

## Calamity 271

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 271: Pouring Oil on Fire!

Toshio began walking towards where his family was hiding. En route, he heard similar words being spoken by everyone around him. They talked about how cowardly he was or how gallant Kazuo was or both. He became angrier and angrier. He took a good look at each and every face that talked bad about him and memorized their faces.

Right after announcing a Buffet, the 7 shadow clones of Fujin that had mixed among the citizens began spreading rumors. They spread like wildfire. Since Toshio wasn't present during the announcements, people began believing that it was true. In addition, a few knew Toshio's real face and how greedy and selfish he was. They helped fan the rumors. Within a couple of hours, nearly everyone had heard those rumors and were discussing them. That is why Toshio heard them so easily.

Toshio entered an ordinary-looking house. As soon as he did, two teenage boys and a middle-aged lady looked at him. They immediately noticed his foul mood.

One of his sons asked, "Did something happen father? We heard that Kazuo won and the assassin is dead, so why are you upset?"

Toshio cursed, "That bastard Kazuo has double-crossed me! He is using this to increase his own reputation while ruining mine! He has sights on my position! I'll be going to the mansion right now and put a stop to his plans. You three stay here until I return to get you."

Toshio's wife said, "Be careful, dear. I am feeling very uneasy."

Toshio nodded and said confidently, "Don't worry. He may be a ninja, but he can't do anything to me. Otherwise, the Lord Daimyo will ask for his head!"

His wife and sons nodded and prayed for his health. Toshio began walking towards the mansion while still wearing his disguise. He planned, 'As long as I enter the mansion under disguise, no one will be able to confirm these rumours. I'll dismiss these rumours as foul propaganda and blame it on the ones I saw

shit-talking about me. Kazuo, you might be stronger than me, but you are a child compared to me when it comes to scheming.'

He reached the Mansion and became enraged once again! The mansion servers were busy arranging tables and chairs inside as well as outside the mansion to prepare for a huge buffet!

In a rage, he began walking towards the mansion. At first, no one paid attention to him. However, when he neared the mansion gate, one of Fujin's clones' eyes landed on him. Fujin's clone observed him and wondered, 'Why is this guy so angry? And he is bottling it all up.'

Fujin's clone tilted his head and wondered, 'If people could blow up in a rage, I wonder if he'd create a bigger explosion than Deidara?'

As Toshio entered the castle, the maids and servants finally reacted. One maid was standing quite close to him and carrying some plates. She walked towards him and said, "The buffet will be in the evening. Don't come here so early. Don't worry, we will have enough food for everyone."

Though the maid spoke politely, Toshio could feel the disdain in her voice. His face became even uglier. He said in a deep voice, "Do you dare stop me?"

The maid was shocked. Though she couldn't identify from his face, she recognized his voice. She observed his physique and identified him immediately. She dropped the plates in horror and walked backwards. She exclaimed, "Toshio-sama?"

Her words were heard clearly by everyone. They had the same thought - The Rumors were true!

Toshio knew that he would get exposed, but since everyone here worked under him, he knew how to ensure that they stayed quiet.

He looked around everywhere and said in a grim voice, "If a word of this is leaked out, you will have to face the consequences. I don't need to tell you the consequences, do I?"

Not a single person spoke. They were all scared. However, suddenly a voice was heard, "Toshio-sama, why are you angry? Come in."

Toshio turned his head in the direction of the voice and saw Kazuo inside the mansion. He snorted and went in. Fujin led him into his office. Toshio followed him but was confused. He thought, 'Something feels off about Kazuo. It's like he isn't being himself.'

Toshio analyzed but didn't understand why Kazuo was acting this way. Fujin knew that his disguise as Kazuo wouldn't be perfect. After all, he had only seen him for a small time. He could replicate his appearance perfectly. He talked with Kazuo for so long before killing to learn how Kazuo spoke. Unfortunately, Kazuo spoke in a very enraged tone. So he didn't know how he talked or acted normally. So this disguise was barely usable. Fortunately, Fujin was only using it to fool common people. So though a few did find something odd, they didn't consider it too much.

Fujin and Toshio entered the office. Once they were alone, Toshio angrily shouted, "Kazuo? Why did you spread those rumors? You bastard. I paid you so much over the years and you still dare to have greed towards my post?"

Fujin just chuckled in response. His brazen attitude enraged Toshio even further. However, before he could speak another word, Kazuo disappeared and he felt a blow to the back of his head. He immediately dropped unconscious. Fujin muttered softly, "Begin the fireworks."

His clone nodded and disappeared.

Outside the mansion, the servants continued working quietly. They looked like a very disciplined workforce. However, if anyone were to take a closer look, they would notice that the servants were extremely scared. Everyone had grim faces. A servant prayed, 'I hope no one here is foolish enough to leak the truth. Otherwise, that vile person will skin us all alive.'

As they were working, suddenly a loud sound was heard. Everyone looked up at the sky. They were stunned. Despite the Sun still being out, they could see a colorful explosion in the sky. They heard some more voices. They looked around to see more fireworks heading towards the sky. The Fireworks erupted with a resounding crack, scattering vibrant fragments around the bright canvas above.

The people in the city were wrapping up their work in a hurry so as to be free during the buffet when they noticed the fireworks. Soon, most of the people in the city were entranced by it. The unexpected daytime pyrotechnics left the crowd astonished.

The explosions unleashed an array of colors and transformed the sky into a living tapestry of vivid blues, radiant reds and shimmering gold. Each explosion brightened the mood of the citizens and raised their hope for their futures.

A young girl's wide eyes locked on to the mesmerizing display. In joy and wonder, she tugged her mother's sleeve and exclaimed, "Mom, look! It is so beautiful!"

Most kids had similar reactions. They all wanted to go there.

However, the adults were puzzled. They wondered, 'Didn't Kazuo-sama say that the Buffet will be in the evening? Why is he calling us now?'

However, the crowd also had some simpletons and foodies. They thought, 'It is the Royal Buffet. I guess they are inviting us for the Royal Starters!'

With watery mouths, they immediately began rushing towards the Mansion, unaware of the tragedy awaiting them!

Within minutes, the mansion was surrounded by people once again. The numbers instantly reached hundreds and soon crossed a thousand. They noticed that the servants working in the mansion were arranging tables and chairs, but couldn't see any food nearby. However, they waited patiently and eagerly.

Fujin waited for a few minutes for the crowd to become substantially larger. Finally, he stepped out of the mansion. He had a plain expression on his face. He walked towards the mansion gate and slammed his hands on the ground.

'Earth Release: Earth Wall jutsu'

Instead of a vast wall, a small pillar of 1-meter length and breadth but with a height of 10 meters rose from the ground. Fujin jumped on it. The crowd was still noisy. He looked around and squinted his eyes. Immediately, a thick bloodlust emanated from Fujin. It spread towards the people. The bloodlust terrified them. Immediately, everyone looked at him in terror. The crowd went silent. They looked at Fujin with fear and wondered, 'Why is Kazuo-sama doing this? Isn't he supposed to be our hero?'

Fujin observed the crowds and was satisfied with the reaction. The bloodlust terrified the civilians without harming them. He said loudly, "Lord Kazekage has investigated the assassin who killed the Nobles and Sunagakure's ninjas. He discovered that he was aided by some traitors."

As soon as he said it, one of Fujin's clones flickered next to him and handed him Toshio's unconscious body. The people's eyes widened as they realized what was going on.

Fujin said, "Toshio was that traitor. He provided the assassin with critical and classified information. Hence, Lord Kazekage has decided that he is to be executed."

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Chapter 272: A Dying City...

Everyone's eyes widened. A few who were well-learned and were close to Toshio wondered, 'Wait, Lord Kazekage has no authority to punish Nobles. Only Lord Daimyo has. What is going on?'

They wanted to voice their opinion. But the bloodlust made them terrified to even open their mouths. A sword appeared in Fujin's hands. His clone held Toshio properly and offered Fujin his neck. Fujin swung his sword. With one swing of his blade, Toshio was beheaded!

The crowd watched with complex expressions. They didn't know what to feel. On one hand, they were happy that a traitor had been killed. Perhaps if they weren't suppressed by the bloodlust, they would have even cheered.

On the other hand, though Toshio wasn't a good person, he had properly propagated himself to be one. So the number of people aware of his real face was very low. Only the recent rumors tarnished his reputation considerably.

They stayed silent and hoped that this nightmare would be over. However, Fujin's next words destroyed all their hopes!

Fujin said, "Lord Kazekage is very upset over how the Noble of Shunkuto has caused the deaths of tens of Sunagakure ninjas. As a punishment, all the ninjas deployed to protect the city will be withdrawn. From this moment onwards, this city won't have any protection from us!"

The civilians were terrified. Their city was deep in the desert. The climate here was very harsh. So they didn't suffer from any bandit attacks as no bandit group would operate here. However, the city frequently had to face deadly sandstorms. The help of ninjas during this time was indispensable. Without their aid to activate the seals and warn everyone in time, many people would die. The ninjas would also aid a lot after the storm had passed the city in order to restore the city and ensure that it functioned properly.

Fujin withdrew his bloodlust and said with a sigh, "Though I don't want to leave here by yourself, I can't disobey my leader. I wish you well."

The people shouted, "No! Please don't leave us here..."

However, their words were stuck in their mouths as Fujin and his clone disappeared. Only Toshio's headless body was left on the stone platform. They looked around and the remaining 'Suna' ninjas had disappeared as well.

Immediately, terror invaded the minds of everyone present. Chaos spread as everyone discussed what to do without any proper plan. Many began talking about leaving the city.

A few rushed into the mansion and began stealing expensive items and money. While the rest rushed to their families.

After leaving the city, Fujin dispelled all of his clones except one. Memories entered his brain. He analyzed them all and frowned. He thought, 'What the hell? None of my clones detected any Suna ninja moving towards this city. Where are Sunagakure ninjas? Did Rasa decide to abandon the West thinking that they have no choice but to obey him? But that doesn't make any sense. He should have been sending ninjas here desperately.'

Fujin looked towards the East and wondered, 'Did Shikaku or some other village stir up huge trouble? Only that would explain such a reaction. But what sort of trouble would they have to stir to make Rasa incapable of sending ninjas here?'

Fujin began analyzing. However, he couldn't come up with any explanation other than war. He wondered, 'Is there a war happening? But I don't recall any major wars happening at this time other than the civil war in Kiri. Should I withdraw and check out the circumstances there?'

Fujin analyzed more before deciding, 'No. I'll head over to the next city. If there is no one protecting it, I'll withdraw and check out the circumstances around Suna and Wind Capital. Else I'll decide after seeing what sort of arrangements Rasa has made for the West.'

Fujin rested for some time to recover his chakra and moved towards the city of Mizunashi.

Back in Shunkuto, the news spread throughout the city. The entire city was in a panic. The news also reached Toshio's family. They were immediately engulfed by grief and rage. His wife cursed loudly, "Kazuo, Rasa! I will never let this go! Did you forget that my family is related to Daimyo as well!"

Her sons calmed her down saying, "Softly mother. It will be troublesome if someone hears us. They might take out the hate of Father on us!"

She controlled herself. With tears running down her cheeks, she said, "We will leave this city under this disguise and travel to Wind Capital however we can. Only then we can get your father justice!"

Her sons nodded. They immediately began making preparations.

A few influential people stepped forward to control the panic and instilled some sense of discipline and control in the city. The city calmed down a bit. After discussing and making proper arrangements, most of the city decided to leave the city the next day.

The next morning, over 80% of the citizens decided to leave the city. Toshio's family also mixed with them. They began travelling across the treacherous deserts and moved towards the nearby cities, towns and villages.

Around the same time, Fujin reached Mizunashi city. Suddenly, his last clone dispelled himself and he received his memories. A smile formed on his face as he thought, 'As I expected. A vast number of people there will begin migrating. After all, who would want to stay in a dying city?'

Now, when they enter nearby cities, they will spread the events that happened in their city. Soon, the news will spread like Wildfire throughout the Land of Wind. The news that Rasa ordered the execution of a Noble and left a city with tens of thousands of people to fend for themselves.

Even though the cities in the East have no option but to stay subservient to Suna, they will become very suspicious of Rasa's intention. And irrespective of what deal the Wind Daimyo and Rasa made, they will enter into conflict once again. After all, that Noble's family is still alive. As long as they reach the Daimyo, another round of hostilities will begin. Even if they don't manage to, the news alone will make the other Nobles pressurize the Daimyo.

Eventually, some of the people that migrated will migrate to the cities in the East. When they do, Rasa's reputation will be hit even further. He will have to take a hell lot of effort to be able to recover his lost reputation. However, the bad will among the ones who suffered will last for decades.

If Shikaku and Hiruzen don't promote me after this and give me access to that Section A of the library, I'll make them experience a similar hell! Though I guess they are too smart to make such a silly mistake.'

Fujin turned his thoughts towards the city in front of him. His eyes were glowing. He muttered, "Another city without any active seals protecting them. That said, the last assassination was fun. I wonder if this city will make it interesting for me as well."

He took a step forward as wind covered his entire body. Before he could land his step, he disappeared from his spot and entered the city. He began walking casually towards the center of the city as usual. As expected, it also had a mansion at the center of the city.

Fujin stood in a secluded corner and wondered, 'What should I do if this Noble is also hiding while a decoy is taking his spot? Doing the same trick twice won't be feasible. After all, many would be suspicious of what I pulled in Shunkuto. The same thing happening in two cities will reduce the suspicion on Rasa and people will suspect foul play. So it will be counter-productive.'



Fujin thought for a bit and gave up, 'Leave it. I'll just kill whoever is acting to be the Noble and the Suna ninjas protecting him. Though I should be careful. Kazuo was willing to blow himself up. However, if he had used something original or unpredictable, then I could have had some trouble.'

As he was deciding, he felt eyes on himself. He turned his head and saw a man approaching him. He laughed awkwardly and asked, "Young man, can you tell me where the flower shop is? I lost my way around here, hahaha."

Fujin nodded and said, "Sure. Travel three streets down this road. Then take a right and then the second left. You'll find the most famous flower shop in this city."

The man quickly said, "Thank you, young man. You saved me."

He quickly left. Fujin watched his back. But this time, he didn't dare to use his chakra. He thought, 'Suspicious. I didn't sense any chakra from him, but something about him feels off. He approached me right after I used some chakra.'

Fujin turned around and left in the opposite direction. The man didn't look back at Fujin and continued walking while thinking, 'I didn't expect him to know where the flower shop is. Did he just luckily come across the flower shop? Or is he an old spy? But why would someone place a spy in this remote city? Unless...'

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Chapter 273: The Trap Springs!

The man was none other than the Elite Jounin, Odaka. He was hanging around the mansion under the disguise of an old man when he felt some chakra being used by Fujin. So he decided to check him out. However, Fujin gave him the answer spontaneously.

Odaka looked at another young man around him and asked once again, "Young man. I want to buy flowers for my wife. It's our anniversary. Can you tell me where the flower shop is?"

The boy politely answered, "Just enter this street. The 5th shop on the right is a flower shop."

Odaka raised his eyebrows. It wasn't the same location that Fujin mentioned. He pointed at a street a bit farther from his location and asked, "Young man, I was told that the flower shop is in that street after taking the second left."

The boy followed his finger. After hearing his words, a look of disgust appeared on his face. He looked at Odaka and said with disgust, "Scums like you deserve to burn in hell!"

He quickly left, leaving Odaka dumbfounded. He wondered, 'What the hell did that young man point me to?'

He looked back at where he saw Fujin, but Fujin was nowhere to be seen. He looked in another direction and his eyes met with one of the Anbu who was hiding. Odaka pointed towards where he had met up with Fujin.

The Anbu nodded and left. Meanwhile, Odaka was interested in where Fujin had pointed him. So he quickly moved towards it. As soon as he did, his face turned red and he became angry. He let out a laugh and said loudly, "Good one boy! You got me!"

The people around were startled by the loud voice. They looked at him like he was a crazy pervert and maintained a safe distance from him. Odaka was staring at a brothel. In fact, there were multiple brothels and sex toy shops on that street.

He immediately left. Fujin, of course, had no idea what was here. He just gave random directions so that no one would think he is new in the city and get suspicious. Even if there was no flower shop there, the person would just assume that they were pranked and curse him without suspecting anything.

However, Odaka was not just some person. And he didn't approach Fujin due to coincidence. He immediately turned around and began moving to see what the Anbu could have discovered.

However, when he reached the mansion again, an explosion happened inside it! Odaka quickly turned his attention towards the mansion as he heard the sound of the explosion. He wondered, 'Did the assassin attack?'

He quickly entered the mansion. So did a dozen other Jounin-level ninjas!

When he was observing the mansion, Fujin had already noticed how many ninjas were inside the mansion. He spotted 9 ninjas among which 3 were at Chunin level and 6 were merely Genins. Just like in the previous city, the Noble was hiding in one room with 2 ninjas protecting him while his family was hiding underground. He decided to take the same approach.

In the central room in the mansion, the decoy was sitting dressed as the Noble. 2 Chunins stood next to him facing opposite directions in case there was a sneak attack. This room had a lot of artifacts. Large animals made of wood were placed in the room.

The decoy was very nervous. He didn't have the same conviction as Tetsuo. Even the ninjas were very nervous. They were already informed that an attack was just a matter of time. They had heard about the invincible record of the assassin and didn't want to end up dead too. So they resolutely followed all the instructions given by Yura.

As they were waiting, a head popped out from the ground. The decoy was spooked and immediately shouted in terror, "He's here! He's here!"

The other ninja turned around while the one facing Fujin immediately threw the kunai he was holding at Fujin and jumped back. So did the other ninja. Fujin's entire body left the ground. He observed the kunai closely as it had an explosion tag attached to it. He immediately shot an air bullet at it. However, before the air bullet could hit the kunai, the explosion tag exploded!

Fujin instantly jumped back and refined his chakra into wind while wondering, 'What the hell? Why did it explode so far away from me?'

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

The amount of chakra used for performing the jutsu was very low as he didn't want to blow up the mansion. The winds generated by the jutsu instantly blew away the smoke. In addition, a few wind blades were also fired. They hit the decoy and killed him on the spot. However, the two Suna ninjas had moved sufficiently away to dodge the wind blades.

As the smoke cleared, Fujin noticed that the Suna ninjas had backed to the wall while the Noble was dead. A frown formed on his face as he saw the two Suna Chunins. They were both wearing a gas mask to cover their nose and mouth. Fujin frowned and asked, "The explosion tag contained poison?"

The Suna ninjas began laughing. One said, "That's right! Did you think that no one could stop you?"

The other said, "This is a newly created poison. Your antidotes won't help you. Hahaha. If you want to live, surrender now!"

Fujin frowned. His eyes widened as he suddenly sensed 13 strong chakras approaching the room. He looked at the Suna Chunins and said, "Good trap!"

He immediately disappeared from their line of sight. The Suna ninjas were surprised. One exclaimed, "Where did h..."

His question was cut short as a punch pierced through his chest! His partner turned his head and saw in horror as a punch came straight at his face. He was too slow to even react. His last thought was, 'So fast!'

The punch landed on his face and killed him as well. Immediately, the door was smashed as 3 Jounins entered the room. Soon after, the walls were knocked out and even more Jounins entered. Odaka was the last one to enter. They surrounded Fujin from all directions. All of them had consumed the antidote and hence weren't concerned about the poison in the air. However, their expressions became ugly on seeing the dead Chunins.

Fujin observed them and thought, '13 Jounins... No, 12 Jounins and an Elite Jounin. Now that's a good trap.'

A smile formed on his face.

The Suna ninjas were surprised by his smile. It was as if he had caught them in a trap instead of what the actual situation was.

Odaka stepped forward and said, "I never expected that you would smile in this situation. Though, I guess it isn't strange considering what you achieved. I really admire how many headaches you gave to Lord Kazekage. I saw a few of his hair turn grey within a month. Hahaha."

Fujin was puzzled by his attitude. Odaka spoke casually as if he was meeting an old friend instead of an enemy. However, his eyes widened as he sensed dozens of ninjas heading towards them. He realized, 'I see. He is just wasting time. As expected of someone so old.'

Odaka chuckled and said, "You sensed them, huh? It doesn't matter. With the poison you inhaled, you will die the most painful and gruesome death. To be honest, I am very interested in knowing who you are. I wonder if you can satisfy this old man's request now or if I will have to wait until you die."

Fujin let out a chuckle and said, "We will have to see who will die and who will live."

He took a step forward and suddenly disappeared. Odaka's eyes widened. He shouted, "Be careful! He is fast!"

Fujin appeared in front of a Jounin. He was holding a kunai in each hand. He immediately stabbed towards the Jounin's heart. The Jounin immediately jumped backwards. The ones next to him immediately attacked Fujin. Fujin stopped his attack and used his two kunais to block their attacks. However, the ninjas in front of him weaved hand signs.

'Wind Release: Air Bullet jutsu'

Fujin immediately pushed the attackers away and got out of the way. The bullets passed harmlessly and pierced through the walls. The Jounin frowned as those rogue bullets could hit some of their reinforcements.

Odaka observed Fujin and analyzed with a frown on his face, 'Hmm, he is faster and stronger than an average Jounin. Even among Elite Jounins, his speed and physical strength might be at the very top. But, why is the poison not slowing him down? Is this his capability after being slowed or does the poison not affect him for some reason?'

Odaka was taking Fujin lightly as his death was certain. But now he became doubtful. He immediately became very serious.

As soon as Fujin landed in another spot, he was once again attacked by 3 Jounins. Fujin blocked their attacks and tried attacking back, but they dodged him with perfect teamwork. Suddenly, all 3 backed away.

Fujin's eyes widened as he noticed two ninjas building up their chakra while weaving hand signs. He wondered, 'Do they not care about the mansion?'

He instantly backed off and concentrated his chakra as well.

'Wind Release: Wind Dragon Jutsu'

Two massive Wind Dragons formed and dived at Fujin. However, Fujin wasn't much concerned. He had already deduced the jutsu by looking at their hand signs.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough Jutsu'

He poured 20% of his chakra into the jutsu. Extremely strong winds were breathed by Fujin. It hit the two Wind Dragons and dispersed it. The Suna Jounins had grim expressions. They had the same thought, 'Is he from the Land of Wind or are we?'

They all used their respective defensive moves. The walls of the mansion began collapsing. Fujin was about to pour even more chakra into the jutsu and cause maximum damage to the Suna ninjas by dismantling their defensive jutsus when he suddenly jumped towards his right and looked behind.

His eyes widened as he saw the wooden horse behind him open its mouth wide and shoot hundreds of needles at him! Fujin continued blowing the Infinite Breakthrough, but this time, he used it towards his left so that his body would be pushed to his right. However, it was too late. A few needles grazed his left hand and two needles pierced his left arm and stayed stuck in it. Fujin cursed, 'Shit!'

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## Chapter 274: Racing in the Desert

Chakra gathered in Fujin's eyes as he noticed the chakra threads controlling the wooden horse. He traced them back and his eyes landed on Odaka. He thought, 'A puppet master. I guess these needles are poisoned as well. I don't have much time.'

Seeing Fujin get hit improved the morale of the Suna Jounins who were getting overwhelmed. Odaka also sighed in relief. However, Fujin's eyes quickly scanned through the Suna Jounins and finally settled on one guy. He decided, 'This one.'

Though the winds were still flowing strongly in the mansion, Fujin flickered and appeared next to him. The Jounin immediately moved backwards while swiping his kunai at Fujin. Fujin dropped the kunai in his hand and stopped his opponent by grabbing his wrist. At the same time, the ninjas nearby threw shurikens at Fujin from close range.

A sigh escaped Fujin's mouth as he thought, 'Sucks that they didn't come close.'

In the very next moment, he exploded!

The eyes of the Jounin whose arm was being grabbed widened in horror. He couldn't use any jutsu to defend himself nor could he get away. His left arm was blown up. The explosion hit his body, burning his eyes and face. He was launched across the room and crashed into a wall! The shurikens that were thrown at Fujin were also launched back due to the explosion. However, everyone dodged them easily. But not a single person had a happy expression.

Outside the mansion, people were going with their lives as usual. A few people who were around the mansion noticed the sounds of explosions and clashes inside the mansion and began wondering what was happening.

Suddenly, a massive explosion occurred! A corner of the mansion was blown up. Pieces of stone and concrete were sent flying for hundreds of meters in the city and crashed into a few unlucky houses and stores.

Immediately, everyone began looking at the mansion which stood at the center of the city! These included the ninjas that were hiding in the city, the civilians and a young man sitting in a cafe.

The young man's eyes glowed as he observed the mansion while going through the memories he received. A smirk formed on his face as he thought, 'Not bad. Not bad at all! They set up a very good trap. The previous easy missions were indeed to lower my guard. If it was someone careless or arrogant, this trap would have been very successful. Now then...'

The young man was none other than Fujin. When Odaka approached him, Fujin had already finished observing the mansion and sent a shadow clone into the ground to attack the mansion.

Fujin's eyes moved rapidly as he spotted 4 Anbu ninjas who were observing him from different locations. At the moment of the explosion, they stopped looking at him and watched the mansion.

Fujin took the opportunity and flickered immediately. He appeared behind an Anbu ninja and pierced a kunai through his throat. Before the Anbu could realize that someone killed him, he flickered behind the next Anbu ninja and repeated the same.

The Anbu were located quite far away from each other. So they didn't notice their comrades falling. However, they had a job to spy on Fujin. They turned their attention back to him only to notice him not being in his spot. They immediately became alert. However, another one of them was killed by Fujin.

The final Anbu noticed someone killing a fellow Anbu member through the corner of his eye. He was shocked. He immediately grabbed his kunai. Fujin flickered once again and appeared behind the last Anbu. The Anbu quickly turned around and used his kunai to stop Fujin's attack. The two kunai clashed creating a loud sound.

Inside the mansion, one Jounin asked, "Did he die?"

As the dust began settling, Odaka walked ahead and said with a grim expression, "I guess not. He was a Shadow Clone! No wonder the poison had no effect on him."

The Jounins immediately went silent. Finally, one asked, "Did we get toyed with by a mere clone?"



Everyone knew the answer but everyone was silent. Suddenly, their silence was broken by the loud sound of two kunai clashing. Everyone looked out of the hole the explosion had created and noticed an Anbu ninja fighting with someone.

Fujin was surprised by the loudness of the sound. He wondered, 'Is his kunai made of something that creates a loud noise? But what's the use of such a loud kunai?'

The Suna Anbu sighed in relief. He thought, 'I'm glad I kept this kunai with me for emergencies. Now everyone will know that he is here.'

However, his relief was short-lived. Fujin shot an Air bullet at his forehead at point blank! The Anbu had no time to dodge. A hole was left in his forehead as he dropped dead.

However, the loud sound had done its job. Over a hundred ninjas were staring at Fujin! The Jounins led by Odaka immediately flickered towards Fujin. Yura and his subordinates were close to Fujin as well. They quickly moved towards him as well.

Fujin watched them as his body was enveloped in wind. Odaka's eyes widened. Dozens of poisoned needles appeared in his hands and he threw them all at Fujin. However, before they could reach him, Fujin had already disappeared.

The Jounins all landed where Fujin was standing. Immediately wind enveloped them as well as they weaved hand seals and cursed, "Do you think only you know the Wind Instantaneous Body jutsu?"

Immediately, all the Jounins used the same jutsu and began their chase. Apart from these twelve, the others in the city who could use that jutsu began the chase as well.

Fujin turned around and noticed a few dozen ninjas chasing after him. He thought, 'The area around the city is a complete desert. There is nothing that can hide me. If this was the Land of Fire, they wouldn't even know where to chase me. Still, it's fine. The chase depends on the expertise in this jutsu and stamina. I'll just keep running until they can't keep up anymore.'

Fujin looked ahead and continued running. Apart from this, he had another choice. That was to use Shadow clones and split in different directions. It would force the Suna ninjas to split up as well. He could then hunt them one by one.

Fujin did think of this idea, but he dismissed it immediately. He thought, 'Though I could kill a good number of them, it's too risky. My shadow clones can't be poisoned but I can be. I'd prefer to not get poisoned in this desert. After all, Poison is Suna's speciality. Though it wasn't a match for Tsunade, I'm no Tsunade. Avoiding getting poisoned is the only method for me.'

Over the last couple of years, Fujin's knowledge about medical jutsus, the human body and poisons had increased a lot. But he wasn't arrogant enough to think that it would be anywhere close to competing against Suna.

The Suna ninjas chasing Fujin had already split into groups. At the forefront was Manabu. Behind him were Yura, Odaka and Eagle. The Jounins were behind them in smaller groups of their own. Though they could use the jutsu, the amount of time needed and the distance they could cover was different for everyone.

Every Suna ninja had a grim face as they noticed Fujin getting further and further away at every second. One of the Jounins cursed, "What the hell? How does he flicker by more than a kilometer every time? And why does his jutsu activate instantly?"

The one next to him muttered, "It's almost as if the Wind Gods have all blessed him!"

They weren't the only ones with that thought. Manabu was upset as well. He was one of the strongest Wind users in Sunagakure. He was quite prideful about his expertise in wind manipulation. He thought, 'If not for the Magnet Kekkei Genkai, even Rasa wouldn't be a match for my Wind Release. Who is this ninja?'

Fujin used the jutsu 10 times consecutively. He was about to use it again when he suddenly stopped and disrupted his chakra.

Immediately, the scene in front of him changed. A dozen ninjas appeared in front of him. He was alarmed by the situation and wondered, 'Why the hell would they set up an ambush all the way out here?'

Manabu, Odaka and the rest noticed it and sighed in relief. The reinforcements sent by Rasa had arrived when Fujin was wasting time in Shunkuto City.

Manabu thought, 'He finally encountered one of the squads. I was afraid he was going to run straight through the net we set up. After all, how could anyone catch anyone who moves a kilometer with every step? However, it looks like he has used up all his luck. Of all the squads to encounter, he encountered that monster!'

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Chapter 275: Unleashing the Monster!

The twelve Suna ninjas stared at Fujin. The one standing at the front and who set up the Genjutsu was Susumu, an Elite Jounin. He chuckled and said, "You must have had horrible luck to encounter us. After today, even your bones won't remain!"

The others chuckled as well. Fujin didn't bother arguing against them. After all, he could see the reason why they were so cocky. It was a young boy, standing in the midst of their ranks.

The boy had fair skin, short, spikey and red hair and emerald green eyes with dark rings giving him a distinct look. In addition, there was a gourd on his back, which was too big for his size.

Fujin thought, 'Facing Gaara in a desert full of sand... Indeed, my luck would have been horrible had he been older. However, at this age... Is Rasa out of his mind sending his ten-year-old kid and Suna's only Jinchuriki against me? If I didn't already know the future, I'd be very tempted to kill him right here! And unless he released Shukaku, I doubt he'd have any chance of survival either.'

Unlike Fujin, Gaara didn't waste any time thinking. Sand poured out of his gourd and immediately moved towards Fujin. Fujin was about to flicker when he felt something unusual. He immediately disrupted his chakra and moved out of the way while looking at Susumu.

Susumu grinned and said, "With me here, you should forget about being able to escape. Gaara-sama, attack without restraint. I'll ensure that he can't escape!"

Gaara ignored his words and kept attacking. Fujin dodged while thinking, 'Annoying. He uses Genjutsu right when I am about to use a jutsu. Though I can break it right away, it's dangerous. After all, who knows how I will use the jutsu when under a Genjutsu?'

This level of Genjutsu, he must be Sabaku Susumu, one of Rasa's cousins. And probably the strongest Genjutsu user from Suna. But how is he affecting my chakra?'

Susumu was very confident about trapping Fujin. However, his smile disappeared as he noticed that Fujin kept avoiding Gaara's sand every time.

Even though Fujin couldn't use any jutsu, he wasn't very concerned. His normal speed far exceeded the speed of Gaara's sand. Not a single attack came close to hurting him. However, as Fujin was dodging the sand, Manabu finally caught up! Fujin looked back and frowned, 'At this rate, I'll be surrounded by hundreds of ninjas!'

His eyes began glowing as he focused chakra in them. Gaara was becoming impatient. He sent all the sand out of his gourd. It formed into small pebble-sized balls and rained down at Fujin.

Fujin got out of range of the attack with ease once again as he observed, 'I see. This guy is leaking his chakra into the wind. He is using the air I breathe to slowly affect my chakra network and make me fall into a Genjutsu. This shouldn't be enough to make me fall under a Genjutsu, but he probably increases the chakra right when I'm busy refining my chakra to use a jutsu.'

A sparkle appeared in Fujin's eyes as he looked at Susumu. His look towards him had changed. He no longer viewed Susumu as an obstruction and instead viewed him as a delicacy! A shiver passed through Susumu's spine as he wondered, 'Why is he looking at me like this? Don't tell me he swings that way! Still, shouldn't he be concerned about Gaara?'

'Wind Release: Air Bullet jutsu'

Manabu noticed that Fujin was focusing on Gaara and Susumu. He had no intention of getting in Gaara's way. So he maintained distance and fired 15 air bullets at Fujin.

Fujin noticed the attack and dodged once again. However, Gaara was annoyed. Normally, everyone would be terrified of him and his sand. However, not only was Fujin not afraid, he didn't even give Gaara a second glance. It was as if Fujin didn't consider him a threat at all!

Gaara exerted more chakra. Hundreds of sand balls rained at Fujin who nimbly dodged while emitting his own chakra into the air to neutralize Susumu's threat!

Susumu immediately sensed Fujin's chakra and was shocked! However, before he could do anything, Gaara shouted, "Desert Coffin!"

While Fujin was dodging the Sand Shower, Gaara led him towards where his sand was. Fujin was surrounded on all sides. For the second time, Fujin looked into Gaara's eyes.

A frown formed on Gaara's face as he muttered, "Why isn't he afraid of me, Mother?"

In anger, the sand began moving much faster. However, Fujin, who was maintaining eye contact, suddenly disappeared. He reappeared far outside the little trap Gaara had created.

Susumu shouted, "Impossible! How did you use a jutsu?"

He wondered, 'Even if he has seen through my technique, he hasn't broken it yet. So how did he flicker?'

Manabu flickered behind Fujin with a grim expression and attacked Fujin with a kunai. Fujin grabbed his kunai and hit Manabu's kunai and jumped backwards immediately. Manabu did the same as Gaara's sand appeared between the two of them.

Manabu said, "He didn't use a jutsu. That is his raw speed!"

Susumu was shocked. He looked at Fujin again and wondered, 'That's his normal speed? No wonder he has been so successful in his assassinations. We have to kill him here. Otherwise, he will become a huge headache for Suna!'

As they were wondering how to deal with Fujin, Odaka and Eagle arrived and joined Manabu. Yura too arrived but stayed back and began coordinating the ninjas and establishing new perimeters to ensure that Fujin couldn't escape.

However, unlike the level-headed Jounins, one person had no patience. He was incredibly annoyed by how dismissive Fujin was of him. Gaara shouted, "Sand Tsunami!"

Immediately, the sand in the desert began moving. It formed into a wave of Tsunami and headed towards Fujin. However, instead of terror, there was a smile on Fujin's face as he thought, 'Finally, he messed up! I was worried after seeing the puppet master.'

The Suna jounins noticed the Tsunami and had grim expressions. The jutsu covered a wide area. All of them were targeted as well! They immediately moved away! The remaining 10 ninjas from the Ambush squad were standing behind Gaara and hence were safe from the Tsunami. However, they began sweating in fear due to the scale of the attack.

Fujin looked at Susumu and decided, 'I was planning to leave and never return here. But since you decided to keep me here, I might as well have some fun!'

Fujin disrupted his chakra once again and exerted a huge amount of chakra. Susumu noticed the chakra build-up and immediately cursed, "Shit! He will run away!"

Even before he could complete his statement, Fujin disappeared. The Suna ninjas wanted to stop him, but the Sand Tsunami severely restricted their movement. The Suna ninjas who were still rushing towards Fujin stopped and dispersed out of the attack's way.

Odaka expanded his chakra field and tried to sense Fujin. However, he could no longer sense him.

Odaka frowned and said, "He is gone. I can't sense him anymore. It was a mistake to include Gaara in such an important mission. He doesn't have the tactical know-how yet to fight at this level."

The others silently agreed. Eagle said, "Luckily Yura began establishing a new perimeter. We can still catch up with him if he gets stalled."

However, Manabu, Odaka and Susumu didn't share the same opinion. They had all engaged with Fujin. His speed was too fast for anyone under the Elite Jounin level to handle. Excluding them, there were only 2 more Elite Jounins around the city. And neither were stationed in that direction.

Though they were upset that Fujin had gotten away, they had another matter to take care of. The Sand Tsunami was approaching them rapidly. They immediately flickered out of the way.

Gaara, who created this mess, grinned and said, "That's it! Run away from me!"

As soon as he said it, the sand around him moved quickly and formed a sand wall on his left side. Gaara was shocked and turned his head to the left. His eyes widened as he saw 6 holes in the sand wall.

6 Air bullets pierced through the thin layer of sand and grazed Gaara's arms and chest. Gaara's eyes widened in horror as a red line appeared across his chest. His arms also began bleeding. He muttered, "What... is... this? Is this... blood? My..."

Immediately he shouted as loudly as he could, "BLOOD MY BLOOD!!"

The Suna Jounins who were still dodging the sand tsunami were shocked as they felt a thick bloodlust and heard Gaara's screams. Susumu asked in terror, "Gaara is injured? How?"

The others were horrified too. The Sand Tsunami was just a minor inconvenience. If they didn't have to chase after Fujin, this jutsu wouldn't have any effect on them. However, they began sweating in fear at the thought of Gaara losing control.

The ones who had it worst were the 10 Suna ninjas who were behind Gaara. Their legs began shivering in terror. A few fell on the ground. The ones who could stand began running away.

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Chapter 276: A Complex Battle

Unlike what Odaka had thought, Fujin hadn't run away. Instead, he just hid his chakra signature. And thanks to the cover provided by the sand tsunami, no one could see, hear or smell him.

He immediately attacked Gaara with the intention of making him bleed. However, he was surprised as he thought, 'The air bullets breaking through is reasonable. After all, the sand that defended him was too little. But why did he get injured so much? Doesn't he have the sand armor?'

Fujin observed him properly and realized, 'I see. I guess he hasn't created that technique yet.'

He turned his attention towards the Suna ninjas on the other side of the tsunami and muttered, "Well, sucks to be you guys."

Odaka activated his chakra field once again. His eyes widened as he shouted, "That assassin is still here! Bastard hid his chakra signature."

Fujin detected the chakra field and immediately used Wind Instantaneous Body jutsu. Odaka sensed Fujin getting farther away and said, "He escaped."

Manabu asked, "Are you sure that he didn't hide his chakra again? It'll be annoying if he interferes when we are stopping Gaara."

Odaka replied, "Yes. Last time his chakra signature just disappeared. This time, I sensed him leaving. Besides, I doubt he would want to stay when Gaara is losing control."

They could still hear Gaara's screams as his body began transforming. The sand tsunami had lost its power and was settling down. But other than Eagle and the three Elite Jounins, the rest stayed away in fear. Susumu moved towards Gaara while weaving hand signs, Manabu shouted, "Don't let him fall asleep!"

Susumu already knew it. He reached as close to Gaara as he could and completed his hand signs.

'Demise of the Rebirth'

Despite being partially transformed, the Genjutsu hit Gaara. As the Genjutsu took hold, a serene sensation washed over him, like a gentle breeze on summer's eve. In an instant, his tumultuous



emotions were caressed and quelled. It was as if the weight of anger, hatred, pain and panic were lifted. The world around him transformed into a dreamland adorned by Sakura blossoms.

As Gaara watched the Sakura petals floating with the wind, he felt a soothing sensation. The illusion cocooned him in a realm of tranquility, offering respite from the burdens of reality. For a fleeting moment, he found solace in the beauty of this ephemeral sanctuary.

Unfortunately, he couldn't stay in this world forever. A wave of anger burned in his heart as Shukaku transferred his chakra into Gaara's body to break the illusion and further transform the boy.

Susumu and the rest knew that the Genjutsu wouldn't hold a Jinchuriki down for long. When Gaara opened his eyes, he saw 4 puppets surrounding him. His body was tied with metal strings held by the puppets, restricting his mobility.

Gaara roared in rage as he began struggling. Odaka gritted his teeth and increased his control on his puppets to ensure that they wouldn't be sent flying. Fortunately, he wasn't alone.

Manabu jumped high in the sky and blew an intense wind on Gaara. Gaara's knees bent. He felt an intense pressure falling down on him continuously. The Suna ninjas sighed in relief on seeing Gaara being pinned down.

However, Gaara opened his eyes and stared at Manabu. Manabu immediately had a bad feeling. The sand under Gaara's feet began moving. It instantly reached Manabu! Fortunately, Manabu was prepared and flickered out of the way.

Gaara's eyes moved and landed on Odaka. Odaka immediately jumped as he felt the sand under his feet move. As soon as he jumped, multiple tentacles made of sand appeared and moved towards Odaka. Realizing the danger, Odaka opened a scroll and made a hand seal. Immediately, a huge Turtle made of wood and metal appeared between him and the sand.

The sand hit the belly of the turtle while Odaka landed on its back and immediately jumped towards Manabu. The sand tentacles were stopped. However, more sand moved and completely engulfed the turtle. Odaka's remaining 4 puppets were also engulfed and crushed by sand.

He sighed and muttered, "This is going to be a painful fight."

Manabu nodded. The cost of building high-quality puppets was quite high. He said, "Fortunately, we bought enough time."

Odaka nodded as he saw that Susumu had returned with 2 ninjas behind him.

Susumu looked at the situation and instructed, "We will hold him down. As soon as we do, use your techniques to seal him temporarily."

The two ninjas nodded nervously. They were sent along with Susumu and Gaara in case such a scenario happened. However, despite being trained, they had very little experience in sealing a Jinchuriki. After all, if something went wrong in Suna, Rasa would take care of it. They would have no reason to act.

Odaka, Manabu and Susumu began fighting Gaara again. Meanwhile, Eagle stood next to the two sealing ninjas to ensure that Gaara wouldn't harm them.

After 5 minutes of intense battle, they finally managed to pin Gaara down once again. Susumu shouted, "NOW!"

Immediately, the two sealing ninjas summoned and opened a giant roll of cloth.

'Cloth Binding Technique'

The cloth moved towards Gaara and began wrapping itself around it. Gaara struggled, but he couldn't get out of it. In a few seconds, he was completely covered by the cloth!

The Suna ninjas finally sighed in relief. Gaara was stopped. They and the city close to them were safe. Susumu grabbed a sealing tag and walked towards Gaara in order to ensure that he couldn't break free. However, his eyes widened. He looked down at his chest in fear and disbelief. A kunai that was dyed in blood had pierced through his heart!

The Suna ninjas were shocked as well. A second ago they were happy that Gaara was sealed! Now, they watched in disbelief as the strongest Genjutsu specialist in Suna closed his eyes and passed away!

However, Fujin had no expression on his face. He didn't waste any time celebrating and instead looked at Manabu and Odaka.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

A massive windstorm was shot out towards them. Odaka hurriedly summoned a defensive Puppet and the two hid behind it. However, both had grim expressions.

Manabu asked, "Didn't you say that he ran away?"

Odaka answered, "I definitely sensed him running away. Unless he kept hiding and sent a Shadow clone away to fool me. Or maybe he ran away and returned while hiding his chakra. After all, we were busy stopping Gaara."

Manabu didn't question any further. After all, it was pointless. He said, "This scum is very cunning. We were on guard while fighting Gaara. If he had attacked then, Susumu would have dodged or blocked him. Instead, he waited until we had won and dropped our guard momentarily."

Odaka nodded and said, "He almost reminds me of Yellow Flash. In the third war, we lost most of our Elite Jounins to his sneak attacks. Other than Tsunade, he was the main reason that we had to accept our defeat and form an alliance with Konoha."

Manabu and Odaka's expressions became even uglier. They had speculated that the assassin was from Konoha. Both thought, 'If Konoha has gained such a strong fighter who is willing to go to such an extreme during peacetime, then a war with them would prove extremely costly.'

While Manabu and Odaka were hiding from the storm, Eagle took the opportunity to flicker behind Fujin and attacked him with his kunai. However, Fujin withdrew the kunai from Susumu's heart and blocked the attack.

'Wind Release: Air Bullet jutsu'

Eagle's eyes widened as he noticed the attack. He immediately jumped out of the way. Fujin let him go and instead spat out a fire on the cloth that had sealed Gaara. The two Sealing ninjas shouted in horror, "No! Don't!"

Unfortunately, Fujin had no intention to listen to them. Eagle's eyes widened as well. He immediately began weaving hand signs and building up his chakra. However, before he could complete his hand signs, he was forced to jump backwards. A kunai grazed past his left forearm leaving a half-foot-long cut in it. He winced in pain but kept weaving hand signs.

'Water Release: Waterfall jutsu.'

Despite acting as fast as he could, the delay due to the pain meant that the cloth was already set on fire! A second later, a huge waterfall crashed down on the fire and doused it. At the same time, Manabu launched his own Infinite Breakthrough jutsu and neutralized Fujin's attack. He and Odaka appeared next to Eagle and asked, "Where is the assassin?"

Eagle said, "He is th..."

His words were stuck in his mouth as he noticed that Fujin and Susumu's dead body had both disappeared! However, before they could investigate, a furious roar was heard through the desert. The Suna ninjas looked where Gaara was sealed in grim expression as he broke out of the binding cloth!

They began fighting him once again.

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Chapter 277: An Opportunity!

Manabu and Odaka led the fight to suppress Gaara once again. However, without Susumu and with the added threat of an assassin, the fight became much more difficult.

Manabu shouted, "Yura. Take command of others and encircle Gaara. Have sensors monitor the battlefield and immediately report if anyone senses that Assassin!"

Being struck once, Manabu didn't want to risk getting attacked again. Suna's losses were already terrible. In its entire history, Suna had experienced such losses during peacetime very few times. If he and Odaka were also to die then Suna would be in a terrible position. Not to mention, the assassin could also target their only Jinchuriki!

As the Suna ninjas entered into a bitter struggle, the source of their suffering had already flickered tens of kilometers away. Fujin finally stopped and let out a sigh. He muttered, "What a mess. First, they let me kill Nobles without any obstruction and then they suddenly have over a hundred ninjas defending one remote city with their Jinchuriki standing right on my escape route! If I didn't know how impulsive Gaara was, I could have been in a pinch."

He looked at Susumu's dead body in his hand and muttered, "Though it's not all bad. My Genjutsu level was stuck for a long time. Other than the Bringer of Darkness, I don't have a high-level Genjutsu that could create a significant impact in battle. I was wondering if I could use the Wind to somehow use Genjutsu. Sadly, the Anbu duties didn't leave me with much time. But now it seems to be a good thing. With his jutsus as the base, I would easily master high-level Genjutsu in no time."

Fujin carefully stored Susumu's body. He had no intention of trying to read his memories by himself. He looked back towards where the Sand shinobi were fighting and analyzed, 'In this battle, I only used Wind and Fire jutsus. Apart from it, I also exposed my high speed, strength and expertise in chakra control, flickering and assassination.

Sigh, it's a little more than what I planned to expose. But I did manage to keep my Earth jutsus, Vacuum jutsus, Sword skills and Chakra flow a secret. Even if they investigate, they wouldn't analyze that this was me anytime soon. Though once I begin gaining fame, it won't be that difficult for their suspicions to fall on me.'

Fujin sighed. He could have never imagined that such a distant city would have an ambush made of 1 Jinchuriki, 3 Elite Jounins, dozens of Jounins and hundreds of ninjas. He thought, 'I should have quit after burning the food storage.'

Fujin weaved a few hand signs and slammed his hand on the ground.

'Summoning Jutsu'

Smoke appeared in front of Fujin. It slowly dispersed, exposing a large Sabertooth holding the bloody leg of some wild animal in his mouth. He looked around and saw Fujin. Fujin said with a smile, "Kaito, it's good to see you again."

Kaito continued eating as he asked, "Fujin, why did you call me?"

Fujin replied, "I am deep in enemy territory and have no idea how many are hiding around in ambush. Give me a lift."

Kaito continued eating the leg and said, "Sure, give me a minute."

He swallowed the entire leg and then spat out the bones and said, "Get on."

Fujin disappeared and appeared on his back. Kaito jumped high and spread his wings wide. He flapped it a few times and quickly rose above the clouds. He looked below towards where Gaara was and said, "Your enemy seems quite strong. I can feel his chakra and bloodlust all the way up here."

Unlike Kaito, Fujin couldn't feel anything. He said, "It's a Jinchuriki. A human who hosts a tailed beast. That said, he is a child and has lost control. If he didn't I'd be in deep trouble."

Kaito nodded. Just based on the chakra fluctuations, he had no will to confront that being. He immediately began flying away toward the East. Fujin lay down on his back while enjoying the fresh air and gentle breeze. The last few weeks had been too tedious. He was on guard at all times due to being in enemy territory.

Fujin closed his eyes and began meditating. Despite not having any seals, Fujin had noticed long back that meditating while flying above the clouds was much more effective than meditating in his meditation room. In addition, it had a soothing effect on his mind. In a world with ceaseless conflict and incessant schemes, he cherished this feeling.

Unlike Fujin's calm mind, the deserts he flew over were in turmoil. After a long struggle, Manabu and Odaka managed to stop Gaara's rampage and returned him to his normal state. Unfortunately, the lives of 4 Chunins and 1 Jounin were lost in the process.

Around them, hundreds of Suna ninjas were establishing a new Perimeter. Dozens of sensors moved continuously in the desert to find where the Assassin was hiding! Messenger birds were constantly being sent to keep everyone informed about the situation.

A bit further from them, tens of thousands of people were migrating across the desert from Shunkuto to nearby towns and villages that had the protection of the Suna ninjas. Hiding among them was the family of the dead Noble Toshio.

However, Fujin would have nothing to do with it. He had already left the entire matter behind him. Rasa and the Sunagakure Council would have to handle the aftermath of Fujin's actions. If they decide to retaliate, then Shikaku and Hiruzen would have to face the consequences of not properly defining Fujin's mission parameters.

Fujin flew on Kaito's back for half a day. They left the Land of Wind behind and entered the Land of Rivers undetected. Kaito found an abandoned hill and finally landed. He asked, "Don't you want a lift all the way back home?"

Fujin shook his head and thought, 'Very few people know I have a summon. And even fewer know what my summon is or what their abilities are. Though I don't intend to hide them like my Lightning jutsus, it's good to have another good trump card.'

Fujin replied, "No need, I can make the remaining journey myself as there shouldn't be any enemies here."

Kaito replied, "Alright."

He disappeared in a cloud of smoke and returned to his home. Meanwhile, Fujin stretched for a bit and was about to move towards the Land of Fire when he heard a loud explosion. He turned his head to the left and squinted his eyes. Around 3 kilometers from his location, a forest fire had been started.

He squinted his eyes and observed the location and analyzed, 'A fight? At this time of the night? I wonder what's going on.'

He suppressed his chakra signature and flickered towards the location. His chakra reserves had already recovered and he didn't sense any terrible chakra. So he wasn't very worried.

In the forests, 5 masked people were chasing after a man. The man was injured. There were multiple cuts on his body. In addition, his left hand had a huge burn mark due to an explosion. One of the masked men shouted, "Shigeki! Stop running and face consequences for your actions!"

Shigeki didn't say anything and continued running. His condition wasn't good. The masked men weren't angry. Instead, they looked at Shigeki with ridicule. They could have killed him long back. However, they were just having fun.

Shigeki was aware of it. However he continued running while praying, 'Please give me one chance! Please! As long as I survive, I'll return stronger than ever! I'll avenge my family and kill that bastard.'

Fortunately or unfortunately, the direction he was running in was where Fujin had landed.

Fujin reached the location quickly and observed from a distance. None of the six ninjas sensed his arrival. Fujin analyzed, 'These 5 masked ninjas are from the special forces of Tanigakure. And is that Kasai Shigeki? Why are they chasing their own Jounin?'

Fujin had interacted with Shigeki a couple of times during his Anbu missions. He had a good impression of him. The man was decently strong for someone who wasn't from any major village and didn't have any strong bloodline. In addition, he was smart, loyal to his village and capable of leading large squads.

Fujin followed them stealthily. Within a couple of minutes, he wondered, 'Did he do something that irked the leaders of Tanigakure or the Land of River?'

The more he chased, the more sure Fujin became of his speculation. Especially after he observed Shigeki's facial expressions. A smile appeared on his face as he thought, 'This is a good opportunity. I was hoping to find someone who was capable and in a desperate situation.'

However, his smile faded away and was replaced with a frown as he thought, 'But this is too soon. I am not ready. I haven't finalized my plans or even have any concrete goals as of now.'



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### Chapter 278: Shiden

The masked men continued chasing Shigeki while occasionally throwing shurikens and explosion tags at him. Fujin followed them patiently for 45 minutes. He had changed his attire and got himself a new mask.

Finally, one of the masked men stopped laughing and said, "He is reaching close to a cliff. He might try to jump off. Enough fun, let's kill him now. We still have to bring his dead body back. Otherwise, Kanji-sama might kill us as well!"

The other masked men got serious as well and said, "Yes Captain."

Immediately their speed increased. Shigeki noticed the cliff as well. He immediately began running towards it while thinking, 'If they catch me, I'll die! I will try my luck by jumping off the cliff. If I survive, I will train and slaughter Kanji, his son and his entire family!'

Unfortunately, one of the masked men appeared next to him. Shigeki's eyes widened. He immediately punched him. However, the masked man ducked and kicked his left leg which had a huge burn mark. Shigeki screamed in pain. He lost his balance and fell on his face and slid across the ground.

The fall aggravated his existing injuries and inflicted fresh ones that began bleeding as well. Despite the pain, he gritted his teeth and got up. However, as soon as he did, he saw the five masked ninjas standing in front of him. The Captain raised his kunai and said, "Farewell Shigeki!"

He swung his Kunai at Shigeki's neck. Tears rolled down Shigeki's cheeks as he shouted, "Just give me one chance!"

The masked ninjas had a smirk on their faces. They had no mercy for Shigeki. Just when the Kunai was about to cut his neck, the masked man's hand lost power. The kunai hit Shigeki's neck but caused no injury as it didn't have enough force to cut through.

Meanwhile, Shigeki's eyes were wide open in shock. As if answering his prayers, the heads of all 5 masked ninjas were sent flying in an instant! In a second, their lifeless bodies collapsed to the ground.

Suddenly, Shigeki felt a chill down his spine. He didn't dare move as he felt a sword resting on his neck. He felt that if he made any slight movement, his head would roll over just like others. He heard a cold voice asking, "Give you a chance for what?"

He immediately said, "One of the Elders in Tanigakure killed my entire family. I want a chance to live so that I can get stronger and get justice for my wife and daughter!"

Fujin was puzzled. He asked, "Why did he kill them?"

Shigeki was silent. Tears rolled down his cheeks. His voice lost all spirit as he said, "His drunk son raped my daughter. He didn't know she was my daughter. In a rage, I beat him up and mutilated him to ensure that he can't do something so heinous to anyone else. I wanted to kill him as well, but I was stopped by my colleagues.

That's when my tragedy began. Kanji couldn't retaliate at first as my colleagues backed me. Instead, he showed that he was upset with his son and scolded him. But in reality, he was plotting revenge.

Slowly, Kanji made numerous allegations about me and spread ill rumors. When my reputation had fallen enough, his personal ninjas made a move against my family when I was out on a mission. They ambushed me as well due to which I couldn't fight back."

He stopped talking and broke down. Fujin sighed secretly but kept his sword on his neck. He thought, 'No wonder he is in such bad shape.'

Though Fujin knew about Shigeki, he wasn't aware of his family. But he knew that Shigeki was just in his early thirties. He didn't need to think much to understand what his daughter might have gone through. He let Shigeki cry out for some time.

Finally, Shigeki calmed down. He asked, "Are you going to kill me?"

Fujin didn't answer. Shigeki begged, "Could you please let me live for some time? I will get justice for my family and then kill myself! If not, could you please kill Kanji and his son after you kill me?"

Fujin didn't answer and asked, "How will you kill your way into Tanigakure in your condition?"

Shigeki replied, "I am not strong enough yet. I will train until I can get justice for my family!"

Fujin chuckled and said, "Strong enough to kill your way into a Hidden Village? You are too old for having such silly dreams. But I have a proposition for you. I was looking for a capable man to recruit to help me run my organization. You might be suitable for that job. As long as you do a good job, I'll help you get your justice. Either by yourself if you get sufficiently strong enough or through my hands. What do you say?"

Shigeki was surprised. He was expecting to die like the masked ninjas. Instead, their killer was trying to recruit him. He asked, "What organization do you want to create?"

Fujin asked, "Does it matter as long as you get your justice?"

Shigeki went silent. However, after a couple of minutes, he shook his head and said, "No. I won't join any organization that would make others suffer as I and my family did."

Fujin withdrew his sword and replied, "Oh, it won't be that sort of an organization. No need to be bothered about that."

Shigeki thought for a bit more. Fujin didn't disturb him. Finally, he got up with much struggle and bowed to Fujin and said, "Thank You for saving my life, Lord. I, Kasai Shigeki, am willing to work for your organization as long as you help me get justice for my family."

Fujin nodded and extended his palm towards Shigeki. Chakra appeared on his palm and began healing Shigeki. Shigeki's eyes widened. He thought, 'I never thought that someone who could kill without a second thought would be a medical ninja!'

The wounds on Shigeki were all external wounds. Fujin healed all his wounds in a few minutes. He said, "Follow me."

Fujin began running. Shigeki, who was now fully healed but low on chakra, followed Fujin. The two ran through forests for over a couple of hours and arrived at a cave. Shigeki was puzzled. The cave was quite small and there was no one there.

Fujin entered the cave. This was the same cave where he had stopped while heading to the Land of Wind. He inscribed a few more seals and created a few hiding rooms in the cave.

He said, "Shigeki, I have inscribed numerous seals in this cave. Unless someone accidentally enters the cave, no one will detect you. Even if someone does, you can hide in the 2 rooms I created. You will stay safe there."

Shigeki asked in a puzzled voice, "Lord, are there any other members from the organization here?"

Fujin replied, "You can call me Shiden. No need for any honorifics. And no. Currently, only you will be stationed here. Though I have recruited a few others, they are in different locations in other countries. You don't need to concern yourself with them for now."

Shigeki nodded and asked, "Alright, but what am I supposed to do?"

Fujin replied, "Train of course. Don't you want to get justice? You are free to train however you want. My plans for you will need a few years to implement. So stay around this place. When I am ready, I will come here to look for you."

Shigeki was surprised. He thought, 'A few years?'

He recalled his family and thought, 'It's fine. I am not strong enough yet. I don't know what Shiden's intentions are but he saved my life and gave me a safe environment to live in and train. Besides, he seems to be a leader of a huge organization. With such a big organization, getting revenge will be very easy.'

He bowed down and said, "Thank you for saving my life and giving me a safe place, Shiden. I will wait here for you."

Fujin nodded and said, "Good. I'll take my leave. Train hard and get stronger."

Shigeki replied with determination, "I will!"

Fujin nodded once again before turning and flickering away. Shigeki raised his head only to see that Fujin was nowhere to be seen. He thought, 'He is even faster than I imagined him to be.'

He left the cave and looked at the stars in the sky. His eyes became watery as he muttered, "Wait a few years for me. I will fight for your justice and come to be with you."

He wiped his tears and a determined expression appeared on his face. He wasted no time and began training!

A few kilometers away, Fujin stopped moving. He quietly changed his clothes and for the first time in a couple of months changed back to his real appearance. However, he had a weird expression on his face and his cheeks had a hint of redness. He muttered, "Since when did my ability to bullshit reach this level?"

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Chapter 279: The Difficulties in Creating an Organization

Fujin was shocked at how much he had lied to Shigeki. What other members of the organization? He was the only member! Heck, there wasn't any organization in the first place. The only place where it existed was Fujin's head!

Fujin thought, 'I was so embarrassed by his questions and so embarrassed to say that he is the first member, that I couldn't help but lie! This way, he will just think that I am opening a new branch and not that I am starting the organization.'

Luckily, Fujin was wearing a mask while talking with him. Otherwise, no transformation jutsu could have hidden how embarrassed he felt while answering those questions. Fortunately, he was shameless enough to maintain a straight voice.

Fujin sighed and muttered, "It doesn't feel good to fool a man who is in so much sorrow. Leave it, I'll help him get his revenge. That should be enough to clear whatever is still left of my conscience. Besides, the target is just an elder from a small village. I can assassinate him even now."

Fujin began walking towards the Land of Fire while thinking, 'I haven't thought of any details when it comes to my organization. My original motivation for creating an organization was very simple. If something unexpected happens, especially if that something isn't aligned with what I remember from the original series, and I need a safe place to escape to, then the organization should be my second home.

The situation after fighting Darui was a perfect example of where an organization could have helped me a lot. It would have provided me with a third alternative which would be much safer than the other two. In addition, the organization could help me collect information. It could also help in collecting rare materials like Elemental Crystals or perhaps even chakra metal.

But, this isn't enough. An organization needs to have a goal. If it is completely centered around me and my needs, then the organization wouldn't last long. It needs to have a goal to bind everyone together. And that goal also needs to complement my needs somehow.

In addition, I also need to decide on the structure of the organization, the chain of command, how much authority people would have at each level of the organization and so on. And most importantly, I need to have a method to control the people in my organization.

A human's dream is never-ending. Even if I rescue someone and provide them with a good life, he or she would only be grateful for a certain period of time. After that, they will begin wanting more. It'll be fine if I am at the helm of the organization. I could consistently brainwash them to keep following me. Unfortunately, I can't monitor them actively as I will be in Konoha. I'll need another method.

Orochimaru controls his subordinates through the curse seal. Danzo uses the cursed tongue eradication seal. As for Akatsuki, Pain is just too strong while Zetsu is the best scout. So no one will dare to oppose them. That said, despite their strength and skills, Orochimaru still betrayed them and Itachi stayed as an undercover agent.

I doubt I could be a bigger deterrent than someone with Rinnegan. So I will need to create a curse seal to put some restrictions on the members of my organization. Otherwise, I'm better off without an organization. And I can't copy a seal from the Konoha library. There is no way Hiruzen and Danzo

wouldn't be able to negate every seal in there. Sigh, so much work. That is why I have been so reluctant to actually implement this idea.'

Fujin continued on his way as he muttered to himself, 'And this is just a basic problem. After all, I could resolve these issues by myself. The most critical issue is recruitment! Who should I recruit in the organization? I stay in Konoha. So I can't just recruit little kids like Orochimaru did and train them personally.

I need some Jounin level members to look after the organization while I am not there. It'd be best if that person is at Elite Jounin level so that they can handle any unexpected events while I'm not there. Unfortunately, I don't know anyone like that who I could recruit. Almost all of them are loyal to their village or too volatile to be trusted.

There might have been some suitable ones shown in Naruto. Unfortunately, I can't recall anyone. Apart from the important events and some resources, my memory from my previous life is just too vague. Sigh, I guess I will have to just wait for events like today. If Shigeki trains seriously, then perhaps he could reach the Elite Jounin level. That'd probably be the best.

Anyways, I'll leave this issue for the future. Regardless of whether I build a good organization or not, it won't be much use during the 4th Great Ninja War. So I don't need to waste much time or effort on it until then. I can wait till I learn the Flying Thunder God and then begin considering this matter seriously. With teleportation, controlling an organization will become much easier.'

As he kept thinking deeply about this matter, Fujin entered the Land of Fire and reached Konoha the next evening. He went directly to Hiruzen's office and knocked on the door.

Hiruzen was about to wrap up his work and leave when he heard the knock. He said, "Come in."

Fujin entered. Hiruzen was surprised. He asked, "You are back so early?"

Hiruzen thought, 'The news regarding the burning of the Provision Depot came just a few days ago. I expected him to create more chaos. Even if he didn't, the deserts would have been heavily monitored. How did he return so quickly?'

Fujin nodded and said, "Yeah, the place got very messy. It'll probably be better to call Commander Shikaku here. I have a lot of critical information to report."

Hiruzen got the hint and looked at the Anbu ninjas hidden in the room. They nodded and immediately left. 3 stayed outside the room and kept watch while the last one went to call Shikaku.

Hiruzen took a look at Fujin again and thought, 'Now that I think about it, he had said that his summon could fly. I almost forgot about them. If he flew over, then it would make sense why he returned so quickly.'

Hiruzen asked, "So, how was your trip?"

Fujin replied, "Not bad. I mostly stayed in Wind Capital. The city is much better looking than Fire Capital."

Hiruzen nodded and said, "Yeah. In terms of beauty, it ranks second after Lightning Capital. Do you wanna visit it next?"

Fujin thought, 'This old fox! It hasn't even been 5 minutes since I entered the village and he already wants me out?'

Meanwhile, Hiruzen also looked at Fujin meaningfully and thought, 'Ever since he left, the consumption rate of the Wind Crystals dropped several times. Though there were quite a few Anbu who left around that time, he is the most suspicious one!'

Fujin immediately shook his head and said, "Such missions don't suit me, Grandpa. It's the first time since I joined the academy that I haven't trained for over 2 months! My body feels so out of tune and unresponsive. I'll stick to elimination missions."

Hiruzen let out a chuckle and thought, 'If he is indeed the one who uses them so much, then it's no surprise that he has no will to leave the village.'

Hiruzen casually inquired about random stuff until Shikaku arrived and closed the door.



Shikaku looked at Fujin and recalled the reports he received a few days ago. His expression became very peculiar. Hiruzen made a hand seal and activated the seals in the room. No one could eavesdrop on them anymore. He looked at Fujin and said, "You can report now."

Fujin nodded and became serious. He asked, "Did Kakashi-senpai report the mission to eliminate the bounty hunters?"

Shikaku nodded and said, "He did. Just report about your activities in the Land of Wind."

Fujin nodded and began reporting, "Alright. I infiltrated the country and found a Trading Caravan. It was from the Land of Bird and protected by 4 ninjas from a mercenary group called Kurogane no Sensen. I eliminated them and infiltrated the Wind Capital City using their disguises.

Under that disguise, I eliminated 10 Nobles on the list of Nobles that were very loyal to Sunagakure. All of them were eliminated using Wind Sword jutsu. I also killed a few Samurais and left a couple injured so that all suspicions will fall on Suna.

I followed it up by killing family members of 12 other Nobles who had good relations with Sunagakure a couple of weeks later. This was done while using the disguises of the Suna ninjas who came along with the Elite Jounin Baki to investigate the previous killings. And I let the Nobles see me and threatened them.

Both these acts increased the resentment towards Suna among the Nobles considerably. Though you'll have to check the degree of resentment with the use of other spies.

Unfortunately, that forced the fourth Kazekage to come to the Wind Capital city. He had a long meeting with the Wind Daimyo. I am not sure what deal they reached. So I decided that it won't be a good idea to act once again as it might have destroyed the situation I created."

Shikaku and Hiruzen nodded. They were aware of these developments. Though they didn't know the exact information, they had guessed Fujin's actions quite accurately. Unfortunately, they didn't have much clue about other events apart from the incident about Provision Depots. Neither was prepared for what Fujin was about to report!

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Chapter 280: Starting a War?

Fujin continued, "A couple of days later, 12 ninjas from Kurogane no Sensen came to the Wind Capital to investigate their missing ninjas. I took the opportunity to leave the city along with them. However, the Kazekage noticed us and probably got suspicious.

He sent some Anbu to chase us. I led them deep into the desert and assassinated all 12 mercenaries and 12 Anbu."

Shikaku and Hiruzen's eyes widened. Hiruzen thought, '12 Anbu. Not bad at all. Even if I ignore all his other achievements, this alone should be more than enough to promote him.'

Meanwhile, Shikaku began sweating as he wondered, 'Who the heck kills 12 enemy Anbu during a promotion mission for the Anbu Captain post? It'd be an accomplishment even if they managed to kill 2!'

Fujin tossed a scroll at Shikaku and said, "This scroll has the dead bodies of those 24 ninjas. I am not sure if any memories are still there, but you can try to check them nonetheless."

Shikaku caught it and nodded. He reluctantly said, "Good work. Continue."

Fujin continued reporting, "I didn't leave any evidence behind. So I don't think Suna knows what happened to these 12 missing Anbu. At best they could guess that they were killed by the mercenaries. Anyways, after killing them, I travelled to the Western side of the Land of Wind.

I first travelled to Sabakuetsu. As per the instructions, I burnt one of the two Provision Depots entirely. I don't think any food was left behind. And I ended up killing at least two ninjas there. I am not sure if any more died after I left.

I followed it up by killing two more Nobles in the West who were listed and travelled to Shunkuto City to kill the third. However, the leading ninja there was quite smart. He set up a decoy and hid the Noble. I killed the decoy and tried getting intel from the leading Chunin, but that guy was quite determined. He blew himself up.

In order to find the real Noble, I did a scheme. I disguised myself and my clones as Suna ninjas and announced that the assassin was dead. Then I spread rumors across the city that the Noble was a coward who hid behind decoys and doesn't deserve to be a Noble. In anger, the Noble returned to the mansion.

So I held a public execution for him and announced that he had cooperated with the assassin. In addition, I also announced that the Kazekage was upset with the city and decided to remove the protection provided by the Suna ninjas. And I immediately withdrew from the city."

Shikaku and Hiruzen's eyes widened in shock as they immediately understood the impact of such an action. Shikaku almost cursed out but Fujin continued speaking and said, "The next day, around 80% of the people living in that city left and began migrating towards nearby villages and towns. They should be beginning to reach by now. So the news will soon spread and the Kazekage and the Wind Daimyo will soon begin receiving messages.

At the same time, the resentment against Suna and Kazekage will spread among the cities in the West. So feel free to take advanta..."

Shikaku finally couldn't endure anymore and cut him off. He asked loudly, "You did what?"

His face had a look of disbelief. Hiruzen's expression was serious as well. He was finding the situation quite amusing until then. However, Fujin's actions were outrageous.

Fujin tilted his head and asked, "Is that an issue? I thought you wanted to create chaos in the Land of Wind and ruin Sunagakure's reputation in the eyes of the Daimyo, Nobles and citizens."

Shikaku replied, "Yes, I wanted you to do that. But from your actions... Do you want to split the Land of Wind into two countries?"

Shikaku's words made Fujin fall into thought. However, he soon shook his head and said, "That's not feasible. That place is crawling with Suna ninjas right now. If you want to do it, I'd recommend waiting for a few months or perhaps even a couple of years for the resentment to properly spread and for the Suna ninjas to withdraw. Then you can take action. But I am not interested in going there anymore. Considering the complexity, I'll recommend you go there yourself and oversee the entire operation."

Shikaku's expression became dark. He cursed internally, 'This brat! I was asking him sarcastically. Does he not get sarcasm or is he messing with my head? He created such a huge mess and still wants me to create more? Who knows how those crazy bastards will react after suffering such a huge loss in peacetime? I'll have to plan the defense properly and actively monitor the situation for weeks or perhaps even months now!'

Of course, Fujin was messing with him. Though his expressions didn't change, he thought, 'I managed to break Hiruzen's poker face numerous times. This is a first for Shikaku to lose his calm and stop acting lazy in front of me. Hehehe, looks like I overdid my mission. Oh well, I guess he will take some effort to describe mission parameters from now on instead of just being a lazy ass.'

Shikaku couldn't see beyond Fujin's poker face. However, if he could hear Fujin's thoughts, he would have lost control on the spot! The mission parameters were left vague to make the Anbu ninjas push themselves to achieve their best. It wasn't so that someone could start a war!

Hiruzen was also looking at Shikaku's expression. He thought, 'If the situation wasn't so serious, I would have found his expressions hilarious.'

He looked at Fujin and asked, "Did you return after this?"

Fujin shook his head and said, "No. Despite the difficulty, that city didn't receive any reinforcements. I was confused as to why Suna hadn't sent reinforcements. So I decided to test out the next city as well. Unfortunately, that was a trap. I was attacked by 12 Jounins and the Puppeteer Elite Jounin, Odaka. The city itself had over a hundred ninjas waiting for me."

Shikaku and Hiruzen were shocked once again. Fujin continued, "I killed one Jounin, 2 Chunins and 4 Anbu ninjas before running away from the city. Unfortunately, many of them also knew Wind Instantaneous Body jutsu and the desert offered no cover. So they began chasing me. Though I was faster, there was an ambush squad waiting for me."

The Ambush squad was led by the Elite Jounin Sabaku Susumu. His Genjutsu prevented me from using my jutsus. In addition, his squad also had a Jinchuriki. They stalled me, allowing a few Suna ninjas to catch up with me."

Just when Hiruzen and Shikaku thought that they couldn't be surprised any more, they were!

Shikaku dumbfoundedly muttered, "The Jinchuriki?"

Hiruzen asked, "The Kazekage's Son?"

Fujin nodded. Shikaku had a very bad feeling. He thought, 'I can feel it. Whatever he will say next will be very troublesome. Why didn't I give him proper mission parameters?'

Unfortunately, there was no way for Shikaku to correct his error.

Fujin continued, "Fortunately, the Jinchuriki lost control over his emotions and did a stupid wide-range attack. I used the opportunity to injure him. That made him lose control over his Tailed Beast and began transforming. I used the distraction to kill Susumu and retreated from there."

This time, neither Shikaku nor Hiruzen had any words to say. Both were left speechless by Fujin's achievements during the mission.

Fujin enjoyed the expressions on their faces. It was a treat to watch. He tossed Shikaku another scroll and said, "This scroll has Susumu's body. I have preserved it properly. He could use Genjutsu by emitting chakra into the wind. I want that jutsu."

Shikaku looked at the scroll and looked back at Fujin as he thought, 'Not only did he kill an Elite Jounin, he also brought his body back. Does he want to be the Anbu Captain or the Hokage? Still, this is good. Susumu's Genjutsu methods were quite unique. If a few ninjas can learn it, Konoha's strength will increase once again.'

Hiruzen said, "You can't use those techniques in the open for the time being."

Fujin nodded and said, "Yes. I'll ensure that there are no witnesses."

Hiruzen nodded and asked, "Anything else?"

His question alerted Shikaku once again. Fortunately, Fujin shook his head and answered, "No. I wanted to create more mess and kill a few more Jounins in the desert. But the number of ninjas was too high and I wasn't sure how much destruction the Jinchuriki could cause. So I withdrew."

Shikaku finally let out a sigh of relief! He thought, 'Thankfully he withdrew! I thought he killed dozens of more ninjas using the Jinchuriki as a distraction.'

Hiruzen also looked relieved. He stared at Fujin as he re-evaluated his strength and began thinking of a matter, 'Is he also a suitable candidate?'

Both Hiruzen and Shikaku were lost in thoughts. After a minute, Fujin looked at them with a deadpan expression and wondered, 'Did they forget about me?'

He asked, "Umm... Will I be promoted?"

Both Shikaku and Hiruzen looked at him immediately. Shikaku cursed in his mind, 'Do you think we would dare not promote you? If we give you another promotion mission, won't you directly start a war between the two countries?'