

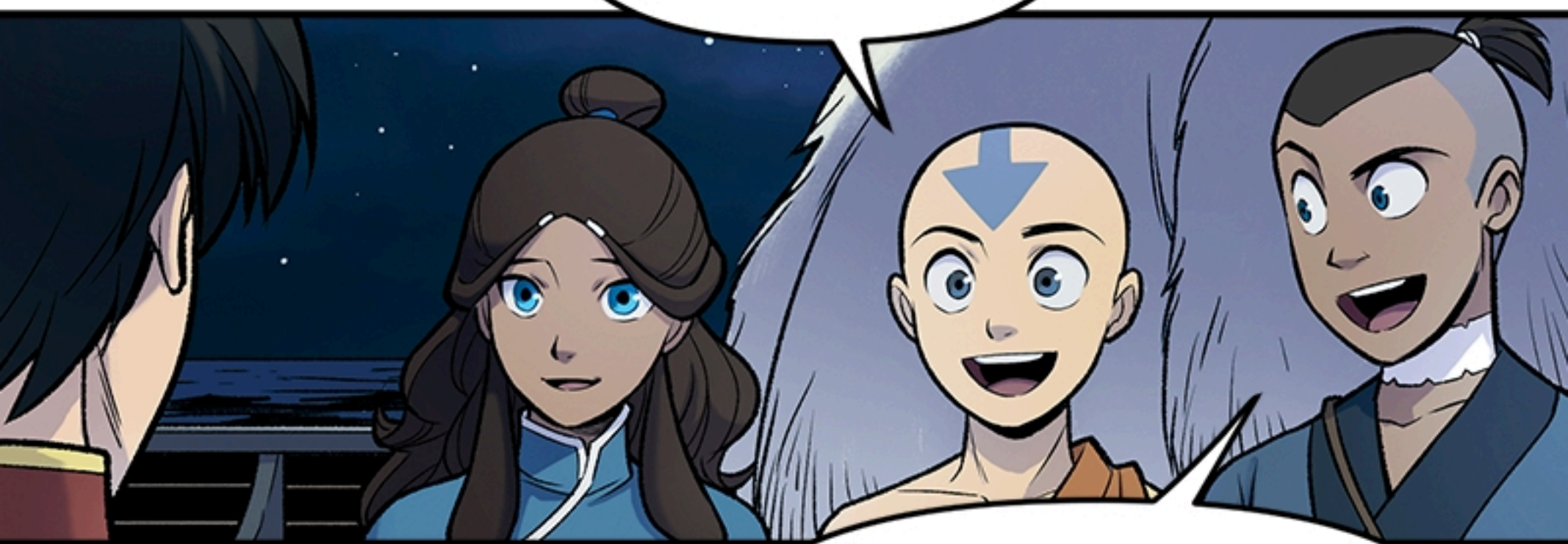


YOU GUYS
ARE LEAVING?
ALREADY?

YEP.

GOING BACK TO
THE CAPITAL CITY IS
GOING TO BRING UP ALL
SORTS OF STUFF FOR YOUR
MOM, FOR *KIYI*, FOR
ALL OF YOU.

YOU NEED TO
FIGURE IT OUT
AS A *FAMILY*.



WE'D JUST BE IN
THE WAY. ESPECIALLY
DOLPHIN-FISH RIDER
OVER HERE.

YOU GUYS
HAVEN'T REALLY
HAD ANY *BONDING*

HAD ANY BONDING
TIME YET, ZUKO.

THIS
WILL BE YOUR
CHANCE.

I GUESS
THAT MAKES
SENSE.



THANK YOU,
GUYS. FOR
EVERYTHING.

HAPPY TO
BE THERE FOR
YOU, BUDDY!







**CELEBRATION
IS IN A WEEK!**







A comic book panel showing Zuko and Ursa in a room. Zuko, on the left, is wearing his Fire Nation prince's uniform with a dark blue cape and a yellow crown. He is looking towards Ursa. Ursa, on the right, is wearing a red Fire Nation robe and has her hand to her face, looking distressed. The background is a simple grey wall with a dark baseboard.

MOM...?
YOU OKAY?

ZUKO...!

I...I'M
FINE.

...SO THAT'S IT.
THAT'S THE NEW
OZAI SOCIETY'S
BIG PLAN.

WITH ZUKO
GONE AND AZULA
MISSING, THE STAGE WILL
BE CLEARED FOR *OZAI* TO
RETURN TO POWER.



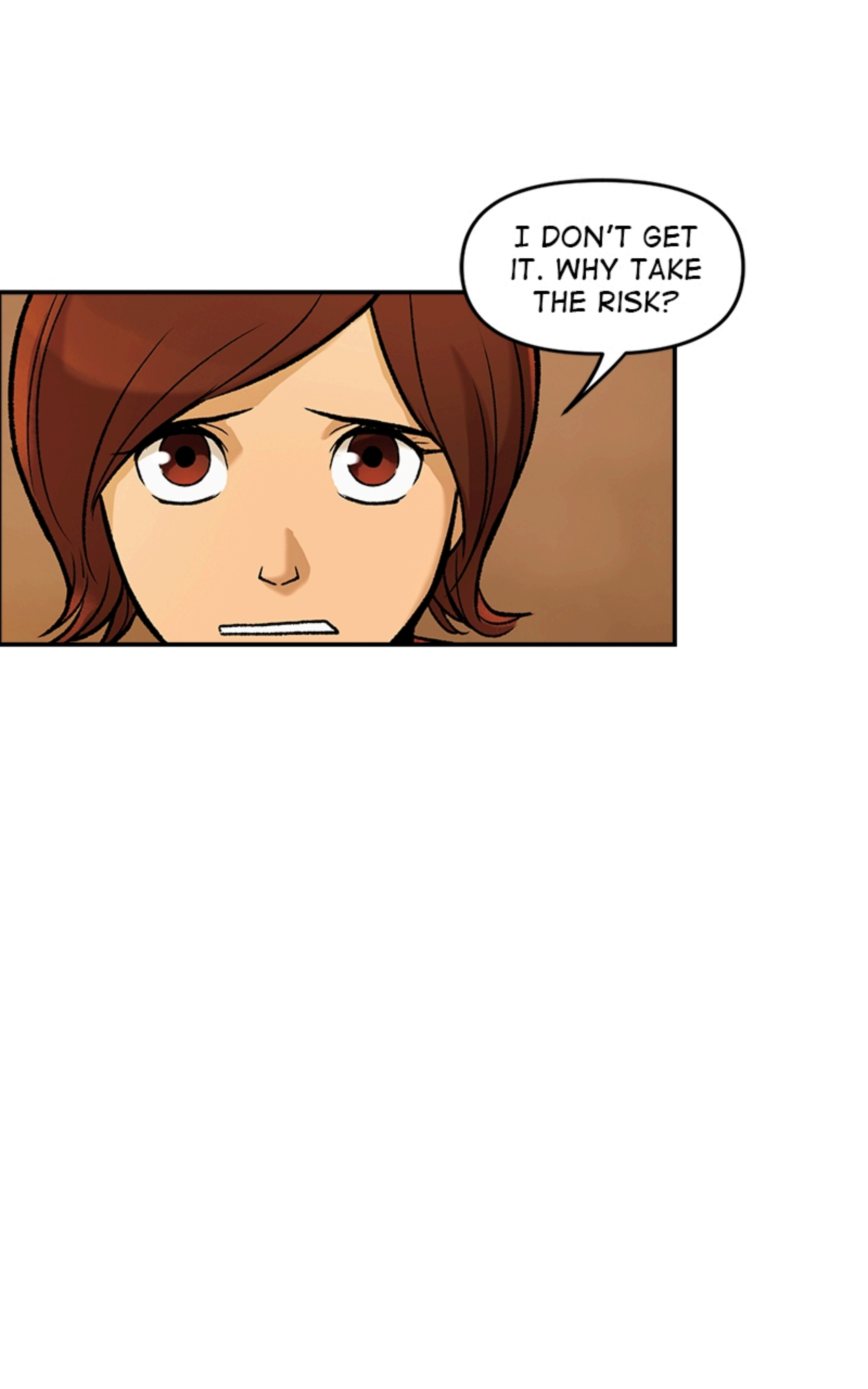


YOU'RE SO
BRAVE TO BRING

A comic panel depicting three characters in a traditional East Asian setting. A young man with dark hair, wearing a black robe with a dark hood, sits at a wooden table, looking distressed with a sweat drop on his forehead. To his left, a young woman with long brown hair in a braid, wearing a red and black outfit, looks at him with a concerned expression. To his right, an older woman with black hair in a bun, wearing a red robe, places her hand on his shoulder in a comforting gesture. On the table is a blue teapot and a yellow bowl. The background shows a wooden ceiling and a doorway.

THIS INFORMATION TO
US, KEI LO! I'M *SO*
IMPRESSED!

I DON'T EVEN
WANT TO *THINK* ABOUT
WHAT THE OTHER SOCIETY
MEMBERS WOULD DO TO ME
IF THEY FOUND OUT I WAS
MEETING WITH A *KYOSHI*
WARRIOR.



I DON'T GET
IT. WHY TAKE
THE RISK?

A comic panel set in a traditional East Asian room. A man with dark hair, wearing a black robe, sits on the left side of a wooden table. A woman with black hair in two buns, wearing a red robe with a white fur collar, sits next to him, leaning in and holding his hand. On the right side of the table, a woman with brown hair in a braid, wearing a red top and skirt, stands with her hands on the table, looking surprised. The table is set with a blue teapot, three small green cups on saucers, and two red rectangular objects. A window with a red frame and blue patterned glass is in the background.

LET'S JUST
SAY, YOU DON'T
MEET SOMEONE LIKE
MAI EVERY DAY.

NO, I GUESS
YOU *DON'T*.



I SHOULD GET
GOING. THANK
YOU, MAI, FOR
BELIEVING ME.

OH, WITH
THOSE EYES, HOW
COULD I NOT?

BYE,
BABE!

HE'S OUT OF
EARSHOT. YOU CAN
STOP BEING SO
FAKE NOW!

WELL?



WHAT IS GOING
ON WITH YOU?! HOW
COULD YOU LEAD HIM
ON LIKE THAT?!

WHAT'S
THE BIG DEAL?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT
HE DID TO *ME* WHEN
WE FIRST MET!

BESIDES,
WHAT *I'M* DOING
IS FOR A *GOOD*
CAUSE.





THERE ARE WAYS
OF PROTECTING YOUR
EX-BOYFRIEND THAT DON'T
INVOLVE *SELLING*
YOUR SOUL.





WHATEVER.

SO WHAT
DO YOU THINK?
IS HE LYING
OR NOT?

THAT BOY'S GOT
A *GOOD AURA*. I
THINK HE'S BEING
TRUTHFUL.



WHICH IS
MORE THAN I CAN
SAY ABOUT *YOU*
RIGHT NOW.





YES. IF I'D
KNOWN YOU WERE
STILL UP, I WOULD'VE
ASKED YOU TO COME
SAY GOODBYE.

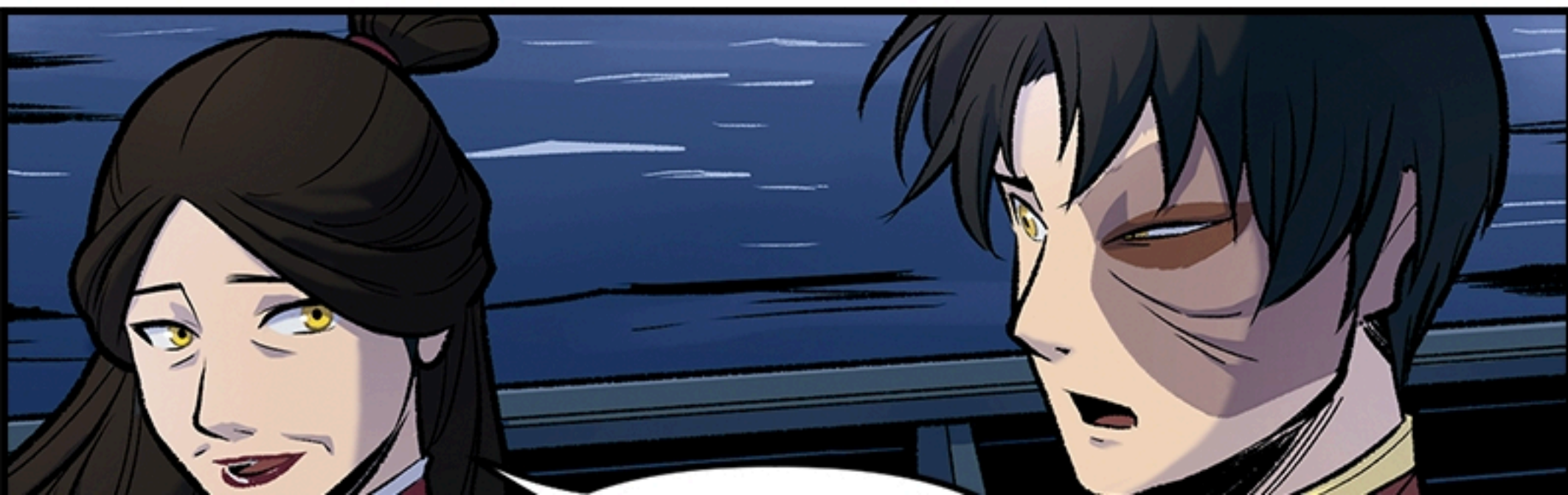


YOU'RE LUCKY
TO HAVE SUCH
GOOD FRIENDS.

I AM.



WHAT'S
GOING ON,
MOM?





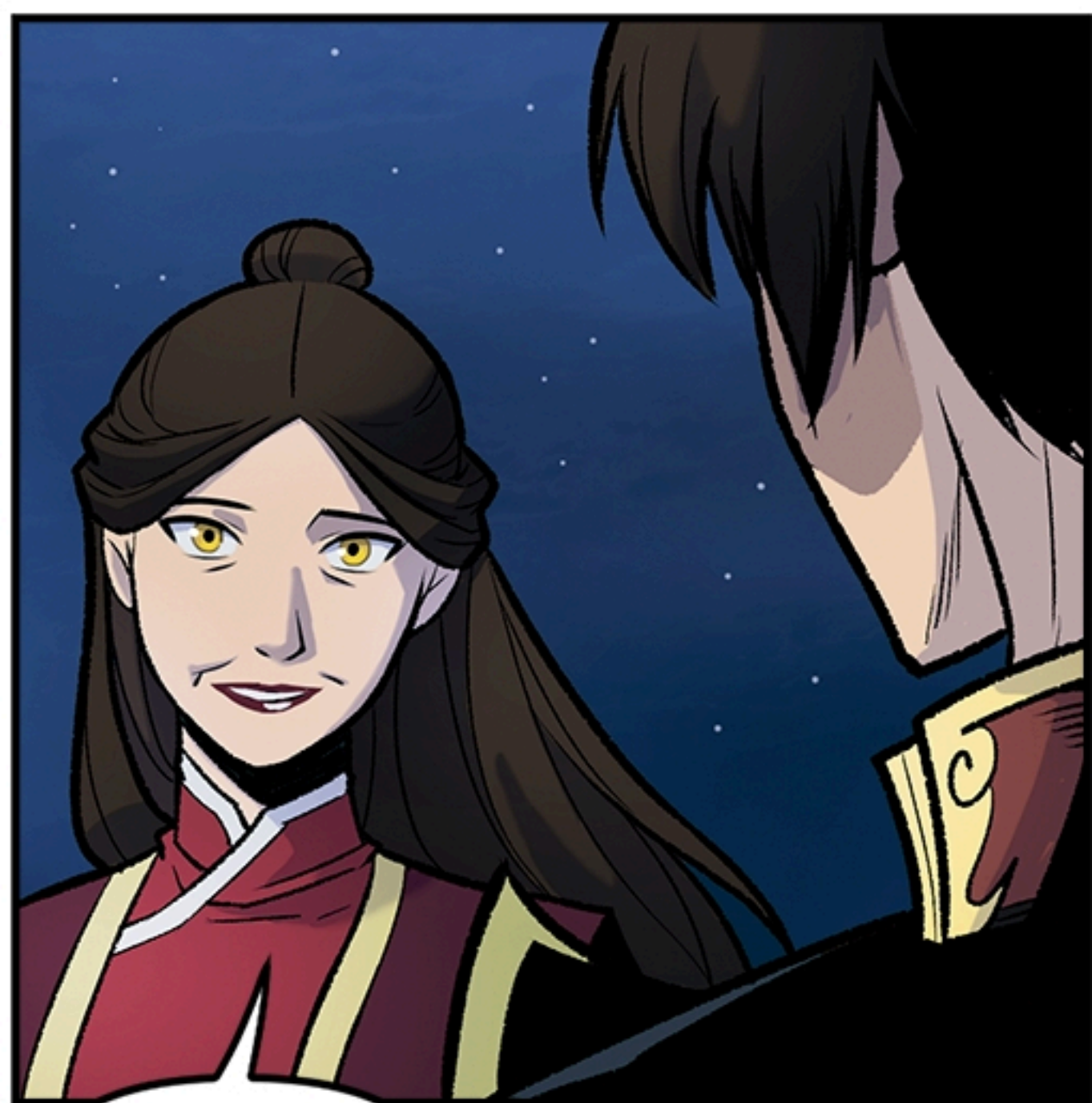
JUST NEEDED
A LITTLE FRESH
AIR, THAT'S ALL.



KIYI WILL
COME AROUND
SOON.

YOU'RE THE SAME
PERSON ON THE INSIDE,

REGARDLESS OF WHAT YOU
LOOK LIKE ON THE OUTSIDE.
SHE'LL FIGURE IT OUT.



I KNOW
SHE WILL.

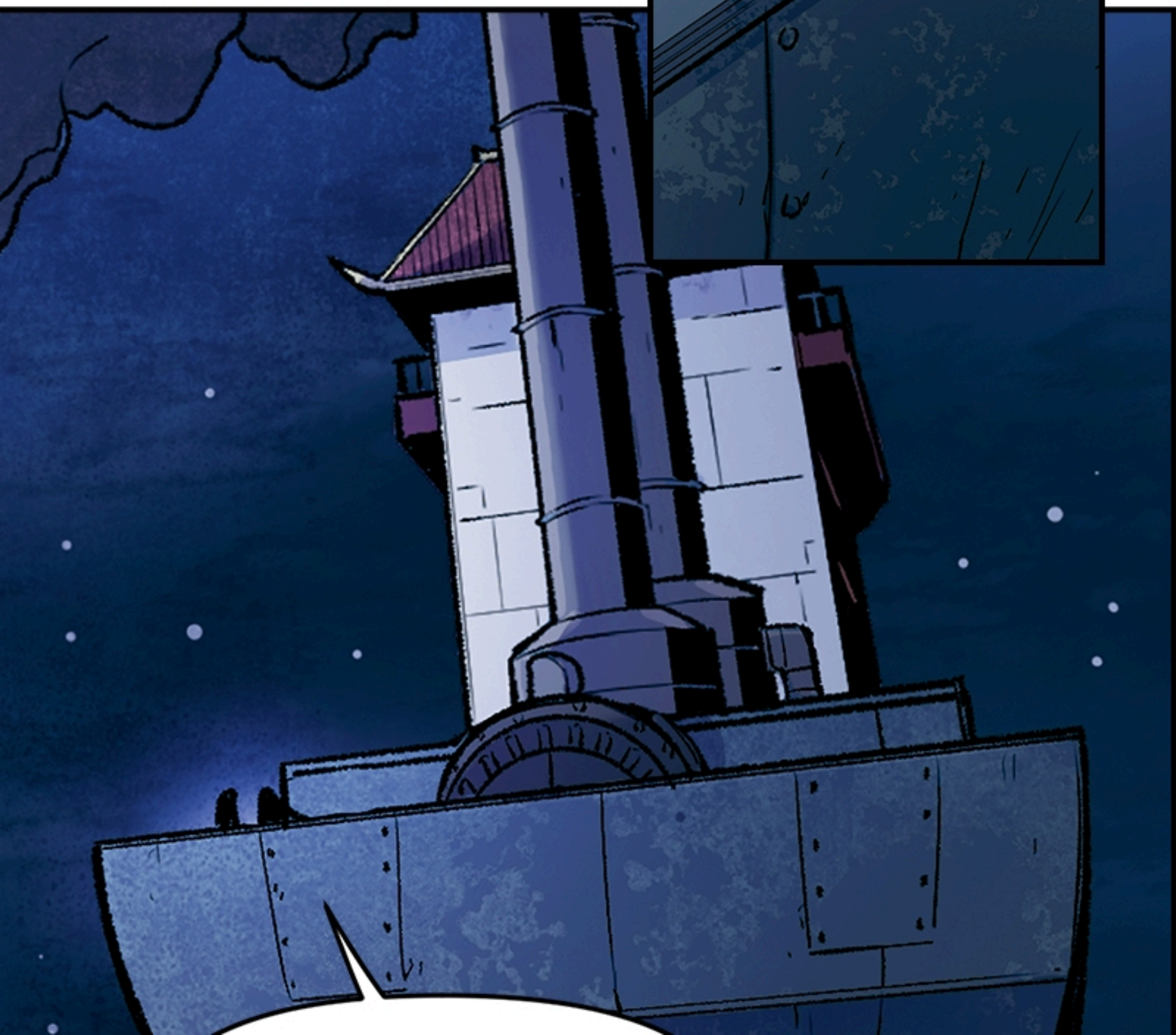


I WAS ACTUALLY
THINKING ABOUT MY
OTHER DAUGHTER...

...AZULA.



SHE'S ALL RIGHT?
SAFE, WARM,
HAPPY?



A comic book panel with a blue-toned background. The background depicts a landscape with a path or river winding through it, with some dark, jagged shapes that could be rocks or trees. Two speech bubbles are present. The first speech bubble is at the top left and contains the text: "MOM, WE DID EVERYTHING WE COULD. I SEARCHED FORGETFUL VALLEY FOR *WEEKS*." The second speech bubble is below the first, to the right, and contains the text: "I DON'T THINK WE'LL FIND HER UNLESS SHE *WANTS* TO BE FOUND." The text is in a bold, sans-serif font, with the words "WEEKS" and "WANTS" in italics.

MOM, WE DID
EVERYTHING WE COULD.
I SEARCHED FORGETFUL
VALLEY FOR *WEEKS*.

I DON'T THINK
WE'LL FIND HER
UNLESS SHE *WANTS*
TO BE FOUND.

I'M SURE SHE'S
SAFE. IF NOTHING
ELSE, SHE KNOWS
HOW TO SURVIVE.

HAPPY,
THOUGH?

I DON'T
EVEN KNOW WHAT

EVEN KNOW WHAT
THAT WOULD *MEAN*
FOR HER.



ZUKO, WE
SHOULDN'T BE SO
DOUP ON THE EVE OF

DOWN ON THE EVE OF
OUR *HOMECOMING!*



IT'LL BE
WONDERFUL TO
SEE YOU IN YOUR
ELEMENT!

THANKS.
I--



MOM, YOU'RE
FREEZING!



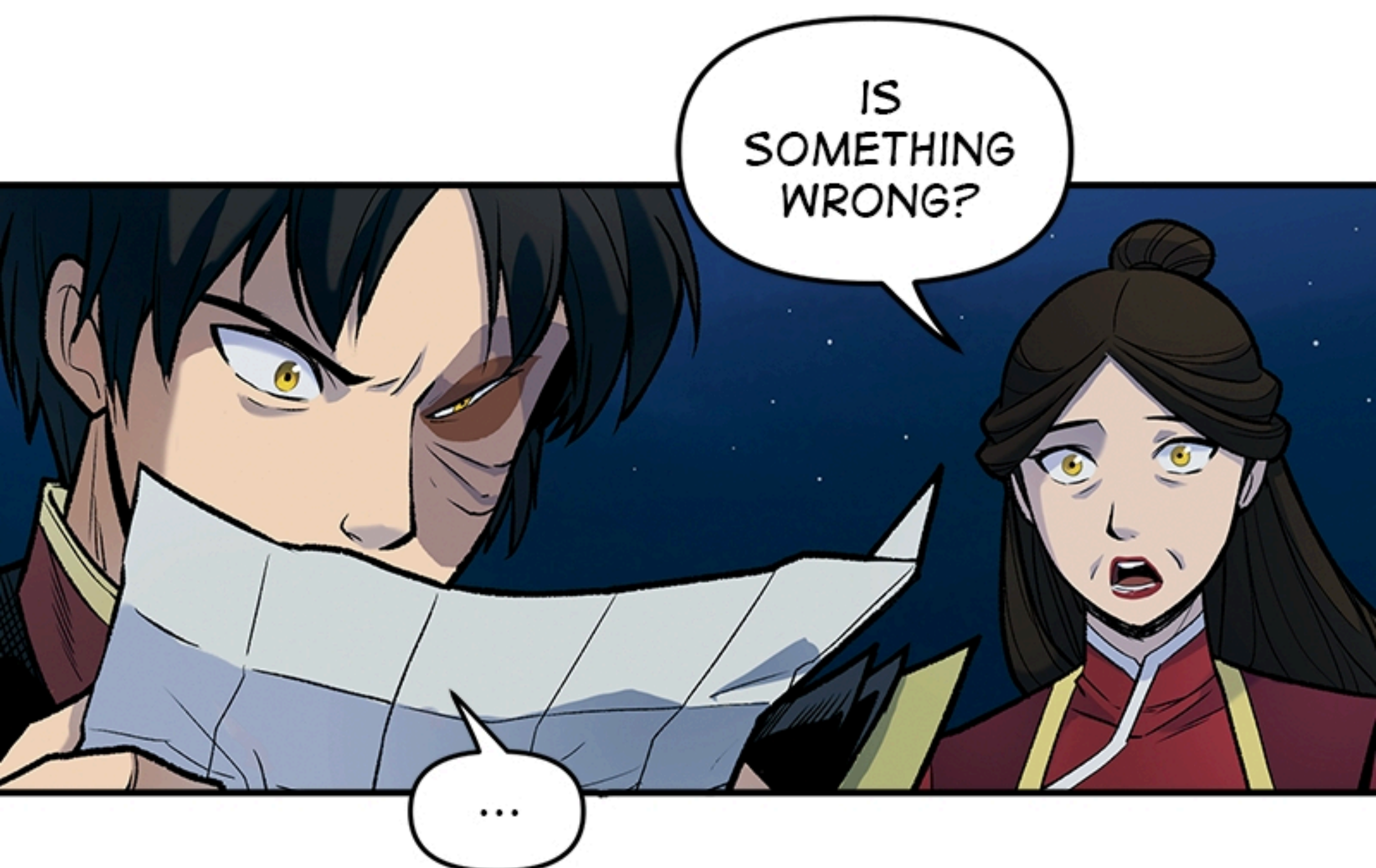
COME ON.
LET'S GET YOU
BELOW DECK.





A MESSAGE
FROM THE *KYOSHI*
WARRIORS...







DON'T WORRY.
I'M GONG TO DO
EVERYTHING IN MY POWER
TO KEEP YOU ALL **SAFE**.
ESPECIALLY KIVI.



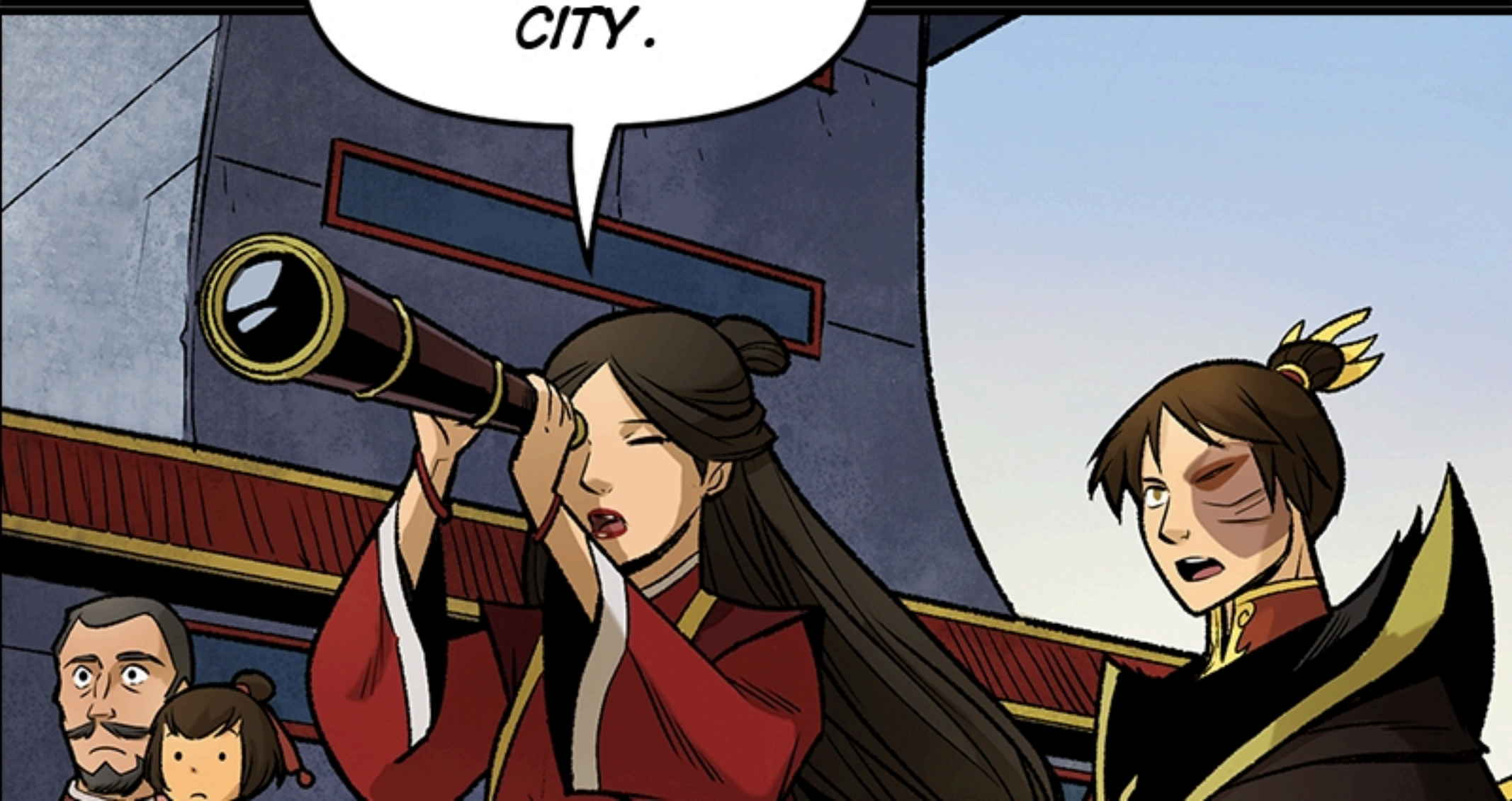
I PROMISE.

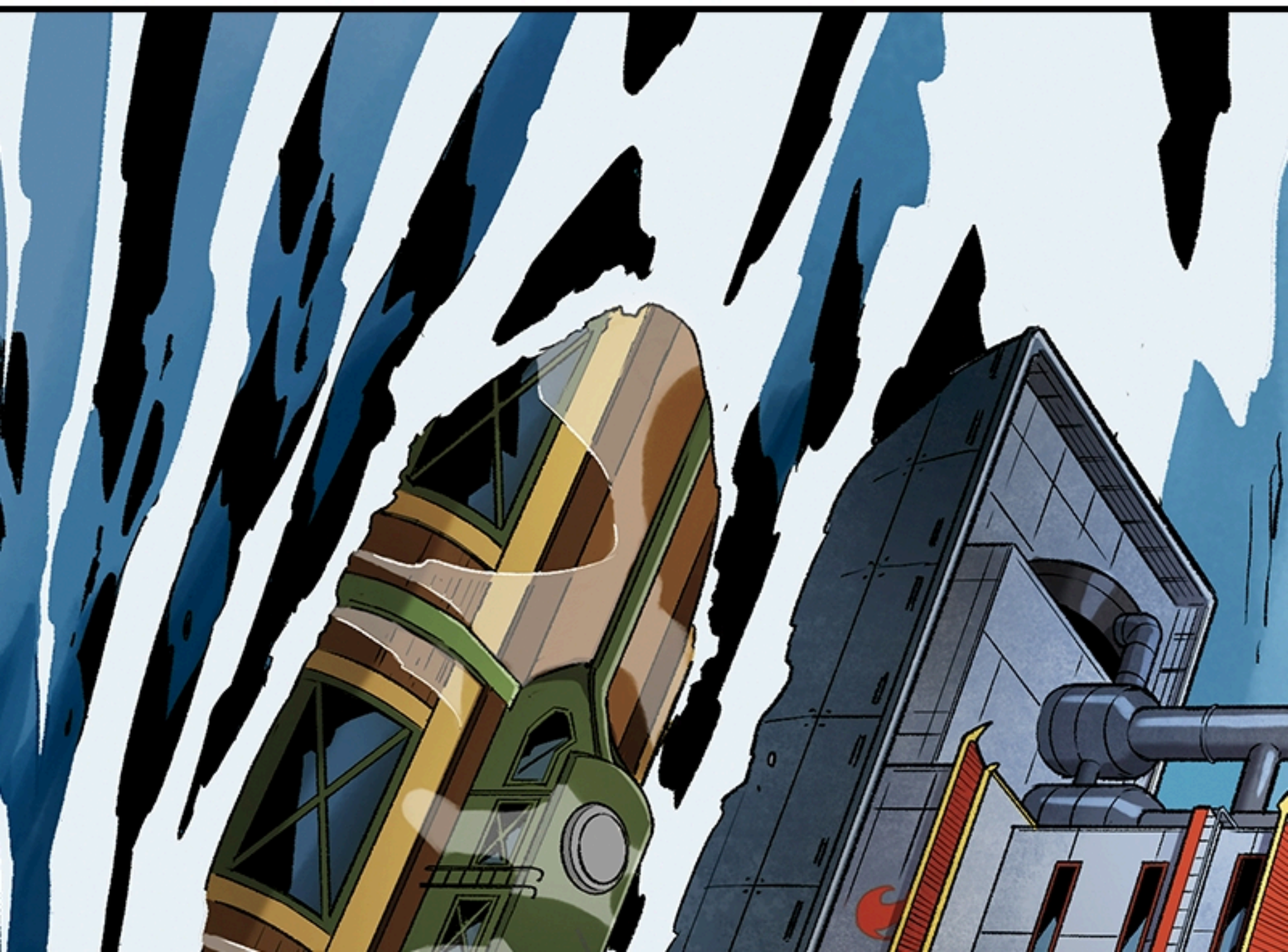


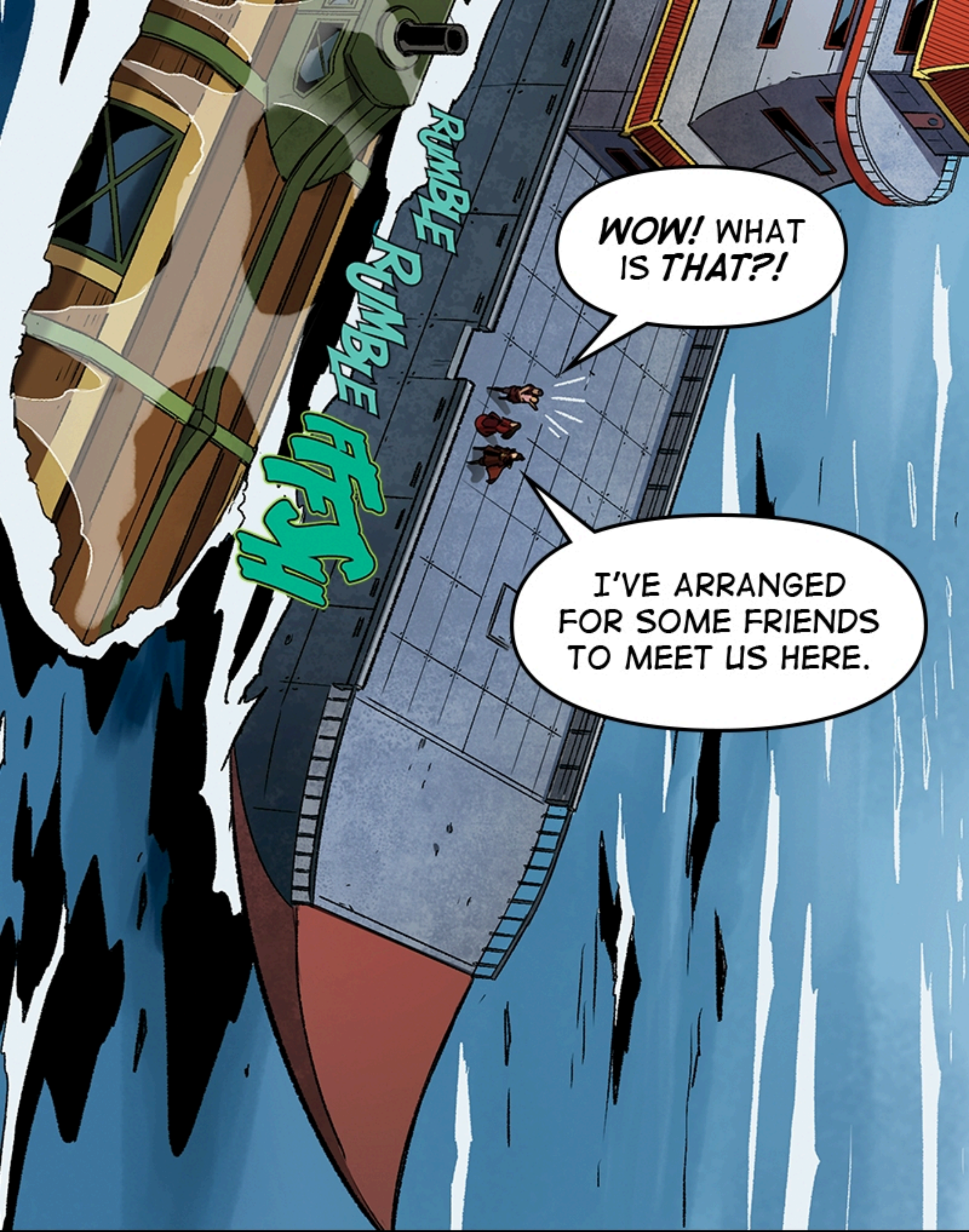


ZUKO, YOU SURE
WE'RE ON THE
RIGHT COURSE?

THAT
DOESN'T LOOK
LIKE *HARBOR*
CITY.



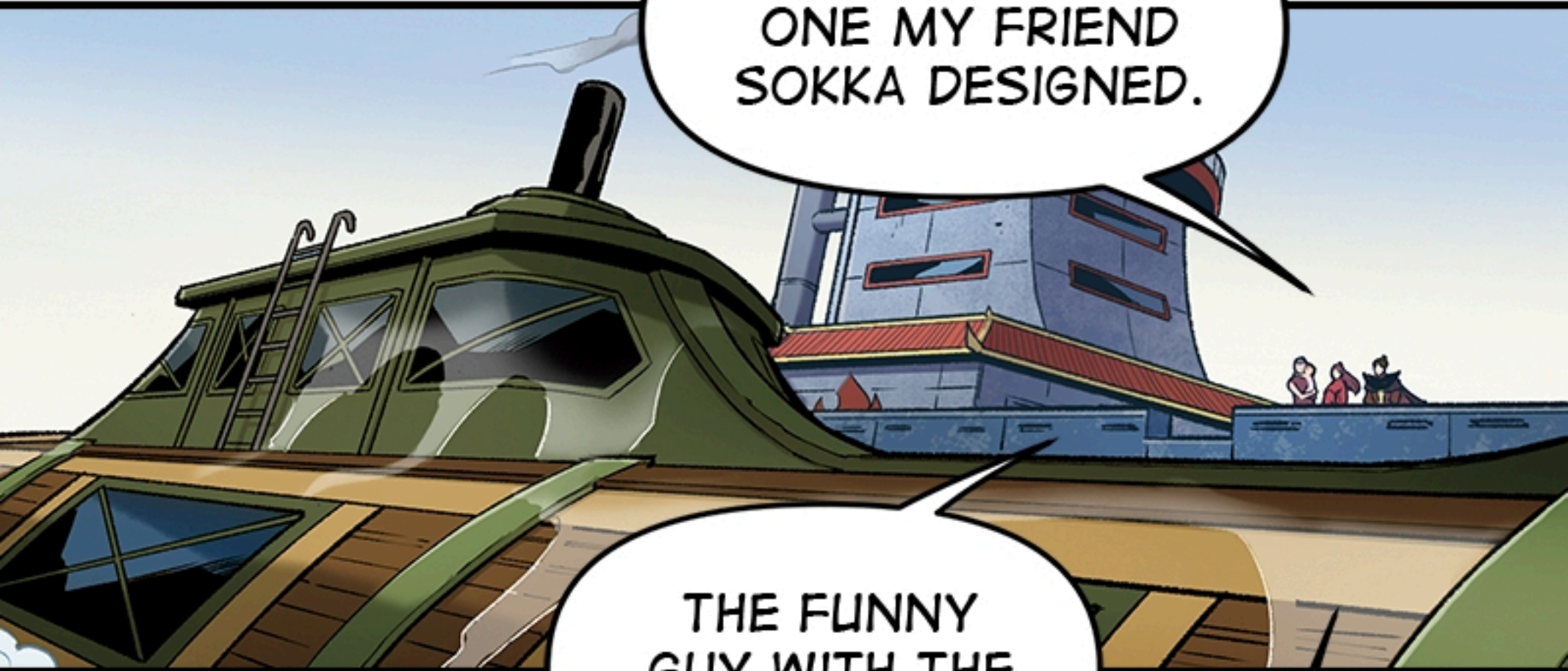




RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

WOW! WHAT
IS THAT?!

I'VE ARRANGED
FOR SOME FRIENDS
TO MEET US HERE.



A ***SUBMARINE***--
A SHIP THAT GOES
UNDERWATER.

IT'S BASED ON
ONE MY FRIEND
SOKKA DESIGNED.

THE FUNNY
GUY WITH THE
BOOMERANG?

THAT'S
HIM.



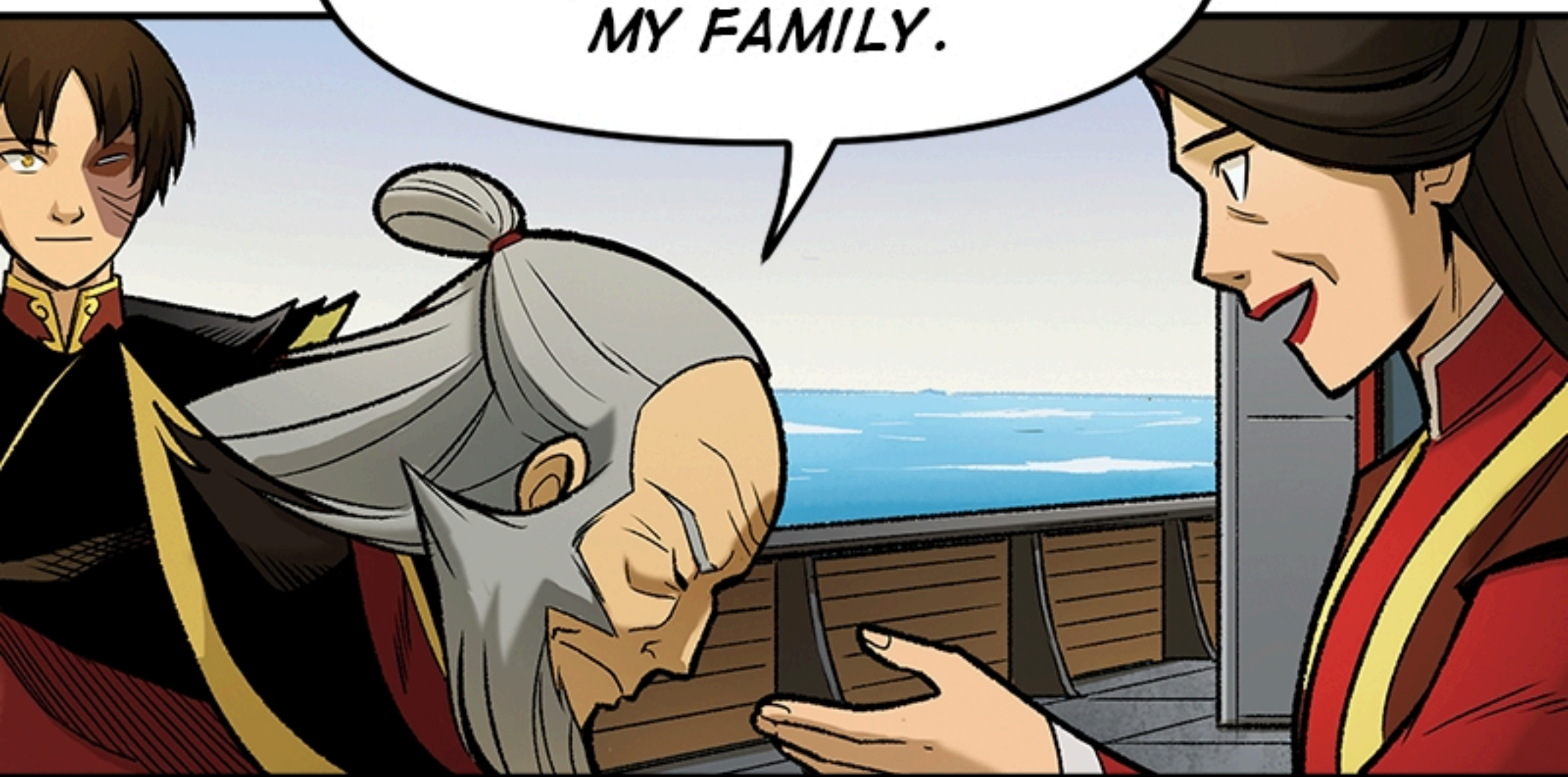
THANK YOU
FOR WATCHING OVER
THINGS WHILE I'VE
BEEN AWAY.

ONCE AGAIN, I
DON'T KNOW HOW
TO REPAY YOU.



LADY URSA, I'M
DEEPLY GRATEFUL
FOR THE OPPORTUNITY
TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

LET ME EXPRESS
HOW SORRY I AM FOR
ALL THE PAIN YOU SUFFERED
AT THE HANDS OF
MY FAMILY.



IROH,
WHAT ARE YOU
APOLOGIZING
FOR?

YOUR PRESENCE IN
THE FAMILY ALWAYS
GAVE ME *HOPE*.



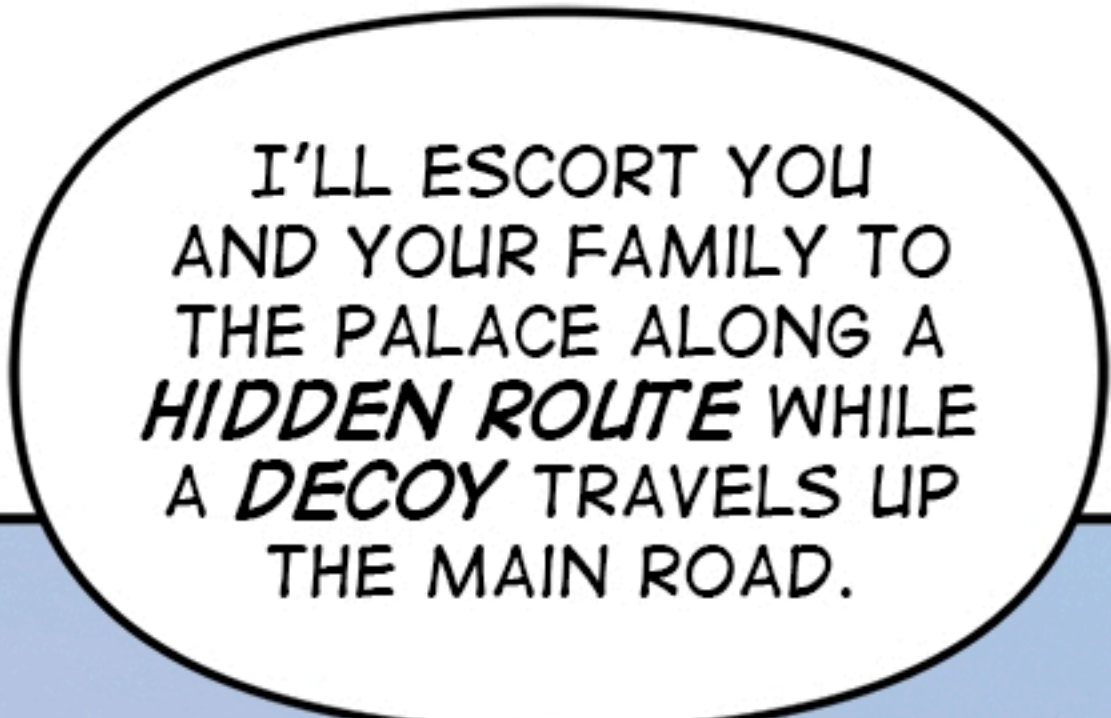


SUKI, THANK
YOU FOR TAKING
CARE OF ALL THIS.

NO PROBLEM,
ZUKO! THE MESSENGER
HAWK GOT BACK TO US JUST
A FEW HOURS AGO, SO WE
REALLY HAD TO *HUSTLE*.



BUT WE'RE
PREPARED TO FOLLOW
YOUR PLAN DOWN TO
THE LAST DETAIL!



I'LL ESCORT YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY TO
THE PALACE ALONG A
HIDDEN ROUTE WHILE
A ***DECOY*** TRAVELS UP
THE MAIN ROAD.



SO YOU
WERE ABLE TO

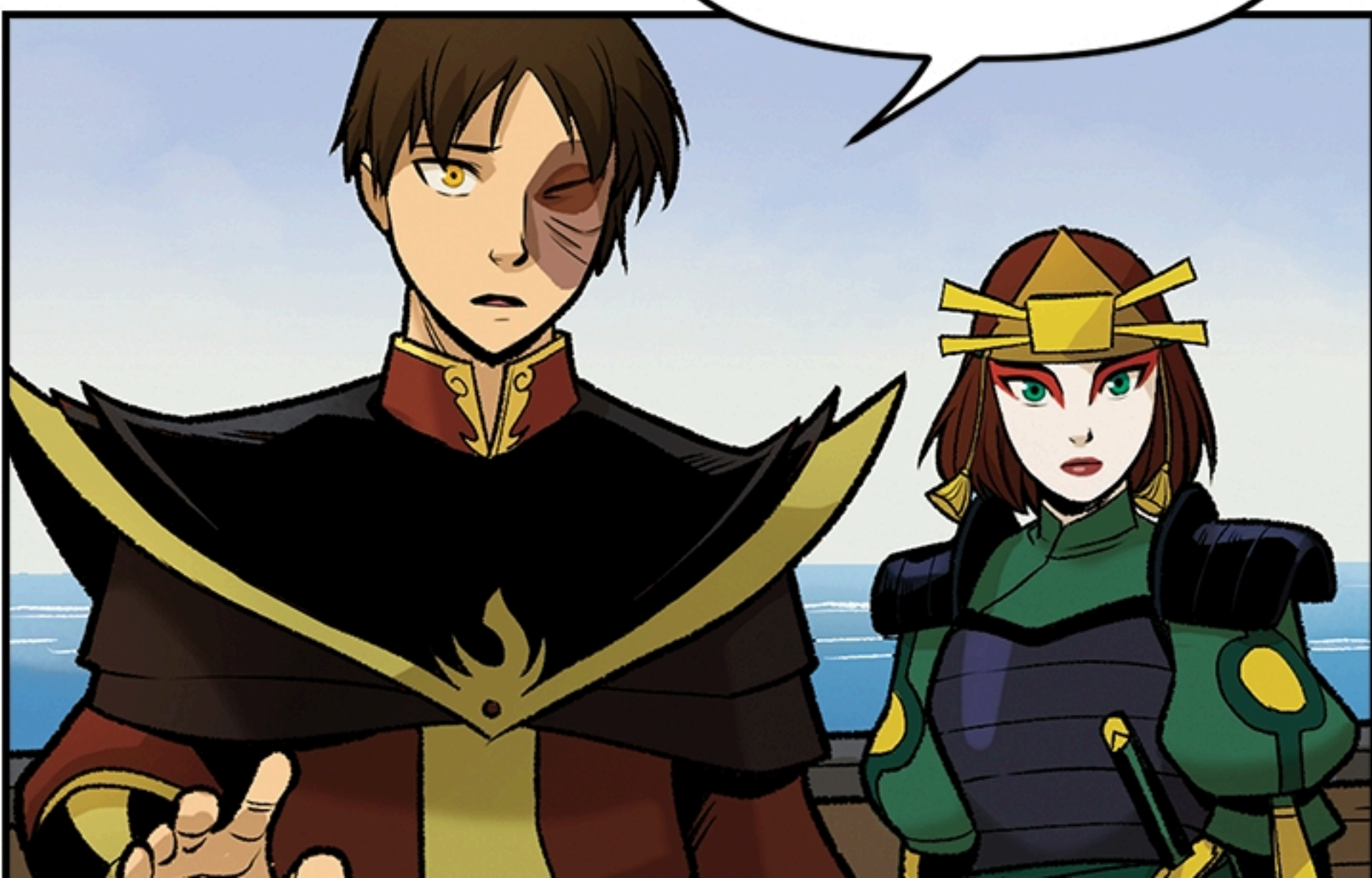
WERE ABLE TO
FIND A DECOY
THEN? WHO?



WELL...
IROH SORT OF
VOLUNTEERED.



NO OFFENSE,
UNCLE, BUT YOU
AND I DON'T REALLY
LOOK ALIKE.



OH, THE
CROWDS WON'T
SEE MY *FACE*, JUST
MY *HAND*.



WHAT DO
YOU THINK? IS MY
HAND-WAVING FILLED
WITH ENOUGH
ANGST?

I'VE BEEN
PRACTICING ALL
MORNING.





WE SHOULD
GET GOING!

SHE'S
PRETTY! DON'T
YOU THINK,
ZUKO?





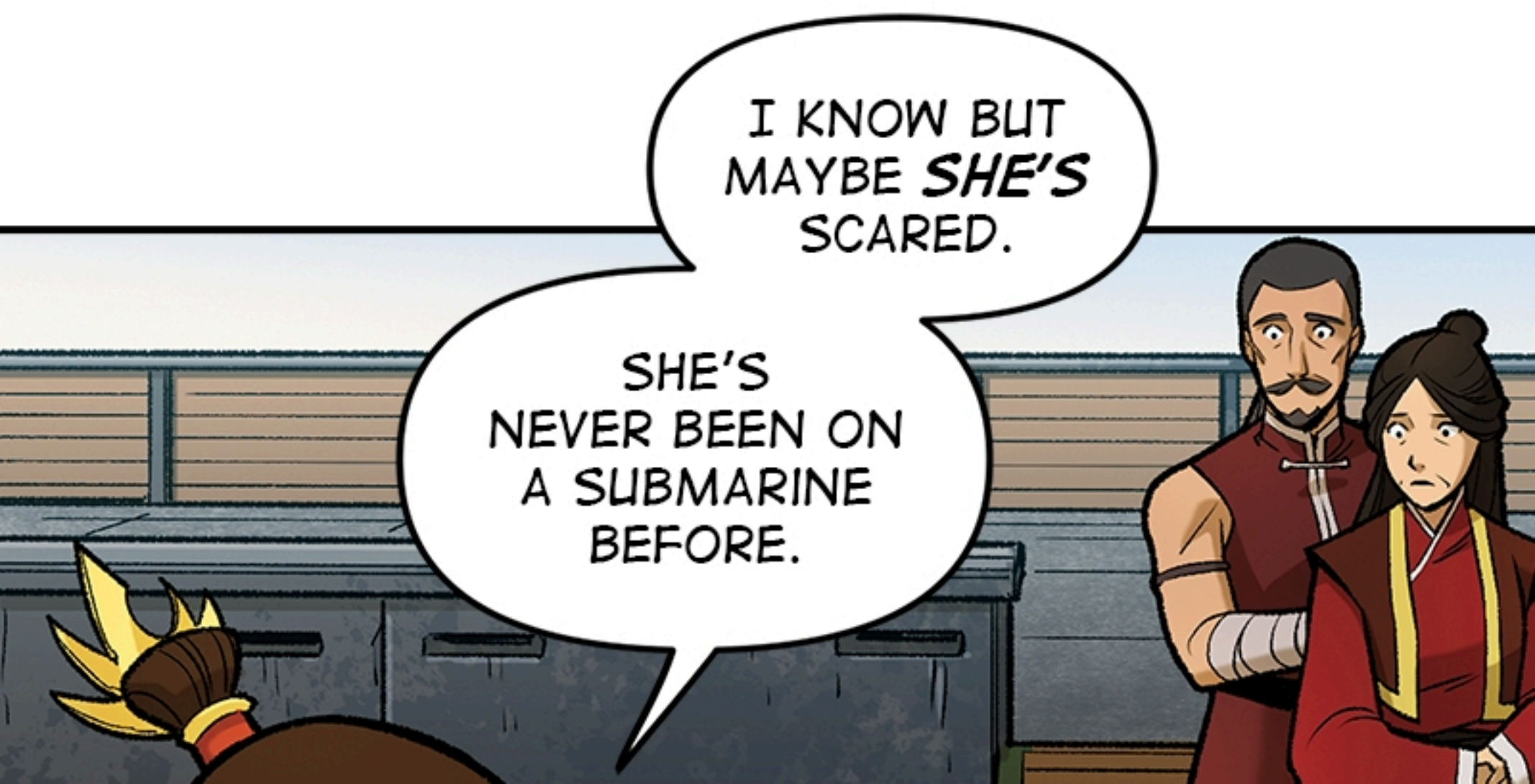
KIYI, THE
PLANK IS PRETTY
NARROW.

WHY DON'T
YOU TAKE YOUR
MOTHER'S HAND?





I'M OLD
ENOUGH TO WALK
ON MY OWN!



I KNOW BUT
MAYBE *SHE'S*
SCARED.

SHE'S
NEVER BEEN ON
A SUBMARINE
BEFORE.

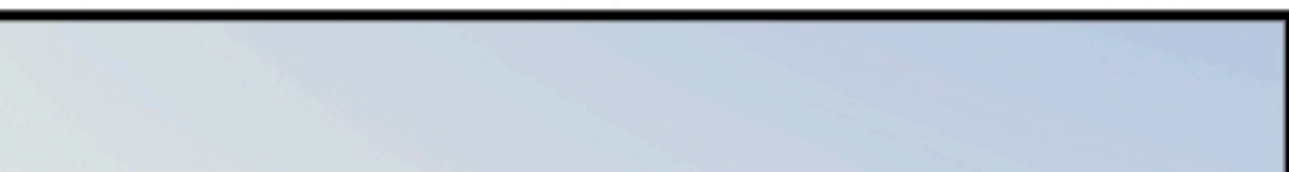


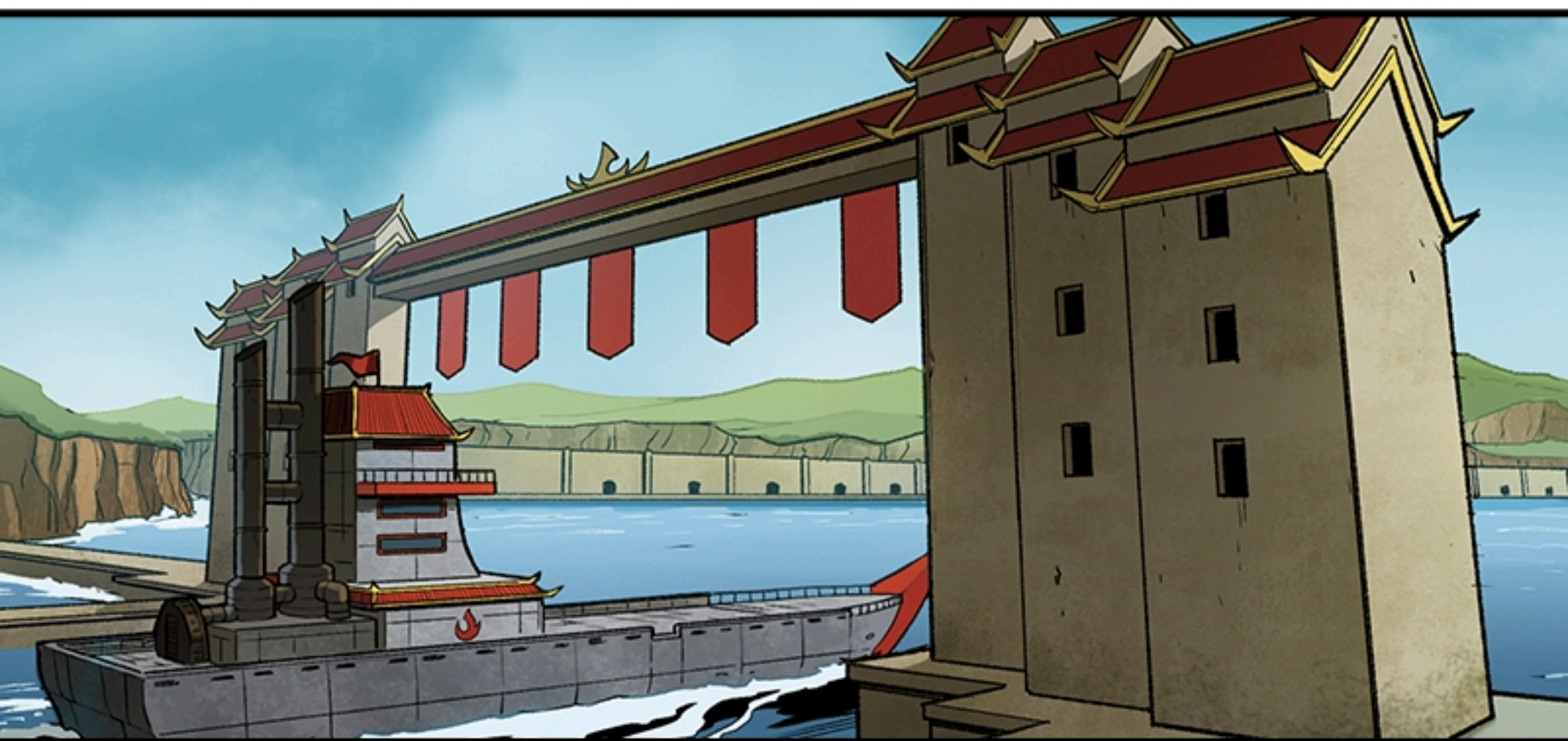
THAT'S HER
PROBLEM!



WILL YOU
DO IT AS A
FAVOR TO ME?









**WELCOME
BACK, FIRE
LORD ZUKO!**

**WELCOME
HOME, LADY
URSA!**

YAY!

CLAP! CLAP! CLAP! CLAP!





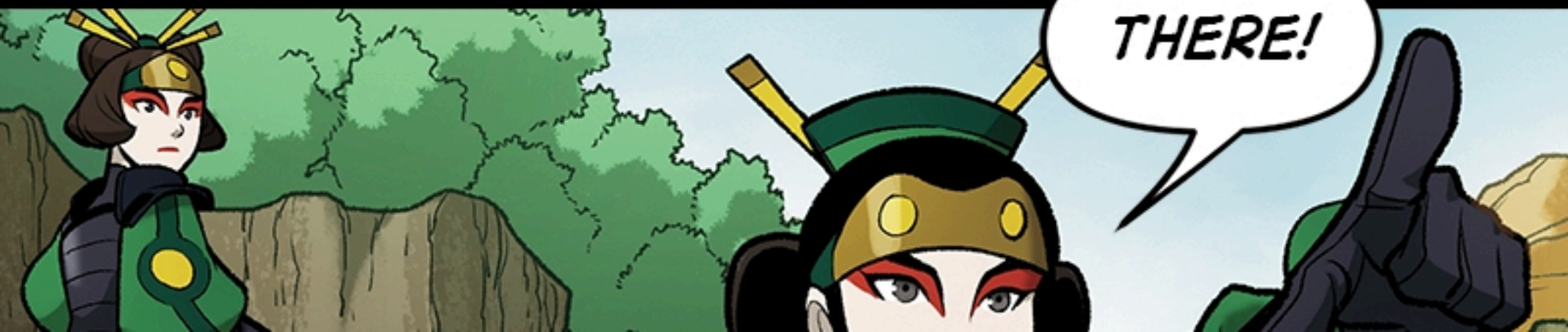




WHY
SO SULLEN,
GENERAL IROH?

I FIND
THAT METHOD
ACTING WORKS
BEST FOR ME.

HOW CAN I
WAVE WITH ANGST
IF I DON'T **FEEL**
THE ANGST?







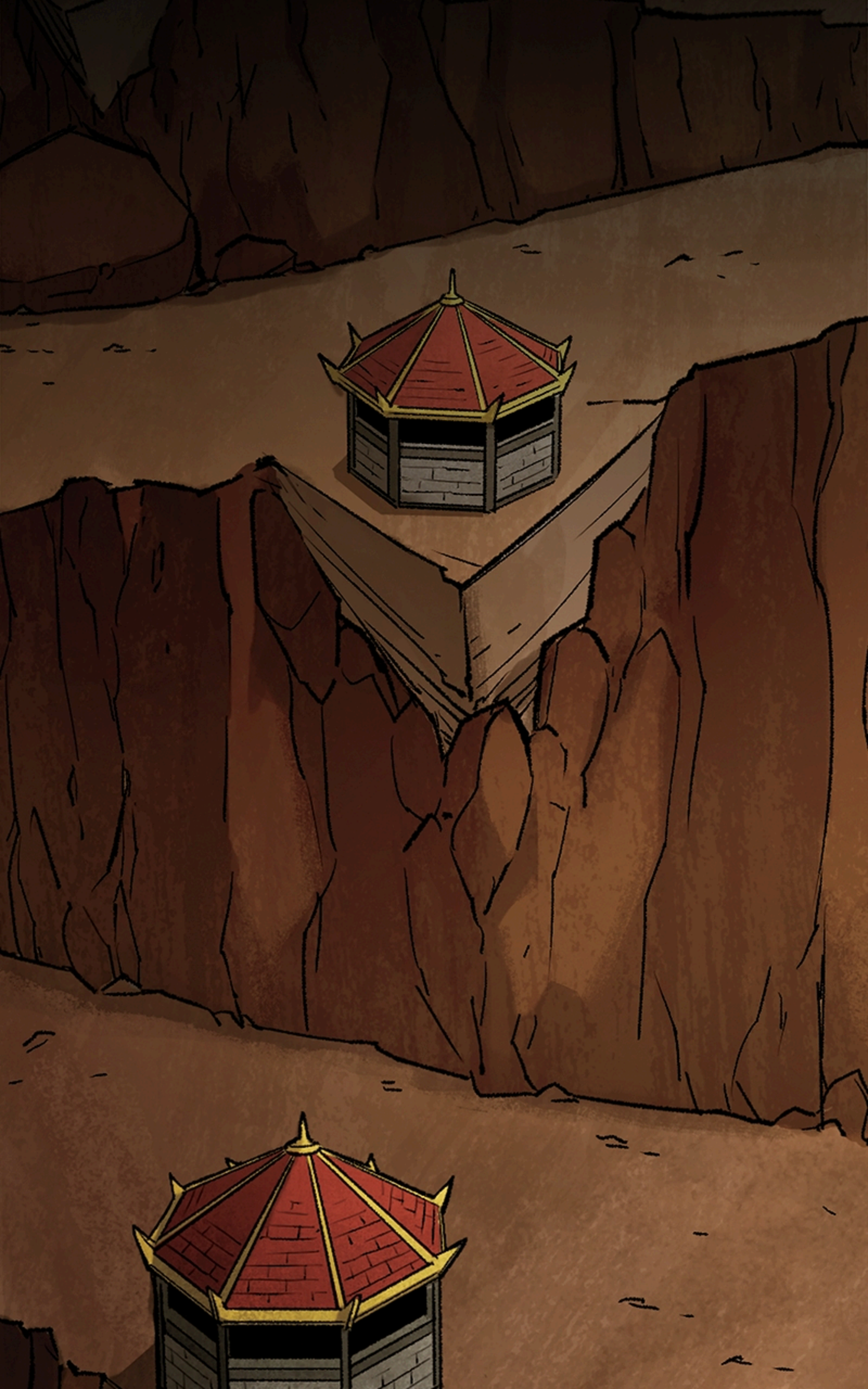


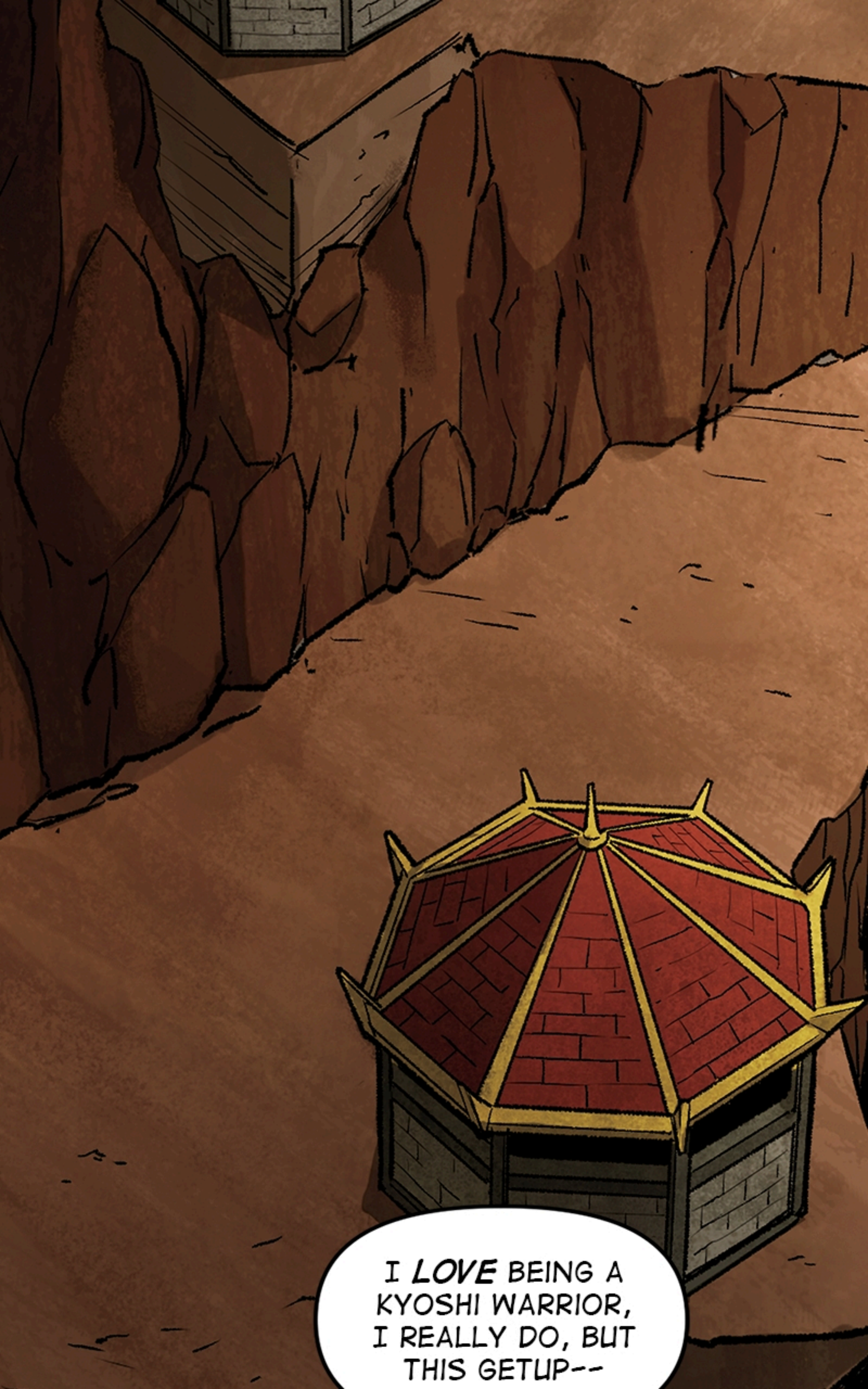


LET'S GET
MOVING.









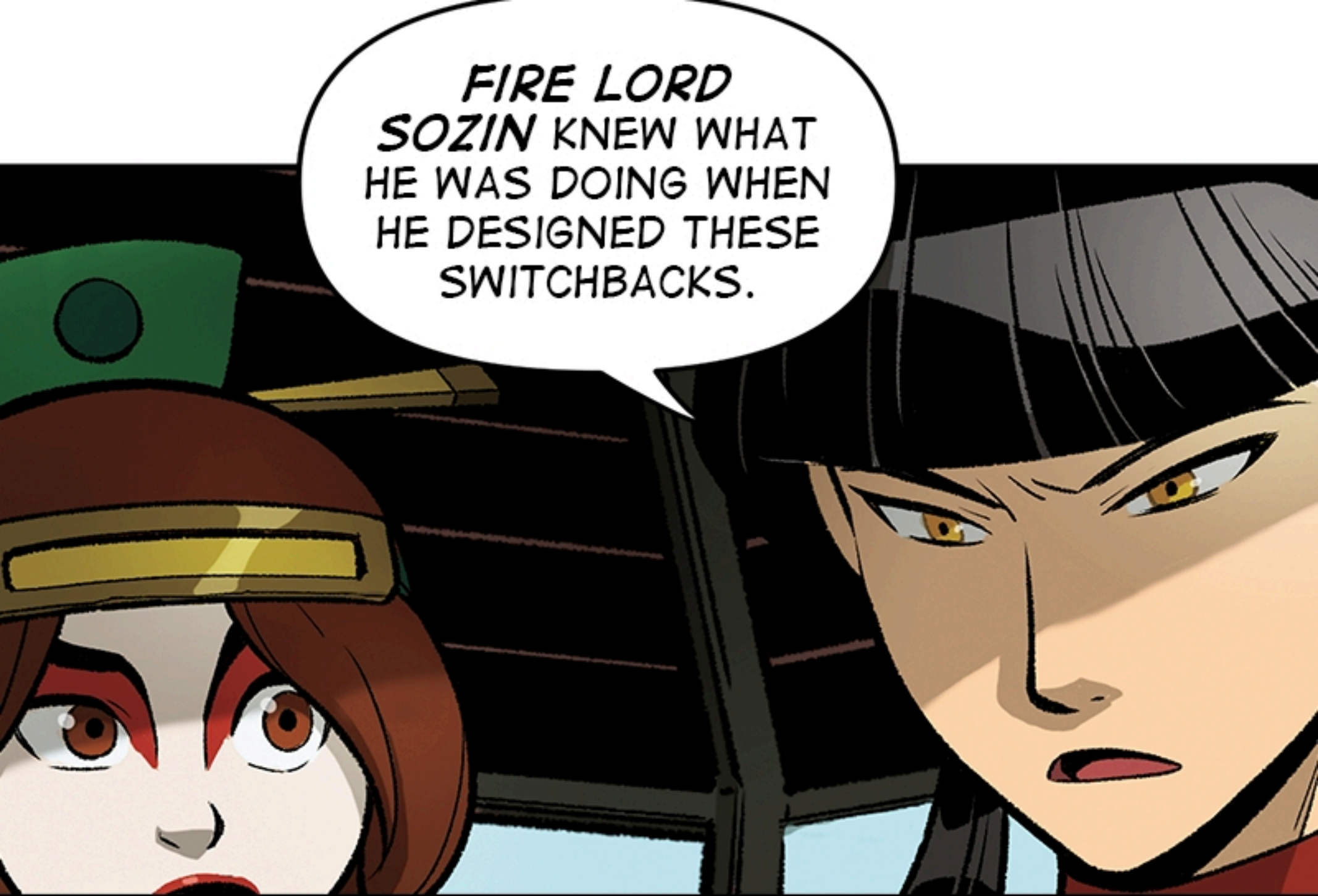
I *LOVE* BEING A
KYOSHI WARRIOR,
I REALLY DO, BUT
THIS GETUP--



LIGH! I
FEEL LIKE I'M
SUFFOCATING
IN HERE!

A WATCHTOWER
EVERY HUNDRED
YARDS OR SO...

A NARROW
ROAD THAT FORCES
YOU TO TRAVEL
SINGLE FILE...



**FIRE LORD
SOZIN** KNEW WHAT
HE WAS DOING WHEN
HE DESIGNED THESE
SWITCHBACKS.

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT, MAI?



THIS IS PROBABLY
THE **MOST HEAVILY
FORTIFIED ROAD** IN
ALL THE FIRE NATION.

ALL THE FIRE NATION.

WHY WOULD
MY DAD CHOOSE
TO ATTACK HERE, IN
BROAD DAYLIGHT?

HE'S A LOT
OF THINGS, BUT
STUPID ISN'T
ONE OF THEM.



KEI LO'S
A *LIAR*.

nickelodeon™



AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™



SMOKE AND SHADOW

Created by
BRYAN KONIETZKO
MICHAEL DANTE DIMARTINO

Script
GENE LUEN YANG

Art
GURIHIRU

Lettering
MICHAEL HEISLER

Publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

Designer
SARAH TERRY

Editor
RACHEL ROBERTS

Assistant Editor
JENNY BLENK

Digital Art Technician
SAMANTHA HUMMER

Reformatting and Typesetting
KISAI ENTERTAINMENT

Reformat Copyediting
KATHLEEN TOWNSEND

Originally Published by
DARK HORSE BOOKS

© 2025 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved.



nickelodeonTM