

# MEGATRON

## Outline

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### ACT 1

- **Prologue:** Through a narration, Alpha Trion reads from the Covenant of Primus and very briefly covers the creation of Cybertron before going into detail about how the Golden Age of Cybertron ended when the 13<sup>th</sup> Prime died and the Matrix of Leadership never chose an heir. Now, an assembly of regents known as the Auric Council has taken up temporary rule over Cybertron until the day may come that the dynasty of the Primes returns. Cybertron's current era – the Silver Age – has transformed their world in the absence of a Prime to lead their civilization. Without the stewardship of the Primes, civil unrest grows throughout Cybertron as challengers to the Grand Taxonomy known as the Equalists petition to abolish the caste system. Alpha Trion ends his chronology by praying that Cybertron will continue to prevail until one who is worthy will return to claim the Matrix and lead their people into peace and restoration.
- **Megatron's Establishing Character Moment:** Similar to Cal Kestis' establishing character moment with his coworker Prauf in the first level of *Jedi: Fallen Order*.
- **New Life:** Text appears on the screen saying, "One Year Later". We open with the Ky-Alexia factories underneath Cybertron and the audience witnesses how the symbiosis between the sacred relic the AllSpark, the supercomputer Vector Sigma and the artificial intelligence Teletraan 1 creates new Cybertronian life. This is exemplified by a montage similar to the opening title sequence of *Bicentennial Man* where we see the robots being assembled in a nuanced and beautifully organic and methodical way. We witness the construction of a small yellow bot who is given the designation number B-127, a lightly built red bot named A-33, a green bot labelled R-690, and a white bot labelled V-06X. After passing several tests, the final one requiring the newborn bots to transform into their alt mode, B-127, R-690, and V-06X are placed into the military caste as cadets while A-33 is assigned to the Manual working class. On the assembly line, B-127 meets A-33 and the two chat about where they are being sent off to, with B-127 going to the military academy in Kaon as a cadet while A-33 is being deployed to the Hall of Records as a clerk.
- **Assignments Part 1/2:** B-127 is transported to Kaon City, Cybertron's militaristic city-state. There he is inducted into the army (the Defense Force) and eagerly begins his Scout training in boot camp at Darkmount. There he meets fellow cadets R-690 and V-06X for the first time face-to-face, and the three of them are assigned to the tutelage of Sergeant Brawn, a veteran Scout and instructor. When V-06X mocks Brawn's short height under his breath and questions his capabilities, the instructor responds with a clobbering punch that knocks V-06X off his feet. Brawn tells his students that even though they're robotic creatures, they're not mindless machines and they experience life and learn just like any other organic being. Therefore, they cannot simply just

program each of the warriors on how to do their jobs, which is why Cybertronians must be trained by instructors like him.

- **Assignments Part 2/2:** A-33 arrives at the Hall of Records and is introduced to Alpha Trion, the kind and sage-like Master Archivist. While giving the clerk a tour, Alpha Trion receives a visitor in the form of Megatron, Supreme General of the Defense Force. Megatron methodically studies a holo-vid of the Thirteen Primes as Alpha Trion approaches him and apologizes to Megatron, as they'll not be able to meet today and discuss the philosophy as they usually do. Through their brief exchange, it becomes clear that Megatron regards Alpha Trion as something of a mentor even though they both seem to have an equal amount of knowledge. The new records clerk is impressed with Megatron's sharp mind, and Trion remarks that Megatron would've been an excellent scholar had he not chosen to be a soldier. A-33 is amazed to hear how Megatron had originally been sorted as an Energon miner before rising up in status and becoming a part of the Military class. Something unheard of on Cybertron.
- After a grueling first week of training, Brawn treats his students to a trip to the Jekka Amphitheater to watch the gladiator battles. There, the students witness an impressive champion winning all of his matches and emerging from the tournament as the final victor. When the awed cadets ask Brawn who the champion was, he informs them that it is their commanding officer, Megatron. While all the trainees are impressed, none are as floored as V-06X, who begins to idolize the Supreme General.
- B-127, R-690 and V-06X return to the Darkmount barracks and have a bonding moment while playing Fullstasis (Cybertronian version of holographic chess) and the three of them get into a friendly debate about the Grand Taxonomy and its fairness.
- After the match, Megatron meets with Councilor Starscream, the governor of Kaon, in the locker room. Starscream informs Megatron that he has brought the Supreme General's petition before the High Council, and they are open to the idea. Megatron questions Starscream's motives for helping him and reveals that he is aware of the governor's reputation for being a backstabbing liar. As a sign of good faith, Starscream gifts Megatron with a fusion cannon, the winning prize of the gladiator tournament. Starscream reports that the High Council is about to host a session and they request Megatron's presence to discuss the details of his proposition. Crowds of Cybertronians excitedly wave and applaud for Megatron as he passes by them and is escorted to the Citadel of Light with Starscream.
- While working late one night, Alpha Trion was intrigued to see his newest records clerk – A-33 – studying constellations. He was particularly fascinated with the Orion Pax constellation. Alpha Trion sat down with the clerk and talked with him about the Cybertronian tradition of naming one another to better help establish an identity and a sense of individuality. Trion states that every single Spark on the planet is precious, regardless of what class they belong to, and everyone deserves a chance to be special. And that starts with a name. The grateful A-33 decides on the name, "Orion Pax".
- At the Citadel of Light, the High Council discuss Megatron's proposition with him. Since the holiday AllSpark Day is nigh approaching, Megatron suggests that the Council bring the Matrix of Leadership out from its hiding place and allow Megatron to see if he is

worthy of the mystical artifact. Halogen shows concern for Megatron wishing to have his test with the Matrix in public, since if the Matrix does not believe he is worthy, the humiliation and embarrassment could severely damage Megatron's image, not to mention his ego. But with his charisma and confidence, Megatron convinces the High Council that the Matrix *will* choose him and that the test must be public in order for the entire planet to witness, otherwise the populace will question the High Council's motives and believe that there is some political scheming going on if Megatron's test is held privately and he passes it, since ultimate authority over the planet will revert to him. Unable to counter Megatron's argument, the High Council grants Megatron his request.

- The Defense Force aid the Security Services in guarding and patrolling Iacon as the Parade of Metals proceeds through the city in honor of AllSpark Day. The High Council hosts the festivities while Sentinel Prime and the Guiding Hand stand guard over the AllSpark as it is displayed to the people aboard a float. During the Parade, B-127 is reunited with the same records clerk he met at the assembly line. The clerk informs B-127 that his name is now Orion Pax and they have a brief and friendly exchange about their jobs and lives within their respective classes. At the end of the procession, Sentinel Prime, along with the High Council ask Supreme General Megatron to step forward. Halogen explains to the public that they are going to test Megatron's worthiness and see if he will be accepted by the Matrix of Leadership and become the next Prime. If he does, then Cybertron's rule will revert back to the Primes. The crowds cheer for Megatron as they support their favorite celebrity. As the Matrix is presented to Megatron, all goes quiet when the Matrix doesn't respond to him. It remains dormant, even after multiple attempts at troubleshooting, and the crowds are shocked. Humiliated and confused, Megatron steps down and departs in shame while the festivities of AllSpark Day continue with the Festival of Primes. The High Council and the rest of the Cybertronians carry on and try to pretend that the situation with Megatron didn't just happen. Starscream does his best to avoid Megatron but the Supreme General corners him and confronts him, accusing the well-known liar of plotting against him. Starscream insists he is innocent of any tampering with the Matrix, which makes Megatron believe that someone else within the High Council is responsible for the perceived foul play. The private conversation between the two is interrupted by the arrival of Sentinel Prime, who offers Megatron comfort and support in the wake of his recent disgrace. Megatron asks Sentinel for the Prime's assistance in seeing if there was any other way of restoring the dynasty of the Primes, and with it, the Golden Age. When Sentinel asks Megatron why he wants to become a Prime so bad, Megatron professes that he sees how the inequality amongst the Grand Taxonomy has caused civil unrest and he firmly believes that every Cybertronian should have an equal opportunity to pursue their own destiny and career. This realization came to Megatron during his time in the army when he rose through the ranks to become Supreme General not because of his alt mode, but because of his own potential and efficiency. With his authority as a Prime, Megatron would see his dream of equality become a reality. Sentinel laments that the Thirteen had their chance and they squandered it with their mistakes, and

while they did bring about the Golden Age, it would be folly to try to change a system that has lasted for thousands of years. Sentinel insists that their only hope is to leave the past behind them and to move forward into the future. To dwell on the past would be an unhealthy waste of energy. As for the dynasty of Primes, their return hinges on whoever the Matrix's next successor is. Frustrated and discouraged, Megatron leaves them, and he watches the Festival of Primes in bitterness.

- At the end of the Festival of Primes, the public celebrations are brought to a close and the Defense Force is given leave to enjoy the rest of the night. Drift leads B-127 and Hound down into the underground of Kaon's streets and takes them to see an illegal gladiator death match hosted by the con artist twins Sideswipe and Sunstreaker. Drift uses his connections from the Defense Force to gain entry into the stadium, where the three of them discuss the legends of the Primes, the Matrix, and Megatron's unworthiness. Drift still believes firmly that Megatron is worthy of being a Prime and that the High Council are too corrupt to relinquish their power over to a new Prime and so they must have somehow rigged the Matrix to not respond to the Supreme General. B-127 has his doubts about Megatron's intentions and believes that there must be a side of him that the world doesn't see aside from the famous gladiator persona. Hound remains undecided. The death matches are suddenly interrupted and shut down by the arrival of the Security Services, led by Deputy Chief Jazz. B-127 and Drift manage to escape but Hound is caught, and once he shows them his identification as a soldier, they let him off with a warning since it's his first offense while his comrades laugh at Hound mischievously from a distance.
- Megatron holds an audience with the High Council at the Citadel of Light and just like Drift, he accuses them of rigging the Matrix. The High Council denies such claims, and Halogen reminds Megatron that he warned him of the consequences that came with failing the Matrix's test in public. To which Megatron arrogantly demands that he be named a Prime anyways, believing that his credentials are sufficient enough to fulfill the Thirteen Primes' ideals. While he may not be a Prime, Megatron asks to be the forerunner for the return of the dynasty of Primes. He wishes to prepare the planet for the Matrix's next chosen one and lay down the groundwork for the deconstruction of the social classes. But doing so would grant Megatron the same amount of authority as the High Council. When they refuse, Megatron's ego and pride are shattered, and he murders Halogen with the fusion cannon and proceeds to slay the present Elite Guardsmen. Megatron barely escapes the encounter with his life as he takes Starscream hostage. Starscream pleads for his life and Megatron intimidates him into submission, telling the governor that it's time to mobilize Kaon against the High Council.
- Megatron orders the Defense Force's intelligence officer Soundwave to take control of the "Around Cybertron" news station and through the use of the Force's ravager and laserbeak drones, Soundwave accomplishes this. He coerces the news crew into broadcasting the station's new "sponsor".
- Megatron hosts a rally speech at Darkmount that is broadcasted throughout all of Cybertron, fabricating a lie to the entire Defense Force that the corrupt High Council had tampered with the Matrix to hold onto their power and had tried to assassinate him

when the Supreme General had uncovered their foul play. The soldiers of the Defense Force fell sway to their beloved general's words as he called for a full mobilization against the High Council to dethrone them. The rest of Cybertron views the broadcast, and the populace becomes divided in their opinions and beliefs of who's in the right. A chunk of the Defense Force recognized the dishonorable path Megatron was leading the army down and they deserted the military. Among them were Brawn, Kup, Grimlock and a handful of Brutes and Seekers. Brawn beseechs his students and asks them if they will continue to follow Megatron. Drift has full faith in Megatron, and while B-127 doesn't trust Megatron, he chooses to stay in the army because of his duty as a soldier and because he might still be able to do some good for the people of Cybertron through his position. Hound stays because of B-127's influence. Brawn respects B-127's sense of duty and wishes for the cadets to stay safe and to keep their eyes open and their brains sharp as Cybertron goes through this troubling time.

- Megatron visits the Hall of Records and is greeted by Orion Pax, and they engage in a cordial conversation about the Hall of Records' function. Meanwhile, the Defense Force establish a perimeter around the Hall, sealing off the library. The Security Services arrive and Chief Prowl commands the soldiers to stand down, leading to a standoff. Alpha Trion arrives and frighteningly orders Orion to step away from Megatron, asking the Supreme General in distress, "what have you done?!" Megatron answers that if the High Council won't accept that a change needs to be made, then he'll take matters into his own hands and bring the change about himself. Megatron politely asks that Alpha Trion relinquish the Artifacts of the Primes, and when the Master Archivist refuses, Megatron orders his Seekers to bomb the city. Horrified at the sight, B-127 and Hound watch as innocent civilians are caught up in the explosions and crushed by the debris of falling buildings. The SS leave to support the citizens but when the soldiers block their way, all hell breaks loose. His patience gone, Megatron attacks Trion. The clerks rise up to defend their master and they are easily slaughtered by Megatron, along with Alpha Trion. Orion Pax quickly shuts down the library after launching the Artifacts of the Primes into space. Orion Pax is fatally wounded by Megatron for his heroism and Megatron leaves to contend with the rest of the battle.
- B-127 and Hound instinctually begin helping the SS evacuate the civilians of Polyhex but are stopped by Drift, who is heartbroken to see them betray the Defense Force. A heated argument breaks out between the trio as their friendship is tragically ended by their opposing ideals. B-127 and Hound are forced to subdue Drift when he tries to shoot them. With the SS in full retreat to Iacon, the Defense Force begin searching for any survivors and execute them. They find a dying Orion Pax and are about to put him out of his misery until he is rescued by B-127 and Hound and they ferry him to Iacon. Upon arriving at the SS station in Iacon, they find it overcrowded with refugees and knowing that Orion doesn't have much time, they bring him to the Temple of the AllSpark instead, begging for Sentinel Prime's aid. Sentinel welcomes them and admits that he is not the best medic, but he will do his best.
- While working on Orion Pax, Sentinel notices that the Matrix's energy signature, (which he has hidden in his office) is rising unusually. He opens the Matrix's safe and is stunned

to see the relic react strongly to the wounded Orion Pax. Sentinel places the Matrix within Orion's chest and watches in awe as the bot is fully healed and transformed into a Prime. B-127 and Hound wait outside Sentinel's office to hear the results of the surgery. Optimus exits the room and thanks his rescuers for his life.

- While the Defense Force, now being called Decepticons by the rest of the planet, are looting the overthrown city of Polyhex, they are ambushed by a squad of freedom fighters calling themselves the Wreckers. They send a message to Megatron by brutally slaying the pillagers and claiming it as vengeance for the innocents of the city. Megatron views the message from Darkmount and when he recognizes the Wreckers as former soldiers from the Defense Force, he dispatches squads of assassins to eradicate *all* of the defectors from the Force.
- In the Manganese Mountains, a small squad of Decepticon assassins search for the deserters. Believing that they have their base surrounded, the assassins attack but Grimlock surprises them and kills them all single-handedly. The rest of the LSC arrive just as their leader spares the last soldier so that they can torture him for fun. Afterwards, Prowl and Grimlock speak to each other via hologram as Prowl proposes an alliance between the LSC and SS. Grimlock rejects the offer, stating proudly that he and his unit can take care of themselves.
- Sentinel Prime summons Prowl to the Citadel, where they discuss how there are multiple cells of resistance spread across Cybertron, but with the High Council gone, there is no leader to organize them. As Prowl pressures Sentinel to assume command of the scattered rebel factions, the Last Prime introduces Optimus. When Prowl is critical of Optimus' legitimacy, the newborn Prime opens his chest to reveal the Matrix, which causes Prowl to bow in apology. As Sentinel and Optimus propose a meeting between all the faction leaders, Starscream and his Seeker armada seize the Ky-Alexia factories to produce more troops for the Decepticon cause, butchering all of the workers. Teletraan 1 alerts the Citadel of the intrusion, and the Primes mobilize the Guiding Hand and the SS.
- Teletraan 1 attempts to shut down the factory but is stopped by Soundwave and as the two feverishly attempt to override one another, the Primes attack. The meager forces of the Primes are incompetent against the trained Seekers but despite that, Optimus manages to push back the Decepticons single-handedly, liberating Ky-Alexia. Optimus and Sentinel battle Starscream and Soundwave together and win the day. Sentinel permanently shuts down the factory so that neither side can use it to tip the balance of the war in their favor. They uninstall Teletraan 1 from Vector Sigma and bring it back to the Citadel with him. En route to Iacon, Optimus orders invitations to be sent to every rebel leader for a war council at Iacon.
- At the war council, Optimus firmly asserts his authority as the new leader of the united resistance against Megatron. He reprimands each of the commanders, since their unwillingness to work together has already led to the deaths of many innocents. Sentinel supports Optimus as the true leader by describing the prophecy of the Last Prime to them, and that Optimus has fulfilled it. Grimlock pledges the LSC to the Autobot cause, but he gives Prime attitude and promises him that if Optimus cannot



prove himself a capable commander, then he will take matters into his own hands and become leader of the Autobots to prevent all of Cybertron from becoming like Polyhex.

- A strategy is implemented to combat the propaganda that the Decepticons have been spreading, and the Autobots organize the ABN. With the SS' help, the ABN is able to interfere with the Decepticon transmissions to the public and Optimus sends out a rallying call to all of Cybertron, asking them to stand up and help them resist Megatron. A number of volunteers pour into Iacon, motivated by the Prime's speech. Optimus sets the few experienced Autobot warriors to training the new recruits as he names each of the faction leaders as officers in the new Autobot army. The combined forces include the Guiding Hand, the Wreckers, the LSC, the Security Services and volunteers and refugees from the working class.
- Optimus also leads the newly-formed Autobots in a string of successful raids and skirmishes, bolstering their morale and their hope in winning the war. He also leads them in besieging the Defense Force base in Iacon and converting it into their central command, renaming it the Decagon. During all of this, Optimus and B-127 become closer friends and the Prime starts grooming the young Scout as his protégé.
- Intrigued at the new Prime, Megatron calls for a meeting with Optimus and the two convene at neutral ground in the Sea of Rust. Optimus sees this an opportunity to negotiate peace but when Megatron's terms involve Optimus allowing Megatron to become his second-in-command, Prime refuses to budge. Megatron gives the signal and his hidden Decepticons attempt to assassinate Optimus, but B-127 jumps in front of his friend and takes the shot. Both parties evacuate back to their bases.
- With the war at a standstill now, Megatron decides to reactivate the Guardians and use them to tip the war back in his favor. Megatron leads an expedition into the Sonic Canyons to awaken the buried Guardian Trypticon, and when word of this reaches the Autobots, Optimus immediately mobilizes his men and they prepare to intercept the Decepticons.
- By the time the Autobots arrive, the Decepticons have already discovered Trypticon and begin preparations to reactivate him. Grimlock sees this and disobeys Optimus' orders and attacks too early, jeopardizing the entire mission. This recklessness costs the Autobots greatly as Snarl was killed and many more joined him or were badly damaged. As the retreat was sounded, Grimlock himself was critically wounded and would have died hadn't Optimus charged back into the fray to save the stranded insubordinate. B-127 and Drift faceoff in a duel and B-127 is beaten and captured. The sorely beaten Autobots returned back to base to lick their wounds and Optimus is grieved to learn of B-127's capture. Hound continues to go on patrol for him, hoping that he'll escape.
- After discussing the heavy losses suffered because of the continuing defiance from the LSC, Optimus agrees with his advisors to excommunicate Grimlock and his men. Once the Act of Transition had been hosted by Sentinel for the deceased, Optimus approached Grimlock privately at Snarl's coffin. Prime was stunned to hear the warrior's genuine apology for causing so much pain and to hear him express gratitude for being rescued. He states that he deserved to be left to die for his rash mistake. Grimlock then humbly swears in Snarl's name that he and his troops will do whatever it takes to

redeem themselves and that they will be honored to follow Optimus' lead completely. Prime accepts the apology and chooses to keep the LSC in the fight.

- Sentinel Prime prepares to counter the Decepticon's plan to reactivate Trypticon by leading a team of scientists down beneath the AllSpark temple to awaken the slumbering Guardian, Omega Supreme. Sentinel expresses his reluctance to go to such extremes since he knows the body count will be high with the return of the Guardians.
- Meanwhile, at Darkmount, B-127 is tortured and interrogated by Starscream on the location of the other Guardians. When B-127 refuses to talk, Drift is called in. Drift questions B-127 and the former regrets the decision that led to their separation, but he firmly believes in Megatron. Even though he is bitter and hurt about Drift's lack of empathy, B-127 tries to enlighten his old comrade on the brainwashing that Megatron has on him. Drift's loyalty to the Decepticons remains steadfast.
- Megatron launches a full-scale invasion on Iacon with the arisen Trypticon. The amount of Energon used to reactivate the titan completely depletes Tarn of all of its energy. The Guardian devastates what's left of the city of Tarn and moves on to Iacon. Optimus leads a futile defense against the combined might of the Decepticon army and Trypticon, hoping to buy Sentinel time. The Autobots suffer heavy casualties and are almost annihilated as Omega Supreme is brought back online and engages Trypticon in a gargantuan struggle. Impactor, commander of the Wreckers, dies in Optimus' hands and he takes up the warrior's Energon axe and fights Megatron in a fierce duel. B-127 manages to escape in the chaos and joins the battle only to witness Drift assassinate Sentinel Prime in cold blood. Megatron subdues Optimus and is about to execute him as well until B-127 jumps in and Megatron responds by ripping the Scout's voice box from his throat. Omega Supreme and Trypticon tear one another apart and Optimus, fueled with rage at B-127's injuries, savagely attacks Megatron and critically wounds him. This forces the Decepticons to take their leader and retreat.