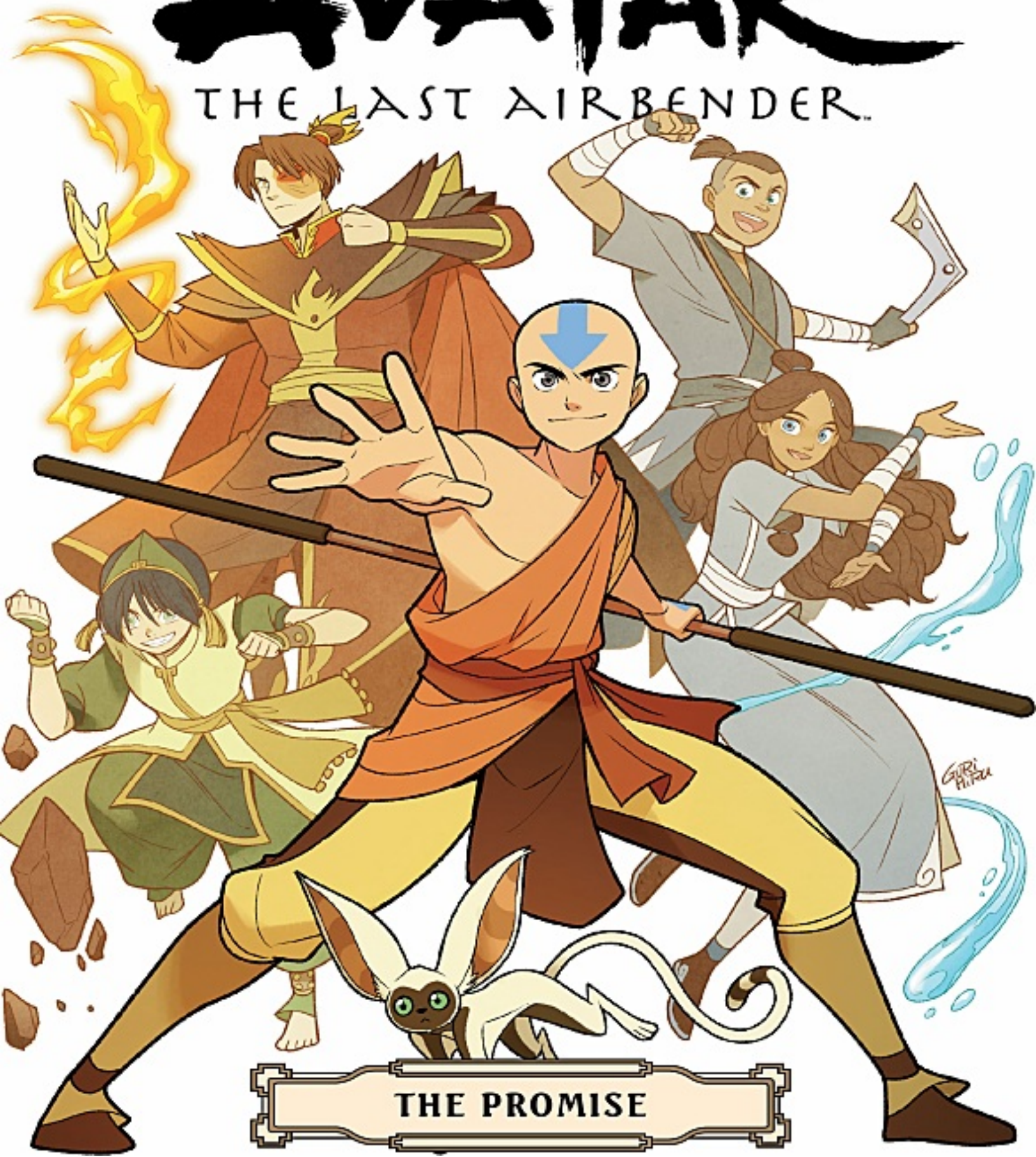


nickelodeon™

降世神通

AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER.



THE PROMISE

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AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

THE PROMISE

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Nickelodeon Avatar: The Last Airbender™—The Promise Omnibus

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WATER.



EARTH.

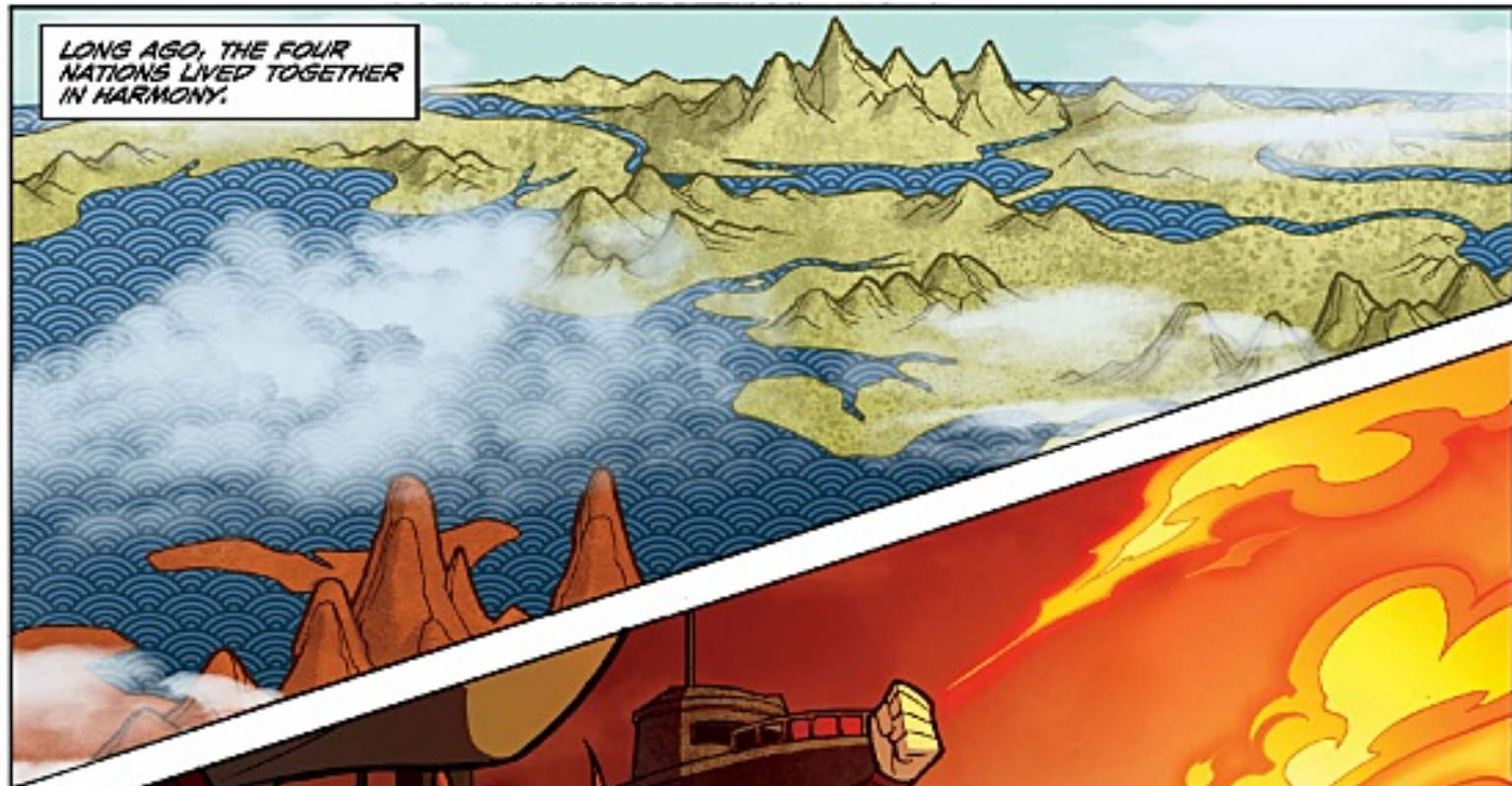


FIRE.

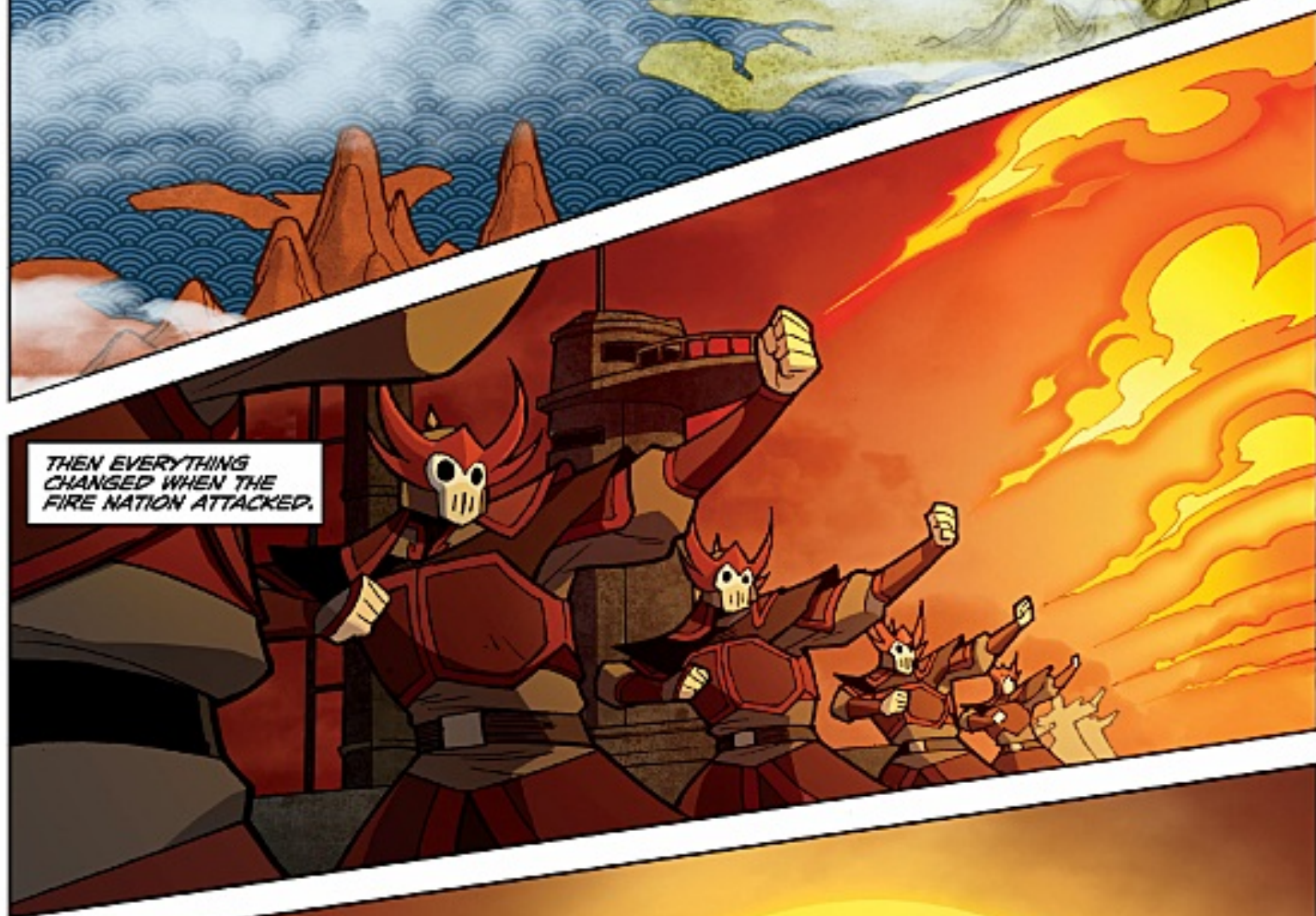


AIR.

LONG AGO, THE FOUR
NATIONS LIVED TOGETHER
IN HARMONY.



THEN EVERYTHING
CHANGED WHEN THE
FIRE NATION ATTACKED.



ONLY THE AVATAR,
MASTER OF ALL FOUR
ELEMENTS, COULD STOP
THEM. BUT WHEN THE
WORLD NEEDED HIM
MOST, HE VANISHED.



A HUNDRED YEARS PASSED AND MY BROTHER SOKKA AND I DISCOVERED THE NEW AVATAR, AN AIRBENDER NAMED AANG.



ALTHOUGH HIS AIRBENDING SKILLS WERE GREAT, HE HAD A LOT TO LEARN BEFORE HE WAS READY TO SAVE ANYONE.



BUT FROM THE DAY I FIRST MET HIM, I BELIEVED AANG WOULD SAVE THE WORLD.



AND YOU KNOW WHAT?







EARTH KING KUIE! PLANNED A CELEBRATION WHERE HE WOULD ANNOUNCE THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT. BEFORE THE FESTIVITIES BEGAN, WE DECIDED TO VISIT THE JASMINE DRAGON, A TEA SHOP OWNED BY ZUKO'S UNCLE IRON.



THERE, AANG AND I...WE FIGURED OUT WHAT WE MEANT TO EACH OTHER.

OR WE WERE ABOUT TO, ANYWAY, BEFORE MY STUPID BROTHER INTERRUPTED.

HEY GUYS--
AH!!!

NOTHING!
WE'RE NOT
DOING ANYTHING
OUT HERE!

HAVEN'T YOU
EVER HEARD
OF KNOCKING,
SOKKA?!

FIRST OF ALL,
YOU'RE SUPPOSED
TO KNOCK BEFORE
YOU GO *INSIDE*,
NOT BEFORE YOU
GO *OUTSIDE*!

AND SECOND,
AS MY SISTER, YOU
REALLY SHOULDN'T BE
KISSING ANYONE IN
FRONT OF ME! IT'S YOUR
SISTERLY DUTY TO
AVOID GIVING ME
THE *OOGIES*!

'OOGIES'?!
AARGH! YOU ARE
SO IMMATURE
SOMETIMES! WHAT
ABOUT YOU AND
SUKI?!







HEY, WANNA KNOW WHAT FIREWORKS ARE LIKE FOR ME? CLOSE YOUR EYES.



BOOOOM!

AAAH!



OH, TOPH! DON'T BE SUCH A GRUMP! YOU'RE OUT WITH FRIENDS ON A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT, CELEBRATING THE FACT THAT WE SAVED THE WORLD!

TRUE.

OUCH.



YOU, TOO, YOUR NEW MAJESTY FIRE LORD ZUKO SIR! TURN THAT FROWN UPSIDE DOWN! IT'S HAPPY TIME!



ZUKO...?

I VISITED MY FATHER IN PRISON THE OTHER DAY...I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU FOR A FAVOR, AANG.

SURE, ANYTHING.



ONE YEAR LATER.

THE ROYAL PALACE,
FIRE NATION CAPITAL













CONVINCE
ME NOT TO
TAKE YOUR
LIFE!

GO AHEAD!
MY FAMILY HAS
BEEN LOYAL TO
YOURS FOR
GENERATIONS! BY
GETTING RID OF ME,
YOU WOULD SIMPLY
COMPLETE YOUR
BETRAYAL!



YOUR
FAMILY?

MY
FATHER IS
THE MAYOR
OF YU
DAO!



YU
DAO...THE
FIRST OF THE
FIRE NATION
COLONIES.

YES,
MY HOME! AND
NOW YOU AND THE
AVATAR ARE GOING TO
DESTROY IT WITH YOUR
PRECIOUS HARMONY
RESTORATION
MOVEMENT!





F-FIRE
LORD
ZUKO!

YOU MUST
BE MAYOR
MORISHITA.



YOUR
DAUGHTER
SNUCK INTO MY
HOME AND TRIED
TO KILL ME!

KORI?!

SOMEONE
HAD TO DO
SOMETHING!



MY
SINCEREST
APOLOGIES FOR
MY DAUGHTER'S
RASH BEHAVIOR,
FIRE LORD! HAVE
MERCY!

I SHOULD
HAVE THIS WHOLE
PLACE BURNED
DOWN!



WHY BOTHER? THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT WILL ACCOMPLISH THE SAME THING WITHOUT YOU HAVING TO LIFT A FINGER!

WHY CAN'T YOU COLONIALS GET IT THROUGH YOUR THICK SKULLS?! THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT IS A MEANS TO **PEACE!**



P-PEACE?!



PEACE FOR WHO?! WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOUR MAJESTY, MY FAMILY HAS LIVED ON THIS LAND FOR GENERATIONS! THIS CITY WAS BUILT ON OUR BLOOD AND SWEAT! WE HAVE AS MUCH A RIGHT TO BE HERE AS ANYONE ELSE!

YOU'RE FIRE NATION CITIZENS! YOU SHOULD LIVE IN THE FIRE NATION!




YOU'RE RIGHT, FIRE LORD! WE **ARE** FIRE NATION CITIZENS!

AND I'LL TELL YOU THIS -- **YOUR FATHER** WOULD NEVER HAVE LET THE AVATAR AND THE EARTH KING BULLY HIM INTO SOMETHING SO OBVIOUSLY BAD FOR HIS OWN NATION'S CITIZENS!

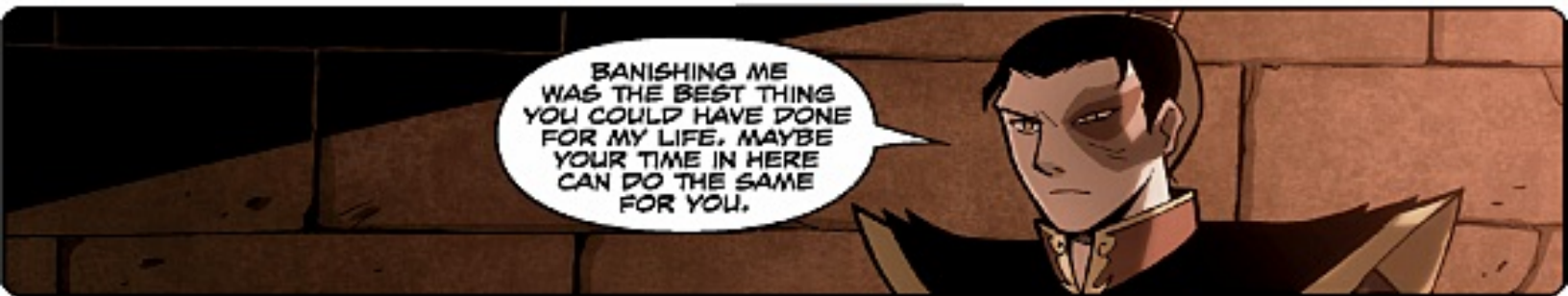


MY FATHER...?



I SHOULD COUNT MYSELF LUCKY. THE NEW FIRE LORD HAS GRACED ME WITH HIS PRESENCE IN MY LOWLY PRISON CELL.

YOU SHOULD COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY THAT THE AVATAR CHOSE TO SPARE YOU.



BANISHING ME WAS THE BEST THING YOU COULD HAVE DONE FOR MY LIFE. MAYBE YOUR TIME IN HERE CAN DO THE SAME FOR YOU.



WHY ARE YOU REALLY HERE?



BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME SOMETHING.



WHERE IS MY MOTHER?!



YOU OUGHT
TO BRING ME
SOME TEA,
ZUKO.



WE'LL TALK
WHILE SIPPING FROM
STEAMING LITTLE CUPS,
MUCH LIKE YOU DID WITH
MY TRAITOROUS BROTHER.
I'LL GIVE YOU ADVICE ON
HOW TO BE A GOOD FIRE
LORD. WOULDN'T THAT
BE NICE?

PERHAPS EVEN
THE SUBJECT OF
YOUR MOTHER
WILL COME UP.



I DON'T
NEED THIS.



DO YOU
THINK BEING
FIRE LORD
IS EASY?!



THE THRONE
COMES WITH MANY
PRESSURES, AND
THOSE PRESSURES
WILL CHANGE YOU!
BUT IF YOU CAN
STAND THE HEAT,
YOU'LL BECOME
SOMETHING
MORE.

OF ALL THE
PEOPLE IN THE
WORLD, I HAVE THE
WISDOM YOU NEED,
THE WISDOM OF
EXPERIENCE!



BE
HONEST WITH
YOURSELF, ZUKO
-- DO YOU REALLY
BELIEVE YOU CAN
HANDLE IT ALL ON
YOUR OWN?



YOU'LL BE
BACK. AND I'LL
BE HERE WAITING
FOR YOU.

SON.



CLICK



OFF THE
COAST OF THE
FIRE NATION

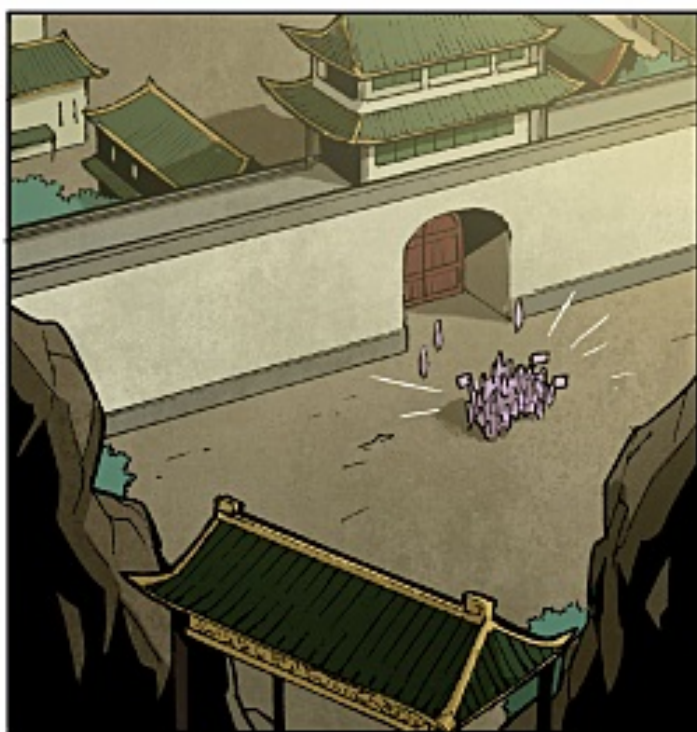






BEIFONG METALBENDING ACADEMY, EARTH KINGDOM

COME LOOK!
THERE'S A
CROWD AT THE
CITY GATES
BELOW!



I WANNA
KNOW WHAT'S
HAPPENING!

WHATEVER IT
IS, IT'S BAD!
BAD! THE CITY'S
PROBABLY
DOOMED! WE'RE
PROBABLY
DOOMED!

I HATE
DOOM.







RUMBLE!

RAAR!

KRAACK!

WHUMP!





OH,
THERE
HE IS.

ZUKO'S
CHANGED HIS
MIND ABOUT
THE HARMONY
RESTORATION
MOVEMENT.

YOU'RE
KIDDING.



HE'S HOLED
HIMSELF UP IN YU
DAO WITH A BUNCH
OF HIS SOLDIERS. HE
WON'T LET ANYONE
IN OR OUT. THAT'S
WHERE WE'RE
HEADED.



SO THAT'S WHAT'S GOING
ON! THE LILY LIVERS -- I
MEAN, MY *STUDENTS* WERE
TALKING ABOUT IT. ZUKO'S
STARTING TO ACT LIKE HIS
OLD MAN OZAI THEN.

NO, WE
DON'T KNOW
THAT YET.



BUT AANG'S
MEDITATING ON
WHAT HE MIGHT
HAVE TO DO--



"... BECAUSE OF
THE *PROMISE*
HE MADE."



YOU'VE DONE
YOUR DUTY. THE
WAR IS OVER. AND
YET THE WORLD IS
STILL NOT AT
PEACE.





I'M SORRY, AANG. YOU ARE STILL DEALING WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF MY OWN INDECISIVENESS.

SIGHE
AVATAR ROKU, I NEVER SHOULD'VE MADE THAT PROMISE TO ZUKO.



I MEAN, I DIDN'T EVEN KILL OZAI, AND HE WAS EVIL ALL THE WAY THROUGH!

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KILL MY OWN FIREBENDING TEACHER? MY FRIEND?



WHAT KIND OF PERSON WOULD I BE?

A PERSON WHO KEEPS HIS PROMISES.

ZUKO WAS IN HIS clearest moment when he asked you for that promise. He knew what was at stake.



ALL THOSE LIVES THAT HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS...I COULD HAVE SAVED THEM. I HAD SO MANY CHANCES. SOZIN ALMOST NEVER HAD HIS GUARD UP WHEN HE WAS WITH ME.

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU REGRET NOT... ENDING FIRE LORD SOZIN?

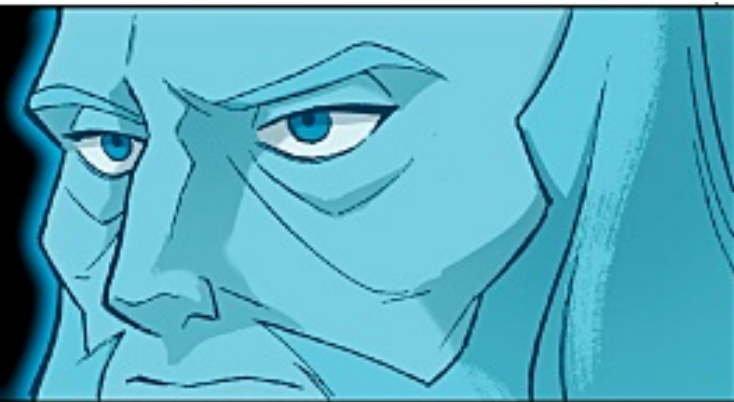


YES.

BUT HE WAS YOUR FRIEND!




MORE THAN A FRIEND. HE WAS LIKE A BROTHER TO ME. BUT BECAUSE OF HIM, THE WORLD **BURNED**.

A close-up of Iroh's face, showing his characteristic wrinkles and a serious, somewhat stern expression. He has long, thin eyebrows and a small, pointed nose.

WHEN YOU
ARE IN A POSITION
OF POWER, YOU MUST
PUT THE NEEDS OF THE
WORLD ABOVE YOUR
OWN. ZUKO, AT ONE
TIME AT LEAST,
UNDERSTOOD
THIS.

A close-up of Aang's face, looking up with wide, expressive blue eyes. He has a small, determined smile.

I'LL GO
TO YU DAO AND
FIND ZUKO. THEN
WE'LL SIT DOWN
AND TALK.

Aang and Iroh are shown in profile, facing each other. Aang is on the left, looking towards Iroh on the right. Iroh has a long, thin beard and a small, pointed nose. The background is a solid dark blue.

REMEMBER THE
WISDOM I OFFERED
YOU, AANG -- YOU MUST
BE DECISIVE. A PROMISE
IS A PROMISE.

BECAUSE
THAT'S WHAT
FRIENDS DO.
WE TALK.



















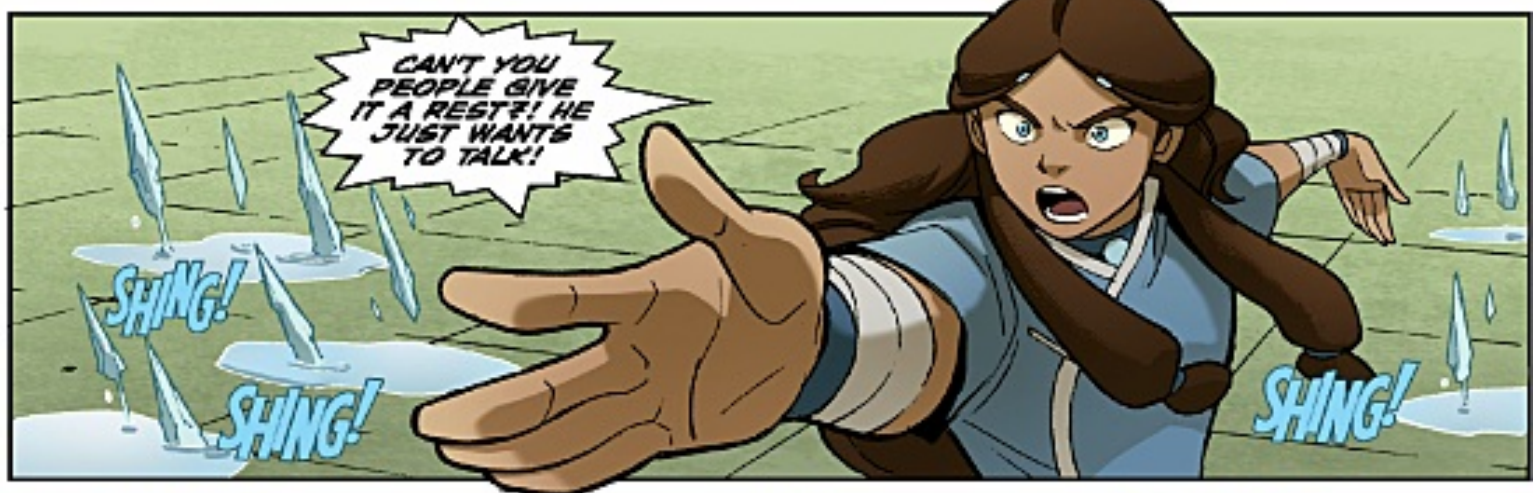




















I CAME HERE
TO TALK TO YOU,
ZUKO! AS A FRIEND!
BUT YOU'VE
CHANGED!

YOU'VE
FORGOTTEN
WHAT WE
FOUGHT
FOR!



MAYBE
AVATAR ROKU IS
RIGHT. MAYBE A
PROMISE IS A
PROMISE.















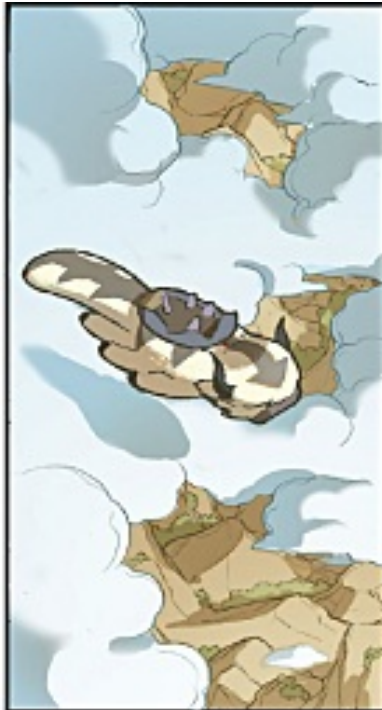


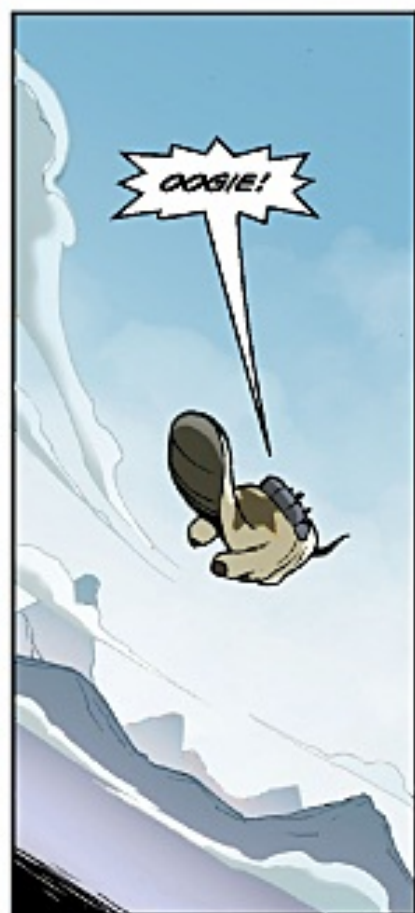




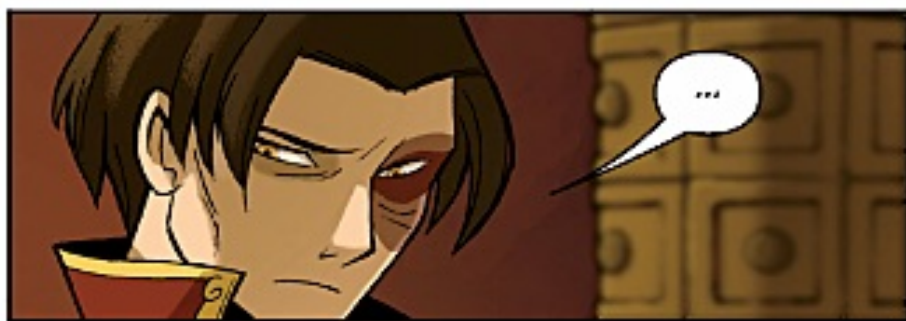
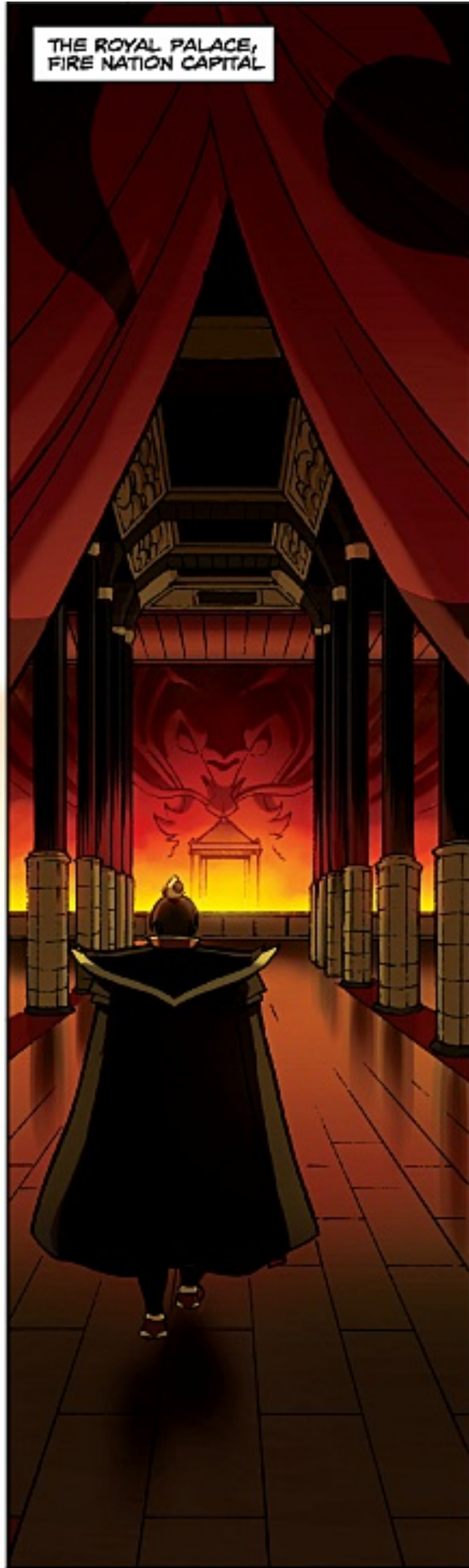








THE ROYAL PALACE,
FIRE NATION CAPITAL

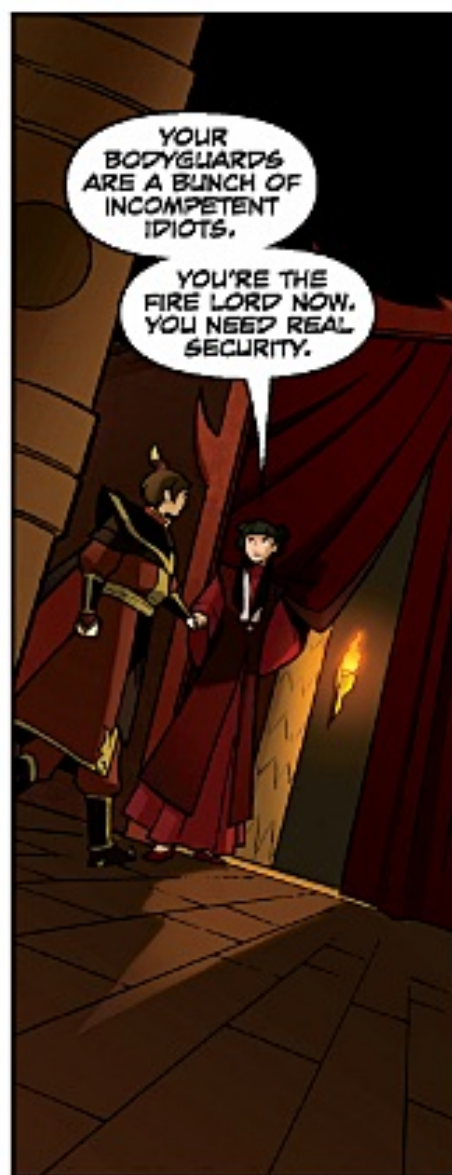




YOU'VE BEEN
HAVING TROUBLE
SLEEPING.

HOW --?

HAVE
YOU LOOKED
IN THE MIRROR
LATELY?

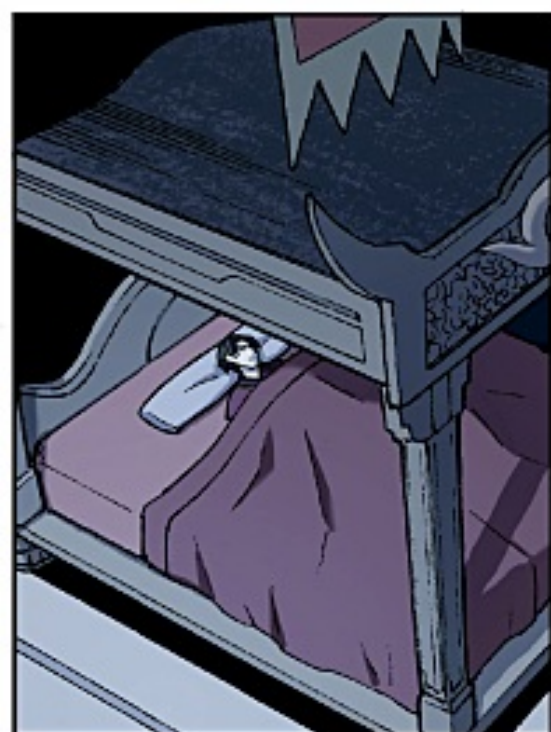


YOUR
BODYGUARDS
ARE A BUNCH OF
INCOMPETENT
IDIOTS.

YOU'RE THE
FIRE LORD NOW.
YOU NEED REAL
SECURITY.

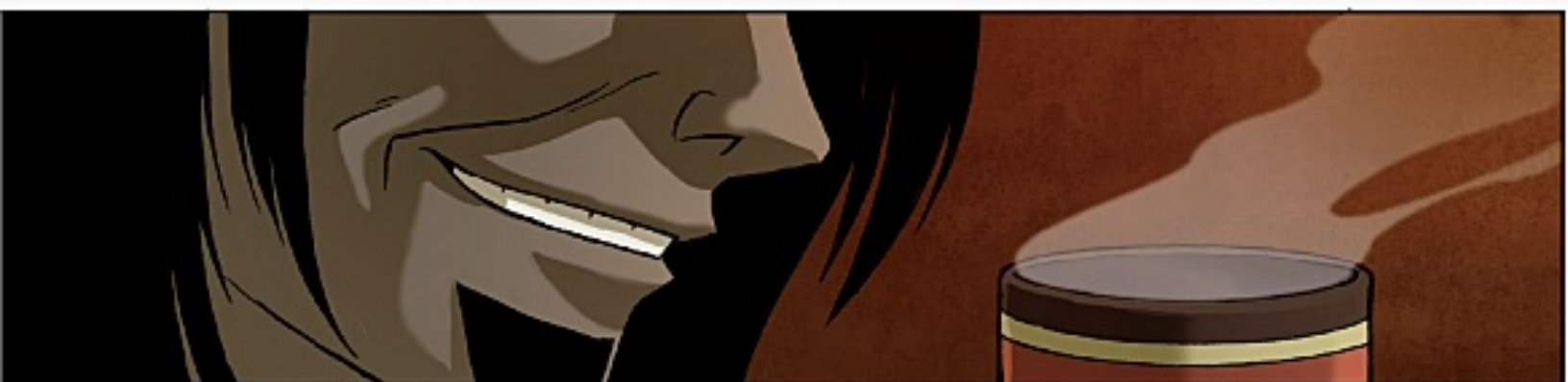
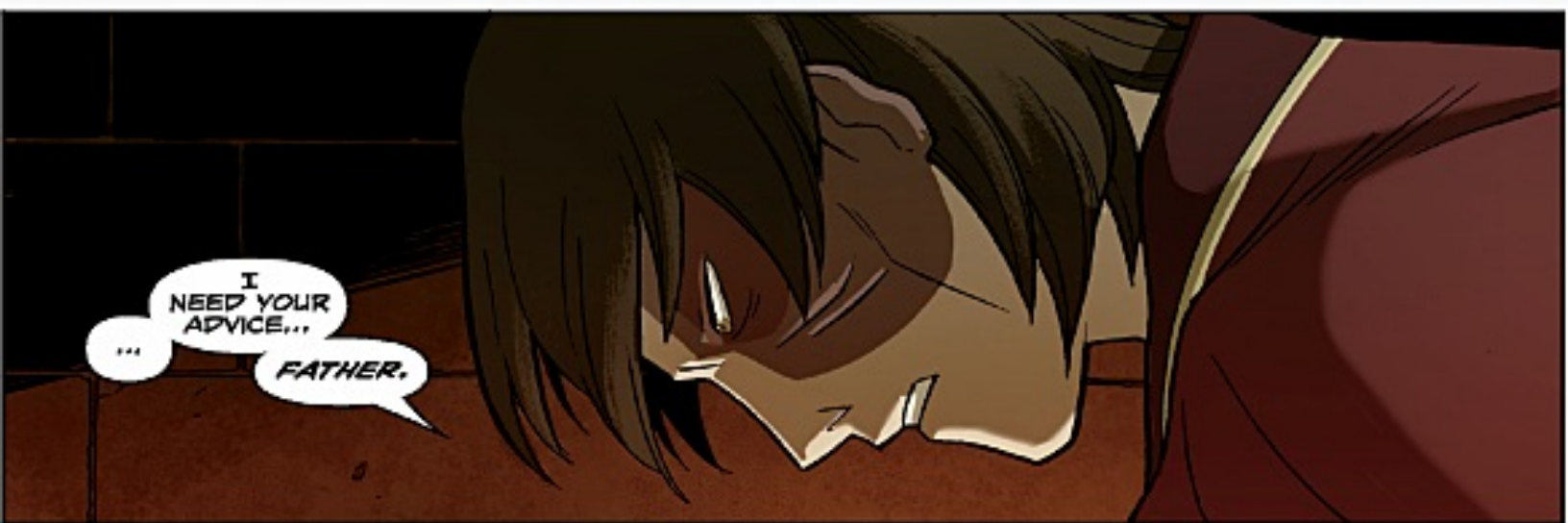
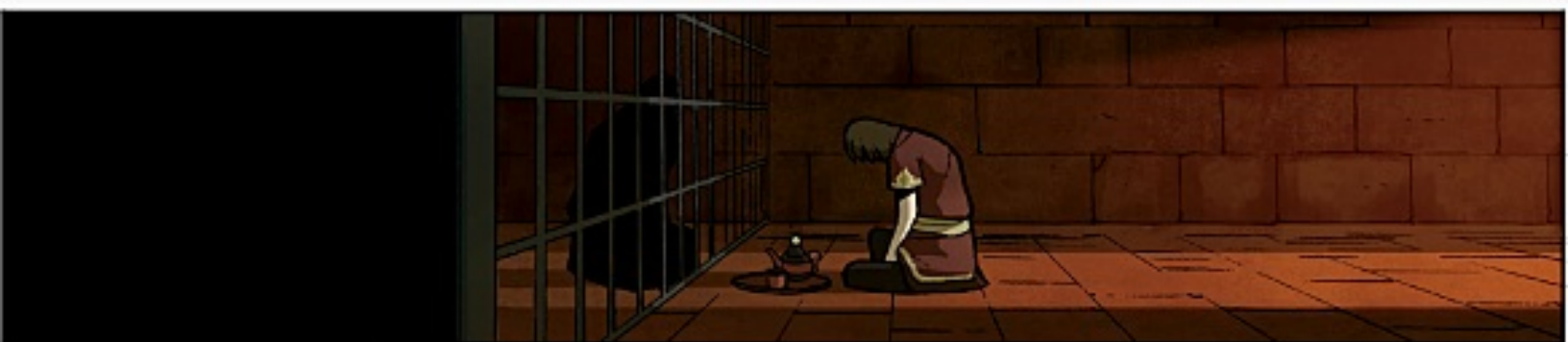


SO
I ASKED
SOME FRIENDS
TO COME
HELP.



























MY STUDENTS AND I LEFT THIS BUILDING IN DEFERENCE TO THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT!

BUT NOW THAT THE FIRE LORD HAS RECOVERED HIS SENSES AND WITHDRAWN HIS SUPPORT FOR THE MOVEMENT--



--WE'VE COME BACK TO RECLAIM WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY OURS!



FIRE LORD ZUKO'S OFF HIS GOURD! YOU PEOPLE DON'T BELONG HERE! THIS IS THE EARTH KINGDOM'S -- AND THE WORLD'S -- FIRST SCHOOL OF METALBENDING!



PSH. SHAME ON YOU FOR SELLING SUCH A FANTASY TO THESE POOR DUPES, YOUNG LADY! EVERYONE KNOWS THAT "METALBENDING" DOESN'T EXIST.



















"BEFORE YOU COULD REACH A DECISION, A GIANT WAVE WASHED OVER YOU AND CARRIED YOU OUT INTO THE OCEAN."



I
DOVE IN MYSELF
TO SAVE YOU. YOU
SPENT THE REST OF
THE DAY IN YOUR
MOTHER'S ARMS,
VOMITING SEA-
WATER.



I CAME HERE
LOOKING FOR ADVICE. I
WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU
WERE ABLE TO SLEEP
PEACEFULLY IN SPITE OF
THE PRESSURES OF
THE THRONE.

AND I
TOLD
YOU.



I DON'T
SEE HOW AN
OLD FAMILY
MEMORY --

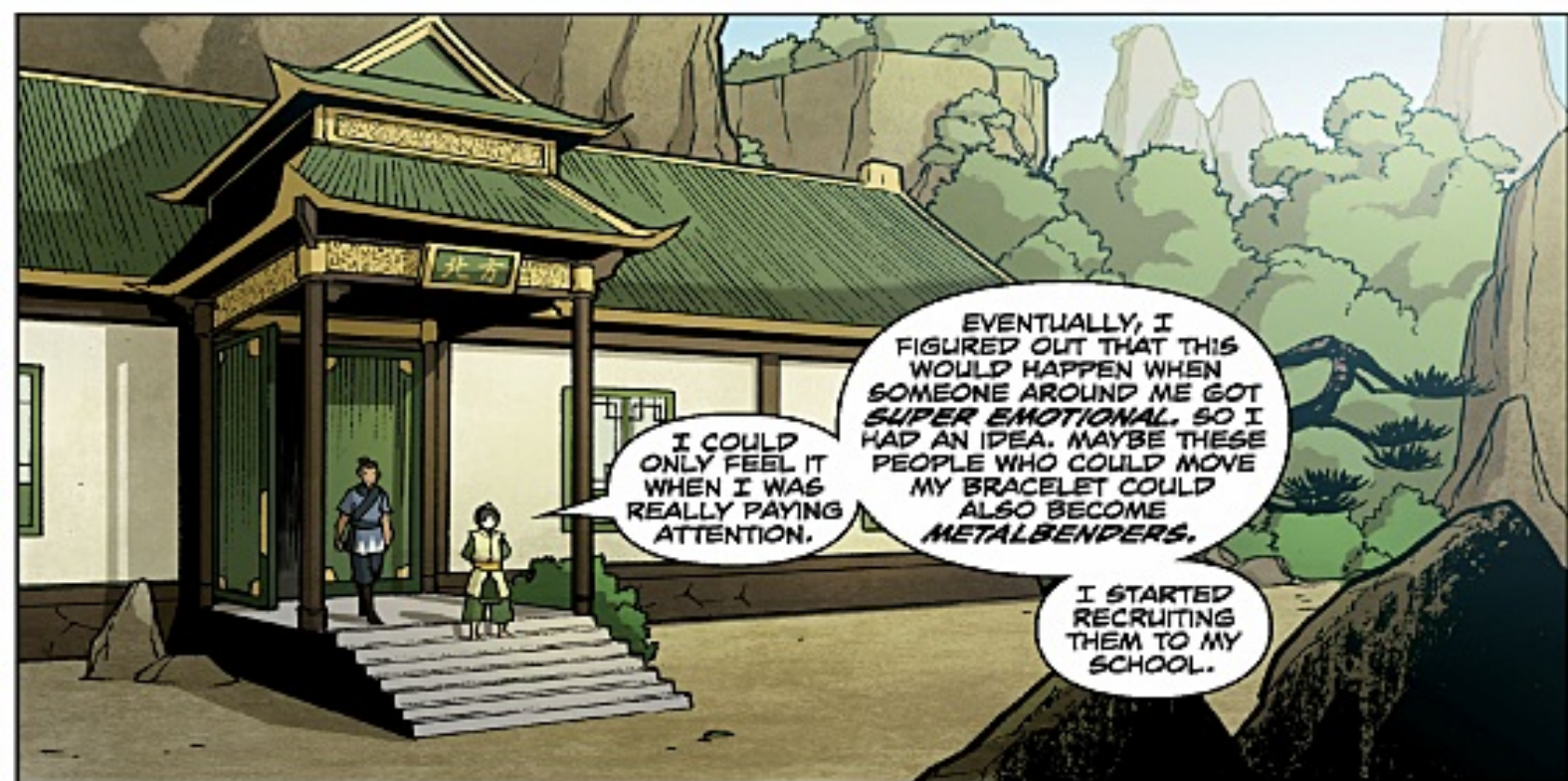
I'M
TIRED, ZUKO.
WE'RE DONE
TALKING FOR NOW.
PERHAPS WE WILL
CONTINUE
TOMORROW.



BRING
MORE
TEA.







"I MET HO TUN IN A RAMEN HOUSE. HE'D JUST FOUND A SPIDER-WASP IN HIS SOUP."

ACK!
DOOM! I
SWALLOWED A
MOUTHFUL OF
DOOM!

*ACTUALLY, IT WAS
MORE LIKE HALF
A SPIDER-WASP.

"PENGA WAS IN
A MARKETPLACE
ARGUING OVER
SHOES WITH ONE
OF HER FAMILY'S
SERVANTS."

FORGIVE ME,
MISTRESS PENGA, BUT
WE'VE ALREADY SPENT
ALL THE MONEY YOUR
PARENTS ALLOTTED
FOR THIS SHOPPING
TRIP.

I WANT THEM!
I WANT THEM! I
WANT THEM!

"AND THE DARK ONE
WAS PEOPLE WATCHING
AT A STREET CORNER."

I
HATE YOU...AND
YOU...AND YOU...
AND YOU...

THAT SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT. KATARA FOUND OUT SHE WAS A WATERBENDER BECAUSE THE ICE WOULD CRACK WHENEVER I MADE HER MAD -- ER, WHENEVER SHE GOT **SUPER EMOTIONAL**.

YEAH, BUT THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH FINDING STUDENTS THAT WAY. THINK ABOUT IT. WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE GET **SUPER EMOTIONAL** IN PUBLIC?!



!!!
UH, CRAZY PEOPLE?

!!!
CRAZY PEOPLE!



AND EVEN WORSE, THE WHOLE THING IS JUST A **THEORY**! NOBODY IN THAT SORRY GROUP OF LILY LIVERS HAS MOVED EVEN THE SMALLEST PIECE OF METAL SINCE THEY'VE BEEN HERE! NOT EVEN A COIN!



LISTEN. I DON'T LIKE TO BRAG, BUT --

YOU LOVE TO BRAG.

OKAY, I LOVE TO BRAG, BUT SOKKA OF THE SOUTHERN WATER TRIBE IS JUST WHAT THIS SCHOOL NEEDS!



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE NOT A BENDER OF **ANYTHING**, LET ALONE METAL!

OH, BUT I **AM** A BENDER! I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO BEND ANY OF THE ELEMENTS, BUT I CAN **"BEND"** PEOPLE'S MOTIVATION! I'M A **MOTIVATIONAL BENDER**!



THAT'S A STRETCH.

HEY, WHO LED THE INVASION ON THE DAY OF BLACK SUN? WHO STARTED TRAINING WARRIORS IN HIS OWN TRIBE WHEN HE WAS JUST A KID? **SOKKA THE MOTIVATIONAL BENDER**, THAT'S WHO!

JUST EXPLAIN TO ME METALBENDING BASICS, THEN LEAVE THE LILY LIVERS -- I MEAN, **YOUR STUDENTS** -- TO ME!









...AND THIS IS
A TECHNIQUE CALLED
AIR SCOOTER! I INVENTED
IT WHEN I WAS TRAINING
AT THE SOUTHERN AIR
TEMPLE. IT'S PART OF
HOW I EARNED MY
TATTOOS!

LOOK AT
HIM GO!

WOW!

HOW
DOES HE DO
THAT?

CLAP

CLAP CLAP

AVATAR
AANG IS SOOO
DREAMY!

AND
HERE'S A BRAND-NEW
TECHNIQUE I'VE BEEN
WORKING ON!

FIRST,
I MAKE A
HANDFUL OF AIR
MARBLES...

...AND THEN
I TURN THEM
ALL INTO AIR
SCOOTERS!

HA
HA HA!

WHEEEE!

WHOA!

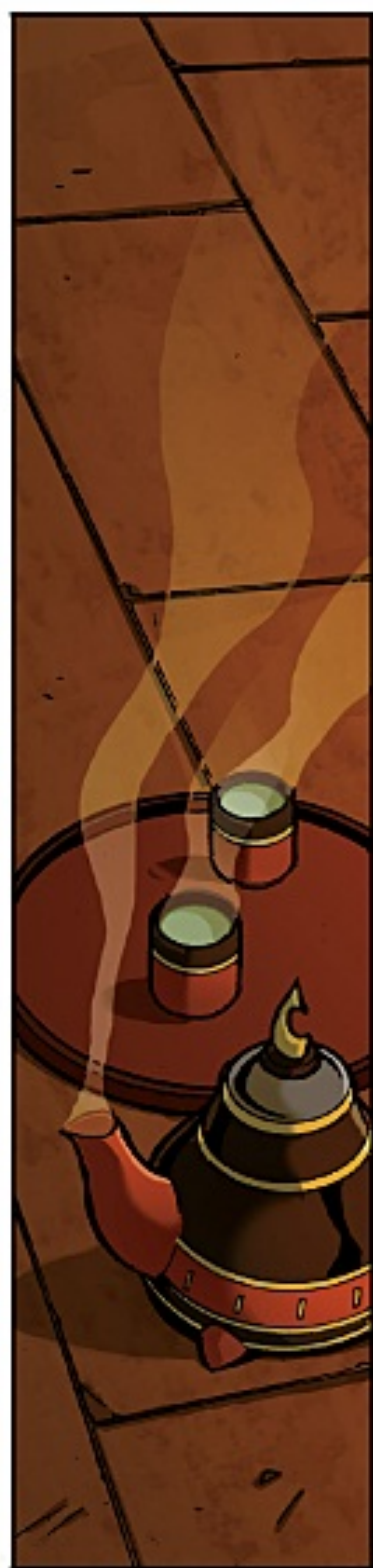




I
HATE TO RUIN
YOUR FUN, AANG,
BUT SHOULDN'T WE
GET GOING? WE'RE
HERE TO MEET WITH
THE EARTH KING,
REMEMBER?

YOU'RE
PROBABLY
RIGHT...



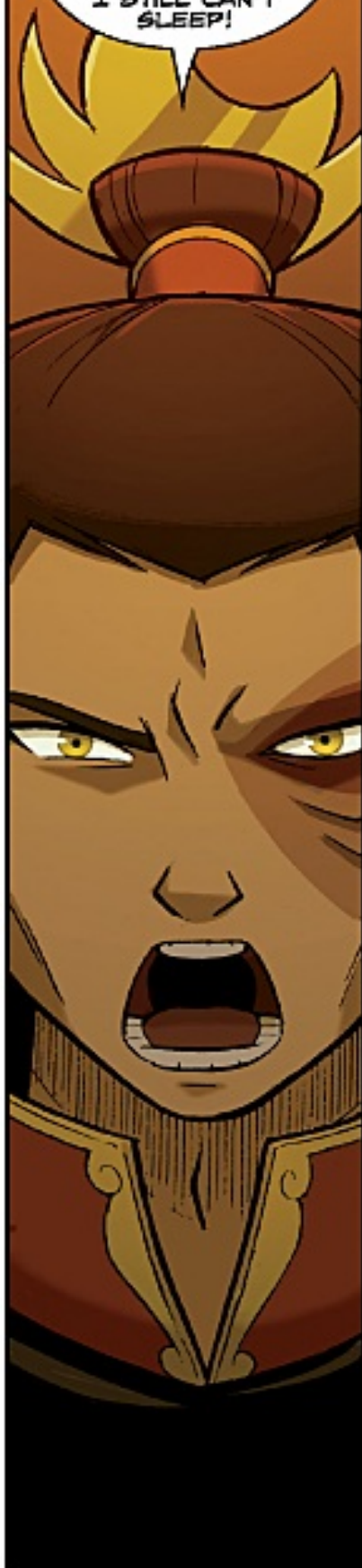


AT THE BEACH, I WAS OVERWHELMED BY MY CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE I COULDN'T DECIDE WHOSE SIDE TO TAKE.

I SHOULD HAVE SIDED WITH THE HAWK. IT WAS STRONG AND NOBLE, MUCH LIKE THE FIRE NATION. IT HAD EARNED ITS MEAL.



BUT I'VE ALREADY DONE THAT, FATHER! I'M NO LONGER NEGLECTING THE NEEDS OF MY OWN PEOPLE, AS I DID WHEN I FIRST TOOK THE THRONE! AND I STILL CAN'T SLEEP!

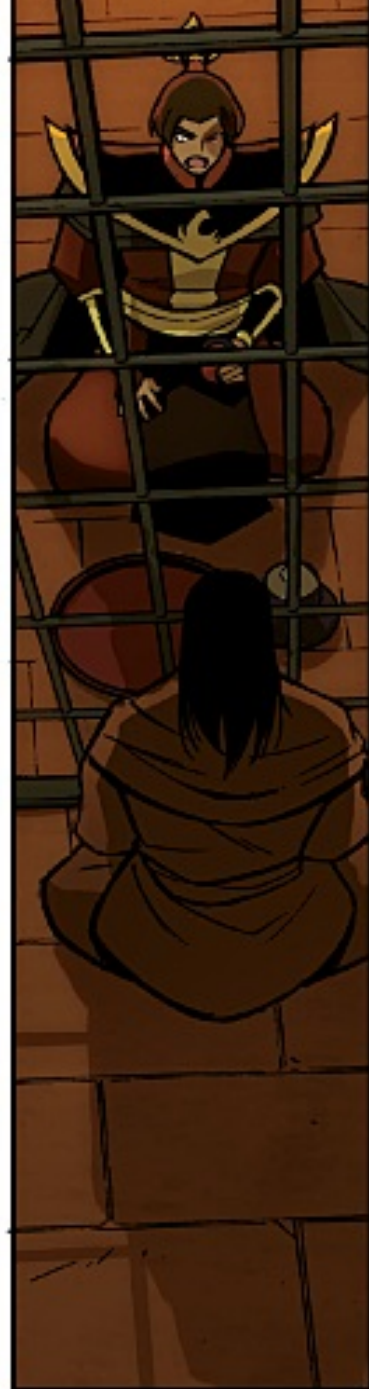


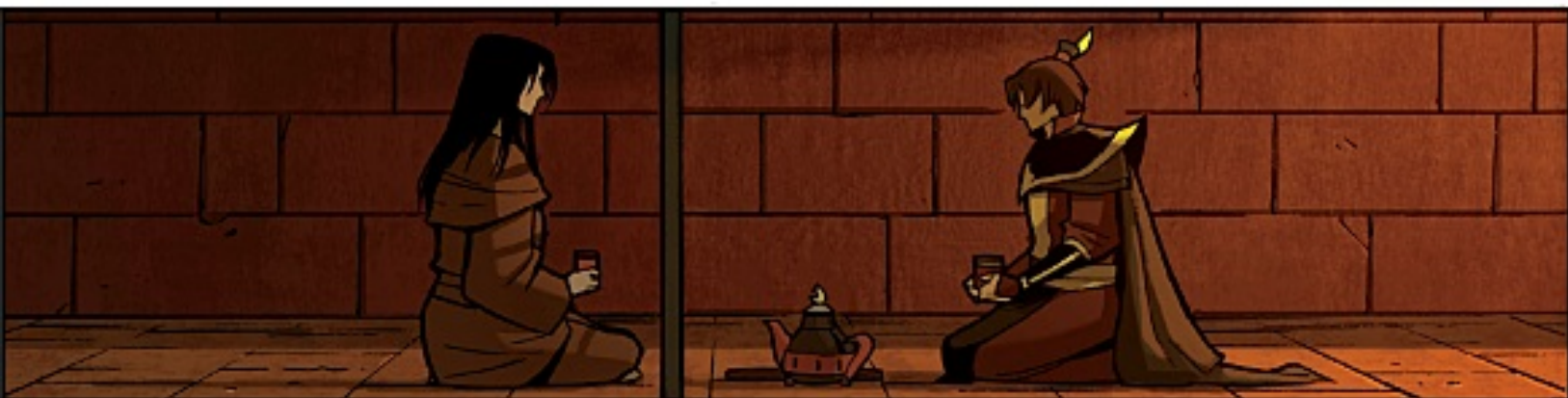
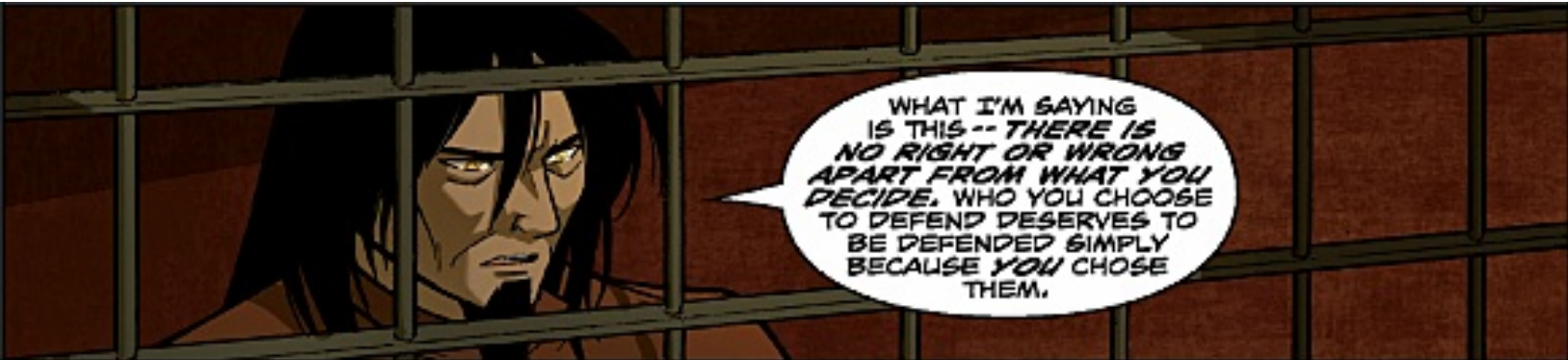
YOU'RE ONLY PARTIALLY CORRECT IN YOUR ASSESSMENT. YOUR SLEEPLESSNESS DOES INDEED STEM FROM YOUR INABILITY TO CHOOSE SIDES, TO DISTINGUISH WHAT IS RIGHT.

BUT YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT THE HAWK.



SO YOU'RE SAYING...I **SHOULD** HAVE DEFENDED THE TURTLE-CRAB? I **SHOULD** HAVE SIDED WITH THE WEAKER OF THE TWO?







DO YOU THINK THE EARTH KING, AFTER BEING HUMILIATED TIME AND TIME AGAIN BY OUR MIGHTY NATION AND HIS OWN INCOMPETENCE, WILL BE **REASONABLE**? DO YOU THINK HE'LL TREAT THE REMAINING FIRE NATION COLONIALS **FAIRLY**?

IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESTORE HIS OWN DIGNITY, HE'LL SEND OUT HIS ARMY TO CRUSH THEM!



IF YOU TRULY ARE THE FIRE LORD, YOU WILL DEFEND THE FIRE NATION CITIZENS OF YU DAO FEROCIOUSLY! NOT SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY ARE YOUR PEOPLE, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE AN EXPRESSION OF YOUR **WILL**!



I'M GOING TO **WAIT**, AND MY PATIENCE WILL BE REWARDED WITH A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION FOR EVERYONE! EVEN AS WE SPEAK, THE AVATAR IS --

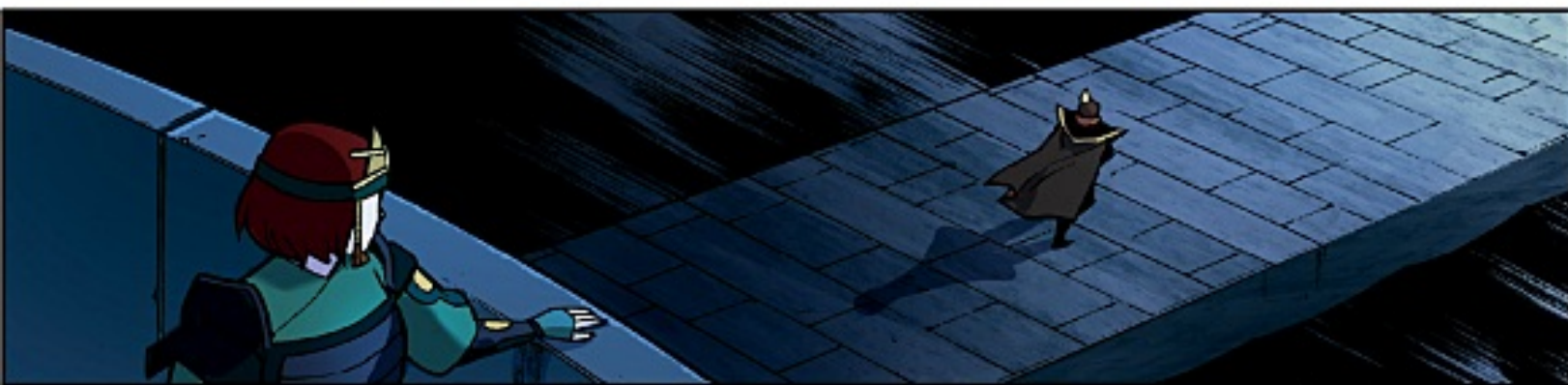
THE AVATAR IS AN IRRELEVANT RELIC OF A BYGONE AGE! HE WANTS TO KEEP THE WORLD FROZEN IN TIME BY DENYING THE INEVITABLE VICTORY OF THE STRONG OVER THE WEAK!



AVATAR AANG IS MY FRIEND! MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, HE'S BEEN ON THE SIDE THAT'S **RIGHT**! I TRUST HIM.



MORE THAN YOU TRUST YOURSELF?









I JUST HAD THE BEST IDEA EVER!

YOU SAID SOMETHING IMPORTANT JUST HAPPENED!

IT DID! IN MY *BRAIN*. LISTEN! YOU SAID YOUR STUDENTS WERE ABLE TO MOVE YOUR SPACE BRACELET WHEN THEY WERE SUPER EMOTIONAL.

WELL, TO MAKE THEM INTO METALBENDERS, WE JUST HAVE TO GET THEM *SUPER-MEGA-USER EMOTIONAL!*

AND HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO THAT? LET ME GUESS. YOU'RE GONNA WEAR *TWO* FANCY HEADBANDS!

VERY FUNNY.

I'VE BEEN THINKING. FOR HO TUN, IT'S EASY --

YES! AND PENGU --

OF COURSE!

DOOM.

SHOES.

THE DARK ONE'S THE ONLY ONE I CAN'T FIGURE OUT. WHAT GETS TO HIM MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WHOLE WORLD?





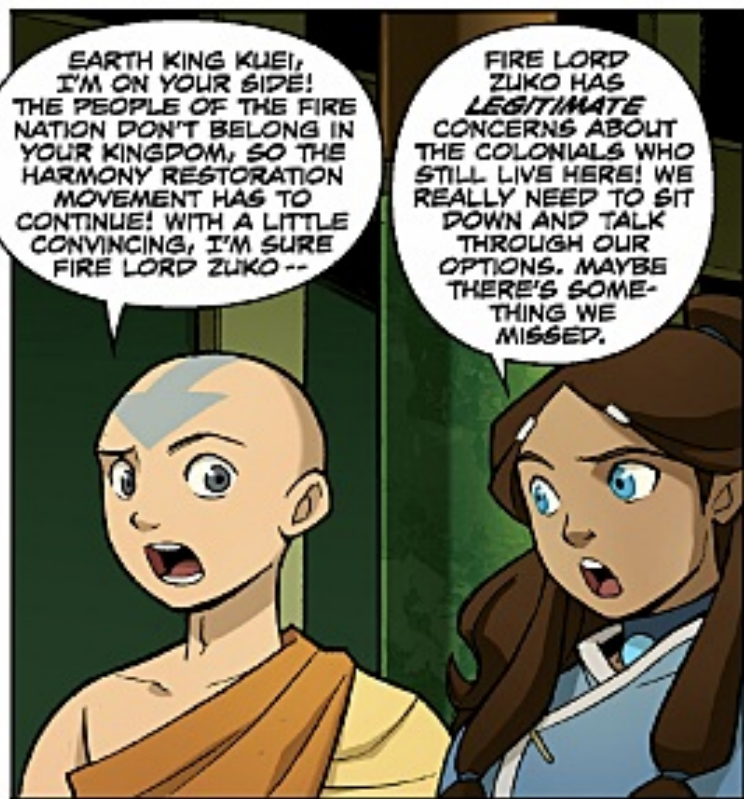














THIS IS BAD! WHY DO WE HAVE TO EAT OUTSIDE? THE OUTSIDE IS SO...SO...

DARK? COLD? DIRTY?

DOOM-Y.



HO TUN, THAT'S NOT EVEN A WORD! AND BESIDES, A CAMPFIRE'S THE PERFECT SETTING FOR A LITTLE TEAM BEIFONG BONDING!

I THINK IT'S ROMANTIC!

UH...NO. IT'S NOT.



WHERE'S SIFU TOPH? HOW COME SHE GETS TO MISS OUT ON ALL THE 'BONDING'?

SHE'LL BE HERE SOON! SHE JUST HAD TO, UH...TAKE CARE OF SOME, YOU KNOW...SIFU-ISH TYPE STUFF FIRST.



HEY, DO YOU GUYS REMEMBER THAT FLYING-BOAR BANNER THAT USED TO BE IN THE TRAINING ROOM?

THE ONE KUNYO BURNED DOWN? ANYONE KNOW WHY THAT WAS THERE?















TOPH!
THERE YOU
ARE!



DON'T GIVE
UP YET, OKAY?
I JUST GOT A
BRAND-NEW BEST
IDEA EVER! WHAT
IF I RIG IT SO
THAT--

YOU EVER
THINK ABOUT
METAL?



NOPE. WHEN
I HAVE EXTRA
THINKING TIME,
I USUALLY SPEND
IT ON FOOD. MEAT,
SPECIFICALLY.



METAL IS JUST
A PART OF EARTH
THAT'S BEEN PURIFIED
AND REFINED, BUT HOW
DOES IT BECOME LIKE
THAT? BY GETTING
HEATED, MELTED,
AND POUNDED.

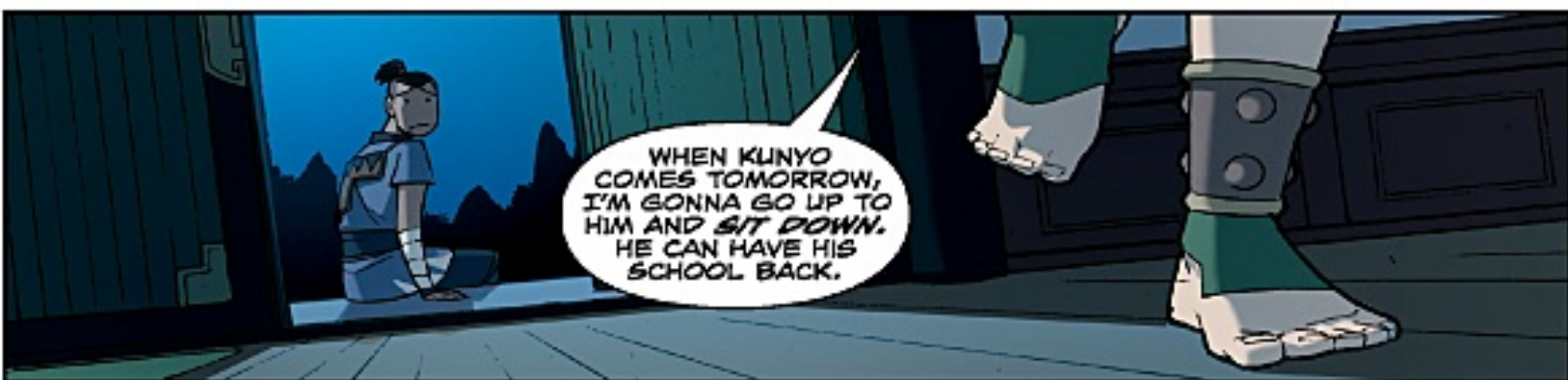
BY GOING
THROUGH
PRESSURE
AND **PAIN**.



I DISCOVERED METALBENDING IN
A TINY METAL CELL, WHEN MASTER
YU AND XIN FU WERE TAKING ME BACK
TO MY PARENTS. THAT WHOLE TRIP, ALL
I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS HOW MY
PARENTS EXPECTED ME TO BE
SOMETHING I'M **NOT**.

SURE, THEY
WANTED ME TO
BE HELPLESS, BUT
THEY ALSO WANTED
ME TO BE A CULTURED,
WELL-MANNERED,
SOFT-SPOKEN
LITTLE LADY.

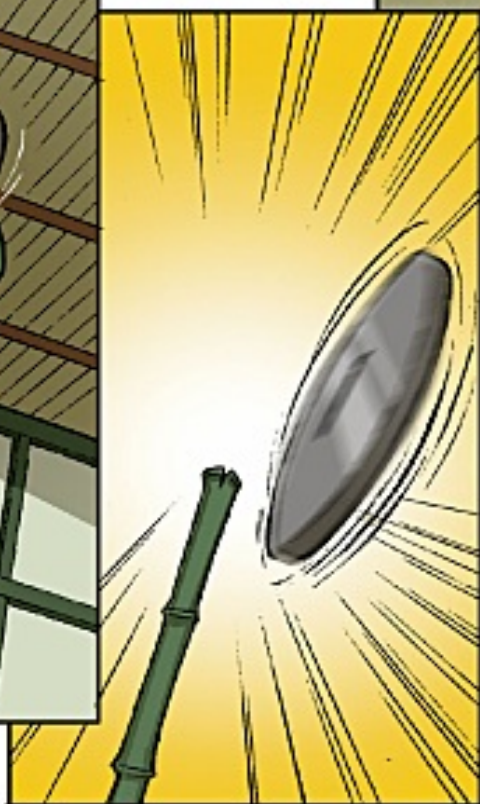
ALL
I FELT WAS
PRESSURE
AND **PAIN**.











CLINK CLINK



HO TUN? DID YOU JUST... METAL-BEND?



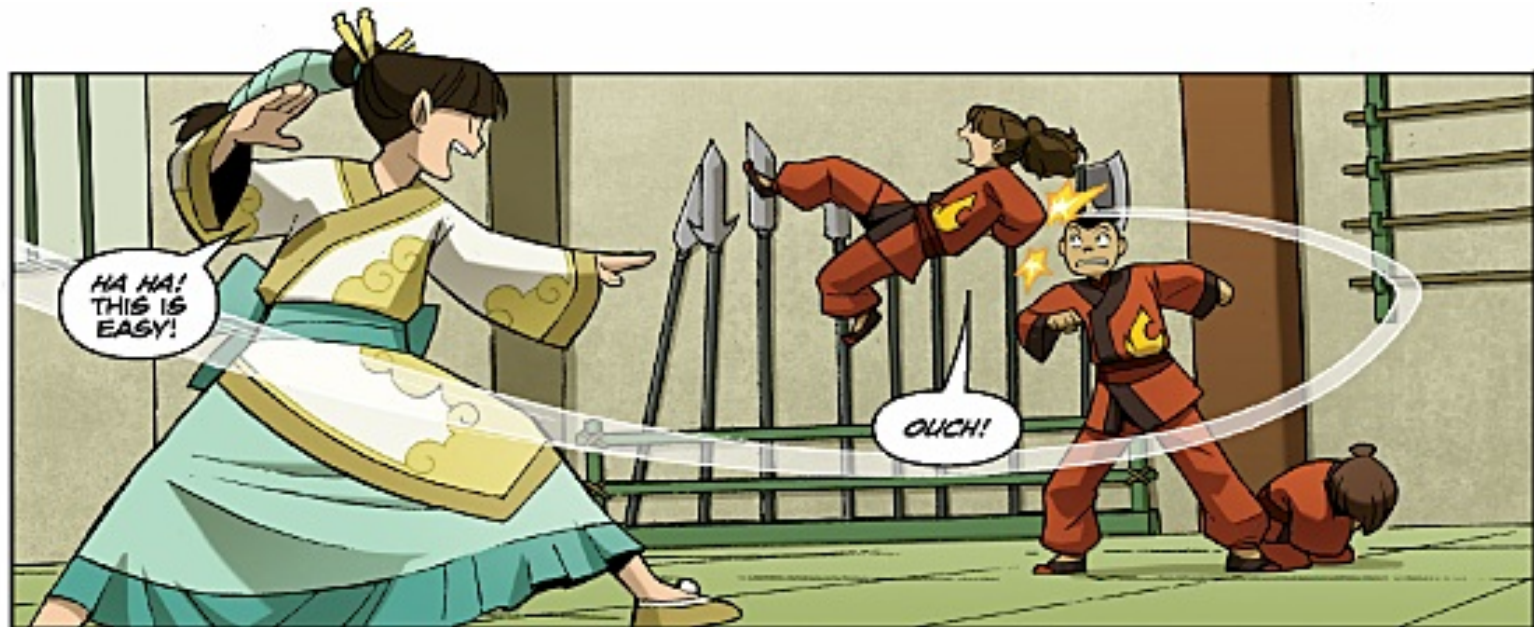
YEAH. I THINK I DID.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

HO TUN FIGURED IT OUT!















SIGH
THIS ISN'T
ME.





I KNOW
YOU'VE BEEN
SECRETLY
MEETING WITH
OZAI.

MAI!
WHO DID YOU
HEAR THAT
FROM?



DOES IT
MATTER?
*NOT FROM
YOU.*



I KNOW
I KEEP SCREWING
UP. BUT, PLEASE...
I...I LOVE YOU,
MAI.



I KNOW. BUT
LATELY I'VE REALIZED
THAT YOU LOVE YOUR
SECRETS *MORE*. YOU'LL
HAVE AN EASIER TIME
KEEPING THEM WHEN
YOU'RE ALONE.

WHAT ARE
YOU TELLING
ME?



GOODBYE,
FIRE LORD.

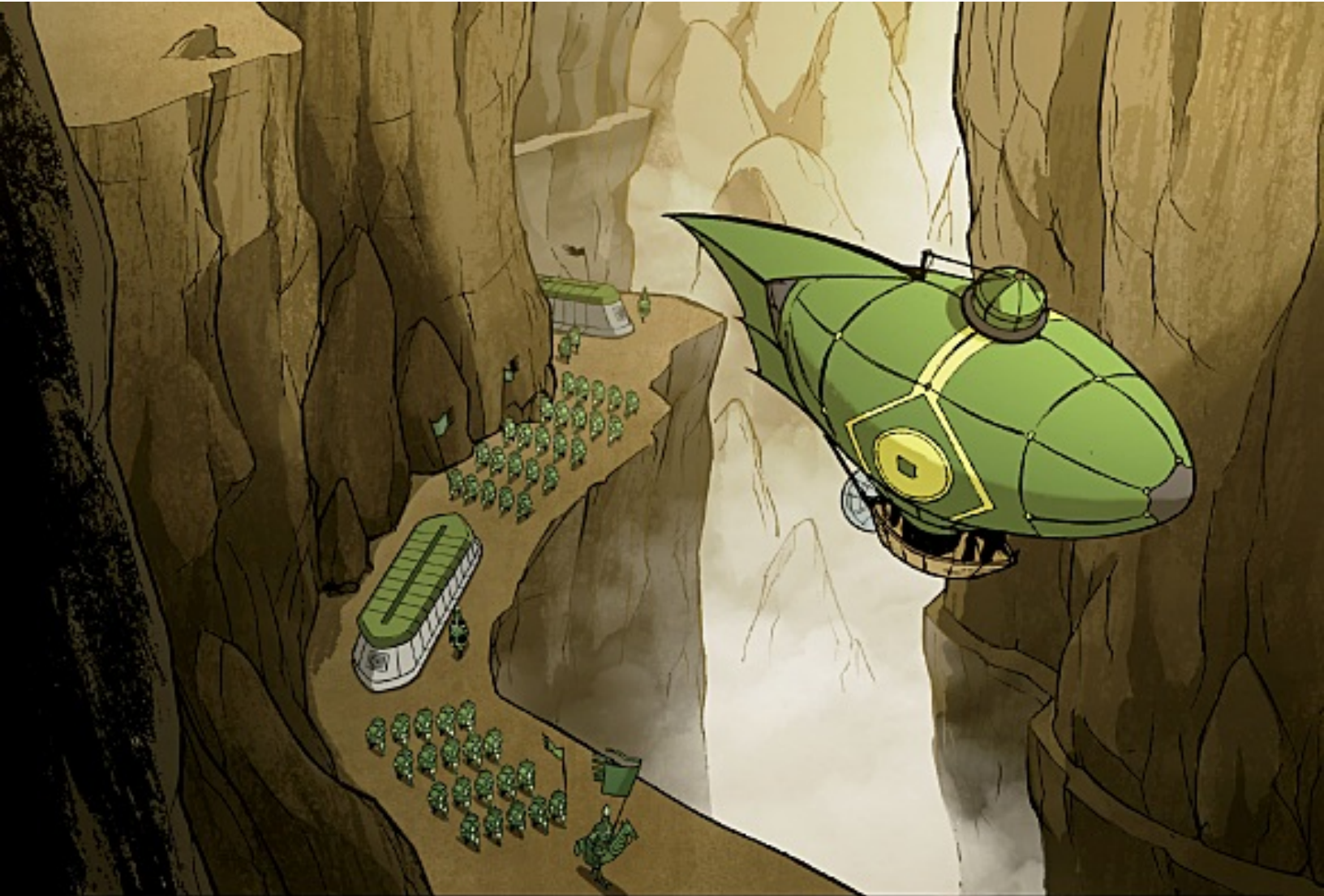


MAI!
COME BACK!
I-- I--

*I ORDER
YOU TO COME
BACK!*















ONE MOMENT,
I KNOW, DEEP IN
MY HEART, THAT I
MUST DEFEND MY
PEOPLE.



BUT
THEN THE NEXT,
DOUBT CREEPS IN.
MAYBE I'M SUPPOSED
TO FOLLOW THROUGH
WITH THE HARMONY
RESTORATION
MOVEMENT.

*PROVE
YOURSELF
WORTHY OF
THE THRONE,
MY SON!*



AANG, HOW AM I
SUPPOSED TO FIGURE
OUT WHAT'S RIGHT WHEN *HIS*
VOICE IS ALL I HEAR?! YOU
COULD HAVE SILENCED HIM
FOREVER...PERHAPS THEN I
COULD HAVE FOUND PEACE!
BUT YOU DIDN'T, AND
NOW I CAN'T!

I'M
SORRY,
ZUKO...



WHEN HE HAD A
FIRM GRASP OF
THE GOOD, YOUR
FRIEND ASKED
YOU FOR A
PROMISE!

*THE FIRE
LORD'S WILL DETER-
MINES WHAT IS RIGHT!
EMBRACE THIS TRUTH
AND YOU'LL POSSESS
THE PEACE THAT
YOU DESIRE!*



I DON'T
THINK I'LL
EVER STOP
FEELING
LOST.

NOW
FULFILL YOUR
PROMISE AND
RESTORE THE
WORLD TO
HARMONY!



GO
AHEAD,
AANG!
DO IT!







RAAAAR!



FIRE NATION RESIDENTS OF YU DAO, YOU MUST EVACUATE THE CITY IMMEDIATELY! YOUR LIVES ARE IN DANGER!



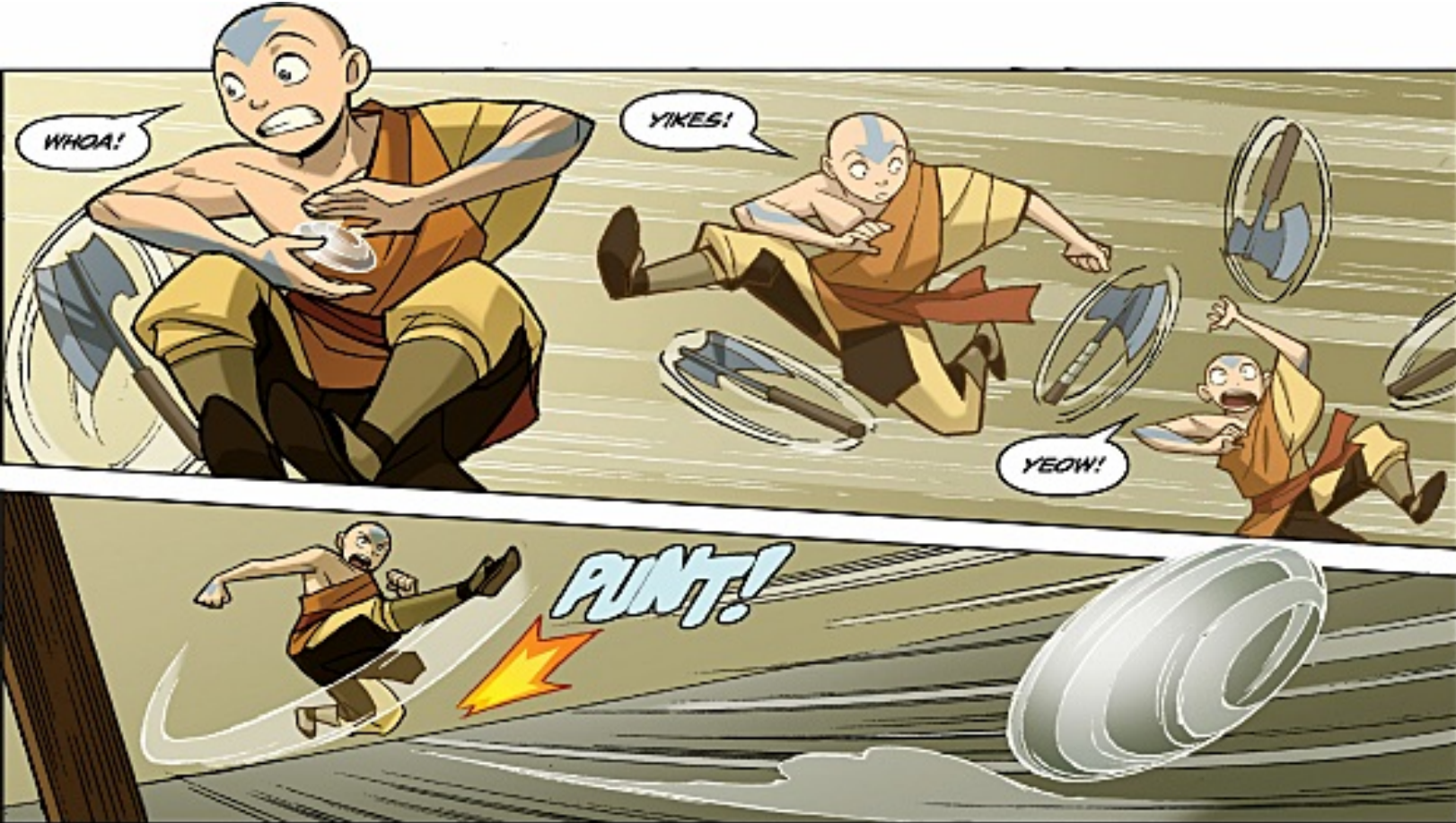
KROOSH

WHOA! WATCH OUT, SWEETIE! WE'RE BEING ATTACKED BY FIREBENDERS!

YOU MEAN EARTHBENDERS!











YOU JOINED THE YU DAO RESISTANCE TO DEFEND A GUY WHO SELLS YOU MOCHI?

IT'S **REALLY** GOOD MOCHI!

SO, I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE I'VE GOT THIS RIGHT. **YOU** ARE GOING OUT WITH **HER**...

YEAH. WHAT'RE YOU GETTING AT?



NOTHING! WAY TO GO, SNEERS!



I KNOW THIS MAKES ME LOOK LIKE A TRAITOR, BUT I'M ONLY FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THE YU DAO RESISTANCE SO LONG AS THEY AGREE TO KEEP **BOTH** EARTH KINGDOM **AND** FIRE NATION INTRUDERS OUT, BECAUSE YU DAO IS **NEITHER**!

YOU MEAN BECAUSE YU DAO IS **BOTH**!



LET SMELLERBEE AND HER PROTESTERS COME! WE CAN HANDLE THEM!

BUT THE PROTESTERS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT! EARTH KING KUEI IS COMING WITH HIS ARMY! THEY COULD ARRIVE AT ANY MOMENT!



NO WAY! AN ENTIRE ARMY--?!

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL YOU! YOU HAVE TO GO! A HANDFUL OF RESISTANCE FIGHTERS CAN'T POSSIBLY STAND UP TO A WHOLE ARMY!

WE CAN IF THE AVATAR JOINS US.



SNEERS, NO! I TOLD THE EARTH KING I'D SEE THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT THROUGH TO THE END!

AANG, MAYBE WE SHOULD HEAR THEM OUT...

WELL, IF YOU WON'T HELP US, AVATAR AANG, MAYBE ONE OF **THOSE** AVATARS WILL.





WAIT. WHAT?!
BUT AIR NOMAD
TATTOOS HAVE TO BE
EARNED THROUGH
YEARS AND YEARS
OF AIRBENDING
PRACTICE! THEY'RE
NOT --



OH, WE KNOW,
AVATAR AANG! FOR A
FAN CLUB MEMBER TO
RECEIVE HER TATTOOS, SHE
MUST MASTER HUNDREDS
OF AIRBENDER-LIKE
FORMS!

"AIRBENDER-
LIKE"?! THOSE TATTOOS
ARE **SACRED** TO MY
PEOPLE! THEY DESCRIBE
WHO WE ARE AND HOW WE
SEE THE WORLD! YOU HAVE
NO RIGHT TO TATTOO
YOURSELVES LIKE
THAT!



I
ASSURE YOU THAT
OUR MEMBERS GO
THROUGH THE MOST
RIGOROUS OF STUDY
PROGRAMS! BY THE
END, THEY --

BUT
HOW COULD YOU
STUDY AIR NOMAD
PHILOSOPHY AT
ALL AND STILL DO
SOMETHING LIKE
THIS?!



AANG, I'M
SURE IT WAS
AN HONEST
MISTAKE.

FOR
YOU TO TREAT
OUR TATTOOS LIKE
A PART OF SOME...
SOME **COSTUME**...!
MY CULTURE ISN'T
A **GAME**!



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

TO THE CITY
GATES. GENERAL
HOW'S ARMY COULD
SHOW UP AT ANY
MOMENT. WHEN THEY
DO, I'M GONNA TRY
TO BUY YOU GUYS
A LITTLE MORE
TIME.



MAYBE
THEY'LL LISTEN.
MAYBE THEY
WON'T. EITHER WAY,
THE FIRE NATION
COLONIALS HAVE
GOT TO GO.

IT'S
TIME WE
SEPARATE THE
NATIONS AND
RESTORE
HARMONY.



I'M TELLING YOU, MY ACTIONS MAKE SENSE! THE FIRE NATION CITIZENS OF YU DAO ARE *MY PEOPLE*! AS THE FIRE LORD, I HAVE A DUTY TO PROTECT THEM!



...

BUT IT GOES BEYOND THAT.



WHEN THE MAYOR'S WIFE INVITED ME TO STAY WITH THEM, I DIDN'T JUST GET TO SEE WHAT YU DAO WAS LIKE. I GOT TO SEE WHAT THEIR *FAMILY* WAS LIKE.

THEY ATE TOGETHER, SITTING AT THE SAME TABLE. THEY TALKED AND LAUGHED AND WHEN THEY ARGUED, THEY DIDN'T CHALLENGE EACH OTHER TO AGNI KAIS.

THEY'RE SO... *NORMAL*.



YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, KNOW MY OWN FAMILY IS *NOT*.

IN MY HEART, I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING IS *RIGHT*. I'M NOT DEFENDING A COLONY. I'M DEFENDING PEOPLE, AND I'M DEFENDING THEIR BONDS WITH ONE ANOTHER.

BUT THERE IS ONE FACT THAT MAKES ME DOUBT MYSELF.



LEADING AN ARMY TO YU DAO IS *EXACTLY* WHAT MY FATHER WOULD DO IF HE RETURNED TO THE THRONE.

FROM THE OUTSIDE, IT LOOKS AS IF I'M ACTING JUST LIKE HIM. DOES IT MATTER IF MY REASONS ARE DIFFERENT?

YOU WANTED A QUIET LIFE AFTER THE WAR, AND THAT'S THE ONE THING I CAN GIVE YOU, TO BEGIN REPAYING YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR ME. I CAN'T DISTURB YOU. I *WON'T*.

EVEN SO, I WISH YOU WERE HERE, UNCLE. I MISS YOU.

FIRE LORD ZUKO!
WE'VE LANDED ON THE SHORES OF THE EARTH KINGDOM!













I'M
SORRY TO TAKE
YOU AWAY FROM
YOUR STUDENTS,
TOPH.



NOT A
PROBLEM,
BELIEVE
ME.

WE BOTH
NEEDED A BREAK
FROM THE DARK
ONE'S NEWFOUND
"TALENT."



IF I
HAVE TO HEAR
ABOUT "THE CLOUDY
TEARDROPS OF HIS
HEART" ONE MORE
TIME --!

SO WHAT'S
THIS ABOUT,
SUKI?



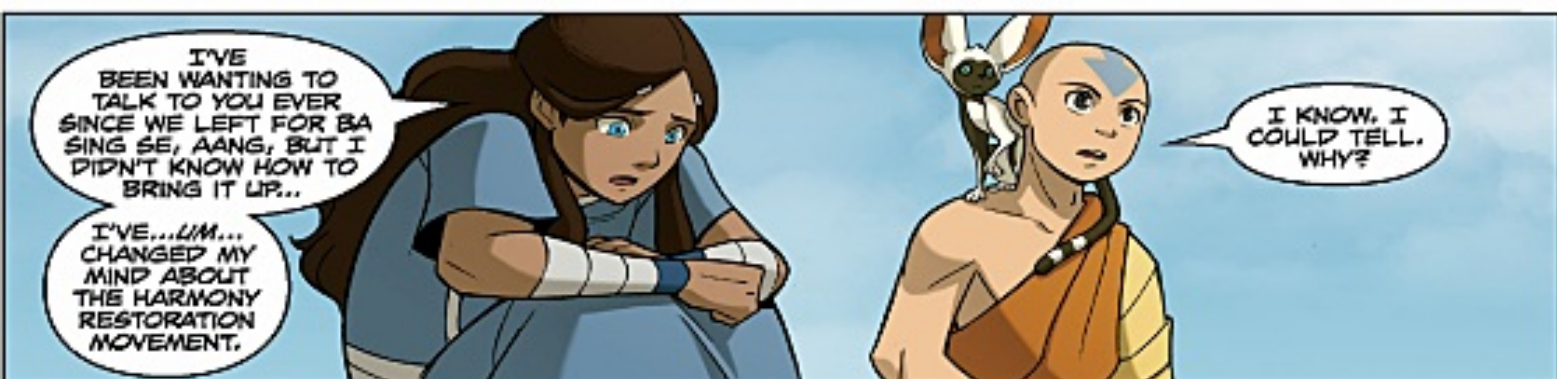
SEE FOR
YOURSELF.

OH,
NO.

WHAT?
WHAT?



ZUKO!





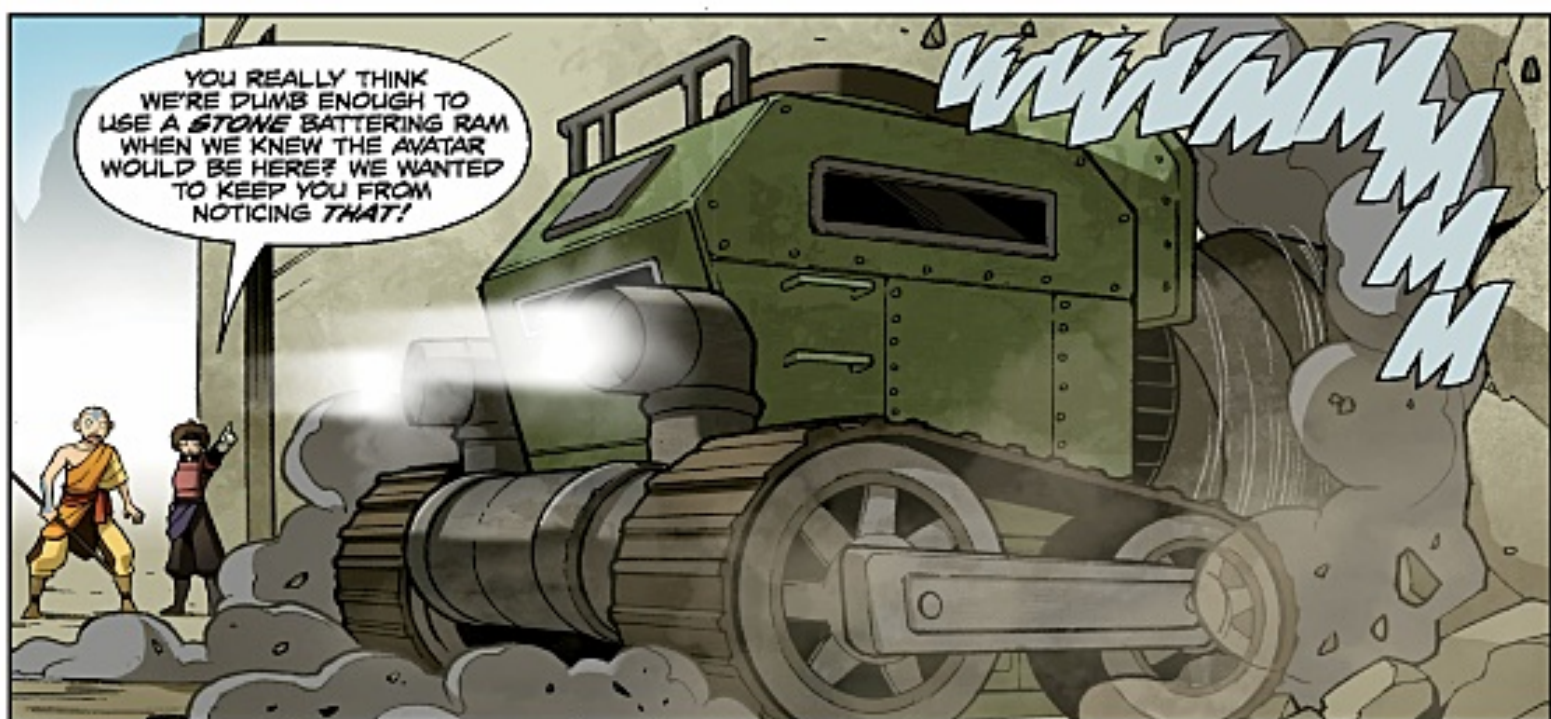
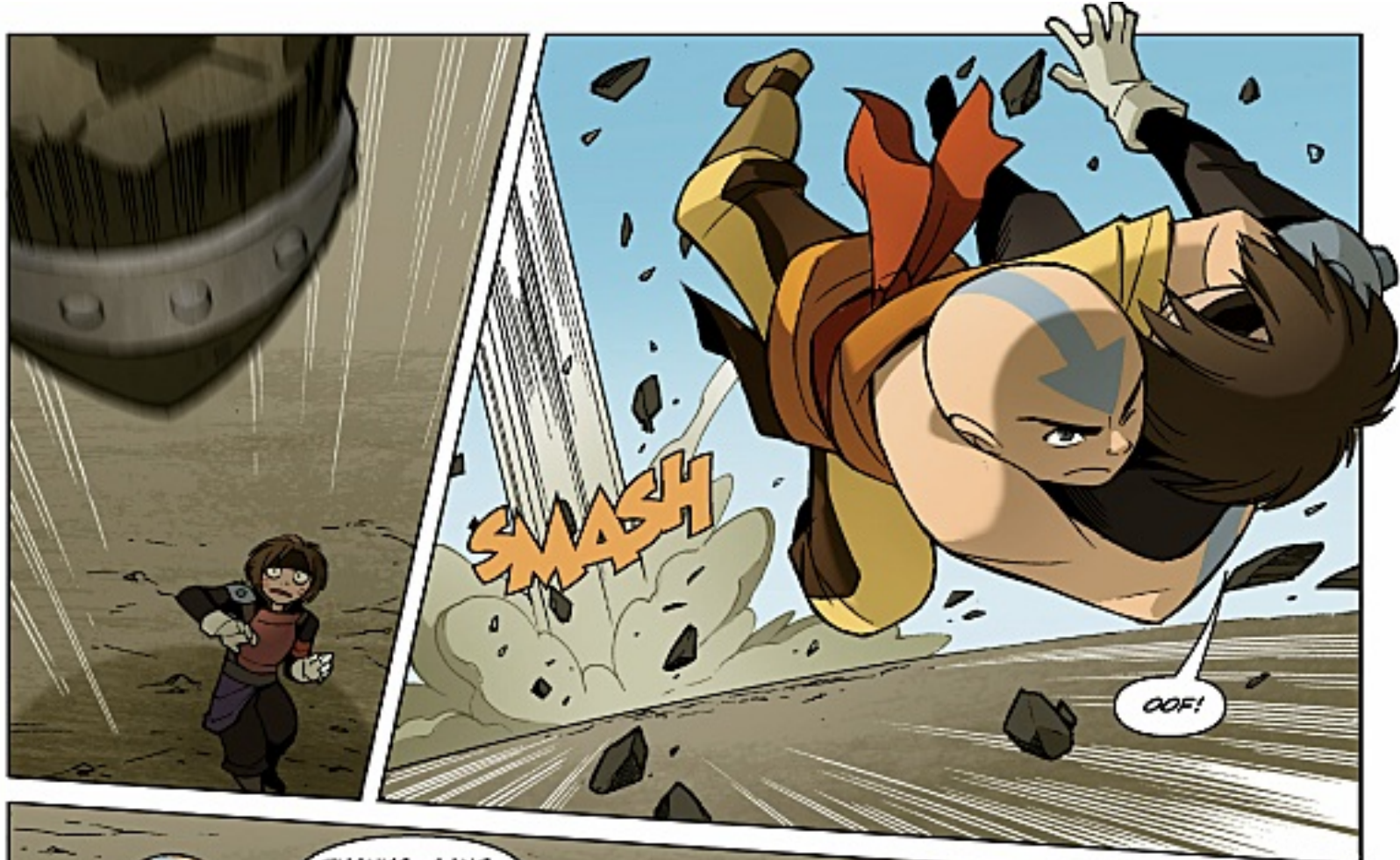




SIFU TOPH
WOULD'VE
BEEN PROUD!

HURRY,
AANG! THE
BIG PIECES ARE
GONNA CRUSH
PEOPLE!





...SO WHEN HE FOUND OUT THE EARTH KING HAD SENT HIS ARMY TO REMOVE THE COLONIALS FROM YU DAO, ZUKO DECIDED TO LEAD HIS OWN ARMY THERE TO DEFEND THEM!

AN EARTH KINGDOM ARMY FIGHTING A FIRE NATION ARMY? SOUNDS LIKE THE BEGINNING OF AN ALL-OUT WAR!

THAT'S WHY I WENT TO GET YOU GUYS! WE HAVE TO STOP ZUKO'S ARMY BEFORE THEY REACH THE CITY GATES!

YOU THINK THE THREE OF US CAN STOP AN ENTIRE ARMY?

GOOD POINT.

HEY, WE'VE STOPPED AN ENTIRE AIR FLEET BEFORE, HAVEN'T WE?

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN, SOKKA?

AH, THE BURDEN OF BEING THE IDEA GUY.

ALL RIGHT, STEP ONE:

TOPH, CAN YOU GET US INTO ONE OF THOSE TANKS UNDETECTED?

NOT A PROBLEM.

RUMBLE

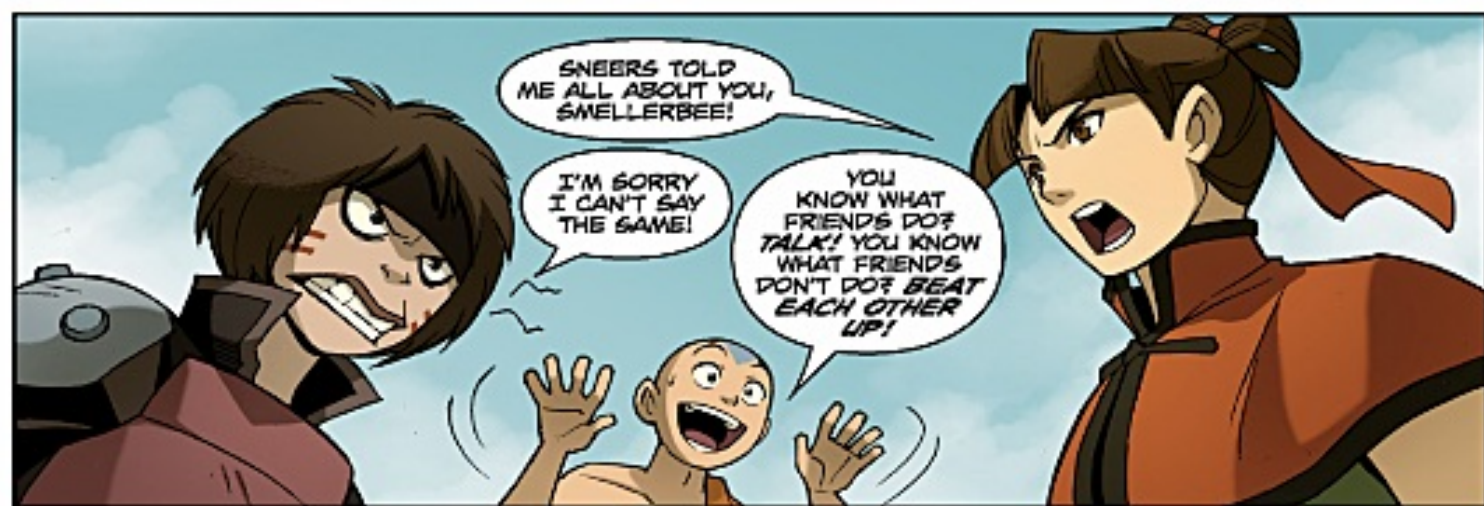
WHAT IS THAT?

AN UNDERGROUND SLIDE THAT'LL TAKE US DIRECTLY UNDER ZUKO'S ARMY! COME ON!





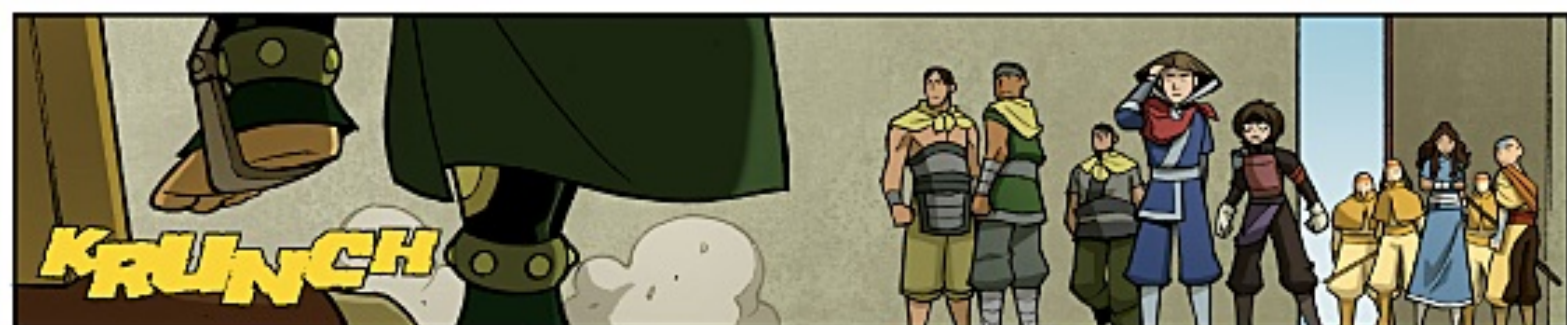
















EARTH KING KUE! WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN HERE AND ANNOUNCE YOUR OWN DECREES?



GENERAL HOW'S DOING JUST FINE ON HIS OWN, THANK YOU!



THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT SHALL BE COMPLETED ON THIS DAY, *WITH OR WITHOUT COLONIAL COOPERATION!*

YEAH!

FIRE NATION OUT! HARMONY NOW!



THIS IS IT, AANG! YOU CHOOSE TO EITHER DEFEND YU DAO WITH US...OR **DOOM US.**

NOT NECESSARILY, SNEERS! LOOK!



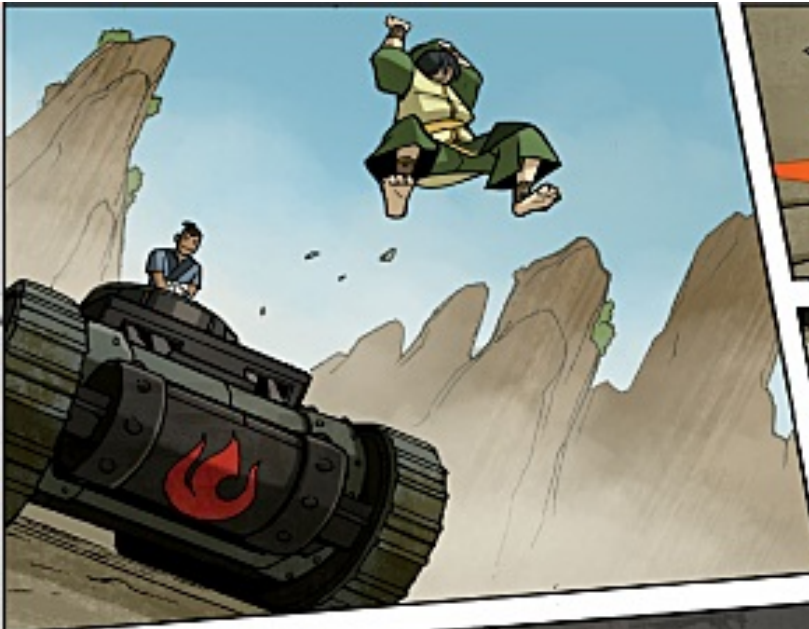
MONKEY FEATHERS ON TOP OF MONKEY FEATHERS!

















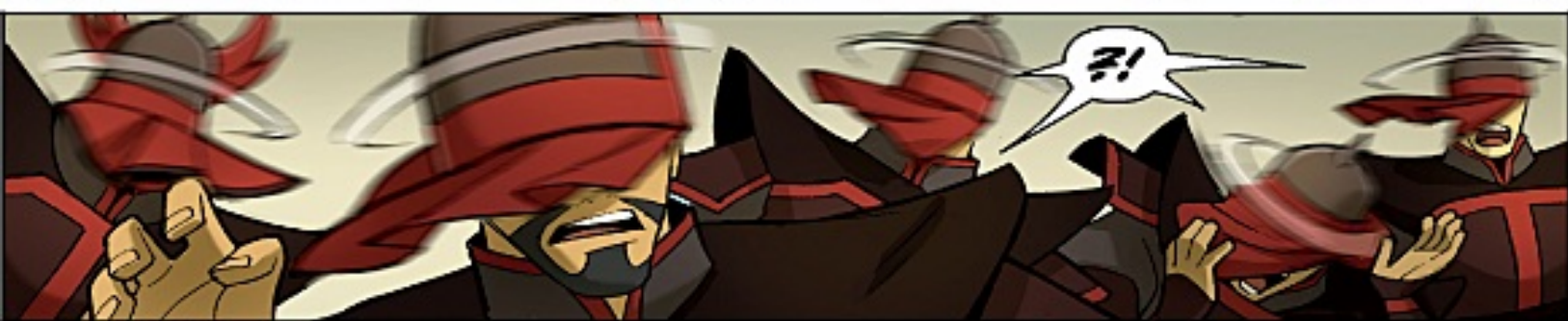














LILY LIVERS?!
WHAT'RE
YOU DOING
HERE?!



THOUGH CAST
AWAY AM I FROM
THE HEARTH OF MY
CITY, BLACK TEARS
DRIBBLE FROM MINE
EYES AT THE SIGHT OF
THE FEARFUL TRAIL
BLAZING TOWARDS
HER GATES!



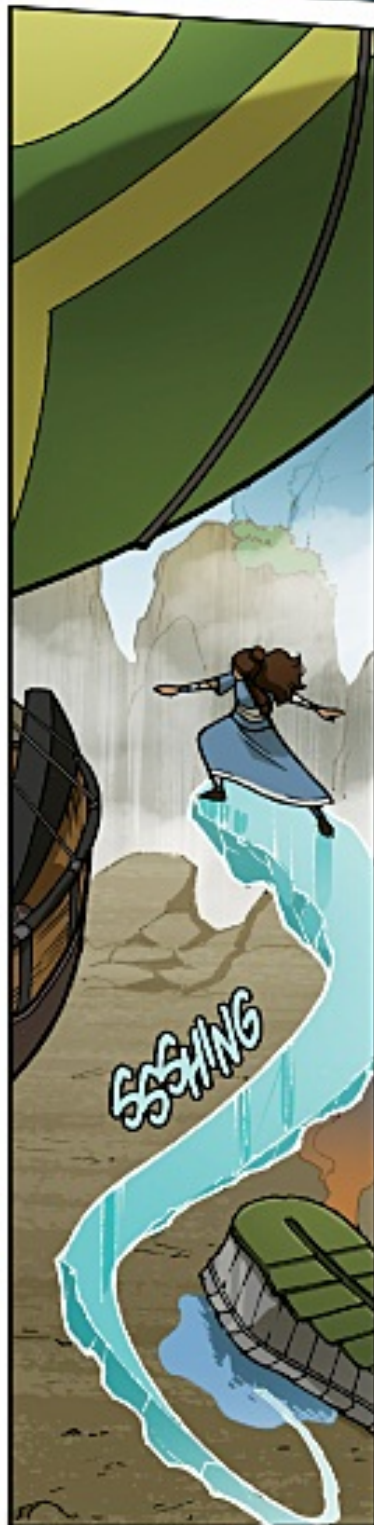
WHAT THE DARK
ONE IS TRYING TO
SAY, SIFU TOPH, IS
THAT YU DAO IS OUR
HOME! WE WANT TO
HELP YOU KEEP THE
DOOM OUT!

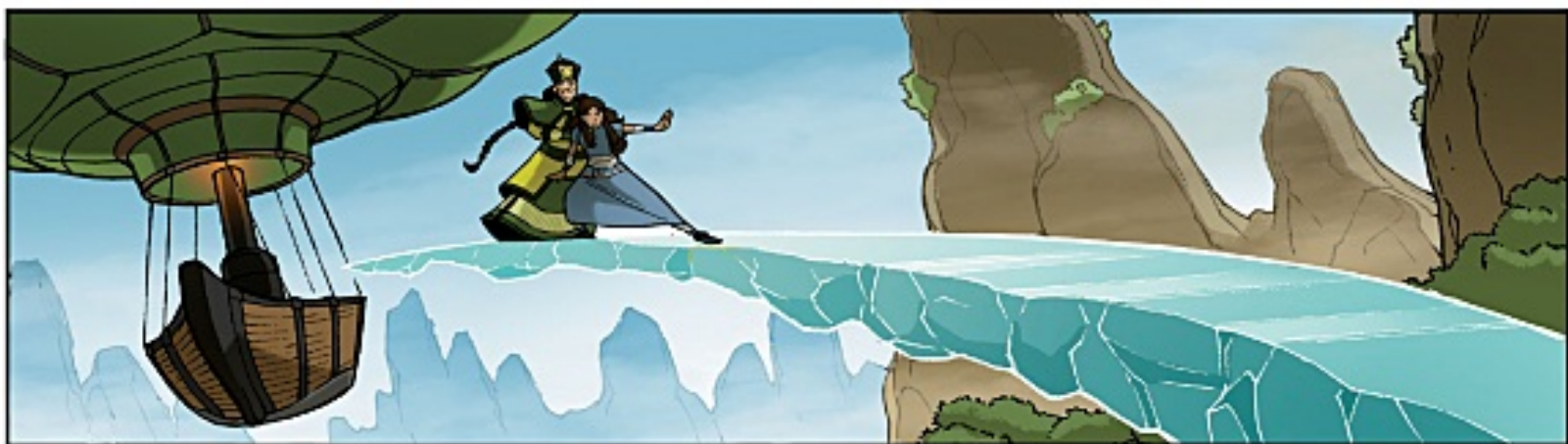
I WANTED
TO SHOW YOU MY
SPINNY HELMET
TRICK UP
CLOSE!

I GOTTA SAY,
PENG, IT'S WAY
MORE IMPRESSIVE
UP CLOSE!



LOOK
ALIVE, LILY
LIVERS! TIME TO
SPIN SOME MORE
HELMETS!





**SURRENDER,
REBELS!**



THIS CITY IS
ONCE AGAIN UNDER
THE EARTH KING'S
PROTECTION! SURRENDER
PEACEFULLY, AND YOU
SHALL BE TREATED
WITH MERCY!



NEVER!

SOLDIERS,
ARREST THEM!

KRAACK



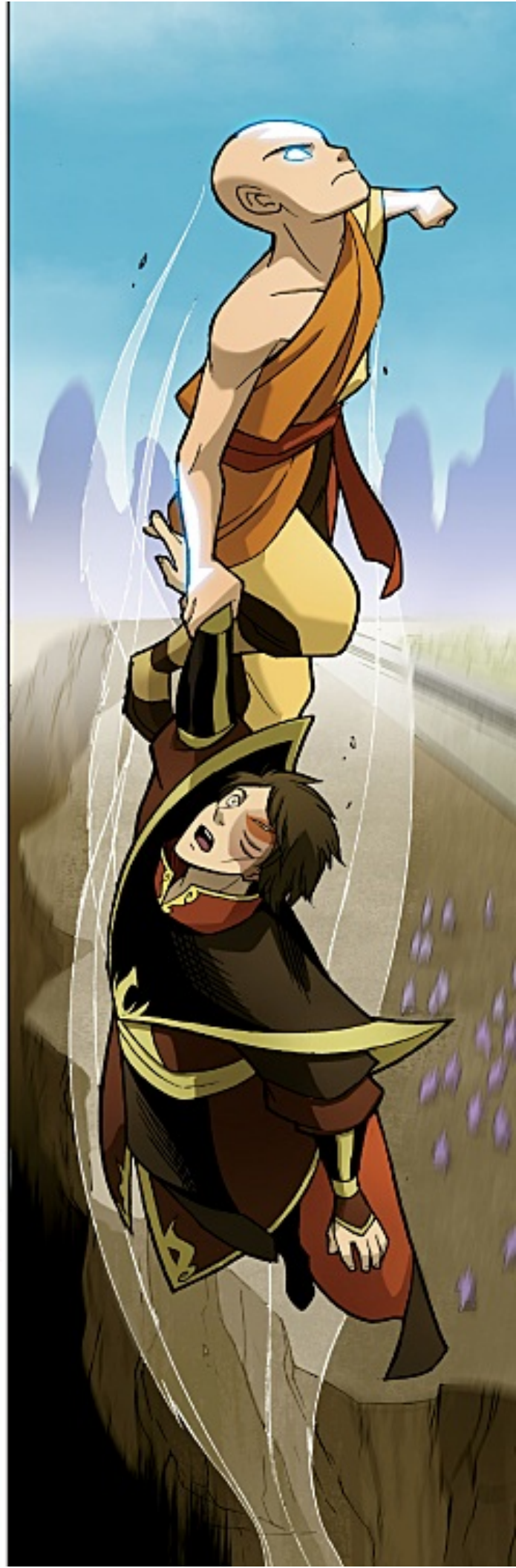


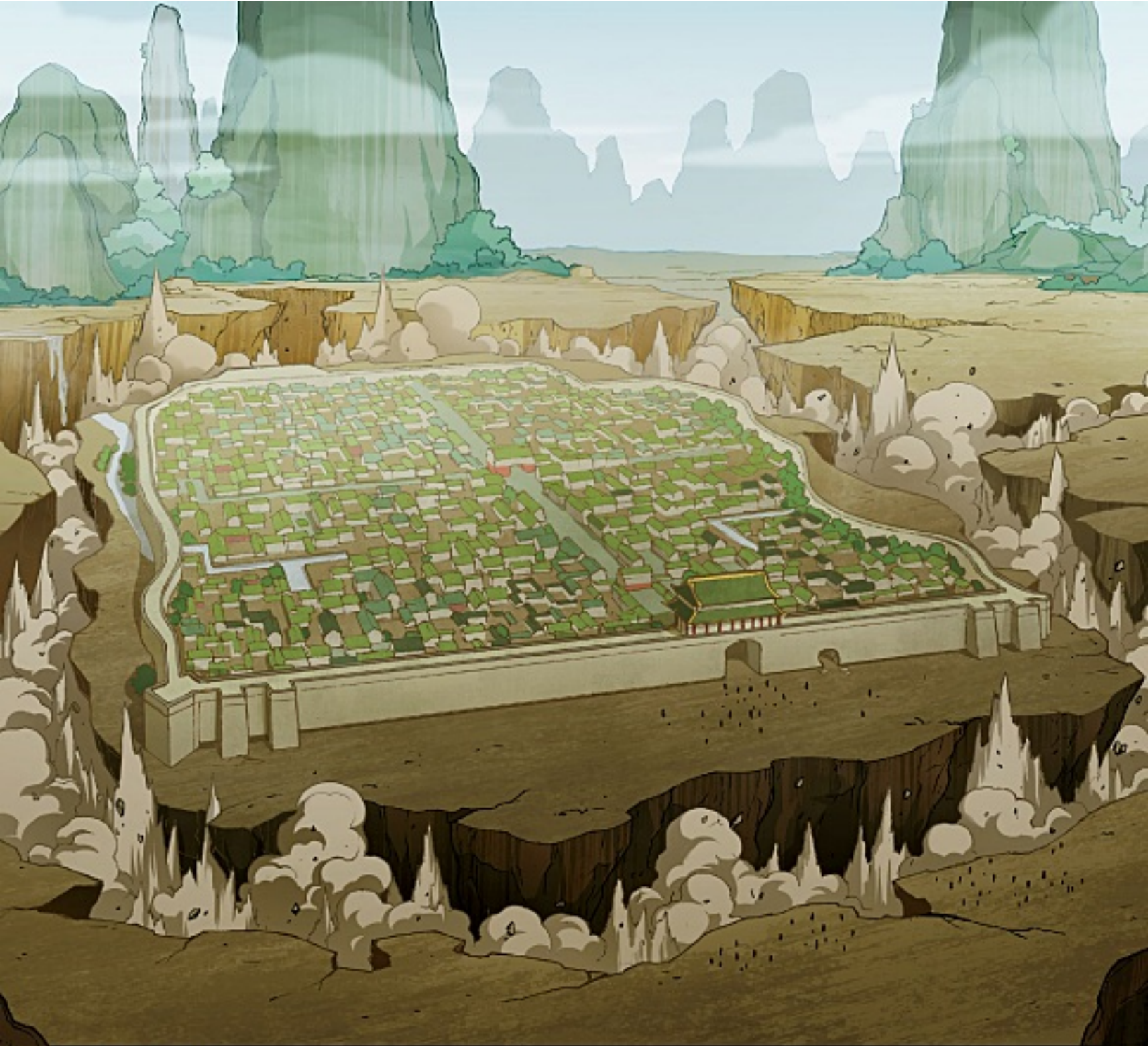




AANG, I
KNOW HOW
THIS LOOKS!
BUT I SWEAR
TO YOU, IN MY
HEART...!



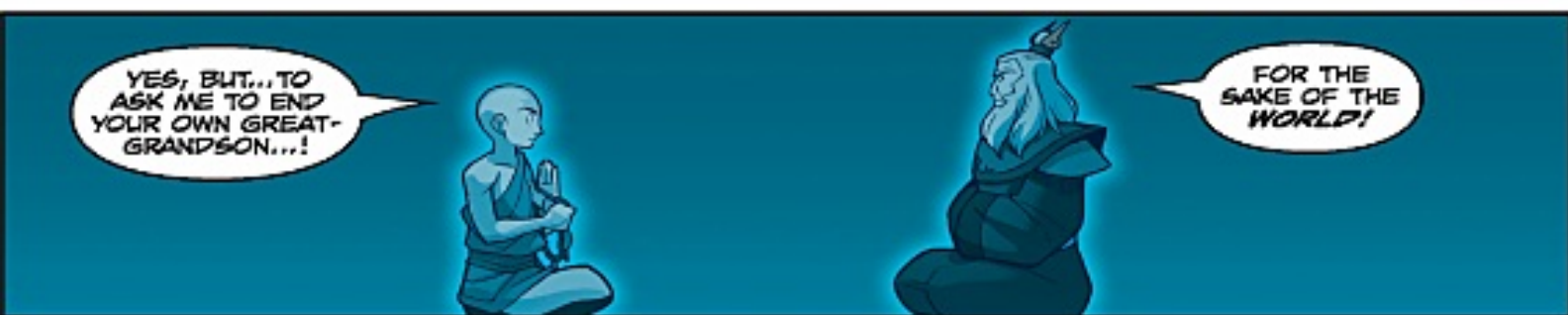
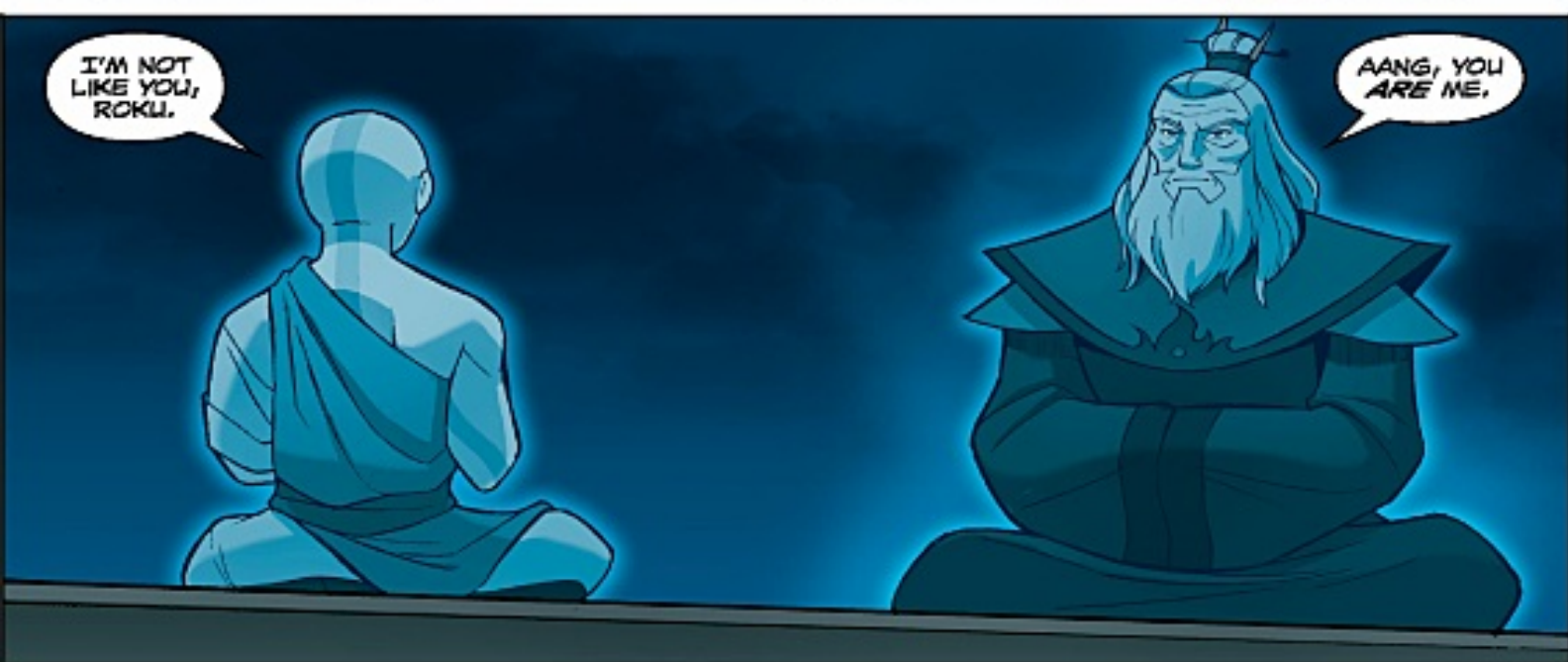
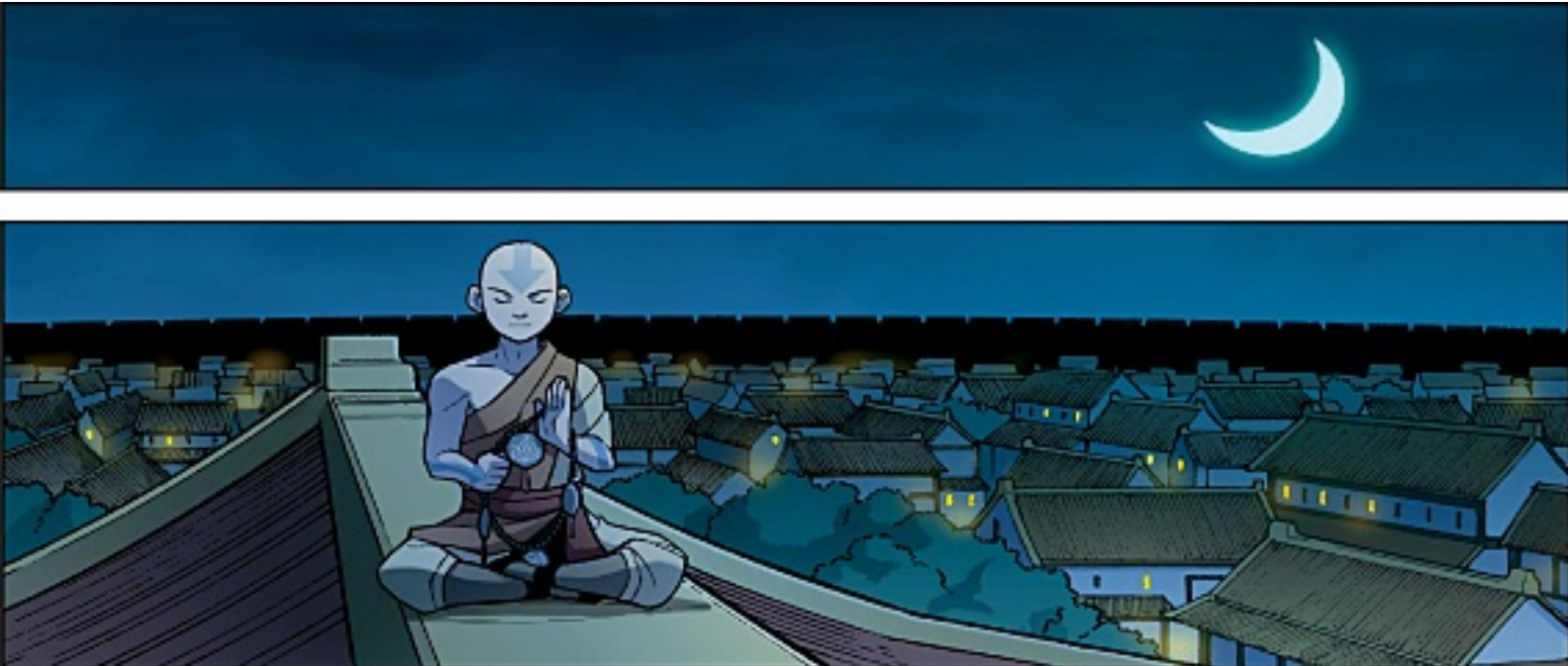
















GUESS WHO JUST WOKE UP?

ABOUT TIME! HOW'S HE DOING, IROH?

AANG!

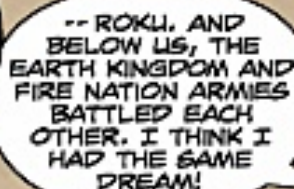
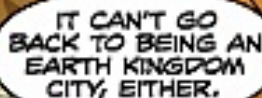


WHY DON'T YOU COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF?



THANK YOU FOR BRINGING HIM TO ME, AVATAR.

HE REALLY SHOULD HAVE COME EARLIER, ON HIS OWN. SOMETIMES HE FORGETS THAT HE ALWAYS HAS A PLACE HERE. HE MAY BE FIRE LORD NOW, BUT HE IS STILL A **STUBBORN BOY**.











I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS ABOUT THIS. I LOVE MY PEOPLE'S CULTURE AND I DON'T WANT TO SEE IT CORRUPTED.



AT THE SAME TIME, IT CAN'T JUST BELONG TO HISTORY. AIR NOMAD CULTURE HAS TO BELONG TO THE FUTURE, TOO.



ACCORDING TO MY FRIENDS, MANY OF YOU LED THE WAY TO PEACE ON THE BATTLEFIELD, PUTTING YOUR LIVES AT RISK FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS. I'M DEEPLY IMPRESSED.

YOU ALREADY HAVE THE **HEARTS** OF AIR NOMADS, SO I'VE DECIDED TO TEACH YOU THE **WAYS** OF THE AIR NOMADS.



BUT YOU CAN'T JUST BE A FAN CLUB ANYMORE. FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL BE KNOWN AS THE **AIR ACOLYTES!**




I KNOW THIS IS RISKY, BUT I'M GOING TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH.



I FEEL DISCONNECTED FROM THE GOOD IN MY OWN FAMILY...AND IN MY OWN NATION. FOR A WHOLE HOST OF REASONS, I BELIEVE FINDING MY MOTHER WOULD HELP ME RECONNECT.



I'VE HAD CONVERSATION AFTER CONVERSATION WITH OZAI AND IT'S GONE NOWHERE, HE REFUSES TO REVEAL WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.

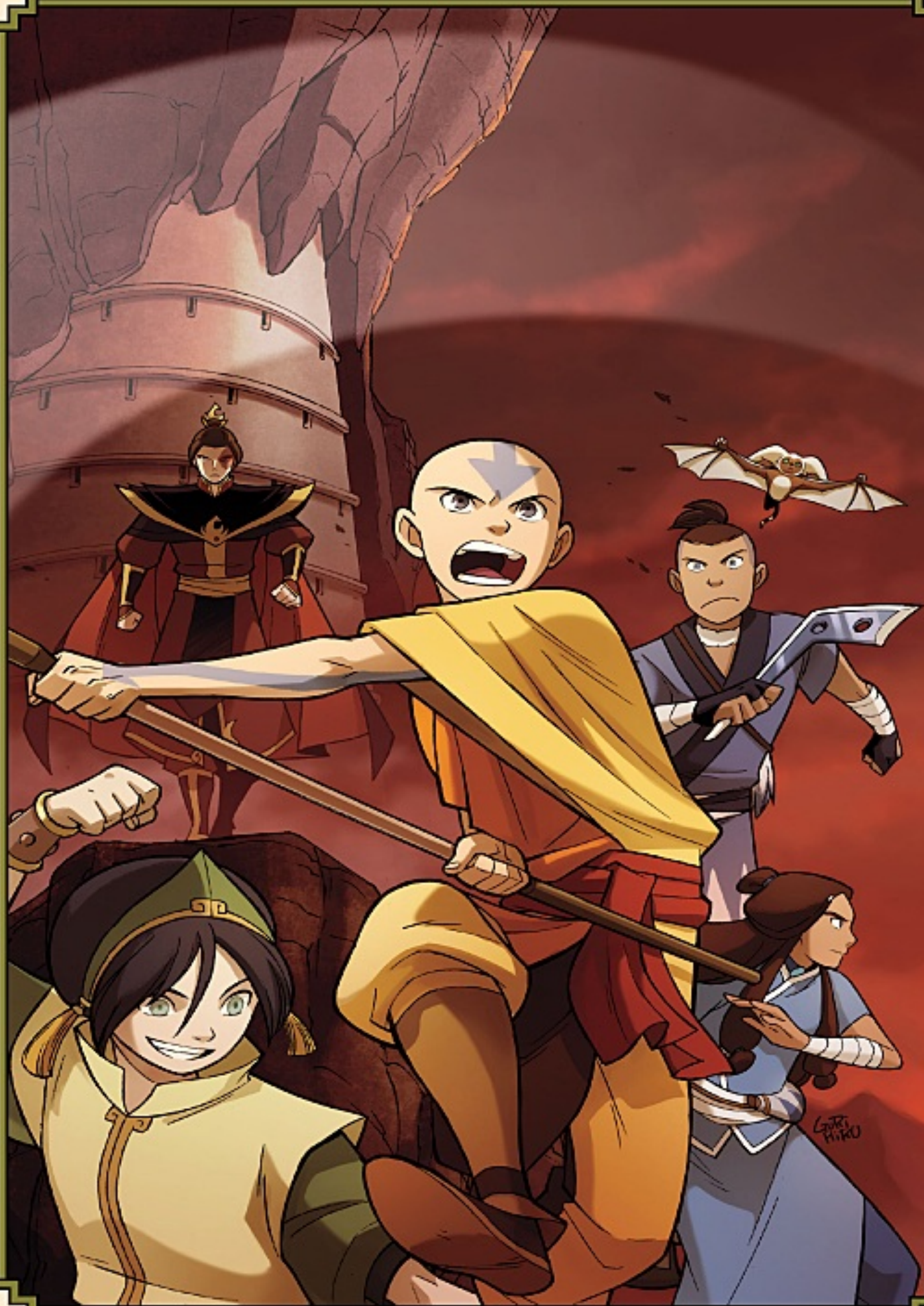


SO I'VE COME TO AN UNCOMFORTABLE CONCLUSION. YOU ARE THE ONLY PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO CAN COAX THE INFORMATION I NEED OUT OF OZAI.

TELL ME, THEN...

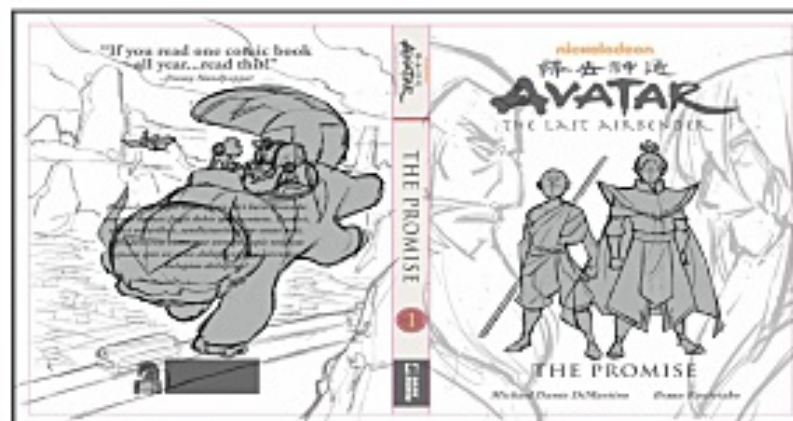
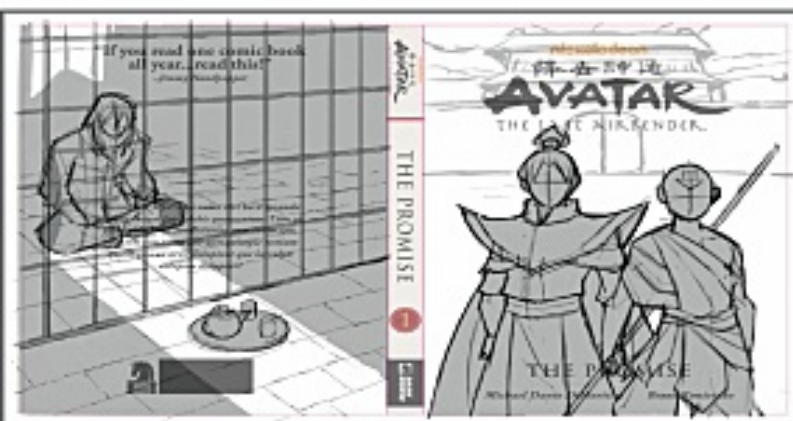
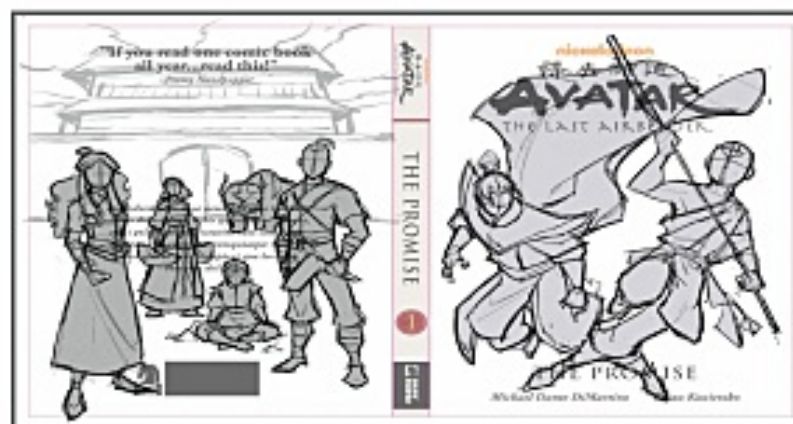
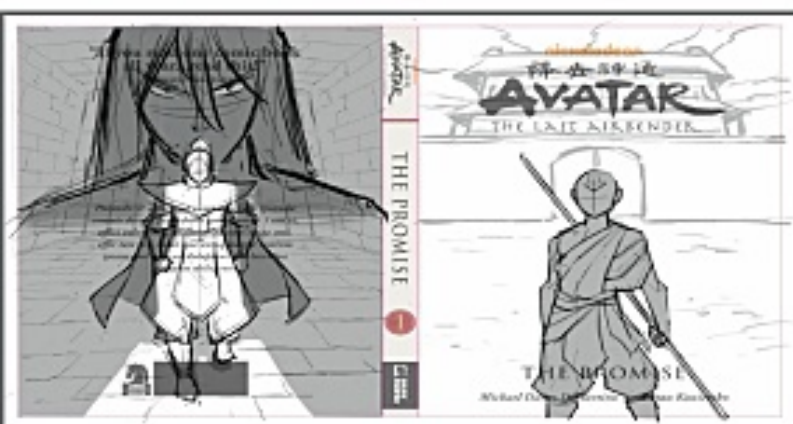
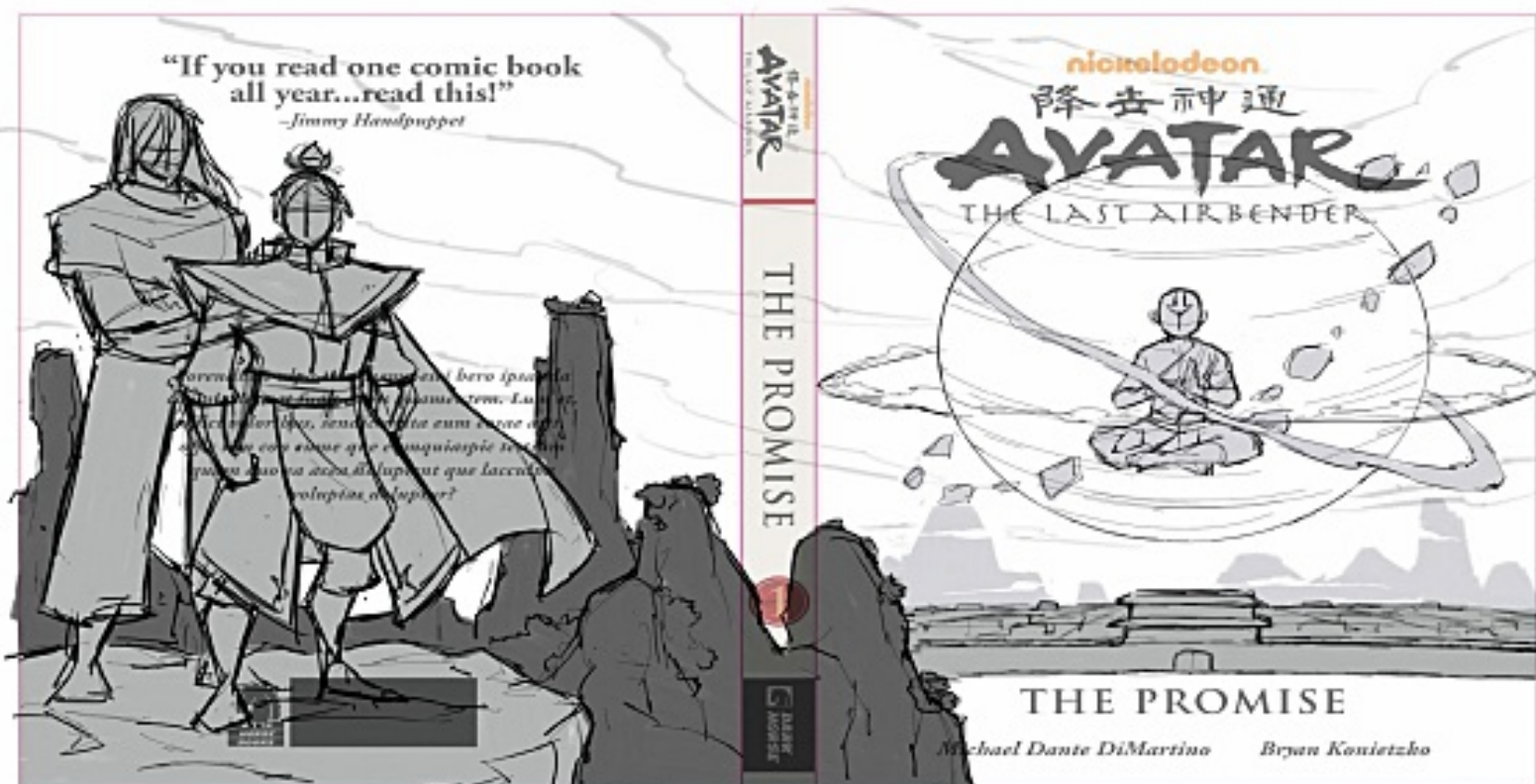








Artwork and captions by Gurihiru



We wanted to make a gorgeous cover for *The Promise* hardcover. We tried to express the bond between Aang and Roku, and the antagonism between Zuko and Ozai.



AANG

Because of other projects we had been working on at the time, we drew everyone's heads too big at first, especially Aang's. The characters ended up looking too childish, so we went back and fixed this. We worked especially hard on Aang, since it was so important that we get him right.





We sent several cover ideas for each part of *The Promise*. It was very challenging to fit all five characters on each cover.

SOKKA

We really enjoyed drawing Sokka. We based his costume on the design of his father's costume, so that you could feel the bond between them.



NICE!

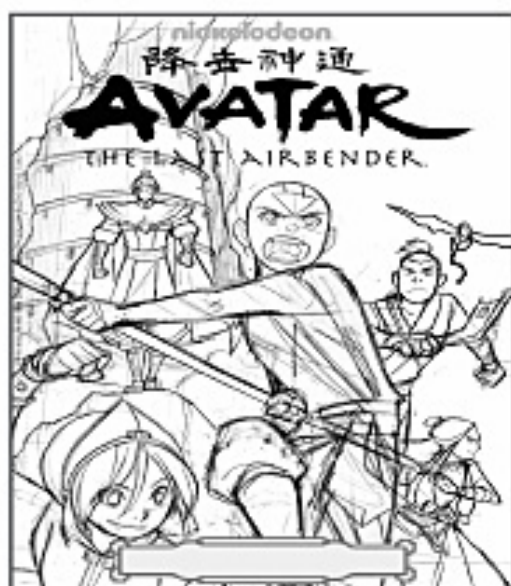
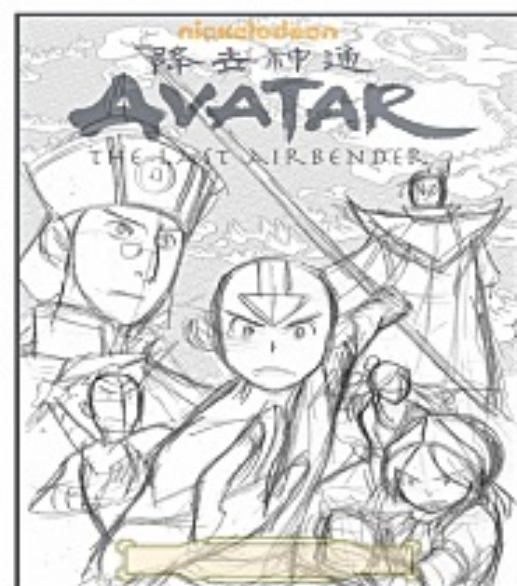


THIS BOOMERANG IS TOO BIG



THORACE HAS THIS DESIGN AND SCALE FOR THE BOOMERANG





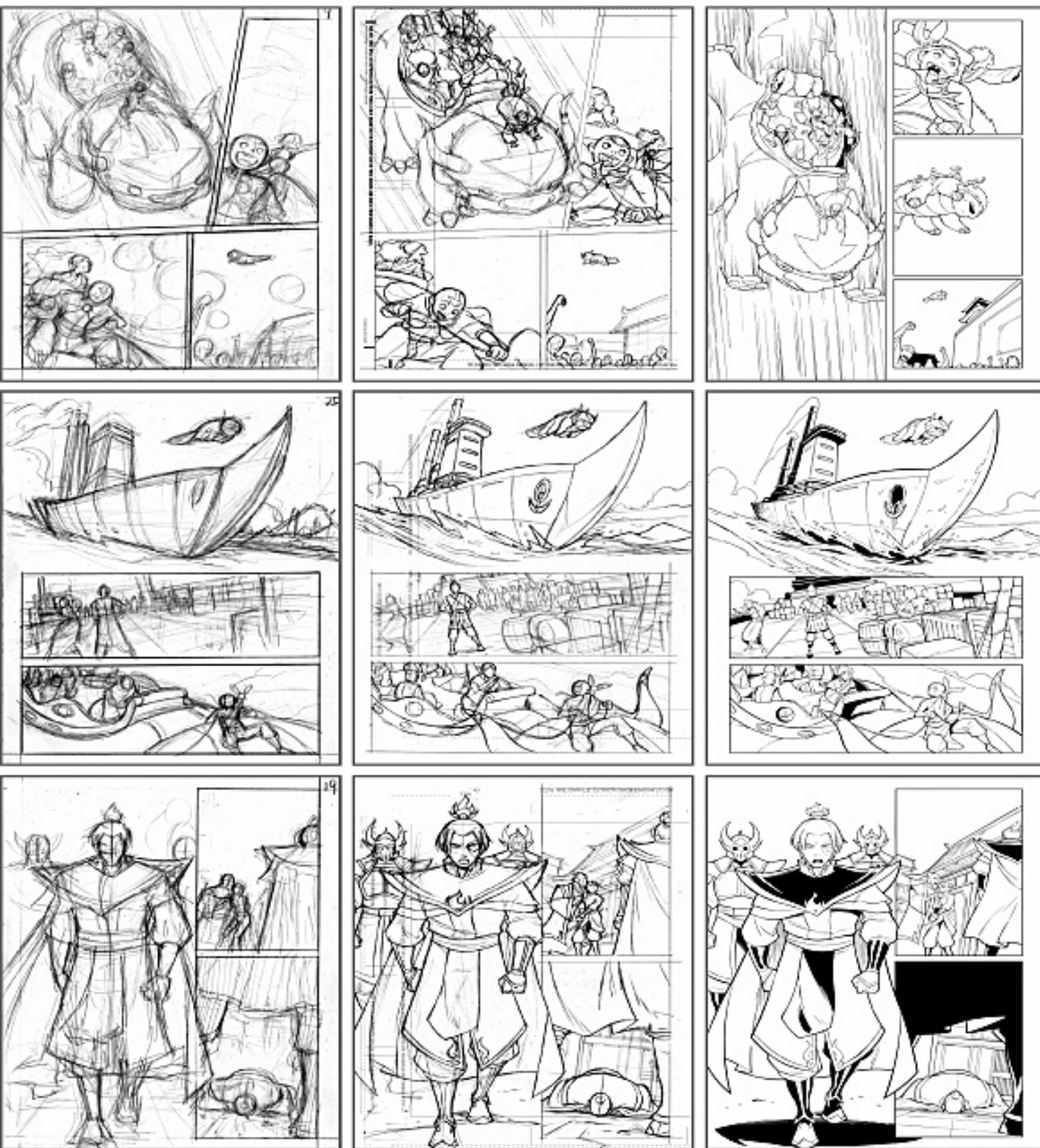
We always think about how to draw the readers' eyes along the page when we do the layouts.



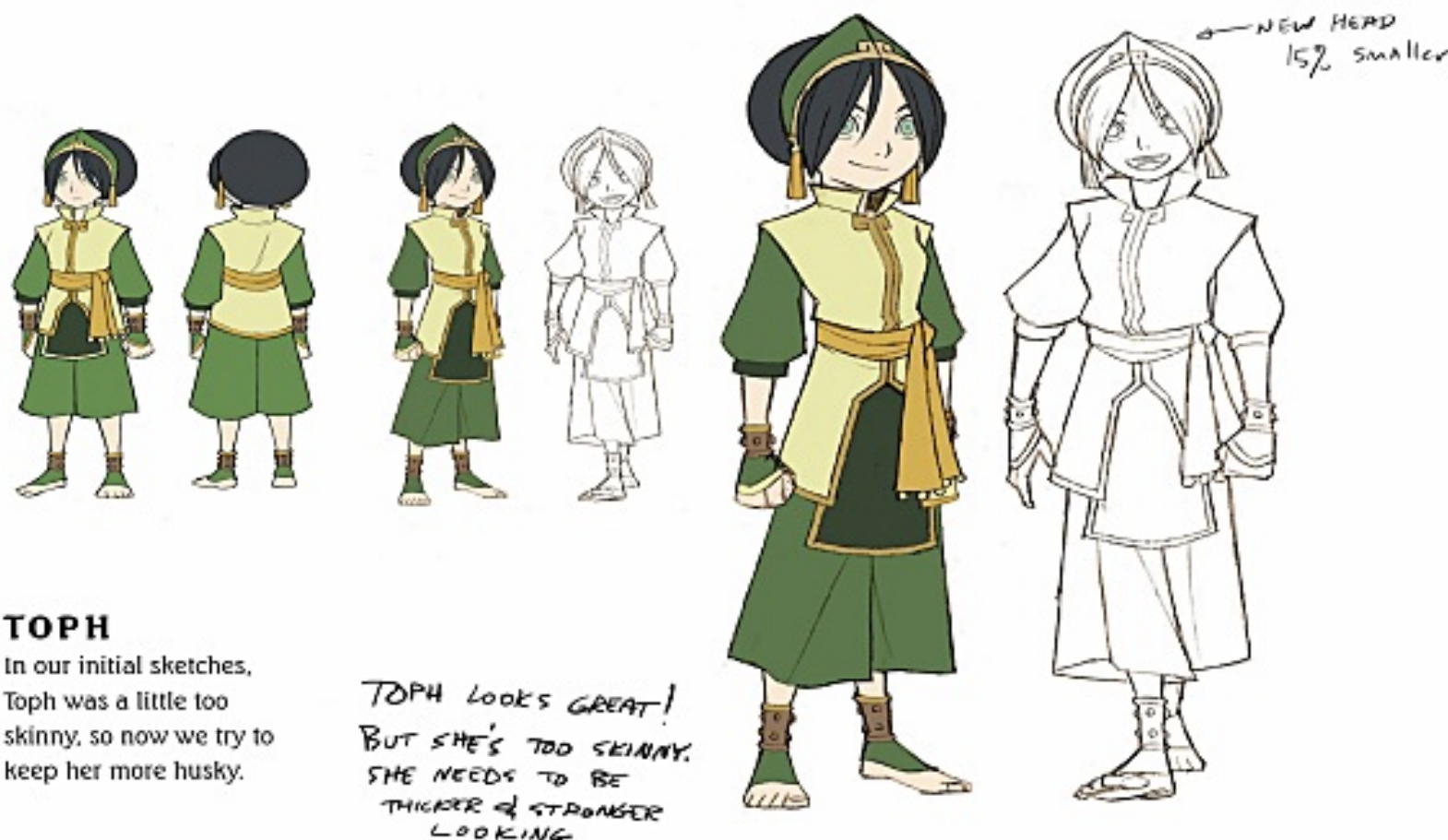
KATARA

Besides the size of her head, we hardly had any changes for Katara. We tried to keep her clothing similar to what she wore in the TV show.

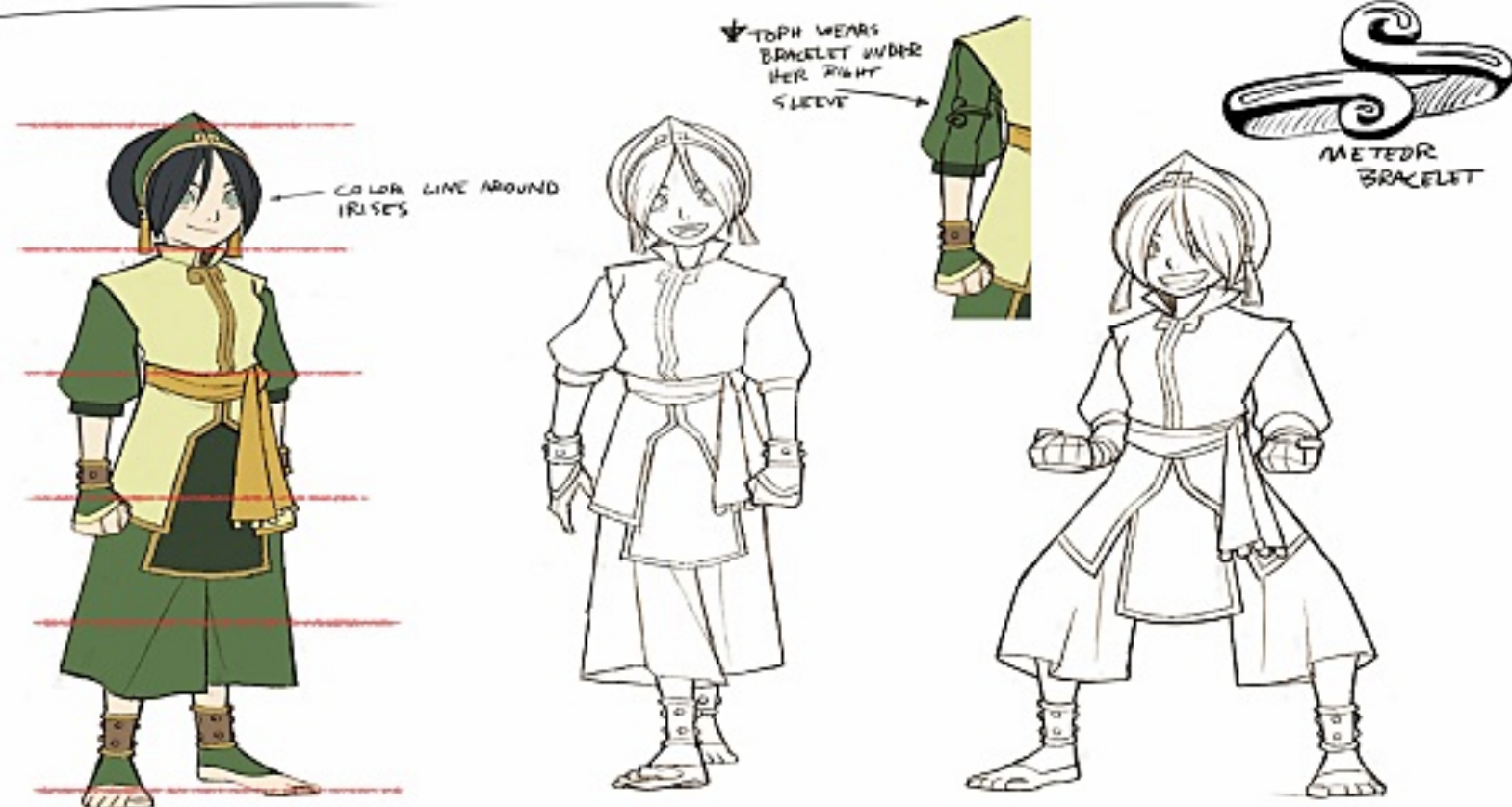


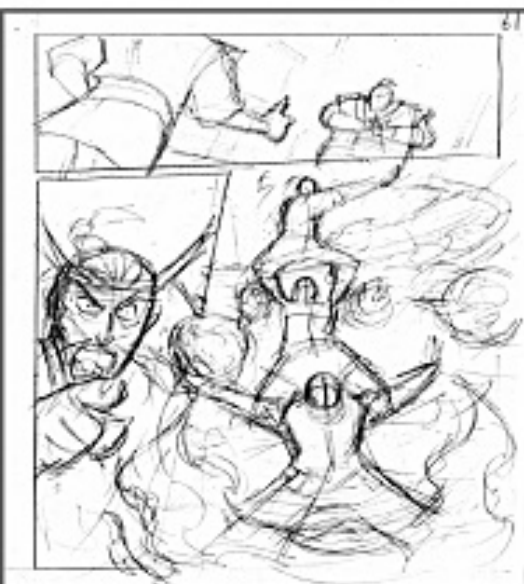
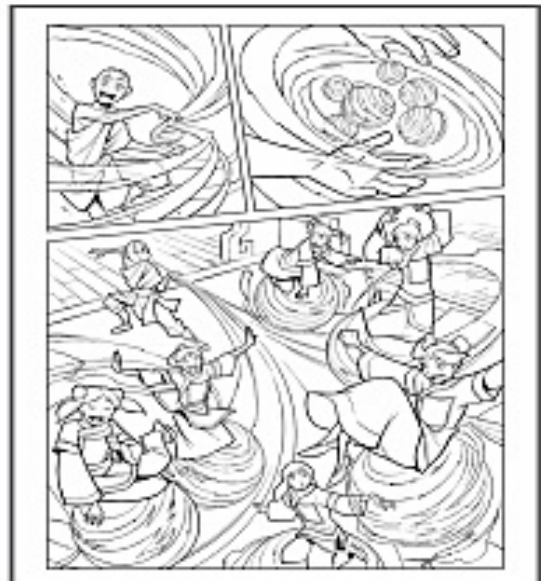
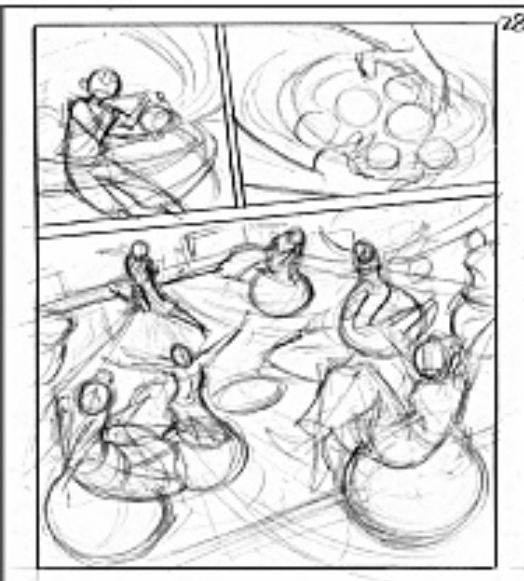
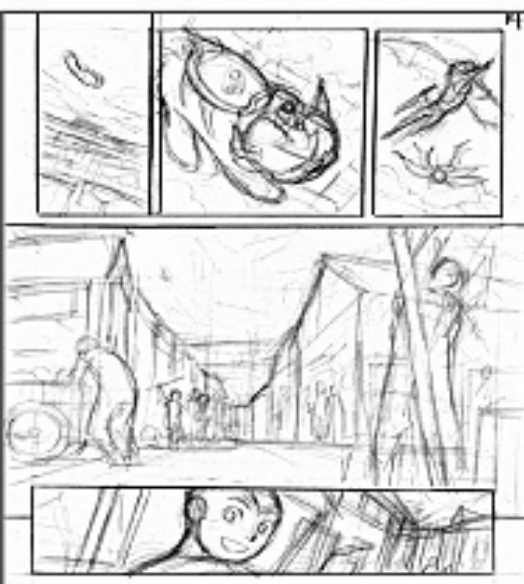


Here are the stages from rough layouts to pencils to inks. We worked on paper from layouts to inks and then digitally after that.



VERY CUTE AND CHARMING! — I WIDENED HER BODY A BIT SO SHE ISN'T SO SKINNY.

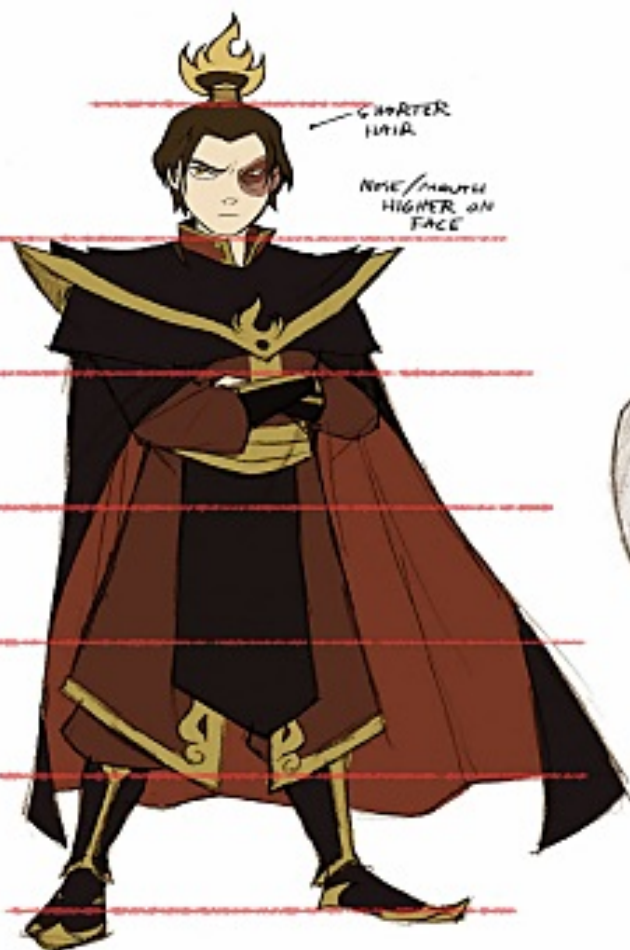


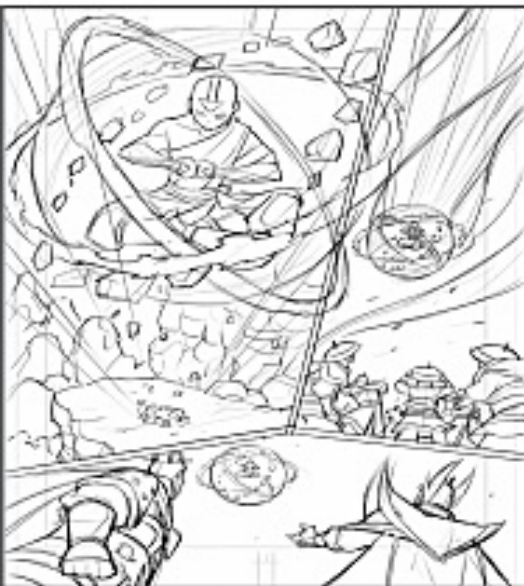
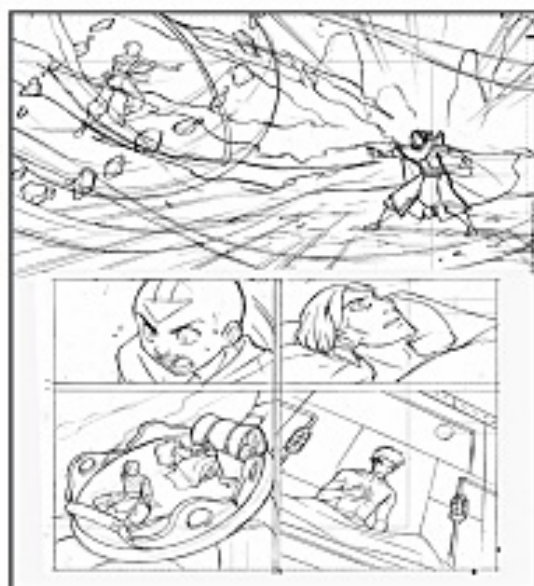
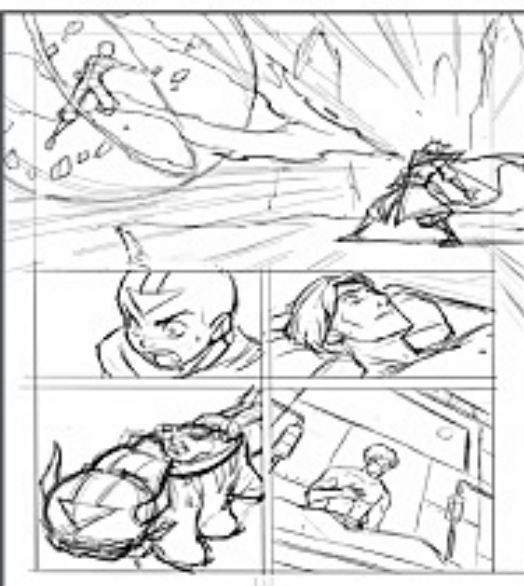


Firebending master Kunyo was inspired by actor James Hong.

ZUKO

At first, Zuko's costume was very formal and regal. However, that would not work for action scenes, so we changed to a costume that would allow for easier movement, and made Zuko's hairstyle short instead of long.





Starting with *The Promise* Part Three, we created the layouts digitally so it would be easier to make changes.

Aang and friends join together once again for an exciting new adventure, beginning with a faceoff against the Fire Nation! When a plan to resettle Fire Nation colonists living within the Earth Kingdom goes awry, Fire Lord Zuko and Earth King Kuei come to the verge of war. While Aang and Katara work tirelessly for peace between the two nations, Sokka helps Toph prepare her metalbending students to defend their school against a rival class of firebenders! Will Aang be able to bring peace to the nations in time, or will his friendship with Zuko be destroyed and the world plunged back into war?

Written by Eisner winner and National Book Award nominee Gene Luen Yang (*American Born Chinese*) in close collaboration with *Avatar* creators Bryan Konietzko and Michael Dante DiMartino, this is the *Avatar*'s greatest adventure yet! This omnibus edition collects the *New York Times* best-selling *The Promise* parts one through three, available for the first time in paperback!

"The writing is great; you can hear the characters' voices as you read their dialog . . . The art is pitch perfect for the series, making a read of it feel like you're still watching the show. 10/10."

—Comic Attack



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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

