## 1 EXT. THE EARTH & LIGHTING TRAINING BEGINS - DAWN/DAY/SUNSET 1

The scene opens in a mountainous terrain at sunrise as it pans down and to the right. All of Team Avatar and The Superheroic Alliance is sleeping. Cut to Aang and Rip rising and jumping up with airbending and fly floating, barefoot, and filled with excitement.

AANG

Today's the day!

(Lands near a sleeping Sokka with James.)

Can you believe it? After all that time searching for a teacher, I'm finally starting earthbending!

(Momo chitters and lands on Sokka.)

And this place,

(Momo moves on to Appa's head who is next to The New Nautilus.)

JAMES JUROVICH

Yeah, this place is perfect, unlike the great divide we went to.

**AANG** 

Yeah, True! it's perfect by the way, don't you think? Sokka?

(Sokka grumbles and glares at Aang and Rip Hunter with tired eyes.)

Oh you're still sleeping bub?

Oh, you're still sleeping, huh? (Sokka again grumbles and puts his head back down.

Aang whispers.)

Sorry.

The ground shakes, causing Aang and Ultimo to turn to look toward the source of the rumbling. The camera quickly pans to the left to an earth tent, the slabs of which are tossed in every direction mere moments after. As the dust clears, Toph is standing in the middle with her left hand raised in the air.

TOPH

Goooood morning,

(She puts both her hands on her hips.)

earthbending students!

2.

Cut to the side-shot of Appa, with Momo on his head while they are on board The New Nautilus, Sokka, still sleeping and curled up within his sleeping bag with Aang and James standing at his feet, and Katara, who is sitting upright in her own sleeping bag. Toph walks over to them.

AANG

Good morning, Sifu Toph.

A.R.H.P.

Good morning, Sensei Toph.

KATARA

(Aang and Rip bows slightly to Toph; disappointed and tiredly.)

Hey, you never called me Sifu Katara or Sensei Katara.

**AANG** 

(Scratches the back of his head.)

Well, if you think we should ...

Sokka suddenly sits up, grumbling at Aang and James. Cut to a closer shot of Aang and Rip Hunter, who looks down in wonder, and Toph, who has a smile on her face. James starts laughs at Sokka's grumble.

TOPH

Sorry, Snoozles, we'll do our earthbending as

(Whispers slightly, though with amusement in her voice.)

quietly as we can.

Cut to a close-up of Toph's feet as she slams her left heel into the ground, creating a crack. Cut to a side-shot of Sokka, who had laid himself back down. An earth pillar rises right underneath him, catapulting him screaming into the air.

Cut to an aerial shot of the team's camping spot as Sokka flies directly toward the camera. After he has flown so close to the camera that the shot was nothing more than a close-up of this uvula, the scene cuts back to ground level of the campsite, where Katara is standing up and joins Toph, Aang, and Rip Hunter Paradox in looking toward the sky. Sokka crashes to the ground in their middle with a loud thud. He immediately jumps to his feet, still in his sleeping bag with only his head visible, and hops toward Aang and Ultimo while grumbling. James still laughs at Sokka's grumbling like there is no tomorrow. He stops in front of the Avatar and the Immortal Avatar and grumbles to their faces, before jumping toward Toph and doing the same to her. He subsequently hops

3.

toward the camera and out of the shot, still grumbling angrily. Everyone else turns to watch him go.

Cut to Toph staring after Sokka with her hands to her sides. Aang and James had jumped up and now softly lands beside her.

AANG

(Excitedly.)

So what move are you going to teach us first?

(Stretches out his right arm, his fist clenched, and brings it down like a hammer with James.)

Rock-a-lanche?

(He brings his left clenched fist to his right elbow, while his right arm is bent upward, the fist also clenched. He trembles with the motion with Rip.)

The Trembler? Oh, maybe we could learn to make a

(Stretches both arms over his head and starts to spin around with his scary friend next to him.)
whirlpool out of land!

TOPH

(Puts a hand on Aang's chest.)

Let's start with ...

(Makes the gesture.) move a rock.

AANG

(Claps excitedly.)
Sounds good, sounds good!

RIP HUNTER

Well, it's a start, I can handle that.

Cuts to another part of the canyon where Toph, Aang, and James are standing in front of three rocks as Katara watches.

TOPH

The key to earthbending is your stance. You've got to be steady and strong. Rock is a stubborn element. If you're going to move it, you've got to be like a rock yourself.

4.

AANG

Like a rock. Got it.

**JAMES** 

That should be easy to do as I learned online, watched TV, and by books. Terra will be interested to learn from you someday.

TOPH

Good. Now the actual motion of this one is pretty simple.

(Slams the rock against the canyon wall.) Okay, you ready to give it a try?

AANG

We're ready.

(Tries to move it, but instead, he is forced backward into The New Nautilus door entrance but James slams it against the canyon wall like he already master that kind of technique.)

SOKKA

(Amused.)

Rock beats Airbender!

JAMES

(Angrily; telepathically.)
Not really that helpful, Sokka.
Remind me to murder you later.

SOKKA

I'll make a note of it.

RIP

(Appears in front of Sokka; as he does his Three Stooges stunt on him.)

I change my mind, I'll do it right now.

James hit his Sokka's belly then his head in The Three Stooges style.

JAMES JUROVICH (Grumbles his hand and shows it to Sokka in The Three Stooges style.)

5.

See that!

(Sokka slaps the top of his hand, twirls his arm then hit Sokka's head.)

SOKKA

(Rubs his head.)

Hey, what is that for?

RIP HUNTER PARADOX

Insulting Aang again.

SOKKA

Okay, I deserve that.

Iroh has a flashback in a dream about Lu Ten. Lu Ten pretends to firebend at Iroh who fakes a groan and falls over.

LU TEN

I got you, Dad!

(Playfully jumps on top of Iroh.)

Both laugh as the scene fades to Iroh in a dream sitting over Lu Ten's tomb.

IROH

My beloved Lu Ten, I will see you again.

The scene fades again as Iroh wakes up to Zuko calling him.

ZUKO

Uncle ... you were unconscious. Azula did this to you. It was a surprise attack.

IROH

Somehow, that's not so surprising. (Groans.)

ZUKO

(Hands Iroh some tea.)
I hope I made it the way you like it.
(Iroh takes a sip from the cup and his eyes widen. He lets out a cry of disgust but manages to mask it.)

IROH

(Grimaces.)

Good. That was very  $\dots$  uhhh  $\dots$  bracing.

(He is handed another cup, which he throws out secretly behind his shoulder.)

ZUKO

So, Uncle, I've been thinking. It's only a matter of time before I run into Azula again. I'm going to need to know more advanced firebending if I want to stand a chance against her. I know what you're going to say: she's my sister and I should be

6.

trying to get along with her.

IROH

(With the exact opposite of Zuko's thoughts.)

No, she's crazy, and she needs to go down. \_\_ .

(Zuko nods. Iroh grunts as

he stands up.)

It's time to resume your training.

Back at the canyon. Katara, James, and Toph are standing next to the boulder Aang tried to move. Aang walks up, a hand behind his head.

KATARA

I don't understand what went wrong. Aang did it exactly the way you did. Rip does it very like it was nothing for him.

RIP HUNTER

Yeah, I've trained for this from 2005 to 2008.

AANG

Maybe there's another way ... what if I came at the boulder from another angle?

TOPH

No. That's the problem. You've got to stop thinking like an Airbender. There's no different angle, no clever solution, no trickery-trick that's going to move that rock. You've got to face it head-on. And when I say head-on, I mean like this

... (Jumps up and destroys the rock with her head.)

7.

AANG & RIP

Whoa!

Toph begins to walk away, but Katara stops her.

KATARA

(Trying to help Toph teach.)

I've been training Aang and James for a while now. They really respond well to a positive teaching experience. Lots of encouragement and praise. Kind words. If those two doing something wrong, maybe a gentle nudge in the right direction.

TOPH

Thanks, Katara. A gentle nudge. I'll try that.

(Moments later; yelling at the top of her lungs.)
Keep your knees high, Twinkle Toes!
That goes for you too, Scary pants!

Cut to Aang and James carrying a large rock on their backs, struggling to hold it up after Rip transform his legs into Spider legs. The camera zooms out, showing Toph in the background stomping down and causing pillars of rock to rise underneath Aang's feet and Rip Hunter's temporary spider legs as they walk. Aang loses his balance, James still got his balance and falls off-screen as A.R.H.P. walks off-screen.

The next move shows Toph digging through rock with her fingers. The camera pans over and Aang rubs his hands together and tries to do the same thing, but smashes his hand against the rock and grunts in pain. The Camera pans over again and Rip Hunter Paradox rubs his hands together and does the same thing with the speed of The Flash does it successfully.

TOPH

Rock-like!

Next, Toph gives Aang one of Sokka's weapons, much to Sokka's dismay. Cut to Sokka's face with Toph's hand holding him back. He grunts, trying to move forward. Cut to James brings out his Gothic Khopesh Sword and Gothic Satanic Curved Sword Transformers style. Cut to a side-view, showing Sokka struggling to get his club back from Toph, who is holding it to the side and preventing Sokka from grabbing it. She shoves them backward and those two stalks offscreen. She hands the weapon to Aang. Those two guys are blindfolded as Aang tries to smash rocks and James wreck some rocks Toph brings up.

They finally get one after about five times. Cut to Toph, who nods in approval.

During their next session, Toph builds herself into a shield of rock which Aang and James have to push back over a marked boundary after Rip transforms himself into a Triceraton. They are successful. Their training begins to move smoothly.

During another training session, Aang and James are standing on four pillars of earth tossing a rock into the air while switching hands to catch it each time. Toph walks between the four pillars of earth and uses earthbending to shake the pillars.

TOPH

Rock-like!

The camera pans up to reveal Aang and James holding a solid stance without losing his balance. Toph appears on a pillar near him and nods. Aang smiles, Rip scary gothic demonic smiles, knowing they are finally getting the hang of it.

In another part of the canyon, Sokka is looking for food when he stumbles upon an animal.

SOKKA

You're awfully cute, but unfortunately, you're made of meat. Just a bit closer ...

(Jumps but falls into a crack that is in the ground. He looks at the cub.)

Gotcha!

(Sinks further in.)

You are one lucky little meat creature.

Back at Iroh and Zuko's setup.

IROH

Lightning is a pure form of firebending, without aggression. It is not fueled by rage or emotion the way another firebending is. Some call lightning the cold-blooded fire. It is precise and deadly, like Azula. To perform the technique

requires peace of mind.

ZUKO

I see. That's why we're drinking tea, to calm the mind.

9.

IROH

Oh yeah, good point! I mean, yes. (Outside.)

There is energy all around us. The energy is both yin and yang. Positive energy and negative energy. Only a select few firebenders can separate these energies. This creates an imbalance. The energy wants to restore balance, and in a moment the positive and negative energy come crashing back together, you provide release and guidance, creating lightning.

(Steps up, and generates lightning, and shoots it away from the two.)

ZUKO

I'm ready to try it!

IROH

Remember, once you separate the energy, you do not command it. You are simply its humble guide. Breathe first.

Zuko takes a deep breath. He tries to generate lightning, but instead, an explosion launches him back. Iroh shakes his head in disappointment.

Back at the canyon, Aang's and Rip's earthbending training continues.

TOPH

This time we're going to try something a little different. Instead of moving a rock, you're going to stop a rock. Get in your horse stance! I'm going to roll that boulder down at you. If you have the

attitude of an earthbender, you'll stay in your stance and stop the rock. Like this!

(Stretches out, still instance.)

**JAMES** 

That's going to be good.

KATARA

Sorry Toph, but are you really sure this is the way to teach Aang and his training buddy earthbending?

10.

TOPH

This way, you'll actually have to sense the vibrations of the boulder to stop it. Thank you, Katara.

**AANG** 

(Sarcastically.)

Yeah, thanks, Katara!

RIP HUNTER PARADOX

(Sarcastically.)

Yeah, Thank you very much, Katara!

KATARA

*ly.*)

Heh.

(Nervous

Cut to Toph standing at the top of the hill with Aang and James at the bottom. She shoves two of those rocks forward and it begins to roll down the slope. Aang looks worried and afraid as it rolls toward him. Rip Hunter looks prepared and being fearless as it rolls toward him. He jumps over the boulder at the last second, causing it to roll past and crash into the cliff. Ultimo stops the boulder as Toph tells them how to stop it. Toph comes running toward Aang and James.

I guess I just panicked. I don't know what to say.

**JAMES** 

So, how did I do, master?

TOPH

There's nothing to say, you blew it! James did it very well like he is learning quickly. You had a perfect stance and a perfect form. But when it came right down to it, you didn't have the guts! Rip has the guts for it.

AANG

(Disappointed.)

I know. I'm sorry.

TOPH

Yeah, you are sorry! If you're not tough enough to stop the rock, then

11.

you can at least give it the pleasure of smashing you instead of jumping out of the way like a jelly boned wimp! Now,

do you have what it takes to face that rock like an earthbender and how James does it?

AANG

No, I don't think I do.

KATARA

Aang, it's no big deal. Sure, James got it right but you'll take a break and try earthbending again when you're ready. Besides, you still have a lot of waterbending to work on, and the same for your trans

dimensional buddy as

well. Okay?

AANG

Yeah, that sounds good.

A.R.H.P.

I agreed with you, pal.

TOPH

Yeah, whatever, go splash around until you feel better.

JAMES PHILIP JUROVICH
Hey, don't you know who you sound
like? You sound like Sokka when it
comes to me and Aang doing some
waterbending.

They all exit.

Back to Zuko and Iroh. Another attempt by Zuko to generate lightning fails.

ZUKO

Why can't I do it? Instead of lightning, it keeps exploding in my face ... like everything always does.

IROH

I was afraid this might happen. You will not be able to master lightning until you have dealt with the turmoil inside you.

ZUKO

What turmoil?

12.

IROH

Zuko, you must let go of your feelings of shame if you want your anger to go away.

ZUKO

But I don't feel any shame at all. I'm as proud as ever.

IROH

Prince Zuko, pride is not the opposite of shame, but its source. True humility is the only antidote to shame.

ZUKO

Well, my life has been nothing but

humbling lately.

IROH

I have another idea. I will teach you a firebending move that even Azula doesn't know because I made it up myself.

(Zuko smiles.)

Back to Sokka, who remains trapped with the small, brown animal.

## SOKKA

You probably think I deserve this, don't you? Look, I'm sorry I hunted you, but that's just the natural order of things. Big things eat smaller things, nothing personal. But this time it didn't work out that way. I admit it ... you're cute. Okay, you convinced me, if I get out of this alive, it's a karmically correct, vegetarian existence for me. No meat. Even though meat is so tasty.

(The cub brings an apple.)
Hey, looks like my karma is already
paying off! That's okay, I got it.

(Tosses his boomerang at it in a desperate attempt.)

Now, come back boomerang.

In a pond in another part of the canyon. Momo tries to grab a frog. Aang, A.R.H.P., and Katara move a single blob of water back and forth among each other in a circular motion.

13.

KATARA

You two do know this block that Aang's having is only temporary, right?

AANG

I don't want to talk about it.

**JAMES** 

Neither do I, even I was getting

good at earthbending.

KATARA

(To Aang.)

You do realize that's the problem, don't you? If you face this issue instead of avoiding it-

AANG

(Frustrated at himself.)
I know, I know, I know! I get it, all right? I need to face it head-on like a rock, but I just can't do it. I don't know why I can't, but I can't.

RIP

We at least that some of us know what's going on with you, pal.

KATARA

Yeah! That's true, James. Anyway, Aang, if fire and water are opposites, then what's the opposite of air?

AANG

I guess it's earth.

KATARA

That's why it's so difficult for you to get this. You're working with your natural opposite. But you'll figure it out. I know you will. Think fast!

(Throws two pieces of grass at them, but both Rip and Aang stops it with waterbending.)

Excellent. You two have the reflexes of a waterbending master.

AANG

Thanks, Katara. Sifu Katara.

14.

(Bows.)

I thank you as well, Katara. Sensei Katara. (Bows.)

Katara also bows at Aang and Autobot Ultimo. Back to Zuko and Iroh.

IROH

Fire is the element of power.

(Draws the firebending

insignia in the dirt.)

The people of the Fire Nation have desire and will, and the energy to drive and achieve what they want. Earth is the element of substance.

(Draws the earthbending

insignia.)

The people of the Earth Kingdom are diverse and strong. They are persistent and enduring. Air is the element of freedom.

(Draws the airbending insignia.)

The Air Nomads detached themselves from worldly concerns and found peace and freedom. Also, they apparently had pretty good senses of humor! Water is the element of change.

(Draws the waterbending

insignia.)

The people of the Water Tribe are capable of adapting to many things. They have a deep sense of community and love that holds them together through anything.

ZUKO

Why are you telling me these things?

IROH

It is important to draw wisdom from many different places. If you take it from only one place, it becomes rigid and stale.

(Divides the four insignias into separate sections.)

Understanding others, the other elements, and the other nations will

(Draws a circle around the insignias.)

ZUKO

All these four elements talk is sounding like Avatar stuff.

IROH

It is the combination of the four elements in one person that makes the Avatar so powerful. But it can make you more powerful, too. You see the technique I'm about to teach you is one I learned by studying the waterbenders.

Back to the campsite. Aang and James are meditating when Toph enters, holding Aang's staff and Rip's Grim Reaper Scythe.

TOPH

Aang, James, I found these nuts in your bag and the same for your shellfish in your four-dimensional hyper-food bag. I figured you wouldn't mind. And besides, even if you did, you're too much of a pushover to do anything about it.

AANG

As a matter of fact, I don't mind. I'm happy to share anything I have.

AUTOBOT ULTIMO

I don't mind it either. As long you have to keep my food bag mix with refrigerator core system and robotic food making system core with a dash of automated vending system for every use.

TOPH

Thanks for the information, James! You two know, I'm really glad you feel that way. Because I also have this great two new nutcrackers.

She spins Aang's staff and Rip's Grim Reaper Scythe above her head at the same time. Cut to Aang and James, who looks over their shoulders in different ways with a pained expression on their face. Cut to Toph as she smiles widely, lifts the staff, and starts using it to break nutshells.

**AANG** 

16.

Actually, I rather prefer it if you didn't ...

(Crack.)

That's an antique, handcrafted by the monks ...

(Crack.)

It's a delicate instrument!

Cut to Toph as she smiles widely, lifts the scythe, and starts using it to break crab, lobster, and king crab leg shells.

JAMES

I rather prefer if you didn't ...

(Crack.)

That's my very special artifact, created by the other Grim Reapers

··· (Crack.)

It's a delicate weaponized
instrument!

TOPH

It's not the only delicate instrument around here.

(Walks away, hitting the staff and scythe off rocks.)

AANG

(Resumes meditating with James after Rip opens his wings, separates his arms into four arms in two separate ways for meditati

Ohm.

Hey Aang, have you and James seen-

AANG

(Frustrated.)

Meditating here!

KATARA

It's important. It's almost sundown and Sokka isn't back yet. I think we should search for him.

**AANG** 

We'll find him faster if we split up.

17.

(The three begin to search.)

James, you should come with me just in case things didn't go so well as we inspected to be as we find him.

(Rip nobs at him in the same agreement.)

Back to Sokka.

SOKKA

Okay, karma person or thing, whoever's in charge of this stuff. If I can just get out of this situation alive, I will give up meat and sarcasm. Okay?

(Sokka's warrior's wolf tail gets yanked out of his hair by the cub.)

Ow! That's all I got. It's pretty much my whole identity. Sokka, the meat and sarcasm guy. But I'm willing to be Sokka, the veggies and straight talk fellow. Deal?

(Aang and Rip show up.)
Aang! Rip! Thank goodness! Have you got any meat?

**AANG** 

Sokka! Are you okay?

AUTOBOT ULTIMO

Seriously, you thinking about meat while you are in a hole?

(Tries to pull him out with Aang.)

SOKKA

Aggh, stop, stop! You're going to pull my fingers off and I don't think the rest of me is coming!

AANG

Hmmm ... I bet I can airbend you out of here.

(Blows up a gust of wind but Sokka remains trapped.)

RIP

Well, that didn't work as you thought it would.

SOKKA

18.

Yeah, I agreed James! Seriously
Aang, I know you're new at it, but I
could use a little earthbending
here. How about it?

AANG

I can't ... I can't do it.

SOKKA

Well, if you can't earthbend me out of here, go get Toph.

AANG

I can't do that either.

A.R.H.P.

She might be a good teacher but she's a pain to the Avatar, like Aang and the Immortal Avatar, like me.

SOKKA

You can't? Why not?

AANG

It would just be really ... uncomfortable.

RIP HUNTER

I don't like that drama with Toph right now.

SOKKA

Uncomfortable?

(Sarcastically.)

Well, I wouldn't want you to feel uncomfortable ...

AANG

Thanks, Sokka. This whole earthbending thing really has me confused. There's so much pressure. Everyone expects me to get it right away. James does all of the elements and it was very easy for him. But for me, it puts me in a really awkward position.

SOKKA

Awkward position, I think I know the feeling.

AANG

19.

If I try, I fail. If I don't try, I'm never going to get it. I feel like I'm caught between a rock and a hard place.

RIP

Yeah, that's going to be a big problem for you right now, pal.

SOKKA

Hmmm ... how about that. Aang, James, this is my friend, Foo Foo Cuddlypoops. Foo Foo Cuddlypoops, Aang and Rip.

AANG

Awww, what a cute name for a baby

saber-tooth moose-lion cub.

AUTOBOT ULTIMO

It's not the same how my mom is caring for cats, dogs, and anything cute, has fur and four legs, obsessively.

SOKKA

Really? He looks nothing like a saber-tooth moose-lion.

RIP

I know it doesn't look like it but yes it is.

**AANG** 

James is right. It's hard to tell before their giant teeth and horns grow in. What are you doing out here little guy? Did you lose your mama?

Suddenly, a large moose-lion appears.

The scene cuts back to Zuko and Iroh.

IROH

Waterbenders deal with the flow of energy. A waterbender lets their defense become their offense, turning their opponents' energy against them. I learned a way to do this with lightning.

ZUKO

You can teach me to redirect lightning?

IROH

If you let the energy in your own body flow, the lightning will follow it. You must create a pathway from your fingertips, up your arm to your shoulder, then down into your stomach. The stomach is the source of energy in your body. It is called the sea of chi. Only in my case, it is more like a vast ocean.

20.

(Laughs.)

From the stomach, you direct it up again, and out the other arm. The stomach detour is critical. You must not let the lightning pass through your heart, or the damage could be deadly. You may wish to try a physical motion, to get a feel for the pathways' flow, like this.

(The two begin to practice the redirection motion.)

Now, are you focusing your energy?

Can you feel your own chi flowing in, down, up, and out?

ZUKO

I think so.

IROH

Come on, you've got to feel the flow. (They practice the motion

for a few minutes.)

Excellent! You've got it!

ZUKO

Great, I'm ready to try it with real lightning!

IROH

What, are you crazy? Lightning is very dangerous!

ZUKO

I thought that was the point! You teaching me to protect myself from it!

IROH

Yeah! But I'm not going to shoot lightning at you! If you're lucky, you will never have to use this technique at all!

21.

ZUKO

Back to the canyon, Aang and Ultimo begins to talk to the saber-tooth moose-lion mother.

AANG

Hey there, we found your cub! See, we have no problem with you! We're friendly!

**JAMES** 

Just don't kill us, please. We gave back your cub so we're practically friendly to you and your moose and your lion family.

SOKKA

Aang, James, this is bad, you two have got to get me out of here!

ULTIMO

You would please shut up for just a few moments.

The moose-lion charges at Sokka, but Aang sends it over his head with airbending.

James does his special tiger lion attack towards the moose

lion, grabs her antlers then wrestles her until uses his super strength to hit her at the walls after Ultimo Three Stooges grabs her nose then hit it with the sound of a horn about five times in Monsters vs. Aliens style with Coverton but different.

SOKKA

This is really bad! Please Aang, James, you two have to earthbend me out, there's no other way!

Aang tries, but all his attempts produce nothing. James also tries, but all his part of his attempts produce the opposite of what it is supposed to do.

Oh no! RIP

Oh, dear! AANG & AANG RIP

(Gets on top of a rock to try and distract the saber-tooth moose-lion.)

Woo-hoo, look at me!

The moose-lion charges again but is again held off.

SOKKA

Please, don't leave me again.

won't.

AANG

We

He and James stand their ground, and at the last second, throws the moose-lion back with a blast of combination Lanterns and air mix together. The beast leaves. Suddenly, slight clapping can be heard. Cut to shot of Toph sitting on a rock nearby.

SOKKA

What are you doing here?

TOPH

Just enjoying the show.

**JAMES** 

What?

AANG

Huh! You were there the whole time?

TOPH

Pretty much.

AANG

Why didn't you do something? Sokka was in trouble! James and I were in trouble! You could have gotten him out and helped us getaway!

TOPH

Guess it just didn't occur to me.

(Throws a nut and lobster

down and attempts to crack

it with the staff and

scythe.)

AANG

(Grabs hold of it as James does the same with his Grim Reaper Scythe.)
Enough! I want my staff back!
(Takes it away.)

23.

RIP

(As he takes his Scythe away.)

The same for my Grim Reaper Scythe as well.

TOPH

Do it now!

TOPH

What?

AANG & RIP

Earthbend, Twinkle Toes, and Scary Fiend. You just stood your ground against a crazy beast. And even more impressive, you stood your ground against me. You two have got stuff.

AANG

But-

TOPH

Do it!

Aang and Ultimo slam the ground and sends a rock into the canyon wall.

TOPH

You did it! You're an earthbender. But James you're already an earthbender right from the start.

AANG

I can't believe it!

RIP HUNTER

Me either!

SOKKA

(Sarcastically.)

Awww, this is a really wonderful,

touching moment. So could you two get me out of here so I can give both of you a big, snuggly hug?

AANG

No problem, Sokka!

ULTIMO TOPH

Ah, Aang! AUTOBOT

24.

Thanks, James! Actually, you should probably let me do that. You're still a little new to this. You might accidentally crush him.

SOKKA

Yeah, no crushing, please.

Toph kicks up the rock and yanks him out. Nightfall hits. Katara meets up with them.

KATARA

You found him!

(Embraces Sokka.)

SOKKA

The whole time, I was in that hole, not knowing if I was going to live or die. It makes a man think about what's really important. I realized-

AANG

(Interrupting Sokka with James.)

Hey Katara, look what Rip and I can do!
(Bends a rock and slams it

on the ground with his training partner.)

KATARA

You did it! I knew you two would!

(Whispering to Toph.)

You tried the positive
reinforcement, didn't you?

TOPH

(Happily.)

Yep, it worked wonders.

AANG

Appa, Appa, I can earthbend now! The key is being completely rooted. Physically and mentally unmovable!

Appa licks him and sends him flying a few feet. Sokka and James laugh hysterically, and Aang laughs as well. Meanwhile, Zuko has tracked down a storm, seeking lightning.

ZUKO

You've always thrown everything you could at me! Well, I can take it, and now I can give it back!

25.

(Yelling as loud as he can at the storm.)

Come on, strike me! You've never held back before!

No lightning strikes. Tears stream down Zuko's cheeks, and he yells at the top of his lungs.