

Beast Wars Pilot -- Part One  
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Act One

Fade in:

Establishing shot -- space. A slow, beautiful pan across the interstellar reaches, showing the glimmering stars, glowing nebululae, drifting asteroids, etc.

Suddenly, with a crackling of POWER EFX, a giant TRANSWARP WORMHOLE rips open in the nothingness of the interstellar void. In the next instant, a PREDACON WARSHIP blasts from the wormhole, thundering straight toward cam. Even as the Predacon ship passes cam, the wormhole surges again and a massive Maximal exploration vessel bursts from it, guns already FIRING at the Predacon ship!

New angle on the ships -- tracking.

Both are headed at top speed toward a small blue-green planet in the middle distance. The Predacon ship is firing back at its pursuer. Both ships are taking heavy damage.

PUSH IN on the pursuing Maximal ship as we hear SFX: ALARM KLAXONS.

Cheetor's voice

Hull breach in Sector Seven! Guidance systems failing!

Int. Maximal ship - We see only tantalizing glimpses of robotic hands at instruments as the voices shout. The instrument panels spark as the whole ship shakes from impacts.

Rattrap's voice

This is ridiculous! We're an exploration ship, not a freakin' battle cruiser!

For a moment, we see a CU of Optimus' robotic eyes, grimly determined.

Optimus' voice

No choice. Our ship was the only one that could lock onto Megatron's warp signature.

Cheetor's voice

Shields are doing a major fade!

Optimus' voice

Plasma cannons to full power!

Rhinox's voice

Yo. Plasma cannons charging.

Fast cut to: Ext. The Predacon ship. Now almost at the outer edges of the blue-green planet's atmosphere, still pursued by the Maximals.

PUSH IN as we hear: Dinobot's voice

Their shields are down! Destroy them!

Int. Predacon ship. As before, we see only slight glimpses of hands, instruments, etc. We also see Megatron's malevolent eyes.

Megatron's voice

Oh, now where's the fun in that? A little torment I think first, yess? Side guns!

Ext. the two ships - The Predacon ship fires a massive broadside. The Maximal ship rocks with the blast, its whole middle section blown away. Dozens of gleaming cylinders spiral away into orbit.

Cheetor's voice  
The stasis pods!

Optimus' voice  
All plasma cannons! Fire!

The Maximal ship unleashes a volley of its own. Vast powerblasts smash through the Predacon shields and impact thunderously against the warships' main drive. Explosions billow.

Megatron's voice  
(roar of wordless rage)

The two ships, both rocking with internal explosions, veer helplessly away from each other as they begin to flamingly enter the outer atmosphere of the planet. Their meteoric trails streak downward in streaming arcs...

Ext. planet surface -- long shots In separate shots, the two ships streak downward in flaming arcs and vanish behind the horizons. The Predacon ship vanishes in a volcanic-looking area. There is a distant flash and a slow pillar of smoke. The Maximal ship streaks down toward where two spirelike mountains are barely visible above the horizon. There is a distant SFX:  
CRASH and CAM SHAKE. HOLD a LONG BEAT then...cut

Ext. The Maximal ship -- day - Now crushingly wedged between the two mountain spires, suspended over a waterfall that flows between them. The ship will obviously never fly again.

PUSH IN on it slow as we HEAR:  
Optimus' voice  
(Groan) Damage report.

Cheetor's voice  
Believe me. You don't wanna know.

Optimus' voice  
(Sigh) That's what I thought.

Cut to: Ext. The Predacon ship -- day. Also crashed, but in this case in an active volcanic region. The ship is pierced with huge spikes of obsideon.

Megatron's voice  
Navigation! Is this the right planet?

Int. Predacon ship (Command center) -- on main computer. The computer's scan lines show topographic readouts of the landscape outside.

Predacon computer  
Unknown. Course settings were accurate but readings are inconsistant with those expected for intended destination.

Megatron's voice  
(Impatient roar) Never mind that! Tell me there is Energon here!

Predacon computer  
Confirmed.

Megatron's voice  
Yessss! The planet has Energon!

The computer screen shows line graphs of robot forms deteriorating.

Predacon computer  
Too much Energon. Field readings are off the scale. Continued exposure to robotic forms will result in permanent damage.

Megatron's robotic fist crashes down on a panel.

Megatron's voice  
Then we will create alternate forms based on the most powerful local creatures!

Tarantulus' robotic hands click switches on a panel. Tarantulus' voice Scanners activated.  
Ext. The Predacon ship -- day. Scanner beams streak out from it, playing over a stony hillside nearby. The beams cause the hill to seem transparent, REVEALING the fossils of a T-Rex, a pterodactyl and a velociraptor inside. The scanners also play over a rocky outcropping where a tarantula rises in a defensive position against an attacking wasp. The scanners pass over them both...

Cut back to: The Maximal command center - Similar beams are also playing from this as well, streaking out in all directions, mostly down into the crevass, where distant jungle plants are seen. Quick shot - a pair of cheetahs standing on a hillock. The scanner beam SWEEPS over one of them... Quick shot - a great ape in a tree, tossing fruit down to a rhino on the ground. A rat is also in the tree, eating fruit. The SCAN BEAM SWEEPS through, scanning all three creatures. NOTE: The animals are different color than our heroes will be.

Back on the Maximal command center. The beams cut off.  
PUSH IN SLOW on the command center as we HEAR:

Rhinox's voice  
Scanning and replication of local life forms...complete. You may emerge.

Cheetor's voice  
Rrrrowr! Look at me! I'm a cheetah - no, I'm -- CHEETOR!

Optimus' voice  
Interesting.

The command center's door is hissing open.

Cheetor's voice  
Unusual!?! Mrow! Optimus, the word is - (Cheetor spins out into the sunlight, striking a pose)-- spot-on SMOOOTH!(catches a glimpse of his reflection in the hatchframe, strokes his whiskers admiringly) Prrrrrr.  
It's a crime.

Rattrap (beast form) slouches out behind him, giving Cheetor a snide look.

Rattrap Gaudy.  
Ya never had taste, did ya? (struts like Chaplin, swinging tail like cane)This is what class is about. Call me RATTRAP.

Cheetor (Extruding steel claws) Oh, yeah? How's about I cut meeces to pieces?

Rhinox (beast form) looms up behind them from the shadows of the doorway.

Rhinox

Ease back, Cheetor. Livin' large is for forms like me RHINOX.

Rattrap (Cocky to Cheetor)

Yeah! An' just consider yerself lucky I didn't get rough on ya!

Optimus

Moderate your conflict circuits, Maximals...

Inside ship - dramatic on creation/reconstruction chamber as the door HISSES open, revealing Optimus Primal himself, in the form of a great grey ape Optimus.

Optimus

Remember, these beast forms are to protect us from the long-term effects of the Energon fields out there. We may need Energon for power, but this is too much of a good thing. (Moving toward hatch) Our robot forms will start to short out after a few minutes' exposure. This is one unusual planet...

Reverse angle - dramatic as Optimus looks out the hatch, for the first time we get a good look at this strange new planet. A planet not unlike Earth, but with huge crevasses, streaming Energon fields, two moons (visible even in daylight) and mountains drifting through the sky, peaks downward.

Optimus (cont B)

...whatever it is.

Rhinox

Yo. Or whenever. (Off everyone's glance)The TransWarp drive can go through space an' time. We were locked onto Megatron's warp signature. We could be anyplace...anytime.

On Optimus - Looking upward grimly.

Optimus

And our crew is orbiting the planet in those stasis pods we lost in battle. They're protected from the Energon fields, but it means Megatron has us outnumbered.

Cut to: Ext. The Predacon command base -- day. Tarantulus, Waspinator, Scorponok and Terrorsaur are already outside, checking out their new beast form bodies. Dinobot (beast form) emerges from the hatch, holding a Golden Disk in his foreclaws. For a moment, we see the symbols of the Voyager on the disk.

Dinobot glares from the disk around at the planet.

Dinobot

No! NO! It is all wrong! This cannot be Earth! He throws the disk back inside and glares in through the hatch into the darkness.

Dinobot

Megatron, you FAILED! Not only did you FAIL to destroy the Maximals when you had the chance -- you FAILED to bring us to the right planet! We stole the Golden Disk for nothing, you IDIOT!

There is a long, nervous silence.

Then Megatron ominously emerges from the shadows of the command center, his beast form that of a gigantic T-Rex.

Megatron

I beg your pardon. What did you call me?

The other Predacons (except for Scorponok) rattle nervously.  
But Dinobot defiantly stands his ground.

Dinobot

You heard. You are an idiot and an incompetent leader. And I - am taking over! Dinobot - **TERRORIZE!**  
**ROAAAR!**

Before our eyes, Dinobot **TRANSFORMS** into his fully armed and armored Robot Mode, with Energon spark EFX crackling over his metal form. It's the first time we've clearly seen this mode and it is impressive! He activates his Rotary Blade ominously.

Dinobot

I challenge you to battle, Megatron! The winner shall lead the Predacons - and the loser shall be destroyed!

Megatron just smiles easily.

Megatron

You're so impulsive, Dinobot. Brave, but misguided.

Dinobot

Do you accept my challenge!?

Megatron

There is more to being a leader than simple courage. There is cleverness and cunning as well. Isn't that right

--

Scorponok?

Dinobot whirls. Behind him, Scorponok is just finishing his own transformation into Robot Mode. Before Dinobot can react, Scorponok's Missile Launcher **FIRES!** Dinobot is **BLASTED** with a direct hit and sent flying away over a rocky hill.

Megatron watches him vanish.

Megatron

Loser. (To the others, as Scorponok reverts to beast form again) What does it matter which planet we are on? We came looking for Energon, and this planet is rich with the element! Enough energon to power the Predacons' entire Galactic Conquest! (Voice lowers) Only the Maximals could give us trouble now -- if they survived the crash. Find them! Waspinator and Terrorsaur begin rising into the air. Scorponok and Tarantulus begin lumbering away.

Megatron (cont B)

And if you find them - destroy them!

**PULL BACK** to **WIDE** as his minions lumber and zoom away and: fade out

End Act One

Act Two

Fade in: Ext. The Maximal command base - day. Rhinox is seated on his rump, carefully welding a damaged defensive cannon on the exterior of the base. Optimus is scanning the horizon through a pair of electronic binoculars. There is a pile of wrecked junk just outside the main hatch. As we watch, Rattrap emerges from the base and dumps some more junk on the pile.

Rattrap

All this fer a Golden Disk.

Optimus

It was Cybertron's most carefully guarded relic, Rattrap. It gave the location of a major Energon source.  
That's why Megatron stole it.

Rattrap

Yeah, like I care! We were supposed t' be doin' deep space exploration. Playin' Galactic Patrol  
Wasn't nowhere in my job description. You sure you're cut out for this Commander gig?

Optimus gives him a look, but replies calmly.

Optimus

Remember the Great War, Rattrap. If the Predacons get enough  
Energon, they'll start it again. We can't let that happen. (looks back toward horizon) Besides. You wanted  
exploration, and here we are on an unknown planet. What more do you want?

Rattrap (Mutter)

Call me picky, but a workin' spacecraft would be nice.

Optimus (With a grin)

Just no pleasing some people.

At that moment, Cheetor emerges from the hatch and reacts at something in the distance.

Cheetor

Hey, check it!

Pov -- the distant landscape (on the other side of a crevasse). A couple of cheetahs (who look exactly like  
Cheetor but are slightly darker in color) are racing across the distant plain. They are going quite quickly.

Back on the Maximals.

(BEAST FORM) Optimus, now recovered, is watching through the binoculars.

Optimus (Admiring whistle)

They're fast, all right. You chose a good form.

Cheetor

Hey, you think that's speed? You ain't seen the Golden Rocket. Check this!

On all fours, he suddenly RACES away OS.

Optimus reacts.

Optimus

Cheetor! No!

Angle on Cheetor (BEAST MODE) He's going really fast now, streaking away from the command center  
and down a slope toward a natural stone bridge that spans the crevasse. He streaks across it.

Cheetor

MmmmmmmROWL!

Back on the other Maximals (BEAST MODE). Optimus touches his chest, activating (SFX) his comlink.  
He speaks into it.

Optimus

Cheetor! Return to base immediately! We don't have time for this!

Cheetor keeps running, unheeding. Optimus pokes his chest again. We hear SFX: STATIC.  
Optimus Cheetor! Please respond! Only static. Optimus looks over at Rhinox, who is still seated but now holds a scanner.

Rhinox  
No good. Th' Energon fields mess up th' comlinks. Anythin' over a hundred meters, they ain't worth jack.

Optimus  
Well, that's just prime.

Rattrap (Needling)  
So this yer first day on th' job or what?

Optimus (Distractedly)  
Shut up, Rattrap.

Rattrap (Mock salute)  
Oh, yes SIR! Oh, I feel just HEAPS better knowing our lives are in yer capable hands. (Aside to Rhinox)  
We're all gonna die.

Optimus ignores him, looking back toward the distant Cheetor...angle on Cheetor (BEAST MODE) -- day.  
A golden blur now, he races up alongside the other two cheetahs, who react.

Cheetor  
Mrow! Name's Cheetor - what's shakin', cats?

The two cheetas glance at each other in astonishment and then veer off, sprinting away.

Cheetor looks offended.

Cheetor  
What, is it my breath? Hey, wait! He races after them. New angle. The two cheetahs are racing toward a distant stand of trees, with Cheetor in hot pursuit.

PUSH IN past them toward the trees and then: dramatic on the trees. Waspinator (BEAST MODE) RISES UP from behind them, in the ominous fashion of Huey helicopters in the film Apocalypse Now.  
Angle back on the cheetahs. They skid to a terrified halt, flattening themselves to the ground as their fur stands on end.

Cheetahs (terrified screech).

Cheetor skids up beside them.

Cheetor  
What? It's just a big bug.

The cheetahs pay no attention, racing off at an angle in absolute panic.

Cheetor reacts to this, then up at Waspinator, who has veered off, not recognizing Cheetor in his beast form.

Cheetor  
Hm. The way those two reacted, that's no natural life-form.

He SPRINTS toward the stand of trees.

Cheetor

And if we're talkin' unnatural life-forms, then we gotta be talkin' about just one thing. Robots in disguise!  
Cheetor -- MAXIMIZE! MRROWWWWW!

Even as he roars, he is LEAPING. He starts his transformation in the air, somersaulting - angle in the stand of trees. A massive robot foot CRASHES down in the foliage. PAN UP to REVEAL Cheetor, now in his full, mighty impressive robot mode. He hauls out his Quasar Cannon, peering up through the trees.

Waspinator is still visible.

Cheetor

Time for this cat to POUNCE! BLAFLAM!

His Quasar Cannon FIRES upward --angle on Waspinator (BEAST MODE).

Buzzing through the air, he REACTS as Cheetor's shot EXPLODES in the air beside him! Waspinator TUMBLES.

Waspinator (Buzzing voice)

Waspinator under attack! Waspinator engage enemy! Waspinator -- TERRORIZE!

Before our eyes, in midair, Waspinator TRANSFORMS into his battle-armored flying Robot Mode and goes into a dive, FIRING his Stinger missiles! Angle on Cheetor (robot mode). He REACTS toward the diving Waspinator as the missiles come SPIRALLING straight toward him!

Cheetor

MerrrrroooooW! He turns and LEAPS to one side as the missiles IMPACT where he was, a massive explosion

FILLING SCREEN

Cut to: Long shot - the plain and the stand of trees. Seen from the Maximal base. A billowing explosion like a napalm drop ERUPTS from the distant trees as Waspinator buzzes low over them.  
CAM PANS AROUND to REVEAL Rattrap and Optimus reacting.

Rattrap

Uh, oh.

Optimus (Already grabbing him)

Move! Move!

Wider - Maximal command base.

Rhinox is already charging forward on all fours. Optimus hurls Rattrap up onto Rhinox's back and then LEAPS UP himself as Rhinox passes.

Fast cut to: Angle back on Cheetor (robot mode) Rolling back to his feet, he returns fire skyward with his Quasar Cannon. BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

On Waspinator (robot mode) - in the sky. Coming back in a hard and fast barrel roll, eye-lasers firing like machine guns as Cheetor's cannon bursts EXPLODE around him like ack-ack fire.

On Cheetor Leaping to one side as the machine-gun laser fire TEARS UP the ground where he was.

Cheetor (Snarl)



Fast cut back to: The other Maximals. Optimus and Rattrap on Rhinox's back, thundering across the natural stone bridge. Rhinox doesn't have Cheetor's sleek maneuverability, but he's got the speed and massive power of a runaway freight train.

Angle from Rhinox's back (BEAST MODE). Showing that there is a fallen mass of heavy logs across the trail ahead. Rattrap reacts to it.

Rattrap  
Heads up! Roadblock!

Optimus reacts, making a quick command decision.

Optimus  
Veer left! There's a clearing about a hundred meters --CRASSSSH! Rhinox hits the blockade of fallen logs at full speed and smashes them to flinders without even slowing down.

Shards of wood fill the air. Optimus brushes several of them from his fur as they continue to thunder along.

Optimus  
(Sigh) Ah yes. Silly me.

Cut back to: Cheetor and Waspinator (robot mode). Cheetor sprints up and past CAM as Waspinator's eye-lasers tear up the stone at his heels. As he passes OVER CAM, Waspinator fires another of his Stingers...upshot on a stone outcropping Cheetor (Robot Mode) LEAPS from it just as Waspinator's missile IMPACTS on it, causing a massive explosion. On the ground, Cheetor lands and dives behind some boulders, struggling with his Quasar Cannon.

Cheetor  
(Frustrated MREEOW!) Of all the times for a Quasar jam! - Then he REACTS OS to:

Optimus  
Cheetor!

NEW angle - dramatic - on a ridge. Showing Optimus, Rhinox, and Rattrap ranged there, still in beast mode but dramatically staged.

Optimus  
Get to cover! We'll swat that pesky Predacon! But then he reacts to:

Megatron  
Oh, I would not count on that, Maximals. Nooo.

New angle - another ridge. Where Megatron, Scorponok, and Tarantulus have appeared (beast mode) with Terrorsaur flying overhead.

Megatron  
For I believe that you are soon to have... how shall I put it... difficulties of your own! Yesss.

Angle on the Maximals. They REACT and we: Fade out

End Act Two

Act Three

Fade in: Est. shot - on the two opposing sides - as before Optimus (BEAST MODE) makes one last attempt at reason.

Optimus

We don't have to do this, Megatron. There has been peace between the Maximals and Predacons for centuries. Why start this up again?

Megatron

Peace perhaps on your side, Maximal scum. Yesss. But not on ours. Permit me to inform you that an enemy which appears to be peaceful may in fact be merely... biding its time.

Fast shot - Cheetor (still in robot mode). Still behind cover between the two sides, he manages to rack back the cocking mechanism on his Quasar Cannon. The weapon BEEPS and begins to SFX: POWER UP again.

Cheetor

Rowl. Finally!

Back on the two sides Megatron (BEAST MODE) continues without noticing.

Megatron

We Predacons have never abandoned our rightful goal of galactic conquest. Noo. We have merely been waiting... for the right moment -- to STRIKE!

At that moment Cheetor leans out from behind the boulder with his Quasar Cannon trained.

Cheetor

Ya mean like THIS? BLAFAM! The cannon FIRES. The blast IMPACTS on the underside of Megatron's scaly jaw, rocking the massive T-Rex backwards. The blast does a certain amount of surface damage. But the big Predacon leader recovers immediately, rubbing the smoking jawline with a foreclaw.

Optimus

Cheetor!

Megatron

Ah. A treacherous, underhanded sneak attack. I like you, pussycat. Yess. But it shall avail you naught. Noo. For now the power-gauntlet has been cast. (Sudden roar) PREDACONS! TERRORIZE!

Optimus

(Rapid command to Maximals) Do it! MAXIMIZE!

RAPID SERIES OF SPECTACULAR TRANSFORMATIONS. As the opponents on both sides go into their TRANSFORMATIONS into battle-ready Robot Mode.

Tarantulus

Tarantulus! TERRORIZE! (SCREECH)

Rhinox

Rhinox! MAXIMIZE! (TRUMPET)

Scorponok

Scorponok! TERRORIZE! (SCREECH)

Rattrap

Rattrap! MAXIMIZE! (CHITTER)

Terrorsaur

Terrorsaur! Terrorize! (SCREECH)

Megatron  
Megatron! Terrorize! (BELLOW)

Optimus  
Optimus! MAXIMIZE! (ROAR)

Wide Megatron (in gigantic Robot Mode) gives the command.

Megatron  
Now... obliterate them.

The Predacons OPEN FIRE with all their weapons. Missiles, lasers, and blast bolts streak through the air, smashing around the Maximals.

On Cheetor. He scrambles to run up toward the other Maximals, but a blast striking near him causes him to stumble. His robotic foot gets wedged into a crack in the stone!

Cheetor  
Rowl! I'm - I'm stuck!

On the Maximals (ROBOT MODE) Having taken cover behind some rock outcroppings as they return fire. Optimus points down toward Cheetor with one hand as he fires with the other.

Optimus  
Rattrap! Help Cheetor! We'll cover you!

Rattrap is crouched behind a boulder. A blast from the Predacons takes out a massive chunk of stone over his head.

Rattrap  
Yeah, right!

Optimus  
That's an order, Rattrap!

Rattrap  
Yeah? An' you can kiss my skid plate, Fearless Leader. I ain't goin' out there an' gettin' MY pelt punctured!

Optimus

(Frustrated growl)

Standing despite the firestorm blasting around them, he ACTIVATES his shoulder jets and ROCKETS into the air! The Predacons immediately concentrate all their fire on him.

Closer on Optimus (robot MODE) - tracking Diving, rolling, and swooping, he manages to dodge most of the hellstorm blasting around him and plunges toward Cheetor. Angle on cheetor still struggling to free his foot. Angle on Optimus (robot MODE) Diving toward him.

Fast shot - Megatron (ROBOT MODE) Taking careful aim - he fires!

On Optimus (robot MODE) The shot HITS and BLASTS one of his jets! He FALLS.

On Rhinox (ROBOT MODE) Reacting.  
Rhinox  
Optimus!

Rattrap  
(Yelling down) See! Told ya!

Rhinox glares at his friend.

On Optimus. He manages to land on his feet beside Cheetor, grabbing him with one arm and FIRING at the stone with the other. BOOM! The stone shatters and Cheetor's foot is free!

On Megatron Raging.

Megatron  
Do NOT let them escape!

The other Predacons redouble their fire on Rhinox and Rattrap. Rhinox has grabbed the smaller Maximal by the back armor, lifting him.

Rattrap  
Hey! Lemme down, ya big lummo!

Rhinox  
Cover fire, bro. They need it, we give it. Now.

Rattrap  
Awright! Awright!

He and Rhinox lay down a blistering hail of cover fire toward the Predacons. Angle on the Predacons. They are forced to duck and dodge the fire coming from Rhinox and Rattrap. But they still manage to get off a few shots of their own.

On Optimus and Cheetor (ROBOT MODE). With Optimus supporting Cheetor, both race up the slope under fire towards their comrades. Top of slope Optimus waves to the others as he and Cheetor run up.

Optimus  
Back to the base! Let's go, let's go!

The others turn and race off with them, headed for the trees. On the Predacons. Megatron is furious.

Megatron  
After them! Go, you -- AAARGH!

Energon EFX begin SPARKING and CRACKLING over his robot form. Angle on Waspinator and Terrorsaur (ROBOTMODE). Falling out of the sky and thudding to the ground, the same EFX playing over them.

Waspinator  
Waspinator cannot move!

On Megatron (ROBOT MODE). Angry but helpless.

Megatron  
Energon field build-up. Convert back to Beast Mode. Remorph!

On the Predacons. Before our eyes, they start to convert back to Beast Mode and cut to:  
Int. jungle - tracking START TIGHT on Rattrap (beast form) as Optimus' gorilla hand clamps down on his neck and lifts him. All the Maximals are in Beast Mode now.

PULL BACK as Rattrap struggles in Optimus' stern grip. Both Optimus and Rattrap are on Rhinox's back as Cheetor lopes alongside.

Rattrap

Awwwrk! What's got yer servos so bent?

Optimus

Let's get one thing straight, Rattrap. I am Commander of this group. And when I give an order, I expect it to be obeyed.

Rattrap

Oh, yeah. So I get vaped because you're too chicken to go yourself?

Optimus

I will not give an order I would not be willing to do myself. But I was capable of giving you better cover fire. You were not.

He drops Rattrap in disgust. Rattrap rubs his neck sullenly.

Rattrap

Come on, what you shortin' about? We got outa there alive, didn't we?

Optimus is surveying their path ahead. He speaks coldly, without looking back.

Optimus

But injured. It will take time for our Beast Forms to effect internal repairs.

Rattrap

(Mutter) Yeah, well, better you than me.

On Cheetor (BEAST MODE). Glancing back as he lopes along.  
Cheetor I think we gave'em the fade, Optimus.

Back on Optimus. Still alert.

Optimus

Keep your sensors on full. According to the Golden Disk theft reports there were six Predacons. One of them was missing from the battle.

Rattrap

Maybe he was destroyed in th' crash.

Rhinox

Nah. That kinda luck we ain't been gettin' a lot of, lately.

Cheetor (Reacting ahead)

Tell me about it. Look!

Pov - looking ahead to the natural stone bridge - day. Just ahead. Dinobot (Beast Form) is visible there, standing on the bridge and glowing toward them.

On the Maximals (BEAST MODE). They react, coming to a stop, with Optimus swinging down from Rhinox's back.

Rhinox

Should we blast 'im?

Optimus  
Keep that option open. But hang on.

Dinobot  
Attention Maximals!

Angle on dinobot (BEAST MODE). Facing them in a challenging pose.  
Dinobot My name is Dinobot. I have left the Predacons to join your group - as leader.

On the Maximals. React to this.

Cheetor  
What? Did I hear the word leader?

Rhinox  
Dude's got bearings of chrome steel.

On Dinobot again. He raises his claws challengingly.

Dinobot  
I hereby challenge you, Optimus Primal, to a one-on-one battle. The winner shall lead the Maximals...

PUSH IN on him.  
Dinobot  
And the loser - shall be destroyed!

Angle on the Maximals. As they REACT and we: Fade out

End Act Three

End of Part One