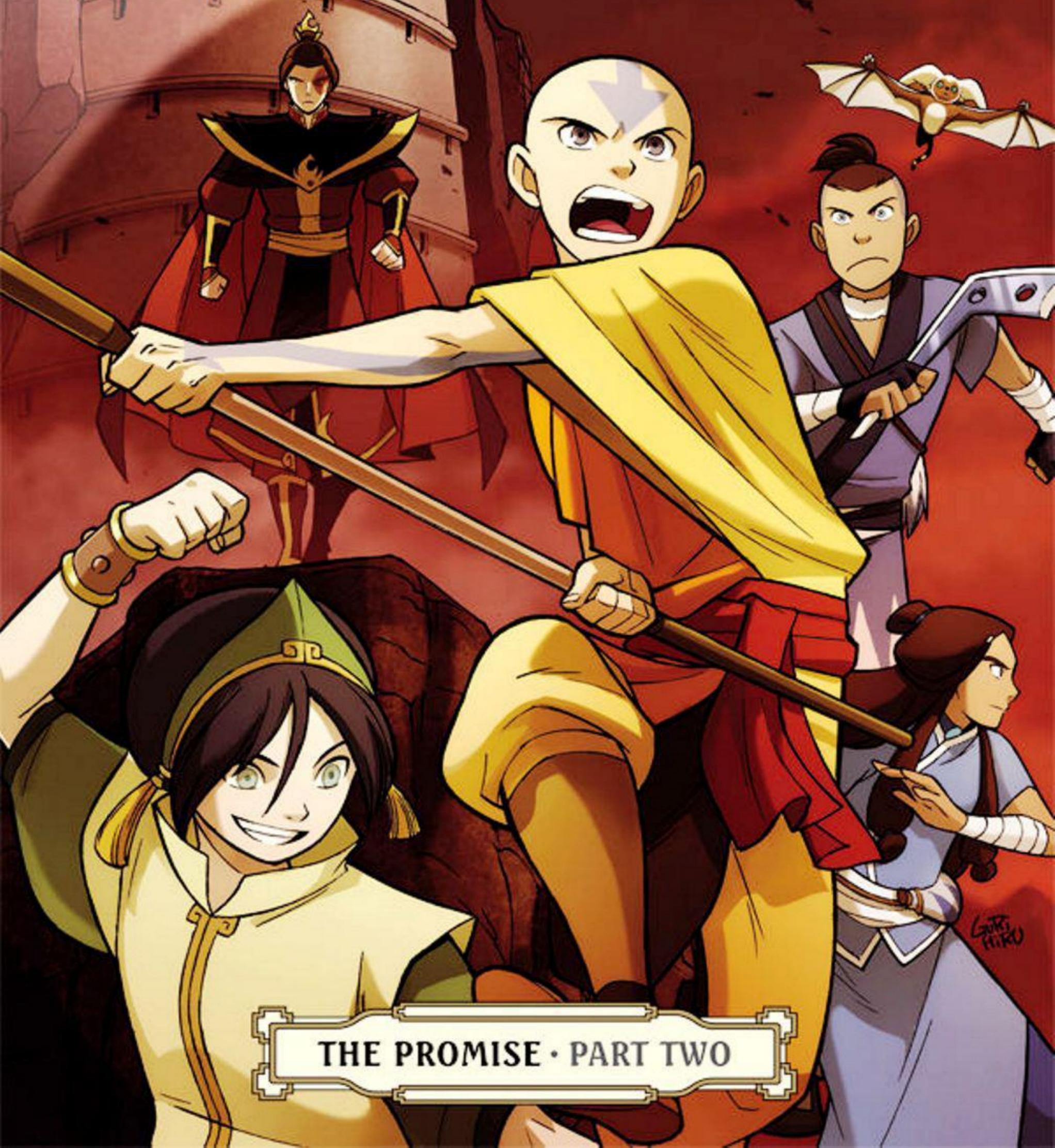


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AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER



THE PROMISE • PART TWO

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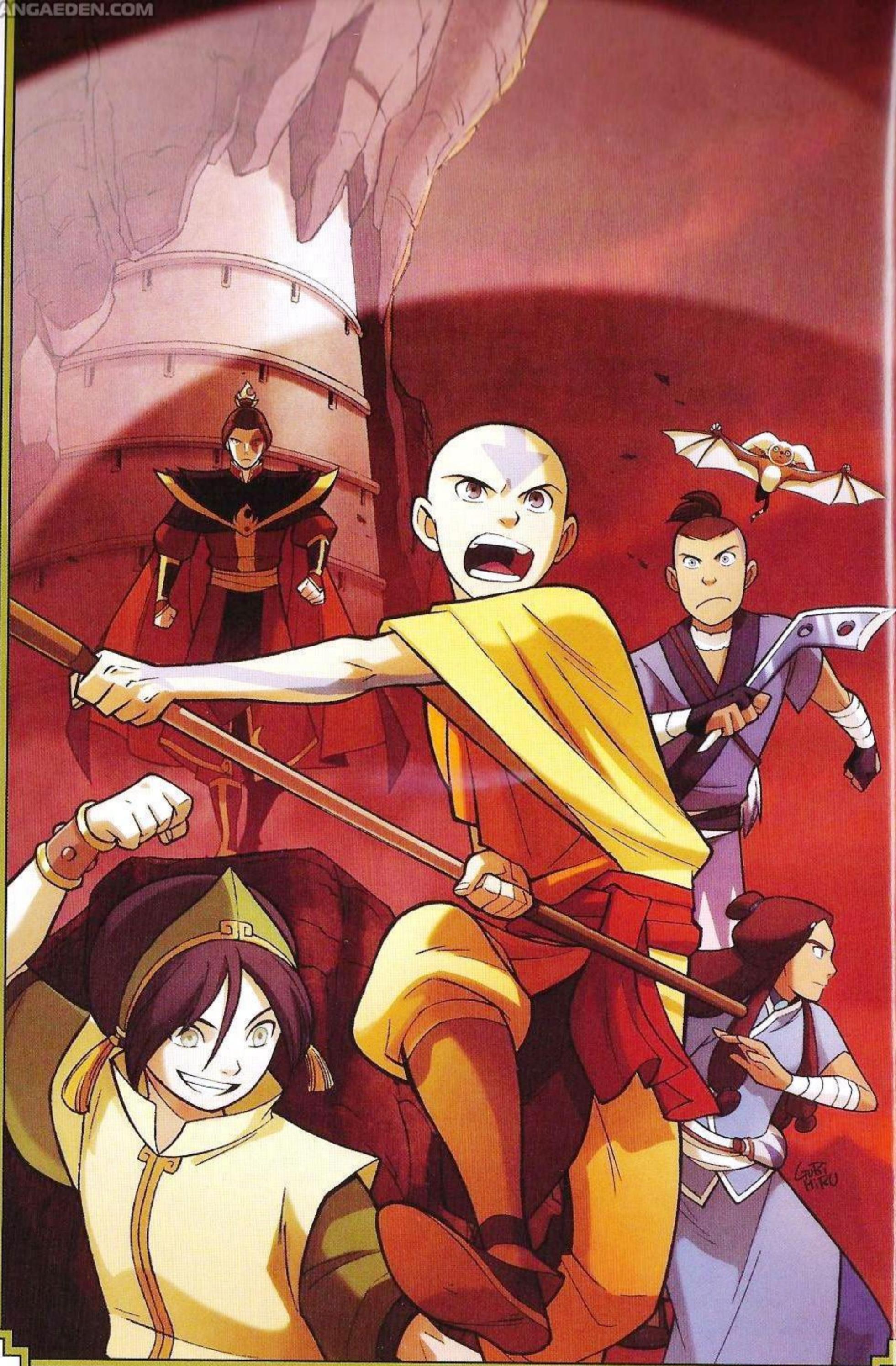
AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

Created by

Bryan Konietzko

Michael Dante DiMartino



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AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

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Nickelodeon Avatar: The Last Airbender™—The Promise Part 2

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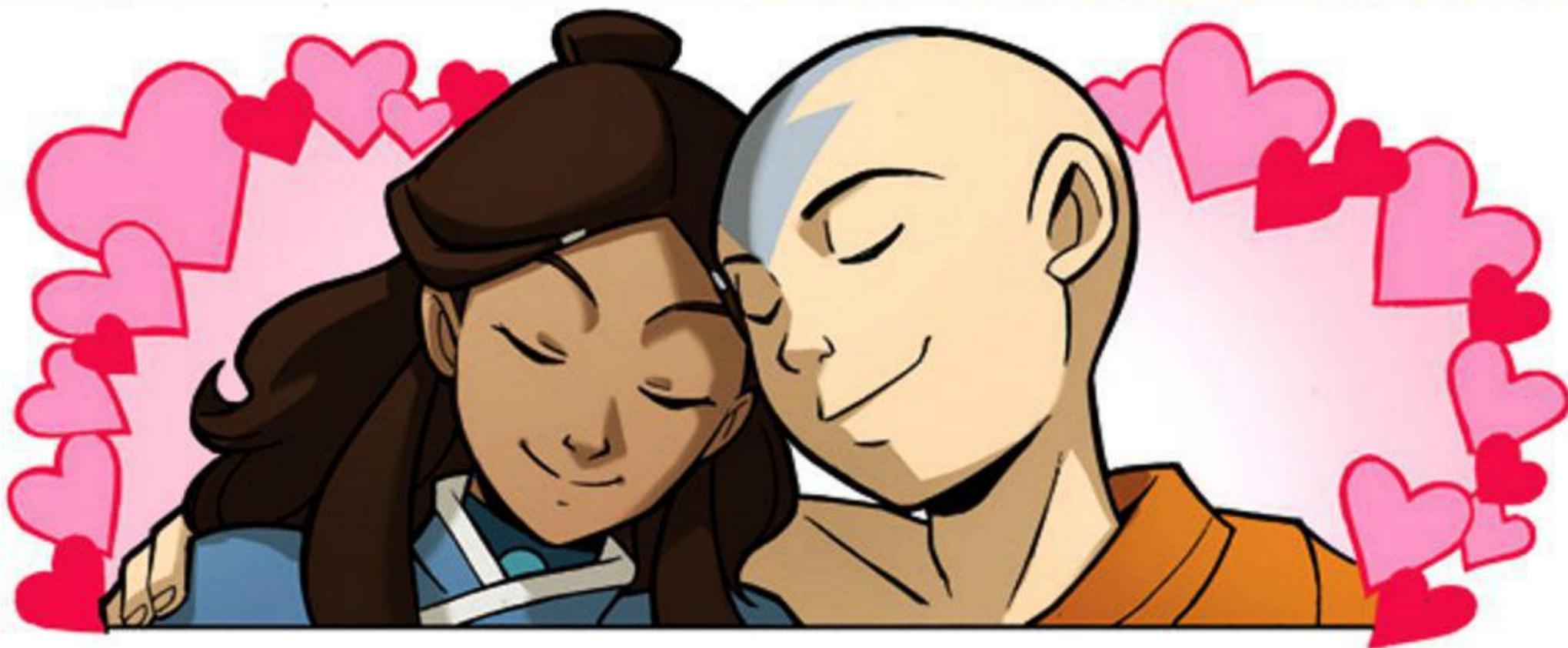
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GREAT IDEA, SOKKA. WISH I'D THOUGHT OF IT.

KATARA? AANG? I'M GOING WITH TOPH. TO CHECK OUT HER SCHOOL, NOT BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE GIVING ME COOGIES OR ANYTHING.

HM? OH! THAT SOUNDS GOOD! WE'LL PICK YOU UP ON THE WAY BACK FROM BA SING SE.



HOLD ON, GUYS! JUST GIVE APPA A SECOND TO LAND!



DON'T BOTHER, TWINKLE TOES. WE'RE CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE GROUND.

SNIFF I CAN SMELL THE TREES NEAR MY SCHOOL.



COME ON!

HEY, ISN'T THAT THE HAND YOU WERE JUST USING TO PICK YOUR -- ?



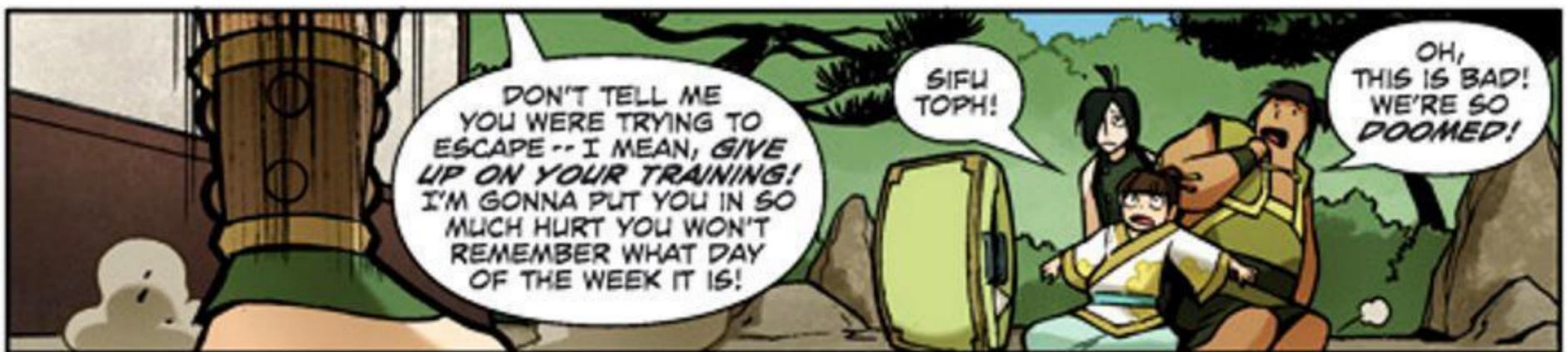
AAAAAH!

I GOTTA LET GO OF YOU, BUT DON'T WORRY!

I'M WORRIED! I'M WORRIED!









OH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT *SAVING THE BICEPS, SUPERBLY LARGE!* MAYBE --

YOU'RE MY NEW BOYFRIEND! STARTING RIGHT NOW!



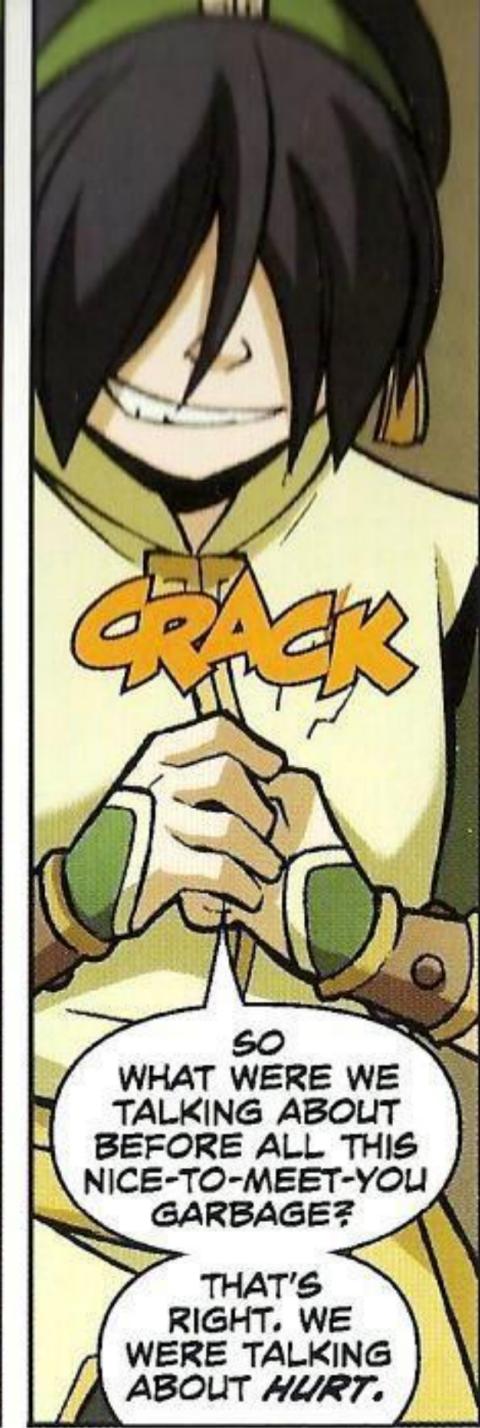
HOW OLD ARE YOU, PENGAT?

AND BY *ALMOST?* YOU MEAN...

ALMOST SIXTEEN.

NINE.

I SEE.



CRACK

SO WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT BEFORE ALL THIS NICE-TO-MEET-YOU GARBAGE?

THAT'S RIGHT. WE WERE TALKING ABOUT *HURT*.



PLEASE, BIFU TOPHI! WE WEREN'T TRYING TO *RUN AWAY!* WE WERE *KICKED OUT!*

THEY WOULDN'T EVEN LET ME PACK ALL MY SHOES FIRST!

I HATE PRACTICING FORMS, BUT GETTING KICKED OUT IS THE WORST.

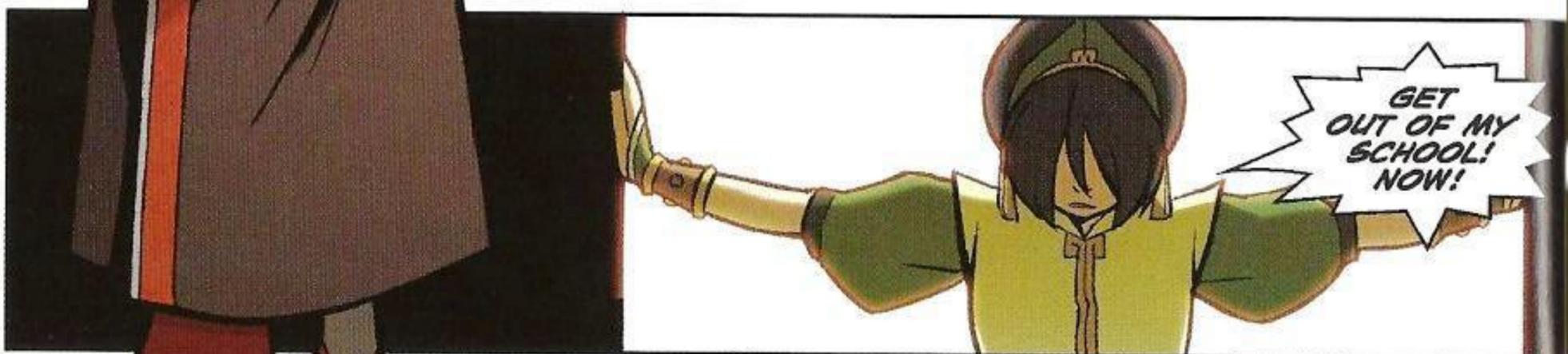


KICKED OUT? KICKED OUT BY *WHO?*



BREATHE IN,
DISCIPLES OF
KUNYO! BREATHE
IN THE FURY OF
OUR ANCESTORS!
BREATHE IN THE
GLORY OF--!

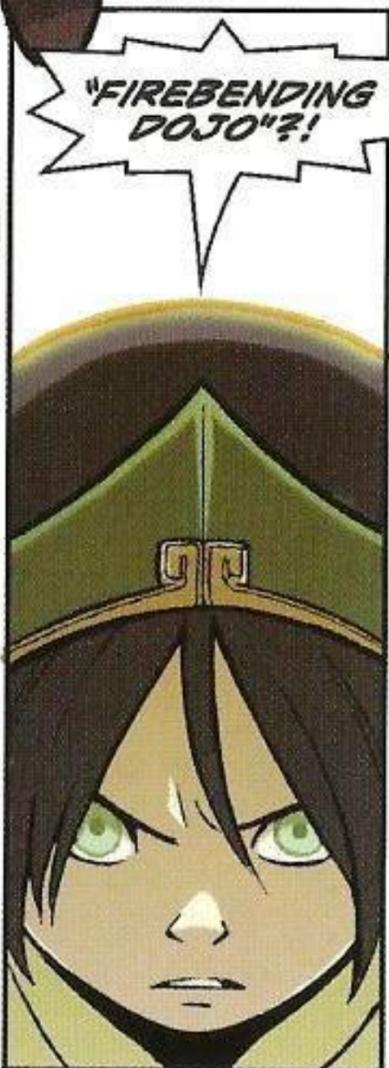
GET
OUT!



GET
OUT OF MY
SCHOOL!
NOW!



WHO
DARES DISTURB
MASTER KUNYO'S
FIREBENDING
DOJO?!



"FIREBENDING
DOJO"?!

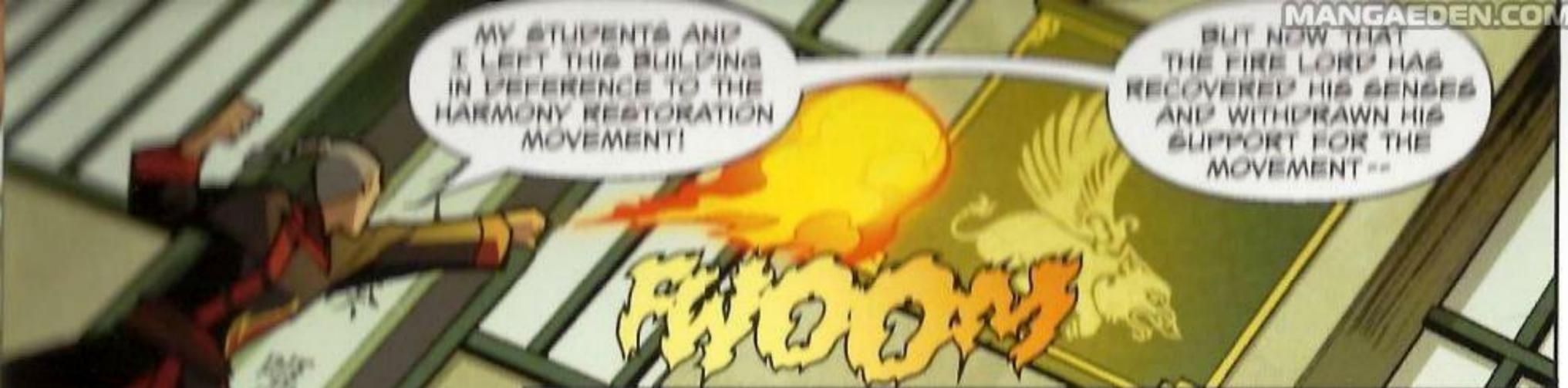


THIS IS
THE BEIFONG
METALBENDING
ACADEMY!

STOMP

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.







6:30 POINT! RATHER THAN SETTLE THIS WITH A MATCH BETWEEN THE TEACHERS, WE'LL SETTLE IT WITH A MATCH BETWEEN OUR STUDENTS!

A MATCH TO THE DEATH!

YES!



OH, BOOM UPON BOOM!

FIGURES IT'D END THIS WAY.

DOES THIS MEAN I WON'T GET ALL MY SHOES BACK?



UH...WELL... HOW ABOUT A MATCH TO THE SIT INSTEAD?

WHAT?



YOU KNOW, A MATCH TO THE SIT!

NO, I DON'T KNOW, BECAUSE YOU JUST MADE THAT UP!

WHICHEVER TEAM CAN FORCE A MEMBER OF THE OTHER TEAM TO SIT DOWN FIRST WINS!



WELL...

...I GUESS...

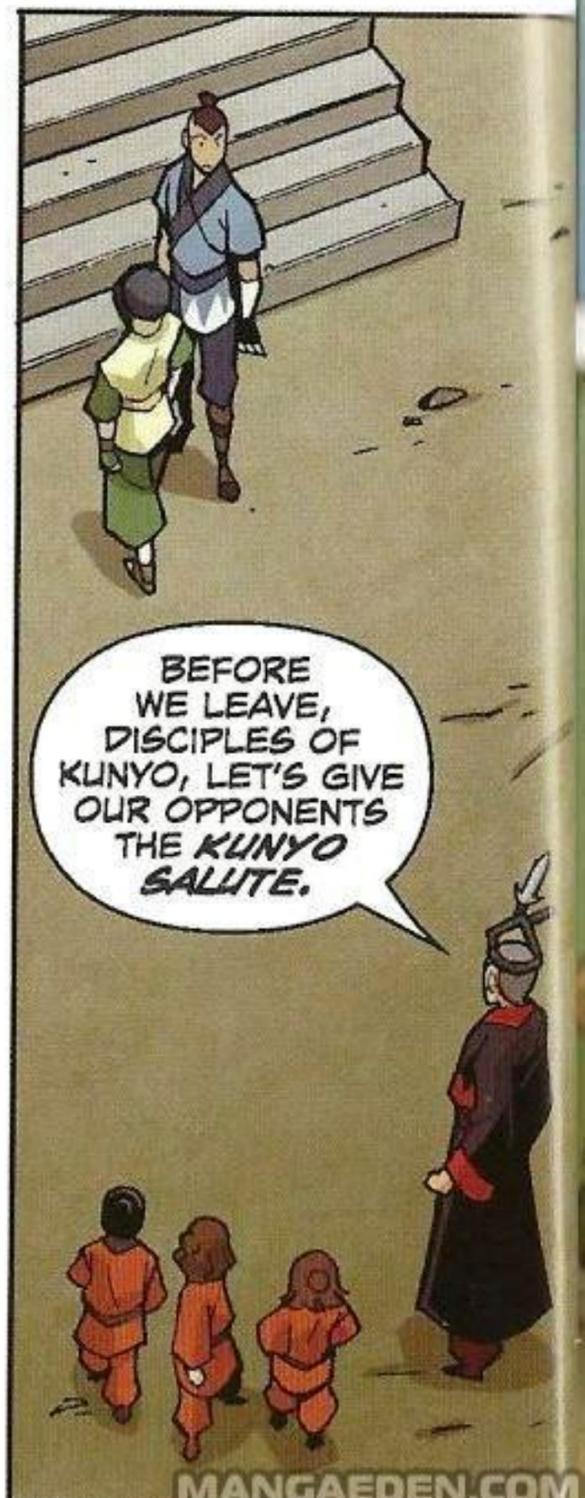
...AS LONG AS WE STILL GET TO BEAT PEOPLE UP...



SO WE'RE ONLY PARTIALLY DOOMED?

WHAT GREAT IDEAS MY BOYFRIEND HAS!

WHATEVER. I'LL STILL HATE IT.





BEWARE, ENEMIES OF KUNYO!

FOR WE SHALL ROAST YOU --

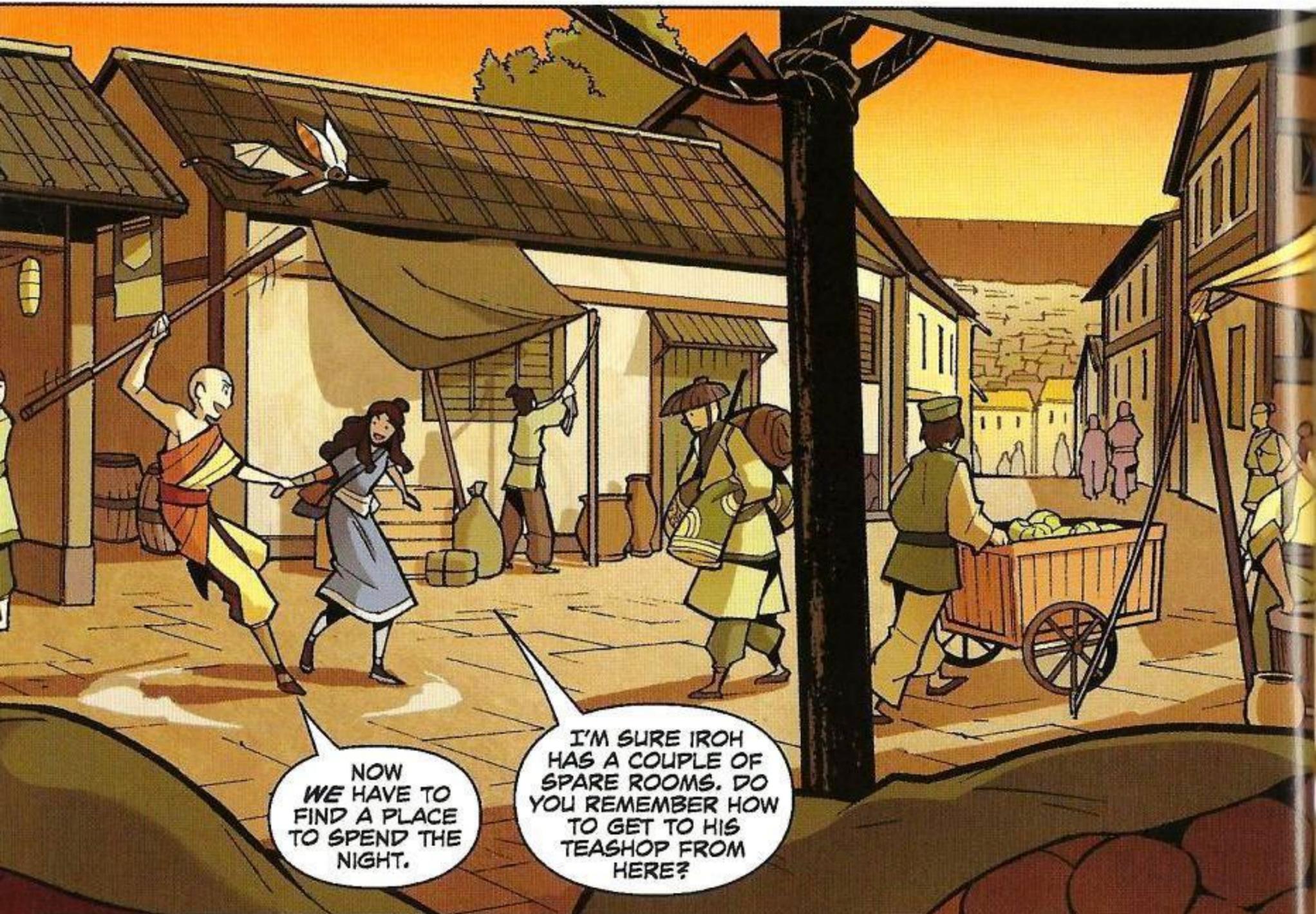
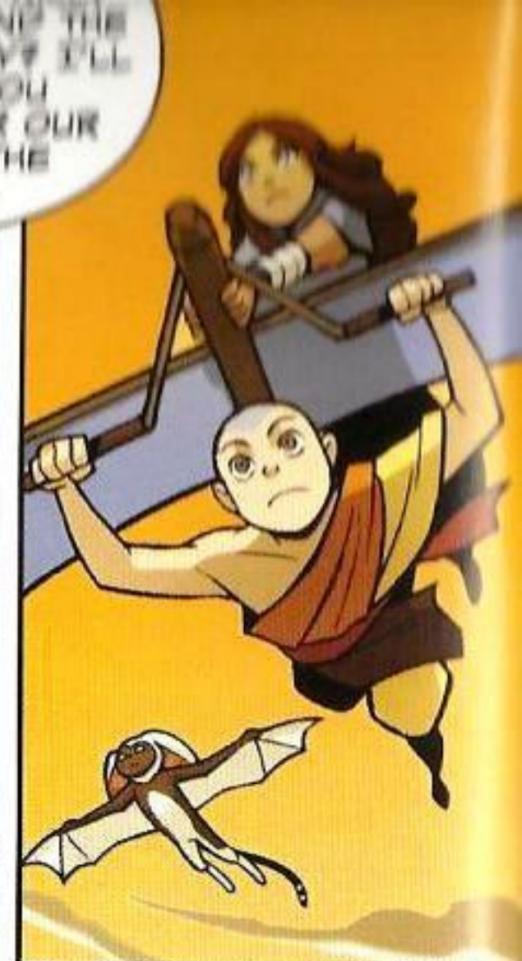
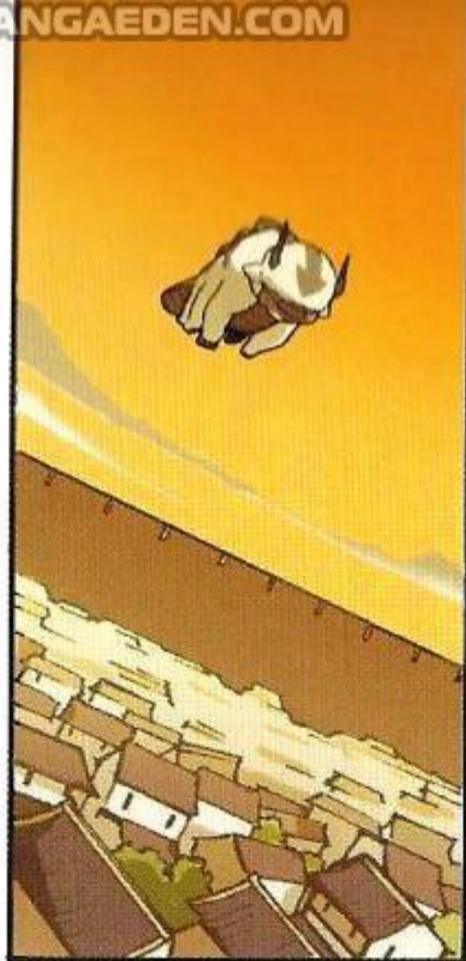
-- IN THE FLAMES OF YOUR OWN DEFEAT!



WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS SAYING, HO TUN?

WE'RE DOOMED.

PRETTY MUCH.



NOW WE HAVE TO FIND A PLACE TO SPEND THE NIGHT.

I'M SURE IROH HAS A COUPLE OF SPARE ROOMS. DO YOU REMEMBER HOW TO GET TO HIS TEASHOP FROM HERE?

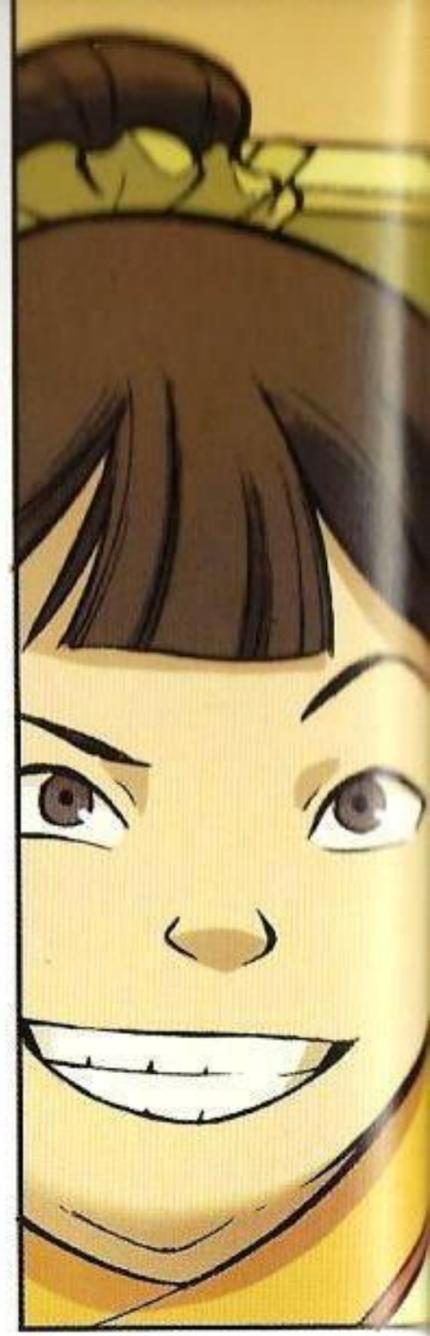
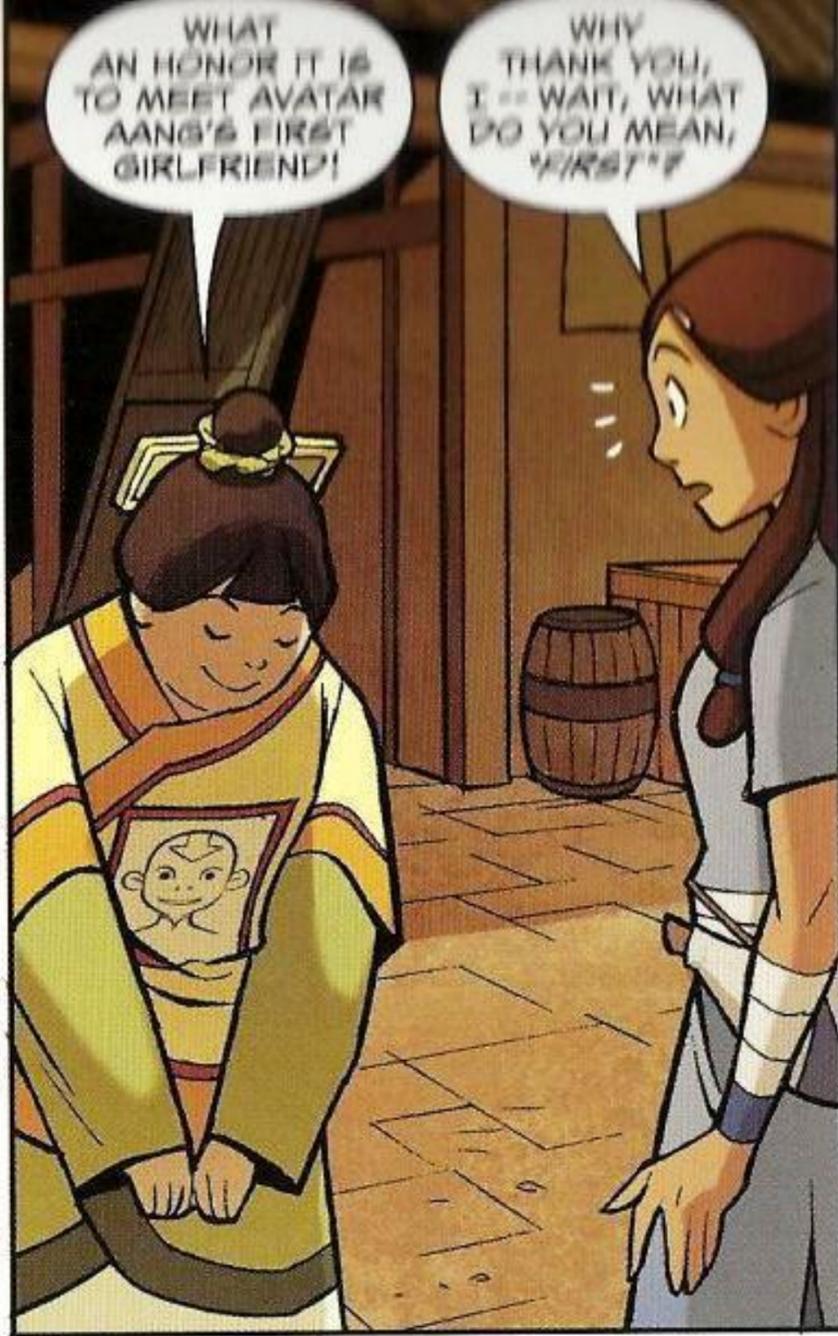


I THINK WE GO --

OH MY GOSH! IS IT, LIKE, REALLY YOU?

EEK!

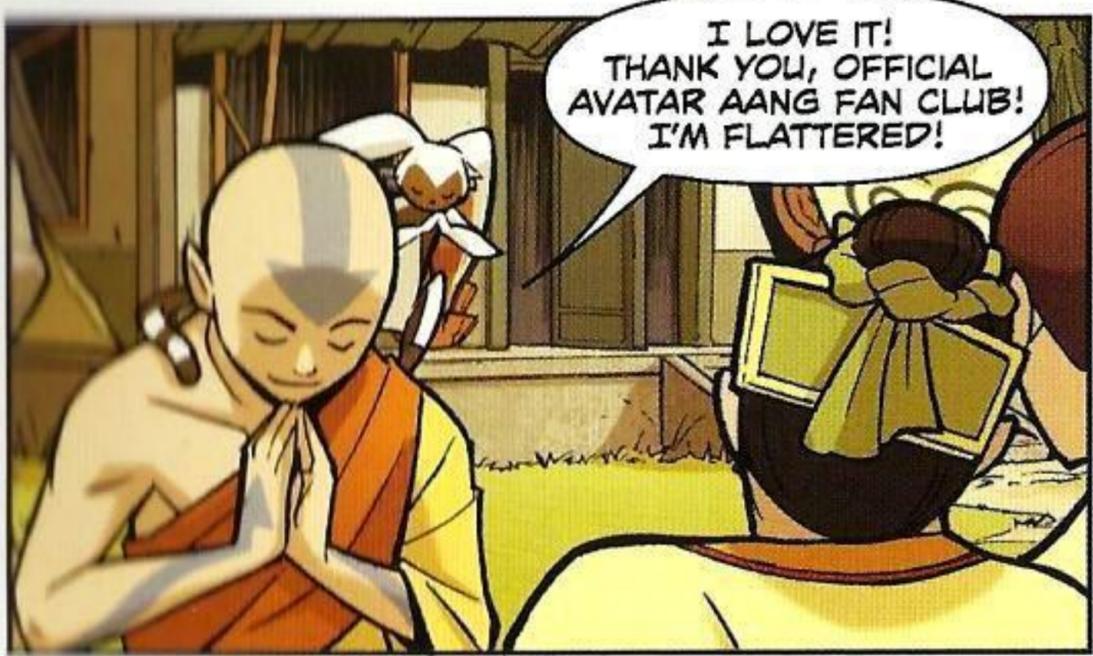


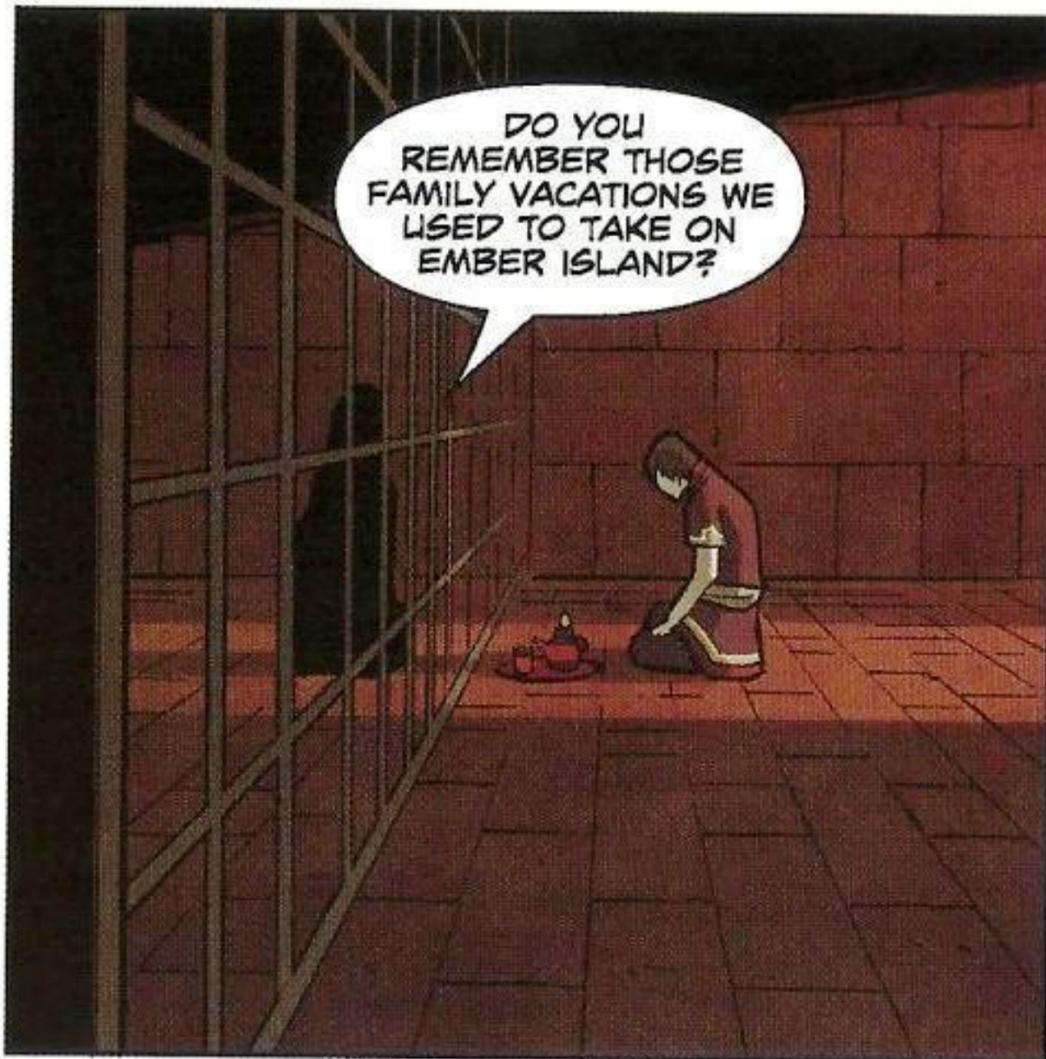




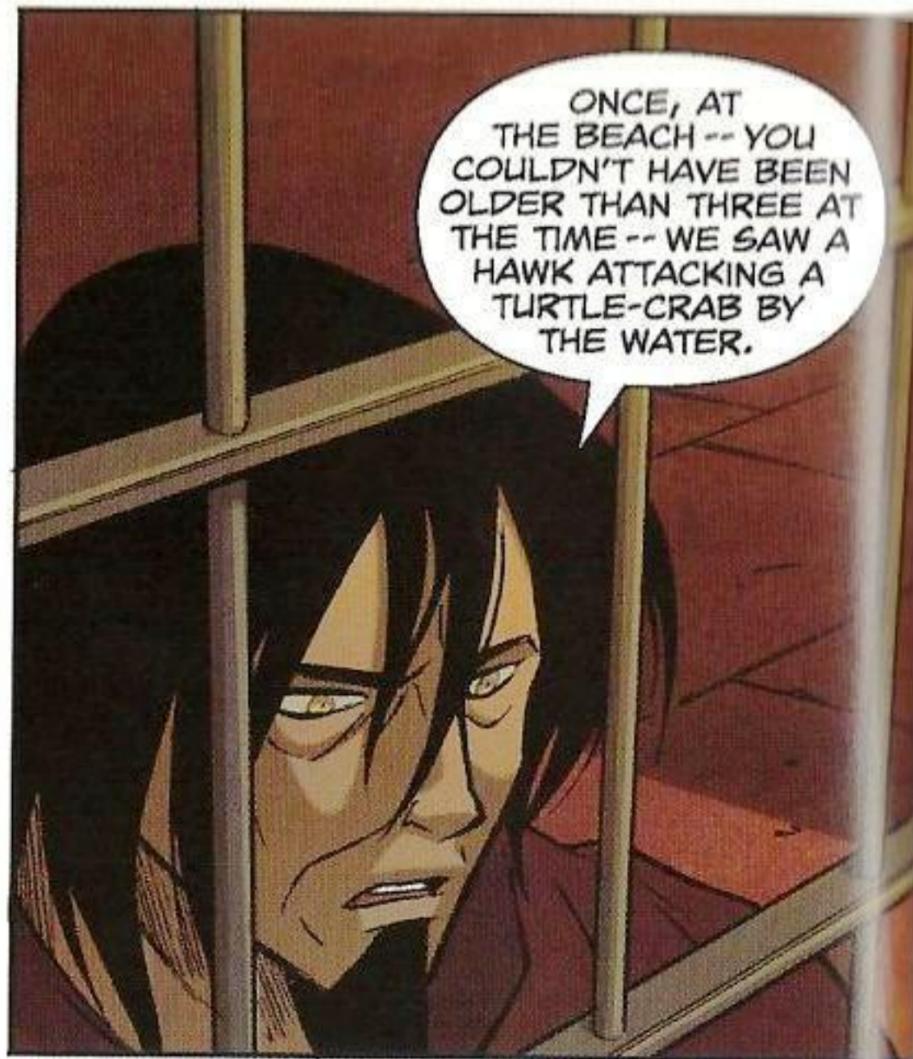
UM, YEAH? WON-YEE DID, LIKE, ALL THE DECORATING? TO MAKE IT LOOK UPSIDE DOWN AND EVERYTHING? LIKE HOW THE REAL TEMPLE IS?

EEK!

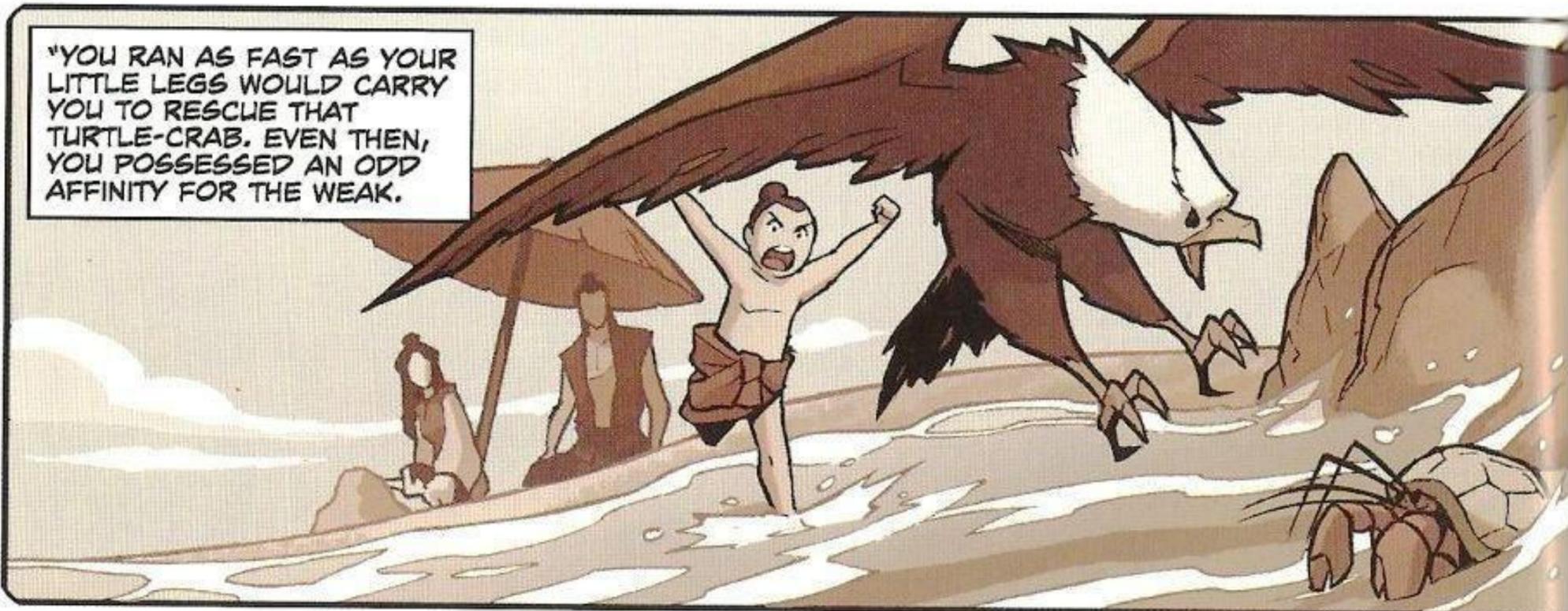




DO YOU REMEMBER THOSE FAMILY VACATIONS WE USED TO TAKE ON EMBER ISLAND?



ONCE, AT THE BEACH -- YOU COULDN'T HAVE BEEN OLDER THAN THREE AT THE TIME -- WE SAW A HAWK ATTACKING A TURTLE-CRAB BY THE WATER.



"YOU RAN AS FAST AS YOUR LITTLE LEGS WOULD CARRY YOU TO RESCUE THAT TURTLE-CRAB. EVEN THEN, YOU POSSESSED AN ODD AFFINITY FOR THE WEAK."



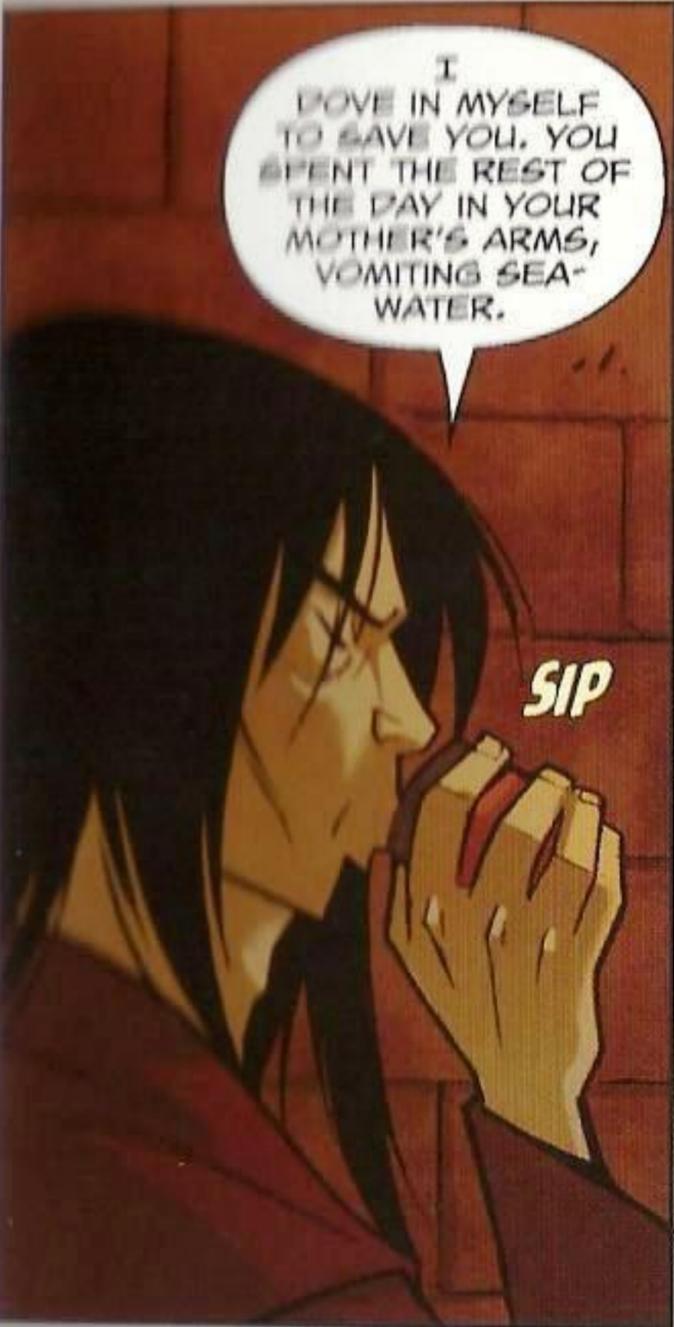
"BUT THEN, WHEN YOU HAD THE TURTLE-CRAB SAFELY IN YOUR ARMS, YOU HESITATED. THE HAWK LOOKED AT YOU WITH HUNGRY EYES, AND YOU REALIZED YOU WERE CONDEMNING IT TO STARVE."

"YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER TO SIDE WITH THE HAWK OR THE TURTLE-CRAB."

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



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



SIP

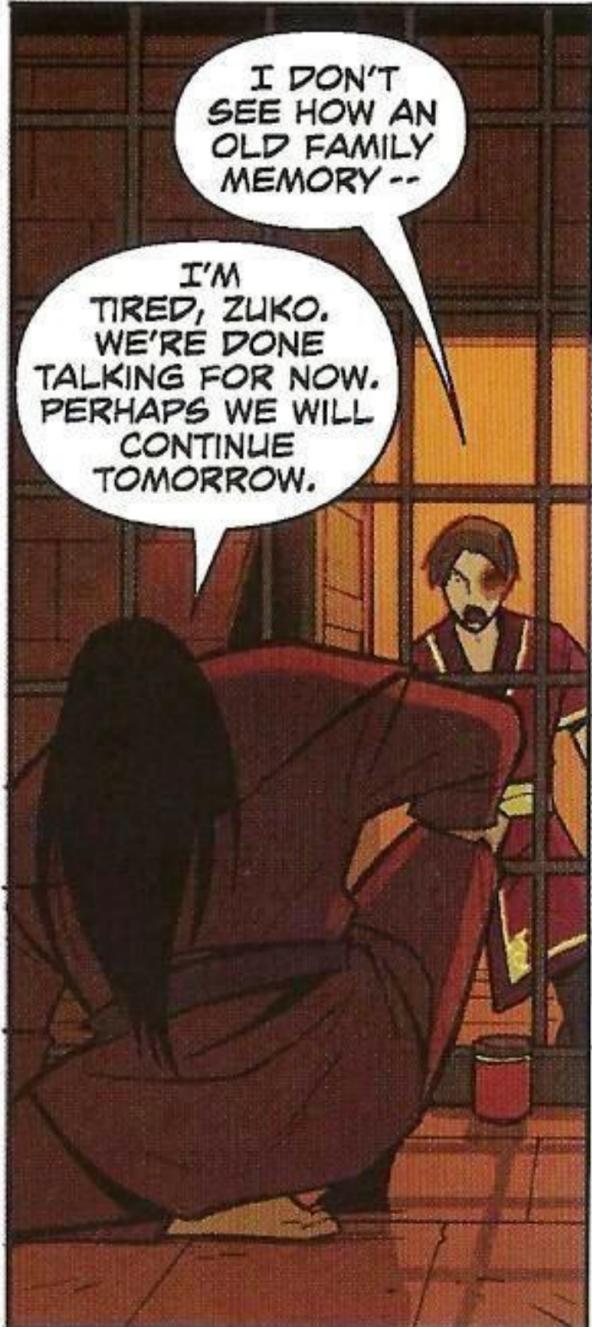
I CAME HERE LOOKING FOR ADVICE. I WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO SLEEP PEACEFULLY IN SPITE OF THE PRESSURES OF THE THRONE.

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.







SO THESE WERE THE MOST QUALIFIED STUDENTS YOU COULD FIND, HUH?



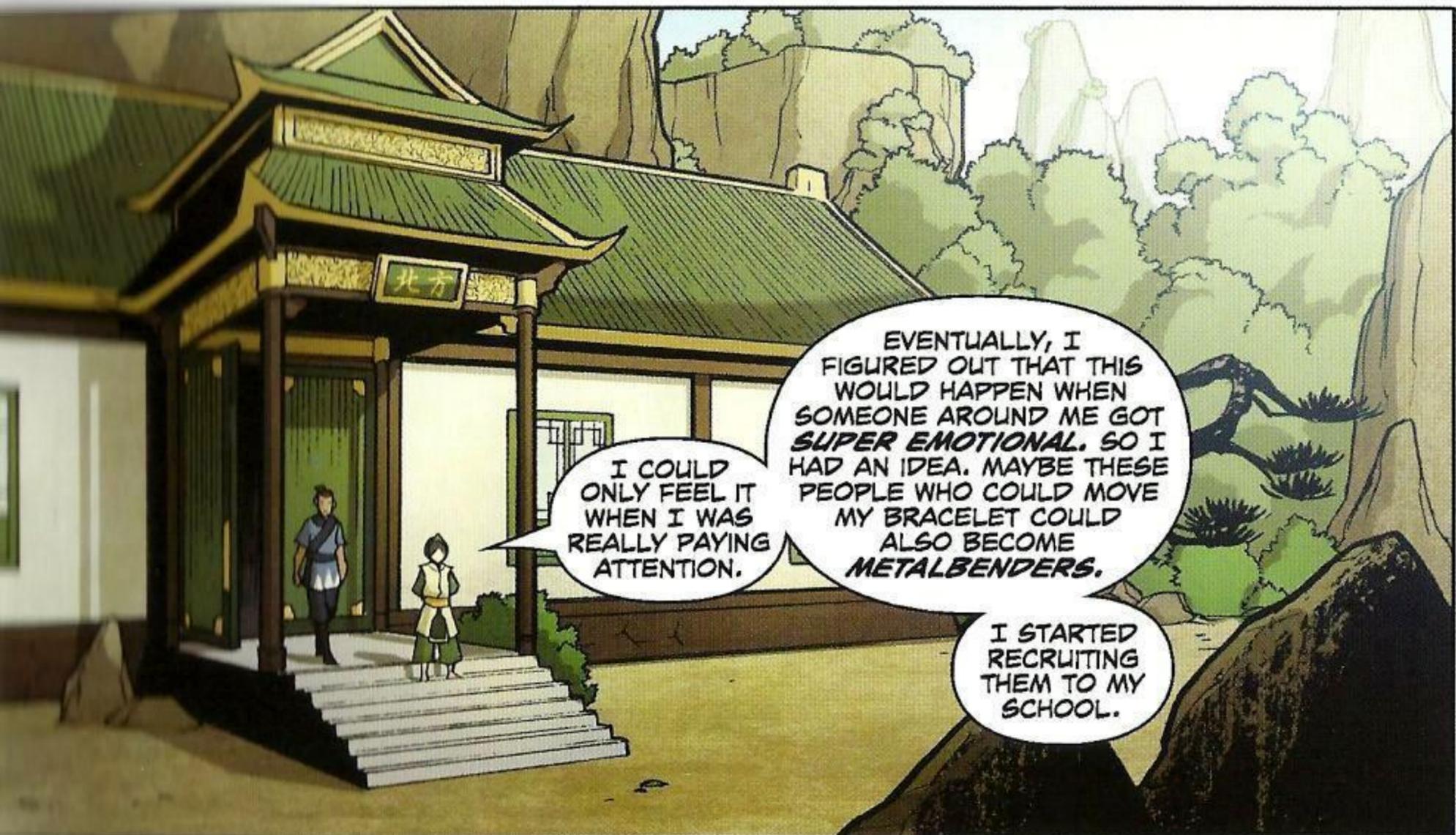
IT WASN'T ME! IT WAS THIS!

OOOH! SPACE BRACELET!



OH, HOW I MISS YOU, SPACE SWORD!

ABOUT A YEAR AGO, I NOTICED THAT EVERY NOW AND THEN, WHEN I WAS IN PUBLIC, MY BRACELET WOULD SHIVER THE TINIEST BIT.



I COULD ONLY FEEL IT WHEN I WAS REALLY PAYING ATTENTION.

EVENTUALLY, I FIGURED OUT THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN WHEN SOMEONE AROUND ME GOT **SUPER EMOTIONAL**. SO I HAD AN IDEA. MAYBE THESE PEOPLE WHO COULD MOVE MY BRACELET COULD ALSO BECOME **METALBENDERS**.

I STARTED RECRUITING THEM TO MY SCHOOL.



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

ACK!
DAMN! 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."

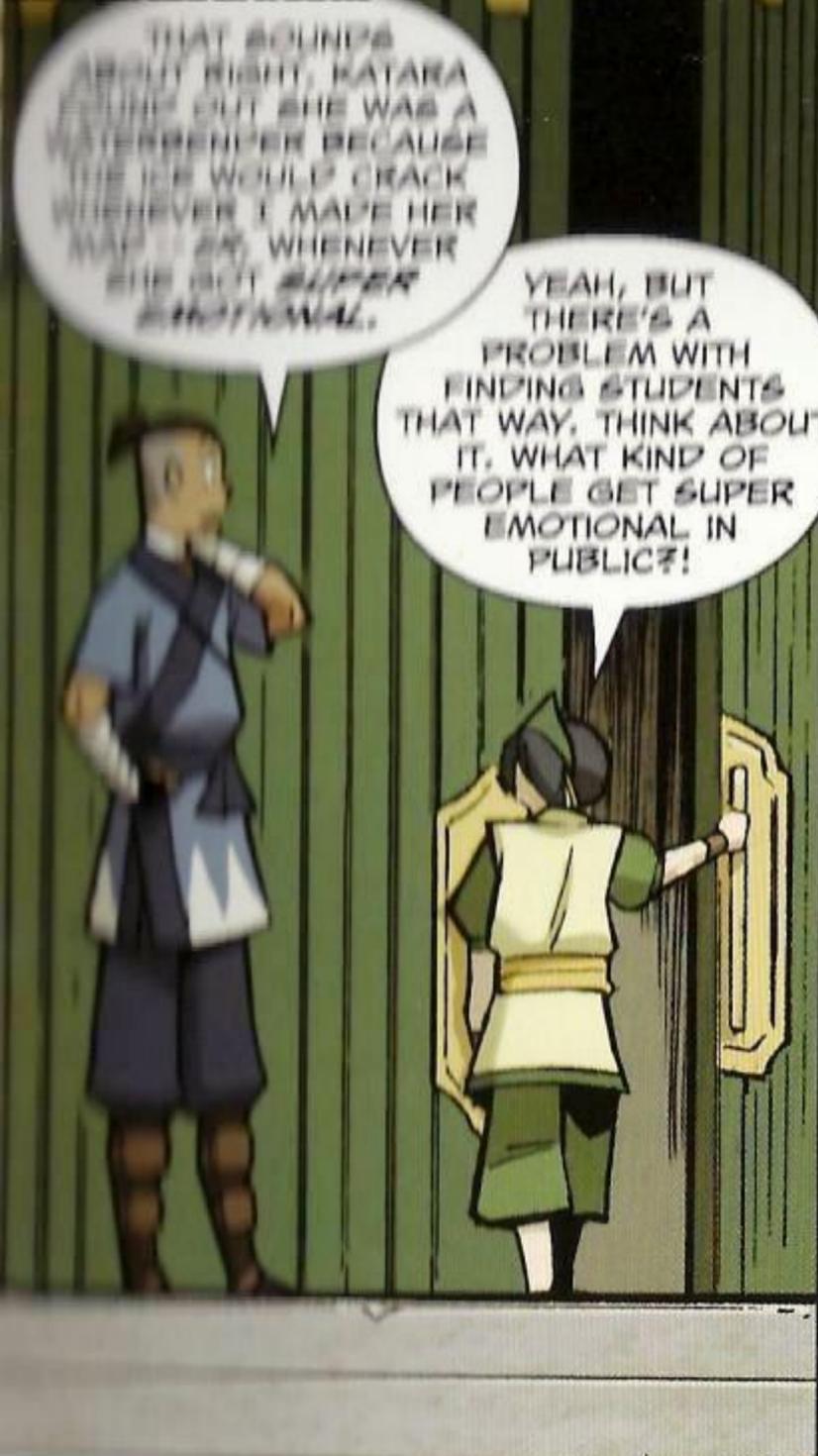
FORGIVE ME, MISTRESS PENGA, BUT WE'VE ALREADY SPENT ALL THE MONEY YOUR PARENTS ALLOTTED FOR THIS SHOPPING TRIP.

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. SHE WAS A WATERBENDER BECAUSE THE ICE WOULD CRACK WHEREVER I MADE HER WAY -- *SK*, 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!

!!!!

!!!!



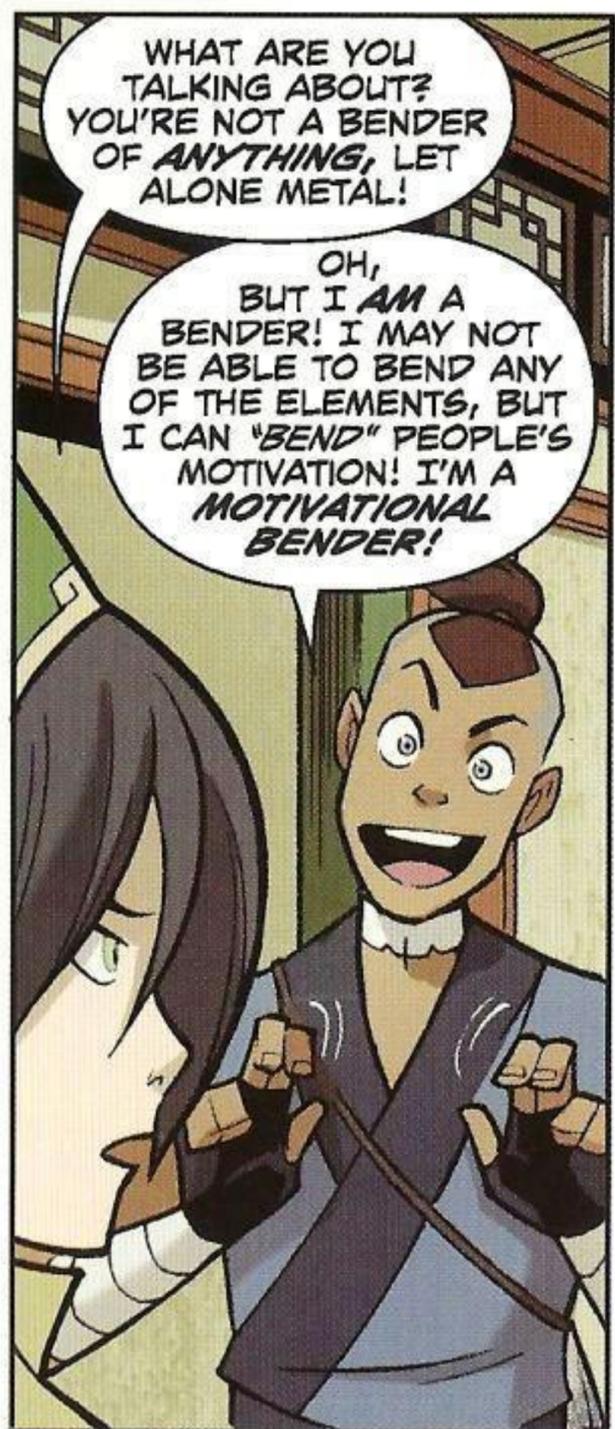
AND EVEN WORSE, THE WHOLE THING IS JUST A *THEORY*! NOBODY IN THAT SORRY GROUP OF LILY LIVERS HAS MOVED EVEN THE SMALLEST PIECE OF METAL SINCE THEY'VE BEEN HERE! NOT EVEN A COIN!



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

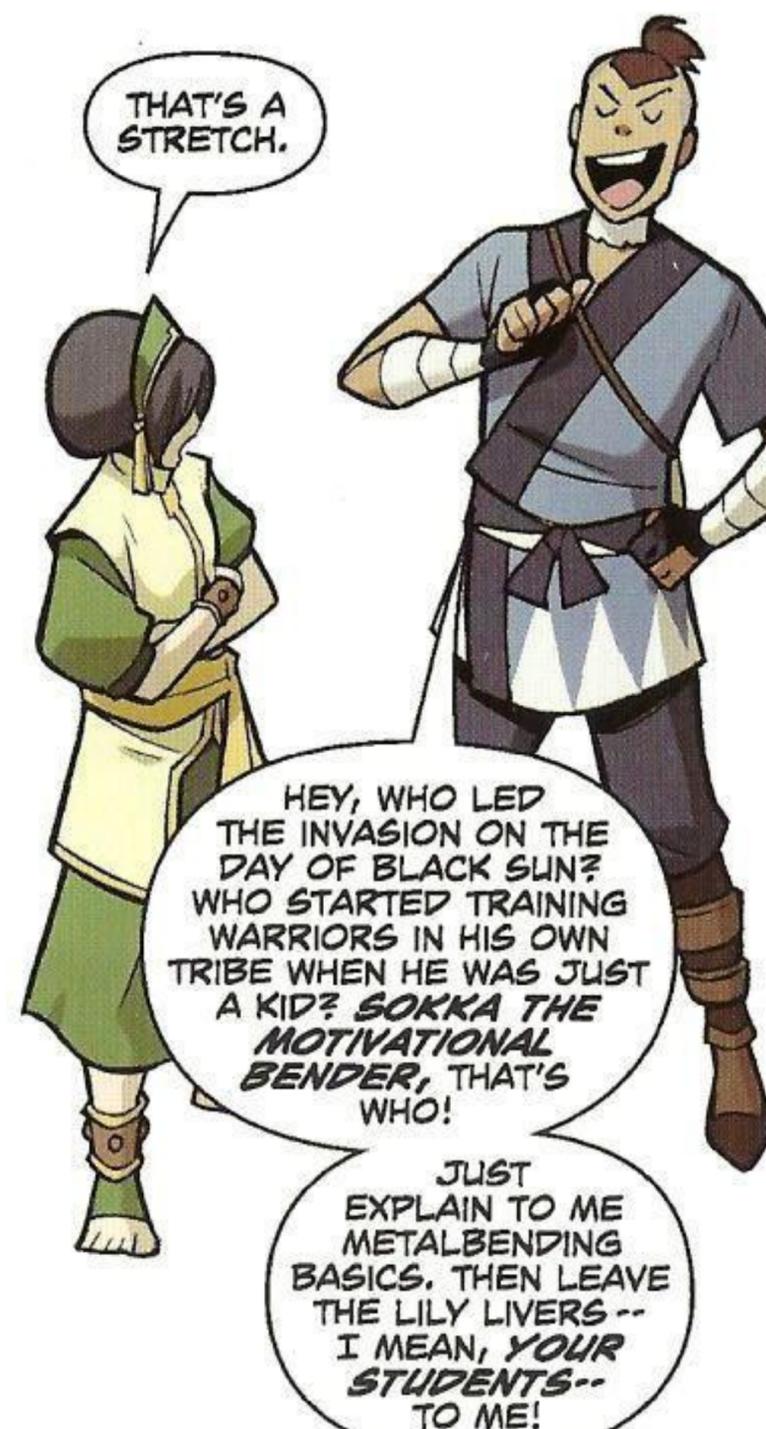
YOU *LOVE* TO BRAG.

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*!

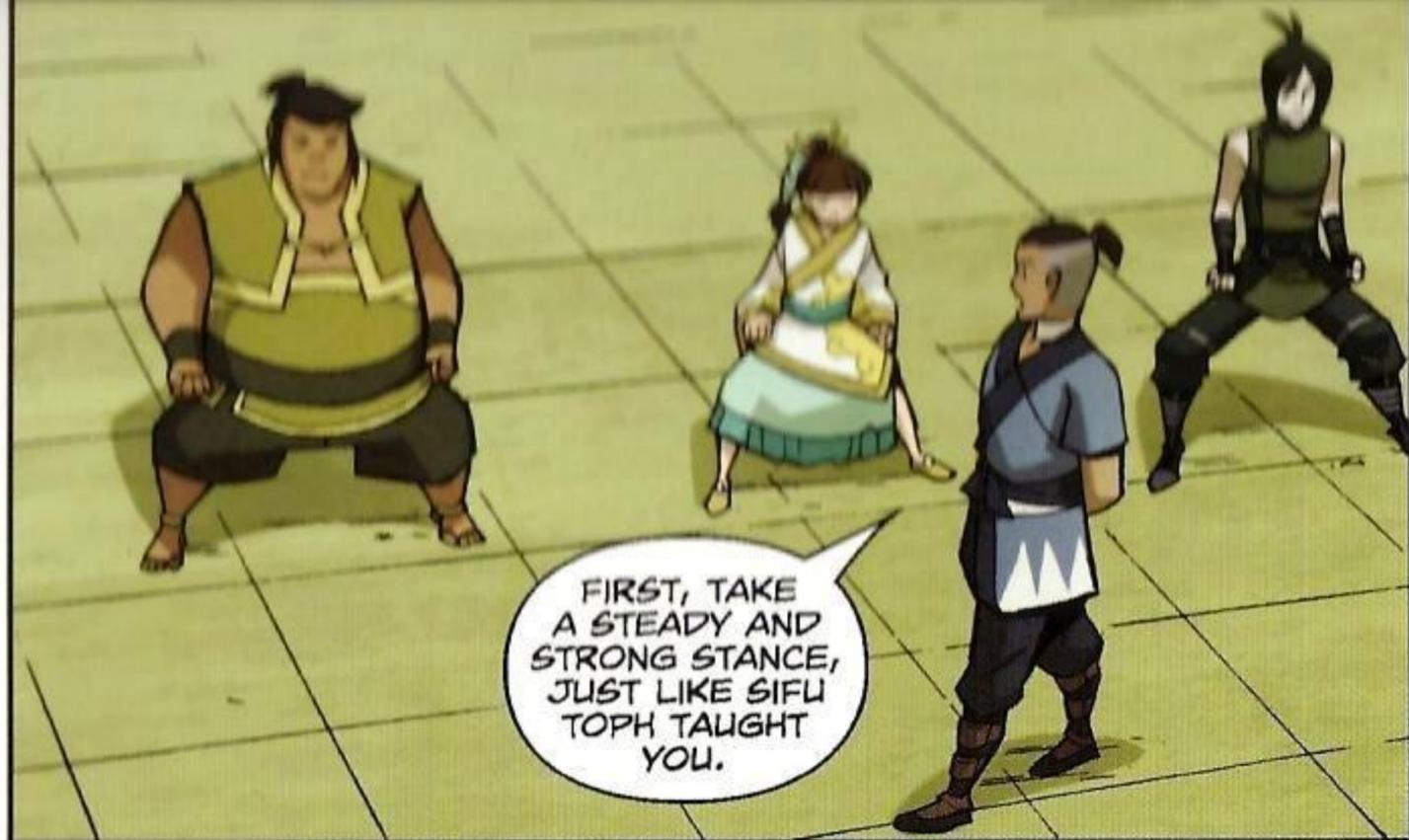


THAT'S A STRETCH.

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!



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



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

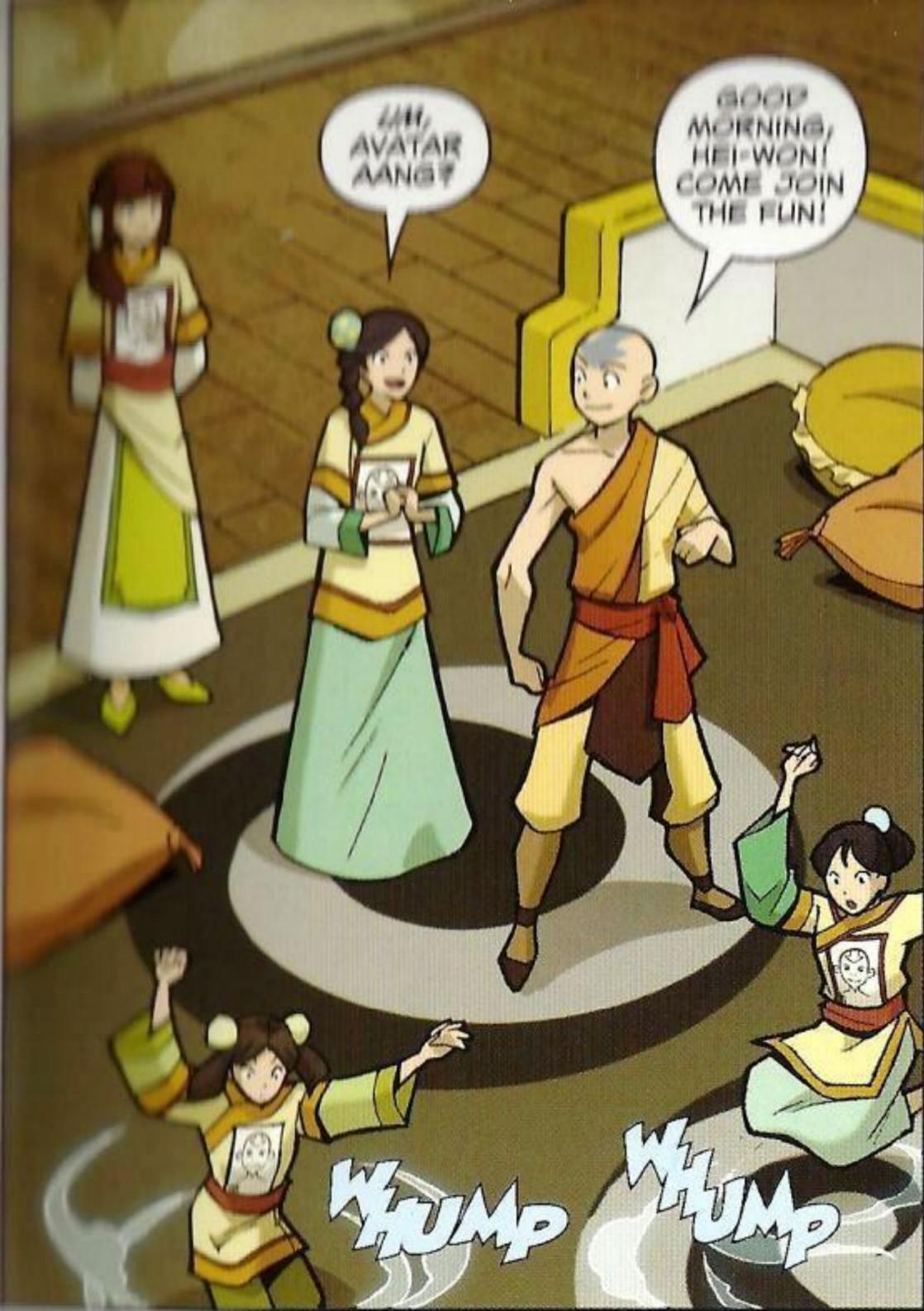


...AND THEN I TURN THEM ALL INTO AIR SCOOTERS!

WHOA!

HA HA HA!

WHEEEE!

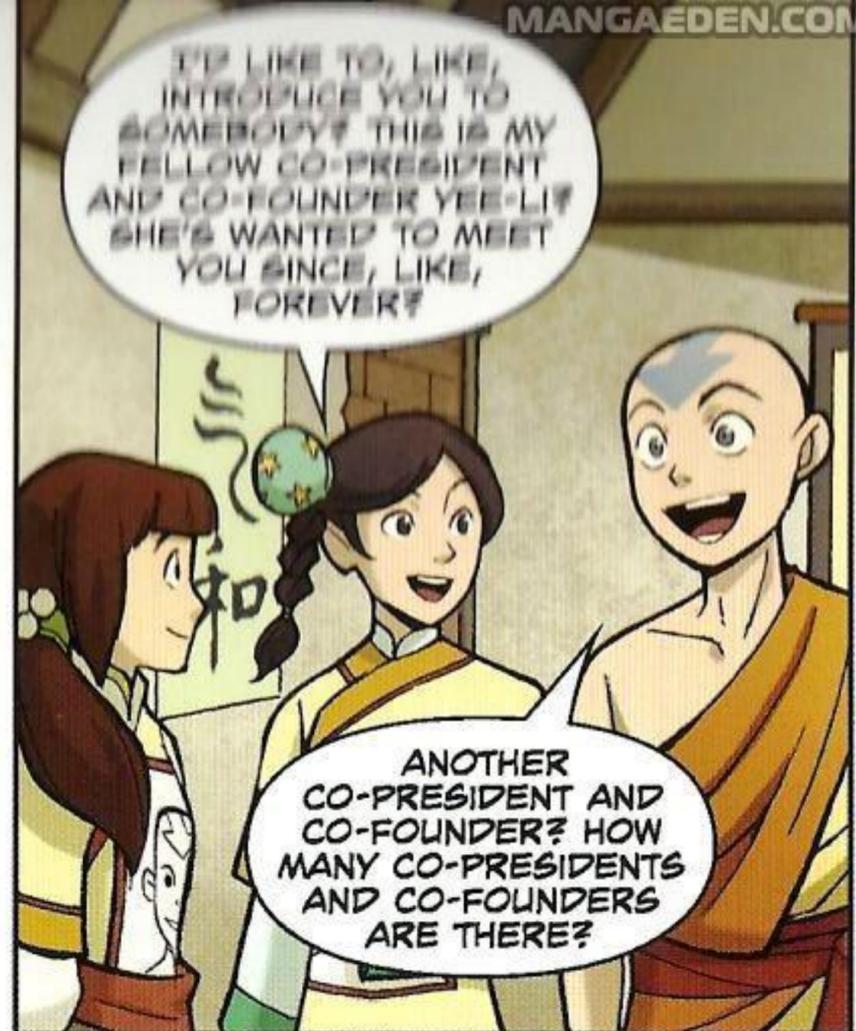


OH, AVATAR AANG?

GOOD MORNING, HEI-WON! COME JOIN THE FUN!

WHUMP

WHUMP



I'D LIKE TO, LIKE, INTRODUCE YOU TO SOMEBODY? THIS IS MY FELLOW CO-PRESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER YEE-LI? SHE'S WANTED TO MEET YOU SINCE, LIKE, FOREVER?

ANOTHER CO-PRESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER? HOW MANY CO-PRESIDENTS AND CO-FOUNDERS ARE THERE?



IT'S SUCH AN HONOR, AVATAR AANG! I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING I BOUGHT FROM A TRAVELING MERCHANT A COUPLE YEARS AGO...



WOW! AN AIRBENDER'S FLUTE! MONK GYATSO USED TO HAVE ONE JUST LIKE THIS!

I JUST KNEW IT HAD TO BE FROM THE AIR NOMADS! DO YOU KNOW HOW TO PLAY?



HA HA HA!

HA HA!



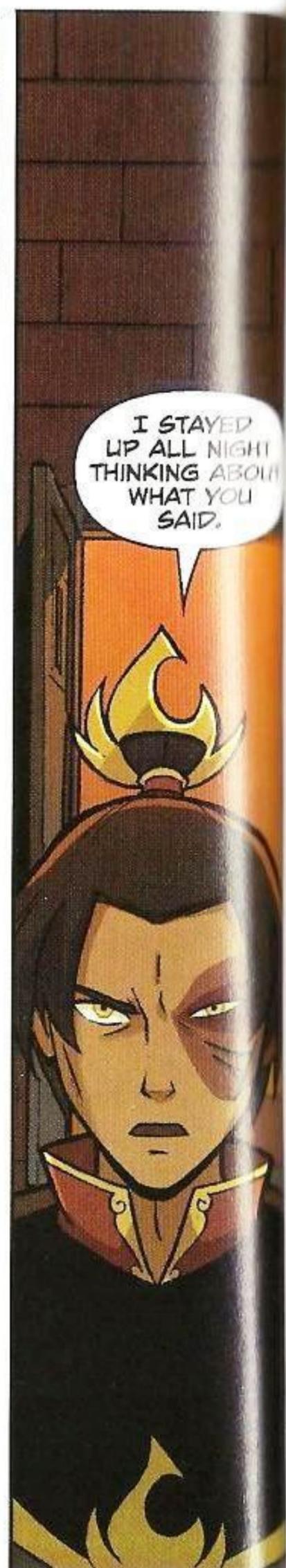
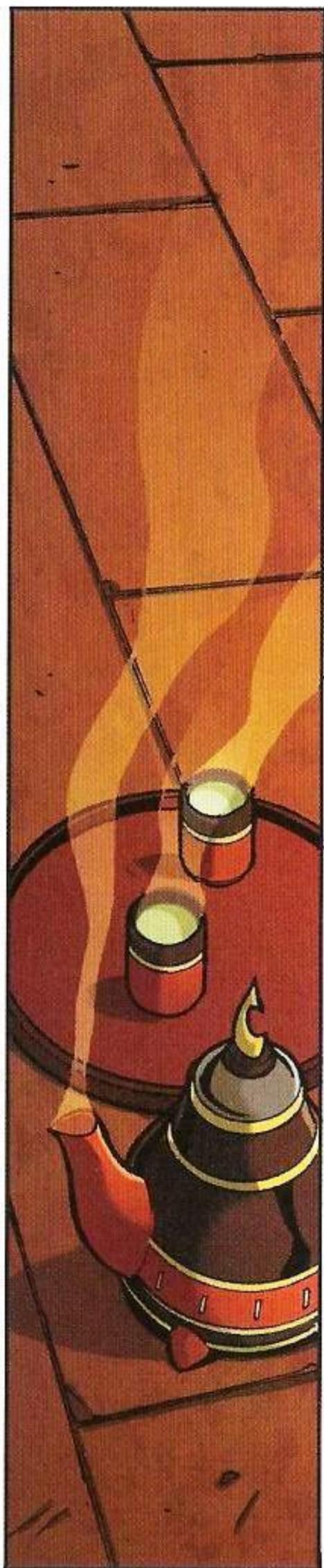
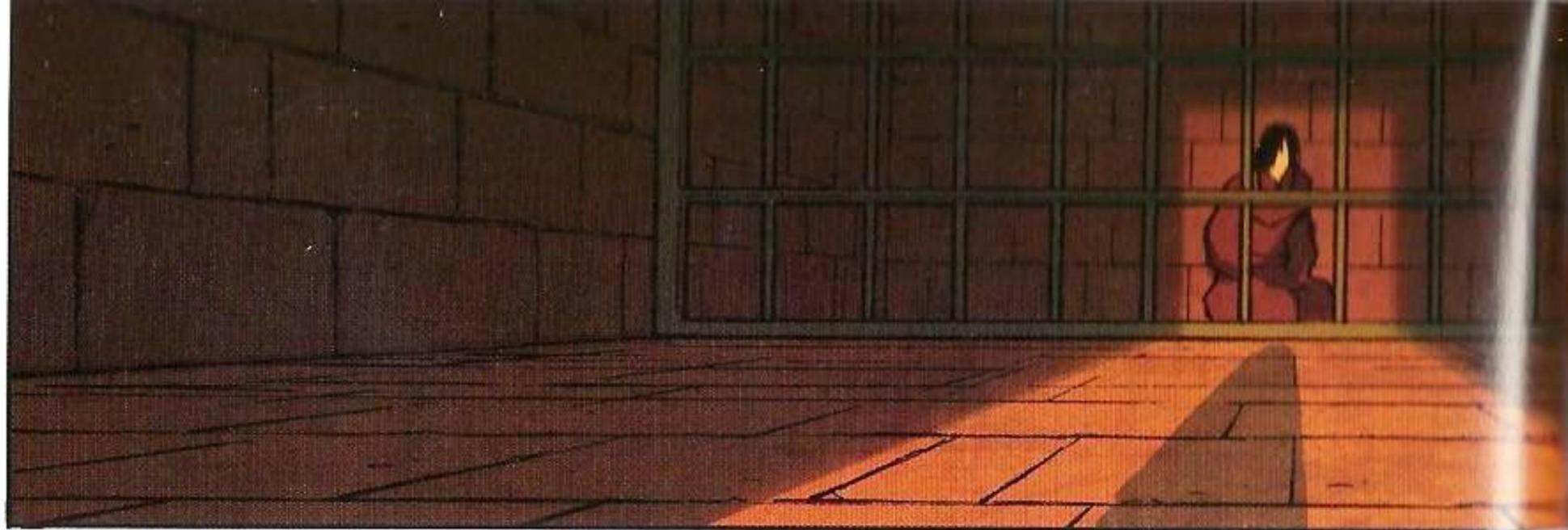
THE AVATAR'S EVEN MORE DREAMY WHEN HE'S PLAYING MUSIC!



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.

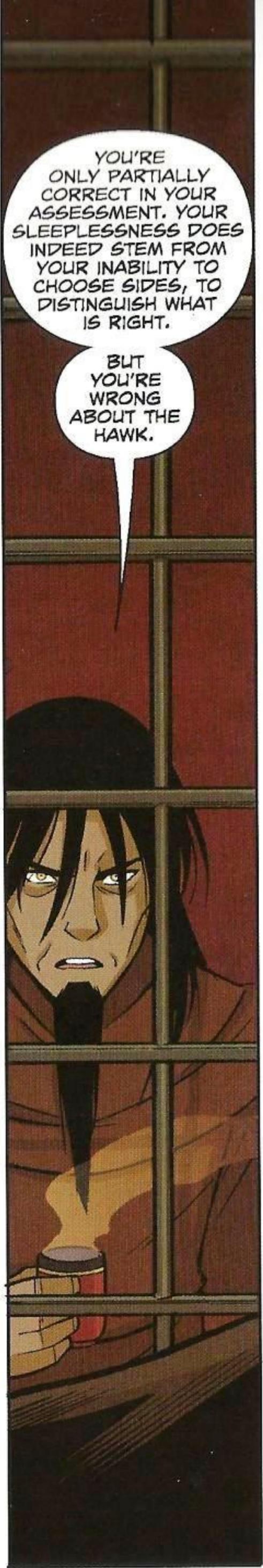
I SHOULD HAVE SIDED WITH THE HAWK. IT WAS BRAVE AND NOBLE, MUCH LIKE THE FIRE BAYON. IT HAD EARNED ITS MEAL.

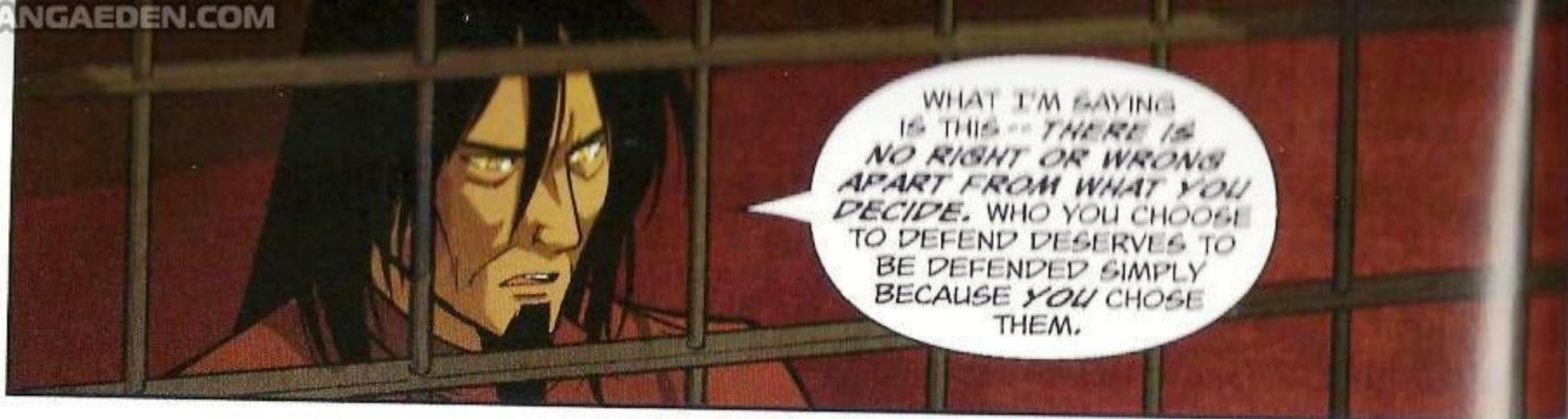
BUT I'VE ALREADY DONE THAT, FATHER! I'M NO LONGER NEGLECTING THE NEEDS OF MY OWN PEOPLE, AS I DID WHEN I FIRST TOOK THE THRONE! AND I STILL CAN'T SLEEP!

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?





WHAT I'M SAYING IS THIS -- THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG APART FROM WHAT YOU DECIDE. WHO YOU CHOOSE TO DEFEND DESERVES TO BE DEFENDED SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU CHOSE THEM.



YOU ARE THE FIRE LORD.

WHAT YOU CHOOSE, BY DEFINITION, IS RIGHT.



NO! RIGHT AND WRONG ARE BIGGER THAN ME, OR YOU, OR EVEN THE AVATAR!

AND I BELIEVE THAT THE AVATAR, THE EARTH KING, AND I CAN COME CLOSEST TO WHAT'S RIGHT BY WORKING TOGETHER!



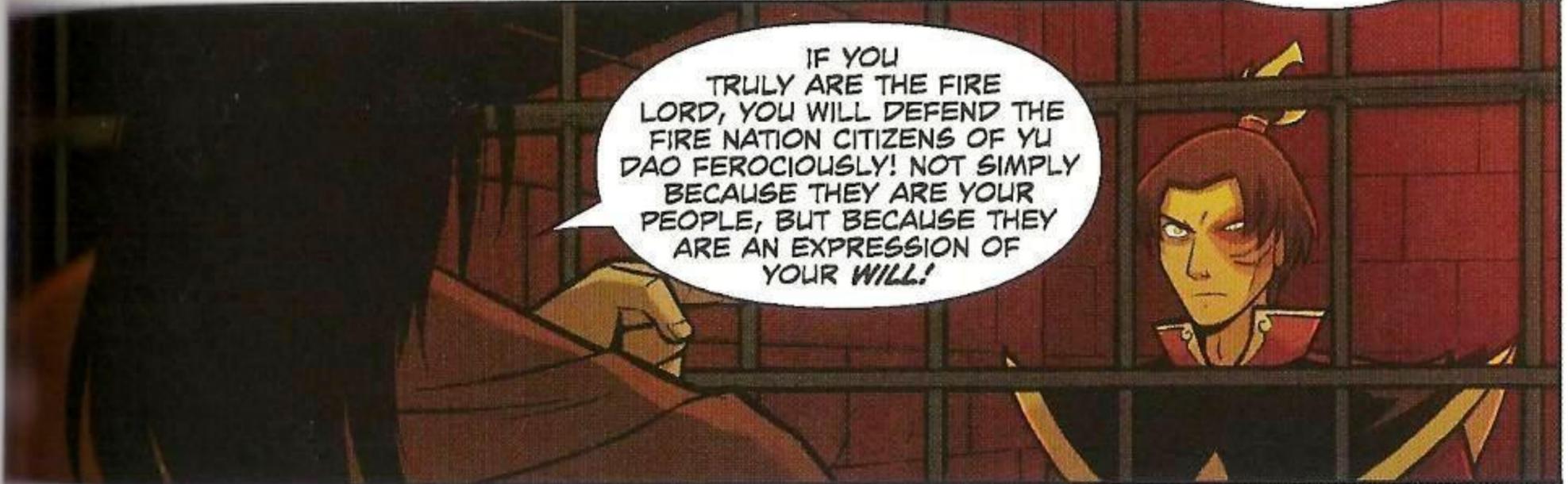
I'VE HEARD RUMORS ABOUT THIS LITTLE MEETING OF YOURS.





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!



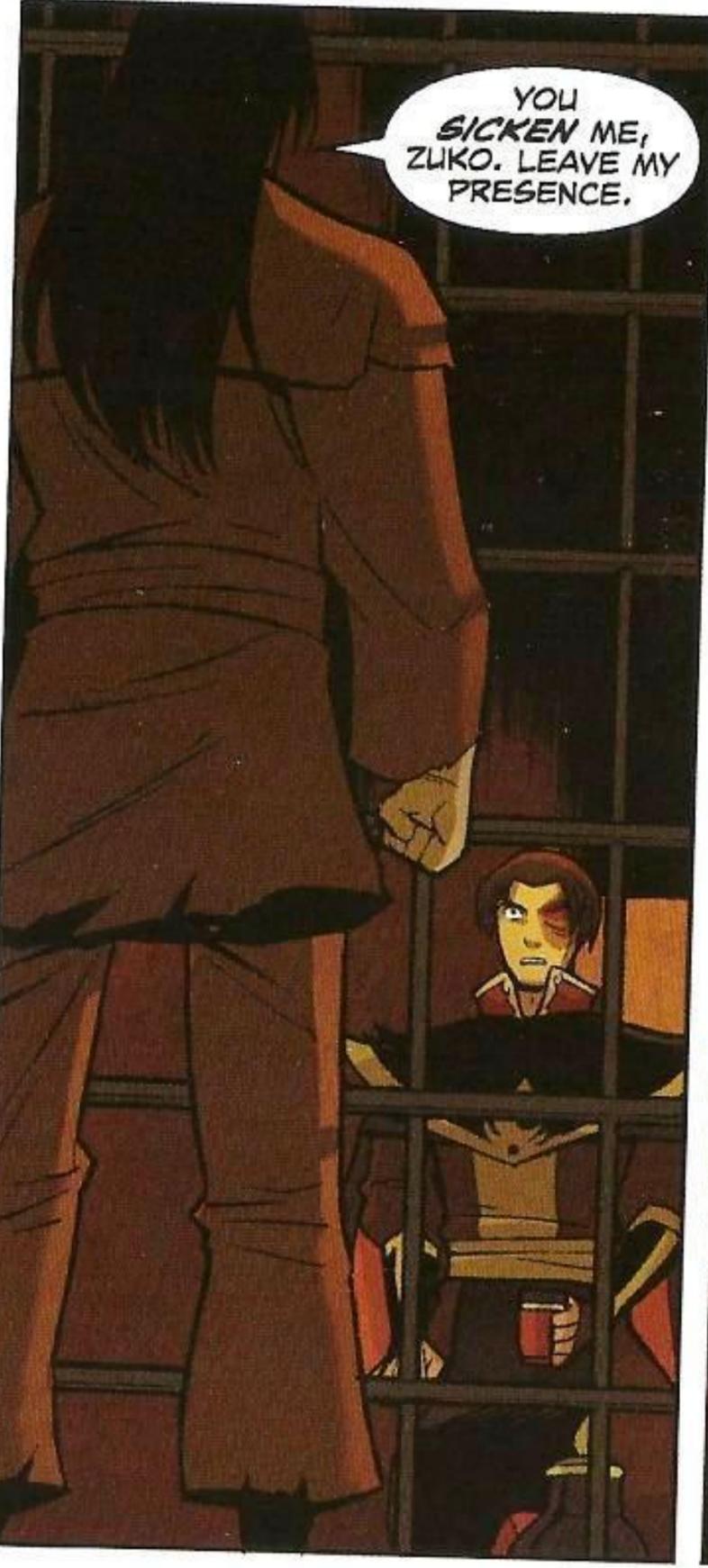
AVATAR AANG IS MY FRIEND! MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, HE'S BEEN ON THE SIDE THAT'S **RIGHT**! I TRUST HIM.



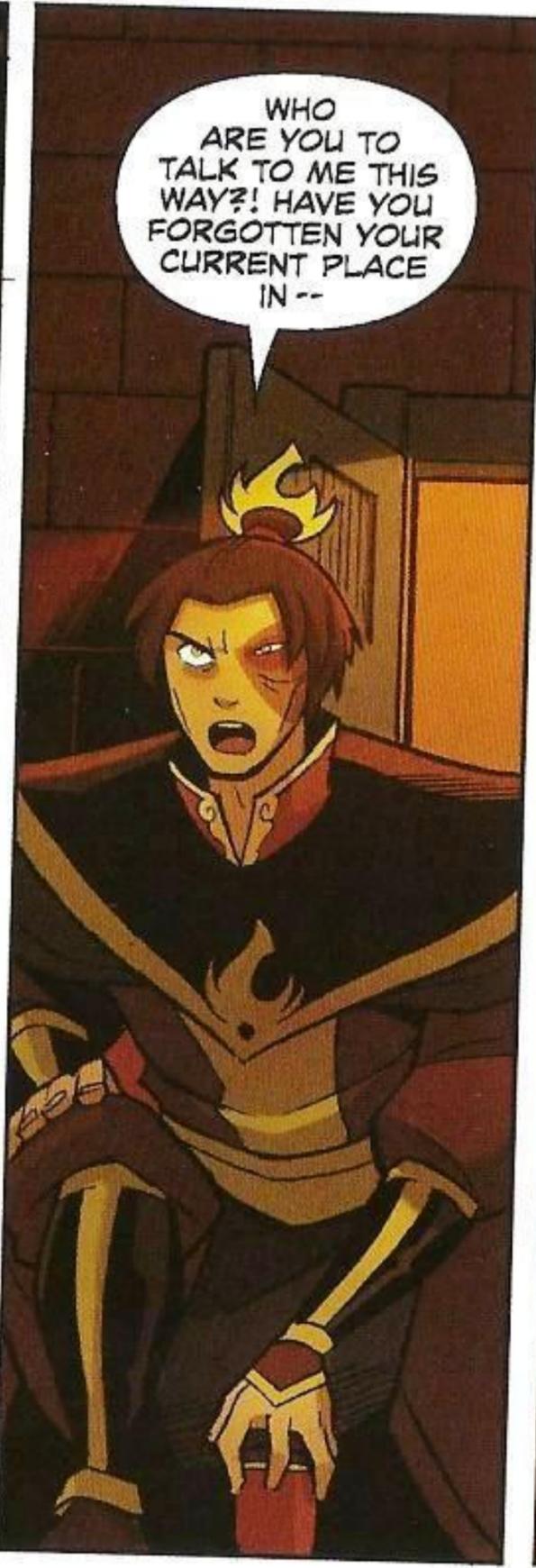
MORE THAN YOU TRUST YOURSELF?



...



YOU SICKEN ME, ZUKO. LEAVE MY PRESENCE.



WHO ARE YOU TO TALK TO ME THIS WAY?! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR CURRENT PLACE IN --



LEAVE. MY. PRESENCE!







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-LIBER 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 PENGA --

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?

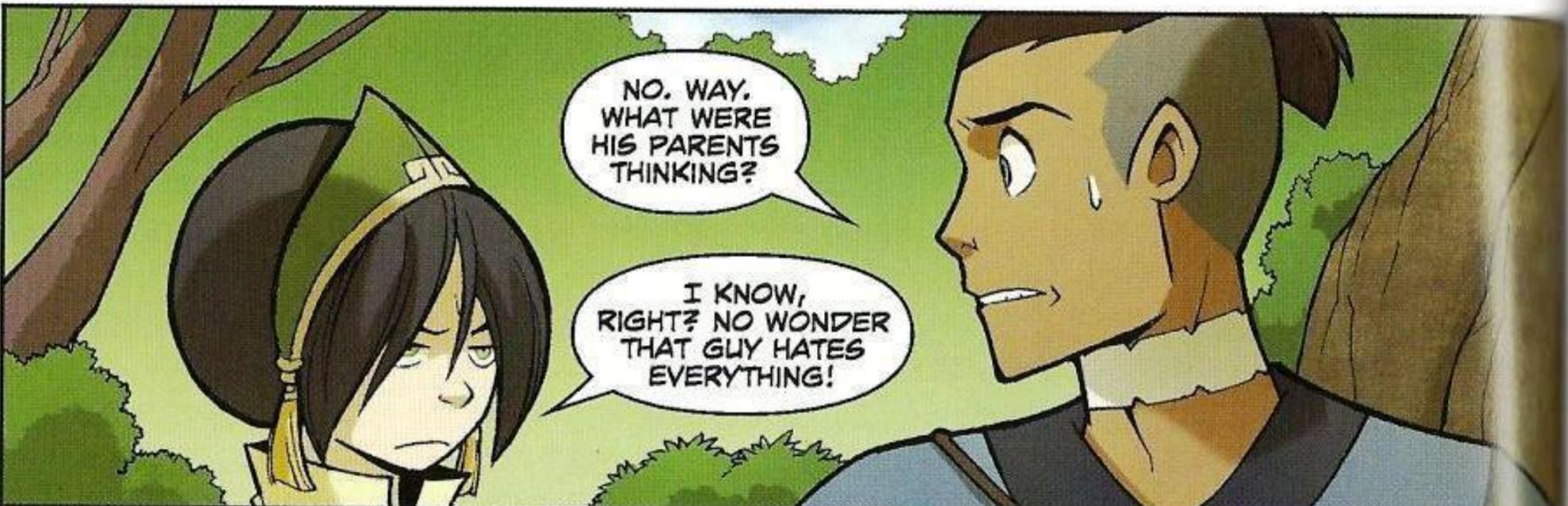


HIS REAL NAME, BUT I PROMISED I WOULDN'T EVER TELL ANYBODY.



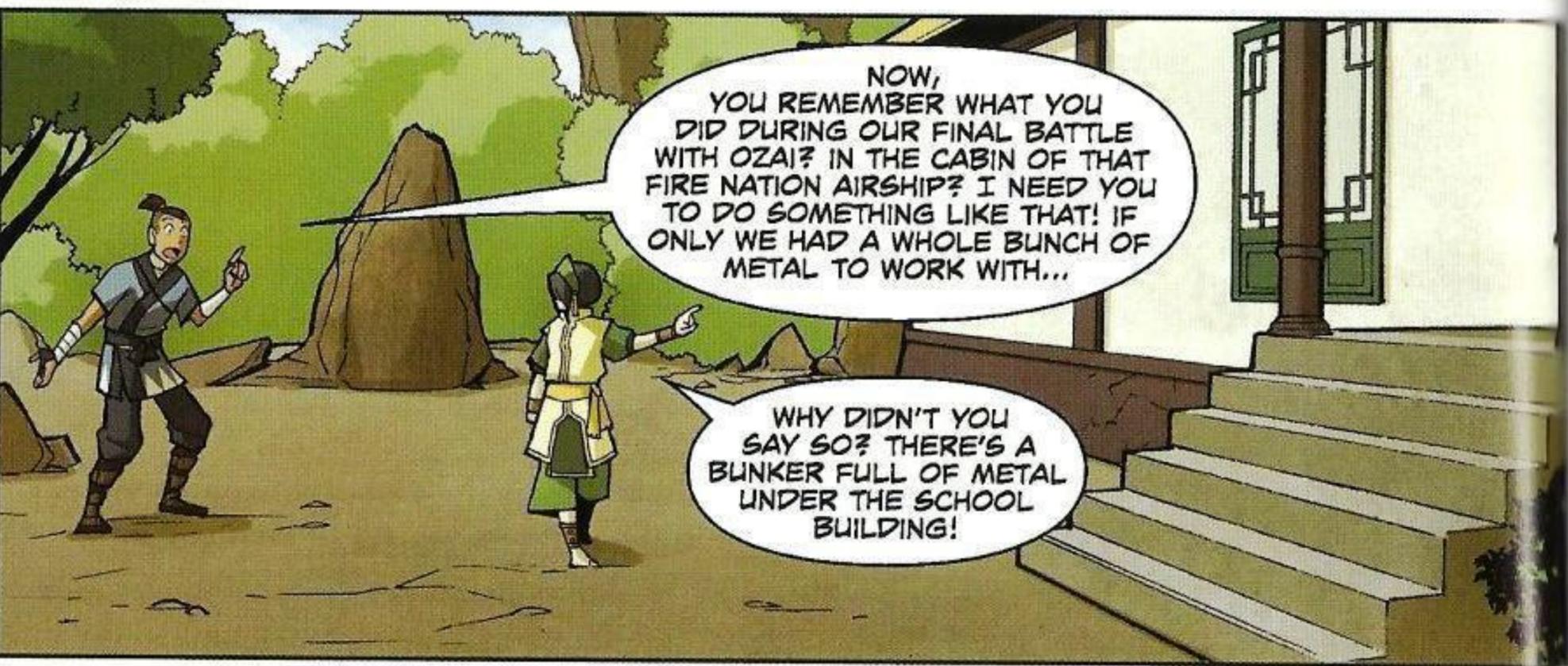
PLEASE PLEASEPLEASE PLEASE--

OKAY, OKAY! QUIT YOUR BLUBBERING!



NO. WAY. WHAT WERE HIS PARENTS THINKING?

I KNOW, RIGHT? NO WONDER THAT GUY HATES EVERYTHING!



NOW, YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID DURING OUR FINAL BATTLE WITH OZAI? IN THE CABIN OF THAT FIRE NATION AIRSHIP? I NEED YOU TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT! IF ONLY WE HAD A WHOLE BUNCH OF METAL TO WORK WITH...

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO? THERE'S A BUNKER FULL OF METAL UNDER THE SCHOOL BUILDING!



WHOA! LOOK AT ALL THIS FIRE NATION ARMOR!



THESE ARE ALL KID SIZED! WHO WOULD MAKE ARMOR FOR LITTLE KIDS?

A WEIRDO LIKE KUNYO, THAT'S WHO.



SO HERE'S WHAT I NEED YOU TO MAKE WITH YOUR METALBENDING POWERS!

HELLO?! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO REMIND YOU?!



RIGHT. SORRY. HOW ABOUT I JUST DESCRIBE IT TO YOU?





THAT'S INCREDIBLE! TOPH BEIFONG, YOU'VE REALLY OUTDONE YOURSELF!

JUST CALL ME THE GREATEST EARTHBENDER OF ALL TIME!



HA HA!

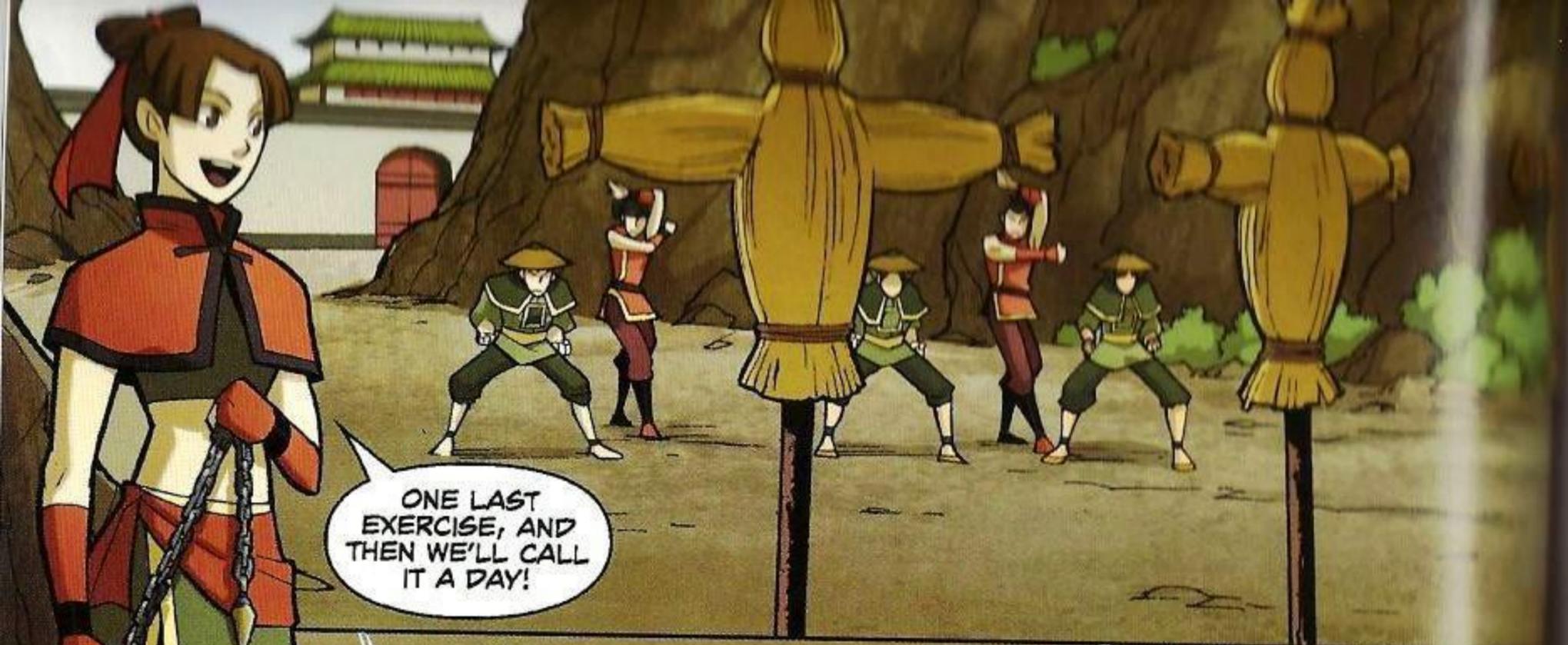


NO, SERIOUSLY. I WANT YOU TO CALL ME THAT.



TOPH, YOU'RE THE GREATEST EARTHBENDER OF ALL TIME.

GEE, THANKS, SOKKA! THAT'S SO SWEET OF YOU!



ONE LAST EXERCISE, AND THEN WE'LL CALL IT A DAY!



EARTHBENDERS, CREATE A BARRIER!

RUMBLE



NOW EVERYONE, ATTACK!

FWOOSH

KRK

FWOOSH

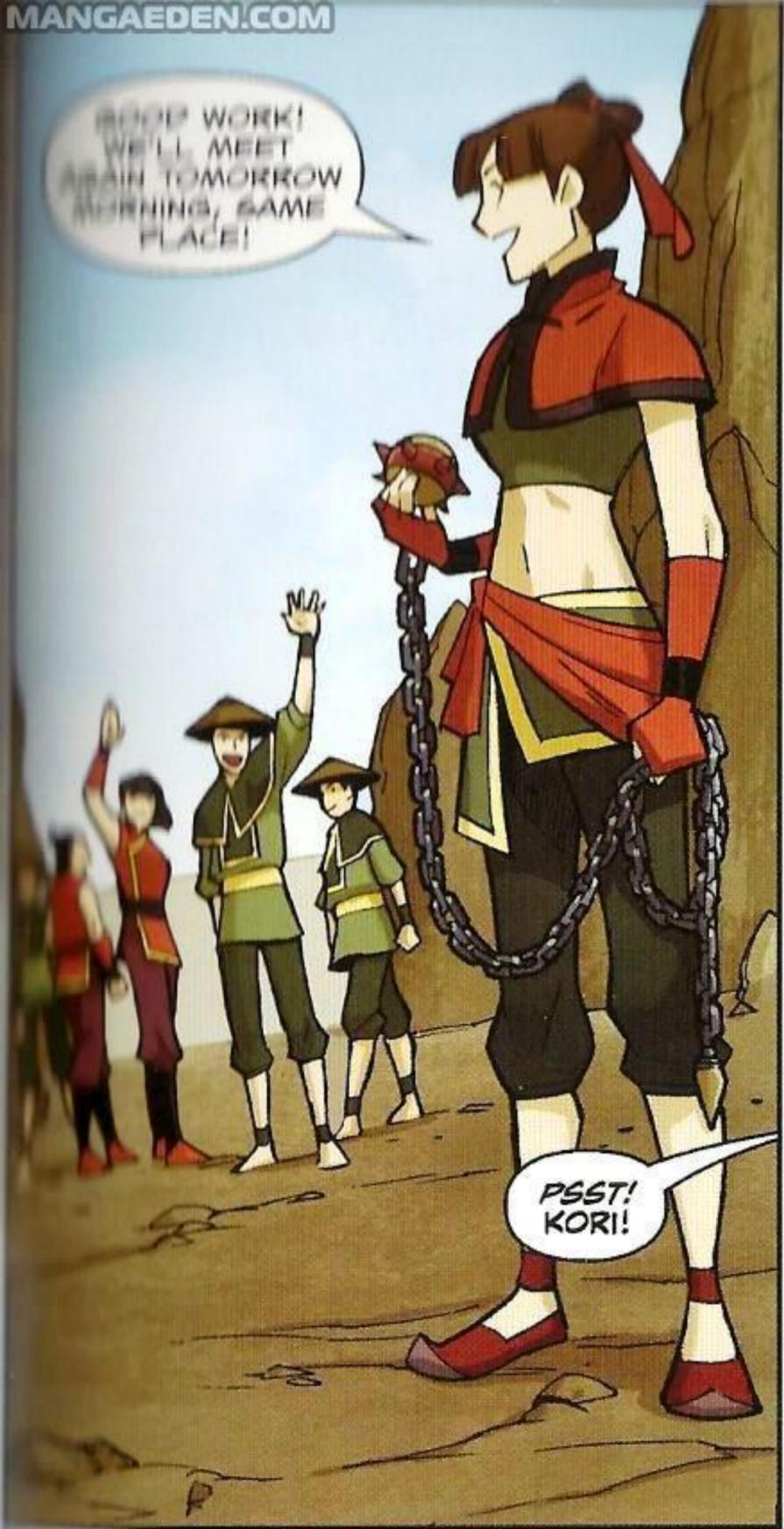
KRK



FWOOSH

KRUNK

GOOD WORK!
WE'LL MEET
AGAIN TOMORROW
MORNING, SAME
PLACE!



PSST!
KORI!

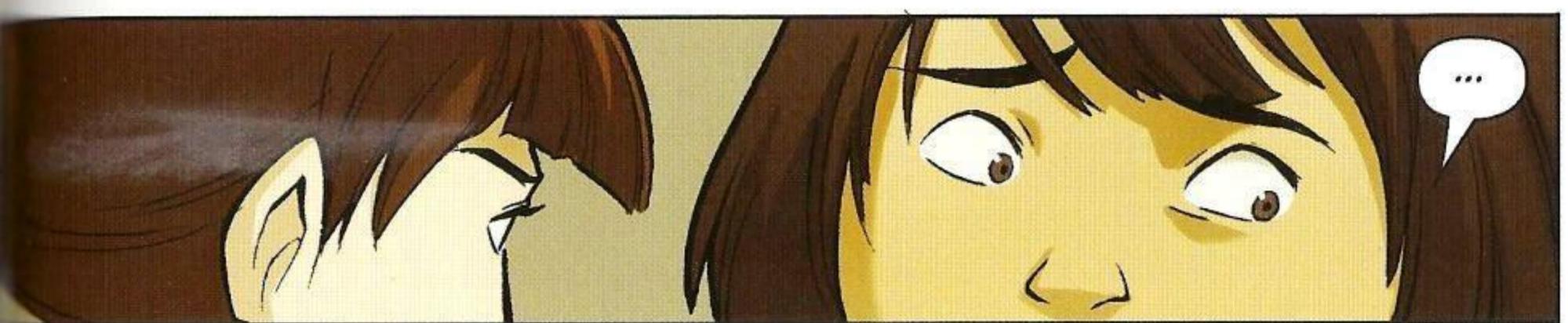


SNEERS!



YOU'VE BEEN
MISSING OUR DATES SO
YOU COULD TRAIN WITH
FIREBENDERS?

SO I
COULD TRAIN WITH
MY *COUSINS*. AND
ONLY TWO OF THEM ARE
FIREBENDERS! WE HAVE
TO BE READY TO DEFEND
YU DAO! DIDN'T YOU HEAR
THOSE PROTESTERS
OUTSIDE THE CITY WALLS
A COUPLE DAYS
AGO?



...



DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE A PART OF THAT!

WE WERE LEADING THAT.



GET AWAY FROM ME!

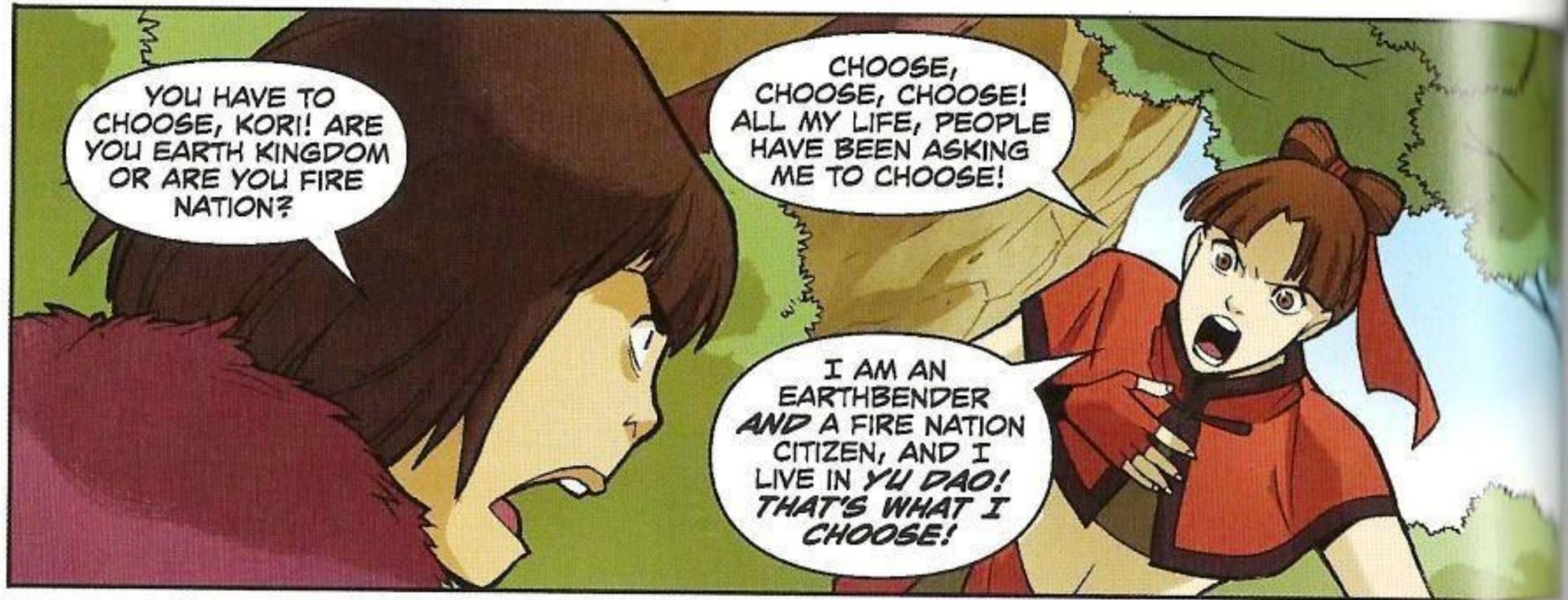
OOF!

KROOOM



YU DAO IS A FIRE NATION COLONY! SMELLERBEE SAID--

I DON'T CARE WHAT SMELLERBEE SAID!



YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE, KORI! ARE YOU EARTH KINGDOM OR ARE YOU FIRE NATION?

CHOOSE, CHOOSE, CHOOSE! ALL MY LIFE, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ASKING ME TO CHOOSE!

I AM AN EARTHBENDER AND A FIRE NATION CITIZEN, AND I LIVE IN YU DAO! THAT'S WHAT I CHOOSE!



NOW YOU CHOOSE, SNEERS! DO YOU WANT TO FOLLOW SMELLERBEE...OR DO YOU WANT TO BE WITH ME?



GREETINGS,
EARTH KING
KUEI!

AVATAR
AANG! KATARA
OF THE SOUTHERN
WATER TRIBE! IT'S
BEEN MUCH TOO
LONG!



I HEARD YOU WERE IN THE
EARTH KINGDOM DEALING WITH THE
SITUATION AT YU DAO! THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR HELP WITH THE
REMOVAL OF THAT COLONY! THE
REMAINING FEW SEEM TO BE
MORE DIFFICULT THAN--

THAT'S WHY WE'RE
HERE, YOUR MAJESTY.
WE'D LIKE TO SET UP A
MEETING BETWEEN YOU
AND FIRE LORD ZUKO.
YU DAO...IS STILL
THERE.

FOR
NOW.



SO THEN, THE
FIRE LORD PERSISTS IN
DENYING THE MOVEMENT
HIS SUPPORT! HE WANTS
TO KEEP HIS
COLONIES!

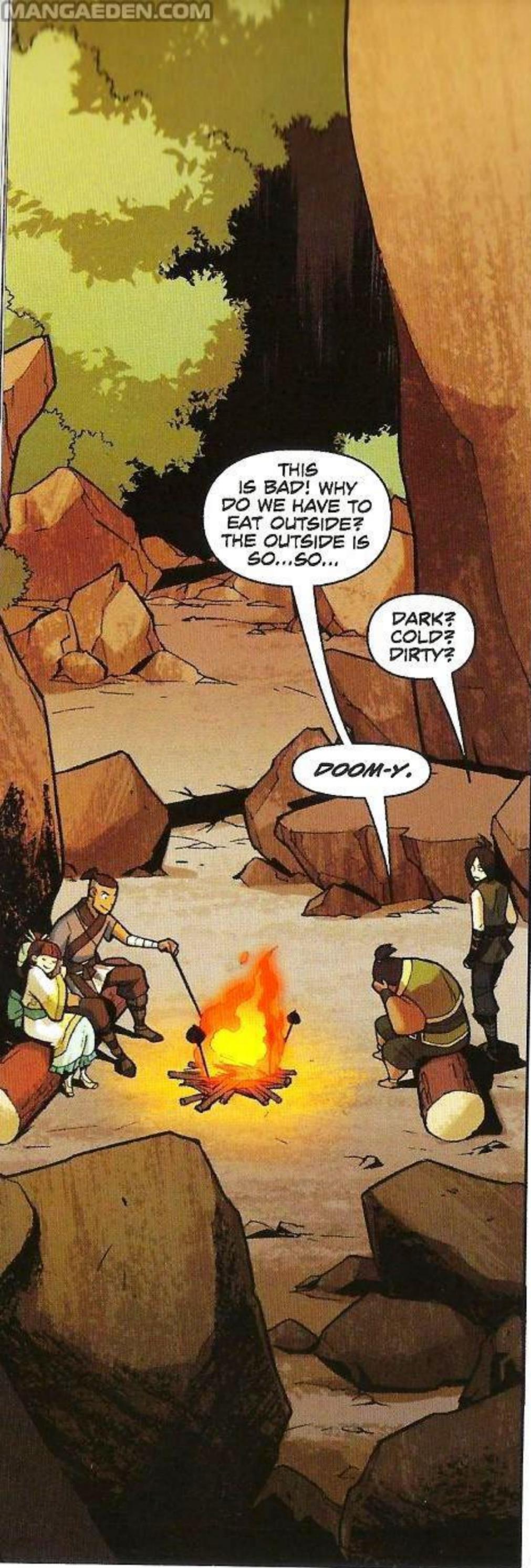


EARTH KING KUEI,
I'M ON YOUR SIDE!
THE PEOPLE OF THE FIRE
NATION DON'T BELONG IN
YOUR KINGDOM, SO THE
HARMONY RESTORATION
MOVEMENT HAS TO
CONTINUE! WITH A LITTLE
CONVINCING, I'M SURE
FIRE LORD ZUKO --



FIRE LORD
ZUKO HAS
LEGITIMATE
CONCERNS ABOUT
THE COLONIALS WHO
STILL LIVE HERE! WE
REALLY NEED TO SIT
DOWN AND TALK
THROUGH OUR
OPTIONS. MAYBE
THERE'S SOME-
THING WE
MISSED.

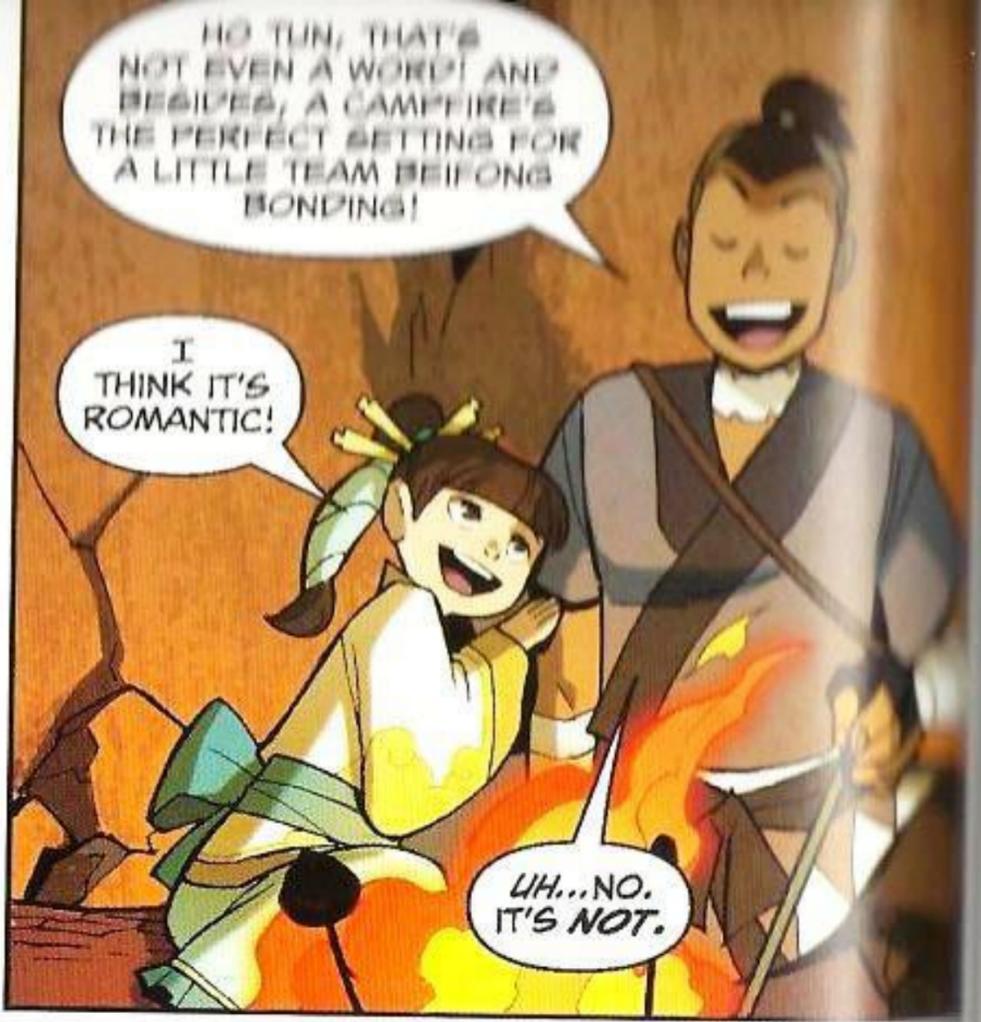




THIS IS BAD! WHY DO WE HAVE TO EAT OUTSIDE? THE OUTSIDE IS SO...SO...

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.



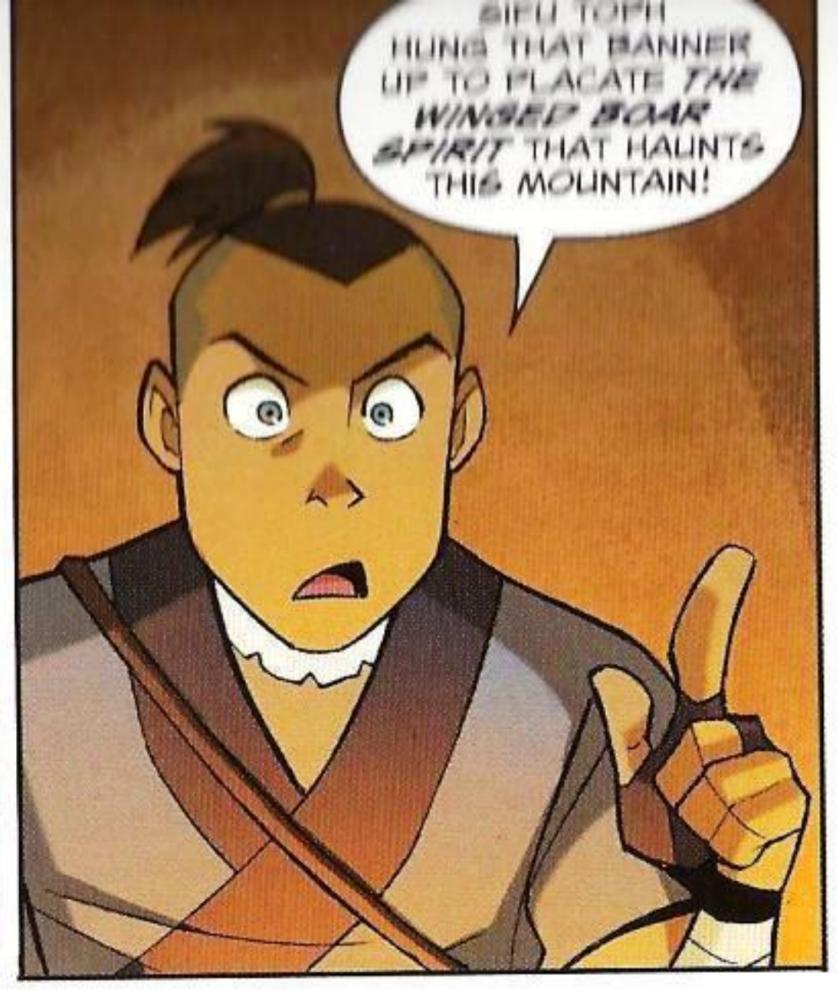
HEY, DO YOU GUYS REMEMBER THAT FLYING-BOAR BANNER THAT USED TO BE IN THE TRAINING ROOM?

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

MY BOYFRIEND'S SO BILLY SOMETIMES! EVERYONE IN THE EARTH KINGDOM KNOWS THAT THE WHITE FLYING BOAR IS THE BEIFONG FAMILY SYMBOL!

NO! I MEAN, YES IT IS, BUT THAT'S NOT WHY THAT BANNER WAS THERE!

SILU TOPI HUNG THAT BANNER UP TO PLACATE THE WINGED BOAR SPIRIT THAT HAUNTS THIS MOUNTAIN!



W-W-WINGED BOAR SPIRIT?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!



YES! THE WINGED BOAR SPIRIT! THE ANCIENT HARBINGER OF DOOM AND EATER OF FINE FOOTWEAR!



DOOM?!

FOOTWEAR?!



ROAR!

AND NOW THAT KUNYO'S BURNED DOWN THE BANNER, WE CAN PROBABLY EXPECT TO --

OH LOOK, SPEAK OF THE WINGED BOAR-SPIRIT! THERE IT IS RIGHT NOW!

AAAH!



IT'S EATING MY SHOES! HOW'D IT FIND MY SHOES?!

**NOM!
NOM! NOM!**



MOMMY, SAVE ME FROM MY DOOM...!

NEVER NOT THE JADE PLATFORM! ANYTHING BUT THE JADE PLATFORM!



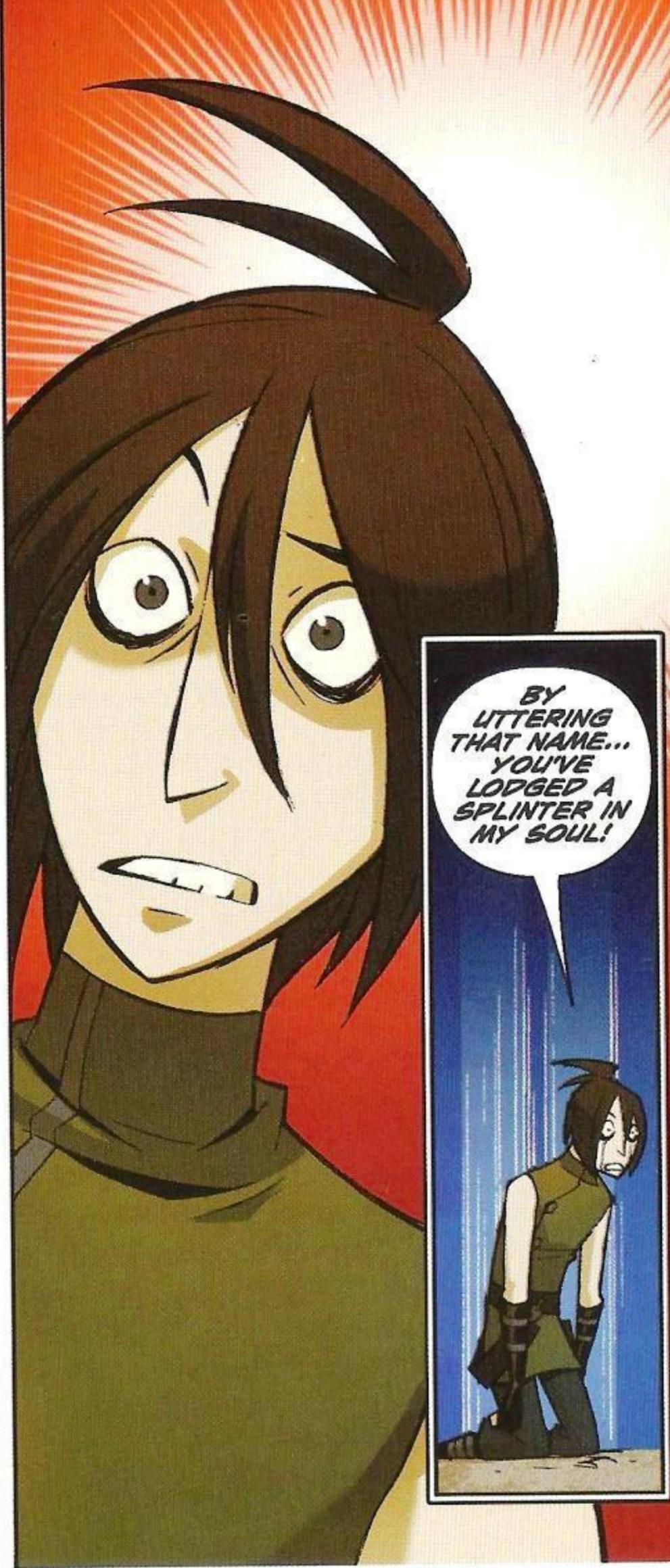
THIS IS RIDICULOUS. I KNOW THAT'S YOU IN THERE, SIFU TOPH.



CREAK

VERY PERCEPTIVE, THE DARK ONE! OR SHOULD I SAY...

MOO-CHEE-GOO-CHEE-LA-POO-CHEE! THE THIRD!

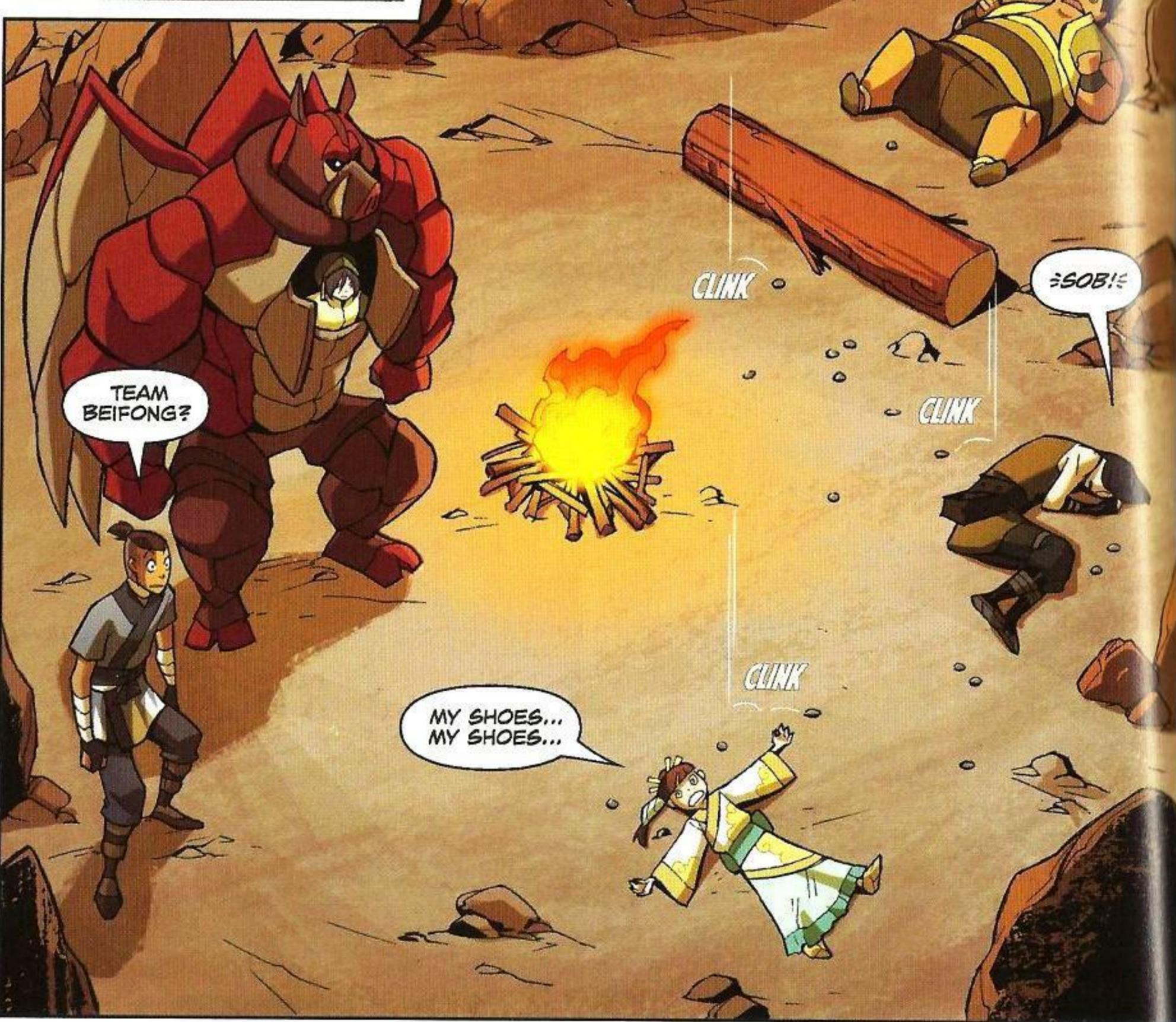


BY UTTERING THAT NAME... YOU'VE LODGED A SPLINTER IN MY SOUL!



THIS IS BEING BETTER THAN I'D HOPED! EVERYBODY FEEL ALL THAT EMOTION COURSEING THROUGH YOUR BODIES? I WANT YOU TO DIRECT IT AT THESE COINS!

LET'S METALBEND, TEAM BEIFONG!

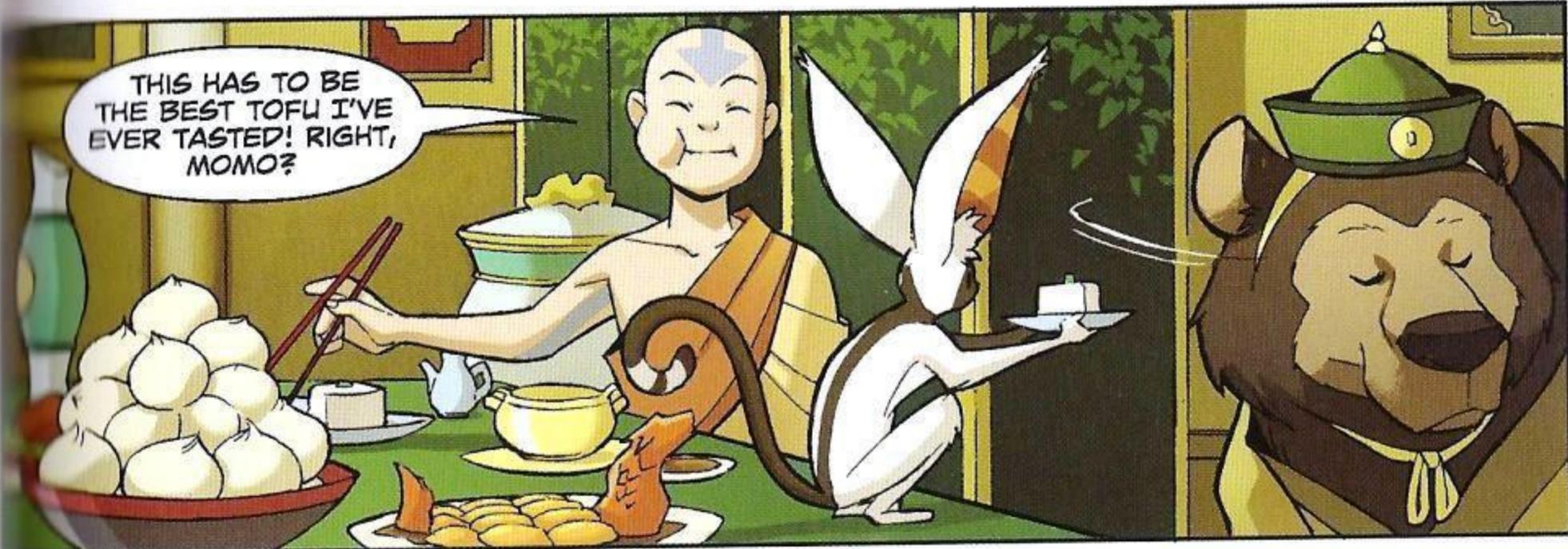


AWW/
SWEETIE, YOU
HAVE TO TRY
THIS!

I'M STILL
WORKING ON
THESE DELICIOUS
PAN-FRIED
NOODLES!



THIS HAS TO BE
THE BEST TOFU I'VE
EVER TASTED! RIGHT,
MOMO?

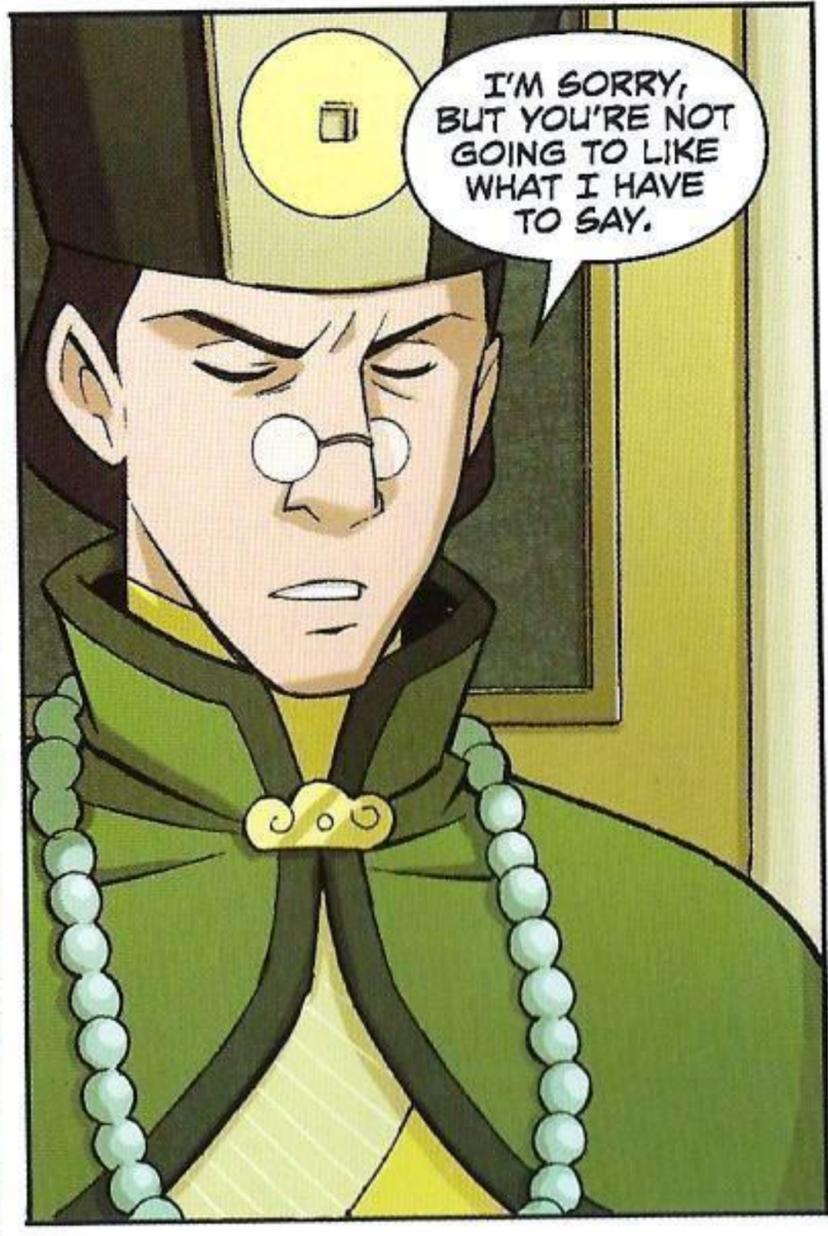


AVATAR AANG AND
KATARA, THANK YOU
FOR GIVING ME TIME TO
PONDER OUR PRESENT
SITUATION.

NO PROBLEM,
YOUR EARTHINESS!
THANK YOU FOR DINNER!
SO WHEN SHOULD WE
SET UP OUR MEETING
WITH FIRE LORD
ZUKO?



I'M SORRY,
BUT YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO LIKE
WHAT I HAVE
TO SAY.





ALL MY LIFE, I'VE BEEN WEAK--SO WEAK THAT MY MOST TRUSTED ADVISOR WAS ABLE TO HIDE A HUNDRED YEARS' WAR BEHIND A CURTAIN OF LIES!



WELL, I'M TIRED OF BEING WEAK! IT'S TIME FOR ME TO BE A MAN!

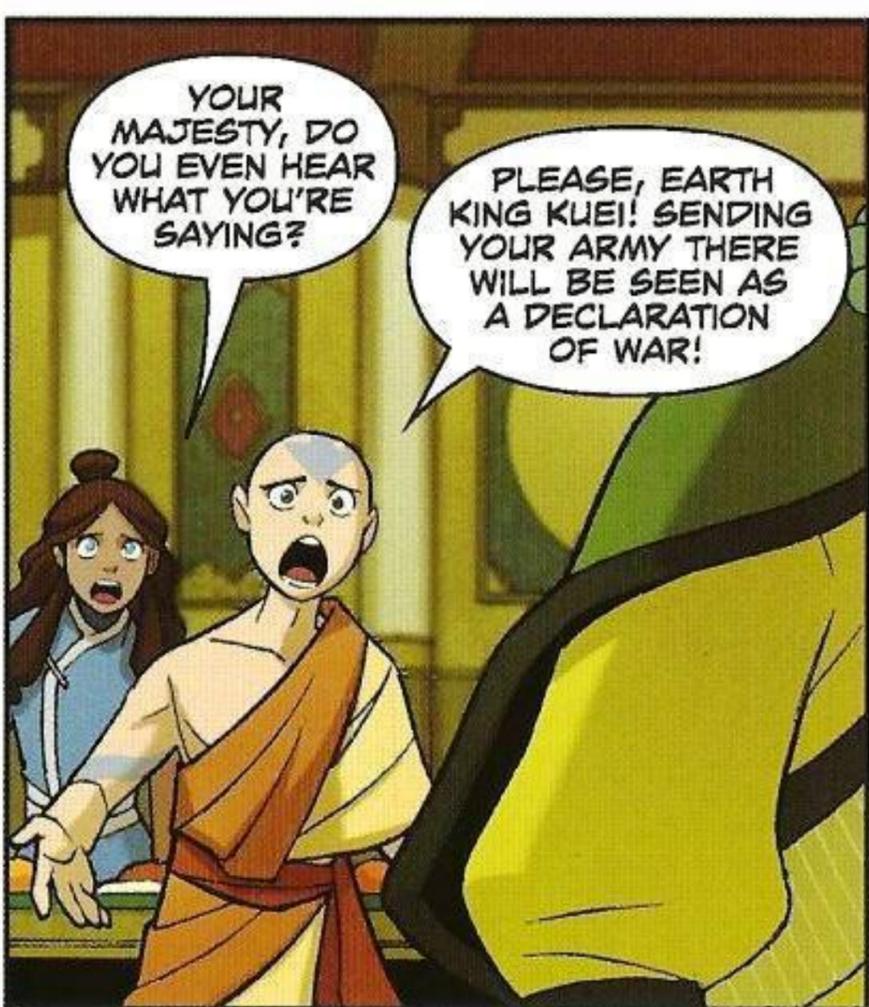
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?



FIRE LORD ZUKO PROMISED HE WOULD SEE THE HARMONY RESTORATION MOVEMENT THROUGH TO THE VERY END. NOW HE'S TURNED HIS PROMISE INTO A LIE! WHY SHOULD I MEET WITH HIM--SO HE CAN TELL ME MORE LIES?

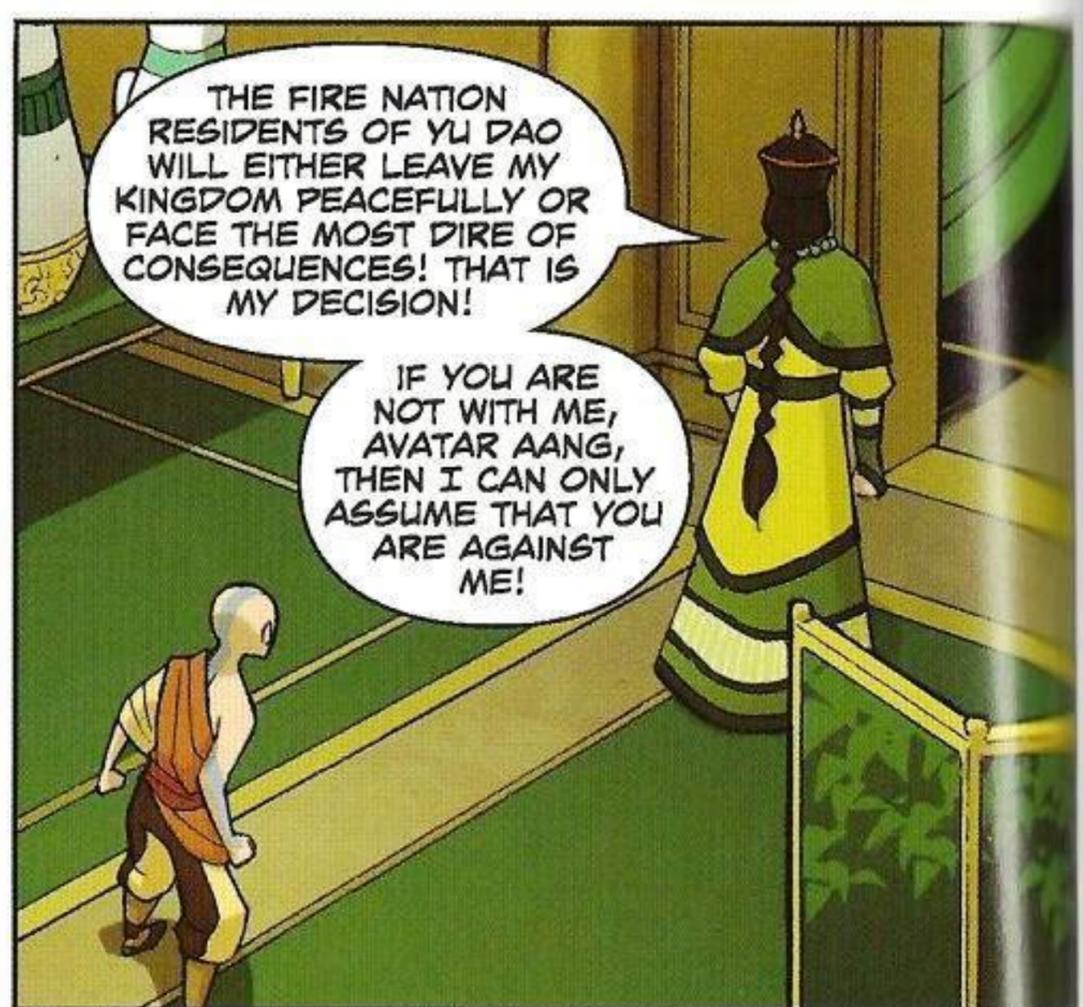
I WILL NOT STAND FOR ANY MORE LIES!

I WILL ORDER GENERAL HOW TO LEAD MY TROOPS TO YU DAO AND ENFORCE HARMONY!



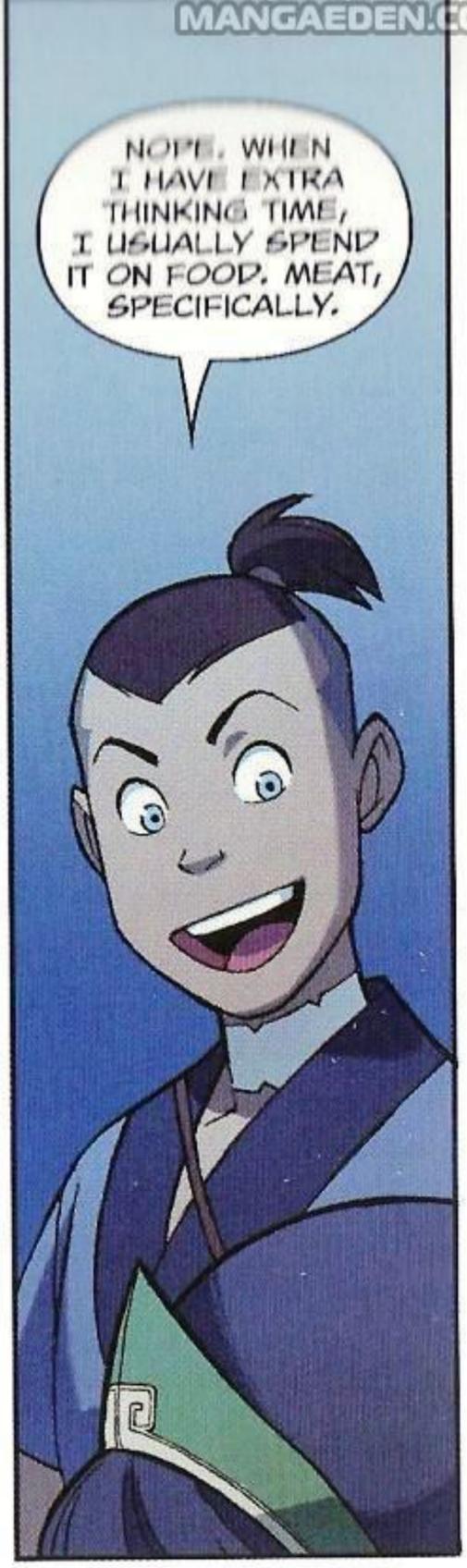
YOUR MAJESTY, DO YOU EVEN HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

PLEASE, EARTH KING KUEI! SENDING YOUR ARMY THERE WILL BE SEEN AS A DECLARATION OF WAR!



THE FIRE NATION RESIDENTS OF YU DAO WILL EITHER LEAVE MY KINGDOM PEACEFULLY OR FACE THE MOST DIRE OF CONSEQUENCES! THAT IS MY DECISION!

IF YOU ARE NOT WITH ME, AVATAR AANG, THEN I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT YOU ARE AGAINST ME!





WHEN I BROUGHT HO TUN, PENGA, AND THE DARK ONE TO THIS SCHOOL, I EXPECTED THEM TO BECOME METALBENDERS!

I WAS GONNA MAKE THEM TOUGH ENOUGH TO MOVE THE MOST STUBBORN PART OF THE MOST STUBBORN ELEMENT!



I EXPECTED THEM TO BE SOMETHING THEY'RE *NOT*.



HOW IS WHAT I'M DOING TO *THEM* DIFFERENT FROM WHAT MY PARENTS DID TO *ME*? MAYBE THE BEIFONG METALBENDING ACADEMY IS JUST A WAY FOR ME TO PASS ALL THAT PRESSURE AND PAIN TO SOMEONE ELSE.

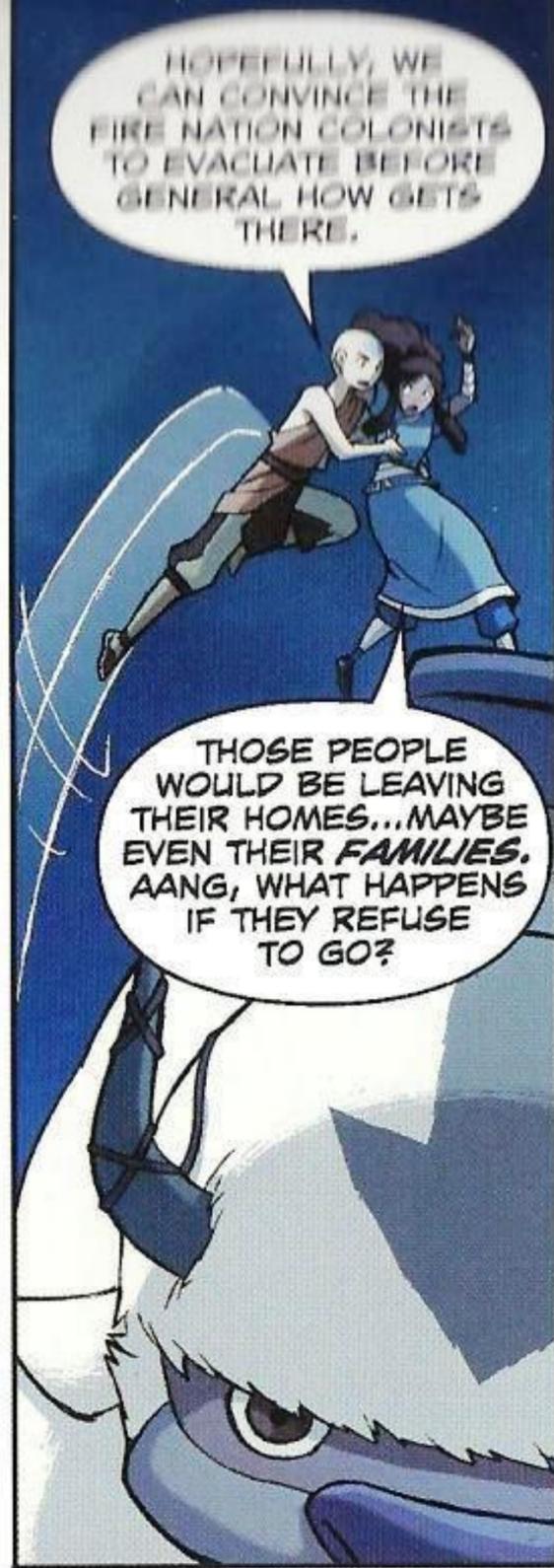
NO, TOPH. THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS PLACE IS AT ALL...



WHEN KLUNYO COMES TOMORROW, I'M GONNA GO UP TO HIM AND *SIT DOWN*. HE CAN HAVE HIS SCHOOL BACK.



WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO YU DAO -- THE SOONER THE BETTER!



HOPEFULLY, WE CAN CONVINCE THE FIRE NATION COLONISTS TO EVACUATE BEFORE GENERAL HOW GETS THERE.

THOSE PEOPLE WOULD BE LEAVING THEIR HOMES...MAYBE EVEN THEIR *FAMILIES*. AANG, WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY REFUSE TO GO?



THE EARTH KING IS RIGHT, YOU KNOW. NOT ABOUT SENDING HIS ARMY, BUT ABOUT ZUKO BREAKING HIS PROMISE.

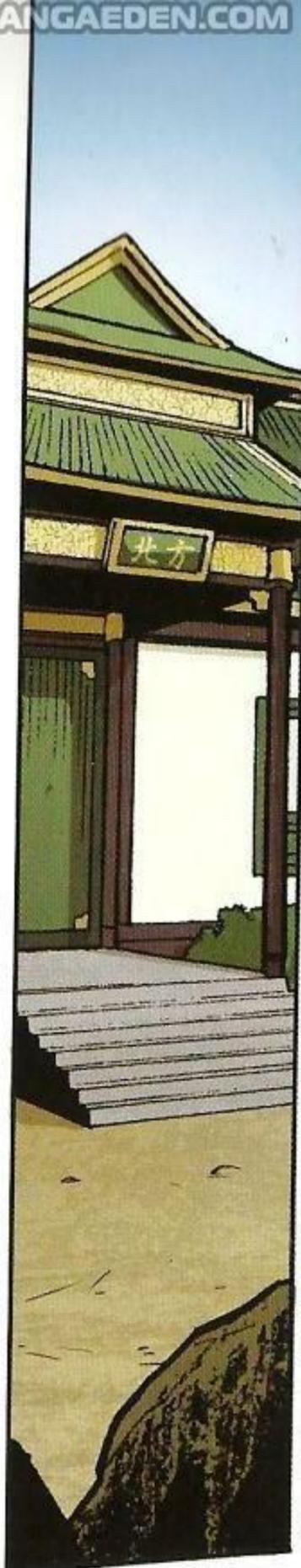
PROMISES SHOULDN'T BE BROKEN. NOT EVER.



SORRY, BUDDY. WE'VE GOT A LONG NIGHT OF FLYING AHEAD OF US. YIP, YIP!



FLY, MESSENGER BIRD, FLY! TELL OUR SISTERS IN THE YU DAO CHAPTER THAT THE AVATAR NEEDS THEIR HELP!



GREETINGS, ENEMIES OF KUNYO! PREPARE TO BE ROASTED IN THE FLAMES OF YOUR OWN DEFEAT!



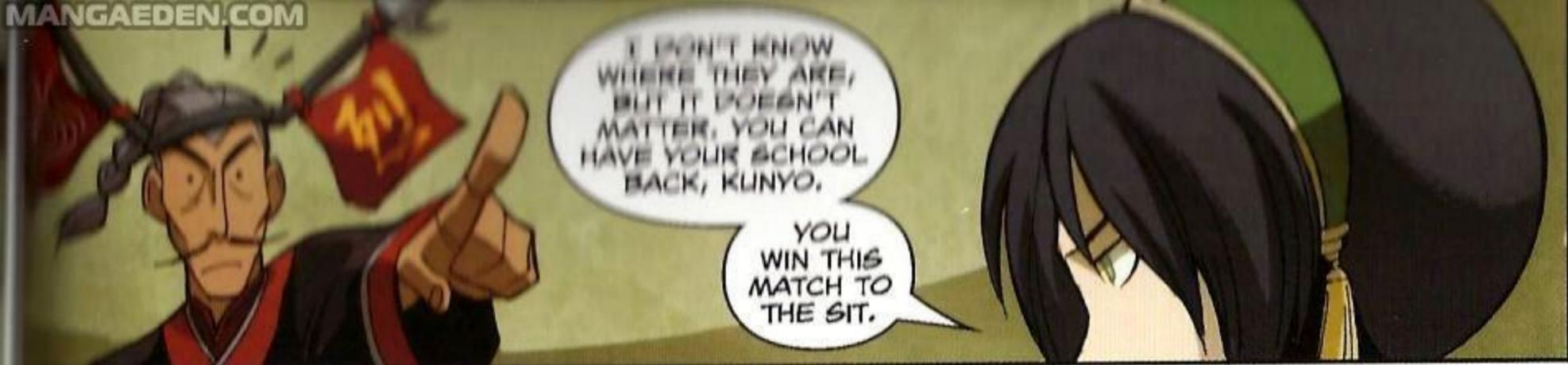
NICE HEADGEAR.

I FIND IT A CONVENIENT WAY TO CARRY FLASS, I CAN TAKE IT OFF ANY TIME I WANT.



WHERE ARE YOUR STUDENTS, YOUNG LADY?

IT'S TIME TO BEGIN OUR DEADLY MATCH TO THE...UH, SIT!

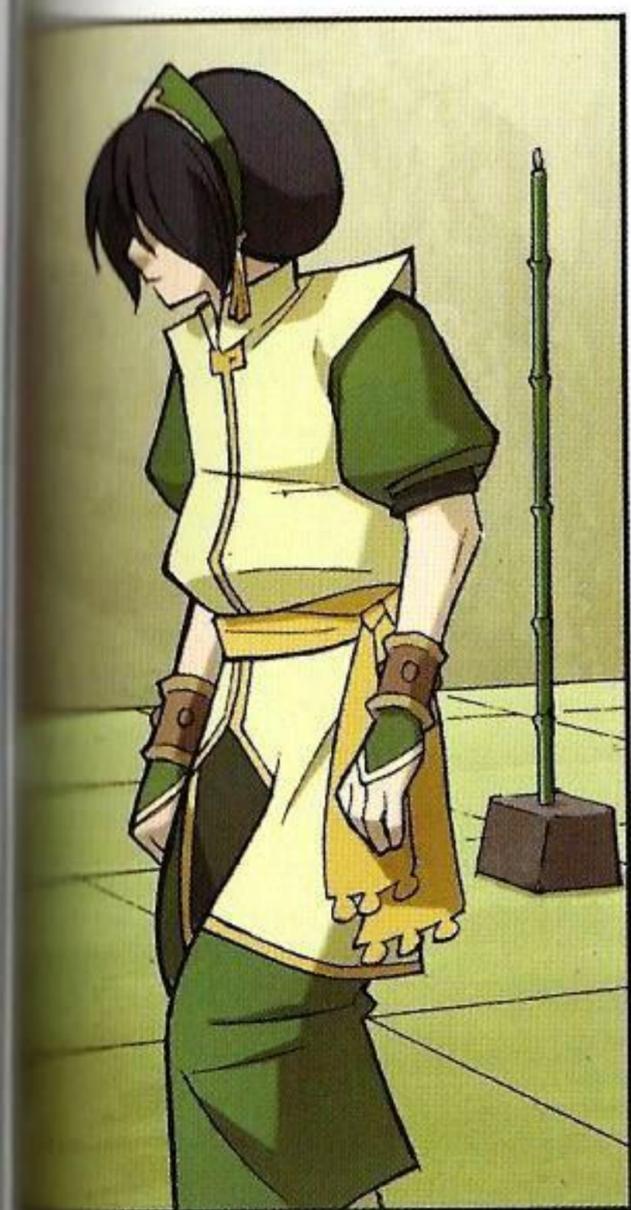


I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER. YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SCHOOL BACK, KUNYO.

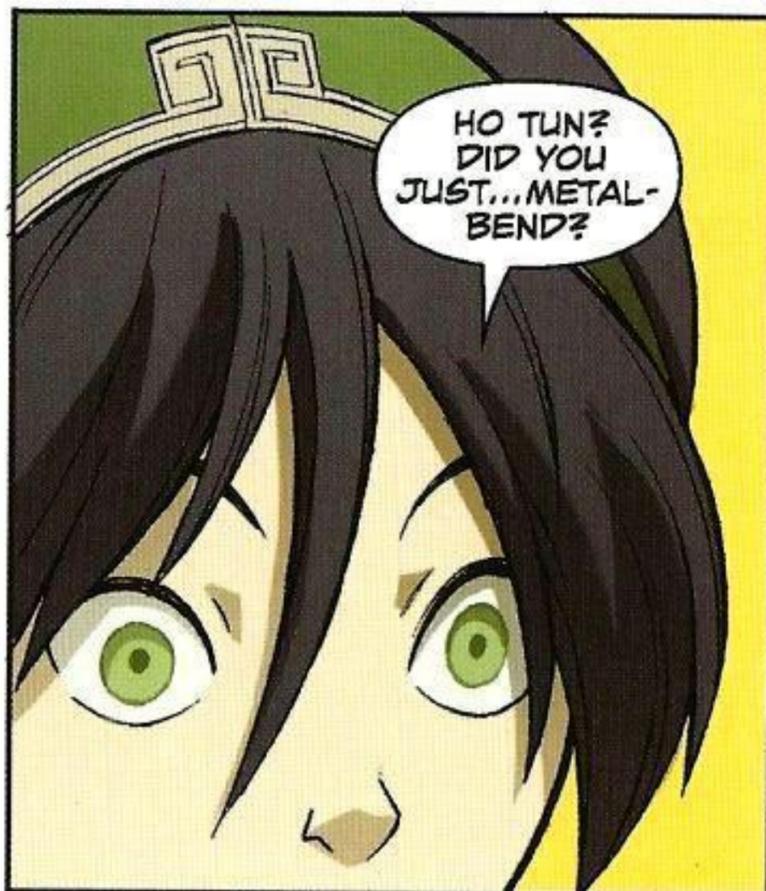
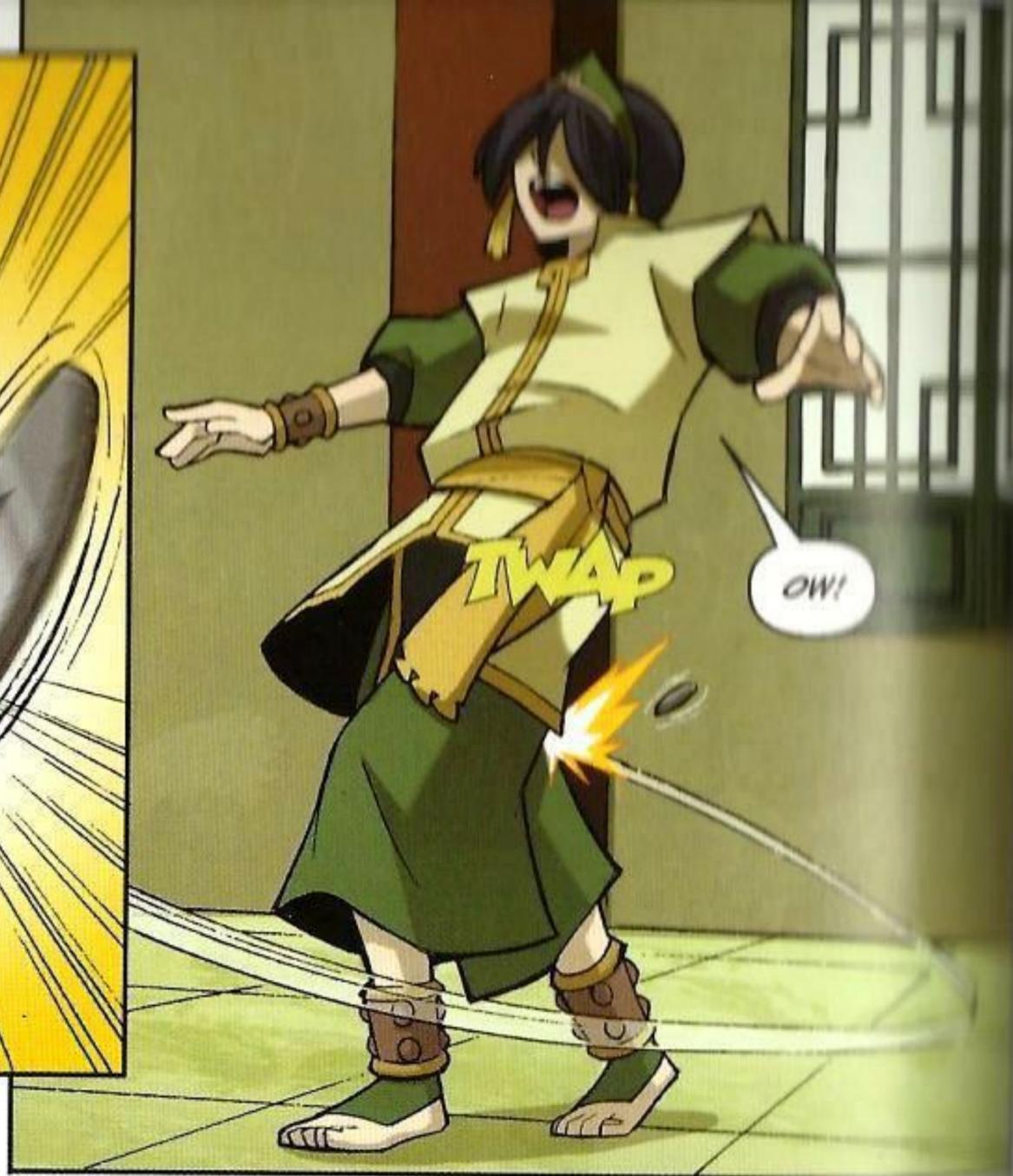
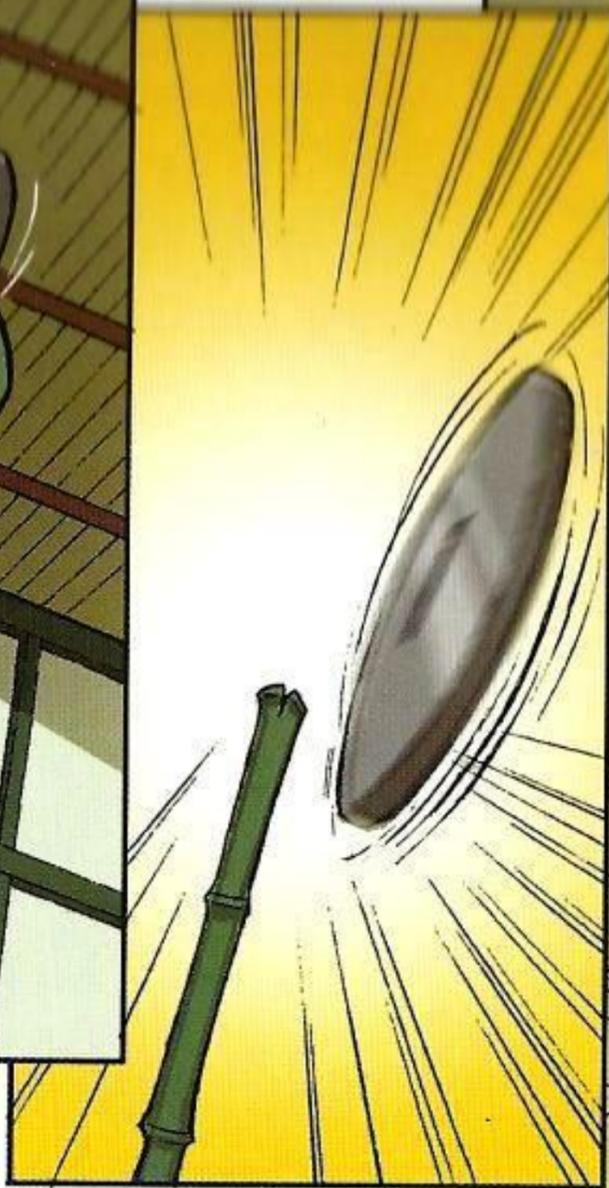
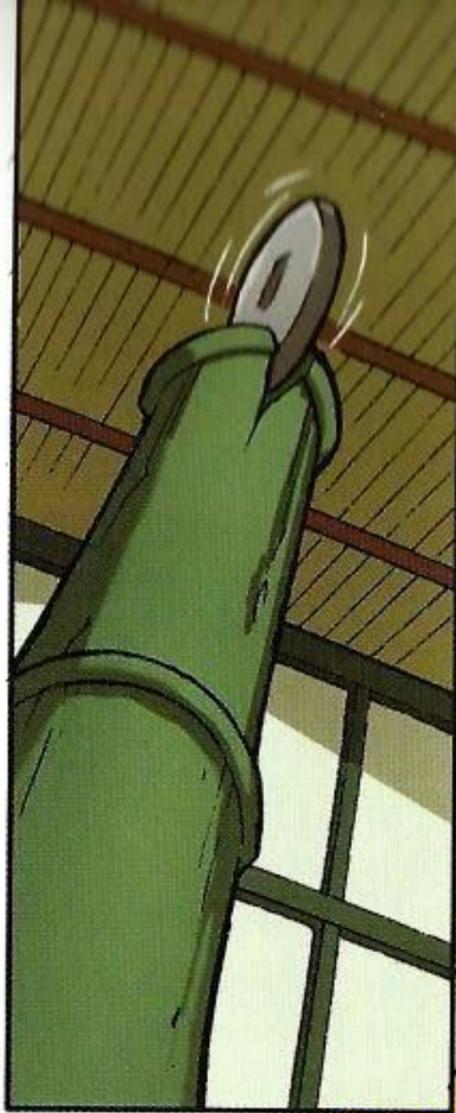
YOU WIN THIS MATCH TO THE SIT.



HA HA! I KNEW IT!



SIFU TOPH! DON'T SIT DOWN!





NORMALLY I'D PUMMEL YOU FOR HITTING ME IN THE BUTT, BUT IN THIS CASE, GOOD JOB!

PLEASE DON'T SIT DOWN, SIFU TOPH! LAST NIGHT, THE THREE OF US HEARD --



IS THIS SOME KIND OF DIRT-PEOPLE TRICK?!

DISCIPLES OF KUNYO, ATTACK!



AAAH!

BOOM!

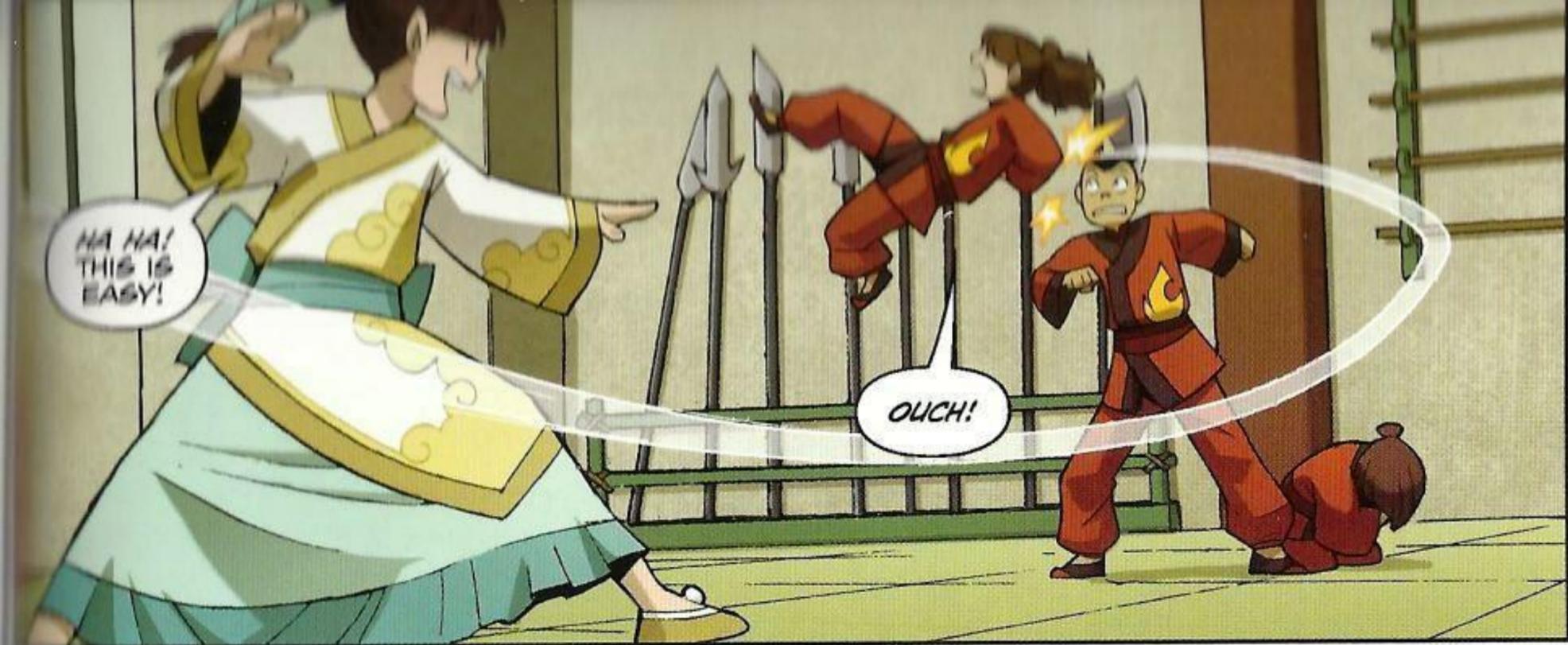
POOF!



COME ON, TEAM BEIFONG!
IT'S NO TIME TO HIDE!
LET'S METALBEND!



OW!





DON'T YOU DARE STOP, DISCIPLES OF KUNYO!
NEVER STOP FIRE-BENDING! NEVER!



CLANG

CLANG

CLANG

RATTLE

RATTLE

RATTLE

GA-A-A-A-AH...



YEEOW!

\$\$\$



WHUMP



YOU GUYS OUGHT TO BE REALLY PROUD OF YOURSELVES, PENG! I'M IMPRESSED!

KICK ROCKS, LOSER! I'M OVER YOU! HO TUN'S THE ONE FOR ME NOW!

W-WHA--?!

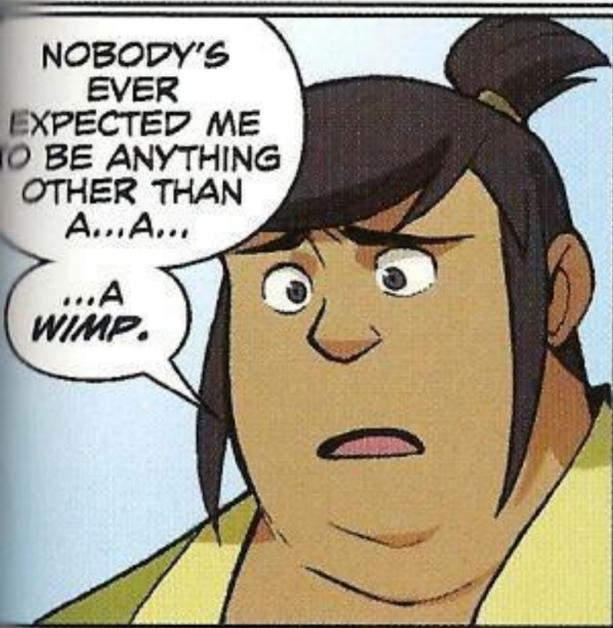


SIFU TOPH. LAST NIGHT, THE THREE OF US WERE PACKED UP AND READY TO LEAVE. THEN WE OVERHEARD WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT US.

I DON'T GET IT. I DIDN'T SAY A SINGLE NICE THING ABOUT ANY OF YOU.



YOU TOLD MY EX THAT YOU EXPECTED US TO BECOME METALBENDERS.

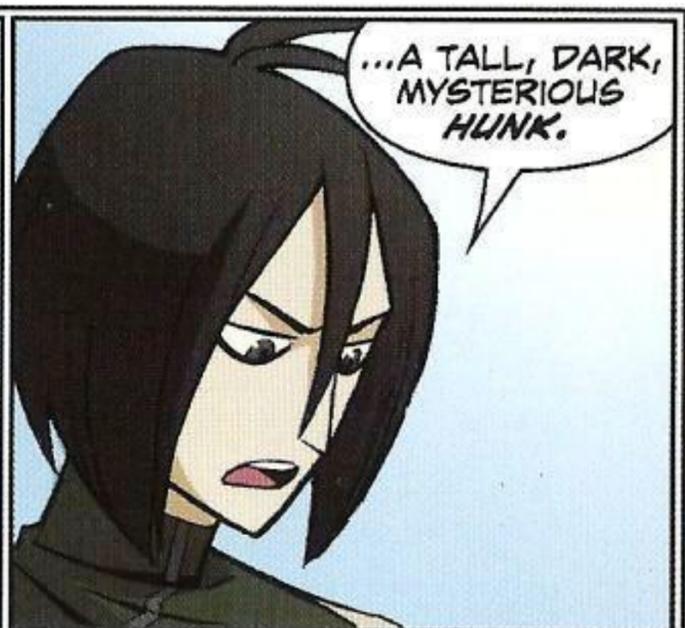


NOBODY'S EVER EXPECTED ME TO BE ANYTHING OTHER THAN A...A...

...A WIMP.



...A SPOILED BRAT.



...A TALL, DARK, MYSTERIOUS HUNK.



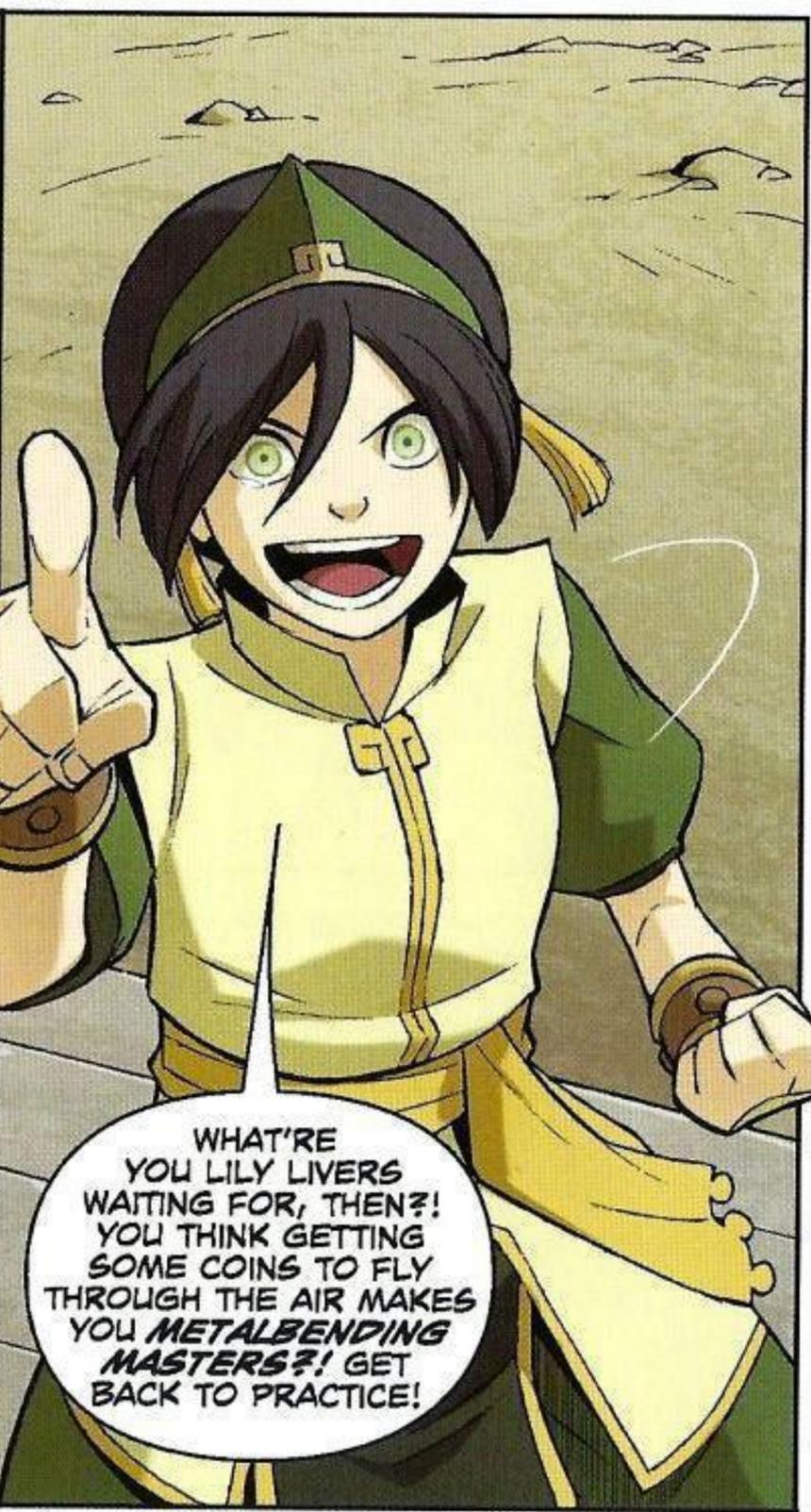
REALLY?



WHY CAN'T PEOPLE SEE I'M MORE THAN JUST A PRETTY FACE? I HAVE THE SOUL OF A POET!



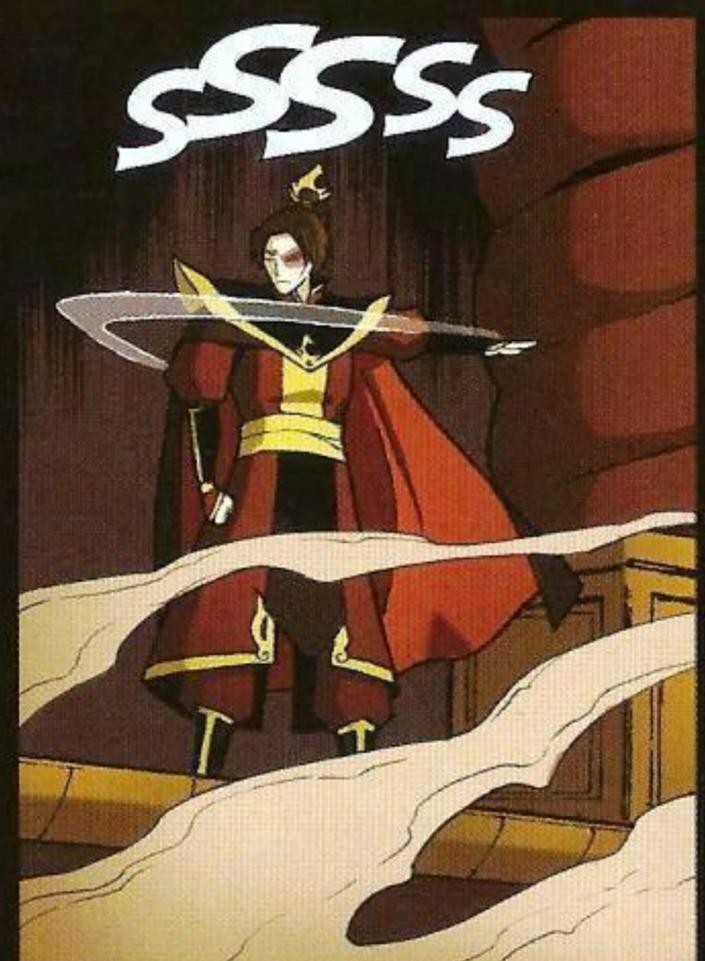
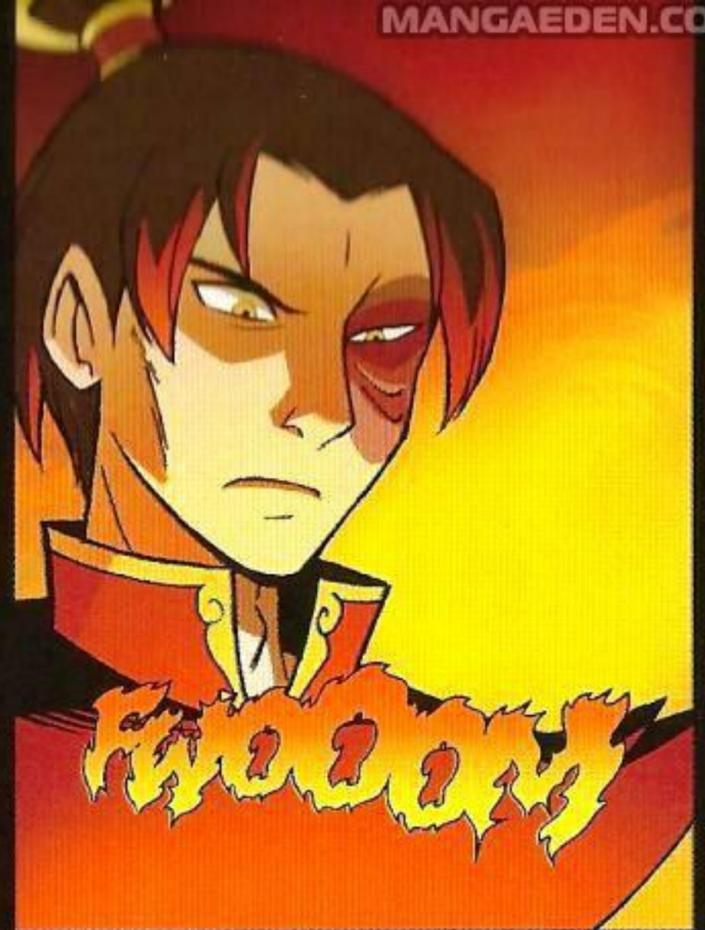
SIFU TOPH, YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON TO BELIEVE THAT WE CAN BECOME *MORE* THAN WHAT WE ARE.



WHAT'RE YOU LILY LIVERS WAITING FOR, THEN?! YOU THINK GETTING SOME COINS TO FLY THROUGH THE AIR MAKES YOU *METALBENDING MASTERS*?! GET BACK TO PRACTICE!



YES, SIFU TOPH!



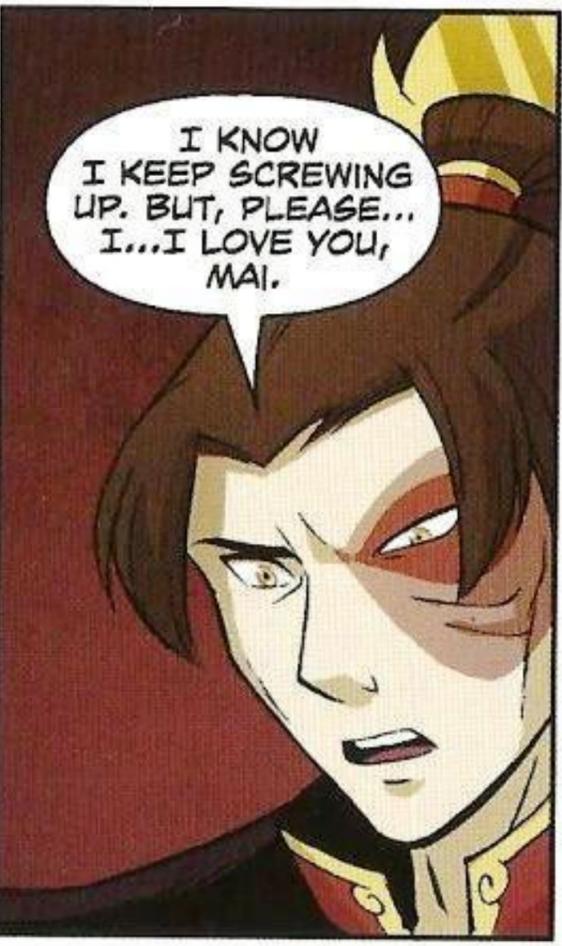


I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN SECRETLY MEETING WITH OZAI.

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.

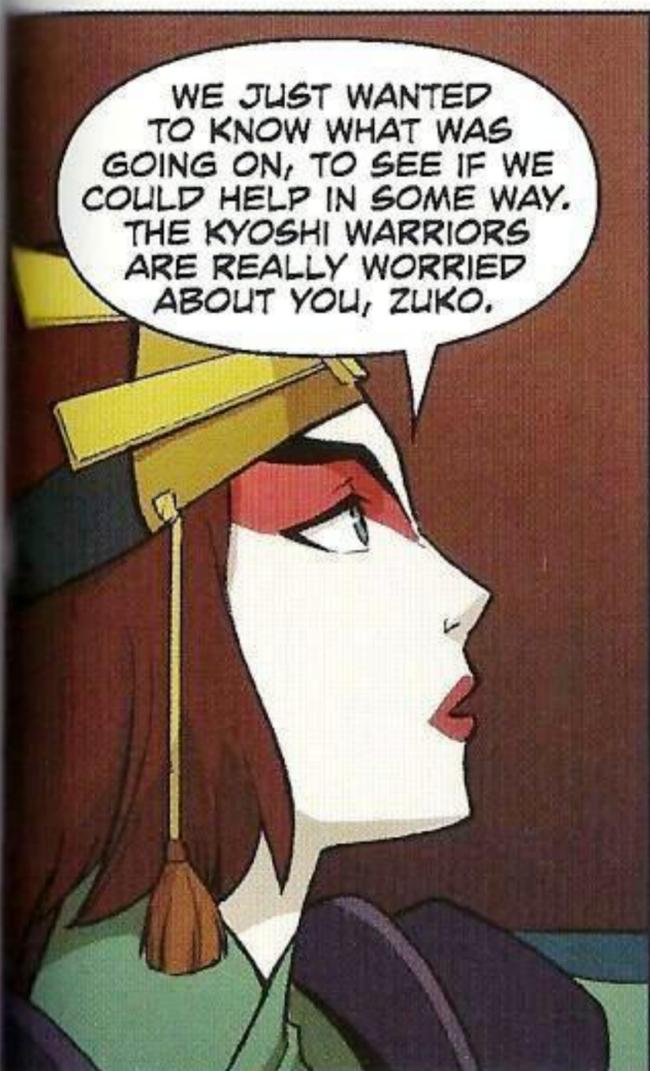
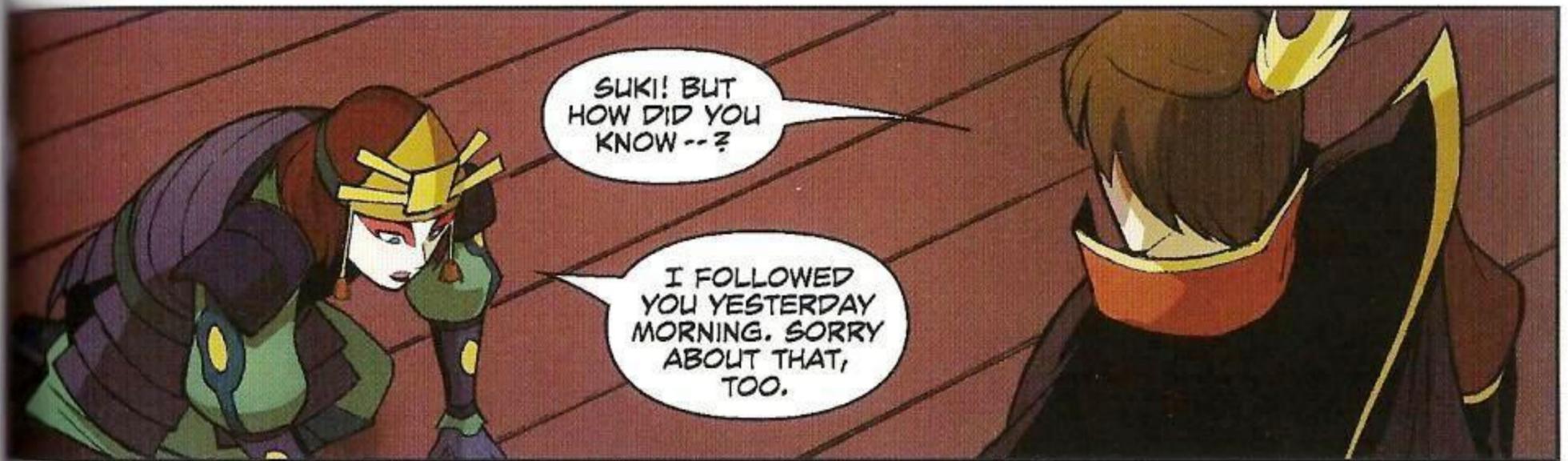
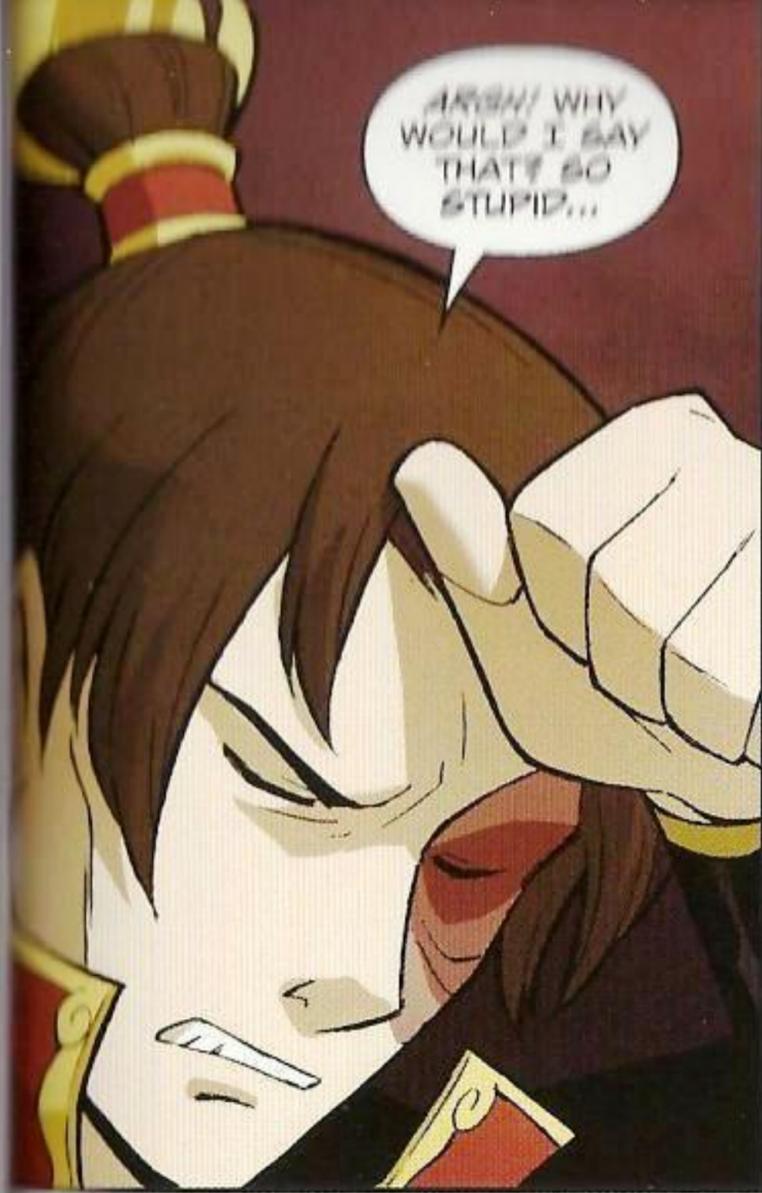
WHAT ARE YOU TELLING ME?

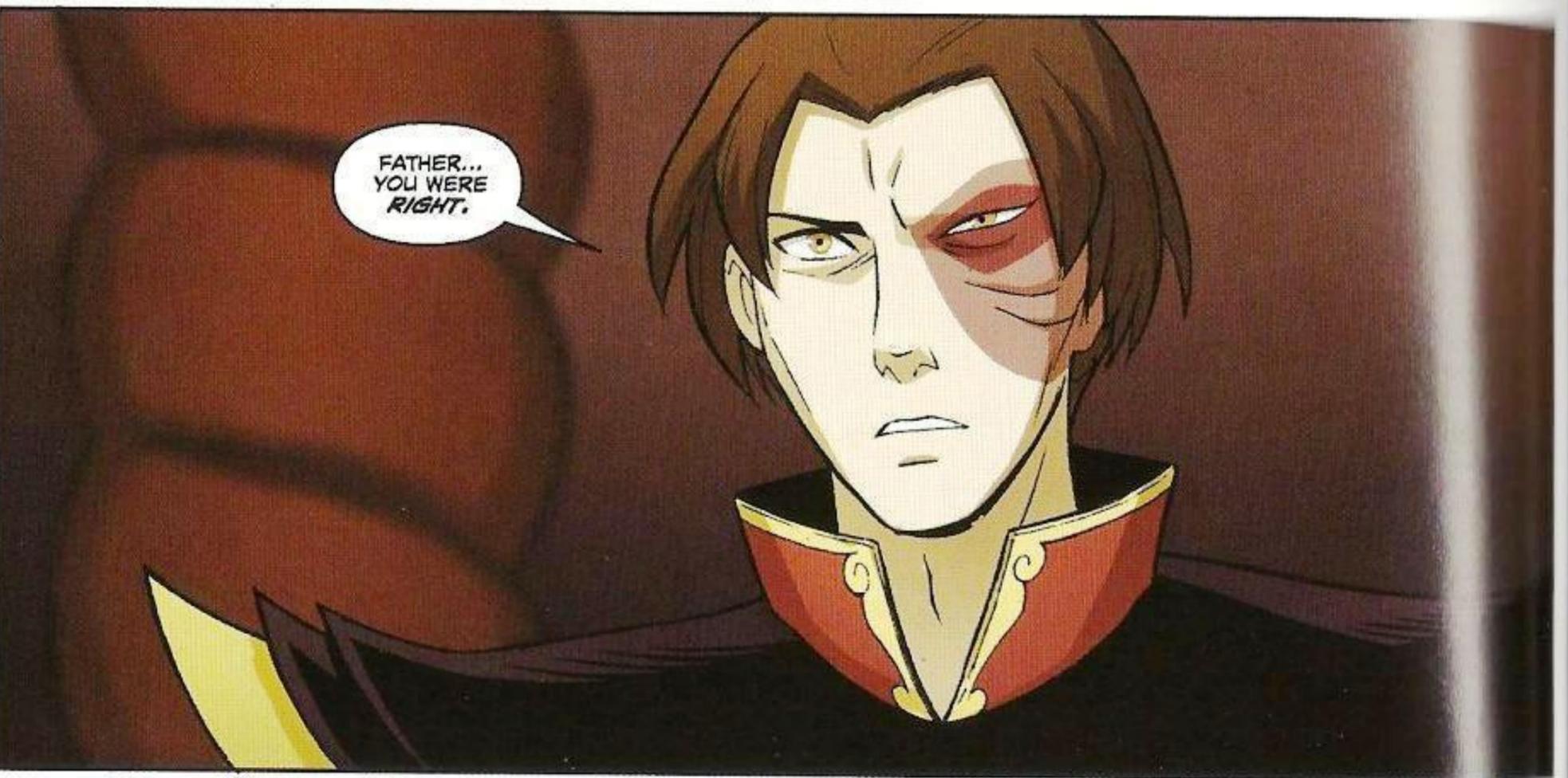


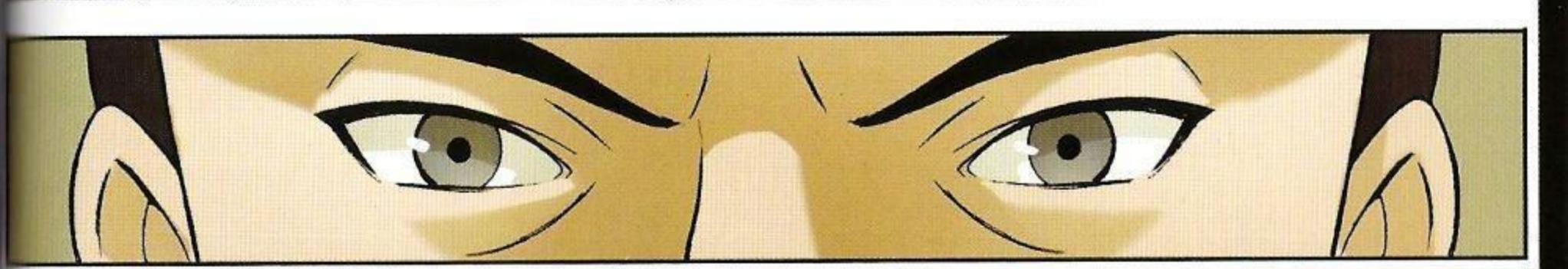
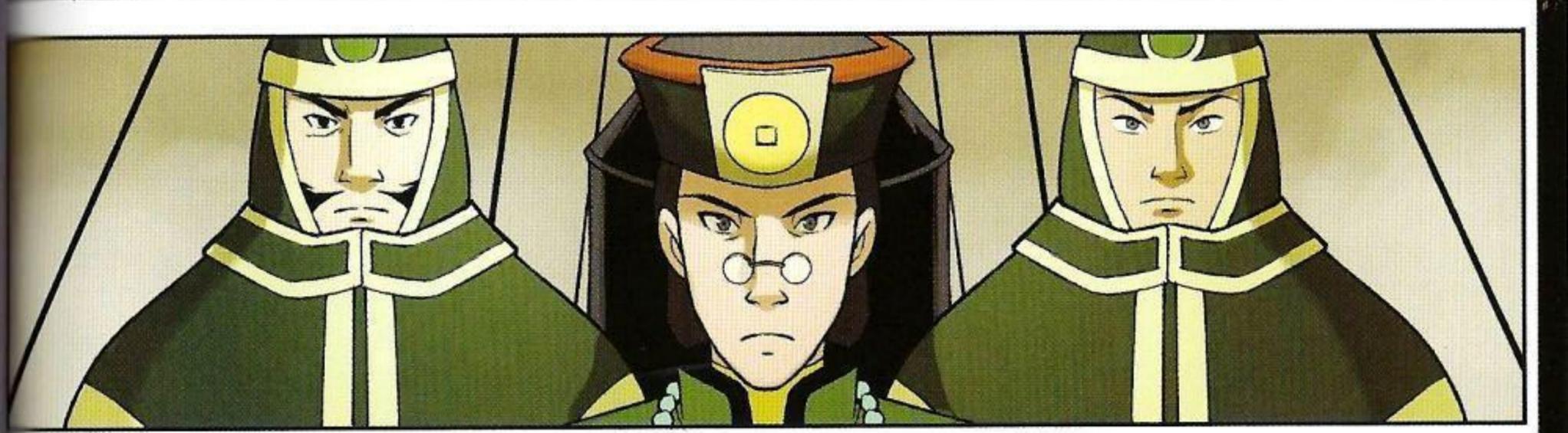
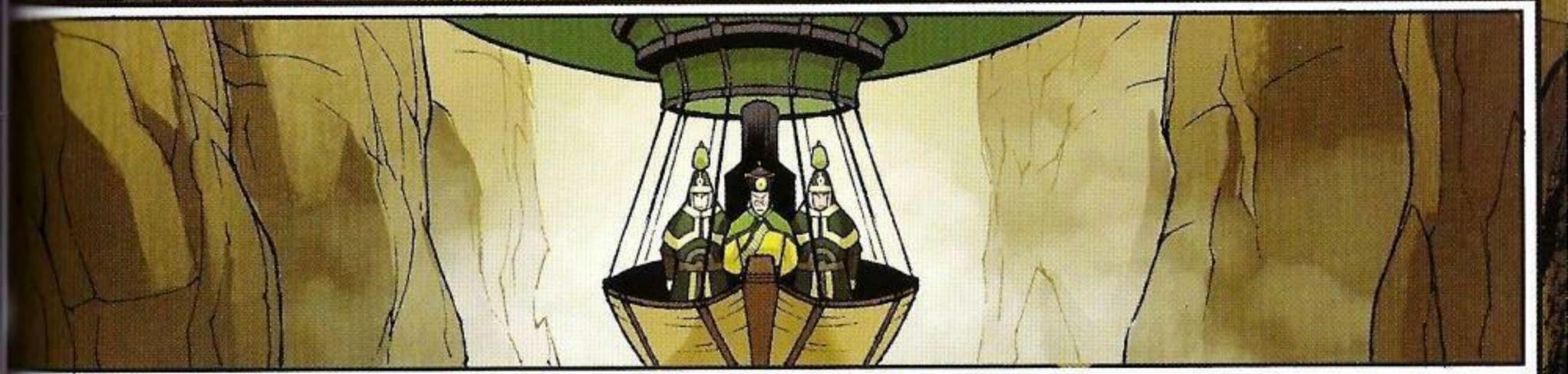
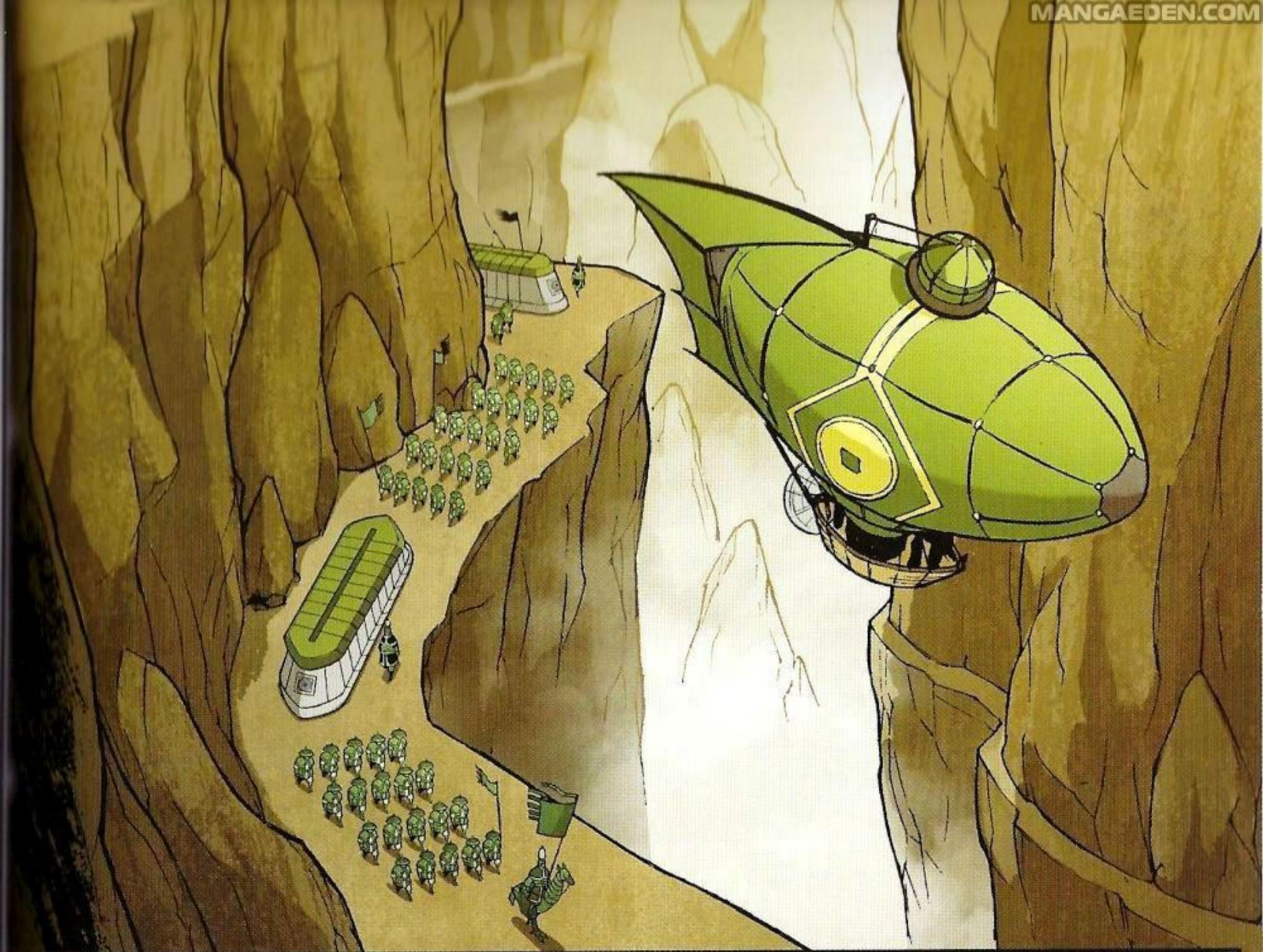
GOODBYE, FIRE LORD.

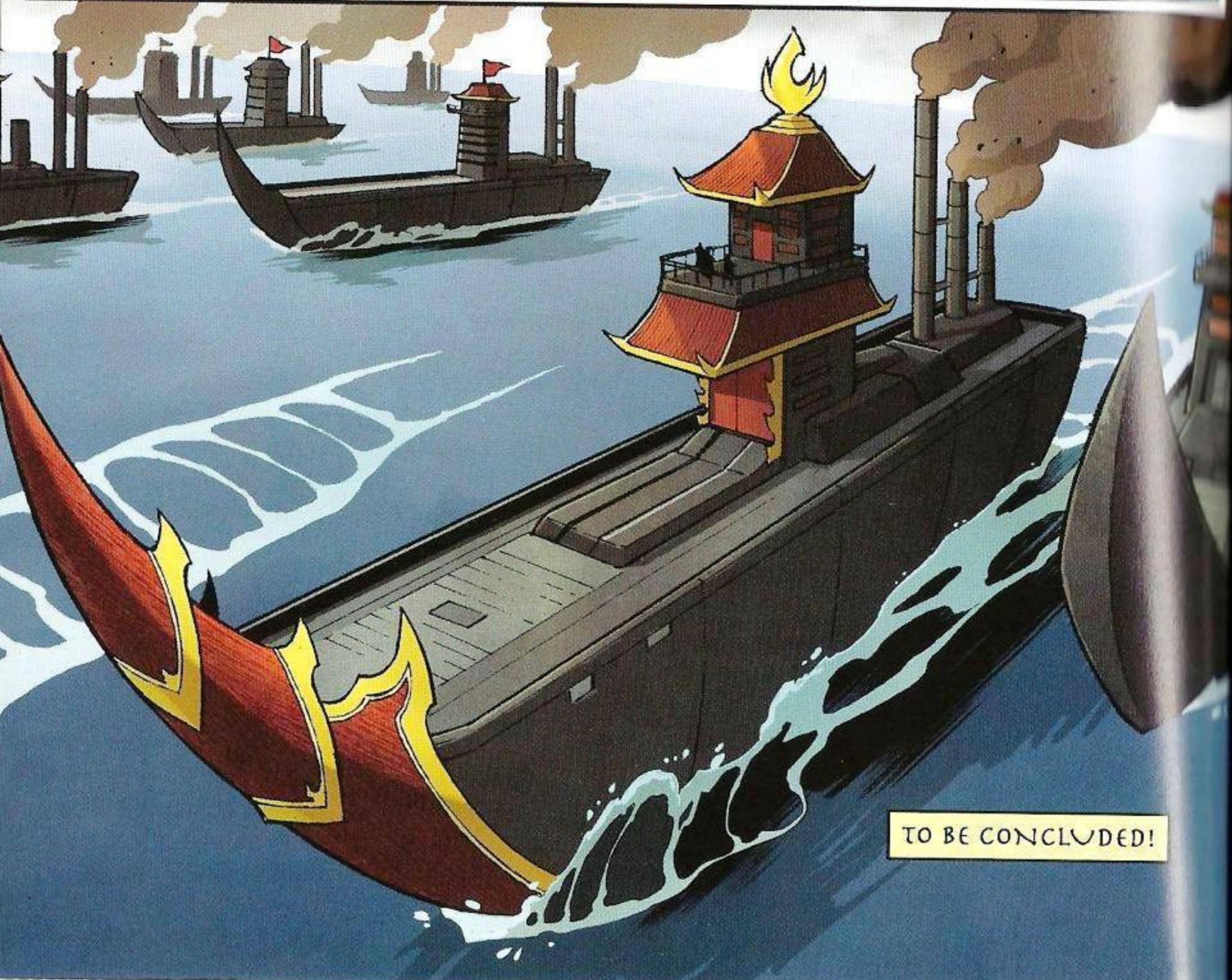


MAI! COME BACK! I--I--
I ORDER YOU TO COME BACK!

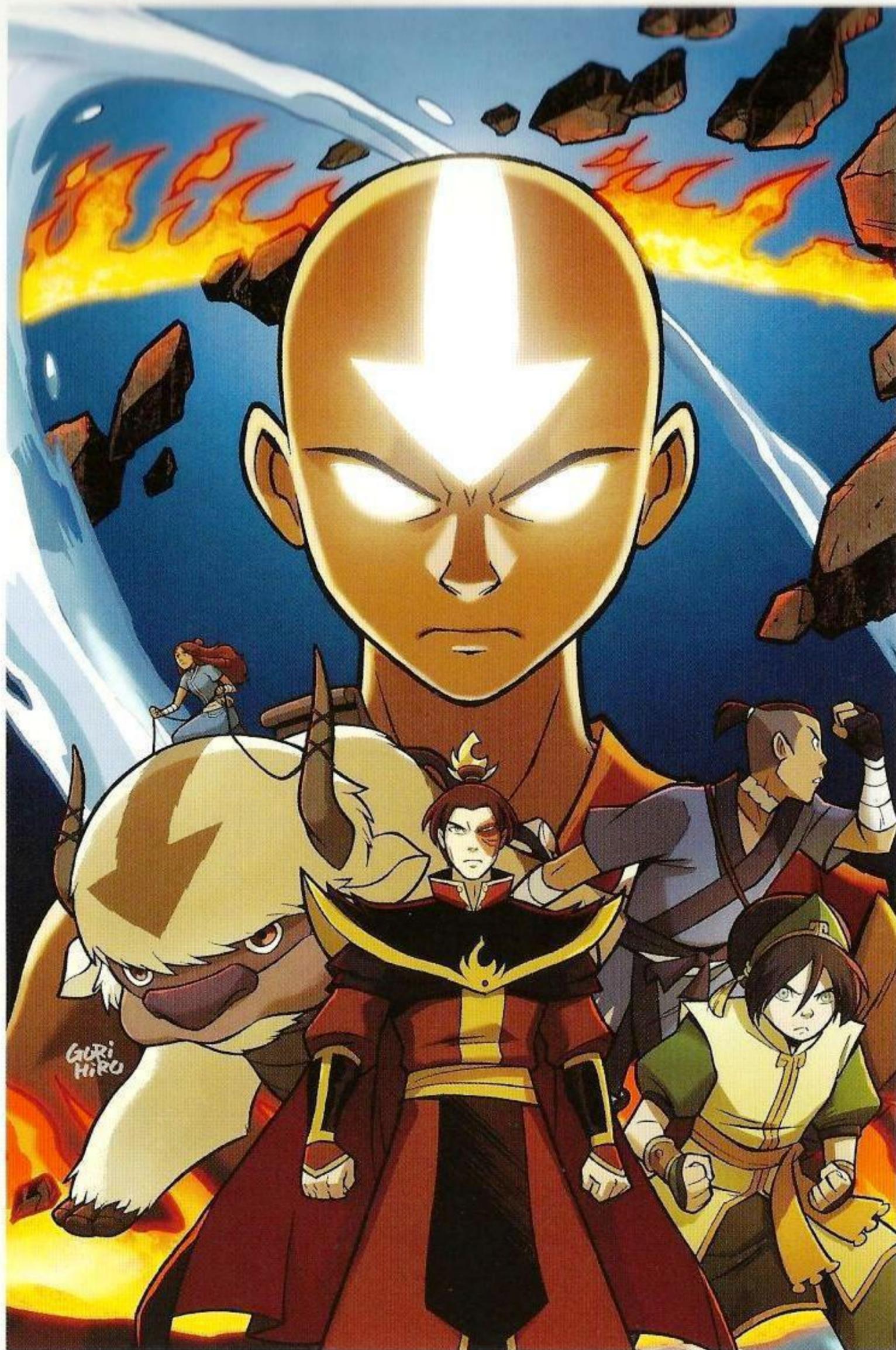








TO BE CONCLUDED!



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KORRA'S PLACE