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THE TRANSFORMERS: REANIMATED.  
"SKYBOUND."

Written by

Greig Tansley &  
Youseph "Yoshi" Tanha.

Art by

RD Blade,  
RED, &  
Josh Burcham.

Based on the original cartoon series, The Transformers: ReAnimated,  
bridges the gap between the seminal second season and the 1986 Movie  
that defined the childhood of millions.

**PAGE ONE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE SKIES ABOVE CYBERTRON - NIGHT

SPLASH PANEL - THUNDERCRACKER and SKYWARP (both in jet-mode) find themselves under AERIAL ASSAULT by SPRINGER and WHIRL (both in helicopter-mode).

Whirl fires multiple ENERGY BLASTS around Skywarp's wings as Springer scores a DIRECT HIT on Thundercracker's rear stabilizers.

**CAPTION:** Cybertron...

SKYWARP

Aaaaagh! Too many energy blasts!  
Can't teleport!

THUNDERCRACKER

Hold on, Skywarp! We can take these losers!

SPRINGER

Don't bet on it, Decepticon.

WHIRL

Yeah, you two are done for. Ready for the scrap heap!

STARSCREAM

(off-panel)

Oh, I don't think so...

**PANEL 2:**

STARSCREAM appears in the sky above in his own jet-mode, zooming through the air to fire NULL RAYS towards Whirl and Springer.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Now you face the true **master** of the skies!

WHIRL

Starscream? Now we're talking! This battle just got exciting!

SPRINGER

No, Whirl. He's too powerful.  
C'mon, follow me.

**PANEL 3:**

EXT. A ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Starscream joins Thundercracker and Skywarp in TRANSFORMING to land in their robot-modes on the roof of a nearby SKYSCRAPER.

Springer and Whirl have fled, escaping towards the distant HORIZON.

SPRINGER

We're outta here.

STARSCREAM

Looks like I arrived just in time.  
You're welcome, by the way.

THUNDERCRACKER

Hey, we had things under control.

SKYWARP

Yeah, I was just about to...

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream FLIES OFF, leaving Skywarp to converse with Thundercracker on the rooftop.

STARSCREAM

You were just about to be blasted to smithereens, that's what. Luckily, my amazing talents were here to save you. You two had better shape up, or as Air Commander, I might have to look for some newer models to get the job done against the Autobots.

SKYWARP

Ugh, another day, another reminder of Starscream's 'brilliance'.

THUNDERCRACKER

I hear you. Thing about Starscream is, despite all his bluster, he's the real deal. Maybe we **are** getting too old for this? Sure, things are lookin' good for the Decepticons lately, but for how long? Maybe Starscream **does** need some new recruits.

SKYWARP

Speakin' of recruits, you remember  
the old days? The start of the war?

THUNDERCRACKER

The old days?

**PANEL 5:**

SMALL INSERT PANEL, CLOSE ON Thundercracker's CONTEMPLATIVE  
expression.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

Yeah, I do...

**PAGE TWO:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OVER THE CITY OF HELEX, CYBERTRON

SPLASH PANEL - As the story moves into FLASHBACK,  
Thundercracker now flies over the city of HELEX, in the early  
days of the Autobot-Decepticon war.

The city below is nothing short of MAGNIFICENT.

GOLDEN TOWERS and SILVER ARCHWAYS line the streets beside a  
multitude of impressive SKYSCRAPERS. What look like  
SPOTLIGHTS shine up from the ground to help illuminate the  
night sky.

Thundercracker appears in his pre-Earth TETRA-JET-MODE,  
flying alongside an OLIVE-GREEN-AND-BLACK Tetra-Jet known as  
ANSER, and a BRIGHT-PINK Tetra-Jet named FLUSH.

Together, they battle the Autobot aerial contingent of  
CROSSBLADES, SKYHAMMER and DOUBLEHEADER.

All three Autobots have just combined their firepower to  
DESTROY a fourth ORANGE Tetra-Jet: SCRUB.

**CAPTION:** Helex City, nine million years ago...

THUNDERCRACKER

(captioned)

... Some things never change.

SCRUB

Hrrrk!

FLUSH  
Scrub! You'll pay for that,  
Autobots! Anser, Thundercracker,  
cover me!

THUNDERCRACKER  
You got it! Take 'em out!

ANSER  
No, wait!

**PANEL 2:**

As Thundercracker and Anser close in on Skyhammer, both Doubleheader and Crossblades move towards Flush.

FLUSH  
Help! They've got a lock on me!

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker flies over the top of Doubleheader, Crossblades and Flush, dropping a SONIC BOOM onto the Autobots.

Meanwhile, Anser fires a blast that DESTROYS Skyhammer.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Hold on, Flush! Let's see how they  
like the thunder!

CROSSBLADES  
Aaaagh! My audio-sensors!

ANSER  
And I'll bring the fire!

SKYHAMMER  
Uurrk!

**PANEL 4:**

As the fiery remains of Skyhammer fall to the ground, Doubleheader and Crossblades retreat into the background.

Thundercracker and Anser circle back towards Flush, who is now drifting dangerously off course.

CROSSBLADES  
C'mon, let's bail!

ANSER  
All right! Nice work, TC! You too,  
Flush. Flush?

THUNDERCRACKER  
Flush, are you okay?

**PAGE THREE:**

**PANEL 1:**

Thundercracker and Anser RACE through the air towards Flush as the pink Tetra-Jet continues to drift closer towards several skyscrapers.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)  
Flush! You're way off course. Right your trajectory or you're gonna crash!

AIR COMMANDER  
(captioned)  
Operation Sovereign, this is Air Command, come in, Sovereign. You are cleared to return to base.

ANSER  
TC, we're being called in.

**PANEL 2:**

Thundercracker ACCELERATES towards Flush.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Sorry, but Flush needs me.

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker cruises beside Flush, wing-to-wing. Anser does the same on the other side of Flush.

AIR COMMANDER  
(captioned)  
Sovereign, I said, 'return to base'. That's an order.

THUNDERCRACKER  
I'm not leaving a Con behind. Come on, Flush, stay with me. Level out, that's it.

FLUSH  
Thundercracker? I... I...

ANSER  
Easy, Flush, we're here for you, buddy.

**PANEL 4:**

WIDE SHOT - All three Tetra-Jets turn in a 180-degree pattern to fly away from the city of Helex.

FLUSH

Ugh, thanks, guys. I don't know what came over me there. Guess I freaked out a little after that missile lock.

ANSER

Hey, think nothing of it, Flush. We gotta look out for each other if we're gonna survive this war, right?

THUNDERCRACKER

That's right. Now, come on... let's get back to base.

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. DECEPTICON AIR BASE, NIGHT

FROM BEHIND - BLUE BACCHUS watches as Thundercracker, Anser and Flush TRANSFORM to land on their feet in the middle of an AIRBASE'S RUNWAY.

**CAPTION:** Soon after...

THUNDERCRACKER

Here we are. Safe and sound.

BLUE BACCHUS

Thundercracker! Anser! The Air Commander wants to see you in his office, first thing in the morning!

ANSER

Really? What for?

**PANEL 6:**

Thundercracker and Anser face one another with TREPIDATION.

BLUE BACCHUS

(off-panel)

Don't know. But, he didn't sound too happy. Guess you'll find out tomorrow.

**PAGE FOUR:**



**PANEL 1:**

INT. A HALLWAY

A solitary door remains shut at the end of a long CORRIDOR.  
Printed on the door are the words, "AIR COMMANDER".

**CAPTION:** Next morning...

AIR COMMANDER  
(voice only, echoing from  
behind the closed door)  
Well, aren't you two a sight for  
worn optics? You proud of  
yourselves after that little stunt  
yesterday?

**PANEL 2:**

INT. AIR COMMANDER'S OFFICE

FROM BEHIND - Thundercracker and Anser stand at attention  
before the Air Commander, seated as his desk, now revealed to  
be BLACK SHADOW.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Stunt, sir?

BLACK SHADOW  
Yes, you **distinctly** disobeyed  
orders to return to base, soldier.

ANSER  
With all due respect, sir, Flush  
was experiencing some kind of  
episode. We **saved** him.

**PANEL 3:**

Black Shadow STANDS to confront Anser and Thundercracker.

BLACK SHADOW  
Yes, you did. And now he's been  
**reassigned** to the Niter mines on  
Golganath Seven! He'd have been  
better off if you'd let him crash!

THUNDERCRACKER  
Golganath Seven? But...

**PANEL 4:**

SIDE ANGLE - Black Shadow walks around Thundercracker and Anser in a circular motion.

BLACK SHADOW

That's right. Flush and Scrub **were** supposed to be heading off to our new training facility today. An elite airspace academy, designed to turn pilots into the best of the best. **Seekers**, they call them. But, since Scrub is history and Flush doesn't have what it takes to become much more than cannon fodder, I guess **you two** will have to do.

ANSER

Seekers?

BLACK SHADOW

That's right. Congratulations. Any questions?

THUNDERCRACKER

Sure.

**PANEL 5:**

CLOSE ON Thundercracker. He SMILES.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

When do we leave?

**PAGE FIVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. SEEKER ACADEMY - DAY

A massive CYBERTRONIAN AIR FORCE ACADEMY sits beneath the MORNING SUN, spread out over the metallic landscape.

Out front of the MAIN BUILDING, Thundercracker and Anser stand amid FOUR ROWS of CADETS, each resembling the classic, identical SEEKER FORM.

The cadets stand before a lavish PODIUM, at which stands SHOCKWAVE. On the left of Shockwave, overseeing the proceedings, are SOUNDWAVE, STRAXUS and DEATHSAURUS.

We are seeing the final moments of a welcoming ceremony.

**CAPTION:** Two days later, Decepticon Seeker Academy...

SHOCKWAVE

... And as such, will logically ensure victory for the Decepticon cause.

**PANEL 2:**

Thundercracker and Anser are greeted by NACELLE, who introduces them to three other colorful Seekers: SMOLDER (bright orange and black), CAUSTIC (aqua green) and BROWNOUT (dull brown).

In the background, Shockwave is walking to the Academy's main building with Soundwave, Straxus and Deathsaurus.

NACELLE

You there! Anser and Thundercracker, right? I'm Chief Instructor Nacelle.

THUNDERCRACKER

Hello, sir.

NACELLE

This is the rest of your squadron: Smolder, Caustic, Brownout...

**PANEL 3:**

Nacelle turns to wave his hand towards another familiar face: Skywarp.

NACELLE (CONT'D)

... and Skywarp. Keep your optics on this one. He's 'gifted'. **Teleportation**, I'm told.

**PANEL 4:**

CLOSE ON Thundercracker and Skywarp's forearms as the SHAKE HANDS.

THUNDERCRACKER

Teleportation? Nice. I've got a few tricks of my own.

SKYWARP

Really? Can't wait to see them in action.

**PANEL 5:**

OVER NACELLE'S SHOULDER, as he looks upon Thundercracker, Anser and Skywarp.

NACELLE

Okay, enough formalities. Tomorrow the work begins. And you'll meet your first instructor...

**PAGE SIX:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE SKIES OVER SEEKER ACADEMY - DAY

High above the Cybertronian landscape, BITSTREAM cruises towards the reader in his Tetra-Jet-mode.

Also in Tetra-Jet-modes and flying in formation behind Bitstream are Thundercracker and Anser, as well as RED WING and HOTLINK.

**CAPTION:** Twenty-four astro-hours later...

NACELLE

(captioned)

... **Bitstream.**

BITSTREAM

File in, cadets. Here is your first training assignment. A little three-on-two handicap dogfight. My assistants, Red Wing and Hotlink are with me. As for you two, see if you can get missile locks on myself and my team here before we blow you out of the sky. Bring the heat or crash-and-burn.

THUNDERCRACKER

Yes, sir.

ANSER

Copy that.

**PANEL 2:**

WIDE SHOT - Bitstream ROCKETS straight up into the sky, as Red Wing and Bitstream fire ENERGY BLASTS towards Thundercracker and Anser.

BITSTREAM

All right, good luck. You're gonna need it!

ANSER

Whoa! You're firing live energy rounds at us?

RED WING

Ha-ha! Nothing too serious! Stun rays only!

HOTLINK

Yeah, but even **they** will scramble your circuits!

**PANEL 3:**

Anser evades the fire of Red Wing, while Thundercracker chases Hotlink through the sky.

ANSER

Whoa! I could use a hand here, TC!

THUNDERCRACKER

Any astro-second now, Anser. I've almost got a lock on this one!

HOTLINK

No way, you're dreamin'!

**PANEL 4:**

Anser LOOPS UPWARD AND BACK to end up behind Red Wing, while Thundercracker CLOSES IN on Hotlink.

RED WING

Hey!

THUNDERCRACKER

Nice one, Anser. You ready to missile lock these two?

ANSER

You know it!

**PANEL 5:**

BIRD'S EYE VIEW - Bitstream flies high above the other Tetra-Jets, looking down on their dogfight.

BITSTREAM

So confident. Well, let's see how cocky you feel...

**PAGE SEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Bitstream ZOOMS down into the fray, splitting the airspace between Thundercracker and Anser.

BITSTREAM (CONT'D)  
... When I do this!

**PANEL 2:**

Anser and Thundercracker now fly directly towards the reader, as well as Bitstream, Red Wing and Hotlink.

RED WING  
Ha! Who's laughing now?

BITSTREAM  
Valiant effort, you two. But, this fight is over.

ANSER  
It sure is, sir. Now, TC...

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker unleashes a SONIC BOOM that rattles Bitstream, Red Wing and Hotlink to their cores.

ANSER (CONT'D)  
(off-panel)  
... Let 'em have it!

BITSTREAM  
Aaaaaaagh!

RED WING  
My audio sensors!

HOTLINK  
Uuuurghh!

**PANEL 4:**

WIDE SHOT - The panel is split into THREE SEPARATE SQUARES, each showing a HUD-like image of missile locks on Red Wing, Hotlink and Bitstream, respectively.

RED WING  
What the...?

ANSER  
(captioned)  
That's it, TC. Locked...

HOTLINK  
No...

THUNDERCRACKER

Locked...

ANSER

... And locked!

BITSTREAM

Huh? Impossible!

**PANEL 5:**

EXT. SEEKER ACADEMY AIRSTRIP - DAY

In robot-modes, Bitstream now stands on the ground with Thundercracker and Anser, rubbing a sore head.

Behind them, Red Wing and Hotlink TRANSFORM to robot-modes, also looking a little worse-for-wear.

BITSTREAM

Well, I don't believe it, but credit where credit is due. Thundercracker, Anser, you won with flying colors. Congratulations. Now, head on back to barracks. That little trick of yours is something special. I'd like to see that in action again sometime.

**PANEL 6:**

HIGH ANGLE, FROM ABOVE - Thundercracker and Anser TRANSFORM back to Tetra-Jet-modes to ZOOM up and away from Bitstream to BUZZ the nearby RADIO TOWER in the foreground with a second SONIC BOOM from Thundercracker's engine.

Several GENERIC DECEPTICONS can be seen SHAKING THEIR FISTS with DISPLEASURE inside the radio tower.

THUNDERCRACKER

No problem, sir. Ask and you shall receive!

**PAGE EIGHT:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. SEEKER ACADEMY AIRSTRIP - DAY

Bitstream stands speaking with Nacelle in the foreground, as several cadets (Thundercracker, Anser, Skywarp and Brownout) approach from the background.

**CAPTION:** Three weeks later...

NACELLE

Thoughts?

BITSTREAM

So far, so good. Some real stand outs in this batch. But, also some liabilities.

NACELLE

Really? Who?

BITSTREAM

Thundercracker. He's an amazing soldier, but I think he's a little too close to his friend, Anser. I just don't think Thundercracker has the ruthlessness needed to be a top Seeker.

THUNDERCRACKER

Everything okay, Chief?

NACELLE

Hmmm? Oh, yes. Of course. Morning, cadets. I'm hearing positive reports from your instructors, but today is do-or-die, so to speak. Here with your instructor...

**PANEL 2:**

Nacelle raises his hand to introduce BLACKOUT.

Behind Blackout stand the Coneheads: THRUST, RAMJET and DIRGE, as well as ACID STORM, ION STORM, NOVA STORM and SUNSTORM.

NACELLE (CONT'D)

... Blackout!

BLACKOUT

At ease, cadets. This here is Thrust, Dirge and Ramjet. And the 'Rainmakers'... Ion, Nova, Acid and Sunstorm. Now, prepare for immediate departure. The twelve of you will face off in an all-or-nothing battle royal until only **one** remains.

**PANEL 3:**



WIDE SHOT, BIRD'S EYE VIEW - Nacelle watches from the ground as Thundercracker, Anser, Skywarp and Brownout TRANSFORM alongside Blackout, Thrust, Dirge, Ramjet, Acid Storm, Ion Storm, Nova Storm and Sunstorm to SHOOT UP into the sky.

BLACKOUT (CONT'D)  
Now... let's fly!

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. THE SKIES OVER SEEKER ACADEMY - DAY

SPLASH PANEL, OVER BLACKOUT'S SHOULDER as he hovers in the foreground - The BATTLE ROYAL has erupted in the sky.

Dirge and Ramjet have been BLASTED by Brownout.

Ion Storm and Sunstorm are already falling towards the ground with smoke trailing from their exhausts.

Thundercracker avoids several blasts from Acid Storm, while Anser fires towards Thrust.

And Nova Storm is closing in on Skywarp.

**CAPTION:** Soon after...

BLACKOUT  
All right, let's see what we have here.

ION STORM  
Ugh!

THUNDERCRACKER  
You're gonna have to do better than that, Acid Storm!

ANSER  
Ha! You tell 'em, TC!

**PAGE NINE:**

**PANEL 1:**

In a move that attacks each other's opponents, Thundercracker fires upon and strikes Thrust, as Anser does the same to Acid Storm.

ANSER (CONT'D)  
Yeah! Let's show 'em how it's done!

**PANEL 2:**

Brownout is shot by Nova Storm and Skywarp.

Blackout continues to watch, hovering in the background.

BLACKOUT  
Interesting.

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker and Anser move in on Nova Storm as a team, while Skywarp hangs back in the air.

BLACKOUT (CONT'D)  
(captioned)  
**Very** interesting.

THUNDERCRACKER  
Okay, buddy, let's finish this guy off.

ANSER  
You got it.

**PANEL 4:**

Both Anser and Thundercracker are BUZZED OFF COURSE, as Skywarp TELEPORTS into the frame to blast Nova Storm.

ANSER (CONT'D)  
Huh?

THUNDERCRACKER  
Whoa, where'd he come from?

SKYWARP  
Ha-Ha-Ha!

**PAGE TEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Skywarp blasts Anser with energy, as Thundercracker CLOSES IN behind him.

SKYWARP (CONT'D)  
Gotcha!

ANSER  
What? Darn it!

THUNDERCRACKER  
Hey! You leave him alone! I'll...

**PANEL 2:**

As Thundercracker ZOOMS towards Skywarp, Skywarp VANISHES with a FLASH.

SKYWARP

I'm sorry...

**PANEL 3:**

Skywarp REAPPEARS behind Thundercracker to blast him and end the fight.

SKYWARP (CONT'D)

... You were saying?

THUNDERCRACKER

Ughh!

**PANEL 4:**

EXT. SEEKER ACADEMY AIRSTRIP - DAY

On the ground, Skywarp is celebrating his victory. He has been hoisted up on the shoulders of Acid Storm and Nova Storm, as Brownout, Ion Storm and Sunstorm CHEER.

In the background, Ramjet, Thrust and Dirge appear less-than-impressed, while a WEARY-LOOKING Thundercracker and Anser approach Blackout and Nacelle in the foreground.

NACELLE

You two work well together, but teamwork can also work against you.

BLACKOUT

You were so preoccupied with working **together**, you played right into Skywarp's hands.

**PANEL 5:**

Nacelle and Blackout stand opposite Thundercracker and Anser.

ANSER

But, surely working as a team can only help in fighting those arrogant Autobots?

NACELLE

Not always. You both need to shed any attachments if you're going to survive this war.

BLACKOUT

Exactly. Thundercracker, you're an amazing soldier, an ace pilot and all-round near-perfect Decepticon. But, this showmanship and brotherhood of yours is dangerous.

THUNDERCRACKER

No...

**PANEL 6:**

Thundercracker POINTS a decisive finger into Blackout's chest.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

... I'm dangerous.

**PAGE ELEVEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. SEEKER ACADEMY AIRSTRIP - DAY

SPLASH PANEL, FROM BEHIND - Nacelle stands with Hotlink, Red Wing, Blackout and Bitstream, looking towards the background as a bevy of cadets TRANSFORM and land before him.

Thundercracker, Anser and Skywarp lead the way, followed by Caustic, Smolder and Brownout. Behind them, Dirge lands with Ramjet and Thrust.

And even further in the background, Ion Storm lands with Nova Storm, Acid Storm and Sunstorm.

**CAPTION:** One month later...

BITSTREAM

Bring it in, cadets.

ANSER

What is it, sir?

NACELLE

News from the front lines.

SKYWARP

Ha! I'll bet those Autobots have surrendered already!

**PANEL 2:**

Nacelle addresses Thundercracker, Skywarp and Anser.

NACELLE

Not quite. We just received a transmission from Shockwave. It seems the 'illogical' Autobots are putting up more of a fight than was expected. As such, the Seeker training can wait. You've been called into action. **All** of you.

ANSER

Seriously?

**PANEL 3:**

As Thundercracker looks on with Anser and Skywarp, Nacelle turns to gesture towards someone off-panel.

NACELLE

Seriously. Your entire cadet class has been drafted. All of you will soon be in the skies, fighting Autobots alongside the valedictorian of **last** cycle's Seeker class...

**PANEL 4:**

OVER THUNDERCRACKER'S SHOULDER - Starscream stands in the most heroic of poses, with a CONFIDENT SMIRK spread across his face.

NACELLE (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

... **Starscream.**

STARSCREAM

That's right. Who else could lead this rabble to victory? **Me**, of course.

THUNDERCRACKER

So, where are we headed?

**PAGE TWELVE:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. THE SKIES NEAR IBEX - NIGHT

WIDE SHOT - All in their Tetra-Jet-modes, Starscream leads the squadron towards the reader.

Thundercracker, Anser and Skywarp follow close behind.

Further back, Brownout, Caustic and Smolder fly in formation, while in the distance, Dirge, Thrust and Ramjet bring up the rear with Ion Storm, Acid Storm, Nova Storm and Sunstorm.

**CAPTION:** Three astro-hours later, outside Ibex...

STARSCREAM

Now, listen up because I'm only going to say this once. A certain faction of Autobot fliers have foolishly staked a claim to this region. But, we'll soon see about that! Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha!

THUNDERCRACKER

Speaking of Autobots...

**PANEL 2:**

The AUTOBOT MICROMASTER AIR PATROL (SKY HIGH, BLAZE MASTER, EAGLE EYE and TREAD BOLT) zoom into frame in their aerial-modes.

With them, also in aerial-modes, are ROTORSTORM, METALHAWK, CLOUDBURST, GUNRUNNER and STAR SABER.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

(off-panel)

... Here they come!

STAR SABER

Autobots, prepare for aerial attack maneuvers!

**PANEL 3:**

SPLASH PANEL - An all-out DOGFIGHT has EXPLODED in the sky.

Blaze Master is ATOMIZED by the combined firepower of Thundercracker and Anser.

Brownout has been shot down by Star Saber. Likewise, Caustic EXPLODES due to attacks by both Gunrunner and Metalhawk.

All other combatants are busily zooming across the panel in various displays of aerial warfare.

**PAGE THIRTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Starscream is chasing Star Saber through the sky.

Thundercracker and Anser follow, as Starscream is generating VISUAL WAVES of TURUBLENCE behind him.

STARSCREAM

Uh, this one is talented. Even I'm struggling to get a lock on him.

THUNDERCRACKER

Ease up on your throttle, Starscream. You're causing all kinds of wake interference back here!

**PANEL 2:**

Thundercracker is caught in the wake interference, now suffering the beginnings of a FLAMEOUT.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

Aaaagghh!

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker has now moved into an unrecoverable FLAT-SPIN.

In the background, Anser flies towards his friend.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

Ugh! Flameout!

ANSER

Transform! Transform!

THUNDERCRACKER

I can't!

**PANEL 4:**

As Gunrunner and Cloudburst move in for the kill, Anser TRANSFORMS to robot-mode and hovers over to Thundercracker.

ANSER

Hold on, TC!

**PANEL 5:**

Anser CATCHES Thundercracker mid-air to halt his flat-spin.

Gunrunner and Cloudburst OPEN FIRE.

ANSER (CONT'D)

Got you!

**PANEL 6:**

Anser is BLASTED by the combined energy attacks of Gunrunner and Cloudburst.

ANSER (CONT'D)

Aaagghh!

**PAGE FOURTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Thundercracker TRANSFORMS to robot-mode to watch as Anser PLUMMETS towards the ground.

Skywarp ROCKETS into frame to attack Gunrunner and Cloudburst.

THUNDERCRACKER

Anser! No! I'm coming, buddy!

SKYWARP

No you're not! Snap out of it!  
We've still got these two to deal  
with up here!

**PANEL 2:**

CLOSE ON Thundercracker's face. It is full of RAGE.

THUNDERCRACKER

Autobot scum!

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker TRANSFORMS to join Skywarp in an aerial attack against Gunrunner and Cloudburst.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

I'm coming for you!

SKYWARP

Now you're talkin', pal!

**PANEL 4:**

Thundercracker releases a SONIC BOOM that SHATTERS the cockpit of Gunrunner's aerial-mode. At the same time, Thundercracker has BLASTED several holes through the Autobot's wings.

Meanwhile, in the background, Skywarp TELEPORTS from behind Cloudburst to appear in front of him, SHOOTING several energy blasts that penetrate the Autobot's nosecone and EXPLODE out through his rear thrusters.



GUNRUNNER

Urrrk!

CLOUDBURST

No!

**PANEL 5:**

HIGH ANGLE, LOOKING DOWN - Now both in robot-mode, Thundercracker and Skywarp watch as the defeated Gunrunner and Cloudburst HURTLE OUT OF CONTROL towards the ground.

SKYWARP

All right! We did it!

THUNDERCRACKER

No. I'm not done yet.

**PAGE FIFTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Thundercracker TRANSFORMS back to Tetra-Jet-mode. He ZOOMS through the air in a SPIRAL FORMATION to BLAST Eagle Eye, Tread Bolt and Sky High, OBLITERATING the final three members of the Micromaster Air Patrol and saving Dirge in the process.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)

Hold on, Dirge!

EAGLE EYE

Yaaagh!

TREAD BOLT

Unnf!

DIRGE

Thanks for the assist!

**PANEL 2:**

Starscream does his best to flee from Star Saber, Metalhawk and Rotorstorm.

STARSCREAM

Pathetic Autobots! You can't keep up with me!

**PANEL 3:**

Thundercracker and Skywarp RISE UP from behind to attack, BLASTING Rotorstorm to pieces, causing Star Saber and Metalhawk to veer away from Starscream.

THUNDERCRACKER

Don't worry, Starscream. We've got you covered!

**PANEL 4:**

Metalhawk and Star Saber retreat, flying off towards the HORIZON.

SKYWARP

(off-panel)

We did it! They're retreating like the cowards they are!

**PANEL 5:**

Starscream and Skywarp now hover mid-air in their robot-modes, as Thundercracker RACES down towards the surface.

STARSCREAM

Excellent work, cadets. Now... Thundercracker! Come back! Where are you going?

**PAGE SIXTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. OUTSIDE IBEX CITY - MORNING

SPLASH PANEL - On the ground, Thundercracker CRADLES a DEAD Anser in his arms.

While Anser's optics are completely dull and lifeless, Thundercracker's are filled with SORROW, as he SILENTLY SCREAMS towards the sky.

In the background, both Starscream and Skywarp hover towards the ground in robot-modes.

**PANEL 2:**

OVER THUNDERCRACKER'S SHOULDER, LOOKING DOWN AT Anser.

THUNDERCRACKER

I'm sorry, Anser. I won't forget you. And I'll make them pay. **All** of them.

**PANEL 3:**

HIGH ANGLE, LOOKING DOWN - Thundercracker TRANSFORMS to Tetra-Jet-mode to TAKE OFF into the sky.

Behind him, Starscream and Skywarp do the same.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)  
We'll win this war. And one day,  
I'll be the **scourge** of every  
Autobot!

**PAGE SEVENTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. SEEKER ACADEMY - AFTERNOON

The Seeker Academy sits beneath the SETTING SUN.

**CAPTION:** Later...

SKYWARP  
(captioned)  
Well?

**PANEL 2:**

INT. THE HALLWAYS OF THE ACADEMY

Skywarp stands in the corridor as Thundercracker steps out of office, labelled as Chief Instructor Nacelle's.

THUNDERCRACKER  
It's fine. I've been cleared of any  
wrongdoing in Anser's death. Free  
to fly at the nearest opportunity.

**PANEL 3:**

Skywarp stands opposite Thundercracker.

SKYWARP  
So, I'm guessing you'll need a new  
partner, then? I mean, we made a  
good team out there.

**PANEL 4:**

SPLASH PANEL, CLOSE ON the arms of Skywarp and Thundercracker as they embrace in a MACHO HANDSHAKE, reminiscent of the one from *'Predator'*.

THUNDERCRACKER  
You know it!

**PAGE EIGHTEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

Starscream wanders by to see both Skywarp and Thundercracker.

STARSCREAM

Here you are. Nice flying out there, Thundercracker. You too, Skywarp.

**PANEL 2:**

FROM BEHIND Skywarp and Thundercracker - Starscream moves towards them.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

You two can be my wingmen anytime.

SKYWARP

Really?

**PANEL 3:**

Starscream continues to walk, DISSECTING a path between Thundercracker and Skywarp as a FAMILIAR SMIRK stretches across his face.

STARSCREAM

Ha! Of course not! **I've** been promoted to second-in-command of all Seeker-related air assaults. But, stick with me and you might learn something.

**PANEL 4:**

Starscream walks towards the reader, leaving Thundercracker and Skywarp in the background.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

This is a new step in the annals of history, after all. Watch as I take us into a **glorious** new age of Decepticon terror and invincibility!

**PAGE NINETEEN:**

**PANEL 1:**

EXT. A ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Back in the present, Thundercracker and Skywarp remain sitting on their rooftop resting place from the start of the issue.

SKYWARP

It's been a wild ride.

THUNDERCRACKER

Sure has. But, I wonder. Have we really made a difference?

DIRGE

(off-panel)

What are you two doing?

**PANEL 2:**

Thundercracker and Skywarp look up to see Dirge, Thrust and Ramjet landing on the rooftop, TRANSFORMING from jet-modes to robot-modes as they do so.

DIRGE (CONT'D)

Here you are. Starscream told us to find you and bring you with us.

SKYWARP

Where?

**PANEL 3:**

CLOSE ON Dirge's face.

DIRGE

Skybound. Starscream thinks he's found a way to really strike at the Autobots.

**PANEL 4:**

FROM BEHIND Dirge as he speaks to Thundercracker and Skywarp.

DIRGE (CONT'D)

He says it will be **glorious**.

**PANEL 5:**

Thundercracker and Skywarp turn to one another with looks of RESIGNATION of their fates.

THUNDERCRACKER

Of course it will be...

**PAGE TWENTY:**

**PANEL 1:**

FULL SPLASH PAGE - Thundercracker and Skywarp (now in jet-modes) ROCKET towards the reader, leading Ramjet, Thrust and Dirge into battle.

THUNDERCRACKER (CONT'D)  
... Some things never change.

**THE END**

We want to thank each and every one of you who took the time to read our script. If you liked what you read here and would like to see more stories in the Transformers G1 cartoon universe, Greig and I would love to keep writing. You could help by contacting SkyBound Entertainment by E-Mail (info@skybound.com) or on Twitter (@SkyBound), and let them know you want to see Transformers: REANIMATED written by Yoshi and Greig Tansley as an ongoing comic book series. Thank You All!