THE TRANSFORMERS: REGENERATION ONE

“Motherly Warmth”

CAST LIST (speaking parts only)

AUTOBOTS:
Rodimus Prime

Nightbeat

Arcee

Minerva

Hot Rod (young)

Arcee (young)

DECEPTICONS:

Knock Out

Quake

Straxus

Tarantulas

Car Drone

Jet Drone

Tank Drone

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NOTES

Special thanks to Pete for adding Tarantulas to this story.

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ACT ONE

FADE IN

AUTOBOT BASE – MINERVA’S REPAIR BAY

MINERVA is patching up NIGHTBEAT, who was damaged during the previous battle. Meanwhile, ARCEE and RODIMUS are having a little chat.

ARCEE

(with a warm tone)

How’s your shoulder joint???

RODIMUS

Well, it’s seen better days. How’s your knee???

ARCEE

Feels a little bit better, but I still can’t walk.

RODIMUS

(with a warm tone)

I’m so sorry to hear that. I wish I could stay by your side, but I have to get going. I’ve got a strategy meeting with the others.

ARCEE

(smiling)

I understand.

RODIMUS kisses ARCEE in the forehead and leaves. Then, ARCEE looks at MINERVA and NIGHTBEAT.

MINERVA

Well, it’s done.

NIGHTBEAT

Thanks, kid. I owe ya one.

There is a brief moment of silence until MINERVA and NIGHTBEAT start talking.

NIGHTBEAT, MINERVA

(in unison, nervously)

Listen, I—

NIGHTBEAT

Oh, sorry. You go first.

MINERVA

Oh, no. You go first.

NIGHTBEAT

(somewhat nervous)

Well, to be honest I forgot what I was about to say.

MINERVA

(smiling nervously)

Oh, what a coincidence, me too.

NIGHTBEAT

Oh, okay. Then I’ll talk to ya as soon as I remember what I was gonna say.

MINERVA

(nervously)

Sure thing.

NIGHTBEAT walks out of the repair bay. MINERVA’S nervous smile turns into a frown of frustration. ARCEE has seen the whole thing, and she feels sympathy towards MINERVA. MINERVA then decides to forget about this awkward exchange and goes to check in on ARCEE.

MINERVA

Okay, Arcee. Your knee has been fixed. Now you'll have to rest for a while.

ARCEE

(smiling)

Oh, well. At least I have a young, energetic lady here to keep me company.

MINERVA smiles at this compliment and asks a question.

MINERVA

(to ARCEE)

Say, Arcee, I'm kinda curious. How and when did you meet Hot Rod???

ARCEE

(thinking back in vivid memory)

Well, it was a long time ago. You remember Iacon, right???

We fade in to a flashback scene. We see that the city is filled with corpses. However, a little girl robot struggles to climb through the deceased.

ARCEE

(VO)

My mentor Springer and I went to battle in that horrid Massacre. Springer was killed right in front of me. All the 'bots and 'cons had scrapped each other. I was the only one who survived, but I was already giving up hope and my damage levels were critical. However, someone was racing along the desert and looked over the carnage.

We see HOT ROD arriving in car mode and transforming into robot mode. He looks and sounds much younger than he did before he became RODIMUS.

YOUNG HOT ROD

(shocked)

Holy scrap!!!

HOT ROD walks slowly through the bodies, looking more and more forlorn as he sees each one of them, but then he hears someone groaning. It's ARCEE. We see that her voice also sounds much higher back then.

YOUNG ARCEE

(groaning)

Uuuuhhhh... help... can't... walk...

HOT ROD goes to see who groaned for help, and finds ARCEE bleeding oil through her chest. He looks shocked. However, HOT ROD and ARCEE are not alone in this dead city. We see a creepy creature experimenting on the deceased body of Autobot INFERNO. His name is TARANTULAS, and he’s LORD STRAXUS’ chief scientist. He then transforms into a spider, takes INFERNO’S body and crawls through a small hill. He sees the young neutral boy approaching the Autobot girl.

TARANTULAS

So, an Autobot lives!!! Her spark will be perfect for my new bride!!!! Hehehehe!!! Gwahahahaha!!!

TARANTULAS hides INFERNO’S body and proceeds to jump on HOT ROD just as he heads toward ARCEE. The Decepticon scientist sticks his spider legs on HOT ROD’S back.

TARANTULAS

Surprise!!!

HOT ROD then spins in circles, and TARANTULAS falls off.

YOUNG HOT ROD

Sorry, bug-bot. But I don't have time to play with you.

HOT ROD continues walking toward ARCEE, but then, TARANTULAS blocks the way.

TARANTULAS

Oh, but I'm afraid I insist.

(taunting HOT ROD)

Let's see if you're just as tasty the second time

YOUNG HOT ROD

(baffled)

What are you talking about?

TARANTULAS

(taunting HOT ROD)

You and your teammates were quite delicious, but I'm such a bad liar, soooooo...

YOUNG HOT ROD

(disgusted)

You're insane

TARANTULAS

So they say… BRLBRBLBRBRLRLRLBLERGHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAAAAAA!!!!

Then, ARCEE limply reaches for a gun and blasts TARANTULAS from behind. He falls to the ground, but then he loads a miniature device resembling a fly into his launcher and shoots it at HOT ROD’S back, it’s a tracking device. TARANTULAS escapes soon afterwards. Without noticing that there’s a tracking device on his back, the neutral boy then looks at ARCEE and feels saddened over her current state.

YOUNG HOT ROD

(thinking while looking at ARCEE)

Holy scrap. What's a beautiful girl like her doing in this horrible place filled with death and destruction? Better take her to a safe place.

Hot Rod then grabs Arcee and carries her to his shack in the desert. In the meantime, TARANTULAS transforms to robot mode and grabs INFERNO’S corpse and takes it to his lab at Darkmount.

FADE IN TO

THE CYBERTRONIAN DESERT – HOT ROD’S SHACK

We see ARCEE sleeping peacefully on a bed. Then, she slowly wakes up. She looks around and sees that there’s some furniture around the shack. She also sees some weapons mounted on the wall, along with some hunting medals and a hunting hat made out of the skin and the tail of a turbofox. She also notices that she has a bandage on her chest.

YOUNG ARCEE

(astonished)

Wow!!!

YOUNG HOT ROD

(from the small kitchen room)

I was wondering when you were gonna wake up.

YOUNG ARCEE

(surprised)

Oh!!! I thought I was alone.

HOT ROD then comes out of his small kitchen and he’s bringing a cup of Energon tea to ARCEE.

YOUNG HOT ROD

You’ve been unconscious for two solar cycles. I decided to tend to your wounds while you were having nightmares.

YOUNG ARCEE

Nightmares???

YOUNG HOT ROD

You were mumbling and moaning like crazy while I was repairing you. Of course, it’s understandable after being in the middle of a battle.

YOUNG ARCEE

Battle??? Was I the only one who survived???

YOUNG HOT ROD

There was a creepy bug who was trying to hold me back, but other than that… Yup, you could say you were the only survivor.

YOUNG ARCEE

(sad)

Then that means Springer’s dead.

YOUNG HOT ROD

Say, who is this Springer??? You seemed to mention his name a lot while you were mumbling.

YOUNG ARCEE

He was my friend. When my parents were killed by ‘cons, Springer raised me and taught me a lot about life. He was almost like a father to me.

YOUNG HOT ROD

(feeling sad for ARCEE)

Whoa, that’s deep. I’m so sorry.

YOUNG ARCEE

Oh, don’t worry. It wasn’t your fault.

(deciding to change the subject)

Say, now that I’ve told my story, why don’t you tell me yours?

YOUNG HOT ROD

Well, I come from Simfur. Y’know Simfur??? That’s probably the toughest city in all of Cybertron. I can say that ‘cause I grew up my whole life there. I lived in the Simfur orphanage, I didn’t have a family, and I went to the Simfur Academy, which was just as tough as the city. I remember one kid who got kicked out of class for picking his nose with an Energon power tool.

YOUNG ARCEE

(laughing)

Hahahahahaha, that’s funny.

YOUNG HOT ROD

(smiling)

Yeah, I know, but it’s true. Of course I wasn’t one of the tougher guys. I was more of a loner. In fact, when I used to play Cyber Basketball, I used to play “none on one”. That really bothered me, but despite that, I was awarded a lot in hunting class.

YOUNG ARCEE

You mean those medals hanging there???

YOUNG HOT ROD

Yup. But still, I didn’t really like living in Simfur, so I decided to run away from it all. I just didn’t want to keep going through that for all my life. The war also helped with that decision. I just didn’t want to be involved with any of it.

YOUNG ARCEE

You don’t like war, do you???

YOUNG HOT ROD

Nah, I prefer to be here in the Cybertronian desert hunting for turbofoxes. Plus, conflict leads to even more conflict.

YOUNG ARCEE

Well, you might be surprised, but I don’t like war either. I joined the Autobots because they care about protecting others instead of conquering and warmongering. Great Optimus Prime once said that freedom is the right of all sentient beings, and that it’s our duty to fight for freedom.

YOUNG HOT ROD

That sounds pretty cool. Well, I wish I could be part of the team, but I don’t think I’ll ever be accepted as one of your kind, especially after running away.

YOUNG ARCEE

Nonsense, I know that the Autobots will accept you. After all, you saved my life, and that is why I think they’ll—

YOUNG HOT ROD

(hushing ARCEE)

Shhh, cool it, cool it!!!

YOUNG ARCEE

What is it???

The young robots hear the sound of engines approaching and then, HOT ROD goes to see what is going on outside. He sees an entire battalion of Vehicons approaching his shack.

YOUNG HOT ROD

(desperate)

They somehow tracked us down!!!

YOUNG ARCEE

(desperate)

What can we do???

YOUNG HOT ROD

We only have one choice: fight to the death!!!

YOUNG ARCEE

I can do that.

YOUNG HOT ROD

By the way, I never got your name.

YOUNG ARCEE

Oh, I’m Arcee. And you are???

YOUNG HOT ROD

Hot Rod. It’ll be a pleasure to fight by your side.

HOT ROD and ARCEE then proceed to take some weapons. HOT ROD picks his photon eliminator and one of his hunting rifles, while ARCEE draws a crossbow and picks one of HOT ROD’S hunting shotguns. They come out of the shack and start blasting the Vehicon army. Even though they manage to destroy some drones, they are quickly overwhelmed by the sheer number of Vehicons approaching. However, the young robots don’t give up so easily and a fist fight ensues right before the drones finally manage to capture HOT ROD and ARCEE.

YOUNG ARCEE

(being grabbed by a TANK DRONE)

Lemme go, ya brute!!!

YOUNG HOT ROD

(being grabbed by another TANK DRONE)

Wow, granny. What strong arms you have!!!

TANK DRONE

(like AHNOLD)

All the BETTAH to crush you, my child!!!

CAR DRONE

(like JCVD, to the TANK DRONES)

TEHK them to Lord Straxus. We have some demolition WEHRK to do.

The TANK DRONES take HOT ROD and ARCEE toward the fortress of Darkmount, located in POLYHEX. The CAR DRONES and JET DRONES stay in the desert and proceed to destroy HOT ROD’S home. HOT ROD and ARCEE look back with horror as the Vehicons destroy the shack.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

AUTOBOT BASE – MINERVA’S REPAIR BAY

We see MINERVA looking very intrigued after listening to the first part of ARCEE’S story.

MINERVA

Golly, that must have been pretty scary!!! What happened next???

ARCEE

(continuing with her story)

Well, it was something like this.

We fade in to the flashback scene. We see HOT ROD and ARCEE with their hands tied behind their backs. They’re being escorted by the TANK DRONES. Then, they finally arrive at the dark fortress of Darkmount. We see that there are two Decepticons guarding the entrance. They are KNOCK OUT and QUAKE!!! They look almost the same as they do in the present. However, QUAKE seems to have a slick haircut with sideburns, similar to that of ELVIS PRESLEY, while KNOCK OUT sports an afro. ARCEE looks at KNOCK OUT and seems to be shocked.

TANK DRONE

(like AHNOLD, to QUAKE and KNOCK OUT)

We HAHV some PRAHSENTS for Lord Straxus!!!

QUAKE

Okay, compas. You may come in.

The TANK DRONES get inside the castle. KNOCK OUT manages to get a glimpse of the prisoners, and he seems to be shocked after he notices ARCEE.

QUAKE

(to KNOCK OUT)

Say, what’s wrong??? You look like you’ve seen a fantasma!!!

KNOCK OUT

(shocked)

Did you see that pink girl the Tank Drones are escorting????

QUAKE

Yeah, why???

KNOCK OUT

(with a comical expression, just as QUAKE is drinking some Energon beer)

Because that’s my sister’s best friend!!!

QUAKE does a spit take after hearing the shocking news.

QUAKE

(totally freaked out)
WHAAAA-????!!!!!

KNOCK OUT

Shhh, quiet. They’ll hear you!!!

QUAKE

If Lucy finds out that we allowed one of her friends to be scrapped, she’ll scrap us!!!

KNOCK OUT

(smirking)

Don’t worry, I’ve got a plan.

We then see HOT ROD and ARCEE being escorted to the throne room. Then, we see an imposing robot sitting on the throne. He is LORD STRAXUS. At his side, we see TARANTULAS rubbing his hands. HOT ROD notices TARANTULAS and immediately remembers him.

YOUNG HOT ROD

(shocked)

YOU!!!! So you were the one who tracked us down!!!

TARANTULAS then approaches HOT ROD and takes off the tracking device from the young Autobot’s back.

TARANTULAS

(showing the tracking device to HOT ROD)

And it was pretty easy!!! NYEHEHEHEHEHEHEHEHE!!!!!!

YOUNG HOT ROD

(angry)

Why you rotten--!!!

Suddenly, a menacing voice fills the room with dread, and everyone reacts to its order.

STRAXUS

(with an authoritative sound)
ENOUGH!!!!

Everyone remains silent while STRAXUS looks at the young Autobots.

STRAXUS

(to HOT ROD and ARCEE, with a ruthless tone)

You two youngsters made a big mistake by trying to escape from us. Megatron has decreed that any Autobot that survives the Iacon Massacre should be sent to my fortress and thrown into the Smelting Pool. And you, young girl, you and your young friend have defied Megatron’s order, and by doing so you have defied me!!!

YOUNG ARCEE

(trying to reason with STRAXUS)

Please, Lord Straxus. I was the one who survived the massacre, so you can dispose of me in any way you want, but I beg you, let my friend go. He’s not involved in this conflict, so please, have mercy with him!!!

STRAXUS

(with a ruthless tone)

Mercy is not dispensed here, foolish child!!! ONLY DEATH!!! Take them away!!!

The TANK DRONES take HOT ROD and ARCEE to their cells. After being locked up for some time, they start talking for a little while.

YOUNG HOT ROD

Say, thanks for trying to save me, although now, I think I’d prefer to be executed in the Smelting Pool with you over my freedom.

YOUNG ARCEE

Yeah, well, sorry if it didn’t help much.

YOUNG HOT ROD

Nah, it’s okay. Besides, if I had been spared, I would have felt pretty guilty about leaving you behind and besides, I wouldn’t have a home to go back to.

YOUNG ARCEE

Yeah, I’m real sorry about your shack.

YOUNG HOT ROD

Oh, don’t worry, that’s life.

Suddenly, we see KNOCK OUT and QUAKE approaching the JET DRONE guard. They’re wearing fake moustaches.

JET DRONE

(like Christopher Lambert)

Halt!!! Who goes THEAR!!!

KNOCK OUT

(with an Italian accent)

Well, it’s-a us, the Uraya Pizza Company!!! We came-a to see if you would-a like one of our delicious Cybertronian Lasagnas!!!

JET DRONE

(like Christopher Lambert)

Oh, goody!!!

Then, the JET DRONE eats the Lasagna and walks off. However, he suddenly faints.

KNOCK OUT

(smirking)

Heheheheheh, that’s the beauty of sleeping liquid.

QUAKE

(taking the keys from the JET DRONE)

I got the llaves, Knock Out.

KNOCK OUT

Well done!!! Now it’s time to free those kids!!!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

AUTOBOT BASE – MINERVA’S REPAIR BAY

MINERVA is genuinely interested to know more about ARCEE’S past.

MINERVA

So Knock Out and Quake released you???

ARCEE

Yes, but they didn’t want anyone to know, ‘cause if Straxus found out, he would throw them into the Smelting Pool. Besides they were only doing it to save their own hides. But anyway, returning to the story…

We fade in to the flashback scene. We see ARCEE and HOT ROD running through a corridor. They’re being pursued by STRAXUS, who is in flying tank mode.

STRAXUS

(furious, to HOT ROD and ARCEE)

You have defied me again!!! And for that you will pay with your lives!!! I will collect the fee PERSONALLY!!!!

YOUNG HOT ROD

(taunting STRAXUS)

Yo, big blue!!!!! Less talking, more chasing!!!

STRAXUS

(furious, while charging his cannon)

YOU INSOLENT BRAT!!!!!!!

STRAXUS fires his cannon and sends both HOT ROD and ARCEE flying off. HOT ROD hits his head on the wall and is knocked unconscious. ARCEE gets up and sees STRAXUS (now in robot mode) approaching HOT ROD.

STRAXUS

(with a menacing tone)

Now, to end your miserable existence!!!

YOUNG ARCEE

(jumping on STRAXUS)

NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!

STRAXUS

(struggling)

AGH!!! Get off me, you wretched girl!!!

ARCEE jumps off of STRAXUS’ back.

STRAXUS

(to ARCEE)

Oh, I’m going to enjoy killing you so much!!!

ARCEE then jumps and kicks STRAXUS in the face while in mid-air.

YOUNG ARCEE

That’s for trying to kill Hot Rod.

Then, she kicks him in the gut.

YOUNG ARCEE

That’s for trying to kill me. And this… is for being a total jerk!!!

ARCEE then tackles STRAXUS. The powerful Decepticon falls into the ground. Then, STRAXUS gets up from the floor, consumed with rage.

STRAXUS

(furious, to ARCEE)

I’LL RIP OUT YOUR COGS FOR THIS!!!!

STRAXUS then takes his axe and charges toward ARCEE. Meanwhile, we see TARANTULAS coming out of his lab, giggling silently.

TARANTULAS

Heheheheheheh, now that I have rebuilt the dead Autobot’s body, I can get rid of Straxus and take his equipment to my lair.

TARANTULAS then sees STRAXUS fighting ARCEE on the bridge above the Smelting Pool.

TARANTULAS

Ahhhh, I know how to get rid of my “commander”. Hehehehehehehehe!!!!

TARANTULAS then fires a missile from his launcher. The missile hits the bridge and STRAXUS falls into his own Smelting Pool.

STRAXUS

 (falling after the bridge gets blasted)

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!

ARCEE grabs onto a tube near the corridor. HOT ROD wakes up and sees ARCEE’S hand coming out from below. He rushes toward her and grabs her.

YOUNG HOT ROD

I GOT YA!!!!

HOT ROD proceeds to pull ARCEE up and out of danger.

YOUNG ARCEE

(relieved)

Phew, thanks!!!

YOUNG HOT ROD

Oh, it was nothing.

Then, they both smile at each other and hug. Meanwhile, TARANTULAS is taking INFERNO’S recently reconstructed body and starts cackling.

TARANTULAS

Until the next time, young punks!!! HEHEHEHEHEHEHEHEHEHHAHAHAHHAHAHAHAHAA!!!!

He then proceeds to jump onto a dimensional mat which leads into his secret lair. After the maniacal scientist jumps into the mat, it closes.

We then fade back to the present.

ARCEE

And after we escaped, once Optimus Prime heard about how courageous Hot Rod was, he immediately added him to the team.

MINERVA

Golly, that’s a really nice story, but what happened to that spider creep???

ARCEE

Well, I don’t know. We never heard from him again.

MINERVA

Oh, I see.

(somewhat nervous)

Um, Arcee???

ARCEE

Yes, Minerva???

MINERVA

(nervous)

I wanted to ask you if… well… Could you give me tips on how to score with Nightbeat???

MINERVA then immediately covers her mouth, but Arcee smiles warmly at her.

ARCEE

(warmly)

You really like him, don’t you???

MINERVA

(somewhat sad)

Yeah, but I just can’t tell him. I get kinda nervous and I think I’m gonna screw up everything.

ARCEE

Oh, Minerva. You don’t need to worry about that; in fact, I was just like you before Rodimus became our leader. I couldn’t say a word about my feelings. However, I decided to tell him just at the right moment.

MINERVA

So, you’re saying that I have to wait until the moment I feel like telling him???

ARCEE

Yeah, that way you can avoid any awkward encounters.

MINERVA

(smiling)

Gee whiz, thanks Arcee!!! You really are the best. Oh, and sorry about this, but I have to get some tools from Wheeljack’s lab.

ARCEE

(warmly)

Don’t worry, go ahead.

MINERVA goes out to find her tools, and then we close up on ARCEE. She looks at us, and gives us a very playful wink and a friendly smile.

THE END

END OF ACT THREE