

**HEED MY
WORDS, STUDENTS
OF THE BEIFONG
METALBENDING
ACADEMY!**



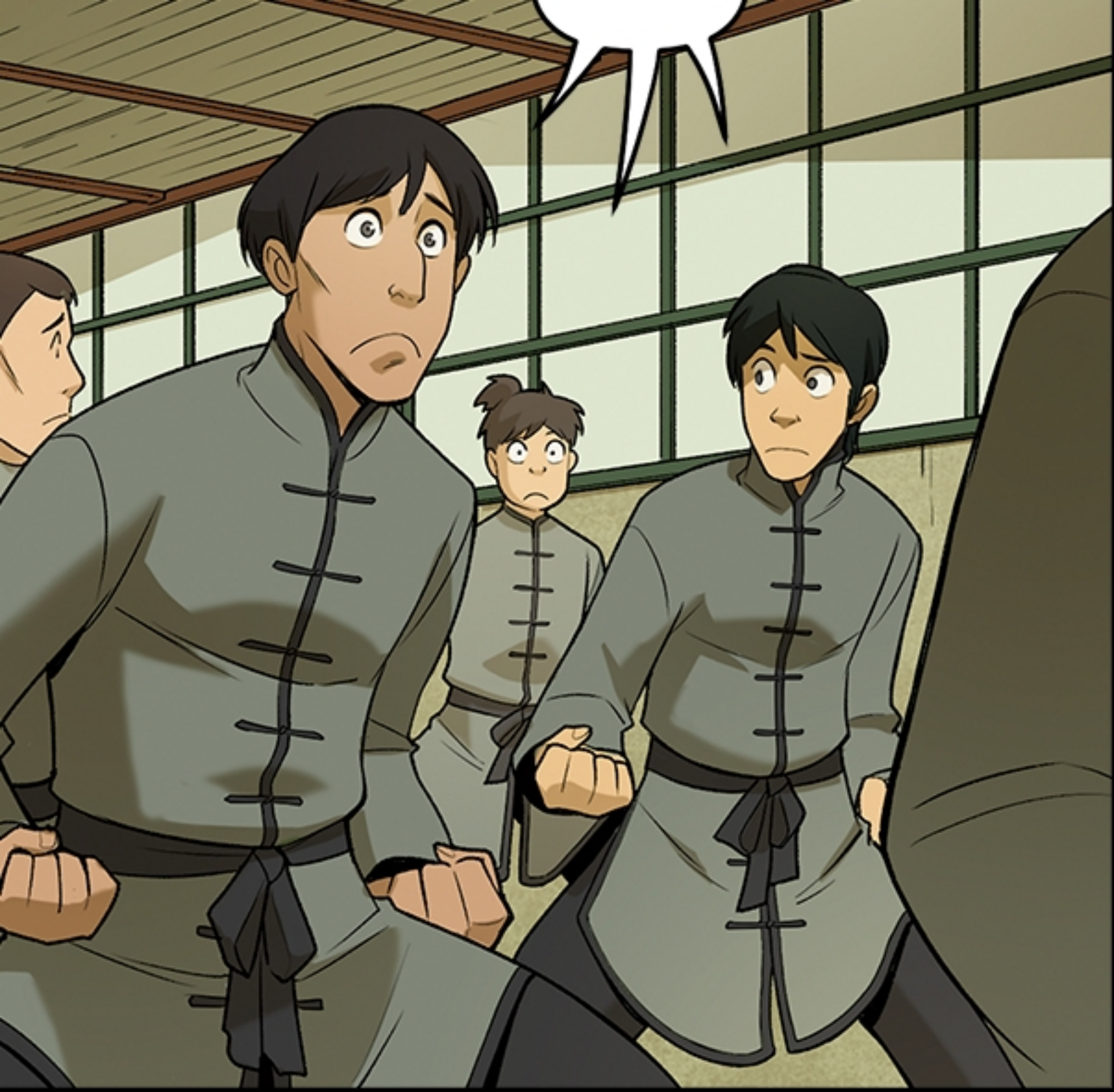
**CHI CLINGS
TO YOUR VERY
BEING LIKE A HEAVY,
SUFFOCATING
CLOAK!**

TAKE HOLD OF

TAKE HOLD OF
ITS MANY DARK FOLDS,
AND KEEP GUARD AGAINST
THE IMPISH BREATH OF
DISTRACTION!



...



UH...

WHAT THE DARK
ONE IS TRYING TO SAY
IS **CONCENTRATE**.

GATHER YOUR
CHI DEEP IN THE
PIT OF YOUR GUT.



THEN USE IT TO
FEEL THE **METAL**
ALL AROUND YOU.

I GUESS
THAT MAKES
MORE SENSE...?





**HO TUN!
PENGA! THE
DARK ONE!**

**I NEED
YOU TO COME
WITH ME!**

**IN OUR ABSENCE,
CONTINUE YOUR
TRAINING! RESIST
THE IMPISH BREATH!**

**YOU'RE
NOT TRYING TO
REIGNITE OUR ROMANCE,
ARE YOU, SOKKA? I'VE
OUTGROWN YOU.**





PENGA, STOP!
THIS LOOKS
SERIOUS!

*IT IS!
HURRY!*

O DREADFUL
HASTE! HOW YOU
FILL MY HEART WITH
DREADFUL QUESTIONS!

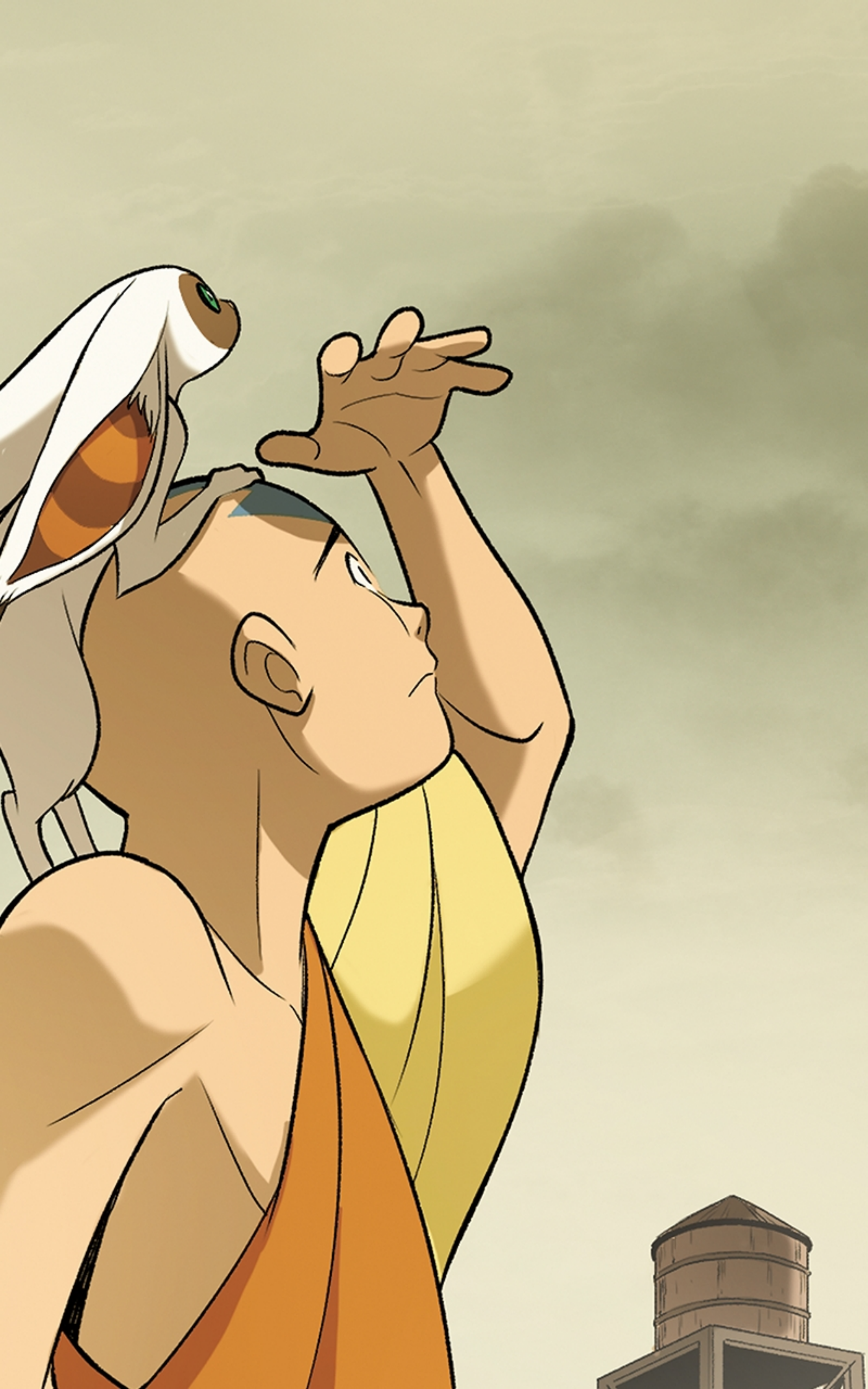




I'LL EXPLAIN
MORE ON THE WAY,
DARK ONE--

--BUT IT'S *SIFU*
TOPH. SHE NEEDS
YOUR HELP!







KATARIO

KATARA?



SOKKA'S
BACK?

NO, NOT YET.
I JUST WANTED
TO HEAR YOUR
VOICE.

TELL EVERYBODY
DOWN THERE TO HANG
ON JUST A WHILE
LONGER.



THE
METALBENDERS
WILL BE HERE IN NO
TIME, I'M SURE
OF IT!

HOW'S TOPH
HOLDING UP?

AS GOOD AS
CAN BE EXPECTED,
I GUESS...



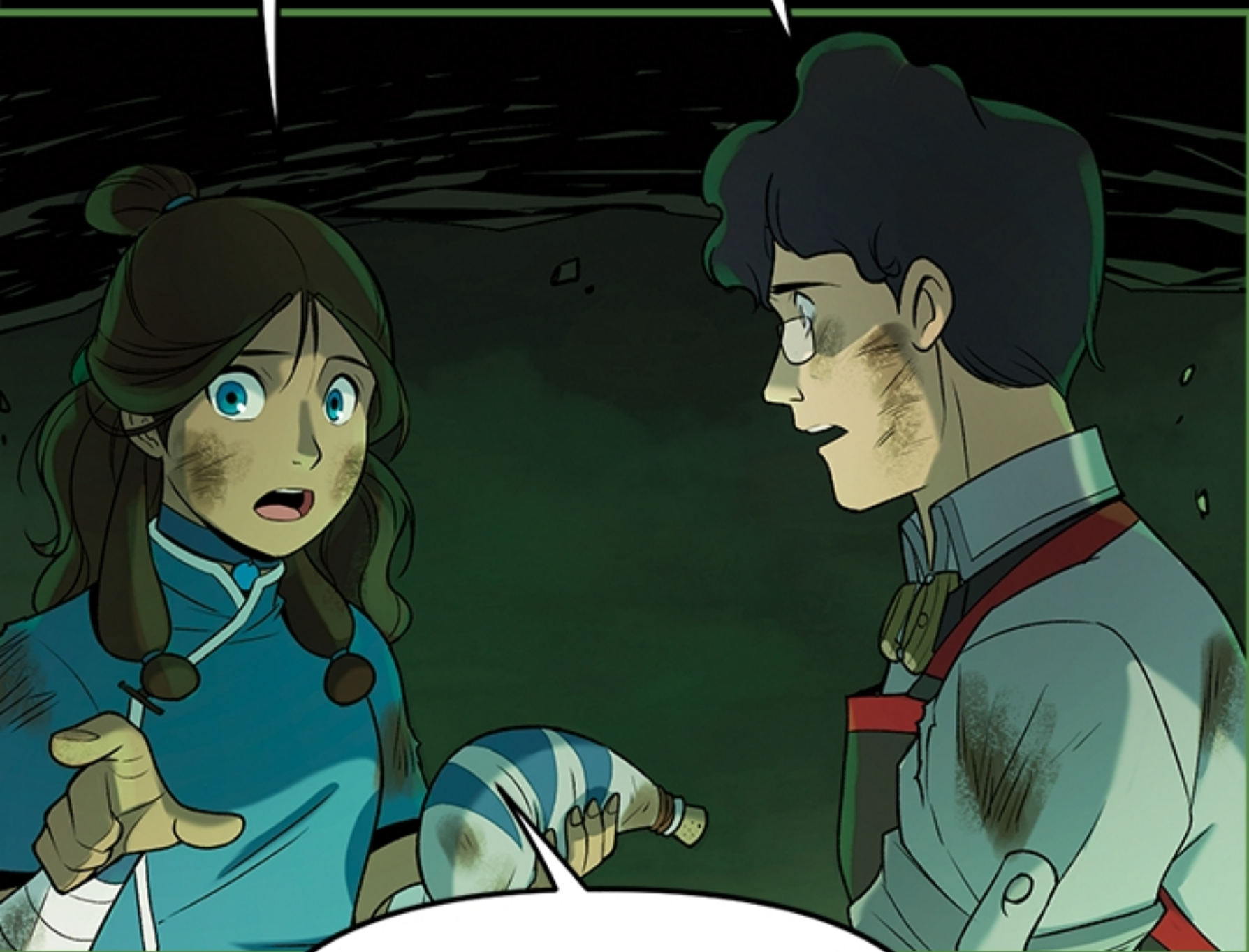
...CONSIDERING
SHE'S LITERALLY
CARRYING THE *WEIGHT*
OF OUR WORLD.





SATORU,
BRING THIS
TO HER.

ISN'T THIS
THE LAST OF
YOUR WATER?



YEAH, BUT IF
TOPH FAILS, ME
RUNNING OUT OF WATER

RUNNING OUT OF WATER
WON'T MATTER ALL
THAT MUCH.

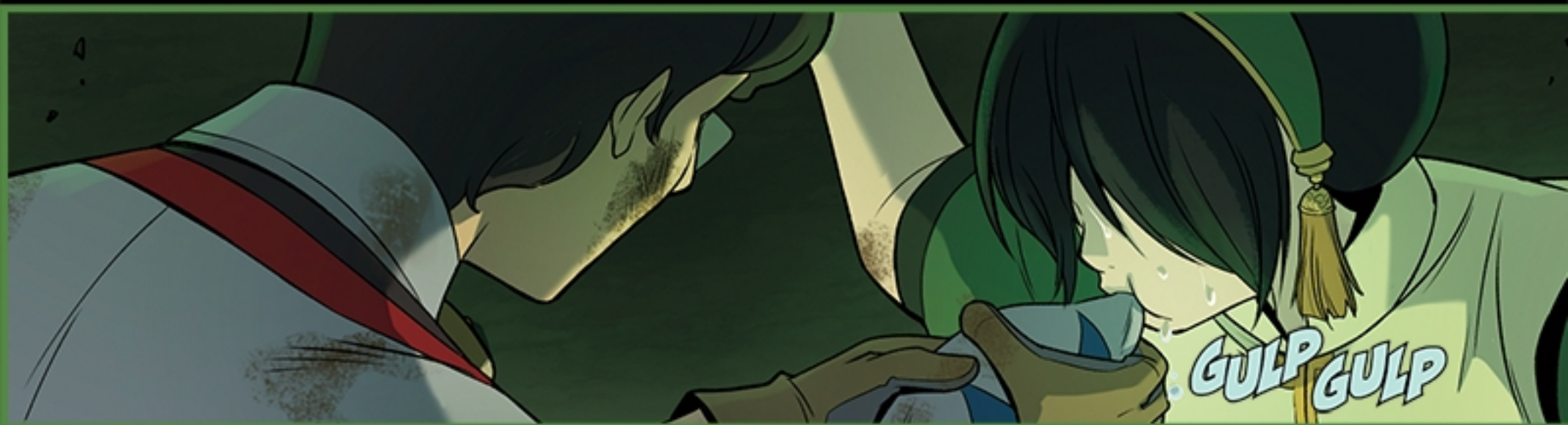
HEY.

...





DON'T
SPEAK. JUST
DRINK.



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...

≡NGFF≡

BARELY...
BREAKING...A
SWEAT.

尼士火公



...

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



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.

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.



A comic panel set in a dark cave. On the right, Toph Beifong, wearing her signature green and yellow outfit and a green headband, is shown from the waist up, pointing her right index finger towards a man on the left. She has a stern expression. On the left, a man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a light blue shirt with a red strap and a gold medallion, looks up at her with a surprised or concerned expression. A large speech bubble from the man contains his dialogue. A smaller speech bubble from Toph contains her response.

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.



A comic panel featuring two characters. On the left, a young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a light blue shirt and a red strap with a circular device, looks up with a slight smile. On the right, a young woman with long green hair and a green headband is shown in profile, looking down at him. The background is dark and textured.

⇒AHEN⇒



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

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

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.





THAT'S...
YOUR WHOLE...
PROBLEM, DAD.



IF YOU
KNEW ME... THE
REAL ME...



...YOU WOULDN'T
BE WONDERING...IF
WE'RE GONNA LIVE
OR DIE...



...BECAUSE
YOU'D *KNOW*...

I CAN KEEP...
THIS UP...AS LONG
AS I NEED TO.

I'M *TOPH*
BEIFONG...



...THE GREATEST
EARTHBENDER...*OF*
ALL TIME.



nickelodeon[™]



AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER[™]

THE RIFT

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