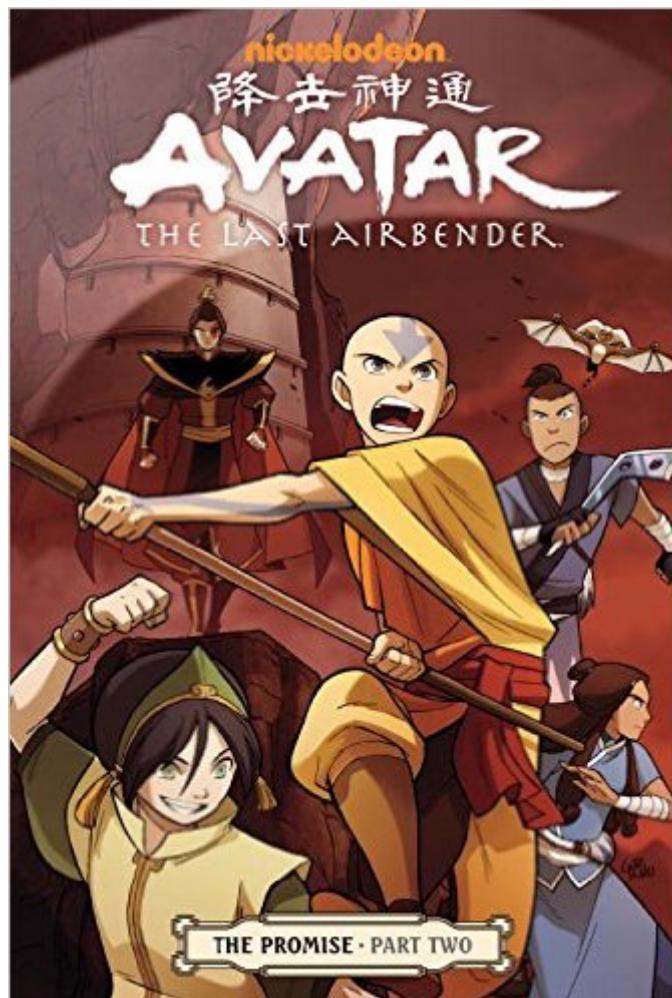


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Avatar: The Last Airbender: The Promise, Part 2



Synopsis

Aang and Katara are working tirelessly for peace when an impasse between Fire Lord Zuko and Earth King Kuei over Fire Nation colonies within the borders of the Earth Nation threatens to plunge the world back into war! Meanwhile, Sokka must help Toph prepare her hapless first class of metalbending students to defend their school against a rival class of firebenders! * Written by Eisner winner and National Book Award nominee Gene Luen Yang (American Born Chinese).

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (125 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #29,447 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Media Tie-In #43 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Publishers > Dark Horse #85 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy Graphic Novels

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

As if it wasn't enough that the TV series was awesome - the books are also fantastic. This one picks up where the previous one (The Promise: Part 1) left off: Toph is with Aang, Katara, and Sokka in the Earth kingdom to resolve the issue of Yu-Dao and the Harmony Restoration Movement, while Zuko is seeking help from his father, Ozai about the pressures of being the Fire Lord. There is a subplot with Toph trying to teach Metalbending to her students, and Sokka helping her with it - Sokka's wit is something being greatly missed in Korra, but the book has it spot on. There is an Avatar: The Last Airbender, The Promise: Part 3 that will release in September/October that will conclude this story arc (possibly leading to Republic City!) - I'm eagerly waiting for it.

The biggest surprise that I found about The Promise part 1 was how well it captured the spirit of the show so perfectly that it felt like a natural and seamless continuation of the series, which can also

be said of Part II. However, even though I found it enjoyable and to be another well crafted story I do have some minor complaints about this one. The story is split between three different sections (Aang and Katara, Sokka and Toph, Ozai and Zuko). Each sections are well done and have moments I found quite enjoyable, but my biggest problem with this 2nd act in the series is that it felt to be somewhat like filler. As I have said these stories are interesting, well done, and expand upon the Avatar universe and background positively, but I felt that most of the Aang/Katara and Toph/Sokka sections didn't really have much to do with the major arc of this series, which is quite short to begin with. I wouldn't find that to be a problem if this was a longer series but there is only one volume left. I would have liked if more time was spent dealing or making progress with this major arc. I loved the stories but maybe they should have been saved for a "The Lost Adventures" type of comic or maybe a future series that has more time to build the universe and the characters. Having said that, I thought the author did a great job telling stories that were interesting and thoughtful. He captures the characters so perfectly and there was never a moment where I questioned whether or not a character would have said or done something different based upon what we know of them from the original series. Even though some of the jokes I found became somewhat repetitive I still chuckled multiple times and was grinning for most of the time I was reading this. As a stand alone Avatar graphic novel I really enjoyed it. I am eagerly awaiting Part III which has the potential to be quite epic. I definitely recommend reading this of course.

I just finished reading parts one and two of "Avatar: The Last Airbender - The Promise." They're fun, short little stories about what happens to Team Avatar directly after the TV series, "Avatar: The Last Airbender," but there is also some seriousness and depth to the plot. The illustration is nice, all of our favorite characters are there, and it's a nice, informative bridge between the original TV series, and the new "Legend of Korra." Highly recommended to anyone who is a fan of the original TV series.

Toph struggles with her metalbending students (and a possible hostile takeover), and Sokka pitches in to help them out. Meanwhile, Aang and Katara go to see the Earth King to talk about the uneasy alliance between the Earth Kingdom and the Fire Nation, hoping to come to a resolution. And, of course, Zuko struggles with the increased pressures of being the Fire Lord, continuing to consult his imprisoned father for advice on how to cope. First, I of course love Toph--how she sometimes seems like such a stubborn jerk but has all these layers underneath, and how she has a real calling for teaching (and yelling at people), and how she comes to realize she may be trying to groom her

metabending students into something they really aren't . . . just like her parents did to her. And I liked that she asked Sokka to evaluate her ability to roll her eyes properly so she could roll her eyes at him. And her students were kind of hilarious, even though they were each pretty one-dimensional--the fearful doomsayer, the shoe-obsessed spoiled brat, and the goth-type kid who hates everything because someone gave him a terrible name. It was cool that they wanted to be more, but they . . . kind of weren't, at least not in the story. Katara and Aang make a very cute couple, and I liked that Katara got so jealous of the Avatar fangirls. (I didn't love how they were stereotyped, though--as vacuous, predatory girls who threaten Katara's relationship.) I did like that Aang was pretty oblivious to the whole thing, enamored instead with the feeling that someone tried to recreate his home by modeling the fanclub headquarters after the Air Temple he'd grown up in. And the complexity of Zuko continues to impress me. His father insists that a Fire Lord doesn't choose what's right; he MAKES things become right THROUGH the act of his choosing. (Wow, we've got some theory of knowledge philosophy lessons going on here! They were talking about that back in Ancient Greece!) Zuko rejects this idea of goodness being defined by HIS choices; he believes that good is bigger than everyone, and that Aang can help him find it. But the Earth King--determined to force peace, even if it means war--is about to ruin the tentatively forged balance that the Avatar worked so hard to establish.

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