

BARBER • TRAMONTANO • BURCHAM

OPTIMUS PRIME

UNICRON

I S H E R E



IDW
ISSUE
23
COVER A
\$3.99

OPTIMUS PRIME



Written by: **JOHN BARBER**
Art by: **PRISCILLA TRAMONTANO**
Colors by: **JOSH BURCHAM**
Letters by: **TOM B. LONG**
Editor: **DAVID MARIOTTE**
Publisher: **GREG GOLDSTEIN**



COVER A

Artwork by: **KEI ZAMA**
Colors by: **JOSH BURCHAM**



COVER B

Artwork by:
PRISCILLA TRAMONTANO



RETAILER INCENTIVE COVER

Artwork by: **KEI ZAMA**

Special thanks to Ben Montano, David Erwin, Josh Feldman, Ed Lane, Beth Artale, and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

For international rights, contact licensing@idwpublishing.com



Licensed By:



Greg Goldstein, President & Publisher • John Barber, Editor-In-Chief • Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Art Director • Cara Morrison, Chief Financial Officer • Matthew Ruzicka, Chief Accounting Officer • Anita Frazier, SVP of Sales and Marketing • David Hedgecock, Associate Publisher • Jerry Bennington, VP of New Product Development • Lorelei Bunjes, VP of Digital Services • Justin Eisinger, Editorial Director, Graphic Novels and Collections • Eric Moss, Sr. Director, Licensing & Business Development

Ted Adams, Founder & CEO of IDW Media Holdings

Facebook: [facebook.com/idwpublishing](https://www.facebook.com/idwpublishing) • Twitter: [@idwpublishing](https://twitter.com/idwpublishing) • YouTube: [youtube.com/idwpublishing](https://www.youtube.com/idwpublishing)
Tumblr: tumblr.idwpublishing.com • Instagram: [instagram.com/idwpublishing](https://www.instagram.com/idwpublishing)



OPTIMUS PRIME #23, AUGUST 2018. FIRST PRINTING. HASBRO and its logo, TRANSFORMERS, G.I. JOE, and all related characters are trademarks of Hasbro and are used with permission. © 2018 Hasbro. All Rights Reserved. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2765 Truxtun Road, San Diego, CA 92106. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Printed in Korea. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.



EVERYTHING
WAS NOT
ALWAYS THE
UNYIELDING
SHIMMER.

**DEVISIUM:
CYBERTRONIAN COLONY,
SIX MONTHS AGO.**



WE MAY
NOT HAVE BEEN
PERFECT—

—WE LIED,
WE FOUGHT, WE
KILLED—

—BUT IN
THE DAYS
BEFORE,
OUR FUTURE
WAS OURS.



ALL WAS
THE GREAT
LUSHNESS—

—WHICH NOW
ONLY PEEKS
THROUGH CRACKS
IN THE UNYIELDING
SHIMMER, BUT
ONCE...



"...ONCE THE LAND
WAS GREEN.

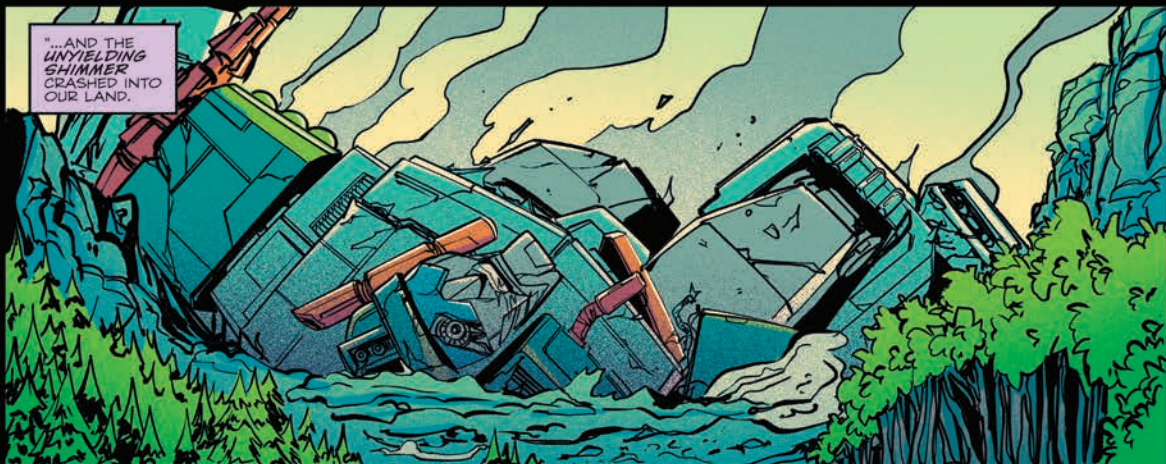
"ONCE, THE LAND—LIKE
THE FUTURE—WAS OURS.



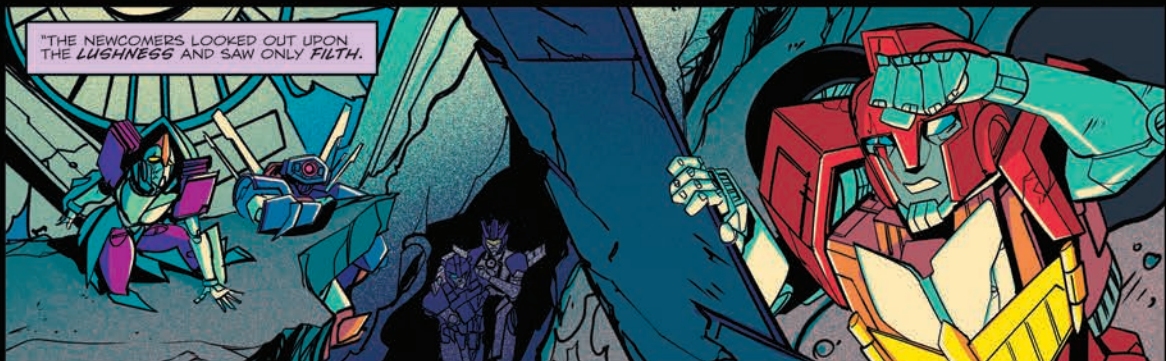
"THEN THE TIME OF
CHAOS BEGAN.

"WHEN THE WORLD
BREAKER ARRIVED...

"...AND THE
UNYIELDING
SHIMMER
CRASHED INTO
OUR LAND.



"THE NEWCOMERS LOOKED OUT UPON
THE LUSHNESS AND SAW ONLY FILTH.



"THEY LOOKED AT *BALANCE*
AND SAW ONLY *WEAKNESS*.

"THEY LOOKED AT *US*..."



...AND SAW
NOTHING
AT ALL.

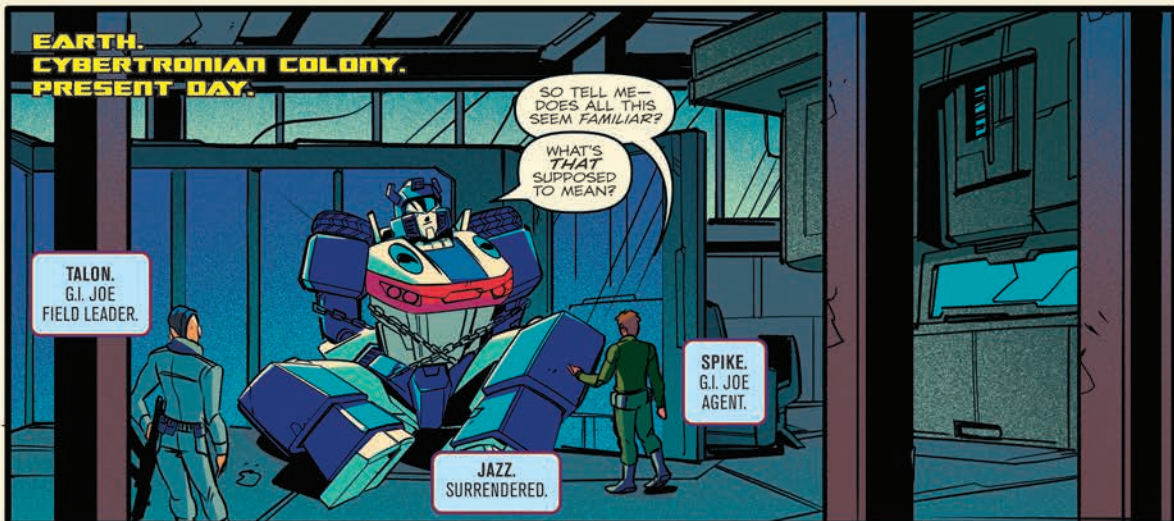
THE
NEWCOMERS
WERE UNDYING
CREATURES
BUILT FROM THE
UNYIELDING
SHIMMER...

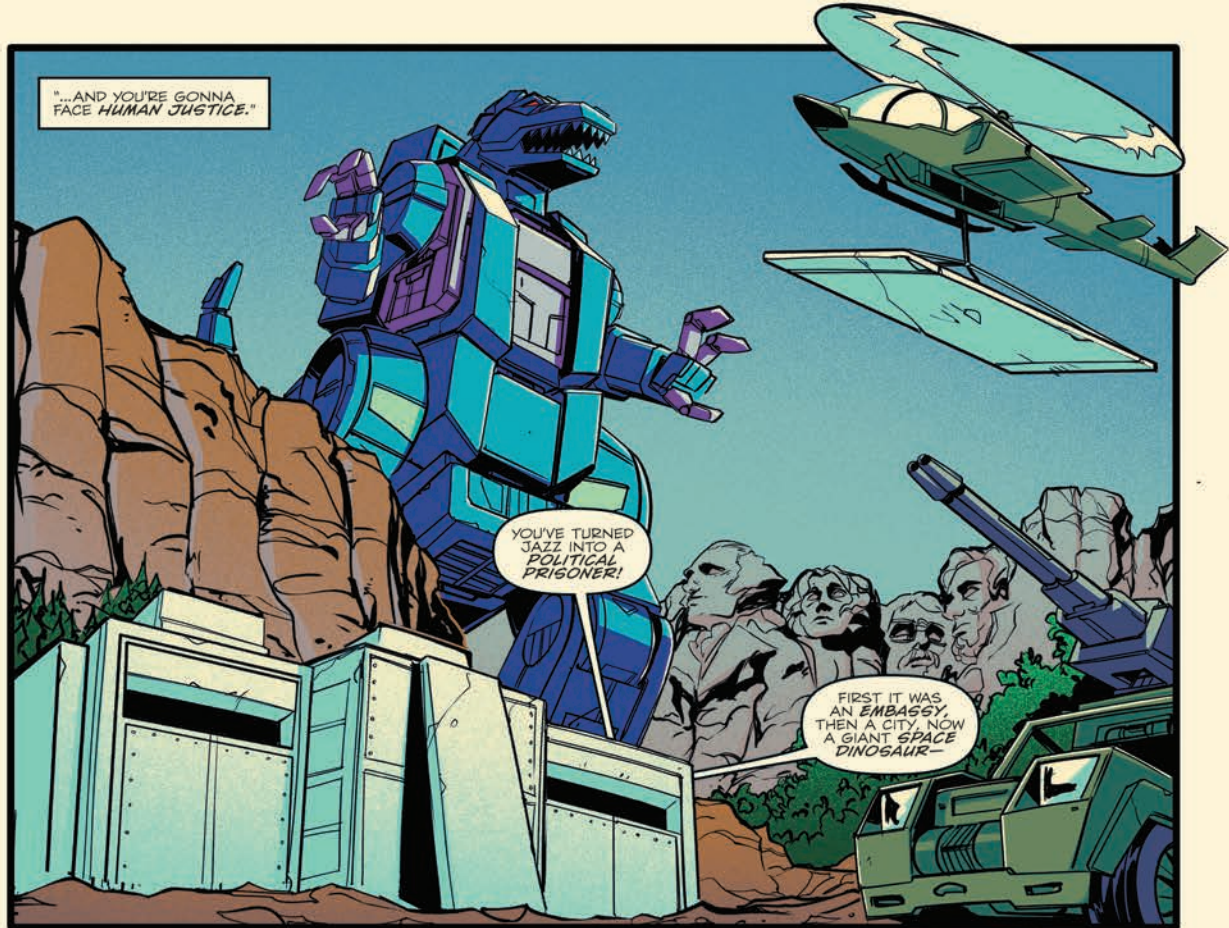


"...AND THEY *REMADE* OUR
LAND IN *THEIR* IMAGE."



**EARTH.
CYBERTRONIAN COLONY.
PRESENT DAY.**





"NO, MA'AM. THAT'S
OPTIMUS PRIME'S CREW."

SKY LYNX.
SPACE DRAGON
CARGO PLANE.



BUMP.
EUKARIAN
COLONIST.

GIMLET.
EUKARIAN
COLONIST.

ROULETTE.
VELOCITRONIAN
COLONIST.

TIME WILL RUST

SLIDE.
DEVISEN
COLONIST.

MIDNIGHT
EXPRESS.
CAMIEN COLONIST.

—BECAUSE I
HAVE A FEELING
THERE'S GONNA BE
A LOT OF "I TOLD
YOU SO'S."

MY ANCESTORS
LANDED ON AN
UNTAMED WORLD.