THE TRANSFORMERS: REGENERATION ONE

“Regret, Part 1”

CAST LIST (speaking parts only)

AUTOBOTS:

Rodimus Prime

Drift

Nautica

Side Burn

Stratosphere

OTHERS:

Ubo

Ubo’s Father

Shadow Raker

Sideways

Hooligan

Skyjack

Space Case

Tornado

NARRATION:

Ancient Voice

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ACT ONE

FADE IN TO

THE INSIDE OF A GUN BARREL – DRIFT WALKING

We are looking through the inside of a gun barrel. We focus on DRIFT walking through a white background as the gun barrel follows him. DRIFT just keeps walking ahead until he turns around to us and throws a sword in our direction, standing still after tossing it. We see that there is a purple liquid bleeding down as the gun barrel starts falling down until it focuses on a point and expands, transitioning into a Cybertronian graveyard. There is a rather solemn atmosphere as we cut to two figures walking ahead to a tombstone. There are words on the tombstone: “FLAMEBURST. LIFEBOND PARTNER OF DRIFT. YOU GAVE A GLIMMER OF HOPE TO EVERYONE AROUND YOU.” We hear the ANCIENT VOICE as the scene goes on.

ANCIENT VOICE

(narrating)

In this life, people have to go through pain and suffering. Sometimes, the people that suffer the most are the ones who conceal it seamlessly.

We see that the two figures are STRATOSPHERE and DRIFT. DRIFT looks down at the grave in a rather stoic manner, but his expression does show hints of sadness and regret. STRATOSPHERE is gently putting down flowers on the ground near the tombstone, paying his respects as he knew DRIFT before he decided to join the Autobots thanks to FLAMEBURST. STRATOSPHERE also became friends with her. RODIMUS, SIDE BURN and NAUTICA look at the grieving ninja master. For SIDE BURN, this is a complete surprise, as up until now he has never seen DRIFT as someone who had suffered loss before. DRIFT then speaks up.

DRIFT

(stoic, but showing a lot of regret as he looks at the tombstone)

It was thanks to you that I realized the foolishness of my actions. I thought I was doing good, but then, you made me realize that my master and his superiors had more sinister intentions. And now, because of my mistake, one of us is out there, suffering...

DRIFT grabs a chunk of rock, with words written on it: “WE HAVE YOUR DAUGHTER, DEADLOCK. YOU EITHER COME BACK TO US, OR SHE DIES.”

DRIFT

(continuing)

They do not know that after your death, I changed my name and appearance completely, so I still have the advantage. But it still hurts that my past haunts me. They have our daughter... and I must rescue her. For you, Flameburst. My dearest.

RODIMUS then looks back and sees that Alpha Centauri, the sun of Cybertron, is about to set.

RODIMUS

(solemnly, but showing slight urgency)

We have to go, Drift. Cybertronian Curfew is about to start, and we don’t want the Elite Guard catching up to us.

DRIFT nods at RODIMUS as STRATOSPHERE transforms into carrier plane mode. DRIFT, NAUTICA, SIDE BURN and RODIMUS get inside STRATOSPHERE and once they’re all in the cargo hold, STRATOSPHERE takes off. SIDE BURN then starts talking to DRIFT.

SIDE BURN

Alright, Master Drift, spit it out. Why didn’t you tell us that you had relatives? Why all this secrecy?

DRIFT

Because it is something that I truly despise about myself. Have you ever heard about the Assassin of Cybertron?

SIDE BURN

Well... yeah. It’s an old legend.

DRIFT

Old, yes. Legend, no. I am the Assassin.

SIDE BURN and NAUTICA look at each other with shock after DRIFT made his confession.

SIDE BURN

You were... a ‘Con?

DRIFT

My name was Deadlock. I was a mercenary under their employment, trained by Shadow Raker, another mercenary. I thought I was on the side of good. Until I met... her. I turned on the Decepticons... against my own master. After that, foolishly thinking that I wouldn’t deal with them again, I became a lifebond partner to Flameburst. We had a small child, a daughter... we called her Varia. But soon after she was born, Shadow Raker struck again. I was his target, but Flameburst sacrificed herself so I could escape and raise our daughter.

NAUTICA and SIDE BURN listen to DRIFT’s story intently.

DRIFT

My daughter did not agree with me. And when I changed my name and appearance to how I look now, she left, feeling that I had become someone that she no longer recognized. I focused on training new students in order to show them the true ways of a warrior, not as I was taught by Shadow Raker. But still, my past haunts me. Shadow Raker has my daughter, and I must save her.

NAUTICA

Not alone, of course.

SIDE BURN

Yeah, we can help you.

DRIFT looks at the two and is about to speak up until he glances at RODIMUS. RODIMUS is sweating and he has bags under his eyes. It seemed as if he hasn’t slept in days.

DRIFT

(glancing at RODIMUS)

I believe we will have to discuss that later. Right now, is not the time.

DRIFT understands the pain RODIMUS went through. It was almost the same, but there was a difference. DRIFT knows how to conceal his inner turmoil, whereas RODIMUS can’t keep his grief and anger within him. He has suffered much worse punishment, and with the torture methods of the Quintessons, past tragedies that he tried to block out were now rearing their ugly heads again. Suddenly, STRATOSPHERE speaks up.

STRATOSPHERE

Drift, we’ll be arriving at Ronimar in a couple of astrohours.

DRIFT

Good, Stratosphere. Once there, we will try to come up with a plan of attack.

While STRATOSPHERE flies away, we go to Planet Ronimar, a planet controlled by a sect of Decepticons led by SHADOW RAKER. As we head for the large building that is the Headquarters of this sect, we hear that SHADOW RAKER is speaking to SIDEWAYS, his second-in-command, and TORNADO, a sleazy smuggler who supervises the sea transport.

SIDEWAYS

Ya sure dat Deadlock is still alive after all dese years?

SHADOW RAKER

We shall see, Sideways. I left that message in a place that Deadlock’s ally Stratosphere frequents. He might just arrive very soon. And when he does, Stockade and Hooligan will be waiting for them.

(turning to TORNADO)

Now, changing the subject, are you sending my money in?

TORNADO

Yeah, tomorrow is the day. But I still don’t get it. Why so much money to pay coppers all over this sector of the galaxy? I don’t trust ‘em.

SHADOW RAKER

Tornado... for me, loyalty is much more important than money. Look at Sideways here. He is one of my best people. Loyal, does his work without complaints, without question, and without asking for anything in return. That is something I truly appreciate. Now, onto other matters...I am heading to check on the casino, to see how much money people will lose. Sideways, you go check in on the girl.

As SHADOW RAKER heads for the casino, we fade in to STRATOSPHERE landing near a rock formation in the desert. Once STRATOSPHERE lands, NAUTICA is refueling him.

NAUTICA

There we go, Stratty... you are refueled now.

STRATOSPHERE

Stratty?

NAUTICA

(with a peppy smile)

What? It’s a cool nickname.

She walks out of the cargo hold with the other Autobots. After they’re all out, STRATOSPHERE transforms into robot mode, stretching his arms around and rotating his elbows.

STRATOSPHERE

God, it feels great to be back in robot mode after two hours of flying up there.

SIDE BURN

Now, sensei... what’s the plan?

DRIFT

I must infiltrate Shadow Raker’s forces. He is someone who always wants everyone in his organization to be loyal to him, so my mission is to make him distrust all of his subordinates. Now, this is how the plan will go...

As DRIFT discusses his plans with the other Autobots, two figures observe them from afar. The large figure is STOCKADE, a cruel henchman with super strength and powerful steel jaws. The smaller figure is HOOLIGAN, a sadist with a rather macabre sense of humor. HOOLIGAN is watching our heroes through a pair of binoculars.

HOOLIGAN

Well, well, well... it’s that Stratosphere guy the boss mentioned. And he brought more than one person, but none of them look like that Deadlock guy the boss wants. Stockade... let’s greet them in our own personal way.

STOCKADE grinned, revealing his intimidating jaws as he did so. The Autobots have just finished their meeting, and everything seems to have been meticulously planned.

DRIFT

Good, now we all know our positions, let us head for...

Suddenly, STOCKADE jumps in and grabs SIDE BURN.

SIDE BURN

(flailing his arms around)

WHOA, GRANDMA!!! WHAT BIG HANDS YOU GOT!!!

HOOLIGAN swoops in and starts carpet bombing the ground around our heroes.

HOOLIGAN

SURPRISE, LOSERS!!!

NAUTICA covers her eyes as rockets start exploding near her. RODIMUS then pushes her out of the way. STOCKADE then tosses SIDE BURN aside.

SIDE BURN

(being tossed aside)
OY-VEEEEEEEEEEY!!!

SIDE BURN lands on a rock and convulses comically. RODIMUS punches STOCKADE in the back. The looming Decepticon turns around and looks at RODIMUS, grinning. RODIMUS grins back in a mocking manner.

RODIMUS

(in a sarcastic manner)

Nice to meet you too, now say goodbye!!!

RODIMUS punches STOCKADE in the gut, but it has no effect. STOCKADE just grabs RODIMUS by the neck and raises him up. RODIMUS grunts as he is being strangled, but then bashes STOCKADE right in the eyes. STOCKADE covers his eyes and lets go of RODIMUS. As this is happening, NAUTICA helps SIDE BURN up and then, they both head towards DRIFT and STRATOSPHERE.

STRATOSPHERE

(cracking his knuckles as he glances at HOOLIGAN)

You guys go, Rodimus and me will have some clobberin’ time with these guys!!!

NAUTICA, SIDE BURN and DRIFT nod at STRATOSPHERE and head off. STRATOSPHERE then activates his jet thrusters and heads for HOOLIGAN. RODIMUS keeps struggling with STOCKADE. Neither of them notice that they’re heading towards a large canyon. Meanwhile, STRATOSPHERE grabs HOOLIGAN and holds him by the thrusters.

HOOLIGAN

Hey, big guy!!! Let go of me so I can really kick your tail!!!

STRATOSPHERE
I normally hate beatin’ on people smaller than m’self, but...

STRATOSPHERE starts spinning HOOLIGAN around.

HOOLIGAN

WHOAOAOAOAOAOAOAOAOAOAOAOAOAO!!! I’M GETTING DIZZY!!!

STRATOSPHERE

Here’s the wind-up... and the pitch!!!

STRATOSPHERE throws HOOLIGAN off into the distance.

HOOLIGAN

(flying off)

YAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII!!!

STRATOSPHERE

Well, I guess he’s not a baseball fan.

Meanwhile, RODIMUS keeps wrestling with STOCKADE. Their display of strength is incredible and brutal. RODIMUS is sweating as he is grabbing hold of STOCKADE’s arms. STOCKADE has a vicious smirk on his face. He really seems to be relishing this. Suddenly, RODIMUS has flashbacks. These flashes are from when he beat down THUNDERHOOF and the rest of the Decepticons. He also had flashes of when he almost killed BLITZWING. RODIMUS then clutches his own face as the memories keep flooding back to him at a rapid pace, hitting him like a truck.

RODIMUS
(struggling)
NO!!! MAKE IT GO AWAY!!!

STOCKADE sees this as an opportunity. He grabs RODIMUS and prepares to toss him into the canyons below. Meanwhile, DRIFT, NAUTICA and SIDE BURN are driving towards the city.

DRIFT

Now, Side Burn... head for the west side of the desert. See if there are any people who might be willing to help us in our battle against Shadow Raker.

SIDE BURN

You got it, sensei.

SIDE BURN makes a turn and drives off to the west.

NAUTICA

Once my part is done, should I head to the west, too?

DRIFT

Yes. Shadow Raker’s subordinates will no doubt try to find you, but if Side Burn manages to find allies, you will be well protected.

NAUTICA

Good, then it’s all arranged.

DRIFT

All that is left is to see if Shadow Raker recognizes me or not. My daughter’s survival depends on my success.

DRIFT and NAUTICA are heading to the Headquarters of SHADOW RAKER. Meanwhile, RODIMUS struggles a bit more with his traumatic memories until he snaps out of it briefly, grabs his rifle and fires at the ground near STOCKADE.

RODIMUS

(with extreme anger)

If I go down, I’m taking you with me.

The ground around STOCKADE is breaking apart. Both opponents start falling down into the canyon. As they fall, they keep struggling and fighting viciously, and as their battle continues, we fade to black.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

THE CANYONS – STRATOSPHERE FLYING OVERHEAD

STRATOSPHERE is flying around the canyons, looking for RODIMUS.

STRATOSPHERE

Dangblastit... if only I had Wreck-Gar’s signal receptors, I could find Rodimus much more easily... but even with my advanced optical sensors, I just can’t seem to pinpoint him around here.

STRATOSPHERE’s sensors aren’t wrong, as RODIMUS is nowhere to be found within the canyon. As the gigantic Autobot searches for him, a badly damaged RODIMUS is being dragged away by STOCKADE, who doesn’t seem to have suffered that much damage despite the tremendous fall. STOCKADE is taking RODIMUS back to his superiors. STOCKADE uses a device to transport him and his prisoner to a ship where all prisoners are kept.

TRANSITION TO

THE DESERT – WEST SIDE

SIDE BURN is driving around the west side of the desert. If SHADOW RAKER had taken Ronimar by force, there surely had to be some people who weren’t on his side. SIDE BURN just kept driving ahead until he saw a small boy walking with some supplies for his family.

SIDE BURN

A kid? In the desert? Well, I gotta see what’s up.

SIDE BURN stops in front of the small boy and speaks to him.

SIDE BURN

Hey, kid... what are you doing all alone in a place like this?

The boy looks a bit startled as he turns to SIDE BURN.

SIDE BURN

Hey, relax. I’m not with the guys who control the place. I’m different.

(transforming to robot mode and pointing to his insignia)

See?

The boy sees the insignia.

UBO

You... you’re one of them... like our leader.

SIDE BURN

Oh, so I see my reputation precedes me. Name’s Side Burn.

SIDE BURN raises his hand for a handshake. UBO extends his arm towards him and they both shake hands.

UBO

I’m Ubo. I’m with the tribe.

SIDE BURN

The tribe? What’s that?

UBO

A group of people that are tired of the bad ones ruling this place. Our leader has your same insignia. Come, let me take you to my home.

SIDE BURN

Lead the way, Ubo.

SIDE BURN walks beside UBO when suddenly they are ambushed by SHADOW RAKER’s forces. They are two jet fighters, SPACE CASE and SKYJACK.

SPACE CASE

LOOK!!! THAT GUY IS HANGING OUT WITH ONE OF THE TRIBE’S KIDS!!!

SKYJACK
OPEN FIRE!!!

SIDE BURN grabs UBO and runs off, evading the blasts.

SIDE BURN

Well, I guess this is what’s considered to be neighborly love around these parts.

SIDE BURN does a backflip right when a rocket almost hits both him and UBO. The rocket explodes on the ground and SIDE BURN just keeps running. SIDE BURN looks back and then turns to UBO.

SIDE BURN

Hold on tight, kid!!!

SIDE BURN does a somersault as UBO holds on to his arm. As he somersaults, SIDE BURN transforms into vehicle mode. UBO is now in the driver’s seat.

UBO

WHOA!!! WAY COOL!!!

SIDE BURN turns and heads to a farm. He drives through the door, followed by the two jet warriors.

SKYJACK
LOOK OUT!!!

Both SKYJACK and SPACE CASE try to avoid hitting the farm, but it’s too late. They crash into the farm, but keep flying. However, they have some uninvited guests standing on their fuselages: Cyber-Chickens. They start clucking, flapping their wings and pecking the jets.

SKYJACK

OW!!! OW!!! STOP THAT!!!

SPACE CASE
YAIIIIII!!! LOUSY BIRDS!!!

From below, UBO looks at the jets being attacked by the Cyber-Chickens as SIDE BURN just quips.

SIDE BURN

(joking)
Gee, looks like they’re having a family reunion. HAHAAA!!!

SIDE BURN then keeps flying ahead and sees a twisted ramp.

SIDE BURN

HOLD TIGHT, UBO!!! WE’RE GONNA DELIVER ONE HECK OF A STUNT!!!

UBO

WHOOOOOOAAAAAA!!!

SIDE BURN then prepares to jump over this twisted ramp. Once he jumps, he does an aerial twist in slow-motion, complete with a cartoon slide whistle sound and then, SIDE BURN lands on his tires. They screech once he lands and keeps driving ahead.

UBO

(excited)

YIPEEEEEEEE!!!! CAN WE DO IT AGAIN?!!!

SIDE BURN

(keeping his cool)

Tell ya what, once all this is over, we’ll do another aerial twist.

SKYJACK and SPACE CASE both keep following SIDE BURN. They are covered in feathers all over their bodies.

SIDE BURN

I guess the chickens still wanna play chicken. Well, let’s give ‘em something else to play with. Say hello to my friend Breakaway’s new upgrade.

SIDE BURN’s sides start opening, his hood panel retracts and his wheels start twisting around in order to control his speed and make him aim much more precisely.

SIDE BURN

STEALTH FORCE, ENGAGE!!!

From the opened sides of the car and the hood, come turrets and heavy Gatling guns. Once they’re all in position, they fire a devastating barrage of bullets, which immediately hit SKYJACK and SPACE CASE. Both jets crash down into a river and transform into robot mode, swimming away after getting both their armor and their pride damaged.

SIDE BURN

Heh!!! These chickens could give ducks a run for their money in the swimming department.

SIDE BURN retracts all his Stealth Force weapons and transforms back into vehicle mode.

SIDE BURN

Man, Breakaway really came through with this upgrade. It works like a charm.

UBO

You have more friends?

SIDE BURN
Yeah, and a few of them are here to help. Now, I must get you back to your tribe.

UBO

It’s not too far now, just up ahead.

SIDE BURN

Good. I can’t wait to meet some more friendly faces in these parts.

As SIDE BURN drives off into the distance, we fade to black.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

THE DESERT – NEAR THE TRIBE CAMP

SIDE BURN is arriving at the camp where the tribe lives. He comes to a stop and opens a door. UBO comes out of SIDE BURN’s vehicle mode, holding the bag of supplies, and looks around. He runs to his parents as soon as he sees them.

UBO

Mother, father!!! I have returned with supplies. And I have a new friend.

UBO hugs his parents, who hug him back. SIDE BURN walks towards the boy’s parents.

SIDE BURN

Hey. I’m Side Burn, and I was wondering if I could meet the head of your tribe.

The parents look at each other and then back at SIDE BURN.

UBO’S FATHER

Follow me.

SIDE BURN follows UBO’S FATHER to the largest tent, where the tribe plans out their next move against the forces of SHADOW RAKER.

TRANSITION TO

RONIMAR CITY – OUTSIDE OF THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

DRIFT arrives at the building which serves as SHADOW RAKER’s main base of operations. As he gets in, we see that NAUTICA is on the roof of the building next to it, which is under construction. NAUTICA grabs her wrench and turns it into a grenade launcher. DRIFT enters the building and talks to the GUARD.

DRIFT

I came to see Shadow Raker.

DRIFT then gives a neutron assault rifle to the GUARD. He has left his swords with NAUTICA, since they would immediately give him away. The GUARD uses a scanner to check if DRIFT has any other concealed weapons, but he is clean. The GUARD leads him into SHADOW RAKER’s quarters. SHADOW RAKER is watching some footage of the casino as he sips some Energon wine. The GUARD hands the neutron assault rifle to SHADOW RAKER, who looks at it. He glances at DRIFT and it seems that he doesn’t recognize him due to his different appearance.

SHADOW RAKER

Sit down, Mister...

DRIFT

My name is Drift.

DRIFT sits down and looks at SHADOW RAKER.

SHADOW RAKER

You do not strike me as the type who would use a machine gun. Why do you carry one?

DRIFT

In my business, you are prepared for the unexpected.

SHADOW RAKER

And what business is that?

DRIFT

I help people with problems.

SHADOW RAKER glances at him and a sly grin is drawn on his face.

SHADOW RAKER

A problem solver, huh?

DRIFT

More of a problem eliminator.

There is a moment of silence until SHADOW RAKER starts chuckling at the remark. DRIFT also chuckles a bit. Then, they stop and SHADOW RAKER grabs his glass of Energon Wine.

SHADOW RAKER

And now you are here on business?

DRIFT

Temporarily unemployed and being followed by people who have been trying to get to me... for preventing a very nasty tragedy. I thought I might find work here.

SHADOW RAKER

It is very difficult to obtain a work permit in Ronimar. One has to show a special talent that people here do not have.

DRIFT

Hm... well that shouldn’t be too difficult.

SHADOW RAKER

(standing up)

Drift-san, you have guts. You come here, to my place, without references and carrying a piece. You should know something. Nobody saw you come in... so nobody has to see you go out.

DRIFT just keeps his cool and sighs.

DRIFT

Raker-sama. I could be very useful to a man in your position. And I understand that you have a reputation for rewarding loyalty very well.

Outside, NAUTICA is aiming the grenade launcher at the window of SHADOW RAKER’s quarters. She fires a grenade. DRIFT sees the grenade and then pushes SHADOW RAKER aside. The grenade explodes and destroys the window. SHADOW RAKER then stands up.

SHADOW RAKER

(angered)

WHO DARES?

DRIFT

Some friends of mine... they are well paid to end both of our existences. They began to search for me after I escaped from their ship.

SHADOW RAKER

Then I will have to end their existence... come on... we have some business to discuss.

DRIFT follows SHADOW RAKER into a briefing room. Meanwhile, NAUTICA changes her grenade launcher back into a wrench, but notices that some of SHADOW RAKER’s troops have seen her and are running up into the building. She looks around and sees some cables leading to the desert. Her wrench turns into a carpet and she places it over the cables. She sits on the carpet and starts sliding down, making it look like she’s riding on a magic carpet. The drones arrive at the roof and start firing at NAUTICA, but they miss her.

NAUTICA

(raising her arms victoriously as she slides down with the magic carpet)
WHEEEEEEEEEEE!!! THIS IS FUN!!! YEEEEEEEE-HAAAAAAAAAWWWW!!!!

As she slides into the desert across the cables, NAUTICA grabs hold of the carpet and it changes back into her wrench as she transforms to vehicle mode and flies off.

NAUTICA

(singing)
I AM LIVING IN PURPLE SUBMARINE!!! PURPLE SUBMARINE!!! PURPLE SUBMARINE!!!

Once she is far enough from the danger, NAUTICA transforms into robot mode and grabs a signal tracker.

NAUTICA

Good thing I have this, or else, I wouldn’t be able to find Side Burn. Now things are really gonna heat up.

NAUTICA then looks at the signal tracker and gets a fix on SIDE BURN’s spark signature.

NAUTICA

Gotcha, blue boy. Now make way for the party dudette!!!

NAUTICA transforms into vehicle mode once again and flies off to SIDE BURN’s location. As she flies into the distance, the image goes still and the words “TO BE CONTINUED...” are seen on the screen. Then, we fade to black.

TO BE CONTINUED

END OF ACT THREE