

TRANS FORMERS

"Transport to Oblivion"

(MP#700-01)

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TRANSFORMERS
"Transport to Oblivion"
(MP#700-01)

CAST LIST

AUTOBOTS:

OPTIMUS PRIME
IRONHIDE
CLIFFJUMPER
JAZZZ
RATCHET
PROWL
GEARS
BUMBLEBEE

DECEPTICONS:

MEGATRON
SHOCKWAVE
SOUNDWAVE
LASERBEAK
STARSCREAM
SKYWARP
RAVAGE

HUMANS:

SPIKE
SPARKPLUG
WORKERS AT POWER STATION (one-liners, ad libs)

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FADE IN:

EXT. - NEAR AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS - PRE-DAWN

The starry night sky makes it seem as if we might be in outer space, but as the early morning sun rises over the horizon, we find that we are indeed on Earth. The CAMERA PANS SLOWLY to the dark shape of the volcano which is the Autobot headquarters and PUSHES IN...

NARRATOR (VO)

Four million years ago, strange visitors from the planet Cybertron travelled across the galaxies and crash-landed on Earth.

CLOSER ON SILHOUETTED HORIZON

As the sky grows brighter, casting the landscape in silhouette, a form rises out of the darkness...

NARRATOR (CONT-VO)

But these aliens, recently-revived and roaming the planet, are not flesh and blood--but mechanical creatures of great technical sophistication...

REVERSE ANGLE - CLOSER ON OPTIMUS PRIME

The huge Autobot rises to his great height and turns his head to greet the dawn.

NARRATOR (CONT-VO)

...the Autobots!!

IRONHIDE (VO)

Optimus! Optimus Prime!

WIDER

as Ironhide moves INTO SCENE next to his leader and salutes. Optimus Prime returns the salute.

IRONHIDE (CONT)

All systems ready for tomorrow's launch to Cybertron!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Acknowledged. At last we can return to our homeland--if it indeed still exists..

ANGLE AT ENTRANCE TO AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS

The entrance is built out of the side of the volcano. CLIFFJUMPER, coming outside with a large laser rifle, reacts with shock to something O.S.

CLIFFJUMPER
(shouting)
Look out! Decepticon!!

He raises his rifle and blasts away, shooting laser beams O.S. (APP. SFX)

ON PRIME AND IRONHIDE

They duck just in time as the rays blast over their heads THROUGH SHOT.

IRONHIDE
Cliffjumper!

ANGLE ON ROCK OUTCROPPING

In silhouette the rock formation might look a little like a Decepticon--to a jumpy Autobot. The laser rays BLAST at its base, causing it to crumble and roll down the cliffside.

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Cease fire!!

ANGLE ON AUTOBOTS

IRONHIDE
--And move it!!

All three of them have to jump aside as the huge rock CRASHES down INTO SCENE and rolls O.S., barely missing them.

CLOSER ON SPRAWLED AUTOBOTS

Cliffjumper looks sheepish as Ironhide gets up and pulls him to his feet, glaring.

CLIFFJUMPER
Sorry, guys. In the shadows, it looked like a Decepticon!

IRONHIDE
Decepticon?! Ha! We sent their ship to the bottom of the sea months ago!

AT EDGE OF CLIFF - DOWNSHOT

Optimus Prime moves INTO SCENE and stares down at the water below.

IRONHIDE (CONT-VO)
There's no way the Decepticons
could've pulled through! Right,
Optimus?

CLOSER ON OPTIMUS PRIME

as he peers below thoughtfully...

OPTIMUS PRIME
I wish we could be certain of that,
Ironhide!

WIDER ANGLE

The CAMERA PANS down the side of the cliff to the water below, the waves CRASHING against the rocks...

DISSOLVE TO:

UNDERWATER - DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS

The Decepticon cruiser, last seen on the ocean floor near the opening of an undersea cave, is now the central unit of a whole complex under construction--part of which leads into the cavern opening. The CAMERA PUSHES IN as we hear:

MEGATRON (VO)
The Autobots think they have
defeated us...

CUT TO:

INT. OF CRUISER - CLOSE ON MEGATRON

A hint of an evil smile crosses his face...

MEGATRON (CONT)
...and yet we survive!

WIDER

to include a large video monitor in the background, which appears to be having technical difficulties.

MEGATRON (CONT)
But the Decepticon cause is futile
if our home planet of Cybertron has
not survived as well...

DISSOLVE TO:

OUTER SPACE

The CAMERA PANS across the galaxies to an alien solar system...

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)

And after all these years without any contact, how can we be certain that it even exists?

DISSOLVE TO:

CYBERTRON

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on the totally mechanized planet...

CUT TO:

EXT. - DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS ON CYBERTRON

Laser beams streak out of the headquarters tower from underneath the transparent dome, blasting sections of the surrounding area. (SFX: LASER BLASTS, EXPLOSIONS)

INT. OF HEADQUARTERS - ANGLE ON SHOCKWAVE

SHOCKWAVE, in his ray gun trans-form, is mounted on a pedestal, shooting laser rays outside and O.S. (CONT. SFX) The beams start to weaken as Shockwave loses power. He TRANSFORMS slowly into his robotic mode.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)

(weak, gasping)

Fuel supply running low...I'm losing power...

ANGLE ON CONTROL PANEL

Shockwave moves slowly INTO SCENE and approaches the panel, with a large monitor in view (similar to that of Megatron's). He begins operating the controls...

SHOCKWAVE (CONT-VO)

...Must attempt communication with Megatron...

ANGLE ON MONITOR

The monitor displays some video interference...

SHOCKWAVE (CONT-VO)

...It's our only hope...

CUT TO:

* BACK TO MEGATRON ON EARTH

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
(over transmitter)
Come in Megatron...This is the
planet Cybertron...

Megatron turns to the screen in surprise.

CLOSER ON SCREEN

The static clears a bit, and the image of SHOCKWAVE comes in and out, never too clearly. Megatron moves INTO SCENE to adjust some controls.

SHOCKWAVE (CONT-VO)
...trying to establish contact.
Do you copy? ... Megatron!

CLOSE ON MEGATRON

MEGATRON
(to himself)
It can't be! After so long--
It is--!

ON MONITOR SCREEN

The picture clears, showing Shockwave on Cybertron.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
--Shockwave, Guardian of Cybertron!

Shockwave recognizes his leader and reacts, pleased.

* SHOCKWAVE
Megatron! You have survived!

ANOTHER ANGLE ON MEGATRON AND MONITOR

MEGATRON
And will continue--until our mission
of universal domination is complete!
Report status.

CUT TO:

CYBERTRON - DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS - ANGLE ON SHOCKWAVE

Here in a small, circular room lined with monitor screens and control panels, Shockwave stands before a large monitor with Megatron's image.

SHOCKWAVE
The planet remains secure from Autobot
forces. Our supply of energon cubes
is dangerously low, however.

CUT TO:

BACK TO EARTH - MEGATRON AND MONITOR

SHOCKWAVE (VO-CONT)

Development of our new dimensional
transport system is almost complete.

MEGATRON

Excellent! We shall begin processing
energon cubes immediately...

CLOSE ON MEGATRON

as he leers INTO CAMERA evilly..

MEGATRON (CONT)

We'll suck this planet dry!

WIPE TO:

EXT. - SOLAR POWER STATION - DAY

somewhere in a North American desert. The CAMERA PANS down
the rows of huge solar panels to the power station.

CUT TO:

INT. OF POWER STATION - ON GENERATORS

(SFX: LOW, STEADY ELECTRONIC HUM) Several WORKERS are seen
tending the huge generators powered by the solar panels.
The CAMERA PANS to a tape player resting on one of the
pipes feeding out of a generator. (SFX: MUSIC BLARING)

WORKER #1

Hey, Ed! Turn your tape machine
down, will ya?!

UPSHOT

past another worker as he jerks his thumb over his shoulder
up towards the tape player.

WORKER #2

That's not--huh?!

But he's cut off as the tape player TRANSFORMS into SOUNDWAVE!

CLOSER ON SOUNDWAVE

The Decepticon presses the eject button on his shoulder.

SOUNDWAVE

Laserbeak--attack!

The mini-cassette inside Soundwave pops out and TRANSFORMS into LASERBEAK!

WIDE ON WORKERS

The robot condor swoops down INTO SCENE, blasting laser beam rays out at the workers below, who scatter and run O.S. Laserbeak pursues them, the CAMERA PANNING.

LASERBEAK
(CONDOR SHRIEKS!)

WORKERS
(FRANTIC AD LIB CRIES)

ON SOUNDWAVE

as he turns to Megatron O.S.

SOUNDWAVE
Generators under Decepticon control!

MEGATRON (VO)
Well done, Soundwave!

AT LOADING ENTRANCE

Megatron and his Decepticons (STARSCREAM and SKYWARP) enter at the huge loading doors and approach the generators which Megatron points out.

MEGATRON (CONT)
Begin production of energon cubes!

UPSHOT ON SOUNDWAVE

as his chest begins to glow. An empty energon cube is produced from a beam of light that emanates from his chest. The cube floats down O.S. as another cube is produced.

MEGATRON (VO-CONT)
Prepare to process generator output into cubes!

ANGLE ON GENERATOR

Starscream and Skywarp RIP the cables feeding out from the generator (causing SPARKS and electrical shorts) and feed the energy into the energon cubes Soundwave produced. (SFX: DEAFENING ELECTRICAL WHINE)

WIPE TO:

EXT. - CITY STREET

JAZZZ (in his Porsche trans-form) spins around a corner into view (SFX: TIRES SQUEALING) and roars INTO CAMERA.

ON JAZZZ (PAN BG)

SPIKE is relaxing in the front seat, leaning back with his arms folded behind him. (MUSIC: POP BEAT)

SPIKE
Wow! You picked up a great beat
on your super car stereo, Jazzz!

JAZZZ (VO)
You dig it, huh, Spike?

CLOSE ON CAR SPEAKER

It vibrates as Jazzz speaks:

JAZZZ (VO-CONT)
Well, lemme rev up the decibels
for you!

(MUSIC: VOLUME INCREASES)

WIDER ON SPIKE AND JAZZZ (PAN BG)

Spike relaxes even more, getting into the music.

SPIKE
Yeah...get down!

JAZZZ (VO)
Look out!!

Suddenly Jazzz SCREECHES to a halt (STOP PAN), causing Spike to look ahead and react.

ANGLE ON INTERSECTION

Cars are blocking the intersection in a massive traffic jam. (SFX: HORNS HONKING)

SPIKE (VO)
Oh, no! A traffic jam!!

ANGLE ON TRAFFIC LIGHT

with the cars jammed in the B.G. (CONT SFX) The traffic light is not working.

JAZZZ (VO)
The signals are all out!

ON SPIKE AND JAZZZ

Spike, looking out of the window, points O.S.

SPIKE
Everybody's coming out of the
buildings!

ANGLE ON SIGNS

Some of the neon store signs on the street are out, others
are blinking off.

JAZZZ (VO)
Looks like a massive power blackout!

ON JAZZZ AND SPIKE

Jazzz REVS UP, his wheels spin...

JAZZZ (CONT-VO)
We'd better check in with Autobot
headquarters!

...and he backs up, turns around and ROARS off around a
corner.

WIPE TO:

EXT. - AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS

The CAMERA MOVES IN and we...

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
It appears the entire city is losing
its power supply!

CUT TO:

INT. - ON MONITOR SCREEN OF TELETRAAN I

A map of the city is seen on the screen, with only a few
small sections lit up. Some of these are going out, too.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)
Only a few small pockets of activity
are left!

ANOTHER ANGLE - WIDER

to include Optimus Prime, who is studying the monitor screen.
The control console in front of him spans the entire width
of the room. Prime watches the screen intently.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)

(to himself)

What could be causing this energy
loss?

*

He punches a button on the console.

*

CUT TO:

* EXT. OF AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS

* The surveillance satellite (SEE DAY #1, SC 232) rises out
* of the top of the volcano and speeds O.S.

*

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)

*

Perhaps if Teletraan I can survey
the local power supply stations...

*

*

CUT BACK TO:

ON MONITOR

* A video picture of the solar power station appears on the
screen, with a computer read-out printed over it reading:
"SOLAR POWER STATION #001--CAPACITY: 80%, CURRENT PRODUCTION:
0%."

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)

*

Ah...there's the problem--the solar
power station.

Suddenly Megatron appears on screen at the loading entrance of the building.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)
I don't believe it--

CLOSE ON OPTIMUS PRIME

as he realizes his greatest fear has come true:

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Megatron lives!!

WIDER

as Prime punches a communication switch on the panel.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
All available Autobots assemble
immediately!

FLIP TO:

EXT. - OUTSIDE AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS

Lined up at attention are Ironhide, RATCHET, PROWL, Cliffjumper, and GEARS. They salute as Prime names them off. (CAMERA PANS)

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Ironhide, Ratchet, Prowl, Cliffjumper,
Gears...

ON PRIME

He shakes his head--all his forces are not available.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Over half of our force is out on
patrol...

AT END OF LINE-UP

BUMBLEBEE, the smallest Autobot, races INTO SCENE and into
the line-up, and salutes.

BUMBLEBEE
Bumblebee reporting for duty!

Gears, next to him, turns and glares...

GEARS
You're late again..!

ANGLE FEATURING PRIME

OPTIMUS PRIME
Autobots...transform!!

As the CAMERA PANS down the line-up, each Autobot TRANSFORMS!

ON OPTIMUS PRIME

as he TRANSFORMS himself to his trailer truck mode...

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Roll out for the power station!

And he takes the lead, the other vehicles following him O.S.

WIPE TO:

INT. - SOLAR POWER STATION

The Decepticons are continuing the process of transferring
the energy from the generators via cables, filling the empty
energon cubes. Others are carrying out stacks of cubes
already filled with the compressed, sparkling energy as
they head O.S. out of the plant. Standing off to the
side is Megatron, gloating triumphantly over the success
of his strike.

MEGATRON
The work is going exceptionally
well. I will have a large shipment
to send to Cybertron.

CUT TO:

EXT. OF POWER STATION - REAR AREA

as the Autobot caravan comes INTO SCENE. MOTORS CUT OFF and the vehicles roll to a stop.

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Affix power packs and transform!

They simultaneously transform into their robonic forms, each wearing a power pack...

ANGLE FEATURING IRONHIDE

IRONHIDE
Switch on power packs...

He switches on his own power pack (SFX: POWER ON). Prime rises first, going up and O.S. Ironhide follows, calling down to the others:

IRONHIDE (CONT)
Get your pig-iron crankshafts moving and follow!

WIDER ON SCENE

The other Autobots follow their lead and go up and O.S.

OVER THE PLANT

The Autobots rise above the power plant, and move over to a position directly over the skylight rooftop, assembling into a flight-squad position. Prime, in the lead, brings his hand down, giving the signal.

CUT TO:

INT. OF PLANT - ON DECEPTICONS

Starscream and Skywarp, carrying out cubes, react as they hear SFX: GLASS CRASHING. They look up startled...

UPSHOT

as the Autobots lower down through the skylight into the plant and INTO CAMERA!

SKYWARP (VO)
Autobots!!

ANGLE FEATURING MEGATRON

Starscream and Skywarp are nearby. Starscream starts to run for cover.

STARSCREAM

Run for cover and re-group!

Megatron reaches out to stop Starscream and Skywarp as they run past him, but is not quick enough.

MEGATRON

Stand your ground, Decepticons!

CLIFFJUMPER (VO)

Don't worry, Megatron...

Cliffjump comes down INTO SCENE in front of Megatron and reaches out to grab him.

CLIFFJUMPER (CONT)

...I'll get them after I've taken care of you!

Megatron turns and casually hits Cliffjumper, sending him sprawling O.S. with the back of his huge hand. (SFX: THWACK!)

ANGLE ON CORNER OF ROOM

as Cliffjumper is thrown back into the wall with a METALLIC CRASH!

MEGATRON (VO)

(disdainfully)

Who will take care of me?!

ON MEGATRON

His back is to CAMERA...

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)

I will, Megatron!

Megatron spins around--as the CAMERA PULLS BACK--to face Prime. Prime holds his laser rifle pointed directly at Megatron. Megatron smiles sardonically.

MEGATRON

That is much more like it, Prime!

Megatron immediately brings his fusion cannon up and BLASTS Prime's rifle out of his hand.

ANGLE ON PRIME

Stunned, he holds his stricken hand as his rifle falls O.S.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ooof!

ANOTHER ANGLE - PRIME AND MEGATRON

Prime sidesteps Megatron's next BLAST and grabs the cannon, which Megatron continues to hold onto...

MEGATRON

Good move, Optimus, but--

...but the Decepticon leader is swung off his feet and sent flying O.S.

OPTIMUS PRIME

(GRUNT!) But..nothing...!

ANGLE ON GENERATOR

as Megatron SLAMS into the generator with a CRASH! He winces..

MEGATRON

(CRY OF PAIN)

Prime moves in on Megatron, clasping his hands together to swing down at the robot, but Megatron uses his cannon to block Prime's blow. (SFX: CLANK!) Then, Megatron plunges his cannon barrel into Prime's midriff and sends him staggering back toward another generator.

MEGATRON (CONT)

My turn now...

He scrambles back up to his feet and rushes at the off-balance Prime, grabbing him around his chest. Together, they grapple and SLAM against the generator, damaging it and sending SPARKS flying..

MEGATRON/PRIME

(GASPS AND GRUNTS)

CLOSER

As they struggle, one of the cables is broken from its connection plate. Prime succeeds in pinning Megatron against the damaged generator, but ends up pressing his opponent against the connection plate. The evil robot is infused with a POWERFUL BLAST of energy that creates an electrical aura around him. Megatron smiles, renewed...

MEGATRON

Thanks for the power boost, Prime!

ON PRIME

Prime reacts, realizing what has happened -- and is easily flung away by Megatron.

CUT TO:

EXT. OF PLANT

Starscream and Skywarp are gathering the stacks of energon cubes in their arms. Skywarp TRANSFORMS into his jet plane mode, the cubes that were in his arms now stored within the plane. (SFX: JET EXHAUST)

SKYWARP

(shouting over jets)

Hurry it up! Those Autobots will be--

ON STARSCREAM

Suddenly a rocket WOOSHES THROUGH SCENE over his head. He spins around, dropping the cubes O.S. and fires his blaster at the Autobots O.S. (SFX: HIGH-PITCHED WHINE FOLLOWED BY REVERBERATING BOOM!)

ON PROWL AND RATCHET

The CAMERA SHAKES as the concussion blast explodes with the REVERBERATING BOOM, forcing them back, vibrating them from the force of the blast.

RATCHET

A concussion blast! Back--move back!!

BACK TO STARSCREAM

ready to fire another blast.

SKYWARP (VO)

Starscream -- behind you!!

Starscream quickly glances back over his shoulder.

P.O.V. - CLIFFJUMPER AND GEARS

The Autobots are charging him from behind, heading INTO CAMERA.

CLIFFJUMPER

Too late, Starscream!

BACK TO SHOT

STARSCREAM

It's never too late, Autobot!

He fires a mini-cannon, shooting off a rocket O.S. towards the Autobots.

ON CLIFFJUMPER AND GEARS

The rocket ZOOMS INTO SCENE toward them. They jump, hitting the dirt as the rocket SLAMS into a concrete abutment next to them, blowing it to pieces. (SFX: EXPLOSION!)

ON STARSCREAM

Starscream gathers the last of the energon cubes in his arms and TRANSFORMS to his jet plane mode.

WIDE ON JETS

Then they take off, ROARING INTO CAMERA as they rise up into the air and O.S.

CUT TO:

INT. OF PLANT - ON BUMBLEBEE AND LASERBEAK

Laserbeak ZOOMS THROUGH SCENE several times, buzzing little Bumblebee, who does the best he can to swat the robot bird away.

LASERBEAK
(CONDOR SCREECHES!)

BUMBLEBEE
I'll get you!!

ON PRIME AND MEGATRON

Prime staggers to his feet, obviously dazed. Megatron, facing him, TRANSFORMS into his laser gun mode...

MEGATRON
(TRIUMPHANT LAUGH!)

...flipping through the air and O.S.

ON SOUNDWAVE

as he catches the Megatron-gun.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
Prime is target, Soundwave -- fire!

Soundwave fires the gun with APP. SFX.

CLOSE ON IRONHIDE

He reacts with shock as he sees what's happening.

IRONHIDE
Optimus! Hit the deck!!

ON PRIME

as Ironhide leaps INTO SHOT, throwing his shoulder protectively in front of his leader, and gets a direct hit from the laser blast on his shoulder. (APP. SFX) He grabs the wounded limb...

IRONHIDE (CONT)
(CRY OF PAIN!)

...spins and falls into Optimus Prime's arms.

IRONHIDE (CONT)
Sorry about -- (GASP!)

Prime looks up and O.S.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Ratchet! Prowl!!

ON SOUNDWAVE

The Megatron-gun flips out of his hands and TRANSFORMS back * to his humanoid trans-form as laser BLASTS streak THROUGH SCENE.

NEAR LOADING DOORS
* Megatron dodges the laser blasts that EXPLODE INTO SCENE...
MEGATRON
* We have what we came for--let's go!
* Then he lifts off, flying out of the doors and out of sight.

ON SOUNDWAVE

SOUNDWAVE
Laserbeak--return!!

He pushes the eject button on his shoulder as Laserbeak flies INTO SCENE and TRANSFORMS back to his mini-cassette mode, flipping back into Soundwave's chest.

LASERBEAK
(CONDOR SCREECH!)

Soundwave then takes off, flying O.S. after Megatron.

ON PRIME AND IRONHIDE

Ratchet and Gears move INTO SCENE next to Prime as the others regroup. Prime lifts Ironhide in his arms and hands him to Ratchet.

OPTIMUS PRIME
Take Ironhide--he's hurt.

Gears glances off to the loading doors O.S., then back to Prime.

GEARS

But Megatron's getting away!

Ratchet begins moving O.S. with Ironhide...

IRONHIDE

(GROAN!)

OPTIMUS PRIME

Another time for Megatron.

CLOSE ON IRONHIDE

to reveal he has passed out.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)

Ironhide has been hit bad. We must get him back to headquarters--immediately.

DISSOLVE TO:

CLOSE ON TRANSISTOR SECTIONS

in disarray, some sections fused together.

RATCHET (VO)

This terminal will have to be totally R & R.

WIDE ON SCENE - EXT. OF AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS

Ironhide is stretched out on a narrow platform. A panel on his side is open, revealing the fused transistors. Ratchet and SPARKPLUG are standing over him, Sparkplug intently absorbed in the repair robot's work. In the background is Autobot headquarters.

SPARKPLUG

R and R?

RATCHET

Removed and rebuilt.

Ratchet presses his wrist and a laser scapel slides out of his hand. He CLICKS it on, activating a fine laser point and starts cutting the transistor section free.

CLOSE ON TRANSISTOR SECTION

as it's removed, revealing worse damage at the bottom section of the opening.

SPARKPLUG (VO)

Hmm...that rear-end assembly looks like it could use some old-fashioned blow-torch work to secure it.

BACK TO SHOT

RATCHET

Good idea, Sparkplug! That's exactly what we'll do.

Ironhide sits up...

IRONHIDE

That's what you think, Ratchet. Just keep your clamps off my --

...but Ratchet pushes him back down, flips open a chest panel, reaches inside and twists.

RATCHET

No more back talk! I'm turning you off..

DOWNSHOT

IRONHIDE

Why, you---

Ironhide is shut down; his mouth freezes open, but his eyes glare burningly at Ratchet. Ratchet nods at Sparkplug, grinning.

RATCHET

Ol' Ironhide's gonna pull through nicely!

Sparkplug grins back and nods.

ANOTHER ANGLE - WIDER

JAZZZ (VO)

So Megatron got away with all those energon cubes?

The CAMERA PANS OVER to another area nearby, where Spike, Jazzz, Bumblebee and Prowl are gathered around, some seated on rocks.

PROWL

Yes, but they still have to find a way of transporting them to Cybertron.

CLOSE ON SPIKE

SPIKE
And they don't have a ship that
can do it, right?

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
We cannot be sure.

Spike turns to look at Prime O.S.

WIDER

to include Optimus Prime, who has joined the group.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
I suspect they have a plan.

* He leans over to give instructions to Bumblebee.

* OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Bumblebee, I want you to spy on the
Decepticons and find out what their
plan is.

ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

* Bumblebee, next to Spike, TRANSFORMS to his VW mode.

* SPIKE
I want to go along! Can I?

* BUMBLEBEE
Sure! Just leave the driving to me..

* Spike looks over to see the Autobot has transformed, and
climbs in before the little car takes off O.S.

WIPE TO:

EST. SHOT - DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on the central unit of the underwater
complex...

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
(over transmitter)
Preparing test coordinates. Are
you ready to view procedure?

MEGATRON (VO)
Ready to receive.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
Sending coordinates to view.

CUT TO:

INT. OF CRUISER - ON MONITOR SCREEN

Mathematical formula with Decepticon symbols appears on the screen.

MEGATRON (VO)
Coordinates on view. Accepted.

ANGLE ON MEGATRON

He appears intent, his face in a glow from the monitor.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
Planetary configurations determined to establish access route for space bridge.

MEGATRON
What will results be?

ON MONITOR SCREEN

A Decepticon map of the universe appears on the screen with various symbols depicting the galaxies. Cybertron appears in one corner, Earth in another, with a dotted line linking them.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
A dimensional hole in the universe, allowing direct access between the two planets.

The map changes in configuration, the dotted line vanishes, and two circles appear, one near each planet. The dotted line reappears on Cybertron, exits into one circle then reappears out of the other circle, completing the connection to Earth.

SHOCKWAVE (VO-CONT)
The energon shipment will be transported to Cybertron via the space bridge...
* instantly.

ON MEGATRON AND SCREEN

MEGATRON
* Excellent! We will prepare the energon cubes for departure.

ON MONITOR

The map configuration changes again, so that the two circles join together to make one, and the two distant planets seem much closer together.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
The space bridge will be operable
for a maximum of eleven minutes.

CLOSE ON MEGATRON

He nods, leering INTO CAMERA...

MEGATRON
We will be ready.

WIPE TO:

EXT. - DESERT - LONG SHOT

Bumblebee's VW is driving along the desert flatlands.

BUMBLEBEE (VO)
We're getting nowhere fast. How
are we gonna spy on the Decepticons
if we can't find them?

CLOSER (PAN BG)

so we can see Spike riding in the vehicle. He points.

SPIKE
Let's drive down in the river bed--
at least we'll be shaded from the sun.

WIDER

Bumblebee makes a turn for the river bed in the distance.

BUMBLEBEE (VO)
You got it!

UPSHOT AT EDGE OF RIVER BED

Bumblebee's wheels SKID as the VW stops at the edge of the
river bed--as if the car reacted to what it saw.

BUMBLEBEE (VO-CONT)
(startled whisper)
Decepticons!!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Spike leaps out of the car and peers over the edge.

SPIKE
Let's see what they're doing down
there!

Bumblebee TRANSFORMS back to his robotic mode and joins him.

INT. OF CRUISER - ON MONITOR SCREEN

Mathematical formula with Decepticon symbols appears on the screen.

MEGATRON (VO)

Coordinates on view. Accepted.

ANGLE ON MEGATRON

He appears intent, his face in a glow from the monitor.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)

Planetary configurations determined to establish access route for space bridge.

MEGATRON

What will results be?

ON MONITOR SCREEN

A Decepticon map of the universe appears on the screen with various symbols depicting the galaxies. Cybertron appears in one corner, Earth in another, with a dotted line linking them.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)

A dimensional hole in the universe, allowing direct access between the two planets.

The map changes in configuration, the dotted line vanishes, and two circles appear, one near each planet. The dotted line reappears on Cybertron, exits into one circle then reappears out of the other circle, completing the connection to Earth.

SHOCKWAVE (VO-CONT)

The energon shipment will be transported to Cybertron via the space bridge... instantly.

*

ON MEGATRON AND SCREEN

MEGATRON

Excellent! We will prepare the energon cubes for departure.

*

ON MONITOR

The map configuration changes again, so that the two circles join together to make one, and the two distant planets seem much closer together.

P.O.V. - IN THE RIVER BED

Down at the bottom of the dry river bed, the Decepticons are loading energon cubes into the end of a long, sleek metallic vehicle with wheels. They are near the top of a very long ramp which the CAMERA PANS along. At the other end is a "doorway" consisting of two large electrical posts, where the entrance to the space bridge will occur. Here, Megatron and Starscream stand, Megatron with an audio transmitter which he removes from his body.

MEGATRON

Prepare for test run, Shockwave!

CLOSER ON MEGATRON AND STARSCREAM

MEGATRON (CONT)

We have five seconds to opening
of the space bridge...

STARSCREAM

(counting)

Five...

ANGLE ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

They are peering down INTO CAMERA, their heads poking over the edge of the river bank (they're on their stomachs). They exchange puzzled glances.

SPIKE

Bridge..?

STARSCREAM

Four...

BUMBLEBEE

(sudden realization)

To Cybertron!

...three...two...

ANGLE ON MEGATRON AND SPACE BRIDGE ENTRANCE

MEGATRON

Space bridge established!

He moves back O.S. as the parallel posts glow with a special energy charge, then exchange a current that splits up into brilliantly-colored, wildly-undulating, and alternately-spinning waves of energy. Suddenly the waves circle and open like the iris of a camera, leaving a circle or "hole" of energy between the two posts.

ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

They react with awe and wonder...

SPIKE

Wow...!

ANGLE AT OTHER END OF RAMP

Soundwave stands ready at the upper end of the ramp, readying a smaller version of the transport vehicle-- this one holds a single energon cube.

MEGATRON (VO)
Release test vehicle!

Soundwave releases the vehicle, which rolls down the ramp and O.S.

AT SPACE BRIDGE ENTRANCE

The vehicle rolls down the ramp between the posts into the opening, where it disappears in a brilliant, reverberating, pulsating FLASH! (SFX: SUSTAINED ELECTRONIC BUZZ)

ON MEGATRON

He speaks into his transmitter:

MEGATRON
Shockwave--report!

CUT TO:

SHOCKWAVE ON CYBERTRON - INT. OF DECEPTICON HQ

Shockwave waits near a duplicate set of posts (without the ramp) which currently have the identical opening of energy waves. The vehicle does not appear.

SHOCKWAVE
(grimly)
Test run aborted. No sign of vehicle.

CUT TO:

ON MEGATRON AND STARSCREAM

Starscream turns on the Decepticon leader.

STARSCREAM
Your space bridge is worthless, Megatron!
I will find a way to transport the cubes.

MEGATRON
You will do nothing. The vehicle needs guidance through the space bridge.

ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

They exchange looks.

BUMBLEBEE

We'd better get back to headquarters!

SPIKE

Right--This is exactly what Optimus wanted us to find out!

ANOTHER ANGLE

as they pull themselves back from the edge of the river bed.

MEGATRON (VO)

I need a volunteer...

ON DECEPTICONS - FEATURE MEGATRON -

MEGATRON (CONT)

...to guide the cubes through the bridge to Cybertron.

The Decepticons turn their heads away--there is no response to his request.

BACK TO SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

as Bumblebee TRANSFORMS into his VW mode and Spike leaps into the front seat.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)

Very well...I shall select a volunteer!

SPIKE

Dig out, Bumblebee!

CLOSE ON VW WHEELS

As they spin, the MOTOR REVVING, digging deeper into the weakened river bank, the dirt gives way...

WIDER

...and Spike and Bumblebee fall down into the river bed O.S.

SPIKE/BUMBLEBEE

Whoaa...!!

WIDE ON RIVER BED

As Bumblebee and Spike tumble down the slope and come to a stop in front of Megatron and the other Decepticons, who react in surprise.

STARSCREAM

Spies! Destroy them!!

Starscream moves toward Spike and Bumblebee as the Autobot TRANSFORMS into his robotic mode.

ON MEGATRON AND STARSCREAM

Megatron blocks Starscream with his arm..

MEGATRON

Do not harm them...

Starscream looks at him, puzzled.

CLOSER ON MEGATRON

MEGATRON (CONT)

They have just volunteered for the next trip through the space bridge!

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on his evil visage...

MEGATRON (CONT)

(EVIL LAUGH!)

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. - WIDE ON RIVER BED

Spike and Bumblebee are surrounded by the Decepticons.

MEGATRON

Load the prisoners with the energon
cubes!

Skywarp lifts Spike up by his collar--like a kitten--and carries him O.S. as Soundwave grabs Bumblebee by the elbow and drags him O.S. in the same direction.

MEGATRON (CONT)

You should be justly proud.

ANGLE SHOOTING PAST TRANSPORT VEHICLE

Spike and Bumblebee are being positioned in the vehicle's top hatch. The space bridge iris-like "hole" remains open at the other end of the ramp. Once Spike and the robot are in position, the hatch slides shut--or almost shut--trapping the two inside.

STARSCREAM

You will go down in Cybertron history!

MEGATRON

--Whether or not you successfully make
it through the space bridge!

ON MEGATRON AND STARSCREAM

Megatron speaks into his transmitter.

MEGATRON

Megatron to Shockwave...Come in,
Cybertron...

ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

Spike and Bumblebee strain in their constricted position.

BUMBLEBEE

(SIGH!) How are we gonna get out
of this?

SPIKE

By the skin of our teeth--if we're
lucky..

Bumblebee looks at him oddly...

BUMBLEBEE
I didn't know human teeth had skin..

ANGLE ON MEGATRON

talking into his transmitter...

MEGATRON
Activating test run number two.

ANGLE ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

BUMBLEBEE
Sorry, Spike--it looks like we've
run out of time.

Spike reacts to something ahead of him O.S. and points.

SPIKE
So did Megatron -- look!

ON SPACE BRIDGE OPENING

The opening irises closed -- and the waves of energy spin
and disappear with a SFX: HISSS!

ON MEGATRON AND GROUP

All the Decepticons are clustered around him, angry and
disgusted at what they see.

MEGATRON
(exploding)
Test run number two aborted!

SHOCKWAVE
(tightly)
The time limit is up.

CUT TO:

CYBERTRON - ON SHOCKWAVE NEAR BRIDGE

The space bridge closes on this end in the same manner.

MEGATRON (VO)
(over transmitter)
Report and inform when bridge
transversal will resume!

Shockwave consults a nearby monitor and speaks into a
transmitter:

SHOCKWAVE
Report: one-eight-three minutes
before opening is restored.

CUT TO:

EARTH - CLOSE ON MEGATRON

He reacts to this unpleasant news with a scowl.

MEGATRON
(disgustedly)
Three hours of earth time?! This
is intolerable!

ANGLE ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE

* SPIKE
* I wish our luck would change!

* BUMBLEBEE
* (brightening)
* Change? That's a great idea!

Bumblebee makes a great effort to TRANSFORM to his VW mode.
By altering his shape, he bursts open the hatch cover,
popping out of the vehicle. Spike jumps out after him.

SPIKE (CONT)
We're free!!

WIDE ON DECEPTICONS

They turn and react to see:

STARSCREAM
(disgusted shriek)
The captives are escaping!

Soundwave steps out in front of the group, pressing the
eject button on his shoulder, releasing a mini-cassette.
It flips out into the air...

SOUNDWAVE
Ravage! Stop them!!

...and TRANSFORMS into RAVAGE, the jaguar, as he hurtles O.S.

ON SPIKE AND BUMBLEBEE (PAN BG)

Running (and rolling) along the river bed, Spike falls
behind (OUT OF PAN). Bumblebee brakes to a stop and turns.

ANGLE ON SPIKE

As Spike regains his balance and starts to run off, Ravage
leaps INTO SHOT, blocking his path.

RAVAGE
(AMPLIFIED, ELECTRONIC GROWL!)

Spike rears back, trapped.

SPIKE
Don't worry about me, Bumblebee--
wheel out!!

ANGLE ON BUMBLEBEE

Bumblebee is about to go back to help Spike when a laser beam BURSTS THROUGH SCENE, barely missing him. Then he quickly ROARS O.S.

ANGLE ON SIDE OF RIVER BED

as Bumblebee tries to roll up the steep embankment, he falters, not quite making it...

ANGLE ON MEGATRON, STARSCREAM

Megatron points O.S. as Starscream aims his weapon..

MEGATRON
Destroy the Autobot!!

Starscream fires a laser BLAST O.S.

BACK TO SHOT - BUMBLEBEE

As several laser BLASTS fire INTO SCENE around Bumblebee, he REVS UP and chugs his way up the bank and barely hops out to disappear behind the edge. One laser BLAST hits part of the bank, leaving some damage to the dirt.

ON SPIKE

Ravage continues to prevent his escape, but Spike cheers his Autobot pal on:

SPIKE
Go, Bumblebee! Go!!

ON SOUNDWAVE

He again presses his eject button, summoning Ravage.

SOUNDWAVE
Ravage...return!

Ravage leaps INTO SHOT, TRANSFORMING back to his mini-cassette mode before landing in Soundwave's chest.

UPSHOT SHOOTING PAST SPIKE

to Starscream, who leans down INTO CAMERA to intimidate the young boy.

STARSCREAM

We only need one subject for the space bridge...

MEGATRON (VO)

Nevertheless, if that Autobot reports to his headquarters...

CLOSE ON MEGATRON

MEGATRON (CONT)

...Prime will surely come to destroy the bridge!

ANGLE ON SPIKE AND STARSCREAM'S FOOT

STARSCREAM (VO)

Then we shall destroy the Autobot first!

Starscream angrily stomps his huge foot on the ground, causing a CAMERA SHAKE, and barely missing Spike, who is almost knocked off his feet.

MEGATRON (VO)

No! I have a better plan...

WIPE TO:

EXT. - DESERTSCAPE

(SFX: VW MOTOR, INCREASING IN VOLUME) Bumblebee--in his auto trans-form--roars THROUGH SCENE along the top of a dune. A BEAT later, the two Decepticon jets appear from behind the dune, ROARING INTO CAMERA in pursuit.

CLOSER ON BUMBLEBEE (PAN BG)

If possible, he tilts up to see the jets overhead and zips forward O.S. at top speed.

BUMBLEBEE

Yipe! Decepticons!!

ON JETS (PAN BG)

Overhead, they zoom in the same direction as the little Autobot, firing their CANNON LASER BLASTS down below O.S.

ON BUMBLEBEE (PAN BG)

as he darts around, trying to dodge the BLASTS as they hit the sand around him.

DOWNSHOT (PAN BG)

The Decepticon jets GAIN INTO PAN and are right on top of Bumblebee as he zigs and zags around to avoid their fire.

ANGLE ON DUNE

Bumblebee sails off the edge of the dune into view and lands halfway down the slope, sending up a huge spray of sand. Here he pauses as the Starscream and Skywarp jets ROAR THROUGH THE SCENE. Bumblebee then changes direction and rolls O.S.

ON JETS

as they bank, circle back and head into a SCREAMING DIVE.

ANGLE ON ROCKY AREA

Bumblebee races into a cave opening in a rocky hillside, barely missing the LASER BLASTS that EXPLODE around him.

WIDER

as the Decepticon jets roar THROUGH SCENE past the cave entrance.

ANGLE ON ENTRANCE TO CAVE

Bumblebee peers out of the cave entrance. (SFX: JET NOISES OUT) He sighs and settles down, catching his breath.

BUMBLEBEE

Whew! Safe! Made it just in time!
But they'll be back...

He turns into the cave.

INT. OF CAVE - ON BUMBLEBEE

The little Autobot TRANSFORMS into his humanoid robot mode and looks around.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT)

Maybe there's another way outta here..

ANOTHER ANGLE IN CAVE

As Bumblebee stumbles around the rocky cavern floor, searching for another exit.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT)
 ...Gotta hurry!

He spots something ahead O.S. and goes after it.

ANGLE ON ANOTHER EXIT

Just a hole in the wall (with daylight streaming through) but maybe big enough for him to slip through...He moves INTO SCENE and crawls into the hole head first.

BUMBLEBEE (VO-CONT)
 If I can just slip through this...

EXT. - ON OTHER SIDE OF HOLE

Bumblebee crawls out so that only his upper torso is visible.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT)
 (GRUNTS AND STRAINS)

Then he looks around him and reacts. The CAMERA PULLS BACK to show Starscream and Skywarp flanking him on either side. He struggles to free himself...

BUMBLEBEE (CONT)
 Uh-oh...!

Starscream grimly smiles and calmly brings his null ray up and BLASTS him, rendering him "unconscious."

STARSCREAM
 A shot of my null ray will keep you motionless for awhile...

MEGATRON (VO)
 Good work, Starscream...

The Decepticons spin around to see:

ANGLE ON MEGATRON

SKYWARP (VO)
 Megatron!

Megatron moves in (CAMERA PANS with him) to join the other robots. Starscream glares at him.

STARSCREAM
 Why are you here?! I told you we could deal with this Autobot ourselves!

CLOSER ON MEGATRON

Megatron presses a plate on his chest and a thin tube telescopes out, WHIRRING as it spins around, heading directly at Bumblebee O.S.

MEGATRON

I place no trust in you, Starscream.
That is why I am leader!

CLOSE ON BUMBLEBEE'S CHEST

The tube ENTERS SHOT and CLAMPS onto an input connector on the Autobot's chest, followed by SFX: ENERGY PULSE.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)

Once I complete alteration of his memory chips, he will lead the Autobots to their doom!

WIPE TO:

EXT. - AUTOBOT HEADQUARTERS

Sparkplug paces anxiously as he, alone with Optimus Prime and the Autobots, wait for Spike and Bumblebee to return.

SPARKPLUG

Somethin's happened to Spike and Bumblebee. We've gotta --

Sparkplug spins around as he's cut off by the sound of Bumblebee's VW MOTOR.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as Bumblebee rolls into the camp (in his auto mode) and brakes to a stop. Cliffjumper hurries over to him.

CLIFFJUMPER

Bumblebee! Where's Spike?!

Bumblebee TRANSFORMS to his robotic mode as he spills the news:

BUMBLEBEE

Spike was captured by the Decepticons. They're gonna send him to Cybertron over some kind of space bridge!

Prime steps forward INTO SCENE.

OPTIMUS PRIME

A space bridge?! Is it operative?

ANOTHER ANGLE ON PRIME AND CLIFFJUMPER

Sparkplug moves into view from between the two Autobots, looking very anxious.

SPARKPLUG

(furious)

Nobody's sending my kid anywhere!

UPSHOT PAST SPARKPLUG

to Optimus Prime, who looms over him.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Do not fear, Sparkplug. We shall rescue your son.

He turns back to Bumblebee O.S.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)

What is the location of this bridge?

CLOSE ON BUMBLEBEE

BUMBLEBEE

The bridge --

(SFX: SOFT ENERGY PULSE) Bumblebee pauses, his eyes frozen.

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)

Yes..?

Then Megatron's program "kicks in."

BUMBLEBEE

The bridge is located in a cavern,
96.4 miles from the highway.

WIDER ON SCENE

as Sparkplug moves toward Bumblebee to question the Autobot himself.

SPARKPLUG

And Spike? Is he there, too?!

The CAMERA begins to PAN SLOWLY away from this scene and up a jagged cliff nearby.

BUMBLEBEE (VO)

Yes. Spike is in the cave, too.

STOP PAN at the top of the cliff, where Laserbeak is perched, listening intently.

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Then there's no time to lose...

CLOSER ON LASERBEAK

A metallic amplifier projecting from his head picks up the faint audio signals from below as he eavesdrops.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)
(amplified)
We must go to the cave and destroy
this space bridge immediately!

Laserbeak nods, his cold eyes sparkling. SFX: WHIRRR as the amplifier telescopes down into his head.

ON AUTOBOTS

The CAMERA PANS the Autobots as they begin TRANSFORMING into their vehicle modes, one after the other and...

OPTIMUS PRIME ^
Roll out!!

ON VEHICLE AUTOBOTS

as they roll INTO THE CAMERA. Sparkplug is seated in the cab of Ratchet's Lancia trans-form. They go past the CAMERA and O.S.

ANGLE SHOOTING DOWN PAST LASERBEAK

to the line of Autobot vehicles heading out, bearing to the left in a northwesterly direction. After a BEAT, Laserbeak takes off, rising up into the air, and banks to his right, flying O.S.

WIPE TO:

OCEAN

Laserbeak flies INTO SCENE and begins to circle high over the water.

LASERBEAK
(TRIUMPHANT SHRIEK!)

Suddenly the surface of the ocean is broken by a sleek, circular tower, with water pouring down from its head as it rises up from the depths of the ocean. (SFX: CRASHING DOWNPOUR)

CLOSER ON DOCKING TOWER

The water pours down and O.S., revealing a hatch entrance that opens near the top of the tower with SFX: ELECTRONIC WHIRR. Laserbeak flies INTO SHOT and into the entrance.

LASERBEAK
(CONDOR SHRIEK!)

The entrance closes with another ELECTRONIC WHIRR.

WIDER

as the docking tower lowers and sinks below the water's surface.

UNDERWATER - DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS

The docking tower lowers to join the rest of the complex which has been constructed around the Decepticon cruiser.

INT. - CRUISER CONTROL ROOM

The hatch doors open, and Laserbeak flies out into the control room. The CAMERA PANS with him as he flies over to Soundwave, who presses his eject button to admit the Decepticon--who TRANSFORMS back to his mini-cassette mode--into the cassette holder.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Soundwave turns to Megatron nearby, and punches a button to start the mini-cassette running.

SOUNDWAVE
Laserbeak...report!

OPTIMUS PRIME'S VOICE (VO)
Then there's no time to lose...

CLOSER ON SOUNDWAVE'S TAPE PLAYER

as the mini-cassette turns...

OPTIMUS PRIME'S VOICE (CONT-VO)
We must go to the cave and destroy
this space bridge immediately!

ANGLE ON MEGATRON

He leers evilly.

MEGATRON
And we'll have a surprise waiting for
them when they get there!

He turns to the other Decepticons O.S.

ANOTHER ANGLE

to include the other Decepticons. Megatron holds up his fusion cannon triumphantly, leading the charge.

MEGATRON

Decepticons -- prepare for battle!

FLIP TO:

EXT. - OCEAN

Once again the docking tower rises up out of the water. The hatch entrance slides open, and the Decepticons emerge, standing on the edge before taking off, flying up and O.S.

ABOVE THE OCEAN - ON DECEPTICONS (PAN BG)

With Megatron in the lead, they head out for the cave. Starscream and Skywarp TRANSFORM into their jet plane modes and ROAR ahead, GAINING OUT OF PAN.

WIPE TO:

THE CAVERN ENTRANCE

(The same cave that Bumblebee hid in earlier.)

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)

(sotto)

Strange...no guards!

WIDER

All of the Autobot vehicles are in a tight group flanking Prime's truck mode in front of the cave entrance.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)

Bumblebee, are you certain this is the right cave?

CLOSER ON BUMBLEBEE AND OTHERS

The little Autobot is between Optimus Prime and Ironhide.

BUMBLEBEE

Yes, I'm sure. The space bridge is inside.

IRONHIDE

Bumblebee's usually never wrong, Prime.

ANGLE ON AUTOBOTS

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Very well...Autobots, transform!

Again the Autobots TRANSFORM into their robotic modes as the CAMERA PANS down the line-up of a few of them. (NOTE: DO NOT INCLUDE RATCHET IN LINE-UP.) STOP PAN on Optimus Prime, who signals:

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
--And move in!!

...with a gesture of his arm.

ANGLE ON CAVE ENTRANCE

The Autobots begin to go inside the cave.

INT. OF CAVE - AT ENTRANCE

The Autobots gather together once inside the cave, and look around, puzzled.

JAZZZ
Is this some kind of joke?!

P.O.V. - CAVE INTERIOR

The CAMERA PANS the huge cave, studded with heavy stalactites and large stalagmites, to reveal that there are no Decepticons and...

RATCHET (VO)
No space bridge...no nothing!

ANGLE ON BUMBLEBEE AND GEARS

Bumblebee looks very surprised, and Gears glares his way.

BUMBLEBEE
I don't understand it!

GEARS
I think your memory chips could use a few volts to shake 'em up!

ANOTHER ANGLE - WIDER

as Sparkplug runs ahead, calling out for his son.

SPARKPLUG
Spike! Are you --?!

He's cut off by SFX: LASER BLAST.

ANGLE ON CAVE ENTRANCE

The laser blast hits the cave ceiling above the entrance, shattering it into boulders that fall to the ground, sealing off any escape. (SFX: CRASHING BOULDERS...and CAMERA SHAKES)

WIDER

to include the Autobots as they spin around to see that there is no way out.

IRONHIDE
(disgustedly)
So, we were expected here after all.

MEGATRON (VO)
And we insist that you stay...

ANGLE ON MEGATRON

He is flanked by some of the Decepticons, and peers down at the Autobots O.S.

MEGATRON (CONT)
-- forever!!

The Decepticons begin firing laser BLASTS at the Autobots O.S. as we...

FADE OUT

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

(SAME SCENE)

The Autobots are hit by a barrage of firepower that sends some of them sprawling. (APP. SFX)

ANOTHER ANGLE - ON GEARS AND CLIFFJUMPER

as the cave wall overhead is hit by more LASER BLASTS, the Autobots below are slow to react in the confusion. Cliff-jumper sees the blast above...

GEARS

I knew it was a trap!

CLIFFJUMPER

Scatter!

...pushes Gears O.S. and leaps O.S. himself as part of the cave ceiling CRASHES to the ground!

ANGLE FEATURING STARSCREAM

as he levels his weapon at the enemy O.S. and FIRES.

ON BUMBLEBEE

who runs to take cover behind a stalagmite. He just makes it as the rock structure is hit and SHATTERED into stones.

BUMBLEBEE

Yipes!

Bumblebee makes another run for it, but stumbles and falls flat on his face.

ON STARSCREAM

Smiling triumphantly, he readies his weapon for another shot.

STARSCREAM

Say your prayers, Autobot!

BACK TO SHOT

Jazzz moves INTO SCENE, grabs another handy stalagmite and RIPS it off at the base.

JAZZZ

Stand back, Bumblebee--it's my turn at bat!

As the laser BLAST is shot INTO SCENE, Jazzz swings the stalagmite like a baseball bat, connects with the fireball with a SFX: CRACK!, and sends it back where it came from O.S.!

ON STARSCREAM

as the laser ball flies INTO SCENE, he ducks just in time. But it hits part of the cave behind him with a tremendous EXPLOSION, knocking the Decepticon off his feet to fall O.S.

JAZZZ (CONT-VO)

Yer out!!

ON SOUNDWAVE

He presses the eject button on his shoulder and his cassette holder flips open...

SOUNDWAVE

Laserbeak...transform!

The mini-cassette flips out, TRANSFORMING into Laserbeak, who flies O.S.

LASERBEAK

(CONDOR SCREECH!)

ANGLE ON PROWL

He uses some rock formations as a cover as he BLASTS away at the Decepticons O.S. Suddenly Laserbeak flies INTO SCENE overhead and FIRES below, hitting the rocks and causing Prowl to be flung back.

ON RATCHET

He sees the action O.S. and extends an arm. An object that looks like little more than a wrapped ball of rope is catapulted from a tube in his arm. (SFX: TWANG!) CAMERA FOLLOWS as the "ball" unwinds to become a glowing, SIZZLING electronic net.

RATCHET

This electronic net will ground you for good, Laserbeak!

Laserbeak flies INTO PAN and into the net, causing SPARKS as he struggles and falls to the ground, wrapped in the netting.

LASERBEAK

(SCREECHES!!)

CLOSE ON SOUNDWAVE

Frowning, he reaches for his eject button again.

SOUNDWAVE

Ravage...

But this time Ironhide reaches INTO SHOT to grab his arm.
The CAMERA PULLS BACK to include IRONHIDE...

IRONHIDE

Oh, no you don't...not this time!

...who flings SOUNDWAVE around and into a wall with a SFX:
CRASH!, causing rock and dust to fall all around!

ON MEGATRON

Watching the battle, he raises his weapon at Ironhide O.S.

MEGATRON

This time I'll blast more than
your shoulder!

CLOSE ON OPTIMUS PRIME

He turns and reacts, seeing what is about to happen...

OPTIMUS PRIME

Ironhide! Look out!!

ON IRONHIDE

brushing off his hands at a job well done as the dust around
him settles. Optimus Prime leaps INTO SCENE, tackling him
to the ground as Megatron's BLAST EXPLODES INTO SCENE over
their heads!

CLOSER ON THE TWO AUTOBOTS

Ironhide looks back to give his leader a smile...

IRONHIDE

Thanks for the favor, Optimus!

OPTIMUS PRIME

Don't mention it...

ON MEGATRON

as he prepares to fire at the Autobots again...

MEGATRON
Now to finish you both!

...but his weapon is deflected by another BLAST from O.S.

ON PROWL

...who holds the offending weapon.

PROWL
Not so fast, Megatron!

But Skywarp jumps him from behind, causing the Autobot to drop his weapon, and the two of them struggle to the ground.

ON PRIME

His foot is wedged between some large rocks, and he cannot rise. He turns to pull on it...

OPTIMUS PRIME
.My foot -- it's caught!

ON MEGATRON

Megatron's face breaks into a wide, evil smile. With deliberation, he brings his arm up and WHIRRING buzzsaw blades appear from another compartment, spinning.

MEGATRON
Then I will cut you down to size!

He ejects one of the blades, which fly towards Prime O.S.

ON OPTIMUS PRIME

who pulls his leg free to move out of the way--just as the cutting blade WHIRRS THROUGH SHOT...

ON CAVERN WALL

...and digs into the rock wall (SFX: BUZZSAW), causing clouds of stone dust to billow out, FILLING THE FRAME..

ON MEGATRON

as he moves forward, his other rotary blade at the ready as he steps into the cloud of rock dust.

MEGATRON
I have yet another sharp, cutting edge, Prime...

The CAMERA PANS with Megatron as his now indistinct form comes upon another tall, indistinct form standing in his way.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
And this time...

The billowing dust is dissipating as he takes a mighty swing at the form before him.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
...I won't miss!!

SFX: THUD!...and the dust clears enough to reveal that Megatron has hacked a stalagmite in half.

CLOSER ON MEGATRON

The evil Decepticon pans the area, looking for his target.

MEGATRON (CONT)
(incensed)
Prime! Where are you?!

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Right behind you, Megatron!

Megatron freezes.

WIDER ANGLE

to reveal Optimus Prime standing behind Megatron, his laser weapon pointed at him.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Surrender---you've lost this round!

CLOSE ON MEGATRON'S HAND

Megatron starts to move his hand to activate another weapon.

MEGATRON (VO)
Never!

ANGLE ON SPARKPLUG

He leans out from behind some rock formations, where he has been shielding himself, and yells to Optimus Prime O.S.

SPARKPLUG
Optimus! Look out! He's--

BACK TO WIDE ANGLE - MEGATRON AND PRIME

As Prime's attention is diverted, Megatron fires a weapon and misses, then ducks behind a natural wall. (SFX: LASER BLAST

ANGLE BEHIND THE WALL

As Megatron moves along behind the wall in a crouch, he's stopped short by the sound of Shockwave's voice coming over his transmitter.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
(filtered)
Megatron! Response requested.

CLOSER ON MEGATRON

as if swatting a fly...

MEGATRON
(impatiently)
Not now, Shockwave...this is not
the time!

CUT TO:

SHOCKWAVE ON CYBERTRON

He speaks into his transmitter as the "doorway" to the space bridge starts activating--very slowly and faintly now.

SHOCKWAVE
Megatron--the space bridge is about
to open at the previous coordinates!

CUT TO:

BACK TO MEGATRON

SHOCKWAVE (CONT-VO)
(over transmitter)
Repeat..the space bridge is about
to open!

MEGATRON
Excellent--We will be there!

REVERSE ANGLE ON "WALL"

Megatron vaults over the wall, landing on the run.

MEGATRON (CONT)
Starscream! Blast us a way out
of here!!

ON STARSCREAM

He turns from the battle to frown at his leader.

STARSCREAM
Retreat?! Never!

MEGATRON (VO)
Do as I command!!

Starscream turns again, bringing his cluster bomb barrel up, and fires a series of cluster bombs O.S. (SFX: WHOOSH!)

ON BLOCKED CAVE ENTRANCE

The cluster bombs hit the boulders still blocking up the cave entrance, EXPLODING one after the other and sending the boulders flying out into the cave and re-opening the entranceway.

MEGATRON (CONT)
Decepticons! Follow me!

Megatron leads the other Decepticons out of the cave. As they exit, Autobot firepower ammo flies over their heads and between them. (SFX: LASER BLASTS)

CUT TO:

EXT. OF CAVE

MEGATRON (CONT)
Takeoff for the river bed!

All of the Decepticons except for Megatron and Starscream take off into the air.

CLOSER ON MEGATRON AND STARSCREAM

Starscream turns to Megatron, confronting him.

STARSCREAM
No! The Autobots will follow us! We can't let them know the location of the bridge!

MEGATRON
We will not let them know...

Starscream reacts, puzzled. Then Megatron TRANSFORMS into his super ray gun mode and Starscream grins maliciously as the gun flips into his hands.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
No Autobot will leave the cave --
alive!!

ANGLE SHOOTING PAST THEM

Starscream BLASTS away at the cave, causing HUGE EXPLOSIONS!

WIDE ON CAVERN

When the explosions stop, we see it is only a huge pile of rubble.

ON MEGATRON AND STARSCREAM

Megatron flips out of Starscream's hands and TRANSFORMS to his robotic mode.

MEGATRON

That's the end of Prime and the Autobots!

Then they lift off into the air to join the others O.S.

BACK TO WIDE SHOT OF CAVE

The CAMERA MOVES IN as the dust settles...

CUT TO:

INT. OF CAVE

The CAMERA PANS the area to reveal that the Autobot force has survived, although suffering damage. Some of the robots are badly dented, others are checking their mechanical parts. (SFX: INTERMITTENT GRINDING OF GEARS and ELECTRONIC PULSING)

ON IRONHIDE'S FOOT

A panel in Ironhide's left shin slides open and Sparkplug climbs out.

SPARKPLUG

Thanks for letting me take cover in there, Ironhide!

IRONHIDE

Forget it..!

BUMBLEBEE (VO)

(GROAN!)

Sparkplug and Ironhide look for Bumblebee, O.S.

ON BUMBLEBEE

Leaning back against the cave wall, with the compartment cover to his memory chips hanging half open. Ratchet comes INTO SCENE and squats next to him.

RATCHET
 (soothingly)
 Hey, Bumblebee--Looks like you
 could us a little repair..

CLOSER

Ratchet's arc-welder CLICKS out in place of his hand unit and the flame goes on (SFX: WELDING TORCH). He starts to cut the section hanging on its hinges free.

RATCHET (CONT-VO)
 This might get a little hot...

FLIP TO:

SAME SCENE - WIDER ANGLE - LATER

Ratchet is holding his circuit sensor against Bumblebee's chest, running a circuit check. He watches and listens intently as the sensor BEEPS. Optimus Prime and the other Autobots are gathered around.

RATCHET
 It looks like a bank of Bumblebee's
 memory chips has been altered.

CLOSER ON BUMBLEBEE

Ratchet reaches for Bumblebee's chest with his laser scapel and we hear SFX: INTERMITTENT HIGH-PITCHED BUZZING.

RATCHET (CONT-VO)
 I'm switching his memory impulses
 into audio mode...

REVERSE ANGLE - WIDER

Optimus Prime moves forward to question the little Autobot.

OPTIMUS PRIME
 Tell us, Bumblebee... The space
 bridge... Where did you see it?

BUMBLEBEE
 (toneless)
 The cave...I mean--

CLOSER ON BUMBLEBEE

He pauses, and then smiles, his memory returning.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT)
 I remember now! The dry river bed
 in the desert!

WIDER ON SCENE

Prime waves for the others to follow him as he moves O.S.

OPTIMUS PRIME
There is no time to lose!

Ratchet tries to help Bumblebee to his feet, but Bumblebee gently refuses his help, patting him on the shoulder.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)
We must get to that river bed before
Megatron can ship the energon cubes
through the bridge to Cybertron!

Then they go O.S. after Prime and the others.

ANOTHER AREA - WIDE

Prime and the other Autobots are all lined up, facing the blocked-up entrance, each holding their weapons at the ready.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Autobots! Concentrate firepower --

CUT TO:

EXT. OF CAVE

The huge rocks blocking the cave entrance are sent flying INTO CAMERA. (SFX: DEAFENING BLAST!!!)

ANOTHER ANGLE - CLOSER TO CAVE

As the Autobots start moving through the opening they created..

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
Roll out!

...they start to TRANSFORM into their vehicular modes and...

ANOTHER ANGLE ON CONVOY

...roll out in a convoy line-up, Prime in the lead. SFX: MOTORS RUNNING.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)
The space bridge must be destroyed!!

WIPE TO:

THE RIVER BED

The reactivated parallel posts are glowing and undulating with their alternately spinning waves of charged energy, the camera-like iris opening and closing. The CAMERA PANS to the other end of the ramp leading down to the "doorway" and HOLDS on Megatron, who is holding his audio transmitter.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)

Repeat...the space bridge will be operable for only four minutes.

MEGATRON

Four minutes will be sufficient.

The CAMERA PANS over to Spike, surrounded by a force field cage of slowly oscillating energy waves. (SFX: LOW, OSCILLATING BUZZ) Ravage paces back and forth in front of the waves.

RAVAGE

(LOW GROWLING)

Soundwaves comes INTO SHOT. Ravage stops his pacing.

SOUNDWAVE

Ravage...stand aside!

Ravage glances at Spike, staring intensely, then steps aside as Soundwave moves into the oscillating waves, breaking the beams and starting a reaction which rapidly wipes out each wave, one after the other. (APP. SFX)

ON SPIKE

Who feels around to see if the force field is really gone.

SPIKE

(lightly, forced)

Well, I guess I served my time and I'm free to go, huh?

CLOSE ON SOUNDWAVE

SOUNDWAVE

(flatly)

You are free to go...to Cybertron!

FLIP TO:

TRANSPORT VEHICLE

Spike is held down in the vehicle with new, mechanical arms. (There is still damage seen from the last test run.)

MEGATRON (VO)
 You will be riding on what seems
 to be a beam of energy...

WIDER

to include Megatron, who stands alongside the ramp, his
 back TO CAMERA.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
 Concentrate on the beam...focus on it..
 and you will arrive safely on Cybertron.

REVERSE ANGLE - DRAMATIC UPSHOT ON MEGATRON

MEGATRON (CONT)
 If not, you could be de-molecularized
 and cease to exist!!

ANGLE ON SPIKE

Spike defiantly crosses his arms, looking away from Megatron.

SPIKE
 Optimus Prime and the Autobots will
 rescue me!

MEGATRON (VO)
 The Autobots? (EVIL CHUCKLE) We
 left them buried in a heap of rubble!

Spike lowers his head, silent in despair. (SFX: O.S. ENERGY)

ON THE PARALLEL POSTS

Glowing, the energy beams circle and the iris opens--as
 the space bridge is re-established!

MEGATRON (VO)
 Energon cubes ready to transverse
 space bridge, Shockwave!

ON MEGATRON

Megatron is speaking into his audio transmitter.

SHOCKWAVE (VO)
 (filtered)
 Ready to receive shipment, Megatron!

ANGLE ON RAMP

MEGATRON (VO)
 Commence transport...!

The transport vehicle with Spike rolls slowly INTO SCENE down the ramp. We hear SFX: MOTOR CONVOY, and the CAMERA TILTS UP to the edge of the dry river bed, where we see the Autobot vehicles arrive and stop at the edge.

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
Autobots...transform!

ANOTHER ANGLE ON AUTOBOTS

The CAMERA PANS the line of Autobots as they TRANSFORM into their robotic modes.

DOWNSHOT

Megatron and the other Decepticons glare up INTO CAMERA.

MEGATRON
Autobots?! Take cover before they--

UPSHOT

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)
(finishing Megatron's line)
-- Attack!!!

The Autobots fire a barrage of assorted laser BLASTS, missiles, flame-throwers, and armor-piercing rocket darts INTO CAMERA. (SFX: BARRAGE OF FIREPOWER, EXPLOSIONS)

WIDE ANGLE ON DECEPTICONS

Most of the Decepticons scatter, some of them taking any cover available, others flying up into the air to meet the attack head-on, while others stand their ground...all firing their weapons. (APP. SFX)

ABOVE

As the two Decepticons who took to the air (Starscream and Skywarp) fly up to the Autobot line, their missiles are each hit by an Autobot missile, EXPLODING harmlessly in the air.

ON RIVERBANK SLOPE

Meanwhile, the Autobots move down the slope into the river bed, overpowering the Decepticons with their firepower consisting of flame-throwers, laser blasts, and volt beams. (SFX: TO SUIT)

ON CLIFFJUMPER AND IRONHIDE

their backs TO CAMERA as they scan the area. Cliffjumper reacts, spotting the transport vehicle moving down the ramp. From this POV, only the energon cubes can be seen, blocking Spike. Cliffjumper points.

CLIFFJUMPER

Ironhide! The energon cubes!

Ironhide follows his glance...

IRONHIDE

Don't worry...I'll blow 'em up to Cybertron -- as dust!

He brings up a bazooka-like tube, the end studded with a circular series of smaller "rifle" bores.

SPARKPLUG (VO)

Stop!!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Sparkplug runs INTO SCENE from the side, anxiously waving his arms at Cliffjumper and Ironhide.

SPARKPLUG (CONT)

Hold your fire -- !

ANOTHER ANGLE ON TRANSPORT VEHICLE

Spike is in view as the vehicle picks up speed.

SPARKPLUG (CONT-VO)

Spike's riding on that thing!!

ON OPTIMUS PRIME

He stands over Megatron, who is lying on his back. Prime has his laser rifle trained on his enemy, and looks O.S., aghast.

OPTIMUS PRIME

Spike?! On the bridge??!

WIDE ON AUTOBOTS

Behind Cliffjumper, Ironhide and Sparkplug, a group of Autobots are on a slope, their weapons at the ready.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)

Autobots...hold your fire!!

The Autobots lower their weapons, puzzled.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT-VO)
Spike is on the transport vehicle!

ON BUMBLEBEE

as he quickly TRANSFORMS into his VW mode, his MOTOR REVVING...

BUMBLEBEE
Transforming to pursuit and rescue
mode, Optimus Prime!

...and ROARS O.S.

BACK TO PRIME - MEDIUM CLOSE

With a quick spin, he adjusts the muzzle of his rifle bore to almost a pinpoint opening.

PRIME
Ready to assist!

ON TRANSPORT VEHICLE

as it whizzes down the ramp, WHINING at top speed...

WIDER ON PRIME AND MEGATRON

As Optimus brings his rifle up, intent on his goal, Megatron slowly and silently moves O.S. Prime fires his laser rifle as the CAMERA PUSHES IN on him. (SFX: LASER BLAST)

CLOSE ON MECHANICAL ARMS (PAN BG)

holding Spike to the vehicle. The laser ray from Prime's rifle O.S. comes INTO SHOT and shatters the arms, releasing Spike. (SFX: PING!!)

WIDER (PAN BG)

to include Bumblebee (in his VW trans-form) racing down the ramp and catching up to Spike in the vehicle. (SFX: VW HORN)

BUMBLEBEE
Hurry, Spike -- jump!!

ANOTHER ANGLE - HEAD ON

Spike takes a deep breath, then springs off the transport vehicle into the air towards Bumblebee. The little Autobot wheels over to catch him on the hood of his trans-form.

BUMBLEBEE (VO-CONT)

Gotcha!

CLOSER

Spike, on his hood, clutches on, still spread-eagled, his head next to the windshield.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT-VO)

Now, hold on!

WIDER

SFX: BRAKES SCREECHING as he makes a wild U-turn, going back in the direction he just came from and O.S.

ON PRIME AND AUTOBOTS

Prime readies his hand to give his robots the signal to destroy the cubes..

OPTIMUS PRIME

Prepare to fire!

ON MEGATRON

He moves quickly to the ramp near the space bridge opening.

MEGATRON

* I must get those cubes into the
* bridge before it closes!

ON TRANSPORT VEHICLE

OPTIMUS PRIME (VO)

Fire!!

Suddenly the vehicle is hit by a barrage of laser BLASTS from O.S. The energon cubes EXPLODE!!!! with a blast that SHAKES THE SCREEN...and the screen is filled with the resultant debris of the transport vehicle flying O.S. in all directions.

ON MEGATRON

He is knocked off his feet by the explosion and blown back between the posts of the space bridge.

MEGATRON

Shockwave...deactivate the -- !

Like the first test cube, Megatron vanishes in the opening in a brilliant, pulsating FLASH of light! Then the iris closes, the space bridge fading...

ON DECEPTICONS

They gather together, having witnessd the "end" of Megatron.
Starscream takes the lead...

STARSCREAM
Return to the base!

SKYWARP
But Megatron...

CLOSER ON STARSCREAM AND SKYWARP

Starscream moves in on Skywarp, intimidating him...

STARSCREAM
Megatron is gone! I'm the leader now!

WIDER

As Starscream lifts off into the air...

STARSCREAM (CONT)
Follow me!!

...the others join him, flying O.S. in defeat.

ON AUTOBOTS

They cheer their victory...

AUTOBOTS
(AD LIB CHEERS)

FAVOR SPIKE AND SPARKPLUG

Sparkplug is smiling, his arm protectively around Spike's
shoulder. Spike turns to Bumblebee nearby...

SPIKE
Thanks, Bumblebee!

Bumblebee HONKS his horn, then TRANSFORMS into his robot mode.

BUMBLEBEE
Forget it! I'm just happy that
Megatron fell into his own space
bridge! Now he's lost forever!

ON OPTIMUS PRIME

His head is lowered as he thinks.

OPTIMUS PRIME
I wish I could believe that...

He lifts his head, looking up into the heavens.

OPTIMUS PRIME (CONT)
 Someday--sooner than we expect--
 (resigned)
 --we'll see Megatron again.

The CAMERA MOVES UP to the sky...

DISSOLVE TO:

THE PLANET CYBERTRON

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on the mechanical planet, and we...

CUT TO:

INT. OF DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS - ON OTHER END OF BRIDGE

As Shockwave watches from a control panel, Megatron steps out of the iris-like opening into the room. The iris closes and the space bridge fades at this end as well. Shockwave reacts, moving forward...

SHOCKWAVE
 Megatron! At last you have returned!

MEGATRON
 Not for long, Shockwave. We must begin preparations for my return trip to Earth.

UPSHOT ON MEGATRON

as he peers through the transparent dome overhead, shaking his fist at the stars...

* MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
 * Optimus Prime and the Autobots have
 * not heard the last of Megatron...

* The CAMERA PUSHES IN past Megatron to the starry night sky
 * as we...

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)
 I will be avenged!!!

* (OMIT LAST PAGE)

FADE OUT