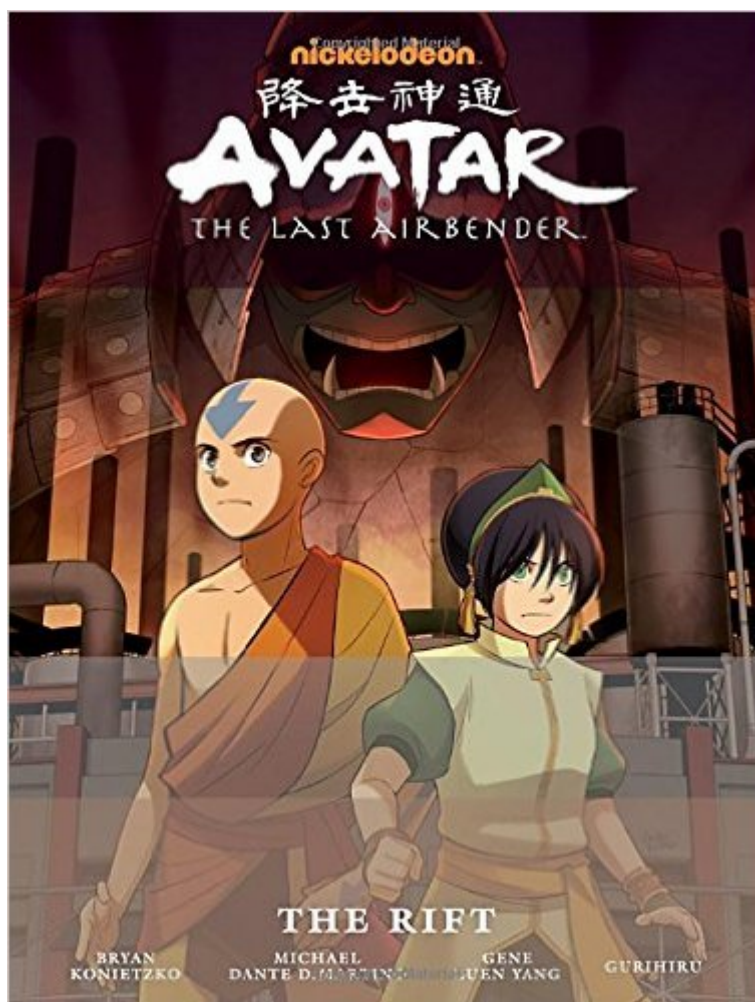


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Avatar: The Last Airbender - The Rift



Synopsis

Avatar Aang and friends honor an Air Nomad holiday that hasn't been celebrated in over one hundred years, but when cryptic visits from the spirit of Avatar Yangchen lead Aang to a refinery operating on land sacred to the Airbenders--they soon find themselves in peril as a dangerously powerful ancient spirit awakens with vengeance and destruction on its mind! This collection of The Rift Parts 1-3 features annotations by Eisner Award-winning writer Gene Luen Yang (American Born Chinese) and artists Gurihiru (Thor and the Warriors Four), with a brand-new sketchbook section!

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Dark Horse Books (February 11, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1616555505

ISBN-13: 978-1616555504

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 1 x 12.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (586 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,562 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #74 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Publishers > Dark Horse](#) #123 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Media Tie-In](#) #130 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy Graphic Novels](#)

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

My husband, my son, and I are all huge Avatar fans. Huge fans. This manga installment undertakes to answer one of the major hanging threads left at the end of the anime series, and as The Search gets underway, we get some surprising bits of back story and new insights on old favorites (or maybe not so favorites). I really do not want to spoil this story for anyone and do not want to spoil the stories from the anime for anyone who might be just getting into the show, but, briefly, Zuko needs help with a family matter and enters a surprising alliance. The book ends with an excellent cliffhanger. Parents should be aware that in this book, there is kissing. And mild violence. And an issue that involves an implied sexual relationship. Other than that, the book is well-written, beautifully drawn, and within reading/vocabulary/maturity levels of about 4th grade and up.

FYI: I received a free digital copy of this book from NetGalley for purposes of review. (I read that one, and then went out the day it arrived in stores, bought a hard copy and read it again.)

Premise: The war is over, but bringing peace to the Four Nations isn't as simple as winning a battle. This is the continuing story of Avatar: The Last Airbender. I LOVE THIS. I loved this to pieces. This made me laugh and gasp and cry aloud. I love these characters, and this is completely in tone with the series: funny and sweet and heartbreaking. It even starts by devoting three pages to the voiceover that opened every episode of the series, so it dropped me immediately into the right mindset for this world. I can hear the voice actors in my head. If you haven't seen Avatar: The Last Airbender, GO DO THAT. And then when you get to the end and want more, you're in luck!

The Promise interweaves some of the character moments we saw at the end of the last episode into the start of a new story, in which Zuko and Aang struggle with the Fire Nation colonies that were established in the Earth Kingdom during the war. It becomes a difficult question: what is the best thing to do, for those people who live there and for the Nations as a whole? How long have they been there? Are they Fire Nation citizens? Earth Kingdom citizens? What about the Earth Kingdom people who are angry, who lost people in the war, who want every Firebender gone? There are no easy answers for the characters. There are plenty of great character moments, from an early conversation between Aang and Zuko that introduces the core emotional plot and had me right by the heartstrings, to the sweet moments showing the development of Aang and Katara's relationship. Toph and Sokka meanwhile maintain the right amount of comic relief to keep the tone on balance. Plenty of characters get at least a cameo, but there are occasional subtle words or references to keep the reader on track in case you forget who someone is. You know the next element that's needed for Avatar: action! And this doesn't disappoint. The fight scenes are gorgeous: clear, dynamic, and inventive. The art is beautiful throughout, in fact. Mostly just true to the series, although I especially liked the addition of Aang's prayer beads containing all the symbols of the elements, that he apparently uses to talk to the previous Avatars. The design work on that was beautifully done, and there are little elements to the art that I only noticed on a second look, little details that just enhance the whole. This is a medium-short graphic novel at 76 Pages. Be warned, this ends in a cliffhanger! And I have to wait until MAY for Part 2?

5 Stars - An Awesome Book

Only reason I'm giving this 4 stars is because it just ends on such a cliffhanger. I was so expecting this to end the story and I was not prepared. Silly describing the book as the "explosive conclusion" when it moreso sets up the next one. The silver lining with more books though is of course is more avatar. Huzzah! All in all it's a good read though. I felt like Zuko had really gotten

away from the person he was at the end of the show. This one brings him back more in line with that person he was and needs to be in order to rule his country properly. I still detest Aang and Katar calling each other sweetie, but it feels like they did lighten up a bit in this book. Always great humor with Toph and Sokka. Some of the usual avatar antics and there was some nice fighting as well. Definately worth the money. I'd buy it again. I am very curious to see where they go next though. Having seen the Legend of Korra, I kinda have an idea how everything is going to turn out, but as they always say, it's not the destination, it's the journey. ;-)

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