THE TRANSFORMERS: REGENERATION ONE

“Judgement Day, Part 1”

CAST LIST (speaking parts only)

AUTOBOTS:

Rodimus Prime

Arcee

Wheeljack

Minerva

Smokescreen

Nautica

Daytonus

Breakaway

Strongarm

Siren

Side Burn

Rev

OTHERS:

Jhiaxus

Glowstrike

Terrorsaur

Sunstorm

Megatronus

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ACT ONE

FADE IN

PLANET Z – DOME FORTRESS

On the barren wasteland that is Planet Z, we see GLOWSTRIKE flying into the opening of a large dome. Once she is inside, the dome closes and she lands, holding the canister of super-fuel in her hands. The large and looming JHIAXUS walks in, pleased by the outcome of the mission. Behind him are SUNSTORM and another figure covered in shadows.

JHIAXUS

(with smug glee)

Excellent work, my dear Glowstrike. With this super-fuel, we can finally destroy every planet in the universe!!!

GLOWSTRIKE hands over the canister to SUNSTORM. JHIAXUS turns towards him.

JHIAXUS

(to SUNSTORM)

Replicate the formula. I get the feeling we will need every bit of super-fuel we can get.

SUNSTORM

As you order, Jhiaxus.

SUNSTORM walks out, heading for the laboratory in order to start reconstructing the formula for the super-fuel. JHIAXUS looks at the shadowy figure beside him.

JHIAXUS

(to the figure)

You, mercenary... you failed to destroy the young Autobot nurse before. She could be a very dangerous threat to my plans due to her knowledge in the field of energy transmission. However, I shall give you another chance. The Autobots will no doubt track our energy signal here, and they will all make a last ditch attempt to save the Earth. The nurse will undoubtedly be brought here, but I am also concerned about something else. According to some of our agents, a new member has arrived, an old acquaintance to this nurse... just as intelligent as she is, but a lot more dangerous. I trust that you will take care of these two young ones?

The shadowy figure reveals himself to be TERRORSAUR. Half of his face has been burned up due to his last battle with MINERVA. A manic grin is drawn on his horribly disfigured face once he is given another chance to take down his greatest enemy, but he is also thrilled by the prospect of having an extra target to take care of, because that means that his payment will be increased.

TRANSITION TO

THE AUTOBOT BASE – BRIEFING ROOM

Inside the briefing room, we see that RODIMUS, WHEELJACK, BUMBLEBEE, MINERVA, SMOKESCREEN, DRIFT, WRECK-GAR, NAUTICA, DAYTONUS, BREAKAWAY, STRONGARM, SIREN, HOSEHEAD, SIDE BURN and REV are sitting at the meeting table while ARCEE is addressing them.

ARCEE

Autobots... we have a big problem. Last time, Siren, Minerva and I encountered some strange Cybertronian ‘bots. They were attacking the oil refinery on the outskirts and stole a canister of the new super-fuel developed by Capshaw Motors. From what we managed to hear from the commanding officer of this force, the person in charge is named Jhiaxus.

We see SMOKESCREEN, BREAKAWAY, DAYTONUS and NAUTICA muttering a bit before ARCEE continues briefing the Autobots.

SMOKESCREEN, BREAKAWAY DAYTONUS, NAUTICA

(muttering)

Jhiaxus?

Gee, axe us?

Who’s dis guy?

He sounds so uncool.

ARCEE

(continuing)

Even more troubling is the information we’ve received from Drift. During his infiltration of Shadow Raker’s organization, he discovered that one of his subordinates was playing the long con, pitting the Ronimarians and the Iabonians up against each other, and he got his orders from this very same Jhiaxus.

WHEELJACK, STRONGARM and REV are now muttering after hearing this.

WHEELJACK, STRONGARM, REV

(muttering)

Astonishing.

This is illegal, you know?

Can we punch his face in?

ARCEE

And here we have the commanding officer of the force we engaged in combat at the refinery.

A picture of GLOWSTRIKE taken by the Autobot satellite is shown on the screen. SMOKESCREEN and SIDE BURN react like everyone thought they would.

SMOKESCREEN

(with a sleazy tone)
Mmmmm... she’s big, but very appealing.

SIDE BURN

(raising his arms with excitement)
WHOOOOO!!! A RED CHICK!!! I LOVE RED!!!

SIREN

(ticked off)
SHUT UP, YA USELESS SLEAZES, LET HER FINISH!!!

SMOKESCREEN angrily stands up from his seat.

SMOKESCREEN
(ticked off)
WHO ARE YOU CALLIN’ USELESS, YA OVERBEARING JARHEAD?!!!

SIREN

(angry)

YOU AND SUCCESSOR SLEAZE OVER THEAH!!!

SMOKESCREEN and SIREN start brawling with each other in the middle of the meeting. NAUTICA and STRONGARM try to separate them.

NAUTICA
WHOA, FELLAS!!! STOP THIS!!! WE’RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE GOOD GUYS!!!

STRONGARM

This is getting tiresome.

RODIMUS instantly stands up and raises his Photon Eliminator.

RODIMUS

(losing control of his temper)
STAND DOWN, OR ELSE, I’LL TAKE YOU DOWN!!!

All of the Autobots, including SMOKESCREEN and SIREN, look at this with shock. RODIMUS notices this, then lowers his Photon Eliminator and drops it. He walks out of the briefing room, once again feeling quite ashamed of losing control of himself like that. ARCEE looks at this with concern, but she cannot even bring herself to admit that for the first time in her life, she is afraid of RODIMUS. SMOKESCREEN and SIREN, despite being quite tough and hardened, also feel a surge of fear going through them. NAUTICA walks out as well, following RODIMUS. RODIMUS goes to the repair bay, where a fully repaired but still deactivated NIGHTBEAT is laying down on an operating table. RODIMUS stands beside his second-in-command’s inert body. He starts talking. His tone sounds extremely shaky, nervous and there seems to be a sort of insane grief within him.

RODIMUS

I can’t go on like this... I really need you, old friend. The Autobots need a better leader than me... I almost turned on my own people... I can’t control myself, not after everything I’ve been through.

NAUTICA is looking at RODIMUS talking to NIGHTBEAT’s body. She feels sympathy for him. RODIMUS clutches his head, still dealing with the fact that he may have to step down permanently in order to keep himself from harming his own people.

RODIMUS

Here I am... once again trying to find a way to escape... and yet... I can’t. Every time I even think about it, I feel like I am betraying my own people... and yet, wouldn’t staying here also mean betraying and dooming them?

RODIMUS sighs and then opens a storage container in his chest, and from it, he takes a small plush toy. It is NELLIE, VARIA’s treasured toy. RODIMUS strokes the toy and tears up. He wishes he could talk to VARIA. She was an incredibly calming influence on him, and he desperately needed something to contain him. He takes a picture from the container. It was a picture of THUNDER CLASH with NOVAFIRE and a little HOT ROD together. They all seemed happy. Happiness, of course… Even though RODIMUS managed to fill a void when he finally met THUNDER CLASH, and he found comfort and relief when he met VARIA, he still felt unhappy and very much alone. And with his immense mental stress and these memories haunting him, his feelings of loneliness have only increased. RODIMUS starts crying.

RODIMUS

(crying)
I can’t take it anymore... this all proves how worthless and weak I really am.

NAUTICA overhears this and starts tearing up as she walks away. She wishes she could help, but right now, she doesn’t know how to do it.

TRANSITION TO

PLANET Z – DOME FORTRESS

JHIAXUS is heading towards the communications room in his dome fortress. He activates his communicator and starts addressing someone that we can’t see due to the camera being set on JHIAXUS while he talks to him.

JHIAXUS

Your Excellency... we are about to activate the Judgement Day transmitter soon. We have obtained and replicated the super-fuel and we are ready to power the transmitter so that we may test it out.

MEGATRONUS

(VO, offscreen, through communicator)
Excellent, Jhiaxus. You have served me well. Our master will be quite pleased to hear that you are succeeding with the task at hand.

JHIAXUS

It is an honor to serve you, my lord. However, we still might have to deal with the Autobots once we activate the beam. The massive energy signature will most certainly lead them to us.

MEGATRONUS

(VO, offscreen, through communicator)

They will still be too late. They won’t have enough time to stop the beam from charging up. Just stall them long enough for the beam to start the ignition procedures.

JHIAXUS

It shall be done, my lord.

TRANSITION TO

AUTOBOT BASE – REPAIR BAY

While MINERVA is trying to trace the signal of GLOWSTRIKE’s portal, BREAKAWAY is making a few finishing touches on NIGHTBEAT’s body as SIDE BURN watches.

BREAKAWAY

Once, I’m finished with this, Nightbeat will have his Stealth Force upgrade as soon as he wakes up.

SIDE BURN

Cool.

MINERVA

(talking while trying to trace the portal’s coordinates)

Are you sure it won’t affect him in any way?

SIDE BURN

You kiddin’, Minnie? It worked perfectly for me and I ain’t feeling any side effects. I’m as good as I always was.

BREAKAWAY closes a small compartment and sighs with relief.

BREAKAWAY

There... it’s done. Now, we just need to power him up for activation, but it’ll mean that we won’t be able to recharge for a while because of the amount of Energon it’ll take to repower the reanimation chamber.

SIDE BURN

But, that’ll mean...

BREAKAWAY

Yes, Side Burn... once Minnie gets the coordinates, we may go into battle and we won’t have enough Energon to power our weapons, which could leave us vulnerable to a Decepticon attack.

MINERVA

(a bit nervous)
Well... that sounds comforting.

BREAKAWAY

(keeping his cool)
Very. Well, I’m done here. I’m heading back to my quarters. I need to check on some stuff.

MINERVA

Okay... thanks for the help, Breakaway.

BREAKAWAY walks out and heads for his quarters, but once he is inside, we see a strange white outline moving around the hall. By the shape of the outline, we see that it’s STARSCREAM, using his cloaking device and spying on the Autobots in order to find out what they have been up to after the Decepticons suffered a humiliating defeat when they tried to take control of the minds of the entire population of Earth. STARSCREAM runs out of the base. Once outside, he deactivates his cloaking device, transforms into jet mode and flies off in order to warn SHOCKWAVE about this development. Meanwhile, ARCEE and SIREN are talking about what happened at the briefing.

ARCEE

I cannot condone the kind of behavior that happened at the meeting, but right now, I’m more worried about Rodimus. He totally lost it when you started fighting.

SIREN

Yeh? Well, ah would suggest thayut we bench ‘im. If he’s gon’ be lahk thiyus, he could jeopardize the mission.

ARCEE just rubs her forehead in response to this predicament.

ARCEE
(feeling a bit of regret)

He must be thinking that I’m deliberately avoiding him after he almost killed that Triple Changer. I have been way too focused on our missions and I feel very guilty about that. He needs support and care. However, I must admit that I am afraid.

SIREN looks at ARCEE. Never in his life would he have thought that she of all people would be afraid. He knew that he had his own fears, but he always thought of ARCEE as the strongest Autobot in personality alone. Her constant arguments with him about strategy have always shown how strong she can be, but now, he doesn’t know what to say.

ARCEE

I know what you’re thinking. You think that I’m just another authority figure who was always above you on the chain on command, but you forget that I am still a person with emotions, feelings, needs and wants... I cannot be an authority figure all the time.

SIREN looks down a bit. He sometimes wishes he could show his sensitive side a bit more, but he just can’t. He was a drill sergeant, loud and overbearing. He had to be like this and keep his reputation as a tough guy. However, in a rare moment of sensitivity, he puts his hand on ARCEE’s shoulder, showing that he is just as concerned about all of this as she was.

SIREN
(with an uncharacteristically softer tone)
Believe me... ah wish ah could be seen as a regular bot as well. But mah job doesn’t allow fer softness, or else, ah would have lost respect along with mah Marine badge back when ah led that mission in the Magnesium Pits of Cybertron.

ARCEE looks at him and understands. She puts her hand on top of SIREN’s hand and pats it.

ARCEE

You understand how hard it is, and I’m glad you do. If only I could be brave enough to face Rodimus…

Suddenly, MINERVA bursts into the room.

MINERVA

Arcee, Siren!!! We found it!!! We found the location!!!

ARCEE

Let’s go!!!

MINERVA, ARCEE and SIREN all run off to the repair bay as the screen fades to black.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

AUTOBOT BASE – REPAIR BAY

ARCEE, SIREN and MINERVA run into the repair bay. MINERVA sits in front of the command console and presses some buttons. The computer starts printing the coordinates of the signal.

MINERVA

I picked up a weird energy signature which allowed me to pinpoint the location we were trying to find.

The printout comes out and MINERVA takes the sheet out of the printer. She glances at it.

MINERVA

According to the computer, these are the coordinates to Planet Z.

SIREN

Planet Z?

SIREN grabs the printout and reads it.

MINERVA

You know of Planet Z?

SIREN

Been theah, done thayut... part of the Marine trainin’ program, familiarizin’ with territory. Know the place like the back of mah hand.

ARCEE

Well, then... I guess we got our squad leader for this mission.

SIREN

But we’ll need tahm to prepare. Not only thayut, we’ll also have to use up Stratosphere’s final energy reserves in order to go theah and come back.

ARCEE

We’ll have to risk it. The safety of Earth depends on the outcome of this battle.

SIREN

Okay, then... let’s gear up on our weapons and get ready.

TRANSITION TO

PLANET Z – DOME FORTRESS

JHIAXUS has finished charging his Judgement Day transmitter and is aiming it at a nearby planet. GLOWSTRIKE and SUNSTORM are controlling the transmitter, with SUNSTORM making a few last minute adjustments while GLOWSTRIKE is using the console to set the firing coordinates.

TERRORSAUR

Impressive device, but will it be enough to destroy the Earth?

JHIAXUS

This test will answer that question, mercenary.

GLOWSTRIKE looks up and grins as she sees the laser starting to fire. Then, a very devastating laser blast comes out of the transmitter’s dish, hitting the planet. Once it hits the planet, we see that the energy from the transmitter is starting to dissolve the planet slowly.

TERRORSAUR

Fascinating.

The planet’s trees and living creatures are reduced to nothing but ashes and dust. Instead of the typical explosion, the planet is destroyed in a much more subtle manner, being literally disintegrated. The only thing that remains is dust, which floats slowly and aimlessly throughout space.

GLOWSTRIKE

(captivated by the destruction)
Beautiful.

SUNSTORM
So begins the dawn of our invincibility.

JHIAXUS grins, feeling pleased with this successful test.

JHIAXUS

You see, mercenary... I brought a new meaning to the word silent death. Once we shower Earth with a beam from our Judgement Day transmitter, it will cease to exist... and no one will even get a chance to scream. The entire population of the Earth will be instantly vaporized.

TERRORSAUR

(with a manic grin)

And they won’t even know what hit them.

TRANSITION TO

THE AUTOBOT BASE – CORRIDOR

At the corridor of the Autobot Base, we see STRONGARM, SIDE BURN and REV walking around.

STRONGARM

This is getting really out of hand.

SIDE BURN
Yeah... I mean, I’ve seen Rodimus get angry, but never to this degree.

REV

(to SIDE BURN)
And you said I was the one with the short fuse.

WHEELJACK walks in, giving the three young Autobots some weapons.

WHEELJACK

Here, kids... most of us are getting ready for the mission. Arcee is gonna let Siren take charge of this one.

REV
(with confusion)
Siren?

SIDE BURN
Oh, boy... we’re gonna die.

STRONGARM

Show some respect, people. Now let’s get ready for this.

STRONGARM heads to the armory, REV and SIDE BURN following close behind her. DAYTONUS walks in.

WHEELJACK

Where are your guns, Daytonus?

DAYTONUS

You kiddin’, right?

(raising his fists)
Dese two are all the guns I’ll need.

DAYTONUS heads for the launch pad, where STRATOSPHERE is. NAUTICA is twirling her wrench as she and MINERVA are also heading to the pad.

NAUTICA

Do you think Roddy will be alright?

MINERVA

(with concern)

I... I really don’t know, Nautica. He hasn’t been alright ever since we rescued him from the Quintessons.

Back at RODIMUS’ quarters, ARCEE is given the difficult task to bench RODIMUS.

ARCEE

(with regret)
I... I’m really sorry, Rodimus... but I’m really worried about these unpredictable mood swings you’ve been having, along with your violent outbursts. I want you to rest... I know I haven’t been able to be with you as much as I’ve wanted to... but that doesn’t mean that I don’t care about you.

RODIMUS looks down, feeling even more ashamed about losing control of his emotions.

RODIMUS

(with sadness)

But... I can’t stand staying here while you are out there fighting... I have to be there.

ARCEE

Rodimus... please... I know it’s hard not to help out in the heat of battle... I know you are worried and will likely blame yourself... but you have to stay here. Drift, Hosehead, Wreck-Gar and Bumblebee will stay behind to take care of you.

ARCEE strokes RODIMUS’ face lovingly. She looks at him with a rather bittersweet smile, knowing how hard this is for the both of them. Then, she walks out of the room. She heads for the launch pad and sees WHEELJACK, MINERVA, SMOKESCREEN, NAUTICA, DAYTONUS, BREAKAWAY, STRONGARM, SIREN, SIDE BURN and REV going inside STRATOSPHERE’s cargo hold. She goes in after them.

ARCEE

(keeping her composure)

Okay, guys. I want you to listen to Siren on this one. He knows the territory, so I am relinquishing command of the mission to him.

(turning around)
Stratosphere... take off.

STRATOSPHERE activates his thrusters and takes off. As he flies away, the screen fades to black.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

PLANET Z – THE OUTSKIRTS

We see the Autobots walking across the landscape of Planet Z, toting guns as they advance. SIREN is ahead, leading the group.

SIREN

Tha only place ah can think of where enemy units can hide is tha abandoned dome fortress.

NAUTICA

What? A fraggin’ dome fortress? Not exactly subtle, is it? It sounds like a place where a Bond villain would hang out.

DAYTONUS

Yeh... da bad guys always seem to have dese kinda eccentricities.

SMOKESCREEN

(to SIREN)

Hey, jarhead!!! How much longer?

SIREN

Not far nao.

BREAKAWAY

Well, I hope so... ‘cause I’m ready to kick some butt.

SIREN walks ahead. Sometime later, he comes to a stop when he looks at the rather imposing and unsettling dome fortress.

SIREN

Well... there it is.

REV
Holy mackerel!!!

SIDE BURN
(nervous)
We’re going in... (gulp) there?!!!

SIREN

Ya wanna save Earth? Then you git yo tailpipe inside thayut fortress!!!

SIDE BURN gulps and hesitantly follows him. Suddenly, a rocket goes off near them.

SIDE BURN

(covering his eyes after the rocket goes off)
WHOOOAAAOOOOWWW!!!

SIREN looks up.

SIREN
(pointing to the source of the rocket)

THEAH!!!

TERRORSAUR, in jet mode, flies in.

TERRORSAUR

Surprise, losers!!! HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!

MINERVA
(with shock)
Terrorsaur!!!

TERRORSAUR

Ah, Minerva... how wonderful to see you again.

TERRORSAUR fires a rocket which almost hits NAUTICA. NAUTICA does a backflip, evading the rockets.

NAUTICA

You know this maniac?

MINERVA

Unfortunately, yes... he almost killed Arcee and me!!!

SIREN, REV and SMOKESCREEN start firing at TERRORSAUR. He does some barrel rolls in order to evade the shots.

SIREN

(frustrated)

DAGNABBIT!!! He’s too fast!!!

NAUTICA runs towards a rock and jumps behind it, turning her wrench into a Cybertronian Uzi. She fires it wildly at TERRORSAUR.

NAUTICA

GO AHEAD, GUYS!!! MINNIE AND I WILL TAKE CARE OF THIS GUY!!!

SIREN

(to the rest of the Autobots)

C’mon!!! We gotta keep goin’!!!

SIREN and the rest advance towards the fortress. GLOWSTRIKE and SUNSTORM are waiting for them.

GLOWSTRIKE

(with a grin)

Going somewhere, Autobots?

GLOWSTRIKE fires lightning bolts from her hands, but ARCEE fires lasers from her gun, countering the bolts.

ARCEE

(with determination)

You’re mine!!!

ARCEE pounces on the large female Con and they both start fighting with each other.

SMOKESCREEN

(cheering)

WOO!!! Cat fight!!!

SIDE BURN

THIS IS WHAT I LIVE FOR!!!

SIREN

(to SMOKESCREEN and SIDE BURN)

SHADDAP!!! THAT’S ONE OF OUR FRIENDS PUTTIN’ HER LIFE ON THE LINE FOR YOU BUMS!!! SHOW SUM RESPECT!!!

(to the rest of the Autobots)

You guys go ahead and trah to fahnd tha head honcho!!!

DAYTONUS

(taking charge of the rest of the Autobots)
Dis way!!!

SIREN stays behind to handle SUNSTORM. As DAYTONUS and the rest of the Autobots keep advancing, they come to a sudden stop when they see some familiar faces showing up.

DAYTONUS

Whooooooa!!!

STRONGARM

Sharkticons!!!

WHEELJACK

(disgusted)
UGH!!! I hate these nasty critters!!!

REV starts firing his rifle at some of the SHARKTICONS. SIDE BURN fires his rocket launcher, blowing some of them to pieces. STRONGARM takes cover behind a wall and unloads a machine gun on them. The SHARKTICONS transform into robot mode and head towards the Autobots, firing their laser guns at them.

SMOKESCREEN

(pointing at the SHARKTICONS)
WHEELJACK, YOUR GYRO INHIBITOR!!!

WHEELJACK’s shoulder cannon fires a beam at some of the SHARKTICONS, causing them to start falling due to gyro malfunctions. REV keeps firing his rifle at some more SHARKTICONS.

REV

Boy... I truly wish we could have brought Stratosphere into the battle.

STRONGARM

Me too... but he has to save his remaining energy for the trip back home.

SMOKESCREEN

Hang on to your hats, kiddies!!! It’s my turn to show ‘em how it’s done!!!

SMOKESCREEN fires rockets from his shoulder launchers, managing to destroy some SHARKTICONS with them.

BREAKAWAY

Not bad, old timer... but now, lemme show these Sharkticons how Breakaway likes to play.

BREAKAWAY flies over a gauntlet of SHARKTICONS who are heading for the other Autobots and starts carpet-bombing them. SHARKTICONS fly around and run in confusion as the bombs hit them. WHEELJACK uses his shoulder launcher to fire explosive pellets, but the SHARKTICONS just keep increasing their numbers.

WHEELJACK

It’s no use... we keep blowing them up, but more start showing up by the second.

SIDE BURN

(desperately)
We gotta make a stand here and fight, or else, it’s curtains for Earth!!!

The SHARKTICONS keep closing in on the Autobots. As this happens, we see the words “TO BE CONTINUED” on-screen. Then, we fade to black.

TO BE CONTINUED

END OF ACT THREE