Calamity 301

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 301: A Chaotic Battle!

Hoshino Ryoichi looked at the ninjas approaching them and commanded, "Stay together and guard Noriyuki. I'll cut down their numbers one by one!"

His words calmed them down. They immediately prepared for the battle thinking, 'As long as we have Ryoichi, we can get our revenge.'

Ryoichi weaved a hand sign. Lightning could be seen on his palms. He placed his palms in the river and said with utter confidence, "Face the consequences of your actions."

'Lightning Release: Lightning Eels jutsu'

The lightning on his palms transformed into small lightning eels and moved towards the rogue nins. However, one of the ninjas weaved hand signs in response.

'Wind Release: Great Breakthrough jutsu'

He exhaled a strong wind current into the river. The attack hit the Lightning eels head-on and dispersed them. Though the river absorbed the Wind current, the winds caused a wave of water to form and move at the Kusa ninjas.

The rogue ninjas used the cover provided by the wave to quickly close in the distance.

Ryoichi was surprised. He thought, 'He countered me so easily. This isn't a random attack. Someone wants us all dead!'

He wanted to use another jutsu, but the ninja who used the Great Breakthrough jutsu suddenly appeared in front of him and attacked with his kunai. Ryoichi raised his kunai and blocked the attack.

The rogue ninja smiled and said, "Sorry. I can't let you run amok, Ryoichi."

At the same time, the other rogue ninjas attacked the ninjas protecting Kagawa Noriyuki with Earth jutsus. Ryoichi realized it and asked, "So the Ide family has allied with Iwagakure?"

The Iwa ninja smiled but didn't say anything and continued attacking. He was evenly matched with Ryoichi. Ryoichi's expression became grim. He didn't have the same confidence as before. He shouted, "We may be weak, but do you think that you can walk over Kusagakure without any consequences?"

The Iwa Jounin just smirked. However, he suddenly became very serious and dived into the river. Fractions of a second later, an air bullet passed from where he was standing. He quickly looked at where the attack had come from and his eyes widened.

Fujin observed the fight for a minute and jumped in at the right opportunity. He flickered next to an Iwa ninja and shot a couple of dozen air bullets at the rogue ninjas. 4 Iwa ninjas that were closest to him died while a few others were injured.

Just like the Iwa ninjas, the Kusa ninjas were also surprised. Only Noriyuki was expecting such assistance. He shouted, "They are our allies. Cooperate with them and eliminate these rogue ninjas!"

The Kusa ninjas were relieved. In just a minute of fighting, they realized that they were completely outmatched. With Ryoichi being held back, their hopes were dying very quickly.

The Iwa ninjas had solemn expressions. A few seconds ago, they were having a complete advantage. But the situation reversed instantly.

Taking advantage of the slight distraction, Yugao and Fumito snuck behind two of the weakest Iwa ninjas. Since their attention was on Fujin and the Kusa ninjas, they didn't notice them until it was too late. In one quick stab, both killed their targets.

The Iwa jounin fighting against Ryoichi was alarmed by the situation. He shouted, "Fall back to the bank and stay together!"

At the same time, he began withdrawing to the opposite bank but Ryoichi immediately attacked him and didn't allow him to leave.

Fujin saw the Iwa ninjas retreating and activated his chakra field. His eyes widened momentarily as he looked at a location on the opposite bank. He muttered, "This will be a tough fight."

As the Iwa ninjas were retreating, they approached Bunjiro who was hiding under the water. He immediately took advantage.

'Water Release: Water Shuriken jutsu'

Dozens of water shurikens formed underwater and launched at the Iwa nins. One of Iwa's jounins immediately noticed it and made a hand seal.

'Water Release: Water Wall jutsu'

A layer of water appeared in front and under the Iwa ninjas in the nick of time. Unfortunately, Bunjiro wasn't their only opponent.

Fujin flickered next to them and a sword appeared in his hand. One of the Iwa ninjas noticed him and immediately attacked him with his kunai. Fujin swung his sword at the kunai. The remaining Iwa ninjas focused on Yugao, Fumito and the Kusa ninjas. But, they turned their attention to Fujin once again. They watched in shock as the headless corpse of their comrade fell into the river.

One of the Iwa ninjas muttered, "How can that be? He killed a jounin in the blink of an eye?"

Fujin continued his attack and swung his sword at the nearest Iwa ninja. However, he stopped and moved backwards. An earth spear passed by from the space he was at a moment ago. Fujin turned his head to the left to see hundreds of earth spikes extending from the opposite bank to their location. Fujin thought, 'They couldn't hold back anymore. I guess that is to be expected considering the losses they were taking.'

The hundreds of Earth spears forced the Konoha and Kusa ninjas back. Even Bunjiro was attacked underwater and forced to retreat. The Iwa ninjas immediately took the opportunity to retreat to the opposite bank.

Apart from Fujin, everyone's expressions became solemn. The attack was just too large in scale. The chaotic battle finally stopped as the three sides reaccessed the situation.

On the bank where Mizukoshi town was, Ide Tomoki stopped his ninjas and instructed, "There is another group there. It looks like the Kagawa family was expecting this attack. We will wait and observe the situation for now."

His ninjas immediately agreed. In a short while, they had seen 7 capable ninjas fall. In addition, they could see the fearsome earth spears extending from the opposite bank to the center of the river. None of them wanted to risk their lives needlessly.

Meanwhile, Tomoki frowned and thought, 'As I guessed, Noriyuki came prepared. These should be Konoha Anbu. Fortunately, I contacted Iwagakure. Otherwise, I'd be dead.'

Fujin observed the situation. On one side of the river were ninjas of the Ide family. On the other side were 21 Iwa ninjas. While on the river, there were 15 ninjas from the Kagawa family and Fujin's team. Fujin observed the ninja who launched the Earth Spears and thought, 'An Elite Jounin. I have been running into way too many of them in recent times. Oh well, now that everyone is out of hiding, I can kill them in one single fight!'

If Fujin wanted to, he could have killed another 3-4 Iwa ninjas. But he refrained from doing so as he wanted to use them to draw them out. Due to this, any traps that they might have set up would be useless.

The ninja, at whom Fujin was staring, looked at the Iwa ninjas who retreated and asked, "Chiharu, are you fine?"

Chiharu nodded and said, "Yes but 7 of our ninjas died. The Kusa ninjas have Ryoichi among their ranks. But Gin, be careful of that Konoha Anbu with the sword. For some reason, he is giving me a very bad feeling."

Gin looked at Fujin and said, "It doesn't matter, they will all die today."

There wasn't a single shred of doubt in his voice.

While Gin was checking on the Iwa ninjas, Noriyuki analyzed, 'Even though Tomoki wants us out of the way, he can't attack us openly. So we have two options. We can withdraw into Mizukoshi and force them to fight with us. Then these ninjas will withdraw. But this option is very risky. The second option is to fight the Iwa ninjas and break through into the interior parts of the country. They won't chase me too deep into the Land of the Grass.'

While he was debating internally, Fujin flickered next to Ryoichi and Noriyuki and said, "Ryoichi, your Lightning nature will give you an advantage against that guy. Hold him back. I'll eliminate the others."

Ryoichi frowned and said, "That is very risky. With his ability, sneak attacking Noriyuki will be very easy."

The scale of Earth spears that was launched was just too big. Despite being far from the land, they were still threatened by that attack.

However, Noriyuki said, "No, that is the only way. Going back to Mizukoshi will be very risky and we all may be wiped out. You hold him back. Konoha ninjas can focus on eliminating the rest. And when the fighting is intense, I'll escape with 4 ninjas protecting me so that I won't hold you back anymore."

Ryoichi asked, "What if there are more Iwagakure ninjas hiding?"

Noriyuki let out a sigh and said, "It's unlikely that Iwagakure will send so many ninjas here just for me. But if they have, then it is only a matter of time before they kill me. After all, that group is already stronger than us. Just escape and ensure that you stay alive. If possible, please see that no harm befalls my family."

Ryoichi didn't want to agree. Unfortunately, he couldn't see any other option. Meanwhile, Fujin was surprised. He looked at Noriyuki and thought, 'That's a surprise. Most of those in power, even if they are just, won't risk their own lives to help others escape. I guess this is why Hiruzen and Shikaku valued him highly.'

Fujin said, "Don't worry. I don't sense anyone else. But be careful regardless."

Noriyuki nodded. They stopped talking at the same time as Gin. Gin rapidly weaved hand signs and slammed his palms on the ground.

'Earth Release: Earth Spike Hell jutsu'

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Chapter 302: The Battle on the River Bank!

'Earth Release: Earth Spike Hell jutsu'

The Kusa ninjas were surprised by the massive chakra emanating from Gin. On the river bed, thousands of small sharp spikes began forming. Fujin sensed the change and shouted, "Leave the river immediately!"

Fujin flickered right away. So did his team. The Kusa ninjas were slightly slower to react as Fujin wasn't their superior and they didn't feel the change happening under their feet. However, when Noriyuki and Ryoichi began moving, they immediately followed. In a second, the spikes were launched. They tore through the strong river current and propelled skyward.

3 Kusa chunins were a bit slow to move. The spikes pierced into their feet and drilled through their bodies, shattering their bones and puncturing their internal organs. They emerged from heads and shoulders and soared into the sky tracing a vivid arc of red blood.

The three chunins died without even understanding how they were hit from below the river. The ninjas from the Ide family saw in horror as blood spouted from their bodies as they fell into the river and dyed it red color momentarily. The scene was hellish. They thanked their lucky stars that their leader asked them to stay away!

As soon as Fujin stepped on the river bank, he felt the ground under his feet transforming into small spikes. He immediately flickered while thinking, 'This is annoying. Even my team might not stay safe for long from such a barrage.'

Fujin flickered continuously while building his chakra up. Gin tried attacking him and the places he might appear in, but Fujin was too fast and unpredictable for him and maintained a sufficient distance from the remaining Iwa ninjas.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

Gin was surprised. He thought, 'He is good. A sealless supercharged jutsu.'

However, he didn't react. Instead, a ninja next to him slammed his palms on the ground.

'Earth Release: Earth Wall jutsu'

A gigantic earth wall appeared instantly and protected the Iwa ninjas. At the same time, Gin changed his target from Fujin to the Kusa ninjas thinking, 'The Konoha Anbu are quite strong. It should be an Elite unit. I'll whittle down the Kusa numbers first and then use the numerical advantage to crush them.'

The Kusa ninjas had seen Fujin dodging at a fast pace. They began imitating his movements and didn't stand in the same spot for long. Gin sensed their movements and smirked while thinking, 'I couldn't hit him due to his speed. Do you think that you can replicate the same speed?'

Gin predicted where they would dodge and preemptively began creating spikes on those spots. This immediately created more pressure on the Kusa ninjas as the number of times they had to dodge increased by 2-3 times.

Meanwhile, Fujin looked at the wall and decided, 'Time to cut down their numbers.'

'Wind Release: Vacuum Serial Wave jutsu'

Fujin exhaled blades of wind at several angles. Behind the giant wall, the Iwa ninjas were feeling quite safe when the blades cut through the wall like a hot knife through butter catching them completely off guard.

Gin, who had already neutralized another Kusa ninja and injured a couple more and managed to keep the Kusa ninjas and Fujin's team at bay, was shocked. He immediately jumped up to dodge the wind blade heading towards him. Gin's eyes widened as he realized the power behind the wind blades. He wondered, 'Wind Vacuum Technique? Who is this guy? Wait, if he knows Wind Vacuum Technique, then... Shit!'

Gin immediately created an Earth clone. The experienced Iwa ninjas also reacted instinctively. However, 8 Iwa ninjas couldn't react in time. They were cut into two and died on the spot.

Gin watched as his eyes turned red. He had lost 15 ninjas on such a simple mission. The losses had now exceeded the acceptable limit!

However, before he could even think of retaliating, Fujin fired Vacuum Bullets at the ninjas who had jumped in the air to dodge. Two bullets were heading at Gin. Gin looked at the incoming attack and thought, 'As I had expected!'

The Earth clone he created seconds ago pushed him away as the vacuum bullets pierced it and dispelled it.

Gin barely managed to dodge the attack. However, not everyone could do the same. Another 2 Iwa ninjas were killed.

Fujin observed the situation and analyzed, 'These ninjas are all elites. I had targeted 6 but only 2 died. They are much stronger than the Suna bunch that tried to hunt me. Looks like Onoki greatly values this mission. Is Iwa that desperate to make inroads into Grass or Waterfall?'

Ide Tomoki saw Fujin's counterattack and gulped in fear. He was no longer confident in Iwa's victory. He decided, 'If Iwa fails to kill Noriyuki, I will distance myself from them and claim that this attack had nothing to do with me. After all, I doubt Iwa would claim these ninjas as their own and hence won't antagonize the only Noble in the Land of Grass that supports them.'

Fujin's consecutive attacks finally gave his allies time to catch their breath. He also changed the numerical advantage in their favor.

Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro immediately went on the attack. Ryoichi remembered Fujin's words and immediately rushed towards Gin. He realized, 'Konoha Anbu Captain is right. If I don't restrict him, it's only a matter of time before the remaining Kusa ninjas are killed. Only I and the Konoha Anbu might be

able to escape.'

The remaining Kusa ninjas split into two. 4 stayed next to Noriyuki while the rest followed Ryoichi.

Ryoichi weaved hand signs while running and supercharged his jutsu.

'Lightning Release: False Darkness jutsu'

He extended his arms towards Gin as bolts of lightning crackled on his arms. He discharged all the lightning bolts at Gin. Gin saw the Lightning bolts with a frown on his face as he thought, 'Lightning is the biggest weakness of Earth jutsus. Back in the 3rd Great ninja war, he gained fame against us because his unit encountered a division that was exclusively made of Earth affinity ninjas and didn't have any strong Jounin.'

Despite the frown, Gin wasn't worried about Ryoichi. Instead, his attention was on Fujin. The threat of Wind Vacuum jutsus far exceeded Lightning in his eyes. Chiharu appeared in front of Gin. After knowing that Ryoichi was with the Kagawa family entourage, Gin had specifically requested Chiharu to join this mission to counter his Lightning jutsus. Even though Gin could still deal with Ryoichi, it would be very annoying and would allow Fujin to run amok.

'Wind Release: Great Breakthrough jutsu'

Chiharu confronted Ryoichi with a supercharged jutsu as well. Both jutsu clashed. Ryoichi frowned and stopped. Despite the power of the jutsus being the same, he was at a disadvantage. The winds neutralized his lightning bolts one after another.

However, Fujin flickered next to Ryoichi.

'Fire Release: Searing Migraine jutsu'

Taking advantage of the winds, Fujin exhaled a massive fire at Chiharu. Chiharu's eyes widened as he cursed, 'Shit! He also knows Fire jutsus!'

Gin also became serious. He was waiting to find an opportunity against Fujin. Instead, it was Fujin who seized the opportunity. He gathered chakra and slammed his hands on the ground.

Another gigantic wall appeared out of the ground. It was tall and wide enough to keep the massive firestorm on the other side temporarily. However, Gin shouted, "Move away from the walls!"

Every Iwa ninja followed his instruction without any hesitation. A second later, blades of wind cut through the gigantic wall with ease. Fortunately, the Iwa ninjas were far enough to have the time to dodge them.

Gin observed the blades with an annoyed expression. He thought, 'Fortunately my sensei had informed me about Shimura Danzo's skills. Otherwise, the death toll would keep piling. Still, Wind Vacuum Technique and such ruthlessness. Is he Danzo's successor? If so, he can't be allowed to live any longer. Who knows how many of our sufferings had that bastard's hand in the shadows? If another Shinobi of Darkness appears in Konoha, then we will suffer for a few more decades.'

Kagawa Noriyuki noticed the destruction and thought, 'I owe Lord Hokage one.'

He instructed, "Let's escape."

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Chapter 303: Breaking through Iwa's Obsrtuction!

Taking opportunity of the situation, Noriyuki, along with 4 Jounins, began escaping. Gin sensed it and muttered, "Do you think it'd be this easy to escape from me?"

He weaved hand signs and slammed his hands on the ground once again.

Despite the large distance between them, the ground under the feet of Noriyuki's group turned into a swamp. They immediately jumped backwards. However, several mud balls were launched at them from the swamp.

One of the Kusa ninjas weaved hand signs.

'Water Release: Water Wall jutsu'

A water wall appeared in front of them and stopped the Mud balls. However, soon the land to the right of them began moving. A second later, a large, bronze dragon head popped out of the ground. It opened its mouth and shot multiple cannonballs made of mud at the group.

The Kusa ninjas hurriedly dodged while the dragon head dived underground once again. One of the Kusa ninjas shouted, "Be careful! It will attack us from below and blow itself up!"

His words alarmed Noriyuki and the rest. They stayed on their toes and tried attacking the Dragon underground in order to make it explode deep underground. However, several spikes and needles were launched at them forcing them to keep evading and cutting off their escape routes.

Fujin sensed the attack and thought, 'Such a large range. But, why hasn't he ordered a retreat? Their losses are already too high and this situation is very disadvantageous and dangerous for him.'

Though he and Ryoichi tried to stop him, they were outnumbered. When Fujin used any Vacuum attack, Gin would move away and then place his palms on the ground once again. Finally, the remaining Kusa and Konoha ninjas made their way across the fire and debris and joined the battle.

Ryoichi instructed, "Keep their weaker ninjas busy. We will eliminate their leaders."

The Kusa ninjas immediately obeyed his command. As for Fujin's team, they had already attacked. With their aid, the number advantage was evened out. Fujin flickered towards Chiharu while Ryoichi confronted Gin.

Gin confronted Ryoichi while observing the battlefield. He analyzed, 'Despite the enemy reinforcements, we still had one more ninja. 5 ninjas are equally matched while we have the advantage in 3 fights. But...'

Though it looked like they had the overall advantage, Gin was worried. Chiharu couldn't match up to Fujin at all. He barely hung on. Gin sighed, 'I can't afford to take any more pointless losses. If I knew that someone as ferocious as he would be protecting Noriyuki, then I would have redone our entire strategy.

I didn't want to resort to this, but we don't have any other option now. I can only use my final card. Though this could put my village in some trouble, it's better than just retreating with nothing but losses.'

Within half a minute of confrontation, Fujin had gained the absolute advantage. He was about to deal the final blow when he suddenly jumped away. Numerous earth spikes assaulted his previous position. He looked at Gin.

Gin gritted his teeth and cursed, "Fine. I'll let Kagawa Noriyuki go. But you all will stay here!"

He stopped attacking Noriyuki's group and focused entirely on the existing battlefield. Immediately, Fujin and a few other ninjas were assaulted by spikes, needles, spears and other weapon-shaped projectiles from the ground. Apart from Fujin, everyone fell at a disadvantage. Ryoichi tried his best to stop him but had no success.

A frown appeared on Fujin's face as he analyzed, 'Something is off. Though the move is tactical, he should have done this long ago. And even now he isn't retreating. It's as if he is assured of his victory.'

Fujin had a bad feeling. Immediately, a massive amount of chakra was released by Fujin. Gin was alarmed as winds began flowing around Fujin. Suddenly, vast amounts of Wind were blasted behind Fujin. An Iwa ninja, who was confronting Fumito, was hit by this blast wave and lost his balance and fell towards Fumito. Fumito immediately took advantage of the opening and jabbed his tanto into his throat.

Meanwhile, Fujin disappeared from his spot and appeared behind the ninja fighting with Yugao. Before the Iwa ninja could even react, he was beheaded. Yugao watched with shock in her eyes. She thought, 'I couldn't see him at all!'

However, the one who was the most shocked was Gin. He was maintaining control over the entire battlefield. But two more of his subordinates died! He immediately concentrated on Fujin and launched multiple jutsus.

However, Fujin once again disappeared and appeared behind the ninja fighting Bunjiro and killed him as well. Before Gin could react, Fujin disappeared once again and appeared behind Chiharu. Chiharu immediately turned around and swung his kunai at Fujin. Though he wasn't very skilled at it, chakra could be seen flowing through his kunai.

However, instead of attacking with his sword, Fujin just shot a Vacuum Bullet at point-blank range. Chiharu had no chance of dodging it. The bullet pierced through his forehead leaving a huge hole in his head. He dropped dead as well!

Gin was enraged at that sight. He shouted, "Bastard! Stop running and fight me!"

He launched more spikes at Ryoichi and forced him back while he rushed at Fujin. Winds blasted behind Fujin once again as he appeared in front of Gin in the blink of an eye. Gin saw Fujin swinging his sword at him. He only had one thought, 'Shit!'

Gin's body turned black as he tried to grab Fujin's sword with his right hand. His right hand was even blacker than the rest of his body. Fujin's sword hit his right hand.

Though the Iron Skin jutsu was strong. It was no match for a sword enhanced by Wind nature chakra flow. In addition, Fujin was also assisted by his massive momentum.

The sword cut his right palm open. It cut through his right forearm. Gin gritted his teeth and endured the pain and managed to just get his body out of the way of Fujin's sword. However, he had to pay an extremely high price.

Gin's right hand was cut off. Half of his right forearm was cut off vertically! What remained just bled and hurt like hell. Gin looked at Fujin with hatred in his eyes.

Though Gin and Fujin were quite evenly matched, their strengths lay in different areas. Fujin excelled at close-range fighting and had numerous jutsus to make him lethal at mid-range and long-range. Meanwhile, Gin was better than Fujin at controlling the battlefield and fighting while keeping his enemies at bay.

Though his close-range skills were nothing to scoff at, he wasn't comparable to Fujin. Under normal circumstances, he would maintain his distance and keep Fujin away. Such a battle would only result in a draw. That is why both Fujin and Gin tried to target the weaker enemies to gain a numerical advantage while distracting the other.

Fujin gained an advantage in that aspect. He didn't care about the losses Kusa suffered and he had killed far more Iwa ninjas than the damage Gin managed to inflict on Kusa ninjas. This caused Gin to make a mistake and end up confronting Fujin head-on.

Since Gin had stopped targeting them, Noriyuki and the 4 Jounins with him left the banks and began running towards the interior. Noriyuki said, "We will run full time till we reach back to our town. Once we reach there, Iwagakure won't dare to attack us. We will lodge a complaint with Lord Daimyo and make Iwa pay dearly."

The jounins nodded. They ran a couple hundred meters without any obstruction. Since none of the Iwa ninjas chased them, one Jounin said, "Looks like your plan has worked. The Iwa ninjas can't spare anyone to chase after us."

They were relieved. Noriyuki nodded and said, "Yes, but stay on guard. We can't afford any more los..."

Noriyuki's words were stuck in his mouth as he felt extremely high heat on his right side. He and the jounins turned around to see. A look of shock and terror appeared on their faces. A massive rock covered in lava was heading straight at them.

They wanted to get out of the way. Unfortunately, it was too late. Before their feet could move, the massive lava-covered rock hit them. It crushed the 5 ninjas under its immense weight while burning them and exploded almost immediately.

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Chapter 304: Attacking Indiscriminately?

Seeing Fujin attacking him again, Gin retreated. Fujin was about to give chase when the loud explosion sound was heard attracting everyone's attention! Seconds later, dust and smoke covered the entire area. Some debris also fell.

The Iwa ninjas took the chance to retreat and regroup as the sensors on Fujin's side were shocked. Fujin looked towards the spot of the explosion and thought, 'The chakra of all 5 of them disappeared. And what's with that massive chakra? Even Hiruzen's chakra wasn't as high as this!'

Though Fujin's first mission as the Anbu Captain had failed, he had no time to think about it. He was more concerned about the chakra that the ambusher was emitting.

Gin looked at the destruction and sighed, 'We had to resort to this. Now everyone will know that it was Iwagakure who did the attack. This will be a diplomatic disaster.'

He turned his attention towards his bleeding arm. His expression became determined as he thought, 'But that's fine. Though we will lose our influence in the Land of Grass, we found out about this fearsome Anbu from Konoha. I don't recall any powerhouse in Konoha having such skills. So he should be someone who they raised after the last Great War ended. Killing him will be far more beneficial!'

Suddenly, Gin's eyes widened and he looked in front only to see a sword heading straight at him. He instinctively moved backwards but knew that he had no chance of avoiding the attack. Having sensed a formidable foe, Fujin didn't want to leave any other trouble behind him.

Fujin's blade was just a few inches away from Gin's neck when he sensed molten rocks headed towards him. Fujin flickered backwards and fired a few Vacuum Bullets at Gin. Gin barely managed to dodge them. They created a few cuts on his body causing him to lose even more blood but none were fatal.

However, Fujin had no time to look at him. A figure rushed towards him at rapid speed. Fujin shot a few Vacuum Bullets, but he dodged them all. His fist began glowing red as he punched Fujin. Chakra began flowing along Fujin's sword as he slashed at the incoming punch.

The sword and the fist clashed creating a slight shockwave. Fujin's expression behind his mask became serious as his sword couldn't cut into the fist. The punch sent him flying backwards. He flipped in the air and landed back on the ground but was still dragged behind for a few minutes.

His eyes landed on the ninja who attacked him. He had red hair, mustache and beard. Unlike the other lwa ninjas, he didn't bother hiding his identity. He wore a large headpiece that proudly displayed the symbol of Iwagakure.

On seeing his face, Ryoichi and the other Kusa ninjas were horrified. Even Fujin's team raised their guard to the max. Ryoichi asked in disbelief and horror, "Roshi! Why did Iwagakure send someone like you?"

Roshi ignored his question and looked at Fujin. He said, "Youngsters these days are getting even more ferocious. You forced me to take action."

Fujin cursed in his mind, 'Shit. If I knew someone like him was hiding here, I wouldn't have wasted time dealing with the rest. Though if I did that, he might have jumped in sooner. But...

Why the hell is Onoki sending his Jinchurki on a mission? It's an absolute taboo during peacetime. Even their own citizens don't trust them. Let alone citizens of other countries.'

Fujin roared, "Iwagakure! You dare send your Jinchuriki to the Land of Grass? Do you intend to start a war?"

Fujin used his chakra to amplify his voice. It was so loud that everyone in Mizukoshi heard it clearly. Though most didn't know what a 'Jinchuriki' was, knowing that the ambushers weren't rogue ninjas and instead were from Iwagakure terrified them. As for the ones who knew what a 'Jinchuriki' was, their fear knew no bounds.

Panic spread through the city. Some hid in underground safe houses in the city. A few began escaping from the city. Some officials sent messenger birds to Kusagakure without consulting or even informing Ide Tomoki.

Roshi realized Fujin's intention and said, "I'm surprised that you are still thinking about diplomacy at this point."

Fujin ignored him and instructed, "Slaughter the rest. I'll deal with Roshi."

His earlier rampage had killed 4 more Iwa ninjas including Chiharu who was the second most powerful in that group and could restrict Ryoichi. More importantly, he had gravely injured Gin. Iwagakure only had 6 ninjas along with an injured Gin. So the Anbu and Kusa ninjas shouldn't have any issue in dealing with them.

Roshi asked, "You think you can de..."

His words were cut short as Fujin flickered next to him and shot Air bullets from a close range. Roshi immediately dodged and counterattacked.

'Lava Release: Scorching Rocks Jutsu'

Roshi expelled a large amount of Lava that solidified into molten rocks. They travelled towards Fujin with tremendous force. Fujin ran straight towards the incoming molten rocks. Displaying blinding speed, he avoided all molten rocks. The molten rocks hit his afterimages and exploded on contacting the ground.

Roshi's eyes widened. He muttered, "So fast."

He slammed his hand on the ground.

'Lava Release: Volcanic Swamp jutsu'

The ground around him began turning into a swamp that had lava mixed within it. He severely restricted Fujin's movements if he wanted to close the distance.

However, instead of approaching him, Fujin jumped a long distance in the sky while building a large amount of chakra and inhaling a large amount of air.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

Roshi began preparing a Fire jutsu to take advantage of the Wind jutsu but stopped mid-way as his eyes widened in surprise. He thought, 'What is he doing?'

Ryoichi had just begun fighting Gin when they both stopped and looked above. Ryoichi's eyes widened. Even Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro were surprised and scared.

A second later, a strong wind current engulfed the entire battlefield. Enemies and allies both felt the tremendous wind flow. Even the Ide family ninjas on the opposite bank felt the massive wind current. The winds caused the river water to flood the opposite bank. They immediately retreated back into Mizukoshi and activated their protective seals.

Layers of Lava walls formed around Roshi protecting him from the winds. Several wind blades hit it every second causing it to crumble. But it reformed itself at an even faster pace.

He thought, 'Though my Fire nature should have an advantage, the Winds are so strong that everything will be reflected back to me. But, what is he planning? Does he want to kill his own allies as well? Since when did Konoha become so ruthless?'

At the same time, Gin was horrified. He thought, 'This bastard is definitely Danzo's successor. He'd kill his allies as well rather than letting any of us escape!'

A similar fear ran through the minds of the Kusa ninjas. After all, they had no idea who Fujin was and what his intentions were. Even Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro had solemn expressions. Even though they were his subordinates, none of them had worked with him earlier or knew what missions he undertook.

Suddenly, the Iwa ninjas in front of them were attacked by wind blades. Long cuts appeared on their bodies. The Iwa ninjas dodged while the Kusa and Konoha ninjas were afraid that they too would suffer the same fate. But they soon noticed something odd.

They realized, 'The wind blades are only attacking the Iwa ninjas. Though we are facing the extreme winds as well, they don't pose much threat to us.'

Roshi noticed it as well. His eyes widened and pupils dilated. He realized, 'This level of control... His control over Yin-Yang should be excellent. This isn't a blind attack. He can perfectly control his jutsu. He wants to kill all Iwa ninjas so that they won't interfere with our fight.'

Realizing that they were safe, the Kusa and Konoha ninjas began attacking Iwa ninjas. The Iwa ninjas immediately fell into peril.

A red coating of chakra appeared around Roshi as he rapidly weaved hand signs. Chakra and lava gathered on his right fist as he punched the ground with full force.

Immediately, the lava and chakra were released into the swamps he created earlier. The ground around him raised 10 meters in height forming a miniature Volcano. The lava began gathering towards its mouth.

'Lava Release: Flower-Fruit Mountain jutsu'

The miniature volcano exploded with a loud sound! It sent a shockwave in the surrounding area nullifying the winds Fujin had created. Following the shockwave, a large amount of molten rocks was launched into the air. However, since the Iwa ninjas were also in the vicinity, Roshi controlled it to fall far away from the battlefield.

One of the molten rocks fell on Mizukoshi town. It hit the protective barrier and broke it with ease. Fortunately, it hit the wall and didn't fall in the town. The wall crumbled in an instant. The people who still hadn't hidden underground were horrified by the sight.

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Chapter 305: Contemplating the Situation

Roshi gathered chakra once again and shouted, "Retreat!"

'Lava Release: Fiery Rock Bullet jutsu'

He spat a single rock made of molten lava at Fujin who was falling down from the sky. Fujin gathered chakra as well.

'Wind Release: Vacuum Cannon jutsu'

The Vacuum Cannon hit the lava rock and broke through it and travelled towards Roshi. Roshi didn't dare test his defenses against the Wind Vacuum attacks. He immediately dodged. The Vacuum Cannon hit the miniature Volcano Roshi built earlier and crumbled it down.

Fujin wasn't sure whether Roshi could use the same jutsu through it. He didn't want to see whether he could or not. He landed on the ground and instructed, "Chase and kill them off."

The Iwa ninjas had already begun escaping. Fujin's allies were wondering whether they should aid him or chase the Iwa ninjas. Hearing his command, most of them began chasing the Iwa ninjas. Seeing what Roshi could do, none of them wanted to face him. Only Ryoichi and Yugao stayed behind.

Yugao looked at Fujin and recalled the words Hiruzen had said to her before she joined Fujin's team. She analyzed, 'If he kills Iwa's Jinchuriki, then it could cause a war between Konoha and Iwa. The best solution is to disengage now and let them retreat. But how do I tell him that? And what would be the optimal route if that Jinchuriki decides to keep chasing after us?'

Ryoichi had similar thoughts. Konoha could afford to offend Iwa, but they couldn't. He said, "Kagawa Noriyuki is already dead. Let's stop here and leave."

Fujin and Roshi were about to begin their battle but halted on hearing that. A frown appeared behind Fujin's mask. He pointed at Roshi and said, "Tell him that."

Roshi thought for a few seconds and replied, "Sure. Kusa ninjas can leave but Konoha will have to pay for killing so many of our ninjas."

Ryoichi was stunned by his words. He immediately fell into a dilemma. If he escaped, then the remaining Kusa ninjas would live. If he stayed and Fujin lost, then they could all be wiped out.

A frown formed on Yugao's face as she stared at Ryoichi. Fujin didn't say anything. He decided that if Ryoichi withdrew, he would run away as well. And after he gets away from Roshi, he would hunt them down and pin the blame on Iwa. After all, an entire town had seen them fighting Iwa ninjas.

Ryoichi let out a sigh and said, "Then I have no choice but to continue fighting."

He immediately left and began chasing the escaping Iwa ninjas while thinking, 'Though we can't afford to offend Iwa, they are the ones who attacked us in our country. If I escape, then we will offend Konoha while Iwa would think that they can bully us whenever they want to. In that scenario, our country will be doomed.'

Roshi frowned and was about to flicker towards Ryoichi when Fujin suddenly appeared in front of him and swung his sword at him. Roshi dodged and attacked back. Both began fighting.

Though Yugao wanted to retreat, seeing Roshi's unyielding attitude, she understood that there was no other option. She shouted, "Captain, don't forget our mission!" and left to chase the Iwa ninjas.

Fujin wondered, 'What mission? The one we are supposed to protect is already dead.'

Meanwhile, Roshi also wondered, 'Did they come here using Kagawa as a front to do a secret mission? But what mission could have a higher importance than guarding Kagawa Noriyuki?'

They entered into an intense conflict. However, both had thoughts running through their minds.

The longer they fought, the more depressed Roshi became. He thought, 'Though I have stopped paying attention to the internal situation in Iwa, I still know that the old man hasn't found any successor for him. For decades, no one who can replace Onoki has appeared in Iwa. Only me and Han came close but we were asked to take control of the tailed beasts.

But Konoha... They had White Fang who dominated the Second Great Ninja War. He was followed by the Sannins who gained fame in the Second War and dominated the Third War. And while they were still at their peak, Namikaze Minato rose to fame and took command of their forces.

Even though they suffered numerous losses after the Third Great Ninja War, their next generation is already stepping up. First Copy Ninja and now this guy... Though he isn't as strong as me, his speed exceeds mine. And his attacks are all very deadly. Even if I get hit by just one, I'll be gravely injured or dead.'

At the same time, Fujin was seriously introspecting, 'Should I kill him or just stall?'

He analyzed, 'If I kill him now, the Four Tails will die as well and will need a few years to resurrect. If I can capture and seal it inside me and become a perfect Jinchuriki, then my prowess will increase many folds. But...'

Fujin flickered to his right to dodge the wave of lava heading at him. Roshi launched another round of molten rocks at Fujin which he dodged as well while counterattacking. He further analyzed, 'But by the time the Four Tails is resurrected, Akatsuki would have begun capturing tailed beasts.

The place of resurrection will be random. And there is no way I could compete with Akatsuki in intel gathering. Unless I can build the organization in time. But, that's still incredibly tough. Not to mention, there is no way anyone can compete with Zetsu in terms of gathering information.

Besides, even if I have great luck and manage to become a Jinchuriki, I will have very little time to become a perfect one. After all, creating friendship and a deep enough bond will be very difficult after I beat him up and seal him inside me.'

Fujin let out a sigh and thought, 'Leave it. I'm not ready yet. Killing him now could result in a conflict with Iwa. It could change the course of future events. Not to mention, I doubt I could kill him unless he becomes very careless for some reason. If he transforms, then the only way I can confront him is by summoning Ryu. But that will exhaust all my chakra and I doubt Ryu can win against Son Goku. Still, this is a good opportunity to test my skills.'

Fujin's expression suddenly became very serious. Though his face was hidden by the turtle mask, Roshi felt the change in his attitude. Fujin suddenly disappeared and appeared behind Roshi and swung his sword vertically.

Roshi immediately moved to his left. A sword slash passed by leaving a deep scar on the ground. Suddenly, several cuts appeared on his arm despite dodging the attack. Roshi's eyes widened as he flickered away. He realized, 'In addition to the main slash, there were hundreds of smaller slashes surrounding it.'

Fujin followed Roshi and swung his sword 6 times in quick succession. 6 razor-sharp sword slashes streaked towards Roshi with blinding speed. Roshi's eyes widened as he thought, 'If these also have the additional slashes, then...'

He moved his body such that he would narrowly dodge all the sword slashes. At the same time, one tail appeared behind him and red chakra appeared on his body. Before the sword slashes reached him, a coating of lava enveloped his entire body!

The sword slashes narrowly missed his body while the accompanying winds hit his lava armor. Numerous cuts appeared on his armor but none reached his flesh.

Fujin thought, 'A lava armor? That's interesting.'

He immediately shot a vacuum bullet at his heart. Roshi immediately dodged. Though the armor could stop weaker attacks, it wouldn't stand any chance against attacks with high penetrating power. Fujin observed, 'I see. It's defense shouldn't be very high. At least he isn't confident of blocking my Vacuum jutsus.'

'Lava Release: Fiery Rock Bullet jutsu'

Roshi shot 3 lava boulders at Fujin. Fujin dodged them but Roshi used the distraction to reduce the distance between them. He appeared at Fujin's right, jumped above and sent a punch towards his head.

Knowing that his sword won't be cut through Roshi's fist from the previous exchange, Fujin moved backwards. Roshi's punch hit the ground causing cracks to appear in the ground. One such crack extended towards Fujin while emitting red light and a lot of heat. Fujin immediately got out of the way. Lava erupted out of that crack.

At the same time, Fujin's clothes caught on fire! Fujin was shocked. Roshi used this distraction to once again appear in front of Fujin. Fujin looked at Roshi's grin and wondered, 'When did he burn my clothes?'

Roshi sent a punch at Fujin once again. Fujin slashed at his lava-covered fist with his sword again as he realized, 'I see. The heat from his armor is so intense that my clothes caught on fire despite not being touched by him.'

Just when the fist and sword were about to clash, Roshi opened his fist and caught the sword. The sword cut a couple of inches into his palm but couldn't cut any more due to the highly concentrated chakra flowing through his arm. Roshi held the sword tightly as he raised his left fist to pummel Fujin to death!

However, before he could punch Fujin, a punch landed on his abdomen and sent him flying backwards.

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Chapter 306: Changing the Terrain!

Roshi flipped in the air and landed back on his feet but was still dragged backwards for another dozen meters. He looked at Fujin who was standing in the same spot. However, his left hand was lit on fire. Roshi chuckled and said, "Since you dared to punch my lava armor, you can say goodbye to your ha..."

His words got stuck in his throat as he saw Fujin wave his left arm in the air and the fire dissipated. He noticed that Fujin's left arm was completely black in color. A frown appeared on Roshi's face as he realized, 'Iron Skin jutsu. He can use rank B Earth jutsus as well? Though it isn't enough to resist my armor for a longer period but should enable him to be able to punch or kick me.'

The cut on Roshi's right hand stopped bleeding and began healing slowly. Suddenly, Fujin's entire body became covered in the same color. The fire on his clothes was extinguished as Fujin flickered and appeared behind Roshi. He slashed his sword at his back. Roshi immediately escaped. A sword slash was released from Fujin's sword. It hit the river and left a deep scar across it.

Fujin chased after Roshi thinking, 'I can't maintain Iron Skin jutsu for too long. I need to deal some critical blows quickly.'

Just when Fujin was about to reach him, Roshi turned around and spat out a large amount of lava. Fujin's eyes widened as he flickered away in an instant and landed on top of the river.

The lava covered the entire area. Waves of lava surged towards Fujin like a Tsunami. Fujin frowned and wondered, 'Does he want to massacre the entire town behind me? Even if it silences the ones who heard my roar, there is no way Iwa can get out of this mess without suffering any major diplomatic consequences. '

Fujin swung his sword at the river. This time, he didn't focus on the penetrating power. Instead, he created a 100-meter-long wind slash. The wind slash hit the river vertically along the length of the river. It caused the river water to gush out towards the lava wave. The water and lava waves clashed, covering the entire area in mist. The lava wave broke through the water wave but lost a lot of its momentum. It still continued forward and entered the river.

Knowing that it won't be able to harm Fujin, Roshi appeared on the river bank and ran across the river to fight Fujin. Fujin was about to attack when he sensed a chakra build up behind him.

'Water Release: Raging Waves jutsu'

'Water Release: Raging Waves jutsu'

'Lightning Release: False Darkness jutsu'

Bunjiro and Yugao spat a large amount of water. The water in the river mixed with their attack and it rushed towards Roshi like a waterfall. At the same time, Fumito released a strong Lightning current in the waterfall.

A frown formed on Roshi's face. He spat out a large amount of lava once again while he retreated back to the river bank. Fujin swung his sword at the lava wave and flickered next to Yugao on the river bank behind him.

The wind slash hit the lava wave. It slowed down the momentum of the wave by more than 70%. A moment later, the combination jutsu of Water and Lightning hit the lava wave! It forced the lava wave back to the other bank.

Roshi slammed his hands on the ground. 3 layers of walls formed by molten rocks appeared in front of him. The combination attack broke through the first wall but was stopped by the second wall. The third wall broke down by itself and molten rocks were fired at the Konoha and Kusa ninjas on the other bank.

Fujin swung his sword at the incoming rocks and asked, "What's the status?"

The slashes hit the molten rocks. The smaller rocks were split into two, while the larger ones had a deep scar in them. They lost their momentum and dropped into the river.

Yugao replied, "We tried chasing them, but they retreated below the ground. Chasing became very risky due to their constant and unpredictable attacks from underground."

Fujin was surprised. He thought, 'I see. I guess taking off one arm wasn't sufficient. Sigh, I should not underestimate anyone who managed to gain the Elite Jounin rank. Though I guess that others might have helped him.'

He said, "Alright, you guys retreat. I'll retreat soon as well. We will meet up in the same town."

His subordinates nodded while the Kusa ninjas sighed in relief. They had seen the terrible devastation caused by Fujin and Roshi's fight. The entire landscape on the other side of the river had changed. There was no longer any grass on the land. Instead, the entire land had turned into volcanic terrain covered in long scars.

Even the river wasn't spared. They could see a slash cutting across the river. In addition, though most of the lava was washed along by the river, some of it was still left behind and solidified. It had decreased the width of the river by 20-35% in some places.

Yugao wondered, 'Why do these cuts on the land look like sword attacks?'

The Konoha and Kusa ninjas began running along the river to get away from them. Roshi didn't pay any attention to them as he analyzed, 'Gin should have kept them safe. Even without Gin, they would have a very difficult time chasing them successfully. No other village can compare with us when it comes to making an orderly retreat.

Though I could try to kill them, I'm afraid that this guy will allow me to kill them so that he can get an opportunity to sneak attack me.'

He said in a loud voice, "You must be the rumored Spectral Swordsman who gained fame recently. As expected, you are from Konoha."

The retreating ninjas heard him and were surprised. Yugao looked back at Fujin and thought, 'He is the Spectral Swordsman? No wonder his swordplay is so good!'

Bunjiro wondered, 'Spectral Swordsman? What's that?'

Meanwhile, the Kusa ninjas had a grim expression. After all, the number of Kusa ninjas that fell to the Spectral Swordsman's blade wasn't small.

Ryoichi looked at Yugao and asked, "Is he the Spectral Swordsman?"

Yugao shook her head and replied, "I'm not aware of him having any such title."

A frown formed on Ryoichi's face. Though Yugao was wearing a mask, he could sense from her words that she wasn't lying. He looked back at Roshi and wondered, 'Is he lying? Or is that Konoha Anbu the Spectral Swordsman but his subordinates are unaware.'

Suddenly, his eyes widened. So did the ones of other ninjas who were watching them.

For the first time since they began fighting, Fujin grabbed his sword with both hands and pulled it to his right side. An immense amount of wind chakra flowed through the sword. In an instant, he swung his sword forming a proper arc.

A gigantic wind slash was released from his sword. Alongside it, extremely sharp and strong winds were released. The winds under the slash hit the river water. Several cuts appeared in the river. And all the river water for around a hundred meters was sent rolling to the other side of the bank!

The Kusa ninjas were horrified by the attack. Bunjiro was starstruck while Yugao and Fumito had serious expressions. Though they had realized that Fujin was stronger than them, they never imagined that the difference between them would be so high. Despite their emotions, they, like the Kusa ninjas, doubled their speed and escaped.

Of course, the one who was the most serious was Roshi. The lava armor on his body began burning brightly as he jumped up immediately and dodged the main wind slash. At the same time, he spat out molten lava and swiftly shaped it into a half-spherical shield. In an instant, it solidified.

Hundreds of small cuts appeared on the shield, but it held on as Roshi kept pouring more chakra and lava into it. A second later, it was hit by the water wave. Roshi wasn't concerned about the water. After all, Fujin couldn't control it. But he was on high alert.

Though his shield stood strong, he abandoned it and moved to his left. A moment later, a Vacuum bullet streaked through the water and hit the shield, piercing it with ease.

The river water travelled a long distance along the banks. Due to the heated ground, which was mixed with Lava, a lot of it was turned into steam. In a few seconds, the entire terrain was covered in steam and it became very difficult to see. Roshi's frown deepened.

A second later, he gathered a lot of chakra in his right fist and punched towards his left. His fist hit Fujin's sword and stopped it. He noticed that Fujin's body was covered with the Iron Skin jutsu once again. Instead of attacking again, Fujin took a step back and disappeared from Roshi's eyesight.

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Chapter 307: Where the fuck did you summon me?

Roshi cursed, 'This is annoying. He has completely hidden his chakra just like in Kiri's assassination technique.'

Before he could do anything, Fujin appeared in front of him and slashed at his chest. Roshi punched the sword once again and managed to push Fujin away.

Fujin disappeared and a second later appeared behind him. Roshi turned around and stopped Fujin once again, forcing Fujin to disappear once again.

Roshi was expecting another attack from Fujin, but none came. Regardless, he stayed on guard. Seconds kept passing, but no attack came. After 30 seconds, Roshi had enough. Continuously maintaining full awareness while waiting for an attack was very taxing and increased the stress. He gathered a massive amount of chakra in his right hand once again and punched towards the ground. He intended to use the Flower-Fruit Mountain jutsu to clear up all the steam.

Suddenly, his eyes widened and he stopped his punch. A vacuum bullet passed through the space where his fist would have been had he continued his attack. Quickly, he bent below before moving backwards. Two more Vacuum bullets passed through the space he would have been in had he not moved.

Roshi gathered chakra and shot a Fiery Rock Bullet from the direction the Vacuum Bullets were launched. Unfortunately, he didn't sense it hitting anything. Fujin stopped attacking once again.

Roshi thought, 'Shit, this is getting annoying. Though I'm confident I can keep dodging successfully, one mistake could cost me my life. But, since when did Konoha get the courage to kill a Jinchuriki in peacetime? Has their strength recovered to such an extent that they don't mind getting attacked by both Kumo and us at the same time?'

Though Roshi was stronger, Fujin had complete control of the battlefield. Unlike Roshi, whose attacks caused large-scale devastation, Fujin's attacks were always on point. They were all deadly and gave Roshi very little time to react and were quickly followed up by more attacks.

For the next minute, Roshi maintained full guard but wasn't attacked by Fujin even once. Finally, Roshi began building his chakra once again. However, he stopped midway and ducked down. A Vacuum Wave passed above him.

He immediately began rolling to his right and dodged 3 Vacuum Bullets and 1 Vacuum Wave. Soon after, he got off the ground and continued moving to his right as a Vacuum Wave landed on the ground. His eyes widened as another vacuum wave grazed past his left leg. He quickly jumped backwards, but a deep cut is left in his left leg, almost exposing his bone!

Before he could gather himself, he sensed movement behind him. He ignored the wound and turned around and threw a punch at the incoming sword. The fist and sword clashed once again. Roshi was surprised as Fujin didn't retreat. He was about to punch with his other fist, but his eyes widened and he quickly took a couple of steps behind.

He saw two Vacuum Bullets passing a few inches in front of him! His expression became grim as he realized, 'Shadow Clones!'

The Fujin in front of him moved forward and attacked him with his sword. At the same time, another Fujin appeared behind him and attacked his back. In addition, a few more Vacuum Bullets were fired at Roshi.

Realizing the grave risk he was in, Roshi dodged and shouted, "Enough!"

Suddenly, a massive amount of red chakra was released from his body. It covered his entire body. At the same time, it released several waves of pure chakra around him.

Fujin's clones were very close to him. Their eyes widened but they didn't have enough time to move. They immediately used the Iron Skin jutsu to protect themselves. The chakra wave hit them and sent them flying away in opposite directions.

The red waves also reached the real Fujin who was maintaining distance and attacking with Vacuum Bullets. He immediately flickered away while thinking, 'What the hell? He can use Son Goku's chakra to this extent without losing control? Or does he not care about losing control?'

The red chakra waves travelled for about 40 meters around Roshi. The steam covering the area was blown away and even more damage was done to the ground.

Without the steam cover, Roshi could see Fujin clearly. He looked at him and thought, 'That was close. With his shadow clones, the danger was amplified exponentially. If I keep dodging, it would only be a matter of time before I mess up. Anyways, now that he has forced me, it's time to end this.'

At the same time, Fujin also looked at Roshi. Shock could be seen in his eyes. He saw that the chakra covering Roshi had taken the shape of a red-furred and green-skinned monkey, looking exactly like the Four Tails, Son Goku. What shocked Fujin the most was that Roshi looked to be in complete control of himself. He stood calmly in the head of the chakra construct.

Fujin was dumbfounded. He thought, 'Impossible! I thought only Bee and the 4th Mizukage were perfect Jinchurikis! Why would I have fought him for so long otherwise?'

The sight scared Fujin. He immediately became very serious. He was about to make a move when he sensed some movements under his feet. He gathered chakra under his feet and jumped high in the sky. The ground transformed into small spikes which were launched at Fujin. Noticing the opportunity, Roshi shot a ball of lava at Fujin.

Fujin immediately slashed his sword towards the incoming spikes while looking at the ball of lava and analyzing, 'Such a gigantic ball of lava. My vacuum cannon might not stop it.'

One seal on his left bracer began glowing. One hundred explosive tags appeared in front of Fujin in a flash. Fujin controlled the winds and caused the explosive tags to fly towards the lava ball in 3 layers.

Roshi was surprised. Just before the lava ball was about to crash into the first layer of explosive tags, all hundred explosive tags blew up. The shockwaves from the explosions decreased the momentum of the lava ball until it came to a halt and began losing its shape. The lava fell down to the ground.

Immediately, Fujin focused his chakra field under the ground. He realized, 'Someone is hiding his chakra underground. Should be that Iwa Elite Jounin. Sigh, what a mess. I need to retreat.'

Fujin dispelled the two shadow clones on the ground to gain their chakra. Roshi looked at Fujin who was around a hundred meters in the air and muttered, "To jump airborne against a Jinchuriki who has displayed some control over his tailed beast. What a stupid move."

He began gathering chakra to end the fight but his eyes suddenly widened in shock. Multiple seals on each of Fujin's bracers lit up. Roshi watched in shock as he noticed more than 2000 Explosive tags appearing in the sky. The number was utterly ridiculous.

Roshi was speechless. He wondered, 'Was his real mission to destroy a city or something?'

In an instant, the wind began blowing. All the explosive tags moved towards the ground at a rapid speed!

Roshi didn't bother creating any defenses. He was confident that despite their high numbers, the tags won't cause any harm to him.

The chakra body of Son Goku opened its massive maw wide open. Concentrated chakra began gathering in a swirling vortex and pulsated with an overwhelming intensity.

Behind his mask, Fujin's expression became very grim. He controlled the explosive tags while weaving hand signs. As the explosive tags moved down, they spread over the entire battlefield and split into multiple waves. The first wave had 400 explosive tags, the second had 600, and the third had 1200 tags.

The explosive tags in the first wave landed on the ground. At the same time, the explosive tags in the second wave maneuvered in the air and surrounded the chakra body of Son Goku. Meanwhile, the third layer appeared on top of the tailed beast bomb. At the same time, it also blocked Fujin from Roshi's view.

While the explosive tags were moving, Fujin completed his hand signs.

'Summoning jutsu'

A cloud of smoke appeared under him. A figure appeared in it and arrogantly said, "The Great Winged Sabertooth Lord Goro is her..."

However, his words were cut short. All the explosive tags exploded at the same moment! In an instant, the entire area was covered by a loud explosion sound. The intensity of the explosion made Goro look down in horror. At the same time, he sensed Son Goku's chakra and the fluctuations from the Tailed Beast Bomb. Every single hair on his body stood up! He muttered in shock, "Where the fuck did you summon me, Fujin?"

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Chapter 308: Killing Tsuchikage with One Hand tied behind the back!

Fujin landed on Goro's back and shouted, "Goro, there is no time. Return and reverse summon me!"

For the first time, Fujin saw Goro nod obediently. Fujin used Goro's body to jump even higher in the sky. Immediately after Goro disappeared into a cloud of smoke.

Gin, who was underground, had sensed Son Goku's chakra. Instead of running away, he decided to move deeper into the ground. The massive explosion rocked the land. Despite being over 50 meters underground, he felt the ground around him vibrating! He quickly escaped deeper while thinking, 'Don't tell me Roshi used Tailed Beast Bomb! Shit, we are in another country!'

At the same time, the people in Mizukoshi town were all hidden in underground bunkers. Though the Ide family wasn't as generous as the Kagawa family, they had spent a lot of effort on building good bunkers as their town was very close to the border. So the people were feeling safe.

However, they suddenly heard an extremely loud explosion sound. The people were confused and scared. A few seconds later, they began feeling a vibration under their feet. Soon after, the entire bunker began shaking!

The people were horrified by the sound of the explosions and didn't want to move out. However, they were worried that they might be buried in the bunkers. So they quickly began leaving the bunkers. Fortunately, none of the bunkers crumbled due to which no deaths happened.

Unlike Gin and the people in Mizukoshi, Roshi was directly attacked by the tags. The explosions covered him in dust and smoke. However, soon, a massive amount of chakra began surging into the dust cover. As the Tailed Beast Bomb was being formed, winds began moving rapidly. The dust was blown apart and revealed his figure.

Fujin's face became solemn as he noticed, 'The explosions didn't harm him even a bit. I was hoping that the explosion from the 1st two waves destabilizes him and the explosion from the 1200 tags pushes the incomplete Tailed Beast Bomb onto him. I guess it was too much to expect.'

In a few seconds, the Tailed Beast Bomb reached its full potential and stopped growing any further. The noise generated due to the formation of the bomb disappeared. Fujin concentrated on the tailed beast bomb completely. The momentum due to jumping from Goro's body was completely lost and his body had begun falling down slowly.

Roshi looked at Fujin and muttered, "Rest in Peace."

He launched the massive Tailed Beast Bomb at Fujin.

As soon as the Tailed Bomb was launched, Fujin's bracer began glowing again. 100 Explosive tags appeared and moved towards the bomb. These were the last tags stored in his bracer. At the same time, he twisted his body in the air to face East. A large amount of Wind was blasted from his back making him fly out of the path of the Tailed Beast Bomb.

Roshi noticed Fujin's efforts but wasn't bothered by them. He shook his head and thought, 'Looks like he is still too young. Against a Tailed Beast Bomb, such efforts are pointless.'

In a moment, the Tailed Beast Bomb hit the explosive tags. Though the tags all exploded, they couldn't even slow down the bomb. The Tailed Beast Bomb reached the same altitude as Fujin and exploded!

Fujin turned his head and looked behind him. Fear coursed through his veins causing his pupils to constrict in terror as he noticed the massive explosion behind him. He thought, 'So fast! Hurry up Goro or I'll be dead!'

The Tailed Beast Bomb didn't even need a second to reach his previous location. He focused all his chakra on his back causing more intense winds to be blasted behind him. At the same time, his body was covered in the Iron Skin jutsu.

A powerful blast wave rippled through the air. It reached Fujin in the blink of an eye. It broke through the intense winds behind Fujin as if they were nonexistent and hit him. Fujin gritted his teeth as he felt an intense pain in his back. Fortunately, he suddenly disappeared from his position.

The blastwave continued expanding for kilometers in the air. The sound of the explosion was heard for several miles. The people in Mizukoshi hadn't even reached the doors of the bunkers and were still feeling the effects of the previous explosion when they heard the loud sound! They covered their ears in pain and were horrified. However, they had no other option but to leave the bunkers. No one wanted to be buried alive.

A frown formed on Roshi's face. He looked above and thought, 'That's weird. His chakra just disappeared in an instant instead of decreasing progressively. Considering his strength and that he wasn't hit directly, he shouldn't die in a moment.

Did Konoha gain a successor for the Flying Thunder God technique? But why did he take so much effort to dodge in that case?'

Due to the explosion tags and the chakra disturbance by the Tailed Beast Bomb, Roshi hadn't sensed Goro. So he wasn't aware of Fujin's plan to reverse summon himself.

Mount Muteki -

Fujin disappeared from the battlefield and appeared on Mount Muteki. A look of relief appeared on Goro's face as Fujin appeared in front of him. He was about to boast when his eyes widened.

Fujin's hardened body slammed into his face with tremendous force! Both of them slammed into the mountain creating a small cave inside the cave they were in. The sound immediately attracted the attention of other Winged Sabertooths. Ryu frowned and began flying towards the cave.

Land of Grass -

Roshi observed the skies properly to see whether he had missed anything. He maintained his form.

While he was paying attention to the sky, a slight movement was happening under the ground. Around 10 seconds later, a head popped out of the ground and observed the situation. He looked above with fear in his eyes and thought, 'So scary! I was worried for my main body. But since I am fine, my main body should have retreated safely.'

He was a Shadow Clone Fujin created and hidden underground when he was sneak attacking Roshi under the cover of steam. However, the battlefield changed very rapidly forcing the clone to hide deeper into the ground leaving him without any means to provide aid to Fujin.

He thought, 'Since my main body didn't dispel me, he should have a reason to keep me here. It's either to kill that Elite Jounin hiding underground or to test Roshi. If I try to sense the Elite Jounin, Roshi will sense me and defeat me.

After all, I'm no match for him and I doubt that Elite Jounin will die easily. Not to mention, he is hiding deep underground. Though my Vacuum jutsus have good piercing power, they can't pierce through tens of meters of ground. So there is just one option.'

Against a ninja who could use the Wind-Vacuum Technique, hiding underground was very risky. It would severely restrict mobility and the attacks could easily pierce into the ground. But by moving so deep, Gin had unknowingly got into the best defensive position.

So Fujin's clone decided to completely ignore him. He focused over 80% of his chakra into his throat. The sudden chakra build-up attracted Roshi's attention. He quickly turned his head and looked at where the clone was.

'Wind Release: Vacuum Cannon jutsu'

In an instant, Fujin's clone shot the vacuum cannon at Roshi. Roshi's eyes widened. He instinctively moved within the chakra construct. The jutsu travelled at a very high speed and hit the head of the chakra shaped like Son Goku.

The cannon easily pierced into the chakra and broke through the other side leaving a massive hole in the head! However, Roshi had moved out of the path of the attack. He controlled the chakra to refill the hole with Son Goku's chakra in a second. Though he wasn't hurt, his expression was dark. Despite being in his strongest state, he was still in danger.

Despite not doing any damage, the clone had a smile on his face as he analyzed, 'Though the chakra cloak of a tailed beast provides decent defense, it is much weaker than that of a Sussano. As long as I have a way to dodge the Tailed Beast Bomb safely consistently, I can threaten even a Jinchuriki.

But winning should be impossible for now. Their bodies are just too big and their attacks are too strong. They can easily maneuver their position and dodge my attacks while counterattacking.'

Roshi began moving towards the clone and said, "Impressive. To deceive me and make me attack your clone while you stayed hidden safely. No wonder your chakra disappeared so suddenly. But you should have stayed hidden instead of trying to kill me."

Roshi was about to attack him again when the Clone raised his palm and said, "Let's stop here."

Roshi was confused by Fujin's actions. He asked, "What do you mean?"

The Clone said, "Both our squads have already retreated and neither of us can kill each other. Let's call it a day. We will settle our battle on another battlefield. After all, Iwa and Konoha aren't at war."

Roshi's expression became dark at Fujin's shamelessness. He had killed so many Iwa ninjas and yet didn't have an ounce of shame in his voice while claiming that Iwa and Konoha weren't at war. Roshi did not doubt that if Fujin could finish him off, he would never speak such words.

Though Roshi could sense it, he never managed to get a hang of Fujin's chakra reserves as Fujin always masked it to show that it was very low despite being able to fight for a long time. But he was sure that after using so many high-level ninjutsu in intense combat, Fujin's reserves should be very low.

He said, "You killed so many of our ninjas and you think that I will just let you go? Besides, how much chakra do you still have left after fighting for so long?"

He was about to attack when the Clone snorted and replied, "Chakra? I have got more than you and Han combined! If Lord Hokage didn't permit me to kill you, then do you think you would still be alive? Heck, I would have gone to Iwagakure and killed your old Tsuhikage with one hand tied behind my back!"

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Chapter 309: Injuries

Roshi was left speechless. It was the first time he had heard someone claim something as ridiculous as that. Even him and Han fighting together wouldn't dare to claim that they could kill Onoki. The claim was so absurd that he didn't even get angry and instead laughed.

He asked, "Kill the old man with one hand tied behind your back? Are you called Senju Hashirama or Uchiha Madara?"

At the same time, he calmed down and thought, 'He is trying to rile me up by trying to make me angry. So, he wants me to drop my guard or make a mistake and land a critical hit. But, what means does he have to harm me when I am cloaked by the Four Tailed Beast's chakra? Does he still have a stronger attack than that cannon and the chakra to perform it?'

Fujin's clone didn't care how absurd his claim was. He wasn't sure if his main body had used reverse summon or flew away on Kaito. If it was the second case, then he needed to waste some time to ensure that they would be too far away for Roshi to even know where to chase. If it wasn't then he could just collect more information from Roshi and transmit them back to his main body.

The clone cursed angrily, "What? Do you not believe me? Do you think I am bluffing? Lead me to Iwagakure. I'll defeat that old geezer with one hand tied behind my back. I will even spare his life as my leader didn't ask for it!"

Roshi looked at the clone with a deadpan expression and thought, 'Yeah right. Bring along someone with as lethal jutsus as you. Still, this is amusing. Even that Deidara kid isn't as brazen as him.'

Roshi replied, "Sure. Let me seal your chakra and then you can travel with me."

The clone retorted, "Seal my chakra? What if you go back on your word and attack me when I'm helpless? That won't do. I'll be travelling without any restrictions."

A frown formed on Roshi's face as he thought, 'Something is off. He is giving almost no signs of a sneak attack. Is he wasting time to regain his chakra with a soldier pill?'

Though Roshi had an advantage in chakra, he didn't want to let Fujin recover his chakra and keep bugging him with the Wind Vacuum jutsus. He opened his mouth and spat a wave of lava towards Fujin's clone.

Fujin's clone sighed and began running away. He muttered to himself, 'I barely have any chakra left. I think I can flicker just twice at best.'

Roshi noticed him running and thought, 'As I calculated. He is low on chakra.'

He immediately chased the clone. Due to his larger size, his movement was much faster. He reached the clone and threw a punch at him. However, despite having a complete advantage, he was on guard against any counterattacks.

The clone flickered along the river banks and ran in the direction opposite of what his subordinates and the Kusa ninjas had taken. Roshi chased and was led away from the town on the opposite bank. A frown formed on his face as he thought, 'I have to finish the battle quickly. Though I can control the beast's chakra, I don't have total control over it. I can't maintain this state for long.'

He opened his mouth and launched a large ball of lava. The clone sighed and used his second body flicker. However, Roshi chased and attacked once again. The clone looked at the incoming ball of lava and thought, 'This is as far as I can go. It's fine. The main body should be safe.'

The lava ball hit him and exploded, dispelling him. As he was on the opposite side of the lava ball, Roshi couldn't see him being dispelled into a cloud of smoke. A frown appeared on Roshi's face. He wasn't happy. He thought, 'Something is wrong. This was too easy. Almost as if it was a shadow clone that had run out of chakra.'

As the lava spread out, Roshi noticed that there was no dead body or even bones left behind. He realized that his guess was right.

He fell silent and began thinking rapidly. He calculated, 'If this was a clone, was the one in the air his real body? If the real body managed to escape, then it would make sense for the clone to exist and waste time.

Or could it be that both were clones? After all, fighting me was foolish. So did he send another clone to distract me while he ran away? Or perhaps he is still hiding and wants me to believe that I have killed him so that I leave or put my guard down.'

A bunch of ideas appeared in his mind but Roshi couldn't be sure which was right. He stopped using Son Goku's chakra and returned to his normal state. Most of the injuries on his body were already healed. Only a scar was left on his left leg and right hand.

He concluded, 'If the one that was hit by my Tailed Beast Bomb was the real him, then he has managed to escape. I can't track him. So no point in considering that. I'll just assume that he is hiding here and look for him. He is dangerous. It will be best if we kill him before the start of the next Great War.'

He suddenly turned his head to the right. The ground was moving and a person climbed out. Gin looked around and asked, "Is he dead?"

Roshi shook his head and said, "Unlikely. He has escaped or is hiding underground. Help me look for him. But be careful of any sneak attacks."

Gim was surprised. He thought, 'Even Roshi couldn't kill him?'

He nodded and cooperated with Roshi to scan through the area.

Mount Muteki -

Goro complained, "What the hell! It feels like a block of iron fell from space and hit my head!"

Fujin got on his feet. His body was still shivering. He coughed blood a few times and muttered while breathing heavily, "Sorry. Just the blastwaves sent me flying!"

Fujin was still scared. After transmigrating to the ninja world, Fujin had been very careful. Until the Root was dissolved, he tried to keep his abilities as hidden as possible to avoid gaining Danzo's attention. During the missions, though he had grown to love a strong fight, he always controlled his impulse and always chose the easiest and the most efficient option.

Though Roshi wasn't the strongest opponent he encountered, this was the first time he came so close to death. Against Kakazu and Kaminari, he had managed to escape very quickly. Against Darui, though his position was bad, his life hadn't been put in danger directly.

Despite the risks, he always held his life and death in his own hands. This was the first time that he had completely trusted his life and death in the hands of another.

Goro noticed Fujin's fear. He stopped complaining and became serious. This was the first time he had seen Fujin in such a state. He asked, "Are you alright?"

Fujin nodded. He finally ended his Iron skin jutsu and inspected his body. His left hand had several burns up to the elbow. There were several other burns on his body. The worst was his back.

He had inscribed several seals into his clothes. Despite them, the back of his jacket and shirt was blown apart. Even his mesh upper body suit was blown. A few of the metal pieces from it were embedded in his back. In addition, the blastwave had damaged his back as well. He could feel that some of his rib bones were cracked.

Realizing the damage, Fujin's expression became grim. He thought, 'Fortunately I used the Iron Skin jutsu. Otherwise, just the mesh itself might have killed me.'

Goro noticed the injuries and said, "You are injured."

Fujin nodded and said, "It's fine. None of the injuries are serious."

Goro sighed in relief and asked, "In what mess were you? And what was that dangerous chakra?"

Fujin sighed and said, "He was a Jinchuriki, a ninja who hosts the Four Tailed Beast. I thought that he couldn't control it. But my information was wrong. That's why I fell into such a dangerous position."

He looked at Goro and said, "Thanks Goro. Had you been a second late, I'd have been dead."

Fujin genuinely was thankful. Goro chuckled and said, "You are worrying too much. Though you aren't as good as this Lord, your skin is extremely thick as well!"

Both suddenly looked towards the entrance of the cave. Ryu's massive body appeared in their eyes. Ryu entered the cave and observed the destruction. He asked, "What happened here?"

His eyes landed on Fujin and narrowed. He asked, "Who injured you?"

Goro and Fujin gulped as they felt the killing intent emitted by Ryu.

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Chapter 310: A Bottleneck!

Ryu was indeed angry. He had placed a lot of hopes on Fujin. Though he hadn't taught him anything yet, he was preparing to guide Fujin in the future. Fujin was about to answer when he said, "Leave it. Heal yourself first. Then find me. Goro, look after him in the meantime."

Ryu calmed down as he noticed that though there were a lot of injuries on Fujin's body, none were life-threatening.

Goro replied, "Don't worry Dad. You can leave Fujin in this Lord's care!"

Ryu ignored his son's antics and left. Following him, the remaining Winged Sabertooths left as well.

Goro looked at Fujin and said, "But, this Lord doesn't know how to heal humans."

Fujin took out a bottle and said, "Yeah, I know."

He ate a soldier pill. The battle with Roshi drained his chakra a lot. Just when Fujin was about to retreat, Roshi unleashed his full strength. Summoning Goro had taken up most of his remaining chakra while the rest was poured into Assassin's Rush and Iron Skin jutsus. Had Goro not reversed summoned him in time, he was prepared to dispel his clone underground to get some more chakra.

Fujin withdrew a paper seal from his ninja bag and crushed the seal on it. He looked at Goro and said, "I'll need around half an hour to regenerate some chakra. Carry me to a glacial lake. It will help to soothe the wounds temporarily and aid in the healing process."

Goro replied, "Sure. Hop on."

Fujin jumped on his back. He flew out and carried Fujin to a glacial lake that was located lower on the mountain.

Land of Grass -

The Kusa ninjas and Fujin's subordinates were rushing away from Mizukoshi. Ryoichi looked at the Konoha Anbu and said, "We won't be able to accompany you to the Kagawa family's town. We will be heading straight to Kusagakure."

One of the Jounins with him said, "But shouldn't we inform his family about the losses first? Our families are there as well. We need to mee..."

Ryoichi cut him off and said, "No. This matter is huge. If you spread the news, chaos will spread throughout our country. We need to report to Kusagakure and form a proper plan first. This matter needs to be handled by the diplomats."

He looked towards Konoha Anbu and said, "I am grateful for your aid, but I hope that you won't spread the news of what happened in Mizukoshi either."

Yugao replied, "I'll pass the message to our captain. It will be his decision."

Ryoichi nodded. The Kusa ninjas split off from the group and moved in a different direction. The Anbu continued on their path before changing their directions as well. Though Fujin had asked them to meet in the Kagawa Family's town, it was just a code word for another small village they had come across while travelling.

However, they suddenly heard a loud sound behind them. They stopped and looked back and noticed a smoke cloud in the air. Bunjiro asked in surprise, "What was that?"

As they were already over 10 miles away from Mizukoshi, they didn't sense the fearsome chakra fluctuations of the Tailed Beast Bomb. Neither Yugao nor Fumito could provide any explanation.

Bunjiro asked, "Should we return to check if Captain is alright?"

Fumito shook his head and replied, "No, you are in Anbu. Following the instructions of the Captain takes priority."

Bunjiro nodded reluctantly. He was a bit worried for Fujin.

They continued their journey. A few minutes later, they felt a vibration in their pouches. They quickly stopped and took out a paper tag. It had a seal similar to the one which Fujin crushed. In a moment, all 3 of the paper tags began burning.

Bunjiro's eyes widened. He muttered, "This..?"

Fumito and Yugao also became serious. Bunjiro said, "When Captain handed us this tag, he said that if this seal burns, we have to retreat back to Konoha. What happened?"

Yugao replied, "The fight might have been very difficult. Or for some reason, he might not be able to meet us up at the rendezvous point. Let's leave quickly."

Bunjiro and Fumito nodded. They changed their direction once again and moved towards Konoha.

Roshi and Gin looked for Fujin for around half an hour but didn't find him for obvious reasons. They gave up and retreated from the Land of Grass after meeting up with the remaining Iwa ninjas who were hiding underground.

Since the outside was calm for half an hour, the ninjas in Mizukoshi finally dared to climb on the walls and observe the surroundings. The sight shocked them!

On the other side of the river, the land was levelled several times for over a kilometer! Not a single strand of grass could be seen! Instead, it was covered with solidified lava.

The river had changed as well. A wall of lava had solidified in its path, forming a temporary dam. It stopped the water flow, forcing excess water to move around the wall and through the banks to continue forward.

They gulped in fear at that sight. Ide Tomoki had a very ugly face. He could see the political implications of the day's events. He regretted asking Iwagakure to assassinate Kagawa Noriyuki.

Mount Muteki -

While all forces withdrew away from Mizukoshi, Fujin was resting in the glacial lake. He wondered, 'So, where did I mess up?'

He analyzed for a bit before concluding, 'My information wasn't right. I don't recall Roshi having such control over Son Goku in the series. And none of the intel about him in this world mentioned this.

But, Roshi has been the Jinchuriki since before the Second Great Ninja War. It's impossible that the village doesn't have this information. So the only possible answer is that for some reason, they have kept this information as top secret.'

A frown formed on Fujin's face. If he had known this information, then he wouldn't have fallen into such a risky situation. However, his expression became normal as he thought, 'Though the village has to be blamed, I am at fault as well. I was overly dependent on the intel I had and didn't even consider Roshi using Tailed Beast Bomb while maintaining his sanity as a possibility.

Even if the village had provided all details, what if my opponent gained new skills and abilities in secret? Though depending on intel gives a good advantage, I need to avoid over-dependence on it. Especially when it comes to Jinchuriki and S rank ninjas.'

As someone who gave the highest importance to his survival, Fujin immediately figured out his flaw and decided on what changes he should make to avoid falling into such desperate situations again. His mind immediately began thinking about the oddity.

He thought, 'But why isn't Roshi considered a perfect Jinchuriki? Wait, now that I think about it, though he controlled a lot of chakra, he didn't transform into Son Goku like how Bee could with Gyuki. Could it be that even without a Tailed Beast's approval, Roshi could harness his chakra to such an extent and use Tailed Beast Bomb?'

Fujin thought for a bit and concluded, 'Yes, that should be it. So though he isn't a perfect Jinchuriki, he isn't far from it. It's kinda like Naruto's first Kurama Chakra Mode, but instead of having just a little bit of Son Goku's chakra, he has access to at least half of it.

Now that I think about it, I recall Yugito transforming into Matatabi against Akatsuki. While Gaara was able to construct Shukaku's body during the Konoha Crush. I guess it is easier to harness the chakra from Tailed Beast with lesser tails. I should be careful if I run into Yugito or Han in the future. They might be able to use Tailed Beast Bombs as well.'

On concluding, his mind immediately began analyzing the fight, 'Ignoring the battle after he released that massive chakra, this fight was a bit weird. Roshi was much stronger than me. Be it in chakra, experience, defense or physical strength. But I had the advantage in speed and lethality, giving me the initiative for the majority of the fight.

But, no matter my advantage or initiative, I just couldn't injure him. Even the few injuries I caused began healing almost immediately due to the massive chakra. This sort of exposes a big flaw in my combat system. Or rather, the imbalance in it.

Right now I am heavily dependent on my combat speed and the speed and piercing power of Vacuum jutsus. These two factors make it impossible for anyone under Elite Jounin to last long against me.

But, Elite Jounins are able to dodge my Vacuum Attacks and stop or dodge my sword safely. It makes it impossible to win those fights if they don't get distracted. Another flaw is that this method of fighting is very exhaustive on chakra.

The main reason for this is that my other skills haven't managed to keep up with these two. Only sword skills and Taijutsu comes close. The other elements and Genjutsu are much weaker and can only be used in certain situations. Even Fuinjutsu can't be used effectively in battle yet.

However, I don't see any way of improving those skills in a short time. In fact, even improving Vacuum jutsus is becoming very difficult. I can only create more forms that won't increase my combat strength drastically. It's almost as if I have reached some sort of bottleneck... How do I break through?'

Involuntarily, Fujin's gaze moved towards the peak of Mount Muteki.