

GM Canada VIP Screening of new Transformers Movie

By By: Dave Pankew Photos By: Paramount Pictures, Wednesday, 24 June 2009

GM Canada offer us the unique opportunity to preview the latest Transformers movie in a private VIP screening theatre. Held at VIP#3 room located in the Manulife Centre, the intimate atmosphere consisted of only 40 seats and one crisp 100-inch screen. The surround sound was incredible with several speakers mounted up front, in the bulkheads along the aisles and in the rear of the theatre. The opportunity to pre-screen a movie such as this was rare but since GM had invested millions into providing the cars and the technology for this movie, they wanted to roll out the red carpet.

The film opens with a short prologue narrated by the voice of Optimus Prime. It depicts primitive human beings in the year 17,000 BC hunting a tiger, only to be interrupted by the appearance of the Fallen which begins to attack them. In the background, more Transformers can be seen constructing a gigantic device before the scene fades to black. Two years after the events of the 2007 film, the Autobots have joined forces with the British and American military to form an organization named NEST to combat the Decepticons hiding out on Earth. Optimus Prime leads NEST into Shanghai, China, to eliminate Decepticons Demolishor and Sideways. He is joined by newcomers including Arcee, Sideswipe, Jolt and the twins Skids and Mudflap. Sideswipe kills Sideways with the help of Arcee and the twins, and Optimus and Ironhide kill Demolishor but not before the Decepticon utters that The Fallen will "rise again".

American National Security Advisor Galloway berates the Autobots and NEST for the massive collateral damage they caused in Shanghai, suggesting that the Autobots leave. While Optimus does agree to this if the President of the United States of America commands it, he questions what will happen if the planet is left defenseless. Soundwave, a Decepticon intelligence officer, hacks into a satellite and discovers the location of Megatron's corpse and the location of a piece of the AllSpark. Soundwave deploys his minion Ravage to retrieve the shard, which he succeeds in accomplishing by deploying hundreds of bug-like looking nanobots that group to form a single robot. Deep within the Laurentian Abyss, the Constructicons and a surgeon-robot named Scalpel revive Megatron using the piece of the AllSpark and parts obtained from sacrificing one of their own. Megatron flies to a Decepticon spacecraft on a planet, where he is reunited with air commander Starscream and The Fallen, Megatron's master.

The Decepticons are seen growing hatchling Transformers. However, these die immediately at birth due to insufficient energon, "the life blood" of the transformers. The Fallen intends to destroy the Sun and Earth in the process in order to create more energon. Sam Witwicky prepares to head off to college, intending to live a normal life. Whilst packing, he finds another shard of the AllSpark which fills his mind with ancient Cybertronian text. The AllSpark fragment burns his hand, and through his room's floor into the kitchen, bringing various appliances to life. The resulting robots are then destroyed by Bumblebee, wrecking the Witwicky family's house in the process.

Sam entrusts the shard to his girlfriend Mikaela, who hides it in her father's safe at the motorcycle workshop she works at. Decepticon Wheelie tries to steal it, but is captured by Mikaela, who catches him with some clippers and locks him into a toolbox she later takes with her. At college, Sam meets his roommate Leo Spitz, who runs an alien conspiracy website, and a girl named Alice who makes disturbing advances on Sam. Sam begins to constantly get outbreaks of seeing Cybertronian text in his mind, and having the urge to write them on everything. After one of such episodes in his astronomy class, he calls Mikaela and she comes to Sam's aid, finding him being attacked by Alice. When Alice is revealed to be a Decepticon Pretender,

Mikaela, Sam and Leo drive off, with Alice chasing them. Mikaela, being the car's driver, disposes of Alice, but while on the highway their car gets carried away by Grindor in his helicopter mode. After Grindor drops them into a building, the trio gets confronted by Megatron, Starscream, Grindor and The Doctor. Sam is then immobilized by Megatron, and as The Doctor prepares to dissect Sam's brain to get information on the location of a new energon signal, Optimus and Bumblebee arrive. Optimus then pursues Megatron to a nearby forest with Sam. Telling Sam to hide, Optimus soon realises it is a trap and is confronted by Megatron, Grindor and Starscream. Optimus takes on all of the Decepticons, killing Grindor and severing Starscream's arm. However, Optimus is impaled through the chest by Megatron and enters stasis lock in a near death state.

The rest of the Autobots arrive on the scene and fend off the remaining Decepticons while Sam is evacuated by Bumblebee and the twins. The Decepticons invade the planet, sinking an aircraft carrier upon their arrival. Soundwave hacks into all television signals to broadcast The Fallen demanding that Sam be surrendered. Meanwhile, Galloway shuts down NEST and Sam's parents are captured by Rampage in Paris. Sam, Mikaela, Leo, Bumblebee, Wheelie and the twins rendezvous in a remote location to hide Sam. Leo suggests seeking the help of his website rival "RoboWarrior", who is revealed to be former Sector Seven Agent Simmons. Simmons reveals his hidden archive of alien research and explains the history of the

Transformers on Earth. It is explained by Wheelie that the language Sam sees is of the Dynasty of Primes, the original seven Transformers who powered the AllSpark like a battery by destroying suns. Wheelie leads the group to Jetfire, an old Seeker who joined the Autobots due to "personal choice".

When Wheelie hears Jetfire's reason for changing sides, he too decides to join the Autobots. After getting updated on the situation, Jetfire uses a space bridge to teleport the group to Egypt. Upon arrival, Sam injures his left hand while everyone else is ejected out of the space bridge in different directions. After everyone regroups, Jetfire explains that the Primes used the suns to power the AllSpark by using machines called Sun Harvesters, which uses the Matrix of Leadership as a key. The Primes, however, maintained that the Sun Harvester not be used in a star system with life forms. One of their own — now known as The Fallen — betrayed them, and sparked the war for the AllSpark. The other Primes defeated The Fallen and then sacrificed themselves to seal away the Matrix in a tomb hidden somewhere in the desert. Through clues, the Matrix is found in Petra but it crumbles to dust in Sam's hands. Nevertheless, Sam piles the dust into his sock.

Simmons contacts Major William Lennox and his troops and asks them to bring the Autobots and Optimus' corpse to Egypt so Optimus can be revived, a Prime being the only one capable of killing The Fallen. The military arrive but so do the Decepticons. Leo, Simmons and the twins face off against Devastator, the combined form of several Constructicons, who scales a pyramid to uncover the Sun Harvester. Devastator is ultimately destroyed by a rail gun round fired from a nearby destroyer on Simmons' orders. Bumblebee rescues Sam's parents, killing both Ravage and Rampage, while two of Arcee's bike modes are mortally wounded in the fight.

Additional reinforcements are summoned, killing Long Haul, Scrapper and Hightower. However, Sam is caught in the attack and is severely injured by Megatron, rendering him unconscious. While in this state, Sam has a vision of the Dynasty of Primes. He then reawakens, telling Mikaela that he loves her just as the Matrix regenerates, and uses it to revive Optimus. However, before Optimus can be fully revived, The Fallen travels through a space bridge and takes the Matrix back out of Optimus' spark. After killing Mixmaster, Jetfire fights and kills Scorponok, but is mortally wounded. He then gives up his own spark and parts to Optimus, which are attached with the help of Jolt and Ratchet. Optimus uses his new strength to destroy the Sun Harvester and kill The Fallen with Megatron and Starscream making a tactical retreat. The film concludes with Optimus proclaiming that the Transformers and humans now share an untold history and will combine their differences.

Directed By Michael Bay Produced by
Steven Spielberg (executive)
Lorenzo di Bonaventura
Ian Bryce
Tom DeSanto
Don Murphy Starring:

Shia LaBeouf
Megan Fox
Josh Duhamel
Tyrese Gibson
and John Turturro

Voices:

Peter Cullen
Hugo Weaving
Mark Ryan
Frank Welker
Jess Harnell
Charlie Adler
Robert Foxworth
Tony Todd
Tom Kenny
Grey DeLisle
André Sogliuzzo