

## Calamity 361

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 361: Vacuum Gatling

On the third day, Fujin stood facing 10 human-sized rocks on the training ground. His fingers were pointing at each of the rocks. At the same time, he fired 10 Wind Lasers from the tip of his fingers. Every laser hit the top of the rock it was aimed at.

Fujin stopped the attack and once again pointed his fingers at the 10 rocks. 10 Wind Lasers were fired once again. However, this time, they didn't hit the rocks at the same time. Instead, the fastest reached in around 0.25 seconds while the slowest hit the rock in 1 second. The rest Wind Lasers hit at some moment in between those ranges.

Fujin thought, 'Great. I can use 10 Wind Lasers comfortably now. Not only can I aim accurately, but I can also control the speed. This will allow me to shoot Vacuum Bullets at varying speeds at the same time. This will make predicting the path of my Vacuum Bullets and dodging them much more difficult. In this aspect, this new Vacuum Bullet jutsu will be superior. The attack will be just too difficult to predict.'

Fujin stopped pointing at the rocks and decided, 'This is enough training for shooting 10 lasers at the same time. I should move on to working on perfecting the aim with 10 Vacuum Bullets at the same time. I can already do it with one Vacuum Bullet. So this will just need some practice until I get a hang of the remaining 9 as well.'

Fujin continued his training. However, shooting 10 Vacuum Bullets assisted by a Wind Laser each was very exhaustive on his chakra. In addition, he also had a couple of clones training to increase the speed delivered by the Wind Laser and another couple of clones training to position the Vacuum Bullet at different positions inside the Wind Laser. So he had to take a meditation break after every hour!

While Fujin was training, Hiruzen was reading the reports in his office. His main focus was on the report sent by Renjiro. He analyzed the report and thought, 'As we analyzed... Onoki doesn't seem to have any intentions of starting a war. I'll ask them to stay there for another couple of weeks. If Iwa doesn't make any move, they can pull back and leave around 100 ninjas on our border to take care of any emergencies.'

He wrote a message and handed the scroll to an Anbu ninja to deliver. He picked up another file and began reading. His eyes widened immediately. He thought, 'The rate of consumption of the Wind Crystals reduced? How? Did that greedy boy finally think about the good of the village? Or was the effect too little for him?'

Hiruzen immediately activated his crystal ball and searched for Fujin in Training Ground 23. On not finding him there, he turned his attention to the Training Rooms. After looking for a bit, he found Fujin meditating in the Fire Training room.

A relaxed look appeared on Hiruzen's face. He could feel a lot of pressure being lifted off his shoulders. It almost looked like he became younger by a few years! He sighed in relief and thought, 'His rate of absorbing energy from Fire Crystals is just a fraction when compared with the Wind Crystals. If he doesn't decide to switch back to Wind Crystals, I can finally rest easy.'

Had Hiruzen been an emotional person, he might have cried tears of joy! Fujin had given him quite a headache and he had to make a lot of efforts to ensure that Konoha didn't run out of Wind Crystals. However, his confidence in his ability to do that was waning every day Fujin visited the Wind Training rooms.

Despite the good news, Hiruzen couldn't help but pray, 'I hope his speed of absorbing energy from Fire Crystals doesn't increase like what happened with the Wind Crystals.'

Two days later, Fujin was sitting with his back against a tree while breathing heavily. He muttered, 'I need to find who made this soldier pill. And I need to ask that person to make a better one. Despite being so good, it still isn't sufficient for training non-stop. Needing to take a break after just 50 minutes is rather annoying. Regardless...'

A smile appeared on Fujin's face. He muttered, "I have mastered shooting Vacuum Bullets from my fingers. That Iwa army will be decimated if they face off against me right now!"

Fujin looked around him. There were hundreds of rocks and walls that he had raised from the ground using Earth Release. Every single one of them was riddled with holes! Several trees for hundreds of meters had suffered the same fate. If someone was to walk onto that training ground, they would wonder what exactly was happening there!

Fujin thought, 'Though this jutsu is considered mastered, there is still a lot of scope for improvement. I have increased their speed to just above half the speed of the Vacuum Bullets I shoot from my mouth. This makes this my fastest attack behind Vacuum Cannon and Vacuum Bullets.

But I can still increase this speed further. And I still need to keep working on the multi-directional variant by adjusting the position of the Vacuum Bullet. And I also need to work on firing multiple rounds in quick succession.'

Fujin analyzed for a few minutes and decided, 'I was planning to move on to my other ideas. But, I'll spend another 5 days, when I eat the third soldier pill, to improve this jutsu and master the multi-directional variant. After that, the improvement will become very slow. It will improve as I use them and I can spend additional time on this after I retire.

In the week until then, I will begin practicing the forms of my next idea for Vacuum jutsu. Still, just like Wind Laser jutsu, this one can also be said to be quite different. I should give it another name. Hmm, what should I give?'

Fujin thought for a few seconds before deciding, 'I will just call it Vacuum Gatling jutsu as I fire multiple bullets at the same time and I intend on improving it further to fire several rounds within a second. That should make the jutsu similar to the Gatling gun from my previous world. Yeah, I'll go with that. No point in thinking much about it.'

Fujin wasn't very concerned with the names of his jutsus. He just thought of a basic one and stopped thinking about it. After meditating and recovering his chakra, Fujin continued his training.

He stopped when just 2 hours were left for the effect of the pills to end and began moving back to his home. En route, he couldn't help but sigh and think, 'The Four Symbols Seal is still not mastered! And the constant influx of memories from those clones gives me such an intense headache! Processing a year's worth of memories in just 5 days repeatedly is a tough job. Especially when I am also training Ninjutsu.'

Fujin sighed again and muttered, "Oh well. I am almost done. I am very close now. My clones have succeeded in creating all parts of this seal. It's just that no one managed to make the entire seal by himself. Probably 2 more days of this torture and I will have this seal down. 3 at max if my luck is bad.'

Exhausted, Fujin took a couple of days off once again. During this time, he visited Isamu in Konoha's hospital to get his body checked and to heal any hidden injuries and eliminate the accumulated trauma. It helped Fujin in relieving the stress on his body and, to an extent, his mind.

After resting for a couple of days, Fujin returned to training once again. After completing the morning workout ritual and getting some rest, Fujin decided to work on adding more jutsus to his arsenal.

Fujin thought, 'This idea could be fun. Though Vacuum Gatling jutsu will be devastating, it'll be a shame if I have to expose it against normal Jounins. This jutsu can make their preparations useless while keeping my Vacuum Gatling to catch any rank S ninja off guard. Even if I'm not able to kill them, causing them a serious injury should be sufficient to force these villages to back off.'

Fujin raised his right hand and extended his index and middle finger towards the sky. His eyes focused on the two fingers as wind chakra began concentrating on the two fingers. A 15 cm long Vacuum core began forming on top of his two fingers. In a few seconds, the core took the form of a blade. It was soon enveloped by winds.

Fujin didn't move his fingers. Despite that, under his control, the blade flew towards a rock and cleanly sliced it into two!

A smile formed on Fujin's face. He muttered to himself, 'My compatibility with this jutsu is too good. Just like the Blade of Wind jutsu, I was able to succeed on its vacuum variant on my first try!'

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Chapter 362: Vacuum Blade, Vacuum Slash, Hurricane Sword!

Though Fujin succeeded in creating the Vacuum Blade on the first try, the jutsu needed a lot of improvements, unlike the Blade of Wind jutsu.

Fujin concentrated wind chakra on his two fingers once again. 5 Vacuum Blades began forming above his fingers. However, before they could completely form, the Vacuum core collapsed. Fujin immediately moved backwards and sighed.

He analyzed, 'Looks like mastering this jutsu won't happen on the first try. Oh well, it should still be done sooner than Hurricane Fist and Vacuum Gatling. I just need to increase the amount of blades I can create and be able to control them like I can control the Blade of Wind jutsu.'

Though this jutsu will be much slower than the Vacuum Bullet and Vacuum Gatling, it is far superior in maneuverability. That is why, the Iwa ninjas, who could easily dodge my Vacuum Bullets, weren't able to dodge the Blades of Wind at a close range.

Unfortunately, Blade of Wind jutsu could be defended against with the Iron Skin jutsu. The Vacuum Blade won't have that weakness.'

Fujin began his training. He started by increasing the number of Vacuum Blades to two. Within half an hour, he managed to successfully create 2 Vacuum Blades consistently. By the time the pre-lunch training session was completed and Fujin's chakra reserves started taking a hit, he managed to successfully create the 3rd Vacuum Blade as well.

Since he was low on chakra, Fujin decided to use the post-lunch training session to practice Taijutsu with his clones and only continued training the Vacuum Blade jutsu in the evening.

For the next four days, Fujin repeated the same training pattern. The only change was that as the number of Vacuum Blades increased, the rate of his chakra consumption also increased. So his training time for Vacuum Blade decreased while he focused more on the Taijutsu spars.

The terrain of Training Ground 23 became even more weird. The rocks that were riddled with holes were now slashed into several pieces. So now, small rocks that had a lot of holes were spread throughout the training ground. Several trees also had similar holes. Luckily for them, Fujin stuck to testing the Vacuum Blades on the rocks.

Fujin ignored the terrain and analyzed, 'I can already create 7 Vacuum Blades at the same time and control their directions very well. This should be enough for the time being. Time for the next idea.'

Fujin slammed his hands on the ground and an Earth Wall appeared in front of him. Soon after, the seal on Fujin's bracer lit up and a sword appeared in his right hand. Chakra immediately began flowing alongside its edge and was quickly transformed into Wind nature.

Soon, the wind chakra just in front of the edge of the sword began transforming. An extremely thin Vacuum Core began forming along the edge of the sword. A few seconds later, Fujin pulled his sword back and swung it forming an arc in the air.

Immediately, a sword slash was released along the arc that the sword created. However, unlike Fujin's previous attempts, this time the front part of the sword slash was a thin arc made of Vacuum.

The sword slash hit the Earth Wall in the center and cut it through into two pieces! The upper part of the wall was sent flying in the air by a few centimeters. At that moment, it was hit by the winds accompanying the Sword Slash.

The impact of the winds pushed the upper half of the wall backwards, and it collapsed. Fujin analyzed, 'Good. My normal sword slashes couldn't cut through the walls. But this attack can. I'll call it Vacuum Slash.

If someone uses the Earth Wall and keeps standing like a fool, he will be cut in two. Even if they duck or jump to barely avoid the slash, they will be hit by the falling wall. The only way to completely avoid it is by moving backwards and jumping by a safe distance while using the Iron Skin jutsu to defend against the accompanying winds or escaping underground instead. But...'

Fujin raised his sword and observed it for a few seconds. He wondered, 'I remember that the way Danzo used the Wind Vacuum Technique with his sword was different. He blew winds on his sword which hovered around the sword making it very sharp. But, was that technique a Vacuum jutsu or just normal sharp winds?'

Fujin thought for some time before giving up. He thought, 'I barely even remember how it looked. I don't recall if any theory behind it was stated. Regardless, continuously maintaining vacuum cores around my sword doesn't seem feasible.

Though I don't need to maintain vacuum cores. After all, I don't need to blow wind on my sword to create it. I can just create new Vacuum Slash cores whenever I need it. And I can use this attack in both, close-range combat and long-range combat.

In these aspects, my way of using the Wind Vacuum Technique on my sword is superior to his, or at least superior to what I recall Danzo is capable of. That said, this isn't the max I can do.

Though I couldn't add the Vacuum Waves to my Hurricane fist, I should be able to use them with my swo...'

Fujin was about to pour his chakra into his sword and try it but suddenly stopped. He thought, 'Never mind. If I mess up, I'll destroy this sword. That'll be a rather expensive price to pay for no reason.'

Fujin placed his sword back in his seal and opened a scroll that had a few ordinary swords. He grabbed the sword and swung it around a few times to get a hang of it. He nodded and decided, 'Yeah, this should be good enough. In combat, I'll leave this attack to my clones. I'll use it just as a last resort.'

Fujin sent his chakra flowing into the ordinary sword. Soon, it turned into wind and began revolving around the sword at a high speed. Unlike his arm, Fujin didn't bother putting a protective chakra cover that spun in the opposite direction on the sword. He didn't particularly care if the sword was damaged.

Soon, 3 Vacuum Waves began forming just outside the hurricane. In a couple of seconds, they began revolving around the sword at a high speed as well.

Fujin observed his sword and thought, 'It looks completely like a mini-hurricane consisting of thousands of sharp blades moving at a speed. I wonder if I can make a full-scale version of this.'

A massive hurricane full of sharp winds and maybe a dozen Vacuum Waves spinning at a high speed... Preferably one big enough to consume an entire village.'

Fujin's eyes lit up at that idea. However, his excitement doused as he analyzed, 'Unfortunately, the chakra consumption for such an attack will be too high. And, the ninjas who are good with Body Flicker jutsu or other movement jutsus can easily escape from the attack. They could even hide underground.'

The only way such an attack will work is if I attack a village having a lot of civilians that the ninjas care about. Not too useful. Oh well, I'll develop a medium-sized one later to see if I can think of better applications for the same. For now...'

Fujin pulled his right arm back and jabbed forward with his sword. The mini-hurricane was launched forward. As it travelled, its size grew. It hit the remaining part of the Wall. The hurricane was stopped

momentarily until the Vacuum Waves hit the wall and pierced through it, carving a path out for the hurricane.

The hurricane broke through the wall and carried some debris in it as it continued moving forward, tearing apart everything in its way and creating a new path in the training ground. As it moved, several wind blades were launched from the hurricane into the surroundings, cutting even more trees. It finally lost its power after travelling for around 60 meters!

Fujin had a thoughtful expression as he observed his attack. He analyzed, 'I see. I never thought of this possibility. The normal winds don't have the same penetrative capabilities as Vacuum Waves. So once they hit a tough obstacle, they get stopped and the Vacuum Waves move to the front.

So anyone facing the attack will just have to dodge those Vacuum Waves if they are confident in their defense. Still, despite this oversight, this is a great attack.

If any ninja were to just dodge the incoming hurricane, they could be cut by the wind blades that randomly get thrown out due to the centrifugal force. This attack can be very devastating when facing an army.'

A smile formed on Fujin's face as he muttered, "Anyway, that's the one jutsu nearly mastered and two new learnt today. I'll call this attack the Hurricane Sword!"

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Chapter 363: Finally!!!

Fujin spent the next couple of days practicing Vacuum Slash and Hurricane Sword to get used to them. Normally, getting used to such jutsus would take a lot of time. Fortunately, the jutsus suited Fujin a lot and quickly became his second nature. Fujin quickly got used to performing them as comfortably as their normal versions.

Because a week passed, Fujin consumed the soldier pill and shifted back to his previous routine with his focus divided between the Vacuum Gatling jutsu and the Four Symbols Seal.

On the evening of the 2nd day, Fujin stood in the training ground. His chakra was low to continue training further.



He extended his arms and pointed his fingers at 10 human-sized rocks. In an instant, 10 Vacuum Bullets were launched. Each hit their target on the mark and travelled a long distance behind them.

Approximately 0.23 seconds later, Fujin shot another round of 10 Vacuum Bullets. They hit their target as well. Approximately 0.76 seconds after shooting the 2nd round, Fujin shot the 3rd round of the Vacuum Bullets.

Fujin nodded and thought, 'Good. This now looks like a Gatling. However, I still need to improve this more. It'll be great if I can fire 5 rounds within one second and 10 rounds in around 2.5 to 3 seconds. Only then it'll live up to its name.'

Fujin extended his index finger once again and pointed at a rock. He fired a Vacuum Bullet. However, instead of hitting the rock he was pointing to, the bullet hit a hole in the rock adjacent to it.

Fujin muttered to himself, 'This has reached partial mastery as well. I can aim my target around 20° away in any direction from what I'm pointing at. I guess I'll be able to go up to 60° max by the time I'm done tra...'

Fujin suddenly stopped his analysis as he received a memory. Immediately, an elated expression appeared on his face. He screamed in his mind, 'FINALLY! It feels like I have been working on this for fucking centuries!'

Had Fujin been as emotional and reactive as someone like Naruto, he might have screamed and jumped for joy. The memory he received was from a shadow clone who dispelled himself. He was the first and the only shadow clone so far to successfully create the Four Symbols Seal!

Fujin decided, 'I will meditate later. Time to visit my basement. Since this clone passed on his memories, the other clones should be getting it done soon as well.'

Fujin immediately flickered towards his home. In his basement, 79 Shadow Clones were sitting, each and every last one of them in deep thought. Just like the clone who dispelled himself, the remaining 79 clones were very close as well. It was just that they were stuck at some level or the other.

After receiving his memories, they compared their results with those memories and immediately had a breakthrough. By the time Fujin reached his home, they continued working on their seals.

Fujin observed his clones sitting while making seals. He thought, 'No point in disturbing them. I'll take this opportunity to get a third person's perspective.'

Fujin sat on one side of the room and observed his clones closely. Within 15 minutes, a second clone managed to complete the seal. As soon as he did, he dispelled himself as well. The remaining clones received his memories as well and increased their speed of creating the seal.

Fujin observed, 'Using Shadow Clones for learning is crazy good. Normally, even after learning a seal, I will have to practice several times to be more comfortable with it. But with clones, when one succeeds, they dispel themselves. Due to this, the knowledge is transferred to the remaining clones.

This has two advantages. The more obvious one is that every clone learns the same method. And the hidden and the more fearsome one is that every clone can think of methods to improve the seal.

So by the time the last clone successfully manages to create the seal, I will have improved the seal slightly 79 times!

But, that will still not be enough. The current time needed to create this seal is too high. The first clone who succeeded was at it for 5 hours straight. The second clone had started working on it 6 hours 8 minutes before he succeeded.

Even if I create a more optimized version, I will need at least an hour to create a Four Symbols Seal... But I remember that the likes of Minato, Orochimaru and Jiraiya were very quick with the seals...'

Fujin thought for a while as his clones kept completing the seals one by one. A few minutes later, Fujin shook his head and concluded, 'I can't think of any way to decrease the creation time of this seal to a few seconds. The only way will be if I create the seal beforehand and use it in battle. But how do I do that?'

Fujin analyzed but once again, he couldn't come up with any solution. He sighed and decided, 'I will ask Hiruzen. Though I could come up with a way eventually, it will take a lot of time. The wait has no benefits.'

Though Fujin didn't ask Hiruzen for help in increasing the speed of his Vacuum Gatling, that was because he was creating a new jutsu. Creating a dependency on Hiruzen for matters he could resolve could be detrimental to him in the future.

But, the matter with Fuinjutsu was different. It could be applied to all seals and Fujin wouldn't have to improve it. So he didn't mind asking Hiruzen.

Fujin kept waiting in his room while observing his clones. In 2 hours, all 80 clones had successfully created the Four Symbol Seal. On receiving the last clone's information, Fujin realized, 'Not bad. I think I can create this seal within an hour already. Of course, that's still too slow.'

Fujin created a shadow clone who left his home and flickered towards the Hokage's Building. Fujin's clone thought, 'It's kinda late. I hope the old fox is still in the office. Otherwise, I'll have to wait till tomorrow.'

He reached the building in a few seconds. Fortunately, the lights of his office were still on. Fujin's clone wasted no time in flickering to the office.

Inside his office, Hiruzen was writing on a scroll. There were a couple of dozen more scrolls on his desk. Konoha's decision to withdraw the majority of their forces was conveyed to Takigakure who immediately became worried. They tried making the Konoha ninjas stay, however, they didn't have anything to convince them.

Iwa had left no clues in the Ito Family's territory. So Taki refused to blame them openly. They had also been unsuccessful in curbing the rumors that were spreading. These two points caused dissatisfaction among Konoha leaders. So Hiruzen didn't intend to keep the army deployed for any longer.

The only way Taki could make the Konoha ninjas stay was by issuing them all missions. Unfortunately, they didn't have that kind of budget to splurge money. So they couldn't stop Konoha from retreating.

Hiruzen had concluded his negotiations with Takigakure. The scrolls he was writing on were for the Noble families in the Land of Waterfall that supported Konoha. He assured them of Konoha's support and stated that they were retreating because the chances of Iwa attacking were very low. Hiruzen also assured them that if Iwa attacked them, Konoha would send an even bigger army.

Hiruzen had just started writing the 2nd scroll when he heard a knock. He looked up to see Fujin's clone entering. A smile formed on his face. He said, "Fujin. Why are you here?"

Hiruzen had always been fond of Fujin. However, he had been more fond of him than ever for the last couple of weeks since Fujin stopped visiting the Wind Training Room.

Fujin's clone wondered, 'Why is he so happy to see me? Wait! Does he know that I'm here to ask for help and he is so enthusiastic to help me? Yup, that must be it. Sigh, we have such a benevolent Kage!'

Fujin asked, "Grandpa, are you done with your work?"

Hiruzen, who was in a happy mood a few seconds ago, suddenly became alert. He thought, 'I know that tone! He is here to ask me for something that would cost me a lot.'

He put up an exhausted expression and replied, "Unfortunately I had some extra work today. I will be busy here for another couple of hours."

He thought, 'Sigh, I thought I'd leave in 20 minutes. Now I'll have to keep waiting here for another couple of hours in case he tries to check where I am.'

Meanwhile, Fujin's clone wondered, 'Really? Or is this old fox faking?'

He said, "That's rough on you Grandpa. I'm here because I need your help. I was hoping you'd come with me. But since you are busy, you can send a Shadow Clone with me.'

Hiruzen was speechless. He thought, 'Despite being Hokage for so long and having helped so many young ninjas over decades, this is the first time someone directly asked me to send a clone to help him. Wait! He isn't even asking! He is directly giving me a choice!'

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Chapter 364: Seal Imprint

Hiruzen took half a minute to compose himself and gather his thoughts. However, despite his lively thoughts, the look of exhaustion never disappeared from his face. Of course, Fujin's clone completely ignored the long pause he needed.

Hiruzen asked, "What help do you need?"

Fujin's clone replied, "I am working on Fuinjutsu but have hit a roadblock in terms of speed. At my current speed, I need around an hour to create that seal. It makes it useless in war. I need some help and advice in regards to that."

Hiruzen was surprised. He thought, 'He has already reached that stage? A seal that needs an hour to create will be a very complicated one. It looks like he will soon be a Grandmaster. No harm in teaching him seal imprints. But...'

Hiruzen said, "Alright. I can help you with that. But, I have a question as well. Did you ask anyone else to help you?"

Fujin's clone tilted his head and asked, "Why would I ask anyone else, Grandpa? You are the one everyone calls The Professor!"

Despite his vast experience, Hiruzen couldn't help but look at Fujin's clone with a deadpan expression. He muttered internally, 'I have led Konoha for over 4 decades. I have lived through 3 deadly wars. I never expected that I would experience so many firsts within a few minutes at this age...'

This is the first time anyone sent a clone to ask for my help outside of wartime. Apart from my students and children, this is the first time anyone has come to me directly for help without asking anyone else. And, this is the first time someone directly asked me to send a Shadow Clone to help him...'

Fujin's clone maintained his 'innocent' expression. However, he was laughing in his mind. He thought, 'Old man, you have tried brainwashing me with the Will of Fire so many times that I don't even

remember the count. I guess you even believe that you have succeeded. You even asked me to call you Grandpa. Let me see with what face you decline my request when there is no good excuse!

Hiruzen was in the same dilemma as Fujin had calculated. Though he regularly preached the Will of Fire to motivate his ninjas to push themselves harder for the village without having to do anything himself, the Will of Fire was a two-way street. Just as he had expectations from the younger generation, the younger generation also had expectations from him that he had to live up to.

Of course, that wasn't necessarily bad for Hiruzen. After all, unlike Fujin who viewed the Will of Fire as an ideological tool, Hiruzen believed in the Will of Fire completely. In fact, he could be even said to be the most devout follower of the Will of Fire. So he usually did what was expected of him even before anyone asked him to do so. However, when faced with someone like Fujin, Hiruzen realized an issue.

He shuddered while thinking, 'If I agree, it will create a dangerous precedence. What if everyone else begins running to me for every small thing? How many Shadow Clones can I even create?'

Until now, though everyone knows that they can ask me for help, they are very respectful and mindful to not disturb me too much. But this boy...'

Unfortunately, Hiruzen could just sigh internally and hope that others didn't get any ideas from this instance. His principles didn't allow him to say no to Fujin without any reasonable reason. He replied, "Alright. I'll send a clone to help you."

Fujin's clone smirked internally and thought, 'Lord Hokage really is the best! I can't imagine this being done in any other village. Even among the Hokages, I guess just future Naruto and maybe Minato and Hashirama would agree to such requests.'

He weaved a hand sign and a Shadow Clone popped next to him. The clone approached Fujin's clone and said, "Let's go."

Fujin's clone immediately said in a respectful and excited tone, "Thank you, Grandpa."

The two clones immediately left and arrived at Training Ground 23 where Fujin was waiting for Hiruzen while thinking about the Four Symbols Seal. He looked up and looked at the two arriving and thought, 'I see. He sent a clone.'

As their eyes met, Fujin's clone dispelled himself and passed the memories to Fujin. Fujin smiled and said, "Thank you for coming here despite being so busy, Grandpa."

Hiruzen's clone's eyebrows involuntarily twitched. However, he immediately put up a smile and said, "How can I say no to a youngster who is working so hard? Which seal are you working on?"

Fujin replied, "The Four Symbols Seal. But I'd like the same advice for other seals as well. I recall you sealing up the Suna Jounins using Juinjutsu. But despite learning almost all Juinjutsu, I can't activate them that quickly. I still need more than a few seconds which is just too slow to be used in a battle."

Hiruzen's clone was surprised. He thought, 'He has already learnt the Four Symbols Seal? That's the most difficult seal available in the Library. Has he learnt all the other seals or did he just focus on this seal? But why does he need this seal?'

He became suspicious but didn't show it on his face and asked, "Have you learnt all the other seals in the Library? Or did you focus on the Four Symbols Seal after becoming an Anbu Captain?"

Fujin answered, "I am done with all Juinjutsu and simpler seals in the Library. I still have a few complicated seals to learn. But they didn't seem as good as the Four Symbols Seal at restraining enemies. Especially the enemy Jinchurikis. So I decided to leave them for later."

Hiruzen's clone realized, 'I see. I guess he is more obsessed with this seal due to his encounter with Roshi. Normal Chakra Suppression Seals have no effect on a Jinchuriki. Even advanced ones are useless against ones that can use most of the Tailed Beast's chakra like Roshi.'

Regardless, such speed is very good. In terms of speed of learning this seal after getting access to it, he is slower than only Kushina and Minato ever since I became the Hokage. And his chakra is lesser than theirs at his age. So the effect of Shadow Clones should be lesser for him than them.'

He nodded and answered, "I understand. It is a good choice. Your issue is a pretty basic one that all SealMasters have to face. Unlike Ninjutsu, you can't create Seals in the blink of an eye as it isn't entirely dependent on merely manipulating your chakra and is much more complicated. Especially complicated seals like the Four Symbols Seal."

Fujin analyzed Hiruzen's words and nodded. He asked, "So, how do we shorten the time?"

Hiruzen's clone said, "It's pretty easy. The concept is similar to pre-made seals that you use instantly in battle. Can you figure it out?"

Fujin began thinking. After a couple of minutes, he shook his head and answered, "No. I had thought of creating seals for the same. But, those are for one-time use. While I can make a lot of them as a preparation and have a similar effect, it won't be the same. In addition, I won't be able to modify the seal if I use seals I drew on paper.

The only workable idea I have is probably creating the seal partially so that I can use it by just completing the remaining seal. But I am not sure how I could sustain a partial seal for that long without it putting a drain on my chakra reserves and taking a lot of my attention."

Hiruzen's clone smiled and said, "Not bad. You are a bit off, but the method is similar to the two ideas."

The clone raised his right hand and showed his palm to Fujin. In an instant, the Four Symbols Seal appeared on his palm. Fujin's eyes widened in surprise. He thought, 'That was almost Instantaneous. It's as if he merely needs to think about it to create the seal!'

Hiruzen's clone said, "Most people consider Grandmaster as the peak level of Fuinjutsu. Every Grandmaster in Fuinjutsu is respected by every ninja. However, for the ones who reach that level, becoming a Grandmaster is just the start of the journey.

Once you reach this level, there are two things you need to do. The first one is imprinting all the seals you have learnt on your body, preferably the palm. This allows you to use every seal that you have imprinted instantaneously.



I would have taught you this after you became a Grandmaster. But since you asked me before you became one, I'll teach it to you now."

Fujin smiled and said, "Thank you, Grandpa. But what is the second thing?"

The clone smiled and said, "It's to create new seals."

Fujin thought, 'Ah, that was a stupid question. What else could they do?'

He replied, "I'll leave creating newer seals for the future. For now, can we start learning the imprinting part?"

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Chapter 365: The Complications in creating Seal Imprints!

Hiruzen's clone nodded and said, "Yes. But before we start, I need to warn you. To complete this is even more difficult than becoming a Grandmaster. In Konoha, we have 10 Grandmasters, the most of any village. But, including me, there are only 3 ninjas who have completed this step. And even we can't be said to have truly completed this step as we didn't imprint hundreds of seals that we judged to be unneeded in combat."

Fujin raised an eyebrow and asked, "Why is it so difficult?"

Hiruzen's clone answered, "It is easy to imprint seals at the start. But as you keep increasing the number of seals imprinted on your body, it becomes increasingly difficult. The reason has to do more with your ability to create multiple imprints on your body and your ability to remember everything about them without any error.

Due to this reason, this step becomes very difficult to complete. It takes around a couple of decades to complete this step as the Shadow Clones won't be of any help here. And, the high time required makes every Grandmaster reluctant to complete this. They will just imprint a few important seals and instead use their time for other tasks.

So before we begin, remember this. Only imprint the seals that are important for you on your body. If you create a good seal in the future that you want to imprint, you will face difficulties if you imprint all the useless seals on your body. In the future, if you want to complete this step like me, go ahead. But don't waste your time on this in the short term."

Fujin thought for a bit and nodded. He said, "Alright Grandpa. Now can we begin the process of imprinting the Four Symbols Seal?"

Hiruzen's clone immediately shook his head and said, "No. Four Symbols Seal is a very high-level seal. Creating that imprint will be a task for you so you can learn how to do this by yourself. I will teach you how to create imprints with two other seals."

Though Hiruzen's words sounded sensible, Fujin couldn't help but think, 'Why does it feel like he is not saying something?'

Hiruzen's clone didn't say the following out loud and only muttered in his mind, 'Not to mention, making an imprint of the Four Symbols Seal will need around one and a half to two weeks and will have to be done in multiple phases. I don't want to keep sending a clone daily for the next two weeks!'

Unfortunately, Fujin couldn't read his thoughts. He replied, "Alright. Which two seal imprints will you teach me?"

Hiruzen's clone replied, "The two seals that you'll use the most. Chakra Suppression Seal and Self-Cursing Seal."

Fujin said, "I see. A Fuinjutsu and a Juinjutsu so that I'll get a hang of both."

Hiruzen's clone nodded and said, "Yes. Once you get a hang of how to imprint these seals, you should be able to slowly work the rest out yourself. But I'll advise you to not work on the imprint of the Four Symbols Seal until you try a few other seal imprints to get a hang of this technique."

Fujin nodded. Hiruzen's clone said, "Before we start, extend your hand and show me your palm."

Fujin followed his instructions. The clone asked, "Are you aware of where the chakra points in your palm are located?"

Fujin nodded. Inspecting chakra points on his own body wasn't a difficult task. After all, those were the points from where his chakra would be emitted from. Hiruzen's clone said, "Good. Create the Chakra Suppression Seal and observe from which chakra points your chakra is being released to support the seal."

Fujin nodded and created a Chakra Suppression Seal on his right palm while observing the chakra points that were releasing the chakra. He mentioned the location of the chakra points to Hiruzen's clone who nodded his head in agreement. The clone instructed him to memorize those chakra points.

Once Fujin was done memorizing, Hiruzen's clone said, "Now, place this seal on your palm without activating it. Remember to place the seal such that it covers all the chakra points that release the chakra to power this seal. Try to place the seal as much as the center of those chakra points as you can."

Fujin followed his instructions. Hiruzen's clone continued giving instructions to Fujin on how to imprint the seal on his palm. Around 15 minutes later, Fujin exhaled a lot of air. On his right palm, the Chakra Suppression Seal was imprinted.

Fujin observed the seal and thought, 'Wow! The seal is completely imprinted on my palm. I can activate it with a mere thought. This is different from my earlier uses of this seal. Though I could use this seal rather quickly, it isn't even comparable to my current speed. But... The imprint is a problem. Won't everyone be able to see this? I don't see any such imprints on Hiruzen's hands either.'

Hiruzen's clone immediately noticed his confusion. He asked, "Are you wondering why my palms don't have any such imprints?"

Fujin nodded. The clone answered, "Because you have just completed the first step. Now sit down and focus entirely on this imprint. Flow your chakra through it, control the seal and reduce its size to as much as you can."

The clone extended his palm and showed it to Fujin and said, "Focus chakra in your eyes and observe me properly."

Fujin's eyes began glowing as he concentrated chakra in them. A Chakra Suppression Seal appeared on the clone's palm. Immediately, chakra began flowing through it and its size began decreasing. In mere seconds, the size became so small that no one could see it with a naked eye. A couple of seconds later, Fujin couldn't see it despite concentrating chakra in his eyes.

Hiruzen's clone instructed, "Now that you have seen how it works, copy the method and try it yourself. Don't worry about messing up. You can always destroy the imprint and create a new one. But the process is a bit complicated. So try to get it done on your first try."

Fujin nodded and began copying Hiruzen's method. Soon, chakra began flowing through the seal. Fujin took control of the seal and began decreasing its size without changing the shapes and proportions of the symbols. Over the next 5 minutes, it decreased to the size of a mere black dot.

Fujin's concentration was at its highest level. His mind didn't have any thought apart from maintaining the shape of the symbols while decreasing the size even further.

Hiruzen's clone observed, 'I didn't expect him to do so well on his first try. His chakra control is better than I thought. It looks like he kept working on the Senju Taijutsu style even after leaving Renjiro's squad. And his skill with the seals is very promising too.'

Though seeing his performance, it doesn't look like it's due to his talent in Fuinjutsu and is instead due to the amount of practice he has.'

He took a look at Fujin's face again and wondered, 'How long does he use the Shadow Clones to practice seals?'

He sighed internally and thought, 'Though he becomes very greedy when he wants something, his work ethic is admirable. It is comparable to my three students and Minato when they were young. In terms of Fuinjutsu, he is already superior to what my three students were when they were his age.'

Only Minato did better. But he had Kushina's help which not only made his path simpler but also gave him a lot of motivation to become a Fuinjutsu Grandmaster. And unlike those four, Fujin has done it while staying hidden in the Anbu and keeping his skills a secret.

To be able to push himself without having a friend to push him or having the common people and other ninjas sing his praises is remarkable. It looks like my previous analysis of him becoming capable of leading Konoha's darkness was on point.'

While Hiruzen's clone was analyzing Fujin, Fujin made rapid progress. The size of the seal was finally reduced by so much that Fujin couldn't see it. However, he was very much aware of where the Seal was.

Hiruzen's clone observed it as well and said, "Good work. You have succeeded on your first try. Can you feel where the seal imprint is?"

Fujin nodded. The clone continued, "Good. I'm sure you can sense it very clearly. But the reason for this is that this is the only seal imprint you have created. Once you create hundreds or even thousands of seal imprints, sensing every seal individually becomes very difficult.

As for remembering their locations, that is difficult as well. While you may remember the seals that you use regularly, you will struggle with the seals that rarely get used. That's why I instructed you to not imprint too many seals right now."

Internally, Hiruzen sighed and thought, 'Seeing the crazy work he has done with his house, I have no doubts that he will create hundreds of imprints on his body if I don't stop him.'

He turned his head to his left and gazed towards Fujin's house, which was just outside the training grounds, and thought, '3 years ago, that house had more than 2500 seals. Its number has been steadily increasing since then. Right now, there are so many seals that even I can't see them all! Despite being better at Fuinjutsu, the quantity of the seals is so much that I couldn't keep track after the number crossed 5000 as even I can't see through all of them!'

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Chapter 366: Another Base!

Fujin noticed Hiruzen's Clone's gaze and a wry smile appeared on his face. He realized, 'So that's why he keeps saying that again and again. He isn't wrong though. This method, though complicated, is still very easy to implement. If I didn't know that it would get complicated at a later stage, I would be tempted to do just that.'

Fujin replied, "Alright. I'll limit the number of Seal Imprints to just the essential seals. I have a question though. Since I created the imprint on my right hand, doesn't that mean that I can use this seal quickly with just my right hand? So do I need to create the same imprint on my left arm as well?"

Hiruzen's clone answered, "If you want to, then yes. But it's pointless to do that for a seal like the Chakra Suppression Seal. This seal merely suppresses your enemy's chakra. There are many other seals that offer similar or even better effects. Like the Self-Cursing Seal which paralyzes your opponent.

This is another reason why I suggested you start with these two seals. You can use the Chakra Suppression Seal with your right hand and the Self-Cursing Seal with your left. If you feel like a seal is very important and irreplaceable, then feel free to create imprints on both your hands."

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright. I'll keep that in mind. Another question. Does the seal have to be in between the chakra points that release the chakra? I was thinking about imprinting a few stealth seals on my body, perhaps barrier seals as well. That way, I could activate them instantly and gain an advantage, be it in stealth or defense."

Hiruzen's clone answered, "Well, seals don't need to be imprinted between the chakra points. But, the closer they are to the right chakra points, the faster you'll be able to activate them and the lesser the chance of any of them failing. Since your main concern was speed, placing them in between the chakra points is the most reliable method.

As for seals like stealth, hardness, barrier and other similar utility seals, having them on your clothes like you have now is more than sufficient. There is no need to create imprints for them."

Fujin thought for a bit and decided, "Yeah, you are right. Doubling them up won't help a lot. If someone is strong enough to deal with those seals on my clothes, having those seals on my body might not help me much."

Fujin recalled the time he was escaping from Roshi's Tailed Beast Bomb. Just the mere blastwave destroyed his clothes despite the high number of seals he carved on them. Only the Iron Skin jutsu managed to hold on for a few seconds.

Hiruzen's clone replied, "Good analysis. Let's start creating the imprint for the Self-Cursing Seal. Though it is Juinjutsu, its process is almost completely similar to that of Fuinjutsu."

He began guiding Fujin once again, who absorbed all his teachings in no time. An hour later, Fujin completed imprinting the Self-Cursing Seal on his left palm. Fujin observed it and thought, 'No wonder so few use Fuinjutsu in battle despite there being so many SealMasters. Without completing this step, it is very difficult to use seals in combat.'

Hiruzen's clone said, "You have learnt the way to create imprints for both Fuinjutsu and Juinjutsu. I will leave the work of imprinting the remaining seals to you. Just remember my warnings. If you face any confusion or have any doubts, you can come and see me."

Fujin nodded and said, "Thank you, Grandpa. I will."

The clone smiled and dispelled himself. In his office, Hiruzen, who had already completed his work, received the memories. He sighed and thought, 'Fortunately, everything went well. I just hope that I don't end up regretting that last sentence.'

Hiruzen left his office and returned to his home to sleep. As for Fujin, he still had 3 more days for the soldier pill to run out. He sat in the training ground while analyzing, 'What do I do now? Should I begin working on creating the imprint for the Four Symbols Seal? Should I make imprints for a few more important seals? Or should I just focus on learning the remaining seals?'

After analyzing for a while, Fujin concluded, 'Creating an imprint for the Four Symbol Seals might take a longer time. It's probably why Hiruzen didn't want to teach me that. While the imprints of some simpler seals will take a lesser time, they will be a waste.'

Imprinting seals need a high amount of concentration and not a lot of chakra. Though I could create Shadow Clones to train, if one pops and sends me the memories, I will fail in creating an imprint.

For now, I'll continue with learning the remaining seals while I train Vacuum jutsus. Once I run low on chakra, instead of meditating in the training rooms, I'll begin imprinting seals. However, I need to decide which seals I should imprint. Sigh, that will take a long time as well considering the insane number of seals I have learnt over the last year.'

Fujin got up, went back to his house and entered the basement. He created 80 Shadow Clones with 1% chakra each so that they could continue working on the remaining seals.

Though he had learnt the most complicated seal in Section A of the library, he still had a few more top-level seals to learn like the Five Elements Seal, Five Elements Unseal, Evil Sealing Method and Iron Armor Seal.

His clones immediately began working on the Five Element Seal. Thanks to having already worked on the Four Symbols Seal, their progress was much smoother.

As for Fujin, he sat down in the basement and began analyzing which seals to imprint while waiting for his chakra to recover.

For the next hour, Fujin recalled and analyzed all the seals he had learnt over the past few years. A complicated expression appeared on his face as he let out a sigh. He thought, 'Though I have learnt thousands of seals, the seals I can use directly in battle are almost non-existent.

Hiruzen knew what he was doing when he asked me to create imprints for these 2 seals. Apart from the Four Symbols Seal, none will be as effective as these 2.

The issue is that though many seals are very good, they are designed to fulfill just one purpose. Though they are useful in one way or another, they aren't so useful in battle. While I can use them by becoming creative, like say storing a lot of one element in element-specific storage seals, their effect in battle would be equivalent to just rank D jutsus. And I can't supercharge them.

And, in almost all cases, I can just inscribe those seals on my clothes and activate them when needed. There isn't much reason to create imprints. So, what do I do...'

Fujin fell into deep thought. After a few minutes, he decided, 'Though my main reason for learning Fuinjutsu was for the Tailed Beasts and the Flying Thunder God technique, it will be a shame if that's all it is good for after spending such a long time learning it.

Though I can still use it to set up traps or create defensive bases like this house, it still isn't good enough. There is only one way to make my knowledge implementable in battle. A very simple way...



I need to create seals that I can use during battle. Of course, creating entirely new seals would be a very difficult and time-consuming task. It won't be worth it as the chances of success will be low. What I need to do is use the knowledge of my current seals to create complex seals that contain several of those seals and replicate their effects at the same time. Only such combinations of seals could be of some help in battle.

Though this can be complicated as well, fortunately, I already have two good ideas. Hopefully, I'll get more in the future. For now, I'll create imprints for the two seals that might be of some help to me.'

While Fujin became busy with learning more Fuinjutsu seals, creating seal imprints and perfecting Vacuum Gatling, the Konoha's army, which had stayed on the borders with the Land of Waterfall for over a month, began withdrawing.

During the past month, the Konoha ninjas had created a large and permanent base on the border with the Land of Waterfall. Though the majority of the ninjas withdrew, one hundred ninjas under the leadership of a Veteran Jounin from the Nara Clan stayed behind.

This base served two purposes. The first one was that it acted as a forward base. If Iwagakure took any action in the Land of Waterfall or even in the Land of Grass, the ninjas from this base could act as a vanguard and slow them down while cooperating with Kusa and Taki.

Secondly, it also acted as a mission center for missions coming from the Land of Waterfall. Thanks to the Konoha ninjas being stationed directly on their borders, their location was closer than Takigakure for some of the citizens in the Land of Waterfall. So it would bring in more mission revenue from the Land of Waterfall.

Now, in addition to the Land of Tea and the Land of Noodles, Konoha had a forward base alongside the border with the Land of Waterfalls as well. Not only were those countries not offended by it, but they requested for these bases to be created and even paid Konoha to keep them running!

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Chapter 367: Exposed!

In the Hokage's office, Hiruzen was sitting in his chair while reading something. He had a complicated expression on his face. Even though he expected Onoki to do this, when it truly happened, he couldn't help but feel a bit gloomy.

After a couple of minutes, he exhaled the smoke and said softly, "Bring Fujin here. He should be in Training Ground 23."

Immediately, an Anbu Guard disappeared from the room. Fujin, who was training his Vacuum Gatling, stopped because he sensed a ninja entering the training ground. After getting the messenger, he left to see Hiruzen.

He entered the office and before he could ask anything, Hiruzen pushed forward the book on his desk and said, "Take a look at this."

Fujin picked up the book while muttering, "Bingo book?"

As soon as his eyes landed on the page Hiruzen had opened, his eyes widened. He sighed and muttered, "Iwa finally decided to do this..."

Hiruzen nodded. Iwa had increased Fujin's bounty from 20 million Ryo to 50 million Ryo. Surprisingly, his summon and Fuinjutsu skills weren't mentioned in the report. But they labelled him as the 'Spectral Swordsman'!

Fujin said, "Exposing this identity will cause a lot of trouble. I have killed way too many people in the last 3 years."

Hiruzen replied, "Yes. It will be a diplomatic disaster. To avoid this, you won't ever accept this title."

Fujin nodded and said, "That goes without saying. But I doubt the neighbouring countries will accept that so easily."

Hiruzen replied, "It doesn't matter. Iwa can give no proof. I can just deny everything they say. And considering the recent movements in the other 4 major villages, these smaller countries don't want any trouble with Konoha. They can only accept their losses and move on."

But, they might try something against you when you are on missions. Be it for revenge or the 50 million Ryo. There are a few bounty hunters as well who would be tempted."

Fujin replied, "Yeah. I will be careful. But, why didn't Iwa mention all my details?"

Hiruzen chuckled and answered, "They want others to suffer losses against you just like they did."

Fujin was surprised. He thought, 'That's smart! And so fucking shameless! Irrespective of whether I'm dealt with or if I deal with the attackers, they will benefit.'

Hiruzen understood what Fujin was thinking about and said, "It doesn't matter what they are scheming. Just ensure that you don't fall prey to any more traps."

Fujin nodded and said, "Yes, I won't. Thanks for the warning. I have another question though. Did you find out if anything was fishy in the previous incident?"

Since there were Anbu Guards in the room, Fujin was vague about the question. Hiruzen understood and answered, "It wasn't anyone from the village. Shikaku and I concluded that they set a trap for any top-level ninja we send. Though you might have been their primary target. Regardless, you were just the unlucky one. As for your identity, that should be due to the previous information about you in the Bingo book."

Fujin thought, 'That's just as I predicted. Oh well, I'll just need to be more careful in the future. I can't take the lazy route.'

He placed the Bingo book back on the desk and said, "Alright. Thanks for the information, Grandpa. I'll return to training."

Hiruzen nodded and saw Fujin leave. He looked back at the Bingo book and thought, '50 million Ryo. The same amount as Kakashi. Looks like Onoki sees the same potential in him as he does in Kakashi.'

He closed the book and continued working. As for Fujin, he wasn't very worried. While walking back to his training ground, he thought, 'I had expected such a thing to happen. In fact, I am sure that a few

schemes that are several times worse than this are already cooking behind the scenes. I just have to be more careful to avoid falling for such schemes and be strong and resourceful enough to destroy those schemes if I get caught up.'

Unperturbed, Fujin continued his training. However, many influential people paid great importance to this news.

On an obscure island in the middle of nowhere, a camp containing more than 500 ninjas existed. In the central tent in this camp, a lady with long, auburn hair sat while reading the Bingo book. Her eyes showed a glint of interest in what she was reading.

A smile appeared on her face and she said, "He is very good at bluffing. Since he is Renjiro's student, it was unlikely that he would have carried out the threat he made when we met."

Ao, who was standing next to her, said, "We benefited heavily from the information he shared. So it doesn't matter much. Still, he is merely 14 years old. I didn't expect him to be so young."

Mei nodded and said, "Yeah. He is already as strong as me. If he successfully keeps growing for another decade, Konoha will once again have a fearsome rank S ninja. No wonder such a bounty was placed on his head. I'm sure that whoever placed the bounty is scheming a lot in the background."

Ao thought for a few seconds and said, "If he has such a potential, should we try to kill him? If a second Minato appears in Konoha, then we won't be able to defend in a war against Konoha."

Mei shook her head and said, "No. That would be a big mistake. Since the Third Hokage sent him to meet me with the secret information, it should mean that he is hoping for an alliance in the future. If it does happen, then I will have to negotiate with this boy. Those negotiations won't be easy if we try to kill him and fail.

Not to mention, Kumo will do everything they can to eliminate him considering that he specializes in Wind nature manipulation. Besides, I doubt all his skills are mentioned in the Bingo book. Even if they are all, killing him will still be a very costly affair.

But, if the Mizukage's Faction wants to take him out, then we could benefit heavily. Ask our spies to spread out rumors. There is a lot of hatred in the Mizukage Faction for the Spectral Swordsman due to how many of their fake rogue ninjas he killed. Let them try to fight him and lose their elites."

Ao nodded and got to work.

Sitting in his office, Rasa had a thoughtful expression on his face as he read Fujin's information for the umpteenth time. A frown appeared on his face as he thought, 'I remember Iwagakure sending information regarding him and speculating that he was the troublemaker. This sudden increase in his bounty should be Iwa's work. But, is he worthy of such a bounty or does Iwa hate him for some reason?'

He fell into deep thought. After a few minutes he shook his head and concluded, 'Regardless of whether he is worthy or not, I can't overlook him. For Iwa to be so troubled, he should at least be at the Elite Jounin level. And at such a young age too. Not to mention, his skillset is too similar to the culprit who created so much chaos in my country. It doesn't matter if it was the copy ninja or him, I need to eliminate him if I get the chance.'

Kumo and Iwa leadership didn't have much reaction towards this news for obvious reasons. However, the information caused a lot of chaos in the minor villages that were allied with Konoha. Their leaders immediately called for council meetings and sent a scroll to Hiruzen asking for an explanation.

The people who took this news seriously weren't limited to other countries. In an office under the Konoha, Danzo sat with a thoughtful face as he read Fujin's bounty and information.

He thought, 'The boy I asked Hiruzen for less than 4 years ago has already reached this stage? No wonder Hiruzen refused to tell us who the Spectral Swordsman was no matter how many times I asked him.'

Danzo was genuinely surprised. However, he curbed his surprise and wondered, 'Who exposed him? And who did he offend to get such a huge bounty?'

Danzo thought about the recent events and realized, 'Recently, Iwagakure created a mess in the Land of Waterfall. Hiruzen didn't tell me or the other elders what happened, but according to my information, one of our Anbu squads clashed with Iwa there. So it should be his squad. But why would that make Iwa so alarmed...'

Danzo's left eye widened as he recalled, 'Wait, around half a year ago, the Four Tails' Jinchuriki, Roshi, went on a rampage in the Land of Grass. Information regarding that incident was buried as well. I thought we benefited only due to Iwa's folly.

But if I assume that Roshi clashed with him, then it would make sense for Kusa to trust Konoha so much and for Iwa to attach so much importance to him. But, can Fujin go up against Roshi?'

Danzo looked at his bounty and a frown appeared on his face. He thought, 'No wonder Iwa put up such a huge bounty. He must have survived against Roshi and they probably set up a trap for him in the Land of Waterfall.

I should have been more forceful and inducted him in the Root. Such a talent will now be corrupted by Hiruzen's naive thoughts. But, this can be an opportunity as well.'

Danzo entered into deep thought. He analyzed, 'For an Anbu, maintaining their disguise is the most important. If their identity is leaked, then everyone who they targeted and their families will try to get back at them. Hiruzen has failed him by failing to protect his identity. I can use this to try and recruit him.

In addition, the Spectral Swordsman is known to be very ruthless and efficient. His method seems to be very similar to mine. I could try to influence him with my ideology as well.'

He looked at a Root ninja in his office and instructed, "Call the two elders here."

Due to his analysis, Danzo was upbeat about his chances of recruiting Fujin. However, if he was to know that Hiruzen was planning to pass the Root to Fujin in the future, one would wonder what Danzo's expression would be.

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Chapter 368: A Casual Spar...

The people surprised by this bounty weren't limited to just Village Leaders.

Akimichi Choza saw Fujin's bounty while looking through the new Bingo book. A thought, 'Such a high bounty. No wonder Lord Hokage wants to nurture him. But, I still don't understand why he wants to make someone this talented a negotiator.'

Yamanaka Inoichi thought while looking at Fujin's information, 'So this is the boy that has been giving Shikaku sleepless nights. Fumito is on his squad. I'll ask him to improve his relationship.'

Hyuga Hiashi analyzed, 'So this is the boy pushing Hoka to continuously become stronger. I hadn't paid much attention to him earlier. But if someone like him is pushing Hoka, then it'll be very beneficial for Hoka.'

A look of surprise appeared on Inuzuka Tsume's face as she thought, 'I remember how dedicated he was to training during the Chunin exam. I knew he'd become strong. But I never imagined he'd reach such a level so quickly.'

The other clan leaders had similar reactions. However, because they hadn't been in direct contact with Fujin, they had to look up for more information on him.

Since not everyone checked the Bingo book regularly, the ones other than the clan leaders didn't get to know about Fujin's bounty immediately. But as the word about this matter, almost everyone in Konoha became aware of another talented youngster rising through their ranks.

Of course, the one who was the most proud was Renjiro. A smile formed on his face as he muttered, "It looks like I might not be able to keep up with him anymore."

He looked at the sky and wondered, 'Is this a sign for me to retire and leave active duty?'

Fujin was unaware of the fame he was gaining in his village. However, even if he had known, he wasn't in a state to think about it. The effect of the soldier pill had run out and he was in a deep sleep as his body and mind were completely exhausted.

He rested for a couple of days before continuing his morning routine. To push himself to his limits, he started to use his training seal at 100% capacity for the duration of the training.

After the training, he sat with his back against a tree while breathing heavily. He thought, '100% capacity is too much to handle with that intense workout. I should go at 92% from tomorrow and slowly increase it to 100% in a month.'

Fujin took a while to catch his breath. On recovering, he analyzed, 'In the last 3 days before the pill ran out of energy, I managed to create imprints for all the seals that I decided on. And my clones managed to learn both, the Five Elements Seal and Five Elements Unseal.

I will next create imprints for these two. Their complexity level is much higher than the other seals I imprinted. Once I manage to create imprints for them, I'll begin working on the Four Symbols Seal's imprint.

My Vacuum Gatling is also at a usable level now. Its speed is around 71% of my Vacuum Bullet. And I can fire them at an angle of up to 45°. In terms of firing rate, I can fire 4 rounds in a second and 10 in 3 seconds.

Spending more time on improving any of these aspects would be pointless. Over the next few months, as I become more used to this jutsu, its speed should increase to around 90% of the Vacuum Bullet and the angle should increase to 60°. The firing rate should also increase to 5 rounds in a second.

I only need to train one more thing with the Vacuum Gatling. After I'm done with it, I'll begin working on an AoE Vacuum jutsu. But, these can wait for some time. I need to do something more important today.'

Fujin kept resting until he had completely recovered and then got up and began moving towards another Training Ground. He thought, 'I hope this goes well. If possible, I would love to explore this route further as well. Maybe not to the limit, but close to that point.'

Fujin disappeared from his spot and moved at a rapid speed using Body Flicker.

In one of the many training grounds in Konoha, a voice could be heard reverberating among the trees.

"894"



"895"

"896"

"897"

"898"

"899"

Suddenly, the person stopped and looked up. After a moment, he continued doing his pushups and asked enthusiastically, "Fujin! How have you been?"

Fujin replied, "Doing well, Guy-san. How about you?"

Guy replied with the same enthusiasm, "Never been better. Why are you here? Also, just call me Guy."

Fujin, "Sure. I need your help. My Taijutsu skills are growing rusty and I was wondering whether you'd be up for some sparring."

Guy said, "So you want to spar? Alright!! Just give me a few minutes."

"932"

"933"

"934"

"935"

"936"

"937"

Fujin watched with a deadpan expression as Guy doubled his speed of doing push-ups. He sighed internally, 'As expected...'

Fujin moved away and began stretching his muscles until Guy was done. In less than a minute, Guy shouted, "1000!"

He got up and said, "Alright, let's fight now."

Fujin nodded and took his stance. A smile appeared on his face as he felt a sudden surge of excitement. He thought, 'Might Guy... Though I have fought a lot of exciting battles, be it against Kakuzu, Darui, Roshi or Kitsuchi and have seen someone like Hiruzen in action, no one comes close to this beast in terms of real strength.'

Despite it being over a decade, Fujin couldn't help but recall the scene of Uchiha Madara declaring Guy as the strongest in Taijutsu!

Guy shouted, "Here I come! Let the power of youth explode!"

Without further ado, Guy burst forward like a whirlwind at an incredible speed. At the same time, Fujin moved forward as well and unleashed a punch. Their fists clashed, producing a loud sound and a minute shockwave!

A look of surprise appeared on Guy's face. It soon turned into a grin as he exclaimed, "Good! I can feel the power of youth coursing through your body!"

A grin appeared on Fujin's face as well while he said, "Might Guy... I have heard that you are the greatest Taijutsu master in our village. A shame that I couldn't spar with you until now. I really hope you live up to your reputation because I haven't felt so excited about a fight in a long time."

Fujin immediately unleashed a barrage of punches and kicks relentlessly, forcing Guy on a backfoot. Guy blocked and dodged his attacks and in a few seconds, began counterattacking. The two exchanged blows without a break.

As the fight continued, Fujin slowly started getting overwhelmed. He parried Guy's kick while thinking, 'Such crazy raw power and speed! His experience in Taijutsu is far superior to mine as well. I haven't seen anyone apart from Hiruzen move this fast. And we aren't yet using Chakra to enhance our power and speed.'

Though Guy was better and was overwhelming Fujin, Fujin could still hold on. Since he was the one to request a Taijutsu spar, Fujin refrained from using Chakra to enhance himself to get an advantage.

If someone were to see this fight, they would be shocked. Both Fujin and Guy moved at such a tremendous speed that neither could be seen by an untrained eye. Only the sounds of their fists and legs clashing could be heard. Occasionally, some part of the ground would blow up or a tree or two would be broken.

After 5 minutes of such intense combat, both fighters finally stopped and stood around 10 meters apart while facing each other. Fujin's breathing was slightly rough. A few bruises could be seen on his arms and legs. However, none were serious. In comparison, Guy didn't have any injuries on his body. His breathing, though slightly heavier, seemed normal as well.

Guy praised, "Excellent, Fujin! You truly embody the spirit of youth!"

Fujin replied, "Thanks, Guy. Your reputation doesn't do you justice."

A grin appeared on his face as chakra began flowing around his body. He asked, "I wonder if you'd like to get serious now."

Guy observed Fujin and said, "The Senju Taijutsu style. Good. Other than Lady Tsunade, I haven't seen any other ninja from the Senju clan exerting more chakra than you."

Guy took his fighting stance. Fujin immediately became extremely serious. He immediately concentrated chakra in his eyes. He could sense an intense chakra being radiated from Guy. It wasn't as strong as his chakra in quantity, but it felt far more intense.

Sweat dripped down Fujin's forehead as he observed Guy's application of chakra. He could only think, 'This guy...'

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Chapter 369: Strong Fist Style

Looking at the serious look on Fujin's face and his glowing eyes, Guy said, "My fighting style is called the Strong Fist style. Unlike the Senju Taijutsu style which uses Chakra to just enhance the power behind the punch or the kick, this method enhances the entire body. Though it lacks explosive strength, its impact is much higher."

Fujin was still surprised. He replied, "I see."

He thought, 'I should have expected his fighting method to not be merely Taijutsu. His chakra is completely infused in his body! There is no leakage. But...

This method is different from just concentrating chakra in one part of the body. Infusing chakra directly into the body puts intense pressure on muscles and the chakra network itself.

I can understand infusing chakra in Limbs. I should be able to do that as well. Though it might be a bit painful. But infusing chakra in vital organs is very risky. Is his chakra control and medical knowledge so good that he is so confident in not damaging himself? But that doesn't sound like Guy at all!

Before he could analyze further, Guy made a move. He burst forward like a bullet and within the blink of an eye, he had reached Fujin.

Fujin's eyes widened as he thought, 'So fast!'

He immediately clenched his right fist and concentrated a lot of chakra on it and punched at the incoming fist. The two fists collided, causing a strong shockwave to spread from the impact. Fujin and Guy immediately jumped back and created some distance between themselves.

Fujin shook his right hand and complained, "What is your fist made of? I felt like I was hitting Iron!"

Guy chuckled, "You aren't bad yourself. Get ready. I'm about to be serious."

He moved towards Fujin and both exchanged a flurry of punches and kicks once again. Suddenly, Guy took a step back and began spinning while shouting, "Severe Leaf Hurricane!"

He unleashed a series of kicks, targeting Fujin's legs, Waist and Head in a random pattern. However, Fujin managed to block or dodge every kick. Suddenly, Guy jumped in the air and attacked Fujin with a heel drop.

Fujin immediately moved out of the way and retreated. As he expected, as soon as Guy's kick landed on the ground, rocks were sent flying everywhere around him.

Guy ignored those rocks and attacked Fujin again. As the two of them fought, Fujin analyzed Guy's abilities. He thought, 'In terms of speed, he is just barely slower than Hiruzen! The only way I could be faster than him is if I use Assassin's Rush jutsu. Though if he uses the Inner Gates, I doubt Assassin's Rush jutsu would be able to keep up. Not to mention, Assassin's Rush only provides a linear speed boost.

That said, though he is faster, I can still keep up and defend myself, even if just barely. One mistake and I'll take a bad punch or a kick.

I'm very intrigued about this Strong Fist style though. His punches and kicks are enhanced with chakra. But not the same degree of chakra as the Senju Taijutsu style. I can concentrate far more chakra in my fists and legs than him.

On the flip side, the Senju Taijutsu style consumes chakra at a much higher rate. And it doesn't buff speed or defenses like the Strong Fist style. Still...'

Despite seeing it for a considerable amount of time, Fujin could still not wrap his head around one fact. He cursed, 'I still can't believe how fucking good Guy's chakra control is! Isn't he supposed to be an untalented ninja who reached the top with nothing but hard work and determination? This changes my entire understanding of this world!'

Of course, Fujin would never say that out loud. Fujin and Guy kept going at each other relentlessly for over 2 hours before finally stopping.

Fujin sat on the ground while breathing heavily while Guy sat on a broken tree while taking deep breaths as well. Guy said, "You are good. No one other than Kakashi gives me such an intense fight. I see why you received such a huge bounty."

Fujin was surprised to hear that. He asked, "You know about my bounty?"

Guy replied, "How could I not? It's the talk of the village as of now. Everyone is curious about you."

Guy put on his trademark smile and gave Fujin a thumbs up as he said enthusiastically, "Seeing someone as young as you getting such a high bounty makes the youth in me explode!"

Fujin watched Guy and sighed in relief internally while thinking, 'Lucky. I thought he might begin shedding tears and summon a Sunset right at noon!'

Fujin got up and said, "I'm more impressed by you, Guy. Is it fine if I ask some questions about your Strong Fist style?"

Guy replied, "Ask! I can't deny the request of someone so youthful!"

Fujin asked, "How can you infuse chakra in your entire body? Doesn't it put a strain on your muscles, chakra network and even your internal organs?"

Guy answered, "It's simple. The answer is hard work!"

Fujin was confused. He asked, "What do you mean?"

Guy put up his trademark smile again and answered, "You just have to keep training day in and day out until the chakra infuses naturally in your body?"

Fujin's left eyebrow twitched. He asked, "Do you mean that you don't do that via chakra control?"

Guy replied, "No. That's too complicated."

He gave Fujin a thumbs up again and said, "You just need to keep training until that happens naturally. There is no other way. At least none that I know of."

Fujin sighed internally and thought, 'I should have known. Top-tier chakra control and medical knowledge just don't match Guy's personality.'

He became serious as he analyzed, 'Still, though the method is strange and unconventional, I don't think it will be risky. In fact, I have a feeling that this might be a prerequisite for learning the Eight Inner Gates. Or at the very least, being able to strengthen the body this way could help in improving the ability to sustain the Eight Inner Gates.'

The reason why I don't think this is risky is due to how often Guy might be using it. In the future, Lee would master this easily too. And it's possible that Might Duy knew this as well. Or perhaps he knew something similar and Guy improved upon it.'

Guy saw Fujin in a deep thought and asked, "What are you thinking about?"

Fujin said, "I have been feeling like my Taijutsu has been stuck at the same level for a couple of years. I was wondering whether you could help me develop a new training plan for myself."

Guy raised his thumb again and replied with his trademark smile, "You can count on me."

Fujin said, "Also, one of the reasons why my Taijutsu was stuck was due to a lack of fights as I prefer using Ninjutsu in combat. So, can you please spar with me on a regular basis?"

A grin formed on his face as Fujin added, "I have a feeling that I'll improve rapidly if I keep sparring with you like we did today."

Guy grinned as well and said enthusiastically, "Of course. I can already see us unleashing our youthfulness in our spars! Do you have any other requests?"

A smile formed on Fujin's face. He said, "Just one more thing. How much did you hold back against me today?"

A look of surprise appeared on Guy's face. However, it quickly turned into a smile. He said, "I am surprised you noticed."

Though Fujin had said that his Taijutsu was growing rusty, he was still very confident in his Taijutsu. He was confident in winning even against the Hyuga elites in Taijutsu. The number of ninjas who could defeat him in Taijutsu was quite low.

However, despite his confidence, Fujin was one of the few who knew how insanely strong Guy was. In fact, even the ones who knew Guy's strength didn't know how strong Guy could be for sure. In fact, Fujin knew about it more than even Guy himself did.

In addition, unlike Fujin, who trained in every aspect, Guy focused entirely on his Taijutsu. Despite his confidence, Fujin clearly knew that he was far inferior to Guy in Taijutsu.

Guy answered, "Not much. My speed and power are as you saw. I just pulled a few punches to not injure you."

Fujin thought, 'I see. He didn't consider the Eight Inner Gates.'

Fujin replied, "Alright. Thank you. Hopefully, you won't have to hold back against me soon. Let's start creating a training plan."



Fujin and Guy began discussing Fujin's current body training plan and began creating a new one. Fujin's goal for this new training plan was to infuse the chakra in his body just like how Guy could.

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Chapter 370: Deadly Training and a New Danger!

Fujin and Guy discussed the training plan for quite some time. It wasn't like when Fujin asked Genki or Renjiro to help with training plans. Back then, his knowledge was too low and he merely followed the training plans they created with little input from him. But now, Fujin was quite experienced as well.

In addition, his relationship with Guy was more like a colleague rather than a teacher-student relationship. So both were quite casual. After around half an hour, the plan was finalized. Fujin thanked Guy and took his leave.

As he left the training ground, Fujin sighed involuntarily and thought, 'What a weird exchange.'

He recalled Guy's first words. After asking for Guy's help, Guy immediately created a complete training plan and explained it to Fujin with extreme enthusiasm. His words left Fujin completely speechless. Guy had created a training schedule that started at 5 AM and went on till 11 PM with extremely small breaks sprinkled in between for eating. In addition, some of the training involved embarrassing tasks like walking around Konoha on his hands!

Fujin thought, 'He is even more crazy than I remember. Training in such a manner is very harmful to the body. Not to mention, it is useless for anyone who doesn't want to abandon Ninjutsu and Genjutsu.'

More than half the time we spent discussing it was to cut the training time from 18 hours to 4 hours. A good amount of the remaining time was spent on removing the embarrassing exercises. While I don't mind some strangers laughing if I can benefit heavily, those exercises don't provide any significant benefit. I guess he does it to improve his mental fortitude and to keep himself humble or grounded. But that isn't an issue for me.'

Fujin shook his head and thought, 'All the weirdness aside, the interaction went quite similarly to how I imagined it would. His nature is as helpful and straightforward as I remember. But, he definitely isn't as simple or naive as he was in the series.'

No, even in the series, though he acted as a fool, I didn't consider him as one. Though he wasn't the sharpest, he was still very mature, stable and decently smart. But, in this treacherous world, he'd be even more smart. Regardless, since he has decided to help me, I don't need to worry much about it.

This method of training will be very effective. Since my body is already very strong, I won't need a long time before I can replicate this. In maybe 3 to 4 months, I should be able to infuse chakra throughout my body.

And, unlike Guy, I can combine the Strong Fist style with the Senju Taijutsu style. As long as I ignore the Eight Inner Gates, my Taijutsu could surpass his level if I devote the majority of my time to it.

Sadly, the gains won't be worth it as what makes Guy stand out is his skill with the Eight Inner Gates. I wonder if he'd be willing to teach me the Eight Inner Gates.'

Fujin analyzed for a bit and concluded, 'Asking for it right away will be foolish. Let me first master the chakra infusion. In that time, I can improve my relationship with Guy considerably with regular spars. It'll be best if he proposes this idea himself. If not, I can ask him when I feel it'll be appropriate.

If he refuses, I can only ask Hiruzen whether Konoha has this forbidden method. Hiruzen should know about it considering that Madara was aware of this technique. So Might Duy shouldn't be its creator.

Though I'm not interested in the Eighth Gate, the ones before that will be very helpful. The ability to open the Second Gate is the one I want the most. To be able to get a second chance in the middle of a fight is invaluable at the top level. Even if my enemy is too strong for me, I can at least get a second chance at running away.

From the Third Gate onwards, if I can use that excess chakra to supercharge my Ninjutsu while amplifying my Taijutsu, it would instantly take me to the peak among the rank S ninjas for that duration. However, that might not be easy considering that there is no precedent for it.

Oh well, I'll leave this matter for later.'

Fujin flickered towards Yakiniku as he remembered another matter. He thought, 'Guy said that my name is getting well known due to the bounty. I was afraid that something like this would happen. Sigh, fame isn't good.'

Hiruzen, Shikaku and Eagle have done a great job in keeping my identity under wraps until now. Even the Elders didn't know about my identity. This sudden fame will probably pull me into this village's political mess sooner than I wanted to.

I need to be more alert from now on. It was a lucky break that I learnt seal imprints and developed a cool idea that happens to help me in this regard. Hehe, I wonder who'll be making the first move against me.'

Though Fujin preferred dealing with matters with a swing of his sword, he didn't mind clashing with just intelligence either. Suna was still suffering due to the schemes he set in the process almost a year ago. He had also managed to get away safely from a terrible position against Mei with just a verbal exchange. Despite not wishing for it, he was looking forward to dipping his hands into Konoha's internal mess.

After having lunch, Fujin returned to Training Ground 23. He created a dozen Shadow Clones to think about how to create a wide range Vacuum jutsu. As for his main body, he decided to practice the training plan he had finalized after a long discussion with Guy.

Fujin stretched his body while muttering, "We packed an eighteen-hour workout session into 4 hours. I hope my body still stays in one piece after this."

Fujin began the most intense workout session of his life until that moment.

After a couple of hours, one of Fujin's Shadow Clones suddenly snapped his eyes open. He disappeared from his spot and flickered rapidly towards the border of the training ground.

He landed on a spot and thought, 'That's weird. I locked on to a couple of minute chakra signatures that suddenly appeared. However, it dissipated as soon as I locked on to it.'

Other ninjas entering his training ground happened every once in a while. In most cases, it'd be someone who wanted to visit Fujin. In some rare cases, it'd just be someone who was passing through. However, it was the first instance of someone disappearing after being sensed.

The clone squinted his eyes as he noticed something on the ground. He bent down and picked up two dead bugs. He analyzed, 'These should be the source of the chakra. What was an Aburame ninja doing here? And why did he kill his own bugs and run away?'

He spread out his chakra field, covering a circular area with a radius of 3 kilometers! Immediately almost every high-level ninja in this area looked in the direction of Fujin's clone.

Fujin's clone deactivated his chakra field and analyzed, 'I didn't find anyone hiding in nearby training grounds. Whoever it was should have mixed with the civilians and the ninjas. Regardless, why would the Aburame clan send a ninja to do something so fishy?'

He thought for a few seconds before shaking his head. A frown formed on his face as he concluded, 'No, this isn't the style of the Aburame clan. It should be Shimura fucking Danzo. Why the hell is that bastard crawling out of the ground?'

He took another look at the bugs and observed, 'These bugs aren't poisonous ones. Rather, they are the ones used for scouting and spying. He wants to collect my information. Knowing his record, he wants to either eliminate or recruit me. If it's the latter I can handle him. But if it's the former...'

The frown on his face deepened. He thought, 'Though I am confident in being able to go up against Danzo and even his remaining Root ninjas in a fair fight, these bastards will never fight fair. In addition, though Hiruzen is extremely devious, he has a soft spot for Danzo.'

Even though taking the Root from him might seem a big punishment, it is very tame considering that he killed a rank S ninja, caused another rank S to go rogue and was the main reason behind the massacre of Konoha's strongest clan.

So even if Danzo makes a move against me, I can't count on Hiruzen to back me up. And, I'll also need to be on guard against that freakish eye. Sigh, as I expected, fame is a pain in the ass. Danzo, I hope you don't make things difficult for me, else I don't care if Hiruzen gets offended.

I should wait till I take the Flying Thunder God though. It shouldn't be an issue as I doubt Danzo would make a move against me in a hurry.'

After completing his analysis, the clone clenched his fists. The dead bugs in his hand were cut into minute particles and cremated. A second later, he dispelled himself.

Fujin was sweating heavily as he exerted his body to the max. Suddenly, his eyes widened as he received the clone's memories. His expression went back to normal and a smile appeared on his face as he thought, 'So you have decided to crawl out? It looks like things might not get boring even after I retire from the Anbu.'