

Nickelodeon Is Making a New 'Avatar' Series That Occurs 1 Century After Aang & Korra



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When the executive producers at Nickelodeon released *Avatar: The Last Air Bender* in the late 2000s, they unlikely anticipated the cultural impact that would follow in the next decade-plus. The story-telling behind this action-fantasy adventure series transcended demographic groups as kids, teens, and adults were enthralled by a child's journey to find himself and save the world, all while overcoming impossible odds. *Avatar: The Last Airbender* was co-created by Michael Dante DiMartino and Bryan Konietzko, who were heavily inspired by Buddhism, martial arts, and several aspects of Chinese culture when crafting their classic tale. The plot is centered around a preteenage boy named Aang, the last "bender" from the Air Nomads, who must venture out into the Earth Kingdom, Water Tribes, and Fire Nation to find someone from each place to help him master all four of the elements (water, earth, fire, and air) as the planet's one and only Avatar. The 61st and final episode aired in 2008 with a masterful finale and a few open-ended subplots regarding his closest friends, such as Prince Zuko.

A few years after the final episode of *Avatar: The Last Airbender*, Nickelodeon, and Paramount Pictures tried to recapture the magic with a live-action film based on the heralded series, but it was to avail as the movie flopped, leaving legions of fans distraught over the casting choices. That notion was attributed mainly to the fact that the co-stars were a clear diversion from the cartoon's original storyline. Thus, in 2012, Nickelodeon and Paramount Pictures attempted to rekindle the flame once more with a follow-up series to their 2D classic called *Avatar: The Legend of Korra*. This show featured an adolescent female lead from the Southern Water Tribe and a connection to the beloved Aang character from the first series, which seemed to satisfy fans of the franchise for the most part. But it wasn't nearly as riveting as the groundbreaking cartoon that preceded it. Now, it appears that the executive producers at Paramount Pictures will add another exciting installment to the franchise by introducing a new Avatar to fans in 2025 via their streaming service, Paramount+. And this future master of the four elements will have ties to Avatar Aang and Avatar Korra.

Last week, *Avatar News* released a statement about the forthcoming project.

"Avatar Studios is working on the next Avatar after Aang and Korra. An original animated streaming series set in the future after The Legend of Korra, following the next earth Avatar in the cycle, is coming to Paramount+ in 2025.

But there's more. An animated movie featuring this Avatar and their era is coming to theaters in the years after the show comes out. (I can't reveal more specific dates yet, but it won't be an insanely long wait.)

Currently, we don't know how far in the future this Avatar's era will be set, but a very rough approximation based on previous Avatars is that if it's set ~100 years after Korra's time, it will be in the Avatar world's equivalent of our world's present day."

Nearly 20 years after creating the original Avatar series in the 2000s, Michael Dante DiMartino and Bryan Konietzko are now at the helm of Avatar Studios, which is a subsidiary of Nickelodeon Studios. The pair will oversee the highly anticipated follow-up to *Avatar: The Legend of Korra*. Still, none of the original voice actors from the first two series have committed to rejoining the franchise as of yet.