

Ron

Revised

TRANSFORMERS

"The Master Builders"

(MP#700-31)

(SCRIPT)

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TRANSFORMERS  
"The Master Builders"  
(MP#700-31)

CAST LIST

AUTOBOTS:

GRAPPLE  
HOIST  
WHEELJACK  
OPTIMUS PRIME  
TELETRAAAN I  
POWERGLIDE  
INFERNO  
SMOKESCREEN  
TRACKS  
IRONHIDE  
WARPATH  
CLIFFJUMPER  
BRAWN

DECEPTICONS:

MEGATRON  
STARSCREAM  
RAMJET

CONSTRUCTICONS:

SCRAPPER  
HOOK  
SCROUNGE  
BONECRUSHER  
MIXMASTER  
LONG HAUL  
DEVASTATOR

HUMANS:

SPIKE  
FOREMAN

LOCATIONS

INT. AND EXT. - AUTOBOT HQ  
EXT. - GRASSY PLAINS  
EXT. - MOUNTAINS, MOUNTAINOUS ROADS AND PASS  
EXT. - BUILDING SITE, TOWER, RISE OVERLOOKING TOWER, TOWER RUBBLE  
INT. - DECEPTICON HQ  
EXT. - CONSTRUCTION SITE IN CITY

"The Master Builders"  
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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. - THE SKY

Clear and bright, it is speckled with dense, full clouds. We hear SFX: AIRPLANE ENGINES from o.s. POWERGLIDE flies INTO SHOT, and the CAMERA FOLLOWS him.

POWERGLIDE (VO)  
(exultant)

*MOVE OVER, ~~bright~~ blue skies ~~and~~ ~~and~~ HERE COMES  
~~cloud~~ 'OL POWERGLIDE .....*

The CAMERA MOVES IN to a CLOSER SHOT...

POWERGLIDE (CONT-VO)

He flies past a dense cloud.

ON DENSE CLOUD

We hear the sound of JETS, and suddenly SKYWARP flies out of the cloud, on Powerglide's tail. He opens FIRE at the Autobot o.s.

BACK TO POWERGLIDE (PAN BG)

POWERGLIDE (CONT-VO)

Uhoh! Somebody's ~~gonna try to~~ *AIMIN' TO RUIN MY*  
~~spoiled my Powerglide's day~~ *DAY AND MY PAINT JOB.*

He goes into a straight climb...

POWERGLIDE (CONT-VO)

But no Decepticon jets ~~is~~ *GOT THE ZIP TO*  
~~do it~~ *ZAP ME!*

--and arcs, belly up, preparing to go into a dive, his GUNS BLASTING at Skywarp o.s....

WIDER

Skywarp is hit by the fire, and part of his wing is blasted off. He dives o.s. (SFX: JETS)

ON POWERGLIDE (PAN BG)

He comes up out of his dive and flies along. The clouds above him drop OUT OF PAN to reveal Starscream flying at the same speed.

*YOU FORGOT THE* STARScream (VO)  
~~you should have known the~~ law of gravity,  
Autobot -- what goes up, must ~~be~~ *COME*  
down!

He rakes Powerglide with MACHINE GUN FIRE...

STARScream (CONT-VO)  
(cackling)  
~~you should have known the~~ *AND THE HARDER*  
~~the harder you fly!~~ *THE BETTER*

Powerglide bursts into flames, then noses down and into a SCREAMING DIVE!

FLIP TO:

~~EST. SHOT - AUTOBOT HQ~~

~~The CAMERA PUSHES IN on the volcano...~~

~~GRAPPLE (VO)  
It's almost completed, Hoist --~~

~~CUT TO:~~

~~INT. GRAPPLE'S STUDIO (IN AUTOBOT HQ)~~

~~We're in Grapple's workplace within Autobot Headquarters. There are all kinds of architectural and design tools (drafting table, etc.) and computer graphics generators. The CAMERA PUSHES IN on GRAPPLE, as he works intently on something on the workbench while Hoist watches over his shoulder.~~

~~GRAPPLE (VO-CONT)  
Just one more connection...~~

~~CLOSER ON GRAPPLE AND MODEL~~

~~As Grapple moves to the side, we see what a fantastically precise thing he has created -- it's a model of a tall solar tower which looks like an amazing toy! As Grapple makes a minute adjustment on the model, his expression is one of intense concentration. He straightens up and reaches for a lever.~~

~~"The Master Builders"  
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~~ACT ONE~~

~~FADE IN:~~

INT. GRAPPLE'S STUDIO (IN AUTOBOT HQ) - DAY

We're in Grapple's workplace within Autobot Headquarters. There are all kinds of architectural and design tools (drafting table, etc.) and computer graphics generators. The CAMERA PUSHES IN on GRAPPLE, as he works intently on something on the workbench while Hoist watches over his shoulder.

GRAPPLE (VO)

~~It's almost completed, Hoist --  
Just one more connection...~~

ONE MORE ASTROSECOND, HOIST,  
AND I'LL BE TOTALLY  
FINISHED WITH MY  
GORGEOUS PROTOTYPE.....

CLOSER ON GRAPPLE AND MODEL

As Grapple moves to the side, we see what a fantastically precise thing he has created -- it's a model of a tall solar tower which looks like an amazing toy! As Grapple makes a minute adjustment on the model, his expression is one of intense concentration. He straightens up and reaches for a lever.

GRAPPLE (CONT)

~~(expectantly)  
And now for the sun!~~

OF THE FIRST SOLAR POWER  
TOWER! (EXCITEDLY)  
AND HERE COMES THE SUN!!!

Grapple pulls the lever down and powerful sunlamp lights up, focusing down on the tower.

ON MODEL TOWER

Suddenly the structure comes alive! Mechanical arms (like wings) swing out from every story of the building, making the model look like a blossoming flower. Now the CAMERA TIGHTENS as sun trackers (little motors) swivel collectors (panels) around on every arm so that they face the "sun's" rays.

CLOSE ON HOIST

He is entranced with Grapple's achievement.

HOIST

~~IT'S Amazing!~~ IT'S AMAZING, HOIST!

BACK TO TOWER

Finally a giant orb emerges from the top of the model glinting like a diamond!

HOIST (V.O.)

A MAGNIFICENT SCIENTIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENT!

TWO SHOT - GRAPPLE AND HOIST

If Autobots sweat then this is exactly what Grapple is doing now!

GRAPPLE  
(hesitantly)  
~~I'm really nervous--~~ BUT WILL OPTIMUS PRIME LIKE IT!  
THAT'S THE BURNING QUESTION.

HOIST  
(interrupting)  
~~Why--this is incredible!~~ I'M SURE HE'LL BE PROPERLY IMPRESSED.

CLOSE ON GRAPPLE

GRAPPLE WELL, IF HE'S NOT IMPRESSED,  
~~But will Optimus go for it?~~ I'LL BE DEPRESSED AND  
I'D HATE THAT...

ON HOIST

HOIST  
(supportively)  
~~How can he refuse--it's your  
crowning achievement...a real  
beaut!~~ DONT BE NEGATIVE, GRAPPLE! NOW COME ON...

WIDEN

Hoist looks to Grapple and sees moody insecurity written all over his face.

HOIST (CONT)  
(proudly)  
~~I'll help you present it to Prime!~~ YOUR POWER  
~~Let's go.~~ TOWER TO OPTIMUS PRIME

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST (PAN B.G.)

Grapple and Hoist wheel the model on its workbench down the corridor. As they pass Wheeljack's workshop, the scientist pokes his head out the door and gives a nod of approval.

WHEELJACK  
~~Looks good, Grapple!~~ "A.O.K." GRAPPLE - WITH A  
CAPITAL "A!"

The compliment visibly boosts Grapple's confidence. The pair continues rolling the model further down the corridor, the CAMERA PANNING with it. Other Autobots stop what they are doing as the model is wheeled by, looking on in curious amazement.

CUT TO:

INT. AUTOBOT HQ COMMAND CENTER - CLOSE ON PRIME

He is standing, but hunched forward, looking down intently.  
(SFX: BOUNCING BASKETBALL)

SPIKE (VO)

~~Okay, now try to keep me from getting the ball...~~

OK, SEE IF YOU CAN KEEP ME FROM TAKING THE BALL...

WIDER

Spike is standing next to Prime, as the Autobot leader dribbles a human-scale basketball around him. (CONT. SFX)

OPTIMUS PRIME

~~So this is called "dribbling?"~~

ALL RIGHT, SPIKE...

CLOSER ON SPIKE AND BASKETBALL

As Spike tries to get the ball, Prime's hand dribbles it on either side of him. The ball bounces higher than the boy!

PRIME (CONT-VO)

(laughing)

Am I ~~doing it right, Spike?~~

"DROOLING" ~~IS~~ CORRECTLY?

Spike lunges for the ball and almost gets it before Prime reaches IN and grabs it OUT...

SPIKE

(jumping for the ball)

~~Yes, Optimus--too right!~~

THE WORD IS "DRIBBLING,"  
OPTIMUS PRIME----

ON PRIME AND BASKETBALL

Prime spins the ball on the end of his massive finger, balancing it perfectly.

SPIKE (CONT-VO)

~~You could sign up for the Cybertron Globetrotters!~~

AND IF THE GLOBETROTTERS HAD A TEAM ON CYBERTRON YOU'D BE THE NEW MEADOWLAND LEMON!

HOIST (VO)

OPTIMUS Prime! ~~Look at this!~~  
SEE WHAT I'VE BROUGHT!

Prime turns to Hoist o.s., then tosses the ball down and o.s. to Spike.

PRIME

Here, Spike--compute quickly!

## ON SPIKE

The ball flies INTO SCENE and knocks Spike over backwards. He sits up and looks at the model o.s., reacting...

SPIKE

Wow! Did you guys make that ~~SLICK~~ SLICK DOO-HICKEY?

## ON OPTIMUS PRIME

As Hoist and Grapple roll the model INTO SCENE, Prime eyes it with curiosity.

PRIME (AMUSED)

~~What do we have here?~~ YES --- JUST WHAT DOES YOUR "DOO-HICKEY" DO?

## TWO SHOT - GRAPPLE AND HOIST

Grapple looks like he has lost his nervousness and is confident to make a valiant proposal. Hoist immediately sets up the miniature sun lamp.

GRAPPLE

(with pride)

It's my model of a ~~solar tower~~ PROTOTYPE SOLAR POWER TOWER!

Hoist turns on the lamp and the model begins to react as previously described.

HOIST

(interrupting)

Don't ~~undersell it, Grapple--~~ BE SO MODEST, GRAPPLE.  
(to Prime)

SOLAR TOWER EVER

It's the ~~greatest solar tower ever~~ ~~designed!~~ ~~It can create gigawatts~~ ~~of energy~~ ~~without atmospheric pollution, and also....~~ MOST SOPHISTICATED MEGA-GOOGLE WATTS

## ON GRAPPLE

GRAPPLE (INTERRUPTING)

~~Calm down, Hoist!~~ COOL IT, HOIST!

(to Prime with conviction)

We want to construct ~~this solar~~ A FULL SIZE POWER tower, Optimus -- ~~it will solve~~ THE ENERGY BENEFITS ~~serious energy problems!~~ WOULD BE HUGE!!!

## ON PRIME

He turns from the tower to Grapple.

PRIME

~~I don't doubt it.~~ I AGREE COMPLETELY....  
(PAUSE)

But how do you intend to protect SUCH A  
~~your~~ tower from the Decepticons?

ON GRAPPLE

His bubble begins to burst. His expression sags. There is a moment of silence.

ANGLE FAVORING PRIME

He looks with compassion towards Grapple.

PRIME

(gently) PERHAPS THAT CONSIDERATION WAS NOT  
~~You didn't consider that, did you?~~ PART OF YOUR  
PLANNING.....

GRAPPLE

(crestfallen)  
No, Optimus.. ~~I didn't.~~ I'M AFRAID IT WASN'T...

ON OPTIMUS PRIME

standing near Teletraan I's console...

PRIME

(summing up)  
~~I have to deny your request,~~  
~~Grapple.~~ THEN I MUST REGRETFULLY WITHHOLD  
APPROVAL FOR THE PROJECT.....

ON GRAPPLE

still sagging even more. He reaches over to turn off the sun lamp and deactivate the tower.

PRIME (CONT-VO)

~~It would be a worthy project if~~ IF A POWER TOWER  
~~we were not in a continuous state~~ OF THIS CAPACITY  
~~of war. If this tower fell into~~ EVER FELL INTO  
~~Megatron's hands...~~ MEGATRON'S HANDS..

BACK TO PRIME

near Teletraan I.

PRIME (CONT)

--it could be our undoing! ~~Sorry,~~ AND SPELL DOOM  
~~Grapple...~~ FOR THE REST OF THE UNIVERSE, I'M  
SORRY.

Prime's attention is momentarily diverted as suddenly an emergency beep goes off on the console of Teletraan I (SFX: COMPUTER BEEPS) telling Prime that an alert is being processed.

INSERT SCREEN

We see "INCOMING ALERT" on the screen.

TELETRAAN I (VO)

~~Alert processed. Top priority~~ **CONDITION MAGENTA!**  
~~Powerglide shot down by hostile~~  
~~fire. Location: Patrol Sector~~ **IN SECTOR THREE!**  
**3. EMERGENCY! EMERGENCY!**

WIDER

Prime turns away from the console to Hoist and Grapple.

PRIME

~~Hoist, it looks like Powerglide~~  
~~could use some help.~~ **POWERGLIDE NEEDS HELP.**

CLOSER ON HOIST AND GRAPPLE

Grapple still looks pretty crestfallen as Hoist immediately TRANSFORMS to vehicle mode.

SAY NO MORE, HOIST

~~Gotcha~~ Prime! ~~C'mon, Grapple--a~~ **LET'S GO, GRAPPLE!**  
~~change of scenery will do you~~ **THE ACTION WILL DO**  
~~good.~~ **US A GALAXY OF GOOD.**

He ROARS o.s. Grapple TRANSFORMS to vehicle mode, more slowly than Hoist.

GRAPPLE

~~Well, okay... maybe you're right.~~ **YES... I SUPPOSE**  
**YOU'RE RIGHT, HOIST... AND**  
**ROLLING! \***

And he, too, drives o.s.

\* (HE SAYS "AAND ROLLING" LIKE RACE ANNOUNCER SAYING "AND THEY'RE OFF")

CUT TO:

EXT. AUTOBOT HQ -DAY

Hoist ROARS out of Autobot headquarters and down the road INTO CAMERA, followed by Grapple, a bit slower.

FLIP TO:

EXT. GRASSY PLAINS

We see a green savannah punctuated by jagged sandstone cliffs. Tall grass blows and ripples in the breeze. POWERGLIDE lays battered and disabled with Hoist working on him. Grapple stands nearby.

GRAPPLE  
(bitterly) I should give up ~~architecture and become a mechanic.~~ ~~Then my work~~ ~~might be appreciated!~~ SOLAR ARCHITECTURE AND BECOME A GREASE-MONKEY! THEN MY GENIUS

ON HOIST

Hoist is in robot mode, laying under Powerglide's wing, repairing it. He GRUNTS as he tightens a bolt.

POWERGLIDE (VO) ~~Will you stop whinin' and stop complaining! I can't even get off the ground!~~ WILL YOU STOP WHININ' AND KEEP WORKIN'? OL' POWERGLIDE'S GROUNDED AND HATING IT!

HOIST  
THERE! That ought to do it.

Hoist crawls out and steps towards Grapple.

WIDER ON POWERGLIDE

Powerglide starts his engines (SFX: JET ENGINE WHINE). He taxies across the plain and ROARS up into the sky as the CAMERA PANS with him. Now he does a fancy loop turn...

BACK TO GRAPPLE AND HOIST POWERGLIDE (LAUGHING)  
HEY HEY HO - AIRBORNE IS REBORN!

--and makes a low pass THROUGH SCENE over the pair on the ground, dipping his wing.

POWERGLIDE (VO)  
Thanks a million, pal! ZILLION, KIMOZABES! YEEHAAAW  
(HIS VOICE TRAILS OFF)  
He ZOOMS OFF. The remaining two Autobots TRANSFORM into vehicular mode and drive off.

WIPE TO:

EXT. MOUNTAINOUS ROADS - DAY

We are in an area of steep, dramatic mountains. Hoist and Grapple are travelling down a narrow mountain road, the CAMERA PANNING with them...

GRAPPLE  
~~You said you'd help me, Hoist. we can build the tower on our own!~~ YOU APPRECIATE MY  
YOU SEE THE VALUE OF MY POWER TOWER, HOIST, WHY DON'T WE JUST BUILD IT OURSELVES?

Hoist screeches to a stop. (SFX: TIRES SCREECHING)

HOIST  
(shocked)  
~~What?~~ I BEG YOUR PARDON!

Hoist TRANSFORMS to robot mode instantly, blocking Grapple's way. Grapple stops and also TRANSFORMS into robot mode.

GRAPPLE  
I said ~~we could build that~~ WHY DON'T WE ---

HOIST  
(interrupting) I HEARD YOU THE FIRST TIME!  
~~Have you blown your circuitry?~~ BUT YOU MUST HAVE  
~~Optimus denied us!~~ COOCCOS IN YOUR LOGIC CIRCUITS  
OPTIMUS PRIME SAID NO!!!  
(HE SHOUTS "NO!")

ANOTHER ANGLE

Grapple walks to Hoist gesturing excitedly.

DECEPTICONS STOP US! GRAPPLE ~~TO CLEAN~~ WE CAN'T LET THE  
~~we~~ Think of the energy it would create!

The CAMERA TILTS UP to the top of the steep cliff behind the two. There we see a robot lying prone on top of the cliff looking down intently (like an Indian). The CAMERA PUSHES IN and we see that it is SCRAPPER, the Constructicon!

HOIST (VO)  
Think of the energy it would take to build it! ~~we can't do it~~ TWO OF US CAN'T DO IT alone!

BACK ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

GRAPPLE  
(dejectedly)  
YES - You're right -- ~~If we don't have~~ I SUPPOSE IT IS  
~~the support, we can't build it~~ A SELFISH DREAM....  
~~anyway.~~

Grapple turns his back on Hoist and sits down on a boulder, assuming a "sulking" posture.

AERIAL SHOT

From this vantage we see that Hoist and Grapple are in a pass. They are surrounded by all six CONSTRUCTICONS positioned above on the cliffs in robot mode, three on each side of the pass.

GRAPPLE (CONT-VO)  
But someday, somehow, ~~it's gonna~~ MY SOLAR POWER  
~~get built!~~ TOWER WILL BE A REALITY....

ON HOIST AND GRAPPLE

Hoist glances around nervously as Grapple sits hunched over.

HOIST  
(uneasily)  
UH, GRAPPLE...I don't like the ~~looks of this~~ **SENSORY VIBRATIONS HERE**  
~~place.~~ Let's roll on...

Suddenly they hear a RUMBLING SOUND. The two look up and react with shock...

GRAPPLE  
\*Constructicons!!

UPSHOT ON SCAVENGER

Scavenger TRANSFORMS to vehicle mode, then uses his power shovel to loosen a boulder and send it tumbling down INTO CAMERA!

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

They TRANSFORM quickly to auto mode, but the boulder rolls INTO SHOT into the center of the pass, blocking their way!

HOIST (VO)  
Quick--~~reverse gear!~~ **WE MUST FLEE FURIOUSLY!**

UPSHOT ON MIXMASTER

He TRANSFORMS to his huge cement mixer mode and sends out a river of cement to flow down o.s.

BACK TO GRAPPLE AND HOIST - REVERSE ANGLE

The river of cement flows down INTO SHOT, blocking their escape on the other side! The two Autobots BRAKE to a stop.

GRAPPLE (VO)  
(panicking)  
~~we're trapped!!~~ **WE'RE CUT OFF!**

UPSHOT ON SCRAPPER

Scrapper, in an impressive power leap, catapults himself onto the large commanding boulder that Scavenger has toppled. He stands there with arms outstretched. The gesture almost looks friendly.

SCRAPPER  
Hold your fire ~~!~~, **AUTOBOTS!**

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

HOIST

And surrender? ~~Never!~~ TO YOU? NEVER!

They immediately TRANSFORM to robot mode and fire a continuous barrage of wrist rockets at the Constructicon (SFX: ROCKET FIRE).

ON SCRAPPER

As rockets WHIZZ by him he jumps onto the ground out of range.

ON BONECRUSHER

He flies down the back side of the mountain then TRANSFORMS into bulldozer mode. He runs forward and purposely SLAMS his massive blade into a mountainside (CAMERA SHAKE) and begins to push!

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

The two Autobots continue to FIRE at Scrapper o.s. Suddenly they stop firing and look up behind them...

GRAPPLE

Hoist! -- ~~Look out!!~~

UPSHOT ON MOUNTAIN PASS

The top CRUMBLES and begins falling down INTO CAMERA in a huge LANDSLIDE!

GRAPPLE (CONT-VO)

It's a landslide!!

ON BONECRUSHER

Bonecrusher, on the backside of the mountain, is pushing the entire side of the pass towards the pair o.s.!

ON AUTOBOTS

Tons of earth and boulders come CRASHING down. It looks like Grapple and Hoist will be buried alive!!

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

WIDE ON MOUNTAIN PASS

As the dust clears we see that Grapple and Hoist have not been buried but are hopelessly trapped, with only their heads showing above the mound of dirt and rocks!

UPSHOT ON CONSTRUCTICONS

High up on the mountaintop, Mixmaster and Scavenger TRANSFORM into robot mode and peer down at Grapple and Hoist. They are joined by Hook and Long Haul (who were never out of robot mode).

ON REAR SIDE OF MOUNTAIN

Bonecrusher, in his zeal, has actually buried himself! We hear him GUN his ENGINES from underground. Suddenly and with great effort the bulldozer surfaces.

CLOSER ON BONECRUSHER

He TRANSFORMS into robot mode, shakes off some dirt and rocks, then climbs up the mountainside.

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

They try to extricate themselves--without success.

GRAPPLE  
(straining) **THE INCREDIBLE WEIGHT-----**  
~~I can't move~~ We're stuck!!

Scrapper leaps INTO SCENE back on top of the giant boulder. Once again he holds out his arms to Grapple and Hoist.

SCRAPPER  
**RELAX,** Grapple and Hoist! ~~We mean you~~  
~~no harm.~~ **WE'RE NOT YOUR ENEMIES.**

CLOSER ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

HOIST  
(sarcastically) **OH SURE! AND MEGATRON'S**  
~~Sure--and Megatron didn't send~~ **AS SWEET AS A**  
~~you here, either!~~ **CYRENAIAN PUSSYCAT-BOT!**

SCRAPPER (VO)  
**MEGATRON** ~~he~~ knows nothing of ~~this!~~ **OUR MEETING WITH YOU.**

As Hoist manages to free his arm and raises it to fire at Scrapper o.s., Grapple knocks it down to stop him.

↓  
SCRAPPER (V.O.)  
"WHAT SHOULD  
WE DO TO  
BRING OUR  
FRIENDS" DOWN  
TO EARTH,  
(HE LAUGHS)

This looses a ROUND that RICOCHETS off the boulder.

GRAPPLE

WAIT-- ~~Hold it~~ -- Let's hear what ~~he has~~ THE CONSTRUCTION  
~~to say!~~ HAS ON HIS DATA BANK PROCESSOR,

UPSHOT ON SCRAPPER

with several other Constructicons seen in the b.g.

SCRAPPER

IT'S SIMPLE - If we had wanted to destroy you, YOU'D BE COMPLETELY  
~~you'd be totally buried!~~ UNDER ROCK BY NOW.

BONECRUSHER

(taciturn)

NATURALLY, ~~we~~ could still ~~demolish you--~~ FINISH THE JOB....

Scrapper turns his head back to snap at Bonecrusher...

SCRAPPER

(sternly)

NONE ~~Enough~~ of that, Bonecrusher! WE'VE GOT NO GRIEVANCE  
AGAINST THESE TWO.....

ON SCRAPPER, GRAPPLE AND HOIST

GRAPPLE (THOUGHTFULLY)

Hmmm..... What do you want from us? ---- EXACTLY.

SCRAPPER

JUST THIS... WE'VE PARTED  
~~We have left Megatron...~~ COMPANY WITH MEGATRON.

The CAMERA PANS AWAY from the scene to a rock the size of a large basketball.

HE TOOK US FOR GRANTED.... SCRAPPER (CONT-VO) -- IGNORED OUR POTENTIAL,  
~~he has wasted our talents...~~ AND WE'VE GOT  
~~need to work~~ SPECIAL TALENTS WE WANT TO PUT  
TO WORK....

REVERSE ANGLE ON ROCK

It splits open silently, revealing a video camera lens inside.

OTHER CONSTRUCTICONS (VO)

(voices ad lib agreement)

CUT TO:

INT. DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS

Megatron, with Starscream seated next to him, is watching the scene on a video monitor.

SCRAPPER (VO)

(filtered)

BACK ON Cybertron, ~~we greatly admired~~ WE ALL ADMIRERD  
your buildings, ~~as works of art.~~ GRAPPLE, WE  
CONSIDERED THEM WORKS OF ART.....

CLOSER ON VIDEO SCREEN

We see Scrapper furthering his case to the Autobots:

SCRAPPER (CONT)

~~We are on our own now--can you~~ SO WHY CAN'T WE  
~~use us?~~ POOL OUR SKILLS NOW AND WORK TOGETHER?

ON MEGATRON AND STARScream

STARScream

~~The traitors!~~ THOSE TRAITORS SHOULD BE DE-  
CONSTRUCTED AT ONCE, MIGHTY MEGATRON!

MEGATRON

Leave them to me, STARScream,

CUT TO:

BACK TO EXT. PASS - ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

For a moment, the two Autobots are nonplussed.

GRAPPLE

(mulling it over)

IMAGINE, HOIST! With their help we could build  
the ~~tower...~~ POWER TOWER EASILY!

HOIST BUT THEY ARE DECEPTICONS,

~~Hey! Wait a minute, Grapple--~~ GRAPPLE! COULD  
~~these are Decepticons. How can~~ WE EVER TRUST  
~~you trust these assembly line~~ THEM ENTIRELY?  
~~rejects?!~~

UPSHOT ON SCRAPPER

He stands with his arms folded across his chest.

SCRAPPER

(impatiently)

I must have your decision! IF YOU REJECT MY PROPOSAL  
WE'LL BE MOVING ON.

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

BE USEFUL. BUT, HOIST - PERHAPS A JOINING OF FORCES WOULD  
we must have proof that you're  
telling the truth!

GRAPPLE  
(protesting)

~~But, Hoist-- THAT'S~~ THIS FEELS DANGEROUS, HOIST....

WIDER

SCRAPPER  
You shall have ~~it!~~ THE PROOF YOU REQUIRE!

Scrapper takes his weapon and FIRES at the mound of dirt around the Autobots.

CLOSER ON AUTOBOTS

As they squint, expecting to be blasted, the BLAST disintegrates the rocks and dirt around them, leaving nothing but smoke! Hoist and Grapple open their eyes, amazed!

ON SCRAPPER AND CONSTRUCTIONS

Scrapper turns abruptly on his heels. The Constructicons take off in formation, leaving the two Autobots speechless!

FLIP TO:

INT. DECEPTICON HEADQUARTERS

Megatron stands before the Constructicons.

MEGATRON  
(sarcastically)  
Ah, my "loyal" Constructicons--  
(furiously)

~~Traitors to the Decepticon cause!~~ YOU'RE NOTHING BUT  
A TEAM OF TREACHEROUS TRAITORS!!!  
Megatron accusingly points to the video monitor.

ON VIDEO SCREEN

We see a freeze frame of Scrapper with arms outstretched to Grapple and Hoist.

MEGATRON (CONT-VO)  
~~You cannot~~ Deny the evidence OF YOUR OWN OPTIC  
SENSORS IF YOU CAN!

ON SCRAPPER

He is shaken by the accusation, but recovers his composure quickly.

SCRAPPER

(humbly)

Megatron, you've got it all  
wrong--

The CAMERA PANS down the row of Constructicons, who are  
"chomping at the bit" to defend their motives:

HOOK WE'RE STILL WORKIN'

~~We want to work for you, and for THE GLORY OF THE~~  
~~Decepticon's glory--not for two~~ ---- WE DON'T GIVE  
~~despicable Autobots!~~ TWO SULFUR PLATED CENTOCIAN  
FOR THE AUTOBOTS,

BONECRUSHER

SEE, WE ~~we heard their plans,~~ EAVESDROPPED ON THEIR PLANS...

LONG HAUL

~~They want to build a huge solar~~ PLANS TO BUILD A  
~~tower.~~ WHOPPER OF A SOLAR TOWER POWER ----

SCAVENGER

(bursting)

SUN SOAKED SCADS OF ENERGY  
~~Just think of the energy that~~ FOR US TO SUCK UP!  
~~could be ours!~~

MIXMASTER

ENERGY WE ~~we~~ could use ~~to~~ to destroy ~~the~~ DESTROY-DESTROY THE  
Autobots! GET IT? GET IT? GET IT? HUH?

ON MEGATRON

They are getting to him. His fury subsides. We see by his  
expression that he is seriously considering the proposition.

MEGATRON

(calculatingly)

~~Perhaps this just might work to~~ PERHAPS THERE IS AN  
~~our advantage.~~ ADVANTAGE TO BE  
GAINED THROUGH THE EXECUTION OF  
YOUR PRIMITIVE PLAN----

He pauses for a beat then turns to Scrapper.

MEGATRON (CONT)

(admonishingly)

BUT BE WARNED! ~~But~~ I'm still your leader-- Do  
not betray me!!

ANGLE ON OTHER CONSTRUCTICONS

SCAVENGER

We won't, Megatron! NOT US!

SCRAPPER

~~What proof can we give Grapple?~~

BUT WE NEED PROOF OF OUR "GOOD FAITH"  
TO CONVINCE GRAPPLE, OH NOBLE MEGATRON,  
~~WE~~ SOMETHING EVEN A SUSPICIOUS SLEAZOID LIKE  
HIM WILL BELIEVE.

## CLOSE ON MEGATRON

He sits before his control console and reflects for a moment. Suddenly his face beams as he comes up with the answer!

THEN YOU MUST MEGATRON  
~~We'll give him what he knows is~~ SOMETHING HE  
~~our most precious possession~~ KNOWS I WOULD  
 NEVER WILLINGLY PART WITH! YOU MUST GIVE HIM  
 MY MOST PRECIOUS POSSESSION!  
 (HE LAUGHS EVILLY) FLIP TO:

## EXT. MOUNTAINS - DAY

Grapple and Hoist stand on top of the mountain overlooking the place of their encounter with the Constructicons. Scrapper, in robot mode, flies towards them from the plain below.

HOIST

What if this is a trick?

GRAPPLE

(eagerly) WE'VE GOT TO RISK IT! A FUNCTIONING  
~~We must give them a chance. Just~~ POWER TOWER IS  
~~consider the possibilities if they~~ MORE IMPORTANT  
~~are telling the truth!~~ THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

## ANOTHER ANGLE

Scrapper lands in front of them.

SCRAPPER

~~I have brought the proof you~~  
~~requested.~~ YOU ASKED FOR PROOF - - - .

GRAPPLE

(excitedly)  
 YES, I DID! where is it?

SCRAPPER

(pointing dramatically)  
There!

The CAMERA PANS in the direction of Scrapper's gesture. At a fair distance we see a convoy rolling towards them.

## CLOSER ON CONVOY

The CAMERA PUSHES IN to show Long Haul in the center, bearing an enormous load covered with a tarp. He is escorted by the other four Constructicons in a tight formation around him. They come to a halt at the base of the mountain.

DOWN SHOT ON HOOK AND LONG HAUL

Hook TRANSFORMS to robot mode and yanks the tarp off Long-Haul's load with a flourish, revealing an incredible stack of energon cubes that are CRACKLING with power. He turns to Scrapper, Grapple and Hoist on the high ground and yells up to them:

HOOK  
(YELLING)  
ENERGON ~~■~~ CUBES!!!

ON SCRAPPER, HOIST AND GRAPPLE

SCRAPPER ~~we raided Megatron's personal supply of energon cubes for you. Do you believe us now?~~ **THEY WERE MEGATRON'S - NOW THEY ARE YOURS! IS THAT PROOF ENOUGH?**

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

Grapple has not taken his eyes off the energon cubes. He is awestruck, frozen! Finally Hoist puts his arm on Grapple's shoulder and shakes the giant robot gently.

HOIST  
(to Grapple) ~~Now we have the energy to build your tower!~~ **IT'S ENERGY ENOUGH**

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on Grapple...

GRAPPLE  
(ecstatically)  
~~Yes. .... it's like a dream coming true!~~ **MY DREAM IS COMING TRUE AT LAST!**  
FLIP TO:

EXT. - CITY CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

The girders of a skyscraper under construction can be seen in the city, with piles of materials--girders, panels, tanks of cement, etc.--nearby. (SFX: CONSTRUCTION NOISES) The CAMERA PUSHES IN on a shack near the entrance to the lot.

CLOSER ON SHACK

The FOREMAN emerges from the shack with a set of plans and stands, looking up at the building's progress with disgust.

FOREMAN  
(yelling up)  
Move it! We're ~~behind schedule~~ **BEHIND SCHEDULE...**

Suddenly he hears O.S. VEHICLE NOISES, and, behind him, the Constructicons--all in vehicle mode--drive into the lot and o.s. The foreman reacts with surprise...

FOREMAN (CONT-VO)

~~What's this - more trucks?! Hey!~~  
~~Hold on there!~~

WAIT A MINUTE - I DIDN'T  
SEND FOR ANY MORE TRUCKS..!

He races o.s. after them.

ON MIXMASTER

The foreman runs in front of the truck, holding out his arm as a signal to stop. The truck BRAKES to a stop.

FOREMAN (CONT)

~~Turn~~ Turn this rig around  
and--HUH?!

He does a surprised TAKE at the truck...

FOREMAN'S POV - MIXMASTER'S CAB

Of course there's no one behind the steering wheel...

FOREMAN (CONT-VO)

Where's the driver?!

BACK TO SHOT

Mixmaster TRANSFORMS to robot mode, his weapon ready. The foreman is speechless..!

MIXMASTER

Right here, buster! Stand aside!

ON SCRAPPER AND HOOK

as they TRANSFORM to robot mode.

SCRAPPER

We ~~got~~ got work to do!

HOOK ~~YOUR~~ YOUR

And we need ~~building~~ building materials to do it!

ON BONECRUSHER AND LONG HAUL

still in vehicle mode. Bonecrusher lifts a pile of girders, depositing them in Long Haul's truck with a SFX: CRASH!!

BONECRUSHER (VO)

We'll just help ourselves, if you don't mind!

LONG HAUL (VO)

~~OR~~ even if you do!

OR



ON BONECRUSHER

The giant bulldozer is knocking down large sandstone outcroppings from the ground that jut out near the foundation. Scrapper joins him INTO SHOT, TRANSFORMS to his payloader mode, and helps move the mountains of rubble.

ON SCAVENGER

With his massive power shovel, Scavenger digs amazing deep radiating trenches (like canals) that will accomodate the foundation. The CAMERA PANS along one of these trenches to reveal Hook manipulating giant forms. Suddenly the canals and forms are innundated with what looks like a tidal wave of moulten steel! The CAMERA TILTS UP to reveal Mixmaster mixing the steel in its caulderon while simultaneously pouring out a river of the molten stuff into the forms below.

ON HOOK

He climbs out of the trench then scales the beginning girders of the structure. He TRANSFORMS into truck crane mode on the lower floor.

ON MIXMASTER

Now he turns his spout and pours more moulten steel into huge modular molds on the ground. Suddenly out of nowhere a hook descends and picks up one of these molds. The CAMERA TILTS up with the mold to Hook, who slings it up another floor (CAMERA TILTING UP FURTHER) to Long Haul in robot mode who then empties out the (still glowing!) structural piece, places it and fastens it.

ON HOIST

Near Long Haul, Hoist, in robot mode, lifts a huge girder as if it were a two by four! Now he puts it in place then welds it with a bright arc welder. The CAMERA PANS back to Grapple, who watches proudly, his hands on his hips.

GRAPPLE (ALMOST SWAGGERING, CONCEITED NOW)

~~My masterpiece will soon become~~ ~~a reality!~~ AS SOON AS IT'S FINISHED, I MUST FIND A PLACE TO SIGN MY NAME... IN VERY LARGE LETTERS!  
FLIP TO:

EXT. - LONG SHOT - AUTOBOT HQ - DAY

Below the volcano we see some kind of sport or exercise going on with a group of five Autobots in robot mode. The CAMERA PUSHES IN...

SCRAPPER (V.O.)  
(SLYLY)  
THE UNIVERSE  
WILL RECORD  
YOUR NAME  
IN THE GALACTIC  
HISTORY BOOK  
OF HONOR.

SCRAPPER (V.O.)  
THE GRAPPLE  
PLANT POWER  
WILL  
ENDURE BEYOND  
THE TIDES IN  
THE SEA OF  
TIME! CONGRATULATIONS!

ON AUTOBOT BASKETBALL GAME

Now we see that Optimus is dribbling a huge basketball down a makeshift outdoor basketball court. Inferno and Smokescreen chase him while Tracks closes in on him from the front. The ball POUNDS as it hits the ground. Optimus turns to Spike o.s.

PRIME

~~How's this, Spike?!~~ WATCH OUT, SPIKE - I'M DRIVING IN FOR A LAY-OFF!

ON SPIKE

watching on the sidelines and gesturing...

SPIKE

~~Don't bounce it that high-- watch~~ WATCH LAY-UP, PRIME AND WATCH out for Tracks!

BACK TO PRIME

He bends down low, turns around with his back to Tracks and sidesteps to the giant basket.

WIDER

Tracks tries desperately to get at the ball but to no avail. Suddenly Optimus turns, bends, and leaps up towards the basket. (the Basket's got to be about 100' in the air!) Tracks follows suit, his body straightening, but just as he leaps up to block Prime's shot we hear a grating LOUD SQUEEK! Tracks winces and falls to the ground.

PRIME (V.O.)  
HE SHOOTS!...  
HE SCORES!...  
EAT YOUR  
HEART MECHANISM  
OUT, MAGIC  
JOHNSON!

ON THE BASKET

The ball handily falls through the basket.

ON TRACKS

As he lands from his truncated block he looks embarassed. The CAMERA PULLS BACK to include Prime, Smokescreen and Inferno. Prime moves up to Tracks...

PRIME

OH, OH.. Sounds like ~~you're in serious need~~ IT'S TIME FOR A ~~of a~~ maintenance check, Tracks!

Spike runs out onto the court.

TRACKS ABSOLUTELY, PRIME, BUT I'M

~~I know -- I'm having the darndest~~ HAVING A DEUCE OF A time getting an appointment with Hoist.

ON PRIME

PRIME

(puzzled) THAT'S STRANGE - HOIST IS  
~~Why? Isn't he doing his job?~~ USUALLY AVAILABLE,

DOWNSHOT ON SPIKE

The boy talks up to the giant robots.

SPIKE

BUT Hoist's been away <sup>SO LONG</sup> ~~so much lately~~ HE'S GOT A BACK-  
~~we've got a backlog of maintenance~~ LOG OF MAINTEN-  
~~calls-~~ ANCE WORK TEN FEET HIGH!

UPSHOT ON PRIME

including Spike in the foreground, looking up...

PRIME

(still puzzled)

That's not like Hoist. ~~I'd better~~ I'LL CALL HIM IN  
FOR A ~~talk to him~~ - - - -

SPIKE

HE'S NOT HERE, ~~He left with Grapple before sun~~  
PRIME. HE AND ~~up this morning. Nobody's seen~~  
GRAPPLE HAVE ~~him since!~~  
BEEN GONE FOR HOURS!

CLOSE ON PRIME

He thinks for a beat.

PRIME

THEN ~~Maybe Powerglide can find~~ IT'S TIME  
~~them...~~ SOMEONE WENT AFTER THEM....

FLIP TO:

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

The tower is nearly complete. It is of colossal  
proportions--taller than Devastator!--and dominating the  
landscape.

ON GRAPPLE

We see Grapple working furiously, his "office" piled high with  
endless stacks of papers and equipment. While he speaks with  
Scavenger, Scrapper stands waiting to confer with him.

GRAPPLE  
(to Scavenger)  
Hoist tells me you ~~still aren't~~ **DON'T UNDERSTAND**  
~~welding the joints right-~~ **THE WELDING TECHNIQUE**  
**I SHOW ON MY PLANS.**

SCAVENGER  
~~We need more help!~~ **(SLYLY)**  
**YOU DREW THEM NEAT - BUT WHEN I DO THEM,**  
**THEY COME OUT SLOPPY ----** WIPE TO:  
**MAYBE I JUST DON'T HAVE THE SKILL!**

EXT. TOWER

Grapple is demonstrating a welding technique to Scavenger, utilizing his arc-welder rifle.

GRAPPLE  
(while welding) **THE SECRET IS TEMPERATURE**  
~~The important aspects are position~~ **AND TIMING,**  
~~and temperature. There!~~ **SCAVENGER. SEE?**

INSERT STRUCTURAL JOINT AND ARC-WELDER

We see the spark of the welder (SFX: CRACKLING) join two large steel members with surgical precision, leaving a tidy weld as it pulls back o.s.

ON GRAPPLE AND SCAVENGER

SCAVENGER **(GENUINELY IMPRESSED)**  
~~I've got it now Grapple, thanks.~~ **TEMPERATURE AND**  
**TIMING! GRAPPLE, YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE!**  
Hook, in robot mode, walks along a beam towards the two.

HOOK  
~~I finished with the upper girders.~~  
**GET WE NEED YOU** topside, Grapple! **WE GOT A GIRDER**  
**PROBLEM.** WIPE TO:

EXT. TOP FLOOR OF TOWER

Grapple shows Hook how to install one of the giant parabolic solar collectors. He delicately snaps a socket on the rear of the panel onto a ball at the end of a steel shaft. Long Haul looks on with interest.

GRAPPLE - **SEE? IT'S NOT A PROBLEM, HOOK -**  
This swivel allows the panel to **FOLLOW THE SUN,**  
~~crack the sun.~~

HOOK (to Grapple) ~~Child's play-- Leave it to me~~ ~~Go get some more of these panels,~~ ~~and be quick about it!!~~ **FABULOUS! BUT YOU'D BETTER DO A COUPLE MORE OF THEM. I DON'T THINK I'VE GOT IT JUST YET.**

*HOOK (SLYLY-IT'S BE GETTING GRAPPLE TO DO THE WORK)*

*MORE PANELS, LONG HAUL,*

ON LONG HAUL

His face displays a look of disappointment as he leaves.

LONG HAUL  
(bitterly)

~~Go get this--bring me that--I~~ **GET THIS - BRING THAT!**

I thought I was finally going to build something!

ON GRAPPLE

GRAPPLE  
~~Stop complaining--~~ **YOU ARE!**  
(swelling with pride)

**YOU** ~~We are building something! My~~ **MY GREATEST**  
~~masterpiece!~~ **CREATION!**  
(SIGHING TO HIMSELF)

**I'M SO EXCITED I COULD SHORT MY OWN NEUROCIRCUITS!**

ANOTHER SECTION OF THE TOWER

WIPE TO

Hoist is using the full spectrum sensor behind his head to inspect structural connections in the framework. Grapple stands by him, beaming with pride. Spread out below them is a sweeping view; we are very high up!

HOIST  
~~Everything's A-1 so far, and we're almost finished!~~ **EXTENSOR MONUMENTAL, GRAPPLE!**  
**AND SOON YOUR TOWER WILL BE COMPLETELY FUNCTIONAL.**

GRAPPLE  
**YES!** ~~Excellent!~~  
(gesturing with arm)

**OUR** ~~This~~ alliance with the Constructicons has ~~exceeded my~~ **BEEN WONDERFUL!**  
~~wildest expectations!~~ **IT'S AMAZING WHAT FRIENDS CAN DO!**

As Grapple finishes his broad sweep with his arm we

FLIP TO:

EXT. - POWERGLIDE IN THE SKY - DAY

Powerglide banks (matching action with Grapple's sweep) then begins to circle. He is at an extremely high altitude.

POWERGLIDE

Hey, Optimus--get on the ~~line!~~ **HORN! OL' POWERGLIDE**  
~~I found 'em!~~ **JUST SPOTTED YOUR LOST SHEEPACRONS!**  
**BAA, BAA, BAA...**

**(ALA SHEEP CALLS IN "WIFFENPOOF" SONG WITH ADDED ELECTRONIC OVERTONE)** CUT TO:

INT. AUTOBOT HQ

Optimus is biding his time by rolling a basketball from one hand across his arms then his shoulders (a la the Cybertron Globetrotters) to his other hand. He puts the ball down as Powerglide's call comes in:

PRIME

(with great interest)

I read you, Powerglide--where are they?

CUT TO:

EXT. - POWERGLIDE

A lens protrudes out from below his cockpit.

POWERGLIDE **ZOOMING DOWN FOR A**  
~~I'm gettin' a closer look...~~ **CLOSER EYEBALL, O.P....**  
**AND FOCUSING.....**

TELESCOPIC VIEW OF TOWER POWERGLIDE'S POV

As Powerglide's lens FOCUSES, then ZOOMS into the top of the tower we see our two errant Autobots with Constructicons below them climbing over the girders like little Donkey Kongs!

POWERGLIDE (VO-CONT)

(in studied, heartfelt disbelief), **LOW WHISTLE)**

**WHOOO...** I'm afraid you're not going to **LOVE IT**  
~~like this~~ when you see ~~it~~ **WHAT I SEE!**  
~~Optimus!~~

CUT TO:

INT. AUTOBOT HQ

Prime cranes his neck in suspense, looking towards the video screen and listening closely.

PRIME

~~What is it?~~ **INTERFACE YOUR TELEVIDEO WITH MY MONITOR, POWERGLIDE....**

The video screen flickers.

ON VIDEO SCREEN

We see the telescopic view of Grapple and Hoist on the tower.

*YOU GOT IT, BIG FELLA!*  
POWERGLIDE (VO)  
~~Grapple and Hoist are working with~~ *TIGHT AS*  
~~the Constructicons!~~ *TITANIUM TICK-TOCKS WITH*  
*SOME CONSTRUCTICONS! YIIICH!*

BACK TO PRIME

He does a double take. For a moment he is speechless!

PRIME  
(sadly) *THEY MUST HAVE SOME EXPLANATION...*  
~~I can't believe it. Those two~~ *(STERNLY)*  
~~are in deep trouble!~~ *BUT THIS COULD BE TOO SERIOUS*  
*TO WAIT FOR THAT-----*  
Now he flips a switch to change frequencies.

*DISASTER CODE BLUE!*  
PRIME (CONT)  
~~Red Alert--assemble the strike~~  
~~force for immediate attack!~~ *ACTION! NOW!*

FLIP TO:

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

The tower is complete but for the massive jewel-like <sup>*SPHERE*</sup> which lies in a cradle on the ground. Grapple and Hoist stand by it looking up to the top of the structure.

GRAPPLE *(DISTRESSED)* - *MY POWER TOWER WILL BE POWERLESS, UNLESS WE CAN GET THE SUN FOCUSING SPHERE UP THERE!*  
~~Even from the top floor we can't reach its location with our equipment. Why didn't I see this problem before?~~ *(POINTS TO TOP OF STRUCTURE, THEN SADLY)*

HOIST  
(reassuringly)  
*NO AUTOBOT'S PERFECT, BUT, DON'T WORRY -*  
~~Don't worry, Grapple. I'm sure we'll be able to get the orb up there somehow.~~ *SPHERE THERE... SOMEHOW.*

*WHY DIDN'T I SEE THAT PROBLEM BEFORE?*

Scrapper drives up INTO SCENE.

SCRAPPER  
I think we can help ~~you with this.~~

WIDEN

All the other Constructicons have gathered around the group in vehicle mode.

SCRAPPER (CONT)

(to Grapple)

Get a ~~good~~ grip on that ~~orb--~~ and **SPHERE,**  
~~get ready for a real lift!~~  
Constructicons...~~merge into--~~ **AND MERGE INTO---**

CONSTRUCTICONS

(shouting together)

Devastator!

ANOTHER ANGLE ON CONSTRUCTICONS

The Constructicon vehicles come together and TRANSFORM into the titanic robot, DEVASTATOR (stock?).

UPSHOT

Hoist and Grapple, in the foreground, are dwarfed by the colossus. As soon as Grapple gets his arms securely around the ~~orb,~~ **SPHERE,** Devastator bends down and picks him up.

ON GRAPPLE

The CAMERA TILTS up with Grapple as Devastator lifts him to dizzying heights! As Grapple is elevated to Devastator's shoulder height the giant extends his arms to reach the top.

AT TOP OF TOWER

Devastator holds Grapple by his ankles allowing the Autobot to attach the ~~orb~~ **SPHERE** to the top of the structure, like a proud child would place the star on top of the Christmas tree!

UPSHOT

Devastator lowers Grapple, then gently places him on the ground next to Hoist.

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

They look up to admire their masterpiece.

GRAPPLE

(breathlessly)

**MY SENSIBILITY CAPACITORS**  
~~Do you believe it, Hoist? we're~~ **ARE REELING,**  
~~finished!~~ **HOIST! WE'VE DONE IT!**

WIDER

Megatron stands behind the two Autobots. He FIRES a BLAST from his fusion cannon at the ground in back of them that opens a deep pit. Grapple and Hoist fall back into the hole.

↓  
DEVASTATOR  
(MIX OF VOICES)  
HERE INTO  
POSITION ----  
PLACE! THERE!

GRAPPLE/HOIST  
Hey!/What--?!

UPSHOT ON MEGATRON (GRAPPLE'S POV)

Megatron steps up to the edge and leers down at them.

MEGATRON  
(icily)  
~~Your services are no longer~~ AND WE'VE DONE  
~~needed.~~ WITH YOU-----  
(sneering)  
~~You are finished!~~ ~~DECEPTION!~~ ~~FOOLS!~~ AUTOBOT FOOLS!

ON DEVASTATOR

Devastator walks to the pit, reaches down and picks up Grapple and Hoist as if they were toys, and carries them o.s.

ON MEGATRON

He turns, then admires the completed tower rubbing his hands together.

MEGATRON  
(imperiously) MAGNIFICENT! NOW THE  
~~Beautiful! These Autobots shall~~ GULLIBLE TWOSOME  
~~perish in the work of their own~~ WHO INVENTED THIS  
~~hands!!~~ TOWER SHALL PERISH FROM ITS POWER!

He smiles evilly as we hear the METALLIC BANGING AND CRASHING of DEMOLITION!

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. GRASSY PLAIN - DAY

We see the Autobot strike force rolling across the plain in a "V" formation with Optimus Prime at the head. The convoy consists of: Ironhide, Warpath, Cliffjumper, Brawn, Smokescreen, and Tracks.

INT. PRIME'S CAB

Spike sits in the passenger's seat and reacts to something ahead o.s.

SPIKE  
(excitedly)  
Man! That's ~~the tallest thing I've~~ **SO TALL THE**  
~~ever seen!~~ **TOP IS IN A DIFFERENT TIME ZONE**  
**FROM THE BOTTOM!**

REVERSE ANGLE

Spike spots the tower which we suddenly see looming beyond the next rise.

PRIME (VO) **AND TO THINK OUR FRIENDS**  
~~Not easy to miss, is it, Spike?~~ **BUILT IT WITH**  
(commanding) **CONSTRUCTICONS!**  
Autobots--~~assume~~ battle formation **- ROLL!**

CUT TO:

EXT. - SOLAR TOWER - ON MEGATRON

Megatron stands in what was formerly Grapple's office area, looking o.s.

MEGATRON **REPORT, SCRAPPER! HAS THE**  
~~Scrapper, status report!~~ **TOWER REACHED POTENTIAL?**

The CAMERA PULLS BACK and we see Scrapper acting as foreman of an energon cube charging "assembly line". It is a maze of cables, conduits, large transformers(!) and other electrical equipment, manned by the other Constructicons.

ON LONG HAUL AND HOOK

Long Haul's bed is once again piled high with cubes. Hook's crane arm manipulates them with astonishing speed and precision.

ON MIXMASTER AND SCROUNGE

Mixmaster and Scrounge are in robot form attaching charger cables, reading meters etc.

ON SCRAPPER

SCRAPPER  
(yelling to Megatron)

~~All systems functioning at capacity.~~ ALMOST, Megatron--Four hundred **ENERGON** cubes ~~already~~ fully charged  - AND MORE ON THE WAY

WIDE ON TOWER

We see the tower is in full scale operation. All arms are extended, collectors oriented sunward. As the orb glistens in the sun, the structure even HUMS with incredible energy!

FLIP TO:

EXT. GRASSY PLAIN - DAY

The Autobots come over the top of a rise overlooking the tower and TRANSFORM to robot mode, spaced out in an arched battle formation. Spike stands next to Prime in the foreground.

CLOSER ON PRIME

PRIME  
(to Spike)  
~~That's strange--no sign of Grapple or Hoist~~ --- I DON'T LIKE IT!

PRIME'S POV - THE TOWER AND DECEPTICONS

We see the Decepticons completely oblivious to the massed Autobots, busily channeling energy from the collectors to the cubes. They look especially pre-occupied and greedy!

PRIME (CONT-VO)  
~~We must take care that they are not harmed.~~ THEIR LIASON WITH THE DECEPTICONS MAY HAVE HAD AN UNEXPECTED TWIST ----

BACK TO PRIME

PRIME  
Autobots...transform -- and attack!

WIDE ON AUTOBOTS

The Autobots TRANSFORM to vehicle mode and, led by Prime, ROAR down the slope of the rise and across the plain as they fire salvos of LASERS and ROCKETS at the Decepticons.

WIDE ON TOWER AND DECEPTICONS *SCRAPPER (V.O.)!*  
*MEGATRON... AUTOBOTS!*

Suddenly the the Constructicons look up in horror and drop what they are doing as the Autobot strike force ROARS in on them. (SFX: MOTORS RACING, TIRES SCREECHING, ETC.)

ON WARPATH

His tank cannon BOOMS rounds at the energon cube-charging apparatus.

ON LONG HAUL AND APPARATUS *WARPATH*  
*BING, BAM, POW! HOW'D'YA LIKE IT, DECEPTI-SHLEPPERS?*

As the apparatus EXPLODES in a huge ball of flames, Long Haul TRANSFORMS. He runs to the base of the tower and disappears around it as the CAMERA FOLLOWS him.

ON SMOKESCREEN

He fires his electro-disruptor rifle at Scavenger...

ON SCAVENGER

The charging cables in the Constructicon's hands short out, causing him to CRACKLE and glow eerily as he gets a high voltage shock!

ON TRACKS AND BONECRUSHER

Bonecrusher tries to raise his laser pistol but Tracks beats him to the punch, firing a heat-seeking missile from his launcher that rockets Bonecrusher O.S. (SFX: O.S. CRASH! and CAMERA SHAKE!)

ON MEGATRON

As he sees his forces being overpowered, he is furious.

MEGATRON  
(bellowing)  
*FALL BACK AND REGROUP!* ~~on the far side of the tower!~~ *REGROUP, I SAY!*

WIDER

We see Megatron and all the Constructicons firing over their shoulders as they retreat, running to the opposite side of the tower. (All Constructicons are in robotic mode.)

PRIME  
Pursue them!

EXT. OTHER SIDE OF TOWER

Momentarily out of sight of their attackers, Megatron turns to the Constructicons.

MEGATRON  
Constructicons--you know what to do!

ON CONSTRUCTICONS

They TRANSFORM and merge into DEVASTATOR! (stock?)

ON AUTOBOTS

They are rushing past Prime around the tower, perhaps a little too eager to defeat the enemy on the run.

PRIME  
~~Autobots be careful-- we are~~  
~~vulnerable!~~ It could be a trap!

AROUND THE CORNER

Prime's warning comes too late. As they turn the corner of the tower they suddenly find themselves faced with...

UPSHOT ON DEVASTATOR -- AUTOBOTS' POV

Devastator fires terrifying LASERS from his eyes INTO CAMERA. Then he advances on the Autobots. (SFX: LASER BLASTS AND GUN SHOTS)

DEVASTATOR  
(howling with echoing laughter)

ON AUTOBOTS

They are stopped in their tracks.

WIDEN

As Devastator approaches, the Autobots are forced to move back while FIRING their weapons.

ON DEVASTATOR

The uncoordinated Autobot firings bounce off the giant harmlessly.

DEVASTATOR  
(louder laughter)

ON CLIFFJUMPER

A SHOT OF ~~the~~ CLIFFJUMPER  
glass gas should freeze him  
up!

From his gun he fires a steady stream of "glass gas" at  
Devastator o.s.

ON DEVASTATOR

As the gas is about to reach him, he takes his arm, and in one  
huge sweep fans the gas away from him. We hear a wind that  
sound like a tornado! (SFX: HOWLING WIND)

DEVASTATOR  
(TRIUMPHANT LAUGHTER)

ON AUTOBOTS

They have trouble even standing up against this gale!

ON POWERGLIDE IN SKY (PAN BG)

OKAY, FIGHT FANS - Get ready ~~Powerglide~~ POW!!  
FOR THE OL'

The aircraft banks, then dives, picking up tremendous velocity.  
(SFX: JETS WHINE)

ON MEGATRON

He looks up to see Powerglide o.s. screaming in towards  
Devastator. A microphone telescopes out of his chest.

MEGATRON  
Ramjet, intercept ~~the Autobot~~  
~~aircraft!~~

ON RAMJET (PAN BG)

We see him flying high above the action.

RAMJET (VO)  
Right, Megatron! I'll knock that ~~loud-mouthed~~ ~~scrap-heap~~ ~~out of~~ ~~the sky!~~ FLYING  
OFF HIS AFTER-  
BURNERS!

The plane makes a steep dive O.S.

INSIDE POWERGLIDE

Through the windshield we see Devastator looming up quickly.

POWERGLIDE (VO)  
(to Prime)

~~Hey, big guy! Get ready for a~~ **GOIN' IN TO LAY**  
~~"Powerglide POW!"~~ **A BOMB ON HIS CHIN! YOOOW!**

WIDE SHOT - DEVASTATOR

He sees Powerglide diving in on him firing. Devastator winds back his arm to swat the Autobot plane like some annoying mosquito.

WIDE ON POWERGLIDE AND RAMJET

In the foreground we see Powerglide diving towards us and firing like mad. Suddenly Ramjet dives in from out of the sun and is immediately hot on Powerglide's tail.

PRIME (VO)  
Powerglide--Decepticon ~~aircraft~~  
on your tail!

POWERGLIDE'S POV

Just as Devastator's hand is about to crush Powerglide, we hear the Autobot's jets ROAR as he banks sharply and heads for the giant's armpit!

WIDE ON DEVASTATOR, POWERGLIDE AND RAMJET

Powerglide makes an amazing loop under Devastator's armpit. At the same time the giant's arm delivers its blow, but into Ramjet, who is knocked o.s.! (SFX: CRASHING SOUNDS)

ON POWERGLIDE

He swoops down low almost to ground level and makes his escape.

POWERGLIDE  
Better you than me, Ramjet-- much  
better!

ON WARPATH

The tank makes a rapid run towards Devastator. He aims his cannon then lets loose with a blazing barrage at Devastator's midsection. (SFX: CANNON FIRE!)

**WARPATH**  
**WHACK! ZACK! ZORCH! HERES A**  
**BELLY FULL, A BIG CREEP!**

WIDEN

Devastator feels the shells hit him. He turns, and sees the tank attacking, then bends down.

ON THE GROUND

Devastator purposely runs his hand under the earth (like a giant shovel) before Warpath. The tank rolls INTO SCENE, and rides up Devastator's buried hand to its wrist (cannon still blazing). Suddenly Devastator lifts his hand out of the ground causing the valiant tank to overturn!

ON OPTIMUS

WARPATH(V.O.)  
ZING, WANG, WHAP! - WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?

PRIME

(desperately)

We have to turn Devastator's ~~force~~ STRENGTH to our advantage--

(thinks a beat)

Smokescreen ~~make a run to the~~ HEAD TOWARD THE tower--but don't let Devastator see you!

WIDER - TO INCLUDE SMOKESCREEN

Smokescreen TRANSFORMS to his Datsun 280 ZX Turbo mode and ZOOMS off.

SMOKESCREEN (VO)

~~No way that monster will see me!~~ JUST CALL ME THE AUTOBOT----

ON SMOKESCREEN (PAN BG)

He lays down a barage of thick smoke to cover his maneuver.

WIDER

SMOKESCREEN (V.O.)  
--- WHO ISN'T THERE!

Devastator is concentrating on attacking Ironhide and Tracks, who are providing cover fire. Smokescreen arrives at the tower unnoticed by the titan.

PRIME (VO)

Now, SMOKESCREEN! ~~now divert him-~~ Let him know you're there! DISTRACT HIM

Smokescreen now HONKS his HORN furiously.

SMOKESCREEN (VO)

(yelling)

HEY! Here I am, ~~you pile of bolts!~~ YOU SCRAP METAL MEATBALL!

ON DEVASTATOR

He turns around and sees the little Datsun parked next to the tower HONKING crazily. Now the leviathian starts towards Smokescreen.

DEVASTATOR  
(booming chuckle)

He draws back his foot like a giant place kicker.

ON OPTIMUS

Optimus watches for the precise moment.

PRIME  
(urgently)  
Now Smokescreen--Burn rubber!!

LOW ON DEVASTATOR'S FOOT AND SMOKESCREEN

At the moment Devastator's massive foot begins to swing forward, Smokescreen SCREECHES out of its path.

WIDER

The blow narrowly misses Smokescreen and CRASHES through the base of the tower like an enormous wrecking ball! (SFX: DEMOLITION SOUNDS)

ON DEVASTATOR AND TOWER

The tower visibly trembles under the impact. (CAMERA SHAKE)

ON OPTIMUS

He is watching Devastator very carefully.

PRIME

~~Autobots, prepare to fire...~~ **THERE'S YOUR TARGET,**  
~~Target:~~ **Devastator!**

ON AUTOBOTS

They each turn and take careful aim at Devastator.

ON POWERGLIDE IN SKY

He makes another run from the clouds at Devastator.

ON DEVASTATOR

Devastator looks down at the gaping hole he has made in the solar tower.

ON OPTIMUS

He is waiting for the precise moment with his arm upraised.

PRIME  
(dropping his arm)

FIRE!

WIDER

Cliffjumper, Ironhide, Tracks, Brawn, and Prime all FIRE simultaneously!

ON DEVASTATOR AND TOWER

The force of the combined volley sends Devastator sprawling backwards into the tower. Because it is already weakened, the tower comes CRASHING down on top of Devastator!

ON DEVASTATOR

He is getting burried by the collapsing tower. (SFX: CRASHING CONTINUING)

ON RUBBLE

The CAMERA HOLDS for a few beats as the tower continues collapsing into an enormous pile of rubble. Soon the individual Constructicons emerge from the rubble looking dented, stunned and hurt.

WIDER

to include Megatron standing next to the rubble watching in amazement and horror.

MEGATRON

My magnificent tower--nothing but  
junk!!

*YOU AUTOBOTS SHALL PAY FOR THIS!*

He shakes with anger and flies off o.s.

WIDE ON CONSTRUCTICONS

The last of the Constructicons limp out of the rubble. They see their leader leave.

SCRAPPER

Megatron! Come back!!

They fly off o.s. after him.

ON AUTOBOTS

They are elated! Smokescreen TRANSFORMS into robot mode.

AUTOBOTS  
(TRIUMPHANT CHEERS!)

ON OPTIMUS

He does not look as happy as the rest. There is a concerned look on his face. Spike moves INTO SCENE next to him.

SPIKE  
You're worried about Grapple and  
Hoist...right?

PRIME  
Right! Autobots--

ANGLE ON OTHER AUTOBOTS

as they turn to look at Prime o.s.

PRIME (CONT-VO)  
Clear this debris away. Our ~~conrad~~ **FRIENDS**  
might be underneath!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TOWER RUBBLE - DAY

All the Autobots are frantically digging through the immense pile of debris that was the solar tower.

ON BRAWN

The powerful Autobot tosses a twisted girder aside. He sees something underneath and bends down to pick it up. The CAMERA PUSHES IN to reveal Grapple's model of the tower, bent and battered but still recognizable.

BRAWN  
(holding model)  
Optimus-- ~~I think I found~~ **DOES THIS LOOK**  
~~something...~~ **FAMILIAR?**

WIDER

Prime and the others gather around Brawn who holds up the model for their inspection.

PRIME

(sadly)

~~It looks bad for our friends, but~~

~~we've got to~~

Keep searching! IF HOIST AND GRAPPLE ARE HERE WE MUST FIND THEM BEFORE THEIR ACTIVATION CIRCUITS ARE DE-ENERGIZED.

ON BRAWN AND DEBRIS

Some of the others join Brawn INTO SHOT as they dig into the debris with gusto, slinging away huge chunks of concrete and steel. (APPROPRIATE SFX)

ANOTHER ANGLE - CLOSER

Suddenly Brawn comes upon a large pocket of open space within the pile. He descends o.s. into the cavity.

BRAWN (VO)

(echoing)

What's this?

WIDER

Prime rushes INTO SHOT to join the other Autobots at the edge of the cavity. Brawn emerges carrying an enormous pair of doors framed by an arched jamb. Reaching the surface, he puts his burden down with a BANG!

ON DOORS

Outlined in bas relief we see none other than the exact outline of Grapple and Hoist!

IRONHIDE (VO)

~~I think I know those gargoyles!~~

ANYBODY WANT SOME ECONOMY SIZED WALL PLAQUES?

BACK TO SHOT

PRIME

(to Brawn)

Get those two out of there! FAST!

ON BRAWN

He gives each door a well placed punch on top with his mighty fists. (SFX: CHUNG, CHUNG) The doors SHATTER and the two errant Autobots are freed.

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

They are dazed and dented. Hoist's arm is twisted back on itself, and Grapple's entire midsection has been caved in. The CAMERA PULLS BACK as Prime walks over to them. They bow their battered heads in shame.

PRIME

I don't suppose these fancy doors  
were in your original plans, ~~either~~ EITHER, EH?  
Grapple?

ON GRAPPLE AND HOIST

GRAPPLE

(shamefully)

OH, ~~I'm~~ Optimus, I'M SO ASHAMED....

HOIST

Me too--

ANOTHER ANGLE

Optimus pats them gently and compassionately on the shoulders.

PRIME

APLOGIES ACCEPTED! <sup>NOW,</sup> We better get you two back to  
headquarters for repairs!

Grapple and Hoist look up to their wise leader thankfully.

PRIME (CONT)

AFTER WHICH ~~you~~ you'll return here to clean  
up this rubble--by yourselves!

They sag a bit, accepting their punishment stoically.

WIDER - TO INCLUDE OTHER AUTOBOTS

Now Prime turns to the other assembled Autobots.

PRIME

Autobots...transform and move out!

Each Autobot (except for Grapple and Hoist) TRANSFORMS, then  
rolls into formation before moving o.s. Grapple just stands  
there sadly, bowing his head as the others leave. Hoist lags  
behind, looking after his friend.

CLOSER ON GRAPPLE

He looks around to make sure nobody is watching him, then  
reaches back and picks up his crushed model of the solar tower.  
He looks at it poignantly...

HOIST (VO)

There'll be other towers to design  
and build, GRAPPLE POWER

Grapple looks up as Hoist moves INTO SCENE next to him.

GRAPPLE

It was magnificent--for a **LITTLE**  
while...wasn't it, Hoist?

HOIST

~~It was~~ **I** Incredible, Grapple-- ~~an~~ **ABSOLUTELY**  
~~real beaut.~~ **INCREDIBLE!**

Hoist TRANSFORMS and rolls o.s. as Grapple takes a final look at his model, then tosses it on the ground with the rest of the rubble. He TRANSFORMS and rolls o.s., and the CAMERA PUSHES in on the model as we...

FADE OUT

THE END