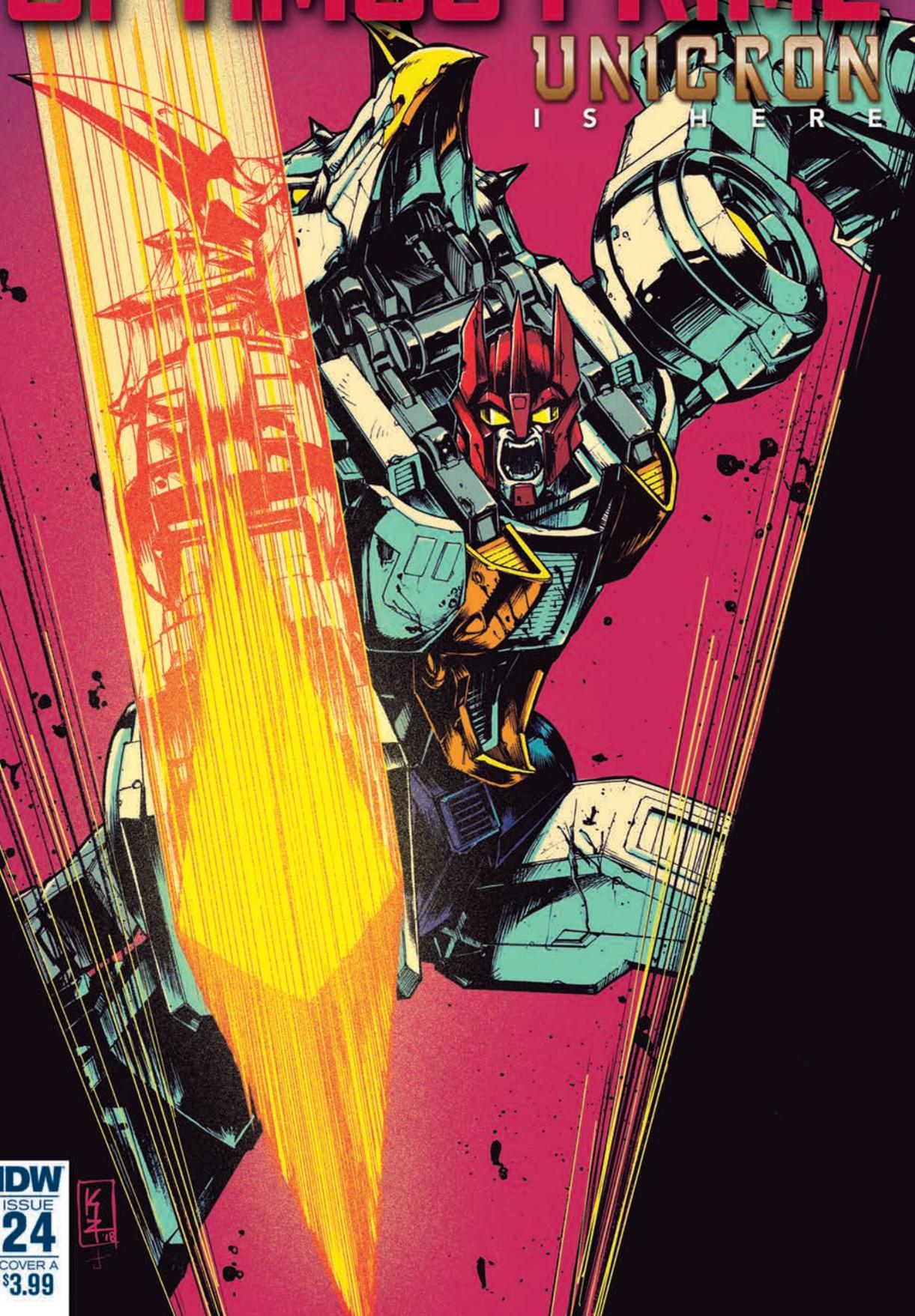


BARBER • GRIFFITH • PITRE-DUROCHER • BURCHAM

# OPTIMUS PRIME

## UNICRON

I S H E R E



IDW  
ISSUE  
**24**  
COVER A  
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# OPTIMUS PRIME



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"YOU HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE."

"NOT EVERYBODY GETS TO MAKE IT OUT OF THIS ALIVE, AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CHOOSES WHO DOES..."





"...LOOKS LIKE WE'RE NEEDED."

AND THEN WHAT HAPPENED?

OPTIMUS PRIME.  
AUTOBOT LEADER.

MOSI-DA-TUNYA.  
ZAMBIA-ZIMBABWE BORDER.

YOU MADE A CHOICE.

AND THE RESULT IS—JUST LIKE WHEN YOU LET THE JUNKIONS GET AWAY WITH KILLING OILER—

—YOU DON'T GIVE A SCRAP THAT THE DINOBOTS MURDERED GIMLET.

SLIDE.  
DEVISEN  
COLONIST.

THE FORCES AT WORK HERE, SLIDE... THEY ARE BIGGER AND MORE ANCIENT THAN 'BOTS LIKE YOU AND I CAN IMAGINE.

OH, NOW THERE'S A "YOU AND I"?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE SOME SORT OF MESSIAH.

NOW THAT'S IT'S ALL BLOWING UP IN YOUR FACEPLATE, YOU'RE BACK TO BEING A REGULAR GUY AGAIN?

THE PEOPLE ON THE GROUND—WE'RE TOO SMALL FOR OPTIMUS PRIME TO THINK ABOUT.

WORLDS ARE AT STAKE. PERHAPS THE UNIVERSE.

I DON'T WANT TO DIMINISH YOUR LOSS—YOUR LOSSES—BUT IF WE WISH TO SURVIVE, WE NEED TO STAND TOGETHER.

WHAT HAPPENS ABOVE...

"...VERY MUCH  
IMPACTS THOSE  
OF US ON THE  
GROUND."

# A SUNRISE DARK

NOW  
PLEASE,  
SLIDE.

TELL ME WHAT  
HAPPENED AT MT.  
RUSHMORE SIX  
HOURS AGO.

LIKE I  
SAID—YOU  
MADE A  
CHOICE...

"...ONE THAT SEALED OUR FATE."

WHY IS UNICRON JUST SITTING THERE?

COME ON, PROWL—

SIX HOURS AGO

—WHY DOES UNICRON DO ANYTHING? NOBODY KNOWS!

PROWL.  
RENEGADE ROBOT.

UNICRON DESTROYED ALL THE OTHER COLONIES INSTANTLY. HIM WAITING DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

GOLDBUG.  
THROTTLEBOT.

GARNAK.  
LIZARD-GUY.

YOU'RE A LOGISTICIAN, PROWL. PUT YOURSELF IN UNICRON'S SHOES.

BIG SHOES. I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S THINKING?

STARDRIVE.  
CYBERTRONIAN SOLSTAR KNIGHT.

I LIVED ALONE FOR CENTURIES.

TOO MUCH OF A SOLSTAR KNIGHT TO BE CYBERTRONIAN—TOO CYBERTRONIAN TO REALLY BE SOLSTAR.

AND FAR TOO DIRE WRAITH TO BE EITHER.

CYBERTRONIANS DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW ALONE YOU CAN BE. YOU RUN TOGETHER, SEEKING COMFORT IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS.

LOOK AT UNICRON. THAT THING KNOWS WHAT BEING ALONE IS LIKE.

KNOWS YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT.

SO HE'S DOING WHAT I WOULD HAVE DONE...