

Prime Directive

by
John Rogers

Revision by
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A1 A LEGEND appears: "ONE MILLION YEARS BEFORE THE DAWN OF MAN..." A1

Sunlight begins to creep onto the screen, revealing a STRANGE SYMBOL. Like a complex glyph. Slowly, we WIDEN to reveal...

It's one of MANY. Etched onto a metallic surface. The symbols can only have come from an ALIEN CIVILIZATION.

We hear a VOICE: powerful, noble. Though we don't know it yet, it's the voice of OPTIMUS PRIME:

OPTIMUS (V.O.)

Our planet was destroyed by the ravages of war... a war waged between the legions who worship chaos, and those of us who follow freedom...

As the light grows, it illuminates an IMMENSE SQUARE MASS. A CUBE. Covered by the symbols. Hurtling through SPACE...

OPTIMUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

We battled for rule of a supreme power... The Energon Cube. Its origin is unknown to us, yet it bears the life force that created our race... we fought until our world was awash in death, until the very ground swallowed whole our once-mighty cities... and the cube was lost to the limitless stars...

The cube plunges into an ASTEROIDAL GROUPING and ever-so-slightly NICKS one of the Rocks, bounces in a new direction:

OPTIMUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Then, by fortune or fate, its course was altered. Drawn to a planet called... 'Earth.'

REVEAL -- in the distance -- a familiar blue marble. The cube SCREAMS past us, rocketing toward our planet...

OPTIMUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

We have searched for the cube across deserts of time, hoping to find it before the dark legions... but as fate would have it, we were already too late.

SLAM TO BLACK, as that ominous note CRESCENDOS. FADE TO:

1 EXT. ARCTIC CIRCLE - TWILIGHT

1

SOARING over icebergs... we find a DERELICT SAILING VESSEL, tilting, trapped in ice. The CREW works desperately to free the ship, axes SLAMMING.

LEGEND: "NATIONAL ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION... 1897."

The SHIP'S CAPTAIN moves along his men:

CAPTAIN

Put your backs into it, or we'll be chopping our way back to The States!

The PACK HUSKIES start HOWLING at the snowscape:

SAILOR #1

There's something out there...

The dogs suddenly BOLT OFF. The Captain grabs his RIFLE and LANTERN and shouts for TWO MEN to follow.

2 EXT. ELSEWHERE ON THE ICE - TWILIGHT

2

The dogs lead the men over the ARCTIC SHELF, jumping from floe to floe. They finally STOP, pawing at a patch of snow.

SAILOR #2

Whatever it is, it's below the ice.

CAPTAIN

Nothing's alive below the ice...

Suddenly a HUGE RIFT OPENS, like tectonic plates shifting -- the sailors DIVE to safety but one of the DOGS falls through! The Captain GRABS for it but they're SUCKED into a 30 FT. FISSURE --

3 INT. ICE CAVE - CONTINUOUS

3

Man and dog SHOOT down the fissure, LANDING HARD on something. His lantern CRACKS below, kerosene fire casts FLICKERING SHADOWS across the ice walls. The dog WHIMPERS. The men SHOUT from above. Dazed, the captain gets his bearings, calls back:

CAPTAIN

I'm okay, Lads!

Suddenly -- SHOCK -- we PULL BACK to find he's standing on... THE PALM OF A GIANT STEEL HAND. Half in, half out of the ice.

A MECHANOID FACE IS EMBEDDED WITHIN THE ICE WALL, EXPRESSION FROZEN IN A SCREAM!

The Captain can't believe what he's seeing... wipes away ice to reveal a SYMBOL on the mechanoid:

THE "DECEPTICON" EMBLEM

Mesmerized, the captain pulls out a PICK-AXE. Starts CHOPPING away at the ice to get a better look -- WHACK, WHACK -- the ice CRACKS, TRIGGERING SOMETHING on the robot's chassis:

A LASER BLAST sears the captain's eyes -- for a millisecond FLASH, he sees THE SAME ALIEN SYMBOLS WE SAW ON THE CUBE, coursing with phosphorous light!

The captain SCREAMS clutching his eyes, the dog BARKING MADLY -- the spectacles go flying and CRACK as they hit the floor --

SAILOR #2
CAPTAIN?! CAPTAIN!

THE CAPTAIN, TREMBLING, ON HIS KNEES, TURNS TO US - HIS PUPILS HAVE TURNED COMPLETELY WHITE

His hands scramble for the spectacles but he realizes... HE'S BLIND! FIRE reflects through now-cracked glasses and something INCREDIBLE is revealed in them as we PUSH CLOSER... MICRO-CLOSE:

THE ALIEN CODE HAS BEEN SEARED INTO THE LENSES

The frame is overtaken by WHITENESS... at first we think it's snow... until we realize it's:

5 EXT. DESERT - SUNSET

5

... SAND undulating over endless dunes. An engine ROAR -- TWO AIR FORCE CV-22 OSPREYS skim the dunes, BLASTING through frame:

LEGEND: "QATAR, THE MIDDLE EAST, PRESENT DAY."

6 INT. LEAD OSPREY - MOVING - SUNSET

6

Flying the Osprey is SERGEANT WILLIAM LENNOX: 30's, US AIR FORCE COMBAT CONTROLLER. Family man. Sense of humor. Born leader. He travels with the Army's 5th Special Forces Security Team. Returning from a tough mission. Next to him: ARMY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER JORGE FIGUEROA ("FIG"), 20's, Dominican by way of the Louisiana Bayou. He SINGS ALONG with a Reggaeton hip-hop song on the stereo:

LENNOX

Can I get five minutes without being tortured by your singing?

FIGUEROA

Tch, don't mock my gift, Bro... one day I'll win American Idol and you be wishin' you knew me.

LENNOX

... uh-huh...

FIGUEROA

Gotta pass the time somehow -- sixteen months of this...?

LENNOX

Tell me, first thing you're gonna do when we get back...

FIGUEROA

Lil' taste o' home -- a plate of mama's hot pasteles? Ham, onion, garlic, and BAM, some adobo spiced pork!? I'm on my way to nirvana.

LENNOX

And weekends, remember those?

FIGUEROA

Surfboard on the roof, headed for turquoise water...

LENNOX

I heard that.

FIGUEROA

Man, when I get there, I'm gonna have me a perfect day... y'know ~~what~~ I'm sayin'? One of those days where ~~everything~~ everything just goes right?

(beat)

What about you, ~~Lennox~~? You got a perfect day?

LENNOX

(wistful BEAT)

Getting to hold my little girl for the first time.

Fig smiles with a ~~little~~ envy. The Osprey dips low, descending:

9 EXT. SOCCENT OPERATIONS CENTER - NIGHT ABOUT TO FALL

9

Military base ~~to~~ ~~rmc~~. The planes land. Lennox and Fig hop out, joining the ~~rest~~ of the Army team emerging from the other Osprey -- we favor SERGEANT FIRST CLASS DONNELLY (Irish-American), and STAFF SERGEANT EPPS (street tough, from East Oakland).

LENNOX

Yo, Donnelly -- Celtics win last night?

DONNELLY

Nah, Man, they got thrashed --

LENNOX

You couldn't just say, 'no, they lost'? Had two large on those bums to cover.

EPPS

The man's unbelievable -- a thousand miles from nowhere and he finds a way to call his bookie.

FIGUEROA

Fly Boys have special privileges, Air Force supplies bookies... right, Sarge?

LENNOX

Hell yeah, cause unlike Army, we can actually count past ten and understand the nuances of a point spread.

The Army boys shout a collective, playful "HOOAH!" One of the local workers, a 13 year old Bedouin boy named MAHFOUZ, sees Lennox and runs over eagerly --

MAHFOUZ

Lennox! Lennox! You bring? For me, you bring chocolate?

LENNOX

(their little game)
Sorry, Kid, already ate it.

MAHFOUZ

No, you lie! You give me!

Lennox pulls a Snickers from his pocket, tosses it to the kid:

LENNOX

Help us with the gear.

10 INT. SOCCENT - JOC JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER - NIGHT

10

At a radar console, a BLIP appears:

RADAR TECH

Inbound Bogie, ten miles out.

SOCCENT WATCH COMMANDER

Unidentified Bogie, you're in restricted US Military Airspace. Squawk ident and proceed East out of area.

(STATIC)

Raptors one and two: proceed to intercept -- we got no response from this Bogey --

11 EXT. SOCCENT - SKIES ABOVE BASE - NIGHT

11

Two F-22's, orbiting the base, BANK HARD:

12 EXT. ELSEWHERE - SKIES ABOVE DESERT - CONTINUOUS

12

A MASSIVE MH-53 PAV SPECIAL OPS COMMAND HELICOPTER appears over the dunes. The F-22's streak overhead...

F-22 PILOT #1

Unidentified aircraft, we will escort you to U.S. SOCCENT air base -- if you do not comply, we will use deadly force.

The jet pilot lines up a heat-seeking reticule on the chopper -- a TONE indicates "LOCK." Finally, the PAV descends...

F-22 PILOT #1 (CONT'D)

Tower: Bogie's coming down, tail ID AF4500 X-ray. Be advised, it's an American PAV, comms may be out.

A13 INT. SOCCENT - JOC JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER - CONTINUOUS

A13 *

As the OP-CENTER TECH enters the tail fin into the computer, his brow furrows --

OP-CENTER TECH

Sir: says here 4500X was shot down three months ago. Afghanistan.

SOCCENT WATCH COMMANDER

Gotta be a mistake --

Concerned, he heads upstairs toward an AIR TOWER as --

13 INT. SOCCENT - LOADING BAY - CONTINUOUS

13

The oblivious soldiers unload. Lennox's CELL rings, he answers:

LENNOX

Lennox.

VOICE

Sergeant, we have a homefront connection for you, please hold --

A14 Lennox pulls a laptop from the Humvee, connects his phone to it A14 -- an "I-CHAT" window opens: his WIFE'S FACE appears:

LENNOX

Hey there, Baby Girl -- how're my ladies?

INT. LENNOX HOME / LOADING BAY - INTERCUTTING - EARLY MORNING

A world away from Qatar: Lennox's wife, SARAH, feeds their BABY GIRL while talking into the I-CHAT lens:

SARAH

Well, it's official: she has your smile...

LENNOX

... She smiled?

SARAH

Her first one, yeah.

ON LENNOX. A proud papa, but also... full of regret. Another moment he missed. He tries to sound upbeat...

LENNOX

That's great...

SARAH

I was telling her about the night we got locked outta the house, how ~~he~~ daddy made a campfire in the backyard... and nine months later--

LENNOX

-- whoa, hey, isn't she a little young to be learning about ~~the birds~~ and the bees?

SARAH

I started laughing when I told her the keys were in your jacket the whole time... and she smiled back, y'know?

LENNOX

Ever think ~~maybe~~ I locked us out on purpose?

SARAH

You're ~~not~~ that smooth.

LENNOX

~~Please~~, I put the "oooh" in smooth.

SARAH

Still coming home soon?

LENNOX

We're due for a rotation... hear that Annabelle? You're gonna meet your daddy in the flesh anyday now...

STATIC starts interrupting the line --

SARAH

Will? Wil--

LENNOX

... Sarah?

The screen cuts to SNOW. Sound of ROTORS THUMPING. Lennox and the soldiers turn as the arriving chopper settles to earth...

Armed Humvees race onto the tarmac, circling the chopper. Light sweeps across its cockpit, revealing the PILOT:

AN EXPRESSIONLESS MAN WITH A MOUSTACHE. Strange.

B14 INT. SOCCENT - AIR TOWER - CONTINUOUS

B14

The Watch Commander enters the tower, grabs binocs to view the chopper's TAIL ID outside:

SOCCENT WATCH COMMANDER
(holy shit)
... 4500X? Something's not right
(into headset)
Unidentified Aircraft, shut down and step
out now --

C14 EXT. SOCCENT - LOADING BAY

C14

Moustache Man just sits there. The ~~MP's~~ share nervous looks, weapons raised. And the damndest thing happens: Moustache Man FRITZES, like an electronic seizure, ~~then~~ DISINTEGRATES! A HOLOGRAM! THE SHRIEK OF AN ENERGY PULSE RISES IN VOLUME...

14 INT. SOCCENT - JOC-JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER - CONTINUOUS

14

Surveillance images -- every monitor turns to SNOW --

CONSOLE TECH
Systems failing, radar's jammed -- it's coming from the chopper --

15 EXT. SOCCENT - TARMAC/LOADING DOCK -

15

Around the corner from the helicopter: Lennox, his men, and Mahfouz react to the EAR-SPLITTING SOUND --

The sodium vapor work-lights GLOW BRIGHTER, pulsing, then EXPLODE! Lightning arcs across the sky!

A16 EXT. SOCCENT - TARMAC -

A16

THE CHOPPER BEGINS TO CHANGE SHAPE -- ROTORS RETRACT -- TRANSFORMING AS IT RISES TO HEIGHT: "VORTEX." A MASSIVE DECEPTICON ROBOT, BARELY VISIBLE THROUGH THE SMOKE --

16 INT. SOCCENT - TOWER - CONTINUOUS

16

A THUNDERCLAP CONCUSSION BLOWS IN ALL THE WINDOWS --

17 EXT. SOCCENT TARMAC - CONTINUOUS

17

Our soldiers come RUNNING from their barracks in time to see pulse blasts vaporize an entire row of C-17 Cargo Planes. The men RUN for cover by a B-2 bunker as all the plane hangers are DESTROYED in the blast -- FIRE and SMOKE reduce visibility to zero:

A18 INT. SOCCENT - JOC-JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER - CONTINUOUS

A18

The roof is RIPPED OFF by the unseen giant! Its ~~MASSIVE~~ HAND tears up cables connected to the Cray computers -- the cables COME ALIVE, wrapping like magnetic vines around Vortex's metal forearm as the copper wire sears into it. The ~~beast~~ emits a HIGH-INTENSITY SHRIEK, like a modem connecting.

THE WATCH COMMANDER pulls himself from rubble sees FRITZING MONITORS rapidly flashing a file that ~~UPLOADS~~ INTO THE ROBOT:

"PROJECT ICE MAN: ABOVE TOP SECRET: SECTION SEVEN ACCESS ONLY"

Panicked, the Watch Commander looks up through the shredded roof at the beast, yells to a TECHIE:

SOCCENT'S WATCH COMMANDER
Cut the hard lines! Cut the hard lines!

A TECHIE rips an AXE from the wall, HACKS DOWN on a hard line -- the cables explode, SEVERING THE ROBOT'S CONNECTION TO THE FILE.

With a ROAR, Vortex FIRES ~~PULSE~~ BLASTS, obliterating everyone!

18 EXT. TARMAC - NEAR THE B-2 BUNKER - CONTINUOUS

18

The op-center EXPLODES in a thousand directions. Lennox and the team BOLT for cover, heading directly BETWEEN THE ROBOT'S LEGS. Its massive feet ~~PUNTER~~ DOWN, squashing a vehicle.

RUNNING POV -- ~~big~~ falls, swings the thermal imager DIRECTLY UP, managing to take a SNAPSHOT beneath the monster's underbelly --

VORTEX POV: alert, the robot's targeting system ZOOMS IN on the imager -- ~~WARNING~~ SIGNAL -- it FIRES at the soldiers!

Lennox tackles the boy to the ground -- Epps swipes a SCATTERSHOT LAUNCHER from his back, fires: FIFTEEN PHOSPHOROUS-MAGNESIUM FLARES mushroom out like fireworks and...

VORTEX'S POV WHITES OUT. As it recovers, something DISENGAGES from its back and DROPS into the sand. Though flaming debris makes it hard to see, we catch GLIMPSES of its features:

TWO CLAW-LIKE DRILLERS. SIX SPINDLY LEGS. A LETHAL STINGER TAIL: SKORPONOK. A MECHANICAL SCORPION. It worms its way underground...

A19 EXT. SOCCENT RIDGE - NIGHT

A19

Skorponok's head EMERGES, barbed mandibles CLICKING, scanning --

SKORPONOK POV: in the far distance, it sees the soldiers' HEAT SIGNATURES disappear over the dunes. Skorponok's head burrows and a TRAVELLING MOUND OF SAND rockets off... ON THE HUMP.

19 EXT. AMERICAN CITY - DAY

19

AERIAL SHOT: flying over a massive concrete jungle ~~to~~ THE SUBURBS. We CLOSE IN on a typical American high school.

A sign reads: "TRANQUILITY HIGH SCHOOL. GO AARDVARKS!"

20 INT. TRANQUILITY HIGH SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

20

SAM WITWICKY: an endearing face that wants ~~only~~ to fit in. Sitting at the back of the class, he stares moonily at a GIRL across the room:

MIKAELA BANES, a classic beauty, the apple of his eye. Unfortunately, she's sitting with her boyfriend: TRENT DeMARCO, your basic Abercrombie nightmare.

The teacher, MR. HOSNEY (bored ~~over~~ it), calls out:

MR. HOSNEY

'kay, Sam, you're up.

His pal MILES snaps fingers ~~at~~ Sam's eyes, breaking his trance:

MILES

Dude. Earth. Now.

Sam rises, gathers ~~his~~ backpack... makes the long, long "walk of shame" to the head of the classroom -- enduring giggles and people THROWING ~~half~~-up paper at him.

SAM

Um... for my family genealogy report, I picked my great, great grandfather, Captain Archibald Witwicky, one of the first guys ever to make it to the arctic circle.

He turns ~~and~~ opens his backpack. Trent slingshots a GUMMY WORM -- it sticks in Sam's hair.

MIKAELA

Quit it.

TRENT

(innocent shrug)

-- what?

Sam picks the worm from his hair, trying to maintain composure:

SAM

Ah, cherry. My favorite.

He lays out his great grandfather's NAVIGATION INSTRUMENTS — among them, we favor the SPECTACLES we saw in the ice cave:

SAM (CONT'D)

So, like, here are some of the tools of a nineteenth century seaman:

(people GIGGLE; he's self-aware now)

The quadrant, the sextant...

(more GIGGLES... he pushes through)

The compass... and his glasses.

MR. HOSNEY

It isn't 'Show And Tell,' Mr. Witwicky, it's the eleventh grade.

SAM

Yeah, I know, it's just that I'm also selling this stuff on eBay to put toward my car fund? They make really cool Christmas gifts, available at a low, low price--

MR. HOSNEY

Sam --

SAM

Right, anyway I guess years of hypothermia froze his brain, and he ended up going blind and crazy in a sanitarium... drawing these weird symbols and babbling about a giant ice man.

Sam holds up a framed NEWSPAPER CLIPPING, circa 1897: "ARCTIC ADVENTURER ALLEGES ICE MAN FOUND!" Beneath it we see a PHOTO of CAPTAIN ARCHIBALD WITWICKY -- our ship's captain. And next to that, crudely drawn sketches of the ALIEN SYMBOLS he saw.

The BELL RINGS. The kids flood out the door...

MR. HOSNEY

Thank you, everyone. Might be a pop quiz tomorrow. Might not. Sleep in fear tonight. Bye.

(to Sam)

Saved by the bell.

SAM

So... what's my grade?

MR. HOSNEY

I'd say a solid B minus.

SAM

B minus?!! What about all the visual aids?

MR. HOSNEY

Wasn't really feeling it.

SAM

No, um, you don't get it -- see that ~~man~~ sitting in the car?

Sam points out the window: there's a MAN in a ~~car~~ out front --

SAM (CONT'D)

That's my dad -- and when I turned sixteen last year, he said if I saved two thousand bucks and got three ~~A's~~ he'd help me buy half a car. I ~~need~~ at least an A minus...

MR. HOSNEY

Ah, I remember my ~~first car~~... a 1970 Gremlin.

SAM

Isn't that what you still drive?

(off Hosney's glare)

What I mean is... please, Mr. Hosney... my future -- my freedom -- my manhood -- is in your ~~merciful~~ hands.

Off that --

21 INT. RON'S CAR - ~~OUTSIDE~~ SCHOOL - DAY

21

Sam's dad RON ~~waits~~. Sam gets in, looking glum.

RON

~~So?~~

Long beat. Sam turns to his dad. GRINS. Slips on his SHADES:

SAM

You owe me a car, Pops.

22 INT. RON'S CAR - AUTO ROW - MOVING - MID-AFTERNOON

22

Driving past AUTO DEALERSHIPS. Sam stares excitedly out the window. Ron veers toward a PORSCHE dealer, slows...

RON

Got a surprise for you, Sam... you're not getting a Porsche.

Ron veers back onto the street, cracking up...

SAM

You're a cruel, cruel man.

23 EXT. AUTO ROW - CONTINUOUS

23

As Ron's car leaves frame, ANOTHER CAR takes it: A ~~DENIED~~, YELLOW CAMARO. '75. Beaten all to hell. At the wheel is...

THE MOUSTACHE MAN WE SAW IN THE CHOPPER. In ~~daylight~~, there's a TRANSLUCENT quality to him. He follows Ron's ~~car~~ coward...

24 EXT. BOLIVIA'S AUTO RESALE - DAY

24

Ron's car pulls in. This place looks like a junkyard.

SAM

Here? Nonono, Dad, there's a food chain in high school, and it's not that I'm on the bottom, I'm not even on it. The right car says to girls... 'Get to know me. Touch me. ~~These~~ cars say: 'Run... run away from the spaz.'

RON

I think they say you're the guy who knows the value of a hard-earned buck, Kiddo... no sacrifice, no victory.

SAM

Can this ~~not~~ turn into an after-school special? I need all the help I can get.

Ron stares. ~~Sam~~ sighs and gets out. They're greeted by the owner: BOBBY BOLIVIA, pasty, a lopsided grin.

BOBBY BOLIVIA

Gentlemen, hiya: Bobby Bolivia, like the country. At your service.

RON

My son's buying his first car.

BOBBY BOLIVIA

And you came to me? We-heel, that practically makes us family. Call me 'Uncle Bobby B.'

(an arm around Sam)

(MORE)

BOBBY BOLIVIA (CONT'D)

I've been doing this a long time, Kid -- that first enchilada of freedom's just waitin' under one of these hoods. See, drivers don't pick their cars, nossir -- cars pick their drivers. It's a mystical bond between man and machine.

Sam passes cars, examining each one: bad mini-vans, other heads of junk metal. Sam STOPS. Backs up to THE YELLOW CAMARO we just saw following him. Moustache Man is now gone. He circles the car, tracing a finger along black racing stripes; a Rep Boys' ten dollar attempt to look cool.

SAM

Least it's got racing stripes.

Bolivia stares at the car, confused as hell:

BOBBY BOLIVIA

Where'd this one come from?

(calls to employee)

MANNY!!! 'THE HECK'S THIS

Sam hops in. Checks the dash -- ~~notices~~, sarcastically:

SAM

Gee, an actual ~~operating~~ eight-track.

A GLINT of light catches his eye. An EMBLEM on the steering wheel. He wipes away grime to reveal... THE AUTOBOT SYMBOL.

RON

How much?

BOBBY BOLIVIA

Well, uh... considering the semi-classic nature of the vehicle, five grand.

RON

We're not going above four.

BOBBY BOLIVIA

Four? Kid, outta the car --

SAM

But you said cars choose their drivers --

BOBBY BOLIVIA

Yeah, well sometimes they choose one that's outta their price range. Now, this one here's a beautiful--

As Bolivia climbs into an EDSEL to show it off, the Camaro's passenger door SWINGS OPEN -- SLAMS into the Edsel, nearly crushing Bolivia. Thrown but covering, he climbs out:

BOBBY BOLIVIA (CONT'D)

Uh... no problem, we can hammer that out
easy -- meantime, feast your eyes on that
one, it's a --

As he closes the Camaro door, its HORN BLARES -- so loud all the
WINDOWS in every other car on the lot EXPLODE. Glass flies
everywhere. Everyone REACTS in shock:

SAM

What... was that?

BOBBY BOLIVIA

(his ruined cars)

Oh, nonononono... MANNY, GET OUT ~~HERE!~~

Ron grabs Sam and moves him off, Bolivia chases them --

BOBBY BOLIVIA (CONT'D)

Nono, wait! Okay, it's your lucky day!
On account of the kinks: ~~four~~ thousand.

Sam looks at his dad: please? Finally, Ron nods.

SAM

Yes!

MUSIC POUNDS: Sam adjusts the ~~rear~~ view/ turns the key/ slams
into "DRIVE" -- Bobby Bolivia leans in, SPRAYS SOMETHING through
the window -- Sam coughs, waving away particles:

BOBBY BOLIVIA

'New car' ~~seat~~, Kid. On the house.

RON

(~~leans~~ in the window)

One ~~promise~~: if ever, for any reason, and
I'm ~~not~~ accusing you of anything, you
~~think~~ you shouldn't drive? Call me and
I'll ~~pick~~ you up... no questions asked.

SAM

.. Promise. Thanks, Dad.

As he PEELS OUT of the lot, a hubcap rolls away. From that, to:

25 EXT. WASHINGTON STREET - TAXI - LATE AFTERNOON

25

HUNDREDS OF CARS at rush hour on a Washington street. In the
back of a taxi sits MAGGIE MARCONI, 28. She balances a cup of
Starbucks, her I-pod, and her laptop, types furiously -- sees
the awful traffic, checks her watch: late. Dials a cell --

26 INT. THE RAND CORPORATION - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

26

A Think Tank populated by brainiacs. A desk phone RINGS -- GLEN WHITMANN answers: African American, a tech geek eating FRUITY PEBBLES. INTERCUT:

GLEN

Y'ello --

MAGGIE

Glen, it's me. I'm in a cab, traffic sucks, I'm gonna be late again --

GLEN

Mags, don't do this to me, DHS ~~almost~~ traced me last time --

MAGGIE

Pleaseplease, if my radio ~~enervation~~ brief isn't in by four, I'm ~~out~~ --

GLEN

How'd you land a job at a ~~think~~ tank without knowing how to get your alarm?

MAGGIE

Okay, look... my ~~armor~~ ll meet your Kodo beast in the ~~Thunderhorn~~ realm and you can have all my ~~pratinum~~ goblin armor.

GLEN

My grandma doesn't like me on-line gaming anymore, ~~she~~ says it diminishes my emotional ~~quotient~~.

MAGGIE

Glen, ~~stop~~ being a hapless techno-weenie, I'm desperate --

GLEN

Okay, alright, where are you?

MAGGIE

Heading north on Constitution --

Glen's fingers punch keystrokes at his computer: "ACTIVATE TRAFFIC PRE-EMPTION SYSTEM." He highlights "Constitution Ave" on a city grid and... in front of the taxi, all traffic lights for fifteen blocks go green --

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

You got a straight shot, gogogo--

CABBIE

How'd you do that, Lady?

The cab peels out --

28 INT. THE RAND CORPORATION - ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

28

Maggie rushes in, SKIDS to an elevator, hits the call button urgently. Suddenly, TWO SUITED AGENTS are in front of her:

AGENT #1

Maggie Marconi?

(they flash BADGES)

Secret Service, we need you to come with us.

MAGGIE

Oh, uh, look, if this is about the traffic lights, I acted alone. ~~Allyma.~~

AGENT #2

(pushing her along)

Come with us, please.

MAGGIE

Hey, I have a right to ~~know~~ where we're going.

AGENT #2

You'll see shortly.

30 As they emerge, A HELICOPTER LANDS on the front lawn. Maggie freezes in total surprise --

30

31 EXT. SKIES OVER PENTAGON - THE CHOPPER - CONTINUOUS

31

The chopper ROARS over D.F., circling the Pentagon.

32 INT. PENTAGON - DAY

32

The agents lead Maggie through corridors. What's she doing here? A PENTAGON OFFICIAL hands her a document on a clipboard:

OFFICIAL

Secrecy oath. Please sign.

Maggie signs, concern growing. They lead her into...

33 INT. THE PENTAGON - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

33

A roomful of similar ANALYST TYPES. Maggie slides in a chair as a SUITED MAN enters: JOHN KELLER, no nonsense, gulping coffee from a paper cup. An ANALYST next to Maggie murmurs, amazed...

ANALYST

That's the Secretary of Defense...

KELLER

Afternoon everyone. I'm John Keller, obviously you're wondering why you're here. So, these are the facts: at oh-nine-hundred yesterday, the SOCCENT Forward Operations Base in Qatar was attacked. There were no survivors.

(everyone's shocked)

The world's gonna hear about it in a half hour, you're hearing now. The objective of the attack was to hack our military network -- we aren't sure exactly what they were after, but we do know they were cut off during the assault... which leads us to assume they'll try again. No one's claimed responsibility, and so far our only real lead is this:

A SOUND emanates from speakers: the same unearthly SHRIEK we heard from Vortex during the SOCCENT attack.

KELLER (CONT'D)

That's the signal that ~~hacked~~ our network. NSA's working at full capacity to analyze it and ~~intercept~~ further communications... but we need your help to find out who ~~did~~ this. You've all shown considerable ability in the area of signals analysis. Service is voluntary... anyone wants out, there's the door.

(nobody moves)

We're on a ~~hear~~-trigger here, People -- the President's dispatched battle groups to the ~~Arabian~~ Gulf and South China Sea. This is a ~~deal~~ as it gets. Godspeed.

(Everyone rises)

Margaret Marconi? Stay behind.

Maggie's now ~~really~~ thrown: the Sec Def wants to talk to her? She follows ~~him~~ into THE HALLWAY -- they walk:

KELLER (CONT'D)

I'm told you used to run great guns at NSA... til you were fired for twice rewriting your superiors' conclusions.

MAGGIE

Sir, about that? I have a slight problem with impulse control. Like I probably shouldn't tell you that's an ugly tie and your bushy eyebrows are distracting -- and it's actually not 'Margaret,' I mean, I hate that, it says 'Maggie' on my birth certificate...

(MORE)

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

(beat, he glares)

Anyway, um, I'm working on it. Sir.

KELLER

Your conclusions were right, however. Both times. That's why you're getting a second chance... and also because I'm told you're the best code breaker there is.

MAGGIE

Thank you, Sir. I won't take it for granted.

KELLER

Some people around here think you're a security risk... don't prove me wrong

And he's gone. Maggie SLAPS her forehead in self-rebuke:

MAGGIE

Way to go. Eyebrow thing went over well with the Secretary of Defense --

Prelap a HOWLING WIND --

34 EXT. SAND DUNES - QATAR - SUNRISE

34

The wind whips over the dunes. A patch of sand trembles as... SKORPONOK'S MECHANICAL HEAD emerges, scanning like a periscope.

SKORPONOK POV: LOW CAMERA MOVING, searching the desert --

VOICES ECHO with an electric, static-like quality. POV ZOOMS FAST, following the voices to the source ten miles away:

VASCULAR RENDERINGS OF OUR SOLDIERS ON A RIDGE

We scan over the men... and then focus on LENNOX as he crouches down, tending a small wound on Mahfouz' arm... MATCH TO:

35 EXT. THE RIDGE SUNRISE

35

Lennox and the boy as he sets the bandage. The weary and demoralized soldiers take stock of their options. Donnelly and Epps study the RECORDED INFRARED IMAGE OF VORTEX:

DONNELLY

Never seen a weapons system like this...

EPPS

-- the hell was it?

Lennox checks out his portable satellite transmitter...

LENNOX

Ain't got a clue, but the SAT-COM'S
fried. Can't get a hook-up with aerial
surveillance.

FIGUEROA

Man, I dunno... my Abuelita, she had 'the
gift'... people'd come to her all the
time for fortunes, you know -- I got that
gene in my veins too, Man. And that
thing that attacked us? It ain't over.

EPPS

Yeah? So how bout you use your magic
voodoo powers to get us the hell ~~outta~~
here --

FIGUEROA

It's Santeria, Gringo --

LENNOX

Listen up: he's right. ~~We~~ weren't
supposed to survive that ~~attack~~. If that
thing knows we're alive, we're still
targets. Plus, we're the only ones who
saw what hit the ~~base~~.

EPPS

(nodding)

Pentagon's gonna want payback...

LENNOX

Right: so ~~it's~~ down to us to get that
picture ~~home~~ ASAP... what's left of our
gear?

DONNELLY

Not much. No radio, half the weapons,
~~some~~ ~~flares~~.

LENNOX

~~Did~~, how much further to your village?

MAHFOUZ

Very close. Over hill.

LENNOX

Piece a cake... ain't that right, Fig?

FIGUEROA

(deep breath)

Piece a cake, Sir.

LENNOX

Epps?

EPPS
(finally, a nod)
Piece a cake.

LENNOX
Okay: we're still under orders and losing
time. Five meter spread.

They start to move off over the dunes...

KELLER (V.O.)
At this time, we can't confirm whether
there were any survivors...

A36 INT. LENNOX HOME - NIGHT

A36

CLOSE ON SARAH, LENNOX'S WIFE -- A WRECK OF ANXIETY

She's watching CNN, where KELLER speaks from the Pentagon:

KELLER ON TV
... but our prayers are with the families
of the brave men and women who were
stationed at SOCCENT. Our bases
worldwide are on high alert, and we're
committed to keeping you informed as we
learn the facts.

The baby CRIES. Sarah picks her up, trying not to lose it...

SARAH
Shhh... shhh... Daddy's okay... Daddy's
okay...

36 EXT. WITWICKY HOUSE LATE AFTERNOON

36

Back in the burbs. MUSIC blasts from the ATTIC of a house...

37 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - SAM'S ROOM/ ATTIC - LATE AFTERNOON

37

A list of GOALS tacked to the wall -- SAM'S HAND crosses off:
"1.) GET CAR. 2.) GET NEW CAR STEREO. 3.) GET NEW PAINT JOB. 4.)
GET FEMALE PASSENGER." That one, he CIRCLES. Looks over at...

A CHIHUAHUA named "Mojo" on his bed, wearing a DIAMOND COLLAR,
its leg in a CAST. Staring at him through skeptical dog eyes.

SAM
What?

Sam runs mousse through his hair -- splashes on cologne --
considers a beat, then puts a drop in his underwear. The
chihuahua gives him a curious look.

Sam quickly goes to his computer, checks his "E-BAY AUCTION PAGE." The old junk he's selling -- among the items, HIS GREAT GRANDFATHER'S GLASSES.

As a catchy sales tool, he's posted the old NEWSPAPER CLIPPING beside the glasses: "ARCTIC ADVENTURER ALLEGES ICE MAN FOUND"

The listing reads: "BIDS PLACED: 0." Sam says to Mojo ~~at~~ he runs out --

SAM (CONT'D)

I know you're on pain pills, but if you whiz on my bed again, you're sleeping outside --

38 EXT. WITWICKY HOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON

38

Sam's mom, JUDY, tends to her ROSE BUSHES as Ron, the Home Depot freak, finishes laying down a STONE PATH. The back door bursts open and Sam bounds toward his car, tramping the grass --

RON

HEY! IT'S CALLED A PATH

(Sam backtracks)

See? Is that so hard? When you own your own grass, you'll understand.

Mojo BARKS --

SAM

Mom, seriously, could you stop putting jewelry on Mojo? He's a boy.

JUDY

I think ~~he~~ looks cute.

SAM

He's got enough self-esteem issues as a ~~Chihuahua~~.

RON

(ribbing her)

Maybe you should put him back in the cryer, Hon...

JUDY

It was an accident, okay?! I didn't know he fell asleep in the laundry basket.

(picks up dog)

How's your little leggy-weggy, hm?

SAM

(rolling his eyes)

By the way, your roses... awesome. Really compliments your hair.

JUDY

Nice try. Home by eleven. And drive safe...

Sam rolls his eyes, jumps in the Camaro. A BLACK TOXIC CLOUD belches from the tailpipe, nearly consuming the entire street as it roars off. Judy and Ron COUGH, waving it away --

JUDY (CONT'D)

Did you have to be so damn cheap, Ron?

39 EXT. TRANQUILITY SUBURBS - LATE AFTERNOON

39

Sam's buddy MILES sits on a stoop, waiting. Sam calls up in the Camaro, REVVING its throaty engine. Miles' expression DROPS...

SAM

Listen to those ponies purr, huh? What d'you think?

MILES

It's... yellow.

SAM

Dude, it's old school.

MILES

But it's... yellow.

SAM

Why you gotta dis my wheels?

MILES

Can I drive?

SAM

Get in the car, Miles.

40 EXT. "THE LAKE" - SUNSET

40

The shore's filled with hollering teens. Some swim. SAM'S CAMARO glides up. Miles emerges sheepishly. As Sam gets out...

MIKAELA emerges from the lake. Wrings her incredible hair. As she passes, Sam mumbles "hi" and drops his keys...

MILES

At least tell me you maintain control of your bowels whenever she walks by.

Mikaela joins TRENT by an Escalade. Seeing Sam, Trent points:

TRENT

Hey, Bro! Sorry 'bout your grandma... she died and left you that car, right?

He and his buddies laugh. Miles comes to Sam's defense:

MILES

It's old school, Man.

MIKAELA

(to Trent, disgusted)

Not everyone's parents can afford an Escalade...

TRENT

Thought I recognized you in class -- you're the little dude who tried out for the team last semester, right?

A41 **FLASHCUT**: CLOSE ON SAM, breathing hard, psyching himself up for A41 battle -- WIDEN to reveal he's at team tryouts, wearing FOOTBALL PADDING way too big for his body -- a COACH ~~W~~STLES and:

SAM'S HELMET POPS OFF LIKE A CHAMPAGNE COCK AS FOUR HULKING LINEMAN THROTTLE HIM INTO THE TURF. ~~He~~ lies there, stunned, unable to breathe.

COACH

... you okay, Kid?

But all Sam can manage is a ~~PAINED~~ SQUEAK --

B41 **PRESENT**: Sam plays it off ~~self~~ self-conscious in front of Mikaela: B41

SAM

Me? Oh, that? That was just... research. I wasn't really trying out. I'm... working on a book.

TRENT

On ~~what?~~ Sucking at sports?

SAM

No, actually... on the link between ~~Football~~ football and brain damage.

Trent makes a menacing move toward Sam but Mikaela blocks him --

MIKAELA

Stop it.

Glaring at her now, opens his car door --

TRENT

There's a frat party, this sucks.

MIKAELA

Lemme drive --

TRENT

Please, this is a tank -- and you're like, my little bunny... you can't handle this much machine.

MIKAELA

Oh, so I'm your 'little bunny' now?

TRENT

Dude... what is with you?

MIKAELA

Tell you what, Dude... why don't you get in your daddy-bought car, turn on that expensive GPS, and see if you can find some other forest creature to patrolize.

She stomps off as Trent's buddies "oooooh" ~~him~~. Telling them to "shut the hell up," he gets in his car and they all PEEL OUT.

Furious, Mikaela passes Sam. Strangely, his radio starts SCANNING, stops on The Cars' "Who's Gonna Drive You Home?"

MILES

What's up with your ~~rad~~?

SAM

(echoing the lyric)

I'm gonna drive ~~near~~ home... tonight.

MILES

What? She's an evil jock concubine, let her hitchhike.

SAM

C'mon, it's like ten miles to her house. I'm never gonna get another chance like this.

MILES

(beat)

You better come back for me.

Miles gets out, Sam drives off. Sees Mikaela up ahead stomping toward the exit -- says to himself:

SAM

Okay, be cool. Be... supercool.

He pulls up alongside her...

SAM (CONT'D)

Uh, hey, Mikaela? It's Sam. Witwicky. Hope I didn't get you stranded.

MIKAELA

... It's fine.

SAM

So, like... d'you need a ride home?
Cause I was just... leaving and...
wondering if you wanted a ride... or not.

Mikaela looks around. Weighs her options. Sighs.

41 INT. CAMARO - FOREST ROAD - NIGHT

41

The Camaro streaks along. Mikaela, wearing Sam's jacket to stay warm, RANTS --

MIKAELA

I cannot believe I'm here --

SAM

Oh, um, do you want me to turn around--

MIKAELA

-- no, here, in this ~~situation~~ --
another Friday night watching Trent get
unconscious with those ~~shots~~ -- and the
worst part? It's my fault, I do it to
myself -- I can't ~~wait~~ to go to college
cause there seriously better be more to
life than this, I mean, something earth-
shattering or I'm gonna kill myself...
sorry, I'm just ~~venting~~... are you
wearing cologne?

SAM

No. Yeah. It's... a little aftershave.
(rolls down window)
You ~~like~~ it?

MIKAELA

I'd lighten it up a little. What class
~~did~~ you say we have together?

SAM

Math... Gym... Social Studies...
History..

(she's blank)

I was standing in front of you giving a
report for like five minutes today?

MIKAELA

Sam... right.

Suddenly, the car sputters, the engine dying...

SAM

No... nonononono not now...

The car rolls to a stop at the edge of a bluff, headlights illuminating a sign: "OVERLOOK POINT." The radio TURNS ITSELF ON: Barry White's "I'm Ready For Love."

SAM (CONT'D)

Uh... I know how this looks -- I would never try something like that on you, Mikaela -- I mean, not that you're not worth trying something like that on, that's not what I mea--

MIKAELA

Just pop the hood...

42 EXT. OVERLOOK POINT - NIGHT

42

Mikaela's buried under the hood, amazed at the complex engine...

MIKAELA

Wait a sec, this is like an aluminum stoker block engine, it's what they use in race cars...

SAM

How d'you know ~~that~~?

MIKAELA

My dad, before he uh... left. Serious grease monkey.

SAM

But you ~~seem~~ so... not mechanical.

MIKAELA

Yeah, well I don't broadcast it -- guys don't like it when you know more about cars than they do.

SAM

But if Trent's driving you nuts, why d'you care what he thinks?

MIKAELA

Alright, so I have issues, I'm a superfreak of contradictions.

(SLAMS hood closed)

I'm just gonna walk.

SAM

(kill me now)

Yeah. 'kay. Seeya.

As she goes, Sam turns to his car, mutters urgently:

SAM (CONT'D)
How can you do this to me now?!
(to the heavens)
Please, don't let her walk away --

The engine REVVS TO LIFE. The radio blasts "Baby, Come ~~Back~~."
Mikaela turns, surprised. Sam stares, equally confused.

43 EXT. MIKAELA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

43

A dumpy part of town. The Camaro pulls up to Mikaela's house.
She turns to him, softening, grateful...

MIKAELA
So... thanks for the ride.

SAM
Anytime.

A moment of connection. She gets out. Starts to walk inside.
Turns back...

MIKAELA
You think I'm shallow, huh?

SAM
(beat smiles)
I think... there's a lot more to you than
meets the eye.

She gives him the greatest smile ever. Off that --

44 INT. PENTAGON - LISTENING STATIONS - NIGHT

44

Rows of RECRUITS sit at audio stations, wearing headphones,
listening to radio chatter. Among them, we find...

MAGGIE listens to Vortex's SHRIEKING SIGNAL from the opening.
Playing it over and over. Getting nowhere, she removes the
headphones, exhausted. An ANALYST near her leans in:

ANALYST #2
What d'you think? Chinese?

MAGGIE
... doesn't sound Chinese. This is...
something else.

She puts the headphones back on. Hits 'Play' again... and the
SHRIEKING SOUND becomes...

45 EXT. AIR FORCE ONE - FLYING - NIGHT 45

The TURBINE ROAR of a majestic 747 as it soars over clouds, flanked by escorting F-22's:

LEGEND: "AIR FORCE ONE... SOMEWHERE OVER VIRGINIA..."

46 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - MISSION COMMUNICATION CENTER - NIGHT 46

AIR FORCE SPECIALISTS man the elaborate communications system. On a monitor, we catch a conversation between a ~~PEN~~AGON GENERAL and his AIDE:

GENERAL (ON SCREEN)

Battle Group Truman's nearing the ~~Arabian~~ gulf -- review in one hour.

AIDE

Yessir.

A UNIFORMED AIR FORCE STEWARDESS TAKES ~~FRAME~~, we FOLLOW HER to a door where a SECRET SERVICE AGENT stands guard. He nods to the stewardess, allowing her to enter:

48 THE PRESIDENT'S STATE ROOM. ~~All we see~~: a pair of SOCKED FEET 48
crossed on the bed. The ~~presidential~~ seal above the headboard.
We NEVER see the President's face.

STEWARDESS #1

Yes, Mr. President

THE PRESIDENT (O.S.)

Think you ~~can~~ wrangle me up some Ding Dongs and ~~a~~ glass of milk?

STEWARDESS #1

Right ~~away~~, Sir.

49 She exits as ~~another~~ SECRET SERVICE AGENT passes, entering THE 49
SECRET SERVICE CABIN: people working, sleeping. DRIFT over to:

A BOOM BOX NESTLED IN A CORNER. Silently, it starts RESHAPING -- sprouts ~~TINY~~ FEET -- scuttles crab-like around a sleeping agent's ~~shoes~~, moving behind a seat where...

The ~~screen~~ TRANSFORMS into a four and a half foot DECEPTICON ROBOT: SOUNDWAVE. Reed-thin, legs like steel sticks, insanely narrow body. This thing is creepy. Unseen, it moves off...

50 MID-PLANE CORRIDOR: our STEWARDESS enters, the other 50
stewardesses drink coffee and gab --

STEWARDESS #1 (CONT'D)
 (rolling her eyes)
 The Man wants Ding Dongs. I'll be in
 storage.

She gets in another ELEVATOR, it DESCENDS...

51 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - STORAGE - CONTINUOUS

51

The elevator arrives, our stewardess gets out. Moves through the lower galley: storage freezers, food prep tables. She opens one of the freezers, finds the DING DONGS, starts unwrapping them -- accidentally DROPS ONE and we...

FOLLOW it as it rolls across the floor, stopping at SOUNDWAVE'S FEET, in shadow. Oblivious, the stewardess snatches off the Ding Dong, puts it on a plate, gets back in the elevator.

Alone, Soundwave EMERGES into the light. Moves to a locked access panel labeled: "P.O.T.U.S. ONLY." Steel fingers rip off the LOCK, remove the panel revealing a MAINFRAME TERMINAL:

Soundwave opens his mouth, emitting the same SIGNAL SHRIEK we heard from Vortex. The computer BLINKS to life:

"CONNECTING TO PENTAGON NETWORK..."

52 INT. PENTAGON - LISTENING STATION - CONTINUOUS

52

As Maggie listens to her headphones, a POP-UP appears on the console: "FOREIGN SIGNAL DETECTED..."

ALERT, she types fast. TWO SOUND GRAPHS appear side by side, comparing the signals. "MATCH."

MAGGIE

They're hacking the network again!!

53 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - STORAGE - CONTINUOUS

53

The SHRIEK continues emitting from Soundwave's open mouth.

REFLECTED IN HIS EYES, a FILE appears on the terminal screen: "PROJECT ICE MAN: ABOVE TOP SECRET: SECTOR SEVEN ACCESS ONLY."

The same file we saw Vortex try to download from the base!

54 INT. PENTAGON - LISTENING STATION - CONTINUOUS

54

The SHRIEK echoes through the room as Maggie types furiously --

PENTAGON WATCH COMMANDER

Run a trace route!

MAGGIE

I'm trying, but it's locking me out!!!

55 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - STORAGE - CONTINUOUS 55

On Soundwave's terminal, the file finishes DOWNLOADING. ~~Then~~ something even more terrifying appears:

"TRANSMITTING VIRUS TO PENTAGON NETWORK..."

56 INT. PENTAGON - LISTENING STATIONS - CONTINUOUS 56

Maggie double-takes as she notices a WAVE FORM ~~going insane~~ --

MAGGIE

Oh my God... cut the hard lines!

PENTAGON WATCH ~~COMMANDER~~

-- what?!!

MAGGIE

CUT THE HARD LINES! I THINK THEY'RE PLANTING A VIRUS!

~~PENTAGON WATCH~~ COMMANDER

(snatches up a phone)

CODE RED! CUT ALL ~~SERVER~~ HARD LINES NOW!

57 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - STORAGE - CONTINUOUS 57

VIRUS UPLOAD continues: "~~75%~~. 90%... TRANSMISSION COMPLETE."

Soundwave's mouth ~~CLOSES~~. The sound STOPS --

58 INT. PENTAGON - LISTENING STATIONS - CONTINUOUS 58

The bouncing wave ~~form~~ FLATLINES. The noise is GONE.

MAGGIE

W~~A~~ ~~got~~ it!

60 INT. AIR FORCE ONE - STORAGE - CONTINUOUS 60

As Soundwave is about to retreat, the ELEVATOR returns. An AGENT emerges with a FLIGHT DECK SPECIALIST... and they notice the broken lock on the floor.

SECRET SERVICE AGENT #3

(into wrist-mic)

Break in sector two -- repeat: break in sector two --

SOUNDWAVE RISES BEHIND THEM. STEEL DISCS SHOOT FROM ITS CHEST INTO THE MEN!

A team of agents come STREAMING into the lower hold, guns drawn. All they find is an eerie sight: two bodies riddled with discs... no sign of Soundwave.

Just a BOOM BOX on a food prep table playing MUSIC. Off that...

A61 EXT. WITWICKY HOUSE - NIGHT

A61

Crickets. It's late. Eerie.

61 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - SAM'S ROOM - NIGHT

61

Sam's asleep. Out the window, his CAMARO sits in the driveway... suddenly, it STARTS UP.

Sam's eyes pop open -- he sits up to see:

THE MOUSTACHE MAN BEHIND THE WHEEL

SAM

Hey, that's my car!!

The car backs out of the driveway. Sam frantic, falls out of bed -- throws on shoes, grabs a jacket, leaps out the window:

62 EXT. WITWICKY HOUSE - DRIVEWAY / STREETS - CONTINUOUS

62

He races after the car but the man DRIVES AWAY -- Sam hops on his bike and GIVES CHASE -- trying to keep up, he grabs his cell from his jacket, dials while steering --

911 OPERATOR

911 Emergency --

SAM

My car's being stolen -- get the cops, I'm following him right now!

911 OPERATOR

Sir, do not approach the driver, could be dangerous --

The car BRAKES at a stop sign -- Sam looks up, CAREENS into the back bumper, tumbling off the bike. The car PEELS OUT again. Sam collects himself, hops back on the bike and races after it.

HOLD on SAM'S PHONE left on the ground, the operator's VOICE:

911 OPERATOR (CONT'D)

Sir, sir, we're tracing the call, are you alright? Sir?

64 EXT. OLD CEMENT FACTORY/ STEELYARD - NIGHT

64

The Camaro glides up to a closed gate. Drives forward, busting the lock. Sam follows, hopping off his bike, watches the car disappear through DENSE FOG... and when it emerges...

MOUSTACHE MAN IS GONE. The car's driving itself. It rolls up to the edge of a quarry. THE CAR CHANGES SHAPE. No clear view, only hints -- but enough to know it's walking on two legs.

Sam trembles in shock, hidden behind a crate. Watching as the dark being pulls something from its chest: a strange, HUMMING DISC that radiates a BLINDING LIGHT. It FLARES Sam's eyes, coalescing into... THE AUTOBOT SYMBOL. It beams up to space.

Suddenly, a terrifying sound behind Sam... ~~GRRRRRRRRRRR~~... TWO ROTTWEILERS LUNGE! Sam RUNS, jumping onto a mound of crates -- leaps over a barbed-wire fence, ripping his clothes as the dogs DIG under the fence, still giving chase -- they GRAB his ankle, trip Sam in the dirt, but --

THE CAMARO BURSTS THROUGH THE FENCE, SPINNING DOUGHNUTS AROUND SAM -- HONKING FURIOUSLY to hold the dogs away -- they WHIMPER and run off, frightened. Sam scrambles backward from the car...

SAM

Please... don't kill me...

POLICE SIRENS. Sam spins, running head-first into TWO SQUAD CARS. COPS hop out, guns drawn --

SHERIFF

Freeze! Hands! Up!

SAM

Not me! Not me! Wrong guy! My car, it's --

He points, but the Camaro's gone. Sam's THROWN onto the hood -- the SLAM takes us to:

67 INT. PENTAGON - WAR ROOM - DAWN

67

People race through the Crisis Action Center -- KELLER, ADMIRAL BRIGHAM (Chairman of the Joint Chiefs); NSA and CIA directors; a NERVOUS TECHIE. Maggie behind them, races to keep up:

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

Air Force One made an emergency landing, the President's moving to a secure location --

MAGGIE

(trying for attention)

Sir, if I could just--

NERVOUS TECHIE

Whoever did this finally managed to infiltrate our defense network -- which is what they tried to do in Qatar... only this time, it worked.

KELLER

What'd they get?

NERVOUS TECHIE

We still don't know.

KELLER

What about the virus?

NERVOUS TECHIE

Again, no idea what it'll do. So far it isn't affecting our systems, but ~~that~~ could change any second.

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

This is obviously the first phase of a bigger plan... presumably a major strike against the U.S.

KELLER

Any idea who we're ~~looking~~ looking at?

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

Russia and China are the only countries with this kind of capability.

MAGGIE

That's a mistake.

Everyone stops, turns ~~to~~ caught off guard by her bravado.

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

Who ~~the~~ hell're you? Who's she?

KELLER

(glaring at Maggie)

The analyst who detected the hack.

MAGGIE

Sir, I was just trying to say: in theory, it'd take twenty years to crack our security codes -- no one on earth could do it.

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

Really. Then tell me why our latest satellite imagery shows China doubling its naval activity --

MAGGIE

Maybe they're just responding to our movement as a precaution --

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

'Maybe' isn't a word we build our defense posture on --

MAGGIE

I'd like to think it's not a word you'd go to war over either, Sir.

(Brigham glares)

If I could just have some time to study their signal pattern --

KELLER

No: we have senior analysts on that -- now look, if you can't find a way to muzzle every kneejerk impulse that crosses your mind, I am taking you out.

The men turn away from her, head off --

MAGGIE

Sir...

(annoyed, Keller turns)

There's more to this than meets the eye. I know it.

68 EXT. TINKER AIR FORCE BASE - OKLAHOMA - MORNING

68

FLASHING LIGHTS. Military and police vehicles cover the tarmac surrounding AIR FORCE ONE, now a crime scene. FORENSICS CREWS search every inch of the plane. PAN TO...

THE WHEEL WELL

SOUNDWAVE drops down. Crosses the tarmac, unseen. Comes to a POLICE CAR. ~~It~~ ~~door~~ OPENS -- as if it were waiting for Soundwave:

The police car is another Decepticon: "BRAWL." Soundwave CLIMBS IN, RESHAPING into stereo form. SLOTS into the dashboard, fusing itself with the police car, becoming part of it.

Behind the wheel, tendrils of BLUE ELECTRICITY form a FIGURE:

THE MOUSTACHE MAN HOLOGRAM. His clothes smoothly change shape and color, morphing into the attire of a POLICE OFFICER. The cop car rolls to a gate.

A SOLDIER waves. The "officer" waves back. In so doing, he FRITZES. As the police car drives off into the night, we PRELAP:

SHERIFF'S VOICE

So the guy with the moustache just -- in your words -- just 'fizzled' into thin air? And your car was driving by itself...

69 INT. POLICE STATION - MORNING

69

Sam, exhausted, unravelling, sits beside his father as he's grilled by the SHERIFF:

SAM

Yes -- yes -- that's what I said, could be any clearer than how crystal clear I'm being right now?! It, like... transformed. It stood up!

SHERIFF

Wow. Some cruise control, huh?

RON

Look, it's been a long night, he's upset, and I'm taking him home.

SHERIFF

We'll run it through the wire, see what turns up.

As Sam and Ron head out, the Sheriff murmurs to Ron:

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

You know... it's your responsibility to talk to your son about drugs.

70 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

70

Ron and Sam make their way down the station steps...

RON

Wanna tell me what really happened?

SAM

(lost, a beat)

Remember when you said you'd pick me up, no questions asked?

RON

That... was the deal, yeah.

They stop at Ron's car.

SAM

Dad... y'know how great gramps pretty much... flew over the Cuckoo's nest? Think it could've been passed down to me?

(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)
Like... some kind of mutant Witwicky
gene?

Off Ron, worried...

76 EXT. QATAR DESERT - VAST PLAINS - DUSK

76

Dotting the vast desert landscape, TELEPHONE POLES are connected by a single high-tension wire. BOOM DOWN to...

The BOY leading our SOLDIERS toward a tiny, isolated wasteland hamlet -- a few dozen HUTS, crumbling buildings in the distance.

Suddenly, one of the poles SHUDDERS as if shifted by something below ground.

An aging wood-frame SIGN, maybe 30 feet high BREAKS and starts to GIVE WAY, CRASHING DOWN. Frightened buzzards fly away.

LENNOX AND THE MEN TURN -- ALERT -- HOW DID THAT FALL?!

The sand beneath Donnelly SHAKES then BURGLES as a hint of SOMETHING METAL AND SNAKE-LIKE slithers beneath him -- he FIRES his rifle into the sand and the thing DISAPPEARS --

Total SILENCE... tension pulses... then:

BAM! SKORPONOK EXPLODES FROM THE GROUND, sand sprays everywhere as its barbed-tail YANKS Donnelly clear off his feet, FLIPPING him upside-down mid-air, PULLING him BENEATH THE SURFACE!

LENNOX
MOVE MOVE MOVE!!!

The soldiers bolt toward the village -- CAMERA -- LOW, WILD -- CLOSES IN ON THEM, FASTER AND FASTER --

SKORPONOK LEAPS FROM THE SAND LIKE A GREAT WHITE SHARK, DROPPING BACK DOWN ONTO A TEAM MEMBER!

77 INT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

77

Dogs BARK like mad, HORSES REAR and STAMPEDE -- tribesmen shout in ARABIC as the soldiers run in, Lennox ordering his men:

LENNOX
Take cover! Form a perimeter!

Our team dives into defensive positions behind mud walls. A man, AKRAM, runs up seeing Mahfouz, his son. SUBTITLED ARABIC:

AKRAM
Where have you been?

MAHFOUZ

(points to soldiers)

These men saved my life, Papa!

LENNOX

Do you have a phone?!!

(shouts, to team)

Lay down fire!!

AKRAM

This way --

As they run off toward a hut, the soldiers FIRE at Skorponok as it leaps in and out of the sand. The metal monster fires back MASSIVE PLASMA BLASTS -- thatched huts IGNITE and structures are vaporized into dust --

78 INT. MAHFOUZ'S HUT - CONTINUOUS

78

The door BURSTS open as Lennox and Akram run in -- Akram grabs a CELL PHONE -- Lennox dials, shouts against LOUD GUNFIRE outside:

INDIAN OPERATOR (V.O.)

AT&T, how may I direct your call?

LENNOX

International to the USA, this is an emergency Pentagon call --

INDIAN OPERATOR (V.O.)

Your cell service doesn't include long distance minutes, Sir. Do you have a major credit card?

LENNOX

Listen to me, I need you to put me through NOW --

INDIAN OPERATOR (V.O.)

I'll be happy to connect you, Sir... with a major credit card.

Shit! Lennox turns, BURSTS outside as:

79 EXT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

79

Bullets merely DEFLECT off Skorponok's armor-shielded chassis -- Fig fires a grenade launcher -- the sand EXPLODES -- Skorponok VANISHES in rapid-fire flashes:

EPPS

I hit it, but it won't go down!

Lennox races in, spins Fig around -- indicates the cell:

LENNOX
I NEED A CREDIT CARD!!!

FIGUEROA
 ... got no credit, Sarge, I'm broke!

Lennox races on to Epps, who BLASTS MADLY at Skorponok →

EPPS
 COME ON, SUCKER! I'MA TAKE A PATCH OUTTA
 YOUR ASS!!

INDIAN OPERATOR (V.O.)
 Sir, there's no need for that kind of
 language--

LENNOX
 (into phone)
 NO, NOT YOU! HANG ON!!
 (to Epps)
 YOUR WALLET!!!

EPPS
 BACK POCKET!!

Lennox pulls the WALLET from Epps' pocket, ROLLS OFF dodging
 plasma blasts as he fumbles through the credit cards:

LENNOX
Got it: American Express, and DON'T tell
me you don't take it --

INDIAN OPERATOR
 Would you like to hear about our Premium
 Plus World Service Package? It allows
 you one hundred free minutes for--

LENNOX
 I HAVE SPECIAL OFFERS!!! PUT THE DAMN
 CALL THROUGH NOW!!!

A81 INT. THE PENTAGON - CENTRAL PBX ROUTING STATION - CONTINUOUS

A81

Lines RING. A PENTAGON OPERATOR answers:

PENTAGON OPERATOR
 Pentagon emergency line --

LENNOX
United States Air Force Officer under
hostile fire, request relay to SOCCOM --

B81 EXT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

B81

Lennox SHOUTS into the phone as EXPLOSIONS blast around him, his team members being TAKEN OUT one-by-one:

LENNOX

We're under continuing attack from an unknown aggressor! Need immediate air support!

C81 INT. THE PENTAGON - INTEL CENTER - CONTINUOUS

C81

A CONSOLE TECH snaps around to KELLER, who's conferring with an agent across the room:

CONSOLE TECH

Sir! Satellite's tracking a security team under fire in Qatar, they say they're survivors of the base attack -- we got A-10 patrols on the way

KELLER

Put it on the monitors!

A SATELLITE FEED appears on the ~~blows~~ -- in REAL-TIME, as represented by THERMAL SIGNATURES: Keller sees Lennox and his team battling Skorponok --

KELLER (CONT'D)

... what is that?

D81 EXT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

D81

Lennox tosses the cell aside, runs to his men --

LENNOX

WE GOT A BEAM-RIDER INCOMING! PAINT THE TARGET!

The men fan out, forming a perimeter around Skorponok as they aim their rifle laser designators: we see intersecting red beams tracking the beast -- "painting" the target for:

E81 EXT. SKIES ABOVE DESERT - CONTINUOUS

E81

Two A-10 FIGHTER JETS scream over the dunes. In the cockpit, the laser designators APPEAR on the tracking display:

A-10 PILOT #2

Star One to Base: we've acquired target--

F81 EXT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

F81

Skorponok FIRES PULSE BLASTS at Fig who DIVES but takes a SERIOUS HIT -- THE THERMAL IMAGER tumbles from his pack, rolls across the sand. The creature advances on the imager --

G81 EXT. SKIES ABOVE DESERT - A-10 COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

G81

A-10 PILOT #2
Star One, locking on --

MAV MISSILES leap off the rocket pod, BLAST through the air --

H81 EXT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

H81

Lennox sees the incoming missiles, DIVES into a gully embankment as they hit Skorponok dead on! But when the smoke clears, it's UNHARMED!!

LENNOX

No way.

He swings around at the ROAR of an incoming AC-130 GUNSHIP. MASSIVE. Enough fire-power to carpet bomb a town.

LENNOX (CONT'D)

INCOMING!!!!

The soldiers RUN as the massive plane fires 6,000 DEGREE "SABOT" ("Say-Bow") ROUNDS at Skorponok! An eye-searing explosion! The men seem to DISAPPEAR in the BLAST --

J81 INT. THE PENTAGON - INTED CENTER - CONTINUOUS

J81

The WHITE HOT SIGNATURE BILLOWS on the thermal feed --

KELLER

What happened?! Did we lose them?!!

TECHIE

Star One: do you have a visual on the soldiers, over --?!!

81 EXT. VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT - CONTINUOUS

81

A tense beat... then Lennox APPEARS through the smoke, waving a signal flare as the jets STREAK overhead... VICTORY!

A-10 PILOT #2
Copy, Base: we got em.

Lennox sinks to his knees, thermal imager in hand. Epps beside him. Villagers emerge from hiding. Among them, Mahfouz, Akram... safe...

As smoke clears, SKORPONOK is revealed: flapping around, its razor-barbed legs fighting to stand. One of the legs FALLS OFF as the creature burrows back into the sand...

EPPS

Man... that's some freaky wicked machine.

Lennox stares, drained of strength -- the sound of fast, heavy BREATHING turns him to...

FIG, his chest rising with shallow breaths, WOUNDED Lennox races over --

LENNOX

Stay with me, oh man -- stay with me --

(SHOUTS to Epps)

GET MED-EVAC DOWN HERE NOW!!!

82 INT. SAM'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

82

SAM SNAPS UPRIGHT, stirring from sleep.

Reality crashes: was it all a dream? He gets up, opens the door: HIS MOM is standing there, worried, trying for casual.

JUDY

Hi, honey. Wanna talk about it?

SAM

Can this wait til both my eyes are open?

JUDY

Sure... I'll go to the market. Can I get you anything special?

(he shakes his head, no)

Wanna talk about it?

SAM

Mom seriously. I'm fine, don't worry.

JUDY

... okay... love you, Honey.

She goes, worried. Sam shuffles from the room and we HOLD on his computer screen showing...

HIS E-BAY AUCTION PAGE.

MATCH TO:

THE SAME E-BAY PAGE ON ANOTHER COMPUTER SCREEN. We are:

A83 INT. THE POLICE CAR (BRAWL) - PARKED - CONTINUOUS

A83

Soundwave, on the passenger's seat -- beady eyes studying the auction page on a police terminal attached to the dash.

SOUNDWAVE'S POV: CAPTAIN WITWICKY'S SPECTACLES. PAN TO the crudely drawn ALIEN SYMBOLS in the old newspaper article

Then... "E-Bay Seller Contact Information": Sam's name and photograph! From his SMILING FACE, we go to...

83 INT. KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

83

Sam's groggy face as he bumbles in, unaware he's the target of alien robots. Out the window, we see his MOM'S WAGON back out of the driveway, leave.

Wiping sleep from his eyes, Sam opens the fridge, rummages. MOJO starts YAPPING WILDLY at something outside.

SAM

Shut up, Mojo...

Sam grabs milk, and when he closes the fridge... HIS CAMARO'S IN THE DRIVEWAY, PARKED RIGHT UP AGAINST THE GLASS DOOR. Sam SCREAMS -- drops the milk -- ~~grabs~~ a cordless phone and runs as he dials:

MILES (V.O.)

... lo?

SAM

Miles it's ~~me~~ -- I thought maybe it was a dream, it's ~~not~~, it's real, it's alive -- I bought Satan's Camaro!

84 EXT. MILES' HOUSE - BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

84

Miles tries to ~~cradle~~ the phone in his shoulder while washing his 200 POUND ENGLISH MASTIFF -- INTERCUTTING:

MILES

Whoa, slow down, what's alive?

SAM

My car, it stole itself, it walked, now it's back, it's trying to kill me! I think... it wants my soul.

The huge Mastiff FARTS. Miles recoils, waving it away --

MILES

Oh, Mason, no! Bad! I gotta call you back, I'm in the middle of an environmental disaster here -- bad dog!

SAM

I'm coming over, don't go anywhere!

He throws down the phone -- checks out the bedroom window --
RUNS from the house, grabs his mom's PINK BIKE and pedals off --

A85 EXT. GLEN'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE - DAY

A85

A taxi pulls up beneath a giant CITY BRIDGE. Maggie gets out,
pays the driver, moves quickly to the door of a tiny house --

B85 INT. GLEN'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE - DAY

B85

GLEN, Maggie's Think Tank buddy, surrounded by burger wrappers,
plays "Warcraft" online. DOORBELL. Annoyed by the distraction,
he opens the door: MAGGIE -- Glen turns crimson, in his boxers:

GLEN
Maggie --?!

MAGGIE
(pushes past him)
Can I come in?

WOMAN'S VOICE
GLEN, WHO IS IT?!!

GLEN
HOLD ON, GRANDMA!
(to Maggie)
What happened to you? Was it the traffic
light thing?

MAGGIE
Wasn't the traffic light thing, I need
your help --

GLEN
This is gonna get me in trouble, huh?

WOMAN'S VOICE
GLEN! GLEN!!!!

GLEN
You gotta go, you're giving my grandma a
heart attack!

Glen's GRANDMOTHER enters in a bathrobe, curlers in her hair --

GLEN'S GRANDMA
Who's she?

GLEN
No one, Grandma, just a friend --

GLEN'S GRANDMA
Are you playing those video games again?!
You're a grown man!

(MORE)

GLEN'S GRANDMA (CONT'D)

Now turn that off, I'll make you a grilled cheese sandwich... does your friend want one?

MAGGIE

I'd love a grilled cheese sandwich, Ms. Whitmann.

Glen's grandma COUGHS for his attention, nods to Maggie's shoes and the PLASTIC FLOORING over the shag as she EXITS --

GLEN

Take off your shoes and stay on the plastic. Grandma's weird about feet touching the carpet.

MAGGIE

(kicking off her shoes)

Glen, please, no one's better at signal decryption than you, you're the only one smart enough to understand what I'm talking about --

GLEN

Did you just compliment me by complimenting yourself?

MAGGIE

See what I mean, you see right through me!

As he shoves her toward the door, Maggie pulls a MINI-CD from her bag:

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Nonono, wait -- wanna see something classified?

85 INT. THE PENTAGON - CONTINUOUS

85

Keller and an AIDE tread a corridor --

AIDE

The Rangers got a thermal snapshot of whatever hit the base, but the imager was damaged. We're working on it now.

They're intersected by a SECURITY AGENT:

AGENT

We have a security issue. Circle logs indicate one of the analysts made a copy of the network intrusion signal.

KELLER

(a sigh)

Maggie Marconi?

AGENT

Yessir... how'd you know?

86 INT. GLEN'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

86

On a monitor, the WAVE FORM bounces furiously --

GLEN

Signal strength's through the roof --
where'd you say you got it?

MAGGIE

It hacked the Pentagon in less than a
minute --

GLEN

That's impossible -- it'd be like... real
Artificial Intelligence, like passing the
Chinese Box test, like... sentient --

MAGGIE

So where'd it come from?

GLEN

Uh... R2-D2?

MAGGIE

Seriously.

GLEN

R2-D2. I mean, it looks like some kind
of machine language -- but one I've never
seen before.

MAGGIE

Just so one of us finally says it out
loud... are we really talking about,
like, alien machines here?

GLEN

Who says life on other planets has to
evolve from carbon? Why not silicon?

They share a look. He notices something in the sound graph:

GLEN (CONT'D)

Wait a minute... looks like... there's
something embedded in the signal.

MAGGIE

Gotta be the file they hacked -- can you open it?

He types -- THE FILE NAME APPEARS: "PROJECT ICE MAN: ABOVE TOP SECRET: SECTOR SEVEN ACCESS ONLY."

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Project... Ice Man?

GLEN

What's Sector Seven?

MAGGIE

No idea --

And the file OPENS to reveal... STREAMING ALIEN CODE. THE SAME CODE WE SAW BURNED ONTO CAPTAIN WITWICKY'S ~~GLASSES!~~

GLEN

What is that?

BAM: FROM OUT OF NOWHERE, THE FRONT ~~DOOR~~ FLIES OPEN AS AGENTS BURST IN -- MAGGIE AND GLEN ARE THROWN TO THE FLOOR AS GLEN'S GRANDMA ENTERS, SCREAMING --

SS AGENT #4

Maggie Marconi, you're under arrest for the unauthorized theft of classified information -- you have the right to remain silent, anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law --

MAGGIE

HE'S NOT A PART OF THIS!!

GLEN

WHAT IS THIS -- WHAT'S GOING ON!?! GRANDMA, IT'S OKAY, CALM DOWN!

GLEN'S GRANDMA

TELL THEM TO STAY ON THE PLASTIC!

87 EXT. TRANQUILL ~~STREETS~~ STREETS - DUSK

87

Sam pedals furiously on his mom's bike, hauling ass through town -- looks over his shoulder to see if he's being followed and... yes, indeed THE CAMARO appears down the block behind him. Sam FREAKS and races around a corner, nearly colliding with...

MIKAELA as she exits a Burger King with FRIENDS. Sam SWERVES, WOBLES, SLAMS into a tree -- TUMBLES off the bike landing HARD:

MIKAELA

Oh my god! Sam, are you okay?!!

SAM

(getting up, dazed, his
cojones aching)
(MORE)

SAM (CONT'D)

Me? No, I'm fine, it was... great to know you... I've had a good life and...

MIKAELA

Are you hurt? I mean --

Sam sees the Camaro appear, creeping around the corner --

SAM

I'm losing my mind! I gotta go!!!

In terror, he grabs his bike and pedals off FAST. ~~Mikaela's~~ friends share glances. She's worried --

MIKAELA

I'll catch up, okay?

She unlocks a VESPA from a rack and climbs on -- as she's about to pull out into the street, a POLICE CAR ~~zooms~~ past, nearly hitting her. She SCREECHES, YELLING at ~~the~~ driver --

88 INT. POLICE CAR - MOVING - CONTINUOUS

88

IN THE REARVIEW, Mikaela recedes ~~into~~ the distance. We ANGLE to the DRIVER... THE MOUSTACHE MAN IN COP'S UNIFORM.

"BRAWL" HAS COME TO TRANQUILITY.

90 EXT. CREEPY PARKING LOT UNDER FREEWAY OVERPASS - DUSK

90

Sam bikes fast across a ~~parking~~ lot, totally paranoid -- looks over his shoulder:

MOVING POV -- THROUGH A ~~SEA~~ OF CAR WINDOWS -- THE CAMARO DRIVING DOWN A PARALLEL AISLE, STILL FOLLOWING SAM

He pedals faster, doesn't see THE POLICE CAR up ahead -- the driver door SWINGS OPEN: BAM!! Sam's once again KNOCKED OFF HIS BIKE -- hits the ground HARDER than last time -- peels himself up, in pain -- but more than that, pissed off --

SAM

~~That...~~ HURT! So lame! This is like THE WORST DAY EVER!

Against the headlight glare, Sam sees the MOUSTACHED OFFICER behind the wheel --

SAM (CONT'D)

Oh, officer, thank God! You're not gonna believe this, but my car's trying to kill me!!!

(the cop doesn't move)

HEL-LO!? ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!!!

Sam SLAMS his fists onto the hood. The police car JUTS FORWARD, knocking him on his ass. This is no joke.

SAM (CONT'D)
(scared now)
Sorry, Officer, I didn't mean any
disrespec--

The headlight covers swing open and the bare bulbs TELESCOPE OUTWARD LIKE TWO ALIEN SNAKES, RIGHT INTO SAM'S PETRIEY FACE!

Within six seconds, the cop car TRANSFORMS, RISING INTO A 16 FT. TALL ROBOT! THIS HAS JUST BECOME THE SCARIEST MOMENT OF SAM'S LIFE. HE RUNS LIKE HELL -- behind him, we see Brawl GIVE CHASE:

SAM (CONT'D)
OH SHIT! OH SHIT! OH SHIT!

WHACK! BRAWL'S METAL HAND SWATS SAM INTO THE AIR -- HE SLAMS INTO A WINDSHIELD, SPIDERWEBBING THE GLASS, WATCHING IN TERROR AS THE ROBOT STOMPS FORWARD:

SAM (CONT'D)
BAD DREAM, BAD DREAM, BAD DREAM, PLEASE
LEMME JUST WAKE UP!!!

Brawl leans over Sam on the shattered windshield, face to face -- his hands SMASH the sides of the car, the tires EXPLODING --

BRAWL
WHERE ARE YOUR ANCESTRAL ARTIFACTS?!!
WHERE ARE THEY?!!!

Scared out of his skull, Sam only stammers...

BRAWL (CONT'D)
HAVE THE AUTOBOTS SEEN THE CODE?!

SAM
I -- -- HAVE N-N-O IDEA -- WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING AB-B-OUT --

BRAWL
YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO HELP THEM.

BRAWL'S HANDS reach for Sam but he LEAPS onto the roof -- jumps -- hits the ground RUNNING -- the empty car behind him gets FLIPPED ASIDE as Brawl hurls it away, STOMPING after Sam --

He rounds a corner and COLLIDES WITH MIKAELA ON HER VESPA -- now she and her bike go tumbling --

MIKAELA
 Ow, my arm!!!
 (realizing it's him)
 Sam?!!! What's wrong with
 you?!! What's going on?!!

SAM
 MIKAELA, YOU GOTTA GET UP!!
 GET UP NOW!!! MIKAELA,
 SERIOUSLY, RUN!!!

A MASSIVE STEEL FOOT SLAMS DOWN ON MIKAELA'S VESPA, CRUSHING AT
 TO DUST! SHE LOOKS UP, SEES BRAWL AND SCREAMS HER HEAD OFF!!!

SUDDENLY, ANOTHER CAR ROARS IN -- IT'S THE CAMARO!!! Sam DIVES,
 rolling Mikaela out of the way as the Camaro does a 40 mph
 POWERSLIDE, smashing into Brawl, KNOCKING IT ACROSS THE ASPHALT!

The passenger doors SWING OPEN: "Rescue Me" explodes from the
 speakers. The Camaro HONKS --

MIKAELA
WHAT'S GOING ON?!!

BRAWL RISES. THE CAMARO HONKS AGAIN -- SAM MAKES A DECISION:

SAM
GET IN THE CAR!!!!

They dive in, the Camaro peels out. Brawl RUNS after them,
 transforming back into cop-car form --

91 EXT. STREETS - WAREHOUSE DISTRICT - CONTINUOUS

91

The CAR CHASE barrels through abandoned skeletal warehouses,
 through an old TRAIN YARD -

Side panels on the cop car rise up: ROCKET PODS LOADED WITH
 MISSILES -- the Camaro swerves left and right as they STREAK
 PAST -- Sam and Mikaela are tossed like rag dolls, SCREAMING:

MIKAELA
 THIS ISN'T HAPPENING THIS IS
NOT HAPPENING

SAM
 WHATEVER, WHOEVER, WHEREVER
 YOU CAME FROM JUST GOGOGO!!!

The Camaro leaves a dead-end and PEELS A 180, spinning so it's
 now FACING the oncoming cop car in a game of chicken:

SAM
 BAD IDEA! BAD IDEA! BAD IDEA!

The Camaro CHARGES -- so does Brawl firing a MISSILE -- it
 STREAKS past the Camaro's windshield, Sam's head SNAPPING around
 as he follows the con-trail in SHOCK:

SAM (CONT'D)
 -- was that a MISSILE?!!

MIKAELA
 -- YEAH, THINK SO!

The missile DETONATES nearby. Seconds before colliding, the cars SWERVE --

A GRAPPLING CABLE launches from the Camaro, coiling around the cop car's bumper -- it's SPUN AROUND and now the Camaro's PULLING the cruiser left and right, SMASHING IT INTO TREES AND TELEPHONE POLES.

The Camaro SCREECHES to a stop, doors flying open. Sam and Mikaela are thrown into the dirt, scramble for footing as

SECTIONS OF THE CAMARO PEEL BACK LIKE A BANANA -- GRINDING, RISING, STACKING BEFORE THEIR VERY EYES -- AND WE BOOM UP, DRAMATICALLY REVEALING THE BODY OF...

ANOTHER ROBOT. ITS NAME: **BUMBLEBEE.** Brawl TRANSFORMS too and the robots CHARGE --

Sam and Mikaela find themselves stuck between the two metal beasts -- a section of Brawl's chest opens up and out springs...

SOUNDWAVE! The SUPER-THIN ROBOT hurtles at the kids, grabs their shirts, SPINS THEM 360! They GAREN into --

92 EXT. TRANQUILITY ESTATES - NIGHT

92

In the STILL UNDER-CONSTRUCTION housing area, Bumblebee LEAPS to protect the kids, swinging an arm as he TAKES THE BRUNT OF BRAWL'S HIT -- BB's HURTLED backward, rolls up, PILE-DRIVES into Brawl whose MASSIVE LEG swoops INCHES over the kids' heads!

Brawl FLIPS BB onto his back; SLAMMING him down on an ALUMINUM SHED. BB recovers, tears up a STREET LAMP, SWINGS... KNOCKING Brawl across the road toward...

SAM AND MIKAELA -- who ROLL urgently out of the way. Soundwave LASHES at Sam, grabbing his jeans and DRAGGING him close...

SAM

GET IT OFF, GET IT OFF! HE'S GOT ME, I'M GONNA DIE!!!!

SAM WIGGLES RIGHT OUT OF HIS JEANS TO ESCAPE SOUNDWAVE'S GRASP -- hops upright in his black socks, tennis shoes and boxers -- YELLS an animal cry of rage, ready for battle --

MIKAELA

HEY!!!

Soundwave SNAPS around: Mikaela's grabbed a POWER SAW, wields it like a weapon, eyes on fire:

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

WHY DON'T YOU COME AFTER ME, YOU ANOREXIC METAL FREAK!

Soundwave LEAPS at her. She SWINGS the saw, CUTTING OFF HIS ARM. Sam swings a piece of METAL REBAR, battering crazily at Soundwave's head, whacking it CLEAR OFF!!

Bumblebee's hand comes up, his arm TRANSFORMING into an ENERGY CANNON: he FIRES A BURST, it HITS Brawl's chest like a mortar launch... KNOCKING him into a construction pit where he's IMPALED on SPIKES. Winding to a stop, Brawl SLUMPS. Just as --

Soundwave's headless torso CRUMPLES. The dust clears revealing Sam in his boxers. Looking down at Soundwave's severed head, twitching spastically, mouth still CHITTERING --

SAM

Not so tough without a body, are ya?

He KICKS the head but its teeth CLAMP onto Sam's foot. He dances around in a panic, trying to shake it off --

SAM (CONT'D)

GET IT OFF! GET IT OFF!!

His SHOE flings off, Soundwave's head still attached to it --

MIKAELA

SAM... CHILL!!

Bumblebee approaches. Picks up Sam's JEANS, offers them to him:

SAM

(in complete awe)

Uh... thanks.

Bumblebee smiles. Sam quickly puts his pants back on as...

MIKAELA

What is it?

SAM

A robot. I think. But like... super advanced. Probably Japanese. Gotta be Japanese.

Full of wonderment, he moves closer to Bumblebee...

MIKAELA

What're you doing?

Bumblebee takes a step closer, too. Looks down at Sam, like a puppy coming to meet his master. Sam smiles...

SAM

I don't think he's gonna hurt us...

MIKAELA

Oh, yeah?! You speak 'robot'?! Cause they just had like, a droid death match and you're acting like it's... Herbie!

Boy and robot stare at each other. Connection.

SAM

I think... they want something from me.

MIKAELA

Like what-- ?!

SAM

The other one kept asking about my 'ancestral artifacts'... and something about a code...

MIKAELA

Whatever that means...

SAM

(to Bumblebee)

Can you... talk?

Bumblebee shakes his head no, like a dog. A DJ VOICE: "XM satellite radio, a hundred and thirty digital channels of non-stop, commercial-free music, news, and entertainment --"

SAM (CONT'D)

I think he talks through the stereo.

Affirmative "APPLAUSE" from the stereo.

SAM (CONT'D)

... what were you doing out last night?

A RADIO EVANGELIST'S sermon: "And a mighty voice will send a message, summoning forth visitors from heaven...!"

SAM (CONT'D)

... you were calling someone?

MIKAELA

'Visitors from heaven'... what're you, like... an alien or something?

Bumblebee nods and SQUEAKS. His doors SWING OPEN.

SAM

I think it wants us to get in...

MIKAELA

(hesitating)

And go where?

SAM

I don't know, but think about it... fifty years from now when we're looking back on our lives, don't you wanna be able to say we had the guts to find out?

Mikaela chews on that... pregnant pause... then her decision comes as a SLAM CUT TO THE CAMARO PEELING OUT, spraying gravel --

94 EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

94

As Bumblebee cruises, Mikaela checks out the shoddy interior:

MIKAELA

Wait a sec... if you can like, reshape yourself, why'd you pick such a hoopty? I mean, you could be anything... right?

Bumblebee SLAMS the brakes, skids -- passenger doors swing open and Sam and Mikaela are EJECTED on the PAVEMENT:

SAM

(rising, recovering)
Great, you hurt its feelings.

THE WINDSHIELD -- its inner circumference turns into a WALL SCREEN: rapid-fire imaging as Bumblebee scans the streets: ZOOMING FAST, jumping from car to car, analyzing, searching for the perfect one -- stops on: A BRAND NEW 2006 CHEVY CAMARO GTO.

BEAMS shoot from Bumblebee's headlights, "TRANS-SCANNING" it: this is how Transformers replicate mechanical shapes.

Bumblebee's chassis starts RESHAPING! They GAPE as metal morphs, twisting into an EXACT DUPLICATE of the GTO. Bitchin.

MIKAELA

Now this is a car!

ROCK GUITAR blasts as Bumblebee zooms off --

95 INT. THE PENTAGON - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

95

One-way mirror looking in on Maggie and Glen, sitting side-by-side at a metal table. Her mind spins as his eyes dart, eating through his anxiety -- TIME CUTS as he chows FIVE DONUTS from a plate on the table:

GLEN

(spitting crumbs)
Look, just, just -- do not say anything, I know how these guys work. They're gonna try and play us against each other, don't fall for it. Bear Claw?

An INTERROGATION AGENT enters and Glen instantly crumbles, sliding away from her, pointing:

GLEN (CONT'D)

It's all her! She did it! I'll turn state's evidence, whatever you need!

MAGGIE

-- Glen!!

GLEN

(about to cry or throw up)

Sorry Mags, I'm not going to jail for you, or anybody! I haven't done anything bad in my entire life! I mean, I'm still a virgin! Okay, maybe I downloaded 3200 illegal songs off Limewire and I ~~hacked~~ the CIA once but I just wanted a free badge, I'll give it back --

MAGGIE

GLEN, SHUT UP!!

GLEN

No, you shut up, ~~CRIMINAL!!~~
(suddenly ~~drizzy~~)
Whoa, sugar high...

MAGGIE

(to the agent)

Listen: the signal's a machine language, maybe every alien -- and yes I know how that sounds, but they downloaded a file, something labeled 'Sector Seven' -- it's some kind of code! You gotta tell Keller, before we go to war with the wrong people!

96 EXT. HILLSIDE ABOVE CITY - NIGHT

96

The Camaro pulls up. Sam and Mikaela get out, look up at the sky. UNNATURALLY LIGHTS flicker through the clouds...

MIKAELA

... uh, Sam?

97 EXT. SPACE - ETERNAL NIGHT

97

In the distance, Earth. Suddenly: A BURNING COMET BLASTS TOWARD IT! Hitting the atmosphere, the comet breaks into FIVE PIECES --

99 Sam and Mikaela see THE BIGGEST ONE CRASH two acres away --
PLOWING UP EARTH, SKIDDING, DIRT EXPLODING EVERYWHERE --

99

On instinct, Mikaela GRABS Sam, clutches him tight as... the comet comes to a STOP. They realize they're holding each other and awkwardly let go, playing nonchalant --

MIKAELA

-- sorry --

SAM

-- it's cool --

A100EXT. NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

A100

AERIAL VIEW of a baseball park, a game in full swing. A BURNING COMET careens overhead, CRASHES in an alley behind the stadium --

100 INT. STREET CAFE - NIGHT

100

Three TEENS eat, laugh. One of them films his friends with a VIDEO CAMERA. We are IN ITS POV when suddenly

The cafe windows IMplode, CARS FLY as a SECOND COMET blows past -- everything's WHIPPED OUT OF FRAME -- The kid with the camera RUNS from the store to get this on tape --

101 INT. MODERN HILLSIDE ESTATE - LITTLE BOY'S ROOM - NIGHT

101

A FIVE YEAR OLD BOY lies in bed. He's missing a front tooth. A DISTANT THUNDERCLAP sends him reeling from his bed -- over to the window where a THIRD COMET crashes into his pool.

Excited, he reaches under his pillow and pulls out... HIS TOOTH. Thinking the tooth fairy's just arrived, he races happily off...

103 EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

103

Sam, Mikaela, and Bumblebee follow a trail of FLAMING TREES. A HIGHWAY divides them from a DITCH where a FOURTH COMET landed -- and now we see it's in fact not a meteorite, but...

A SILVER SPHERE EMBEDDED IN THE GROUND. A complex tangle of metal, dripping white-hot silver beads.

METAL BITS that have dripped off its side REVERSE GRAVITY and reattach themselves, blending back into the sphere. It OPENS like a blossoming mercury flower. Then, emerging:

A METALLIC LEG... AN ARM... THE PEAK OF A HEAD...

AGAINST FLAMING OAK TREES, A SILHOUETTE RISES UP INTO A TWO-LEGGED, MASSIVE ENDOSKELETON. Sam and Mikaela gape at its THIRTY-FIVE FOOT FRAME.

A HORN BLASTS: an EIGHTEEN WHEELER is rushing toward them from down the highway. The mechanoid's face turns toward the oncoming truck, TRANS-SCANNING IT:

The massive endoskeleton starts RESHAPING... the truck ROARS PAST... and when it clears frame...

A SECOND, IDENTICAL TRUCK IS FACING SAM AND MIKAELA FROM ACROSS THE ROAD. THE MECHANOID HAS TRANSFORMED ITSELF!

104 EXT. AUTO ROW - EXOTIC CAR DEALERSHIP - NIGHT

104

An EXOTIC CAR spins in the window. The SECOND ENDOSKELETON appears before it. THE ENDO'S POV: an alien-readout, scanning the car's dimensions down to the centimeter...

105 EXT. DOWN OLD ALLEY TO FUNKY T.V. SHOP - CONTINUOUS

105

Rushing with the cafe kids past a chewed-up parking lot as they approach a HUGE FIERY HOLE in the side of an old TV SHOP. FIRE TRUCKS and AMBULANCES race onto the scene, men jumping out --

POV through the VIDEO CAMERA:

KID #1

Is it an asteroid?!!

KID #2

Something moving! There, LOOK!

CAMERA POV -- a MASSIVE, INDISCERNIBLE SHAPE is visible only for an instant before DISAPPEARING into a cloud of smoke...

KIDS (O.S.)

WHAT IS IT?!! OH GOD, WHAT IS THAT?!!!

From the smoke, AN AMBULANCE emerges -- an exact DUPLICATE of the ones we just saw arrive. It SCREECHES off --

106 EXT. HILLSIDE HOUSE - NIGHT

106

The pool in the boy's backyard has evaporated into STEAM. The boy approaches, our angle BEHIND HIM as... ANOTHER MONSTROUS METAL FOOT emerges through the steam... a HAND...

The BOY'S FACE, his look tracking up... up... as the SHADOW of the FOURTH ENDOSKELETON rises before him. The boy shows no fear, only wonderment... as he offers the robot his TOOTH:

LITTLE BOY

Daddy says I get five dollars...

On a nearby driveway sits a BLACK DOOLEY PICKUP TRUCK. The robot's massive unseen form moves off, RUSTLING through trees, CRUSHING through a fence. The boy's PARENTS burst through the back door -- SHOCK:

DAD

Holy God, what happened to the pool?!

LITTLE BOY

The tooth fairy drank it!

An ENGINE ROAR turns their heads -- they see a DUPLICATE OF THEIR PICKUP TRUCK roaring away from the house...

111 EXT. HILLSIDE - CONTINUOUS

111

The eighteen-wheeler drives across the road toward Sam and Mikaela. Its HUGE GRILL stops INCHES from them. They tremble as the truck TRANSFORMS into... oh yes, **OPTIMUS PRIME**.

The other vehicles ROAR IN, stopping beside Optimus TRANSFORMING into robot form.

REFLECTED IN THEIR EYES: as one, the robots access the internet -- "YAHOO" appears -- and they download every piece of data in cyberspace: millions of images throughout history, pop culture.

Optimus assesses Earth's POPULATION COUNT, and because CHINA is #1 with "1,300,000,000," his first words to them are IN BOOMING CHINESE. They stare, dumbfounded...

MIKAELA

(barely a whisper)

Was that... Chinese?

Hearing her, Optimus' readout ~~locks on~~ "ENGLISH." He lowers down, his MASSIVE FACE ten times ~~larger~~ larger than their bodies. When he SPEAKS, we recognize his ~~voice~~ from our opening VOICE OVER:

OPTIMUS

Samuel James ~~Witwicky~~? Ancestor to Archibald Amundey ~~Witwicky~~, captain of the sailing vessel 'Discovery'?

SAM

Y-yeah. ~~uh~~

OPTIMUS

I am ~~Optimus~~ Prime.

MIKAELA

Um, you... speak English too?

OPTIMUS

We have assimilated earth's languages through your world wide web.

Bumblebee plays the yodel-like "YAH000-0000" jingle.

SAM

You are aliens...

OPTIMUS

Correct. We are autonomous robotic organisms from the planet Cybertron.

MIKAELA

Autonomous robots... Autobots...

OPTIMUS

There are no translations for our individual nomenclatures.

SAM

You mean... your names?

OPTIMUS

Yes -- they have been selected from your vocabulary to approximate our behavioral temperaments.

(re: the exotic car)

My first Lieutenant. Designation: Jazz.

JAZZ

Greetings.

OPTIMUS

(the pickup truck)

Our weapons specialist, Forged in the Tri-Peninsular Torus states of Praxus:

Ironhide.

IRONHIDE

(admiring himself)

This exoskeleton appears suitable for battle.

OPTIMUS

(the ambulance)

Our Medical Officer, chief emissary to the High Council of ancients: Ratchet.

A HOLOGRAPHIC MEDICAL SCAN emits from Ratchet -- as it passes over Sam and Mikaela like an X-RAY, they're revealed for a minute in their underwear --

SAM

-- Whoa --

MIKAELA

-- Hey, scanning people is not cool --

RATCHET

Salutations, Female: you are healthily commencing the fifth state of puberty. Sam Witwicky, you are still in the fourth, but progressing nicely.

SAM

(beet red)

Okay, thanks for that, good to know...

MIKAELA

The female's name is Mikaela Banes.

OPTIMUS

Understood, Mikaela Banes. And you already know Bumblebee, guardian of Sam Witwicky.

SAM

Bumblebee...?

From Bumblebee's speakers, MUHAMMAD ALI and his famous catchphrase plays: "Floats like a butterfly, stings like a bee."

MIKAELA

If you can talk, why can't he?

RATCHET

His vocal processor was destroyed on the battlefields of Tyger Pax.

OPTIMUS

We come in search of The Energon Cube -- a supreme power that imbues us with the gift of 'Spark.'

RATCHET

The life force within all Transformers.

OPTIMUS

We must find the cube before Megatron does.

SAM

... who's Megatron?

Optimus pauses. Answers with a heavy heart...

OPTIMUS

Once, we were brothers -- united. Twin sons among the dynasty of Primes. But greed twisted him into a servant of evil. He turned his armies against us... for their betrayal, they bear the name: "Decepticons..."

Optimus projects a 3-D HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE mid-air: A BATTLE IMAGE FROM CYBERTRON: craters, carnage, destruction for miles. Machine limbs litter the ground... we FIND:

A lone figure atop the graveyard of Transformer remains. Though we only see him from behind, his MASSIVE FORM is terrifying. MEGATRON. Standing over a DYING AUTOBOT. Megatron PLUNGES a fist INTO THE AUTOBOT'S CHEST, ripping out his SPARK!

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

Megatron feeds on the sparks of the vanquished, growing stronger with each one he consumes...

Megatron bellows a DEAFENING ROAR as the image FADES AWAY.

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

The war nearly extinguished our race. Those who survived were forced to flee...

IRONHIDE

Megatron was first to follow the cube's signal here before succumbing to the ice... where your ancestor encountered him.

SAM

The Ice Man...

RATCHET

Yes: your grandfather accidentally triggered Megatron's navigational system, which holds coordinates to the cube's location on earth.

JAZZ

The beam blinded ~~him~~... but it left a coded imprint, as well.

SAM

What d'you mean 'coded imprint'?

OPTIMUS

On his prosthetic lenses.

SAM

His glasses? The map to the cube is on his glasses?!!

(reeling)

But... how'd you know all this? Or that I even had em?

IRONHIDE

... E-Bay.

SAM

No way.

OPTIMUS

If we are first to reach the cube, we will return it to our homeworld and rebuild our race.

SAM

And if Megatron finds it?

OPTIMUS

He will use it to transform your planet's machinery -- a new legion of Decepticons born to a single purpose: conquest of the universe... beginning with earth.

Long pause. Mikaela looks over at Sam...

MIKAELA

For the love of God, please tell me ~~you~~ have those glasses.

112 INT. C-17 CARGO PLANE - MID-AIR - CONTINUOUS

112

Our soldiers (Lennox, Epps, and five more) ~~reading~~ stateside. Around a surgical table, an R&D TEAM studies SKORPONOK'S SEVERED TAIL. Though damaged, sections of it are ~~is~~ slowly REGENERATING:

R&D TEAM LEADER

Unbelievable... it's some kind of self-regenerating molecular ~~armor~~...

Lennox leans closer, studying ~~the~~ section where the artillery round burned off the leg from ~~the~~ rest of the body...

LENNOX

Lookit the scorch marks where the Sabot round hit -- ~~met~~ right through.

A MAGNIFYING LENS ~~lowers~~ to the charred edge. CLOSE UP, we see:

R&D TEAM LEADER

It's the ~~only~~ part that isn't re-generating.

LENNOX

~~Sabot~~ s are hot-loaded for a six thousand ~~degree~~ magnesium burn... these things react to temperature.

THE TAIL ~~SUDDENLY~~ MOVES! ITS DEADLY POINT LASHES REFLEXIVELY, PIERCING THE STEEL TABLE CLEAR-THROUGH!

Everyone leaps back! And as abruptly as it came alive, the tail goes limp again. Everyone takes a breath.

R&D TEAM LEADER

... Reflex.
(beat)
I hope.

LENNOX

(to Epps)

Get on the radio with Northern Command -- our effective weapon is high-heat Sabot rounds. Recommend we load em in all our gunships. Go.

As Epps moves off, a MED-EVAC TECH appears behind Lennox from a mobile infirmary area. Shakes his head gravely. Lennox pushes past him to find FIG laying there, ragged. Near death.

LENNOX (CONT'D)

Hey, Amigo.

FIGUEROA

Not gonna get... that perfect day... am I, Sarge?

LENNOX

You kidding? We're almost there, Man... just breathe easy, I'll tell you the plan... this time next week, you'll be kicking your board over turquoise waters. Six foot glassy point break, no one out but you...

Fig's breathing slows. His face starts to relax.

LENNOX (CONT'D)

Light offshore breeze. Longneck waiting in a cooler, ice cold. And here comes that wave... sweeps you up, you ride the tube all the way down the coast... right into the sunset, Bro.

(beat)

And there it is... your perfect day.

Fig's smiling. That's how he dies. Lennox's face turns cold with anger. Galvanized by his friend's death.

113 EXT. CITY STREETS - NIGHT

113

The Autobots race through suburban streets, Optimus in the lead. They turn onto Sam's block...

115 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

115

Ron and Judy sit in the living room. Mojo on Judy's lap. Ron scans news channels with a remote -- all stations play someone's home video footage of the COMETS blasting across the sky --

NEWS REPORTER

Police stations are inundated with calls reporting unidentified lights in the sky. We just picked up this eyewitness video:

It's the SHAKY-CAM FOOTAGE the kids took when the comet landed. Ron and Jody watch, rapt. Mojo PERKS UP, sensing something...

A116EXT. ALLEY BEHIND WITWICKY HOUSE - NIGHT

A116

The Autobots roll up. Sam and Mikaela hop out of the Camaro.

SAM

Stay with em, I'll be right back --
(then, to the Autobots)
Stay. Stay here. Stay.

B116EXT. WITWICKY HOUSE - SIDE DOOR - CONTINUOUS

B116

Sam creeps toward the back screen door. It suddenly OPENS -- he finds himself face-to-face with his dad. Mojo BARKS LIKE MAD at Ron's feet, pawing at the screen to get out:

SAM

(edgy, smiling)
Uh... hi, Dad --

DAD

I was just going to do ~~you~~ chores --

A NOISE -- Sam's vantage allows him to see what his father doesn't: the robots STEPPING OVER THE FENCE into the backyard!

SAM

(whines, nervous laugh)
Right, trash cans -- got em --

RON

(facetious)
No, please don't strain yourself --

Ron opens the door. Sam BANGS it closed, but Mojo ESCAPES --

SAM

Na. I got it! Seriously, my bad! --

Dad retreats back into the house, shaking his head. Sam rushes into the backyard just in time to see OPTIMUS' FOOT CRUSH THE PATIO FURNITURE and turn Ron's path into DUST --

SAM (CONT'D)

Nono watch the path!

Mojo BARKS, leaping around Ironhide's feet. Ironhide looks down, flicks the tiny dog with his foot --

SAM (CONT'D)

WHOA WHOA WHOA, THAT'S MY DOG! MOJO,
OFF! OFF THE ROBOT!

Mikaela pushes through the back gate, harried --

SAM (CONT'D)
I told you to watch em!

MIKAELA
I think they're kind of in a rush.

IRONHIDE
(scanning Mojo)
Is that a rodent?

SAM
No, it's my mom's Chihuahua.

Mojo lifts a leg and PEES on Ironhide's foot.

SAM (CONT'D)
Mojo, NO! Sorry, he's got this ~~male~~
dominance thing...

116 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - SAM'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

116

Sam enters quickly, rummages for the glasses. Behind him, OPTIMUS' HAND rises up to the ~~window~~ MIKAELA in his palm. Optimus SLIPS HER through the ~~window~~ -- she lands with a THUD:

OPTIMUS
You must help him ~~look~~.

MIKAELA
They really want those glasses...

For Sam: Mikaela's the ~~only~~ woman ever to step in his room besides his mom. ~~And it's~~ a total mess: there's UNDERWEAR and DIRTY CLOTHES scattered -- Sam snatches them up, embarrassed:

SAM
~~Underwear~~ -- underwear -- underwear --
(tosses them in the
closet, turns)
~~So~~, yeah. This is my... room.

MIKAELA
It's nice. Your whole house is really...
big.

He rummages for his backpack... and his face darkens:

SAM
... it's not here.

MIKAELA
What d'you mean?

SAM

My backpack has the glasses. It isn't here.

117 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - VARIOUS - CONTINUOUS

117

ON TV - a frightened "Witness" next to one of the comet ~~rites~~

WITNESS

-- that's when we saw the lights, like, I dunno, UFO'S, Man -- but for real --

Ron peers out the window into the sky, fear growing.

A119 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - SAM'S ROOM -

A119

Sam keeps rummaging, turns to the window to find -- Optimus' face, HUGE, staring back at him through the window:

OPTIMUS

Have you found them?!

SAM

SSHHH! No, I dunno know where my backpack is!

The other Autobots close in around Optimus, staring at Sam --

OPTIMUS

You must continue searching.

SAM

Hey! My mom's flowers, watch it!

Optimus looks down, The rose bed is CRUSHED beneath his feet.

OPTIMUS

I am sorry, but we must have the glasses.

SAM

~~Look,~~ will you just... get outta here?!
If my parents see you, they're gonna
freak. Go! Hide!

OPTIMUS

Autobots: fall back.

SAM

And be quiet. Keep it down.

One by one, they retreat into a copse of trees. JAZZ backs toward a string of POWER LINES -- the top of his head brushes against one and SPARKS ARC ACROSS HIS SKULL --

JAZZ

AAAARGGGGH!

Jazz SLAMS to the ground convulsing, CRASHING through a fence and right on top of a TOOL SHED -- trash cans go spilling, a lot of NOISE and RACKET -- Sam rubs his face, beside himself --

B119INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

B119

The THUD rocks the house. Ron snaps to his feet in a panic --

RON

Earthquake: under the table!

JUDY

It's just a tremor...

C119EXT. BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

C119

Jazz picks himself up, bug-eyed, shakes his head like a dazed dog and says to the other Autobots:

JAZZ

Do not touch those!

The junction box on the pole ~~SPARKS~~ AND BLOWS and... every light on the block SHORTS OUT.

D119INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - SAM'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

D119

Sam spins in the now-dark ~~area~~, turns back to the window only to find... Optimus has TRANSFORMED into TRUCK FORM right there on the backyard lawn!

SAM

What is with you guys?! That is not hiding you're gonna get me in so much--

-- he TRIPS ~~his~~ sentence, falling on top of Mikaela --

E119INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

E119

As Ron pops on a FLASHLIGHT, they hear another THUD upstairs.

RON

SAM? IS THAT YOU?!!

No response. They look at each other in growing fear. Ron moves off --

RON

-- Stay here --
-- Stay here --

JUDY

-- No --
-- No, I'm scared --

Judy grabs a BASEBALL BAT and they head toward the stairs --

119 INT. SAM'S ROOM/ ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

119

As Sam and Mikaela pick themselves up off the floor, Optimus rises again to the window: his eyes shoot TWO BRILLIANT BEAMS that light up the attic like an atomic flash --

SAM
(recoiling)
TURN IT OFF, TURN IT OFF!!!

122 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

122

Coming up the stairs, Ron and Judy hear SAM'S VOICE and see the INCREDIBLE LIGHT under the door -- Mojo scratching at it wildly:

RON
Sam? You in there?

123 INT. SAM'S ROOM/ ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

123

SAM
(shit)
... uh, yeah, Dad, it's me --
(spins, to Optimus)
TURN IT OFF!

124 OUTSIDE SAM'S DOOR, Ron and Judy stop, HEARING voices --

124

JUDY
What're you doing in there? You alright?

SAM
Yeah, no, I'm good, really good!
(to Optimus)
HIDE!

RON
(tries the handle)
Why's the door locked?

SAM
I'm just -- uh -- real good --

JUDY
Sam, open the door!

SAM
Be right with you!
(to Optimus)
GET OUTTA HERE!

OPTIMUS
But you must find the glasses.

RON
Open the door now!

A beat -- SOUNDS of fumbling -- then the door OPENS and Sam's standing there, squinting against Ron's flashlight. The light beams are GONE, as is Optimus.

SAM
Hi. What's up?

RON
Who're you talking to?

SAM
I'm talking to you.

Sam's standing by the window, as if blocking it -- Ron suspiciously tries to look over Sam's shoulder --

JUDY
We heard noises... we thought --

RON
Doesn't matter what we thought, what was that light?

He moves to the window, tries to look out but Sam blocks him, desperately trying not to look nervous -- speaks LOUD ENOUGH for the Autobots to hear outside:

SAM
Light? What light, Dad? There wasn't any light! Why're you looking outside? You don't trust your son?!

As Ron looks out the window, we see what his POV doesn't: THE ROBOTS HIDE, PRESSING THEMSELVES AGAINST THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE -- it SHUDDERS from the impact -- pictures TILT -- books fall --

RON
Whoa, aftershock -- under the door, under the door, under the door!

WITH THE ROBOTS -- as they hide from view, Ironhide WHISPERS:

IRONHIDE
Why are we hiding?

RATCHET
Be quiet.

IRONHIDE
But... why are we hiding?

JAZZ

The boy's spawners will become alarmed.

Ironhide's arm transforms into a MISSILE TURRET, aiming at the attic window:

IRONHIDE

I can neutralize them.

OPTIMUS

We do not harm humans.

IRONHIDE

They will feel no pain.

OPTIMUS

IRONHIDE.

BACK TO JUDY -- as she pushes him aside ~~and~~ MOVES TO THE WINDOW:

JUDY

Sam, you were talking to ~~somebody~~. I wanna know who.

MIKAELA ~~(C.O.S.)~~

Yeah, uh, just me.

Mikaela emerges from the dark, ~~surprising~~ Ron and Judy.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm Mikaela.

JUDY

Oh...

~~(catching on, smiles)~~

Oh, Sammy,

MIKAELA

~~Sorry~~ to scare you.

RON

~~Scare~~ us, nono, it's... we're sorry we barged in.

JUDY

(whispers to Sam)

She's very pretty...

SAM

Mom, she can hear you.

JUDY

Oh, sorry, sorry...

SAM

By the way, you guys seen my backpack?

JUDY

You left it on the kitchen table.

The lights FLICKER back on --

SAM

Great -- well... seeya!

He pushes past them, Mikaela following:

MIKAELA

Nice to meet you.

A125INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

A125

Sam finds his backpack on the table, unzips it urgently -- pulls out the GLASSES CASE as the DOORBELL RINGS. Ron answers --

125 INT. WITWICKY HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

125

The door OPENS to reveal a group of MEN IN SUITS waiting like pit bulls. Some have SPREAD OUT around the front yard and are using GEIGER COUNTERS and STRANGE DEVICES to take readings. The unit leader, a skinny, odd bird named AGENT SIMMONS, says:

SIMMONS

Ronald Wickity?

RON

It's Witwicky -- who're you?

Simmons flashes a BADGE with a strange INSIGNIA:

SIMMONS

With the government. Sector Seven.

RON

Never heard of it...

SIMMONS

Never will. Your son's the great grandson of Captain Archibald Wickity, is he not?

RON

It's Witwicky -- what the hell is this?

SIMMONS

He filed a stolen car report last night, we have reason to believe it's involved in a national security matter.

RON
-- national security?! What?!

Judy, still holding the baseball bat, notices the AGENTS plowing through her flowers -- the Geiger counters go INSANE as they pass over the crushed roses:

SECTOR SEVEN AGENT
We got massive readings --

SIMMONS
Get a sample --

The agents RIP THE ROSES from the ground. Mojo comes running out, BARKING.

JUDY
(to the agents)
Hey, get outta my garden!

SIMMONS
Ma'am, drop the bat -- are you experiencing any flu-like symptoms? Aching joints? Fever? How're your bowel movements?

JUDY
What?!

SIMMONS
Nausea? Swollen glands?

JUDY
No -- could somebody please just --

She recoils as an agent swings a RADIATION WAND across her nose.

WAND AGENT
She's clean.

SIMMONS
(to Sam)
Yo: we need you to come with us.

SAM
(frightened now)
... Dad?

Ron blocks his son defensively --

RON
This is way outta line --

SIMMONS
Back off, Sir --

RON

You're not taking my son, I'm calling the police, there's something fishy about this.

SIMMONS

Sir... there's something fishy about you, your son, your little taco bell dog, and this whole operation in here --

RON

-- What operation?!

SIMMONS

That's what we're gonna find out.

Simmons runs a Geiger counter over Mojo --

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

(reads the meter)

Fourteen rads, bingo --

126 He gestures to his men; one of them scoops Mojo up with a DOG 126
CATCHER'S NOOSE; agents grab everyone and push them roughly into
SUBURBANS; Sam and Mikaela in one, his parents in another:

RON

DON'T SAY ANYTHING, SAM! NOT A WORD 'TIL WE GET A LAWYER!

The cars PEEL OFF, passing THE AUTOBOTS. Peering out from the trees...

127 INT. THE PENTAGON - INTEL CENTER - CONTINUOUS

127

The place is a zoo. Crisis teams are fixated on the overhead screens showing SATELLITE FEEDS of NAVAL SHIPS gathering around the world. By all appearances, we're at the brink of war:

ONE-STAR GENERAL

Blue Force Tracker has Chinese and US task forces approaching one hundred nautical miles of cruise missile range.

KELLER

Tell the battle group commander he is not to engage unless they're fired on first --

Suddenly, a SUITED MAN approaches Keller, lead in by admiral BRIGHAM. The man's name is BANACHEK. A TITANIUM BRIEFCASE cuffed to his wrist.

ADMIRAL BRIGHAM

Sir: Tom Banachek from the White House.

BANACHEK

(flashes badge)

Mr. Secretary: I'm with Sector Seven.
Advanced Research Division.

KELLER

... never heard of it. I'm a little
busy, Tom --

BANACHEK

We're a highly independent entity, Sir.
I'm here under direct order from the
President. He's instructed us to brief
you.

KELLER

Now? On what?

Suddenly, the METERS on all the machinery SPIKE -- and one by
one, all computers in the room start to GO BLACK:

KELLER (CONT'D)

What's happening?! I need a sit rep!

ONE-STAR GENERAL

Communications are out -- I think the
virus just activated.

KELLER

What's the extent of disruption?

ONE-STAR GENERAL

The extent is... worldwide, Sir --
satellite and land lines are all down, we
have zero comms -- total network failure!

Keller, at a loss -- Banachek indicates his briefcase, urgently:

BANACHEK

Sir, you need to see what I have in
my... now.

A128EXT. SERIES OF SHOTS AROUND THE WORLD - DAY AND NIGHT

A128

On a street in PARIS, confused people wrestle with their
lifeless cell phones...

In JAPAN, all the ELECTRONIC BILLBOARDS on the sides of
buildings flash STATIC...

In an AMERICAN NEWS STATION, a REPORTER's in the middle of a
broadcast when the feeds go dead...

REPORTER

-- are we live? What's happening?

128 INT. REAR SUV - CONTINUOUS

128

The Sector Seven Suburbans streak through Tranquility. Sam and Mikaela, in the back, are freaking the hell out. Up front, Agent Simmons says into a cell:

SIMMONS

This is Simmons, we got a Code Black, I need--

(his cell starts emitting "NO SIGNAL")

You copy? Hello? Must be a patch...

(hangs up, turns to Sam)

So, Kemosabe: last night at the station, you told the officer your car... 'transformed.' Enlighten me. I need every word.

The SUV slows, stopping at a light. The other vehicles make it through and drive on. Sam slips a hand in his pocket, protectively clutching the GLASSES CASE.

SAM

Listen, this is like such a big misunderstanding... When I said it transformed I mean it went from being my car to being a stolen car -- but everything's fine now, it came back --

MIKAELA

(covering)

Not by itself, obviously, cars don't do that, that'd be crazy...

SIMMONS

So what do you kids know about aliens?

SAM

MIKAELA

Aliens? Me? Don't believe in -- total crap --
em --

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

But your great grandfather believed in em, didn't he?

SAM

Oh, him? He was... y'know, nuts!

He twirls a finger near his brain, the sign for "crazy" --

SIMMONS

That's interesting. Very interesting. Tell you what else I find interesting: your body language. Pupil dilation. The flushness of your skin.

(MORE)

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

Because they're showing me you're both lying ---

(opens his badge)

See this? It's like a 'Do-whatever-I-want-and-get-away-with-it' card -- I'm gonna lock you away for-ev-er, erase you like you never ex-is-ted... and that'll be like a fluffy pink ice cream cone compared to what I do to your parents.

MIKAELA

(to Sam)

Don't listen to him, we're getting a lawyer.

SIMMONS

Hey, you in the training bra: don't ~~cost~~ me. 'Specially not with your juvenile record.

SAM

(confused)

... what? What record?

MIKAELA

Nothing.

SIMMONS

Grand theft auto ~~that~~ ain't nothing.

The light changes and the SUV starts driving again. Mikaela glares at Simmons, hating ~~him~~ for exposing her so callously...

MIKAELA

Those cars my dad taught me to fix? They weren't always his.

SAM

Your dad... taught you how to steal cars?

MIKAELA

I ~~didn't~~ steal em, I just wouldn't ~~testify~~ testify against him -- so they made me an accessory.

SAM

Wow, you must be totally screwed up --

MIKAELA

Thanks, how'd you like it if I said you must be a total runt for not making the football team?!

SIMMONS

Pay atten-shun: a record like yours could land you in jail, get you kicked out of school, no colleges would take you, no future... so pucker up and kiss your life g'bye, Missy.

SAM

Leave her alone.

(then)

I'll tell you, but you're not gonna believe it.

SIMMONS

Give it a whirl, Kiddo. I'm all ears.

SUDDENLY, OUT THE WINDSHIELD: WE SEE A MASSIVE STEEL FOOT COME SLAMMING DOWN ON THE HOOD, CRUSHING IT INTO THE PAVEMENT. THE SUV SPINS TO A VIOLENT STOP.

THE AGENTS' GEIGER COUNTERS GO INSANE AS BLINDING LIGHTS FLOOD THE CAR -- SOMETHING ENORMOUS IS WALKING AROUND IT --

GIANT FINGERS CRASH THROUGH THE WINDOWS, LIFTING THE SUV OFF THE ROAD -- THE ROOF'S PEELED AWAY LIKE A SARDINE CAN TOP REVEALING:

THE AUTOBOTS. OPTIMUS REACHES IN AND SCOOPS SAM AND MIKAELA FROM THE BACKSEAT, PLANTS THEM ON THE GROUND. THE TOPLESS SUV BOUNCES BACK TO EARTH AS OPTIMUS DROPS IT.

SAM

Oh, wow... now you A-holes are in serious tuh-ru-ble.

The agents draw their weapons but JAZZ raises his hand and THEIR GUNS AND HANDCUFFS FLY MAGNETICALLY INTO HIS PALM.

SAM (CONT'D)

Ge... lemme introduce you to my friend... Optimus Prime.

OPTIMUS

OUT OF THE VEHICLE.

The agents tumble from the car. Optimus leans down -- the agents recoil as the robot's MASSIVE HEAD comes right up to their faces, eyes SCANNING them:

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

Your nervous system does not register significant shock. You are not surprised by our existence.

SIMMONS

Look, uh... there are protocols. Okay?
I'm not authorized to communicate with
you. Except to tell you I can't
communicate with you.

Bumblebee's oil filter (on his crotch) pops off and a ~~STREAM OF~~
HOT OIL sprays all over the agents:

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

Hey, get it to stop!

SAM

What's Sector Seven? How'd you know
about the robots? And where'd you ~~take~~
my parents?

SIMMONS

Wouldn't you like to know.

Jazz drops the cuffs in front of Mikaela.

JAZZ

Lock em up.

Mikaela picks up the cuffs, ~~dazed~~ but starting to love this...

MIKAELA

Take off your pants.

SIMMONS

What for?!!

MIKAELA

For calling me a thief.

Simmons glares. Dripping with oil, they drop their pants: one
of them in boxes, Simmons in a Speedo, his legs pale and hairy.

SAM

Now ~~now~~asty. Vitamin D, sunlight, look
into it.

MIKAELA

(tosses Simmons cuffs)

Cuff yourselves to the pole. Oh, and for
the record? It's not a training bra --
I'm in the fifth stage of puberty,
thankyouverymuch.

SIMMONS

You're gonna regret this in a big way.

MIKAELA

(little laugh)

Man, if Trent could see me now...

SAM

(stunned, turns to her)

... excuse me, what'd you-- did you say 'Trent'? We literally discovered an alien race together and you still care what he thinks about you?

MIKAELA

What are you, my therapist all of a sudden?

SAM

Wait a minute... I'm having a vision! We're gonna possibly save the world and go back to school Monday morning and nothing's gonna change -- I'll still be the invisible guy with gummy worms in his hair... and you'll go back to being shallow.

MIKAELA

(furious, punches a finger to his chest)

Hey! I gave up my whole future cause I wouldn't turn my dad in! When've you ever had to sacrifice anything in your perfect little life?!

That lands on Sam. But before he can apologize... the air shatters as SECTOR SEVEN CHOPPERS crest the hillside -- more Suburbans SCREECH IN, turning the street into a disco of whirling lights. The Autobots are surrounded!

OPTIMUS

The chopper's BEAM SPOTLIGHTS rake across his massive form. Without breaking stride, he LIFTS THE KIDS onto his shoulder:

OPTIMUS

HOLD ON.

Combining their efforts, Jazz, Bumblebee, Ratchet and Ironhide emit a FALSE BLAST that flattens the tires on ALL SUBURBANS --

AND OPTIMUS CHARGES, his feet smashing four Suburbans into oblivion -- the kids HOLDING ON for dear life --

Apache #1 rises as an agent uses BOLT CUTTERS to free Simmons who slips all over the oil -- he signals to the second Apache and RUNS toward it, throwing his pants back on mid-stride --

143 EXT. CITY STREETS - CONTINUOUS

143

OPTIMUS runs, the first Apache skimming the street, GAINING... Optimus deploys a SMOKESCREEN CLOUD, disappears down an alley. The chopper RIPS through it only to find him GONE.

Keeps flying toward a BRIDGE -- the helicopters DIP beneath it, blades spinning, and we REVEAL:

144 OPTIMUS HIDDEN UNDER THE BRIDGE, LIMBS PRESSED AGAINST THE TRESTLES. SAM AND MIKAELA CLING TO HIM FOR DEAR LIFE BUT... 144

The ROTOR WASH sucks her down -- Sam's hand lashes out, CATCHING HER -- through gritted teeth, he holds on with all his might --

MIKAELA

DON'T LET ME GO!!!

SAM

I CAN'T HOLD ON!

BUMBLEBEE -- RACING DOWN THE CONCRETE INCLINE -- SEES THEM AS:

ANOTHER CHOPPER PASSES BENEATH THE BRIDGE, BLADES WHIRLING MERE INCHES FROM THE KIDS' LEGS! The wind finally DISLODGES their grip and they FALL, SCREAMING. OPTIMUS swings out a long leg trying to catch them -- but all it does is break their fall, and still they PLUMMET to certain death!

BUMBLEBEE spins 360, TRANSFORMS into robot form and dives -- CATCHING SAM AND MIKAELA JUST BEFORE THEY HIT THE GROUND!!!!

THE GLASSES CASE tumbles from Sam's pocket onto the roadside. Bumblebee sets the kids down. Now the Choppers CIRCLE, firing STEEL-MESH NETS: one LOOPS Bumblebee's arm, another catches his legs. Like roping an elephant.

Bumblebee's YANKED off his feet and DRAGGED across the asphalt.

SAM (CONT'D)

(screaming, pleading)

STOPIT! YOU'RE HURTING HIM!!!

Sam CHARGES for his downed companion but SIMMONS and a few men in Tec uniforms jump from Suburbans, GRABBING the kids --

Bumblebee sees Sam and Mikaela being taken and goes BERSERK, straining to be free. It's hopeless, heart breaking...

COMMANDOS ZIP-LINE DOWN FROM A CHOPPER wearing backpack cannisters filled with LIQUID NITROGEN. They SPRAY Bumblebee with a HISSING CLOUD OF ULTRACOLD -- he topples forward to his knees, LIMBS HARDENING.

SAM (CONT'D)

NO! LEAVE HIM ALONE! HE'S NOT GONNA
HURT ANYONE!!!

ABOVE THE BRIDGE -- JAZZ, RATCHET, AND IRONHIDE PEEL IN

Frantic, they TRANSFORM -- Jazz crawls over the side of the
bridge, hanging upside-down so he's face-to-face with Optimus:

JAZZ

We have to help him!

OPTIMUS

Negative, we cannot engage without
harming the humans!

SAM -- pushed violently into the Suburban with Mikaela -- doors
SLAM, the vehicles SCREECHING AWAY as the Apaches LIFT Bumblebee
into the air, like some great netted DRAGON. A stunning image.

IRONHIDE

They're taking them!

OPTIMUS

Stand down, that's an order!

The choppers STREAK OFF. OPTIMUS DROPS from below the bridge.
Picks up the GLASSES CASE from the side of the road. Opens it
to reveal the GLASSES. His look hardens, full of guilt.

145 INT. PENTAGON - PRIVATE ROOM ★ CONTINUOUS

145

In a private room, Banachek unlocks the briefcase cuffed to his
wrist: it's a LAPTOP TERMINAL. Keller watches, anticipatory:

BANACHEK

Sector Seven was convened in secret under
President Hoover over eighty years ago,
for one reason and one reason alone:
aliens are real.

(beat)

2003: you may remember NASA lost contact
with the Beagle Two Mars Rover. We told
them to report the mission a complete
failure...

He taps keys: CLOSE -- THE MONITOR: pixellated video feed,
blurry, in five-frame segments. We see MARTIAN ROCKS. Lens
PANS to find... A MASSIVE STEEL FOOT walking toward the rover --
it STEPS on the lens, CRUSHING IT. STATIC.

BANACHEK (CONT'D)

More than just a pile of Martian rocks...
now here's the image your Rangers were
able to retrieve from the base attack --

He taps keys as the THERMAL SHAPE OF VORTEX resolves on the laptop. Keller stares, in shock...

BANACHEK (CONT'D)

We think it's the same one. And obviously... not Chinese.

KELLER

Are we talking about... an invasion?

BANACHEK

Something's coming. And I'll bet my negligible government salary we're running out of time.

A146INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A146

Maggie and Glen look up as SECTOR SEVEN AGENTS enter --

GLEN

Oh God don't put me in jail, please can we call my grandma?!

As they're uncuffed, KELLER appears at the door --

MAGGIE

What is this? What --

KELLER

You were right, Maggie. You were right all along.

As Maggie stares at him, heart pounding --

C146EXT. C-17 - CARGO HOLD - ELLIS AIR FORCE BASE - NIGHT

C146

Our soldiers emerge from the back of the C-17. The Med-Techs carry Fig's body out on a stretcher, covered by a sheet. Lennox watches, darkly. Suddenly, SUBURBANS screech in -- SECTOR SEVEN AGENTS leap out, flash badges:

SECTOR SEVEN AGENT

Gentlemen, come with us, we'll explain on the way --

146 EXT. TRANQUILITY ESTATES - STREETS - NIGHT

146

Where Bumblebee and Brawl had their big fight. We DRIFT through the deserted wreckage to find BRAWL, unmoving. His eyes suddenly FLICKER to life...

ANOTHER ANGLE - SOUNDWAVE'S HEAD ON THE GROUND. The severed BODY. BRAWL approaches, picks them up, puts them back together, nano-metal RE-FUSING.

Soundwave LEAPS up. And now the Decepticons speak in a SONIC BURST OF PERCUSSIVE LANGUAGE, the alien tongue of Transformers:

BRAWL SUBTITLE

The virus has executed its program:
global communications are off-line.

SOUNDWAVE SUBTITLE

It is time to summon the others.

Soundwave opens his mouth emitting the eerie FREQUENCY SHRIEK:

SERIES OF SHOTS AS THE SHRIEK ANIMATES DECEPTICONS IN HIDING:

148 EXT. TARMAC - US. AIRFORCE BASE - NIGHT

148

TRACK FAST down a row of F-22 RAPTORS, the latest military jets. We STOP on one -- in the COCKPIT, electricity arcs generating a MOUSTACHE MAN HOLOGRAM in pilot's outfit.

Meet "STARSCREAM." Thrusters FIRE UP. The raptor lifts into the sky harrier-style, turns a 180 and CRASHES INTO LENS!

US. ARMY TANK GRAVEYARD - DESERT - NIGHT

An M-1 ABRAMS TANK. Its engine KEVS to life: "DEVASTATOR." The tank rolls out...

149 EXT. MILITARY BASE - CONTINUOUS

149

Rows of heavy-artillery machines. We come to a MINE CLEARING VEHICLE: "BONECRUSHER." Six-wheeled, steel mandibles protrude from its front -- like a steel saber-tooth tiger.

It ROARS to life, CRASHES through a fence, races into the night.

A151 EXT. SKIES ABOVE CITY - NIGHT

A151

The WHIR of ROTOR BLADES -- it's the MH-53 SPECIAL OPS CHOPPER from the base attack: VORTEX! It BANKS HARD, roaring off...

B151 EXT. OBSERVATORY - ABOVE DOWNTOWN - SUNRISE

B151

LIGHT BEAMS shoot from Optimus' eyes through the lenses of Captain Witwicky's GLASSES, projecting THE ALIEN CODE...

AND THE CODE CONVERTS INTO A HOLOGRAM OF EARTH THAT HOVERS MID-AIR, PINPOINTING THE CUBE'S LOCATION. A WATER MASS ENHANCES:

OPTIMUS SUBTITLE

The cube is two hundred and fifty miles
from our position.

He turns to the other Autobots. Morale is low.

JAZZ SUBTITLE

We let them take Bumblebee!

OPTIMUS SUBTITLE

We are not like the Decepticons. Our mission parameters are never to harm humans.

JAZZ SUBTITLE

And if the humans harm him?!

OPTIMUS SUBTITLE

Bumblebee knows the risks of our war. he would want us to complete our mission.

RATCHET SUBTITLE

Prime... if we face Megatron, can you bring yourself to destroy your own brother?

OPTIMUS SUBTITLE

(heavy beat)

I will do what I must... Autobots: ROLL OUT!

C151 EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - SUNRISE

C151

POUNDING MUSIC -- the Autobots streak down the desert road -- OPTIMUS pulls ahead, all ~~noise~~ and roaring diesel engine!

151 EXT. DESERT - SUNRISE

151

The SUN RISES above the desert... we SOAR over a massive concrete basin, a reservoir of water held within it:

152 LEGEND: "HOOVER DAM, NEVADA..."

152

THREE ARMY BLACKHAWK CHOPPERS LAND. Emerging from the first: Lennox and his ~~air~~ soldiers. The second: Keller, Maggie, Glen, Banachek. The third: Simmons, Sam, and Mikaela. Everyone crosses the top of the dam, Lennox and Keller shake:

KELLER

We got your intel, Captain! Excellent work!

LENNOX

Thank you, Sir! What about the gunships?!

KELLER

Being retro-fitted with SABOT rounds now, but it won't do much good if we can't get comms back up!

LENNOX

Nothing'd warm my heart more than
vaporizing some alien ASS!

KELLER

(indicating)

Maggie Marconi, one of our analysts! And
Glen...

GLEN

Whitmann! Two N's! At the end!

As they approach an entrance, Sam and Mikaela notice nearby
TOURISTS watching with interest...

SIMMONS

For five bucks, mom and the kids get a
family photo and a pretzel standing on
toppa one hundred football fields of
concrete -- never havin' a clue what's
right underneath em!

A153INT. RAILWAY TRACK - BASE OF DAM - CONTINUOUS

A153

BUMBLEBEE is clamped to a railway ~~car~~ under heavy guard by
Sector Seven commandos in militarized dune buggies. The men
keep CRYO-WEAPONS aimed at Bumblebee.

The rail car rolls onto a track leading into a LARGE CONCRETE
TUNNEL. As Bumblebee disappears into blackness, he makes low,
guttural sounds: fear.

153 EXT. BRIDGE - TOP OF DAM - CONTINUOUS

153

Sam and Mikaela are ushered along by Simmons and his agents --
they intersect with Banachek as they head toward elevators:

MIKAELA

GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!

SAM

DON'T TOUCH ME! WHERE'S MY
CAR?!

SIMMONS

Hey, Kid -- I think we got off to the
wrong start. You must be hungry. Wanna
latte? Ho-Ho? What do kids eat these
days?!

SAM

Up yours, you Speedo-wearing freak!
Where's my car?!!

BANACHEK

Son, listen to me carefully. People
could die. We need to know everything
you know.

SAM

Not 'til you promise me you won't hurt him... it's the only way I'll talk.

SIMMONS

You little extortionist.

BANACHEK

Passive scans only. Deal?

SAM

One more thing...

(re: Mikaela)

You gotta erase her juvy record -- ~~like~~
for-ev-er.

He glares at Simmons on that. Notices Mikaela staring at him, gratefully. A moment. Behind them, the ~~soldiers~~ arrive.

BANACHEK

Ladies and Gentlemen, follow ~~me~~ -- time is of the essence.

A154EXT. BASE OF DAM - WALK AND TALK - CONTINUOUS

A154

Banachek leads everyone down ~~to~~ walkway by MASSIVE POWER GENERATORS...

SIMMONS

Ever heard of Area 51? Kid's play.
This... is Area 52.

BANACHEK

Here's the situation: we're facing war against a technological civilization far superior to our own. You've all had direct contact the N.B.E's, which -- like it or not -- makes you the world's foremost experts on how to beat em.

EPPS

N B.E's?

MAGGIE

Non-Biological Extra-terrestrials.

SAM

They're called 'Transformers.'

Guys in lab suits following the group scribble that urgently --

BANACHEK

They told you that?

SAM

Yeah, y'know, we're tight.

They turn into a LONG ROCK TUNNEL, descending deeper...

BANACHEK

With communications down, you're our last line of defense. No more secrets. We need hard data. Information sharing. Starting now.

They arrive at a HANGAR. The massive door starts to swing open. In anticipation, our group walks into INCREDIBLE LIGHT:

154 INT. MASSIVE UNDERGROUND HANGAR - CONTINUOUS

154

Their expressions descend into a state of complete, primitive shock. We're in an ENORMOUS SILO. Multi-tiered gantries and girders criss-cross LIQUID NITROGEN TUBES connected to:

A GIANT ROBOT! HELD IN A KIND OF CRYO-PRISON, ITS LIMBS ENCASED IN MASSIVE BLOCKS OF ICE. AND WE RECOGNIZE IT AS THE MECHANOID FROM THE BEGINNING OF OUR STORY: MEGATRON.

MAGGIE

Oh my God...

KELLY

I'll be a son of-a-bitch.

BANACHEK

We call him N.B.F.-ONE -- the first we found.

SAM

No, Dude. . . that? Is Megatron.

(everyone turns)

He's the leader of the Decepticons.

MIKAELA

Basically, head of the bad guys.

LENNOX

Yeah, I kinda got that from the name.

BANACHEK

He's been in cryo-stasis nearly a hundred years... since he was found by your great grandfather: one of mankind's greatest discoveries.

(Sam stares, amazed)

Fact is, you're looking at the creator of the modern age: the microchip, lasers, space flight, cars... all reverse-engineered by studying him.

GLEN

So basically... every time I microwave a burrito at the Gas N' Sip, it's cause of Megatron?

KELLER

You didn't think I might need to know you're keeping a hostile alien robot frozen in the basement?

BANACHEK

President's discretion, Sir -- Roosevelt never told Truman he had the atomic bomb. And til now, we had no credible threat to national security.

LENNOX

So what's the punchline?

EPPS

Yeah, why earth?

SAM

They're all looking for something called the Energon Cube. He wants it to transform all our technology and, y'know, pretty much take over the universe.

A LOOK between Banachek and Simmons. Sam realizes...

SAM (CONT'D)

You know where it is.

156 INT. POWER CONTROL ROOM ABOVE CUBE HANGAR - CONTINUOUS

156

THE ENERAGON CUBE. Covered in our familiar ALIEN GLYPHS. It emits a PULSING PLUM that reverberates through another MASSIVE HANGAR. Umbilical tubes and hoses run from the cube to consoles, where ~~in~~-suited technicians swarm.

PULL BACK to reveal our people staring in awe from behind a glass observation deck. This is the room that monitors the cube. Temperature gauges. Graphic readouts. Cooling vents.

BANACHEK

Carbon dating puts it here around ten thousand BC -- we didn't find it til 1920. President Hoover had the dam built around it -- a perfect way to hide the cube's energy from being detected.

MAGGIE

(something about how he says that...)

What kind of energy?

157 INT. "PROVING" LAB - CONTINUOUS

157

A THICK STEEL DOOR opens revealing a small, metal-walled, creepy lab circa the 1930's. Large electrical cables run to a small PLEXI-BOX. Our people enter...

BANACHEK

Please step inside, they have to lock us in.

LENNOX

Why do they have to lock us in?

The door SLAMS closed. The bolts LOCK.

SIMMONS

Kinda a tricky science, could turn out to be a bad day.

MIKAELA

(looking around)

What're all the gashes?

Indeed, there are GASHES in the far wall, as if Freddy Kruger slashed it up. Simmons indicates a sign: "WE HAVE WORKED ___ SAFE DAYS." Someone's chalked in the number "322."

SIMMONS

Those happened ~~322~~ days ago... that was a bad day.

(to nearby tech, solemn)

Charlie was a good man.

The tech nods back. Everyone's starting to look real worried. Banachek asks for Glen's IPOD:

BANACHEK

May I borrow that?

Tentatively, Glen surrenders it as mirrored WELDING GOGGLES are distributed. The IPOD's placed inside a PLEXI CAGE, locked:

BANACHEK (CONT'D)

Goggles, please?

Everyone slides on goggles as Banachek hits a console: GLOWING ENERGY flows into the cage from a tube connected to the cube.

The IPOD starts TREMBLING... TURNS ON, blasting Suicidal Tendencies' "Master Of No Mercy" -- and it TRANSFORMS, SPROUTING LEGS AND ARMS -- SPASTICALLY SLAMS ITSELF AGAINST THE CAGE, TRYING VIOLENTLY TO BREAK OUT -- EVERYONE LEAPS BACK IN SHOCK:

SIMMONS

Nasty little sucker, huh? Kinda like the Energizer bunny from hell --

(to Banachek)

Zap it already!

Banachek hits a button releasing a small CYLINDRICAL CHARGE into the box: a mini Sabot-round. When it connects with the IPOD, a BLINDING FLASH -- the IPOD's RIPPED OPEN, SHRIEKING as it flips on its back, melting into LIQUID METAL.

Stunned silence. Everyone slides off their goggles.

SIMMONS (CONT'D)

(grins, impressed)

Well whadaya know...

GLEN

(bolts for the door)

Okay, I'm out. I'm out.

158 EXT. NEVADA DESERT - DAY

158

The air distorts as STARScream (F-22) bullets through the sky.

VORTEX (assault chopper) rises INTO FRAME, rotors whirling. It BANKS HARD, following Starscream.

Speeding along the highway below, BRAWL (police car) -- DEVASTATOR (tank) -- BOMBERUSHER (mine-clearing vehicle).

Starscream crests a mountain, revealing, in the distance...

HOOVER DAM!!!!

159 INT. "PROVING" LAB - CONTINUOUS

159

Maggie, feeling a rising tide of dread, moves to a wall of monitors. Various angles of the cube. A CLOSE ANGLE displays the STRANGE ALIEN GLYPHS covering it...

MAGGIE

Those markings... what are they?

BANACHEK

Some kind of symbolic language -- identical to a transmission we pulled off Megatron's data log.

SAM

Yeah, it's a map to the cube.

MAGGIE

Oh, God... that's gotta be what they hacked off Air Force One!

MIKAELA

(ghost white)

... They know it's here.

160 EXT. HOOVER DAM - TARMAC AREA - CONTINUOUS 160

STARSCREAM swoops in like a dragon, BLASTING the row of POWER GENERATORS and...

161 INT. "PROVING" LAB - CONTINUOUS 161

The room TREMBLES. Lights EXPLODE. As emergency power kicks in, Lennox SNAPS into action --

LENNOX

Where's your armory?!!!!

162 INT. UNDERGROUND MEGATRON HANGAR - CONTINUOUS 162

As the dam keeps TREMBLING... THE CRYO-BLOCKS CONTAINING MEGATRON BEGIN TO CRACK!!

163 INT. ARMORY AREA - CONTINUOUS 163

SLAM TO an armory opening: the soldiers unload high-tech ROCKET LAUNCHERS with optical sensors. Portable SABOT ROUNDS. Everyone spins options:

BANACHEK

Nellis is fifty miles away, they can have air support here in ten minutes --

MAGGIE

Satellites and hard lines are still out --

SAM

Wait a second! You gotta take me to my car; he's the only one who can get the cube outta here!

SIMMONS

What are you, nuts? We don't know what'll happen if we let it near this thing!

SAM

You are like the stupidest man on the planet right now!

LENNOX

If the kid's wrong, we're dead anyway.

SIMMONS

Hel-lo! He's a delinquent! You expect us to believe a--

Lennox SLAMS Simmons to the wall -- Sector Seven commandos draw GUNS, so do Lennox's guys -- a Mexican stand-off:

LENNOX

I got a baby I've never even seen -- now
I promised my wife I'm coming home, SO
TAKE THE KID TO HIS DAMN CAR!

Tension pulses -- and Keller says to Banachek:

KELLER

I'd do what he says... losing's really
not an option for him.

164 INT. MEGATRON HANGER - CONTINUOUS

164

MEGATRON'S EYES

With an electronic whir, his microchip ~~man~~ starts to wake up.
The irises WIDEN, like black holes expanding --

165 INT. CONTAINMENT AREA - CONTINUOUS

165

Above Bumblebee on the slab, an OVERHEAD HATCH opens. Bumblebee
MOANS in fear...

LEAD SCIENTIST

-- stand clear --

Everyone backs away as Bumblebee's bombarded by BLINDING UV
LIGHT and a STERILIZING CHEMICAL CLOUD. Deafening NOISE,
dangerous and threatening -- then the door bursts open and
everyone rushes in --

SAM

STOP! YOU GOTTA LET HIM OUT!

BANACHEK

(to the scientists)

It's okay, release it!

SAM

He's not an 'It'!

Bumblebee's binds UNLOCK. He rises, Sam races over --

SAM (CONT'D)

-- you okay?!

The robot looks down at Sam. Pats his head like a pet.

SAM (CONT'D)

The cube's here, the Decepticons're
coming!

Alert, Bumblebee RUNS -- everyone follows --

166 EXT. HOOVER DAM - LOWER WATER-BASIN TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS 166

Vortex ROARS over the dam. GUIDED MISSILES jump off the chopper's rocket pods -- KABOOOM! The water basin EXPLODES.

167 INT. MEGATRON HANGER - CONTINUOUS 167

Debris CRACKS off the walls. As Bumblebee runs through the hangar with our heroes, Maggie notices a COMPUTER ROOM down the hall -- gets an idea --

MAGGIE

Glen: can you hotwire that equipment to transmit Morse code?

GLEN

I dunno, I dunno, yeah, why?

MAGGIE

The Military Guard Frequency -- it's a shortwave channel -- we could use it to call for air support --

LENNOX

Alright, yeah, you get our birds in the air -- when we get wherever we're going, we'll find a radar and vector em in --

SIMMONS

How the hell're you gonna do that?!

LENNOX

Improvis

KELLER

DO IT GO!

Keller, Maggie, Glen, and Simmons SEPARATE. Lennox and his team move everyone out of the hanger into the tunnels as...

Water shows in from ever-growing FISSURES in the wall, melting Megatron's CRYO-ICE. It CRACKS OFF in thick chunks. The first of his limbs SNAPS LOOSE, then ANOTHER, and ANOTHER... the connected tubes RIP and uncoil, spraying CRYO-SPRAY --

MEGATRON BREAKS FREE! He transforms into the wicked, black HYPERSONIC ALIEN JET. It looks DEMONIC as it BLASTS through the massive tunnel, jetwash SCORCHING LENS --

168 INT. CUBE HANGAR - CONTINUOUS 168

Bumblebee, the kids, Lennox and his soldiers run in -- Lennox sees a motorpool of ARTILLERY BUGGIES:

LENNOX

(to Bumblebee)

Whatever you're gonna do, Big Guy, do it fast --

Bumblebee kneels in front of the cube. Responsively, its ENERGY HUM mutates into ELECTRIC BURSTS. TENDRILS OF ENERGY are between Bumblebee's hands and the cube -- they're communicating in a language beyond our comprehension.

AND THE CUBE TRANSFORMS, FOLDING IN ON ITSELF -- a pattern of geometric shapes unlocking, like a child's click-toy, shrinking SMALLER and SMALLER until it's FOOTBALL-SIZED:

As Bumblebee transforms into Camaro form, his back door OPENS and the cube flies into the BACKSEAT. Seatbelts lash across it, securing it.

Sam and Mikaela hop in front as the Camaro peels out, the soldiers following in the artillery buggies --

175 EXT. HOOVER DAM - TUNNEL AREA - CONTINUOUS

175

Megatron BULLETS from a tunnel, emerging outside. RIPS past camera toward the TOP of the dam --

176 EXT. TOP OF HOOVER DAM - CONTINUOUS

176

Megatron transforms back into robot form, lands next to STARScream, who's perched like an eagle. They speak in their ALIEN LANGUAGE:

STARScream SUBTITLE

Lord Megatron.

MEGATRON SUBTITLE

Starscream.

STARScream SUBTITLE

We are ready to transform the machines..

But Megatron snaps over, alert --

HIS POV ZOOMS across the DAM SPILLWAY to a lower road where BUMBLEBEE and the artillery buggies are racing away! X-RAY reveals THE CUBE hidden in the Camaro's backseat --

A177EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - CAR CHASE - CONTINUOUS

A177

SAM AND MIKAELA -- she turns from the front seat to THE CUBE strapped in the back --

SAM

Is the cube okay?!!

MIKAELA

Yes! It's wearing it's seatbelt!

They look at each other oddly --

SAM

Wow, we just sounded like parents.

THE AUTOBOTS ARRIVE JOINING BUMBLEBEE AND THE ARTILLERY BOOGIES. Ratchet pulls alongside the Camaro, Jazz flanking the rear. Optimus and Ironhide fall back as:

The Decepticons close in: Brawl's POLICE LIGHTS flash, paving a way through traffic. Bonecrusher's ten-foot mandibles scoop up cars and FLIP THEM ASIDE.

At 100 MPH, Bonecrusher TRANSFORMS, steel foot SLAMMING DOWN on the highway. Ripping up asphalt. He LEAPS at OPTIMUS who transforms too -- the robots COLLIDE, plummet off the freeway overpass... CRASHING to the level below. A MOTHER driving a CARPOOL OF KIDS skids as Optimus SHOTS Bonecrusher, who falls:

INTO A CEMENT RIVER BASIN -- CRASH! Now Brawl LEAPS down, joining the fight. Two-on-one: in a slick acrobatic move, Optimus flips, launching Brawl backward into Bonecrusher. The Decepticons CRASH HARD into a cement freeway pillar as:

B177EXT. CITY STREETS - CONTINUOUS

B177

The chase enters a CITY. Bumblebee, Ironhide, Ratchet, and Jazz screech onto a street lined with TALL BUILDINGS. The soldiers arrive. Lennox sees a PAWN SHOP. Gets an idea -- hops out:

LENNOX

Gimme a sec to find a radio!!!

EPPS

What if they didn't call in the strike?!

LENNOX

Then we're all gonna be robot happy meals.

And he BOLTS for the shop --

177 INT. HOOVER DAM COMPUTER AREA - CONTINUOUS

177

Maggie, Keller, and Simmons roll soldering equipment across the floor. She sparks up a heat nozzle, Glen goes to work on a TERMINAL:

GLEN

I'm feeling like, real anxious, Mags -- I might throw up on you!

MAGGIE

Totally understandable.

Something SLAMS at the steel door from outside with INCREDIBLE FEROCITY. They freeze. Glen BURNS HIMSELF with the soldering gun --

SIMMONS

What the hell's that?!!

KELLER

Didn't sound good, whatever it is --

GLEN

I'm really gonna barf --

MAGGIE

Help me with the door!

They frantically push a cabinet against the double-doors as something keeps SLAMMING it. The doors START TO BUCKLE:

SOUNDWAVE'S SKINNY HEAD wedges through, hideous mouth GRINNING. THREE SILVER DISCS fly from the root chest like SAW BLADES --

KELLER

GET DOWN!

Keller TACKLES Maggie as two discs EMBED in the wall -- the third flies inches over Glen's keyboard, NICKING his hand and SMASHING into the computer beside him!

GLEN

WHAT IS THAT BREAKIN' THING?!!!

Maggie opens the latching lever on a WEAPONS BOX. Inside is a 12-GAUGE SHOTGUN. She grabs shells. As Glen works feverishly, a FLASH of STATIC sounds on his terminal --

GLEN (CONT'D)

GO! IT!!! We're transmitting!

KELLER

Send exactly what I say: "Nellis Air Force Base, this is Secretary of Defense Keller -- confirm authentication code Blackbird one-one --"

KELLER (CONT'D)

-- nine-five-Alpha, please respond!"

(turns to Glen, it registers:)

How'd you know my ID?

GLEN

(joining in)

-- nine-five-Alpha --

GLEN

-- look, I told you I got this hacking problem! I know your codes, the President's -- I even know Paris Hilton's cell number!

KELLER

JUST TYPE THE MESSAGE!!!

GLEN

Okay okay --

(about to send, pause)

Uh... I'm having a brain fart, I can't remember Morse --

MAGGIE

... oh God, me neither...

SIMMONS

You gotta be kidding me --

MAGGIE

Well didn't you learn it in the Navy?!

KELLER

Yeah, thirty years ago!

MAGGIE

Wait a minute -- ~~now's~~ that song go, the one they make you learn for the NSA Field Test --

Insanely, Maggie starts ~~SINGING~~ SINGING THE SONG to remember the code as she loads shells in the ~~spotgun~~ spotgun -- more SLAMMING on the door --

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

"A dit is a dot, a dot is a dash:
Al-pha: dit-dit --"

GLEN

~~Yeah~~ Yeah -- "Bra-vo: dot-dit-dit-dit"...
It's all coming back!

SIMMONS

GREAT, SING FASTER!

Glen TYPES THE CODE as Soundwave keeps SLAMMING --

178 INT. PAWN SHOP - CONTINUOUS

178

Lennox BANGS on the pawn shop's gated door. The owner, BIG RHONDA, appears:

BIG RHONDA

HEY! Don't be bangin' on my door!

LENNOX

Ma'am, we got a serious emergency --
d'you have a short wave radio!

BIG RHONDA

No, but I got a CB -- you payin' cash?

LENNOX

It's a National Security matter! Open
the door!

BIG RHONDA

Don't you be takin' that tone with me, I
know my rights!

LENNOX

(pulls his gun)

Ma'am, lemme in or I'll have to shoot
this lock!!!

From under her counter, she grabs a ~~SHOTGUN~~, levels it:

BIG RHONDA

G'head, and I'll have ~~to be~~ shootin' you!

LENNOX

OKAY OKAY, LOOK: you can have my watch,
it's Air Force ~~Issue~~, tells perfect time
by the atomic ~~clock~~ in Geneva -- you can
even scuba ~~dive~~ down to thirty meters --

BIG RHONDA

Do I look ~~like~~ I'm goin' scuba diving to
you?

LENNOX

LADY ~~FOR~~ THE LOVE OF GOD, TAKE THE
WATCH!!!!

181 INT. HOOVER DAM COMPUTER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

181

As Maggie (~~shotgun~~ still in hand), Keller, and Simmons strain
against Soundwave's SLAMS to keep the cabinet wedged against the
door, Glen receives a MORSE CODE RESPONSE over the radio --

GLEN

They're responding! They accepted your
authorization code!

KELLER

CALL IN THE STRIKE!

The double doors finally BUCKLE enough for Soundwave to jump
through and fire more discs. Maggie jukes as a disc CUTS RIGHT
THROUGH HER SHOTGUN BARREL, turning it into a SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN!

She pumps the muzzle -- BLAM! The robot's flung backward, emitting a demented SQUEAL!

MAGGIE
SEND THE MESSAGE QUICK!

GLEN
(typing furiously)
THE KILLER ROBOT'S REALLY DISTRACTING!

Maggie FIRES again. Soundwave LEAPS UP and disappears into a VENT. They hear him MOVING through OVERHEAD DUCTS -- then, CRASH! He DROPS back into the room, sending Keller and Simmons tumbling behind computer consoles.

Maggie SCREAMS, like seeing a rat, fires -- ~~CLICK~~ -- empty, she uses the rifle butt to SMASH Soundwave in the head. The robot SPRINGS, its steel pincer-fingers close around Maggie's throat!

She manages to grab a COMPUTER KEYBOARD -- WHACKS it away. Soundwave SHOOTs MORE DISCS -- they boomerang around the room, back to Maggie... WHO DUCKS, and something terrific happens:

THE DISCS DECAPITATE SOUNDWAVE'S HEAD. AGAIN. HE CRUMPLES.

MAGGIE
(catching her breath)
Did you... get the message out?

Glen slumps at the console, exhausted, NODDING YES:

182 EXT. CITY STREETS - CONTINUOUS

182

Lennox RUNS from the Pawn Shop back to his team, inserting a BATTERY into a portable CB RADIO -- SHOUTS into the mic:

LENNOX
CQ CQ WR2 GFO, come back, do you copy?

The only response is STATIC. Then -- the SCREAMING APPROACH of an F-22 turns everyone around.

EPPS
Oh, baby! The Air Force has arrived!

One of the soldiers sends up a FLARE. It streaks past the jet, which circles back around. Everyone CHEERS.

LENNOX
(into CB)
CQ CQ WR2 GFO... we're 5 clicks south of the tallest building, we see you -- you're headed to our position, over --

Still, STATIC. But the jet keeps coming. The Autobots transform, assume defensive stances. Something's clearly wrong.

IRONHIDE

(alert)

Jazz, Bumblebee: flanking positions!!!

Jazz takes off as the jet drops between buildings towards them, streaking LOW -- and shockingly, fires MISSILES at our heroes!

LENNOX

MOOOOOOVE!!

THE F-22 IS STARSCREAM! Everyone SCATTERS as Bumblebee and Ironhide lift up an OLD TRUCK and FLIP IT OVER to shield the humans -- a guy on a MOTORCYCLE goes skidding as the missile skims the road, RIPPING the old truck in half and...

Bumblebee's CATAPULTED BACKWARDS, his legs SHEARED as he tumbles, grinding a hideous squeal of metal on cement.

THE ENERCON CUBE IS CUT LOOSE FROM BUMBLEBEE'S BACKSEAT!

It BOUNCES over asphalt, a SHOCK WAVE emitting from its center -- air RIPPLES as the wave SPREADS over a one-block range.

A TRICKED-OUT DUB CAR COMING AROUND THE CORNER GETS HIT!

Two wanna-be WHITE RAPPERS tumble from it as every electronic device in the car TRANSFORMS into tiny Tasmanian devils!

183 INT. TARGET SUPERSTORE - CONTINUOUS

183

Oblivious shoppers. The Energon blast SHATTERS WINDOWS as it hits the store, engulfing everything!

An employee carrying an X-BOX 360 SCREAMS as METAL ARMS burst from the box. PLASMA TV's rip from the wall, coming alive! People run screaming --

184 EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS

184

From the debris, SAM is the first to his feet. He helps a dazed Mikaela up. What they see is a disaster:

Under gushing water from a broken fire hydrant, BUMBLEBEE'S TORSO trails twisted metal. His LEGS have been SEVERED OFF.

SAM

Bumblebee... oh God --

He runs to one of Bumblebee's LEGS on the road, drags it over. Mikaela helps. The arm starts FUSING ITSELF back to BB's body... nano-cells regenerating...

SAM (CONT'D)

HELP!!!

Bumblebee -- brave warrior that he is -- struggles, scratches, to pull himself over to THE CUBE. The soldiers spread out. Lennox pulls the CB out from debris, SHOUTS:

LENNOX

This is Sergeant William Lennox, we're under heavy fire -- does anyone copy?!!

There's a long pause... then a PILOT'S VOICE, almost unintelligible with interference, comes over the radio:

VOICE

(static)

Yes, Army Blackhawk -- inbound to your -- (garbled)... copy...

LENNOX

-- say again, over --

VOICE

... lay down... (garbled)... your coordinates (garbled)

LENNOX

We are Alpha, 273 degrees, 10 miles -- November Victor 1213 3427 -- NA, 1.2 clicks north -

VOICE

Copy th-- (garbled)... ETA: two minutes.

THINGS GETS WORSE. Vortex (assault chopper) TRANSFORMS two blocks away, perches on a building top.

The ground starts to TREMBLE. Like an earthquake. Slowly, everyone turns to see... DEVASTATOR (the tank) rolling around the corner. It FLATTENS two cars. Sam and Mikaela stare, transfixed with terror.

Two armed Sector Seven vehicles CHARGE, firing Sabots -- the tank fires back PULSE BLASTS: the vehicles EXPLODE, flip into oblivion.

Now, behind Devastator, comes BONECRUSHER. Lennox and the kids are trapped from both ends. The commandos form a tight group around the kids as... the tank TRANSFORMS, rising on two legs. Its CANNON TURRET PIVOTS toward them. This is it.

But no -- JAZZ skids in, TRANSFORMS, and LEAPS onto Devastator, wrenching back the Decepticon's arms JUST AS it fires. Jazz SPINS KICKS the robot into a building --

RATCHET plunges in, TRANSFORMING. Now Ironhide arrives beside Jazz and they form a triple-threat, sledgehammering Bonecrusher.

And they're helped by Lennox, who pumps the slide on his launcher. Fires at Bonecrusher. So do his soldiers.

The Sabots punch deep into Bonecrusher's steel flesh and EXPLODE AT 6,000 DEGREES, ripping him open from within. Bonecrusher goes berserk, MELTING into a mass of twisted wreckage.

Jazz suddenly gets hit point-blank by a MASSIVE PULSE BLAST:

MEGATRON. THROUGH HIS EVIL EYES WE SEE: Jazz on the ground, wounded, in agony. Biological cross sections: A WEAK POINT identified in Jazz's chest. HIS SPARK.

Megatron PLUNGES HIS HAND into Jazz's chest, RIPPING OUT THE SPARK! Then, cruelly, TEARS JAZZ IN HALF!

IRONHIDE

NOOO!!!

Ironhide LEAPS at Megatron who easily SWATS him aside.

185 EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

185

OPTIMUS SURGES IN BEHIND OUR HEROES, A JUGGERNAUT!

Tearing through rows of fences, he TRANSFORMS mid-stride -- rises to robot form for an incredible HERO SHOT.

MEGATRON transforms into JET MODE, throttles in for the kill. Optimus catches onto Megatron, going AIRBORNE with him! They HIT the side of a building and PLUMMET to the street.

CARS smash into their legs, piling up -- MAJOR PANIC TIME.

OPTIMUS

Megatron.

MEGATRON

Rathetic... speaking the language of insects. You still make allies of the weak.

OPTIMUS

Where you see weakness, I see strength.

MEGATRON

So be it, Brother -- our war begins again... on earth.

The robots COLLIDE! And in all the chaos, Bumblebee urgently grabs Sam's hand. Upturns the boy's palm and... PLACES THE CUBE IN IT. EYES PLEADING.

SAM

No... I'm not gonna leave you...

Bumblebee opens his mouth, and painfully manages to utter:

BUMBLEBEE

GGGGOOOOO SSAAMMM...

The THUMP-THUMP of rotor blades and Lennox looks skyward: ARMY BLACKHAWKS blur past. The cavalry's starting to arrive!

Lennox glances up at a BUILDING ROOFTOP. Gets an idea.

LENNOX

Kid, here's a flare! Get to that ~~roof~~ and signal the chopper, we'll cover you!

SAM

But -- what'm I supposed t--

LENNOX

Time to see what you're made of, soldier! Get the cube outta the ~~city~~, far as you can -- or a lotta people are gonna die!

Sam and Mikaela lock eyes. The moment of truth.

MIKAELA

No matter what happens... I'm glad I got in the car with you.

Sam smiles, surprised she's more of a soul-mate than he knew.

VORTEX SLAMS DOWN IN FRONT OF HIM.

SAM'S FACE -- breathing hard, psyching himself up -- EXACTLY LIKE THE FOOTBALL TRYOUT FLASHBACK!!!

SAM

YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET ME! YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET ME!

As the Decepticons charge, he RUNS -- hauling ass like a running back with the cube -- dodging between their legs, nearly getting SQUISHED, his size his greatest advantage! The soldiers provide COVER FIRE --

MEANWHILE, OPTIMUS AND MEGATRON DO BATTLE:

Megatron's arms turn into TWO DOZEN FIRING TURRETS, hurling Optimus a full city block!

186 INT. ABANDONED DECO BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

186

Sam races into the building with the cube. Once the city's crown jewel, it's now an abandoned, dilapidated mess. He bolts up main stairs as the building VIBRATES from concussions --

187 INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS

187

As Sam leaps into the stairwell and retreats toward the roof...

MEGATRON'S HEAD CRASHES THROUGH THE FLOORS BELOW HIM! FIVE MASSIVE FINGERS RISE, REACHING FOR SAM, SWATTING AWAY THE STAIRS BENEATH HIS FEET!

Sam LEAPS to safety as debris drops fifteen stories below!

188 EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS

188

Amid the chaos, Lennox BARKS into the CB:

LENNOX

Army Blackhawks: request immediate evac for civilian boy with cargo headed to rooftop of the highest structure -- expedite, expedite!

Meanwhile, Mikaela and a few soldiers drag Bumblebee's other leg to him. It starts fusing itself back to BB's body, nano cells regenerating. He tries to rise but can't pull himself up.

Mikaela sees an abandoned ~~car~~ TRUCK parked across the street. Runs over, breaks the window, hops in: NO KEYS. She SMASHES LOOSE the ignition assembly -- with expert fingers, she strips wires -- tries SPARKING them together --

MIKAELA

Come on. come on...

The wires spark, engine ROARING to life. She SLAMS into reverse, tires SQUEALING --

A191EXT. ABANDONED DECO BUILDING ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

A191

Sam bursts onto the rooftop. WEEPING ANGEL STATUES. He raises the flare gun, FIRES. It arrows up like a firework.

STARSCREAM is perched several rooftops away. Sees it...

But an ARMY BLACKHAWK rises up in front of Sam! The rescue. On the skids, an ARMY COMMANDO hangs down as low as he can:

ARMY COMMANDO

Grab my hand, Kid!

Sam steps out onto the ledge, wind from the chopper buffeting him. The street fifty stories below. Major vertigo time.

Clutching the cube, Sam reaches for the commando... fingers almost touching...

STARSCREAM FIRES A MISSILE, BLOWING THE BLACKHAWK INTO SHEET METAL! Sam's knocked backward, stunned -- flaming chopper parts rain down around him as he's KNOCKED BACK --

192 EXT. STREETS BELOW - CONTINUOUS

192

Lennox looks up as the roof EXPLODES in an eruption of glass and fire. The helicopter plummets...

LENNOX

NO NO NO!!!

OPTIMUS -- pulls himself from rubble and sees it too -- locks eyes with Lennox:

LENNOX (CONT'D)

HE'S IN TROUBLE!!!!

Optimus starts SCALING THE BUILDING to the roof, fast as he can:

193 EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS

193

Mikaela finishes hooking the TOW TRUCK CHAINS to Bumblebee's chassis. Hits a lever and the chains PULL BUMBLEBEE UP...

But all he can do is sit upright. Legs too damaged.

And oh shit, here comes Devastator, damaged, wanting blood. The tank FIRES, rocketing MIKaela off her feet...

She peels herself up, dazed, catching sight of a CAR JACK on the tow truck. Uses it to HEFT BUMBLEBEE'S ARM UP, pumping fast --

MIKAELA

I'm aim, you shoot!

Devastator CHARGES. The soldiers flank, trying to draw fire away from Mikaela. Pulse blasts EXPLODE around them as...

Mikaela guides Bumblebee's arm, AIMING as it TRANSFORMS into a LASER TURRET -- KABLAM! They return fire. Asphalt EXPLODES just left of the tank -- it keeps CHARGING -- Mikaela AIMS:

KABLAM! Another blast detonates, missing the tank by inches -- it GROWS HUGE charging at them, seconds from mowing them down --

BULLSEYE! The third BLAST catches it in the grill and it FLIPS RIGHT OVER THEIR HEADS, splintering into pieces...

Quiet. Mikaela catches her breath, says to Bumblebee...

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Nice shot.

194 EXT. ABANDONED DECO BUILDING ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

194

The roof around Sam has CRUMBLED AWAY. He's trapped on a small patch of cement when... MEGATRON EXPLODES THROUGH FROM BELOW!

MEGATRON

Give me the cube, Boy! You aren't strong enough to defy me!

But Sam clings valiantly to the cube...

SAM

No...

He backs toward the building's edge... perilously close.

MEGATRON

I see the fear in your eyes... I can end it... or you will die...

Sam's face grows determined as his will hardens. This is his moment -- life or death, it all comes down to now:

SAM

I. AM. NEVER GIVING IT TO YOU.

And Megatron FIRES at Sam, BLOWING OUT THE ROOFTOP BENEATH HIM! It rips away, statues and all, as...

Sam tumbles out into the depths of empty space over the city... FALLING forty stories to his death...

Optimus, stretched between two buildings, REACHES DESPERATELY for him as he plummets...

SAM LANDS ON OPTIMUS'S CHEST, A PERFECT CATCH!

But now Optimus and Sam FALL TOGETHER -- and to make matters worse, Megatron HURTLES down from above, like an eagle plunging for the kill --

Optimus cups Sam protectively against his chest, his other arm transforming into a TURRET: he fires, spinning Megatron wildly off course --

As they drop the remaining TWENTY STORIES, Optimus' hand RIPS THROUGH THE BUILDING FRAME to slow their fall.

CRASH! The HUGE IMPACT fills the screen with SMOKE AND DEBRIS.

LENNOX looks up as a contingent of SCREAMING MILITARY JETS rockets in, flying over the city.

MEGATRON lands nearby. The soldiers circle, using their launchers to LAZE MEGATRON'S BODY, just like they did Skorponok:

LENNOX
(into CB)
THE TARGET'S MARKED! HIT EM'!

195 ON OPTIMUS

195

As the smoke clears... his fingers slowly OPEN revealing... SAM, SAFELY ENCLOSED ON HIS CHEST. Still clutching the cube. He slides onto the ground. Dazed.

OPTIMUS
You would give your own life to protect the cube...?

Optimus and Sam lock eyes. Sam grins ~~offers~~ the cube... and his father's words:

SAM
No sacrifice, no victory .

That lands with Optimus. But ~~before~~ he can take the cube...

VORTEX and STARSCREAM swoop in, double-teaming him, hammering Optimus with pulse blasts as Megatron slams down near Sam:

MEGATRON
IT'S MINE! THE CUBE IS MINE!

Vortex and Starscream concentrate firepower on Optimus to keep him down. It's brutal

But Lennox jumps onto the fallen MOTORCYCLE nearby. Guns it through flaming wreckage as the Air Force jets SCREAM LOW, launching Sabot rounds --

Vortex's face is BLOWN OPEN! Lennox ROARS in full throttle, SLIDING THE BIKE under the robot's legs, open-firing his LAUNCHER, the rounds tear into Vortex's chest. Stomach. Limbs. He SHRIEKS and starts disintegrating!

OPTIMUS RISES. WALLOP! A roundhouse from his great hydraulic arm catches Starscream -- CRASH! He goes backward through cars.

The jets streak past Megatron, unloading missiles. PUNCTURING his flesh, but not enough to stop him as he charges at Sam...

OPTIMUS lies on his side, wounded. But never giving up:

HE SWINGS HIS MASSIVE LEG -- Sam dives under it to safety as it WHOOSHES OVER HIS HEAD, kicking Megatron back.

But Megatron recovers, RISES. Optimus SHOUTS:

OPTIMUS

Use the cube, Sam! Aim for his spark!

MEGATRON TOWERS ON ALL FOURS ABOVE THE BOY, ABOUT TO CRUSH HIM!

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

DO IT NOW!!!!

AND SECONDS BEFORE SAM'S KILLED, HE SLAMS THE CUBE STRAIGHT INTO MEGATRON'S CHEST!

A BLINDING FLASH! With a bellow, Megatron's spark EXPLODES, tendrils of energy swirling. Lightning snaps out, leaping to surrounding machinery, all of Megatron's life force released in one quick burst.

Starscream TRANSFORMS, the last remaining Decepticon. He flees the planet... and then...

QUIET.

199 EXT. HOOVER DAM - CONTINUOUS

199

Emergency crews race in. Keller, in pain, is helped along the tarmac by Maggie and Glen. MEDICS take hold of him, lead him toward an EMERGENCY VEHICLE. He stops, turns... and SALUTES Maggie and Glen. They salute back. As Keller's driven away...

MAGGIE

You were great.

GLEN

Thanks -- um, just curious, are you fighting the urge to weep openly right now

MAGGIE

Probably healthy.

(slips her arm through his; as they walk)

Y'know, I still owe you my platinum goblin armor.

GLEN

I don't think I need to see another computer for the rest of my life.

200 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

200

MIKAELA and BUMBLEBEE emerge through the smoke. The Autobot's damaged but alive, dragging one malfunctioning leg.

As the jets streak overhead, Lennox and his soldiers clasp hands...

Ratchet and Ironhide appear through the wreckage. In Ironhide's arms, Jazz's lifeless body. Gently, he sets him down. Optimus approaches...

SAM

But your planet... without the cube,
you're the last of your kind...

Optimus kneels by his fallen soldier.

OPTIMUS

(finally)

We will survive. We must.

He touches a hand to Jazz's chest. Ignoring him.

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

For those who did not.

A beat.

MIKAELA (O.S.)

Look!

They turn. She's standing at the edge of a GIANT CRATER. Everyone gathers beside her. Look down into the crater where... MEGATRON'S BODY lies buried in the rubble.

MEGATRON'S EYES. Twinkle and go out.

OPTIMUS

You left me no choice... Brother.

HOLD ON our heroes. Humans and Robots. Together.

A ringing SCHOOL BELL takes us to...

201 INT. TRANQUILITY HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

201

Monday morning. Kids fill the halls between classes. Among them, we find Sam and Miles, talking, laughing.

Sam stops short when he sees Mikaela up ahead, heading his way with her friends. Her look passes from Sam, to Trent down the hall. Who will she choose?

She starts walking. To Trent. Sam's heart falls. Until...

SHE PASSES TRENT. Keeps moving to Sam. He opens his mouth to say something but... her lips are on his for an incredible KISS, right there in front of everyone.

As we pull away, our score RISES...

KELLER (V.O.)

Given the satellite blackout, knowledge of the alien presence was contained...

202 INT. THE CAPITOL - CLOSED-DOOR SESSION - DAY

202

Keller at a table, addresses WASHINGTON BRASS on a dais:

KELLER

However, to maintain absolute secrecy, I recommend Sector Seven be terminated, and the specimen known as NBE-ONE disposed over with a Fifty Kilo-ton device at the bottom of the Laurentian Abyss.

203 EXT. HIGH SEAS - THE LAURENTIAN ABYSS - NIGHT

203

The sea crashes around the bow of an AIRCRAFT CARRIER. KELLER and MAGGIE watch as tug-pulleys drag MEGATRON'S LIFELESS BODY across the flight deck...

A bolt-studded NUCLEAR DEVICE is on his chest. Keller gives a nod and the device ACTIVATES. The red "detonation" lights BLINK as the 50,000 ton behemoth is pushed OVER THE SIDE, crashing...

204 BENEATH THE SURFACE: Megatron sinks fast, sucked into the silent vortex. Disappearing into the darkness, we're left only with the BLINKING DETONATION LIGHTS... counting down... fading away...

204

OPTIMUS' VOICE returns to us:

OPTIMUS (V.O.)

For now the Decepticon legions are vanquished... and though we have sacrificed much, fate has yielded an unexpected reward: a new world to call... Home.'

205 EXT. CITY FREEWAY - DAY

205

Cars, thousands, jammed bumper to bumper. And one of them could be a Transformer.

OPTIMUS (V.O.)

We live among its people now, hiding in plain sight...

206 EXT. RURAL FARMHOUSE - FRONT PORCH - DAY

206

IRONHIDE pulls up, LENNOX behind the wheel. He steps from the pickup. The porch door swings open and... HIS WIFE runs to him, holding their BABY. They hold each other tight...

OPTIMUS (V.O.)

*I have witnessed their capacity for
courage... and much like us, there's more
to them than meets the eye.*

Lennox takes his baby in his arms for the first time. The tiny infant stares up at him, smiling.

His perfect day.

207 CUT TO OPTIMUS PRIME IN CLOSE UP:

207

Particles billow across his face. SNOW ~~FLAKES~~. He stares at a BLINKING TRANSMITTER on his arm, an antenna raised...

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

I am Optimus Prime... and I send this message to all surviving Autobots taking refuge among the stars. You are not alone...

Optimus looks to the sky.

OPTIMUS (CONT'D)

We are here. We are waiting.

And our MUSIC SOARS as we PULL BACK to reveal he's standing at the top of a SNOW-CAPPED MOUNT EVEREST, overlooking the world...

Optimus grows smaller on its peak, the sky behind him a fiery red as he stares upward... waiting for an answer from the stars.

FADE OUT.

T H E E N D