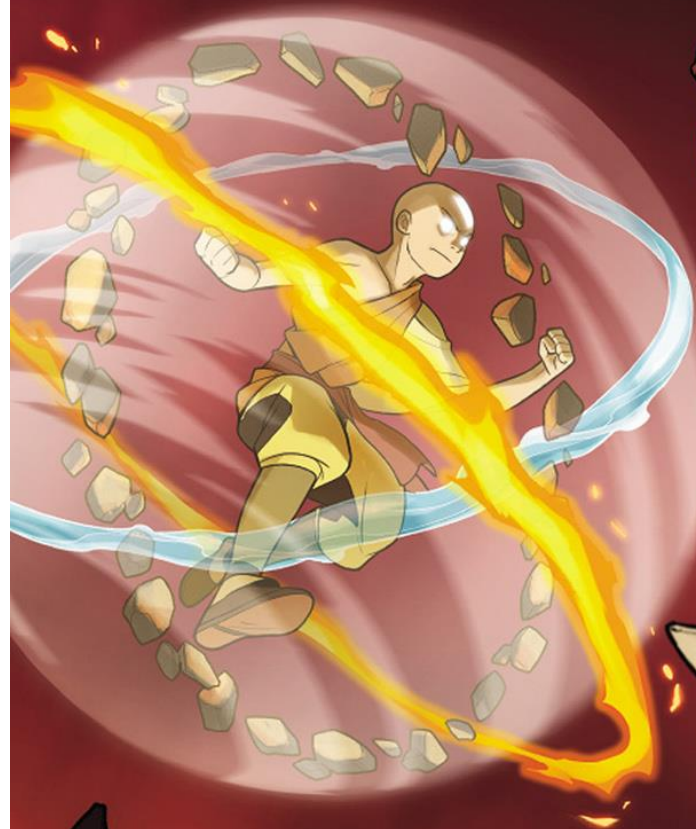


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# AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™



THE RIFT • PART THREE

GURU  
GIRI

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AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

Created by

Bryan Konietzko

Michael Dante DiMartino





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# AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

THE RIFT • PART THREE

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Nickelodeon Avatar: The Last Airbender™—The Rift Part 3

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...CONSIDERING  
SHE'S LITERALLY  
CARRYING THE  
WEIGHT OF OUR  
WORLD.



CREEEAK...

CREEEAK...

SATORU,  
BRING THIS  
TO HER.

ISN'T  
THIS THE  
LAST OF  
YOUR  
WATER?

YEAH, BUT  
IF TOPH FAILS,  
ME RUNNING OUT  
OF WATER WON'T  
MATTER ALL  
THAT MUCH.



HEY.

...







DON'T SPEAK. JUST DRINK.

GULP GULP



I'M SORRY... THAT'S THE LAST OF IT. I CAN CHECK IF ANY OF THE OTHERS HAVE --

SATORU...

STAY WITH ME... TALK TO ME.



REALLY? WON'T THAT MAKE IT HARDER FOR YOU TO CONCENTRATE?

ON WHAT... THIS? PSH... THIS IS NOTHING...

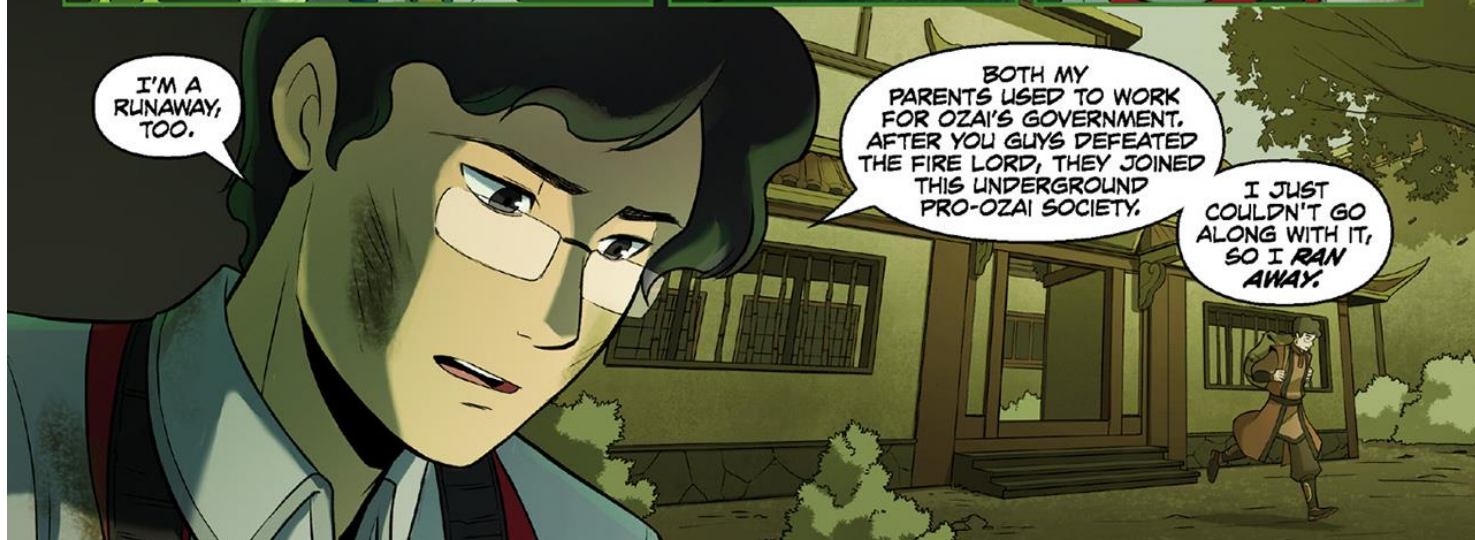
INGEE

BARELY... BREAKING... A SWEAT.



...  
YOU... YOU RAN AWAY FROM HOME, DIDN'T YOU?

POU



I'M A RUNAWAY, TOO.

BOTH MY PARENTS USED TO WORK FOR OZAI'S GOVERNMENT. AFTER YOU GUYS DEFEATED THE FIRE LORD, THEY JOINED THIS UNDERGROUND PRO-OZAI SOCIETY.

I JUST COULDN'T GO ALONG WITH IT, SO I RAN AWAY.



"I SPENT MONTHS ON THE STREETS OF BA SING SE'S LOWER RING, BEGGING FOR FOOD."



"WHEN MY UNCLE HEARD WHAT'D HAPPENED, HE CAME TO FIND ME. HE FED ME, HOUSED ME, GAVE ME A JOB."

"I ADMIRER HIM SO MUCH. UNLIKE MY PARENTS, HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT *POLITICS* AT ALL."



BUT NOW I REALIZE THAT'S BECAUSE HE ONLY CARES ABOUT *MONEY*.

I GUESS I WAS TOO SCARED OF GETTING THROWN BACK OUT ON THE STREETS TO SEE IT EARLIER.



YOU'RE RIGHT, TOPH. I'M A *SNIVELING FLUNKY*.

NHH... NO... YOU'RE NOT.



I WISH I WERE BRAVE LIKE YOU. YOU CONFRONTED YOUR DAD, EVEN AFTER ALL THOSE TERRIBLE THINGS HE SAID.

THERE REALLY IS NO END TO YOUR AMAZINGNESS, TOPH BEIFONG.

*SAHEM*





EXCUSE US A MOMENT, SATORU.

OF COURSE.



YOUNG LADY...

...TOPH...



MY DAUGHTER. THIS IS NEITHER THE IDEAL TIME NOR PLACE, BUT I'M AFRAID --

PLEASE, HEAR ME OUT.

I'M...I'M SO...I'M...

SIGH



AFTER MASTER YU AND XIN FU GAVE UP THEIR SEARCH FOR YOU, THINGS FELL APART BETWEEN YOUR MOTHER AND ME. SHE BLAMED ME FOR LOSING YOU.

PERHAPS SHE WAS RIGHT.

SHE DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME, SO I LEFT GAOLING AND MADE A NEW LIFE FOR MYSELF HERE.



BUT NOW LOOK AT US. TRAPPED UNDERGROUND, NOT KNOWING WHETHER WE'LL LIVE OR DIE.

IN CASE THESE ARE OUR FINAL MOMENTS, TOPH, I NEED YOU TO KNOW --

NOT A DAY HAS GONE BY WHEN I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF YOU.



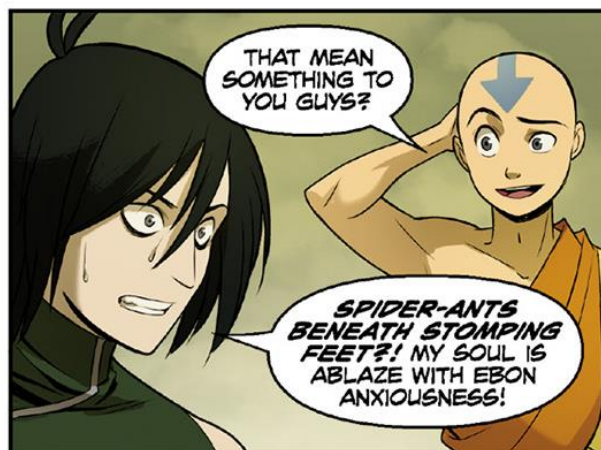
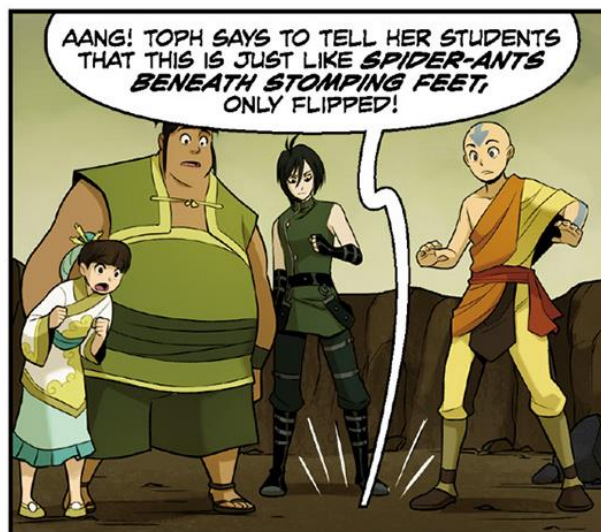
I LOVE YOU, MY DAUGHTER.

AND I'M SORRY, FOR EVERYTHING.

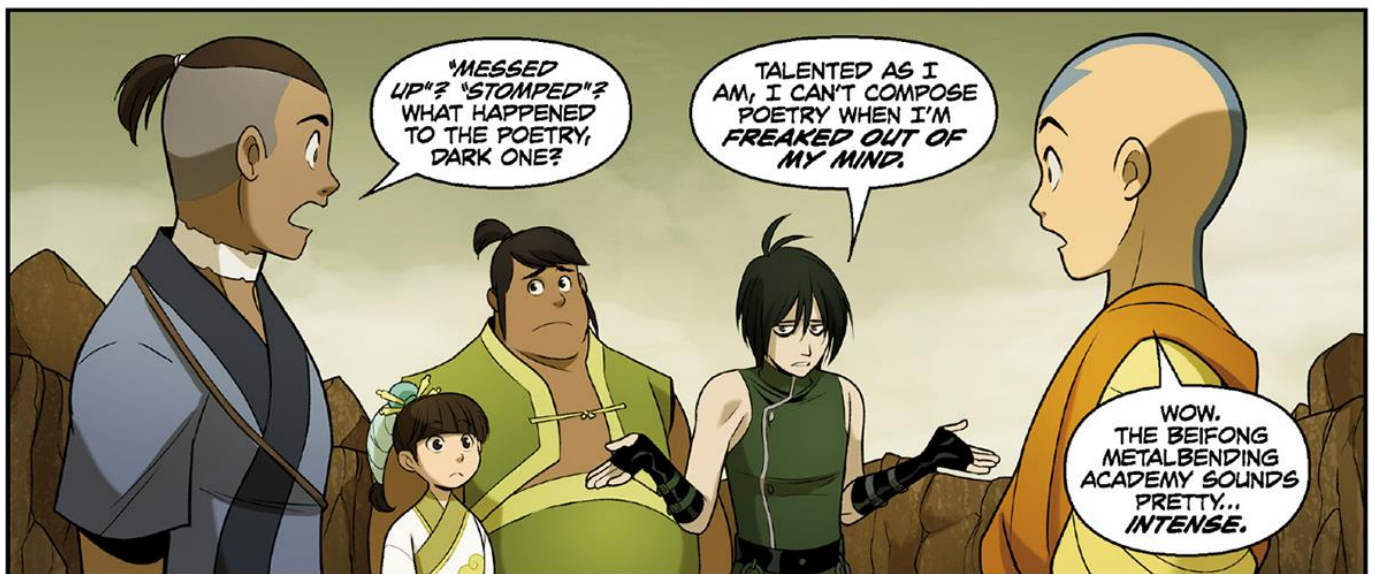
























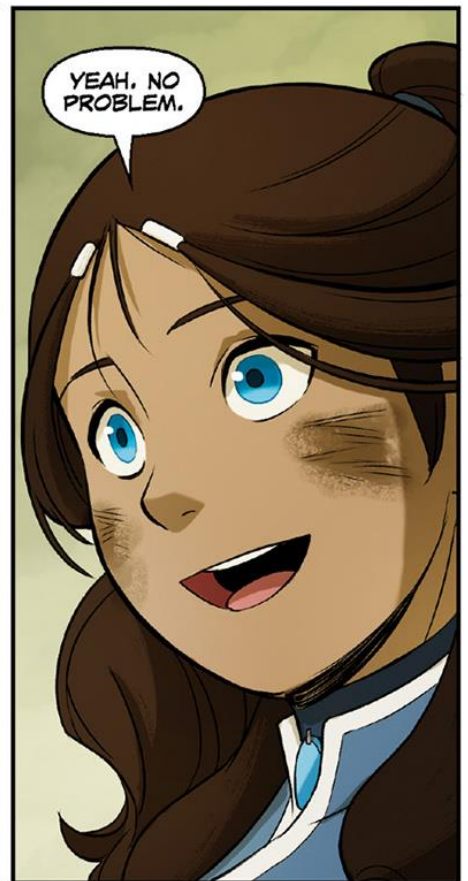








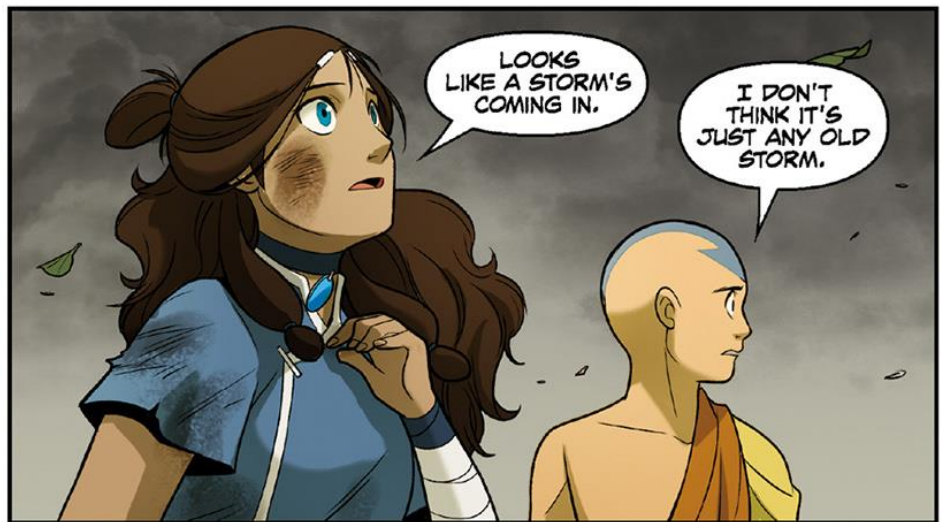




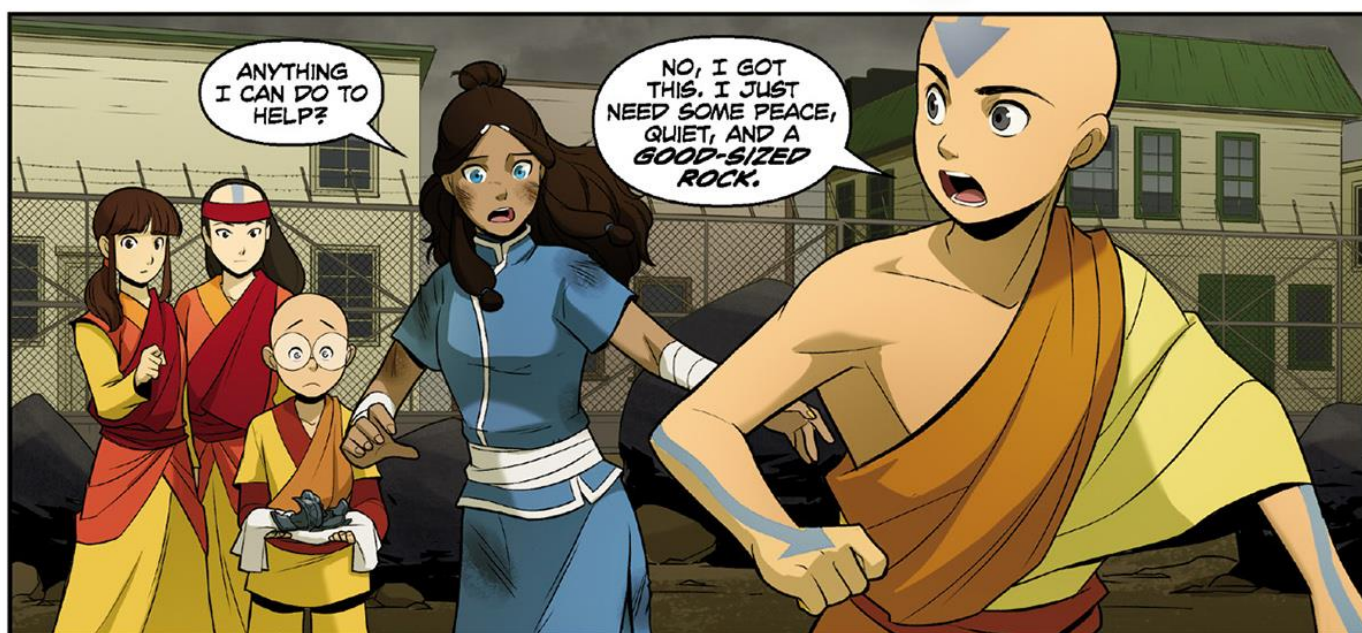




















MASTER ROKU.

AANG.



ABOUT HOW I LEFT THINGS BEFORE... I CAN *EXPLAIN*. I DIDN'T FEEL...



I JUST...



I'M SORRY, MASTER ROKU. I MISSED YOU SO MUCH.



AANG, YOUR PAST LIVES CAN ONLY ADVISE YOU FROM THE PERSPECTIVES OF OUR OWN LIFE HISTORIES, BASED ON OUR OWN *TRIUMPHS* AND *FAILURES*.

AS THE AVATAR, YOU MUST FIND *BALANCE*. NOT JUST BETWEEN THE SPIRIT AND THE HUMAN, BUT BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE PRESENT, BETWEEN *US* AND *YOU*.









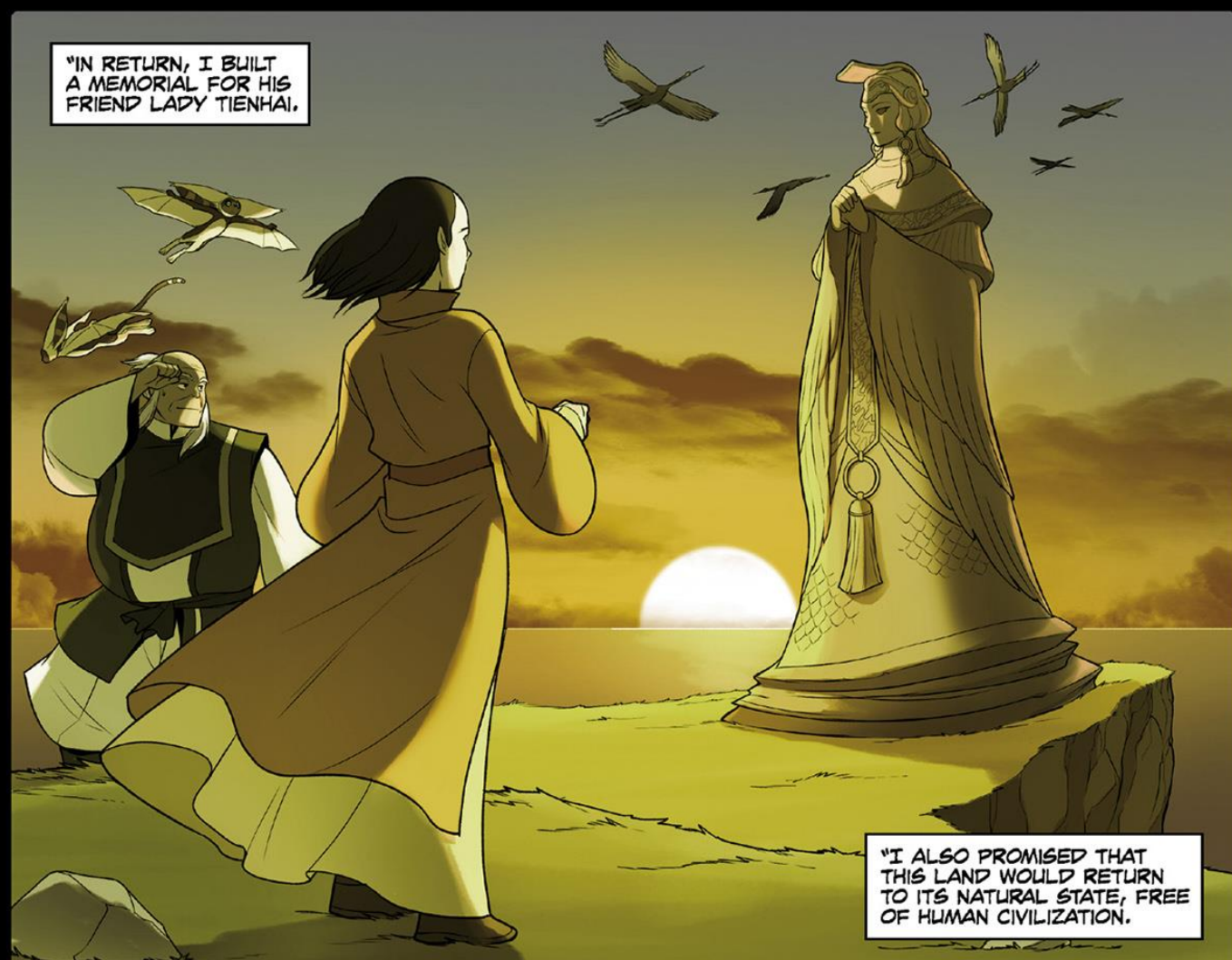


I NEED  
TO KNOW THE  
TERMS OF YOUR  
AGREEMENT WITH  
GENERAL OLD  
IRON.

FINISH  
YOUR STORY,  
PLEASE.

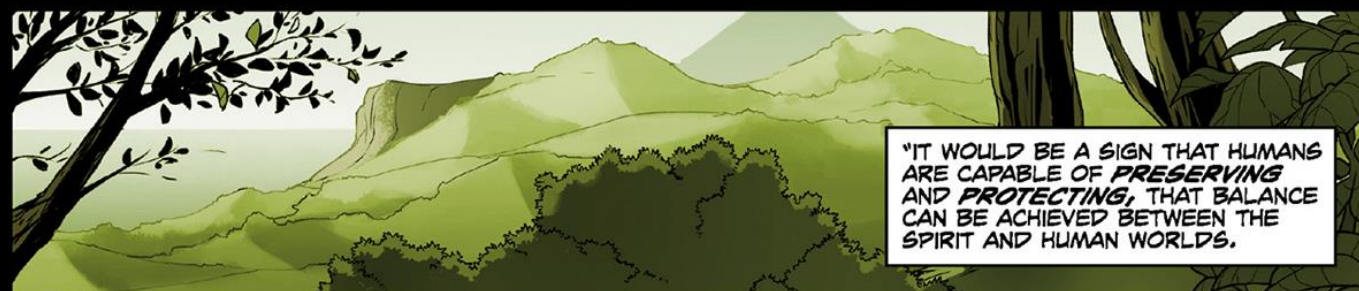


GENERAL  
OLD IRON  
PROMISED TO  
NEVER AGAIN TAKE  
UP HIS ARMOR  
AGAINST  
HUMANKIND.



"IN RETURN, I BUILT  
A MEMORIAL FOR HIS  
FRIEND LADY TIENHAI.

"I ALSO PROMISED THAT  
THIS LAND WOULD RETURN  
TO ITS NATURAL STATE, FREE  
OF HUMAN CIVILIZATION.

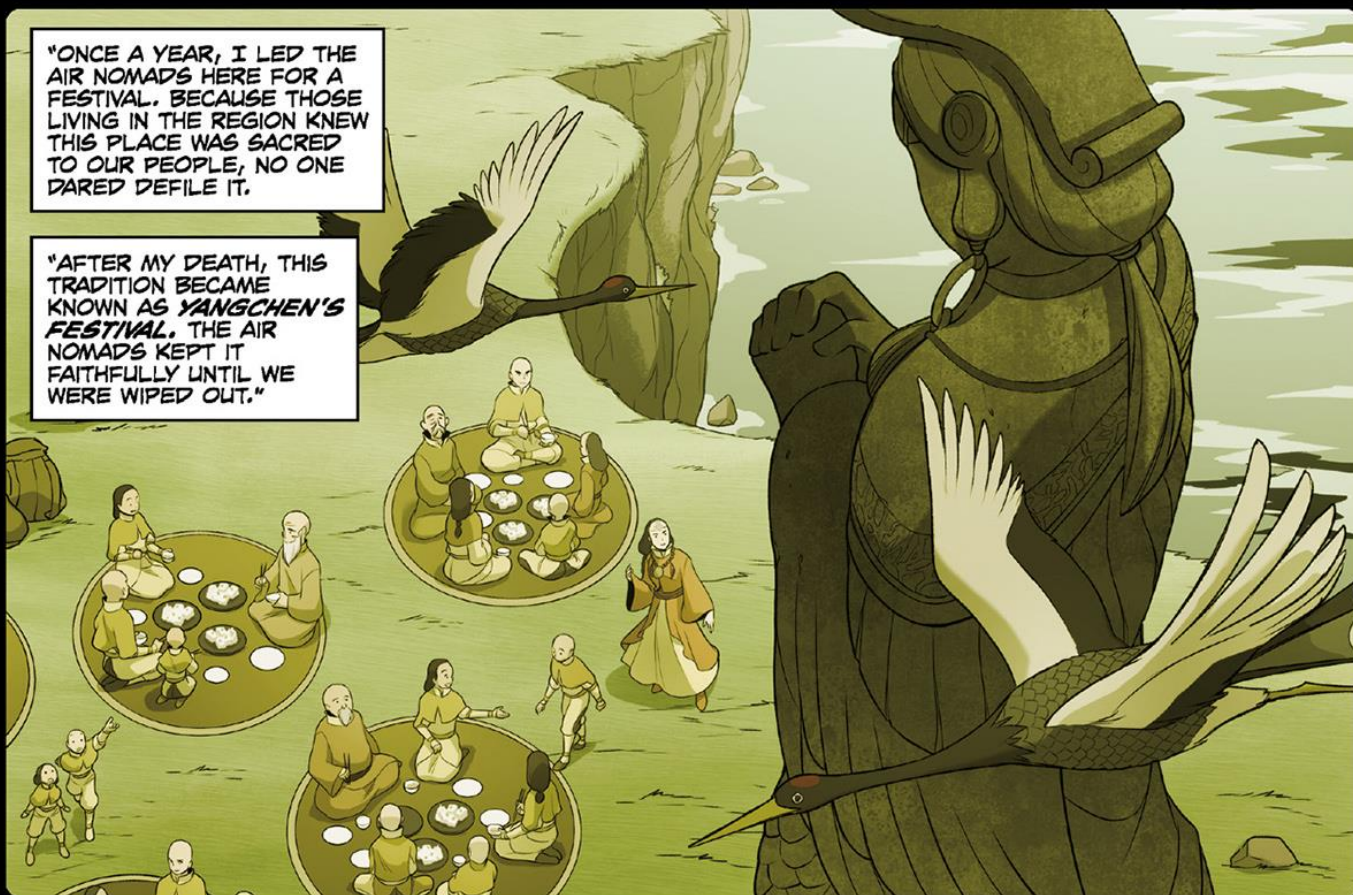


"IT WOULD BE A SIGN THAT HUMANS  
ARE CAPABLE OF **PRESERVING**  
AND **PROTECTING**, THAT BALANCE  
CAN BE ACHIEVED BETWEEN THE  
SPIRIT AND HUMAN WORLDS.



"ONCE A YEAR, I LED THE AIR NOMADS HERE FOR A FESTIVAL. BECAUSE THOSE LIVING IN THE REGION KNEW THIS PLACE WAS SACRED TO OUR PEOPLE, NO ONE DARED DEFILE IT.

"AFTER MY DEATH, THIS TRADITION BECAME KNOWN AS **YANGCHEN'S FESTIVAL**. THE AIR NOMADS KEPT IT FAITHFULLY UNTIL WE WERE WIPED OUT."



ALL THAT IRON THE METALBENDERS DUG UP, THAT WAS GENERAL OLD IRON'S ARMOR?

YES.

BUT THERE'S GOTTA BE A WAY TO TURN HIM BACK! WHAT IF WE PUT THINGS BACK TO THE WAY THEY WERE?

WHAT IF WE BURY THE ARMOR AGAIN, AND RETURN THIS PLACE TO ITS NATURAL STATE?

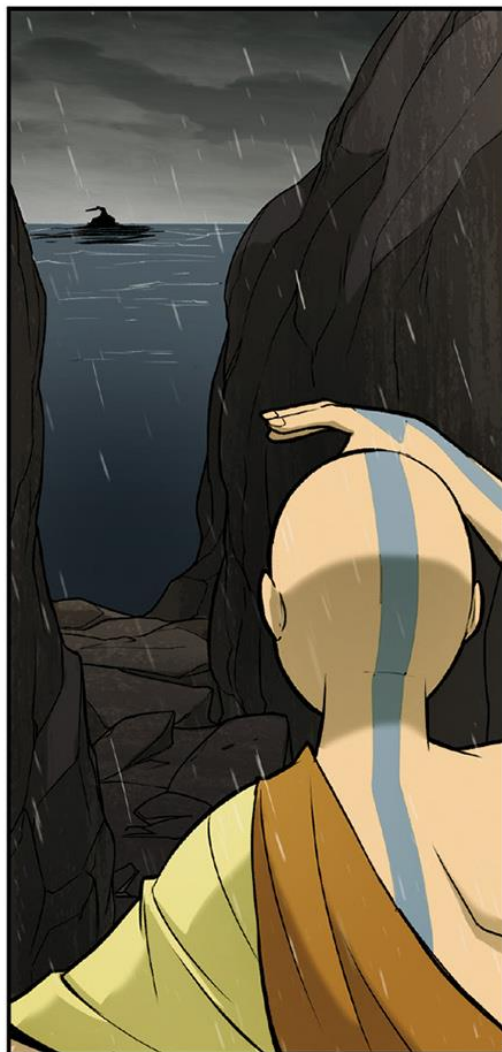
WOULDN'T THAT, YOU KNOW, **UNBREAK** YOUR PROMISE TO GENERAL OLD IRON?

GO, AANG. YOUR FRIENDS NEED YOU.

MY PROMISE HAS BEEN **BROKEN**. NOW, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE GENERAL OLD IRON RETURNS.

...









AANG!  
WHAT'D  
YANGCHEN  
SAY?



ALL THIS IRON IS  
ACTUALLY THE ARMOR  
OF AN **ANCIENT SPIRIT**.  
WE NEED TO PUT IT BACK  
IN THE GROUND.



THEN  
I'VE GOT TO  
MAKE THIS PLACE  
LOOK THE WAY IT  
DID BEFORE THE  
HUMANS STARTED  
BUILDING STUFF  
HERE.

BUT  
DOESN'T THAT  
MEAN YOU'D HAVE  
TO DESTROY THE  
REFINERY? AND  
THE ENTIRE  
TOWN?

YES.



KATARA,  
CAN YOU MAKE  
SURE EVERYONE'S  
OUT OF THE  
BUILDINGS?

OF  
COURSE!



I'LL  
GET TOPH'S  
STUDENTS TO  
HELP ME  
WITH --

WAIT A  
MINUTE. WASN'T  
THERE A GIANT  
IRON MASK? WHAT  
HAPPENED TO  
THE MASK?

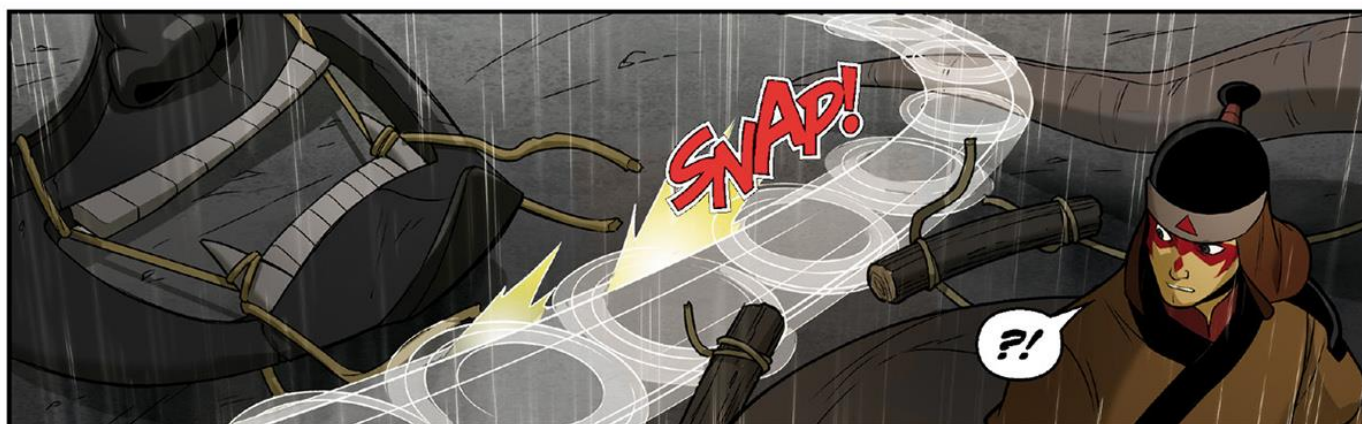












































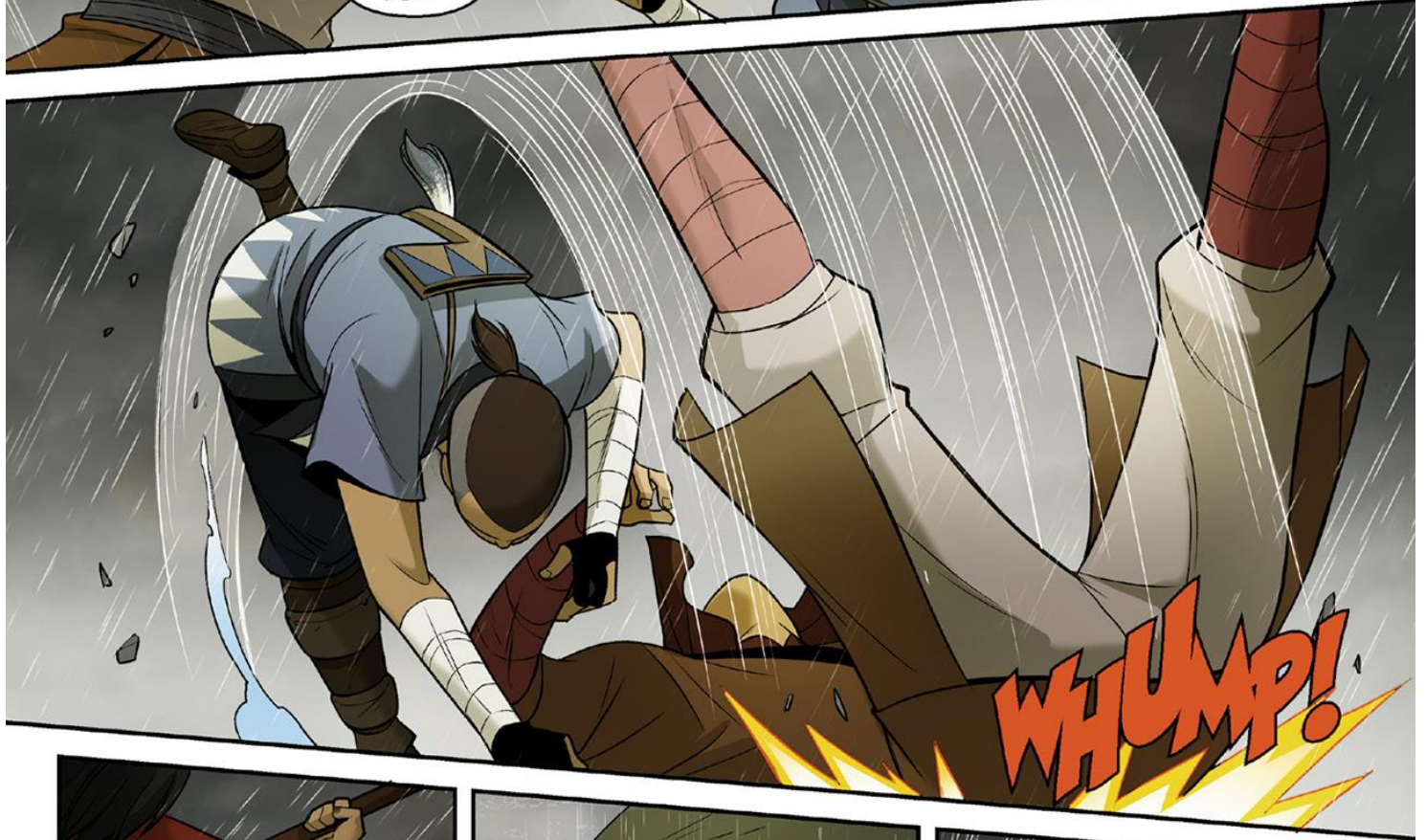




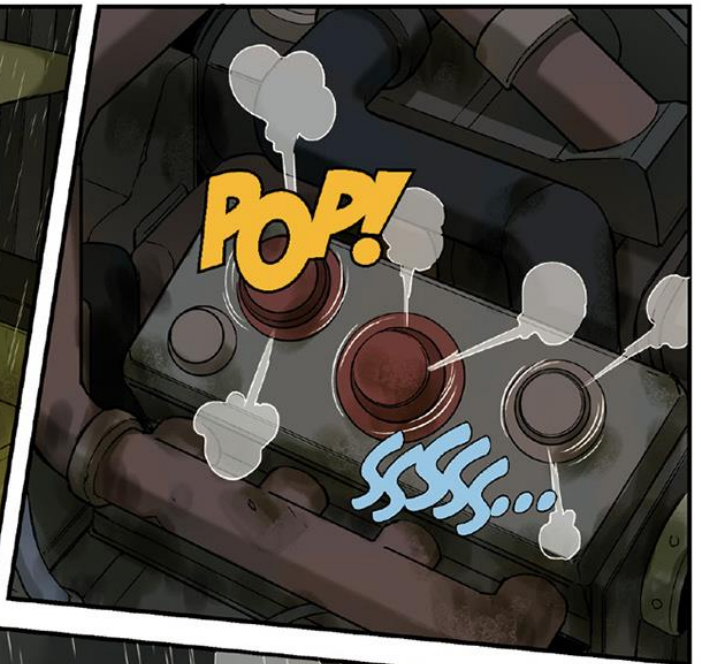










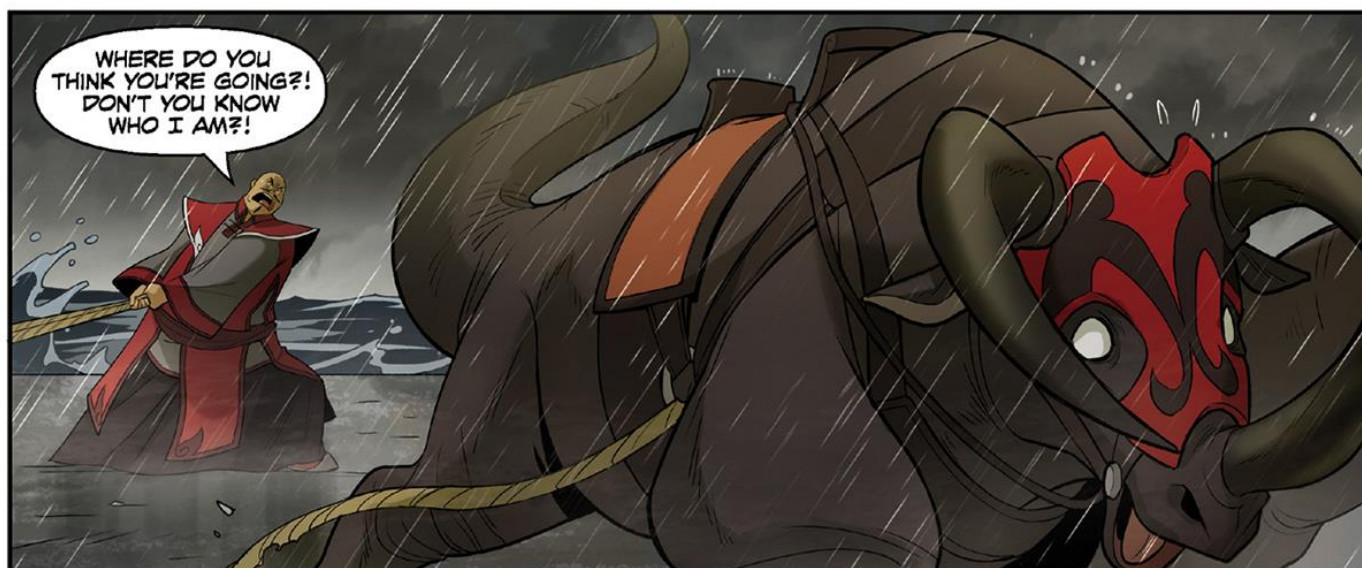
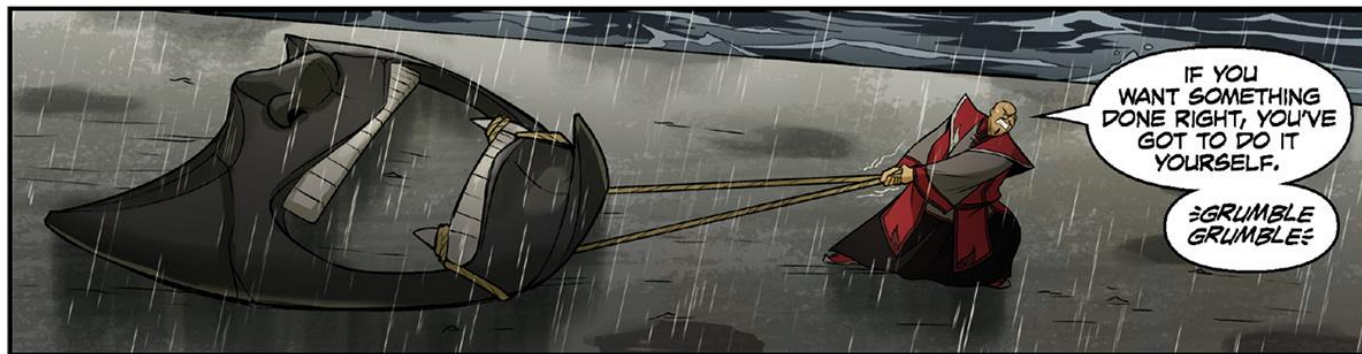






THAT  
BIG.

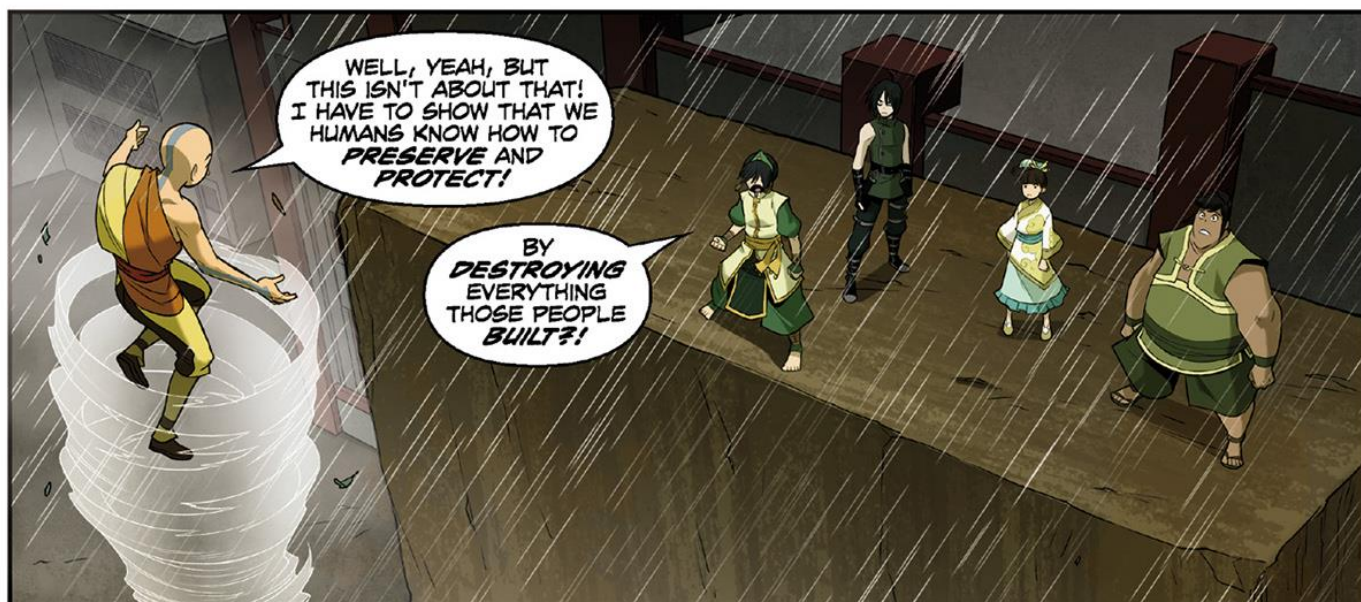




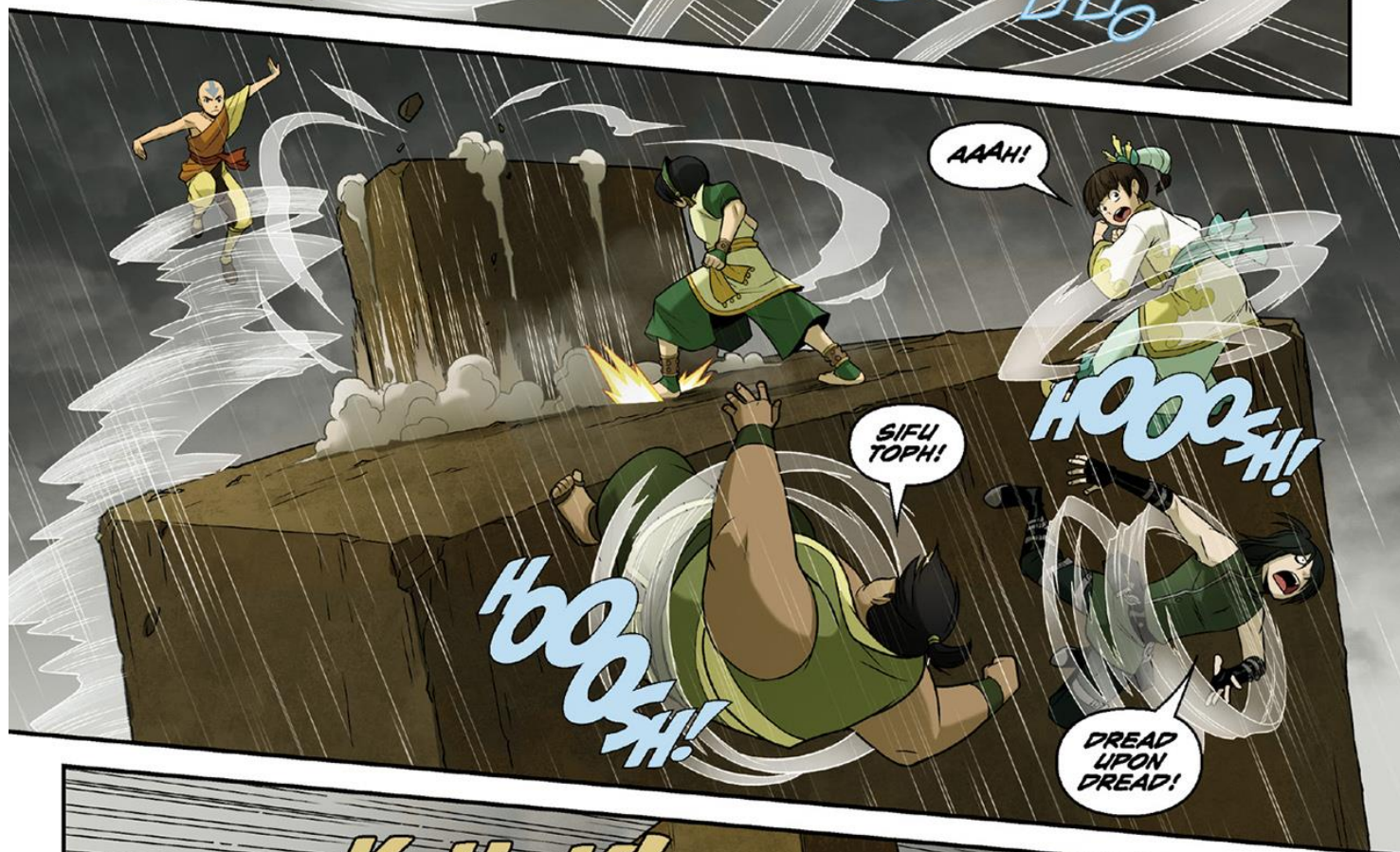








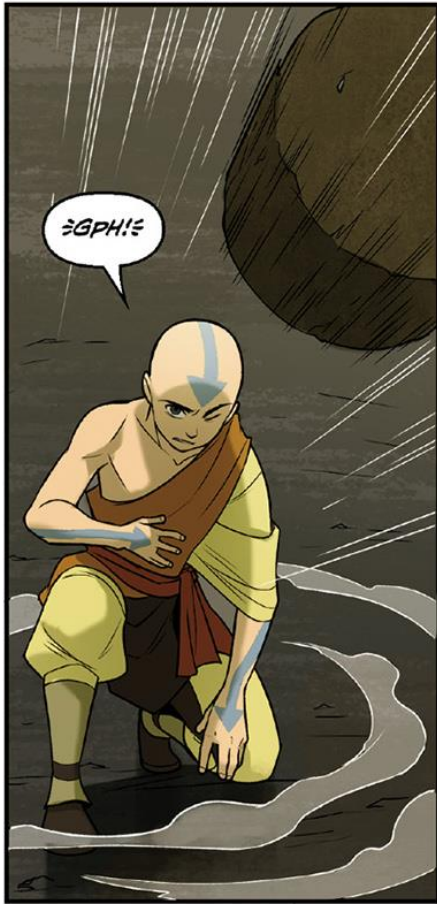




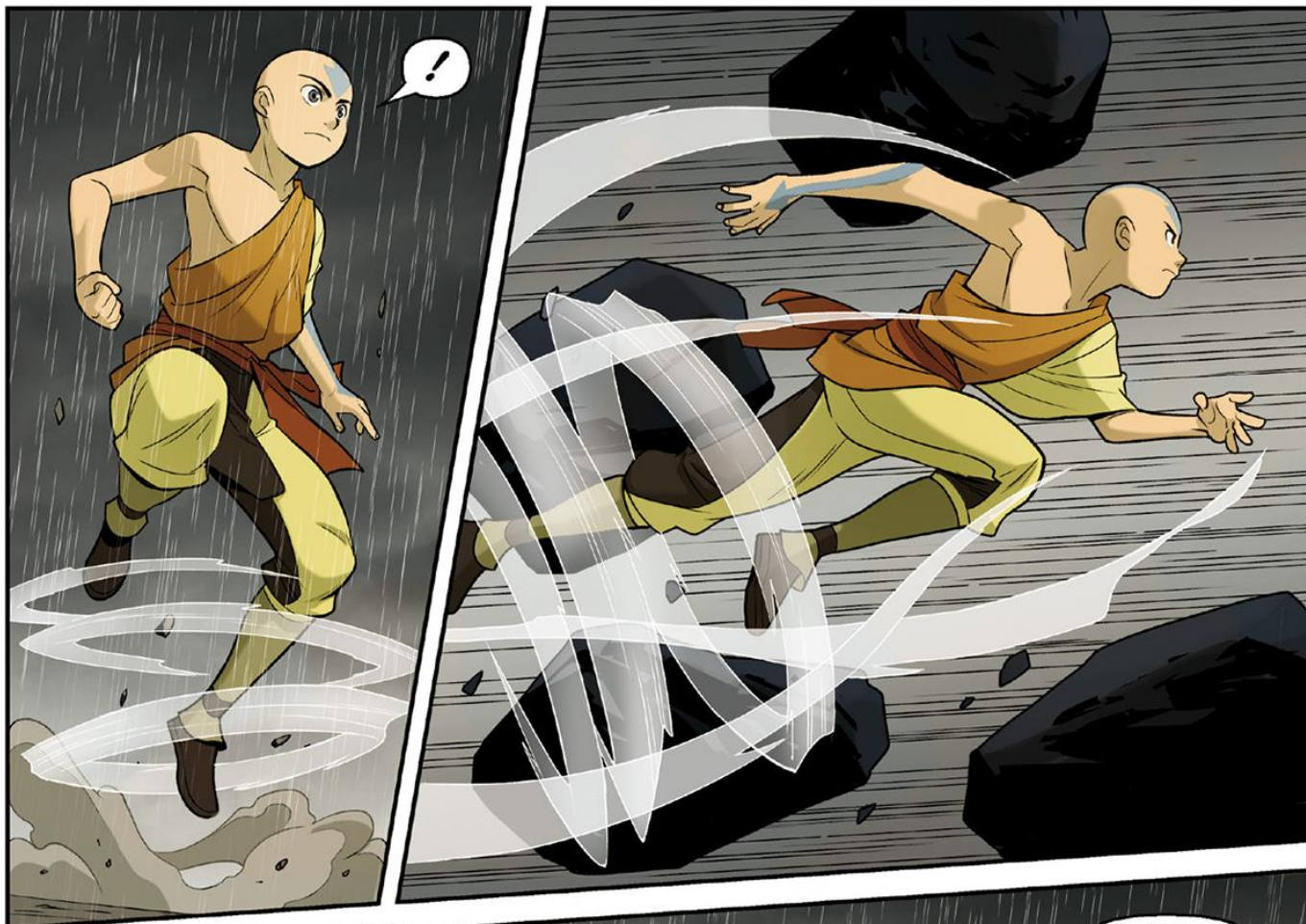




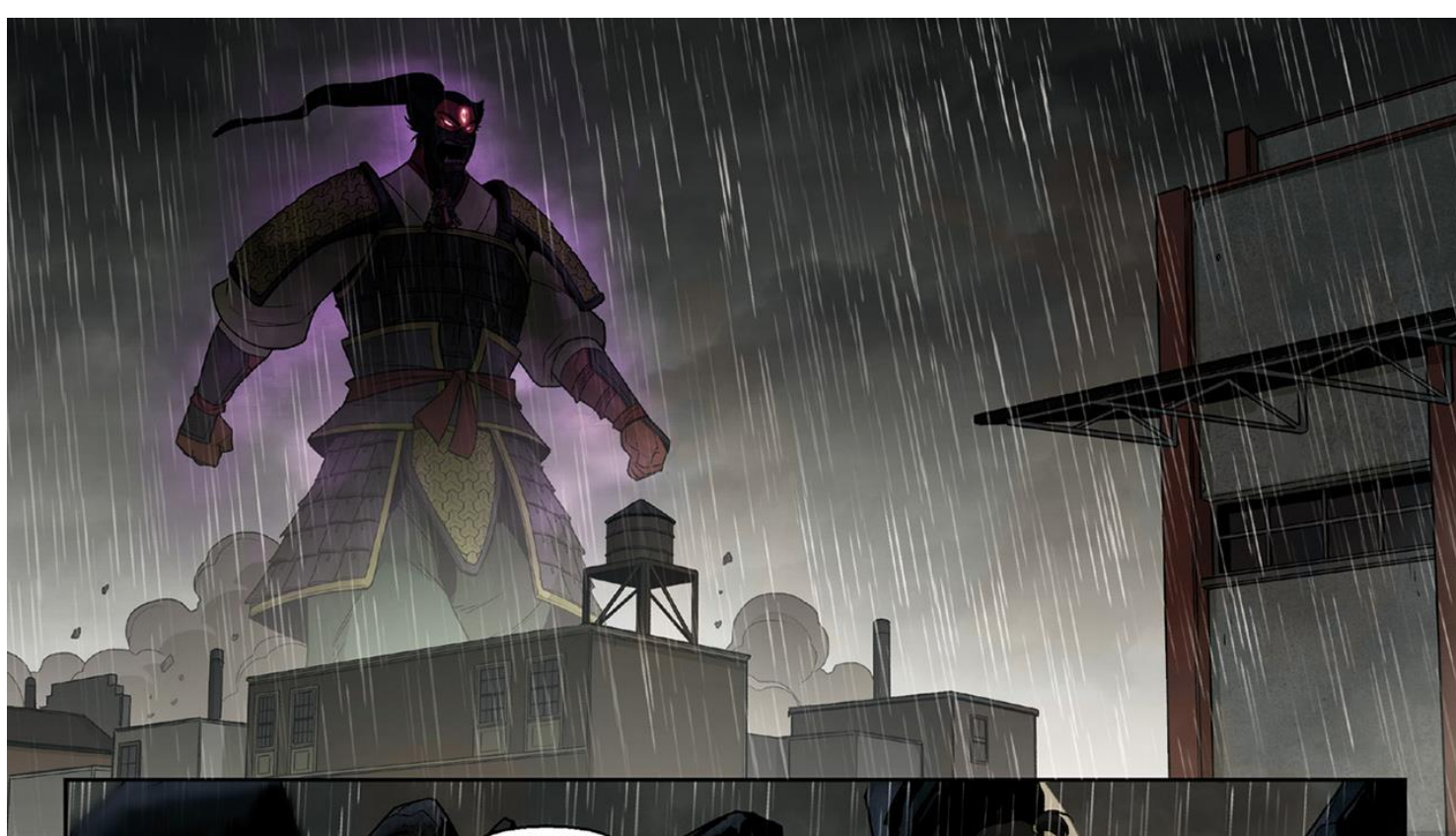




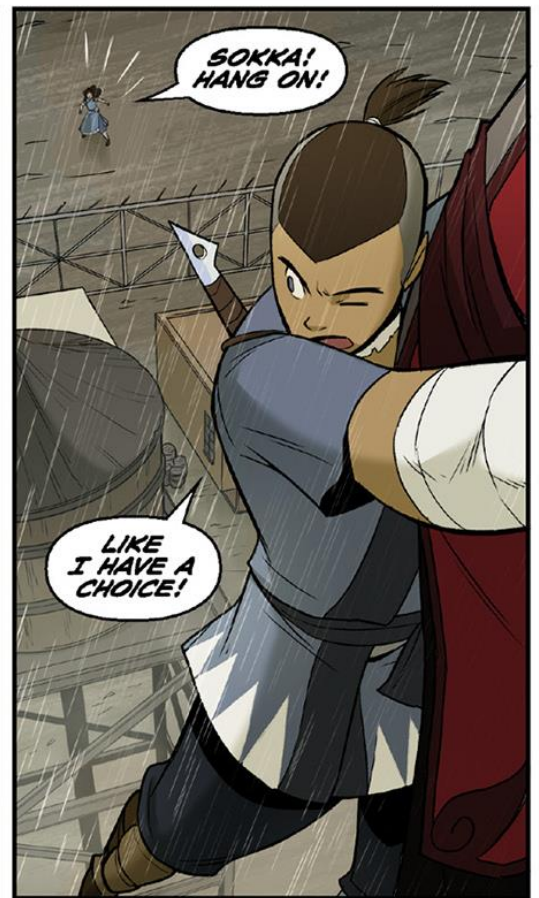








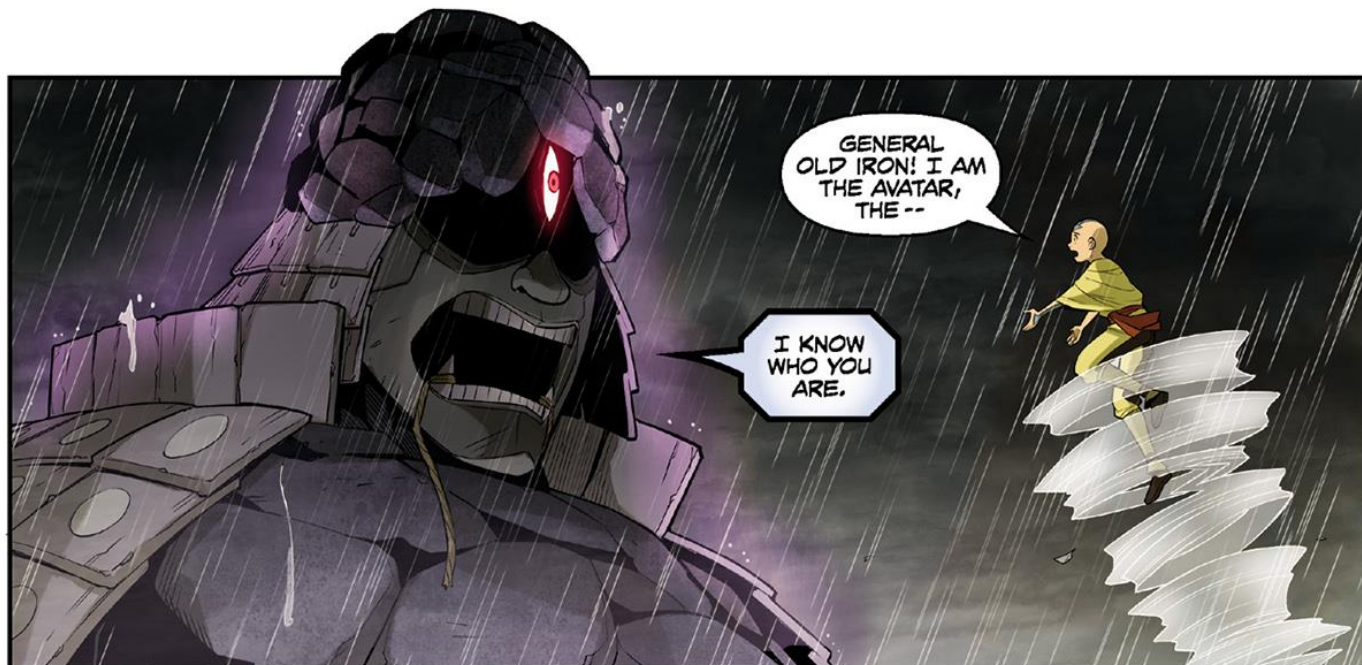






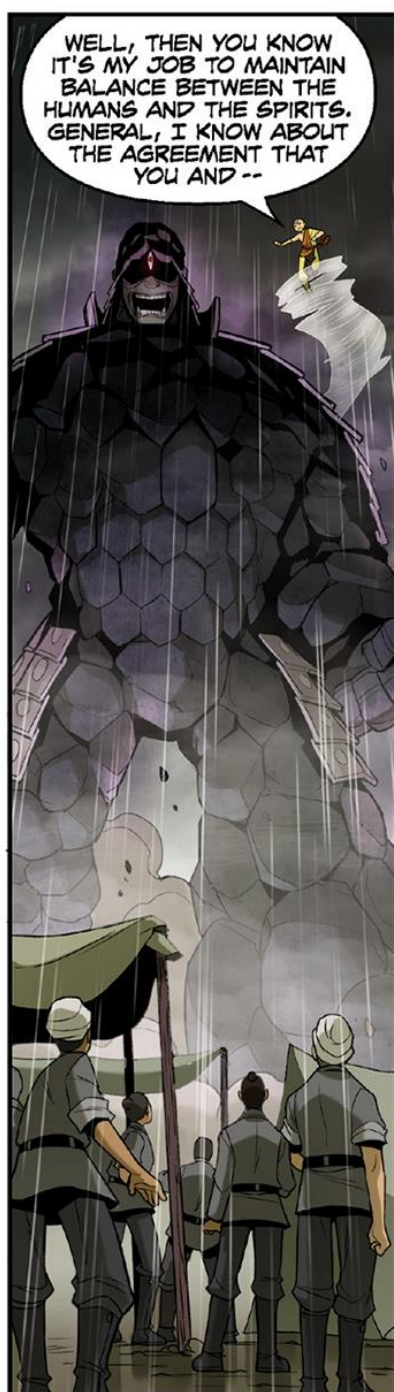






GENERAL  
OLD IRON! I AM  
THE AVATAR,  
THE --

I KNOW  
WHO YOU  
ARE.



WELL, THEN YOU KNOW  
IT'S MY JOB TO MAINTAIN  
BALANCE BETWEEN THE  
HUMANS AND THE SPIRITS.  
GENERAL, I KNOW ABOUT  
THE AGREEMENT THAT  
YOU AND --



QUIET!  
I WAS ONCE  
TAKEN IN BY THE  
CHITTERING OF  
ONE OF YOUR  
PREDECESSORS.  
NO MORE.

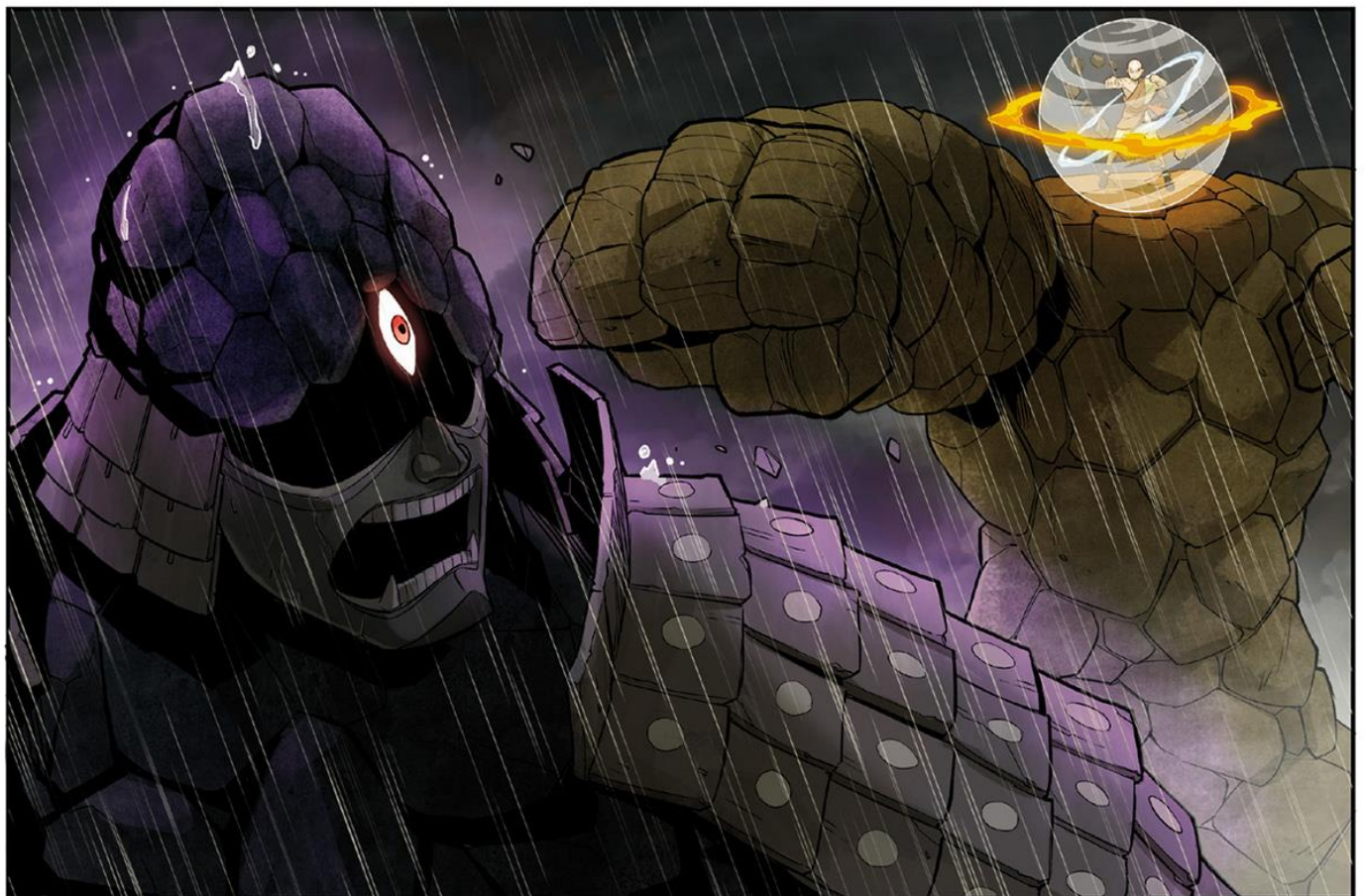
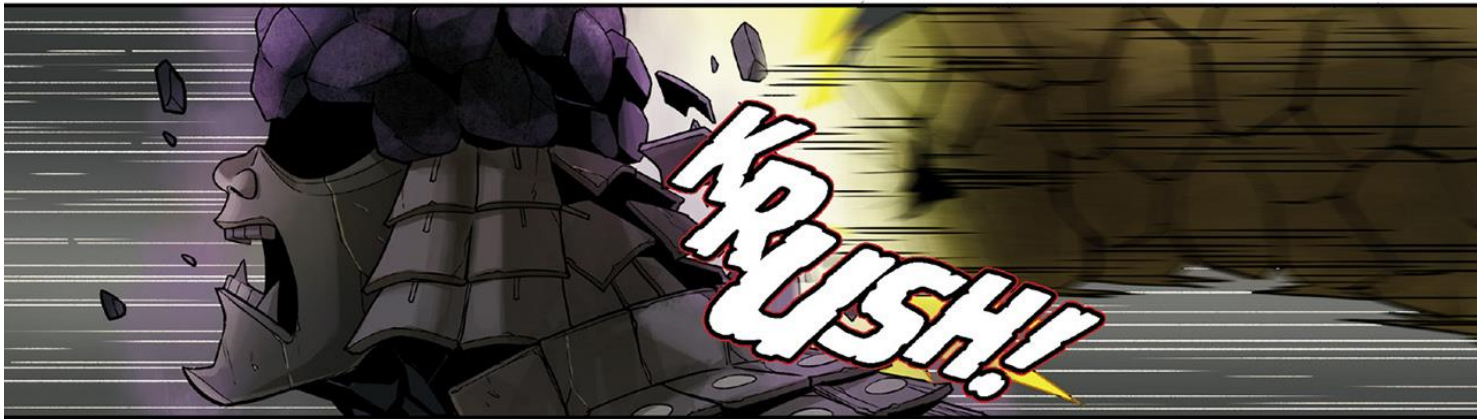
I'VE COME  
TO DO WHAT  
I SHOULD  
HAVE DONE  
LONG AGO --



**WIPE YOUR  
KIND FROM  
EXISTENCE!**

**THOOM!**













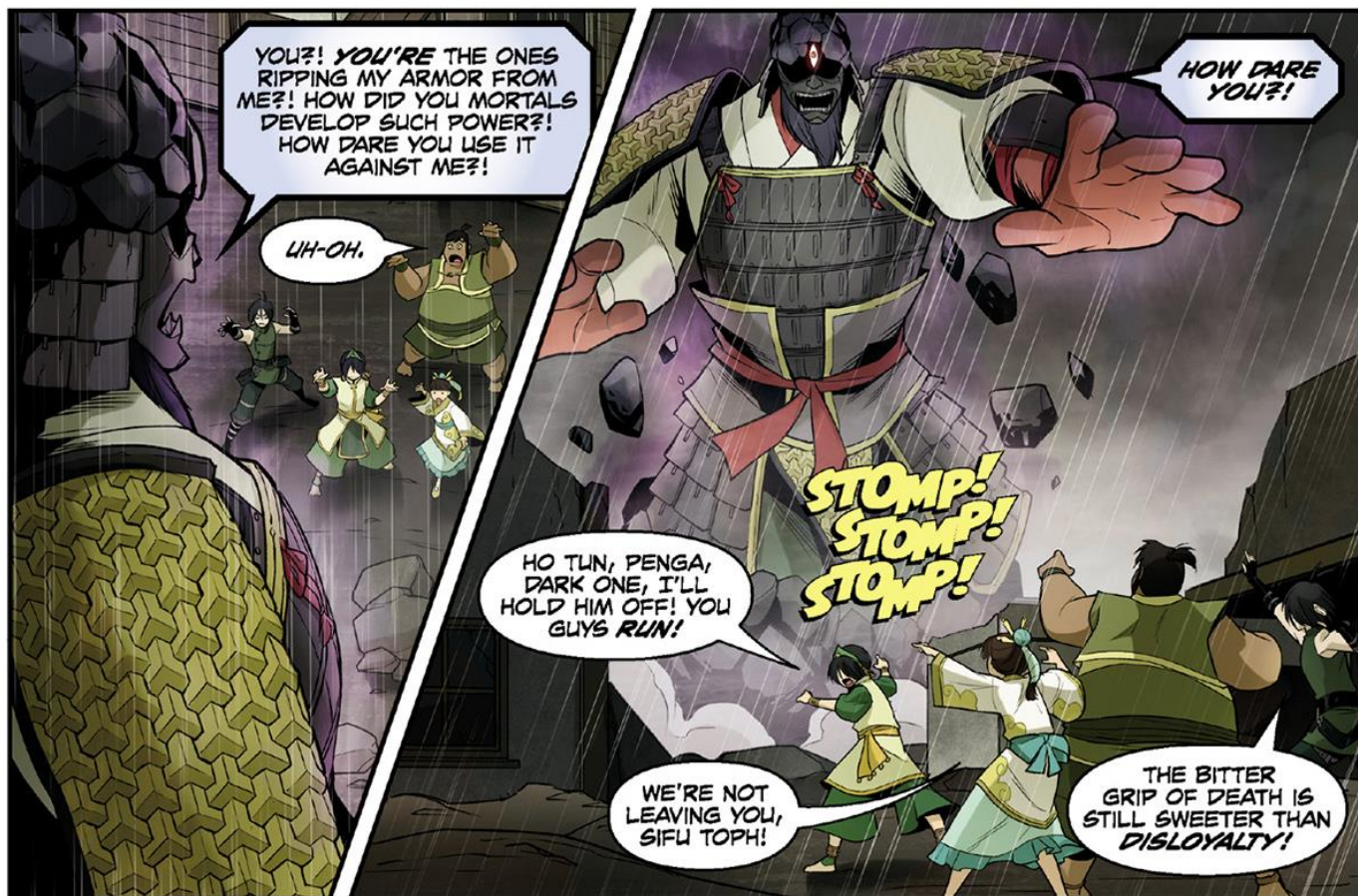












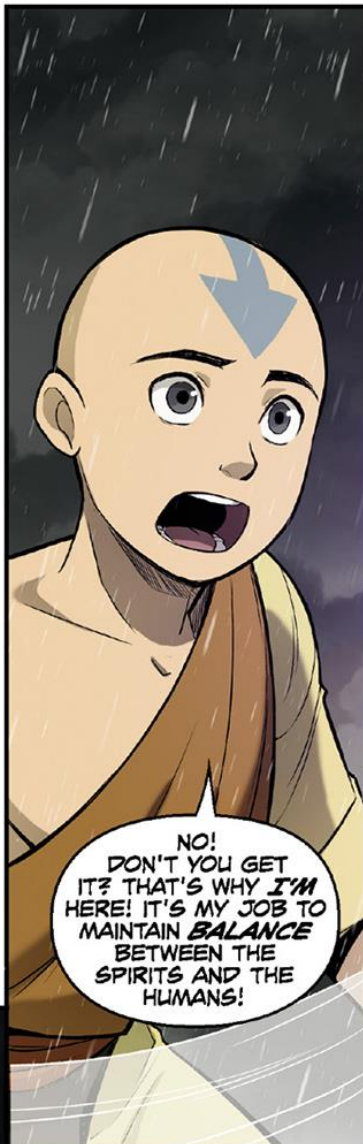












NO!  
DON'T YOU GET  
IT? THAT'S WHY *I'M*  
HERE! IT'S MY JOB TO  
MAINTAIN *BALANCE*  
BETWEEN THE  
SPIRITS AND THE  
HUMANS!



YOU REPEAT  
THOSE WORDS  
OVER AND OVER  
LIKE A *MANTRA*,  
BUT YOU ARE  
ONLY *FOOLING*  
*YOURSELF*.

WHENEVER THE  
*BORDER* BETWEEN  
OUR TWO WORLDS  
GROWS INTO A *RIFT*,  
THE AVATAR WILL  
ALWAYS SIDE WITH  
THE HUMANS.

THE AVATAR  
IS, AFTER ALL,  
A *HUMAN*.



IT  
DOESN'T HAVE  
TO BE LIKE THAT,  
GENERAL! STAY! I'LL  
PROVE TO YOU THAT  
BALANCE IS  
POSSIBLE!

AT THE CORE OF HUMAN  
NATURE IS THE *WILL TO*  
*DOMINATE*. LOOK INTO YOUR  
OWN HEART AND YOU'LL SEE  
THAT IT'S TRUE.

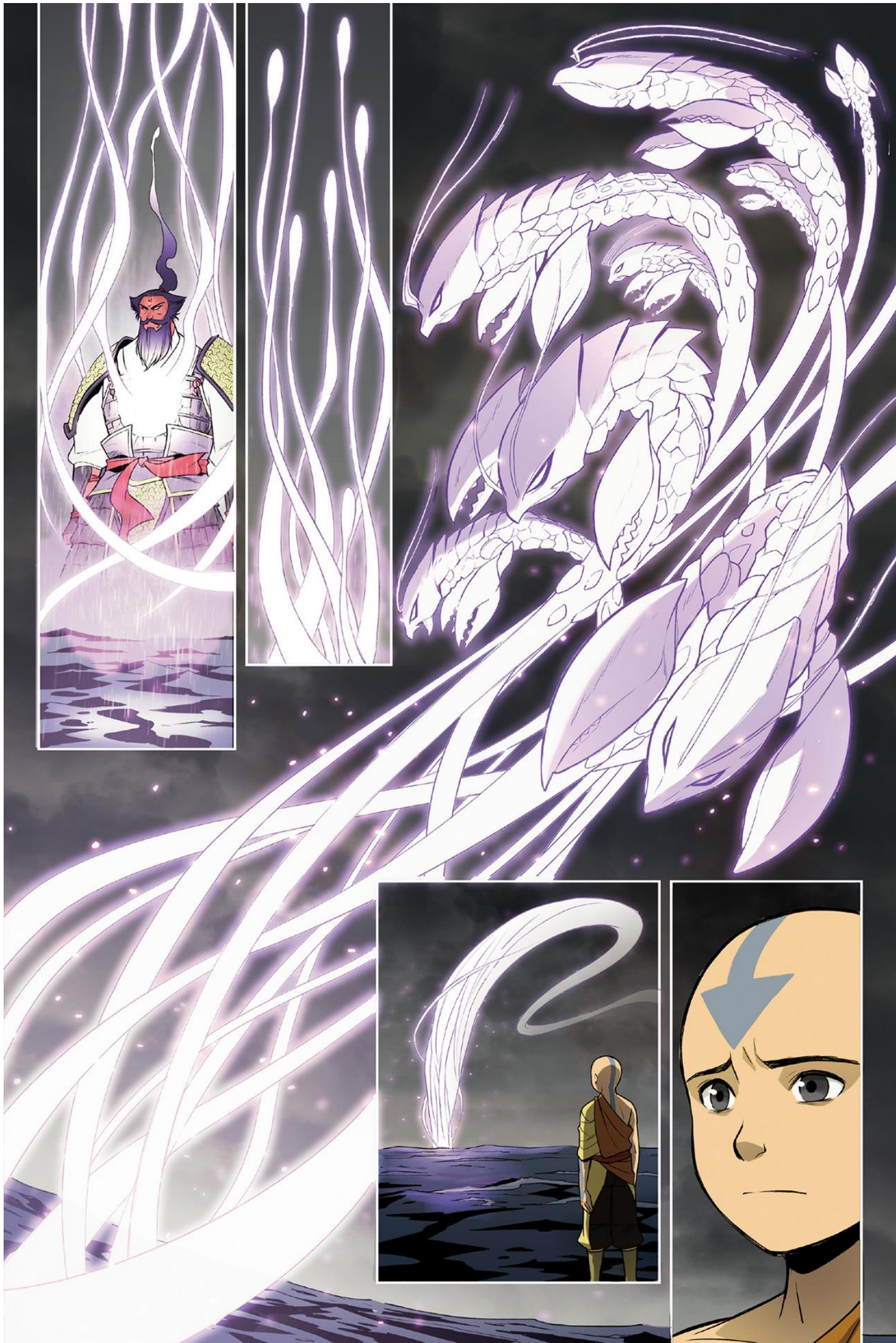
THERE CAN BE NO  
BALANCE BETWEEN THE  
SPIRIT WORLD AND THE  
HUMAN ONE.



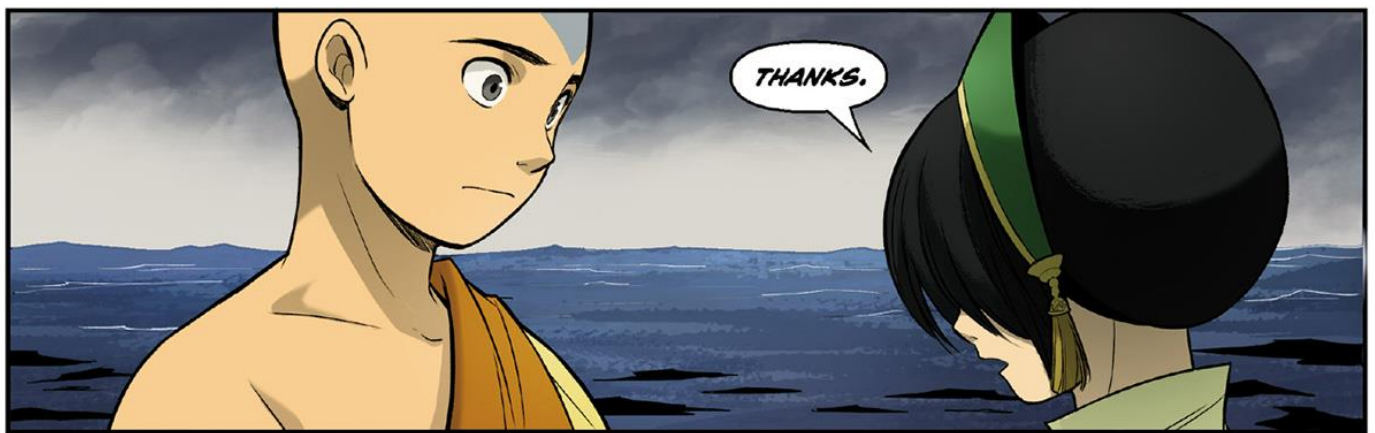
I PAY  
HOMAGE TO  
YOU, YOUNG  
HUMAN.

FOR YOU HAVE  
*VANQUISHED*  
*ME*.









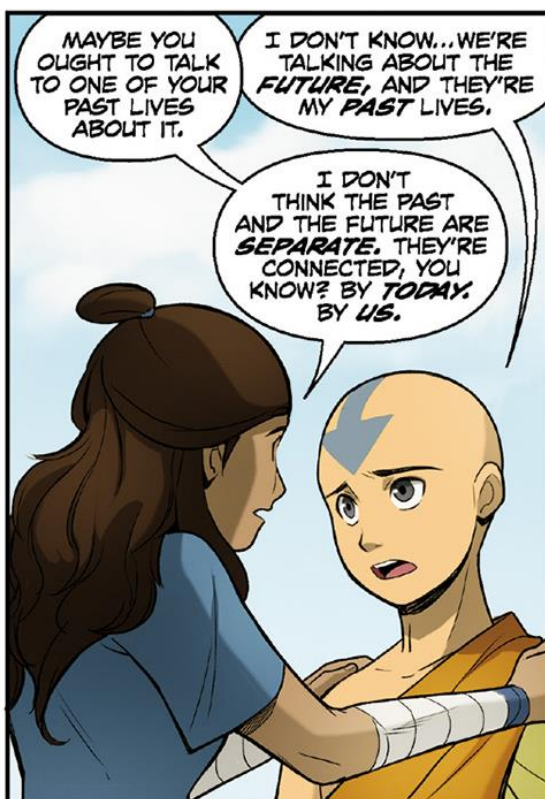




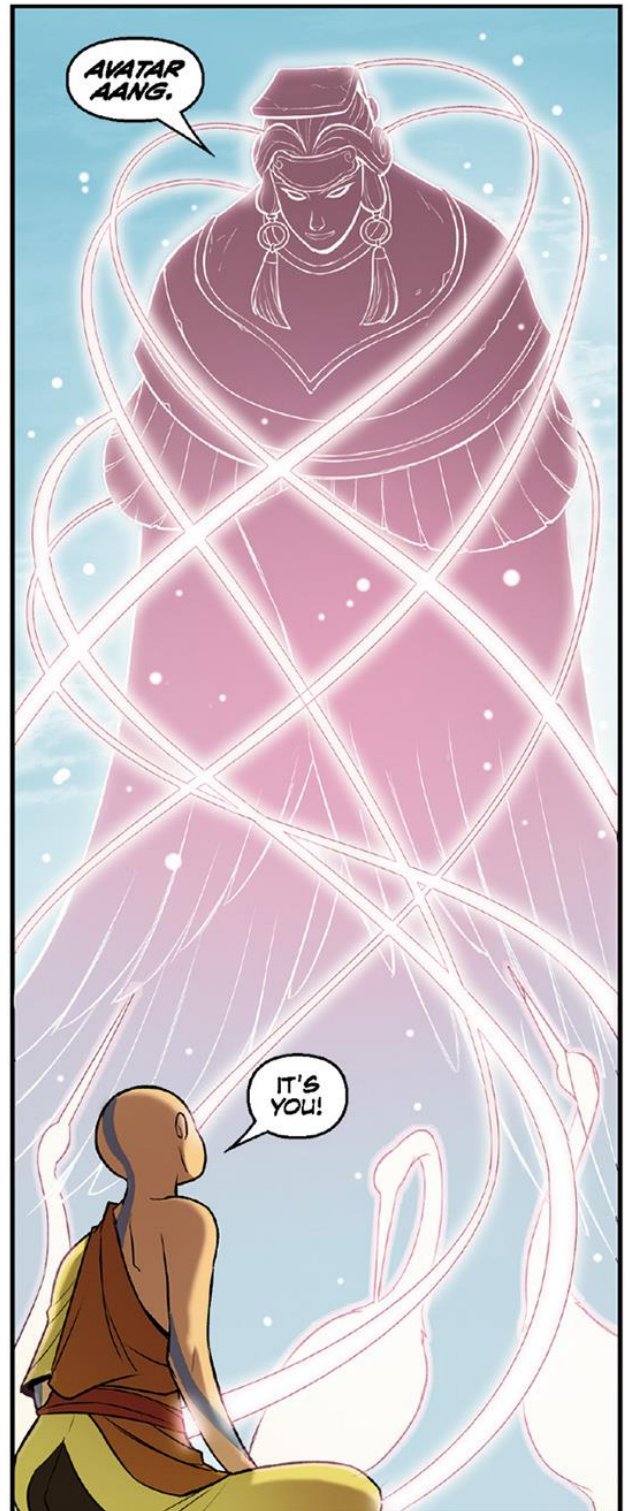




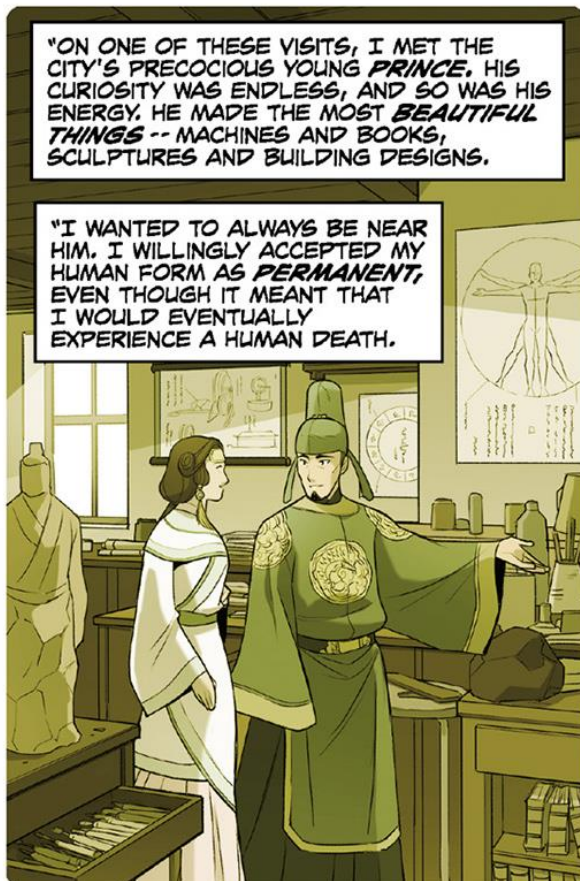
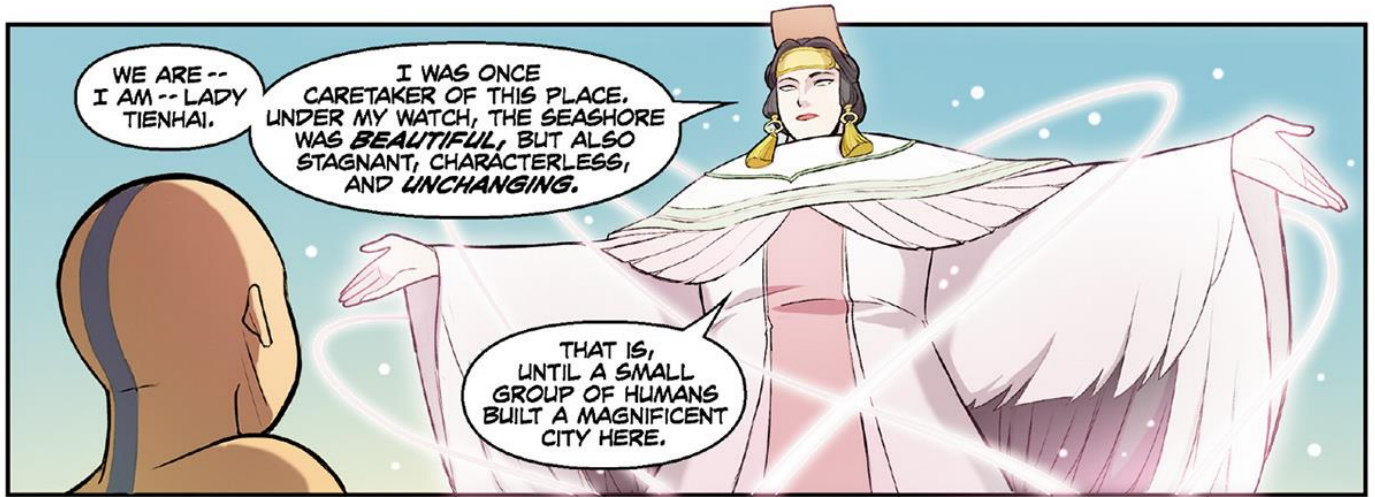




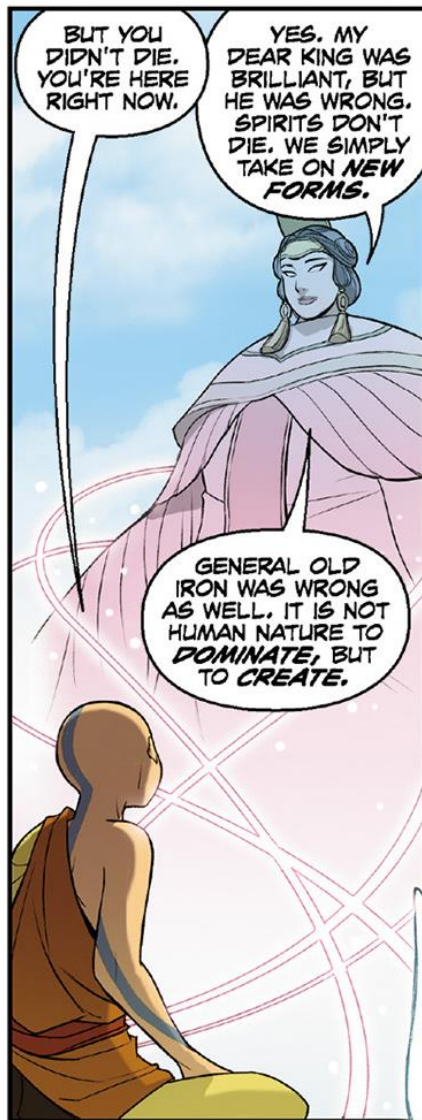








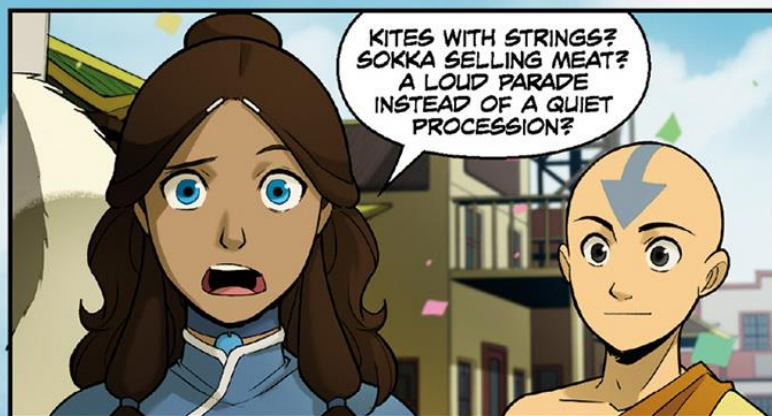








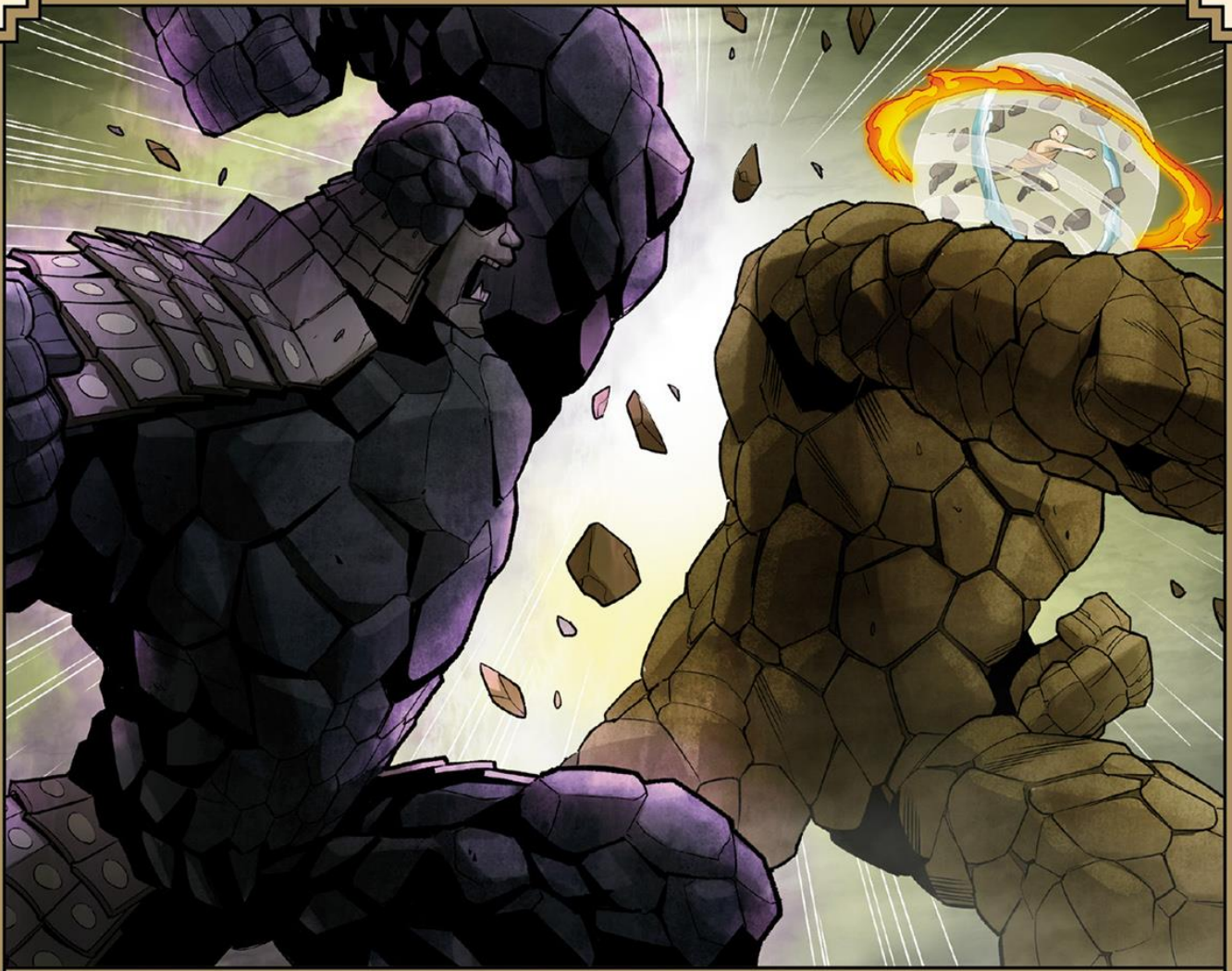












### The spirits are restless!

As Avatar Aang and his friends confront an ancient spirit determined to destroy a town on land sacred to the Air Nomads, Toph and Aang find themselves on opposing sides in a battle of gigantic proportions. If Toph and Aang don't put aside their differences, there's more at stake than just their friendship!

Writer Gene Luen Yang and artists Gurihiru, the team behind bestsellers *The Promise* and *The Search*, helm this thrilling conclusion to the *Avatar: The Last Airbender—The Rift* saga! Developed in close collaboration with *Avatar: The Last Airbender* and *The Legend of Korra* creators Michael Dante DiMartino and Bryan Konietzko, this is the definitive continuation of the beloved TV series!

GRAPHIC NOVEL/MEDIA TIE-IN



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# SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...  
THIS MONSTER!"

