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## Transformers Animated: The Complete Allspark Almanac

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**Jim Sorenson, Bill Forster : Transformers Animated: The Complete Allspark Almanac** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Transformers Animated: The Complete Allspark Almanac:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A MUST BUY! By MR. DKOk, where do I start? First off, this book consists of two volumes that came out back in 2009 2010, respectively. Back then I bought two of each volume in order to keep one in mint condition and the other to be able to read and draw from that it won't matter if it gets beat up in the process. Now comes the complete 'Allspark Almanac' that collects both of the previous volumes as well as some exclusive material. At first I was hesitant to buy another copy until I saw the Marcelo Matere cover on his Facebook page and that had sold me. I am a big fan of his and his work shows his love and knowledge of the Transformers franchise. After receiving the book this weekend I was not disappointed to have ordered yet another copy. If you are a Transformers fan or a fan of animation/cartoon books (which I am a fan of both) then I highly

recommend picking this one up. If you already own the two smaller volumes, then I would say use your own judgement maybe depending on shelf space, finances, etc. Me personally, I'm glad I splurged on this book even though I already own the smaller books, I did recognize some of the new material that was not in those volumes but I don't have them here to do the side-by-side comparison be real specific. I grew up with Transformers: Generation 1 (G1) back in the 80's and have always been fan of the franchise, maybe not as much in the past but still consider TF one of top favorite franchises of all time. I always look back onto G1 as the definitive Transformers series and hold that to the highest standards of all the animated series that followed, even as goofy as some of the G1 episodes were. Over the years I've spoken with many TF fans and it's always interesting to hear what their top TF series is. G1 was what I grew up with, just as many have grown up with Beast Wars, Armada, Prime, etc., so please note that I'm not hating/bashing on any of the other TF animated series, it's just that G1 is what I have the fondest memories of and it's just my opinion. With that being said, to get back to this book is that TF: Animated is probably my second favorite TF series after G1. Now to get back on topic. First, this book has so much to offer for the TF fans, whether you're a casual or diehard fan. It acts as a series Bible that shows off a lot of great artwork that was used in the series' 3 season run as well as artwork of things that (unfortunatly) were not in the series. There's also a hint of what could've been in a season 4 had it been made, which is one of my complaints with the show is that CN ended it after a fantastic season 3 with so many classic characters making appearances, that we'll never get a good chance to let them shine. It did however, take me a while to warm up to the look of the show back in late 2007-08 when the art went up online and the show debuted but after viewing I warmed up to it more and more. This book shows off some great model sheets of the main characters as well as designs for many of the supporting characters that cater to fans of almost every single animated series that preceded TF: Animated. The people responsible for this series/book obviously know and love Transformers and that pretty much every page shows that they've done their homework. In addition to that, there are also little 'Easter Eggs' for the sharp minded pop-culture junkie (GoBots, G.I. Joe to name a couple). The book delves into basically everything that made up this show, including backgrounds, vehicles, human characters, even with different locales from Earth to Cybertron! This is a massive book that should be a template for others to follow to give the fans what they want as far as a series Bible is concerned. Also, I would consider it to be a really good art book for those aspiring artists out there that can see the evolution of an animated series. I also feel that art schools should have this for their art students for refernces and such, but that's just me. I hope this helps those who are considering purchasing this awesome book. At a massive 475 pages, it's a great deal. The quality of the book is stellar with all full color artwork on glossy high quality pages. There are some black white sketches peppered throughout the book to help show off the animation process and the evolution to the show which only helps add to the book. Even though the animated series did give us a finale to give the fans a sense of closure at the end of the season 3, this book (and smaller volumes) is a great way to completely cap TFA.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Buy this, then pester IDW for a sequel By J. Kuntz So, I finally got the Allspark Almanac in my hot little hands (thank Primus for ), and totally devoured it (thank Primus also for sick days) and it is AMAZING! As promised it is written almost entirely "in universe", the premise being that the authors compiled the information at the bequest of Porter C. Powell and compiled artifacts and interviews to tell the "story" of TF:A. It has thousands of beautiful, crisp pictures, including model shots with details and back views for all of the main characters and detailed background paintings. The attention to detail on the show just shines through in all of these, almost everything you see adds something to your knowledge of the show and the characters. And the writing, oh the writing, is truly glorious. The authors do best (unsurprisingly) with the characters who have the most distinctive "voices" (each of Blitzwing's sections, for example, have contributions from all of his personalities, and Sentinel Prime's sections are just studies in arrogant, frustrated ambition). The Easter Eggs are so abundant and delicious that I could feel my cholesterol levels rising while I devoured them. And they're not ALL Transformers related, either. My favorite is a cringeworthy Clerks reference that has NO place in a book that is ostensibly for children (which I think was the point). This book needs a sequel. As it ends with the end of season 2, we don't learn very much about Cybertron at all. The creators have indicated that if this volume is well received, then they will most likely create the sequel. I heartily urge those of you who can to buy this book, make your friends buy it and shout from the rooftops how awesome it is. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book is like some love letter written personally to Transformers fans By Melanie Perry Words can't describe how amazing this book is. If you get this book (and you should, trust me) then come back to my review and feel my words do not properly reflect the concentrated perfection that is this book, well... I can only say I tried my very hardest. As a Transformers fan I can do no less! -Rant about how much you'll love this book: This book was written for the fans. If you are a Transformers and/or a Transformers Animated fan, then you will love it. It's a great resource and insight into the world of TF Animated. However, if you're a hardcore fan, able to recite gobs of useless trivia, able to remember even the most obscure names and locations from the comics and cartoons from 20+ years ago till now, able to question why in Primus' name your shoulders hurt so much... if the words "purple dinosaur" come to mind and Barney is the last person you think of (which should happen at least twice in the book, yesssss), then ABSOLUTELY this book is for you! Also, it really helps if you spend a lot of time on the Transformers wiki (make sure it's the right one first). -Now the actual part where I talk about the book's contents: So much is packed into this book. First of all it provides character bios for

all characters that appear up to the end of season two in the form of interviews from other characters in the show that know them. Even minor characters get commentary! There's also a large section that gives summaries on each episode from the first two seasons, usually in the form of mission logs by one of the participating characters. However, we also get treated to things like letters from a lonely Sari to her missing dad, Ultra Magnus' review of Optimus' survival test in the form of tech specs (!!!), an excerpt from a multiversal magazine for Decepticon females, and lots more goodies! These creative summaries also apply to the Animated "Arrival" comics' plots. It's also a FANTASTIC art resource including everything from character models, backgrounds, concept art, and more. This is to be expected from the makers of "The Ark" compendium, which I also recommend if you're an artist. The almanac even includes things like color variations for different lighting types and the concept art for what eventually became TF Animated, "Transformers: Hero". It also contains new art for some of the extra goodies I mentioned previously. The greatest thing about this book is, of course, the obscure references! You can't have Transformers Animated without the references and this book is **CHOCK FULL OF THEM**. Every single name, every single number...if it wasn't already in the show...it serves a purpose in this book as a reference to something. Lockdown's ship is called the Death's Head, yes? Sumdac's tower was built by architect G. R. Apple. The names of many background characters are all shout outs to various characters or real-life people known by the authors or the fandom or otherwise. This book is a geek's paradise! It's not just limited to Transformers, no. There are obscure references to things like the serial numbers for Bender and Flexo in Futurama, the stardates from Star Trek, the instruction manual for Legend of Zelda (did I mention there's large portions of background text written in the autobot's and decepticon's languages? You'll find things like this if you wish to decode them.) Anyways, Sorenson and Forster (and Wyatt and Isenberg and everyone who made Animated the fantastic show it was!) clearly know their stuff. They're fans too (understatement). They made a book to share their geekiness with the rest of us and you should buy it. Now we just need volume two and the comic book continuation of the series. IDW, are you listening?

The Allspark Almanac is a comprehensive, one-of-a-kind atlas to the amazing 2008 animated series universe. Discover insights and secrets directly from the show's creators and stars. This volume is packed with 472 pages of full-color bios, character models, episode summaries, behind-the-scenes info and more. Includes exclusive designs, episode summaries, and toys planned for Season 4. Integrates both original volumes into one massive tome, with tons of extras including pages created for the Transformers fanclub and bonus content exclusive to this volume.