

The shaman holds a cup of milky liquid to Korra's lips and pours it into her mouth. Korra instinctively SPITS some back out.

SHAMAN

7 Drink. This medicine will help. 7

Korra (her eyes still closed) swallows the liquid. Using a pulley system, the sages lower the hammock into a volcanic tube.

SHAMAN (cont'd)

8 Let the waters cleanse the darkness 8
that plagues your spirit.

INT. VOLCANIC TUBE - CONTINUOUS

Steam vents shoot out from the walls around Korra. She lowers, deeper and deeper.

AT THE BOTTOM

Her body enters the water and floats, like in a sensory deprivation tank. We hear ancient chanting on the soundtrack. It grows louder and louder as we TRUCK IN on Korra's face. Korra's eyes open. The camera PULLS OUT to reveal there is dark energy swirling around her. PULL OUT again to reveal that there is a SECOND KORRA, looking at herself. The two Korras float in a zero-gravity/underwater environment. The water glows the same as in the volcanic tube.

KORRA

9 Who are you? 9

SECOND KORRA

10 I am you. 10

KORRA

11 Who am I? 11

There is a ripple effect in the water and the second Korra transforms into AANG.

AANG

12 You are the Avatar. 12

KORRA

13 I don't know what that is. 13

Another ripple effect. Aang transforms into ROKU.

14 ROKU
In order to remember, you must regain
your connection with your Avatar
Spirit. 14

Another ripple effect. Roku transforms into KYOSHI.

15 KYOSHI
If you don't, darkness will engulf the
world. You will die and our era will
end. 15

16 KORRA
How do I regain my connection? 16

Another ripple effect. Kyoshi transforms into KURUK.

17 KURUK
Go back. Return to the beginning.
Find Raava. 17

Korra is sucked backwards and Kuruk disappears. Water
rushes past her as she struggles against the current.
Suddenly, the rushing water stops and Korra is face to face
with an 18-year-old boy.

18 KORRA
Are you Raava? 18

19 18-YEAR-OLD BOY
No. I am Wan, the first Avatar. 19

The water glows brighter and the screen goes white.

EXT. ANCIENT CITY STREET - DAY

CLOSE ON WAN, scrawny, with a mischievous smile on his
face. His clothes are tattered and his feet are dirty and
bare. He runs for his life. Our trickster hero uses
cunning, rather than physical strength, to outsmart his
enemies (think a combo of Indiana Jones, Marty McFly, and
Jack Sparrow.) Three well-dressed, teenaged bullies of
varying size chase after him. They are the Chou Brothers --
BIG CHOU, MIDDLE CHOU, and LITTLE CHOU.

20 LITTLE CHOU
Nobody steals from the Chou brothers! 20

Wan scrambles up some stairs and pauses atop a stone wall.
He dangles a satchel of food in front of him.

21 WAN
Really? Because I just did! 21

22 BIG CHOU
You're dead, Wan! 22

23 WAN
Actually, I feel quite alive! 23

Wan deftly runs along the narrow wall like a high-wire walker. The brothers give chase, but lose their balance and fall off the wall. Wan springs down to the ground and keeps running. The brothers recover and continue their pursuit.

NOTE: Wan's story takes place 10,000 years before Korra's time. The clothing, architecture, and even the style of storyboarding should reflect an ancient, mystical world. This flashback is like a myth come to life and is a stylistic departure from the normal episodes of "Korra."

EXT. NARROW STREET - DAY

Wan grabs a dress off a clothesline. The brothers come around the corner and slow down -- no sign of Wan. A friendly woman (Wan in disguise) points down the street.

24 WAN
(falsetto)
He went that way. 24

25 BIG CHOU
Thank you, ma'am. 25

The brothers start to take off, but then realize something--

26 BIG CHOU (cont'd)
Wait a second... 26

The turn and see Wan running away, the dress falling to the ground behind him. The brothers give chase.

EXT. CITY SQUARE - MOMENTS LATER

Wan runs through the bustling city center, leaping over carts and weaving his way through the crowd. The brothers knock the carts and people aside. Wan flashes a mischievous smile and runs straight into a flock of pigeon-parrots. The startled birds fly into the air. A second later, a downpour of pigeon-parrot poop hits the brothers.

EXT. SIDE STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Wan jumps, parkour-style, up a wall and onto a roof. He looks around -- no sign of the Chou Brothers. Relieved, Wan reaches into his satchel and pulls out a bright red piece of dragon fruit.

33 WAN (cont'd) 33
I'm sick of starving out here in the
trees while those greedy Chous sit in
their palace with a cellar full of
food.

Wan goes over to the man in the corner.

34 WAN (cont'd) 34
Yao, I got something for you.

The man recoils suddenly.

35 CRAZY YAO 35
Stay away from me, you spirit!

36 WAN 36
(gently)
I'm not a spirit. It's me. Wan. I
have food for you.

Wan hands him a roll. The man holds out his hand to take it, revealing that he has gnarled tree branches for hands and half his face is made of tree bark.

37 CRAZY YAO 37
(snaps out of it)
Wan... Sorry, had another one my
"spells" there.

Yao awkwardly uses his branch hands to take the bread and feed himself. Three skunk-squirrels and a couple woodpecker-lizards enter, looking for something to eat.

38 WAN 38
You guys are hungry too, huh?

Wan's stomach growls. He looks at his last roll, then tears it into pieces and feeds it to the animals.

39 JAYA 39
Wan, you should eat.

40 WAN 40
They need it more than I do. Besides,
I'm tired of eating scraps.

Wan picks up a small teapot and pours some cold tea into a cup.

41 WAN (cont'd) 41
If only there was some way to get into
the Chous' food cellar. We'd be
eating like... well, like Chous!

42 JAYA
If Chou the Elder catches you sneaking into his palace, you'll end up dead. Or worse -- he'll banish you to the spirit wilds. 42

43 CRAZY YAO
Don't get banished! You don't want nothin' to do with those spirits! They'll get inside ya... scramble up your mind... turn ya into this! A monster! 43

Yao holds up his stick-arms. The lighting on his half-bark face makes him look monstrous.

44 JAYA
Don't do anything crazy, Wan. You just gotta accept the world is the way it is. Some people have power, some people don't. And you don't. 44

Wan gazes out at the city, his wheels turning.

45 WAN
(sotto)
Not yet, anyway. 45

Wan sips his tea and looks out the window. A mischievous smile crosses his face.

EXT. CITY SQUARE - MORNING

A burly HUNTSMAN stands in the square, addressing passers-by.

46 HUNTSMAN
Are you strong? Are you fearless? Do you have what it takes to battle the spirits? Then join the hunt! 46

TRUCK OUT to reveal Wan is standing nearby.

47 WAN
Count me in! 47

The Hunter looks Wan up and down.

48 HUNTSMAN
(LAUGHS) No offense, kid, but you won't last two seconds out in the wilds. 48

49 WAN
I can handle myself. We all get fire, 49
right?

50 HUNTSMAN
Yeah, but do you know how to use it? 50

51 WAN
Well, not exactly, but-- 51

52 HUNTER #1
Ah, let him come. Not like we got any 52
other volunteers lining up.

53 HUNTSMAN
Alright, welcome to the hunt. 53

EXT. HILLSIDE - DAY

Wan and the hunting party march down a steep hillside. Around the hill is a vast, moss-covered field with rivers of lava flowing through it. Volcanoes spew lava in the distance. (Reference Laki Lava Field images)

54 HUNTER #1
You think you're ready for this? 54

55 WAN
(acting tough)
Sure. 55

56 HUNTER #1
Well, you're not. 56

EXT. LAVA FIELD - SHORT TIME LATER

The hunters and Wan stand at the base of the hill looking up at the city. The Huntsman blows into a large tribal horn that he carries with him. A deep bellowing sound echoes across the field.

Slowly, the hill rises up, and a Lion Turtle's head emerges from the moss (reference ep. 319 from original series.) Wan looks up at the gargantuan creature in awe.

57 WAN
(sotto)
The Lion Turtle... 57

58 HUNTSMAN
Great guardian of our city, we are 58
venturing into the spirit wilds to
bring back food for our people.
Please grant us the power of fire.

The Huntsman gets in Wan's face.

69 HUNTSMAN I knew you were nothing but a sniveling coward. Go give your fire back to the Lion Turtle. And don't ever show your face around me again. 69

Wan turns and leaves, but his mischievous smile returns -- he has no intention of returning the fire.

INT. TREE HIDEOUT - SUNSET

Jaya and Crazy Yao are waiting when Wan enters.

70 JAYA Wan, you're back! 70

71 CRAZY YAO Finally! I'm starving. What goodies did you snatch for us this time? 71

Wan opens his hand and fire hovers above it.

72 CRAZY YAO (cont'd) (YELP) Keep that away from me! I'm half kindling! 72

73 JAYA What did you do?! You can't steal from the Lion Turtle! 73

74 WAN Really? Because I just did. 74

Jaya and Yao look shocked.

END ACT ONE

ACT THREE

EXT. SPIRIT WILDS - JUNGLE - DAY

Wan runs through the jungle. The hunters follow close behind, shooting fire. Wan dodges and jumps to avoid the fire exploding all around him. He spots a swath of spirit grass up ahead and smiles his mischievous smile.

Wan leads the hunters into the grass, but at the last second, he grabs onto a hanging vine and swings over it. The hunters run into the grass, which grabs their feet and ankles and start to pull them into the ground.

HUNTER #1

144 Ahhh! Help! Help! 144

Hunter #1 is sucked down into the earth. The Huntsman and the two remaining hunters blast fire at the grass at their feet and escape.

The chase resumes. As he passes a bush, Wan plucks some pieces of plump fruit off it. He chucks the fruit at the hunters. The fruit hits the ground in front of Hunter #2 and swarms of spirit bugs spray out, surrounding his entire body.

HUNTER #2

145 Get them off! Get them off! 145

Hunter #2 stumbles around. After a moment, the spirit bugs disperse, and the hunter is gone. The Huntsman and Hunter #3 look back, shocked. Then they turn back toward Wan and shoot huge fireballs at him.

Fire explodes around Wan, setting trees on fire. One of the blasts knocks Wan off his feet. His body slams into a thick tree trunk and he falls to the ground, semi-conscious. The two hunters close in for the kill.

HUNTSMAN

146 Looks like you're all out of tricks, Wan. 146

The hunters cock their arms back in a punching motion. Suddenly, the Spirit Aye-Aye pops up behind Hunter #3 and jumps into his body. The hunter's body convulses and contorts, morphing between the Aye-Aye and the hunter. The Huntsman watches, horrified.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

(struggling, to Huntsman)

147 I... really... hate... HUMANS! 147

On "Human", Hunter #3 transforms into a gruesome, nightmarish version of the Aye-Aye.

148 HUNTSMAN (SCREAMS) 148

The Huntsman flees. Aye-Aye leaves the hunter's body. Hunter #3 now looks like part man, part monkey. The transformed hunter runs off into the jungle, SCREAMING.

149 SPIRIT AYE-AYE I don't know what he's screaming about. He's better looking now. 149

EXT. SPIRIT OASIS - LATER

Aye-Aye lays Wan in the pool of water. The water around Wan's body begins to glow and his scrapes, burns, and bruises fade away. The cat-deer drinks from the oasis, then licks Wan's cheek.

150 WAN I feel great. What's in this water? 150

151 SPIRIT AYE-AYE It has special healing properties. 151

The Kind Spirit hands Wan some fruit.

152 WAN Thanks. 152

Wan devours the fruit, talking through a full mouth.

153 WAN (cont'd) (to Aye-Aye) So... what did you do to that hunter? 153

154 SPIRIT AYE-AYE Spirits are able to take over a human body for a short time. If I stayed in there any longer, I would've killed him. Which I did consider. 154

155 WAN Thanks for saving my neck. But why'd you do it? 155

156 SPIRIT AYE-AYE I heard the cat-deer's cry for help. But by the time I arrived, you were already leading the hunters away from him. I've never seen such an act of selflessness from a human before. 156

168 HUNTSMAN
Gone... Spirits took them. They were 168
protecting that kid, Wan, like he was
one of their own.

Everyone MURMURS in surprise. ANGLE ON Jaya and Crazy Yao,
also looking surprised. Jaya smiles.

169 JAYA
Did you hear that? Wan's still alive. 169

EXT. SPIRIT OASIS - DAY

A Spirit Dragon flies and twists through the air. Wan follows the dragon's movements, as he firebends in a fluid, controlled manner. (NOTE: Reference ep. 313 of original series when Zuko and Aang learned Firebending from the dragons.) The spirits watch on and clap excitedly. PAN over to the giant frog from earlier who is also clapping.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SPIRIT OASIS - DAY (SIX MONTHS LATER)

Wan (hair longer, clothes dirtier) fends off the Huntsman (with a new band of hunters) who are attacking the oasis. The hunters throw large, uncontrolled fire blasts at Wan, who redirects the flames back at them in a display of firebending mastery. The hunters flee. The spirits come out of hiding and surround Wan, celebrating his victory.

EXT. CITY SQUARE - SUNSET

The Huntsman tells his tale to the same group of townsfolk, including Jaya and Yao.

170 HUNTSMAN
...And the way Wan moves fire -- it's 170
like nothing I've never seen. He uses
it like it's an extension of his body.

EXT. SPIRIT OASIS - NIGHT

Wan firebends the bottom of his teapot, boiling some tea. The spirits curiously watch as he pours the tea into a cup and takes a sip. The Kind Spirit holds out his "hand" to Wan, who passes him the cup. The Kind Spirit drinks the tea. A second later, the liquid filters out of its transparent body, like a teapot with a bunch of holes in it.

The other spirits jump up and down like children, excited by the trick. Kind Spirit #2 grabs the tea pot and guzzles the tea. Its body springs leaks also.

It twirls around, spraying the other spirits (and Wan) like a sprinkler. Wan wipes the liquid from his eyes and smiles. He looks at home among the spirits.

EXT. CITY SQUARE

Jaya stands with Crazy Yao in front the group of downtrodden citizens from earlier.

JAYA

171 Wan has proven that we don't have to 171
live under Chou the Elder's rules any
more. We can leave this city and
start over, just like Wan did. Who's
with me?

The citizens CHEER.

EXT. LAVA FIELD - MORNING

The Lion Turtle places his claw on Jaya's forehead. A glowing light surrounds him.

LION TURTLE

172 May the element of fire protect you on 172
your journey.

The light fades and the Lion Turtle lowers its claw. Jaya turns to the rest of the citizens and they head toward the spirit wilds holding fire above their hands like a torches.

EXT. SPIRIT OASIS - DAY (ONE YEAR LATER)

Wan (looking a bit buffer, with long hair and a goatee) sits on the back of the cat-deer. He rubs the cat-deer behind the ear.

WAN

(to cat-deer)

173 You ready to go, Mula? (PRON: MOO- 173
LAH)

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

174 You sure you want to leave? 174

WAN

175 Yes, it's time I see the rest of the 175
world and find the other Lion Turtle
cities.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

176 I'm proud to call you my friend, 176
Stinky.

