



GUREHIRU: For this ceremony, we had residents from each country wearing costumes from their cultures. Katara is wearing her hair in a Water Tribe hairstyle.

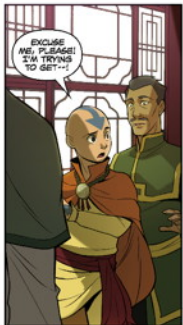


GENE LUEN YANG: *With two citizens from the Fire Nation and two from the Earth Kingdom (one of whom is Kori Morishita's mom), the government that eventually becomes the United Republic Council gets underway!*





King Ying is a character who was introduced in The Promise. Since we based her design on Avatar Yangchen, the two looked much alike.





GLY: I loved discovering bits and pieces of Aang's past lives in Avatar: The Last Airbender. We got to see a lot of Roku's life, some of Kyoshi's, and very little of anyone else's. Yangchen in particular intrigued me. She came from the same culture as Aang, but her advice to him in the episode "The Old Masters" was so coldly pragmatic. I always wondered what she might've been like when she was young, and what experiences molded her into the Avatar she became.





G: There are a lot of scenes where people are eating. We don't draw the plates until the inking stage, and we add food when we color. We have fun setting out the various dishes.

I'VE GOT SO MANY LILY LIVERS--ER, **STUDENTS**--THESE DAYS, I HAD TO MAKE A BUNCH OF EARTH TENTS OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL JUST TO HOUSE 'EM ALL. I WANNA EXPAND THE BUILDING, BUT WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.

WHY DON'T YOU CHARGE TUITION? WITH ALL THOSE STUDENTS, YOU'D BE RICHER THAN THE EARTH KINGS!

THE **BEYOND METALBENDERS ACADEMY** ISN'T THAT KIND OF SCHOOL. I DON'T WANT IT TO BE A BUSINESS. WE'RE DOING SOMETHING NEW. YOU KNOW SOMETHING IMPORTANT.

I MEAN, I DON'T CHARGE AANG TUITION. I'M NOT ABOUT TO START NOW.

SPEAKING OF AANG, HAS ANYONE SEEN HIM?

NOPE. BUT WHEN YOU FIND HIM, TELL HIM HE'S GOT TO RECONSIDER THAT VEGETARIAN THING. HIS MOUTH WILL THANK HIM!