

A comic book panel with a light blue and purple gradient background. In the foreground, two characters are shown from the back. The character on the left is wearing a blue and white hooded outfit with a sword on their back, pointing towards a ship in the distance. The character on the right has dark hair and is also wearing a blue and white outfit. In the middle ground, a large, dark blue ship with multiple masts and a flag is partially submerged in a field of jagged, white ice floes. The ship's hull is visible above the ice. A large speech bubble originates from the characters, containing text. Another smaller speech bubble is at the bottom right.

SOKKA AND
KATARA SAID
THERE'S A **WHOLE**
ARMY HIDING
IN THERE?

NOT IN THE
SHIP ITSELF. IN THE
CAVERNS UNDER
THE SHIP.



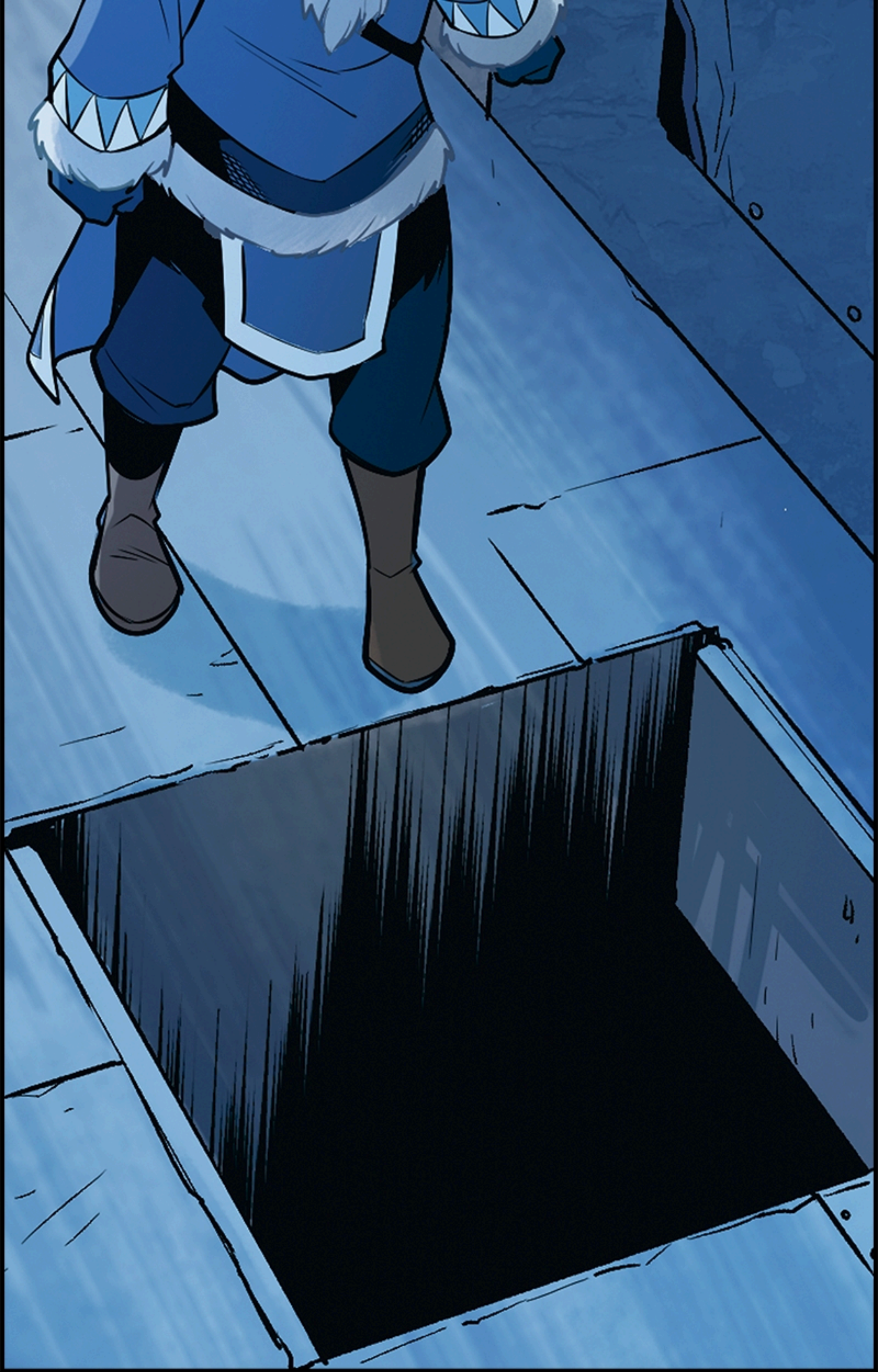
THE RUMORS
THAT THE SHIP IS
HAUNTED KEEP PEOPLE
AWAY, MAKING THIS THE
PERFECT HIDING
PLACE.

CLEVER.

GILAK ALWAYS
WAS A CLEVER
ONE.







FOLLOW MY
LEAD, OFFICERS!



A woman with dark hair tied in a bun, wearing a blue and white fur-trimmed coat, is shown from the side. She is holding a flaming torch in her right hand. The background is a cave with blue and grey rock walls. A speech bubble is above her head.

*EMPTY.
THEY'RE
GONE.*



GILAK KNEW
WE WERE GOING TO
COME AFTER HIM.
OF COURSE
HE KNEW.



SPREAD OUT,
OFFICERS! LET'S
FIND A CLUE AS TO
WHERE THEY
WENT!





THESE
CAVERNS GO ON
FOR *MILES!*



HAKODA!
OVER HERE!

YOU'VE
FOUND A
CLUE?

NOT A
CLUE...

A MESSAGE.

酋長
吾不久將受於真相





TRANSLATION:
SOON I WILL SHOW
YOU THE TRUTH,
CHIEFTAIN.





SOKKA AND
KATARA, I CAN'T
TELL YOU WHAT AN
ABSOLUTE PLEASURE
THIS IS!

THANK YOU
FOR AGREEING
TO A TOUR OF
THIS PLACE!

WELL,
THAT'S PART OF
A CONSULTANT'S
JOB, RIGHT?



I'VE GOTTA TAKE A
LOOK AROUND BEFORE
I CAN START TELLING
PEOPLE WHAT TO DO.

HA HA! OH,
SOKKA! YOU'VE
GOT YOUR FATHER'S
SENSE OF HUMOR!

I WASN'T
TRYING TO
BE FUNNY.



LET ME START
BY SETTING
THE STAGE:

EVER SINCE I WAS
A YOUNG EXCHANGE STUDENT
AT BA SING SE UNIVERSITY, I'VE HAD
THE SUSPICION THAT THERE WAS
MORE TO THE SOUTH POLE
THAN WHAT WAS APPARENT
ON THE ***SURFACE...***

BLAH BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH

BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH BLAH

KATARA?
YOU OKAY?

I STILL CAN'T
GET THE IMAGE OF
DAD KISSING *MALINA*
OUT OF MY HEAD.



I KNOW... BUT
DAD'S A *GROWNUP*.
HE GETS TO--
LIGH.

NOW *I'VE* GOT
THAT IMAGE IN MY

HEAD. *THANKS*
A LOT.

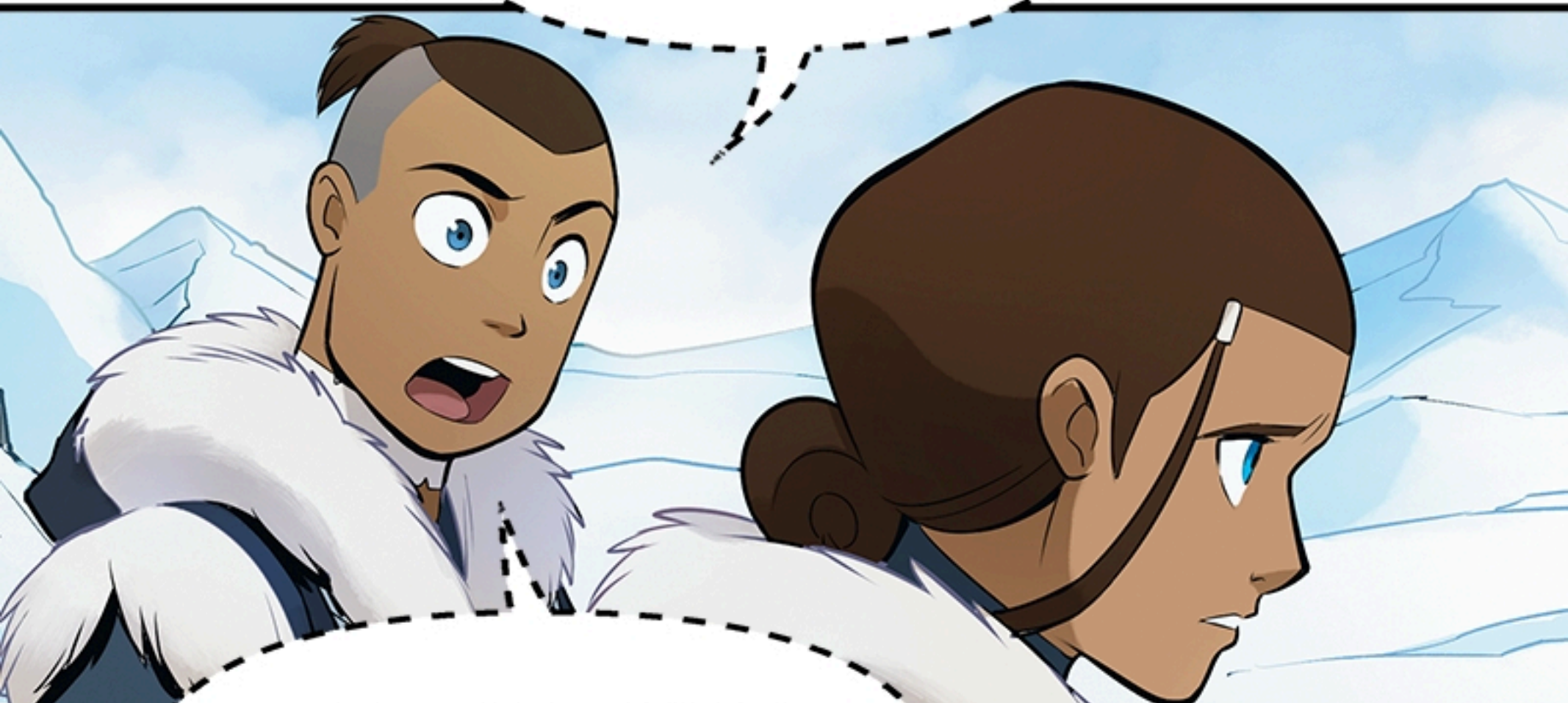
WHY'D
IT HAVE TO
BE *HER*?

YOU
BARELY EVEN
KNOW HER!



I KNOW HER
WELL ENOUGH TO
TELL THAT SHE'S *NOT*
RIGHT FOR DAD!

LOOK. I'M PRETTY
SURE THAT TO US,
NOBODY BUT MOM
WILL EVER SEEM
RIGHT FOR DAD.



BUT MAYBE THAT'S
OKAY, BECAUSE **DAD**
GETS TO CHOOSE WHO'S
RIGHT FOR DAD.

AND WE DON'T GET
ANY SAY AT ALL? WHAT
IF THEY GET **MARRIED**,
SOKKAS COULD BE

SOKKA? SHE'D BE
OUR... OUR...

...AND
THERE YOU
HAVE IT! THAT'S
OUR *VISION!*

THAT'S WHY
MALINA AND I CAME
DOWN HERE! ANY
QUESTIONS?

JUST
ONE.

SO, UH, WHAT
EXACTLY IS YOUR
VISION AGAIN?

I-I THOUGHT
I'D JUST SPENT
THE LAST TEN MINUTES
EXPLAINING THAT!



HA HA. MY BROTHER
CAN SOMETIMES GET A
LITTLE CARRIED AWAY WITH
HIS EXPLANATIONS!

BUT THE GIST
OF WHAT HE'S
TRYING TO TELL
YOU IS THIS:



WE'VE DISCOVERED
A **HUGE DEPOSIT OF**
OIL HERE UNDER THE ICE,
AND WE'RE GOING TO
EXTRACT IT!



OIL? LIKE
WHAT WE USE
FOR LAMPS?

I THOUGHT THAT
CAME FROM WHALE-
WALRUS BLUBBER.

NO, OIL
THAT'S USED
FOR **ENGINE FUEL**,
AMONG OTHER
THINGS!



OIL IS THE
KEY TO FINALLY
LIFTING UP
THE SOUTH!



HUH. I DIDN'T
REALIZE WE NEEDED
ANY "*LIFTING UP*."

KATARA, THAT
CAME OUT WRONG.
WHAT I MEANT
WAS--



THIS DEPOSIT
ISN'T JUST ***BIG***.
IT'S THE BIGGEST
IN ***ALL THE***
WORLD.

DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND THE
IMPLICATIONS?



OUR MOST
POWERFUL MACHINES
RUN ON OIL-BASED FUEL!
THE MORE OIL WE HAVE,
THE MORE **MACHINES**
WE CAN HAVE!

WITH THIS OIL,
MACHINES CAN FINALLY
BE **EVERYWHERE**, IN
EVERY PART OF
OUR **LIVES!**





KATARA, THIS IS
HARD FOR YOU TO
UNDERSTAND BECAUSE
YOU'RE A **BENDER**.





THE KIND
OF POWER YOU
POSSESS JUST HASN'T
BEEN AVAILABLE TO US
NON-BENDERS--

--UNTIL **NOW!**
MACHINES CAN
MAKE **NON-BENDERS**
AS POWERFUL AS
BENDERS!

MACHINES CAN
FINALLY MAKE
US **EQUAL!**



A comic panel showing the upper bodies of three characters in winter attire. On the left, a character in a dark blue coat with a light blue strap. In the center, a character with dark hair and glasses wearing a blue and white fur-trimmed parka. On the right, a character with white hair wearing a blue and white fur-trimmed parka. They are standing in a snowy environment with mountains in the background.

I GUESS I'VE
JUST NEVER THOUGHT
OF NON-BENDERS
AS *NOT EQUAL*.

NO, NO...I
GET WHAT MALIQ
IS SAYING!

IT'S LIKE THOSE TWO
PRODUCTION LINES
AT THE *EARTHEN FIRE
REFINERY*, REMEMBER?
ONE USED BENDERS
AND ONE DIDN'T--

--BUT THEY WERE
ABLE TO PERFORM
THE SAME TASKS WITH
NEARLY THE SAME
EFFICIENCY--



--BECAUSE OF
THE *MACHINES!*

EXACTLY!

YOU'VE VISITED
THE EARTHEN FIRE
REFINERY BEFORE,
MALIQ?





OF COURSE!
**EARTHEN FIRE
INDUSTRIES** ARE
OUR PARTNERS!

WE'RE RELYING
ON THEIR EXPERTISE
IN **CONSTRUCTION!**



ALL THE
EQUIPMENT WE'RE
USING IS ON LOAN
FROM THEM!



EARTHEN FIRE
IS SENDING OVER A
REPRESENTATIVE TO
WALK US THROUGH
OUR REFINERY'S
EXPANSION.

HERE GUE

HERE SHE
COMES NOW,
IN FACT.



"*REPRESENTATIVE*"?!
I'M AN *EXECUTIVE*
PARTNER NOW!







TOPH!

KATARA?
SOKKA? I'D HEARD
YOU GUYS MIGHT
BE AROUND!



SORRY FOR NOT
RECOGNIZING YOU
GUYS AT FIRST! ***THESE***
STUPID THINGS MAKE
EVERYTHING ALL
FUZZY!

I CAN BARELY
MAKE OUT WHAT'S
AROUND ME!





OOPS!
YOU SEE WHAT
I MEAN?

HEY! YOU
DID THAT ON
PURPOSE!

HEE HEE!





THANKS FOR
COMING ALL THE
WAY DOWN HERE
FOR A VISIT, MS.
BEIFONG!





I'VE
BEEN LOOKING
FORWARD TO

FORWARD TO
THIS!

I'M A BIG FAN
OF THE ***FUTURE***,
AND FROM WHAT I HEAR,
THAT'S WHAT YOU GUYS
ARE ALL ABOUT!



MALINA AND I ARE
HOSTING A **FESTIVAL**
TONIGHT IN HONOR OF
OUR NEW PARTNERSHIP
WITH EARTHEN FIRE!



EVERYONE IN
THE CITY IS INVITED,
BUT KATARA AND SOKKA,
YOU'VE GOTTA COME AS
OUR **GUESTS OF
HONOR!**



WE'LL HAVE
MUSIC AND GAMES
AND ALL THE FOOD
YOU COULD WANT!

COUNT
ME *IN*!

I'M LIKING
THIS LADY MORE
AND MORE.

ONLY
BECAUSE SHE
KEEPS FEEDING
YOU.





CHECK.

THIS.

OUT!

THIS MIGHT
BE THE ***GREATEST***
FESTIVAL IN THE HISTORY
OF SOUTHERN WATER
TRIBE FESTIVAL-ING!







EARTHEN
FIRE NEEDS TO
SEND REPRESENTATIVES
DOWN HERE MORE
OFTEN!

YOU MEAN
EXECUTIVE
PARTNERS.

KLANG!



⇒GASP!⇐



TOPH, YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO BELIEVE THIS,
BUT THEY'VE GOT ***THE***
POUNDY-POUNDY
GAME!





NO,
THANKS.

TIME TO
GET *PAID*,
SOKKA!

I DON'T
THINK THAT'S
HOW IT WORKS
HERE, TOPH.

KATARA?





I'D LIKE YOU
TO MEET MY TWO
STUDENTS *SIKU*
AND *SLURA*!



HEY,
KIDS!



KATARA HERE IS AN
INCREDIBLY ACCOMPLISHED
WATERBENDER, POSSIBLY
THE FINEST IN ALL
THE WORLD!

PLEASE,
MASTER--I MEAN,
GRANDPA PAKKU. NO
NEED TO BRAG
ABOUT--



IT'S NO SURPRISE,
REALLY. SHE ***DID*** HAVE
THE WORLD'S FINEST
WATERBENDING
MASTER.

--YOURSELF.

SO HOW'RE
YOUR LESSONS
GOING?

BAD.

**REAL
BAD.**

'CAUSE
WE'RE NOT
WATERBENDERS.





WHAT
WAS *THAT*
ABOUT?

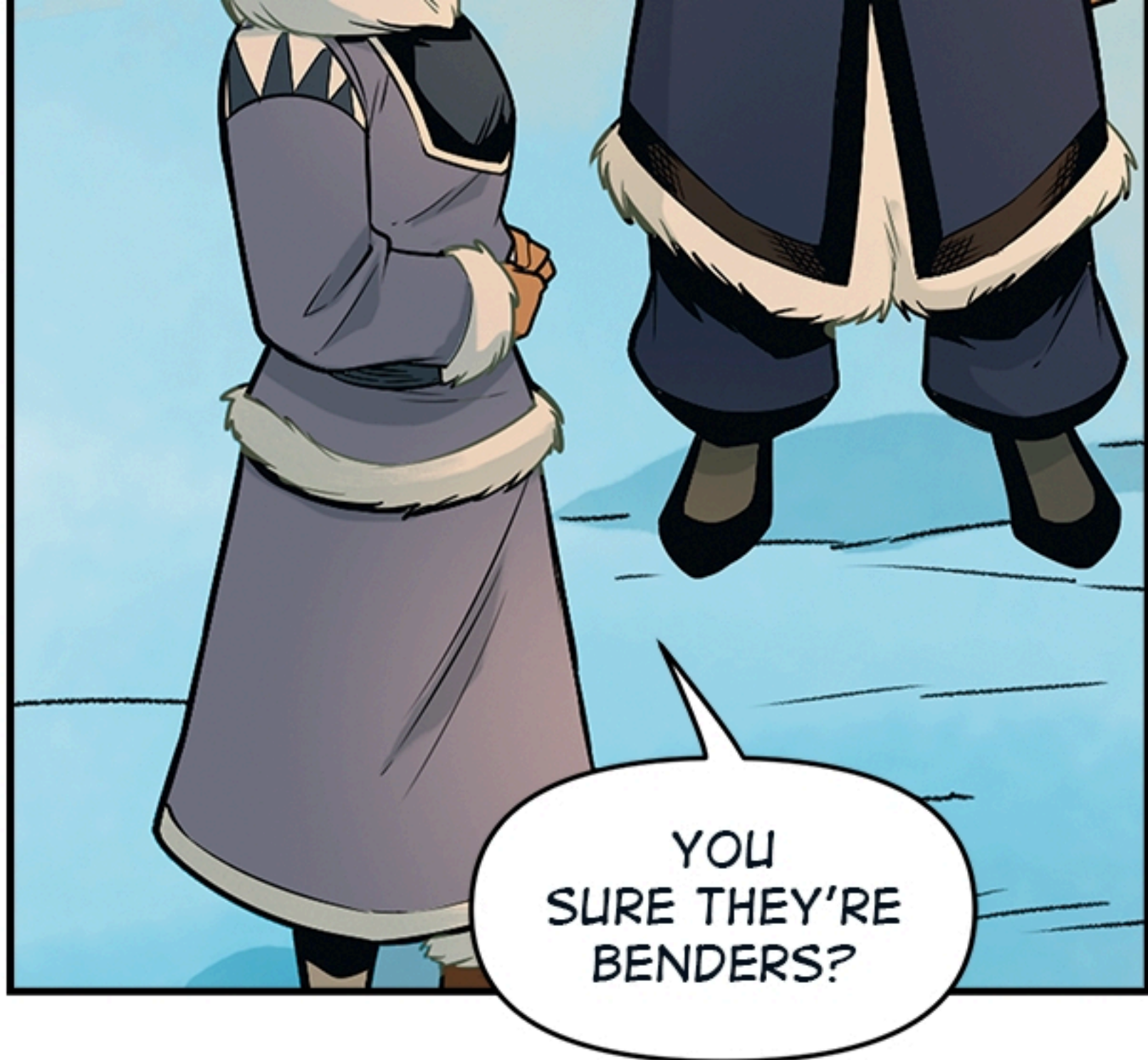
THEY'VE BEEN
LIKE THAT THE
WHOLE TIME THEY'VE
BEEN IN THE CITY.



GRAN GRAN
AND I FOUND THEM
IN A TINY VILLAGE
EAST OF HERE.

THEY LIVE ABOUT
AS FAR INLAND AS A
TRIBE CAN, WELL OUT
OF SIGHT FROM
THE SHORE.







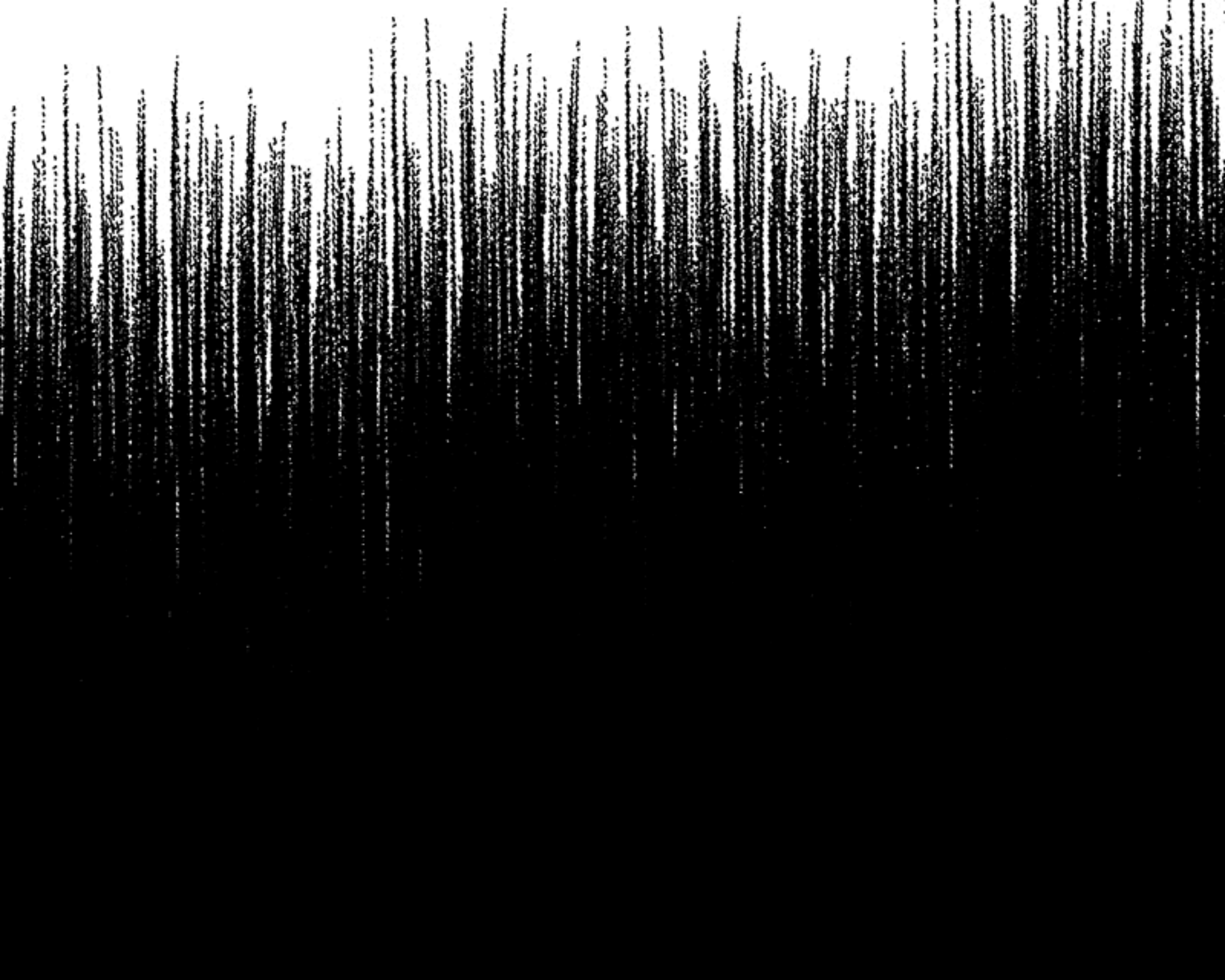
IT'S LIKE THEY
DON'T WANT TO SHARE
THEIR WATERBENDING
WITH ANYONE BUT
THEMSELVES



THEMSELVES.



GIVE ME--
HNGH! --A SECOND.
AFTER ALL, I'M JUST
A **POOR LITTLE
BLIND GIRL!**





THEY'RE
WAITING

WAITING
FOR US.



IT'S JUST AS
YOU PREDICTED,
GILAK.

BECAUSE
THE MAN IS SO



PREDICTABLE.

PREPARE
YOURSELVES, MY
GOOD WARRIORS.



WE'VE A ***BIG
NIGHT*** AHEAD
OF US.

FOR THE
TRIBE.



**FOR THE
TRIBE!**

nickelodeon™



AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER™

NORTH AND SOUTH

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