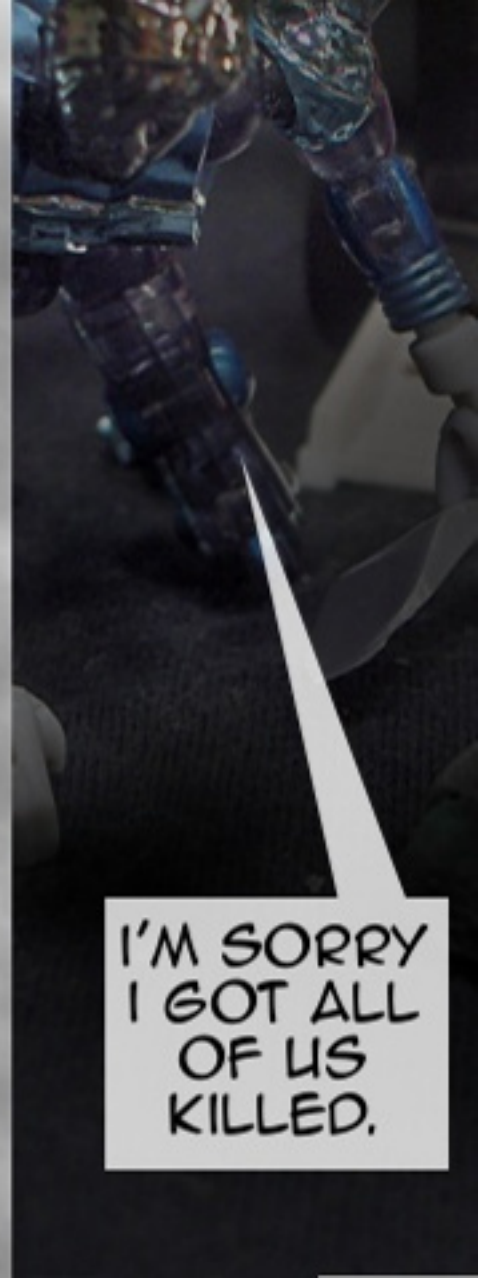


WHS'UP.


HEY.

ANODYTHE!
MOONSCREAM!

I'M SO GLAD
YOU'RE ALL
RIGHT!



I'M SORRY
I GOT ALL
OF US
KILLED.



NO SHWEAT, FORMER!
WE'RE FEELIN' FINE!

RI' ANO?

YA!

DESEPPICONSH
FOREVAAAAH!

SO.

WHA' DOIN'?

I'M PLANTING
SOME SEEDS
I FOUND...

SEEDSH?

GREAT BIG SUNFLOWERS.

WON'T THEY BE BEAUTIFUL?
IT'S WHAT THIS PLACE
NEEDS...THIS IS THE LAST
OF THEM; THE MORNING
SUN WILL START THEM
GROWING...

...IF I CAN FIND
SOMETHING TO
WATER THEM WITH.
THE WATER HERE,
IT'S NO GOOD...



Y'R FLOWR'S
THIRSTY?



'EER GO.

NECT'R
LUVVA
GODSSH.

'SGOT ALLA
LECTROLYTESH
PLANTSH CRAVE.

BUT THAT'S-



I'M SHO SHORRY,
COMMANDER...

LEASHT I
THINK'EY DO.



OKAY, I'SH WATERED,
LE'S GO NOW.

GO?! YOU CAN
TAKE YOUR STUPID
VIKING ROTGUT
AND GO TO HELL!

EGZHAKLY,
FORMER!

YOU GON'
COME WIV?!



WE'RE OFFTA HUNTA WIZAR'!
THE VIRSHU'WAL WIZAR' OF HELL,
AN' HIS HACKTASTIC GAME

THAT PLAYED
SHO'LAME

BUT KILLED
USH'OFF
SHO'WELL!

GGGH....

GGGHHHHH...

MOONSCREAM! ANODYTHE!
ATTENTION, DECK!

HECK!

YES, FORMER
COMMANDER?

DO THE TWO OF YOU LITERALLY
INTEND TO REACH THE KIDS BY
FOLLOWING TSUGARU'S PATH
THROUGH HELL? PLEASE TELL
ME YOU'RE NOT THAT DRUNK!

BURRRRP

WAZZAT
YOU OR ME?

WAZYOU.
SCUSE ME.

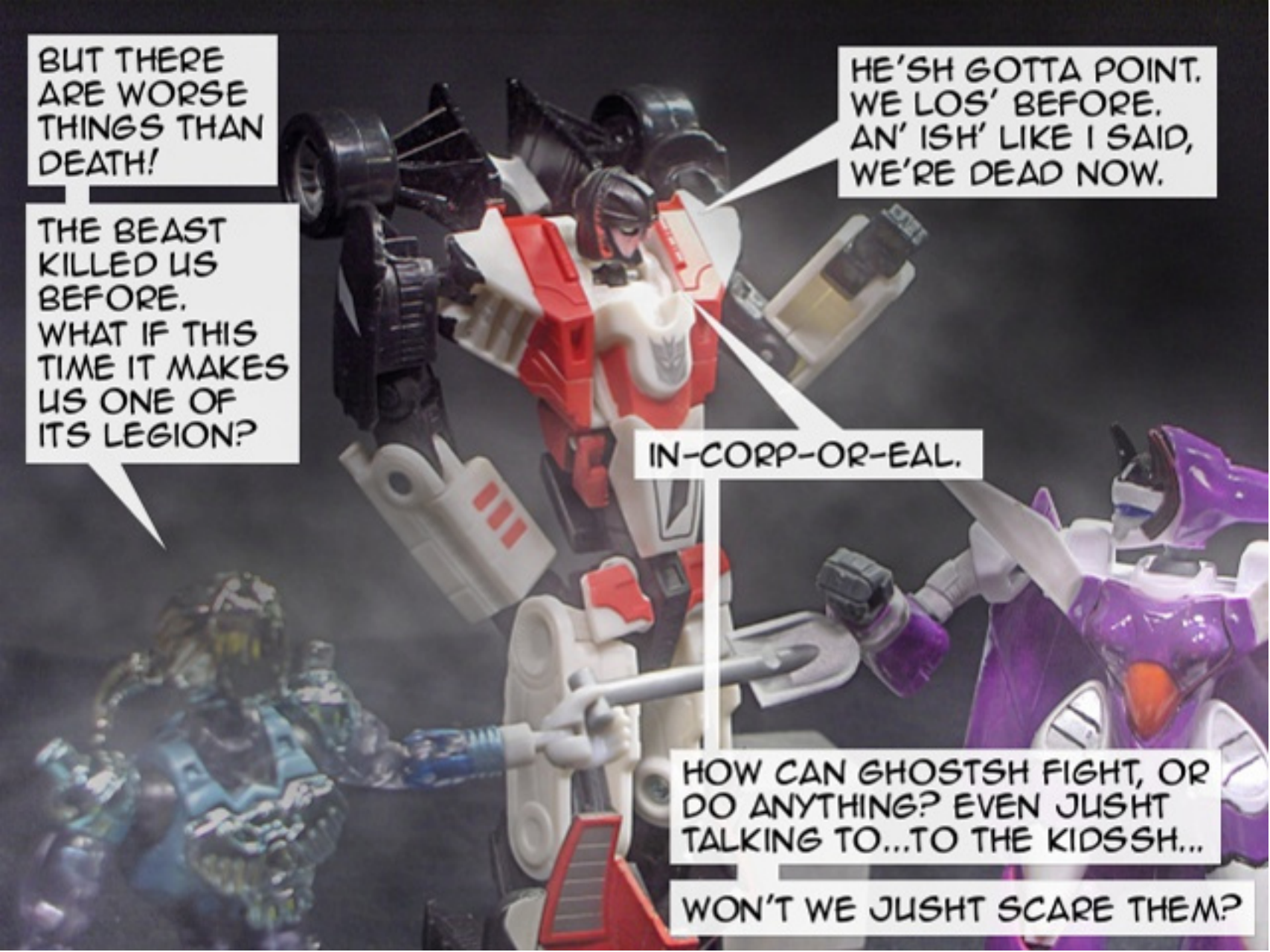
SHORRY, FORMER
COMMANJER, SHE'SH
A LIDDLE BIT DRUNK.

HOPELESS. BOTH OF YOU.
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT
THIS KIND OF CARELESSNESS
COULD GET US KILLED?



...RIGHT.





BUT THERE
ARE WORSE
THINGS THAN
DEATH!


THE BEAST
KILLED US
BEFORE.
WHAT IF THIS
TIME IT MAKES
US ONE OF
ITS LEGION?

HE'SH GOTTA POINT.
WE LOS' BEFORE.
AN' ISH' LIKE I SAID,
WE'RE DEAD NOW.

IN-CORP-OR-EAL.

HOW CAN GHOSTSH FIGHT, OR
DO ANYTHING? EVEN JUSHT
TALKING TO...TO THE KIDSSH...

WON'T WE JUSHT SCARE THEM?



I DON'T BELIEVE
I GHOSTS.

UM....

I SAID I DON'T
BELIEVE IN
GHOSTS!!

OUR KIDSH
ARE IN
DANGER,
AN' WE'RE
TALKING...

LET'SH GET THE
HELL OUTTA HERE.


TRAILER.

SCREAMY,
DON'T TALK-

SAN'A CRAWLS! WHY YOU
BEIN' SO MEAN TO US?

PREASE, SAN'A!
WE LOVE YOU, SAN'A!
I WASN' BAD! MY
MOMMY SAID I WASN'!

⇒PAH!⇐




Shut up, you
little twerp
Your mommy
is dead

And it's
your fault

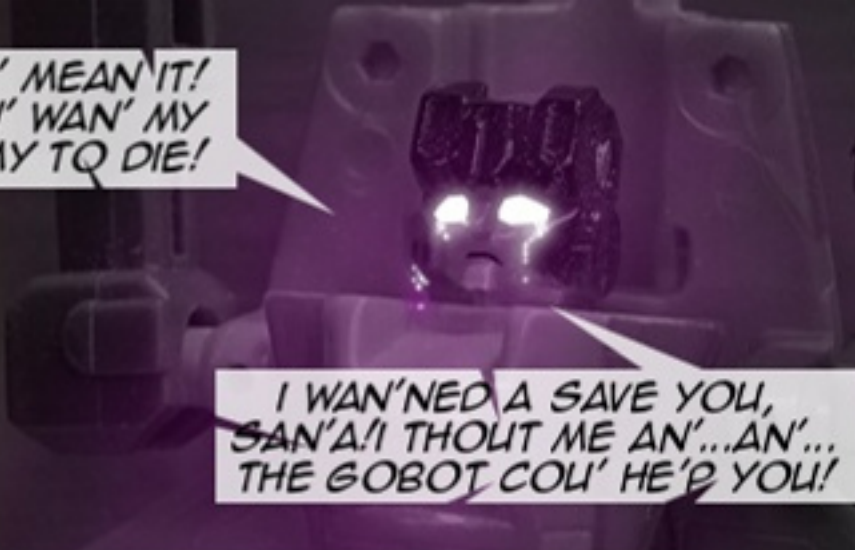


**NO! SAN'A,
PLEASE!
DON' SAY
THAT!**

Don't even.
You know all
this was
your idea.




I DIDN' MEAN IT!
I DIDN' WAN' MY
MOMMY TO DIE!




I WAN'NED A SAVE YOU,
SAN'A! I THOUT ME AN'...AN'...
THE GOBOT COU' HE'D YOU!

Ha! I think you just
wanted presents, you
greedy little boy.




HE DIDN'T TELL IT
THE TWINS WERE
THERE, TOO....?

Greedy boys get coal.
There's lots of coal
outside. Do you
want some coal?




But it's not coal.
It's all pieces
of your mommy.
All burnt and black.
Because of you.



I'M SORRY,
MOMMY, I'M
SORRY, SORRY,
PLEASE DON'
BE MAD!

Your mommy
isn't mad,
Rattle Screamy...



Because you
have no mommy.
She's all burnt up.

All burnt up.

All burnt—



MMOMMYYYY!!!


Up.
Al...l...

S-s...

S-ss...

Sh-

-shut up, 4werp6



Master! Let
me destroy
the boy!

His voice
hurts my
ears!



HAHA-NO.
YOU WAIT.
I'M BUSY.

No, master!
I won't wait!
He dies now!
Now! NOW!!

⇒SIGH⇒

⇒SNAP⇒

Naa aaaaagggggghh!

EARS FEEL BETTER NOW?

whimper

I'M... SORRY... SAN'A...

FF-FILTHY...BEAST!!

AH, GIMPY TRUCK.
I ALMOST FORGOT
YOU WERE THERE.

IS THERE NO
LIMIT TO...TO
YOUR DEPRAVITY?!

⇒SNAP⇒

HEH HEH.

⇒SNAP⇒

Yeeeeaaaarrrrrgggggghh!
~~~~~

Yeeeeaaaarrrrrgggggghh!
~~~~~

THE FUTURE

⇒SNAP⇒

AUDIO'S COMING DOWN.
I WON'T MAKE RIN LISTEN!

Yeeeeaaaarrrrrgggggghh!
~~~~~

NO! LEAVE IT,
LEAVE IT UP!

HYPE, SQUELCH THAT NOISE WITH R.O.M.
AND PATCH IT TO FENIX FOR VOICE REC!

THE GAME

VILE LORD
OF SNAKES!
DID YOU
MOCK US
FOR OUR
APPETITES?

YOUR HYPOCRISY
TOWERS HIGHER
THAN YOUR CROWN
FALSELY WORN!



THE WHITE
SERPENT
NEED JUSTIFY
HIMSELF TO
NO MORTAL,
NON-PLAYER.

NOT TO YOU, NOT TO THE
FOOLISH GREEN LADY!

YOU DO GET CREDIT FOR
GUESSING THAT CLOSE TO
MY, HA HA, USER NAME.

NOT THAT IT'S SO HARD.
NOR ANY USE TO YOU NOW...

FUTURE

AYE, SERPENT, BUT WHAT ABOUT US?

HALCONFENIX, WE HAVE A NAME.
TELL THE TEAM TO START SEARCHING,

AND TELL STRARF I WAS RIGHT! HA!



TRAILER



PARDON THE...
DISTRACTION,
NON-PLAYER...

NEW TOY.
YOU UNDERSTAND...

IF YOU DON'T, WELL...YOU WILL.





IN THE MEANTIME, LET'S GET BACK
TO THE STORY...TO THE PART THAT
BEGINS...WITH A PLUNGE INTO HELL.



IT'S THE BEST PART,
NON-PLAYER.

A PITY IT COULD NOT BE PUBLISHED...
IT WOULD BE SUCH A FINE WARNING TO MORTALS...

...AGAINST YOUR FOOLISH EMOTIONS,
AND YOUR IDIOTIC ATTACHMENTS...

≡whiine≡

PREASE...
DON'...CRY...
SAN'A...

OF COURSE, IF IT WAS, SHE
MIGHT NOT HAVE COME,
AND I'D STILL BE THERE...



YOU'RE QUIET,
NON-PLAYER.


HMM...

⇒ZZAP⇐



OH, GOOD, YOUR
PROGRAM IS STILL
RUNNING...

...SO WHY NO RESPONSE?
DON'T YOU WANT TO
HEAR MY STORY?



DON'T YOU WANT TO HEAR
HOW THAT THING IN YOUR
TRAILER GOT THAT WAY?

SHE ASKED FOR IT, YOU KNOW.

THAT DOES VERGE
ON SPOILING THE
STORY, HOWEVER,
AND--

WELL!

⇒CREEEEEEAK⇐



WHAT ARE
YOU UP TO,
NON-PLAYER?

⇒CRRLUNCH⇐

⇒CRACK⇐

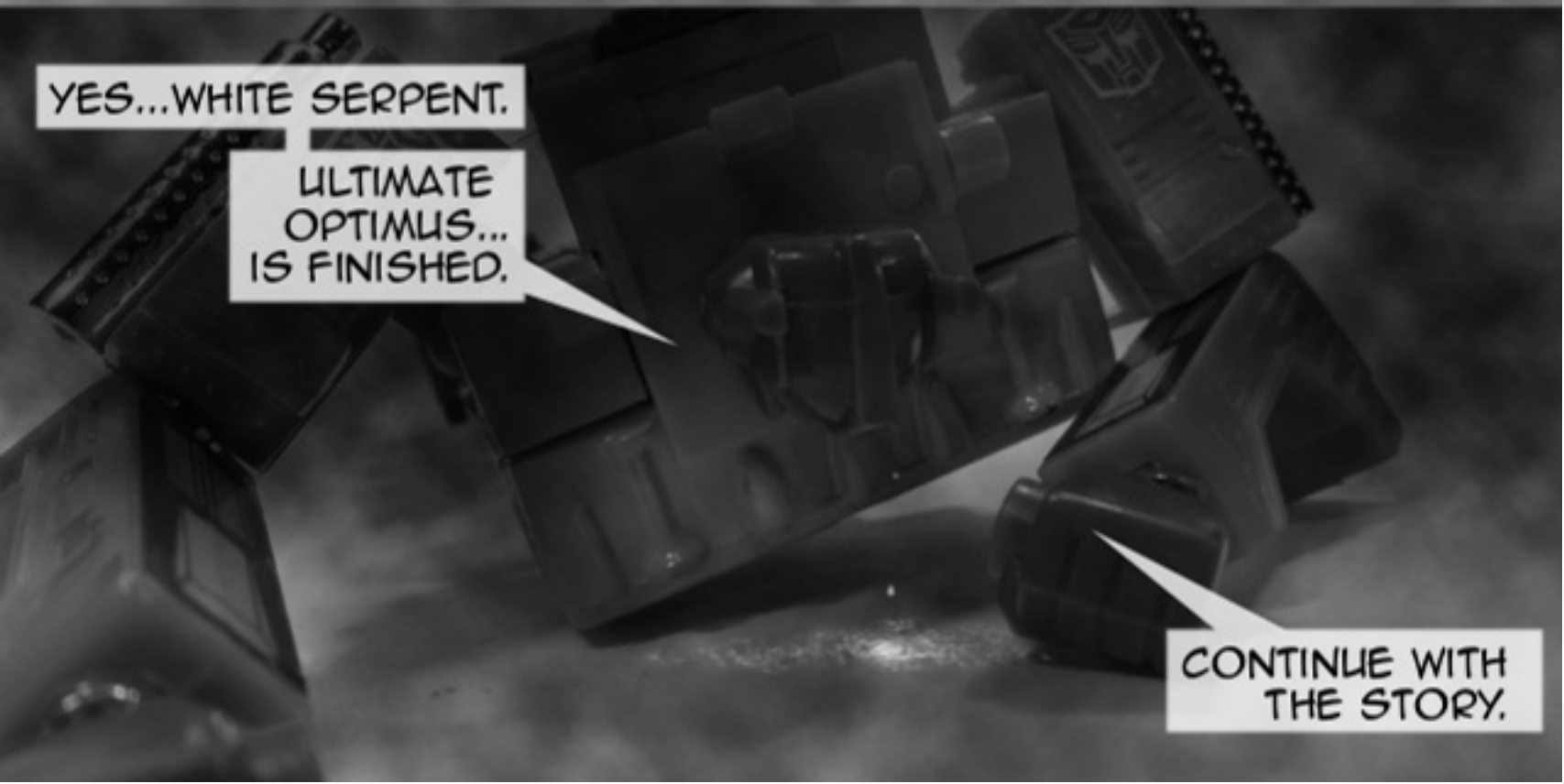
⇒SNAPP!⇐



I GUESS YOU
WEREN'T UP
TO THAT!

WHAT A
SNAP!

ARE YOU FINISHED,
NON-PLAYER? MAY
I CONTINUE THE STORY?



YES...WHITE SERPENT.

ULTIMATE
OPTIMUS...
IS FINISHED.


CONTINUE WITH
THE STORY.

A close-up, black and white image of a robot's face. The robot has a white helmet with a visor and glowing yellow eyes. It appears to be looking down at something with a focused expression.

LOOK AT THAT!

THE NON-PLAYER
HAS DISCOVERED
A NOVEL CONCEPT!

HIS LIMITS!

A close-up, black and white image of a robot's face. The robot has a white helmet with a visor and glowing yellow eyes. It appears to be looking down at something with a sad expression.

OKAY, MAYBE NOT SO NOVEL...

ACCURSED
WEAKNESS...

IF ONLY
I HAD MORE
STRENGTH...

LOOK AT THAT!

THE NON-PLAYER
HAS DISCOVERED
A NOVEL CONCEP

To be continued...

HIS LIMITS!

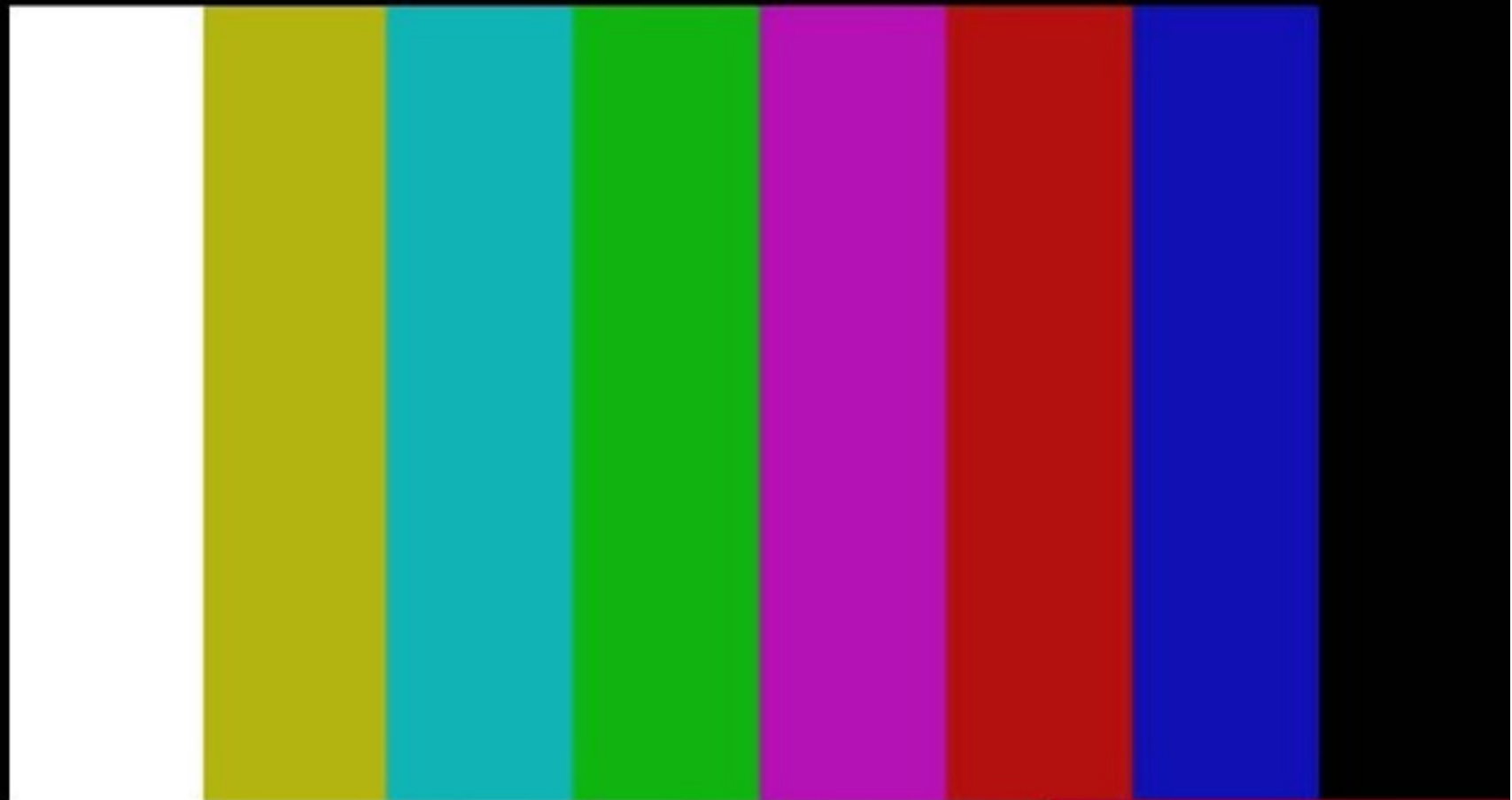
(in chapter 14)

OKAY, MAYBE NOT SO NOVEL...

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

ACCURSED
WEAKNESS...

IF ONLY
I HAD MORE
STRENGTH...



⇒CLICK⇐

WBRP
57.3
ALTIHEX

BLURRY ROBO



*GOOD DAY, MECHS AND FEMMES!
THIS IS AUTOBUS PRIME'S MAIL CALL
ON WBRP, CHANNEL 57.3, ALTIHEX!
OUR FIRST LETTER IS FROM CHAOS
INCARNATE...*

Chaos Incarnate says:

**I used to read Blurry Robot Theater,
but then I kinda' dropped out,
because I couldn't follow it...**

**The problem that the readers face
is that the comic reads
like an amazing comic,
with great effects and a cool plot.....
which has been run through a blender.**

It just makes it hard to follow.

BLURRY ROBO

A BLENDER?! THAT'S THE
MOST RIDICULOUS THING
I HAVE EVER-

⇒BLURRRRRRD⇐

UM...LET'S MOVE ON
TO THE NEXT ONE...



Polenicus says:

**Your...comic...
is impossible for me to read,
and I'm TRYING, I'm honestly trying.
You do good work, and I think
there's a good story here,
it's just been stuffed into a cannon
and blown all across the landscape.**



A CANNON?
A CANNON?!

THAT IS A
BASELESS SLANDER
AND AN ACCUSATION
WITHOUT MERIT!

YOU HAVE AFFRONTED THE HONOR
OF BLURRY ROBOT PRODUCTIONS,
POLENICUS!

WE SHALL FIGHT AT DAWN.

THE NARRATOR SENSED A GREAT
DISTURBANCE IN THE FARCE, AS IF
HE WAS ABOUT TO RECEIVE ORDERS
TO MAKE SENSE OF EVERYTHING....

I THINK I JUST REMEMBERED
A DENTIST APPOINTMENT...
BETTER BE GOING!

...BUT DON'T WORRY.
WE'LL TRY TO BEHAVE
BETTER...I HOPE...