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# AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™



KATARA AND THE PIRATE'S SILVER





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**nickelodeon**<sup>TM</sup>

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THE LAST AIRBENDER



**KATARA AND THE PIRATE'S SILVER**



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Nickelodeon Avatar: The Last Airbender™—Katara and the Pirate's Silver

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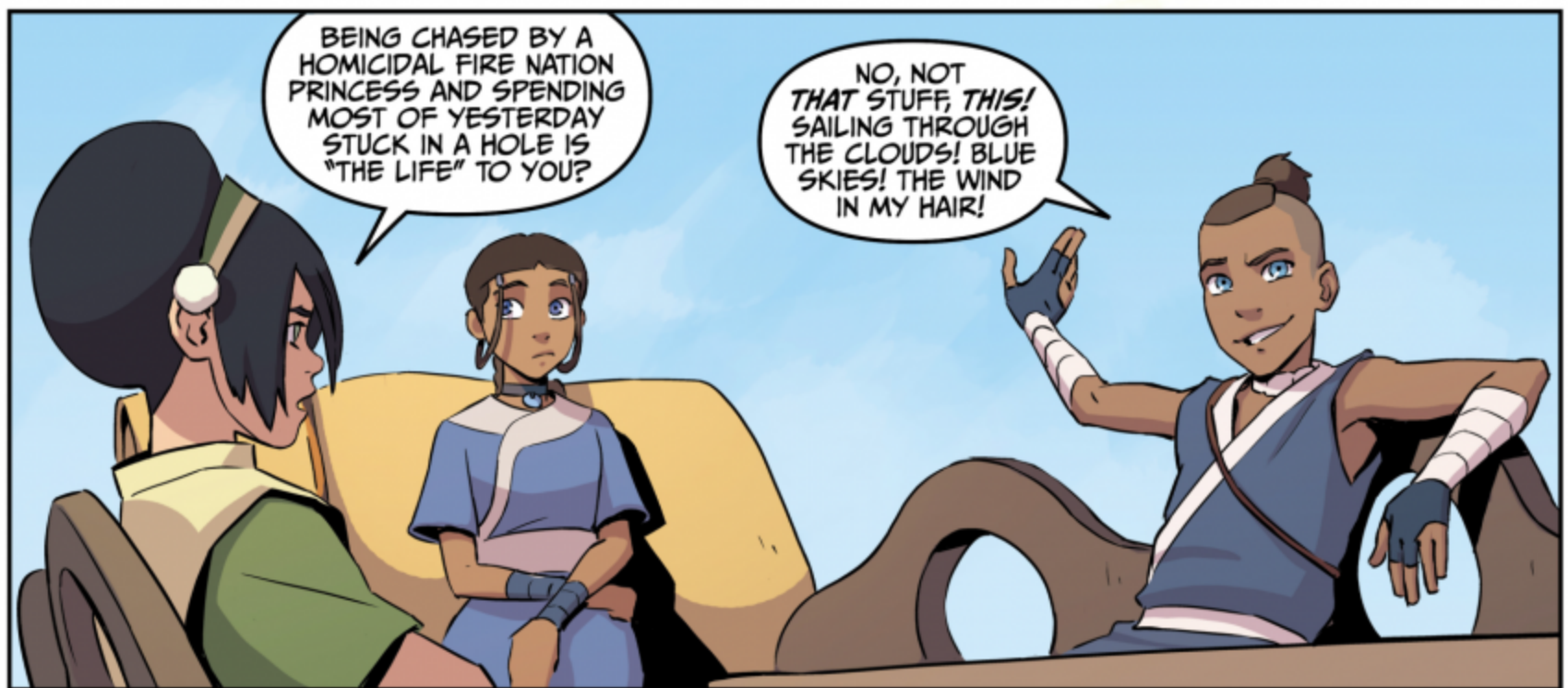
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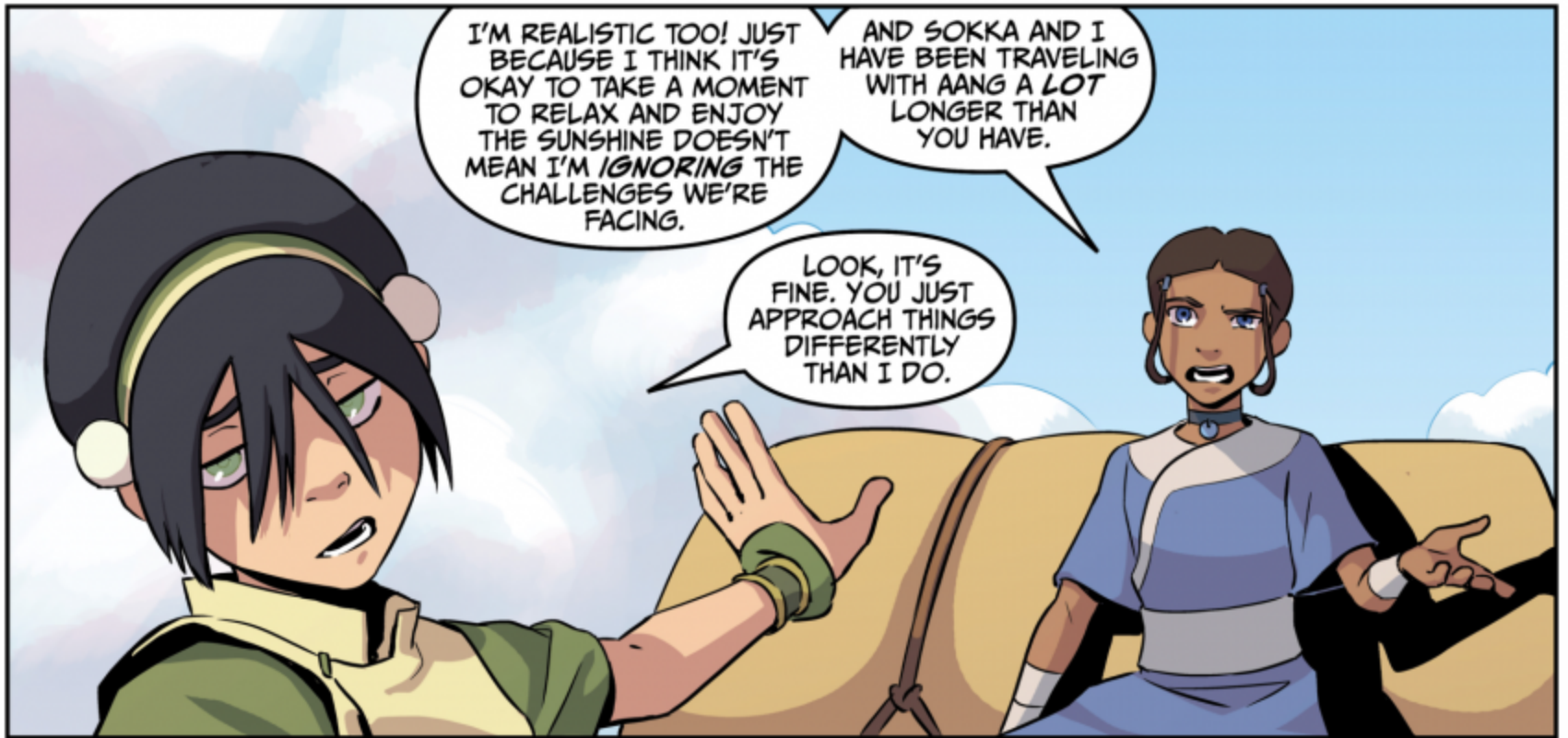
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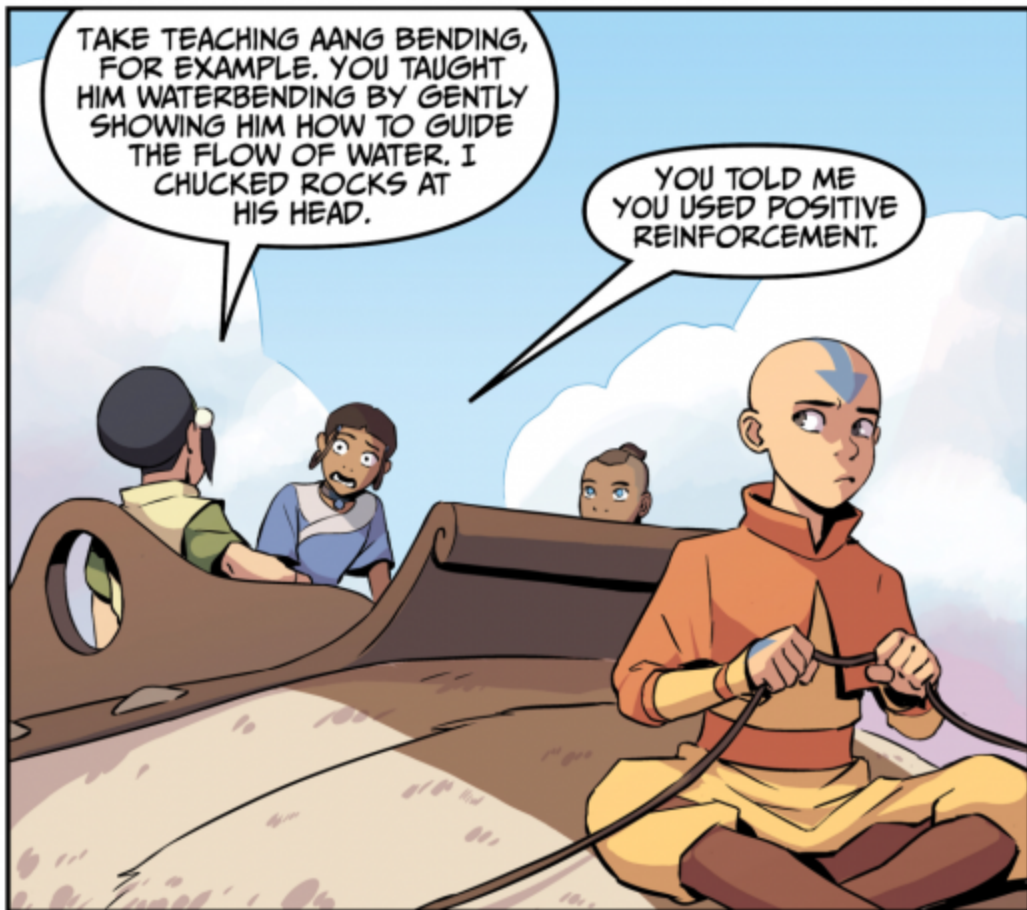




I'M REALISTIC TOO! JUST BECAUSE I THINK IT'S OKAY TO TAKE A MOMENT TO RELAX AND ENJOY THE SUNSHINE DOESN'T MEAN I'M *IGNORING* THE CHALLENGES WE'RE FACING.

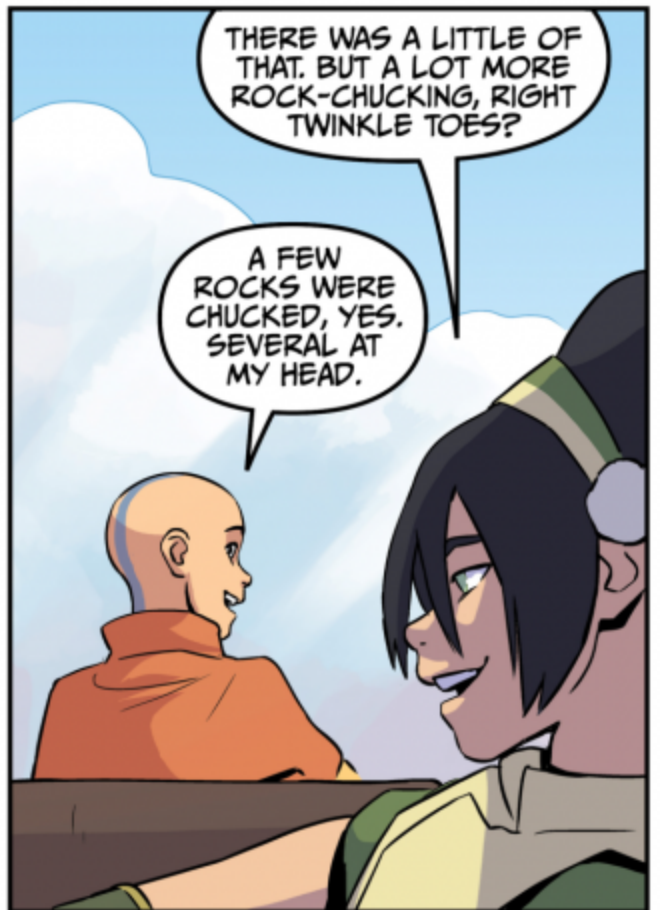
AND SOKKA AND I HAVE BEEN TRAVELING WITH AANG A LOT LONGER THAN YOU HAVE.

LOOK, IT'S FINE. YOU JUST APPROACH THINGS DIFFERENTLY THAN I DO.



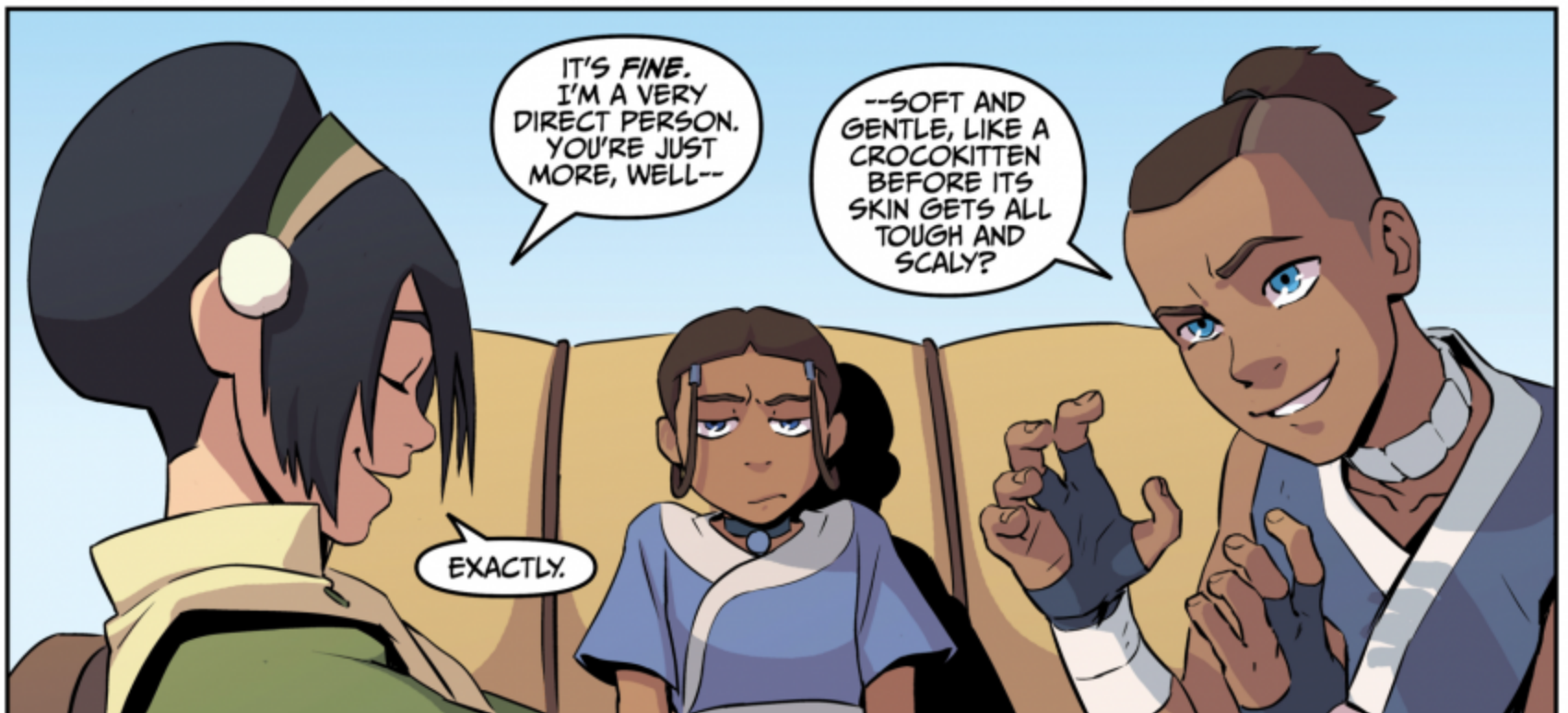
TAKE TEACHING AANG BENDING, FOR EXAMPLE. YOU TAUGHT HIM WATERBENDING BY GENTLY SHOWING HIM HOW TO GUIDE THE FLOW OF WATER. I CHUCKED ROCKS AT HIS HEAD.

YOU TOLD ME YOU USED POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT.



THERE WAS A LITTLE OF THAT. BUT A LOT MORE ROCK-CHUCKING, RIGHT TWINKLE TOES?

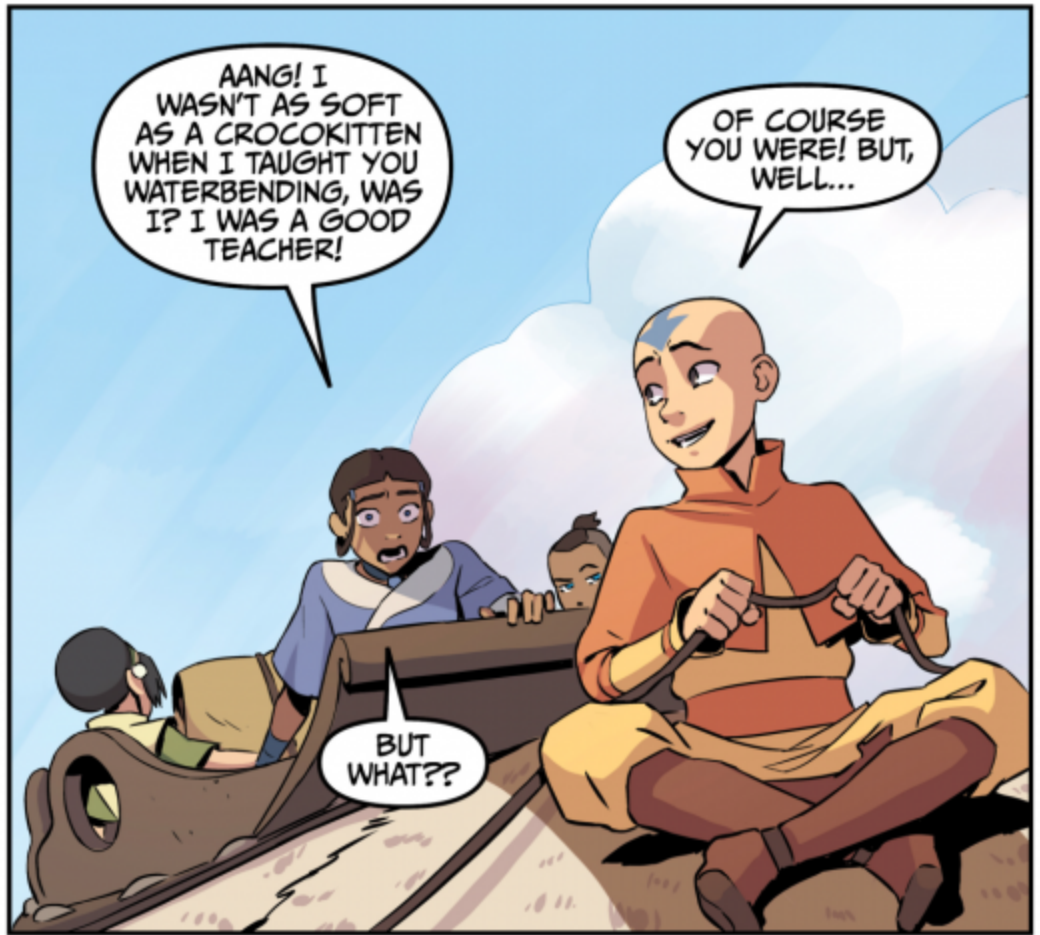
A FEW ROCKS WERE CHUCKED, YES. SEVERAL AT MY HEAD.



IT'S FINE. I'M A VERY DIRECT PERSON. YOU'RE JUST MORE, WELL--

--SOFT AND GENTLE, LIKE A CROCKITTEN BEFORE ITS SKIN GETS ALL TOUGH AND SCALY?

EXACTLY.



FSHOOOOOOO!!!



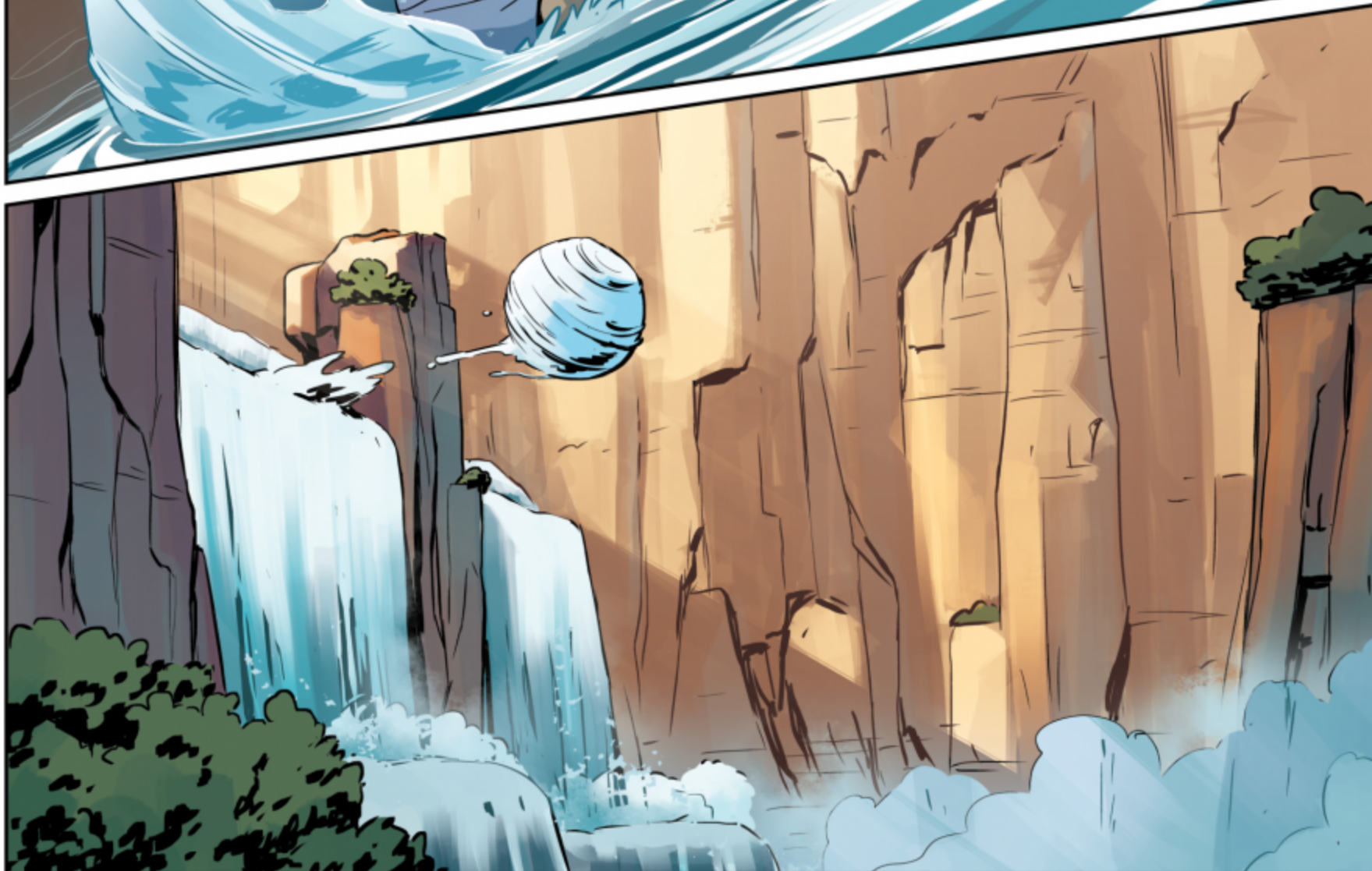
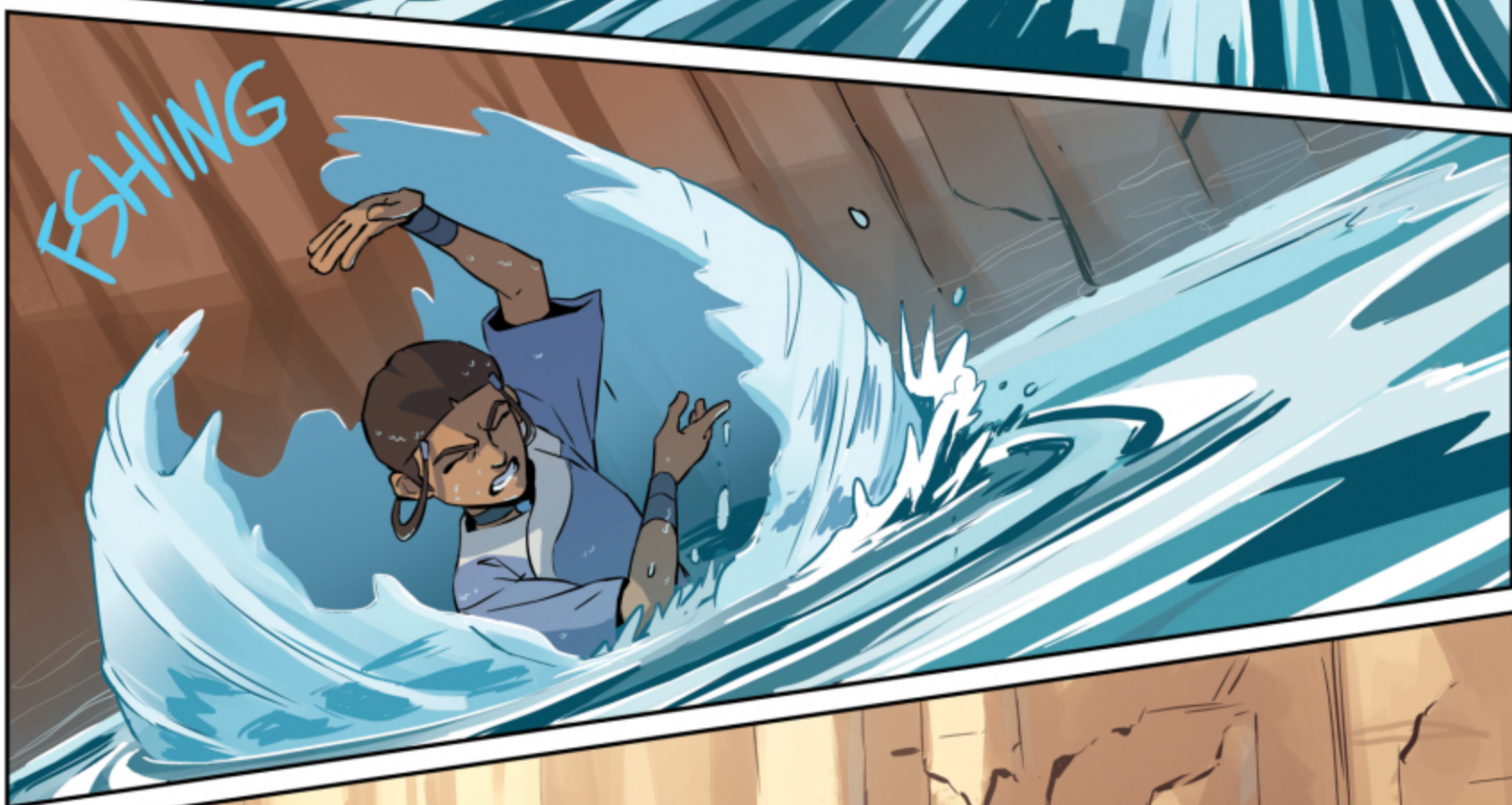
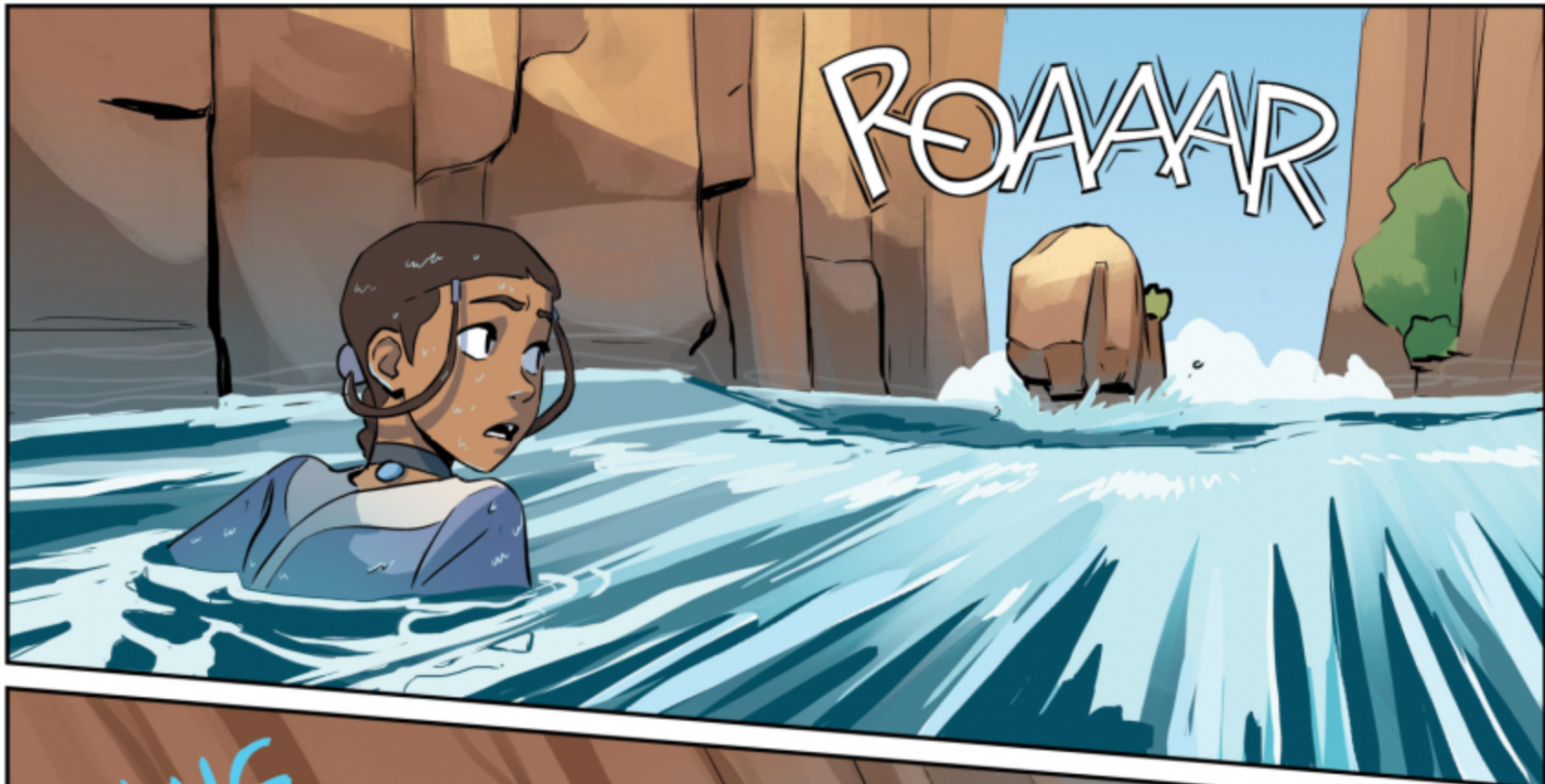
WHOA!

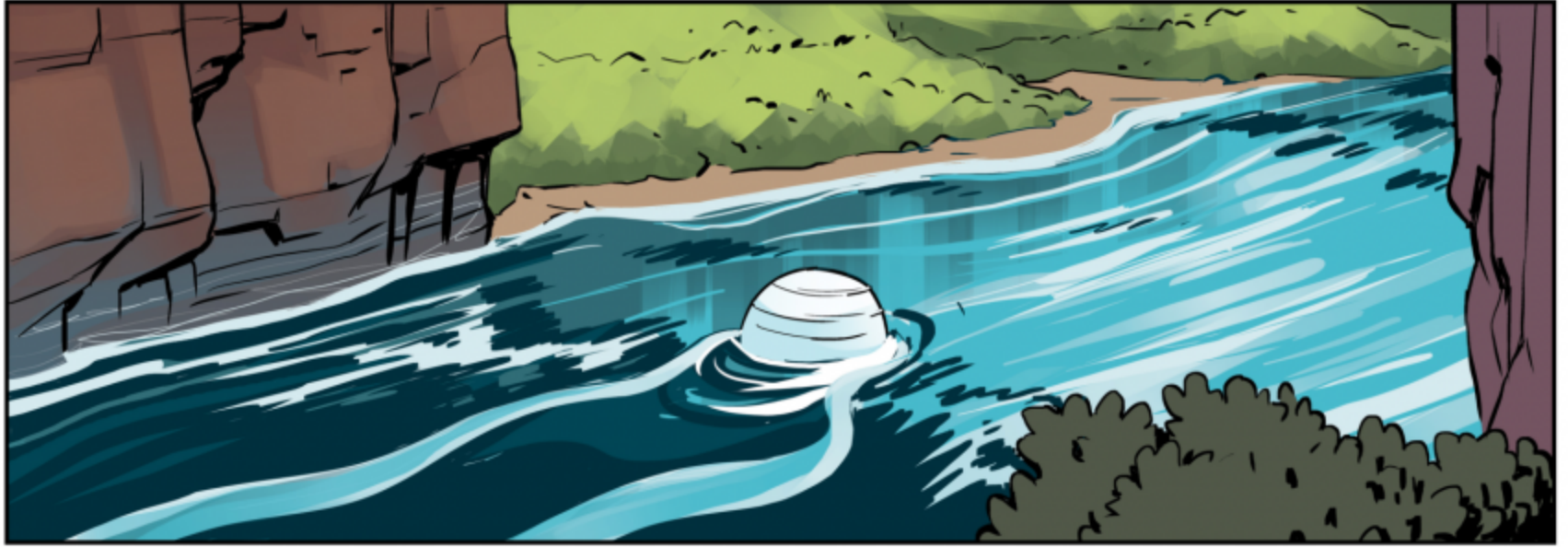
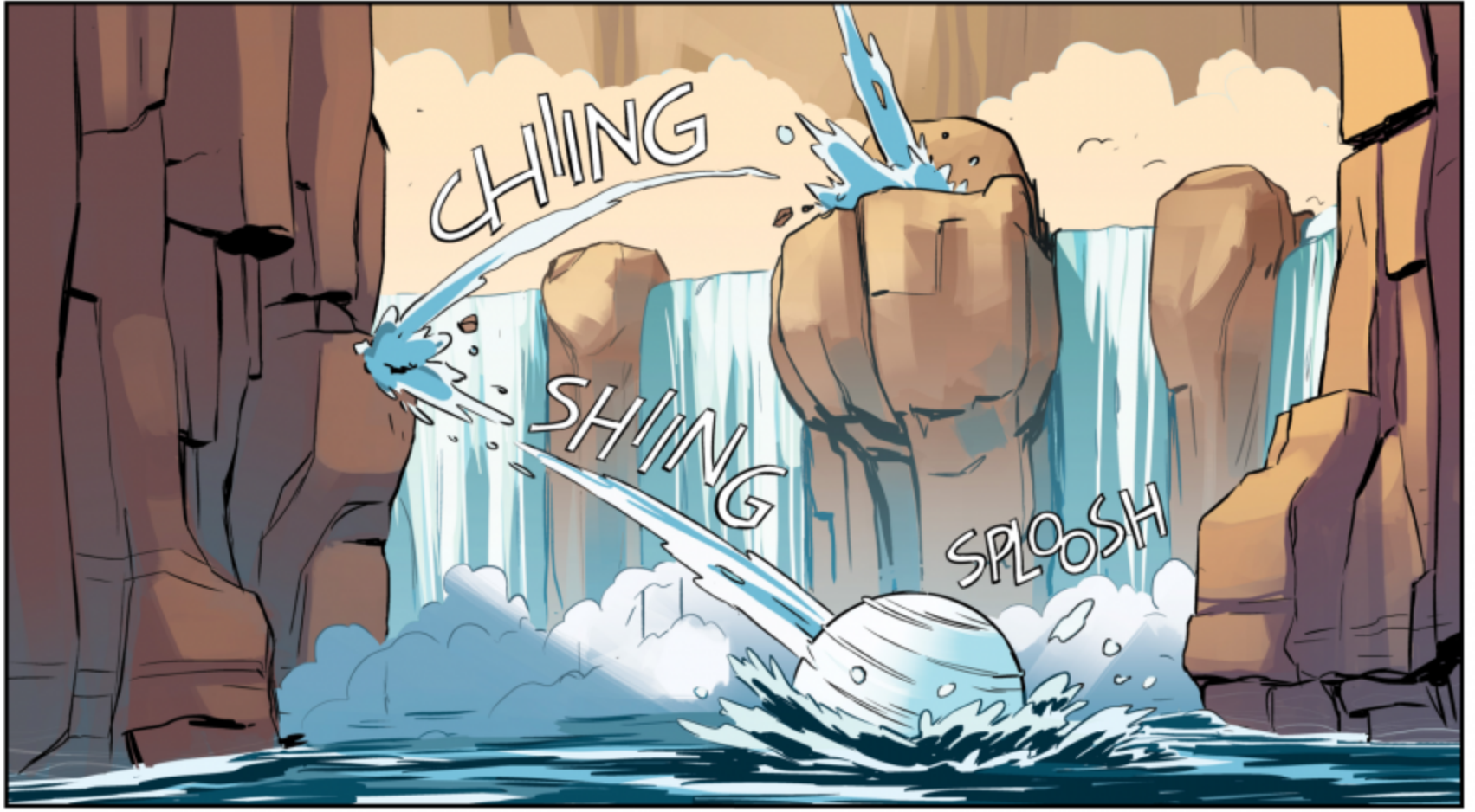




















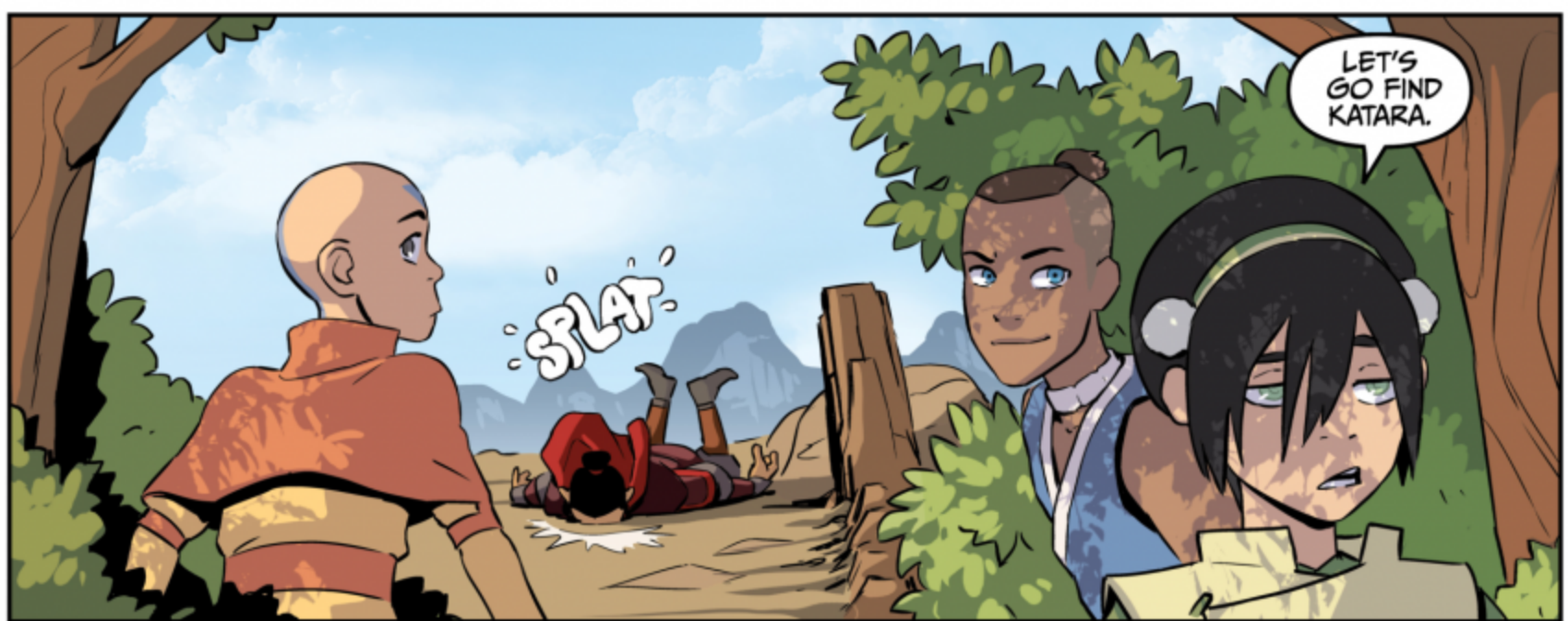
FOR THE HONOR OF THE FIRE NATION AND IN THE NAME OF LORD OZAI, I ARREST YOU, AVATAR!



THINK

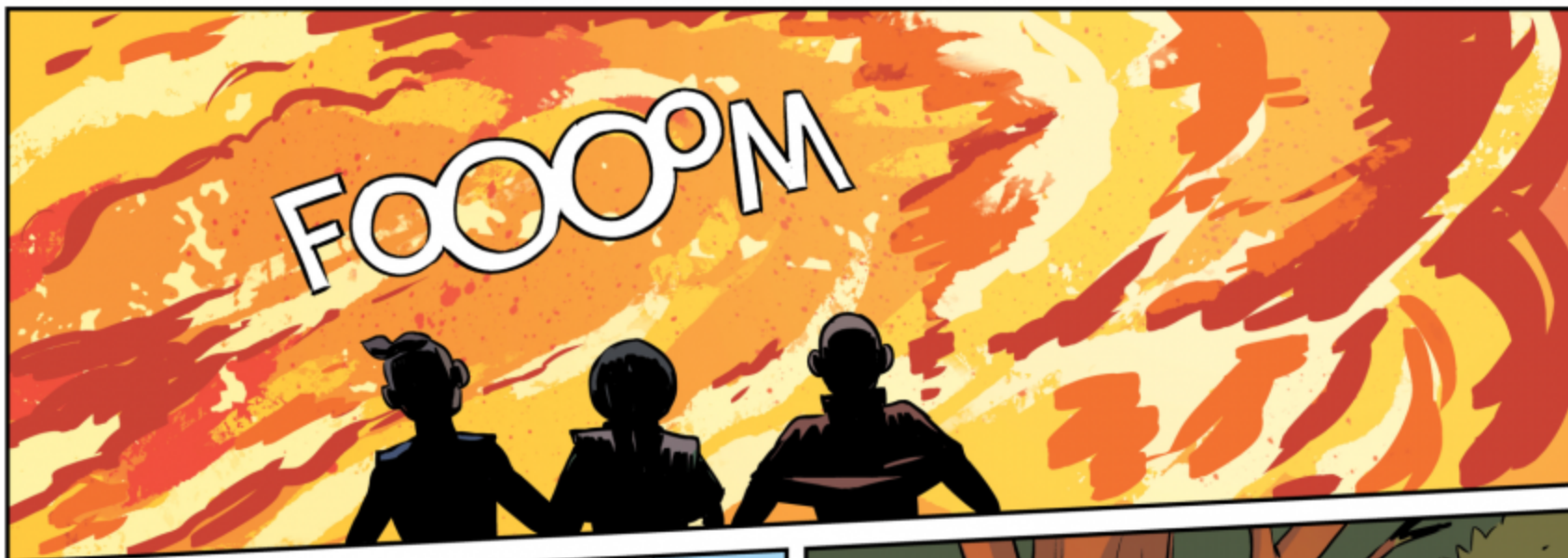


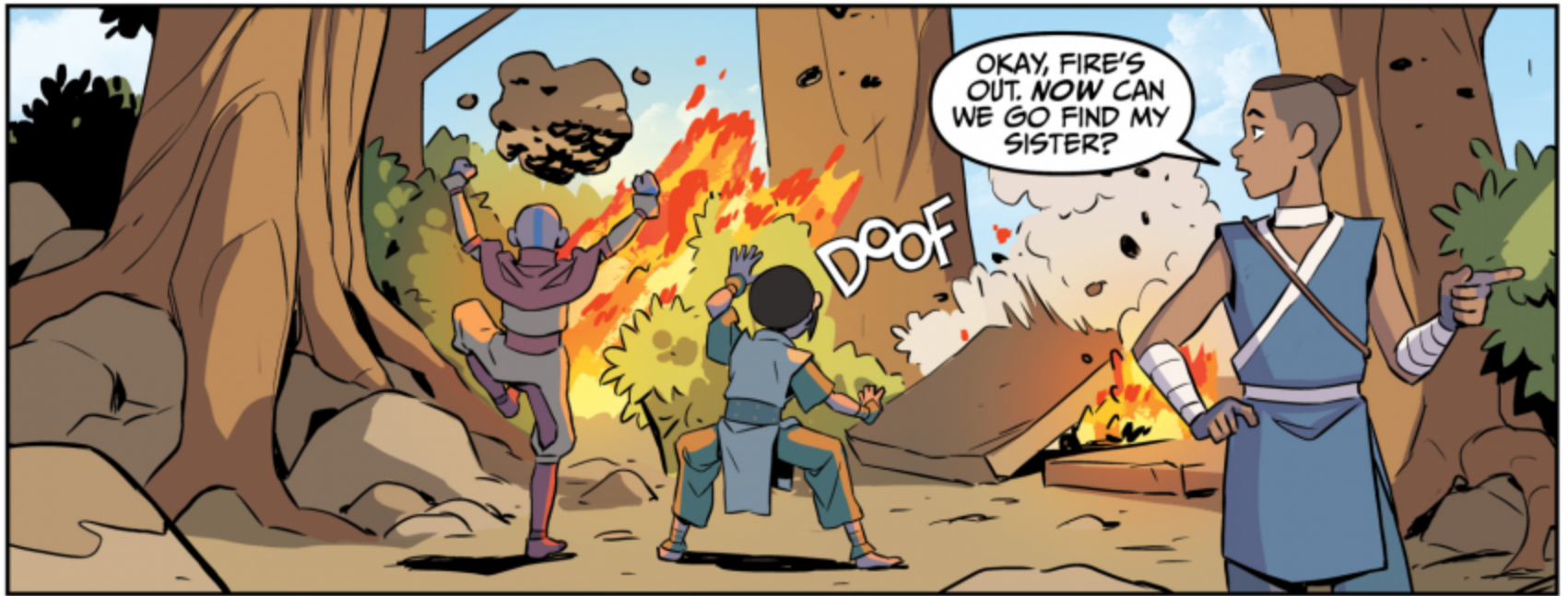
THOOM



LET'S GO FIND KATARA.

SPLAT









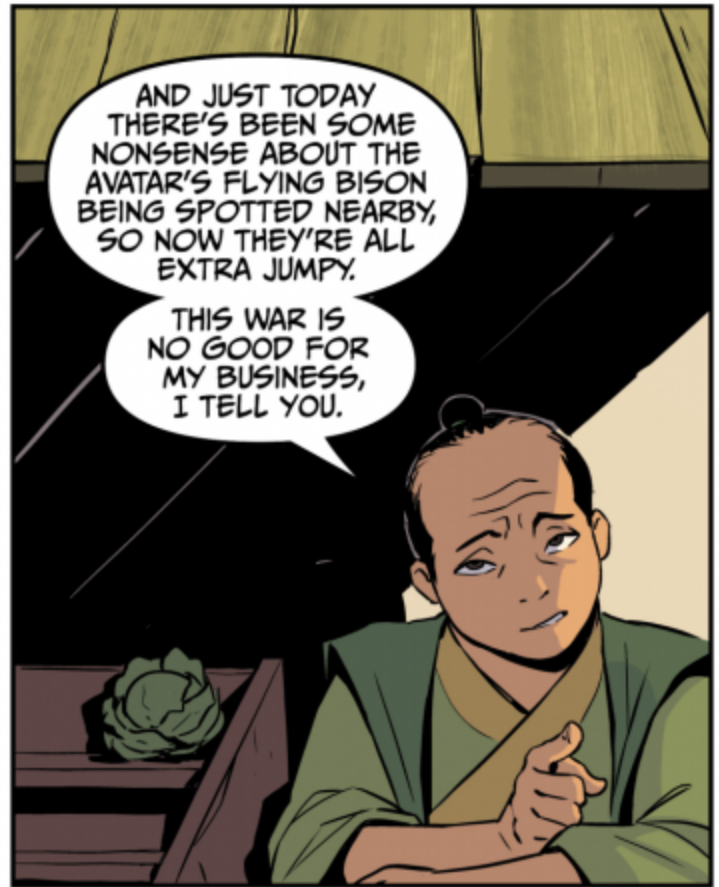




SO MANY SOLDIERS IN THE VILLAGE TODAY. DID MORE OF THEM ARRIVE?

NO, JUST THE SAME LOT AS BEFORE, NOT THAT IT'S DOING ME ANY GOOD.

OZAI'S FINEST EAT LIKE OSTRICH HORSES. THEY'VE CLEANED ME OUT AND I CAN'T GET ANY NEW PRODUCE BECAUSE OF THEIR BLOCKADE.



AND JUST TODAY THERE'S BEEN SOME NONSENSE ABOUT THE AVATAR'S FLYING BISON BEING SPOTTED NEARBY, SO NOW THEY'RE ALL EXTRA JUMPY.

THIS WAR IS NO GOOD FOR MY BUSINESS, I TELL YOU.



HOW DO I GET OUT OF HERE AND FIND AANG AND THE OTHERS?



PSST, YOU THERE. FOLLOW ME.



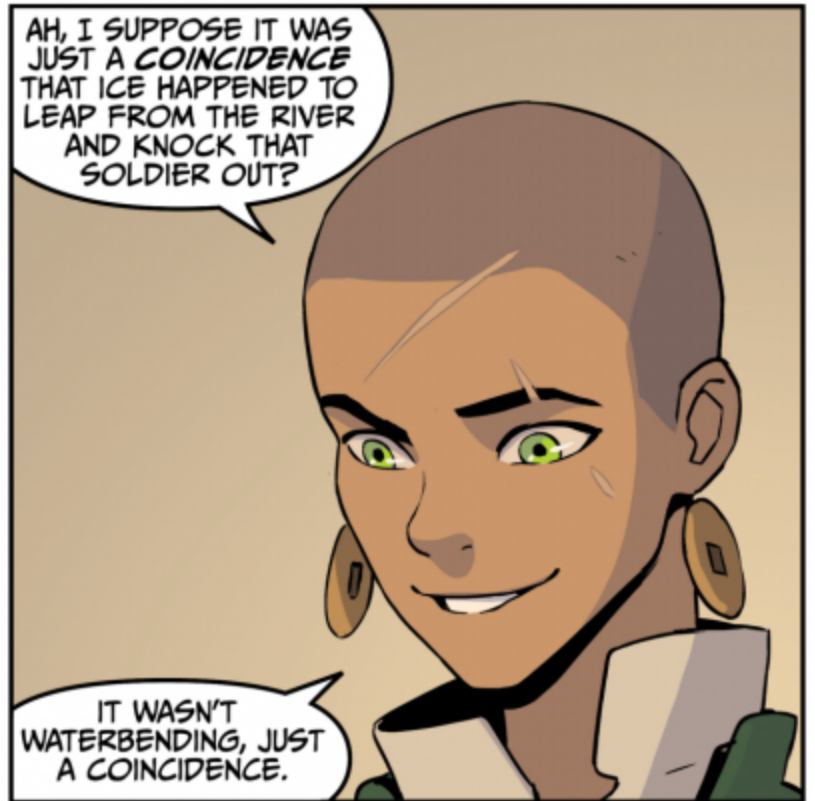
NO THANK YOU! EXCUSE ME.





I NOTICED. YOU DID A VERY GOOD JOB OF DEFENDING YOURSELF FROM THAT FIRE NATION SOLDIER.

YOU SAW-- I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!



AH, I SUPPOSE IT WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE THAT ICE HAPPENED TO LEAP FROM THE RIVER AND KNOCK THAT SOLDIER OUT?

IT WASN'T WATERBENDING, JUST A COINCIDENCE.



YES. A COINCIDENCE.



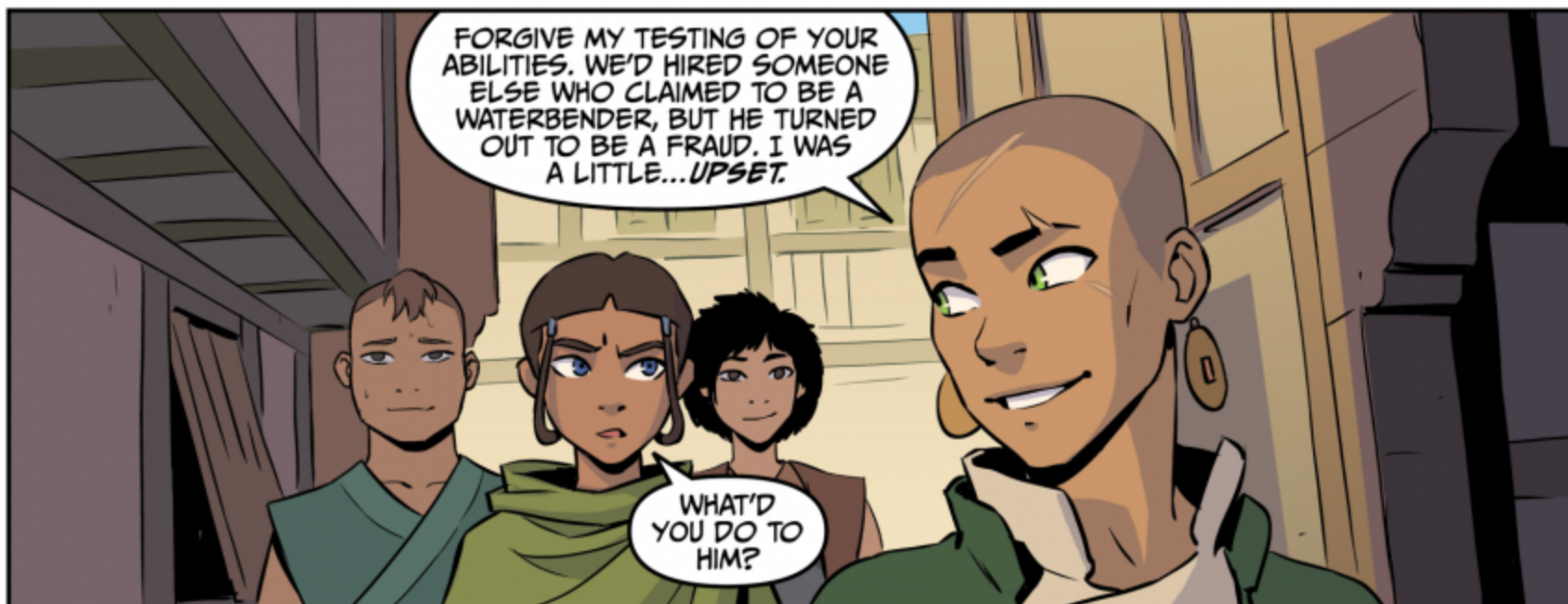
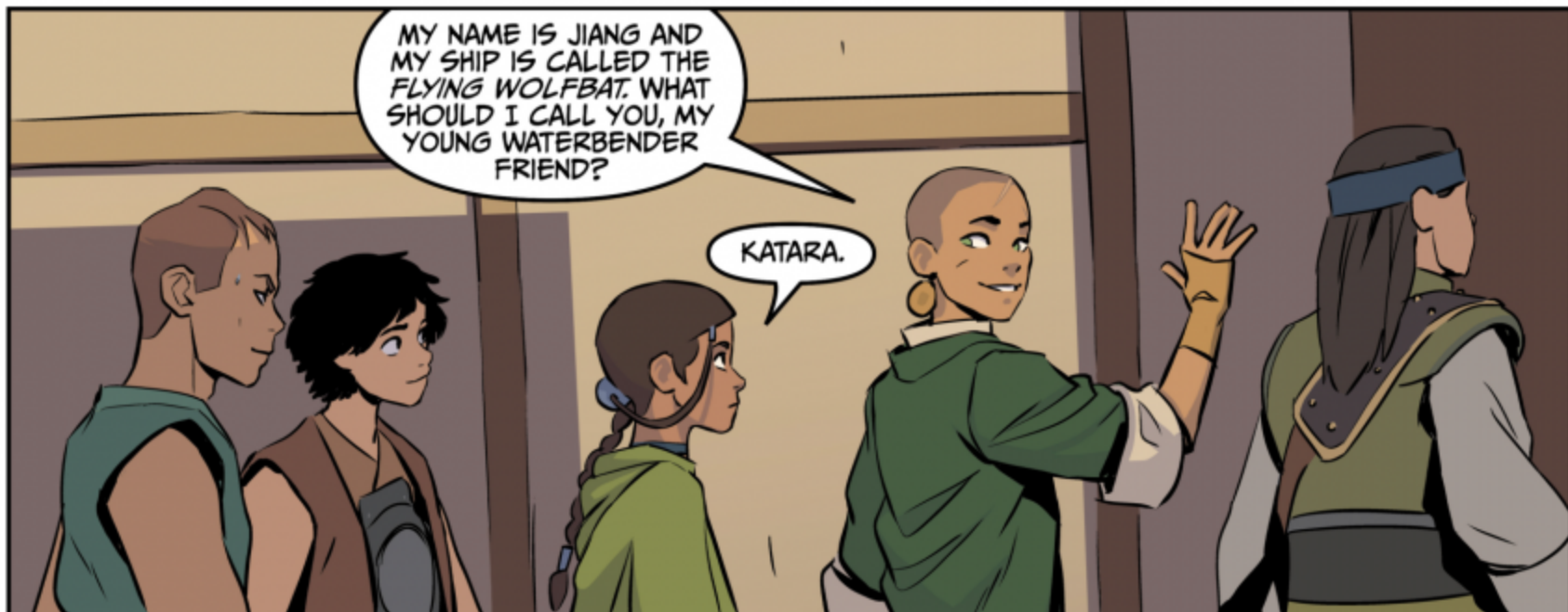
OH, THAT'S TOO BAD. I'M THE CAPTAIN OF A SHIP THAT'S ABOUT TO SAIL DOWNRIVER AND I NEED A WATERBENDER FOR THE JOURNEY. BUT SINCE YOU AREN'T ONE, I'LL HAVE TO KEEP LOOKING.



YOU'RE GOING DOWNRIVER? AWAY FROM THE FIRE NATION SOLDIERS?

I AM. AND THERE'S PASSAGE ON MY SHIP AVAILABLE TO ANY WATERBENDER THAT WANTS IT...

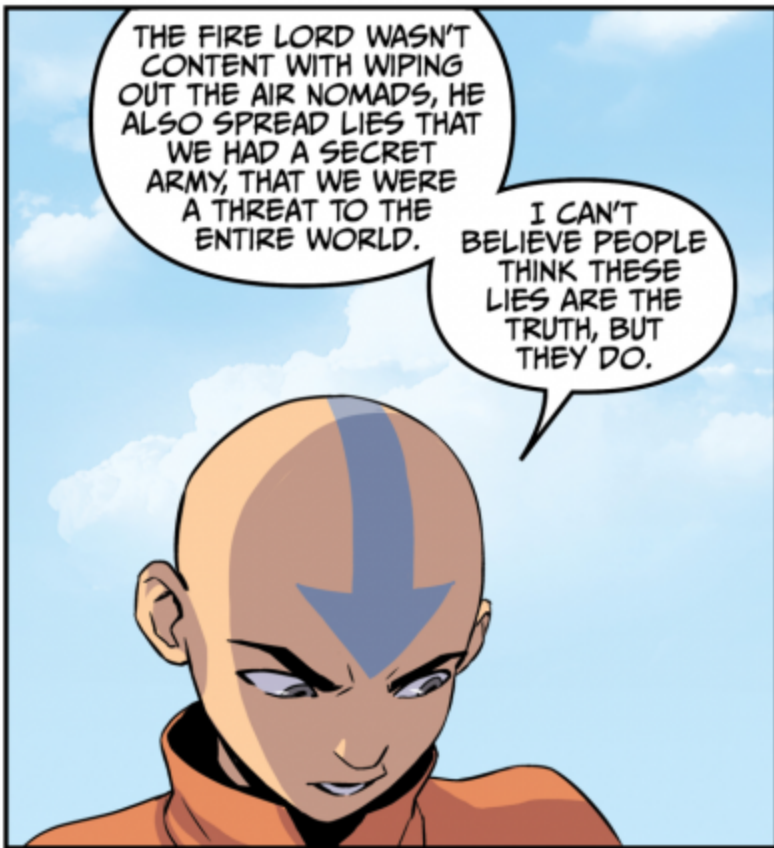






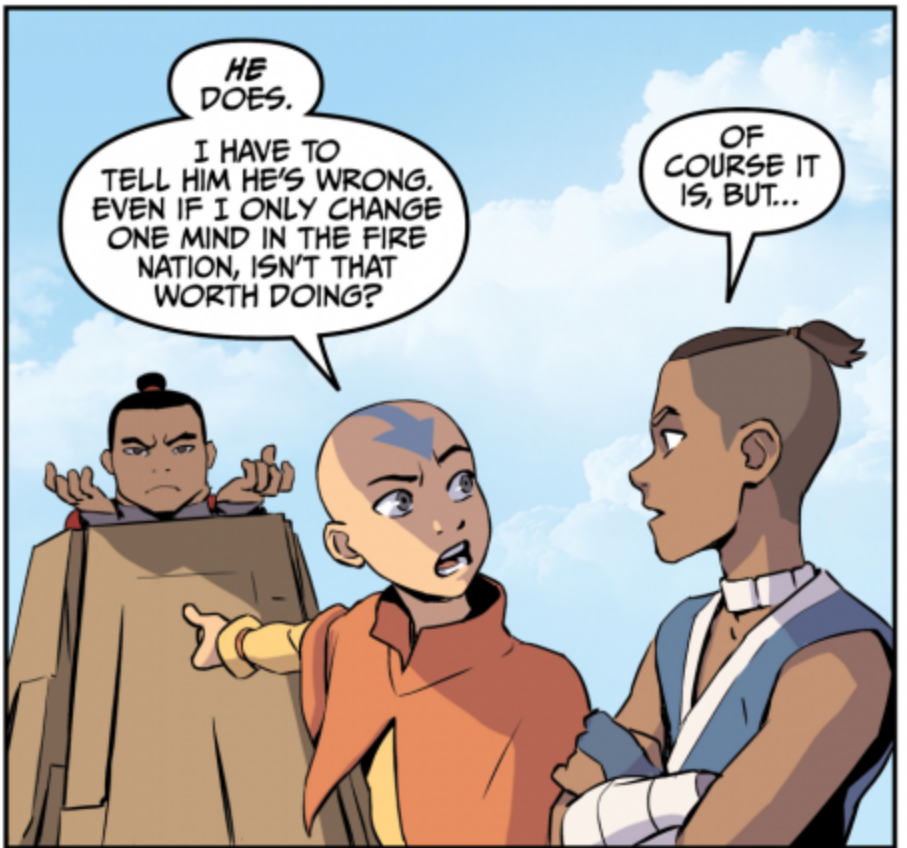
I WANT TO TALK TO HIM. I WANT TO SEE IF I CAN CHANGE HIS MIND.

WHY? HE'S A FIRE NATION SOLDIER. HE'D TURN US OVER TO HIS FIRE LORD WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT.



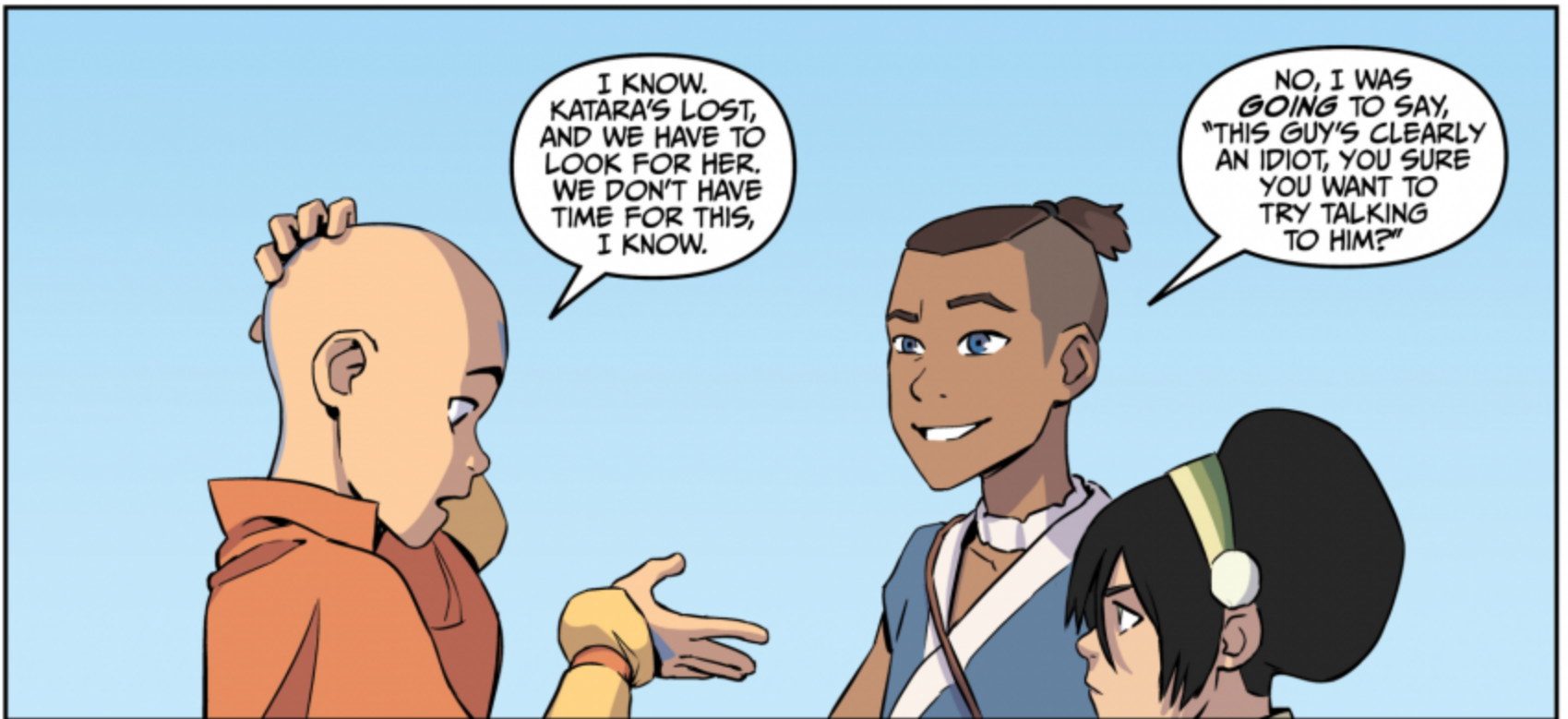
THE FIRE LORD WASN'T CONTENT WITH WIPING OUT THE AIR NOMADS, HE ALSO SPREAD LIES THAT WE HAD A SECRET ARMY, THAT WE WERE A THREAT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD.

I CAN'T BELIEVE PEOPLE THINK THESE LIES ARE THE TRUTH, BUT THEY DO.



HE DOES. I HAVE TO TELL HIM HE'S WRONG. EVEN IF I ONLY CHANGE ONE MIND IN THE FIRE NATION, ISN'T THAT WORTH DOING?

OF COURSE IT IS, BUT...



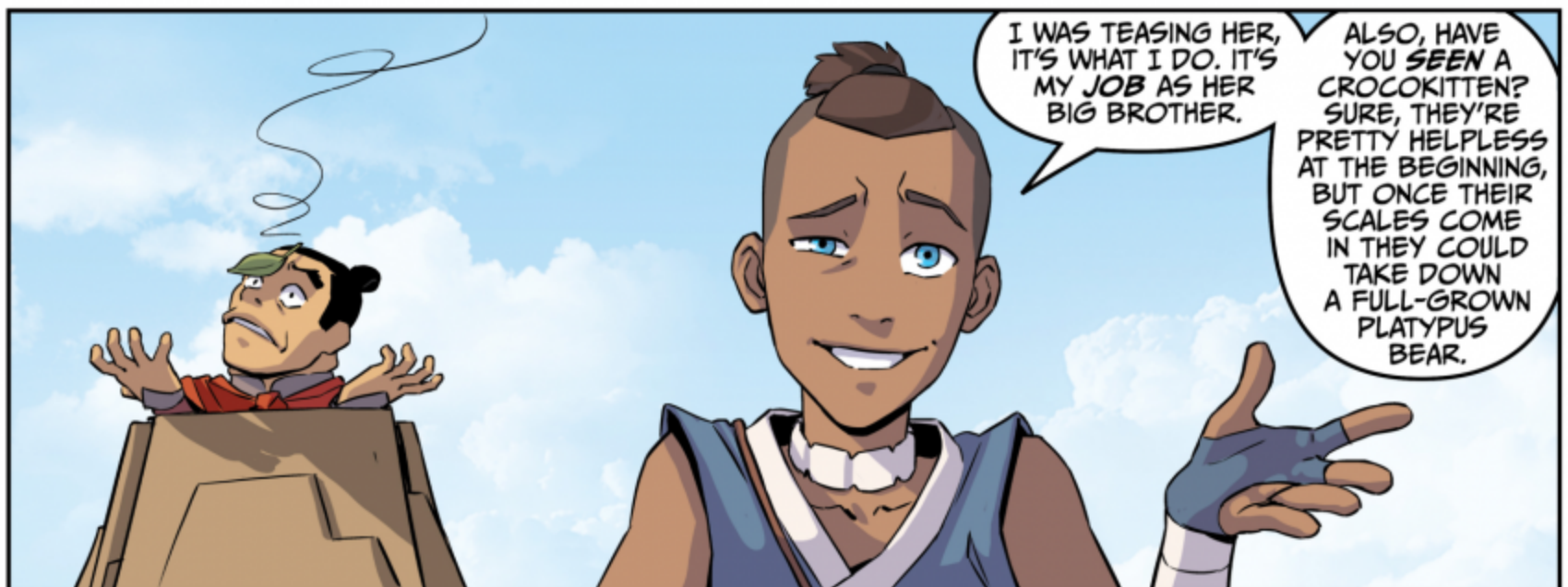
I KNOW. KATARAS LOST, AND WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR HER. WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS, I KNOW.

NO, I WAS GOING TO SAY, "THIS GUY'S CLEARLY AN IDIOT, YOU SURE YOU WANT TO TRY TALKING TO HIM?"



LOOK, WE DON'T NEED TO RUSH OFF. I CAN TELL THIS IS IMPORTANT TO YOU, AANG.  
KATARA CAN TAKE CARE OF HERSELF.

YOU JUST SAID SHE WAS AS SOFT AND CUDDLY AS A CROCOKITTEN.



I WAS TEASING HER, IT'S WHAT I DO. IT'S MY JOB AS HER BIG BROTHER.

ALSO, HAVE YOU SEEN A CROCOKITTEN? SURE, THEY'RE PRETTY HELPLESS AT THE BEGINNING, BUT ONCE THEIR SCALES COME IN THEY COULD TAKE DOWN A FULL-GROWN PLATYPUS BEAR.

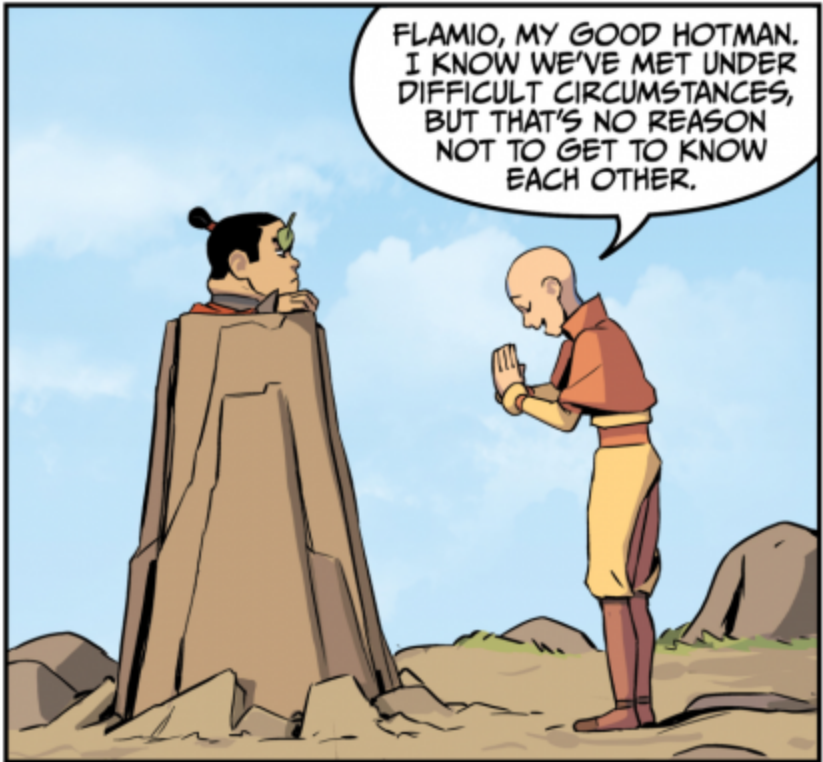


MAYBE NOT A FULL-GROWN PLATYPUS BEAR... MAYBE MORE A HALF-GROWN ONE.



EH, I SAY WE JUST LEAVE THIS GUY BEHIND. HIS ARMY BUDDIES WILL FIND HIM SOONER OR LATER.

I'M GOING TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH. SURELY HE'LL CHANGE HIS MIND ABOUT THE AIRBENDERS.  
HE HAS TO.

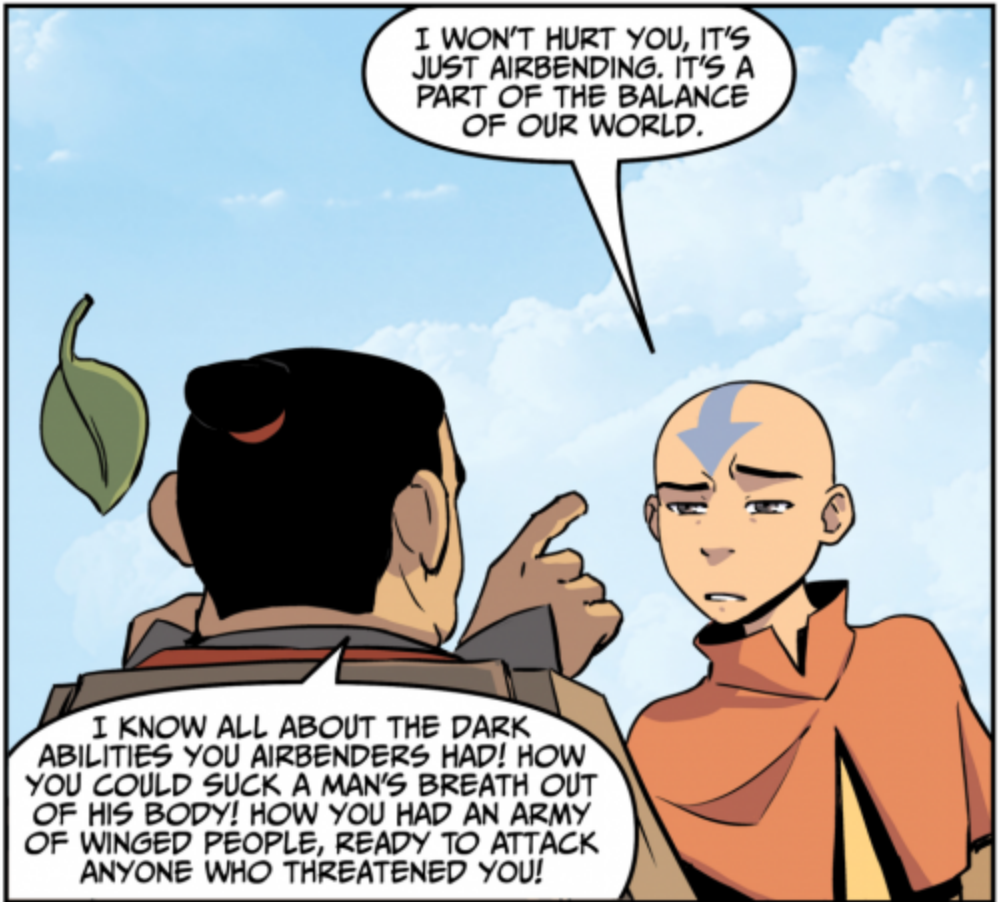


FLAMIO, MY GOOD HOTMAN. I KNOW WE'VE MET UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT THAT'S NO REASON NOT TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.



LET ME HELP YOU WITH THAT--

**AAAHHHGH!**  
GET AWAY FROM ME WITH YOUR DEMON AIR POWERS, AVATAR!



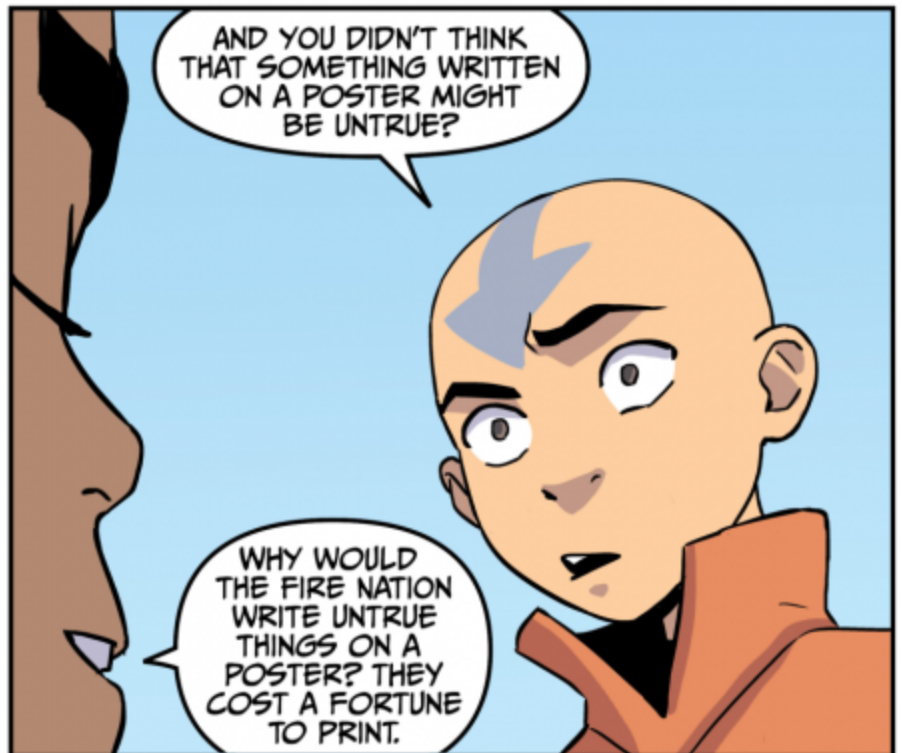
I WON'T HURT YOU, IT'S JUST AIRBENDING. IT'S A PART OF THE BALANCE OF OUR WORLD.

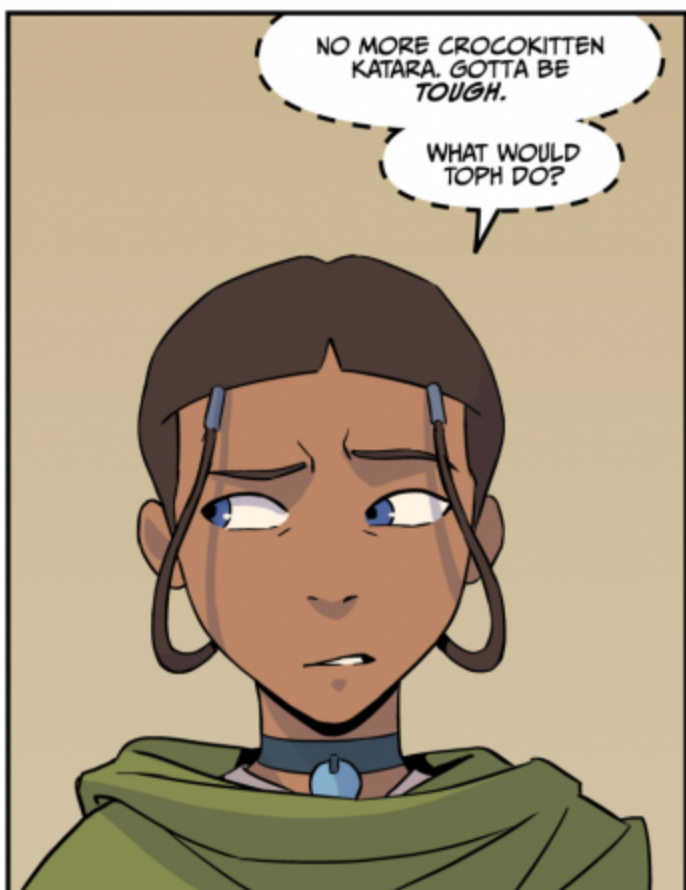
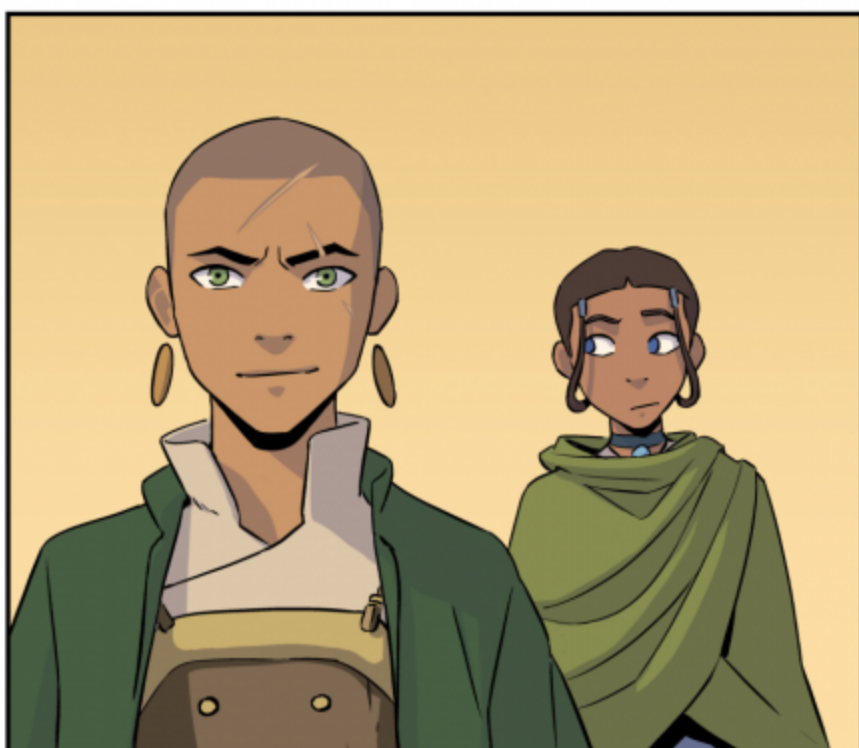
I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE DARK ABILITIES YOU AIRBENDERS HAD! HOW YOU COULD SUCK A MAN'S BREATH OUT OF HIS BODY! HOW YOU HAD AN ARMY OF WINGED PEOPLE, READY TO ATTACK ANYONE WHO THREATENED YOU!



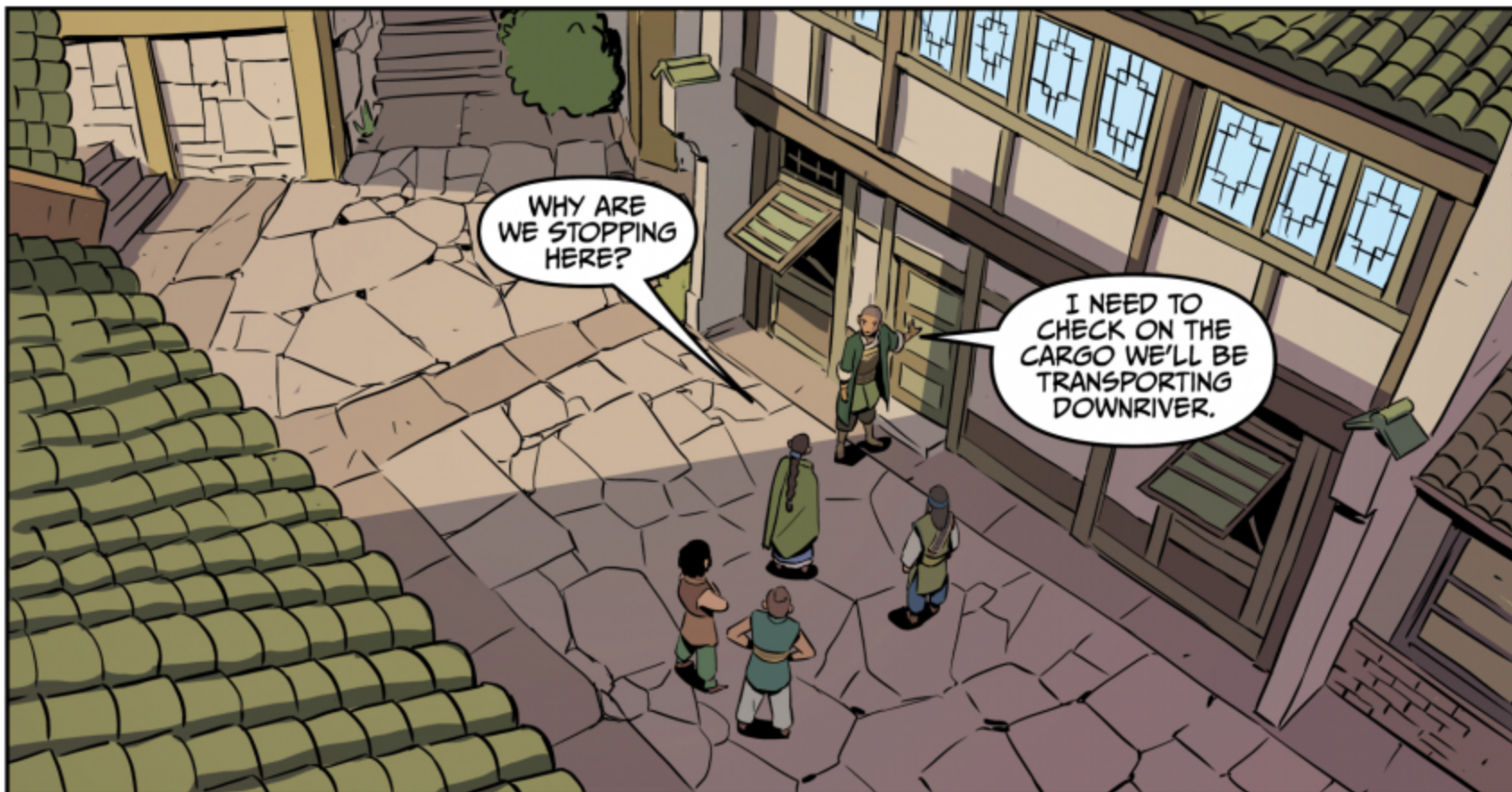
THE AIR NOMANDS WERE PEACEFUL MONKS! WE NEVER HAD AN ARMY! WE DON'T EVEN EAT MEAT!

AND WE CAN'T FLY, WE CAN ONLY GLIDE, WITH THE HELP OF GLIDERS.

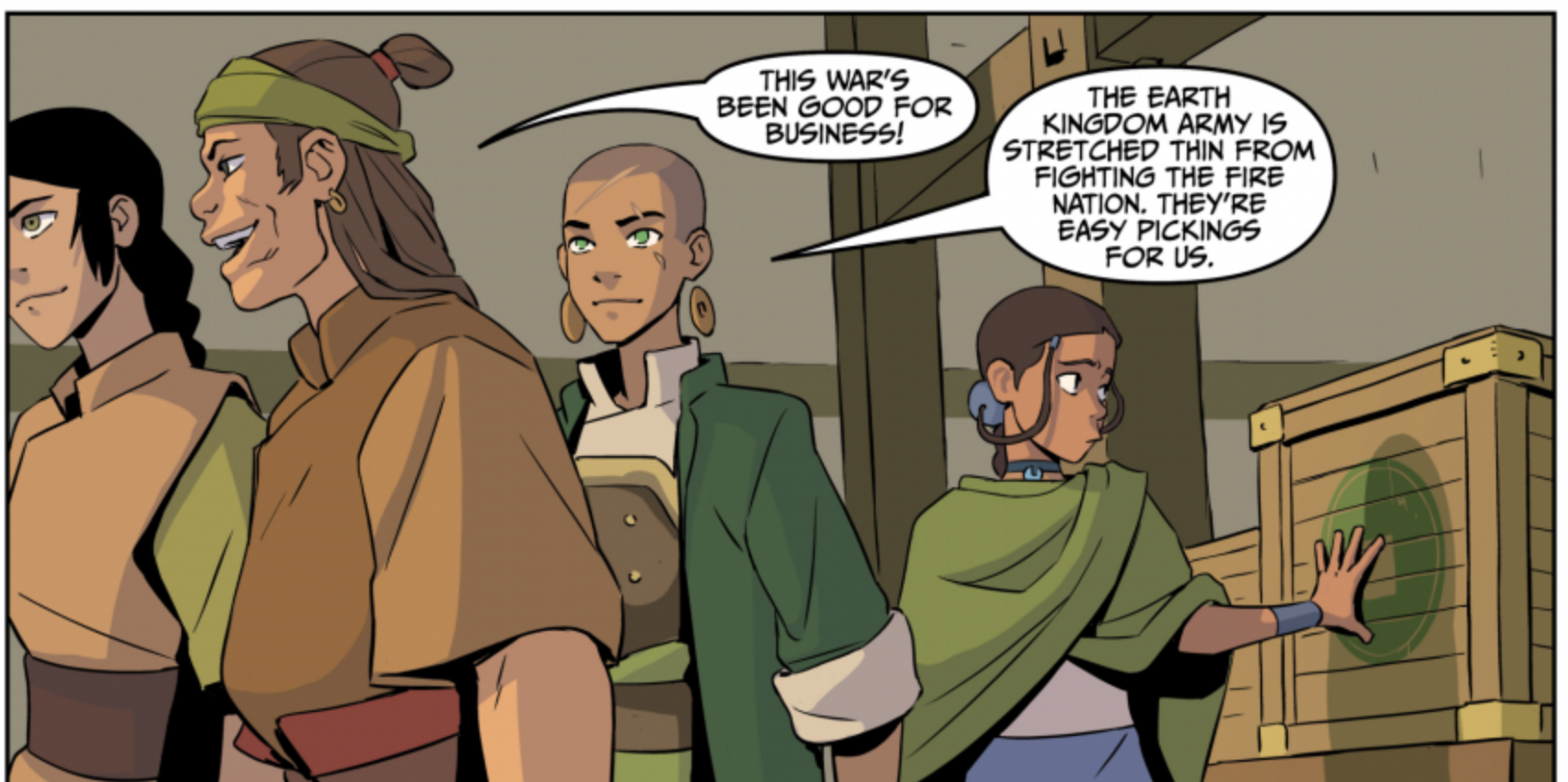


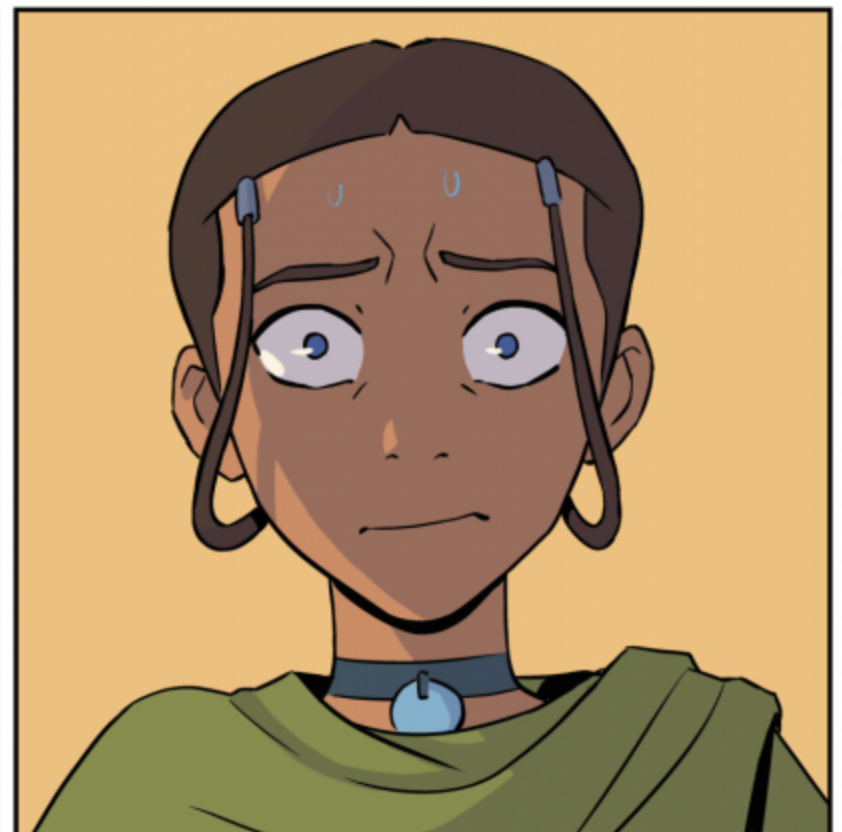


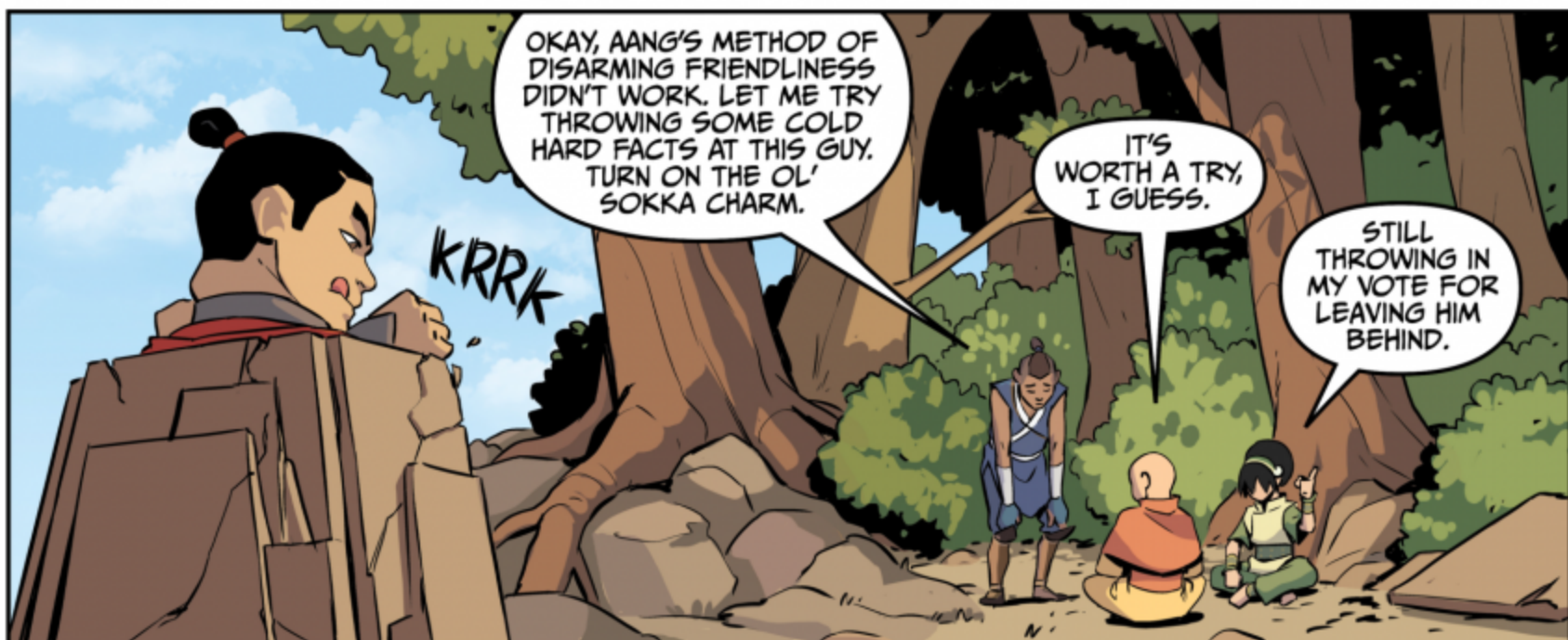












OKAY, AANG'S METHOD OF DISARMING FRIENDLINESS DIDN'T WORK. LET ME TRY THROWING SOME COLD HARD FACTS AT THIS GUY. TURN ON THE OL' SOKKA CHARM.

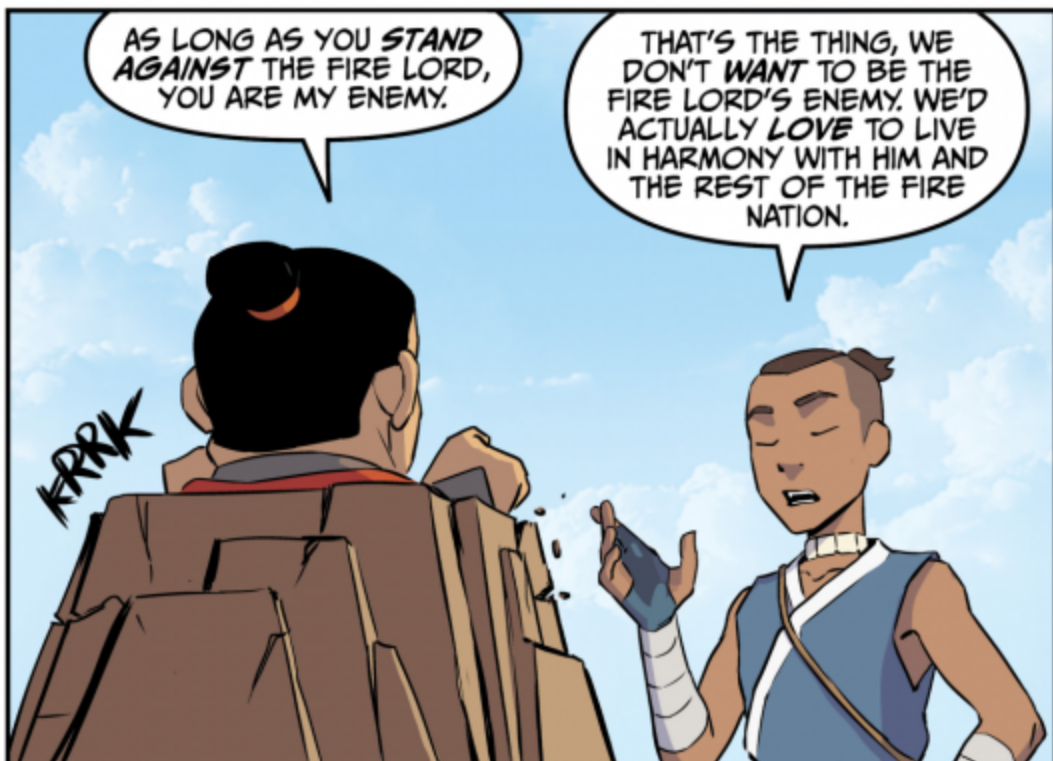
IT'S WORTH A TRY, I GUESS.

STILL THROWING IN MY VOTE FOR LEAVING HIM BEHIND.

KRRK



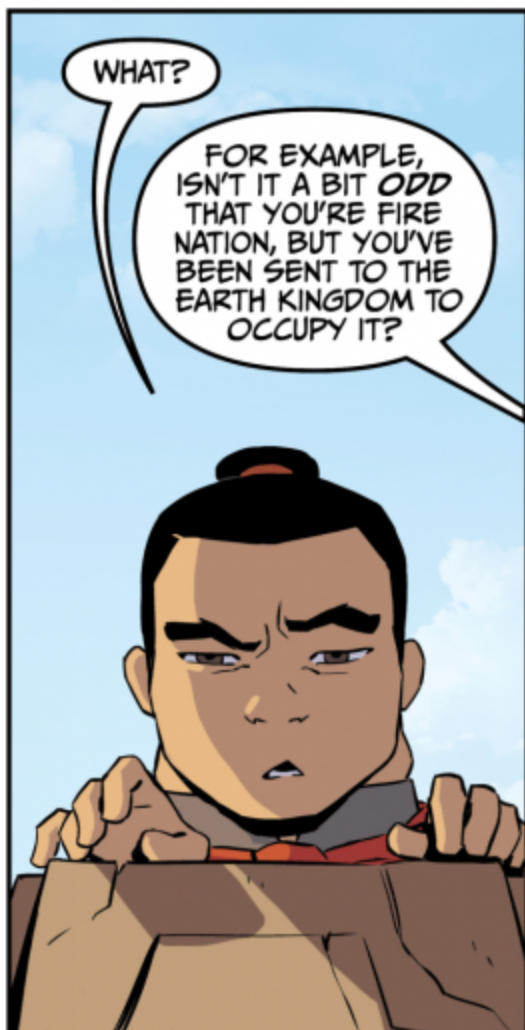
MY GOOD HOTMAN, EVEN IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE WHAT AANG TOLD YOU ABOUT THE AIR NOMADS, WE DON'T HAVE TO BE ENEMIES.



AS LONG AS YOU *STAND AGAINST* THE FIRE LORD, YOU ARE MY ENEMY.

THAT'S THE THING, WE DON'T *WANT* TO BE THE FIRE LORD'S ENEMY. WE'D ACTUALLY *LOVE* TO LIVE IN HARMONY WITH HIM AND THE REST OF THE FIRE NATION.

KRRK



WHAT?

FOR EXAMPLE, ISN'T IT A BIT *ODD* THAT YOU'RE FIRE NATION, BUT YOU'VE BEEN SENT TO THE EARTH KINGDOM TO OCCUPY IT?



OF COURSE NOT! THE FIRE NATION IS SHARING ITS WEALTH AND ACHIEVEMENTS WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE OTHER NATIONS SHOULD BE *HONORED* THAT WE'RE HERE!

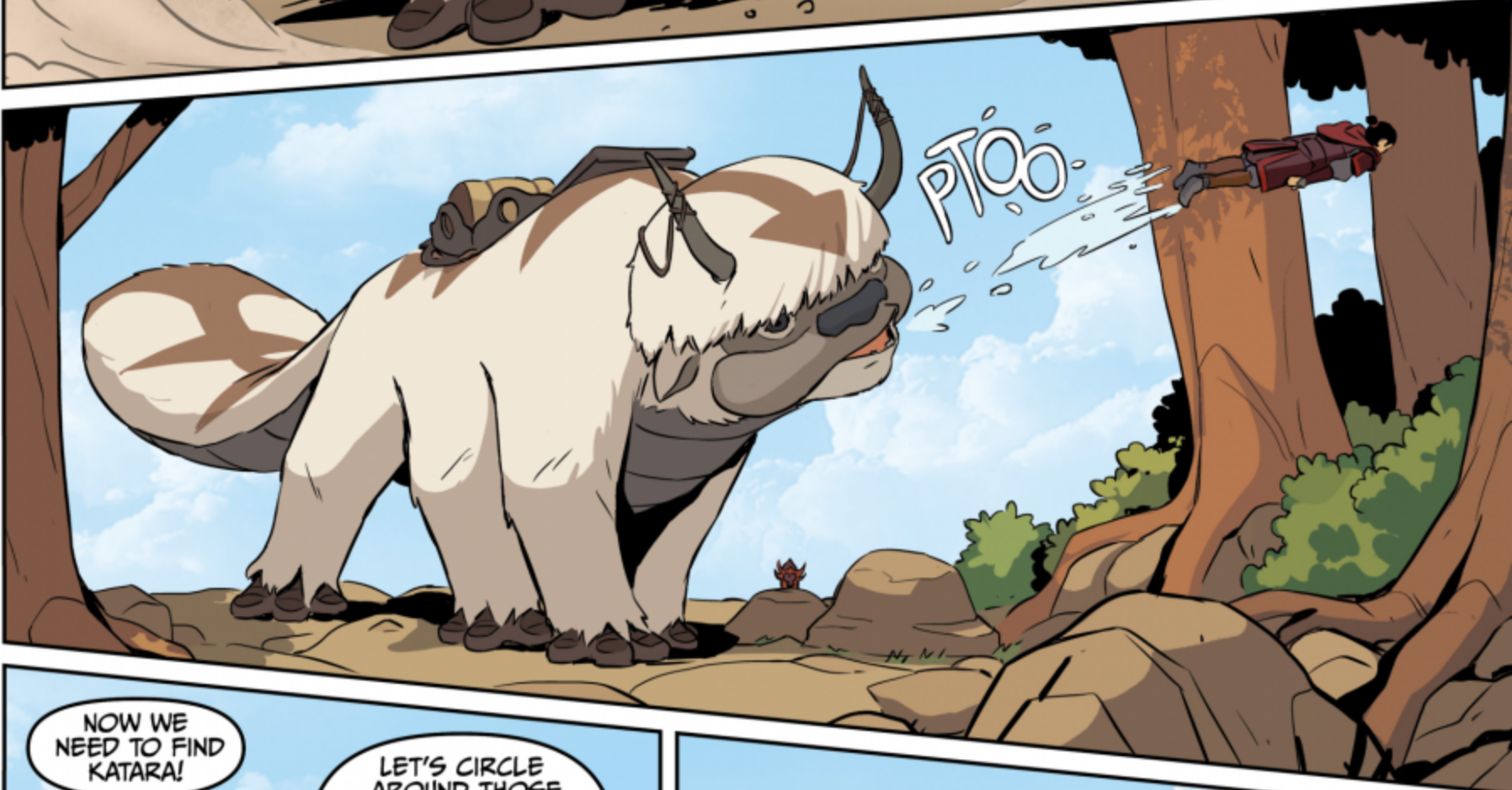
*THINK ABOUT* THAT FOR A MOMENT. DO EARTH KINGDOM CITIZENS WELCOME YOU INTO THEIR HOMES? DID THEY OPEN THE GATES OF BA SING SE TO THE FIRE NATION ARMIES?

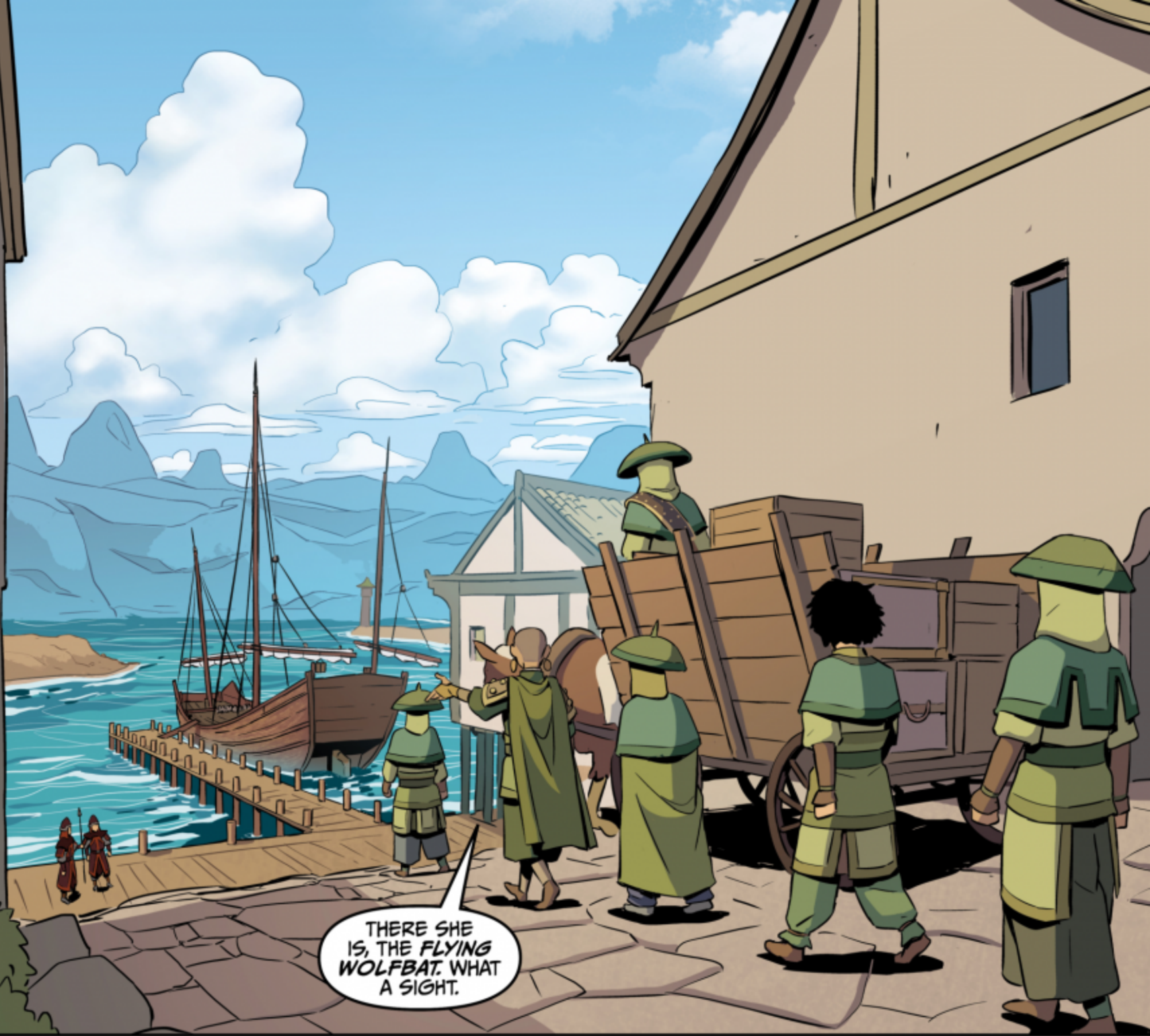


WELL, NO. NOT AT FIRST.









THERE SHE IS, THE FLYING WOLFBAT. WHAT A SIGHT.



SHE'S BEEN IN MY FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS. I GREW UP ON THIS RIVER, SAILING IT FREELY BEFORE THE FIRE NATION INVADED.

SO YOUR FAMILY WERE, WHAT, RIVER TRADERS?



YOU COULD SAY THAT.

LET ME GUESS, THEY WEREN'T TERRIBLY INTERESTED IN THE TRADING PART. THEY TOOK WHAT THEY WANTED FROM OTHER SHIPS, AND SOLD THOSE GOODS FOR A PROFIT.

WHERE I COME FROM THERE'S A NAME FOR PEOPLE LIKE THAT. PIRATES.



A GOOD GUESS. I'M NOT ASHAMED OF MY UPBRINGING. IT MADE ME STRONG.

WHEN THE FIRE NATION TOOK OVER THIS AREA, THEY COMMANDEERED EVERY SHIP THEY COULD GET THEIR HANDS ON. ALL EXCEPT MINE.

I RALLIED MY CREW AND WE FOUGHT THEM OFF, TOGETHER.



MY CREW ISN'T MUCH TO LOOK AT, BUT THEY'RE DEDICATED. I'LL DO WHAT I MUST TO MAKE SURE THEY REMAIN FREE.

EVEN IF IT MEANS STEALING FROM YOUR OWN PEOPLE?





SIR? THEIR PAPERS ARE IN ORDER.

STOP RIGHT THERE. I WANT A CLOSER LOOK AT THAT SHIP.

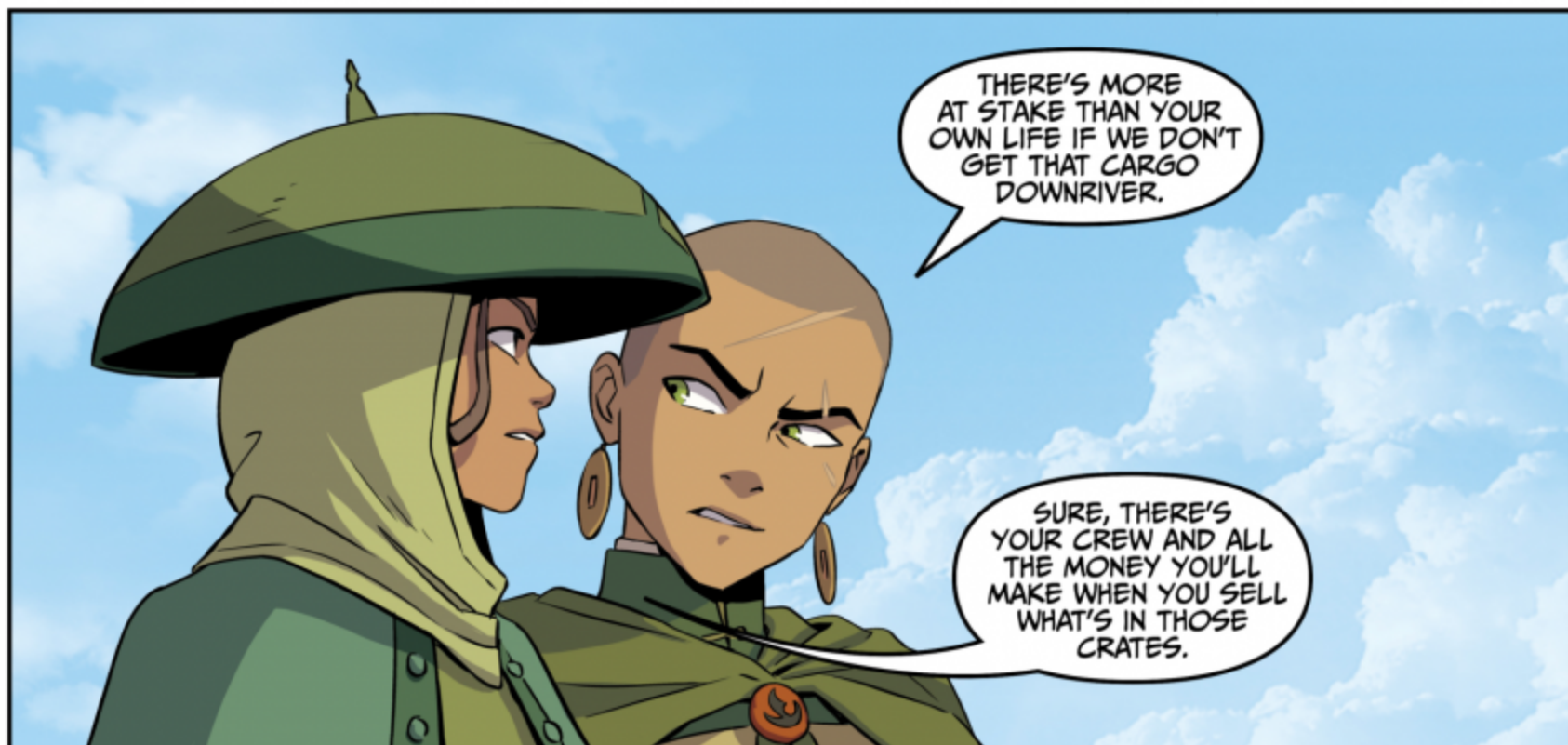


BE MY GUEST.



NOW'S WHEN YOU MIGHT HAVE TO EARN YOUR PASSAGE, WATERBENDER. I HOPE YOU'RE READY.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.



THERE'S MORE AT STAKE THAN YOUR OWN LIFE IF WE DON'T GET THAT CARGO DOWNRIVER.

SURE, THERE'S YOUR CREW AND ALL THE MONEY YOU'LL MAKE WHEN YOU SELL WHAT'S IN THOSE CRATES.



ARREST THEM!  
WE TRIED TO TAKE  
THIS SHIP EARLIER THIS  
YEAR, AND THEY  
RESISTED!



SIR?

THEY'RE  
EARTH KINGDOM  
PIRATES!! STOP  
STARING AND  
ARREST  
THEM!



SO MUCH FOR  
MAKING FOOLS  
OF THEM.

WATERBENDER,  
IF YOU WANT TO  
GET OUT OF HERE,  
YOU'LL GET US  
OUT OF HERE  
NOW!





WOOSH

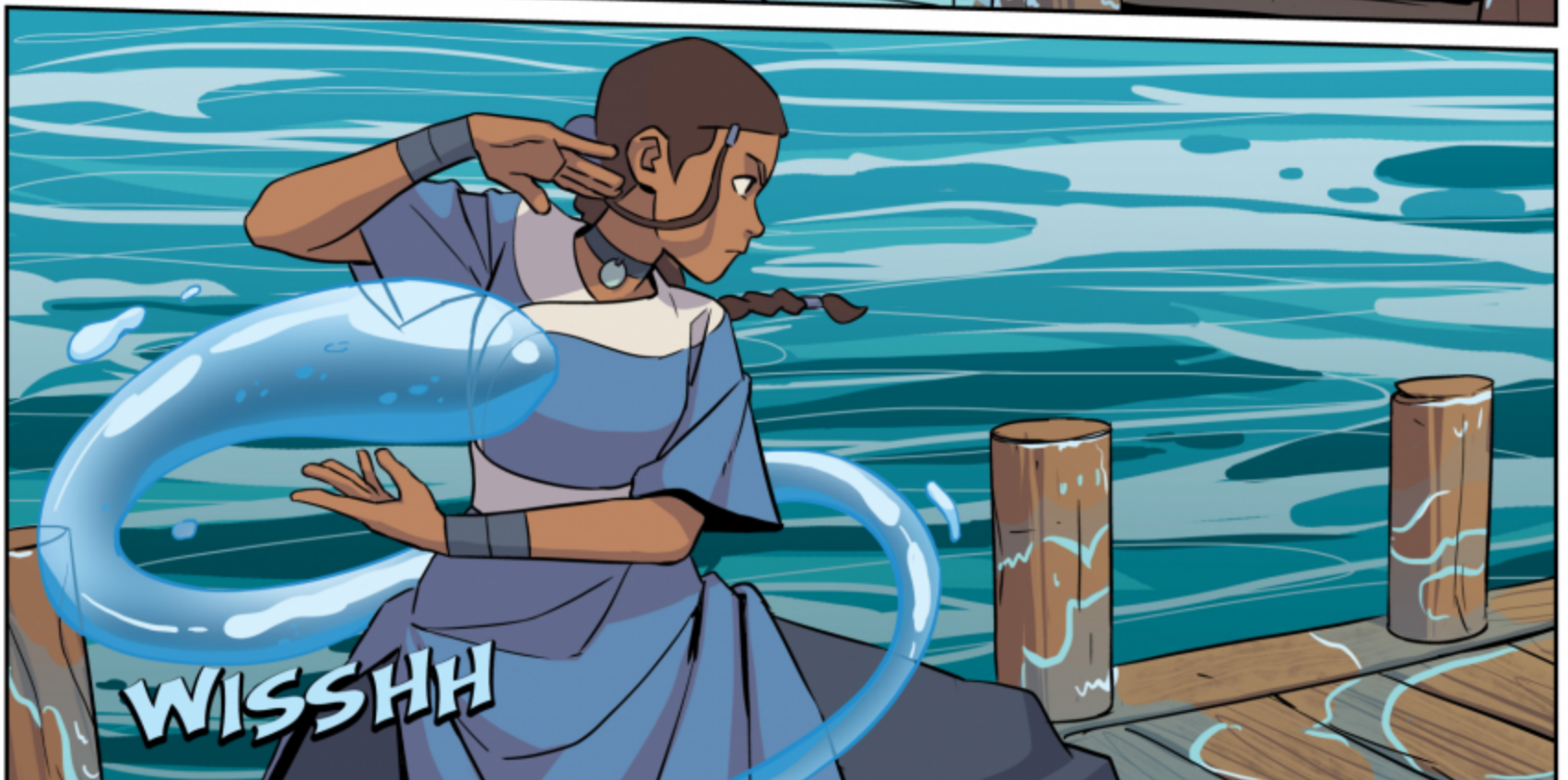




SECURE THE CARGO!



THAT GIRL'S A WATERBENDER! FIREBENDERS, ATTACK!



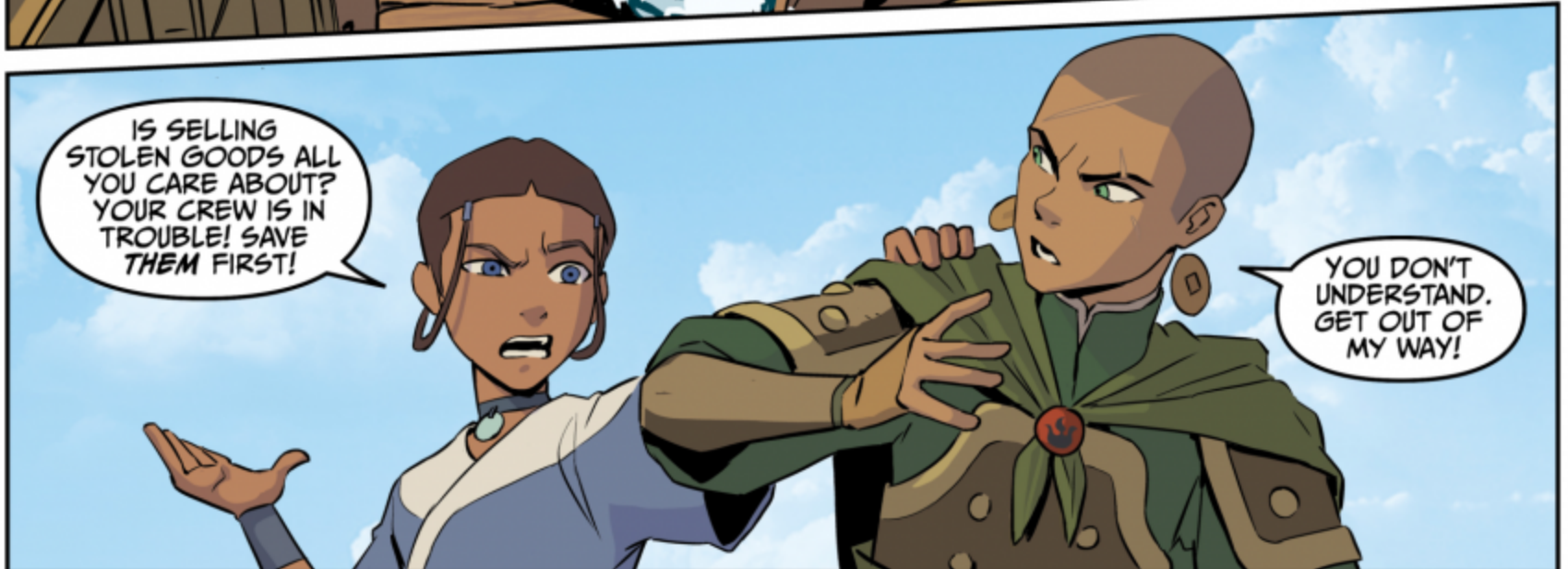
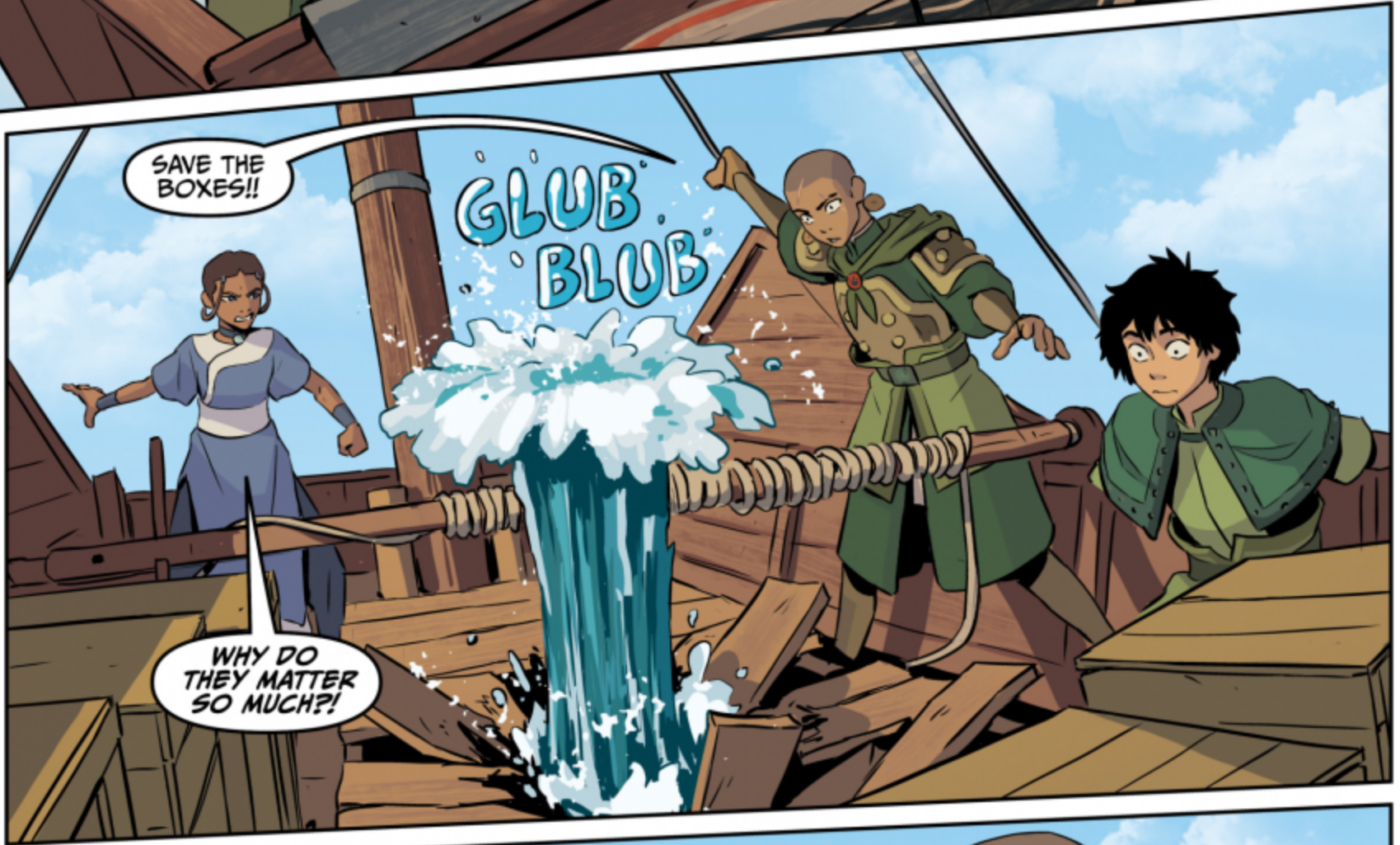
WISSHH

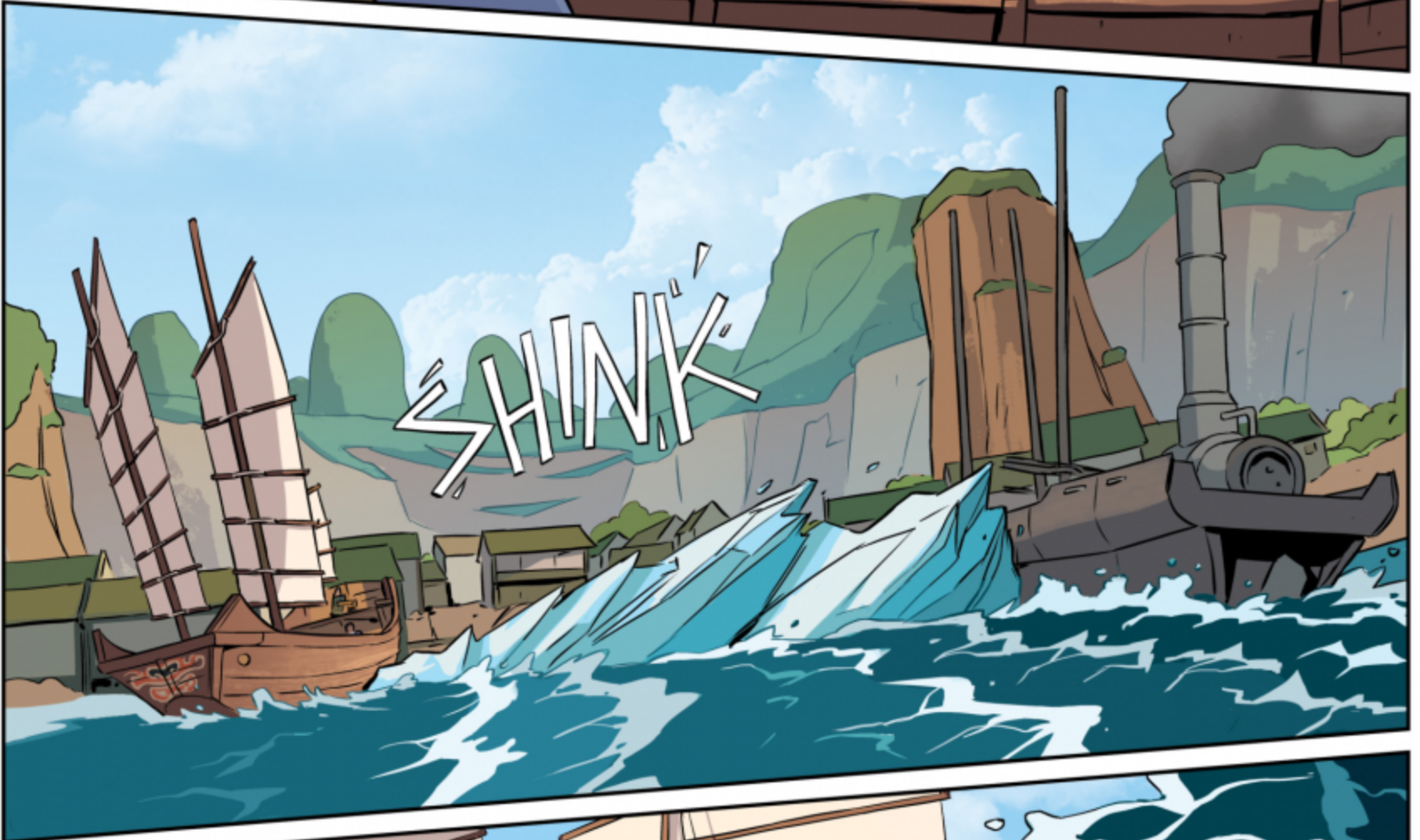
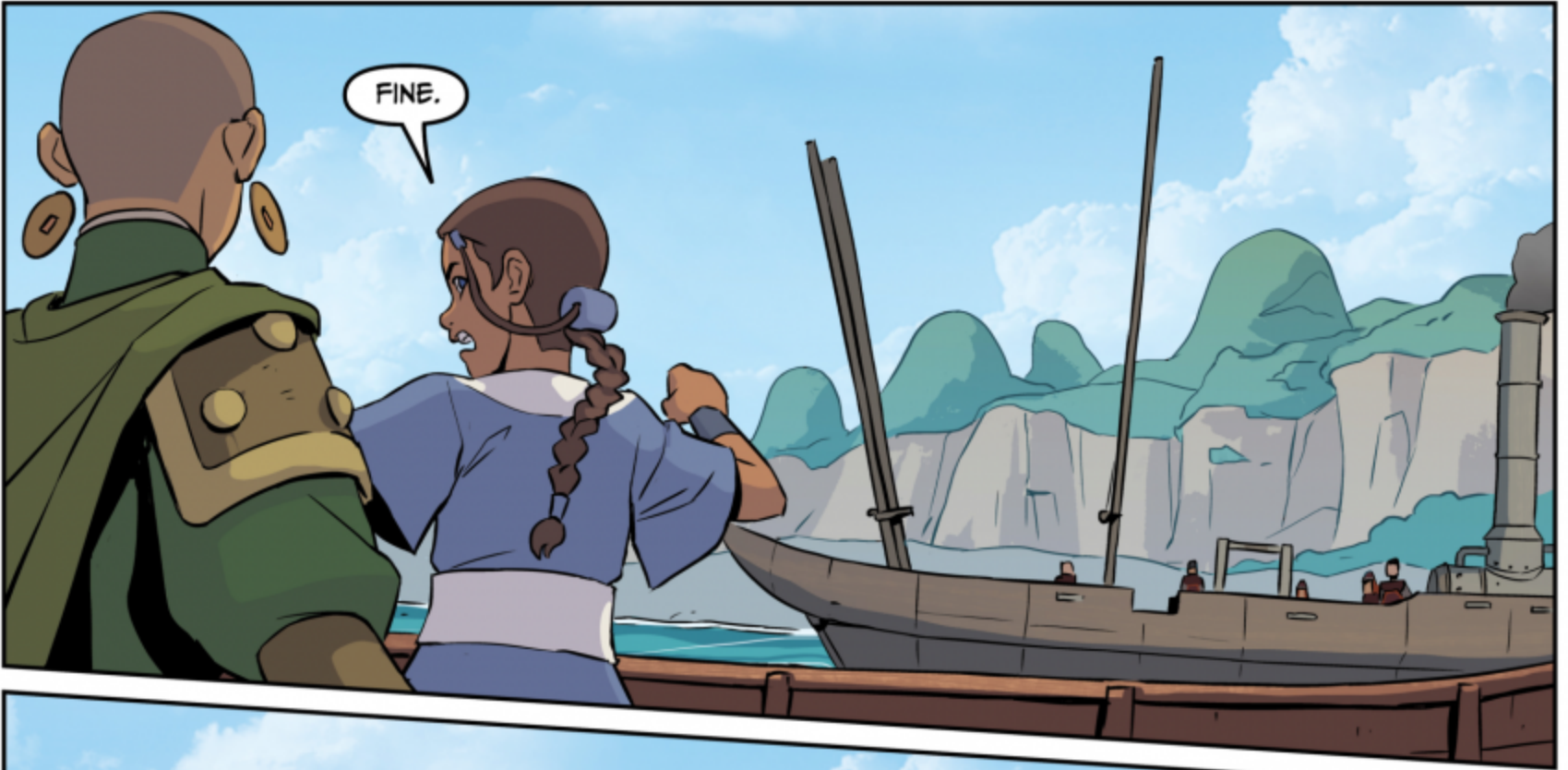




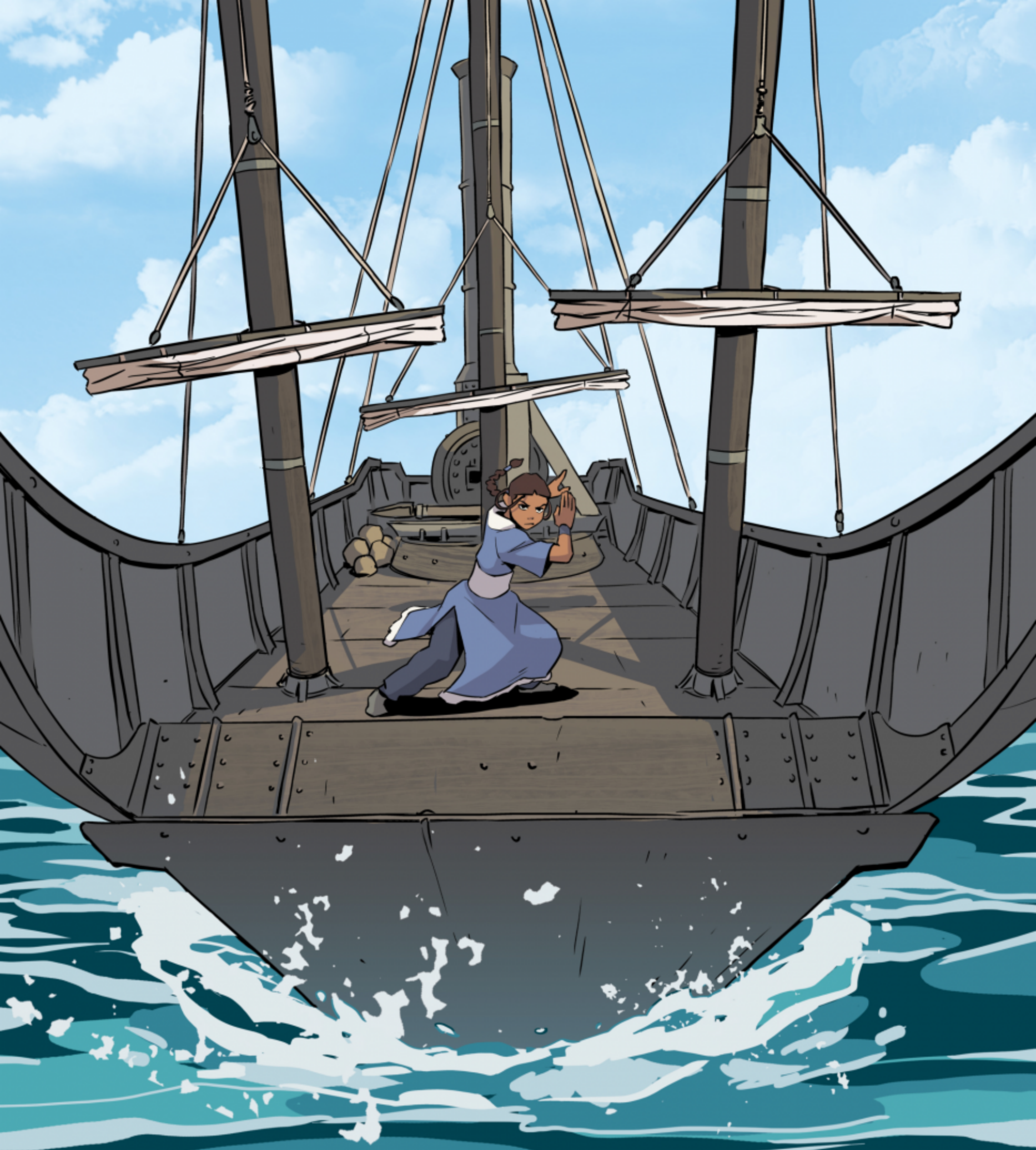












COME ON,  
BOAT. WORK  
WITH ME.





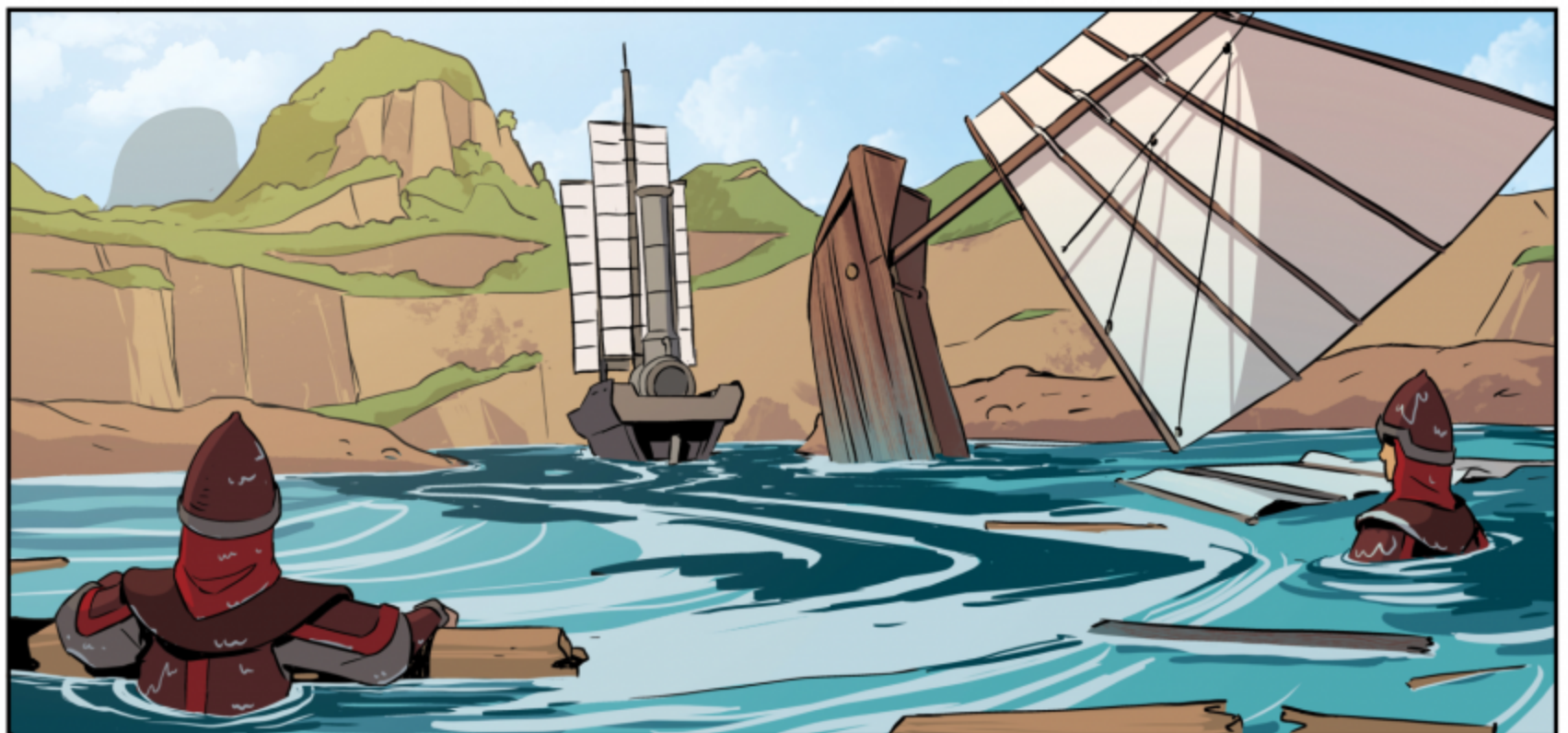


SHY

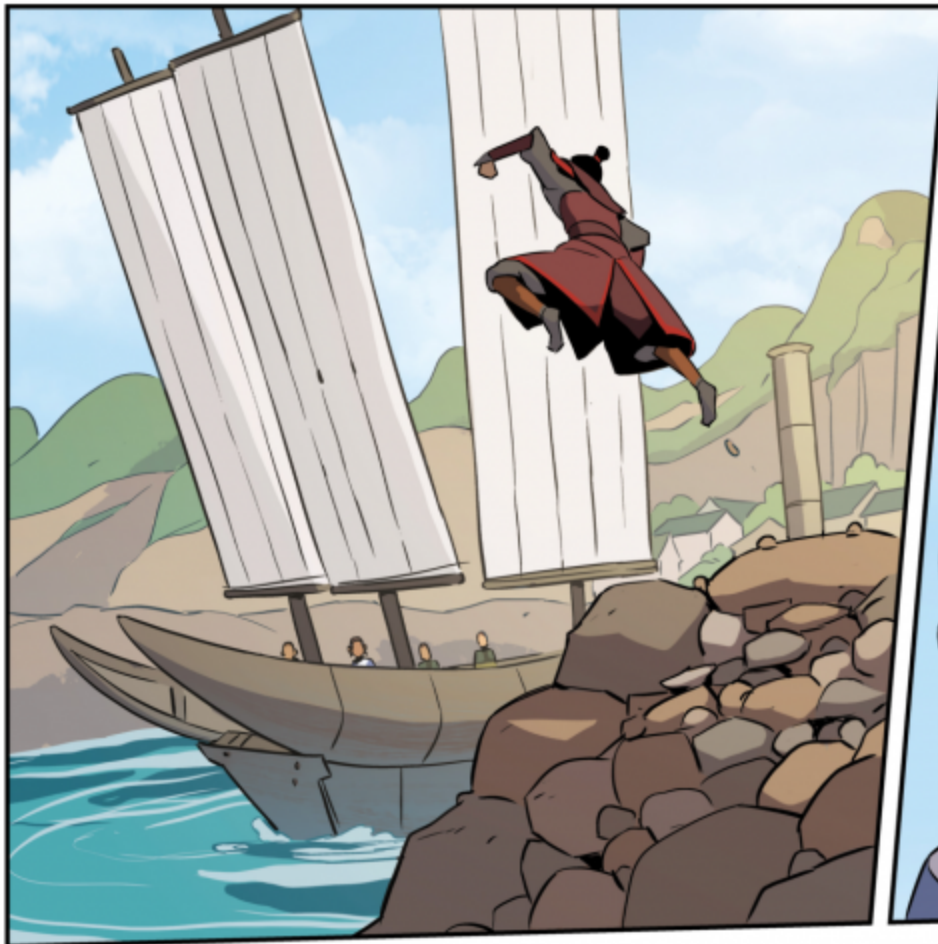
DON'T STAND THERE GAWKING, EVERYONE ON BOARD! CARGO INCLUDED!

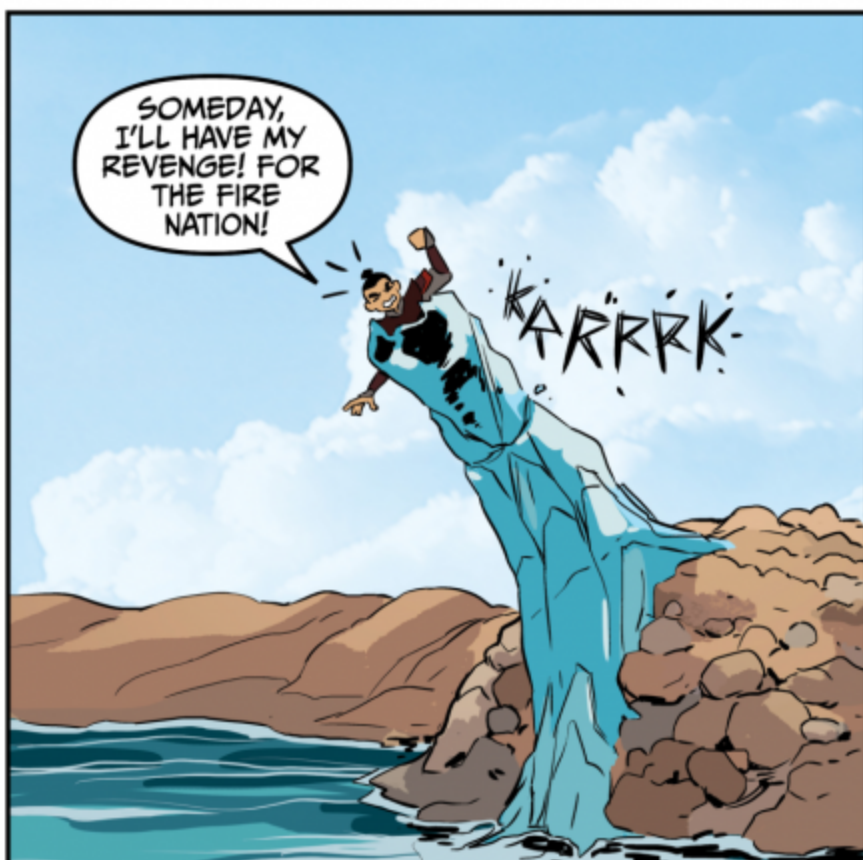
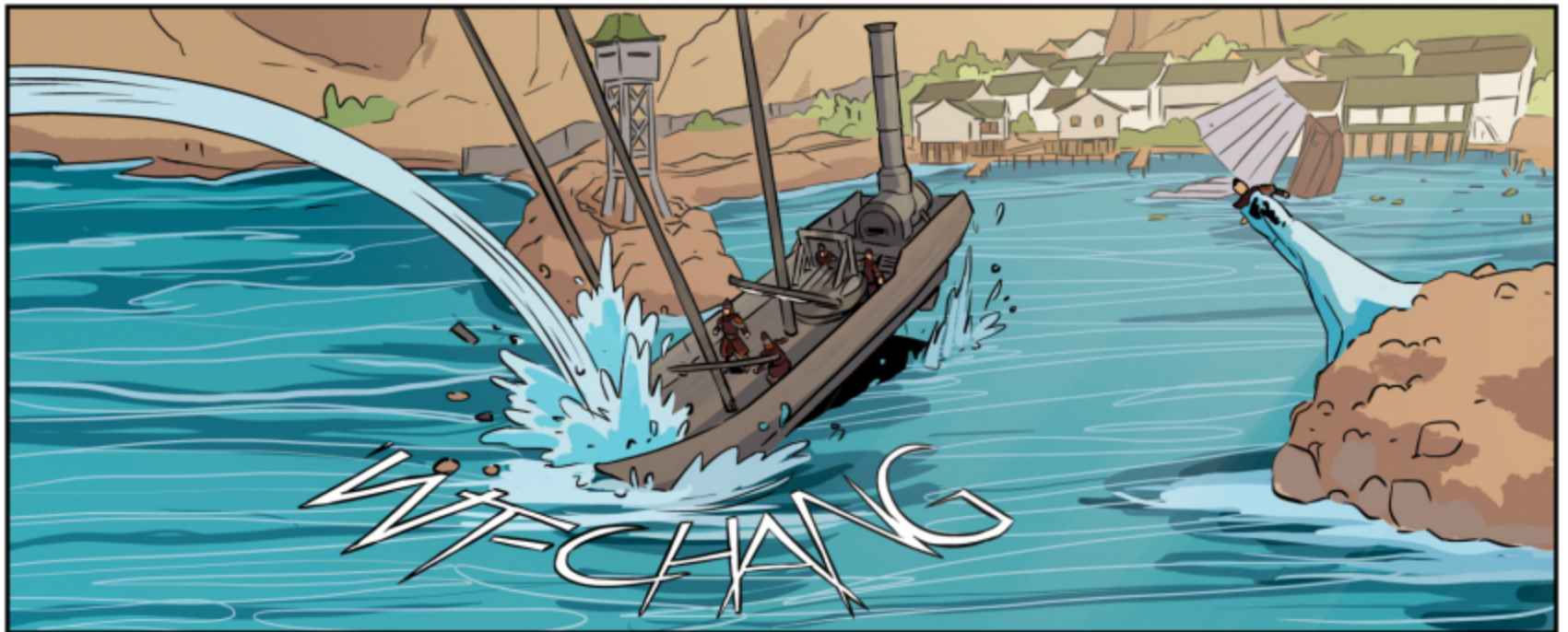
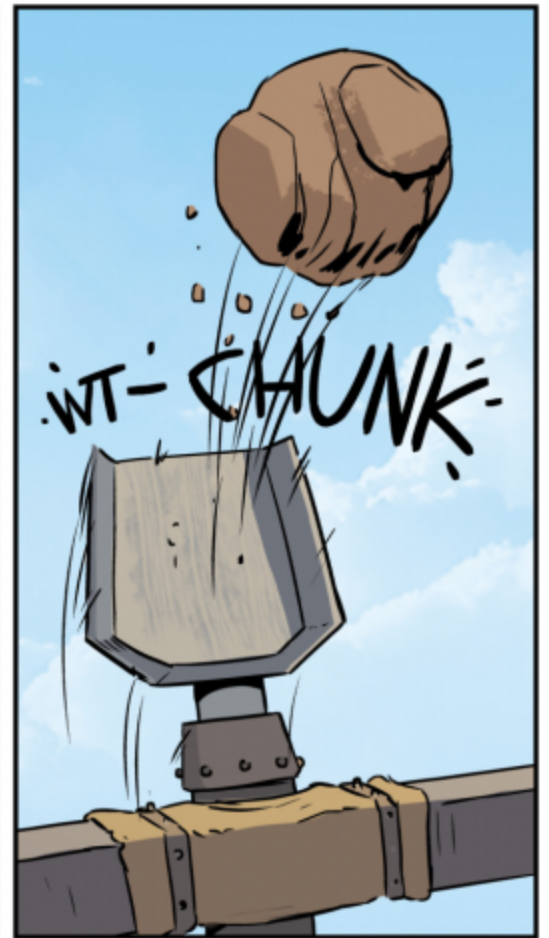


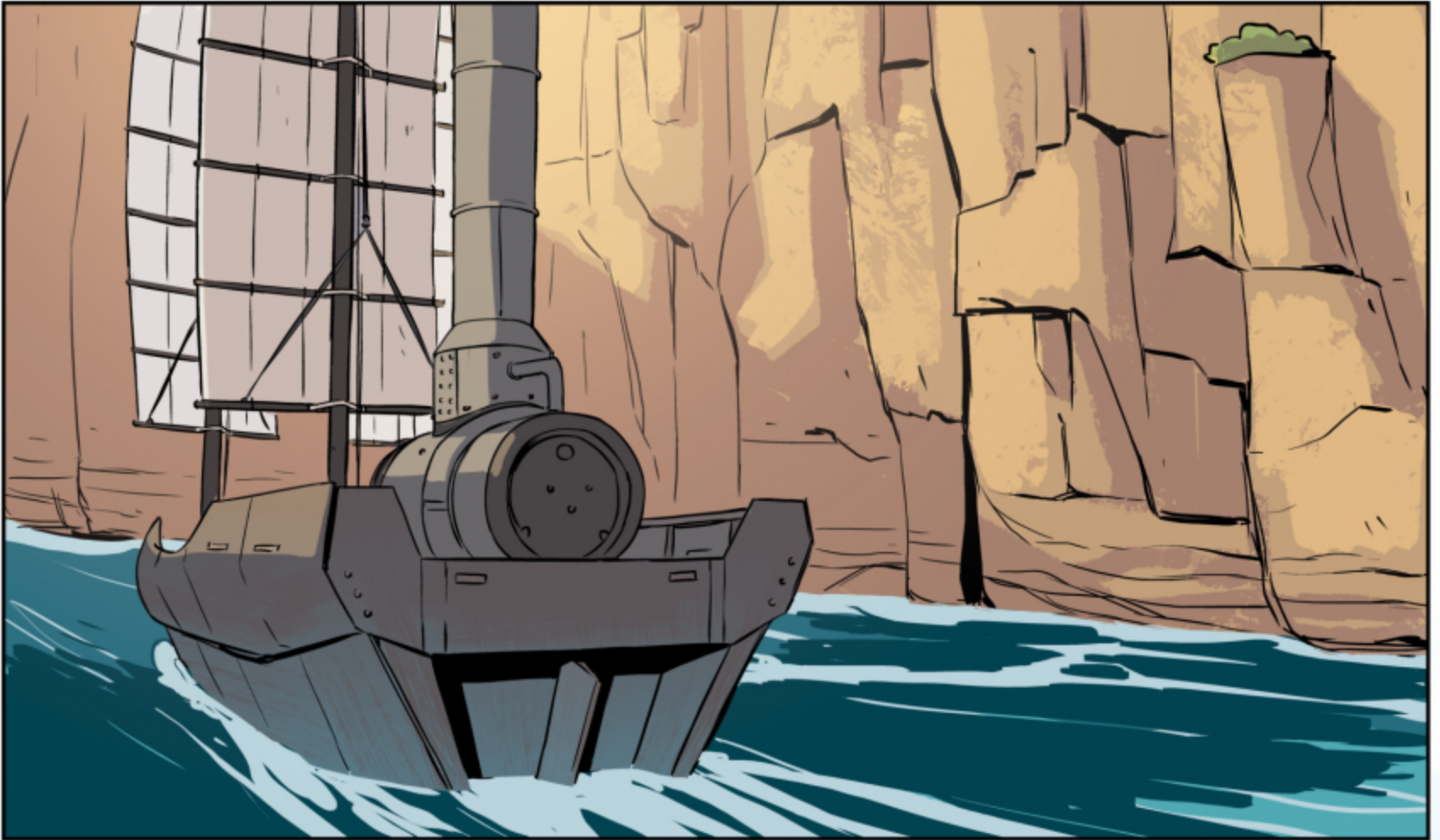
THANKS FOR THE SAVE, KATARA. I KNEW YOU'D COME THROUGH FOR US.

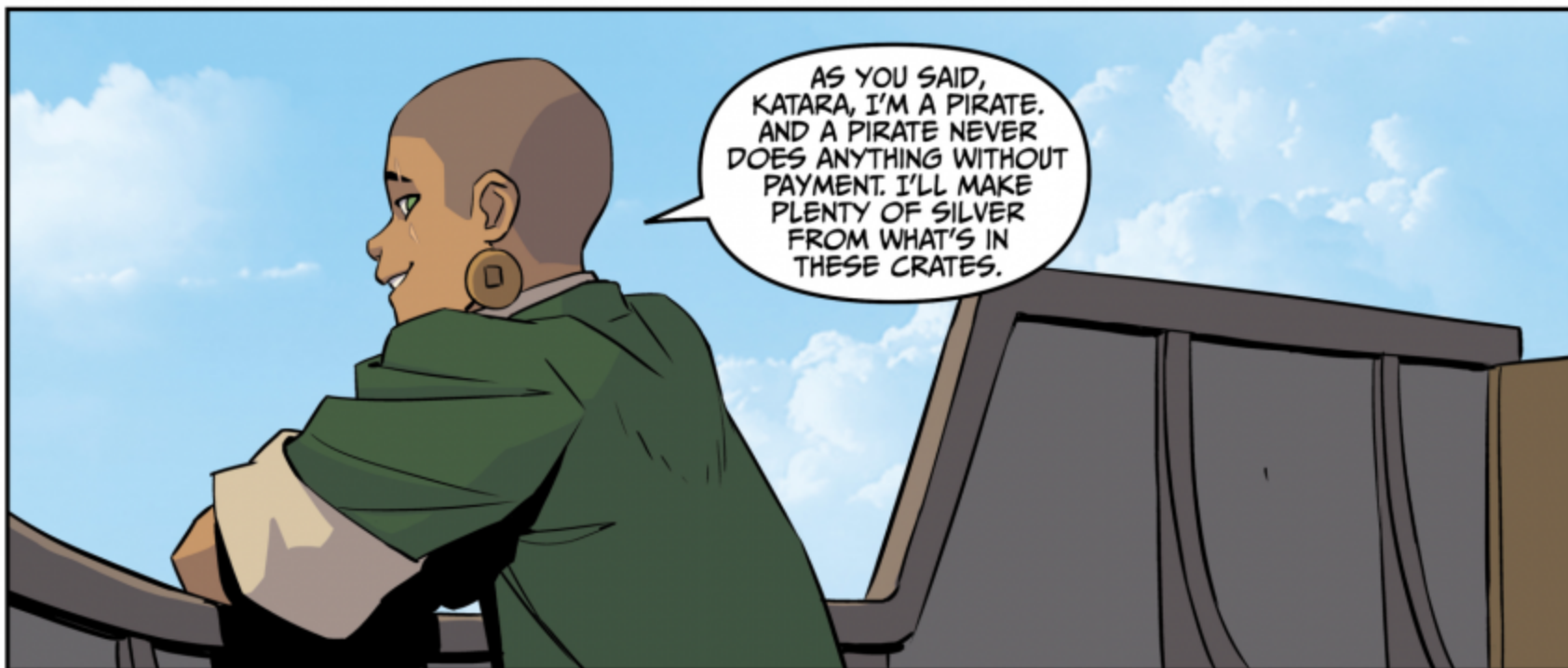
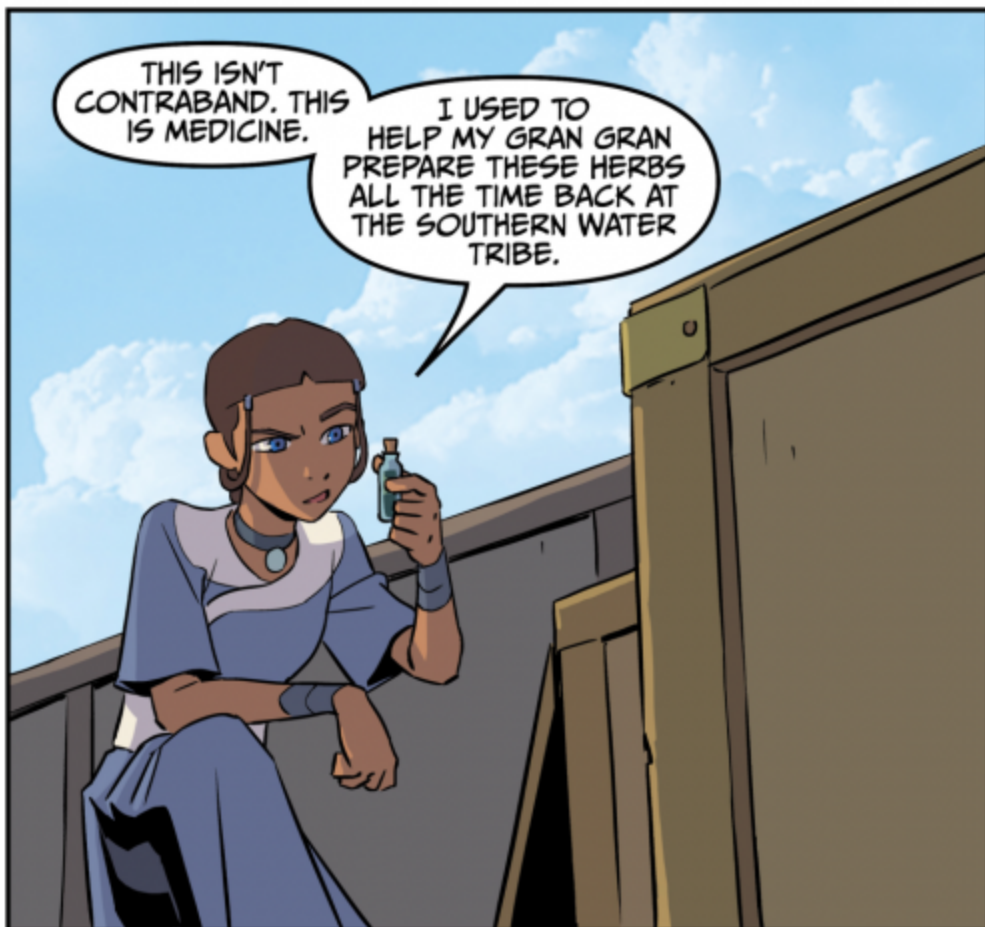














ANY SIGN OF KATARA?

NOTHING SO FAR.

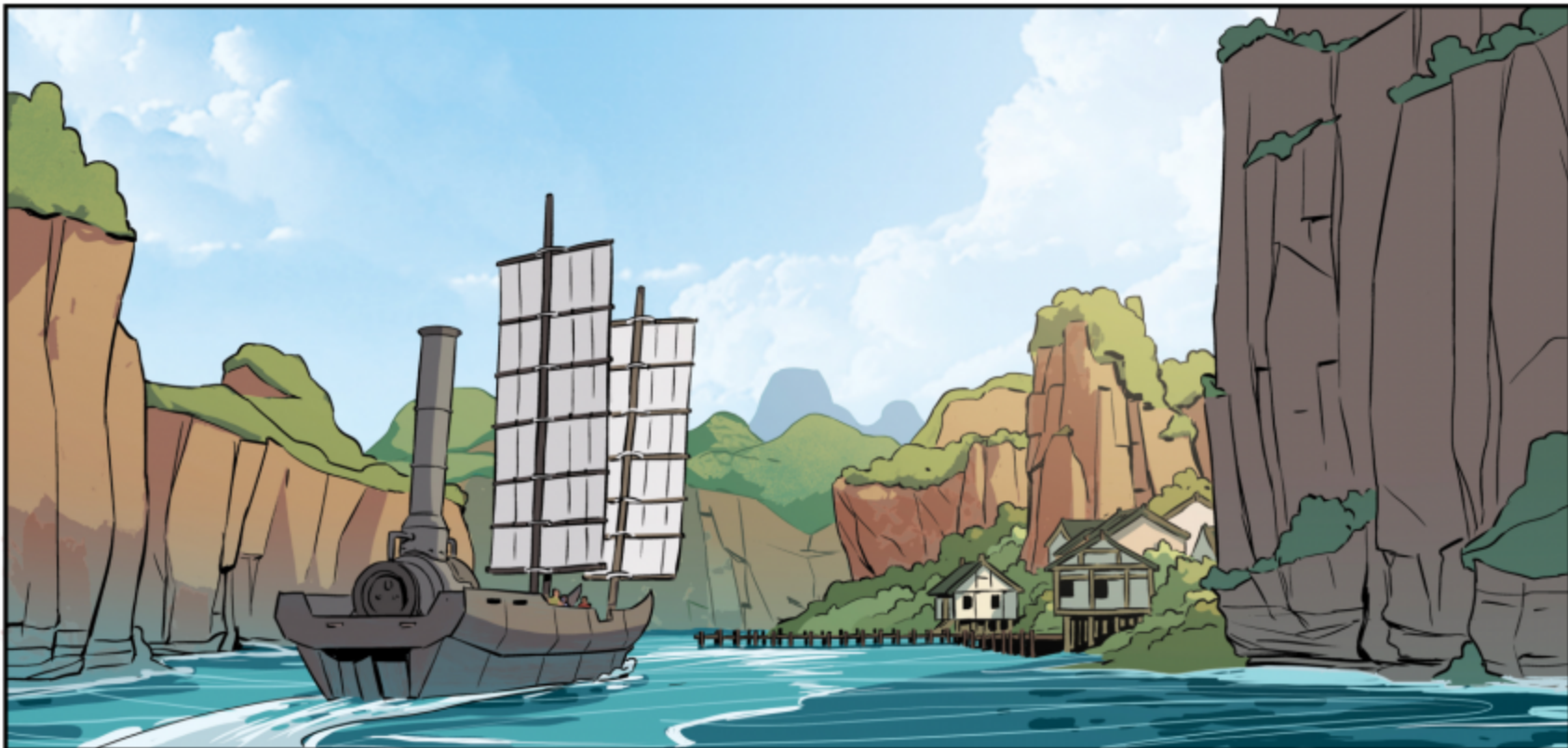


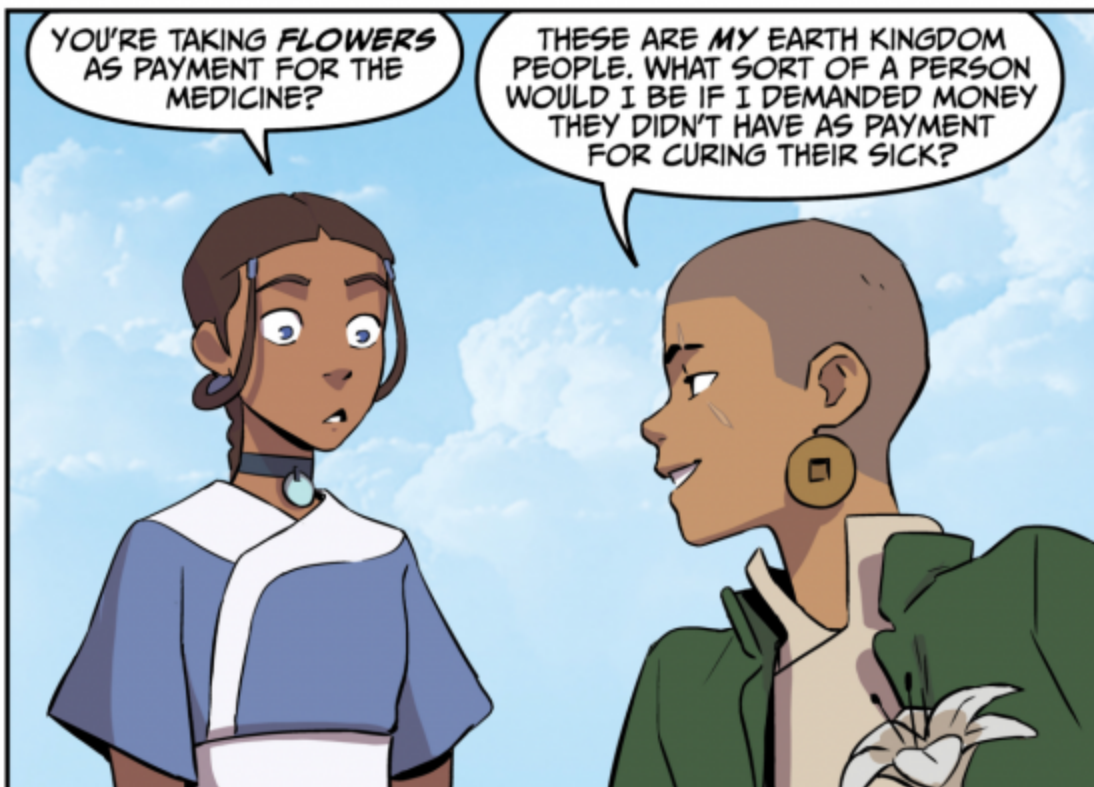
THERE'S ICE ALL OVER THAT BARRICADE! KATARA MUST HAVE BEEN HERE!

BUT WHERE IS SHE NOW?



THIS IS THE FIRST CLUE WE'VE SEEN, SO LET'S KEEP FOLLOWING THE RIVER.



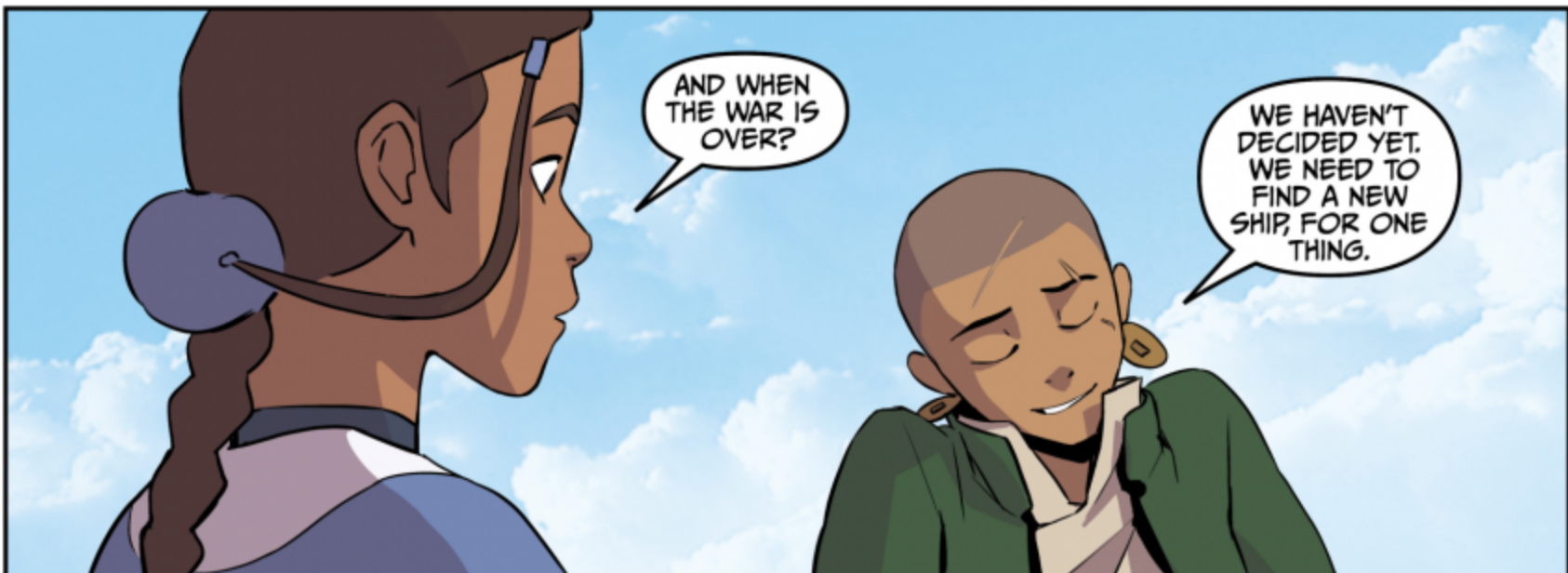




AND I WAS, FOR MANY YEARS, SAILED THE RIVERS, TOOK WHAT I WANTED, SOLD IT FOR PROFIT.

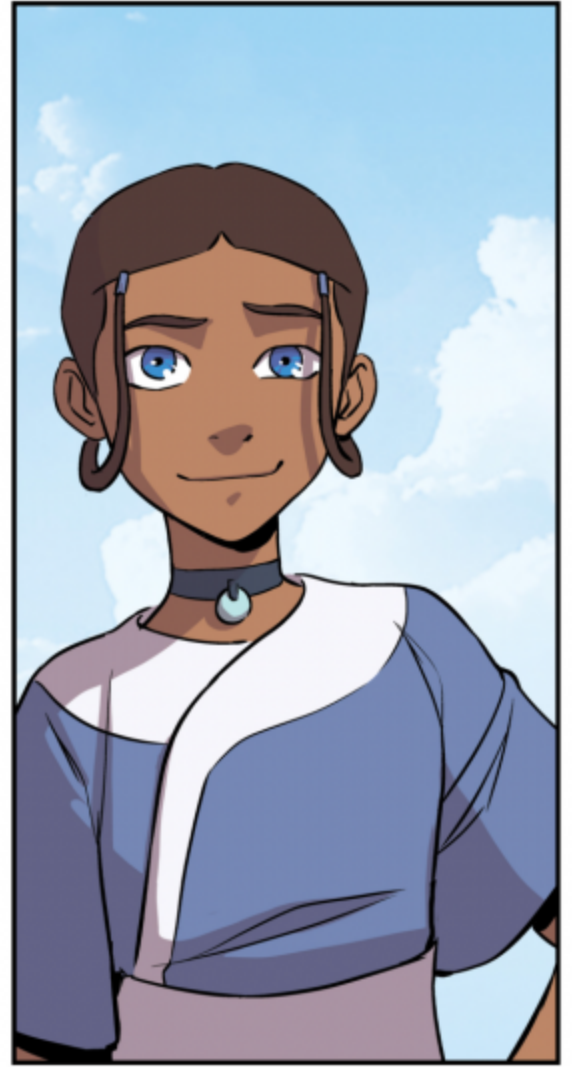
BUT THAT WAS BEFORE THE FIRE NATION INVADED. I MAY BE A CRIMINAL, BUT I'M STILL EARTH KINGDOM, AND SO IS MY CREW.

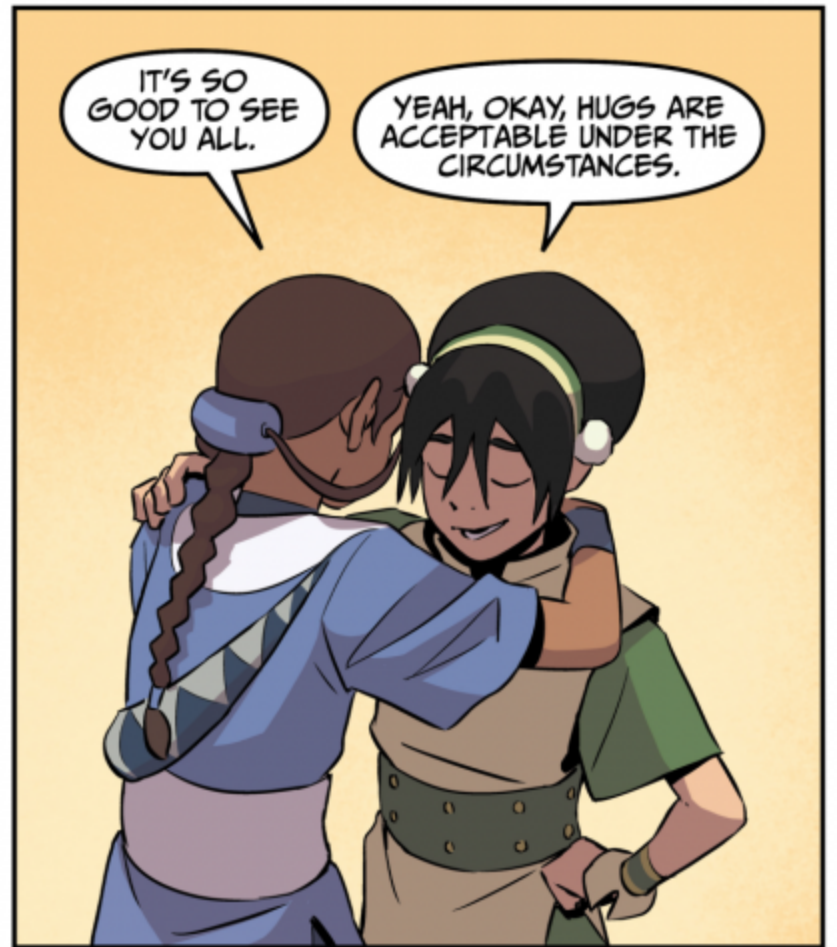
WE SWORE AN OATH TO FIGHT THE FIRE NATION, AT LEAST UNTIL THE WAR IS OVER. WE MADE A PACT TO HELP OUR PEOPLE, ABOVE ALL.



AND WHEN THE WAR IS OVER?

WE HAVEN'T DECIDED YET. WE NEED TO FIND A NEW SHIP, FOR ONE THING.





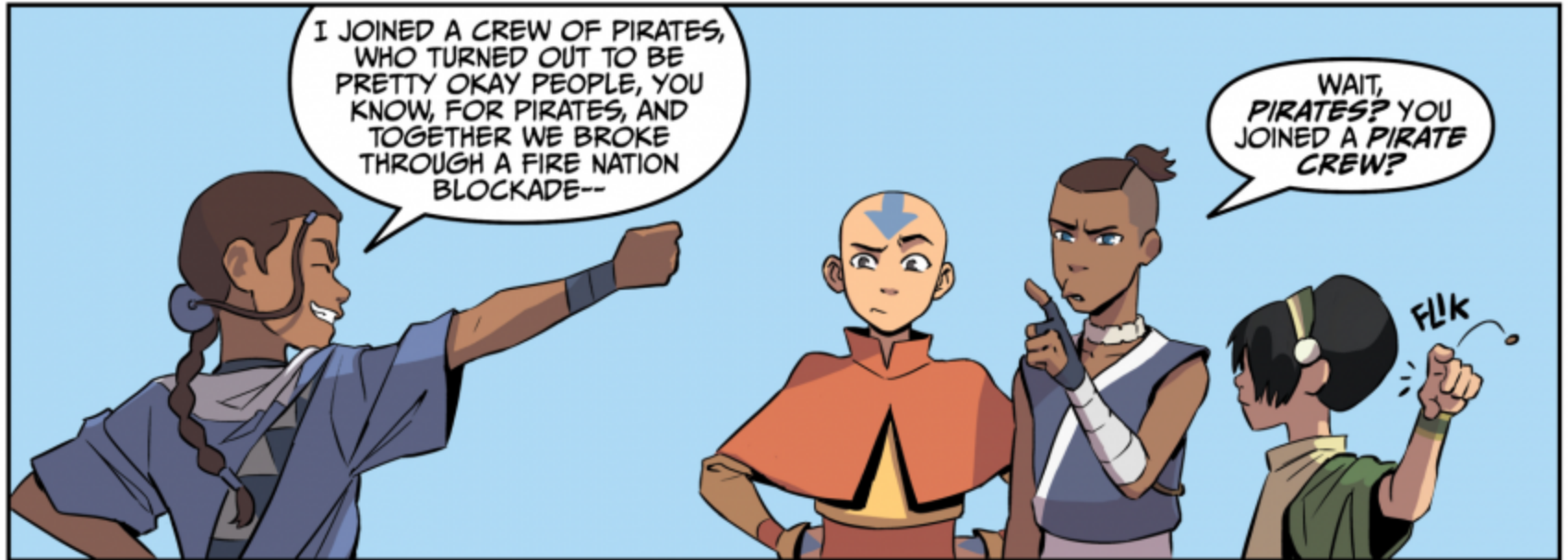


FIRST, I FOUGHT A FIRE NATION SOLDIER, AND KNOCKED HIM OUT USING WATERBENDING.



THEN I GOT TRAPPED IN A VILLAGE OCCUPIED BY THE FIRE NATION. I KNEW I HAD TO ESCAPE, BUT HOW?

SQUEEK SQUEEK



I JOINED A CREW OF PIRATES, WHO TURNED OUT TO BE PRETTY OKAY PEOPLE, YOU KNOW, FOR PIRATES, AND TOGETHER WE BROKE THROUGH A FIRE NATION BLOCKADE--

WAIT, PIRATES? YOU JOINED A PIRATE CREW?

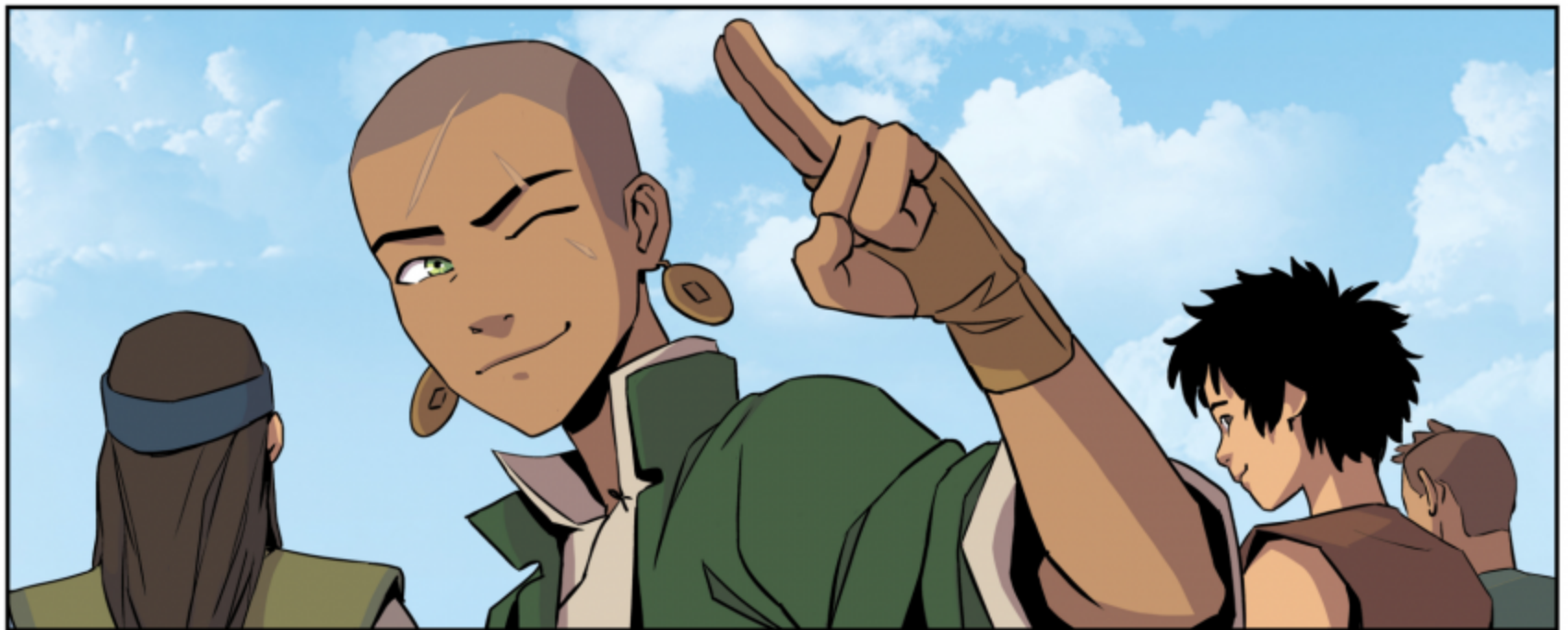
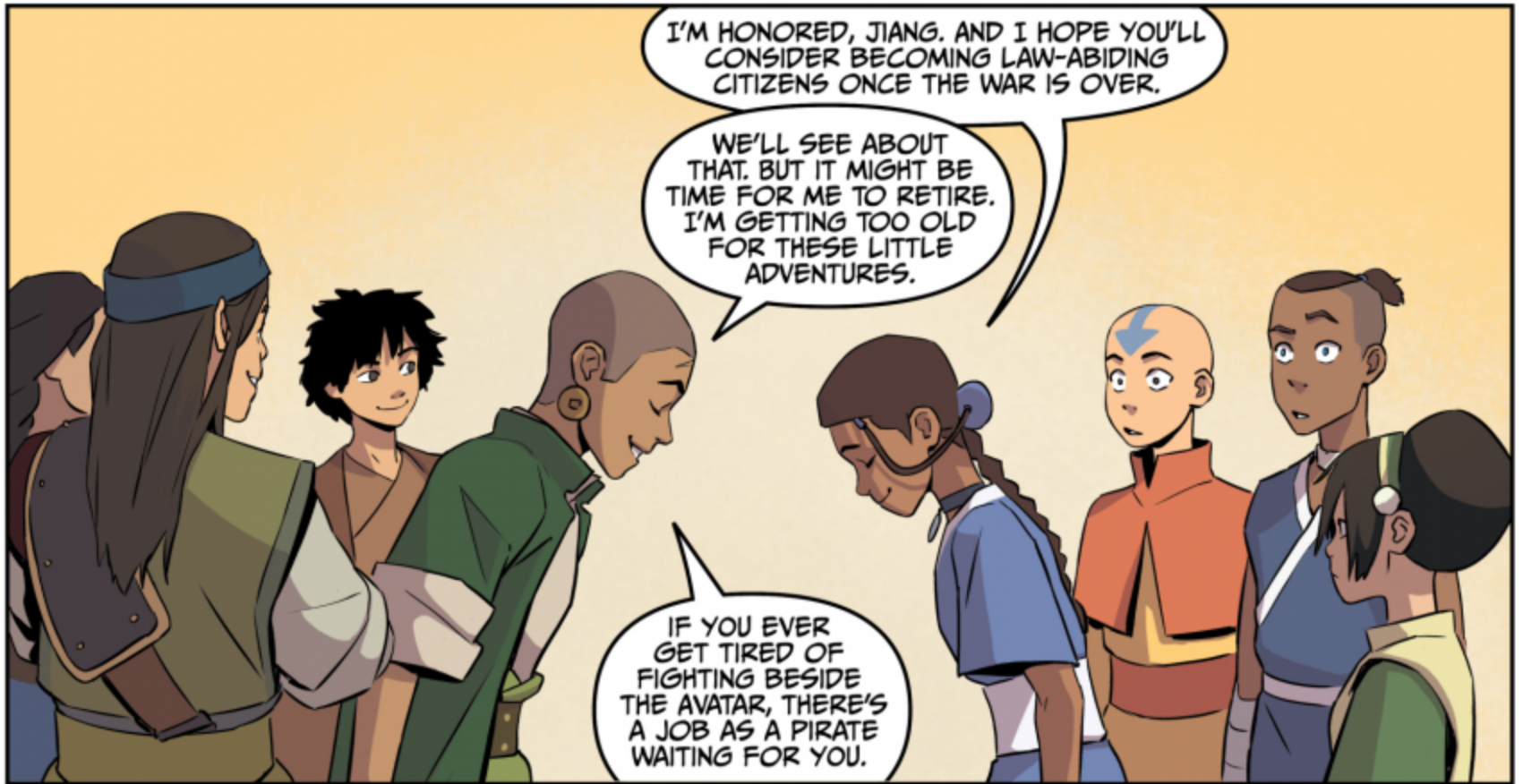
FLIK



THEY PUT THEIR PIRATING ON HOLD TO FIGHT THE FIRE NATION, SO THEY'RE **FORMER** PIRATES, BUT... YES!

I FIND THIS VERY HARD TO BELIEVE.







YEAH,  
I KNOW.

**THE END**



### It's sink or swim for Katara!

When Team Avatar is suddenly ambushed by the Fire Nation, Katara gets separated from the group. Unable to rendezvous with Aang, Toph, and Sokka, Katara must avoid capture by aligning herself with some unlikely allies! The normally sweet and sensitive Katara will need to explore her tougher side if she's going to reunite with the rest of Team Avatar . . . .

Written by Faith Erin Hicks (*The Adventures of Superhero Girl*, *The Nameless City*) and drawn by Peter Wartman (*Stonebreaker*), with colors by Adele Matera and letters by ComiCraft's Jimmy Betancourt, in collaboration with *Avatar: The Last Airbender* animated series writer Tim Hedrick!



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