

Calamity 211

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 211: Countering Schemes with Schemes

A frown formed on Raikage's face as he analyzed, 'Such losses would increase opposition to starting a new war. If those oppositions delay us, then we will lose this window of opportunity. The best way to regain the morale is to make Hiruzen hand over those 2 ninjas. It'll show how weak Konoha is to everyone! I managed to make him cower the last time. I'll do it once again!'

Mabui did her job efficiently. She handed the leader of negotiators a letter from Raikage.

Within an hour, a group of negotiators left Kumogakure along with an escort group. They would first stop at the chakra metal mine where the conflict happened to confirm the report they sent back and then send the Raikage's letter to Konoha to set up a meeting and place their demands.

It was nighttime when the negotiators left Kumogakure. Their group had a few civilians, so the group moved much slower as compared to a ninja squad.

Meanwhile, Raikage began preparing his army in Kumogakure so that they could move at a moment's notice.

Fujin was unaware that his fears had partially come true. He travelled the entire night and reached Konoha at 7 in the morning. As soon as he entered Konoha, Fujin maintained a sad expression on his face. He immediately went to the Hokage's building and went to Hiruzen's office.

He knocked on the door. Hiruzen heard and said, "Come in."

Fujin entered. He saw a lot of papers and files on Hiruzen's table. Takao was present as well and was arranging them. In addition, 4 Anbu ninjas were hiding in the room.

Hiruzen was surprised to see Fujin so soon. He had talked with Renjiro the day before and was surprised to learn that all the seals on Fujin's house were inscribed by Fujin himself. While he was happy to know

how talented Fujin was, he couldn't help but think about what he had told Fujin when Fujin had asked for the Flying Thunder God jutsu.

He thought, 'Tamotsu's message said that the mission might take weeks. Why is he here so soon? Did the mission go wrong? Or did he want to send a secret message?'

He asked, "Did something happen Fujin? Close the door and tell me."

Fujin closed the door and began reporting. He began speaking slowly in a sad voice and watery eyes, "Grandpa, we were ambushed during our mission. Inuzuka Tadashi and his ninja dog Kenta were killed. Aburame Katsumi and Hatake Ryota are missing. Squad leader Sarutobi Tamotsu was injured and lost his left leg."

Hiruzen and Takao immediately became very serious, though for different reasons. Takao had been on edge due to the Uchiha Massacre. Meanwhile, Hiruzen knew about the real nature of the mission. Hiruzen calmly said, "Fujin, stay calm and tell me everything properly. Don't miss a single detail."

Fujin took a deep breath and said, "Our mission was to the Land of Hot Water. It was issued by Matsushita Yusuke, a noble from that country. He said that he had discovered a mine in his territory and suspected that it was a Chakra Metal Mine."

Takao and the Anbu in the room were shocked to hear that. A chakra metal mine could very well cause a war!

Fujin continued, "We moved quickly towards the area that Yusuke had marked. However, when we reached very close to it, we were ambushed by more than 50 Kumogakure ninjas.

They first encircled us with 20 ninjas. Another 30 ninjas stayed a bit away to form a 2nd ring of encirclement. A few more ninjas were hiding their chakras. I am not sure how many, but there were at least 3. All were at Chunin or Jounin ranks."

Everyone was surprised on hearing it. They couldn't help but wonder how Fujin made it out alive. Fujin continued, "When we tried to escape the 1st encirclement, they killed Tadashi and Kenta. However, they

got too aggressive and were hit by Tamotsu and my Fire-Wind combination jutsu. 8 of them died while the other 12 were injured.

We tried to escape once again but were intercepted once again and forced to split up. I am not sure what happened with Ryota and Katsumi after that. I was attacked by Darui."

The group's eyes widened once again hearing Darui's name! Hiruzen thought, 'That's the kid A and his father trained personally. Though he isn't as reputed as Kakashi, he is the leader of their young generation.'

Fujin continued, "A few more Kumo ninjas attacked me along with him, but I managed to kill one, fatally injure another and keep the rest at bay and entered a deadlock against Darui. I tried defeating him, but he was very strong. He dodged all attacks and didn't give me any opportunity to escape.

After a few minutes, Tamotsu entered our battlefield and collapsed unconscious. Darui stopped fighting while I checked on Tamotsu. However, I was surrounded by 18 ninjas. They lowered their guard since I was probably the only one left. So I used a few hundred explosive tags to buy some time and escaped while carrying Tamotsu with me. I am not sure if the explosions caused any casualties, but I didn't sense anyone chasing after me.

Right now, Tamotsu is being treated in a Patrol Camp. He asked me to rush to the village to pass all the information to you."

Hiruzen and others were shocked by what Fujin had done during this mission. Hiruzen analyzed, 'Surviving a fight against Darui at his age without any visible injuries is very impressive. Not to mention being able to escape after being surrounded by 18 ninjas.'

The others too had similar thoughts.

Fujin saw the expressions of Hiruzen and Takao and was satisfied with their expressions. He had intentionally told how 'impressive' he had been and how much 'potential' he had. This way Hiruzen would be very reluctant to sacrifice him.

Hiruzen asked Fujin more questions. Fujin answered them all. He took every opportunity to mention his achievements without exaggerating them or coming on as a showoff. He also intentionally called Hiruzen 'grandpa' to evoke whatever emotions Hiruzen had.

After getting all the data, Hiruzen said, "It's unfortunate what happened to your squad. But you have done a good job. Saving one teammate and coming back alive in such a hopeless situation is very good. For now, go back and get some rest. And don't take any new missions. I might call you back after some time."

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright Grandpa. I'll take my leave."

He left the office. He left towards his home while thinking, 'I did all I could think of. I hope that the worst-case scenario doesn't occur.'

After Fujin left, Hiruzen began staring at the map in front of him. Takao said, "Lord Hokage..."

However, Hiruzen said, "Keep the files and paperwork related to the Uchiha clan away for now."

Takao thought, 'That's not what I wanted to talk about...'

However, he realized that Hiruzen didn't want to be disturbed. So he moved all the paperwork and files away from his desk.

Hiruzen observed the map while analyzing the situation. He analyzed, 'On the surface, it looks like Kumogakure found this mine and wanted to mine it secretly. Fujin and his team were just unlucky to have taken this mission.'

But, knowing Kumogakure's actions after Minato's death, I doubt it is so simple. Be it the Hyuga incident or their prisoners showing up as bandits, both were completely unprovoked aggression towards Konoha. So is A scheming once again?'

He kept analyzing, 'Why did Kumogakure send over 50 ninjas for a simple ambush? Just Darui's squad could have easily defeated them. Even assuming that they set a perimeter around the mine, Tamotsu's group should have been better at sensing. They wouldn't be ambushed if it was unanticipated...'

Suddenly, an idea entered Hiruzen's. He analyzed it to see how viable it was. After calculating, he let out a long sigh, 'I see. That's why Darui was present. They aren't there to guard the mine. But, he is leading the Vanguard army! There should be a lot more ninjas assembled at the mine. I guess they didn't anticipate Fujin to be able to bring back the news.'

No, he said that no one chased him. So though they didn't anticipate such a fightback from him, they wanted him to deliver the news back to me. They want to see my reaction.'

Hiruzen began putting the pieces together, 'If their plan was to test my response, they would first need to cause Konoha losses. Yusuke should be working with them. I doubt the entire Land of Hot Water will be involved as they have suffered a lot due to Kumogakure. So it is probably just him. Either Kumogakure threatened him or he has ambitions of his own.'

After Tamotsu's squad died, Yusuke would have sent us more mission requests and baited more ninjas to their death. Kumo would then threaten me and see my response. Now their plans will be disrupted. If I am right, A will now send a negotiator to Konoha asking me to compensate them for the loss and perhaps ask for Tamotsu and Fujin as well.'

Hiruzen's face kept getting more and more ugly as he unravelled Kumogakure's plan. He snorted, 'A, the Hyuga incident worked in your favor because I never anticipated such a disgusting act. Do you think that such a scheme will work against Konoha again?'

Hiruzen said, "All of you, summon 7 Anbu squads along with another 3 Anbu squads made of former Root ninjas and return here quickly. Takao, bring Kakashi here."

The four Anbu ninjas hiding in his office flickered and got to work. Takao nodded and left the office as well.

Hiruzen grabbed a scroll and began writing in it. After writing the message, he closed the scroll and sealed it. He weaved hand signs and slammed his hand on the desk. A monkey appeared in front of him.

Hiruzen handed him the scroll and said, "Deliver this scroll as soon as you can. Preferably do it today."

The monkey took the scroll and checked it. He said in a childish voice, "Got it."

He disappeared in smoke along with the scroll.

Soon, 13 Anbu ninjas showed up in Hiruzen's office. One of them hid back in the room. Hiruzen passed a scroll to them and said, "In the Land of Hot Water, there is a noble called Matsushita Yusuke. His details are in the scroll. Kill him and everyone with him. Burn every document in his mansion and don't leave any evidence behind. Preferably use Lightning jutsus to destroy some property before escaping."

One of the Anbu ninjas accepted the scroll. Hiruzen passed them more instructions. They took their leave.

Soon, another group of Anbu arrived. This time, there were 31 ninjas. 12 of them were formerly in Root. Hiruzen assigned another mission to them. After understanding the assignment, they left the office as well.

Finally, Kakashi and Takao arrived at the office. Kakashi was just dismissed from the Anbu by Hiruzen a few days ago. Hiruzen looked at Kakashi and said seriously, "Kakashi, I'll provide you with 200 ninjas. I want you to lead them towards the border with the Land of Hot Water. You have two objectives. First, keep the existence of your force a secret. No one should be aware of your movements. Second, do a few drills to make the force prepared for war."

Kakashi was surprised by the order. He asked, "Lord Hokage, did an incident occur?"

Hiruzen nodded. He briefed Kakashi on what Fujin had reported.

Kakashi understood the situation and sighed, "They want to make a move because the Uchiha clan no longer exists, right?"

Hiruzen nodded and said, "It's unlikely that a war will happen, but I want us to be prepared just in case."

Kakashi asked, "Can I take Guy along with me?"

Hiruzen nodded, "Sure."

Kakashi said, "Alright. I'll contact him. We will be ready to leave immediately."

Hiruzen replied, "Good. I'll arrange for the ninjas to join up with you."

Kakashi left to meet up with Guy while Hiruzen got busy arranging 200 ninjas to go along with Kakashi. Fortunately, he already had everyone on high alert due to the Uchiha massacre. He was able to get it done very quickly.

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Chapter 212: Hiruzen's Neverending Schemes!

Though Hiruzen received the message almost half a day later than A, the Anbu squads he dispatched moved much faster than Kumogakure's negotiator group.

Under the cover of the night, Kakashi left Konoha along with Guy and 200 ninjas. They disappeared into the vast neverending forests in the Land of Fire.

A few hours later, 3 Anbu squads arrived outside Yusuke's mansion. No one in the Hidden Hot Springs Village detected them.

Yusuke was sleeping in his bed. He had a smile on his face as he dreamt about being the new Daimyo of the Land of Hot Water. As Hiruzen had guessed, he was working together with Kumogakure. He wanted their support to overthrow the current Daimyo. In return, he will help them kill Konoha's ninjas and will remove Konoha's influence on the country after he becomes the Daimyo.

Unfortunately for him, an Anbu ninja appeared next to him while he slept. He grabbed a tanto and pierced it into Yusuke's heart leaving him permanently in the dream world. Yusuke died without knowing who killed him and how!

In a few minutes, everyone in the mansion was killed! Not a single being was left alive. Instead, blood was flowing on the ground. The Anbu also burned or confiscated all the documents.

After confirming that their work is done, they destroyed the pillars supporting the mansion with Lightning jutsus and escaped. The village, which was resting peacefully, suddenly woke up due to loud noise. However, before anyone could figure out what was happening, the Anbu ninjas had already escaped. They kept moving towards the Land of Frost.

The Daimyo of the land of Hot Water was woken up due to the massacre and destruction. He reached Yusuke's destroyed mansion and frowned, 'He had found a chakra metal mine a week ago. And he is already dead? He had said that he will employ Konoha ninjas, is this their work?'

Daimyo analyzed for a bit before concluding, 'No, this isn't the way the Hokage acts usually. Besides, why would he even do this when we were offering Konoha the most benefits?'

At that time, Takeshita Tokuhei appeared in front of the Daimyo and reported, "Lord Daimyo, everyone in the mansion, including Lord Yusuke, has been killed. They are all killed with swords. From their wounds, it doesn't seem like they even had a chance to struggle. The documents are all destroyed though we don't know if some of them have been stolen. And the pillars have been destroyed with Lightning jutsus."

Daimyo asked, "Lightning? Do you mean that Kumogakure is behind this?"

Tokuhei answered, "It's either them or someone who wants to frame them."

Daimyo analyzed the situation, 'This sort of activity is something Kumogakure would do. Did they find the mine as well? If so, it would make sense that they want to silence Yusuke and secretly mine the mine themselves. But, such a thing is impossible to be kept a secret. Are they planning to wage another war in my country?'

The daimyo frowned. He said, "Tokuhei, come with me."

He brought Tokuhei to his own office and told him about the mine in Yusuke's province. Tokuhei was shocked. He exclaimed, "There is a chakra metal mine in our country?"

The Daimyo corrected him, "A mine that might have some deposits of it. The quantity won't be much but it might be sufficient to cause a war."

Tokuhei frowned. He said with a bitter expression, "Our country will be ravaged once again."

The Daimyo nodded, "That is why I wanted to keep it a secret. I suspect that the mine has been taken over by other forces. Most likely by Kumogakure. I want you to lead a force of 15 ninjas there stealthily and check. You are not to engage in any combat. After you confirm, leave immediately and return back."

Tokuhei nodded. He left and immediately assembled a team and went towards the area the Daimyo had instructed him to. In a couple of hours, they reached the location of the mine. However, they stopped a long distance away from the mine and kept an eye. An hour later, they saw someone move. They followed that person secretly and noticed 3 squads of Kumogakure ninjas.

The Kumogakure ninjas spotted them as well and raised an alarm. Tokuhei and his squad immediately escaped. Some Kumo ninjas gave chase but stopped when they entered too deep into the Land of Hot Water.

A few hours later after taking multiple detours, they returned to the capital. Tokuhei immediately reported to the Daimyo. The Daimyo's face became grim as he confirmed his fears. He immediately began writing letters.

The content of the letters included the fact that they have discovered a mine that might have minute deposits of Chakra Metal. It also mentioned the fact that Kumogakure had forcefully occupied the mine and is hunting everyone who goes there. He sent these letters to every Daimyo and every Kage except the Raikage!

When Hiruzen received the letter the following morning, a smile formed on his face. He thought, 'The result of killing Yusuke was exactly what I envisioned and desired. Though Kiri is in a mess and might not make a move, Suna and Iwa will not want to see such a mine in the hands of Kumogakure. The villages and Daimyos still remember the trauma of the last war, so they wouldn't want a new war.'

Everyone will apply pressure on Kumogakure. If they step back, then the control of this mine should be handed to the Land of Iron. If they don't, then they will have to face the combined might of all villages. Both the scenarios are favorable for Konoha.'

In order to ensure that his speculations come true, Hiruzen wrote a letter to the Land of Iron's leader, Mifune. The letter stated Konoha's desire for peace and its support for having the Land of Iron mining the newly discovered mine as a neutral country.

The 2nd Group of 7 Anbu squads sent by Hiruzen headed straight towards the Land of Lightning. Though the trip took longer, they infiltrated the Land of Lightning before the group of negotiators left the country. They stayed far away from Kumogakure. Instead, they disguised themselves and mixed among the common people.

Yugao was among these Anbu ninjas. She transformed herself into a middle-aged woman and went into the market. She began buying groceries as normal. As she did, she began having short interactions with the other ladies in the market who were also buying groceries.

During one such conversation, she sighed and said, "I heard that Raikage-sama wants to start a war with Konohagakure."

The lady was surprised. A couple more around them heard her as well. She asked, "He does? Haven't we been very peaceful lately?"

Yugao nodded and said, "I heard that he sent 60 ninjas to the land of Hot Water to kill 5 Konoha ninjas. However, they were defeated by an eleven-year-old kid! 13 of our brave ninjas died due to it!"

The other ladies were shocked to hear it. They joined the conversation, "Is it true?"

Yugao nodded and said, "Yeah, my husband used to work in Lord Raikage's office. He still has some contacts there. I am worried that if we suffered so much at the hands of just an eleven-year-old kid, how many losses will we have against the whole might of Konoha?"

The scenario Yugao painted shocked the ladies. They talked a bit more before leaving. Yugao quickly changed her disguise and went to another market.

In the same way, all the other 27 Anbu ninjas spread misinformation in the villages in the land of lightning. They hyped up Fujin's actions while making everyone think subconsciously that Kumo's forces were weak. A few even propagated the fear of Konoha invading the Land of Lightning if the Raikage went to war!

Slowly, the people who heard the information began gossiping with the ones who hadn't. The news spread through the entire Land of Lightning like a raging wildfire, igniting conversations and emotions of common people. As the rumors spread, they became more and more preposterous. Fear spread among the people in the Land of Lightning.

Unfortunately for A, he would remain unaware of this development until it was too late.

While the Anbu ninjas were doing their task, a monkey was roaming in the Land of Rice. He had been searching for a man for 2 days! Finally, he managed to locate him. The area was a complete mess! It looked as if someone had blown up an underground base.

The Monkey landed next to the man and handed him the scroll. He said in his childish voice, "Lord Hokage wants you to act on this immediately."

The man opened the scroll and read its contents. His eyes widened before returning to their usual size. He sighed and said, "Another war... Alright, tell him that I'll get it done."

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Chapter 213: A 'Natural' Calamity!

The monkey ended his summoning and disappeared into a cloud of smoke. The man looked in the direction of the Land of Hot Water. His location was already quite close to the Land of Hot Water. He sighed once again and began moving towards the Land of Hot Water. Within a few hours, he reached the area where the Kumo ninjas had set up a perimeter.

He began sensing the area and scratched his chin while planning, 'Sensei's analysis was on point. There are over 250 ninjas from Kumogakure over here. Now, how should I deal with them?'

He formulated a plan and decided to stay hidden until the night. None of the Kumogakure ninjas noticed him.

The Kumogakure ninjas had a change in leadership. Hari still stayed as the advisor as this was his idea. But Darui, C and Samui were called back to Kumogakure. Instead, 2 Elite Jounins were sent to replace them.

Soon, it was night. The Kumo ninjas changed shifts. Around 60 ninjas began manning the perimeter while the others went to sleep.

The Kumo ninjas guarding the mine hadn't faced much threat. Hari had kept their losses against Fujin's squad a secret from them. And other than a local squad spotting them and running away, there wasn't any other incident. So the ninjas were very relaxed.

However, they suddenly heard a sound. They quickly looked above and were shocked! In the night sky, a huge shadow could be seen hiding among the clouds.

One ninja gulped and asked, "What is that?"

The ninja next to him replied, "It looks like a toad shadow. But how can a toad fly?"

Another said, "Wake up Hari-sama and others quickly! They need to see this."

However, they suddenly felt raindrops falling down on their faces. Just a second later, their eyes widened. They watched in horror as massive fire rained down on their entire base!

A minute ago, Jiraiya summoned the giant toad Gamabunta and jumped high into the sky. They got right on top of the mine. Gamabunta released a huge oil jutsu that covers the entire mine. Meanwhile, Jiraiya made a clone and used strong Fire and Wind jutsus at the same time.

The Kumo ninjas didn't expect such a massive attack. Over 180 ninjas were asleep due to it being late in the night. All of them were hit by the massive attack! A few felt the heat and woke up. Unfortunately,

before they could figure out what was happening and defend themselves, they were engulfed by fire and boiling oil! They didn't even have a chance to defend themselves and died screaming in the fire!

Kumogakure's advisor Hari also caught on fire along with the rest. He tried calculating what was happening and how his excellent plans turned into such a disaster. Unfortunately, he would die before reaching a conclusion.

The ninjas who were on Patrol too weren't strong enough to defend against such an attack. A majority of them died without forming any jutsus. A few used defensive jutsus but the huge scale of the jutsu meant that they didn't last even a few seconds. Only a dozen or so ninjas managed to escape underground.

Unfortunately, as soon as they escaped into the ground, the ground turned into a swamp. All of them were trapped in it. Soon, the hot oil mixed in the swamp. They had the worst fate among all the Kumo ninjas as they slowly felt their surroundings heating up and cooking their bodies! A few yelled in terror, however, the swamp poured into their mouths and gagged them when they opened it to yell!

Gamabunta landed a bit away from all the fire. The trees in the vicinity were destroyed due to his landing. A massive fire was spreading through the area. At the same time, it began raining heavily. Jiraiya asked, "Bunta, are any of them alive?"

Gamabunta replied, "A few in the swamp are still struggling. Though they should die soon."

He looked at Jiraiya and asked, "Is it already the start of the 4th Great Ninja War?"

Jiraiya replied, "Sensei said no. I guess he wanted this to be done to prevent it. We have to extinguish all our traces before leaving and make it seem like a natural calamity or an accident."

Gamabunta complained, "So we'd have to now douse this entire fire?"

Jiraiya replied, "Yes and we also have to destroy this mine."

Gamabunta sighed.

Soon, the last of the Kumo ninjas died. Gamabunta jumped into the sky once again and shot huge water bullets down at the mine. The water bullet doused the raging fire. The power behind the water bullet damaged the mine as well. Gamabunta repeated this a few more times until the entire mine collapsed.

The dead bodies of Kumo ninjas were already cremated by the fire. Whatever was left was crushed by the powerful water bullets. When the mines collapsed, the camps and the remains of all the Kumo ninjas were buried deep within the mine. It would be difficult to distinguish their ashes from the soil. Even the swamp that Jiraiya's clone had created was destroyed by the water bullets.

Half an hour later, Jiraiya and Gamabunta observed the mining site. It was completely wrecked! There were no signs of human settlements. Instead, it looked as if God had condemned this place. The ground was sinking into the mine and the entire area was flooded with water. The rains had intensified and Lightning was striking occasionally.

Satisfied with the destruction, Gamabunta went back to Mount Myoboku while Jiraiya escaped.

The entire mine had been destroyed and not a single person knew what happened there. The ninjas from the Land of Hot Water were asked to stay clear of this place. The Daimyo didn't want to take any unnecessary casualties.

However, there were 12 people who were staying in the surrounding villages who noticed the anomalies happening around the area of the mine. They immediately rushed towards the mine. While rushing, those 12 ninjas met with each other and went together.

When they reached the location, shock could be seen on their faces. However, soon their faces returned to normal. One of them said, "This is exactly like Lord Hokage said it would be."

The others nodded. This group was the 3 Anbu squads that destroyed Yusuke's mansion a couple of nights ago. One of them said, "It's time to execute the next step of the mission."

They immediately rushed towards the Land of Frost. The remaining 7 Anbu squads who were spreading rumors in the Land of Lightning had completed their task and withdrawn to a location in the Land of Frost.

The group of 3 Anbu squads who were rushing into the Land of Frost were heading exactly to that location as directed by Hiruzen. On meeting up, the Anbu who witnessed the havoc that Jiraiya had left told the rest about the destruction they had witnessed.

After telling all the specifics, all 40 Anbu ninjas headed back towards the Land of Lightning. They infiltrated the Land of Lightning once again with the same mission but different rumors.

Once again, the Anbu ninjas began spreading a variety of rumors in various disguises and in numerous villages. All of them said that their great Lord Raikage had found a chakra metal mine. They said that the mine would make Kumogakure the strongest ninja village in the world!

However, the following part was reported differently by the Anbu ninjas. Around half of them said that the other villages weren't happy and were afraid of how ambitious the Raikage was. So the fourth Mizukage showed up with his elite ninjas and killed all Kumo ninjas who were protecting the mine. He still wasn't satisfied, so he transformed into the 3 Tailed Beast abomination and destroyed the entire mine!

Some said that the Gods were angered by how power-hungry the Raikage was. So they decided to punish Kumogakure for his crimes by unleashing a catastrophic calamity on the mine and the ninjas guarding that mine!

A couple of Anbu said that the eleven-year-old boy who had earlier killed 60 Kumo ninjas was angry that Kumogakure killed his teammates. So he returned to destroy the mine and slaughter everyone.

In this way, multiple imaginative rumors were spread throughout the country. The common citizens were intrigued and worried by such news. They couldn't help but discuss it further among themselves. In no time, these rumors began spreading alongside the previous rumors!

Unknown to him, A's reputation kept taking a hit.

Around the time that the Anbu ninjas infiltrated the Land of Lightning again, Mabui headed into the Raikage's office. Her face was grim.

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Chapter 214: A's Rage

A noticed Mabui's expression and a frown formed on his face.

Mabui said, "Raikage-sama, we have bad news!"

A asked, "What happened this time?"

Mabui said, "Various rumors are spreading throughout the country about the clash between Konoha ninjas and our forces."

A shouted in anger, "WHAT? I told you to keep it a secret! How did that information spread?"

Mabui quickly answered, "I kept it a secret. I am sure that Advisor Hari did too. I did some analysis and I believe that the rumors haven't started in our village. Instead, they have entered our village from the outside."

A asked, "What do you mean by outside?"

Mabui said, "I believe that someone is spreading the rumors in other villages in our country. The rumors reached our village while spreading through them."

A was stunned. However, he soon realized. He got angry and once again smashed his desk while shouting, "That damned Hiruzen!"

Mabui sighed in her mind thinking, 'I just replaced that old desk.'

However, she agreed with his analysis. She too believed that Konoha was spreading these rumors. She said, "Raikage-sama, the rumors themselves are worrying. While some rumors say the truth, a majority of them say that our 60 ninja force was defeated by one young Konoha ninja. Some even say that they were defeated by a kid who hadn't even graduated yet from the Academy."

A's eyes widened. His rage grew further. He stood up. A lightning cloak appeared around him as he cursed, "First those bastards spread rumors and then they dare to defame us?"

Before he could speak more, Mabui said, "That's not all Raikage-sama. There is another worrying situation."

A asked, "What else?"

Mabui said, "I haven't received any communications from Advisor Hari. His report should have arrived a couple of hours ago."

A calmed down and became serious on hearing that. He had sent 2 Elite Jounin, dozens of Jounins, more than two hundred Chunins and an advisor to the mine. If anything happened to them or the mine, then the losses would be severe. He didn't want to act on emotions on such a serious matter.

He said, "The messenger birds could get lost at times. Are you sure that it is something to be worried about?"

Mabui replied, "I just have a bad feeling, Raikage-sama."

A thought for a bit and said, "Wait till this afternoon. If Hari doesn't send a message once more, then have Darui's team check on them. In the meantime, arrange for some ninjas to explore the villages in our country. Eliminate any of those Konoha scums spreading rumors."

Mabui nodded and immediately left. She informed Darui's group to be ready. And she dispatched a dozen squads to scout the country for anyone spreading the rumors.

The Anbu from Konoha were aware that they would be suspected this time. So they just spread rumors for around 6 hours before escaping. The Kumogakure ninjas had to search the huge country and didn't know where to start. So the Anbu ended up escaping even before the Kumogakure ninjas reached anywhere close to them.

Having completed their mission successfully, all 10 squads left the Land of Lightning safely and began returning to Konoha.

A's day kept on getting worse. A lot of elders and clan leaders kept visiting him asking about the rumors spreading through the village. Though they had passively agreed earlier, the losses made them rethink their positions. They didn't want to fight a war if their losses would be horrendous!

A had to pacify them all and tell them the exact details of the clash. His frustration grew with every meeting!

At noon, Mabui returned to his office. She was about to report but stopped seeing how terrible A's mood was. A noticed her and said, "Get on with it and tell me what more bad news you have."

Mabui reported, "Raikage-sama, Hari hasn't sent the message once again. I have dispatched Darui's squad to check on them."

A thought about what to say, but no words left his mouth. He was tired of dealing with all the shit on the same day! He had continuous meetings all morning and hadn't even had the time to have breakfast.

He got up and said, "Alright. You handle the matter."

Mabui saw as Raikage walked towards the wall behind him. He formed a fist and punched a new door in the wall.

Mabui watched with a deadpan expression thinking, 'I knew it!'

She asked, "Where are you going, Raikage-sama?"

A said, "I need a break. I will be sparring with Bee. If anyone has any complaints or worries, send them there if they dare to come!"

He immediately disappeared.

Normally, Mabui would chuckle whenever this happens. Whenever A was overburdened by village politics, he would go to Bee and fight against his Tailed Beast form. No elder or clan head or advisor would dare to go close to their fight! It was A's way of telling them to shut their mouths and demonstrating his and his brother's power.

Unfortunately, Mabui couldn't chuckle. She was troubled by the situation herself. She sighed, 'What a mess. We haven't even started the war yet and just made two moves and still have to deal with such a headache. We underestimated Konoha due to the previous incident. I hope that nothing bad happens again.'

Bee was writing a few rap lines in his book when A landed in front of him with a huge force and sent dust flying. A looked at Bee and said, "Bee, we are sparring! Use your full strength!"

Bee had heard the rumors going around in the village. He knew that A would be extremely frustrated. He said, "Yo, yo, yo! Brother, what's good? You look mad stressed, man. Come spar with your brother Bee and let's ease that tension!"

A was even more annoyed due to Bee's rapping! He immediately activated his Lightning Chakra Mode. At the same time, Gyuki's giant octopus tentacles appeared behind Bee as he transformed into Gyuki! Both began sparring at their full power!

Their spar continued through the entire afternoon and destroyed a few mountains while creating a few new valleys.

After ending the spar, they went to Bee's home for a late lunch.

The spar and the break from others helped A relax. But Bee could still see that he was worried and his mind wasn't on the food he was eating. In order to get it off his mind, Bee asked, "So, what's the dealio? Why you lookin' like you just saw a ghost or somethin'?"

A sighed and explained the situation. He explained his plan to start a new war with Konoha, Hiruzen's tactics and annoyance caused by the Elders and Clan leaders from their village.

Bee nodded and said, "Oh snap, now that is quite a mess indeed! But you still wanna push forward, huh?"

A nodded and said, "It is for our village's prosperity."

Bee argued, "I feel you, I feel you. But let me ask you this, do we need to keep being so aggressive? The village has been chillin' lately, why not take a step back and enjoy the peace?"

A said, "This peace is only temporary. A new Great War will eventually start. Konoha and Suna are in an alliance. If Konoha manages to convince Iwa and Kiri to make a move against us, we will be in a tough spot. Anyways, I have to leave. I can't leave the office for too long."

Having finished his food, A began leaving. Bee looked at his back and said, "Just remember, brother, even if something goes wrong, we got each other's backs. We'll fix it together."

A smiled and nodded before disappearing. He soon appeared in his office. However, his smile disappeared even before he entered his office!

He entered his office from the same hole that he created and saw every elder, clan head and advisor in his office waiting for him. He looked at Mabui who had a helpless expression on her face.

Before A could say anything, an old man asked, "Lord Raikage, is it about time for you to inform us about the important events? Or do you plan to keep us in the dark until the very end?"

A frowned. Though he didn't always inform others about his plans, he was confused about why they decided to gather together and confront him. More importantly, the identity of the old man was very sensitive. He was Inazuma, an advisor to his father, the 3rd Raikage.

He asked, "What do you mean?"

Mabui stepped forward and informed, "Raikage-sama, some of the ninjas I dispatched returned back to the village. They said that there are a lot more rumors spreading around in the country."

A asked, "It's just some rumors. I can understand common people being scared of them, but why are you giving it unnecessary attention?"

Inazuma said, "It is due to the nature of those rumors. Though some of them are ridiculous, all of them say one thing in common."

Inazuma stopped speaking and observed A's expression. Unfortunately, he couldn't gauge what A was thinking.

A waited for a few seconds and shouted aggressively, "Stop testing me and just speak!"

Inazuma said, "They say that all the ninjas we sent to the mine have been wiped out. The mine itself has also been destroyed."

A was stunned!

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Chapter 215: Elite Jounin Promotion???

A immediately shouted, "Who is spreading such nonsense?"

Mabui replied, "I believe it's the same group that spread the earlier rumors, Raikage-sama."

Inazuma interrupted their conversation and said, "Stop speaking among yourself and tell us whether it is the truth or not. Losing 255 ninjas will be a huge loss even during wartime. We have never ever had such a loss during peacetime."

A looked at Mabui and said, "Inform them."

Everyone in the room got a bit nervous. As they expected, A was hiding something!

Mabui said, "We haven't received any communications from Hari since this morning. I have dispatched Darui's squad to check whether they are fine. We will need to wait until they return to find out if something has happened or if the communications have been cut off somehow."

The room got restless on hearing that. They began feeling that those ridiculous rumors had some truth to them. One of the elders complained, "A, how can you hide such huge news from us?"

A snorted, "Messages not reaching is a very common thing. I didn't think there was anything to be concerned about. You old fellows need to stop wasting your and my time on the rumors Hiruzen is spreading and instead prepare for war!"

However, Inazuma argued, "First we need to know the truth of this incident. If our ninjas have all been killed, then we won't support the war. Instead, our focus should be on getting justice for the lives of our ninjas."

Every leader in the room agreed with him. They discussed important matters for some time before ending the meeting.

After they left, A's rage went through the roof! Mabui quickly said, "Calm down Raikage-sama!"

A said, "These old cowards are the reason why I couldn't launch a full-scale offensive against Konoha during the Hyuga incident. These bastards will stop me again this time too!"

Anger could be felt in his voice. He looked at Mabui and said, "Send a few more squads after Darui. Hiruzen must be scheming something to spread rumors like these!"

Mabui nodded and left.

Later that day, the negotiator group that had left Kumogakure a few days ago reached the location of the mine. However, they were shocked by what they were witnessing.

One of them asked, "Hey, isn't this place supposed to be a mine?"

The person next to him nodded, "It is. And more than 250 ninjas are supposed to be guarding it!"

The ninjas in the group immediately began inspecting the place. They searched a lot but didn't find a single ninja on the site! The mine was destroyed as well. They immediately began sending messages to Kumogakure!

After sending messages, they moved away quite a distance from the site and set up a camp. The entire group was highly alert.

Around the same time, a small toad landed in Hiruzen's office and handed him a scroll. Hiruzen opened and read it. A small smile formed on his face. He said, "Takao, call Fujin here. And you can go home."

Takao nodded and left.

Hiruzen analyzed, 'Now every move I planned has been played. A's position will be a mess. He shouldn't be able to start a war. If he tries to blame Konoha, I will refuse the fact that we took any such mission to the mine. The only loose end is that he might have the dead bodies of Katsumi and Ryota. If he does, he can use them as evidence. Though even if he does, I can think of a dozen methods to turn that against him and turn the situation in our favor.'

Though it was getting late, Fujin was still in the training ground. Sweat could be seen on his face and his breath was heavy.

Fujin calmed himself down and bit his thumb making it bleed. He made the snake hand seal once again and slammed his hands on the ground.

'Summoning Jutsu: Rashomon'

A large gate with a frightening demonic face on it appeared from the ground in front of Fujin. Fujin began breathing heavily once again but a smile could be seen on his face. He thought, 'Great. I managed to successfully summon it 5 times in a row! This jutsu can be considered as being learnt.'

He made a hand seal and a Shadow clone appeared next to him. The clone flickered on the other side of the gate and shot a Vacuum Cannon at it. The Vacuum Cannon hit the gate right at the center. It caused a small dent in the Rashomon gate up couldn't break through it.

Fujin was surprised. He analyzed, 'I didn't think that this jutsu would be able to make a dent in Rashomon. Is my Rashomon weaker?'

Fujin thought for a while but couldn't reach any conclusion. He thought, 'The only memories of Rashomon I have are Orochimaru and Hashirama using it. Both are in a different league compared to me and they were trying to stop Kurama's attacks. Leave it. I haven't seen anything stop my Vacuum Bullet so far. This strength should be plenty fo..."

Fujin suddenly got alert and looked towards his left. His eyes began glowing blue as he thought, 'What is he doing here?'

Fujin's clone and the Rashomon gate disappeared. In a few seconds, Takao appeared in his eyesight. Takao saw Fujin and said, "Fujin, Hokage-sama has called you to his office."

Fujin said, "Alright. Thank You for delivering the message."

Takao observed the training ground. The Rashomon gate had disappeared, but Takao could see how ruined the ground on the training field was and how tired Fujin looked.

He said, "Fujin, losses happen frequently in our life. Being a ninja is tough. Don't blame yourself or overwork due to it. Otherwise, you might hurt yourself."

Fujin nodded and replied, "Thank You Takao-san. I will keep it in mind."

Takao nodded and left. Fujin sighed, 'I am more worried about my life. I can't possibly rest. Besides, the pressure seems to be good. Rashomon is quite a difficult jutsu. Still, I managed to learn it in less than 3 days.'

Fujin left towards the Hokage building as he analyzed, 'Now, what exactly does Hiruzen want from me to call me so late in the night?'

Fujin arrived in the Hokage building and knocked on the door of Hiruzen's office. Hiruzen said, "Come in."

Fujin entered. Hiruzen was alone in the room. Though Fujin didn't know, even the Anbu ninjas weren't in his office.

Fujin said, "Takao-san said that you called, grandpa."

Hiruzen nodded and said, "Take a chair and seat in front of me Fujin. I want your opinion on something."

Fujin grabbed a chair and placed it in front of the desk. Though his actions were normal, in truth, Fujin was very nervous.

Hiruzen placed a sheet of paper in front of Fujin as soon as he sat down and said, "I received this news a few minutes ago."

He placed another sheet of paper on the desk and said, "I received this news today as well. Read these two papers and tell me your thoughts about them."

Fujin was confused by Hiruzen's actions. He had thought of a lot of possibilities, but he never imagined that Hiruzen wanted him to analyze some reports.

Fujin grabbed the first sheet of paper and began reading. Immediately his eyes widened at what was written. He looked at Hiruzen in disbelief but Hiruzen didn't have any expression on his face. Fujin began reading again. The paper mentioned that the chakra metal mine was completely destroyed and no one was around the mine.

Fujin immediately began reading the second paper. His expression became peculiar on reading it as it mentioned the rumors spreading through the land of Fire. Fujin easily figured out that they were talking about him.

He couldn't help but wonder, 'I am this awesome? Why didn't I know about it? I don't think that even the children of the Sage of Six Path were this amazing!'

Reading the two sheets of paper relaxed Fujin a lot. He knew that everything on those 2 sheets was planned and executed by Hiruzen. His worries faded away knowing that Hiruzen didn't plan to cower once again.

Hiruzen asked, "So, what are your thoughts on these events, Fujin?"

Fujin looked into his eyes and said in an innocent tone, "Grandpa, if the things written here are true, then you need to promote me to Elite Jounin rank immediately and pay me the rewards for a few rank S missions."

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Chapter 216: A Sleepless Night...

Hiruzen was stunned by the reply. A look of disbelief could be seen on his face. Even his mouth was left slightly open. He guessed that Fujin would figure out that it was his schemes that did this and hence called Fujin to verify his strategic acumen. He expected that Fujin would be awed by his schemes. However, he never expected such a shameless response!

Fujin's reply stunned Hiruzen so much that he forgot to breathe for a moment and began coughing. Fujin innocently asked, "Grandpa, are you alright?"

He picked up a water bottle nearby, poured the water into a glass and handed it to Hiruzen. Hiruzen accepted it and drank it. He couldn't help but stare at Fujin and curse, 'This greedy brat! I should have sent him to Root. I saved Danzo from so much trouble and didn't get anything in return!'

Meanwhile, Fujin enjoyed the range of emotions displayed on Hiruzen's face. After all, it wasn't often one got to see such emotions on Hiruzen's face.

Hiruzen said, "Jokes aside, what did you analyze?"

Fujin put up a sad face and replied, "I wasn't joking."

Hiruzen didn't reply and stared right at him until Fujin felt uncomfortable.

Fujin shrugged and said, "It was worth a try."

Fujin became serious and began analyzing what Hiruzen had shown him, "The most obvious thing is that all of these were ordered by you."

Hiruzen nodded and asked, "Why and how did I do this?"

Fujin answered, "I had suspected that Yusuke or perhaps even the Daimyo of the Land of Hot Water was allied with Kumo. That is why I didn't escape to their village despite it being closer.

Seeing that Yusuke's mansion is destroyed and Kumogakure is suspected, I guess he was involved with Kumogakure. Since he is dead, I guess that it was a punishment for betraying us and causing the deaths of my comrades. As for destroying the mansion, that was done to pin the blame on Kumo.

The rumors should have been spread by a special division that specializes in such stuff. Since the report said Land of Lightning and not Kumogakure, I guess that they spread the rumors in villages without any ninjas and the rumors spread from there on. This should cause panic in the country and put a lot of pressure on the Raikage against starting a war.

As for the destruction of the mine, I can see why you did it. I have heard that Kumo's military is very strong. And the location of the mine was closer to them than our village. So we may have been at a disadvantage if we fought a war over it. But, I don't know how you could cause such destruction."

Hiruzen was impressed by Fujin's analysis. He thought, 'Brilliant. Though some of it was incorrect, the analysis is great considering how young and inexperienced he is.'

He said, "Good analysis. You don't need to worry about how the mine was destroyed for now. Your analysis of the rumors was on point. As for the rest, it is lacking in some parts."

Hiruzen explained to Fujin the reasoning and intention behind most of his moves without giving Fujin any critical information. Fujin listened carefully. As he kept listening, he was more and more impressed by how clever, cunning and thorough Hiruzen was!

His schemes were planned intricately and came one after another continuously. And his every move made life miserable for A. Fujin almost felt pity for A. All his schemes were recognized by Hiruzen in one glance and instead, he had to face schemes that were on a whole different tier.

Fujin couldn't help but wonder, 'If he is so good at scheming, why did he take a loss during the Hyuga incident? Were there any other factors involved?'

Hiruzen let his words sink into Fujin. When he saw Fujin look at him, he said, "You have done a great job for the village. If you didn't make it out alive and bring the news to me, I wouldn't have known what they were planning. We may have experienced a lot of losses in that case."

Fujin replied with a sad expression, "It wasn't just me grandpa."

Hiruzen nodded and said, "It's unfortunate what happened to others. Tamotsu should be brought back to Konoha in a couple of days. As for the rest, remember their sacrifice."

As a ninja, you will see many of your comrades die to protect you and the village. Never forget what they sacrificed for you, Fujin. Every time you go to missions and every time you train, remember the ones who sacrifice themselves to protect you. Work so hard that whenever they look down from heaven, they will have a smile on their face knowing that you won't let us feel their absence."

Fujin was surprised by Hiruzen's speech. He looked at Hiruzen as if his words made him understand something. Hiruzen was satisfied by Fujin's reaction. However, he might puke in anger if he knew Fujin's thoughts.

Fujin was thinking in surprise, 'This old guy! He doesn't let go of a single opportunity to brainwash and influence others! Fuck! I was only acting to be shameless. I knew he wouldn't promote or reward me. But this guy... Shamelessness is buried into each and every cell of this old man! It can never be taken away from him.'

Hiruzen was blissfully unaware of Fujin's thoughts. He instructed, "Don't tell anyone about our discussion. No one should know about this. I will talk with Tamotsu too. You guys never took the mission to the Land of Hot Water. You guys never went to the chakra metal mine. You never fought with Darui or the others and you never killed any Kumo ninja. Is that understood?"

Fujin nodded. He knew the importance of the discussion they had and would obviously not play around with that knowledge. Especially since it would also implicate him.

Hiruzen said, "One last thing. You are not allowed to take any missions that would require you to leave the village."

Fujin furrowed his eyebrows. He said, "I was planning to take a few months off and train a few jutsus from the library to strengthen myself. But can you tell me why?"

Hiruzen replied, "Though we will deny your acts, your name has gained a lot of fame in the Land of Lightning. They will place a bounty on your head. So leaving the village will become very risky for you."

Fujin's eyes widened. He muttered, "I forgot about the bounties..."

Hiruzen said, "Continue training. In a couple of months, I will invite you to join the Anbu ranks. You can take missions with the Anbu as your identity will be hidden."

Fujin couldn't help but think, 'So many surprises in so little time. I never thought that I'd be tired of being surprised.'

He said, "Alright, gramps. Sensei had informed me about the Anbu. I'll keep training until you invite me."

Now that the Root was dissolved, Fujin had no worries about joining the Anbu. The two bade farewell and Fujin left.

As he walked, he analyzed, 'What a mess! Still, I am glad that Hiruzen told me about his schemes. They were crazy good and fun. I can imagine the mess that Kumogakure would be in, hahaha.'

Also, Jiraiya and his toads are probably even more impressive than what I remember. After all, mines are supposed to be huge and there should be a lot of Kumo ninjas defending it. But looking at the confidence with which Hiruzen spoke, it is safe to say that Jiraiya completely wiped them out without getting injured.'

Though Hiruzen didn't mention Jiraiya, it wasn't difficult for Fujin to figure out that it was him. He ended his thoughts and took a deep breath. A huge pressure was lifted off his shoulders as he knew that his life wasn't under threat anymore. He had a huge meal before going home and taking a nice long and peaceful sleep.

Unlike Fujin, one person was guaranteed to have a sleepless and tiring night! A had just gone to bed when he heard someone banging on his door. He got up annoyed and opened the door to see Mabui. Her expression was very grim.

A asked, "What's the issue that you have to disturb me at this time?"

Mabui didn't say anything and just handed him the scroll. A opened it and began reading. His eyes widened as a look of disbelief appeared on his face! He shouted, "What the hell?"

Mabui didn't say anything. She too was shocked when she received the communication from the group of negotiators. A quickly instructed, "Issue a council meeting in 15 minutes. If anyone doesn't show up, I will go wake them up myself!"

Mabui replied, "I'll arrange it, Raikage-sama."

She left and dispatched the Anbu to every council member's house.

In 15 minutes, all gathered in the meeting room in the Raikage's building. Many were annoyed at being woken up at this hour and forced to come to a meeting. When the meeting started, they all aggressively began demanding why they were called.

A didn't say anything and just handed them the scroll he received from Mabui. There was a pin-drop silence in the room when they read the details in the scroll. Every single person had a grim face.

The silence was broken when someone said, "The rumors were true."

Disbelief could be heard in his voice.

However, A corrected him, "Only the result was true. We don't know what the cause is."

The room became silent once again. After some time, Inazuma said, "Among the 3 the rumor of the youngster destroying the mine can be dismissed. And it is very unbelievable that a natural calamity can kill every ninja we sent."

A said, "I don't see why the Mizukage would come here to destroy our mine. He already has a revolt to suppress. I believe Hiruzen is trying to confuse us through these rumors."

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Chapter 217: Daimyo's Words

A didn't waste any time blaming Hiruzen for the incidents. The rest of the room agreed with him. After all, the Mizukage was already embroiled in a war. So why would he waste his energy making such a long trip to attract a new enemy?

However, a clan leader still had doubts. He asked, "But does Konoha still have the capability to unleash such destruction? After all, their sannins are away, their Hokage is old and their Jinchuriki is still a child. Besides, the destruction caused completely matches the destruction caused by three tails past rampages."

However, his point was quickly countered by another, "According to our intel, the Toad Sage Jiraiya manages a spy network throughout the ninja world. Hiruzen contacting him and asking him to make a move so quickly isn't far-fetched. Not to mention, his toads can do similar destruction as mentioned in the report."

The group discussed more and reached the conclusion that this was accomplished by Jiraiya. They began discussing what action they should undertake. A kept pushing for a full-scale war, however, the majority of the people in the room tried opposing such a call. Though Jiraiya's actions enraged them, they also brought back horrible memories of the war. They didn't want to start a new war.

Their discussion soon became heated and A began getting an upper hand when a knock was heard. The group became silent and frowned. A said, "Come in."

The door was opened and a Chunin entered the room. A scolded him, "What is so important that you had to interrupt a council meeting?"

The Chunin was intimidated. However, he steeled himself and said, "Lord Raikage, we have received an emergency message from Lord Daimyo."

The entire room became alert on hearing that. Frowns formed on many faces.

The messenger continued, "He will be visiting our village in the morning and wants to conduct a council meeting as soon as he arrives."

A's face had a very ugly expression. He asked, "Is that all?"

The Chunin nodded. He left the room after A dismissed him.

As soon as the door was closed, A's eyes wandered into the room. He observed everyone's expressions to see if any of them contacted the Daimyo. Unfortunately, he couldn't gauge anything.

Inazuma said, "Since we will be having a meeting tomorrow morning once again, it will be better to plan our actions after it."

A's was upset on hearing that. However, his expression improved as Inazuma looked at everyone in the room and said, "It is obvious that everyone in this room will have different opinions. However, don't forget that we are all a part of the same village. We will show a united front to the Daimyo. If you have any complaints or disagreements, raise them after he leaves."

No one opposed him. The meeting ended. However, all of them would stay up all night to prepare for the meeting that would take place in a few hours.

Around the same time the meeting ended, Darui, Samui and C reached the location of the mine. When they saw the scene, they were shocked!

C muttered, "What the hell happened here?"

Darui had a grim expression. He said, "More importantly, where are Advisor Hari and the rest?"

Suddenly, they looked to their right. A Kumogakure ninja appeared next to them. He was from the negotiating group. He brought Darui and the rest to where they were camped and both sides exchanged information.

They split into two groups. One group stayed to protect the camp while the other group began investigating the mine for any clues and began assessing the damage done to the mine.

After a thorough investigation, C sighed, "There is no clue related to the ninjas that were stationed here. And the mine is so damaged that it might take more than a year to fix it and begin mining once again."

Darui nodded. They sent another report to A while investigating even more.

The next morning, the Daimyo of the Land of Lightning showed up in Kumogakure. He wasted no time in entering the council room. The council members gathered immediately and began the meeting.

The Daimyo was an old man. He looked at A and said, "I am guessing that you know why I am here, right?"

A said, "Is it due to the rumors?"

Daimyo nodded and answered, "In Part."

A snorted, "The rumors are nothing but a ploy played by the Hokage to create panic in our country."

Daimyo replied, "I don't doubt that. So can you tell me the truth? Or do you plan to keep me in the dark like the last time?"

A's face became dark. The Daimyo noticed it and didn't push A any further.

A asked, "What do you want to know about?"

The Daimyo said, "About the mine, the clash with the Konoha ninjas and whether the mine was destroyed. Also, tell me about your next plans."

Not seeing any point in keeping the incidents a secret, A informed the Daimyo about the truth of those events. He ended by saying, "As for the plans, we are still deciding. However, I want to invade Konoha and make them regret killing my subordinates!"

The others in the council frowned but didn't oppose him. The Daimyo said, "Right now, every citizen in our country is terrified."

He looked at A and said, "They are terrified about your actions. I guess that most of your ninjas are doubting you too. How do you plan to wage a war under these circumstances?"

Rage appeared on A's face when he heard the Daimyo saying that his ninjas might be doubting him. However, before he could explode, Inazuma said, "Lord Daimyo, it's just the rumors that have created confusion. We can easily quell those rumors by starting new rumors and increase our morale through it."

The Daimyo replied, "True. But which rumors would help you resolve this?"

He placed a few letters on the table. Inazuma frowned.

The Daimyo said, "These are letters that I have received from every other Daimyo. The Daimyo of Hot Water has complained about you mining in his country illegally. The other Daimyos have also condemned your actions."

The Kumo ninjas frowned upon hearing that.

The Daimyo continued, "They will soon be sending their forces to the mine. If they find proof of Kumogakure's illegal mining activities, then a trade embargo will be placed on the Land of Lightning for 6 months.

The Mine itself will be handed over to the Land of Iron for mining. They have already sent their Samurais over to take control of the mine. The Hokage has expressed his support for this and has promised to send his forces to aid the Samurais.

Though there hasn't been any word from the Tsuchikage and Kazekage, their respective Daimyos have promised to send ninjas to the mine as the chakra metal extracted will be divided equally among the ones who contribute forces to defend the mine."

The mood in the room became heavy as the Daimyo kept delivering one bad news after another. The Daimyo observed the mood in the room with satisfaction. Finally, he said, "Raikage, I know I can't force you to not wage a war. However, I want you to know what you will be facing if you start a war. At the very least, you will have to face the combined might of the Land of Iron and the Land of Fire in the Land of Hot Water which supports them.

In the worst-case scenario, you will even have to face the armies of the Land of Wind and the Land of Stone as well. Additionally, if you wage a war, the trade embargo won't be placed for just 6 months."

The Daimyo stood up and said, "I would recommend you to extinguish any proof of your activities there and withdraw back. We could join them and gain our share of the chakra metal and our economy wouldn't have to suffer from the trade embargo. I'll leave the final decision to you."

Having said what he wanted to, the Daimyo left the room. His officials followed him. He was aware of A's short temper and didn't want to be at the receiving end of it. So he didn't antagonize him too much.

The atmosphere in the council room was very gloomy. Though many of them didn't want a war, being forced to stop this way was very humiliating.

Even A was troubled. While he was confident about defeating Konoha's armies, he didn't have any confidence in a victory against the combined forces of Konoha and the Land of Iron.

The council brainstormed on the available options. They came up with a lot of different ideas. Unfortunately, every single idea was deemed too risky to implement. In the end, they had to swallow a bitter pill and quit.

A sent messages to Darui and the negotiating group to get rid of all clues that could point to them and return back to Kumogakure. They followed his instructions.

A couple of days after the Kumogakure ninjas left, an army consisting of one thousand Samurais led by Mifune, two hundred Konoha ninjas led by Kakashi and fifty Yugakure ninjas led by Tokuhei appeared at the site of the mine.

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Chapter 218: Taking all the Blame!

Just like others before them, this group too was shocked by what they were witnessing. The Land of Hot Water forces didn't dare to approach this place after confirming Kumogakure's presence. Though they heard the news of floods coming out from here, they stayed away from Kumogakure ninjas. So they never knew about the destruction of the mine.

Even Kakashi was unaware of the truth as Hiruzen didn't inform him about Jiraiya's actions. Tokuhei analyzed the entire landscape and cursed, "The entire mine has been destroyed by those bastards!"

Mifune and Kakashi didn't say anything as they too reached the same conclusion.

Mifune sighed, "We will first have to clean up this place and make new arrangements. Though the surface of the mine has been destroyed, the valuable materials inside it should be safe."

However, he frowned and said, "But Kumogakure has crossed all limits this time. Not only did they mine illegally, they even destroyed the mine before leaving."

Tokuhei looked at Mifune and requested, "Lord Mifune, we have to make Kumogakure pay for their actions. Otherwise, they will keep behaving like this!"

Mifune thought for a bit before shaking his head. He said, "It won't be easy. I believe that they destroyed this mine to clear all their traces. Without any proof, we won't be able to take any action. Besides, though we have threatened Kumogakure, I doubt any of us want a war with them."

Kakashi nodded, "Yeah. It's best if war is prevented. Otherwise, everyone's losses will far exceed the value of this mine. But, we could still make them pay economically."

Mifune replied, "True. But let's leave that to the Daimyos."

He looked at everyone behind them and instructed, "Begin cleaning this place. Also, see if you can find any evidence to prove that the Kumogakure forces were here."

The Samurais and the Ninjas got to work. Mifune said, "Clearing up this mine will take a lot of time. I can't wait here that long. I will wait here until all the countries reach an agreement. Once all countries have signed up, every major village will deploy 50 ninjas to protect this mine and I will leave 200 Samurais here for the same."

Tokuhei and Kakashi nodded. Everyone got to work. However, they didn't find any clues that could be linked to Kumogakure.

With A dropping plans for the invasion, all villages agreed to share the mine. The Land of Iron will be responsible for mining and distributing the chakra metal and other precious metals at the same level among the villages that protected the mine.

So Konohagakure, Kumogakure, Iwagakure, Sunagakure and the Land of Iron would get those metals equally. Kirigakure couldn't provide the troops and hence was left out. All these 5 countries would pay half the price of chakra metals to the Land of Hot Water. In addition, Land of Hot Water will get all the normal materials mined from the mine.

Later on, A would come to know that everyone blamed him for destroying the mine to cover his tracks. However, since no one had any proof, no one spoke out loud. The realization that he was being held responsible for the enemy's actions sent the Raikage into a seething fury!

Not only did he lose more than 260 capable ninjas, he even had to take the blame for Hiruzen's actions! And the worst part was that he couldn't defend himself. To defend himself, he would first have to admit the fact that Kumogakure was mining illegally inside another country! So A couldn't do anything but suffer in silence!

While the countries were busy discussing the Mine, Fujin was busy training. He had met up with Tamotsu once but spent the remaining time on training. In a week's time, he had already learnt Iron Skin jutsu and Bringer of Darkness Genjutsu. However, he hit a wall.

Fujin was sitting on the training ground with his back against a tree. His chakra was almost exhausted. A frown could be seen on his face. He analyzed, 'What is the issue? I have been trying this jutsu for over a week but have made no progress at all!'

After learning the 2 jutsus, Fujin began learning Wild Lion's Mane jutsu. This was the same jutsu that Jiraiya frequently used. It could grow hair and allow the caster to freely manipulate them. Unfortunately, Fujin was stuck at the very first step. No matter how he manipulated his chakra, he couldn't get his hair to grow at all.

Fujin analyzed a lot before sighing, 'It's no use. I guess that there are more complexities involved before I am able to use this jutsu. I am not sure what those are, but the most likely possibility could be that I would need a medical ninja to artificially enhance whatever promotes hair growth.

Only then I might be able to cast this jutsu. Considering that Jiraiya had Tsunade and Orochimaru in his team, it could explain why he could do it easily and why I haven't seen anyone else use this jutsu.'

Fujin let out another sigh, 'It looks like my plans to have a triple-layered defense with Rashomon, Wild Lion's Mane and Iron Skin will need to be stalled. Though it's fine. Just Rashomon and Iron Skin combined with Wind jutsus is quite strong.'

Fujin decided to give up on Wild Lion's Mane and Needle Jizo jutsus for the time being. He left for home and decided to continue learning Lightning jutsus.

The next day, he did his physical workout and returned to his basement. He made a few hand signs. Lightning appeared on his body and immediately transformed into needles. He made another hand sign and over a hundred electric needles were launched from his body.

Fujin analyzed, 'Good, I will have to improve the speed of this jutsu but otherwise it is learnt. Now I have only two jutsus to practice. Unfortunately, one will require a partner or at least a victim, so I can't learn it for now. It leaves just one. Though this one is very strong.'

Fujin made a shadow clone. The clone positioned himself opposite Fujin. Fujin weaved hand signs. The air around Fujin suddenly became heavy as he began exerting a huge amount of chakra. He extended his right arm ahead and pointed his index and middle finger at his clone.

Lightning appeared around his two fingers and a huge portion of his chakra began transforming into Lightning and gathered in his two fingers. After 40 seconds, around 24% of Fujin's chakra had been transformed into Lightning and concentrated in his hands. He shouted, "NOW!"

His shadow clone immediately bit his thumb making it bleed, made a snake hand seal and slammed his hands on the ground.

'Summoning Jutsu : Rashomon'

At the same time, Fujin launched an arrow made of lightning straight at the Rashomon gate. The Arrow hit the gate and created a huge explosion!

The force of the explosion immediately pushed Fujin backwards. Fujin covered his face and tried to look at the spot of the explosion. Chakra gathered in his eye as he tried to observe through the intense light.

He couldn't help but think, 'The scroll was right! Luckily I took the warning seriously and decided to use Rashomon. Otherwise, my house would have been heavily damaged despite all the seals!'

After a few seconds, the explosion died down. Fujin could see the Rashomon Gate. It still stood but its surface was filled with cracks.

Fujin stepped closer and observed the gate. His eyes widened as he realized, 'Incredible! The cracks go up to halfway in the gate. It's even more impressive compared to the damage from my Vacuum Canon.'

Fujin analyzed for a minute and concluded, 'In terms of pure destructive power, this is my most powerful jutsu. But, in terms of usability, it is one of the worst. Though the destructive power is high, the chakra it needs is more than ten times that of the Vacuum Cannon jutsu.'

Worse is the preparation time. The scroll stated that this time can be reduced with training, but it will still take a long time. At the very least, this jutsu will require 5 seconds of charging time. So in a normal situation, it will be quite useless.

I guess this jutsu is most effective when there are teammates to provide that time. But considering that I plan to use Lightning jutsus while in disguise, I don't have that option. Though I guess that I could still use shadow clones for that purpose.'

Fujin analyzed the pros and cons of the jutsu and decided, 'If I train this jutsu, my training will be over in 4 attempts. I won't be able to train anymore on that day. So though it looks cool, it will be harmful if I waste months trying to slowly master this jutsu. I can think about practicing this jutsu once my chakra has multiplied a few times over. For now, I should focus on mastering other jutsus.'

Having made his decision, Fujin decided to master the Iron Skin jutsu.

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Chapter 219: Bounty!

Fujin decided, 'I need to reduce the hand signs required for this jutsu. No, I want to eliminate them. Only then this jutsu will show its true worth. In addition, I also need to learn how to apply this jutsu to just one body part. It will save chakra and increase the versatility of this jutsu.'

Fujin was about to begin practicing when his doorbell rang. He answered the door. It was a messenger asking him to visit Hiruzen.

Fujin flickered to Hiruzen's office. Since the door was open, he just walked in. Hiruzen noticed Fujin and handed him a book and said, "Check this."

Hiruzen had already opened the page for Fujin to see. Fujin was surprised to see what he did. However, soon a smile appeared on his face as he thought, '20 million already? Not bad. Not bad at all. Though I guess that this is more due to Hiruzen's rumors rather than my achievements.'

Hiruzen looked at Fujin's smile and coughed to get Fujin's attention. He said, "That isn't a good thing Fujin."

Fujin had a wry smile on his face on hearing his remark. He thought, 'Shit, that fight with Darui makes me want to fight more such fights. I need to meditate and eliminate that thought. They may feel fun but are super harmful to my life!'

Fujin said, "Yes. But I don't need to be worried inside our village, right?"

Hiruzen nodded, "There hasn't ever been any incident of anyone claiming bounties inside Konoha. You don't need to worry about that."

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright, I won't be leaving Konoha until you think I am ready."

Hiruzen replied, "Good. You can return to your training."

Fujin thanked him politely and left.

Since he didn't need to worry about it for the time being, Fujin ignored the bounty for now. If his speculations were right, Hiruzen would keep him among the Anbu for years. During this time, his identity will stay hidden. By the time he quit the Anbu, he was confident that his strength would be in a different league!

When Fujin reached his house, he saw that there were 5 children his age waiting outside his house. He wondered, 'Did these guys learn tree walking?'

The group of 5 orphans had arrived outside Fujin's house a few minutes earlier. They saw the tag that said that Fujin wasn't at home.

Tatsuya sighed, "It looks like he is on a mission. Our exams are less than 2 months away."

The others nodded. Daisuke said, "I hope he returns soon."

At that instant, Fujin snuck up behind them and asked, "Who should return soon?"

They didn't expect someone to appear behind them suddenly and were startled. They quickly moved away from Fujin. Fujin chuckled at seeing their reactions.

He asked, "Are you guys done with the Tree walking exercise?"

Everyone nodded. Daisuke said, "We all managed to learn it last Wednesday."

Fujin nodded and said, "Good, how much time is left for the exams?"

Daisuke said, "We have just around 7 weeks."

Fujin thought for a bit and concluded, 'Just 7 weeks. That's not enough time to teach them what I had planned for them. And once they graduate, I doubt they would have much of a reason to come to me...'

Seeing Fujin in a thought made them nervous. After all, their future was on line. Tatsuya asked, "Fujin, why are you thinking so hard?"

Fujin looked at them and decided, 'Leave it, it's not my job to guide them thoroughly. It depends on their fate and will. I'll just point them in the right direction.'

Fujin said, "I had initially planned to teach you guys a few more things. Unfortunately, I don't think you have enough time. So I'll just tell you what my plans were. If you have enough time, you can try to work on it. Otherwise, you can just focus on the three ninjutsus needed to pass the academy."

Fujin's initial words increased their worries a lot. They took a few seconds to process what Fujin had said. Suddenly their eyes widened. Bunjiro asked, "Do you mean that we can pass the exam?"

Fujin nodded and said, "As I said, these exercises have improved your control a lot. So learning those 3 basic jutsus should be very easy now. Just train hard and you will get it down rather quickly."

They became excited on hearing Fujin's words.

However, Bunjiro was intrigued by Fujin's words. He asked, "What were your plans for us, Fujin?"

Fujin said, "I was planning to have you improve your chakra control more. The next step would be to walk on water. Water isn't hard and stable like a tree. So it will be much more diff..."

Fujin was cut off as Ryoma exclaimed in excitement, "We can walk on water??"

Fujin nodded and continued, "But as I said, it is difficult to learn. Another plan I had was to make you learn at least one elemental jutsu. If you guys master the 3 jutsus quickly and have time, buy a chakra paper from any weapon store.

It will tell you what your chakra nature is. Then go to the Section E of the library and pick up a simple jutsu of that nature and learn it. It will improve your rank in the exam considerably."

The orphans quickly thanked Fujin for his guidance. They asked a few queries which were resolved by Fujin before leaving.

Fujin saw their backs as they left. His smile faded away as he thought, 'Not everyone in this group is serious about training. Otherwise, they would have been done with these basic exercises a long time ago. But, the others in the group waited for that person probably due to their friendship and hence stalled their progress as well.'

Fujin couldn't help but analyze their situation, 'On one hand, is their long friendship which they probably relish a lot. On the other hand, if they cut off the slackers, they can progress much faster and increase their strength. That's a rough dilemma to face.'

Fujin turned around and headed into his home. Though many would struggle to decide between those two, Fujin had no doubts, 'In my previous world, success could be compared with the amount of money you had or earned. It didn't matter if one earned a bit less and enjoyed more time with family and friends and enjoyed your life. I would have chosen family and friends over money any day.

But in this world, power reigns supreme. Sacrificing power to stay with friends who hold you back is foolish. After all, that little bit of power could be the difference between life and death.

Of course, there is no need to terminate all friendships. They just have to train with the ones who train at the same pace and intensity as themselves or train solo. They can still remain friends but have to keep training out of their friendship.

Though I guess I too share a bit of the blame as I asked those 5 to come to me together instead of individually as I didn't want to spend a lot of time on them. If I had told them to come whenever they reach the assigned goals, perhaps the result would have been different.

Still, this is a good thing to know. One slacker can pull the whole group down. When I create an organization, such people will have to either be kept out or kept away from those who want to work harder and get stronger.

And I shouldn't put some stupid restrictions like coming to me at the same time just for my convenience. Instead, making it a competition between them will give me much better results. I can even add some rewards similar to how Hiruzen rewarded me. That way everyone would work hard for the reward and also due to peer pressure.'

Fujin ended his train of thought and continued his training.

Two weeks later -

Fujin was breathing heavily. He had 4 shadow clones around him. A smile could be seen on his face. He thought, 'Finally! I have reduced the number of hand seals to perform Iron Skin jutsu to just 1. And I can harden any part of my body I want to.'

He took a deep breath and dispelled his clones. He sat against a tree as he received their memories and experience. He analyzed, 'As I kept practising this jutsu, the amount of chakra needed to sustain it dropped a lot. So I could use shadow clones to speed up my training. Otherwise, I might have needed around a month and a half to master this jutsu. Anyways, now that I have this jutsu down properly, it's time to try that!'

Fujin sat in a meditative pose. He grabbed a soldier pill and ate it. He meditated until his chakra reserves were back to full once again. His eyes opened. Determination and excitement could be seen in it along with a hint of fear.

He stood up and weaved hand signs.

Boar → Dog → Bird → Monkey → Ram

He slammed his hands on the ground!

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Chapter 220: The Wolf Valley

Fujin weaved the hand signs and slammed his hands on the ground.

'Summoning Jutsu!'

Fujin immediately disappeared from Konoha.

The scenery around Fujin changed instantly. He was in the air and began falling. Fujin landed on his feet as he thought, 'So this is how Space-Time travel feels? I kinda assumed that it would be uncomfortable or weird. Instead, it just feels like flickering.'

As soon as he landed, a lot of eyes turned towards him. Fujin too looked around himself. His chakra field was already spread out.

He thought, 'So I am in the land of wolves, huh? Now, are they friendly or aggressive?'

Fujin had landed in a Wolf Valley. It was a huge place surrounded by massive mountains. Fujin sensed hundreds of wolves in his chakra field. And he could see that his chakra field didn't cover even one percent of the total area of the valley.

The spot where Fujin landed had 9 wolves around him. They looked at Fujin with curiosity as he appeared out of nowhere.

However, the curiosity didn't last long. A few seconds later, a Wolf howled loudly and pounced on Fujin! Immediately, the other wolves also howled and pounced on Fujin.

Fujin easily dodged them and asked, "Who is your leader?"

Unfortunately, he didn't get any response as they kept attacking him. Fujin sighed, 'Great, they don't understand human language!'

His expression became grim as he sensed the hundreds of wolves in his chakra field running towards him. He thought, 'I hope at least some of them understand human language.'

He kept dodging without attacking back. He was afraid that the leaders of the pack might treat him as an enemy if he attacked back. More importantly, he wasn't aware of how strong the leaders would be. If they were anything like the Toads or the Snakes, it would bring a catastrophe on him if he killed them indiscriminately.

Fujin kept dodging until the number of Wolves surrounding him became too high. With no other option, he flickered away. Unfortunately, the entire place was crawling with wolves. No matter where he flickered, he would be swarmed by wolves in a few seconds. Luckily, none of them could use chakra. So Fujin wasn't in any danger.

Suddenly, Fujin's attention was attracted. He sensed a wolf pack heading towards him. Every single wolf in this pack had a much higher chakra! It was as high as a normal chunin would have. In addition, their size was much larger than a normal wolf.

As soon as that pack appeared, the normal wolves cleared the path. They ran straight towards Fujin. A smile appeared on Fujin's face as he thought, 'Finally. I was getting bored. And they should understand human speech.'

The new Wolf pack didn't waste any time attacking Fujin. However, Fujin disappeared from their sight. The lead wolf suddenly howled as Fujin was standing on his back. Fujin stated, "I am not here to fight. So, can any of you bring me to your leader?"

Unfortunately, he didn't get any response as the other Wolves jumped at him. Their claws ripped through Fujin and their jaws took huge bites. Both their claws and jaws were enhanced with Chakra. However, the injured Fujin disappeared in a cloud of smoke.

This confused the wolves. Fujin, who was hiding underground, thought, "Okay, so they don't speak or don't want to speak."

Fujin could sense more wolf packs with higher chakra heading towards him. He made Shadow clones. Each of the clones headed towards the incoming packs and tried conversing with them.

Unfortunately, none of the wolf packs talked back to him. They just kept attacking him like wild beasts. Fujin's clones didn't bother putting up a fight. After getting no response, they just let the wolf packs kill them.

As Fujin received everyone's memories, he sighed, 'Looks like they don't talk at all. I'll hide here until someone who can talk appears.'

The Wolves knew that Fujin wasn't dead. They kept searching, but couldn't find even a trace of Fujin. It was as if he never arrived there. After half an hour, another Wolf Pack arrived. These wolves all had Jounin levels of chakra. And they were very large. They were all as big as a truck. And the wolf leading the pack was larger than the rest by almost 50%!

As soon as they entered Fujin's chakra field, they sensed that they were being sensed. They immediately looked in the direction Fujin was hiding and ran towards him.

However, 3 shadow clones suddenly appeared in their path. The Wolves stopped. One of Fujin's clones said, "I am not here to fight. I came here to sign a summoning contract."

The Wolves stopped their aggressive posture and relaxed a bit. Fujin's clones were relieved as well, 'Finally, someone who understands the language!'

However, at the very next second, the gigantic wolves opened their mouths and exhaled strong winds at Fujin's clones. The clones were on their guard. One immediately used Infinite Breakthrough jutsu to counter the attack. The winds clashed against each other and formed a small hurricane which soon began dispersing.

The gaze of Fujin's clones changed. They decided, 'Talking is useless. Either these guys will just keep attacking or this is a test to see my martial might.'

They saw as the wolves ran into the hurricane to reach the clones. Their heavy bodies meant that the hurricane couldn't stop them. Immediately, all 3 shadow clones fired Vacuum Bullets into the hurricane. The bullets ripped through the hurricane and reached the unsuspecting Wolves. Six wolves were hit by it.

Though Fujin had decided to fight, he didn't want to cause a massacre. The vacuum bullets hit the sides of the wolf and cut through the surface of their flesh. All 6 wolves had a 12-meter-long deep slash on one of their sides.

They howled in pain and ran away from Fujin's clones. However, the remaining wolves made it through the hurricane to attack Fujin's clones.

However, as soon as they made it to the opposite side, his clones made a hand seal. Their fists turned black and became very hard. At the same time, Chakra became visible around their fists. They flickered on top of the wolves and punched their head with their full strength.

The sudden impact on the skulls immediately made them lose consciousness. The clones flickered multiple times and knocked out all of them with ease.

They couldn't help but think, 'Though their chakra is high, their fighting style is very lousy. That's disappointing. I hope that there are better ones in the valley who know sage mode. Otherwise, it will be too disappointing.'

Seeing the bigger wolves knocked out or running injured silenced the remaining wolves. Fujin expected the weaker wolves to run away or call for stronger reinforcements. However, his guess was wrong.

Every single wolf around him howled and rushed blindly at his clones. The clones sighed at their disappointing intelligence. The three clones stood with their backs to each other and began preparing the same jutsu. As soon as the wolves reached within arm's distance, all three clones used the jutsu.

'Wind Release: Triple Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

In an instant, high-speed winds spread in all directions! The wolves who were rushing forward were stopped. Instead, the winds pushed them back. Many wolves tried holding on to the ground. However, eventually, all the nearby wolves were sent flying through the air. Even the unconscious bodies of the giant wolves were sent flying.

The clones looked at the sight and thought, 'If we had made these winds sharper, this whole valley would have been covered in blood by now!'

Painful howls spread throughout the valley as the wolves crashed on the ground. A few of the weaker wolves ended up dying due to the impact.

However, the ones who were alive got up and charged at Fujin's clones once again. In addition, more wolf packs kept joining them. The clones sighed and fought back.

Two days later -

Fujin was hiding underground. However, his expression wasn't good and his chakra was very low.

Fujin was still in the wolf valley. He kept making shadow clones and sending them to fight for two whole days! The entire valley was covered by the bodies of wolves. Almost all of them were injured. Quite a few were dead as well. Unfortunately, there was no end to the wolf tide.

During these two days, Fujin's clones had fought over a hundred thousand wolves! However, not a single wolf that attacked Fujin's clones for over two days had the skill to even injure him. On the other hand, any wind jutsu would result in a huge number of casualties to them. His clones would fight until they ran out of chakra and Fujin would create new ones to replace them.

However, after two days of fighting, Fujin's chakra finally hit rock bottom. Even soldier pills couldn't generate chakra at enough speed.

Fujin sighed, 'It looks hopeless. Though the number of wolves is very high, there are no high-level wolves. My clones have scouted every single mountain around the valley in these two days, but I never found any Wolf interested in talking.

So either these guys have no brains or their leaders are hiding somewhere and don't think that I am someone worthy enough to make them show themselves. Of course, this could still be a test, but my chakra is almost dry.'