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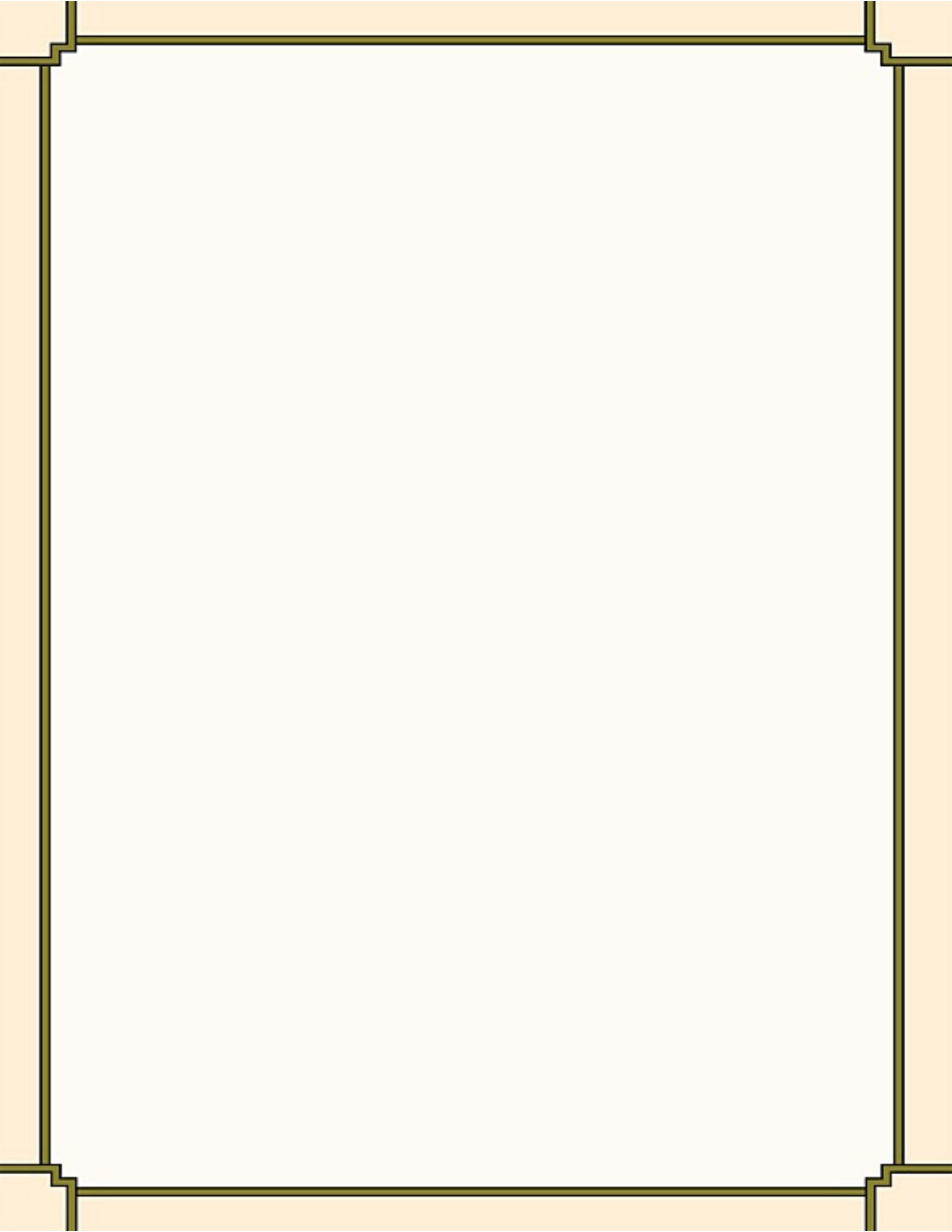
降世神通

# AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™



SMOKE AND SHADOW • 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™

SMOKE AND SHADOW • PART TWO

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AANG,  
WHAT IS  
IT?

IT'S  
FROM  
ZUKO.

HE  
NEEDS  
ME.

TRANSLATION: AANG, SPIRITS  
ARE THREATENING THE FIRE  
NATION. PLEASE COME HELP.



SO... YOU'RE  
GOING TO THE  
FIRE NATION,  
THEN?

I  
THINK I  
HAVE TO.



HEY, WHY DON'T YOU GUYS COME WITH ME? I'M SURE IT WON'T TAKE LONG!

IT'S SPIRIT WORLD STUFF, WHEN'S THE LAST TIME SPIRIT WORLD STUFF DIDN'T TAKE LONG?

AND DAD'S EXPECTING US.



YOU GO HELP ZUKO, AANG.

TAKE APPA SO YOU CAN MEET US AT THE SOUTH POLE AFTER THINGS ARE SETTLED.



I'M SORRY, KATARA.



NOTHING TO BE SORRY ABOUT. IT JUST COMES WITH DATING THE AVATAR.





ZUKO!

AVATAR  
AANG!



THANK  
YOU FOR  
BEING HERE,  
BUDDY.

NO  
PROBLEM.



YOU  
REMEMBER --

MAI!

HELLO,  
AANG.

WOW, THIS IS  
GREAT! DOES  
THIS MEAN YOU  
TWO ARE BACK  
TOGETHER?!

AND  
THIS IS  
KEI LO.

MAI'S  
BOYFRIEND.

HELLO.







SEVERAL REPORTS OF DARK SPIRIT SIGHTINGS CAME IN FROM ALL OVER CAPITAL CITY, THOUGH TOM-TOM WAS THE ONLY ABDUCTEE.

CONSTABLE, WERE THESE REPORTS FROM--

GET OFF ME!



MY SON'S MISSING, AND YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT PALACE PROTOCOL?!

APOLOGIES, FIRE LORD! WE ASKED HIM TO WAIT, BUT--



IT'S ALL RIGHT. HE'S THE VICTIM'S FATHER. HE OUGHT TO BE INFORMED.

MA! I SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU'D BE HERE!

FATHER.



THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, DAUGHTER! IF TOM-TOM WERE STILL WITH ME IN OUR HOME, HE WOULD'VE BEEN SAFE! I WOULD'VE MADE SURE OF IT!



YOU MAY HATE ME, BUT YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT.

...





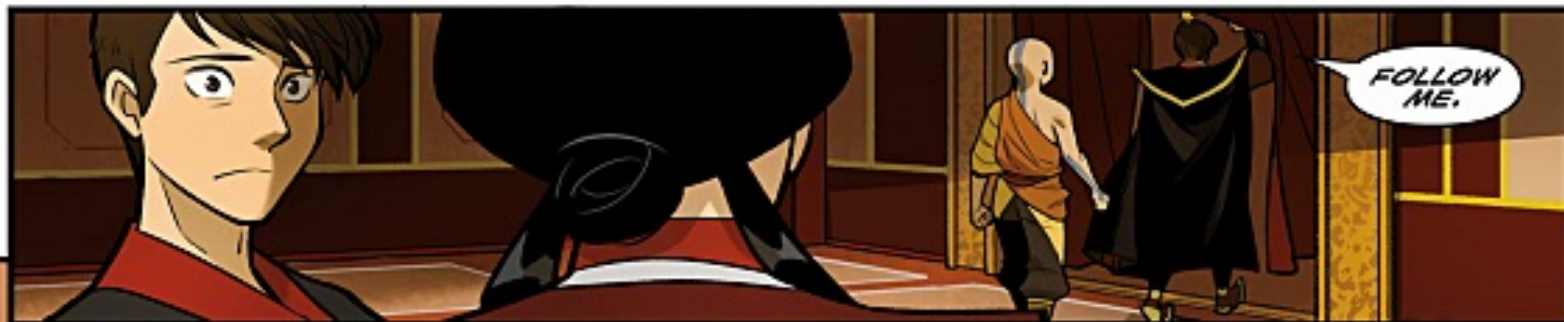




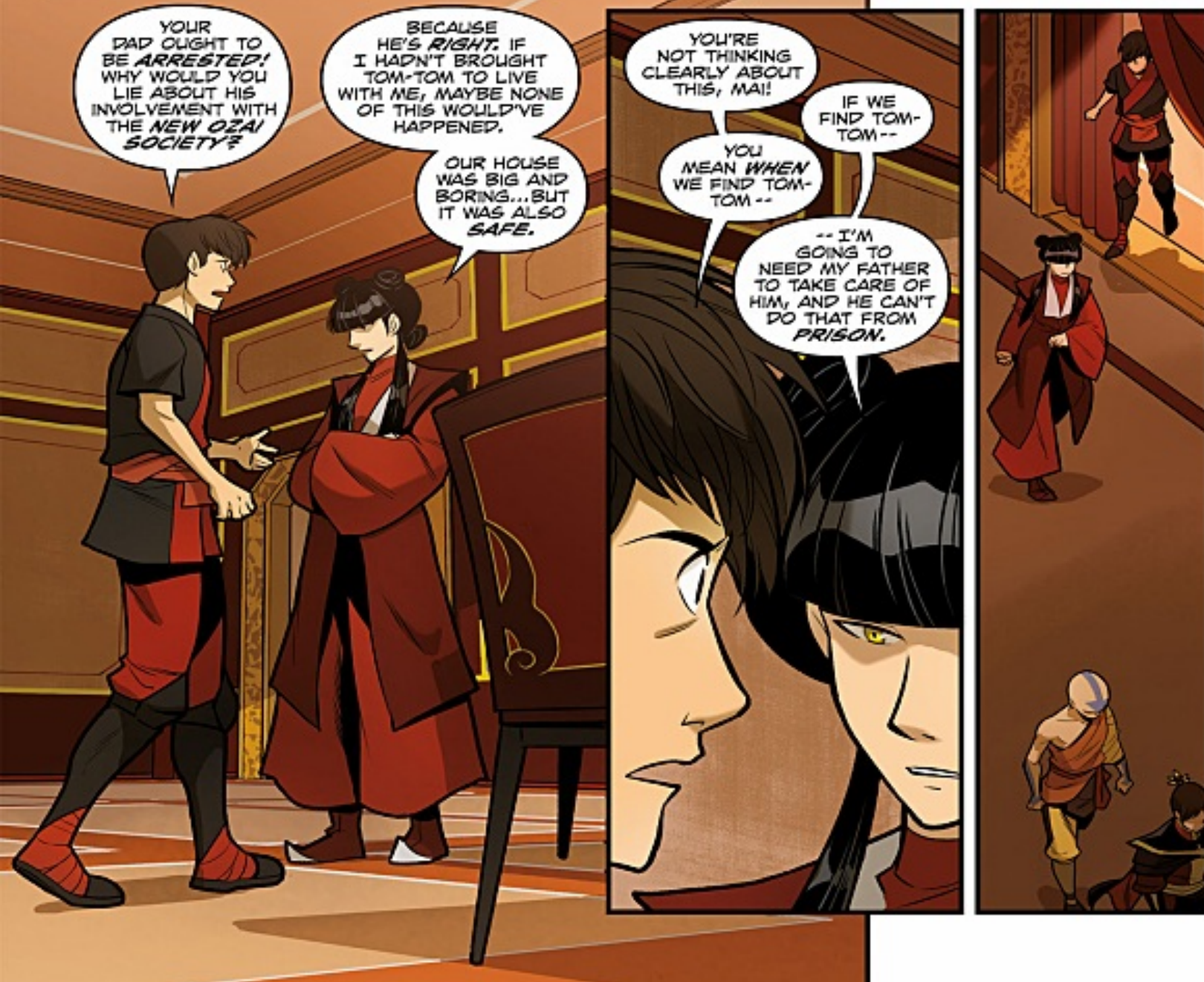
MAI, I NEED TO KNOW EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT THE *KEMURIKAGE*.

I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU. THEY'RE JUST AN *OLD LEGEND*.

AN *OLD LEGEND*, HUH? THEN I HAVE AN IDEA ABOUT WHERE TO FIND OUT MORE.



*FOLLOW ME.*



YOUR DAD OUGHT TO BE *ARRESTED!* WHY WOULD YOU LIE ABOUT HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH THE *NEW OZAI SOCIETY?*

BECAUSE HE'S *RIGHT*. IF I HADN'T BROUGHT TOM-TOM TO LIVE WITH ME, MAYBE NONE OF THIS WOULD'VE HAPPENED.

OUR HOUSE WAS BIG AND BORING... BUT IT WAS ALSO *SAFE*.

YOU'RE NOT THINKING CLEARLY ABOUT THIS, MAI!

YOU MEAN *WHEN* WE FIND TOM-TOM --

IF WE FIND TOM-TOM --

-- I'M GOING TO NEED MY FATHER TO TAKE CARE OF HIM, AND HE CAN'T DO THAT FROM *PRISON*.





I DON'T NEED TO BE ESCORTED LIKE SOME CHILD! I CAN SEE MY OWN WAY OUT!

FIRE LORD'S ORDERS, SIR. I DON'T MEAN ANY DISRESPECT.



TELL ME, CONSTABLE, DO YOU HAVE ANY KIDS?

A BOY, FOUR YEARS OLD.



TRULY, LIKANO, I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH. MY MEN AND I WILL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO FIND YOUR SON. AS SOON AS THE FIRE LORD GIVES THE WORD--

BUT DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?! WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT FOR ZUKO TO FIND HIS COURAGE BEFORE WE ACT!



MARK MY WORDS-- THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.

DARK SPIRITS AREN'T TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY. AS LONG AS THAT COWARD'S ON THE THRONE... YOU'LL SEE.



IF I WERE YOU, I'D KEEP A *CLOSE EYE* ON YOUR BOY.



IT'S WELL PAST YOUR BEDTIME, KIVI. IF YOU'RE TRYING TO STALL AGAIN...

DADDY, WHAT'S THAT GRUMPY MAN TALKING ABOUT?

I DON'T THINK IT'S ANY OF OUR BUSINESS.



IT'S NOTHING, DEAR. DON'T WORRY. THERE'S NO PLACE SAFER THAN THE ROYAL PALACE.

I WAS ASKING *DADDY*, NOT YOU! LET GO! YOU'RE FREEZING!







GREAT SAGE SHYU!

FIRE LORD! AVATAR! WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE!



SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SHYU!

I'M SORRY IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE MY LAST VISIT. THINGS HAVE BEEN *BUSY*.



YOU KNOW WHAT FIRE SAGE KAJA USED TO SAY-- THE *BUSIER* WE ARE, THE MORE ATTENTION WE MUST PAY TO OUR *INTERIOR LIFE*.

TRUE, BUT--

MY BROTHER SAGES AND I RECENTLY REVIVED A COUPLE OF *OLD PRACTICES* THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU! IN FACT, I'M TEACHING A NEW *MEDITATION CLASS* THAT--



I'D LOVE TO HEAR MORE, SHYU-- I SWEAR-- BUT RIGHT NOW, MY FRIENDS AND I NEED TO GET INTO THE *DRAGONBONE CATACOMBS*.

≡SIGHE OF COURSE.



DOES THE FIRE LORD VISIT OFTEN?

SURE. SOMETIMES FOR THE *VIEW*, SOMETIMES FOR THE *DUSTY OLD SCROLLS* IN THE CATACOMBS.

NEVER FOR MY *MEDITATION CLASSES*.







SO HE HAS HIS HAND IN THE JAR, AND I HEAR HIM WHISPER, "I SHOULDN'T BE DOING THIS!"

BUT HE STILL TAKES THE COOKIE! HA HA!

I TRIED SO HARD TO BE MAD AT HIM! HONESTLY, I TRIED.



HONEY, WHAT'S WRONG?

EARLIER TODAY, I MET A FATHER WHOSE SON WAS TAKEN.



OH, NO! WHAT HAPPENED?

YOU KNOW WHAT? WE AGREED I WOULDN'T BRING MY TROUBLES FROM WORK --

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE



SHHH!

DO YOU HEAR THAT?



FOOTSTEPS,  
COMING FROM GURI'S  
ROOM!

I'M SURE  
IT'S NOTHING,  
HONEY! HE  
PROBABLY JUST  
GOT UP FOR  
A DRINK OF  
WATER!



≡GASP!≡



KRAACK!



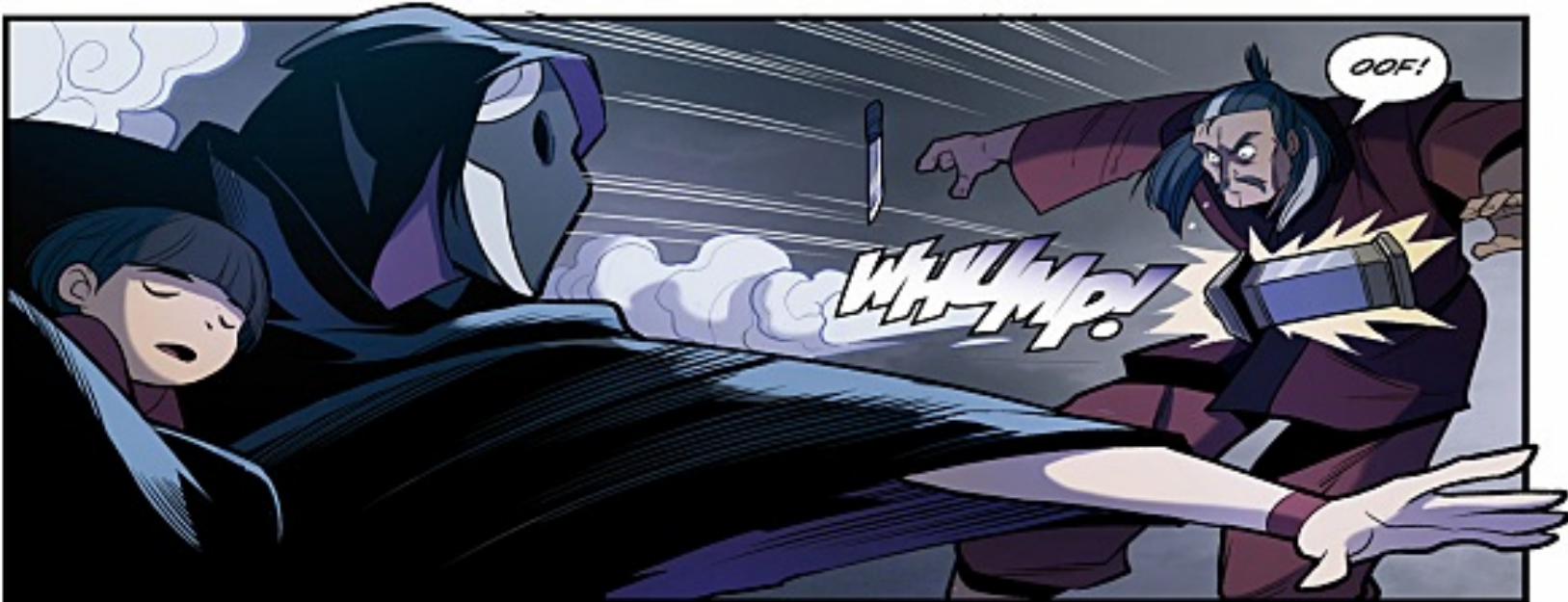
THE  
KEMURIKAGE!

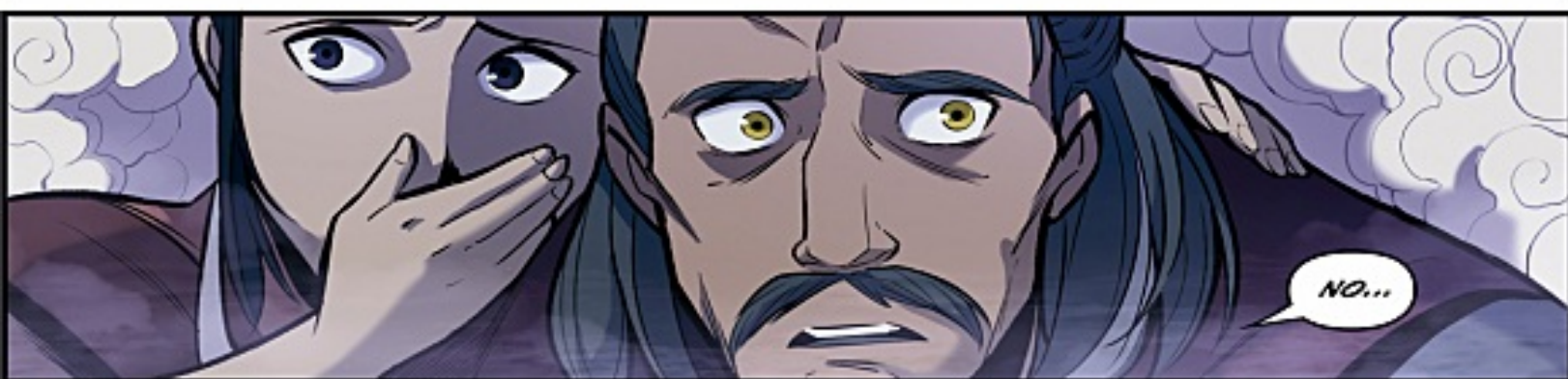


RELEASE MY  
SON! NOW!

YOU  
HEARD THE  
MAN!









SO THIS IS WHERE THE FIRE LORDS ARE BURIED?

YES.

RESERVE A PLACE FOR YOURSELF YET?



WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

IT'S JUST A QUESTION, ZUKO.

IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE FIRE LORD SOZIN?



MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER, YES.

LOOKS LIKE A CRANK.

CRANKINESS RUNS IN THE FAMILY.

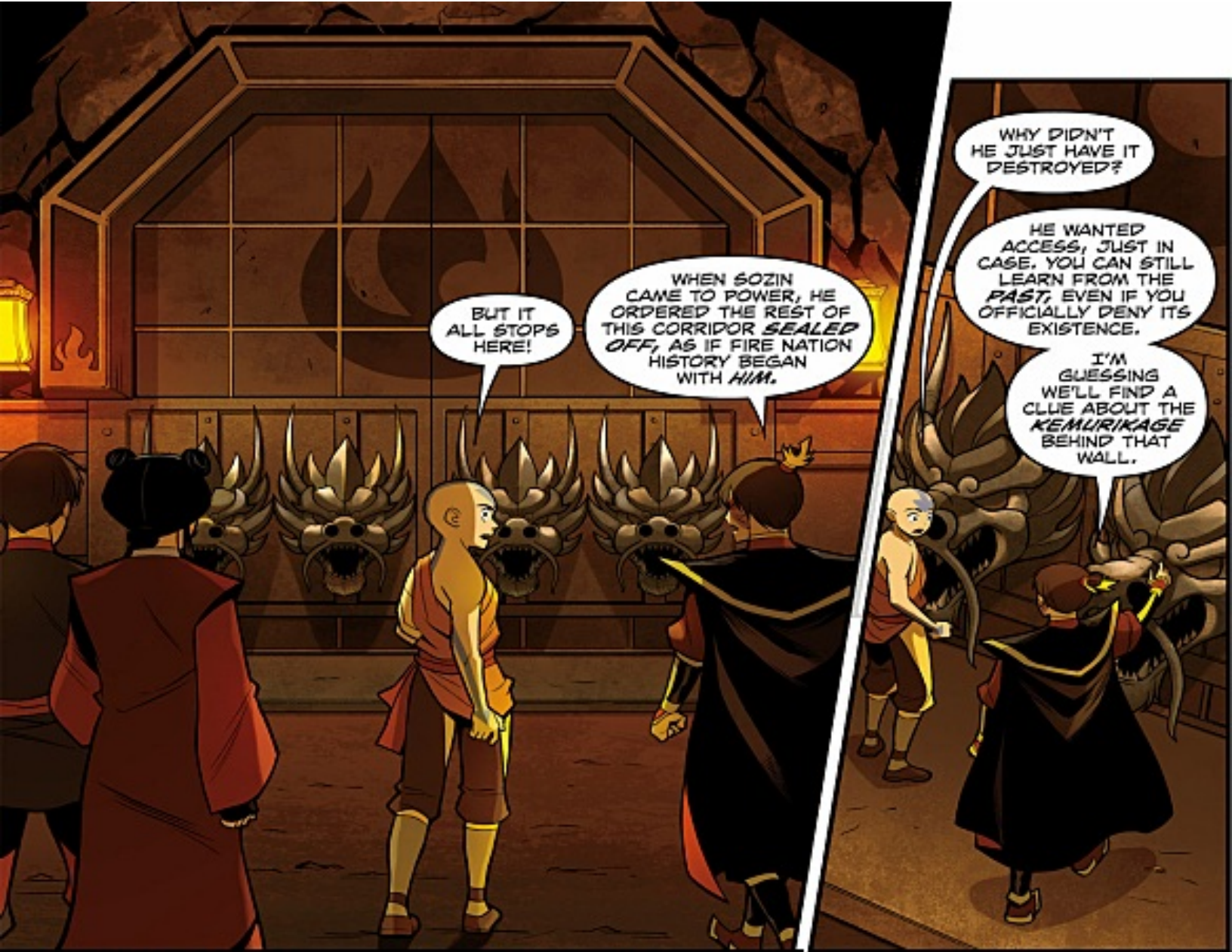


SO HOW'S THIS VISIT GONNA HELP US, ZUKO?



LOOK AT THIS. THIS MURAL ILLUSTRATES THE HISTORY OF THE FIRE NATION, INCLUDING ITS MYTHS AND LEGENDS.

OH, YEAH!



BUT IT ALL STOPS HERE!

WHEN SOZIN CAME TO POWER, HE ORDERED THE REST OF THIS CORRIDOR SEALED OFF, AS IF FIRE NATION HISTORY BEGAN WITH HIM.

WHY DIDN'T HE JUST HAVE IT DESTROYED?

HE WANTED ACCESS, JUST IN CASE YOU CAN STILL LEARN FROM THE PAST, EVEN IF YOU OFFICIALLY DENY ITS EXISTENCE.

I'M GUESSING WE'LL FIND A CLUE ABOUT THE KEMURIKAGE BEHIND THAT WALL.



YOU KNOW, THERE'S SOMETHING JUST LIKE THIS IN THE SAGES' TEMPLE ON CRESCENT ISLAND!

ZUKO, IF YOU AND I SEND FIRE BLASTS INTO EACH OF THE DRAGONS' MOUTHS, THE WHOLE THING WILL OPEN RIGHT UP!

WORTH A TRY.



READY WHEN YOU ARE!

YOU MIGHT WANT TO STAND BACK.

WE'RE FINE, THANKS.





SUKI!  
SUKI!

DID  
Y'HEAR?!

MORE  
DARK SPIRITS  
ARE POPPING UP  
ALL OVER THE CITY!  
WE GOTTA DO  
SOMETHING!

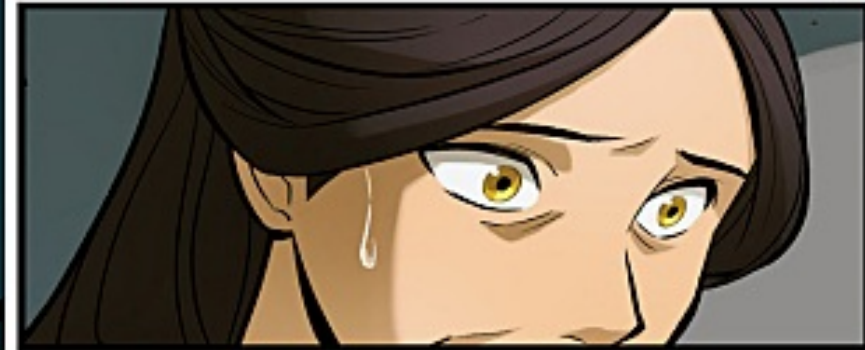


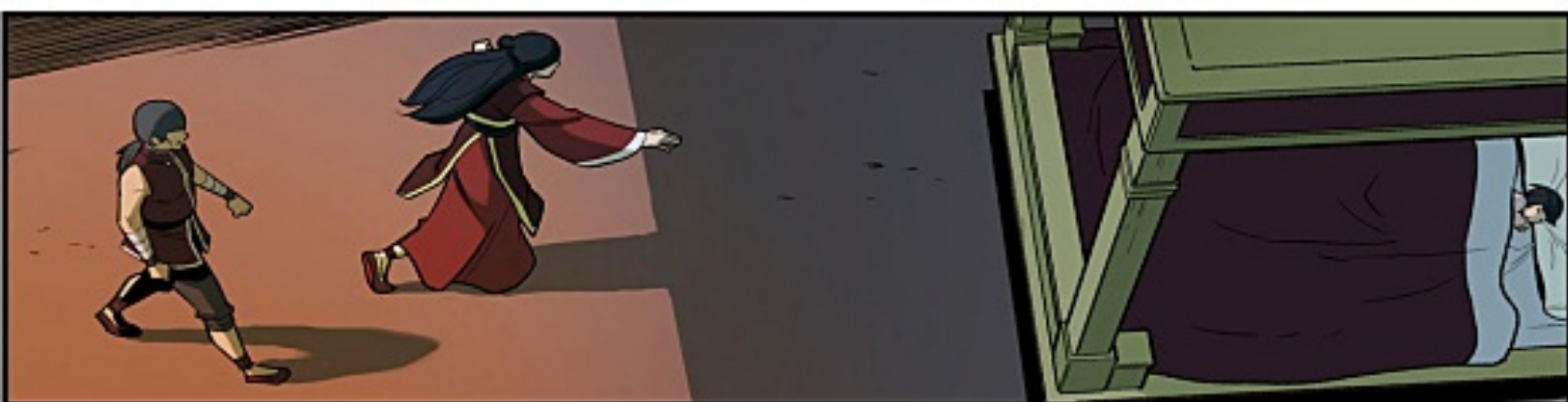
NOT YET, WE'LL WAIT  
UNTIL ZUKO GETS BACK.  
HE AND AANG ARE  
TRYING TO FIGURE  
SOMETHING OUT.

BUT WHAT IF  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO MAI'S LITTLE  
BROTHER HAPPENS  
TO SOMEONE  
ELSE?



LET'S JUST  
GIVE THEM A  
LITTLE MORE  
TIME.











R-R-RUMBLE

WELL,  
LOOK AT  
THAT!



YOU  
WERE RIGHT,  
ZUKO! THE  
MURAL KEEPS  
GOING!

I'M IMPRESSED.  
ANY OTHER  
CRIMINAL  
TALENTS I DON'T  
KNOW ABOUT?

STICK AROUND,  
MAYBE YOU'LL  
FIND OUT.



KNOCK!  
KNOCK!  
KNOCK!



CONSTABLE  
SUNG?

LIKANO, FORGIVE  
ME FOR NOT  
BELIEVING YOU, THE  
KEMURIKAGE --



THEY'VE  
TAKEN YOUR  
SON, HAVEN'T  
THEY?

AND  
ACCORDING TO  
MY OFFICERS, HE  
WASN'T THE ONLY  
ONE. WITHIN THE LAST  
FEW HOURS, THERE'S  
BEEN A RASH OF  
KIDNAPPINGS.



AND ZUKO'S  
RESPONSE?

I WENT TO  
THE ROYAL PALACE  
JUST BEFORE COMING  
HERE...HE'S NOWHERE  
TO BE FOUND.



YOU WERE  
RIGHT. WE  
CANNOT WAIT FOR  
THE FIRE LORD. FOR  
THE SAKE OF OUR  
CHILDREN --



-- WE  
MUST ACT  
NOW.



AND I  
KNOW JUST  
HOW TO GET  
STARTED.



OH, LOOK, MORE OF ZUKO'S CRANKY ANCESTORS.

HA HA!

THEY DON'T ALL LOOK CRANKY. THIS GUY'S MORE... *STOIC*.



HOW MANY FIRE LORDS WERE THERE?

I'M NOT SURE. THE *HISTORY BOOKS* I STUDIED AS A KID ALL BEGAN WITH SOZIN.



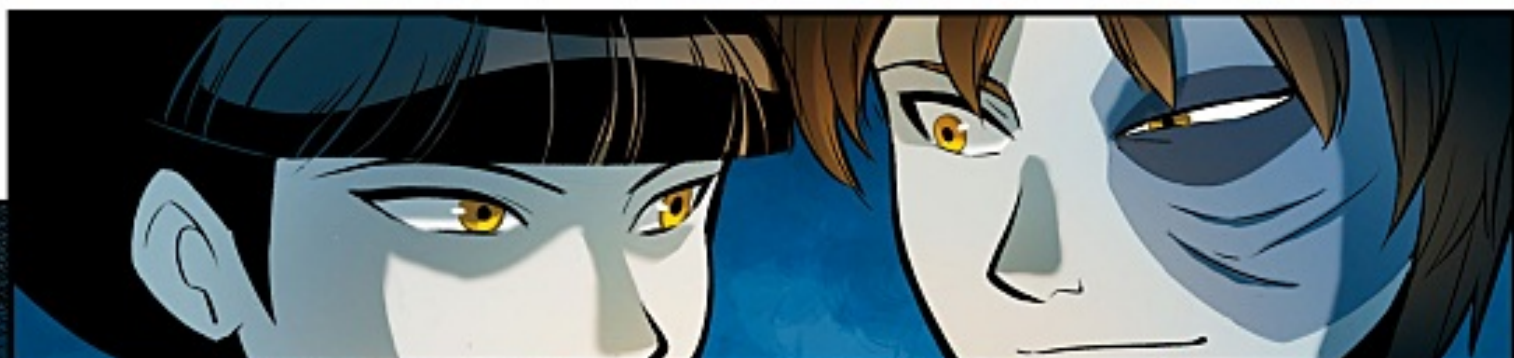
BUT I BET THIS IS THE *FIRST ONE*, THE ONE WHO UNITED THE FIRE ISLANDS.

GUYS, I THINK I FOUND WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR.



THE SPIRITS WHO KIDNAPPED TOM-TOM -- *THAT'S* EXACTLY WHAT THEY LOOKED LIKE!

THE *KEMURIKAGE*.



"THEY FOUGHT ONE ANOTHER FOR TERRITORY, AND OFTEN THE COMMON PEOPLE WERE CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE."



"ALL THE WARLORDS WERE CRUEL AND RUTHLESS, BUT WORST OF THEM WAS A BRUTE NAMED TOZ."



"FEAST OR FAMINE, TOZ DEMANDED ANNUAL TRIBUTES FROM ALL THE VILLAGES IN HIS TERRITORY."



"ONE YEAR, A VILLAGE DARED TO REFUSE TOZ HIS TRIBUTE."



"AND SO, TO TEACH THEM A LESSON, TOZ HAD ALL THE VILLAGE'S CHILDREN KIDNAPPED."



THE CHILDREN WERE NEVER SEEN AGAIN, AND THE VILLAGE'S MOTHERS DIED IN SADNESS.



HOW HORRIBLE! WHERE WAS MY PAST LIFE IN ALL THIS?!

MAYBE THIS WAS BEFORE THE FIRST AVATAR.

SHHH. I'M NOT DONE.

"SOON AFTER THE MOTHERS' DEATHS, DARK SPIRITS BEGAN TO HAUNT TOZ AND HIS MEN.



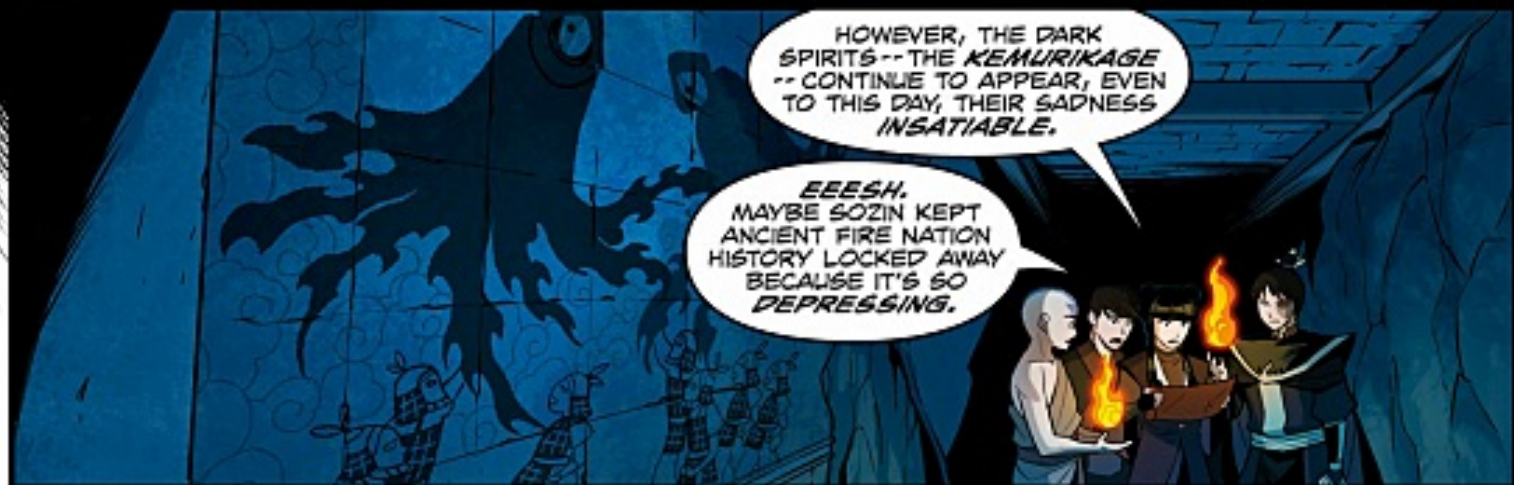
"EVERY SO OFTEN, THEY WOULD DRIFT INTO THE WARLORD'S ENCAMPMENT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.



"THE NEXT MORNING, A CHILD WOULD BE GONE.



"OUT OF FEAR,  
TOZ'S MEN  
ABANDONED  
HIM. HIS REGIME  
COLLAPSED."



HOWEVER, THE DARK  
SPIRITS--THE *KEMURIKAGE*  
-- CONTINUE TO APPEAR, EVEN  
TO THIS DAY, THEIR SADNESS  
INSATIABLE.

EEESH.  
MAYBE SOZIN KEPT  
ANCIENT FIRE NATION  
HISTORY LOCKED AWAY  
BECAUSE IT'S SO  
DEPRESSING.



MAI,  
I THINK YOU  
*SUMMONED*  
SOMETHING BY  
READING THAT  
SCROLL!

LOOK!









A STRONG NATION IS A SAFE NATION!

A STRONG NATION IS A SAFE NATION!

AND WHO'S THAT BUNCHA RUFFIANS?



THE SAFE NATION SOCIETY, A VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

MY POLICE FORCE ISN'T BIG ENOUGH TO HANDLE EVERYTHING THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, SO THEY'RE PITCHING IN.



THE CAPITAL CITY IS UNDER SIEGE BY DARK SPIRITS! NOW GET HOME BEFORE WE ARREST YOU FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!

DARK SPIRITS...?

SOUNDS LIKE A LOAD OF HOOEY T'ME!



LISTEN,  
I BEEN ROUND THE  
BLOCK *MORE TIMES*  
THAN THE TWO A'YOU  
PUT TOGETHER! SO  
UNLESS I --

*AYEE!*



MY  
BABY! MY  
BABY!



MASTER  
LIKANO!  
CONSTABLE!

UP  
THERE!















LISH! WHY WOULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!

BECAUSE IT'S TRUE!



LOOK, ZUKO! YOU AND I, WE HAD OUR CHANCE! IT'S TIME FOR BOTH OF US TO MOVE ON!

I'M NOT ARGUING WITH THAT! ALL I'M SAYING IS...



I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING.



TELL ME, DO YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM THE SAME WAY YOU USED TO FEEL ABOUT ME?

STOP.



JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION.

YOU BROKE MY HEART, ZUKO! TWICE! AND THE STUPID THING IS, I LET YOU!



LIKE A COMPLETE MORON, I LET YOU.



KEI LO LIKES ME. A LOT, PROBABLY MORE THAN I LIKE HIM.

AND THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I NEED IT TO BE, BECAUSE I WON'T EVER LET MYSELF GET HURT LIKE THAT AGAIN.



DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOU NEED MY HELP! MAYBE I SHOULD --

KEI LO, SOMETHING'S HAPPENING!



GREETINGS, AVATAR.



YOU... YOU'RE ONE OF THE **KEMURIKAGE** -- THE ORIGINAL ONES, FROM **LONG AGO**.

I AM.



FOR CENTURIES, MY SISTERS AND I **HAUNTED** THE WARLORDS OF THE **FIRE ISLANDS**. FOR THEIR CRIMES, WE HAUNTED THEM.



WE HAUNTED THEM UNTIL THE ISLANDS WERE UNITED INTO A SINGLE NATION.

THE FIRST FIRE LORD, THE ONE WHO RESTS IN THIS CRYPT --



" -- BROUGHT THE WARLORDS TO JUSTICE AND USHERED IN AN ERA OF PROLONGED PEACE."



OUR SADNESS RECEDED. WE NEVER AGAIN SET FOOT IN THE HUMAN WORLD.

BUT THEN, WHY RETURN NOW? WHY ARE YOU HAUNTING PEOPLE AGAIN?



I REPEAT, AVATAR --

-- FROM THE TIME OF THE FIRST FIRE LORD UNTIL THIS MOMENT, WE HAVE NOT ENTERED YOUR WORLD.



I'M TELLING YOU, THEY'RE NOT THE SAME SPIRITS AS THE ONES IN THAT SCROLL!



SO THEY'RE DIFFERENT SPIRITS WHO JUST LOOK LIKE THE KEMURIKAGE?

MAYBE.

OR MAYBE THEY'RE NOT SPIRITS AT ALL.

ALL I KNOW IS, ON THE ROOF OF THE FLOWER SHOP THAT NIGHT? THOSE LADIES LOOKED CREEPY.



A STRONG NATION IS A SAFE NATION!

WHAT THE --?!



A STRONG NATION IS A SAFE NATION!

A STRONG NATION IS A SAFE NATION!

WHAT ARE ALL THOSE PEOPLE DOING OUT IN THE STREET? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!


LET'S FIND OUT.



CONSTABLE SUNG! LIKANO! WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ALL THIS?

FIRE LORD!





IN FACT, NOT TEN MINUTES AGO, THE *SOCIETY* SAVED A CHILD BY HEROICALLY FIGHTING OFF A GROUP OF *DARK SPIRITS*!



HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT THOSE PROBABLY WEREN'T SPIRITS!

**PREPOSTEROUS!**  
I SAW THEM WITH MY OWN TWO EYES! HUMANS DON'T MOVE LIKE THAT!



YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.

**MA!**  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



I CAN TELL BY THE WAY YOU'RE TALKING... WHAT'S YOUR *SECRET*, FATHER?



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!





WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?! CONSTABLE SUNG IS A GOOD MAN!

AND YOU, LIKANO --

THIS SOCIETY OF YOURS WILL *DISBAND IMMEDIATELY* OR YOU WILL ALL FACE *ARREST!*



COME, SAFE NATION SOCIETY! WE WILL RESPECT THE WISHES OF THE "FIRE LORD."

LET US RETURN TO OUR HOMES AND *STAND IDLY BY* WHILE OUR NATION *SUFFERS!*



AND MAI, WHEN YOU FINALLY COME TO REALIZE THE *TRUTH*, YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME.





WHAT JUST HAPPENED WITH CONSTABLE SUNG... THAT WAS PRETTY HARSH.



I HATED TO DO IT, BUT I HAD NO CHOICE.

FIRE LORD ZUKO?



WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, THE *SAFE NATION SOCIETY* JUST SAVED MY DAUGHTER.

THEY'RE *HEROES*, WHICH IS MORE THAN I CAN SAY FOR YOU.









WHAT'D YOU DO TODAY, ZUZU?

I HAD TO... DEAL WITH A *PROBLEM* OUR NATION'S BEEN HAVING.



WHAT KIND OF PROBLEM?

NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT. I'M GOING TO TAKE CARE OF IT.



I KNOW YOU WILL, ZUZU. I KNOW YOU WILL.



SLEEP TIGHT, KIVI.







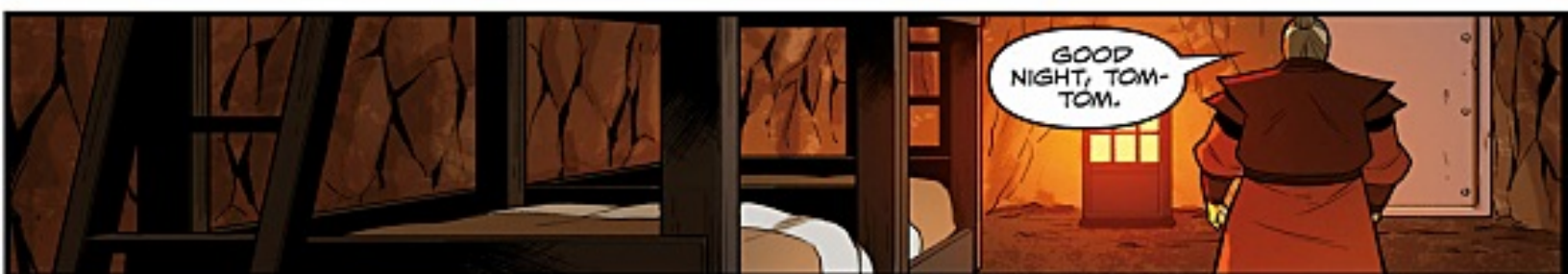
BY STAYING  
HERE, YOU AND  
THE OTHER CHILDREN  
ARE *DOING YOUR*  
*PART.*

THE *SCARY*  
*LADIES* WHO  
BROUGHT ME HERE  
-- THEY'RE YOUR  
*FRIENDS?*



WHY,  
YES, AND  
THEY'RE NOT SO  
*SCARY* ONCE YOU  
GET TO KNOW  
THEM.

THEN  
HOW COME  
YOUR VOICE  
SHAKES WHEN  
YOU TALK  
TO 'EM?



GOOD  
NIGHT, TOM-  
TOM.



THE KYOSHI WARRIORS JUST FINISHED THEIR NIGHTLY ROUNDS. EVERYTHING'S SECURE.

THANK YOU, SUKI.



WANT SOME COMPANY?

SURE.



YOU'LL FIND TOM-TOM. I KNOW YOU WILL.

YEAH... BUT IT ISN'T JUST ABOUT FINDING HIM.



A COUPLE MONTHS BEFORE WE BROKE UP, MAI AND I TOOK TOM-TOM ON A PICNIC WITH US. I THINK HIS MOM HAD ERRANDS TO RUN? I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER.



AT FIRST, I WAS KIND OF ANNOYED. I WAS HOPING TO GET SOME ALONE TIME, JUST MAI AND ME, YOU KNOW?

BUT THEN, I REMEMBER WATCHING HIM RUN AFTER THIS GLOW MOTH.

HE WAS SO HAPPY. I DON'T REMEMBER EVER BEING THAT HAPPY.



MAI EVER TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED TO TOM-TOM IN OMASHU?

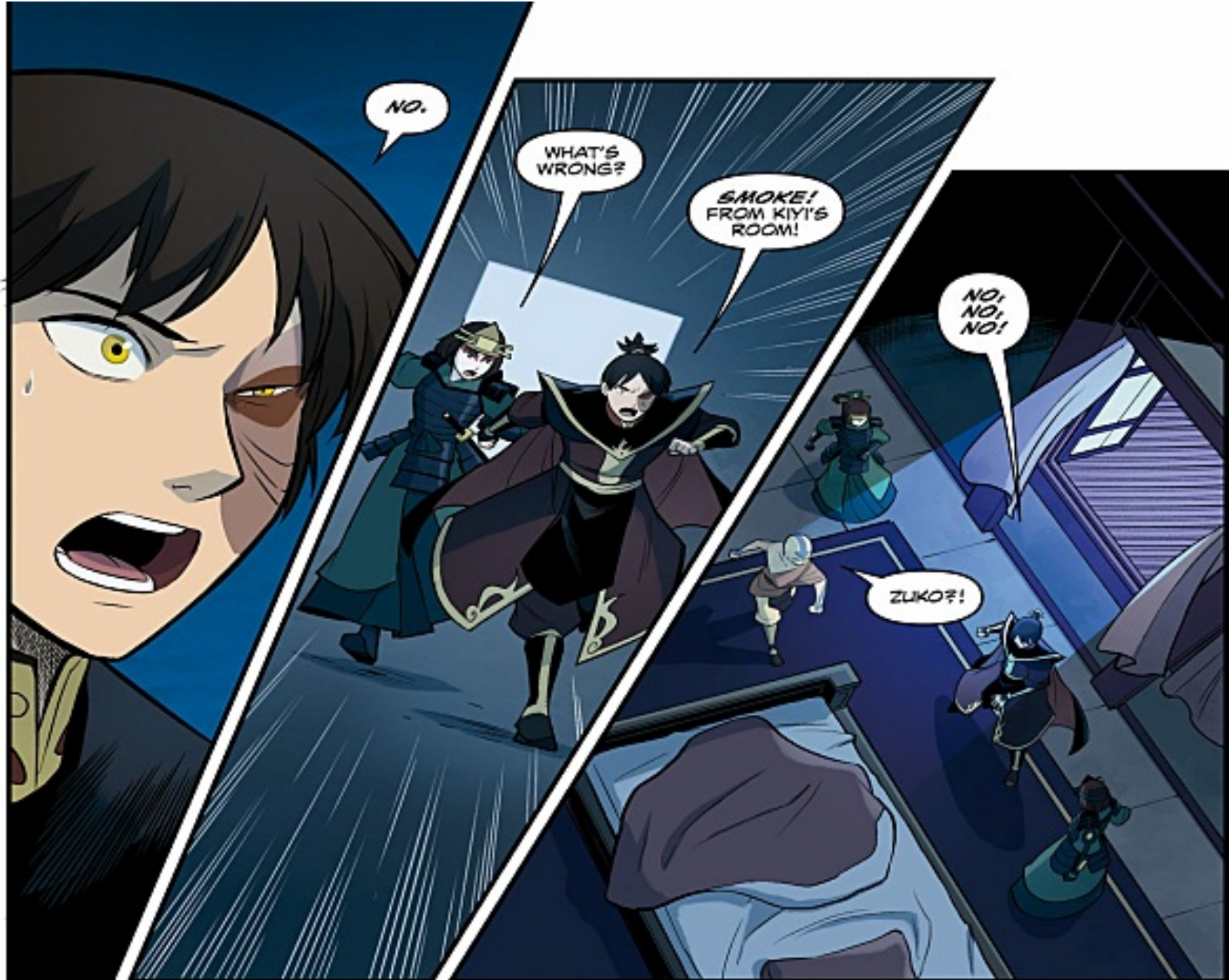
YEAH.

SO YOU KNOW, FOR A LITTLE GUY, HE'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT. BUT HE COULD STILL GET SO MUCH JOY FROM CHASING A FLYING BUG.



IF WE... WHEN WE FIND HIM, WILL HE STILL BE THE SAME KID? WILL HE BE ABLE TO BE THAT HAPPY EVER AGAIN?









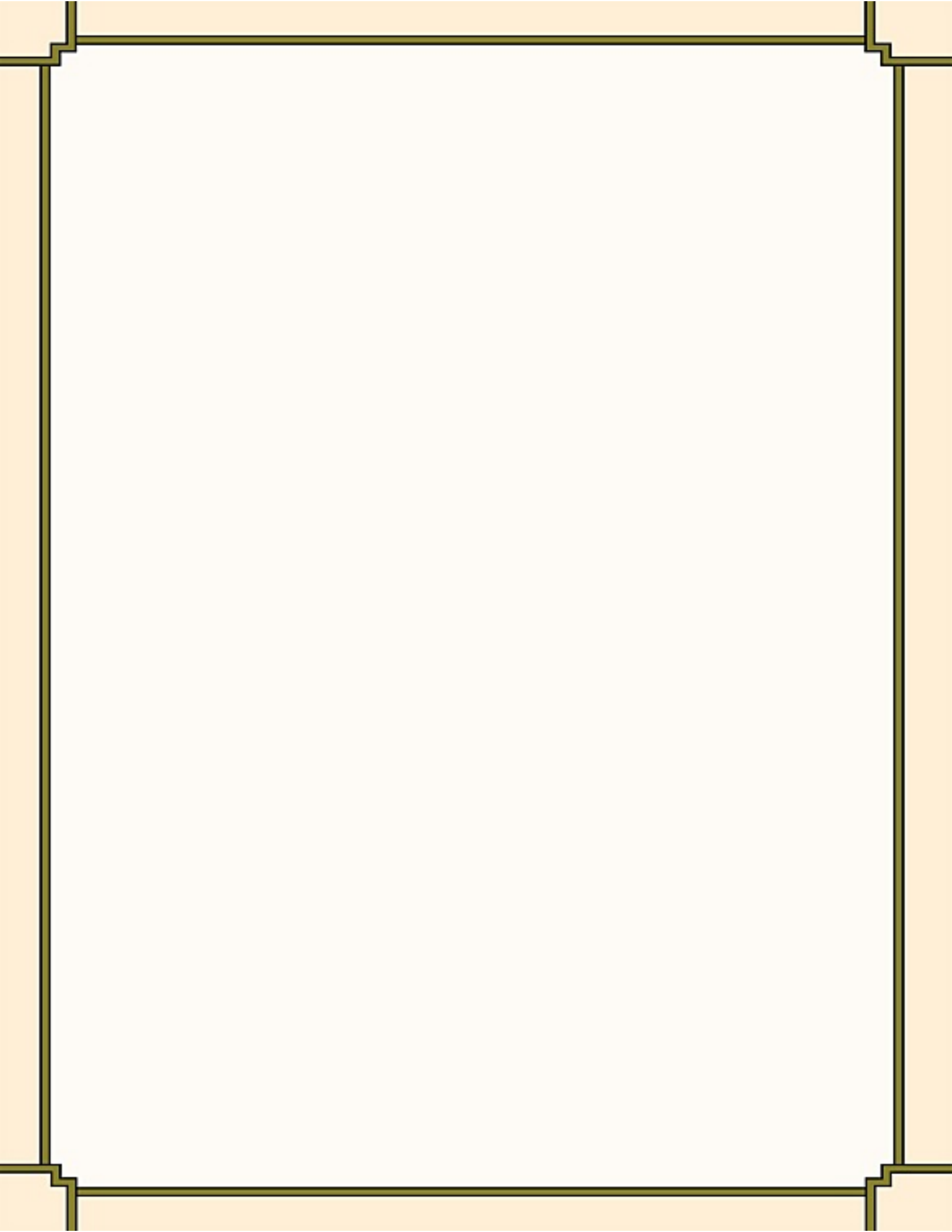




ZZTT-KRACH!



AZULA.





### What is the secret of the Kemurikage?

The shadowy spirits known as the Kemurikage are abducting children throughout the Fire Nation Capital, sowing widespread fear and panic in their wake. Desperate to determine what has angered these spirits, Aang and Zuko search for clues deep in the Dragonbone Catacombs underneath the Fire Sages Capital Temple. Can they uncover the hidden history of the Kemurikage and solve the mystery in time, or will more children be taken?

Writer Gene Luen Yang and artistic duo Gurihiru, the team behind bestsellers *The Promise*, *The Search*, and *The Rift*, are back again! 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!



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