

TRANSFORMERS: TBD

"MEGATRON IS MY HERO"
(EPISODE 106)

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LOG LINE: *Windblade is trying to make Bee understand who Megatron is. He doesn't get it until she reluctantly has him re-experience how he lost his voice.*

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CAST LIST

BUMBLEBEE (35)
WINDBLADE (14)
ORION PAX (12)

MEGATRON (25)
STARSCREAM (8)
NIGHTRACER (7)
SHOCKWAVE (4)
SOUNDWAVE (4)

DECEPTICON (1)
ANNOUNCER (1)
CROWD (3)

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#106 "Megatron Is My Hero"
Peter Di Cicco

COLD OPEN

1. INT. PRE-WAR CYBERTRON - GLADIATOR ARENA

OPEN ON - The Cybertron GLADIATOR ARENA, before the war. Everything feels highly charged with excitement. The LIGHTS of the arena... The ROAR of the CROWD...

BAM! The CARNAGE of BATTLING BOTS!

CROWD
<CHEERING>

The crowd goes wild as MEGATRON battles a HEAVY HITTER BOT in the middle of the arena. The Bot may look tough, but it is no match for Megatron.

MEGATRON
<ROAR! ATTACK EFFORT>

Megatron wields his MEGA MACE signature weapon. And with a final move, Megatron BASHES the Bot, defeating it!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
The winner and your champion, the great... the mighty... Megatron!

The crowd goes wild!

CROWD
MEGATRON! MEGATRON! MEGATRON!

In the stands among the crowd is BUMBLEBEE. He joins in the chanting:

BUMBLEBEE
MEGATRON! MEGATRON! Yeah!

Bumblebee high-fives with a random BOT standing next to him - SHOCKWAVE!

Megatron plays the showman to the crowd, arms raised above his head, soaking up the praise. He smiles, almost joyful in the adoration.

MEGATRON

A gladiator stands alone in the arena against his opponent. But I am never alone. You are with me!

The crowd continues to <CHEER>!

FLASH CUT TO:

2. INT. HIVEMIND

As the memory of Megatron winning retracts back to its cell, a still exhilarated Bumblebee turns to WINDBLADE.

BUMBLEBEE

Megatron is my hero!

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

3. INT. HIVEMIND - RESUME

Bee is still excited by the memory he just saw. Windblade, on the other hand, is horrified.

WINDBLADE

No! Megatron is NOT your hero.

BUMBLEBEE

What are you talking about?
Megatron is amazing.

WINDBLADE

You don't understand, Bee. You have to dig deeper into your memories. It's important you know what kind of evil we are up against.

BUMBLEBEE

Evil? No way! Everyone loved him. And the way he took down that Bot? Whap! Bam! Wapow! Haha! There's a guy I'd follow into battle.

Windblade <SIGHS>, shaking her head.

WINDBLADE

I know it seems that way. But that's not the whole story. The more you remember, you'll see Megatron for what he really is.

Windblade looks to the Hivemind memories and finds a new memory cell showing a GIF of Megatron speaking. The new cell lights up and activates...

FLASH CUT TO:

4. EXT. PRE-WAR CYBERTRON - STREETS

TIGHT ON Megatron of pre-Revolution era as he delivers an impassioned speech.

MEGATRON

Friends! Fellow Cybertronians! Hear me! I used to fight in front of the people. Now I fight for them!

Widen to reveal Megatron is on a stage speaking to a crowd. On stage with him are STARSCREAM, NIGHTRACER, and ORION PAX/OPTIMUS PRIME.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

It is time we took control of our destiny. I see a future of Cybertron for all Cybertronians! Where the strength of one can be strength for all!

As Megatron concludes his speech, a BANNER is unveiled behind him revealing a Decepticon symbol.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Let this day mark a new era of strength and prosperity...

The crowd goes crazy!!!

CROWD

<CHEERING>

Among the crowd, reveal Bumblebee sitting on top of a speaker, watching Megatron as he hangs on every word.

FLASH CUT TO:

5. INT. HIVEMIND

The memory cell retracts, and Bee is still enthusiastic about Megatron. Windblade is face-palming and shaking her head in disbelief.

BUMBLEBEE

Did Megatron really make Cybertron more prosperous?

WINDBLADE

No! That's the opposite of what he did.

BUMBLEBEE

But he seemed like such a strong leader. He said he was a champion for all.

WINDBLADE

I can see how you'd be persuaded. A lot of people were, but that was a very long time ago. Before anyone realized Megatron's all-consuming thirst for power and control.

BUMBLEBEE

I just don't see how someone who wanted so much good for everyone could be so bad. Even Optimus was with him!

WINDBLADE

But everything changed. You need to dig deeper into your memories.

Frustrated, she searches for another memory and finds one with a GIF of Megatron and Orion Pax looking more serious.

WINDBLADE (CONT'D)

I need you to understand the real Megatron, see the monster he became.

The memory cell activates...

FLASH CUT TO:

6. EXT. PRE-WAR CYBERTRON - DARK ALLEYWAY - WAREHOUSE

Bee and Orion Pax approach a DARKENED WAREHOUSE. Bee looks nervous as Orion leads him down the dark alleyway.

ORION PAX
I do not intend to start a fight.

BUMBLEBEE
What if he won't listen?

ORION PAX
I know Megatron. He will listen to me.

Two GENERIC DECEPTICONS halt them at the entrance.

ORION PAX (CONT'D)
I am here to see Megatron.

DECEPTICON
Megatron doesn't need to see you.

ORION PAX
I am not asking.

One of the Decepticons goes to restrain Orion, but in a swift move, <BAM!> Orion takes the 'Con down. Before the other can react, <WHAP! BAM!> Orion takes out the other one as well.

It all happens so fast, Bee barely grasps what's going on.

BUMBLEBEE
Wow.

ORION PAX
I'll see myself in.

Orion steps over the downed 'Cons and leads Bee into the warehouse.

7. INT. PRE-WAR CYBERTRON - DARKENED WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Orion confidently leads Bee into the warehouse. He is on a mission and not to be messed with, but Bee is nervous at every corner as Decepticons suspiciously stare at them.

ORION PAX
You work your guards too hard. I gave them a break.

They pass NIGHTRACER. Orion doesn't even give her a glance. Bee, on the other hand, is a little intimidated, and Nightracer glares down on him menacingly.

NIGHTRACER
What're you looking at, lugnut?

Next, they pass SHOCKWAVE, who looks up from a worktable where he is clearly doing some kind of horrible modification to a Bot (adding extra weapons or maybe a big scary claw hand). Bee looks horrified at what he sees.

STARSCREAM (O.S.)
Oh look, the file clerk is here to
list his latest grievances.

STARSCREAM flanks MEGATRON, who is studying a HOLOGRAM OF IACON CITY with his back to Orion and Bee as they approach.

ORION PAX
Megatron, a word?

Starscream looks down on them.

STARSCREAM
Whatever you have to say to
Megatron, you can say to... well,
not me, but one of our underlings.

Megatron holds up his hand, silencing Starscream.

MEGATRON
Who can concentrate with your
endless chatter, Starscream?

STARSCREAM
My apologies, O' Mighty Megatron.

He still doesn't turn around, pretending to intensely study a detail as Orion waits impassively. Finally...

MEGATRON
I know why you're here. You are
wasting your time, Orion.

ORION PAX
It is never a waste of time to
speak to an old friend.

Megatron whirls around and faces Orion. Megatron is meaner looking, less hopeful than in the last memory.

MEGATRON
And what have you come to ask of
this "old friend" today?

ORION PAX
I only ask him to consider
embracing a peaceful way to change
our world. As we once dreamed.

MEGATRON

We've tried it your way. Now is the time for action. You could still join me. We can accomplish great things together.

ORION PAX

You hardly need another soldier.

Orion gestures to the other Decepticon minions. Megatron pulls him aside.

MEGATRON

You aren't like one of these brutes. You understand what is at stake and what it will cost. We want the same thing. A unified Cybertron, just like we talked about.

ORION PAX

Unified? Under a banner of fear and hate.

MEGATRON

A banner of strength!

Megatron's eyes narrow. Everyone is tense.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Think carefully, old friend. I will do this without you if I must. But if you do not join us, you are against us.

ORION PAX

I will not join you.

MEGATRON

Then it will be war.

Everything goes quiet. Megatron turns to Bee.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

What about you, scout? Will you follow this idealist to oblivion? Or join the winning side?

BUMBLEBEE

Never.

FLASH CUT TO:

8. INT. HIVEMIND

Bee returns from the memory, the residual nervousness from it still lingering.

BUMBLEBEE

I remember now I was so frightened of him. I wanted to get out of that place. It felt like he meant the end of everything good.

WINDBLADE

Yes. You get it now, don't you? You see what we're up against.

BUMBLEBEE

But Optimus said he was his friend. They couldn't work things out? How bad could he be?

Windblade throws her hands up, exasperated. And a bit sad.

WINDBLADE

Much worse than I can say. You still don't remember what he did to you?

BUMBLEBEE

Just tell me!

She shakes her head. She looks up at the memories in the Hivemind and sees a new one has "unlocked" next to the previous memory of Megatron.

WINDBLADE

I wish it was that simple, but you can't just hear it. You need to understand.

Reluctantly, she points out the new memory cell, which is marked with a GIF of Megatron looking menacing. Windblade's face drops.

WINDBLADE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Bee. This is something you're going to have to experience for yourself.

The cell pushes out from the others, starts to GLOW...

FLASH CUT TO BLACK.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

9. INT. CIVIL WAR CYBERTRON - SHOCKWAVE'S LABORATORY

Inside a Dr. Frankenstein-like laboratory, Bumblebee stealthily avoids being seen as he spies on Shockwave. Shockwave's ALT-MODE SPIDER DRONES do work around the lab, crawling over the walls, ceiling, and equipment.

BUMBLEBEE
(to himself)
What are you doing down there,
Shockwave?

Bumblebee records what he sees as Shockwave appears to be finishing computations into an elaborate computer system - VECTOR SIGMA (though Bee doesn't realize what it is yet).

With the help of the Spider Drones, Shockwave activates the Vector Sigma computer. Its core GLOWS, coming to life.

SHOCKWAVE
That's it! It works!

Shockwave activates his COM to Megatron.

SHOCKWAVE (CONT'D)
Megatron, I have found the key.
When will we have the Allspark?

MEGATRON (OVER COM)
Excellent. It will be mine soon.
Very soon.

Bumblebee tries to get closer when suddenly, a Spider Drone appears in Bee's view. Its lights start blinking RED and its <ALARM> sounds, the little cannon on top taking aim.

BUMBLEBEE
I'm rust.

Shockwave's menacing head turns to look directly at Bee.

SHOCKWAVE
Intruder!

More Spider Drones swarm around Bee and fire at him!

CUT TO:

10. EXT. SHOCKWAVE'S LABORATORY - SECONDS LATER

CRASH! Bee leaps out of the second floor window of the building, <TRANSFORMS> in mid-air, and hits the ground in V-MODE, as Shockwave's Spider Drones blast at him from above.

Bee dodges the blasts, and he races off down a tight alleyway at top speed. Shockwave calls for reinforcements.

SHOCKWAVE

Starscream, get that spy!

STARSCREAM (OVER COM)

Why do I always have to clean up
your mess?

11. EXT. ALLEYWAYS - CONTINUOUS

Bee races through a maze of alleyways taking tight turns, speeding as fast as he can, but he's not out of it yet.

BLAM BLAM BLAM!

STARSCREAM

Destroy that Autobot!

STARSCREAM and a couple other JET-BOTS roar overhead, firing down at Bee as they pursue.

Starscream fires spiraling MISSILES, which <SCREAM> toward Bee, tracking him through the alleyways. Bee turns sharply down one alley, then another, the missiles just missing and ricocheting off the buildings. They EXPLODE around him.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Don't lose him in those canyons!

The Jet-Bots zoom between the buildings, perilously turning through the alleyways at top speed in pursuit of Bumblebee.

Bee manages to lose one Jet-Bot, which goes the wrong way down a dead end. Another, flies too close to a building, clips its wing, and crashes! But Starscream is still on him.

STARSCREAM (CONT'D)

Hold still you little--

BUMBLEBEE

What's wrong, Decepticreep? Can't
catch a little Bee?

Starscream rockets toward Bee, chasing him down. Bee makes sharp turns trying to get away, but Starscream closes in.

Starscream has Bee in his sights. At the very last second Bee slams on his breaks, spins around, and turns into a TUNNEL.

Starscream nearly crashes but manages to pull up in time, <TRANSFORMS> into BOT-MODE and skids to a halt. He grins.

STARSCREAM
He's all yours, Nightracer.

12. INT. TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Bee speeds into the tunnel to find his path cut off by Nightracer in V-MODE.

NIGHTRACER
My pleasure.

Nightracer's lights FLASH on, and she speeds towards him. He's cornered...

BUMBLEBEE
Uh oh.

...but Bee accelerates. They race at each other in a game of chicken, neither of them wavering.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)
(cocky)
Think you can beat me? I learned
from the best on Velocitron!

At the last second, Nightracer <TRANSFORMS> into BOT-MODE, grabs Bee, and flips him over.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)
Whoa!

She almost has him pinned on his hood, then Bee <TRANSFORMS> into BOT-MODE and attempts to break away.

NIGHTRACER
You're no match for me!

They battle it out hand-to-hand. They trade blows. Bee is quicker, but Nightracer is bigger and beats him down.

It looks like Bee's losing, and she has him cornered. Then, he makes a fast move, catches her open for a second, and uses his STINGER signature move, stunning her.

NIGHTRACER (CONT'D)

<SCREAMS>

BUMBLEBEE

Mess with the Bee, you get stung!

Bee runs off.

13. EXT. TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Bee runs out the other end of the tunnel. He's made it!

BUMBLEBEE

Clear roads to Iacon. Never catch
me now!

But just out of view, SOUNDWAVE watches Bee run into this
range. He speaks in a cold, electronic monotone.

SOUNDWAVE

Target acquired. Sonic Wave
initiate!

BRRROOOONGGG! A massive SONIC WAVE BLAST signature move from
Soundwave hits Bee.

He tumbles end over end, trying to transform back into V-MODE
to escape, but he is stunned. He hits the ground and
collapses as Soundwave is joined by Nightracer.

NIGHTRACER

Had to wait till the last second,
Soundwave?

SOUNDWAVE

Timing irrelevant. Bumblebee
neutralized.

CAMERA POV - We see Soundwave and Nightracer come stand over
Bee as he loses consciousness and his vision goes DARK.

CUT TO:

14. EXT. CIVIL WAR CYBERTRON - ROOFTOP - LATER

Bee is taken by Soundwave and Nightracer to the rooftop of a
war-torn building which overlooks the devastation of
Cybertron. Megatron awaits him.

SOUNDWAVE

Mission accomplished. Spy captured.

BUMBLEBEE

So, is this where the party's at?
When do the fireworks start?

NIGHTRACER

I'll show you fireworks.

She backhands Bee.

BUMBLEBEE

Oh, that Stinger still hurt?

MEGATRON

Leave us.

SOUNDWAVE

Inadvisable.

NIGHTRACER

I agree with Mr. Personality. This
Bot's more trouble than he looks.

MEGATRON

This scout poses no threat to me.

Soundwave and Nightracer reluctantly leave. Megatron gestures
for Bee to join him at the blasted-out edge of the building.

BUMBLEBEE

You didn't have your goons bring me
all the way here just to push me
off a building, did you?

MEGATRON

(impressed)

You show no fear. Perhaps you
would've made a good Decepticon.

Megatron gestures at the shattered landscape.

MEGATRON (CONT'D)

Look what your leader, Optimus
Prime, has done to our world.

BUMBLEBEE

This was your war. Optimus never
wanted this.

MEGATRON

Yes, he did. We both did. I gave
him a chance. I wanted us to rule
Cybertron together.

BUMBLEBEE

You wanted him and the rest of the
Autobots as your slaves.

MEGATRON

The Decepticons were always
stronger. Why should we share our
power?

BUMBLEBEE

Is that why you want the Allspark?
Power?

MEGATRON

This war cannot continue. The
Allspark which gave both Autobots
and Decepticons life will bring new
life to Cybertron.

BUMBLEBEE

More mindless slaves?

MEGATRON

Mindless? No. I will give that life
intelligence. Decepticon
intelligence. Now that I have the
Key to Vector Sigma.

Bumblebee is taken aback.

BUMBLEBEE

Vector Sigma? You would use it to
create an army of Decepticons?

MEGATRON

A civilization of Decepticons. This
will bring an end to all conflict.
Finally, one unified Cybertron.

BUMBLEBEE

Why are you telling me this?

MEGATRON

Because you will never tell anyone
what you've seen.

From CAMERA POV, Megatron lunches forward toward us.

BUMBLEBEE (O.S.)

<SCREAM>

FLASH CUT TO:

15. INT. HIVEMIND

Bee jerks out of the memory, visibly distressed, reaching at his throat.

BUMBLEBEE

He... he tore out my voice box!

A very concerned Windblade looks back at him.

WINDBLADE

I'm sorry. I didn't want to show you. This is the one thing I wish you could have forgotten forever.

BUMBLEBEE

No, I'm glad I know. We have to defeat Megatron and the Decepticons. We won't let them get their hands on the Allspark.

Windblade is still down. Bee cheers her up.

BUMBLEBEE (CONT'D)

It's okay. He may have taken my voice box, but he'll never take my spark. Besides, why do I need a voice, when I have you.

Windblade finally cracks a smile.

WINDBLADE

You always did talk too much.

They laugh.

BUMBLEBEE

Can't believe I ever called that scrud a hero.

WINDBLADE

Nobody's perfect.

END OF EPISODE