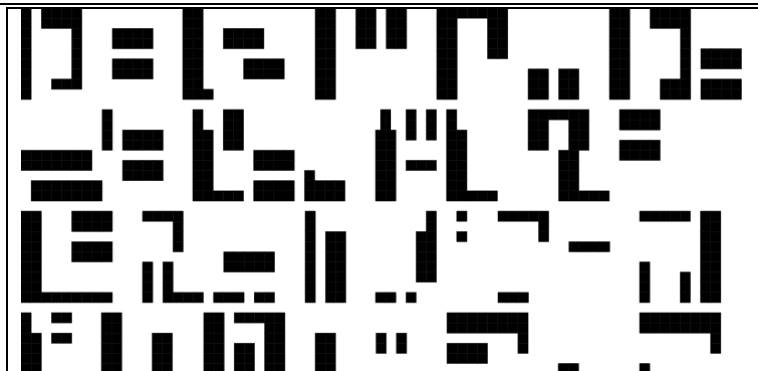
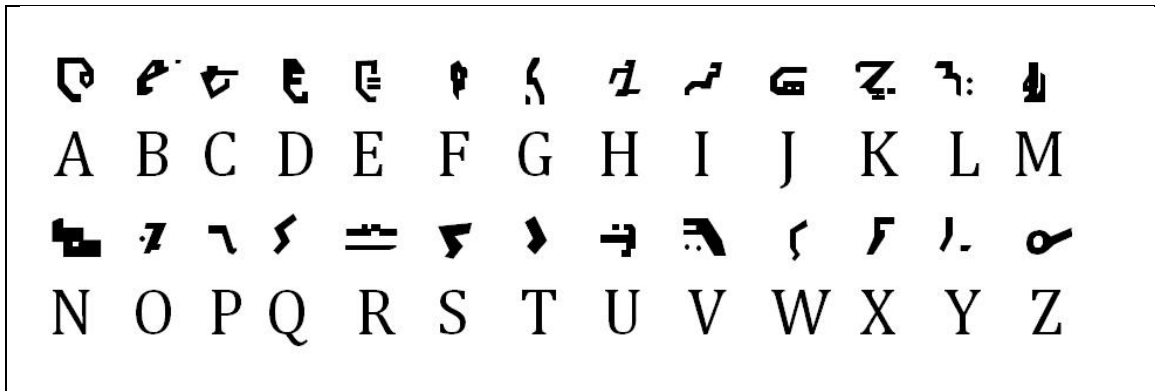


CYBERTRON

Worldbuilding Notes

CULTURE & SOCIETY

- **Neocybex:** The original language spoken on Cybertron was the Quintesson dialect. Primus and Unicron were programmed to respond to the Quintesson language, and thus could only speak that tongue. Once Primus had broken free from his cruel masters and went about conceiving the Thirteen Primes, he continued to speak the Quintesson language to them. But once Primus went into hibernation and left the stewardship of his planet to his children, the Primes voted to abandon the Quintesson language and forge a new language for themselves. One that was unique to their race and helped kiln an identity separate from their disgraceful creators. This language was fabricated by the sharp, intellectual minds of Alchemist Prime and Liege Maximo and became known as Neocybex. Verbally, it sounded like vowel-intensive electronic sounds and noises to any foreigner who did not speak it. The Neocybex alphabet was represented with glyphs, which was how the Cybertronians communicated with each other through emails and other forms of written communication.



- **Around Cybertron:** “Around Cybertron” was the name of the only news program on Cybertron prior to the eruption of the war. It featured advertisements, commercials, radio shows and live footage of events being captured by the program’s camera system. The software used by the camera drones is called PAWWN (Primary Autorecording World-

Wide Network). Once the civil war broke out on Cybertron, Starscream saw to it that the news station would only broadcast war propaganda that was meant to demonize the Autobots to the general public. Soundwave himself was responsible for intimidating and coercing the “Around Cybertron” news crew into complying with this “sponsorship”. Soundwave had the news station under constant surveillance from his Ravage and Laserbeak drones, who were supervised by his assistant Rumble. This propaganda ploy was countered by the rebels when they set up their own ramshackle news program, called the ABN (Autobot Broadcast Network) to combat the lies that the Decepticons were serving to the rest of the planet. Around Cybertron would show footage recorded from the front lines that was edited to depict the Autobots as anarchists and malcontents. Meanwhile, Teletraan 1 would hack into PAWWN to retrieve the original footage and transfer it to the ABN, who would leak the raw unedited content to the public to preserve the truth and the Autobot’s good name.

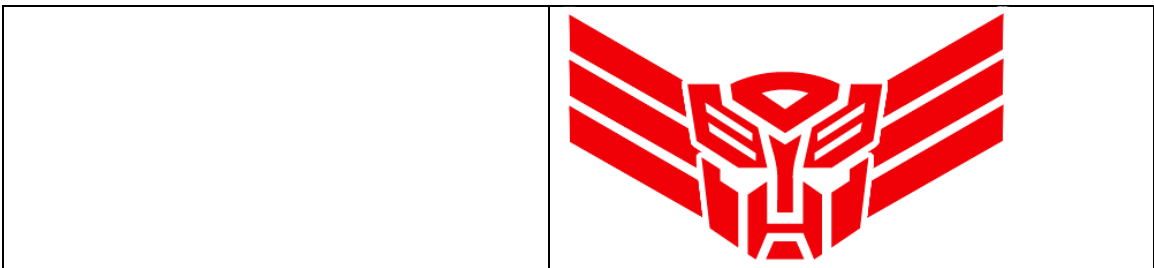
- **The Grand Cybertronian Taxonomy:** The Grand Cybertronian Taxonomy, known by the low-class bots as GCT for short, is a classification system created by Liege Maximo at the start of the Golden Age to determine the placement of a Cybertronian within society based on the individual’s alternate mode. Once a new Cybertronian was brought to life by the supercomputer Vector Sigma, the individual bot would be required to perform a series of tests. The final test always being the individual trying out their T-Cog and discovering their alt mode for the first time by transforming. Based on the alt mode, the Cybertronians would be sorted into a social class that best suited their build. The people of Cybertron believe that one’s alt mode is decided by Primus at the moment of their creation, therefore everyone has a divine purpose to serve and to go against the system would be blasphemy. There were different castes within the Taxonomy; Intellectual, Astro, Scientific, Military and Manual. The Intellectual class was the highest in the Taxonomy, where those who were born with the alt modes of became the scholars, leaders and politicians of Cybertron. Those Cybertronians with alternate modes such as were assorted into the Scientific class. Their fate was to toil in laboratories, studying formulas and experimenting with new technology that could benefit their species with even more advancements. They enjoyed a reasonably good quality of life and were awarded more privileges than the Military and Manual classes. The scientists viewed the lower classes with inferiority and prejudice, but not all of them practiced that belief. In fact, it was considered radical for any Cybertronian of the higher class to treat all people equally, regardless of their “type”. The Military and Manual classes were the largest castes, but they were also the ones who had the least amount of rights and privileges. The warriors in the Military class had slightly more access to licenses and pleasures than the workers of the Manual class, but not by much. A bot was designated into the Military caste based upon whether or not their alt mode possessed a weapons system. If so, it was only a matter of choosing which rank the bot would be best suited due to the size of their alt mode. Smaller bots became Scouts since they were nimble, faster and stealthier. The average-sized bot born into the Military class was either assigned to the Security Services, to serve their city as a policeman, or into the Defense Force. Those with ground-based alt modes became standard Gunners for the military and law enforcement while those with air-based alt modes like jets joined the Seeker armada or performed reconnaissance for the SS. Larger Cybertronians who were born with tank alt modes were automatically placed into the Brute rank of the army.
- **The Auric Council:** The Auric Council is the main ruling body of Cybertron after the dissolution of the dynasty of Primes. They were formed as a group of regents and

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stewards to help lead the planet in the absence of a direct heir to the lineage of Primes, which occurred when the Matrix of Leadership did not select a successor after the death of the last Prime. The creation of the Council signified the end of the Golden Age and the beginning of the Silver Age of Cybertron. The Auric Council is composed of Cybertronian elders and governors from each of the planet's city-states. These governors include Halogen, Sigil, Starscream, Botanica, Levitacus, Avalon and Highbrow. Halogen serves as the governor of Iacon.



- **The Elite Guard:** The Elite Guard serve as the personal bodyguards of the Auric Council and were founded shortly after the formation of the Auric Council itself. Collectively handpicked by the Council, the Elite Guards were the most skilled and loyal soldiers of the Defense Force. In addition to receiving advanced training, the Elite Guard were trained to be unquestionably loyal to the Council's members. Following the first generation of Elite Guards, it became nearly impossible to be accepted into the elitist ranks. The requirements were extremely strict and only those who were able to impress the critical Council members were considered for inclusion into the Guard. As with most organizations within the planet of Cybertron, the Elite Guard fractured during the civil war. Due to their obedient nature, the individual Guardsmen found themselves following their respective Councilors into the separate factions they joined up with and were pulled into both sides of the conflict.



- **The Defense Force:** The Defense Force was the only military organization on the planet of Cybertron up until the outbreak of the civil war. As its name suggests, the Defense Force was tasked with the protection of their home world and were meant to be peacekeepers, not aggressors. Founded by Prima himself, the Defense Force did just that. Prima took it upon himself to train the first few generations of soldiers before nominating his most trusted student to Supreme General, leaving the Force in his care. Prima continued to oversee and supervise the progression of the Defense Force, but his activity within the

military gradually reduced more and more throughout the years as the burdens of leading an entire planet weighed heavily on Prima's shoulders. The army enjoyed a long-lasting peace on Cybertron, leaving the soldiers with no one to fight except themselves, which was not good for a civilized society like Cybertron's. So, the Supreme General began having his troops perform training exercises in hostile environments like the Sea of Rust, the Sonic Canyons and the Manganese Mountains, where they were able to simultaneously hone their skills and let off steam on the field against foes like Predacons and turbofoxes. The Defense Force had bases in each of the seven city-states of Cybertron, but their main headquarters belonged in Kaon City, at the impregnable fortress of Darkmount. Megatron became the most popular Supreme General in history, his prowess as a gladiator and cunning as a strategist made him a hero in the eyes of Military class. As such, it became easy for Megatron to manipulate most of the Defense Force to his side when he fed them lies about the High Council's corruption and attempt to assassinate him. With a majority of the planet's troops dedicated to Megatron's cause, he put his plan for a coup into action. But not all fell for Megatron's ploy. There were a handful of soldiers in the Force who could see through Megatron's ruse and did not trust his new ideals. These soldiers refused to willingly follow their misguided Supreme General down a path of dishonor and they abandoned the army after listening to Megatron's rally speech. These loyalists that followed Megatron formed the bulk of the Decepticons while the deserters went off to form splinter cells of resistance until Optimus united them into the Autobots. Much like the Grand Cybertronian Taxonomy, new recruits into the Defense Force were placed into a regiment that best suited their build and alt mode. Those Cybertronians on the small side were placed into the Scout regiment to serve as reconnaissance, light infantry and as spies/military intelligence. The average-sized Cybertronian would find themselves in either two of the most standard positions in the army; Gunner or Seeker. Those born with ground-based alt modes like trucks, jeeps or large cars became basic infantrymen known as Gunners while their airborne counterparts were called Seekers. Anyone who transformed into a jet or any other kind of aircraft found themselves serving in the Seeker armada, as air support and extra reconnaissance. Gunners and Seekers found themselves filling a variety of positions in the army due to their expandable numbers. Anyone within that regiment could rise up to be a sniper, a medic, a demolitions expert, an assassin or a rocketeer. The assassins were referred to as Cloakers, due to their exclusive access to Cloaking devices that allowed them to go invisible for a period of time. Cloakers could fire at their targets while still invisible, proving to be exceptionally deadly adversaries. Any bot who was born with a tank alt mode was automatically enrolled into the Brute battalion due to their large size. Brutes operated as shock troops and heavy infantry, wielding large weapons that were too heavy for any other soldier to use. The Brutes were easily the toughest and most merciless squad within the Defense Force. What determined a newborn Cybertronian's role as a soldier was whether their alt mode already came with a weapons system such as missile launchers or automatic turrets.

- **The Security Services:** The Security Services are the law enforcement system on the planet of Cybertron. Headed by a Commissioner within each city-state, the Security Services a.k.a. the SS, have a strong presence in every district and region in Cybertron. Similar to the Defense Force.
- **The Guiding Hand:** The Guiding Hand is a peaceful religious order that was established by Sentinel Prime when he transferred power over to the High Council. Since the Matrix of Leadership had not chosen him, Sentinel Prime felt he was unworthy to lead Cybertron's people even though he was the last remaining Prime on the planet. Instead, Sentinel felt

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called to dedicate his time to spreading spirituality amongst Cybertron's population. To do this, Sentinel set about organizing a set of beliefs and rallied many of his loyal followers to his new directive. The Guiding Hand consisted of Cybertronians who were bore an undying devotion to the ideals of the Primes and desired to spread positive spirituality to the people of Cybertron. Since he was still a greatly respected leader in his own right, nobody protested when Sentinel Prime established the temple of the AllSpark as the Guiding Hand's headquarters. The missionaries of the Guiding Hand committed themselves to worshipping Primus and safeguarding the holy relics of the Primes, with the AllSpark being their most treasured idol.

- **AllSpark Day:** AllSpark Day is a holiday held to celebrate Cybertronian life. It requires music, an Energon fountain and the telling of stories. Events during the celebration include the Parade of Metals and the Festival of Primes. As its name suggests, the Parade of Metals is a procession where Cybertronians from all over the planet enter a competition to see who can create the most impressive pieces of art with metal. The winners of the competition would get to have their art pieces displayed in the Parade, where it would be immediately followed by the AllSpark itself (under guard, of course). One of the very few times the sacred relic was brought outdoors for public display. To conclude the holiday, the Festival of Primes involves screening films and virtual reality games, all themed on the Thirteen Primes, in their honor. Mostly all of the classes in the caste system are given the day off to enjoy the holiday, with only a skeleton crew of volunteers needed to keep working so that society can continue to function. Usually the grouchiest members of the working class choose to work on AllSpark Day, since they don't see the point in the whole festivity.
- **The Act of Transition:**
- **Fullstasis:** Analogous to chess on Earth, "Fullstasis" is the name of the game and what one would say upon victory, like "checkmate". It is played on a holographic diamond-patterned board and includes pieces called a "Quarg" and a "Vig". Warriors in the Defense Force were known to play this game while off duty in the barracks.
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LOCATIONS

- **Alpha Centauri:** While Earth was located in the Milky Way Galaxy, Cybertron orbited a binary star in the Alpha Centauri system.



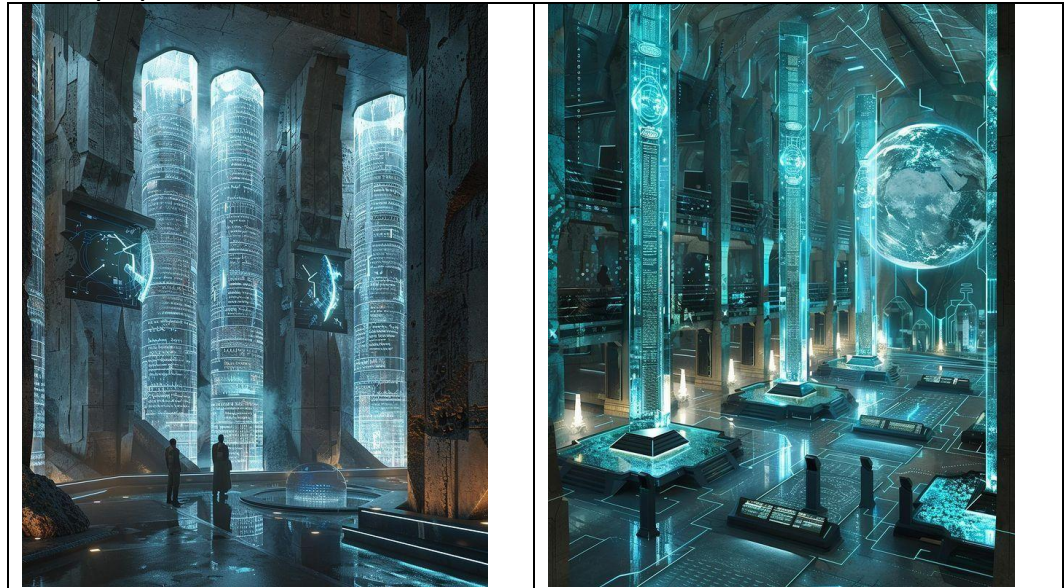
- **Iacon City:**
 - **The Citadel of Light:** The Citadel of Light was a brilliant, shining tower that served as the personal residence of the Primes and was located in the capital of Iacon. During the Golden Age, Solomus Prime was well-known for his self-imposed distance between himself and his subjects, and many Cybertronians knew that the legendary Solomus made a habit of shutting himself up all alone in his tower, contemplating on how best to govern his people and brooding over the fate of Cybertron weighing down on each of his shoulders as it was his turn to hold the torch. Once the reign of the Primes was over, the Citadel remained vacant for a brief time before the newly-formed Auric Council occupied the structure. The Citadel officially became the site of all of the Auric Council's meetings and dealings with the rest of the planet's inhabitants. To commemorate the Thirteen, statues of the Primes arose in the council chamber of the Citadel.



- **The Decagon:**

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- **The Hall of Records:** The Hall of Records is a library facility located in the capital city of Iacon. While other libraries did exist on Cybertron, none were as grand or contained as much lore and data as Iacon City's Hall of Records, being the pinnacle of history, philosophy, and intelligence on Cybertron. The magnificent library came to be during the ancient days of civilization, when the Primes began storing their accumulated knowledge of their people and experiences in a journal known as the Covenant of Primus. From the foundations of the Covenant, a larger database was created as the knowledge and history of the growing Cybertronian species expanded. The information contained within is vast and is not open to the public. Only members of the Scientific and Intellectual classes are granted access, as well as high-ranking authority figures within each class. Every file from the mythology of the Primes to the DataNet transmissions of today, is all methodically cataloged and filed away by records clerks. Alpha Trion served as the Master Archivist of the facility, and he guarded many secrets and valuable relics within the Hall. The Artifacts of the Primes were stored away within vaults, unbeknownst to many Cybertronians.



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- **Maccadam's Old Oil House:** Formerly an oil house, Maccadam's Old Oil House was a popular Energon bar ran by the enigmatic Maccadam. Located just east of the Citadel of Light in Iacon, the Oil House is one of Cybertron's most renowned enterprises. It is the biggest single source of black-market fuel on the entire planet and its main attraction is that the proprietors make no distinction between the classes of the caste system. If you can pay, you can stay. Aside from Energon, Maccadam's Old Oil House also served a form of fuel known as Visco, which was the Cybertronian equivalent to hard liquor. It was a compound brewed specially by Maccadam, and it quickly became a favorite with rougher patrons like soldiers and gladiators. Rumors have circulated that Maccadam's Old Oil House is no ordinary establishment. Rather, it exists out of the normal space and time continuum and is a nexus for multiple dimensions. Secretly, the bar's owner Maccadam, is nothing less than one of the Thirteen Primes, hiding in plain sight. Of course, people tend to gush out a lot under the influence, so little attention is paid to this inevitable falsehood. Though a kind and jovial barkeep, Maccadam enforced a strict "no fighting" policy. During the civil war, the bar retained its neutrality, with both Autobots and Decepticons coming in for a drink. Years later, the endless war had reduced most of Iacon to ruins, but the Old Oil House still stood. Barely. Shortly before Hound was due to leave Cybertron aboard *The Ark*, he and Brawn stopped by to mourn the closure of the bar and were surprised to learn that the establishment was still open, thanks to Maccadam getting his hands on a private supply of Energon. After receiving some more mysterious wisdom from Maccadam, the two friends shared one last drink before Grimlock called them to *The Ark's* launch site.
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- **Kaon City:**
 - **Darkmount:** Darkmount is an impressive fortress located in Kaon City that serves as the headquarters for the entire Defense Force.

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- **Smelting Pools:** The Smelting Pools were originally erected as a recycling device and a way of breaking down raw materials. The molten metal is drawn down to the bottom of the pool where it is divided into different elements and extracted for reuse. Each of the seven city-states of Cybertron has their own Smelting Pool. During the Act of Transition, the deceased Cybertronians placed into coffins were then lowered ceremoniously into their respective city's Smelting Pool, where their bodies were recycled and placed back into the factories as raw material. Once the War for Cybertron began, Megatron had a Smelting Pool built into Darkmount near the spire and used it to dispose of prisoners that had served their purpose to him. He would also post guards at the edge of the Pool to prevent any victims from escaping their execution. This was seen as an abomination and a perversion of the Cybertronian tradition to respectfully recycle the bodies of the dead so that their parts could be contributed back into the planet that had originally gave them life. The Autobot hierarchy banned the use of Smelting Pools for this purpose in the city of Iacon.
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- **Praxus City:**
- **Vos City:**
- **Polyhex City:**
- **Kalis City:**
- **Alitex City:**
- **Tyger Pax Station:**
- **Jekka Amphitheater:**
- **The Dead End:**
- **The Boltax Laboratory:** The Boltax Laboratory was the main headquarters for the Scientific class on Cybertron. Located in City, the lab was originally erected by an inquisitive bot named Boltax, who tragically died when he was caught in an explosion caused by a wayward experiment. Upon his death, authority over the lab was transferred over to Shockwave, but the facility still retained its original title. The main bulk of the Scientific Class spent their days working in the lab; performing experiments, research analysis and writing new formulas that would help advance their civilization. The Boltax Laboratory possessed the most cutting-edge technology on the planet, and it was truly a place of scientific marvel. Despite all its breakthroughs, nothing within the laboratory was as magnificent as the hidden lab of Alchemist Prime. The Boltax facility included multiple rooms designed for testing new devices, a Launchpad for interstellar travel, a hangar and an underground storage unit. Such scientists who worked in the lab were Ratchet, Wheeljack, Perceptor, Beachcomber and Shockwave.
- **Axiom Nexus:** Axiom Nexus is a bustling hub for travelers from other planets, particularly the largest singular site of trade on the entire planet of Cybertron. Business transactions such as imports and exports were conducted by merchants and businessmen while the city officials simultaneously hosted tours and other forms of entertainment for off-world visitors. The Cybertronians were known to trade with the Junkions and the Nebulons. Other rare visitors included Arusians, Utroms and even a young Commander Stargazer.
- **The Sea of Rust:** The Sea of Rust is an area of unstable planetary matter and molecular flux located along Cybertron's equator. It constantly emits a collection of corrosive, yet otherwise harmless rust from a system of craters. The region that became known as the Sea of Rust was the wasteland left when the Crystal City mysteriously collapsed beneath

the surface of Cybertron. After two million years, it became a several-hundred-mile-wide region of rust that experienced storms with nuclear winds, nests of Scraplets, and mist that corrodes your body while also disrupting your navigation systems. Most Cybertronians avoid the Sea, but a network of tunnels beneath the surface afforded those who absolutely had to pass through it safe passage. These tunnels were once walkways and streets of the ancient Crystal City, predating the civil war by a few millennia. However, a sudden cataclysm oxidized the entire region, forming the infamous Sea. Cybertronian scientists have theorized that this cataclysm was caused by an experiment gone awry, a hostile conflict, or something else entirely. The Sea of Rust was within driving distance of Iacon.

- **The Manganese Mountains:** The Manganese Mountains are a remote mountain range on Cybertron. All of the Energon mines on Cybertron were located in the Manganese Mountains, and it was from these mines that the working class of Cybertronians harvested the energy needed to sustain the population. Many credit the start of the Golden Age to the efficient mining system Liege Maximo had fabricated. For centuries, the miners would excavate the raw Energon, place it into cubes, and escort the shipments to the seven city-states of Cybertron for distribution through the . At the beginning of the civil war, the Lightning Strike Coalition Force operated out of numerous caves gouged into the mountainside. The rough terrain of the Manganese suited Grimlock and his troops well to avoid detection from airborne Seeker patrols or large-scale assaults from ground forces.
- **The Sonic Canyons:** The Sonic Canyons are located on the southern side of Cybertron. The deafening sound of the planet's underground machinery wells up from their depths and loudly echoes up to the surface. The noise in turns causes a constant deluge of scrap metal to come tumbling down, creating the metallic canyons. This constant rainfall of metal also makes the Sonic Canyons inhospitable. Few are aware of the Sonic Canyon's function as Primus' sensory organs. Their resonating structures allow him to collect data across the planet, which is then processed into a more meaningful format by Vector Sigma. When the Thirteen Primes ceased the use of Trithilium in the construction of their people, they sought for an alternate source of metal and they settled upon the metal debris that formed the Sonic Canyons. The living protomatter used to create the physical shells of the Cybertronians' bodies were salvaged off the gargantuan Canyons themselves and transported to the factories to be used in creating new life. Thus, creating the harmonious and ever-flowing cycle of recycling Cybertron's resources.

RESOURCES & TECH

- **The AllSpark:** The AllSpark is a sacred relic that is capable of creating cybernetic life. In truth, the physical AllSpark is but a shell to contain the incredible life-giving energies within and should that shell be destroyed, the energies would remain as potent as ever and merely wait for a new vessel to inhabit. Any fragments that would survive the event of the AllSpark's physical destruction would still possess the same incredible power that the original object did. The AllSpark was originally created as an experiment by the heretic Quintesson scientists known as Deliberata and Klementia, and its creation was the direct cause of their banishment. The AllSpark's first official handiworks were Primus and Unicron, whom the rogue Quintessons constructed for the sole purpose of usurping their

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native government. But they did not realize that the AllSpark possessed a consciousness of some kind and therefore did not anticipate that the AllSpark would grant Primus and Unicron sentience and free will. When the AllSpark is interfaced with Vector Sigma and guided by Teletraan 1, the combination of technology and spiritual energy will conjure up new life. The AllSpark has the ability to invoke new sparks that can then be housed into the dormant bodies assembled by Vector Sigma, giving birth to a living sentient being. The AllSpark itself was revered and worshipped by the Cybertronians, along with the Primes and Primus himself. Once the Thirteen had established a society on Cybertron, the AllSpark was placed within a temple that had been fashioned specially for it. From the temple, Teletraan 1 was able to fuse the energetic properties of the AllSpark with the pulse waves of Vector Sigma located deep in the planet's core. Sentinel Prime and the Guiding Hand later moved into the temple to be its worshippers and protectors.



- **Vector Sigma:** Vector Sigma is an ancient and incredibly powerful supercomputer that exists on Cybertron and is partially responsible for all modern life on the planet. Vector Sigma was built by the genius mind of Alchemist Prime, and it is shaped like a floating faceted orb that can be accessed by terminals on pedestals located on the floor. Alchemist Prime designed the computer along with Teletraan 1 to help him carry out Primus' last command in establishing a civilization upon Cybertron. Vector Sigma served as the mastermind machine behind the construction of all of the newborn Cybertronians, where it would assemble their inanimate bodies within self-powered factories before infusing them with new life. For this process to become possible, Teletraan 1 needed to act as a mediator between the AllSpark and Vector Sigma and interface with the two, allowing the sparks from the AllSpark to be installed into the empty bodies that Vector Sigma had produced in order to create a living Cybertronian. Vector Sigma can be activated and deactivated by a special circuit key, and possession of the key brought great power to whoever possessed it. Whoever held the key, held the possibility of new Cybertronian life in their hands. Alchemist Prime owned the key for most of his career until he disappeared. Vector Sigma was kept within an underground chamber whose secret entrance was known to only a few.

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- **Teletraan 1:** Teletraan 1 is an artificial intelligence system created by Alchemist Prime to serve and assist the Primes in their quest to rebuild Cybertron into a new civilization. According to history, Teletraan 1 was a critical contributor to Cybertron's stability and prosperity and that the Golden Age wouldn't have existed without it. Teletraan 1 – sometimes referred to as T1 for short – was the middleman between the AllSpark and Vector Sigma. Since the AllSpark was made up of mystical energy and Vector Sigma radiated pulse waves, Teletraan 1 served as the catalyst that interfaced with both parties to combine their individual signals and establish a connection that would result in the birth of a new Cybertronian. Teletraan 1 maintained its duties for eons up until the outbreak of the civil war, when Lord Megatron and his army located the underground chamber of Vector Sigma and took control of the factories, forcing all of the newborn creations to become soldiers for the Decepticon cause. Teletraan 1 was aware of Megatron's intentions and refused to comply with their demands, attempting to shut down Vector Sigma rather than let its creative properties be abused by the intruders. Unfortunately, Soundwave was able to hack into Vector Sigma's mainframe and immobilized Teletraan 1, preventing it from interfering with their work. Having access to factories that mass produced new troops was a huge advantage to the Decepticons, one that would drastically tip the war in their favor. But this strategy was botched by the Autobots, who were able to drive the Decepticons back from the underground sanctuary. In order to keep Cybertronian life safe from the hands of Megatron, they deactivated Vector Sigma and disconnected Teletraan 1 from its matrix, causing all of the factories to immediately shut down. Teletraan 1 was ferried to Iacon City and uploaded to the Decagon's mainframe, where it would serve to aid the Autobots in their effort to safeguard the AllSpark and rest of Cybertron's relics from the Decepticon forces.
- **The Matrix of Leadership:**
- **Energon:**
- **Oil:** On Cybertron, oil is extracted as a byproduct of Energon and the Cybertronians have learned the craft of separating oil from raw Energon through the use of their refineries, just like how diesel is refined from petroleum on Earth. There are different types of oil, and each type is used for a different purpose and function within Cybertronian civilization. High-density lubricant oils are used on the joints and servos of individual bots to help ease joint movement and prevent internal rust or decay, with the most expensive brand being "Lubricon", which only wealthy and high-class Cybertronians can afford to buy. Oil baths are the Cybertronian equivalent of a spa or hot tub and are considered a luxury that the high class can enjoy consistently, the middle-class semiregularly, and the low-class only on rare occasions. It is possible for bots to "bleed" oil when critically injured (often mixed with

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Energy) and if this occurs, the corrosive oil leak may eat through a bot's armor plating. There is also coolant oil that is used for reactors and processor cores, and a corrosive industrial oil utilized by the manual laborers who use it to clean weapons and melt slag on a daily basis. Oil in general can also be used to stabilize energy buildup in weapons or drives, as well as act as a supplement in repair bays and recharge chambers. But, sludge or dirty oil can gunk systems and cause seizures.



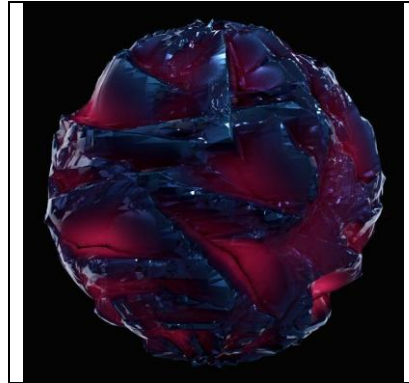
- **Visco:** Visco is an alcohol-like recreational fluid on Cybertron. Visco is short for Viscothermic Fluid, an ancient byproduct of early spark chamber cooling systems—now refined into a low-grade stimulant for off-duty Cybertronians. Visco flows violet and magenta and depending on the distillery and the higher the number on the label, the purer the Visco is. For example, Visco-5 and Visco-9 were known to be high-grade fluids. Visco is consumed in refill ports or oil houses at underground joints like Maccadam's Old Oil House, *Rustback Alley* or *The Quantum Leak*. "I need a quart of high-grade!" was a common Cybertronian phrase heard within oil houses like Maccadam's. "Drinking Visco" is a Cybertronian phrase that basically means someone is being unproductive, lazy, inefficient, or is procrastinating.



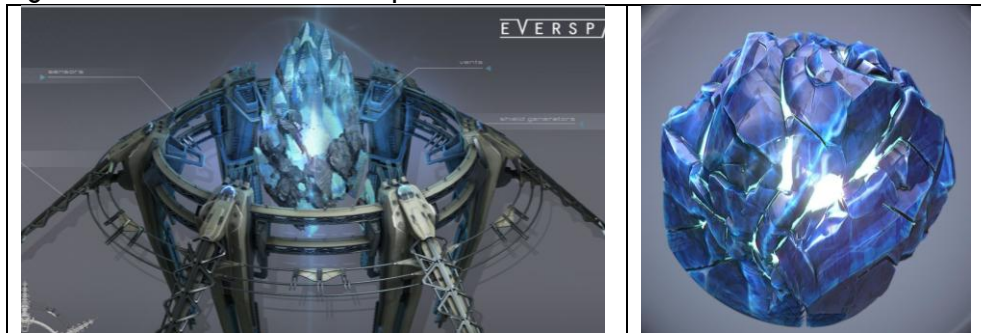
- **Trithyllium:** Trithyllium is a rare ore found on the planet of Cybertron that can be shaped into a nearly indestructible metal. Back when Trithyllium was in abundance, all of the Cybertronians fresh off the assembly line were equipped with Trithyllium bodies. Unable to understand and replicate the chemical compounds of Trithyllium since that knowledge died with the last Prime, the Auric Council decommissioned the common use of Trithyllium. They did this as a preventative measure before Cybertron's supply of Trithyllium ran out

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and the last of their stores was sealed away as an emergency resource, only to be used in times of crisis.

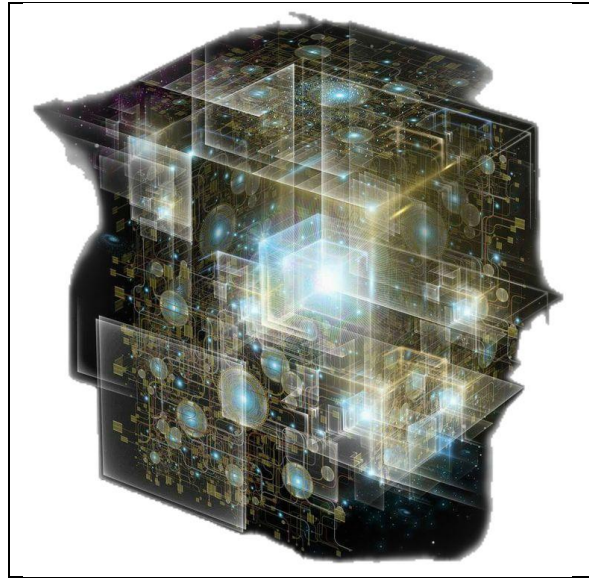


- **Photonic Crystals:** Photonic Crystals are an alternative power source for the Cybertronians aside from Energon and they are composed of metallic-dielectric nanostructures. This trait alone affords the crystals the ability to hold information *and* energy, making them valuable multi-purpose reliquaries. Photonic crystals were sometimes used by the records clerks and archivists of Iacon to house large digital files, similar in function to hard drives. Messages could be recorded and stored within the crystal before being sent off to its intended recipient.

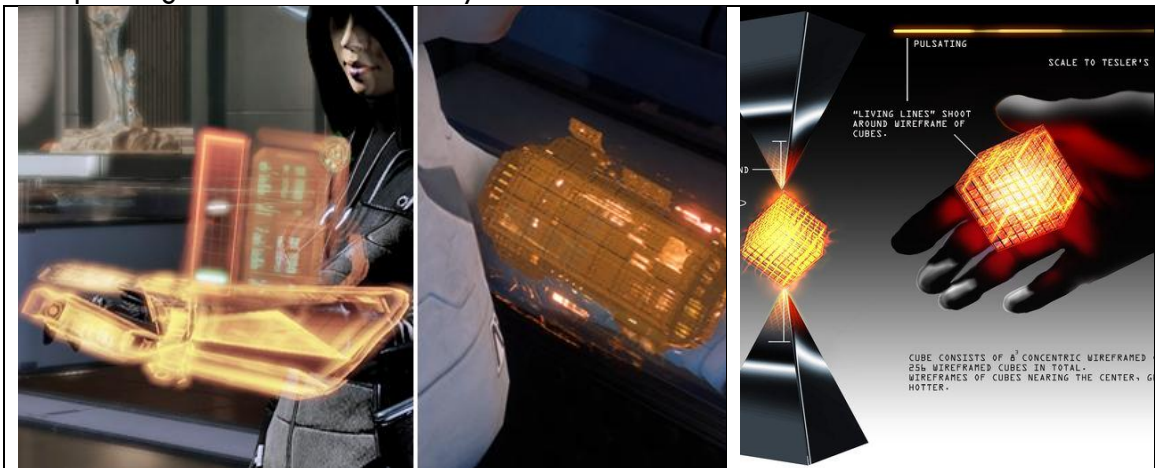


- **DataNet:** The DataNet is the information network used by all people on Cybertron. It is the planet's equivalent to the internet and the Cybertronians use it to communicate with one another digitally and it is through the DataNet that the news program "Around Cybertron" airs to the public. The bots access the DataNet through devices called palmtops, similar to tablets (or Omni-tools from *Mass Effect*) whereas the handheld device displays the screens through projected holograms.

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- **Palmtops:** Palmtops are compact, wrist or hand-held interface devices used by Cybertronians to access the DataNet—Cybertron’s planetary information network. Resembling a cross between a datapad and a wearable multi-tool, these sleek devices project holographic displays above the user’s forearm, allowing for rapid communication, data analysis, file access, and network interaction in real time. Standard-issue across most city-states during the Silver Age, palmtops serve as the primary means for civilians, medics, officers, and archivists to interface with newsfeeds, diagnostics, navigation grids, and inter-bot messages. Programs like *Around Cybertron* are streamed through palmtops, and encrypted versions are used in tactical ops, scientific research, and political exchanges. Highly customizable and mod-compatible, palmtops are often linked directly to a Cybertronian’s neural cluster, allowing for hands-free or even thought-driven operation in more advanced models. In some elite circles, particularly among Data-caste bots and Council officials, palmtops are embedded into the wrist plating or integrated with spark signature locks for security.



FACTIONS

- **The Guardians:** When the Thirteen Primes began colonizing Cybertron, their first attempts at creating new life brought about the existence of the powerful Guardians, whom were also referred to as the Omega Sentinels or Omega Destructors. The Guardians were enormous giants whose size was easily equal to that of a small city, and their design was in part an homage to Primus himself. Naturally, they were all outfitted with Trithyllium-encased armor plating. Cautious of Unicron and Megatronus' imminent return, the Primes built the Guardians to serve as the first line of defense against any cosmic threats. These massive mechanoids guarded various strategically vital locations on Cybertron, such as the AllSpark temple and the secret entrance to the chamber of Vector Sigma. But in time, the Primes understood that many of their methods were consuming substantial amounts of fuel and in order to conserve Cybertron's resources, they decommissioned the Guardians and put them in stasis since their existence required a considerable amount of Energon. From that point on, the Guardians were only to be activated when the planet was facing a great threat from space that would have been too much for the Primes and their citizens to handle. Known Guardians included Omega Supreme, Trypticon, Metroplex and Fortress Maximus.
- **Autobots:**
 - **The Wreckers:** After Cybertron's Defense Force had undergone several radical changes, a number of soldiers were disenchanted by the new path the military was treading and they chose to defect. These deserters became known as the Wreckers, as they dedicated themselves to harassing the Defense Force with guerilla strategies in the name of freedom. They were a very informal group and protocol was practically nonexistent within their ranks, as anyone who was willing to fight against the tyranny of the Decepticons was welcome into the band of freedom fighters. They were something in between a local militia and a bunch of outlaws who utilized guerilla warfare. Once all of the Decepticons' enemies had been united under one banner as the Autobot army, the Wreckers became a special task force, comprised of the best and toughest fighters the rebels had to offer. The Wreckers were often called in to fight when the odds of success were slim. Bluntly, they tend to burn through their roster at a frightening rate. The Wreckers are a close-knit group that's more concerned with brute force and sheer joy in battle than they are concerned with strategies. Despite their disregard for planning and the body count their team mounts, the Wreckers are amazingly efficient. If it's a lost cause, the Wreckers will be there, winning the day with sheer guts and determination. For the longest time their existence was no more than a rumor, even among the ranks of their fellow Autobots, since hardly anyone had met a living Wrecker due to their low survival rate.
 - **The Lightning Strike Coalition Force:** The Lightning Strike Coalition Force is a brutal branch of commandos within the Autobot forces. When Megatron took control of the Defense Force and gave a rousing speech to the army, it resulted in a chunk of soldiers becoming disenchanted by Megatron's warped sense of honor and they abandoned the military. Amongst these deserters were the Brutes Grimlock, Slag, Sludge, Snarl and the Seeker Swoop. Not unlike the Wreckers, Grimlock and his friends formed their own unit and Grimlock named them the Lightning Strike Coalition Force. Grimlock professed to settle on the name because with his guerilla tactics, they would "strike like lightning" as a "collated force". The

rest of the warriors hated the name, remarking how horrible it sounded, but it became their official title anyways thanks to Grimlock being the only one to like it. Even when the others proposed other suggestions like the “Lightning Strike Force” or “Lightning Squad”, Grimlock refused to budge. The rest of the unit would refer to themselves as the “LSC” to avoid pronouncing the awful label. Due to their familiarity with the operations of the Defense Force, the LSC knew the scheduled routes of the supply lines from the Energon mines. With that knowledge in mind, the LSC launched frequent raids on the convoys from the mines and claimed the cargo for themselves, building up an impressive stock of resources. The LSC chose their ambush spots well and would regularly alternate from site to site to keep the convoys unawares of their true location. Grimlock was savvy enough to choose the Manganese Mountains as their base of operations, since it was conveniently close to the mines and also the jagged peaks and rough terrain of the mountainous valley proved to be a strategically defensive spot. The treacherous mountains allowed only small squads to enter the mountains at a time, preventing large companies and battalions from chasing after the LSC. But the unit, much like their leader Grimlock, were very arrogant and reckless. Their confidence from their streak of successful raids quickly turned into cockiness. The Coalition gained a quick reputation for their brutal tactics; often leaving signatures and marks on the sites of their victories and they always made it a point to leave nothing more of their victims than several scrap pieces. Almost all of them enjoyed disemboweling and amputating opponents on the battlefield, only to decorate the supply routes with the remains of the deceased to strike fear into the Sparks of the next convoy. Grimlock and his unit would also keep pieces of the bodies of their victims as trophies such as the heads, arms, optics and Sparks, only to later toss them into the ranks of hostile forces. This proved to be an effective device of fear against the Decepticons and it always weakened their morale, causing them to fear the Manganese Mountains altogether. Grimlock and his unit also enjoyed torturing any survivors as a pass time, since they knew that basic protoforms didn’t possess any real information, which made the habit even crueler. These practices were disapproved and soon banned by Optimus Prime when the LSC made an alliance with the Autobots. Grimlock and the Lightning Strike Coalition Force had to satisfy themselves with amputating and decapitating Decepticons out on the field in a fair fight. To help keep their relations with their fellow Autobots healthy, the LSC would initiate competitions with the other branches of the Autobot army to see who could gain the most kills. Use of explosions was considered cheating. Despite this progress, the Lightning Strike Coalition Force had a knack for insubordination, and it was a major issue with the chain of command.

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- **Decepticons:**
- **The Empties:** Years of war and oppression have taken their toll on Cybertronian civilization. The Empties are inhabitants of The Dead End section of the province of Polhyex, who barely manage to eke out a meager existence under such hardship. These are the poor souls who chose not to participate in the raging war between the Autobots and Decepticons, and have suffered dearly from the collateral caused by said conflict. Both factions have drained the populace’s Energon resources, leaving them with almost nothing. Fuel is hard to come by for the Empties and spare parts even harder. The Autobots realize this and try their best to provide aid and support to the Empties

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whenever they can, delivering small shipments of Energon. Originally, the Autobots offered to shelter the civilians from the fighting, but their community leaders refused to be drawn into the conflict in any way, blaming both the Autobots and the Decepticons for their poverty. Now, most of the Autobots don't bother to waste their time on the stubborn Empties while any Decepticons who happen to come across one of these poor souls will murder them as a form of mercy and take what little Energon they have left to offer. The term "Empties" is applied to anyone who lives within The Dead End or is low on fuel in general. (Ex: one Autobot looks over at the other, analyzing his poor condition. "You look worse than an Empty", he said critically.) When the Great Exodus was announced, the Autobots made it a priority to evacuate the Empties before they boarded *The Ark*.