ACT ONE

EXT. JUNGLE - DAWN

CLOSE ON Korra, half-conscious and in distress.

KORRA

Raava... Raava... Raava...

WIDEN TO REVEAL she is being carried on a makeshift stretcher by two robed sages (from K206.) A third sage, Karu, runs along side her.

FEMALE SAGE

What’s she saying?

KARU

I have no idea.

(to Korra)

Try to remain calm, Avatar. We’re taking you to our shaman. She can help you.

EXT. BHANTI VILLAGE - A SHORT TIME LATER

The sages rush Korra toward a temple at the center of the ancient-looking village. (DESIGN NOTE: This location is inspired by the ancient Burmese temples of Bagan.)

INT. BHANTI TEMPLE - MOMENTS LATER

The sages enter and lay Korra on a stone altar before a blind, elderly, female SHAMAN.

FEMALE SAGE

We found the Avatar washed up on shore, but she doesn’t remember anything.

The shaman bends some fire and rubs it between her hands. She performs a kind of firebending reiki, passing the flames over Korra as she scans her energy field.

SHAMAN

A dark energy has infected her. We must purge it before it destroys her Avatar spirit.

The sages look very troubled.

INT. BENEATH BHANTI TEMPLE - VOLCANIC CAVERN - LATER

The sages lay Korra on a hammock over a deep pit of water which is heated and lit by glowing stones under the water.
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
Drink. This medicine will help.

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

SHAMAN (cont’d)
Let the waters cleanse the darkness 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
Who are you?

SECOND KORRA
I am you.

KORRA
Who am I?

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

AANG
You are the Avatar.

KORRA
I don’t know what that is.

Another ripple effect. Aang transforms into ROKU.
ROKU
In order to remember, you must regain your connection with your Avatar Spirit.

Another ripple effect. Roku transforms into KYOSHI.

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

KORRA
How do I regain my connection?

Another ripple effect. Kyoshi transforms into KURUK.

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

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.

KORRA
Are you Raava?

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

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.

LITTLE CHOU
Nobody steals from the Chou brothers!

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

WAN
Really? Because I just did!
BIG CHOU  
You’re dead, Wan!  

WAN  
Actually, I feel quite alive!  

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.

WAN  
(falsetto)  
He went that way.

BIG CHOU  
Thank you, ma’am.

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

BIG CHOU (cont’d)  
Wait a second...

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.
He’s about to take a bite when -- BAM! A door on the roof slams open. The Chou Brothers surround Wan.

WAN
Hey fellas, you’re just in time for lunch.

Wan chucks the dragon fruit at Big Chou and runs. But Little Chou trips him. Wan hits the ground and drops the satchel. Little Chou picks up the satchel, while Middle Chou pulls Wan to his feet.

LITTLE CHOU
I told you no one steals from us.

Big Chou lands a roundhouse kick in Wan’s chest, sending him flying off the roof and into...

EXT. ANIMAL PEN - CONTINUOUS

Wan falls into the mud with a huge splat. He sits up, covered in filth. Some nearby cow-pigs OINK at him.

WAN
(to cow-pig)
What are you lookin’ at?

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF CITY - FOREST - SUNSET

We see the ancient city in the distance. A bruised and filthy Wan climbs up a tree and enters...

INT. TREE HIDEOUT - CONTINUOUS

Wan crawls through the window and is greeted by a meek-looking, 16-year-old boy -- JAYA. An older man sits in the corner, partially obscured in shadow.

JAYA
Wan, you’re a mess!
(knowingly)
Did you steal from the Chous again?

WAN
(angry)
Yeah, and I got nothing to show for it except a few dirty rolls and a whole lot of bruises.

Wan pulls out three dirty bread rolls and hands one to Jaya.
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.

Yao, I got something for you.

The man recoils suddenly.

Crazy Yao
Stay away from me, you spirit!

Wan
(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.

Crazy Yao
(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.

Wan
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.

Jaya
Wan, you should eat.

Wan
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.

If only there was some way to get into the Chous’ food cellar. We’d be eating like... well, like Chous!
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.

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!

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

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.

Wan gazes out at the city, his wheels turning.

(sotto)

Not yet, anyway.

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

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

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

TRUCK OUT to reveal Wan is standing nearby.

Count me in!

The Hunter looks Wan up and down.

(LAUGHS) No offense, kid, but you won’t last two seconds out in the wilds.
WAN
I can handle myself. We all get fire, right?

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

WAN
Well, not exactly, but--

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

HUNTSMAN
Alright, welcome to the hunt.

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)

HUNTER #1
You think you’re ready for this?

WAN
(acting tough)
Sure.

HUNTER #1
Well, you’re not.

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.

WAN
(sotto)
The Lion Turtle...

HUNTSMAN
Great guardian of our city, we are venturing into the spirit wilds to bring back food for our people. Please grant us the power of fire.
LION TURTLE
The power is yours to keep until your return.

HUNTSMAN
We are grateful.
(to Wan)
You’re first, kid.

The huntsman pushes Wan toward the Lion Turtle. The Lion Turtle raises its giant claw and touches it to Wan’s forehead. A glowing light surrounds him.

LION TURTLE
May the element of fire protect you against the spirits.

The light fades and the Lion Turtle lowers its claw. Wan throws out his hand and a huge torch of flames shoots up, knocking him on his butt. Wan looks elated.

HUNTSMAN
Just make sure you aim at the spirits, not us, okay?

WAN
Sure thing.

Another hunter steps forward and the Lion Turtle places his claw on the hunter’s head.

EXT. LAVA FIELD — LATER

The hunting party crosses the lava field, heading toward the outskirts of the jungle.

HUNTSMAN
Everyone stay close. Spirits love to pick off stragglers.

Strange spirit and creature sounds emanate from the jungle. Wan pretends to look terrified. He stops.

WAN
Uh... guys? I don’t think I can do this.

HUNTSMAN
Quit your whining. We haven’t even seen a spirit yet.

WAN
I think I want to go home.
The Huntsman gets in Wan’s face.

**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.

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.

**JAYA**

Wan, you’re back!

**CRAZY YAO**

Finally! I’m starving. What goodies did you snatch for us this time?

Wan opens his hand and fire hovers above it.

**CRAZY YAO (cont’d)**

(YELP) Keep that away from me! I’m half kindling!

**JAYA**

What did you do?! You can’t steal from the Lion Turtle!

**WAN**

Really? Because I just did.

Jaya and Yao look shocked.

**END ACT ONE**
ACT TWO

EXT. ROAD TO CHOU PALACE - NIGHT

Wan struts down the street with a new air of confidence. He carries a satchel around his shoulder. Jaya follows, along with several other downtrodden citizens.

JAYA
You know it’s forbidden to bring the power of the element into the city. Please, go back to the Lion Turtle and return the fire.

Wan stops and turns to his friend.

WAN
Jaya, it’s time to stop being so afraid of the Chous and show them we have the power to change things.

Wan pulls a piece of fabric over his mouth and nose, hiding his face. Everyone else does the same.

EXT. CHOU PALACE GATES - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Wan marches up to the gates of the fancy palace. A tall wall surrounds it.

WAN
(shouting)
Hey Chous! Open the gate and let us in!

ON THE PALACE BALCONY

A man dressed in opulent robes walks out. He is CHOU THE ELDER -- the leader of the city. The Chou brothers stand behind him.

CHOU THE ELDER
What are those filthy peasants doing here?

BIG CHOU
Don’t worry, father. We’ll take care of them.

The Chou brothers leave.

EXT. CHOU PALACE GATES - MINUTES LATER

The Chou Brothers exit the gates, holding spears and swords.
WAN
Hand over all the food you’re hoarding, and we won’t give you any trouble.

CHOU BROTHERS

(BLAUGH)

BIG CHOU
You’re not getting past us. We have the weapons -- you’re powerless.

WAN
Powerless, huh?

The Chou brothers raise their weapons and rush at Wan. Wan throws his arms forward, sending a huge fire blast at them. The brothers jump out of the way at the last second. The fire blasts the gates open. The Chou brothers run away.

WAN (cont’d)
That’s right, keep running!
(to group)
Follow me!

Wan leads the citizens into the palace grounds. Wan runs to a basement storehouse and blasts the door open with more fire.

WAN (cont’d)
Grab as much food as you can!

The citizens rush into the storehouse. Moments later, Jaya exits carrying a large sack of food.

JAYA
(to Wan)
Maybe you’re right. Maybe we do have the power to change things.

Wan is surprised by his friend’s new attitude. The other citizens exit the storehouse, carrying more food sacks and pushing carts full of food.

JAYA (cont’d)
Looks like the Chous found back up!

Wan turns to see the Chou Brothers charging at them, swords raised. A dozen guards with spears follow them.

WAN
(to Jaya)
Get everyone back to the forest. I’ll hold them off.
Jaya and the citizens escape. Wan shoots wild blasts of fire at the Chous and the guards, but their numbers overwhelm him. Little Chou closes the gap and jumps on Wan’s back. Wan spins around with his arm extended, trying to hit Little Chou, but instead he creates a ring of fire around them. Little Chou falls off Wan’s back, pulling off Wan’s mask in the process. Wan raises his fist. Little Chou cowers and closes his eyes.

LITTLE CHOU
No, please. Have mercy.

Little Chou opens his eyes and realizes--

LITTLE CHOU (cont’d)
Wan?

Wan hesitates for a beat. He cannot bring himself to do it. He lowers his hand and the ring of fire dies down. Wan is blind-sided and tackled by several guards.

LITTLE CHOU (cont’d)
Even when you have the power, you’re afraid to use it.

EXT. LAVA FIELD - MORNING

Wan, restrained by guards, stands before Chou the Elder. The Chou Brothers stand behind their father. The Lion Turtle watches on.

CHOU THE ELDER
Tell me who else was involved in the rebellion, and I might take mercy on you.

WAN
(defiant)
I’m not telling you anything.

CHOU THE ELDER
Then you’ve left me no choice. Wan, you are hereby banished.

Wan refuses to show any signs of weakness.

LITTLE CHOU
Yeah! And give back the fire you stole.

The guards push Wan to face the Lion Turtle. Wan’s stoic expression turns to worry.
WAN
No... Wait!
(looks up)
Great Lion Turtle, I am sorry for
stealing the fire from you and I
accept my punishment. But, please, I
need to be able to protect myself in
the wilds.

The Lion Turtle considers this.

LION TURTLE
Never again may you return to this
city. But I will allow you to keep
the power of the element.

LITTLE CHOU
Oh, come on!

CHOU THE ELDER
Quiet, Little Chou! We must respect
the Lion Turtle’s decision.

The guards push Wan toward the jungle. Wan looks back to
his city one last time.

ON THE HILLSIDE
Jaya and Crazy Yao watch their friend walk toward the
jungle.

CRAZY YAO
Bet he doesn’t last ’til morning.

JAYA
And I was just starting to believe in
him.

EXT. SPIRIT WILDS – JUNGLE – NIGHT
Wan walks through the overgrown jungle. He looks spooked
by the many strange and unsettling noises.

A spirit whizzes by his head. Wan instinctively reacts and
shoots a ball of flame, but the spirit is gone.

Wan takes a few more steps and CRUNCH!

TINY VOICE (O.S.)
Hey, watch where you’re stepping, human!

Wan holds his arms up, ready to strike, but he doesn’t see
anyone.
WAN
Who said that?!

TINY VOICE (O.S.)
Down here!

Wan looks down and sees an angry SPIRIT FROG looking up at him.

SPIRIT FROG (TINY VOICE)
How’d you like it if I started walking all over you?

WAN
(RELIEVED EXHALE) You’re just a little frog.

The spirit frog grows gigantic and lifts its foot to step on Wan’s head.

SPIRIT FROG (booming voice)
Who’s little now?

Wan jumps out of the way as the frog’s foot slams down. Wan rushes off, but suddenly he is swallowed up by a giant venus flytrap. We can see Wan’s silhouette struggling inside the plant’s translucent skin. Wan blasts the plant apart with fire and escapes.

EXT. SPIRIT WILDS - MEADOW - LATER

Wan comes upon a peaceful looking meadow by a stream. Thirsty, he cups his hands and dips them into the water. He pulls them out and they’re covered with a thick, black goo. Wan wipes it off, but it gets all over him, like sticky tar.

Exhausted, Wan sits on the grass and lies back. He starts to doze off. The blades of grass slowly lengthen and surround him like a cocoon. Wan’s eyes snap open -- he’s trapped! He struggles against the grass, but it pulls him into the ground. Just before his face is about to disappear into the earth, Wan blasts some fire, burning the grass. He pulls himself out of the ground and runs away.

EXT. SPIRIT WILDS - JUNGLE - MORNING

Wan has been running all night. He stumbles through the jungle, looking exhausted and on edge. He hears a sound and shoots fire. He hears another sound and shoots again.

He comes upon a tree with plump fruit. His stomach GRUMBLES. He plucks off a piece and takes a bite.
A swarm of spirit bugs spray out of the fruit and envelop his head. He runs away, swatting at the swarm around his head, but he can’t see where he’s going.

WAN

Get off me! Get off me! AHHHH!

Wan runs right off the edge of a cliff. He tumbles head over feet down the steep hill and spills out at the bottom.

EXT. SPIRIT WILDS – OASIS – CONTINUOUS

Wan looks up to find a welcoming sight: the morning sun shines through the trees and illuminates a lush oasis surrounded by a river. There’s a pond in the center and bushes and trees full of brightly colored fruit.

Wan smiles. He picks himself up and walks toward a stone bridge that connects to the oasis. The moment Wan steps onto the bridge, an unseen force smacks him away. He lands on his butt.

A SPIRIT AYE-AYE (crazy-looking primate) materializes on the bridge. Wan is startled.

WAN

Ahh!

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

You are not welcome in my oasis, human.

WAN

Please, help me. I’m starving and I haven’t slept all night.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

Not my problem.

Wan shoots a warning shot of flames over Aye-Aye’s head.

WAN

Let me pass.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

You think your fire scares me?

The Aye-Aye dematerializes, then reappears a second later behind Wan. He grabs Wan and throws him into the woods.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE (cont’d)

Now, be gone with you!

Wan hangs his head and leaves.
EXT. SPIRIT OASIS - LATER

Aye-Aye stands on the bridge, allowing other strange-looking spirits to enter his oasis. (DESIGN NOTE: These spirits can be a mix of creature-inspired spirits and Miyazaki-inspired fantastical spirits.) The spirits bathe in the pond and lounge around.

We reveal that Wan is watching from behind some bushes. He smiles mischievously, then smears mud on his face and body.

ON THE BRIDGE


    SPIRIT AYE-AYE
    And who might you be?          118

    WAN
    (spirity voice)              119
    I am Bushy, the bush spirit and I would like to enter your oasis.

    SPIRIT AYE-AYE        120
    Very well, you may pass.

Wan walks across the bridge. Aye-Aye SNIFFS the air.

    SPIRIT AYE-AYE (cont’d)        121
    Wait a second... Something stinks.

Aye-Aye pulls some branches off Wan, revealing Wan’s face.

    SPIRIT AYE-AYE (cont’d)       122
    I knew I smelled a human!

Aye-Aye throws Wan off the bridge and onto the ground. His bush costume falls off.

    WAN          123
    Come on, let me in. Just for a little while.

    SPIRIT AYE-AYE        124
    No. Go back to your Lion Turtle.

    WAN      125
    Believe me, I’d love to go back home. But I can’t. I was kicked out.

A couple of spirits show sympathy.
KIND SPIRIT
That’s too bad.

KIND SPIRIT #2
Poor human.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE
Don’t pity him. He’s just like every other human -- ugly, destructive, and lacking any respect for nature.

WAN
Who are you calling ugly, ugly?

Aye-Aye’s ugly primate face glares at Wan.

KIND SPIRIT
If you can’t go back to your city, then you should go live in another one.

WAN
What? There are other Lion Turtles?!

SPIRIT AYE-AYE
Of course there are! Dozens of them. Boy, you humans are stupid too.

WAN
So, which way to the nearest Lion Turtle city?

SPIRIT AYE-AYE
Hmmm... I think it’s that way.

Eight arms extend out of Aye-Aye’s body and all point in different directions (like an eight-armed Hindu god.)

WAN
Real funny. I don’t need your help, I’ll find it myself.

KIND SPIRIT #2
Good luck!

Wan walks away.

EXT. SPIRIT WILDS – JUNGLE – DAY

As Wan trudges through the jungle, he hears an animal in distress. He follows the sound and finds a cat-deer hanging from a tree in a net, struggling to get out. Wan’s stomach grumbles.
Wan picks up a rock and winds back to throw it at the cat-deer. The cat-deer looks him in the eyes, and Wan drops the rock -- he can’t bring himself to hurt the animal.

Wan climbs up the tree and shimmies out onto the branch holding the net. He tries to untie the net.

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WAN
It’s okay. I’m gonna get you out of there.
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Below, the hunting party (from act 1) arrives. They look tired and dirty.

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HUNTSMAN
Finally! We caught something. Get it down.
```

Wan drops down out of the tree in front of them.

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WAN
Back off!
```

The hunters recognize Wan.

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HUNTSMAN
Wan? What are you doing here?
```

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WAN
I’m saving this animal.
```

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HUNTSMAN
That animal’s our dinner. Now, get out of the way.
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WAN
No.
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The hunters glance at one another and nod. Then they blast fire at Wan. Flames fill the frame.

**END ACT TWO**
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
Ahhh! Help! Help!

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
Get them off! Get them off!

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 truck and he falls to the ground, semi-conscious. The two hunters close in for the kill.

HUNTSMAN
Looks like you’re all out of tricks, Wan.

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)
I... really... hate... HUMANS!
On “Human”, Hunter #3 transforms into a gruesome, nightmarish version of the Aye-Aye.

HUNTSMAN

(SCREAMS)

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.

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

I don’t know what he’s screaming about. He’s better looking now.

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.

WAN

I feel great. What’s in this water?

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

It has special healing properties.

The Kind Spirit hands Wan some fruit.

WAN

Thanks.

Wan devours the fruit, talking through a full mouth.

WAN (cont’d)

(to Aye-Aye)

So... what did you do to that hunter?

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.

WAN

Thanks for saving my neck. But why’d you do it?

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.
The cat-deer nuzzles up to Wan. Wan pets it.

**WAN**
Told you I wasn’t like the others.

**SPIRIT AYE-AYE**
Guess I underestimated you, human.

Wan gets out of the pool.

**KIND SPIRIT #2**
Are you off to find another Lion Turtle city?

**WAN**
I was... but I think I’ve had enough of humans for a while. I’ve decided to stay here and learn the ways of the spirits.

**KIND SPIRIT/KIND SPIRIT #2**
Really?/That’ll be fun!

**SPIRIT AYE-AYE**
Now hold on -- a human living with spirits... It’s never been done before.

**WAN**
First time for everything, right?

**SPIRIT AYE-AYE**
I guess we can try it. I’ve never had a human as a pet before. I think I’ll call you Stinky.

**WAN**
The name is Wan.

**SPIRIT AYE-AYE**
Stinky is more accurate.

**EXT. CITY SQUARE - MORNING**

The Huntsman walks into town. He’s a mess and he’s got a shell-shocked look on his face. A few townspeople gather around.

**TOWNSMAN**
What happened in the wilds? Where are the others?
HUNTSMAN

Gone... Spirits took them. They were 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.

JAYA

Did you hear that? Wan’s still alive.

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.

HUNTSMAN

...And the way Wan moves fire -- it’s 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

*Wan has proven that we don’t have to 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

*May the element of fire protect you on 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)*

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

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

*You sure you want to leave?*

WAN

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

SPIRIT AYE-AYE

*I’m proud to call you my friend, Stinky.*
It’s Wan. Thank you for everything.

Goodbye everyone!

Wan waves to the other spirits. He crosses the bridge and leaves.

(CRYING) We’ll miss you!

We see a few shots of Wan (riding Mula) through dramatic, fantastical landscapes.

EXT. VALLEY FLOOR - RIVER - DAY (WEEKS LATER)

Mula drinks from a river as Wan fills his water satchel. A huge earthquake shakes the earth. The ground cracks. (DESIGN NOTE: Use Yosemite valley as inspiration for this location.) Animals and spirits flee past Wan.

(to passing spirits)

What’s going on?

A round, armored spirit rolls up to Wan and stops. It unrolls itself, revealing it is an ARMADILLO SPIRIT.

The all-powerful spirits are battling!

You better get out of here -- before they wipe out the entire valley!

The Armadillo Spirit curls back up into a ball and rolls away. Wan jumps on Mula’s back and they head toward the noises.

EXT. VALLEY FLOOR - MEADOW - MOMENTS LATER

Mula runs out of the tree cover and rears back, MEWING (making a high-pitched crying sound.) Wan is stunned to see two giant, amorphous, kite-shaped spirits locked in battle -- one is light, the other dark. The spirits roll and tumble back and forth between the valley cliffs. Huge chunks of rock break off and crash to the ground. Trees snap like toothpicks.

The dark spirit pulls away from the light one, but can’t escape because they are attached. The light spirit pulls the dark back towards it and surrounds it. The dark spirit pokes through the light spirit in areas, like a drowning man trying to come up for air.
Wan runs toward the spirits and shoots a huge blast of fire in the air. (Mula is somewhere off-screen at this point.)

WAN
Stop! Or you’ll destroy everything!

The light spirit (RAAVA) shoves the dark back down.

RAAVA
(female voice)
This doesn’t concern you, human!

WAN
It does when the lives of spirits and animals are in danger.

The spirits continue to struggle. The “head” of the dark spirit (VAATU) pokes out.

VAATU
(male voice)
If you’re a friend to spirits, then use your fire to help me break free!

RAAVA
Don’t involve the human. This is between us!

VAATU
(to Wan)
Please... Save me! She has tormented me for ten thousand years!

WAN
(sotto)
Ten thousand years...

Raava smothers Vaatu.

RAAVA
And you will stay in your place for the next ten thousand!

Seeing Vaatu being bullied strikes a chord with Wan. He jumps into action, shooting a huge blast of fire at Raava.

WAN
Let him go!

The fire hits Raava, but doesn’t do much damage.

RAAVA
I told you to stay out of this!
Raava smacks Wan away. He goes flying into the high grass. The distraction gives Vaatu an opening. He knocks Raava back and “runs” away. The strand of spirit energy that connects them grows longer and thinner.

Wan recovers and sees the spirits locked in a tug-of-war stalemate. Seeing his opportunity, Wan sends a huge arc of flame at the attachment point between the spirits and severs it. The two spirits tumble backwards like their tug-of-war rope was just cut.

RAAVA (cont’d)
(SCREAMS)

Vaatu scurries up a cliff and looks down at Wan and Raava. Vaatu is now bigger and Raava smaller than they were before.

VAATU
Thank you, human. You have performed a great service for the spirits. (LAUGHS)

Vaatu disappears over the top of the cliffs. Black storm clouds roll in, sending the valley into shadow. Wan looks worried. Mula wanders over to him.

Raava shoots toward Wan and gets in his face.

RAAVA
Do you realize what you’ve done?!

WAN
Yeah, I helped a spirit who was being bullied by you.

RAAVA
You are gravely mistaken. I was keeping him under control.

WAN
And what gives you the right?

RAAVA
You don’t even know who I am, do you?

WAN
Should I?

RAAVA
Yes. My name is Raava.

Wan takes this in.
RAAVA (cont’d)

That spirit you freed is Vaatu. He is the force of darkness and chaos. I am the force of light and peace. Since the beginning of time, we have battled over the fate of this world. And for the past ten thousand years, I have kept darkness under control and the world in balance. Until you came along.

Wan starts to understand the consequences of his actions.

WAN

So, by freeing Vaatu, I let chaos into the world?

RAAVA

Precisely. The humans and spirit realms are headed toward annihilation. And it’s all your fault.

CLOSE ON: Wan, looking stunned.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. BENEATH BHANTI TEMPLE – VOLCANIC TUBE

CLOSE ON: Korra’s face, looking like she’s having a nightmare. The camera PULLS OUT as her body twitches violently in the water.

KORRA

Raava... I found you...

TO BE CONTINUED...