

Calamity 221

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 221: Bad Luck

Fujin finally gave up on the wolves. He made a hand sign and ended his jutsu. In the next second, he appeared back in the training ground. Exhausted, he went home and took a long rest.

A few days later, Fujin once again tried his luck.

'Summoning Jutsu'

Fujin disappeared from his basement. He looked around and the scene made his skin crawl! He couldn't help but curse, 'First that never-ending Wolf tide! And now this? No wonder so few have the summoning jutsu. It's fucking dangerous!'

As soon as Fujin appeared, he saw innumerable Mosquitoes around him! He couldn't even estimate their number.

He nervously asked, "Do you have a leader who would be willing to discuss a summoning contract?"

Fujin thought, 'Though I don't like mosquitoes, they have a lot of potential. If I can summon millions of mosquitos, I can have similar skills as the Aburame clan without having to host insects in my body. However, I first need to see the effectiveness of these mosquitoes.'

For starters, how much chakra would it require to summon a sufficient number of mosquitoes? And, do they have poisons like the bugs? Or do they have other means of attack?'

Unfortunately for Fujin, the mosquitoes just dived at him without exchanging any words. Fujin sighed expecting such a response. Winds began flowing all around him. A dome of wind formed around Fujin which spun at a high speed.

The mosquitoes attacked the dome and were ripped into small pieces as soon as they entered it. Their remains were tossed outside right away. Hundreds of mosquitoes died every second. Fujin sighed once again, 'Another suicidal bunch.'

Fujin lost all interest in the group. He made a hand sign and cancelled the summoning jutsu and returned to his basement.

He muttered, "No wonder so few ninjas have summons. If most of the summons are like them, it will be waste of time and risky at the same time."

He hadn't wasted much chakra against the Mosquitoes. He used the Summoning jutsu once again and disappeared.

This time, he landed in a rocky area. There were huge boulders around Fujin. And on top of those boulders were Hyenas! Fujin was standing in the center and there were 8 hyenas surrounding him.

Fujin looked at them and wondered, 'So will these guys talk?'

This time, Fujin didn't have to wait for long to know the answer.

All 8 hyenas stood up and stared at Fujin. One of them exclaimed, "A human popped up out of thin air!"

Another hyena licked his lips and said, "Yeah, we didn't even have to go hunting for him!"

Another said, "Since this is a free meal, he should be delicious, right?"

Fujin was relieved to hear them speak. But soon his left eye twitched. He said, "I was trying to sign a summoning contract. Who is your leader?"

The first hyena that had spoken asked excitedly, "Do you mean that we can summon humans like you and not have to hunt for a meal ever?"

Fujin's left eye twitched again. He sighed and said, "Just take me to your leader."

The hyena said, "Sure."

However, at the next second, he pounced on Fujin. Having dealt with two annoying groups, Fujin was high on alert and low on patience. He dodged and kicked the hyena away.

Surprisingly, the hyena flipped in the air and landed on his legs on a boulder. He exclaimed, "This one fights well! Brothers, we will have a good hunt tonight!"

Fujin muttered, "Great, another group of battle maniacs."

He spread his chakra field. Surprisingly, there were only 16 hyenas in a 1.3-kilometer radius. Fujin wondered, 'Is this a small pack? Or is the territory of these hyenas so huge that only 16 live in such a large area?'

As soon as the hyena yelled, the remaining 8 arrived and encircled Fujin. However, none of them attacked Fujin.

Fujin prepared himself for another fight. However, his eyes widened. Lightning began appearing on the bodies of every hyena. It flowed on their bodies. Fujin thought, 'What the hell? They can use Lightning?'

In the very next second, Fujin flickered. A paw pierced into the back of the afterimage he left. Fujin's face became grim, 'They are too fast!'

All 16 hyenas ran towards him at a very high speed. Their speed wasn't any lower than the speed at which Fujin flickered.

Fujin kept flickering to prevent himself from being surrounded. At the same time, one sword appeared in his left hand. Without looking, he slashed it at the hyena on his left.

The hyena didn't bother dodging as the sword was quite far from him. However, his eyes widened as he saw a sword slash coming at him. He immediately got out of the way and barely dodged the sword slash. Unfortunately, that wasn't all.

The sword slash was surrounded by sharp winds that hit the hyena. The winds cut into his flesh, making him bleed all over. The hyena was enraged and began chasing Fujin once again. He shouted, "Be careful of his sword slashes!"

The other hyenas made a note of it mentally and kept attacking. Fujin also observed the hyena as he was on a run, 'So the lightning just increases their speed and perhaps their attack too. Their defenses aren't enhanced. However, his hide is too tough for a hyena. Normal attacks won't have much effect on it.'

He kept running while attacking with flying slashes. Fujin was very impressed by the Hyenas, 'They are good. Very good. They have excellent coordination, very high speed and a strong attack. And they keep fighting despite injuries without letting them affect their speed. With the addition of their cunningness, they might just be the perfect summons!'

Fujin swung his sword towards the rock below him and sent a flying slash towards it. The slash cut the boulder and sent dust and small pieces of rocks flying towards the hyenas. Due to their high speed, the hyenas couldn't dodge and ran into the rocks and dust and were blinded momentarily due to the dust.

Fujin used this opportunity to flicker a far distance from them and stopped moving. The hyenas took a couple of seconds to get rid of the dust in their eyes and chased after Fujin once again.

Fuji stood on a boulder as he saw the hyenas come at him. They moved so fast that if a normal person saw, he wouldn't see anything except lightning flashing across the boulders.

Fujin built up around 5% of his chakra.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

Fujin exhaled a massive and strong wind at the hyenas. Seeing their bloodlust, Fujin didn't hold back. The attack left deep cuts in the ground as it moved towards the hyenas.

The hyenas saw the strong winds heading towards them and barked loudly. However, to Fujin's ears, they sounded like cackling laughter!

Fujin was surprised as all the hyenas let out an electric wave that clashed with Fujin's attack. Fujin had the elemental advantage, however, he was facing 16 opponents by himself. Both attacks cancelled each other. The hyenas continued their hunt and moved right through the dust raised by the clash of their previous attacks.

Fujin used the smokescreen to fire air bullets at the hyenas. As soon as the hyenas exited the smokescreen, they felt air bullets heading towards them. They immediately dodged, however, they were too close to the attack.

2 Air bullets hit the legs of a couple of hyenas and left a hole through it. Another 8 air bullets left cuts on the hyenas. Only 5 hyenas were completely unharmed. They immediately went on the attack while the others took time to breathe.

A hyena appeared in front of Fujin and swung his paws at his head. At the same time, another two hyenas appeared on Fujin's side. Fujin moved backwards as defending would mean that those two hyenas would attack him.

The paw hit the boulder on which Fujin was standing and completely destroyed it! As Fujin moved back, he swung his sword at them and launched another sword slash. The hyenas immediately jumped to dodge. However, Fujin fired Air Bullets at that very instant at the hyenas who were airborne.

This time, the hyenas weren't unaware of the threat. They opened their mouths and fired small lightning balls at the incoming air bullets. The attacks cancelled each other out.

Fujin furrowed his eyebrows, 'I will run out of chakra at this rate. And they aren't allowing me any time to cancel my summoning jutsu and return back to Konoha.'

As he was thinking, one of the hyenas, who was earlier injured, appeared at Fujin's right and pounced on him. Fujin saw as his lightning-enhanced paw moved towards his body. At the same time, the 5 hyenas facing him also pressed on the attack.

Fujin extended his right arm towards the incoming paw. As his hand moved forward, chakra appeared in front of his palm. It took the shape of a ball and began rotating at a very high speed.

At the same time, chakra flowed erratically through the sword in his left hand as he swung it at the hyenas coming at him. The hyenas expected another flying slash. However, this time no slash was sent flying. Instead, strong winds were generated that were incredibly sharp and spread in all directions in front of Fujin.

The hyenas noticed the deep cuts the winds left in the ground and were terrified. They immediately ran in the opposite direction. The winds lost their power after travelling 25 meters, but that was sufficient time for Fujin.

The paw and the Rasengan clashed. The hyena expected to crush the ball and the human as well. However, the Rasengan easily overpowered the paw. The lightning around the paw dissipated as the Rasengan hit it. The hyena let out a painful howl as the Rasengan hit.

The momentum of the hyena carried it into the Rasengan. The Rasengan caused his leg to bend towards its stomach. Fujin slammed the Rasengan into his stomach and sent the hyena backwards along with the Rasengan. After moving for a couple of meters, the Rasengan exploded!

The hyena's skin was the thinnest in his belly area. The explosion ripped through the skin and blew his internal organs. Blood and flesh hit the rocks behind the hyena. When the smoke cleared, the hyena's dead body could be seen on the ground. His once-solid stomach had been ripped open, exposing the shattered remnants of its internal organs to the elements. The flesh around the stomach hung loosely like a torn and deflated bag.

The gruesome sight made the remaining hyenas shudder in revulsion. They all looked at each other. Fujin noticed it and prepared himself for an even fiercer confrontation. However, his eyes widened and a stunned expression could be seen on his face as he saw the hyena's action!

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Chapter 222: This World is Freakishly Scary!

Fujin's eyes widened and a stunned expression could be seen on his face as he saw the hyena's actions. After looking at each other, every hyena nodded and looked at Fujin with a fierce expression. However,

at the very next moment, every single hyena escaped in different directions as fast as they could move at the same time!

Merely in a couple of seconds, they escaped Fujin's range of sight and soon after they escaped Fujin's chakra field, leaving him standing alone with the remains of a dead hyena.

After a few seconds of disbelief, Fujin sighed and muttered, "Such shameless beasts!"

Despite what he said, he couldn't help but think that they would have been the perfect summons for him.

He looked at the dead hyena and thought, 'It looks like there are only these 16 hyenas here. The mountains shouldn't have any more hyenas. Even if they do, considering that I have killed one of them, I don't think I'd be able to sign a contract.'

He sealed the dead body of the hyena in a scroll while thinking, 'In my previous life, I recall reading a lot of fantasy books that stated that eating the meat of strong beasts was very helpful for developing a stronger physique and improving aptitude or energy. I wonder if it also applies here. I know eating Kurama's meat can provide a lot of benefits. I wonder if the same also applies to summoning animals. It'd be very helpful if my flesh became as sturdy as his and my Lightning affinity improved.'

He made a hand sign and cancelled his jutsu and returned to his basement.

He left his house and went to a store from where he had previously bought recipes. The shopkeeper looked at him and politely asked, "How can I help you?"

Fujin asked, "Do you have a recipe for cooking hyenas?"

The old shopkeeper looked at Fujin with a weird expression. Fujin ignored it and asked, "Do you?"

The shopkeeper replied, "Wait a few minutes." He began searching through his records and finally found what Fujin was looking for.

After searching for the book, he returned and handed it to Fujin and said, "Surprisingly I do have one. It also involves details of how to properly clean it."

Fujin thanked the old man and paid for the book before leaving. He cleaned and prepared the hyena's flesh for a few hours before cooking some of it and storing the rest in the fridge.

As he ate, he noticed, 'Hmm, there is not much difference in taste as compared with goat meat.'

Fujin spent the next few days resting and eating the hyena's meat. However, he was disappointed as he didn't notice any change after 3 days. He thought, 'What a bummer. I haven't felt any improvement in my physique or the power of my Lightning jutsus. I guess only the flesh of tailed beasts will provide benefits.'

Though it makes sense I suppose. I doubt I am the first one to eat an animal that can use chakra and an element. If it did provide any benefits, this would have been common knowledge and every clan would be procuring such meat to strengthen themselves. I'm sure summoning animals would have already gone extinct by now due to everyone's greed.'

Having had enough rest, Fujin prepared himself for another attempt to get a summon. He ate a soldier pill and used the summoning jutsu.

He disappeared from his basement. Unlike his previous three attempts where Fujin appeared a bit high in the air, this time he felt something around him. He felt a massive pressure on him and his clothes and body got wet instantly.

Fujin opened his eyes to see that he was underwater! In front of him was a giant wall or an underwater mountain! Multiple small and colorful fishes were swimming around him. Fujin immediately held his breath and cursed in his mind, 'Shit!'

He spread his chakra field to see how deep he was in the water. His chakra field spread to its max limit. Fujin's eyes widened in terror as he looked at the 'wall' in front of him! He realized, 'This isn't a hill! It's a fucking whale! A fucking 200-meter-long whale!'

Despite his chakra field spreading for 1.3-kilometers in all directions, Fujin's chakra field didn't escape the water. Realizing how bad his situation was, he immediately weaved hand signs.

As he did, he noticed another giant whale swimming towards him. The small fish that were around Fujin immediately began running away. However, the giant whale opened its mouth and a strong suction force was felt by Fujin. The water, the fish and even Fujin himself were sucked towards the whale's massive mouth!

At the last moment, Fujin disappeared and returned to his basement. He dropped to his knees and began breathing heavily as water fell from his clothes and body on the floor. After taking a few deep breaths, he sat down and muttered, "So freaking scary!"

He took deep breaths and calmed himself down and analyzed, 'No wonder so few have summons. If encounters like this one are common, then unless the summoner is a formidable ninja, surviving will be very difficult. If I had appeared there half a minute later, then I'd be sucked into the whale's mouth right when I appeared there!'

Fujin immediately began doubting himself. He thought, 'Should I still try to get a summon by myself? At the current rate, the risks of trying to get a summon seem to far outweigh the benefits of getting it. After all, this time I was sent to such depths inside the ocean. What if I am sent inside a volcano or something very poisonous?'

Fujin began weighing his options. Despite the risks, getting a summon would be incredibly helpful for him. Especially as his chakra kept growing.

He wondered, 'Should I instead try to get a summoning contract from existing summoners? But whom? Snakes and Toads will be very difficult to get as I have no contact with Jiraiya or any snake summoner. The only two who I know decently well are Renjiro and Hiruzen.

But Renjiro's sloth isn't very powerful. More importantly, he hasn't given any indication to pass me the summoning contract. As for Hiruzen, it is even more unlikely. If I could become Tsunade's student, then I could get her summons. But even that is quite improbable. Not to mention, she won't be in the village for many years.'

Fujin analyzed his options but didn't find anything promising. He sighed and decided, 'There is no option. I have to keep trying it until I am successful. However, I have to take more precautions. It'd be a waste of a life if I get attacked as soon as I go there and can't do anything to resist.'

He began planning how to defend himself properly. After forming a good enough plan, he went to the ninja weapons shop. After searching for a bit, he bought 2 metallic bracelets, 2 metal anklets, 1 metal torc, 1 metal headband and 4 flexible bands that were reinforced with metal.

He returned home and began inscribing barrier seals on each of the items he bought. When he was satisfied, he created a shadow clone. The clone began equipping the items. He put the bracelets on each of his wrists, just behind the bracers. The anklets went above his ankles while the flexible bands were put on his thighs and biceps. The remaining two went around his neck and forehead.

The clone looked at Fujin and nodded. In the next second, Fujin shot a vacuum bullet at the clone. The clone instantly made the confrontation hand seal. A barrier appeared around him. The bullet hit the barrier. The barrier stood sturdy, however, the impact of the bullet sent him backwards for a few meters.

Fujin nodded satisfactorily and asked, "Did you feel any pain?"

The clone shook his head and said, "No, but if the attack is very strong, then the momentum will be passed on to you. So be prepared for that."

Fujin nodded and dispersed the clone. The bands fell on the ground. Fujin put it on and used the summoning jutsu once again.

As soon as he appeared in the summoning area, Fujin made the confrontation hand seal. A barrier appeared around him. He immediately followed it up with the hand signs of ending the summoning jutsu and observed his surroundings. If he felt something was wrong, he would return instantly.

Fujin watched in confusion as his chakra field spread through the area. The first thing he noticed was the small hill in front of him. The bottom of the hill had an entrance like a cavern entrance. Two imposing, jagged protrusions hung in front of him, like menacing fangs, as if daring him to enter.

Suddenly, a strong wind was exhaled from the cave entrance on Fujin's barrier pushing him backwards by a few meters. His eyes widened in surprise and shock once again as his chakra field covered the 'hill' in front of him. He couldn't help but gulp his saliva and mutter, 'This world is freakishly scary!'

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Chapter 223: A Special State

Fujin nervously observed the 'beast' in front of him while maintaining his hand seal. He was prepared to disappear in the blink of an eye! As he was looking up, an eyelid opened and stared right at Fujin.

The beast saw Fujin and thought, 'I sensed a chakra field engulfing me. Looks like it was this human.'

The beast observed Fujin and wondered, 'Why is he riling up his chakra and maintaining a barrier?'

He didn't get up and spoke in a rough and jagged voice, "A human? We haven't had one visit us in a while. Why are you here, little one?"

Fujin sighed in relief, 'Finally someone who talks and is reasonable.'

Though the beast's voice was painful to hear, Fujin didn't mind as he finally could have a conversation with an animal.

However, he didn't let his guard down and replied, "I am here to sign a summoning contract."

The beast observed him and said, "I see. But why are you maintaining a barrier?"

Fujin let out a sigh and answered, "I have been using Summoning jutsu blindly to find the right summon for me. Unfortunately, I had some very bad experiences."

The beast was surprised to hear the reason. Suddenly, he began laughing out loud in amusement! The sound of his laughter echoed through the mountains with a deafening roar, as if a thousand thunderbolts were crashing down upon the earth at once.

Sweat gathered on Fujin's forehead as his barrier trembled! He cursed, 'Shit, without the barrier, I might have gone deaf!'

His excitement about the thought of signing a summoning contract with such a strong beast quelled down as he began worrying about his life instead.

After laughing, the beast stood up. Fujin watched in awe as he saw his majestic body. He was a behemoth of a beast, standing at an astonishing height of almost 20 meters tall. His muscles bulged under a coat of thick, matted fur that bristled in the wind. His sharp, powerful claws were the size of longswords, capable of rending through flesh and bone with ease.

But it was the beast's jaws that were truly terrifying, gaping open to reveal teeth that were larger than Fujin's whole body. Each tooth was razor-sharp and curved, like a scythe made of ivory. The ground shook beneath its massive paws as it stood up. This was a predator unlike any other, a true apex predator.

Fujin gulped once again as he recognized the beast, 'A Sabertooth!'

The beast said, "Drop your barrier and introduce yourself, little one. Don't worry, I won't eat you. You won't even fit the gap between my teeth!"

He let out a cackling laughter.

Fujin agreed with his analysis. Though his barrier was strong, he had doubts about whether it could withstand an assault from the behemoth in front of him. He deactivated the barrier and stopped maintaining the hand sign and his chakra for escaping back. However, he was still alert and prepared to activate the barrier immediately despite doubting its reliability.

He said, "I am Suzuki Fujin from Konohagakure."

The Sabertooth observed Fujin and said, "Good name. It suits you well. I am Ryu, the son of Tatsu. Your strongest affinity is Wind nature manipulation, right?"

Fujin was surprised. He wondered, 'How did he sense that? Was it just my name or does he have the ability to sense chakra affinity?'

He nodded and said, "Yes, it is my strongest affinity."

Ryu said, "Good. Having a strong Wind affinity is one of the necessary conditions to be able to sign a contract with us."

Fujin thought, 'Lucky me, my other elements are lacking a lot right now.'

Ryu added, "Of course, that isn't the only criterion. Climb on my head, I'll carry you to our Sage. She will determine whether you can sign a contract or not."

Fujin's attention was immediately drawn to the word 'Sage'. He thought with excitement, 'Great, they should be able to use Senjutsu!'

He nodded and used Wind Instantaneous Body jutsu to appear on top of Ryu's head.

Ryu said, "Hold on tight!"

Fujin held on tight to his fur as he expected Ryu to run at high speeds. However, Ryu didn't move. Fujin heard some noise behind him and turned his head to check it. The sight he saw left his eyes wide open and jaw hanging!

Ryu's fur moved and two gigantic pairs of wings appeared on his back! The wings fully spread displaying the immense wingspan which was easily 4 times his height!

Ryu flapped his wings and the gigantic creature lifted off in the air. Fujin gulped his saliva as he thought, 'Since when did Sabertooth gain wings?'

As Ryu took off into the sky, Fujin felt a sense of awe and wonder as he looked out at the stunning scenery before him. The mountains stretched out as far as the eye could see, their peaks piercing the

clouds above. Below them, a vast forest spread out, with streams and rivers snaking their way through it like veins.

For once, Fujin let go of his worries and relaxed. Seeing how strong Ryu was, he knew that he didn't need to play tricks to attack Fujin. A childlike curiosity appeared in Fujin's eyes as he took in the breathtaking view, feeling incredibly blessed and content. Though Fujin had travelled in airplanes in his previous life, the feeling was completely different. In fact, it wasn't even comparable!

Ryu's wings beat rhythmically, sending a gentle breeze through Fujin's hair and filling his lungs with fresh air.

As Ryu climbed higher, Fujin could see the snow-capped summits of the highest peaks in the distance, their peaks wreathed in wispy clouds that glowed pink and orange in the light of the setting sun. The sky above was a riot of colors, from the deep purples and blues of the horizon to the golden hues of the clouds that drifted lazily overhead. It was a scene of such majesty and beauty that Fujin felt humbled and grateful to be alive to witness it.

As Ryu cruised through the skies, Fujin felt a sense of complete relaxation and tranquility. Fujin basked in the peacefulness of the moment and lost himself in thoughts as he began reflecting on his life.

He recalled his recent troubles before beginning to reflect on his entire journey in this majestic world. He recalled the schemes he employed, the people he killed, the fun he had and the hard work he put in. Soon, he began thinking about his previous life.

With the newfound clarity and tranquility, Fujin couldn't help but realize, 'In my previous life, I always dreamed about having superpowers. I dreamt of going on epic adventures. Now that I have superpowers that I could only dream of in my previous life and have an entire new world to explore, why am I so stressed?'

A smile appeared on Fujin's face as he closed his eyes. Memories of his past and worries about his future faded away, replaced with a sense of contentment and joy. He felt a deep connection to everything around him as though he was becoming one with the natural world!

Fujin entered into a special state. His mind was so calm and stable that he could feel the world's energy around him in this state. He lost all sense of time as he enjoyed the comfort of this energy.

Ryu, who was enjoying showing off to Fujin, suddenly focused all attention on him. A look of surprise appeared on his giant face as he thought, 'What the hell?'

Ryu sensed that Fujin had entered into a special state. He analyzed, 'What a surprise! I had sensed that he has a very potent affinity to wind. That is why I decided to bring him to our Sacred land. This journey was meant to display my might and relax him a bit from his agitated state.'

But I never imagined that he would be able to connect with nature so easily! Looks like we will have a new summoner after one hundred and twenty five years!'

Ryu didn't want to disturb Fujin and wake him up from the special state he was in. He maintained a constant speed as he headed towards the tallest mountain.

As he moved, he thought in relief and excitement, 'Great Grandmother, it looks like our pride's ability might finally advance once again after 500 years!'

He quelled his excitement, 'Though it will be a long time before he can learn that skill. His chakra reserves are too poor. Even the quality of his chakra is lacking. We will need to improve it first and only then can he have some hope in learning it.'

As Ryu kept cruising, he moved above the clouds. In front of him was a mountain peak. Fujin finally opened his eyes. He saw the snow-covered peak and was awed by its beauty. Ryu noticed that Fujin had woken up and said, "Welcome to Mount Muteki."

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Chapter 224: Gahyou Murasaki

Fujin observed Mount Muteki carefully. He could feel that the chakra around the mountain felt different as compared to Konoha and other villages.

Ryu asked, "So, how are you feeling?"

Fujin replied, "I am feeling great. I have never felt better!"

Ryu said, "Of course. What you just experienced was a special state. And the chakra you feel is nature's chakra. I believe you humans also refer to it as Senjutsu."

Fujin was surprised. He thought, 'That was nature's chakra?'

He fell into a thought as he realized, 'No wonder I felt so comfortable and my mood was so tranquil.'

Ryu noticed that Fujin was in thought and said, "You only sensed Nature's chakra and didn't absorb it. In the future, don't try to absorb nature's chakra or even try to feel it yourself. It can be very dangerous. Especially as you aren't ready to handle it yet."

Fujin nodded. He knew how dangerous nature's chakra was. He replied, "Thanks for the warning. I won't try it without guidance."

Fujin wanted to ask a few questions but something caught his eye. He looked ahead to see 4 sabertooths flying in the sky while playing around. However, compared to Ryu, they were much smaller with heights in the range of 3-4 meters.

They noticed Ryu and quickly flew towards him. However, their attention soon fell on Fujin as this was the first time they ever saw a human. Fujin too was observing them.

They were about to land on Ryu, when he said, "Run along kiddos. I'll be busy."

The four sabertooths immediately flew away.

Ryu said, "Don't mind them. You are the first human they saw. So expect a lot of curiosity-filled gazes if you manage to sign the contract."

Fujin chuckled, "Alright."

Ryu flew to the very top of the peak. However, instead of a pointy peak, there was a shallow crater surrounded by the rocks. It looked quite similar to the opening of a volcano, except that the crater wasn't very deep and instead of lava, it was covered in snow.

Ryu landed in the crater in front of another sabertooth. This one wasn't as big as Ryu but was still about three-fourths of his size. And it looked a bit older.

The Sabertooth noticed Fujin and asked in a gentle voice, "Which guest have you brought here, Ryu?"

Fujin was surprised by her voice. Unlike Ryu, it was much more gentle and pleasing to the ears.

Ryu said, "This is Fujin. He came here to sign a summoning contract. Fujin, get off and introduce yourself."

Fujin nodded and jumped down from his head. He landed between the two Sabertooths. He bowed slightly and respectfully said, "I am Suzuki Fujin from Konohagakure. I used the summoning jutsu to find a summon and appeared in front of Ryu."

The sabertooth observed Fujin carefully. Ryu said, "Fujin, she is the leader of our pride. And the Sage of Mount Muteki and all Winged Sabertooths!"

Fujin had already expected it to be so. The sage looked into Ryu's eyes before looking at Fujin and said, "Ryu has a habit of being too dramatic. I am Gahyou Murasaki. Everyone in this pride is my descendent."

Fujin memorized her name. She continued, "Did Ryu inform you about the conditions of signing a summoning contract with us?"

Fujin replied, "He informed me about needing a strong affinity to Wind nature. But I don't know about other criteria."

Murasaki said, "Alright. Before I inform you about the criteria, do you have any questions you want answered?"

Fujin replied, "Yes, quite a few. Is it fine to ask them all?"

Murasaki said, "Sure, ask."

Fujin asked, "When I used the summoning jutsu, why did I arrive so far away from Mount Muteki?"

Murasaki replied, "The summoning jutsu you humans use isn't to find a group of summons but instead a specific summon. In your case, that was Ryu. That is why you appeared in front of him instead of the mountain.

Since most summons live in their sacred lands, I believe that you have the misconception that you appear in sacred lands.

That information surprised Fujin. He analyzed, 'I never thought of it that way. But I guess it makes sense. Though I don't remember well, I think Jiraiya did fall in front of Gamabunta who became his main summon.'

Fujin looked at Murasaki and asked the most important question, "Can you teach me Senjutsu?"

Murasaki didn't answer and instead stared at Fujin for a minute. She finally said, "This question is a bit complicated to answer."

Fujin furrowed his eyebrows and asked, "What do you mean?"

Murasaki replied, "We do have the ability to harness and use Nature's energy. However, this technique is only for us Winged Sabertooths. A human can't learn it."

Fujin thought, 'Even Toad Sage Mode was a technique for toads. But humans could still learn it. Why can't their method be learnt?'

Murasaki broke Fujin's thoughts by saying, "This is one of the criteria for accepting a summoner. We only accept summoners who we believe could learn Senjutsu. Though you won't be able to use our technique, we will use it as a reference to help you learn Senjutsu."

Fujin was confused. He couldn't help but ask, "Why?"

Murasaki replied, "Your human body can't handle our methods."

Fujin said, "No, not that. Why would you go through so much effort to make a summoner learn Senjutsu?"

Murasaki stayed silent for a few seconds before saying, "I can't tell you the reason but it has become a tradition here. However, I can't give you any sureties in learning Senjutsu. After all, in the past 500 years, we have trained many humans. Unfortunately, no one managed to learn Senjutsu."

Fujin became silent on hearing it and fell into thought. He was very conflicted. He sighed in his mind, 'What a mess. Looks like learning Senjutsu from here will be very difficult.'

Murasaki and Ryu noticed Fujin thinking and didn't disturb him. Fujin analyzed and reached the conclusion, 'I guess this isn't bad though. Other than the Toads teaching Jiraiya, Minato and Naruto Senjutsu, I am not sure if any other summons teach Senjutsu. Though Kabuto did get it, I don't recall exactly how he convinced the snakes to teach him. And Hashirama's sage mode didn't have any explanation.'

So if these guys are serious about training me to learn Senjutsu, that will probably be my best chance. Of course, their help is definitely not unconditional or selfless. I am sure they have their own goals for wanting to train their summoners to use Senjutsu. Besides, using summoning jutsu blindly is too risky. I'd have to sign a contract even if they didn't know Senjutsu.'

Fujin said, "Alright, I will be in your care. However, I have one more question. Am I allowed to sign more summoning contracts?"

This time Fujin heard Ryu's jagged voice from behind and he sounded offended, "Kid, why do you want to sign other contracts when you have us?"

Fujin looked back and calmly said, "When I learnt about the summoning jutsu, I planned to sign at least 3 summoning contracts. One for fighting on land, one for fighting in the air and one for scouting and spying. But, since you have the ability to fly, I don't need to find another summon to fly. Of course, it was just some plans I made when I was a kid. If you have conditions of not signing other contracts, then I won't."

Ryu calmed down on hearing Fujin's answer. He replied with a deadpan tone, "You are still just a kid."

His reply made Fujin feel awkward. Murasaki answered, "I don't care if you sign other summoning contracts. But you can't sign a contract with a group that can use Nature chakra. Even if you tried to sign one, they won't agree if you have already signed a summoning contract with us."

Also, though your plan seems good, don't try it until your strength grows considerably. With your current strength, there are many summons that can kill you with ease. So it will be pointless and risky."

Fujin nodded. He didn't need to be told again how risky it was as his memories were still very fresh.

Muraski continued, "Instead of trying to form another summoning contract, I would recommend raising wild animals and signing them as your contract. That way you won't be under any restrictions and can raise them to do what you want."

Fujin was intrigued by the idea. He thought, 'I never thought of this option. But, to be honest, raising animals will be a lot of work. Especially when I am out on missions. However, I do have a lot of space around my home and I have a lot of money that I don't have any use for. I need to see if I can employ someone to do the work for me.'

Fujin looked at Murasaki and said, "That's all the questions I had, Lady Murasaki."

Ryu watched awkwardly at Fujin as he called her a 'lady'. He wondered, 'This 'Lady' is over 800 years old. I wonder when was the last time anyone called her lady!'

Murasaki said, "You can call me Granny. As for your criteria for signing a contract, there are just two."

She looked at Ryu and said, "The one in front of whom you appear should agree to accept you as a summoner."

She looked back at Fujin and said, "And you should show talent to be able to learn Senjutsu in the future."

Fujin thought, 'As I thought. They gain something from teaching me Senjutsu.'

Ryu said, "I agree. And Fujin has passed the second criterion as well."

Fujin looked at Ryu in surprise. Ryu said, "The flight to this place was a test to see how in tune you can become with nature. My goal was to calm you down and make you experience peace and tranquility by showing you that scenery. As you managed to sense nature chakra, you have passed the criteria."

Fujin was left speechless. He thought, 'First I needed a good wind affinity. And then I needed to feel nature's chakra which I coincidentally managed to do. I guess good luck does follow bad luck!'

Fujin replied with a smile, "That's great! When do we sign the contract?"

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Chapter 225: Potential & Limit!

Fujin signed the contract right away with his blood. Ryu carried him away from the peak and flew down the mountain.

As they were flying, Fujin asked, "Ryu, are there others like you guys who can use Senjutsu but can't pass it on to humans?"

Ryu replied, "Of course, there are numerous. The number of species that can use Senjutsu is at least a couple of dozen. And there are numerous wild beasts who managed to learn it on their own. Some of them are very wild and dangerous. Even I wouldn't want to face them in a single combat."

Fujin was surprised to learn that. After all, he didn't see any such creature make a move during the 4th Great Ninja War. But soon he realized, 'Now that I think about it, none of the summons made any major moves during that war. The toads had a larger participation in the fight against Pain rather than against Obito and Madara. Weird considering that they were in danger during the latter rather than the former.'

Ryu continued, "As far as I am aware, only the places you humans consider as the three sacred places have techniques to pass down their methods of harnessing nature energy to humans. Others don't have them or are not interested in passing them down."

A giant cave appeared before them. Ryu stepped into the cave and roared loudly. Surprisingly, his roar had no effect on Fujin. Fujin was impressed, 'What control over his voice!'

Fujin got off Ryu's head. Ryu looked at him and said seriously, "Though we don't have any specified rules, there are a few things you have to follow."

Fujin nodded. Ryu said, "First, none of the Winged Sabertooths you summon should die. While we will give our all to help you, we will undo the summoning and return if we face extreme danger and think death is inevitable. This is especially true for the young ones who still need to grow.

After escaping, we will use Reverse Summoning jutsu to save you unless you specifically ask us not to."

Fujin nodded and said, "That is reasonable. I have no issues with that."

Fujin's main priority was always his own safety. So it was perfectly understandable for him when others have similar priorities.

Ryu said, "Another thing, though you can summon me, don't try it until your chakra reserves get much larger. You will need to have at least 5 times the chakra you currently have to summon me safely. In the meantime..."

Ryu gazed outside the cave. Fujin followed his gaze and saw 3 Winged Sabertooths flying towards them. They entered the cave as Ryu completed his sentence, "In the meantime, you can summon my sons."

Ryu looked at them and said, "This is Fujin. He has become the new summoner of our pride. Introduce yourself."

The 3 Winged Sabertooths stared at Fujin. Though they were smaller than Ryu, they were much bigger than Fujin. The smallest one was almost twice as tall as Fujin while the largest one was half the size of Ryu!

The biggest one said, "I am Kurogane. You can summon me when you are in an intense fight."

He observed Fujin and said, "Though I would recommend at least doubling your chakra before trying to summon me."

The second one said, "I am Kaito. I like going on adventures and flying for a long time. You can summon me when you want to travel long distances."

The smallest one said, "I am Goro. Feel free to summon me whenever you want to."

Fujin nodded and slightly bowed and said, "I will be in your care."

Goro said with a smirk, "Don't worry, I like to protect the ones weaker than me!"

He immediately ran away after saying that as his two brothers stared at him in annoyance. Ryu sighed as Kurogane explained, "He is quite mischievous. You will have to get used to him."

Fujin said, "It's fine."

Kurogane and Kaito also left.

Ryu said, "Everyone here is an expert in using Wind attacks. The nature energy we use amplifies it even further. You can later try to create combination attacks with them. If you aren't compatible with them, you can even summon others from the pride."

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright."

Ryu stared at Fujin and said, "Now, time to discuss the important matter."

Fujin looked into Ryu's eyes. He could feel that Ryu was trying to look into every secret he had.

Ryu said, "I was initially not sure about accepting you and wanted to leave the decision to Granny. I changed my mind after sensing how in tune with nature you became. The reason I was doubtful is that your potential isn't very high."

Fujin furrowed his eyebrows and asked, "What do you mean?"

Ryu said, "From what I can see, your body and chakra should be stronger than most humans that are your age. However, you have only managed to do so with extreme hard work. Isn't that right?"

Fujin was uncomfortable at how easily Ryu gained information regarding his chakra and abilities. Fujin nodded, "That is true."

Ryu said, "Every being has a limit to which they can grow. For some, it is higher, while for others it is much lower. What you have done through intense training is bring forth all your potential in order to gain power quickly. Due to this, you will soon reach your limit and your chakra reserves will stop increasing. In fact, the speed of the growth of your chakra reserves should have already slowed."

Fujin frowned. He thought, 'I have monitored my chakra ever since I became a sensor. My chakra grew by 2-3 times every year during the last two years in the academy. And it exploded under Renjiro's training due to Senju Taijutsu style training and grew by about 4.5 times in a year.

Though I noticed that my chakra growth has slowed and it will grow by less than 2 times this year, I speculated that it was just due to no longer having any gains from training Senju Taijutsu style. If his words are right, doesn't it mean that my growth will drastically slow down?'

Ryu guessed Fujin's thoughts and said, "You don't need to worry about this. After all, you can't control your potential and limits."

Fujin argued, "But can't we exceed our limits and grow beyond them?"

In the 4th Great Ninja War, the strongest ninja was probably the one with the least potential. So though Fujin didn't like what Ryu said, he wasn't discouraged as Guy's example was in front of him.

Ryu was impressed by Fujin's reply. He thought, 'Many will be demotivated on learning that their progress will be halted and might deny that their potential is limited. But he directly thought about breaking through the limits!'

Ryu replied, "It's true, it can be surpassed. However, you will just reach your new limits and stop there unless you can keep breaking your limits. Just breaking limits is rare. But to break it consecutively is almost impossible. Of course, there are still beings who have managed to do it and become immensely powerful, but they are very rare. Anyways, we are getting off-topic. We can discuss this later when you reach it.

What I wanted to say is that your chakra growth will slow down in a couple of years. And when the growth becomes too slow, you will come here and receive my training."

Fujin thought, 'I see. He wasn't trying to demotivate me...'

Fujin asked in a confused tone, "Why do we have to wait till then?"

Ryu answered, "Because your current chakra isn't strong enough. The techniques I plan on teaching you are very chakra intensive and will put an intense strain on your physique. So you will need at least 3 to 4 times your current chakra and a much stronger physique before I can safely teach you. That is why I will not be training you right now.

As for the limit that I mentioned, you don't need to worry much about it. Though your potential isn't very high, your wind affinity is very potent. And we have methods and the resources to make it even stronger.

As for chakra reserves, though it is difficult, even they can be artificially boosted. However, it is very troublesome to do so and the methods that we have are more effective on someone whose growth has

come to a halt. In addition, there are various restrictions and limits on those methods, but we will talk about it when you reach the limit.

Of course, if you manage to keep breaking past your limits, then I can begin your training after you reach the necessary levels of chakra reserves and physique."

Fujin consumed all the information Ryu just stated. He was beyond surprised. He analyzed, 'He can do that? Increasing wind affinity is understandable if they have access to Wind Elemental Crystals. But how can they increase Chakra reserves?'

At the same time, his mood became a bit grim, 'Since they are willing to invest so many resources into me, what exactly do they gain from training me in Senjutsu?'

Fujin didn't let his mood reflect on his face. Instead, he showed an excited expression and said, "Alright, that sounds great. Thanks a lot in advance, Ryu!"

Ryu said, "That is all for now. Return to your place and don't attempt to sense Nature chakra without my presence."

Fujin replied, "Don't worry. I won't risk my life pointlessly."

Ryu nodded. Fujin weaved hand signs and returned to his basement.

He looked around himself and let out a sigh, 'Finally! I don't need to experience any more crazy situations like those.'

Fujin was very happy with the summon he signed. However, a thought appeared in his mind, 'Should I keep my summon a secret?'

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Chapter 226: A Path Beyond Senjutsu!

Fujin analyzed the pros and cons of keeping his summon a secret. Finally, he decided, 'The Winged Sabertooths will be my main summon. There isn't much point in keeping them a secret as it will get out eventually. Of course, I should keep this card hidden until I can but there is no need to keep it hidden from the ones I can trust.

Instead, I should probably take the initiative to mention this to Hiruzen. While it is good news that they want to teach me Senjutsu, they definitely have some ulterior motives. Though my gut tells me that their ultimate motives won't be harmful to me and even if it is, they won't do anything to me until I learn Senjutsu, it would be better to get some information from Hiruzen.

If it is harmful, then he could warn me and help me terminate the contract or help me scheme against them. If it is beneficial, then Hiruzen might look more favorably towards me as these Sabertooths are quite strong and could increase Konoha's strength considerably.

Also, I could use Ryu's dialogue and add some false news to maybe get a few Elemental crystals from Hiruzen. For instance, instead of telling him about their methods and resources to strengthen me, I could tell him that they will teach me Senjutsu only if I reach the required strength.'

Fujin made a few plans until he was satisfied and went to sleep after eating dinner.

Meanwhile, at the peak of Mount Muteki, Ryu appeared in front of Murasaki. Murasaki looked at him and said, "I am surprised that you agreed so readily. Is the boy that impressive?"

Ryu replied, "You didn't see him connect to nature, great-grandmother. It was almost instinctual to him. He didn't even need 15 minutes to sense nature energy and managed to maintain that state for 2 hours. I had to keep flying around the mountain for over an hour to not disturb him. Among the summoners we contracted in the last 400 years, he is our best shot."

Murasaki sighed and asked, "Are you still hoping that the prophecy your grandfather had, comes true?"

Ryu didn't answer her question and instead said, "Five hundred years ago, you mastered nature energy and helped our pride advance to the next level. However, we haven't made any progress since then. Grandfather and Grand Uncle Genji believed that we will advance to the next level with the help of a human who could learn our Senjutsu. I'd rather believe it instead of wasting away hundreds of years pointlessly."

Murasaki looked at Ryu, however, he didn't budge. She sighed and said, "Do whatever you want."

Ryu nodded and left. Murasaki saw him leaving the mountain as her memories surfaced, 'Four children, 7 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren of mine have died as a result of that prophecy. Some sacrificed themselves to protect the human they chose while some were killed by the betrayal of the very human they raised and one ingrate even invaded our sacred lands. I hope you don't join them, Ryu.'

She closed her eyes and went back to meditating. A very strong chakra could be seen around her. A chakra that brightened the peak of Mount Muteki and would have been visible from a long distance if the peak wasn't hidden above the clouds!

The next day, Fujin was standing outside a building. It was Konoha's hospital. He entered it and approached the lady sitting in the reception. She looked at Fujin and greeted him with a smile, "Fujin-kun, who are you here to visit? Or are you injured?"

Fujin smiled back at her. He had been a rather common face in the hospital. He especially became well-known when Renjiro brought his injured and unconscious body to the hospital on his shoulder multiple times in a single month.

He replied, "I am fine and haven't come to visit anyone Akemi-san. I have come here to register for medical ninja training."

Akemi was surprised. She asked, "You want to become a medical ninja?"

Fujin replied, "No, I just want to learn the basic healing jutsu so that I can help my teammates if we don't have a medical ninja with us."

Akemi replied, "Oh. Alright. Wait a minute."

Akemi wasn't surprised by Fujin's request. Quite a few ninjas would show up for learning the Mystical Palm jutsu without bothering to learn the remaining knowledge needed to become a medical ninja.

Konoha had a system in place for ninjas like these. Though they would prefer for more ninjas to become a proper and capable medical ninja, very few had the interest, talent and patience to become one. After all, it would require years or even a decade to become a good medical ninja.

So Hiruzen, with Tsunade's assistance, had created a proper plan to teach such ninjas. A lot of clans and civilian ninjas benefitted immensely from this program.

The former Uchiha clan had benefitted the most from this system. Their Sharingans could easily copy the Mystical Palm jutsu. They just needed some guidance to master that jutsu and could provide a better healing option on the frontlines where Medical ninjas wouldn't be available.

Similarly, the Hyuga clan also benefitted from this system. Their Byakugan and fine chakra control assisted in being much superior to others who learnt this jutsu. So some Hyugas learnt this jutsu and became the perfect support for any squad with their scouting and healing capabilities while being perfectly capable of defending themselves.

Akemi opened a file and wrote Fujin's name in a list that already had 23 other names. She said, "A training session for newbies will be held 3 days from now at noon. I have registered you. So just show up and join the class."

Fujin noted the date and thanked her, "Thank You, Akemi-san."

Fujin left the hospital thinking, 'Three days... Should I train a jutsu or should I train with summons?'

Suddenly he heard, "Fujin!"

Fujin turned to his right. Hatake Takao walked towards him and asked, "Where were you yesterday evening? We tried finding you without any success."

Fujin replied, "I was doing some special training. Anyways, what's up?"

Takao looked at Fujin but didn't get any clues from him. He said, "Well, it's good that you are safe. Lord Hokage wants to meet you. So meet him right away."

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright. Thank You for passing the message."

Fujin flickered towards the Hokage building. He entered and knocked on the door. Hiruzen invited him.

Fujin entered and said, "I met Takao-san outside the hospital. He said you wanted to meet me, grandpa."

Hiruzen looked at him and asked, "Hospital? Are you injured?"

Fujin shook his head and answered, "No, I am planning to learn mystical palm jutsu. So I went to register myself."

He put up a sad expression and said, "If a mission goes bad, I want to have the capability of at least healing my teammates a bit."

Hiruzen knew that Fujin was referring to his previous mission indirectly as he couldn't say it out loud. He couldn't heal any injuries on Tamotsu for hours. His features softened. He said, "I sent a couple of messengers to you last evening, but they couldn't find you. I was worried that someone tried to claim your bounty."

Fujin furrowed his brows and asked, "Didn't you say that there is no danger in Konoha and that no one has ever claimed a bounty before?"

Hiruzen coughed and said, "I did. But there can always be a first time."

Fujin watched Hiruzen with a deadpan expression. He thought, 'This old fox is unbelievable!'

Hiruzen changed the subject and asked, "Anyways, where were you?"

Fujin replied, "I was trying to find a summon."

Hiruzen's eyes widened. He immediately scolded, "Why did you try it on your own? That is very dangerous!"

Fujin nodded and said, "Yeah. You don't need to tell me, grandpa. It was very scary! I had to face a wolf tide and even saw gigantic whales!"

Hiruzen squinted his eyes and asked, "You tried it more than once?"

Fujin nodded and said, "Yeah. It was so scary that I wanted to stop. But I couldn't help but think about your words and my teammates and kept going until I succeeded!"

Hiruzen's features softened. He thought, 'Though it was risky and he is usually greedy, the will of fire burns bright in him. As long as he can grow safely for 2-3 more years, he can fulfill the gap left by Tamotsu's squad by himself.'

Hiruzen said, "It's good that you managed to get it done. Who did you sign the contract with?"

Fujin answered, "They are Winged Sabertooths. Have you heard about them, grandpa?"

Hiruzen thought for a bit before shaking his head. He replied, "I haven't heard about anyone having these summons. How do they look and how strong are they?"

Fujin replied, "They look like a normal Sabertooth, only many times larger. Their wings are hidden along their fur, so they are hard to spot normally. They can fly very well. As for their strength, they are very strong. The one I met could have probably defeated me with ease. Though I can't say for sure as I never fought."

Hiruzen analyzed, 'I don't recall seeing any such summons or even reading about them. I guess it must be a tribe that rarely signs contracts. From what Fujin described, their strongest fighters should be at Elite Jounin level or just stronger than that which is quite good but nothing exceptional.'

He looked at Fujin and concluded, 'Oh well, Renjiro wasn't planning to hand him his Sloth summon. Since he managed to get a contract with his own strength, I can't complain. If he passes the contract to the next generation, then Fujin would have contributed a lot to the village.'

He said, "I don't know anything about them, Fujin. But good work."

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Chapter 227: Swords!

Hiruzen lifted a couple of boxes from under his desk and placed them on his desk and said, "This arrived yesterday evening. I called you as I believed that you would want it right away."

Fujin observed the boxes. His attention was immediately drawn to their ornate designs. Their lids were carved with intricate patterns of Dragons and Tigers. And it was made from a wood that had an ancient feeling to it.

Fujin realized and quickly exclaimed, "My swords are here?"

Hiruzen nodded and said, "Fuji arrived here from the Land of Iron yesterday."

Fujin moved forward and lifted one of the lids to see a soft, plush lining that cradled his sword. He grabbed the sheath and picked up his sword.

The sheath was an art in itself. Swirling designs were etched into its glossy black lacquer. As Fujin ran his fingers along the sheath, he felt the satisfying smoothness of the fine craftsmanship.

Finally, he drew out the sword. The blade was long and thin with a very slight curve to it. Both its edges were very sharp. When the light fell on it, it shimmered with a greenish hue that caught Fujin's eye. The hilt was made of polished green jade that fit comfortably in Fujin's hands.

Fujin moved the sword around. It felt very light and almost as if it was an extension of his arm. A smile appeared on his face as chakra began flowing along the blade. He muttered, "The chakra flow along this blade is so smooth!"

Fujin's chakra flowed through the blade without any obstruction. It was charged with wind chakra almost instantaneously. Fujin had no doubts that if he swung his sword, the entire Hokage building would collapse!

Hiruzen smiled and said, "The sword has some chakra metal that assists in Wind chakra flow. Very few will be able to stop your sword in the future. Of course, do be careful about them. The swords are very expensive and could get some unwanted attention."

Fujin replied, "If they are greedy, they might try to get my head first. But I will keep it in mind, grandpa."

Fujin immediately began checking his other sword leaving Hiruzen a bit awkward as he recalled that Fujin's head was worth more than those swords.

The second sword was just as good as the first one. Fujin kept his sword back in the sheaths. Hiruzen instructed, "Keep the sheaths and boxes properly. The blacksmiths attach a lot of importance to making them. So destroying them or throwing them away is seen as an insult by them.

Also, the sheath is made of special materials which help preserve the chakra metal properties in the sword. So when you don't use them, keep them in their sheaths."

Fujin replied, "I didn't know about that. But seeing how well the sheath and the box are made, I guess it makes sense. I'll store them properly."

Hiruzen smiled and said, "That is all. There is still some time before I invite you to Anbu. Use it to master Mystical Palm and create a bond and develop teamwork with your summons."

Fujin nodded and left the room. He thought, 'I guess Ryu wasn't kidding when he said that the younger ones hadn't ever seen a human. It should have been a long time since they had a summoner. Kinda sucks. I was hoping that Hiruzen knew how impressive they were and used that fact to get some Wind crystals...

Anyways, since he doesn't know, I doubt he could warn me about their plans. On the plus side, I will be able to keep my sage training a secret. If I do master it, my strength will grow phenomenally. And since there is no way to sense it unless I use it, it will become my strongest Ace in the hole!

A smile formed on his face as he wondered who would fall prey to this hidden card. Of course, that would be a long time away and would need a lot of hard work and perhaps some luck to achieve.

Fujin returned home. Two symbols glowed on his bracers and his old swords appeared. Fujin calculated, 'Hiruzen asked me to keep the new swords in their sheaths. I will have to modify the storage seal so that my new swords fit. That isn't an issue.

The problem is that I have to store them with their sheaths. So when I summon the sword, I will get the sword with the sheath instead of just the sword. And while that may look cool, it will be very inefficient. So what to do?'

Fujin analyzed a lot and began recalling all the seals he had learnt. After a few minutes, he prepared a plan that would allow him to store the swords in the sheaths but summon just the swords. However, before he could work on it, he had an idea.

Fujin thought, 'Wait a minute! Though Anbu ninjas wear a mask to hide their identity, I doubt that it would be a hundred percent effective. After all, every ninja has unique features. Someone like Kakashi is very easy to identify despite his anbu mask.

So it's safe to assume that every village will try to keep information about the Anbu ninjas of enemy villages. If that is the case, then I should give them something to identify me with myself instead of them figuring out something I can't change and don't know.'

A mischievous smile appeared on Fujin's face as he thought of a plan to mess with the minds of the ones that might want to target him in the future. He stored the new swords in a scroll and kept the old swords back in his bracers.

He left his house and went to the Training ground. He bit his thumb and weaved a few hand signs and slammed his right palm on the ground.

'Summoning Jutsu!'

Smoke appeared in front of Fujin. In the smoke, the silhouette of a 3-meter-tall Sabertooth was visible. Meanwhile, Fujin's breath became heavy. He was alarmed, 'Damn! A single summoning jutsu exhausted more than 40% of my chakra!'

The smoke dispersed showing Goro. He looked at Fujin and exclaimed in joy, "I knew it!!! I knew it!!! I dared my brothers to make a bet with me that you would summon me first! They didn't even dare to accept my bet! Hahahahaha."

Fujin watched with a deadpan expression. He sighed in his mind, 'Looks like this jutsu is a waste until I can summon his brothers.'

Goro asked, "So, why did you summon me? Tell me whose ass you want to be bitten? You can rely on me one hundred percent!"

Fujin replied, "Sure I can. But I am not facing any enemy. I just want to see how a great winged sabertooth like you fights. And I want to build good teamwork between us."

Goro answered with a bit less excitement in his voice, "Oh, that sounds boring. But since you can see how great I am, I will show you!"

Fujin said, "I am not sure how much we can fly here. Can you summon me to your mountain? We can experiment there."

Goro nodded, "Alright alright, I will see you in a minute."

He disappeared. Fujin sighed, 'Did he fall on his head as a child or did Ryu spoil him rotten for him to develop such a personality? I hope he fights well. Otherwise, it'd be completely hopeless.'

Fujin suddenly disappeared from the training ground and appeared at Mount Muteki in front of Goro. Fujin's sudden appearance was noticed by a few Winged Sabertooths but they ignored him.

Goro asked, "So, what do you want to see first?"

Fujin looked around him. He was in a small cave with just Goro. He said, "I want to see how a Winged Sabertooth fights. Then, I can see how we can work together."

Goro said, "Alright, climb on my back."

Fujin climbed on his back.

Goro said, "Hold tight."

He spread his wings and jumped out of the cave. He flapped his wings a few times and began flying at a very fast speed. Chakra gathered in Fujin's eyes to keep them safe from the strong winds.

Goro said with pride, "The first thing you should know about us is that we fly very fast! Even most of the birds can't keep up with us. That is especially true for Kaito. He loves flying. He can fly as fast as Lightning and can keep that speed up for days!"

Fujin was surprised. He analyzed, 'Speed of Lightning is unrealistic. But if I assume that he flies twice as fast as Goro and can maintain that speed for hours, then he would be a very good aid in escaping.'

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Chapter 228: The Abilities of a Winged Sabertooth

Goro moved towards a boulder on the huge mountain. He said, "This should be a no-brainer, but we also have very high strength."

He raised his paw and brought it down on the boulder with a lot of force. His paw split the boulder into two and turned a lot of it into dust. Fujin wasn't surprised. He expected such physical prowess from them.

Goro said, "See see! How I turned it into dust with a wave of my paw! That's how strong I am."

Fujin replied, "Yeah, that is very strong. I wouldn't want to be on the receiving end of it."

Goro laughed, "Of course, you wouldn't. I could bite that stone too, but I don't want dust and soil in my mouth."

Fujin said, "It's fine. I can guess what a bite from you can do. Show me your other skills!"

Goro said, "Cool."

He flapped his wings and moved away from the mountain and said, "Watch. This is the skill that makes us the apex predators."

Goro's body suddenly became still. Chakra gathered on his wings. Fujin sensed it and was surprised, 'Nature chakra! Even the younger ones can use Senjutsu?'

Goro flapped his wings again. This time, he didn't move. Instead, very strong winds flew downwards. Fujin was surprised. He analyzed, 'That attack is stronger than my supercharged Infinite Breakthrough! And at least a few times stronger.'

Goro chuckled, "Are you shocked? You are shocked, right? If I use this attack on animals on land, all of them will die. Even if they survive, they will be injured. And even if they are strong enough to resist, I can just fly away. Hahahaha!"

If anyone else heard Goro's words, they might feel contempt for his attitude. However, Fujin wasn't one of them. He agreed with Goro's strategy wholeheartedly.

In Fujin's books, other than winning a war without fighting, the best way to fight was to maintain distance and keep attacking the enemy without allowing the enemy to attack back.

And if the enemy is stronger? He can always run away and turn the fight into a game of tag. It was why Fujin learnt so many jutsus that allowed him to hide and escape.

Fujin thought, 'Looks like I was hasty. He is good!'

Goro said, "In addition, we can also do this!"

He began gathering chakra in his throat. He looked up and fired a beam made of wind. The beam hit the cloud and created a huge hole in it!

Fujin observed the wind beam carefully. His eyes widened as he noticed how the beam worked. He couldn't help but mutter, "Incredible!"

Goro was surprised. He looked back at Fujin and asked, "Did you understand what happened?"

Fujin looked at Goro. He realized that Goro's breath had gotten heavier. He thought, 'It seems like the attack uses a lot of chakra.'

Fujin nodded, "Yeah. Though it seemed like a normal beam of wind, it is instead made of incredibly sharp winds. The inside of the beam is basically like a meat grinder. If anyone were to be hit by it, I doubt any flesh would be left on their bones!"

Goro exclaimed, "Wow! Father wasn't kidding when he said that your affinity to wind is very strong. And you are right. This is my most devastating attack. It is also the signature attack of our pride. We call it the Wind Breath or the Breath of Wind. The only way to survive it is if the opponent has a very tough body that can't be cut with my winds. But I haven't met any such opponents yet, hahaha. Even if someone has tough skin, they still have vulnerable parts like eyes, nose and ears."

Fujin wondered, 'Will I be able to withstand the attack with Iron skin? I should test it later with my clones. Regardless, this attack is very dangerous. If I can learn it, I can use it like a cheap version of dust release. I can recall very few ninjas who could defend against this attack.'

Goro interrupted Fujin's thoughts and said, "In addition, we also have some other moves. Like..."

He gathered chakra into his throat again and launched a ball of wind into the clouds. The attack left a small hole in the clouds. Fujin noticed, 'It is very similar to my Vacuum Cannon except for the fact that there is no vacuum core. However, its destructive power won't be much weaker than my Vacuum cannon due to the amount of chakra he put into it.'

Goro said, "This is our Air Bullet. We use it against weaker opponents as it doesn't need much chakra."

Fujin said, "That is still quite powerful. What else do you have?"

Goro answered, "Well, this is most of our traditional moves. Our fights usually involve us attacking with these attacks from a distance or using our strong bodies to crush our enemies. Some in the pride do make some of their personal moves or master another element, but I am still too young to learn them."

Fujin quickly asked, "I see. How old are you?"

Fujin was very interested in knowing the answer. After all, animals and humans had quite different growth stages and lifespans.

Goro answered in a smug voice, "I am one of the youngest in my pride and still one of the most reliable and strongest. I am only 39 years old!"

Fujin was stunned. He thought in disbelief, 'He is 39 years old? From the way he talked, I assumed he was 39 months old!'

Goro noticed that Fujin was speechless. He looked back and asked, "You can't believe how young, I am right? Seeing my strength, I bet you thought I am some 300 years old monster, right? Hahaha."

Fujin was left speechless. Though he had been very polite so far and praised Goro a few times to fan his ego so that he could get along better, he wasn't sure what he could say without being insulting.

Luckily, Goro changed the subject, "Now that you have seen what I can do, what ideas did you come up with for cooperation and teamwork?"

Fujin became serious and said, "I haven't thought of much. Like you, I also specialize in Wind manipulation. The only idea I had so far is launching my attacks at the same time as you to double our power or launching them alternately to double our attack frequency."

Goro looked at Fujin suspiciously and asked, "Do you think that your wind attacks are as strong as mine?"

Fujin replied, "Your Wind Breath is stronger than anything I can do right now. But others, I can amplify with my own attacks. For instance..."

Fujin built up around 15% of his chakra and looked above.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

He released the supercharged jutsu at the clouds above them. Goro observed and commented, "Wow! That was good. Not as strong as mine, but good nonetheless."

Fujin didn't answer and used another jutsu.

'Wind Release: Air Bullet jutsu'

He fired 15 air bullets. Goro said, "Not bad. They are much smaller in size, but the quantity is go..."

His eyes suddenly went wide open in shock. Fujin swung his sword and released a sword wave that split the clouds into two for over a hundred meters!

Goro exclaimed, "That was fucking good! You are strong!"

Fujin said, "I also have techniques to pierce into the strongest armor. So in case we encounter someone on whom your wind breath doesn't work, I could create openings in their defenses and let you kill them with ease.

But, though it seems strong, a combination of two wind users won't be very good. I will learn a few fire attacks so that we could use a Fire-Wind combination attack."

Goro said, "I agree. Not to mention, your chakra reserves took a big hit when you summoned me. That said, I am not sure how good a Fire-Wind combination attack will be."

Fujin replied, "It'll be awesome, I have already tried it with others who can spit fire. But yeah, you are right. Summoning you consumed more than 40% of my chakra. If I summon you in a fight, I'll have very little chakra left. So you will have to do the majority of the fighting."

Goro grinned and said, "As I said earlier, don't worry about it and leave everything to me! Hahahaha."

Fujin sighed at his eccentricities but didn't say anything. After all, it was a good thing that Goro was willing to fight for him and that he seemed to be a very competent fighter.

Fujin thought, 'Though Ryu said that my chakra growth will slow down, it is still growing at a considerable rate. In a year, it should grow sufficiently to at least make summoning Goro easier on my chakra reserves.'

Fujin and Goro tried a few combination attacks until Fujin ran out of chakra. Goro ended his reverse summoning and Fujin returned back to Konoha.

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Chapter 229: Mystical Palm Jutsu

For the next couple of days, Fujin trained with Goro on Mount Muteki to improve their coordination. They first tried their moves on nearby mountains. When they got comfortable, they found nearby animals that Goro used to fight and began hunting.

Finally, the day for training Mystical Palm jutsu arrived. Fujin did his morning workout rituals and visited the hospital at noon. After asking, he entered the room where he would be taught. As soon as he did, 33 pairs of eyes landed on him.

Fujin looked around. The room was very spacious. It had a huge blackboard on the opposite side of the entry door. It also had a long but thin indoor pool in the shape of an arc and curved tables lined up along its edge. A few fish swam in it.

Fujin observed the other people in the room. He didn't recognise any of them. But a few of them recognised Fujin as they had seen him during the chunin exams. However, before they could say anything, a bald guy entered the room and instructed loudly, "Take your seats, everyone. We don't have any time to waste."

Fujin and the others who were standing took a seat while observing the instructor. He was completely bald and looked quite old. Two girls in their late teens entered the room and stood behind the instructor. The instructor walked to the front of the room and began writing on the blackboard.

He said, "I am Yamanaka Yoshi. I will be teaching you the basics of Mystical Palm jutsu and guiding you until I am sure that you can perform it. The girls standing behind you are Hyuga Emi and Kurama Asuka. They are training to become medical ninjas and they will be monitoring your progress and clearing your doubts."

He looked around the room and muttered, "Just 34 are here. Looks like 2 didn't show up."

He passed a sheet in the room and said, "Write your names on it. I will need it to keep track of your progress."

He moved back to the blackboard and said, "I will first explain to you the theory behind Mystical Palm jutsu. I will also tell you the advantages and disadvantages of it and tell you when to use it and when not to use it. Pay careful attention because if you use it when you shouldn't, you can kill your patient or force real medical nins to amputate them."

His words made everyone in the room serious. Most of them were here because they wanted to help their teammates or themselves in case of a major injury. So worsening an injury was the last thing they would want to happen.

For the next couple of hours, Yoshi kept giving his lecture. He also cleared any doubts anyone had. Fujin paid careful attention and took some notes down alongside others in the room. When he stopped, the room sighed in relief. None of the people here were as young as Fujin. It had been years since they had to sit in the academy and hear lectures.

Yoshi said, "Now that I have explained everything to you and cleared your doubts, we will begin hands-on training. But before we begin, we will be splitting the room into two. As I had said earlier, Mystical

Palm requires very precise Chakra control. So the ones who are confident in their chakra control, walk towards the tables. The others keep sitting where you are."

Fujin was very confident in his chakra control. He got up and moved towards the tables. So did 11 other people. The two assistants also moved next to Yoshi. Hyuga Emi was holding a rather thick scroll. She laid it on the table and opened it a bit until a seal could be seen in the scroll.

Yoshi walked in front of it and made a hand sign. A fish popped up in the seal. He said, "This storage scroll has 100 storage seals with 100 injured fishes in it. We will be using them to test your jutsu."

He extended his right hand towards the fish. Green chakra appeared on his hand and began pouring into the fish. For the next 30 seconds, the fish didn't make any movements and kept laying as if it was dead. However, it soon began making small movements. In a minute, it jumped off the scroll and landed in the pool.

Yoshi said with a smile, "This is how you do it."

No one in the room was surprised. After all, everyone had seen medical ninjas in action.

Yoshi said, "Though this looks simple, it will take a long time for you to learn this. You first need to develop good chakra control and you will need 4 to 6 months after that to be able to heal the fish as I did. You will require another 6 months of training to be able to use this jutsu safely on ninjas."

His words surprised everyone in the room. Fujin thought, 'Almost one year for just mastering this basic jutsu?'

He couldn't help but mutter in his mind, 'It's just using our chakra to increase the body's natural healing. How tough can it be?'

Yoshi noticed the looks of skepticism on most of the trainees. However, he wasn't surprised. He scoffed in his mind, 'It's the same every month. They think that it is an easy jutsu that they will learn in a few days. Half of them won't even have the patience to dedicate enough time to this jutsu to master it.'

He looked at the 12 who had claimed that they had good chakra control and said, "You try it first. Be careful about the amount of chakra you use."

Hyuga Emi and Kurama Asuka rolled the scroll until 12 seals were visible and summoned 12 fishes. Fujin and the rest stepped forward.

Fujin observed his fish and observed, 'This fish almost looks dead. I wonder how they put fish in such a state. The seal looks similar to the one Uchiha Sora used to store the dead body. So it should have slowed time to preserve the fish in this state.'

He extended his palm towards the fish and began releasing an extremely tiny amount of chakra. The chakra touched the body of the fish and began entering it.

Fujin frowned but stayed steady as he realized, 'My chakra isn't entering his body without any resistance. The fish's body is resisting my chakra making healing tougher. In addition, if I increase power, it will probably destroy the fish's body instead of healing it.'

Fujin kept at it while releasing chakra as slowly as he could. However, even after 3 minutes, there wasn't any change in the fish.

In the meantime, the other 11 were also trying. In under a minute, 4 fish were burnt enough to be safe for consumption. In the next minute, another 4 were burnt alive. While the remaining 3 couldn't insert their chakra into the fish.

Yoshi's eyes moved on all 12 trainees before being glued to Fujin. He thought, 'Not bad. He was able to insert some chakra into the Fish without burning it.'

Fujin's attention was completely on the fish. He thought, 'At this rate, I don't think the fish will be healed today. I should increase the chakra. He did say that it will take 4 to 6 months to learn this. Burning one fish should be fine.'

Fujin slowly increased his chakra output for the next 30 seconds. As he did, he noticed that a fin moved. He immediately stopped increasing the chakra and maintained his current rate. However, in ten seconds, he noticed that the skin had begun burning. He immediately lowered his chakra output.

Yoshi's eyes widened in surprise. He thought, 'What chakra control! Even senior medical ninjas wouldn't be able to control their chakra this well every time.'

Despite lowering the chakra output, the fish's flesh was completely burnt. Fujin sighed and picked up the fish. He thought, 'I can't heal if it resists my chakra...'

Fujin felt someone staring at him. He looked to his right and saw Kurama Asuka staring at him. Chakra flowed through his hand as he properly cooked the fish and asked, "Are these fish safe to be eaten?"

Asuka snorted and swiped the fish off his hand and said, "You are here to learn healing and not cooking!"

Fujin sighed, 'If I knew that there would be a 2-hour lecture, I'd have brought some snacks.'

Yoshi said, "That's enough. Go back and sit and analyze where you went wrong."

He looked towards the others and instructed, "Half of you come here and try healing the fish."

Eleven people got up and went to the table while Fujin and the rest took their seats. At the same time Emi and Asuka swapped the fishes, Yoshi arrived in front of Fujin and the rest who tried healing the fish.

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Chapter 230: Yang Release

Yoshi asked, "What have you learnt from your failed attempt?"

One of the trainees said, "We have to be very careful with the amount of chakra we put in the fish. If we use more chakra, it can very easily burn up."

Another said, "But if we use less chakra, the fish won't heal."

Another couple of trainees gave similar answers before going quiet. The ones who hadn't attempted healing yet paid attention as they would soon face the same troubles.

Yoshi looked at Fujin and asked, "Anything else?"

Fujin wasn't planning to answer as he expected the instructor to explain the obstacle he faced regardless of his answer. But noticing his gaze, Fujin answered, "The fish's body resists our chakra. So very little chakra is actually used to heal the chakra.

Yoshi nodded, "You are right. In truth, all 12 of you faced this issue. Otherwise, even with little chakra, you would have been able to heal a little bit and with excessive chakra, you would have first noticed rapid healing before the fish got burned."

He looked at Fujin and asked, "Can you guess why the fish resisted your chakra?"

Fujin answered, "I am not sure. The only possible explanation I can come up with is that the fish's body instinctively resisted as my chakra was a foreign chakra. But if that is the case, healing would be abnormally difficult. Especially since the fish's body has minuscule chakra when compared with ninjas."

Yoshi replied, "Your guess is wrong. There are two reasons why the fish's body instinctively rejects and resists your chakra. The first reason is that your chakra is too harsh. This type of chakra is very effective in combat and hence all of you release this chakra instinctively. But, to heal, you need to release a very gentle and docile chakra. Only then it will be accepted by the patient's body and help heal their bodies."

Fujin and the rest were surprised. Fujin asked, "What do you mean by gentle and docile chakra?"

Yoshi answered, "It means that your chakra shouldn't threaten your patient's body and must feel soothing enough for them to not resist at all and instead allow it to do its work.

You will need to eliminate any thoughts you have about killing or fighting before you heal a patient and only then will you be able to heal. Of course, with practice, you will begin releasing a gentle chakra with ease. This is one of the main reasons why it takes so long to learn this jutsu.

The second reason is that the chakra you used was attribute-less. Though it seems that Medical Ninjutsu doesn't need any nature manipulation, it isn't the case. You have to only utilize the Yang aspect of chakra while using Medical ninjutsu."

Fujin's eyes widened. He thought, 'Yang release? Medical ninjutsu requires Yang release? Will we be trained in it?'

Fujin asked, "How can we only utilize the Yang aspect of our chakra? Does it have similar training like the way we train for normal natures?"

Yoshi shook his head and explained, "There is no way to train in Yang Release."

He stopped and corrected himself, "No, that wouldn't be right to say. But the methods to train Yang release are all secret techniques. So you won't be able to get access to them.

As for Mystical Palm jutsu, you will employ the most basic method for utilizing Yang nature. You will keep trying to heal fish until you are able to heal using only the Yang aspect of your chakra. Once you find it, you should practice a few hundred times so that you master using that aspect."

His words made everyone frown. After all, this was like finding a needle in a haystack! It would be difficult, time-consuming and very luck based.

One ninja, who was from the Yamanaka clan as well, asked, "Can we perform Medical ninjutsu using the Yin aspect of our chakra?"

Yoshi replied, "You can, but it is very difficult. Only senior medical ninjas can do so. And even then, we don't use it for healing external wounds. So focus on learning the Yang aspect of the chakra."

Yoshi looked at him and said, "However, if you know Yin Release, then learning basic Yang Release will be easier. You just have to avoid releasing the Yin aspect of chakra."

The ninja nodded and said, "Thank You for the tip, Yoshi sensei."

Yoshi looked at everyone and asked, "Do you have any more doubts?"

No one asked any questions. So he returned to monitor the next batch of trainees.

Fujin closed his eyes and began thinking about Yoshi's words, 'So I will have to separate Yang and Yin aspects of the chakra to learn Mystical Palm jutsu. And here I thought that I'd get it down in no time. Still, this is good. Going by Yoshi's words, if I can learn Yang Release, I should also learn Yin Release. So my Genjutsu would become stronger. I might be able to use it in battle against stronger enemies as well.

That said, I guess making my chakra gentle first would be the challenge. To eliminate all thoughts of fighting and killing? That's tough. Or would have been tough if I hadn't just experienced it while travelling on Ryu's head. Maybe I should go back to him and see how I could experience it again.

Though I guess that I should first take a look at what methods the village has. After all, I did feel that I was able to slightly heal the fish. It is probably why Yoshi asked me a question specifically.'

The remaining 22 people tried healing the fish and met with similar obstacles. Yoshi didn't see anyone noteworthy among them. So once everyone was done, he had a similar exchange with the remaining trainees.

Once all doubts were resolved, he summarized, "As you have already tried healing, you would have realized the 3 major aspects of healing. The first is having a gentle chakra that doesn't make the patient feel any threat. The second is utilizing the Yang aspect of your chakra. And the last is having very good chakra control."

He looked at everyone and said, "That's it for today. We will meet again after seven days at noon. In these seven days, I want you to do only one thing. Meditate for as long as you can, and while meditating, think of happy thoughts or pleasant memories. The next time you attempt healing, you will try to think of those memories before healing."

Fujin watched him with a dumbfounded look. He thought, 'What the hell? That's how you make your chakra gentle? You couldn't come with any other bullshit? And this is the village that has the most advanced Medical ninjutsu? No wonder Hiruzen shot down Tsunade's proposal of training a lot of medical ninjas. Imagine thousands of ninjas thinking happy thoughts while the rest fought!'

Like Fujin, many were speechless by what Yoshi asked them to do. However, if they knew what Yoshi's thoughts were, they would begin cursing him right away!

Yoshi enjoyed the look of disbelief on the trainees. He thought, 'Making your chakra gentle isn't difficult. As they keep practicing this jutsu, their chakra will automatically become gentle and docile unless they keep getting angry or frustrated.'

But, since every one of them thinks that learning this jutsu is easy, I might as well have some fun with them. Just the thought of them meditating while having pleasant thoughts is hilarious. It'll be even more fun when they get annoyed as it won't work, hahaha!

Yoshi dismissed everyone. When the room was empty, a smile appeared on Yoshi's face. Emi and Asuka sighed thinking, 'This old geezer is messing around once again!'

Fujin moved to Ichiraku while thinking, 'That old geezer was definitely messing with us when he said that. Something seemed off. Though I didn't sense a lie, he is a medical ninja from the Yamanaka clan. So he might be a good sensor as well. It won't be difficult for him to lie without being sensed.'

That said, meditation in itself isn't bad. I should stabilize my mind by meditating for a few hours and eliminating all thoughts before I visit next week. More importantly, I should focus on the Yang release."

Fujin reached Ichiraku and ate while thinking about Yang Release.