Calamity 37

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 37: Sparring with Sensei

Next day, at 6 am, all the members of team 3 gathered in the training ground 17. It was a small open area in the center of a mini-forest. Renjiro was the last one to arrive. On seeing his genin squad already there, he wished them Good Morning and said, "As I said yesterday, before I begin training you three, I'll like to see what you can do. So we'll have a spar, you three versus me." He paused for a few seconds and said, "We begin NOW!"

As soon as he said that, he jumped forward with the intention to punch. It caught all the 3 genins off-guard. Mieko jumped backwards hurriedly and Hoka jumped to his left. Fujin, on the other hand, just flickered away. Renjiro's punch landed on the ground where the 3 genins were standing initially, and the ground cracked, causing a lot of dust to rise, which hid him. Renjiro thought, 'Not bad. I only intended to punch the ground in front of them, but I didn't think that all 3 would react so quickly. Especially Fujin, did he use Body Flicker jutsu without any hand signs?'

As soon as he used Body Flicker, Fujin thought, 'Damn! He attacked so suddenly that I flickered away by reflex.'

He then saw the dust rising up and covering Renjiro and so did Hoka and Mieko. Fujin immediately started sensing him, Mieko activated her Sharingan and Hoka activated his Byakugan. On sensing Renjiro, Fujin thought, 'Well now that I've shown it, I can't hide it anymore. So might as well spam it. Still I didn't think hiding my power would be so difficult. I really need to be more careful, in case he pulls a few more stunts like that. I hope I can protect the rest of my secrets for at least another year or two.'

While Fujin was thinking that, both Hoka and Mieko ran towards Renjiro to engage him in combat. Renjiro just stood there, waiting for them to begin their assault. Hoka was the first one to reach him, however, Mieko launched a few shurikens on Renjiro. Renjiro dodged them and then engaged Hoka in hand-to-hand combat. He was able to counter his Gentle Fist style very easily. When Mieko joined in, he suppressed both of them with ease.

However, he soon frowned. He tried to sense, but he couldn't sense Fujin at all. Taking the opportunity provided by his teammates, Fujin had disappeared from his sight and hid his chakra. Though Renjiro couldn't sense Fujin, Fujin closely monitored their fight, waiting for an opportunity to butt in. He soon found one when Renjiro punched Hoka. Fujin threw a shuriken with all his power.

However, Renjiro smirked and thought, 'A fake opening. Always works against brats.' He moved a step back to avoid the shuriken, however, the shuriken curved towards him. That surprised Renjiro. He was about to dodge again, when he felt 'No, something is weird.' So instead of dodging, he just caught the shuriken right out of its trajectory.

However, as soon as he caught it, he sensed 2 small chakra signatures behind him. He turned to see 2 wind spheres heading at him. He took a step to dodge, however, at the same time Mieko launched Fireball jutsu in the direction he was planning to dodge. Seeing that, he adjusted his direction and dodged both the jutsus and created distance from his students. Seeing that, Hoka rushed forward to engage him in close combat.

While Hoka was rushing towards him, Renjiro thought, 'Not bad at all. This doesn't seem planned, and their teamwork still needs a lot of work, but they are able to take advantage of the opportunities created by each other. Not to mention that I felt wind on that shuriken, which means that Fujin used Projectile Control jutsu on the shuriken. And instead of pressing forward on a hopeless assault, he took the advantage of that Fireball to disappear again.'

He engaged in another round of combat with Hoka and Mieko. Fujin, who was secretly observing the combat, thought 'An Elite Jounin indeed. That opening was a bait, to understand my location. Not to mention, he grabbed the shuriken outta thin air! Though, I wonder what he'd have done if I had infused that shuriken with wind chakra. Anyways, I wonder if I can fool him using a shadow clone.'

Fujin kept hiding, and made a shadow clone. After a minute, it looked like both Hoka and Mieko were about to lose. So the clone interrupted Renjiro by launching 2 wind explosion jutsu on him. He followed it up with shurikens. Renjiro dodged everything and moved towards Fujin to engage him in close combat. However the clone flickered and moved behind Mieko and Hoka.

Seeing Renjiro approaching, Hoka began moving forward to engage him. However, Fujin sensed a huge chakra built up by Mieko and shouted, "Hoka, move aside!" That shout alarmed Hoka and he turned to see that Mieko was weaving hand signs and had gathered almost all of her chakra. He quickly got out of her way and created distance by running to his left.

Mieko, actually, was very frustrated by this fight. Poor girl had been trying to use Sharingan Genjutsu on her sensei since the start of the fight, but not once did he look in her eyes. Due to her frustration, she launched Fire Dragon jutsu, and nearly poured all her chakra in it. Fujin's clone sensed that and used Great Breakthrough jutsu. He timed his jutsu just after Mieko launched hers, and tried to limit the range

of his jutsu to just cover her Fire Dragon. The result increased the power and the size of the Dragon. Not wanting to take that jutsu head-on, Renjiro flickered away.

The power of this jutsu really surprised Hoka and Mieko. Especially Mieko, who was awestruck by it.

Fujin was still keeping an eye on Renjiro. He noticed that Renjiro had flickered without using any hand signs, and had flickered just enough distance to barely dodge the jutsus. He thought, 'Sigh, that's the first time he has used a Ninjutsu. Anyways, it seems like this fight is pretty much over. Hoka has taken quite a beating. So has Mieko and she is out of chakra too. Only I am still fine. Sadly there's not much me and my clone can do. Not having a good long range jutsu sucks though. Despite being perfectly hidden, there's not much I can do.'

Right then, Fujin suddenly used Body Flicker jutsu purely with his instincts. However, right when his feet left the ground, a hand came out of the ground and caught his right leg. This caused him to fall forward, at a very rapid speed. Luckily for him, he managed to put his arms forward, ensuring that his face didn't get badly damaged.

Soon, another hand clutched the back of his neck and pinned him to the ground. He realized that it was Renjiro's chakra signature and thought, 'What the fuck? I didn't sense him at all.' He soon got his clone's memories. His clone had been dispelled, and Hoka and Mieko had been defeated.

He thought, 'A clone? But when?' On thinking a bit he realised, 'Was it when the dust provided him cover? But I had almost immediately begun sensing him, was that fraction of a second enough for him to make a clone and hide it or his main body? And why didn't I sense him? I should be able to sense anyone sensing me. Heck, even if someone merely looks at me, I sense that too!'

Renjiro thought, 'He was able to see an attack coming? No, that doesn't seem right, my chakra control was perfect. It seems like he decided to move purely on his instincts.' He then took his hand off Fujin's neck and said, "That's enough. Follow me." Fujin followed Renjiro to where Hoka and Mieko were. Both were lying on the ground. He thought, 'Poor kids. They really got beat up! Both their faces are swollen. And there are bruises even on their limbs.' Renjiro, who had beaten up these 2 and dispelled Fujin's clone, dispelled himself. Fujin then looked at Renjiro and thought, 'Did he beat these 2 up to curb their arrogance? Well whatever, I hope they think more now.'

After getting his clone's memories, Renjiro looked at Fujin in a new light and thought, 'Very good. He was successfully able to hide from my clone not only once, but twice. If not for the fact that his clone had only half his chakra, my clone might not have been able to identify him as a clone. He has a very

good mindset. Unfortunately, he doesn't have any good long range jutsu. Which meant that him hiding such a long distance away was disadvantageous to him as well. Also, he gave up a bit too quickly after I caught him. Something I should correct, though I suppose it did save him from receiving a beating. A shame really, though he doesn't seem as arrogant as the other two, some beating would have been good for his development.' Luckily for Fujin, he was totally oblivious of Renjiro's plans and thoughts.

He then looked at Hoka and Mieko and thought, 'But that still makes him much better than these two. Sigh, which genin engages a jounin in a head-on confrontation? But other than that, their skills are very good. Hoka is very good at Taijutsu and he is very fast too. And Mieko's Fire release jutsus were quite strong for a genin. I'm still surprised by the combo attack of Fujin and her.'

While Renjiro was engaged in those thoughts, both Hoka and Mieko got up. Though they still were groaning and looking at their 'sensei' with a lot of complaints. Mieko also looked begrudgingly at Fujin, who seemed to be in a much better condition.

Renjiro of course ignored those looks and said, "You have ten minutes. Sit here quietly and think about our little spar. I'll ask you some questions after 10 minutes and I expect you to answer them." Fujin sat down and began to analyze the fight. Hoka and Mieko did that too, however they were still looking at Renjiro angrily.

All 3 genins began analysing and had the same first thought, 'An Elite Jounin is incredibly strong!' While Fujin had to take some effort to dig up information on Renjiro, Hoka and Mieko got it very easily from their parents. Renjiro's exploits were common knowledge among the shinobi who fought in the 3rd Great Ninja War. That had made them a bit more respectful of Renjiro.

After the 10 minutes were up, Renjiro asked, "The first question for you, when did I make a clone?" Fujin raised his hand and replied, "Most probably when you punched the ground and raised a dust cover." Mieko, who was thinking hard, replied, "Yes, I don't think there was any other opportunity for you to make a clone." Fujin could sense anger in her voice due to being beaten up. Hoka was still confused though. He asked, "But sensei, why couldn't my Byakugan see you?" Renjiro replied, "There are ways to hide even from the Byakugan. Take this as a lesson that just because you don't see it, doesn't mean you can relax and put your guard down." Hoka nodded with a conflicting expression. Knowing that the pride of his clan wasn't foolproof was a big blow to him.

Fujin then asked, "But sensei, how were you able to approach me from underground and still hide your chakra? Also, how did you keep a track of where I was, without letting me sense you back?" Renjiro replied, "There are ways to hide from a sensor. Also tricks to sneak up on a sensor. Just because you don't sense anyone, doesn't mean that you should completely drop your guard."

Mieko was the next one to ask a question. She asked, "Sensei, how did you fight me without even once looking into my eyes?" Renjiro smirked and said, "The Uchiha clan has been using sharingans for hundreds of years. There are many ways to combat your sharingan too. The one I showed you was just the most basic one."

The answers made all the 3 genins fall into a deep thought. Fujin especially was very worried. He thought, 'Does that mean if someone was spying on me, I wouldn't even have an idea?' This thought worried him. However he calmed down on thinking, 'Well he is an Elite Jounin, capable of leading a whole battlefront. Surely Konoha won't send an Elite Jounin to spy on a nobody. I should still be safe.'

Renjiro cut the thoughts of his students and said, "Now all three of you will think and tell me why you lost. And tell me how you could have performed better. Hoka, you first, followed by Mieko and then Fujin."

Hoka thought for a bit and said, "You countered my Gentle Fist and I couldn't land even one hit on you. Also my Byakugan couldn't see your clone. And you were also a lot faster than me or anyone else."

Renjiro then looked at Mieko who replied, "Your Taijutsu is much stronger than ours. And you were always able to dodge all of our attacks, no matter how thorough we were. Also you knew exactly how to counter each one of us."

He then looked over to Fujin who said, "Our teamwork wasn't proper. We barely ever even spoke to each other. I saw Hoka and Mieko tag team against you, but they weren't in sync with each other. And I, despite being hidden, couldn't help much from such a long distance. And we didn't have any plans to defeat you. Not to mention..." Fujin paused for a few moments and continued, "You were just too strong for us to handle."

Renjiro nodded and thought, 'Decent. Hoka's tactical thinking would have to be developed more, but the other two are much better.' He then said, "Alright, this is it for today. You can go home and heal yourself. We will meet here tomorrow at 5:00 am. You have one assignment for tomorrow. Write down your daily routine and bring it tomorrow. And Fujin, stay here. Hoka, Mieko, you two can leave."

On getting the permission to leave, they said goodbyes and left. Fujin did have to suppress his urge to laugh as they both were walking very weirdly. Though that urge went away very quickly as he had a horrifying thought, 'Wait! I was the only one not beaten up. So he didn't make me wait for....' He quickly

got rid of that thought, 'No way. He's a reputed commander from a great ninja war, he won't be so petty.' He screamed internally, 'Where the fuck are those Human Rights activists? Also, why the fuck didn't that old monkey make laws to prevent child abuse despite warming the Hokage seat for decades!'

Fujin kept seeing his teammates walk away in a weird manner, while desperately hoping that his thoughts won't ever come true.

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Chapter 38: Light Morning Workout

In training ground 17, Fujin and his new Sensei were alone. Renjiro asked, "Why didn't you use swords during the spar?"

Fujin replied, "Cause I don't have any. I checked the prices, and even the cheapest one costs 12k Ryo. Sadly I can't afford them."

The answer was within Renjiro's expectations. He nodded and said, "I'll be teaching you how to wield swords from now onwards. Don't worry about the swords, I have a few you can use. We will first test your skills and also the size of the sword that'll suit you. After that, the 3rd Hokage will order 2 custom made samurai swords for you."

Fujin nodded and thanked him. Renjiro took out a scroll, laid it on the ground and rolled it open. Fujin noticed that it was a storage scroll. And looking at the number of storage seals, he probably was the one who made it.

Renjiro made a hand sign and 12 swords appeared on the scroll. Fujin picked up two, which were very similar in size to the ones he already used and said, "Sensei, the ones I used in the academy were of this size." Renjiro replied, "Alright, we'll start with these then. Let's have another spar. I wanna see how good your sword skills are."

Fujin and Renjiro then sparred to compare their sword skills. While sparring, both had different thoughts. Fujin was happy that his sensei wasn't the same 'monster' he was earlier. Renjiro on the other hand had mixed feelings about Fujin's swordsmanship.

He thought, 'This kid's basics are extremely solid. Especially considering that he has only trained with swords for less than a year. However, apart from the basics, he has nothing at all. There's no style to his swordplay. It's just a simple straightforward attack and defense. While he has been attacking and defending well, it's only due to him leveraging his speed and strength. If I were to increase my speed and strength to match his, he most probably won't even last 5 seconds.'

The spar continued for a few minutes more before Renjiro halted it. He concluded, 'He's like an unpolished jade! Not having any other styles means that he doesn't have any bad habits. While in the long run it may be disadvantageous, but for practicing just one style, this would be very convenient. Of course, since he hasn't practiced any styles yet, I can't say how fast or slow he will be at learning the Samurai Saber Techniques.'

Renjiro then suddenly increased his speed to match Fujin's and skillfully hit both his swords consecutively to create an opening, and then placed the tip of his sword very close to Fujin's throat. He said, "Alright that's enough. I'll teach you some new forms."

He then displayed a few forms for Fujin and asked him to copy and practice them. The training continued for 3 hours, after which Renjiro dismissed Fujin.

After dismissing Fujin, Renjiro reported to Hiruzen. On entering his office, Hiruzen asked him, "So how were the kids." Renjiro replied, "Very promising old man. They are much stronger than an average genin. Hoka is already at chuunin level in terms of Taijutsu. And Mieko is the same in terms of Ninjutsu, though her chakra reserves need to increase. Fujin's Ninjutsu isn't bad either. Though his Ninjutsu was weaker than Mieko's, he was more skillful with them. And his chakra reserves are higher than hers. The most surprising thing is that his tactical thinking is already on par with someone who has gone through many missions. And, even though they didn't actively strategize, they were smart enough to take advantage of the openings provided by their other teammates. Even if I had conducted a test, they would have easily passed it to become genins."

Hiruzen nodded and thought, 'Just as their results indicate. Though Fujin's tactical prowess is surprising to hear. I guess that is why he was able to easily rank 1st in the written exams.' He then asked, "What about Fujin's sword skills?" Renjiro shook his head and said, "I can't say yet. His basics are good, but whether he can learn further or not depends on his talent and the effort he puts in." Hiruzen replied, "Alright. I'll leave it to you" and dismissed him.

Next day, Fujin got up at 4:20 am and thought, 'I thought waking up at 5 am was too early. Now this guy asks us to gather there at 5 am! Not to mention, that training ground is over 15 fucking kilometres from my home. Sigh, whatever. I guess I'll get a good morning run at least. Not sure if he's training will be as

intense as my morning workouts, so I could increase the pressure applied by the seal on my body during that run.'

Fujin reached the training grounds just before 5 am and saw that both his teammates were already there. He wished them good morning and waited for Renjiro. Renjiro appeared right at 5 am and said, "Morning"

The kids wished him back. Renjiro began by saying, "From today onwards, we'll meet here daily at 5 am. Our mornings will begin with rigorous physical training."

He then looked at Mieko and said, "Fujin's and Hoka's physiques are very well developed. However Mieko, you don't have any seals on your body to help build your physical strength, do you?" Mieko shook her head. Renjiro said, "Today, you'll ask your parents to get that seal for you. And get the seal before this week ends." Mieko nodded and said, "Yes Sensei"

He then looked at Hoka and Fujin and asked, "How much maximum pressure can your seals apply?" Hoka replied, "Maximum, it can apply 125 kg weight." Fujin replied, "Mine can apply a maximum weight of 250 kg." Hoka looked at Fujin with a bit of jealousy as his seal was better.

Renjiro then asked, "Alright, and how much percent of the pressure do you two use?" Hoka replied, "30%" and Fujin replied, "13.5%" On hearing Hoka's reply, Fujin sighed internally, 'No wonder he can keep up so easily with me.' Whereas Hoka's mood cheered up as he thought, 'Even though his seal is better, I apply more pressure on my body!' Mieko, on the other hand, was upset and annoyed thinking, 'No wonder these two move so fast. Why didn't anyone ever tell me about this method to get stronger?'

Renjiro thought, 'Really impressive. It seems that I can make their physical training more rigorous than I had planned.' He said, "Alright, let's begin with our training."

And team 3 began their first training session under their new sensei. Everyone was very enthusiastic. Getting personally trained by an Elite Jounin would be really helpful. No matter what their dreams were, becoming an Elite Jounin would be the minimum requirement for them to reach. Only after that could they think of making their dreams a reality.

In the first 30 minutes, all 3 were very energetic. In the next 30 minutes, their enthusiasm died down. After 1 hour, Mieko could barely keep up with the training. Even an aloof Hoka could clearly notice that

she was trying her hardest to hold back her tears. Hoka could still keep up and was the only one looking forward to the next three hours. Fujin could keep up too, but he had a very bad feeling. After 2 hours, Fujin was badly regretting the decision he made in the morning. He thought, 'Which fucking demon put the thoughts of turning up the pressure of the seal to fucking 25% for the morning run to this training ground?'

When the training finally ended at 9 am, Hoka and Fujin dropped to the ground. They could barely even move any muscle. Mieko had already dropped unconscious sometime earlier. Neither Fujin nor Hoka were aware when exactly, but Renjiro picked her up and laid her under a tree. Fujin would have screamed for 'Child Protection laws', but he was too tired to even think about it. He noticed that Mieko got up a few minutes after the training ended, and that felt very fishy for some reason.

Looking at that sight, Renjiro chuckled internally. He said, "No need to overreact so much. It was merely a light morning workout. Now get up and move under that tree." They both barely got up and wobbled somehow to those trees and sat there, while resting their backs on the trunk of the tree. Renjiro then tossed a couple of ration bars and a water bottle to all 3 and said, "You can rest here for the next hour. Eat those ration bars and hydrate yourself, preferably after half an hour. I'll meet you here again at 10." He then flickered away.

As soon as he left, both Fujin and Hoka slid down and began sleeping. This pissed Mieko who said loudly, "Wake up you two, we can't sleep all day!" That woke the two of them up. Hoka dismissively replied, "We didn't sleep for over an hour during the workout." Fujin continued in the same tone, "Yeah, wake us up after 30-40 minutes." And they both went back to sleep. Mieko was very annoyed and made some noise, but both were too tired to respond to her antics and just ignored her.

After around half an hour, Mieko woke them both up. As soon as they woke up, they ate the ration bars and emptied the water bottle. The short nap brought their energy levels up, but didn't do much to stop the muscle ache all over the body. Fujin sighed and said, "I think every single muscle in my body is aching." Hoka replied, "Yeah, same here. I don't think it's gonna stop anytime soon." Fujin replied, "Especially if this has to be done every morning." That sentence scared both Hoka and Mieko. Mieko asked, "No way, right? Unlike you two, I didn't even last the whole workout! How will we do this daily?"

Fujin chuckled internally and thought, 'Poor girl. She is totally freaked out! Hahaha. Still, this sensei.... I was upset at not getting a chance to meet Guy and hence not having any opportunity to learn from him. But with this, I don't think it was such a bad thing to not meet him. As insane as this workout was, Guy, probably, still beats this by a long distance. Otherwise there's no way he'd learn the Eight Inner Gates all the way to the 8th Gate!'

Hoka tried to console Mieko and said, "Don't worry. I have been doing such physical workouts for years. After some time, our body will get used to it. And the results will be worth it." That calmed Mieko down a bit. However, Fujin thought, 'Now that I think about it, this is a good opportunity to curb her Uchiha pride a bit.' He countered Hoka by saying, "I don't think that will be the case with Renjiro sensei. If we get anywhere near being comfortable with this workout, he'll probably change it. Even if that isn't the case, he could just make us increase the pressure on our body."

That again freaked Mieko out. She quickly asked, "But can't we fool sensei by lying about how much pressure we have applied?" Hoka commented, "Yeah, we can. There's no way for others to check it." However Fujin countered again, "Even if he can't check it, he'll understand by how tired we are after the workout. So though we could fake the pressure, I don't think we can fool an Elite Jounin about how difficult the workout is."

On being countered again, Hoka wondered what Fujin was up to. He thought, 'I'm going out of my way to make her feel better, but Fujin is making her more and more scared.' He thought for a bit, but couldn't think of anything and let it go, 'Whatever, I don't care. Still though, for a physical workout to push me to this extent. I need to get stronger!'

Mieko tried to think of more ways out, but couldn't think of anything. She had one thought which she was planning to ask her teammates, 'Can we ask sensei to decrease the difficulty of the workout?' However, her pride didn't allow her to say that. She decided, 'Fine. I'll just work harder and improve my physique! I'm the only one to graduate from my class, which shows how much better I am as compared to others. There's no way a single routine will stop me from achieving my dream!'

Fujin didn't see the look of determination on both his teammates. His body was still very sore to pay much attention to them. However, another person did.