

MARVEL

25  
SETS OF  
ANNUALS  
TO BE  
WON-  
INSIDE!

31st Dec. 88

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# THE TRANSFORMERS

and

## ACTION FORCE

"YOU'RE  
NEW ON  
EARTH," THEY  
SAID!

"YOU DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
CHRISTMAS  
IS ALL ABOUT,"  
THEY SAID!

"WE'LL EXPLAIN  
ALL ABOUT PEACE  
AND THE SPIRIT  
OF GOODWILL,"  
THEY SAID!



# TRANSFORMERS™

## COULD COMFORT AND JOY!

**D**ECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>  
1988 - AND THE  
AUTOBOTS'  
GREATEST LEADER,  
OPTIMUS PRIME,  
ONCE MORE  
WALKS THE  
EARTH.

THEY TELL ME I  
WOULD HAVE ONCE GLADLY  
RISKED MY LIFE TO SAVE  
THIS WORLD AND ITS IN-  
HABITANTS. BUT THAT  
WAS LONG AGO ...  
BEFORE MY 'DEATH'.

DID MY TIME AS  
A COMPUTER CHARACTER  
AND MY SUBSEQUENT RE-  
BIRTH ON NEBULOS AS  
A POWERMASTER \*\*  
CHANGE ME SO DRAS-  
TICALLY? BECAUSE  
RIGHT NOW ...

... I CAN'T  
IMAGINE WHAT  
I EVER SAW IN  
THIS PLACE!

\* TRANSFORMERS  
106 / \*\* ISSUE 177



MY NEBULAN  
COMPANION, *H.I.Q.* IS  
ENCHANTED WITH  
THE PLACE BUT PER-  
HAPS THAT'S  
BECAUSE IT'S ALL  
SO NEW TO HIM.



HAS OUR *BONDING*, OUR  
MIXING OF MINDS,  
SOMEHOW *ERODED* MY  
FEELINGS FOR THIS  
PLANET? THE THOUGHTS  
I FEEL NOW OWE  
LITTLE TO THE  
PRIME OF OLD!



SAFEGUARDING THE  
HUMANS, THEIR PROPERTY,  
THEIR WORLD - ALL THESE  
THINGS HAVE BECOME  
*SECONDARY*...



...TO *CRUSHING*  
OUR ENEMIES -  
THE EVIL  
*DECEPTICONS*!



WHAT *DROVE* ME  
BEFORE? WHY WAS  
I SO COMMITTED TO  
SAVING THE  
HUMANS? LOGIC-  
ALLY, I SHOULD  
HAVE TRIED TO  
STOP THE  
DECEPTICONS AT  
ANY COST!



AND WHY DO I  
FEEL THAT IF I DON'T  
FIND THE ANSWERS,  
THE DECEPTICONS  
WILL HAIL IT AS  
THEIR *ULTIMATE*  
*VICTORY*?



HE'S  
STILL UP  
THERE!









SHOCKING PICTURES  
ARE JUST REACHING US  
FROM THE SLEEPY  
TOWN OF BORDER  
FLATS, DEVASTATED  
JUST A SHORT  
WHILE AGO BY  
GIANT ROBOTS!



CHRISTMAS DINNERS  
WERE JUST REACHING  
FAMILY TABLES AS THE  
MERCELESS CREATURES  
STRUCK, TURNING A  
DAY OF PEACE AND  
HARMONY INTO A  
DAY OF HORROR AND  
BRUTALITY!



DAMAGE TO PROPERTY  
IS EXTENSIVE, BUT  
THANKFULLY - THOUGH  
MANY ARE INJURED -  
NO FATALITIES HAVE  
BEEN REPORTED!

THAT BIT OF HANDYWORK  
HAS **DECEPTICON** WRITTEN  
ALL OVER IT. COME ON, LET'S  
CHECK IT OUT! ACCORDING  
TO THE COMPUTER BORDER  
FLATS ISN'T FAR FROM  
HERE!

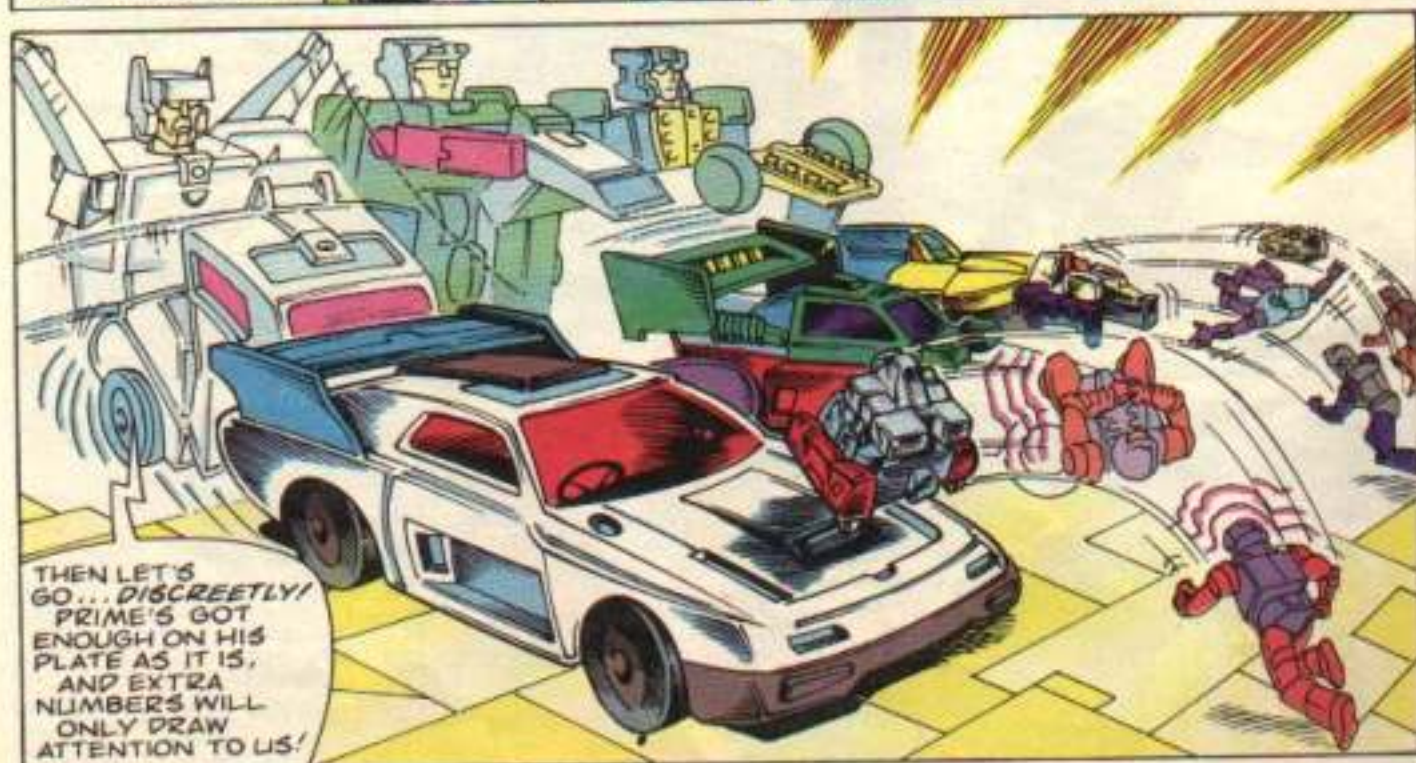


YOU MEAN  
GO OUT IN THIS  
LOUSY WEATHER?

LISTEN TO THE  
**FEARLESS** AUTO-  
BOT WARRIOR,  
SCARED OF A BIT  
OF SNOW! HOT  
WIRE, LUBE AND  
I WILL KEEP  
YOU WARM.



REV'S RIGHT.  
BOOSTED BY  
YOUR VERY OWN  
**POWERMASTER**  
ENGINE, YOU'LL  
BE GOING TOO  
FAST TO FEEL  
THE COLD.



THEN LET'S  
GO... **DISCREETLY!**  
PRIME'S GOT  
ENOUGH ON HIS  
PLATE AS IT IS,  
AND EXTRA  
NUMBERS WILL  
ONLY DRAW  
ATTENTION TO US!



HAVE THEY LEFT ME FOR GOOD, OR CAN I STILL RECOVER MY LOST FEELINGS FOR EARTH?

PERHAPS IF I FIND OUT WHAT MADE ME CARE SO MUCH BEFORE.

WHAT MADE ME RISK MY LIFE AND THE LIVES OF MY FELLOW AUTOBOTS JUST TO SAVE THESE HUMANS?

I MUST KNOW! I MUST LEARN TO LOVE THIS WORLD ALL OVER AGAIN!

PERHAPS IF I TURN MY MIND BACK, RE-LIVE OUR FIRST MOMENTS HERE.

IT REALLY BEGAN FOUR YEARS AGO IN OUR SPACECRAFT, THE ARK...

"...WHEN THE SHIP'S COMPUTER - AUNTIE - BEGAN TO REASSEMBLE THE TRANSFORMERS' WRECKED IN THE CRASH-LANDING FOUR MILLION YEARS BEFORE."





INCREDIBLE! I HAD THE INTERESTS OF THE HUMANS AT HEART FROM OUR VERY EARLIEST BATTLES ON EARTH!



"WHEN I FACED THE DECEPTICON'S LEADER, MEGATRON, I WAS MORE CONCERNED FOR THE SAFETY OF SPARKPLUG WITWICKY AND HIS SON, BUSTER, THAN FOR MYSELF."



"WHY? SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED BEFORE THE ARK CRASHED TO EARTH!"



"I REMEMBER... THE DECEPTICONS HAD BOARDED OUR CRAFT. WEAKENED BY OUR EFFORTS TO SAVE OUR HOMELAND, CYBERTRON..."

"...WE WERE NO MATCH FOR THEIR MIGHT."



"WE COULD NOT WIN. ONLY ONE OPTION REMAINED. TO DENY THEM THEIR VICTORY..."



BY THE MATRIX!

HOW COULD IT HAVE ELUDED ME FOR SO LONG? I AM EARTH'S PROTECTOR FROM THE EVIL OF THE DECEPTICONS...

...AND THE SINS OF THE AUTOBOTS!



















PRIME!  
BUT  
HOW-?

HOW DID I FIND YOU? A  
CHECK ON THE SHUTTLE'S  
TAPES TOLD ME OF THE  
'ATTACK' ON BORDER  
FLATS AND YOUR  
SEARCH FOR THE  
'DECEPTICON'  
PERPETRATORS.

THIS INCIDENT SERVES  
TO REMIND US ONCE  
MORE THAT WE DO  
NOT BELONG ON  
THIS WORLD.

PART OF MY SHAME  
LIES IN FORGETTING  
THAT FACT, BUT I  
AM ALSO GUILTY  
OF A FAR MORE  
FUNDAMENTAL  
OVERSIGHT.

I HAD FORGOTTEN  
WHY- ABOVE ALL  
ELSE - WE MUST  
FIGHT, EVEN SAC-  
RIFICE OUR LIVES  
IF NECESSARY,  
TO PROTECT  
THIS WORLD  
AND ITS IN-  
HABITANTS.

THE HAND  
THAT PUSHED  
THE BUTTON  
THAT BROUGHT  
US TO THIS  
PLANET...

"... WAS MINE! IN DENYING  
THE DECEPTICONS THEIR  
VICTORY - I ENDANGERED  
THE LIVES OF INNOCENT  
BEINGS!"

HOWEVER NOBLE  
MY MOTIVES, I STILL  
WENT AGAINST ALL  
THAT AN AUTOBOT  
STANDS FOR!

I SEE WHAT YOU  
MEAN. FOR HUMANS,  
CHRISTMAS IS A TIME  
OF SHARING AND  
GIVING, YET ALL WE'VE  
SHARED IS OUR WAR,  
AND ALL WE'VE GIVEN  
THEM IS MISERY!

IT'S TIME THAT CHANGED!  
WE CAN START BY CLEAR-  
ING UP THE MESS WE  
MADE OF BORDER  
FLATS.

AT LEAST THE  
STORM SEEMS TO  
BE OVER.

I FEAR, SLAPDASH, THAT  
WITH SO MANY DECEP-  
TICONS STILL AT  
LARGE ON EARTH...

THE  
STORM HAS  
ONLY JUST BEGUN!



NEXT:

TIME WARS!