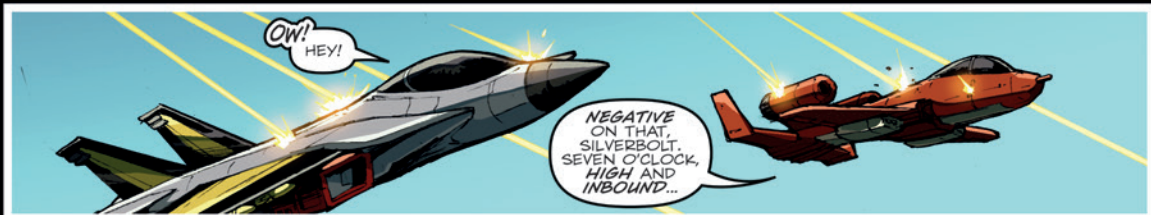
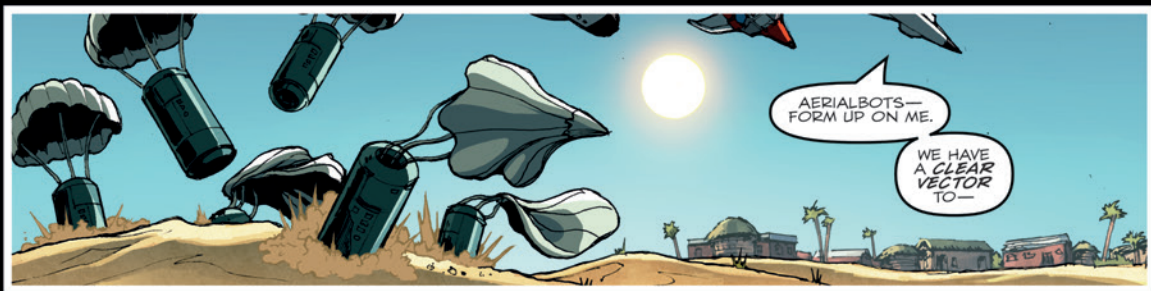


WEST AFRICA. EARTH.







I... I ONLY CAME HERE TO HELP...

YOU BROUGHT THIS ON YOURSELF.



I... I BELIEVED WHAT YOU SAID I WAS.

DO NOT SHIFT BLAME.

YOU BELIEVE NOTHING.

YOU SACRIFICE OTHERS FOR THEIR BELIEF.



WHO...

YOU ARE NOT THE FIRST.

THIS PLACE SHALL BE OURS.

BUT YOU ARE UNWELCOME, PRIME.



FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!

REMEMBER WHEN YOU SAID I WAS STARTING AN EMPIRE?



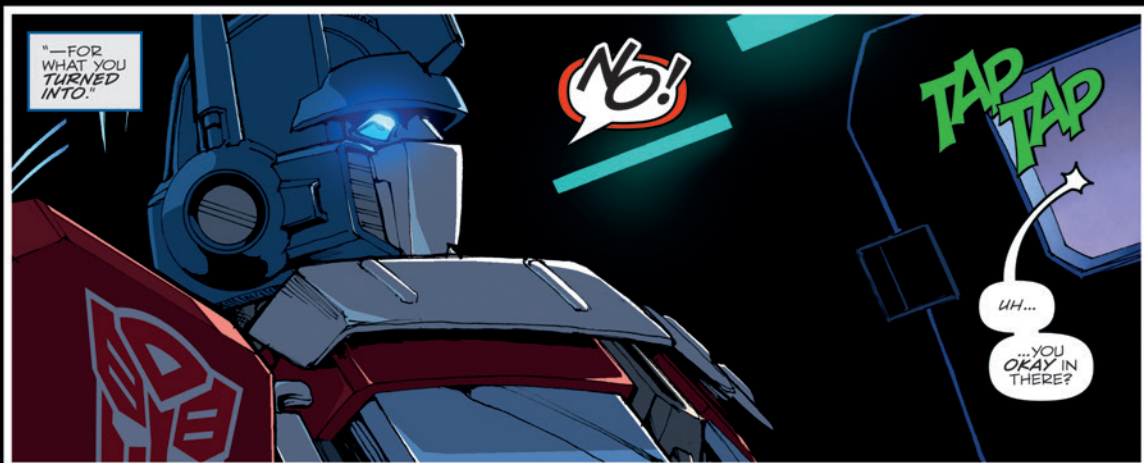
THIS IS...

...I AM...

...DIFFERENT...

THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY.

I'M SORRY, PRIME-



"—FOR WHAT YOU TURNED INTO."

No!

TAP TAP

UH...
...YOU OKAY IN THERE?

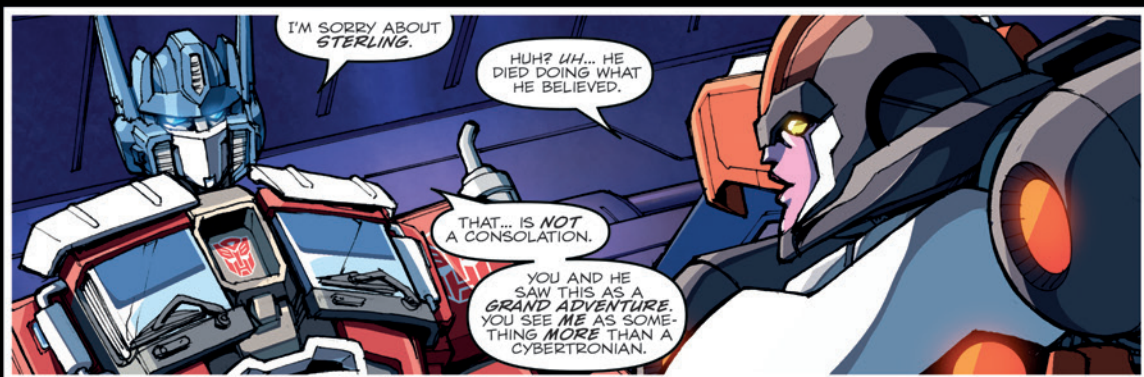


AILERON—
—HAVE YOU BEEN HERE ALL NIGHT?

UM...
YOU ONLY HIT THE RECHARGE SLAB FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO.

THE AERIALBOTS COMPLETED THEIR RUN. THEY'RE GETTING, UH, AGITATED.

THEY STILL BELIEVE IN THE MISSION, BUT—



I'M SORRY ABOUT STERLING.

HUH? UH... HE DIED DOING WHAT HE BELIEVED.

THAT... IS NOT A CONSOLATION.

YOU AND HE SAW THIS AS A GRAND ADVENTURE. YOU SEE ME AS SOMETHING MORE THAN A CYBERTRONIAN.



WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE... I MEAN, YOU NEVER LIED TO US.

YOU TOLD US WE WERE HERE TO END WAR.

THAT'S WORTH FIGHTING FOR, WORTH DYING FOR.

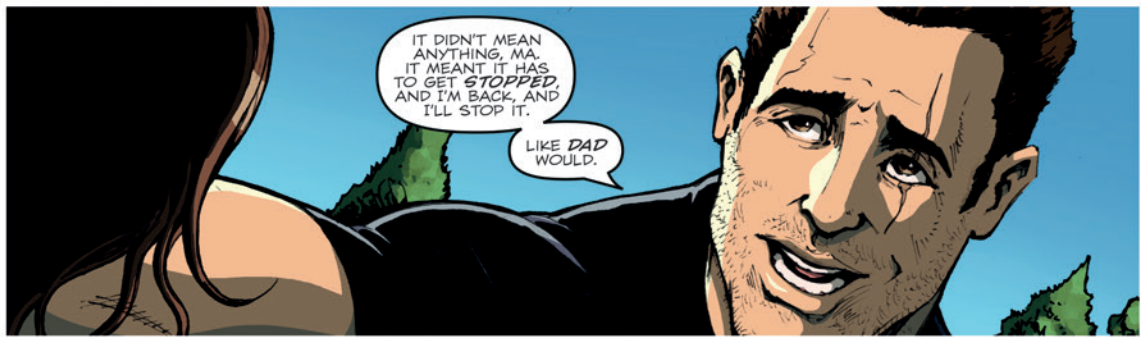
I ALWAYS KNEW IN MY HEAD—NOW I FEEL IT IN MY SPARK...



"...WE HAVE TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND WHY WE'RE HERE."

I SAW HIM— IT— THAT **THING** ON T.V.

IT SAID, IT... WHAT DID IT MEAN, STEVIE?



IT DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING, MA. IT MEANT IT HAS TO GET **STOPPED**, AND I'M BACK, AND I'LL STOP IT.

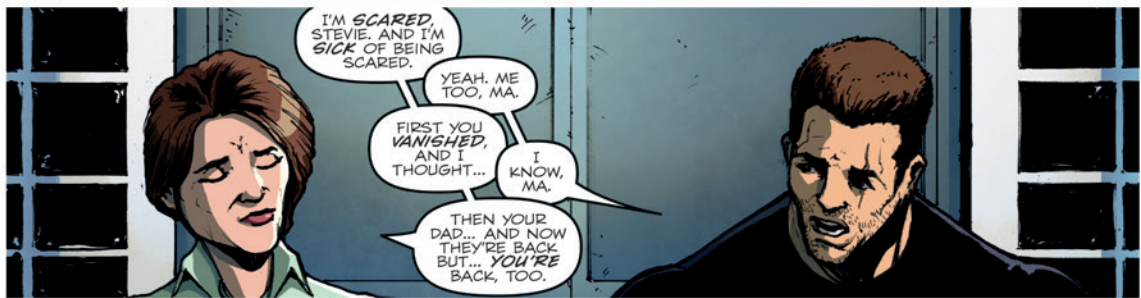
LIKE DAD WOULD.



DO YOU **KNOW** THE CREATURE?

OPTIMUS PRIME. YEAH. WE USED TO BE... HE USED TO **WORK** FOR ME.

HE'S... **MAL-FUNCTIONING**. JUST NEEDS A LITTLE READJUSTMENT.



I'M **SCARED**, STEVIE. AND I'M **SICK** OF BEING SCARED.

YEAH, ME TOO, MA.

FIRST YOU **VANISHED**, AND I THOUGHT...

I KNOW, MA.

THEN YOUR DAD... AND NOW THEY'RE BACK BUT... **YOU'RE** BACK, TOO.



I... OH, IF YOUR SISTER SAW ME LIKE THIS.

SHE'D **UNDERSTAND**, MA. BUT YOU DON'T **HAVE** TO BE SCARED.

YOU SAID IT—I'M **BACK**.

I'LL SAVE THE EARTH.



CAN YOU—CAN'T YOU STAY A WHILE **LONGER**?

WE CAN ORDER SOME DINNER FROM—

SORRY, MA...