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Transformers: The Movie Guide



Synopsis

With breathtaking stills and in-depth character profiles, this guide to the new live-action Transformers movie lets readers get up-close and personal with their favorite robots in disguise. AUTHOR BIO: Simon Furman is a writer for comic books and TV animation whose name is inextricably linked to Transformers. He has written a multitude of stories for the original Marvel series, convention comics, as well as The War Within and Transformers: Energon for DreamWare.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 - 17 years

Grade Level: 5 - 12

Customer Reviews

I have to say that I was very excited to see this book on the shelves. I grabbed it, bought it, and ripped open the wrapping to feel like i'd been conned.1. The back cover promises in depth coverage. There is simply too little information on any of the individual robots in the movie. Not worthy of DK! (Think the visual dictionaries for the Star Wars saga)2. Not ALL the transformers are in the book! My favourite Decepticon Bonecrusher was not in there! My favourite Autobot Ironhide was not in there! Starscream wasn't in there, for crying out loud!3. I have the sense that this book was prepared way ahead of the movie, and that the people writing it weren't privy to information in order to prevent leaks of the movie and steal its thunder. Still for DK it's unforgiveable.I'd have put it at one star. Still the visuals included are nicely done, although I would have preferred photorealistic art like DK is famous for. And I had to discount one star for my own stupidity: not opening the wrapping before buying :-)

I cannot, in good conscience recommend this book. It has outdated mid-production photos and worst of all is missing info on some of the robots. Here are the ones NOT INCLUDED in the book:

Starscream, Brawl/Devastator, Bonecrusher and Ironhide. Why they did not include Ironhide is beyond me! One thing you can tell after the most cursory of glances is that this book was written a very long time ago...many months before the movie release...but I suppose that couldn't be helped.

The book itself is alright with good information on the transformers that are in it (height, weight in metric tons, information about armor, weapons, and parts, direct quotes from the movie made by the characters, etc). However, many transformers are excluded such as Starscream, Ironhide, and a few other Decepticons. Mind you, this book was written after the first movie came out and therefore doesn't have Sideswipe, Dino, Brains, Wheelie, the Twins, Devastator, The Fallen, Shockwave, or any of your other favorite characters that are in Revenge of the Fallen or Dark of the Moon (or in the newest movie "Age of Extinction" that we're all excited for). If I were you, I'd buy "Transformers Revenge of the Fallen: The Movie Universe" by the same author instead of this. Also, the person I bought this book from said that it was in very good condition. Apparently some people have different opinions on what "very good" means. When I got my book, there were library stickers all over it, all of the corners were badly damaged, the pages are ripped and crinkled and some even have food on them. The book sleeve is absent, and the front has scratches. It looks like it's been in a little kid's backpack for a few weeks. Just sayin' if you are going to buy this book, get a NEW one.

The guide has a lot of high quality pictures of most of the robots in the movie, the notable missing characters for me are Starscream and Ironhide... The fact boxes on the character's robot and vehicle modes are a bit boring, though. It's like they drew a line to a random part on the vehicle and decided "let's say THIS is a sensor... And THIS... Is an... um.... Deflector thingamajiggie..." It's kind of random, but it adds to the amusement for myself. There are pages that compare power levels and tell you how fast the robots can go in vehicular form, and how many tons they can pull. Just... stuff that might help if you write fanfiction or mean something if you're a dedicated fan. Otherwise I wouldn't have bought it.

This book tells you about the autobot and decepticon characters in their vehicle and robot modes and has some nice pictures of them. It also has a cool cover that when you tilt the book it changes from the autobot symbol to Optimus Prime's head. When I bought this book I thought it was going to

be a more behind the scenes type of book like how they did the special effects and show concept drawings, but it basically about the robot characters. The odd thing about this book is it's missing one autobot character(Iron Hide) and three decepticon characters(Starscream, Bonecrusher, and Brawl/Devastator) that are in the movie. Other than that it's a great book to add to you collection.

As others have said, this book appears to have been compiled long before the movie was finished. As a result there are no bios for Ironhide, Bonecrusher, Brawl, or Starscream. The visuals are lackluster at best, and there are no images of Bumblebee's pre-Concept Camaro form. The bios are somewhat cheesy but not terrible considering the books target demographic. Overall the book is not bad for the price, but I wouldn't recommend it to those who want multiple images of the characters or in-depth information. Save your cash for that inevitable "Making Of..." book with film stills and preproduction shots instead.

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