

# OPTIMUS PRIME



BARBER ■ ZAMA ■ PITRE-DUROCHER ■ RAMONDELLI

  
**IDW**

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](https://tumblr.idwpublishing.com)  
Instagram: [instagram.com/idwpublishing](https://www.instagram.com/idwpublishing)

ISBN: 978-1-68405-363-6      21 20 19 18      1 2 3 4

COVER ART BY  
MARCELO MATERE

COLLECTION EDITS BY  
JUSTIN EISINGER AND  
ALONZO SIMON

COLLECTION DESIGN BY  
RON ESTEVEZ

PUBLISHER:  
GREG GOLDSTEIN

TRANSFORMERS: OPTIMUS PRIME, VOLUME 4. NOVEMBER 2018.  
FIRST PRINTING. TRANSFORMERS, G.I. JOE and all related characters are trademarks of Hasbro and are used with permission. © 2018 Hasbro. All Rights Reserved. Licensed by Hasbro. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2765 Truxtun Road, San Diego, CA 92106. 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.

Originally published as OPTIMUS PRIME issues #15–21.

Greg Goldstein, President and Publisher  
John Barber, Editor-In-Chief  
Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Art Director  
Cara Morrison, Chief Financial Officer  
Matt 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 & Collections  
Eric Moss, Senior Director, Licensing and Business Development

Ted Adams, Founder and CEO of IDW Media Holdings



# OPTIMUS PRIME <sup>VOL</sup> 4

WRITTEN BY

**JOHN BARBER**

ART BY

**KEI ZAMA**

(#15-17, #20-21),

**SARA PITRE-DUROCHER**

(#18-19, 21),

AND **LIVIO RAMONDELLI**

(#18 & 21).

COLORS BY **JOSH BURCHAM**

AND **LIVIO RAMONDELLI**

LETTERS BY **TOM B. LONG**

SERIES EDITS BY **DAVID MARIOTTE**

SPECIAL THANKS TO BEN MONTANO, DAVID ERWIN,  
JOSH FELDMAN, ED LANE, BETH ARTALE, AND  
MICHAEL KELLY FOR THEIR INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE.

'ANTILLA—

"—A RUST WORLD AT THE CENTER OF THE GALAXY. WE'D HAVE NEVER KNOWN OF IT, WERE IT NOT FOR THE BEACON.

"A CYBERTRONIAN HELIOGRAPH, CALLING THROUGH SPACE... CALLING TO US.

"CAMINUS' SUN BURNED BRIGHT, IN THOSE DAYS.

"OUR FUTURE WAS ONE OF HOPE—SUDDENLY COMPOUNDED BY THE IMPENDING REUNION WITH OUR LOST ANCESTORS.

"THE SCINTILLANCE WAS OUR FASTEST STARSHIP. THE VOYAGE TOOK A MERE CENTURY.



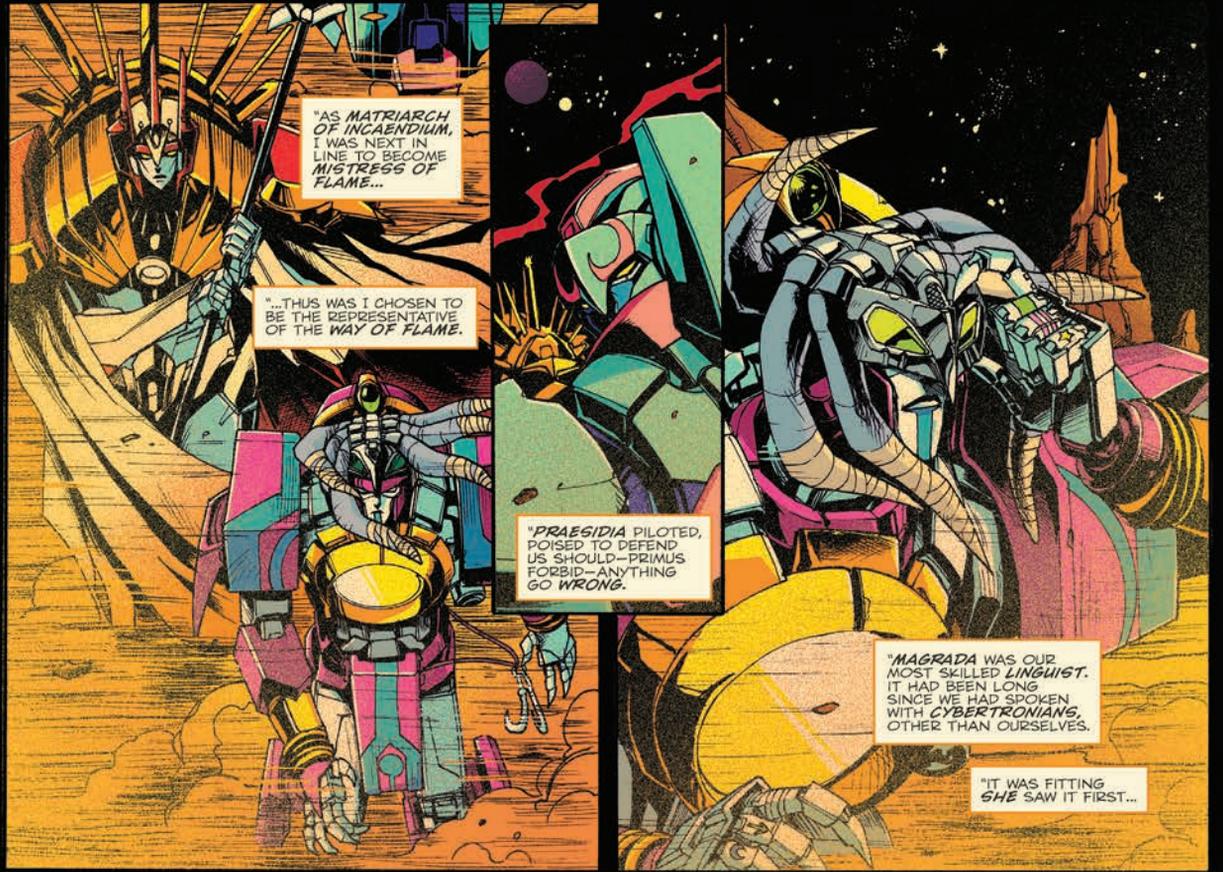
"AS MATRIARCH OF INCAENDIUM, I WAS NEXT IN LINE TO BECOME MISTRESS OF FLAME...

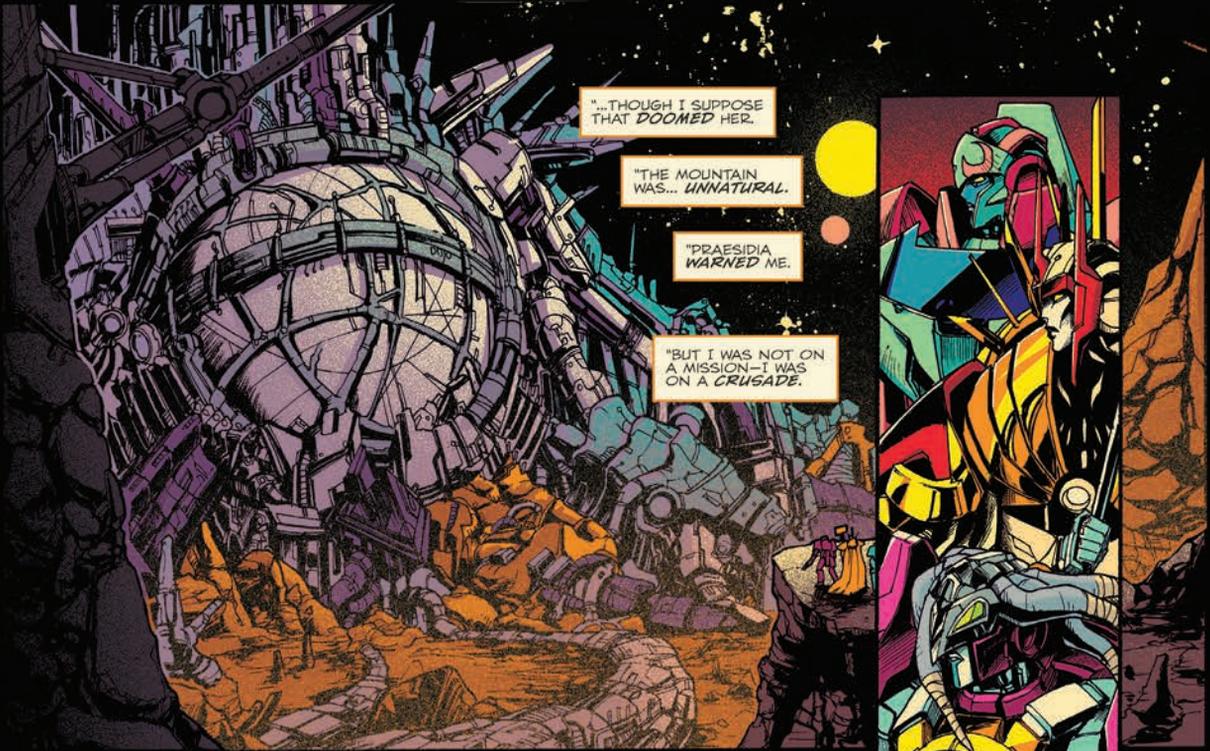
"...THUS WAS I CHOSEN TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WAY OF FLAME.

"PRAESIDIA PILOTED, POISED TO DEFEND US SHOULD—PRIMIS FORBID—ANYTHING GO WRONG.

"MAGRADA WAS OUR MOST SKILLED LINGUIST. IT HAD BEEN LONG SINCE WE HAD SPOKEN WITH CYBERTRONIANS, OTHER THAN OURSELVES.

"IT WAS FITTING SHE SAW IT FIRST...





"...THOUGH I SUPPOSE THAT *DOOMED* HER.

"THE MOUNTAIN WAS... *UNNATURAL*.

"*PRAESIDIA* WARNED ME.

"BUT I WAS NOT ON A MISSION—I WAS ON A *CRUSADE*.



"A HOLY QUEST TO WALK THE PATH OF *PRIMUS*.



"THOUGH... PERHAPS THE ROAD TO *ANTILLA*...

"...WAS THE DOMAIN OF HIS *OPPOSITE*.



"MAGRADA TRIED TO STOP ME. BUT I...

"...I WAS LOOKING AT A GOD.

"ONE WAY OR ANOTHER... THIS WAS A PRIME.



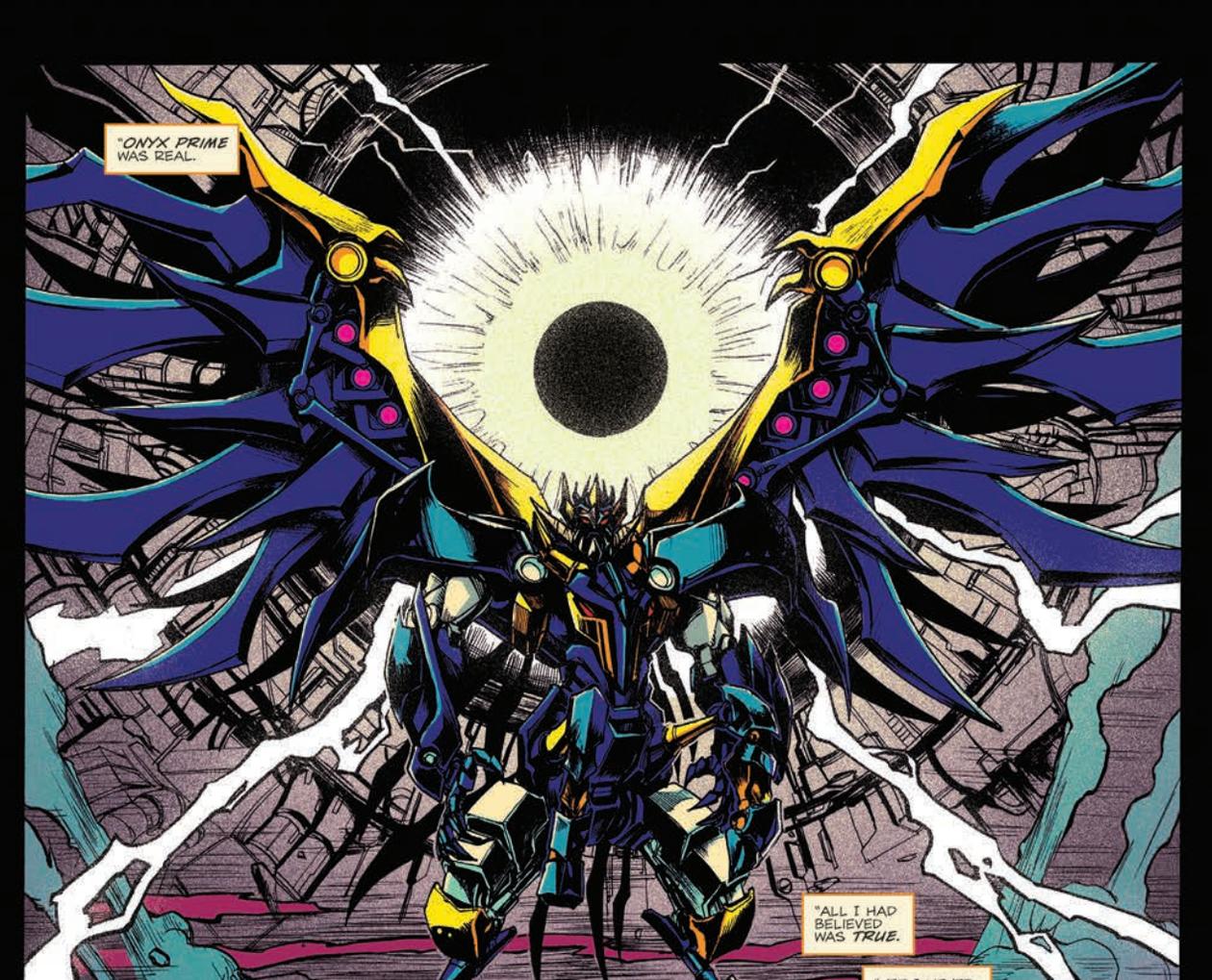
"I HAD DEDICATED MY LIFE TO THEIR TEACHINGS, BUT...



"...IN THE CENTER OF ALL OF US, IN THE DARKEST RECESSES OF OUR SPARK, ARE QUESTIONS.



"THE PRIME ANSWERED MINE.



"ONYX PRIME  
WAS REAL."

"ALL I HAD  
BELIEVED  
WAS TRUE."

"YET I NEVER  
EXPECTED  
THE LIGHT OF MY  
QUESTIONS..."



"... TO BE EXTINGUISHED  
BY THE DARKNESS OF  
THE ANSWERS."



"PRAESIDIA NEVER  
LOOKED BACK."



"BUT I..."



...I HAVE DONE LITTLE ELSE.

BY THE TIME WE RETURNED HOME, OUR SUN HAD GONE DARK. THE MISTRESS WAS DEAD.

LONG LIVE THE MISTRESS OF FLAME.

MISTRESS OF FLAME. CAMIEN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COUNCIL OF WORLDS.

CYBERTRON, TODAY.



‘PFFT’ “A GOD.”

AND THIS... THIS DROVE YOU ONWARDS?

SCOOP. A CONSTRUCTION.

ALPHA TRION. A PRIME.



HOW COULD IT NOT, ALPHA TRION?

LIT BY THE FIRE OF MY EXPERIENCE, I BEGAN TO ILLUMINATE OUR WORLD.

MY FIRST ACT AS MISTRESS WAS TO DECLARE PRAESIDIA TORCH-BEARER—

—DEDICATED TO PROTECTING CAMIENS WHO COULD NOT PROTECT THEMSELVES.



EVENTUALLY ONYX FOUND PRAESIDIA—ON CAMINUS ITSELF—AND TOOK HER LIFE.

I HAD NOT EXPECTED PRIMES TO ACT WITH SUCH... RESOLUTENESS.

THEN, WHEN WE FINALLY DISCOVERED CYBERTRON... WE CAME UPON A SURFEIT OF PRIMES.



THE STORYTELLER ALPHA TRION. THE ARISEN—OPTIMUS, THEN STRUCK LIEGE MAXIMO.

PRIMES AS FAR AS ONE CAN SEE, YET WE CONTINUE OUR LIVES AS IF—

THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT PRIMES, MISTRESS. THEY'RE JUST PEOPLE.



SPOKEN LIKE ONE WHO HAD FAITH AND LOST IT.

WHO ARE YOU TO TALK TO ME LIKE THIS? I CAME TO SEE THE TRION.