



AND WITH
THAT, WE END OUR
MEDITATION! GOOD
JOB, ACOLYTES!





JINGBO?
JINGBO!
WAKE UP!



WHA--?

SORRY I
FELL ASLEEP
AGAIN.

JUST
KEEP PRACTICING,
JINGBO, YOU'LL GET
THE HANG OF IT!





AS ALWAYS,
IROH, THANK YOU
FOR LETTING US
MEET HERE.

ANY TIME,
AVATAR! *TEA* AND
MEDITATION GO SO
WELL TOGETHER!





HEY,
SWEETIE! YOU
GUYS DONE?



JUST
FINISHED!

PERFECT
TIMING!

RAAAR!

WE JUST
GOT EVERYTHING
PACKED ON APPA!



WHERE ARE
YOU HEADED?

A comic panel showing three characters in a room with a tiled floor. On the left, an older man with a long white beard and a green and yellow robe (Uncle Iroh) stands with his hands on his hips. In the center, a man in a blue tunic with a triangular emblem on the back (Sokka) stands with his arms outstretched. On the right, a bald man in a yellow robe with an orange sash (Aang) stands looking towards the others. In the background, there is a wooden table with two small green cups, a large yellow pot, and a green curtain.

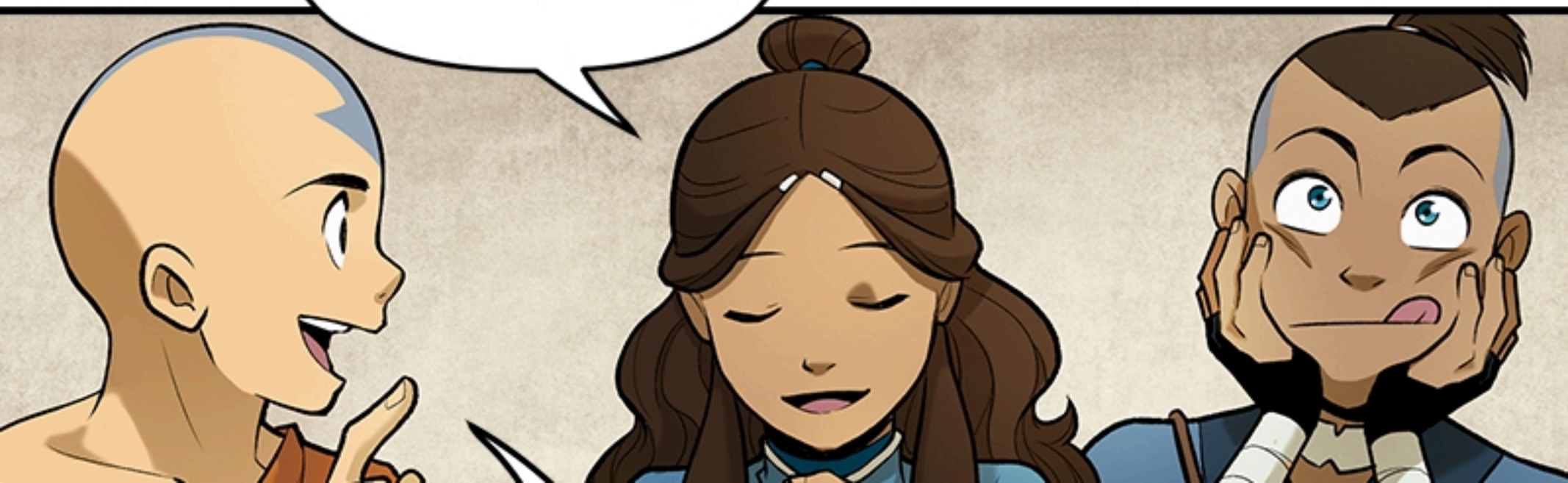
TO THE **SOUTH
POLE!** IT'LL BE OUR
FIRST TIME BACK SINCE
THE END OF THE WAR!

WE'VE BEEN
PLANNING THIS TRIP
EVER SINCE RUNNING INTO
A COUPLE OF KATARA'S OLD
FRIENDS AT THE **EARTHEN
FIRE REFINERY!**



THEY WERE *RIGHT*--
WE SHOULD'VE GONE
BACK SOONER TO
HELP *REBUILD*.

PLUS, WE'LL
FINALLY GET
TO SEE *DAD*!





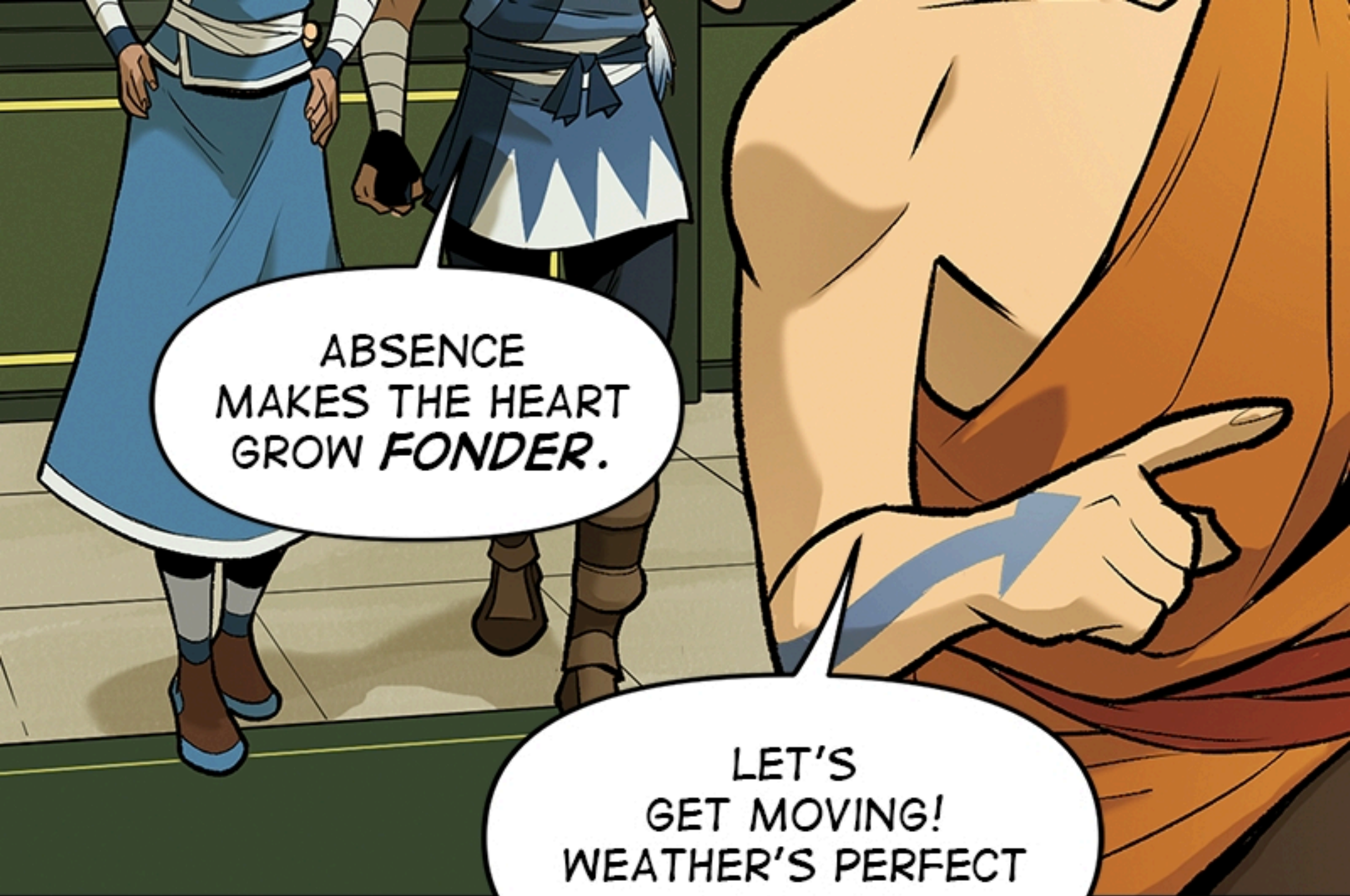
AND
GO *PENGUIN*
SLEDDING!

AND EAT
SOME OF AUNTIE
ASHUNA'S *SEAL*
JERKY!



WHAT? YOU HATE
AUNTIE ASHUNA'S
SEAL JERKY!

YOU MEAN I
HATED AUNTIE
ASHUNA'S SEAL
JERKY!



ABSENCE
MAKES THE HEART
GROW *FONDER*.

LET'S
GET MOVING!
WEATHER'S PERFECT
RIGHT NOW.

IF WE HURRY,
WE CAN PROBABLY
GET TO--



SQUAWK!



AANG,
WHAT IS?

IT'S FROM
ZUKO.





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

THE FIRE NATION. PLEASE
COME HELP!

安昂、
邪神恐嚇烈火國
請快來救助！

HE
NEEDS ME.



A comic panel featuring two characters in a conversation. On the left, a young woman with long brown hair in pigtails and blue eyes, wearing a blue tunic, looks surprised. On the right, a bald young man with a blue arrow tattoo on his forehead, wearing an orange robe, looks back at her. They are standing in front of a wooden structure. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the woman asking a question and one from the man replying.

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

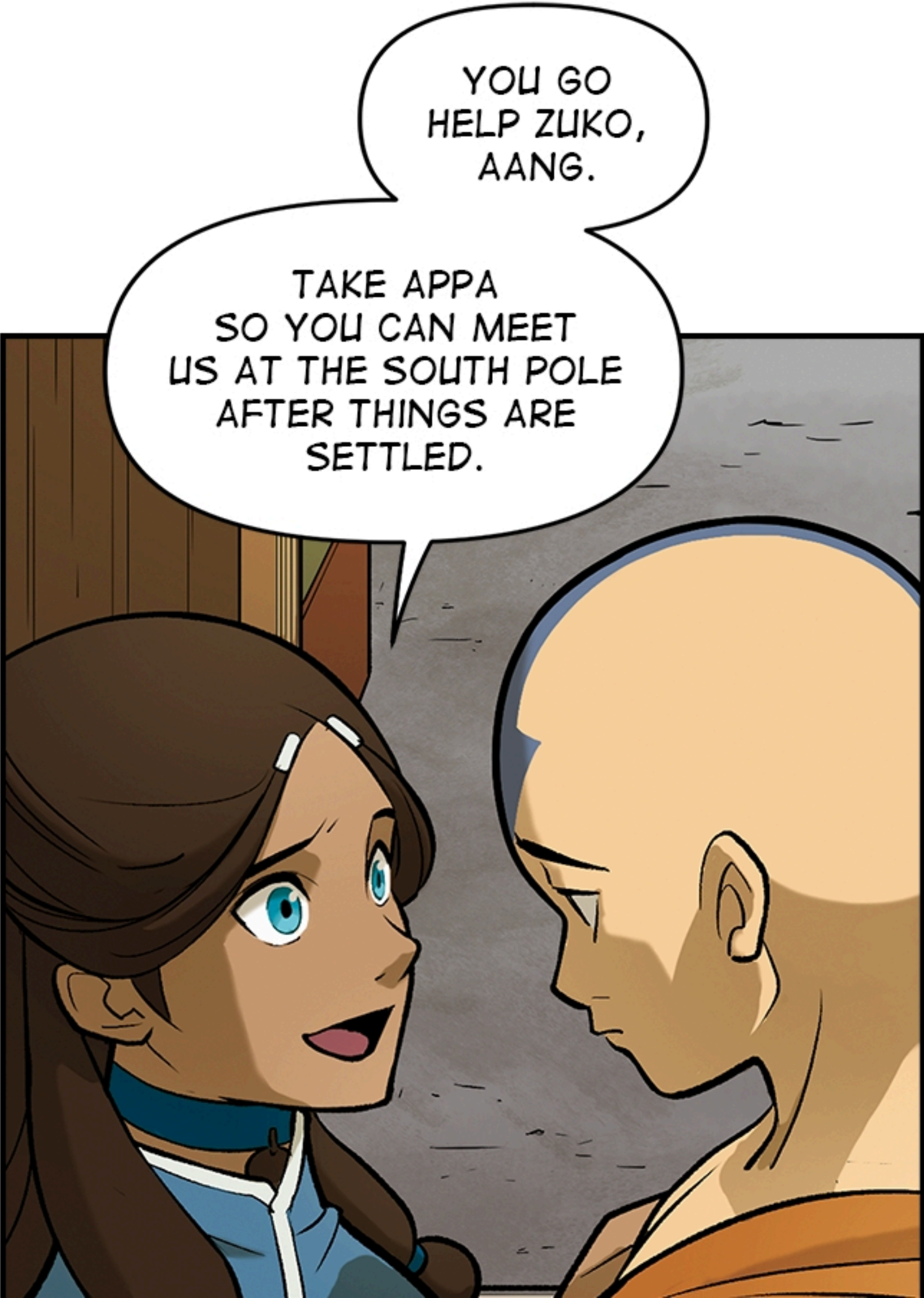
I THINK I
HAVE TO.



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.





A comic panel featuring a close-up of a character with long brown hair and a headband with two white rectangular ornaments. The character's eyes are closed, and they have a slight smile. Two speech bubbles are positioned above their head. The background consists of a light blue sky and a tan ground area with a white diagonal line.

NOTHING
TO BE SORRY
ABOUT.

IT JUST COMES
WITH DATING
THE *AVATAR*.







THANKS FOR
EVERYTHING,
IROH!

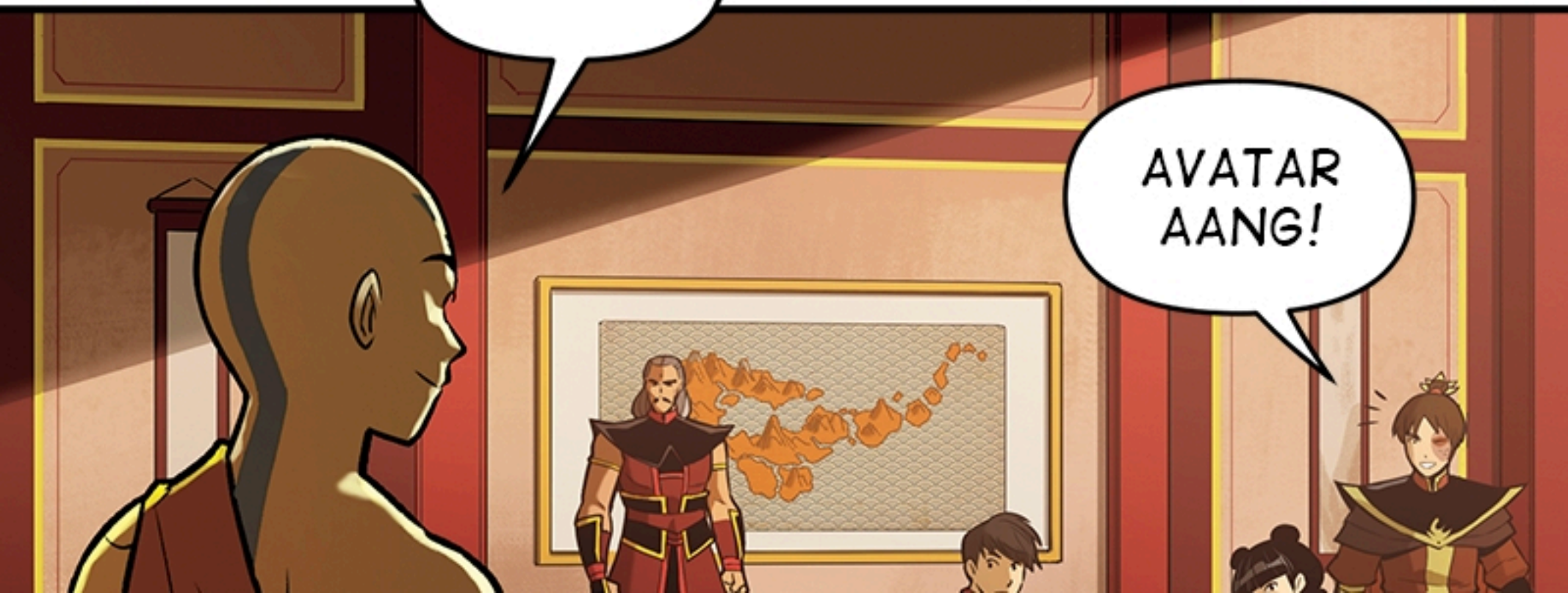


COME ON.
LET'S HEAD TO
THE DOCK TO FIND

A RIDE *HOME*.

ZUKO!

AVATAR
AANG!





PROBLEM!

YOU
REMEMBER--

MAI!

HELLO,
AANG.



A comic panel featuring three characters. On the left, Aang, a young monk with a blue arrow tattoo on his forehead, is wearing his traditional orange and yellow robes and is gesturing with his hands. In the center, Zuko, a young man with a scarred face and a black and red robe with a yellow sash, is looking towards the right. On the right, Kei Lo, a young man with dark hair wearing a black robe with a red sash, is standing behind a grey table and holding a red chair. A small black piggy bank is on the floor in the bottom center. There are four speech bubbles: one from Aang at the top left, one from Zuko at the top right, one from Aang at the bottom center, and one from Kei Lo at the bottom right.

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

AND THIS
IS ***KEI LO.***

***MAI'S
BOYFRIEND.***

HELLO.



OH, I
MEAN--
YOU KNOW,

WHAT I SAID
EARLIER--

BY "**BACK
TOGETHER**" I
MEANT, UM--

PLEASE,
KEEP TALKING.
BECAUSE THINGS
AREN'T **AWKWARD**
ENOUGH YET.





SORRY.

≡AHEM≡

AND FINALLY,
AANG, PLEASE MEET
CONSTABLE
SUNG.

HE'S LEADING
THE INVESTIGATION
INTO THE KIDNAPPING.



I'M HONORED,
AVATAR.

NICE TO
MEET YOU,
CONSTABLE--

WAIT,
KIDNAPPING?!

LAST NIGHT,

MY LITTLE BROTHER
TOM-TOM WAS TAKEN
BY A BAND OF ***DARK***
SPIRITS.

YOU SAW
THEM?



I ***FOUGHT*** THEM.
THEY WERE THE
KEMURIKAGE.

WHO?

DARK SPIRITS WHO

DARK SPIRITS WHO
SUPPOSEDLY HAUNT THE
MOUNTAINS JUST OUTSIDE
MY HOME VILLAGE.



I RECOGNIZED
THEM FROM STORIES
MY PARENTS USED
TO TELL ME.

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?!!*

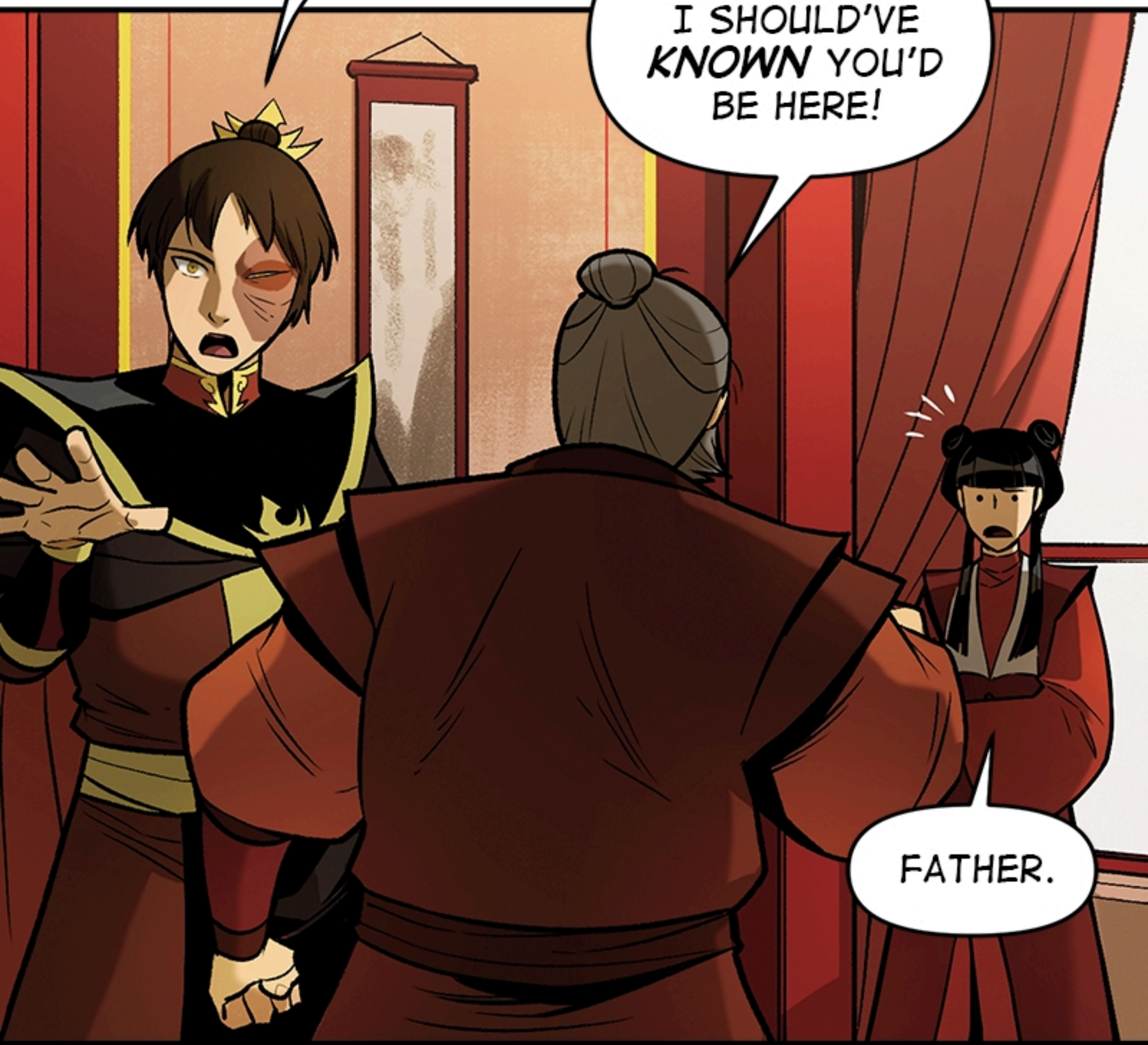
APOLOGIES,
FIRE LORD! WE
ASKED HIM TO
WAIT, BUT--



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

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

FATHER.



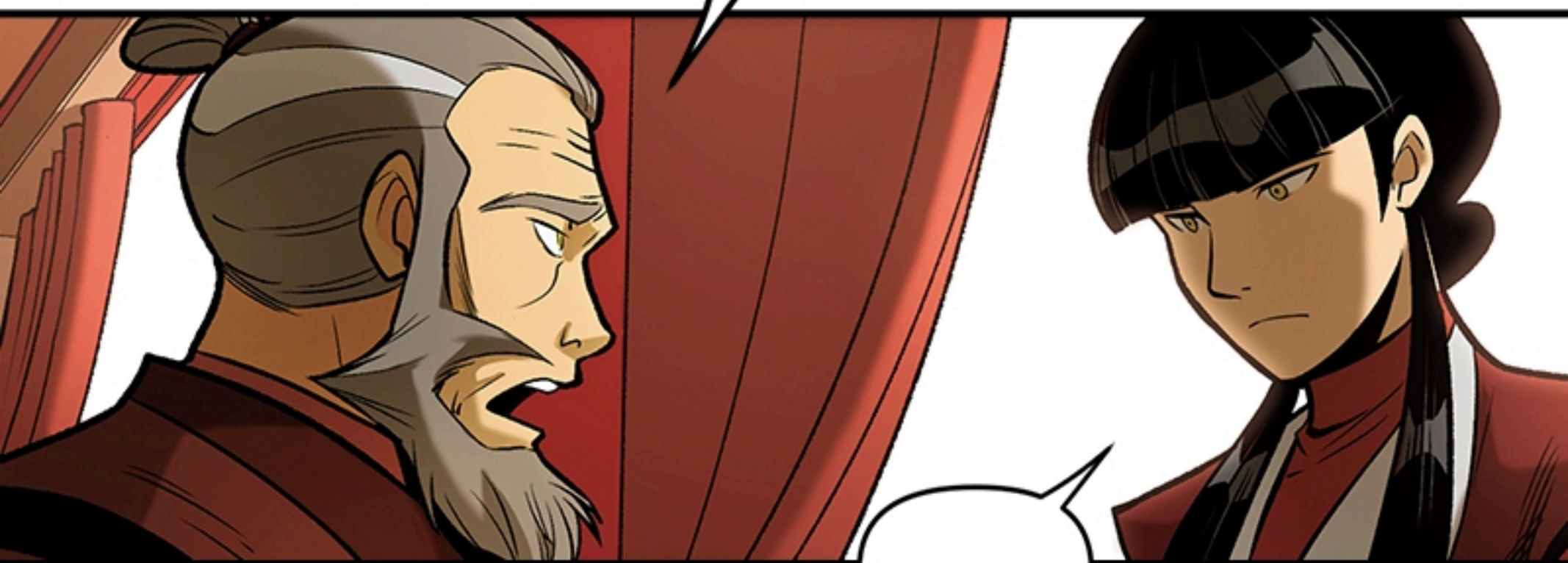
THIS IS ALL
YOUR FAULT,
DAUGHTER!

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.



...

OH, COME
ON! NO HOUSE IS
SAFE FROM *DARK*
SPIRITS!

YOU
STAY *OUT* OF
THIS, BOY!



PLEASE, EVERYBODY!
CALM DOWN! ALL THIS
ARGUING ISN'T HELPING
US FIND TOM-TOM!

WE NEED TO PUT
OUR HEADS TOGETHER
AND FIGURE OUT WHAT
TO DO NEXT!



I'LL TELL YOU
WHAT NEEDS TO
HAPPEN NEXT!



OUR "**FIRE LORD**" NEEDS TO GROW A SPINE!

EVERYONE KNOWS THE SPIRIT WORLD BEGINS TO **ACT UP** WHEN THE HUMAN WORLD IS **WEAK**!

NO! THAT ISN'T HOW THE SPIRIT WORLD WORKS!

THE **BALANCE** BETWEEN THE HUMANS AND THE SPIRITS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH **STRENGTH**!



DECLARE A
CURFEW TO KEEP
YOUR CITIZENS
SAFE!



THEN SEND OUT
AN ***ELITE TASK
FORCE*** TO FIGHT
THE DARK SPIRITS!

TAKE DOWN JUST
ONE OF THEM AND WE'LL
SHOW THE SPIRITS THAT
HUMANS AREN'T TO
BE *TRIFLED* WITH!



IF THAT IS YOUR
WISH, FIRE LORD, I'LL
BEGIN GATHERING A
TASK FORCE.

IT MAY TAKE
SOME TIME,
THOUGH.



DON'T DO IT,
ZUKO! A CURFEW
WOULD JUST MAKE
FOLKS EVEN **MORE**
FEARFUL!



PLUS, HOW'S
A TASK FORCE"
SUPPOSED TO FIGHT
SPIRITS? YOU CAN'T USE
NORMAL BENDING!

LET'S FIRST
FIGURE OUT *EXACTLY*
WHAT HAPPENED
TO TOM-TOM.

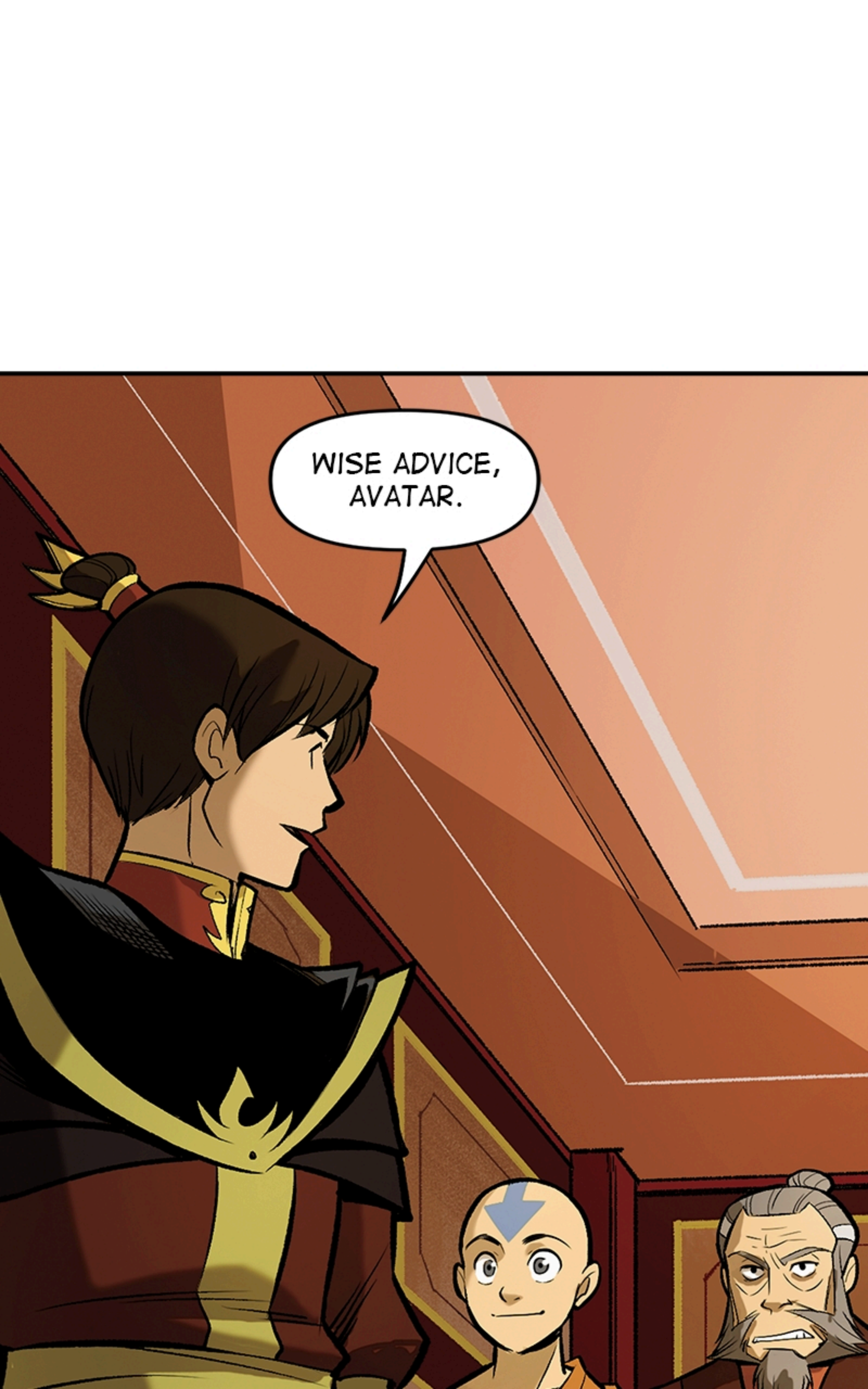




THEN WE'LL
KNOW WHAT TO
DO NEXT.

WHAT THE
AVATAR SAYS
MAKES SENSE.





WISE ADVICE,
AVATAR.

A comic book panel featuring three characters in a room with warm, orange-toned walls. In the foreground, Zuko is shown in profile, looking towards the right. He has dark hair tied in a ponytail with a gold ring and is wearing a red tunic with a black and gold cape. In the lower center, Aang is looking up at Zuko with a slight smile. He has a blue arrow tattoo on his forehead. In the lower right, Grandpa Guo Guo is looking on with a stern expression. He has a long grey beard and is wearing a dark robe. A speech bubble from Zuko contains the text 'WISE ADVICE, AVATAR.'





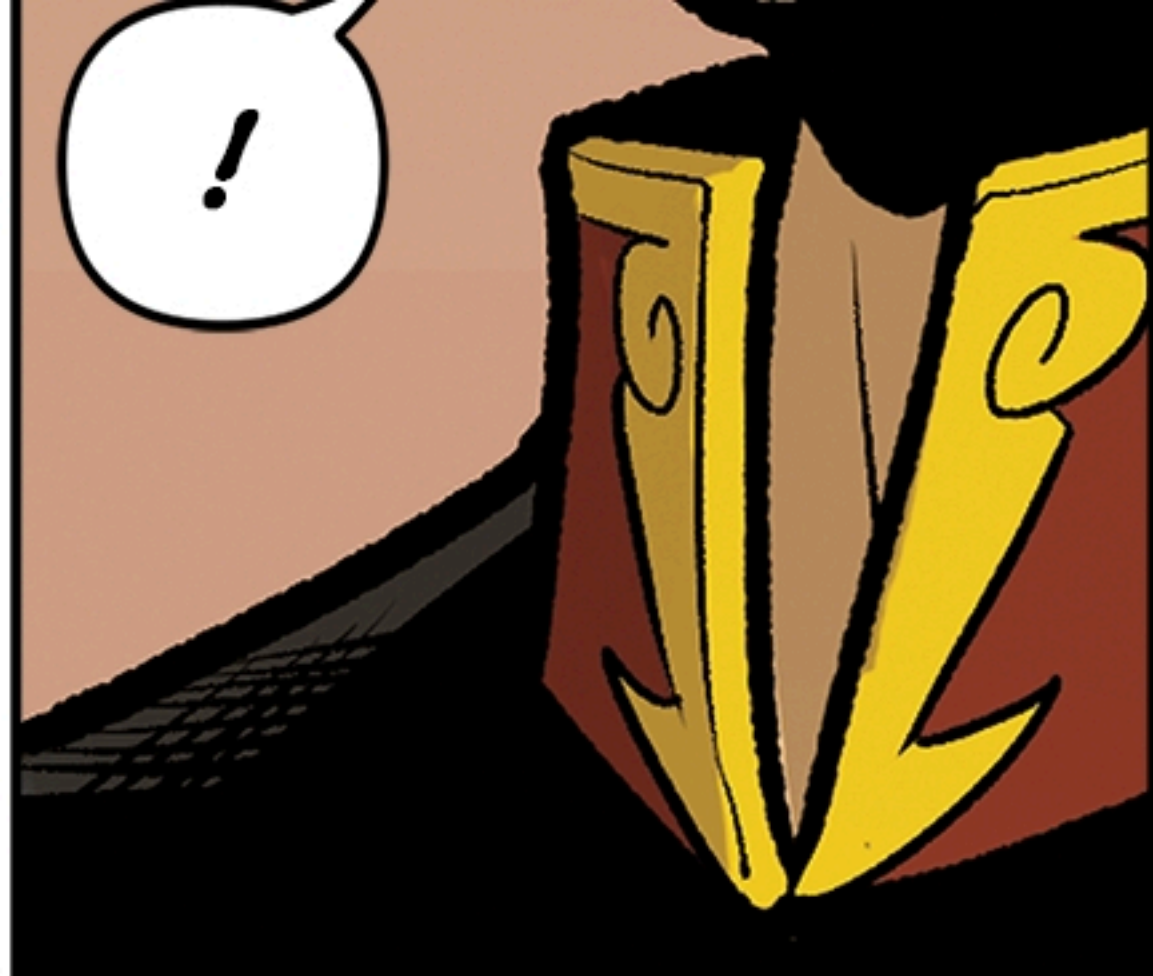
CONSTABLE,
PLEASE ESCORT
UKANO OUT.

I KNEW IT!
YOU'RE UNWORTHY
OF THE THRONE, ZUKO!
YOU'RE AN IMPOSTOR!



***IMPOSTOR!
IMPOSTOR!***





MAI, WHEN THE
NEW OZAI SOCIETY
ATTACKED ME AND MY
FAMILY A FEW WEEKS AGO...
WAS YOUR FATHER A
PART OF THAT?



...

NOT THAT
I KNOW OF.

HM. I
THOUGHT I
RECOGNIZED
HIS VOICE.

?!

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.





YOU'RE NOT
THINKING CLEARLY
ABOUT THIS, MAI!

IF WE FIND
TOM-TOM--

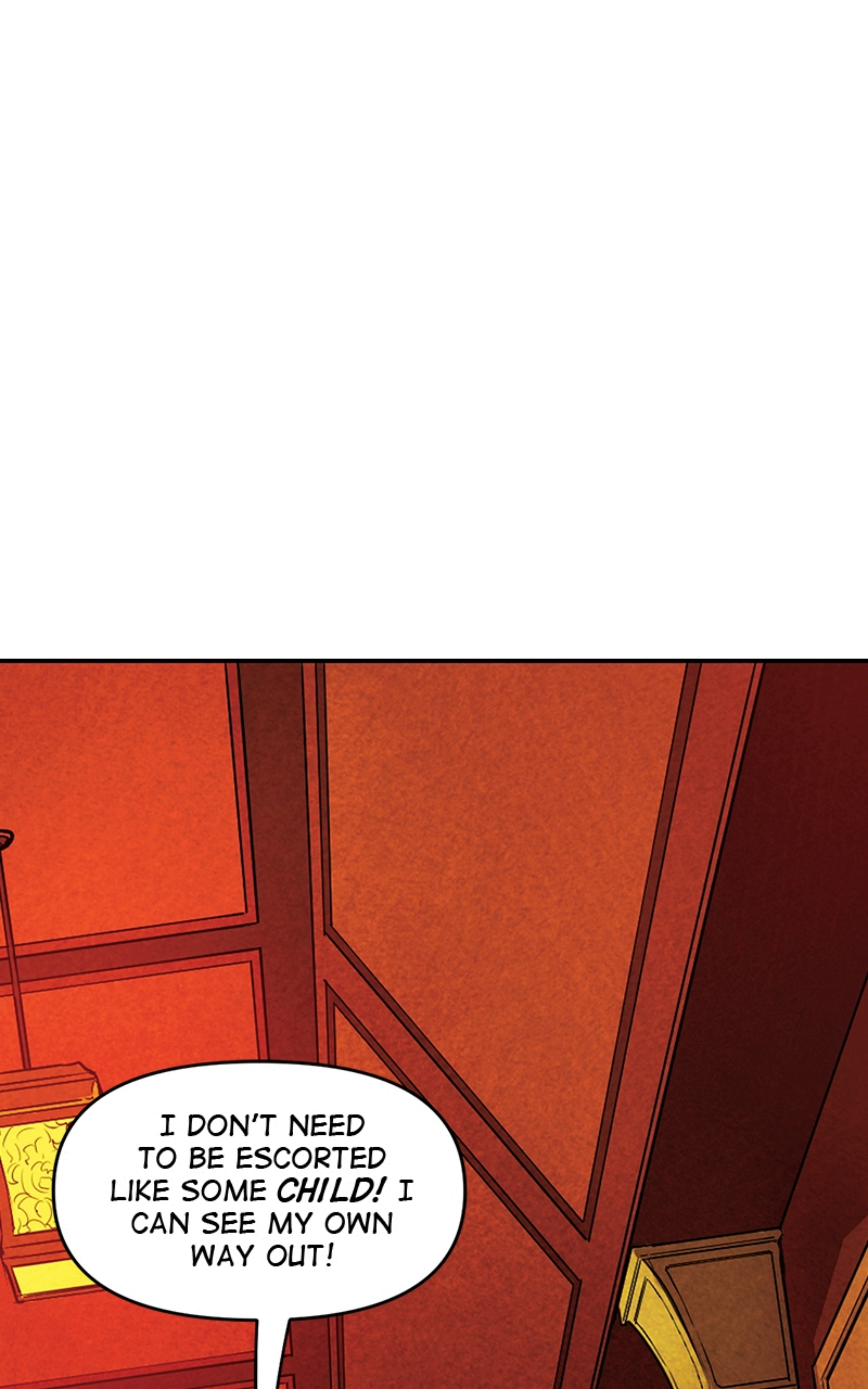
YOU MEAN
WHEN WE FIND
TOM-TOM--

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







The background of the panel consists of large, angular shapes in various shades of red and orange, creating a sense of depth and perspective. In the lower-left corner, there is a small, ornate yellow object that looks like a piece of furniture or a decorative element. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the lower-left area, containing the character's dialogue.

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, UKANO,
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, KIYI.
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.

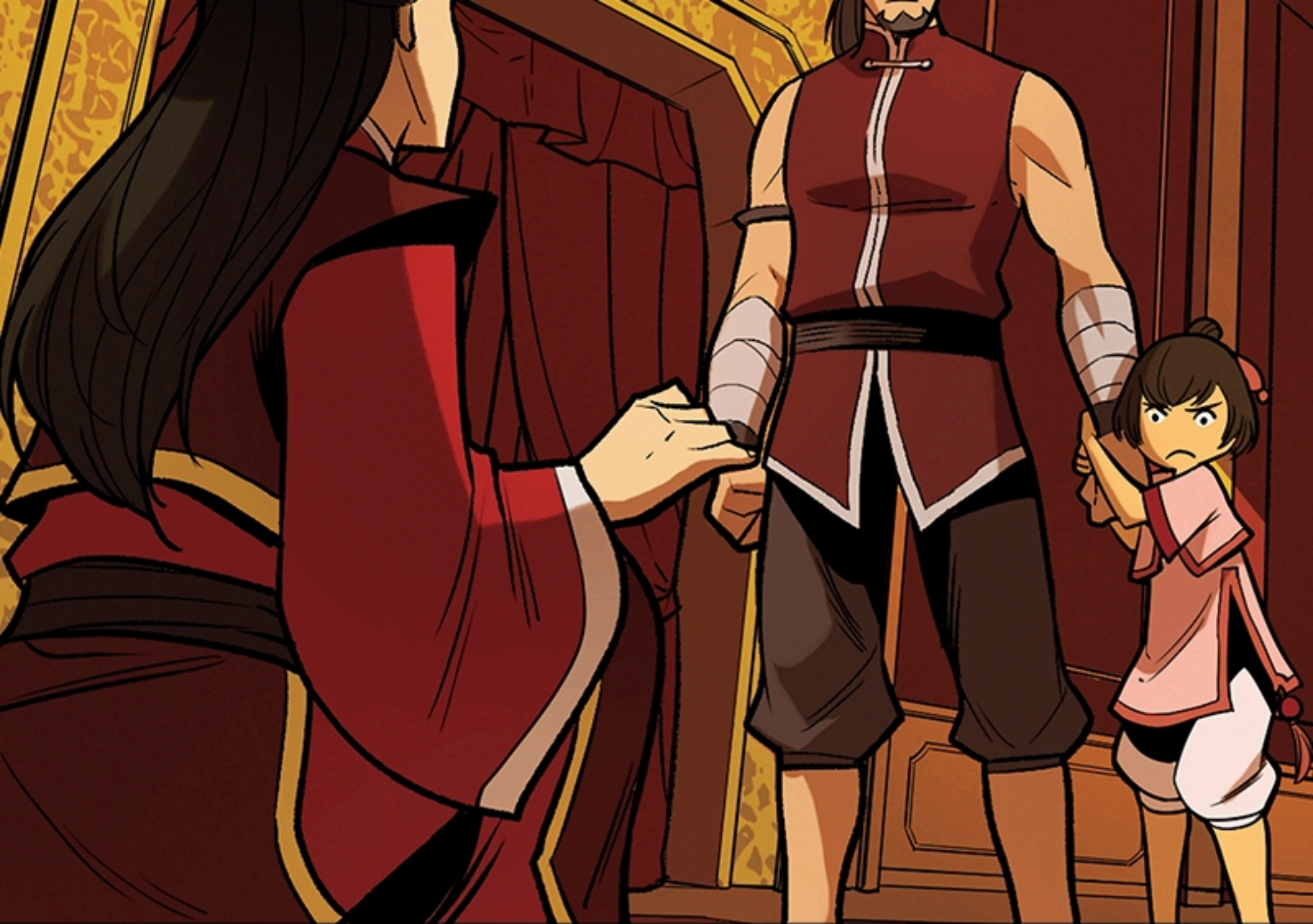




I WAS
ASKING *DADDY*,
NOT *YOU*!

LET
GO! YOU'RE
FREEZING!





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AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

SMOKE AND SHADOW

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