

## Calamity 391

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 391: Double Blow!

Back on the battlefield, Mangetsu stood along with 17 Hunter ninjas. They were treating the wounded and sealing the dead. One ninja approached Mangetsu and hatefully said, "Kisame managed to escape. We need to organize more hunting parties to trap and kill him!"

However, Mangetsu shook his head and said, "No."

His words surprised his subordinates who were around him. Mangetsu explained, "It's pointless. Kisame was already in a battle before we found him. And despite outnumbering him so much, we weren't able to kill him.

So any hunting squads we send will be killed by him. Even if they manage to inform us, what's the use if we can't kill him? Only Mizukage-sama can kill him, but he can't move around so lightly."

The hunter ninjas sighed on hearing the explanations. None of them argued against him. They had just fought Kisame. And his strength was far beyond their expectations!

Suddenly, a hunter ninja approached Mangetsu with excitement and said, "Captain, look what I found!"

Mangetsu immediately looked at the ninja. His eyes widened as he saw what the Hunter ninja was holding. He immediately grabbed it and observed it properly. After a couple of minutes, he nodded and said, "There is no mistake. This is the hilt of Kubikiribocho! But..."

His voice became a bit unsteady as he asked, "Who damaged it to this extent? There is almost nothing left of the sword. Also, where is Juzo?"

No one answered him. Mangetsu instructed, "Search this battlefield. See if you can find any pieces of the blade. Also, see if you can find any dead bodies."

The hunter ninjas nodded. The ones who weren't gravely injured immediately got to work.

Due to the high intensity of the battle, neither Fujin nor Kisame had any time to pay attention to and pick up Juzo's sword. In addition, the entire battlefield was flooded by Kisame. So, the sword was a few meters under the water. Even if they had time, neither Fujin nor Kisame were very interested in that sword.

Only Zetsu could collect the sword, but it didn't see any point in doing that as Juzo was dead. As the ones who managed to hold on to the battlefield until the end, the sword landed in the hands of the Kiri ninjas.

They quickly found some of the shattered pieces of Kubikiribocho. Mangetsu observed them and concluded, 'It looks like they were cut by wind. The masked ninja that Kisame was fighting was using Wind jutsus. Did he defeat Juzo before fighting Kisame?'

While Mangetsu was storing the pieces of Kubikiribocho, a ninja appeared holding the damaged head of Juzo. The head was very damaged. Kisame's attack had poked a hole through Juzo's head and destroyed his brain. A large part of his face was unrecognizable. So the Hunter nins weren't able to identify him.

However, having fought alongside Juzo for so long, Mangetsu had no doubts. He sighed and muttered, "Biwa Juzo was killed by that masked ninja who was engaged with Kisame in a fight. From our reports, Kisame and Juzo had joined the same organization. It looks like they came in a conflict."

His words silenced the ninjas around him. Though they were trained to hunt them down, everyone knew how difficult that task was. To see that one of their famed Swordsmen was killed left them with a complicated feeling.

Finally, one ninja asked, "Who could that masked man be? To first kill Juzo and then fight Kisame..."

Mangetsu muttered, "He used Wind Vacuum jutsus and wielded swords. From the recent rumors, there is only one such person who is very active."

The expressions of all the Hunter nins became serious. Finally, one hatefully said, "The Spectral Swordsman!"

Mangetsu nodded and said, "Yeah. Though I suppose we need to be thankful to him for once. He killed Juzo and didn't even take the sword away. In addition, he also allowed us to attack Kisame and understand how strong he is."

The Hunter nins weren't sure what to say. After clearing the battlefield, they looked for the base they had created. Unfortunately, the base was in ruins. They could only collect the dead bodies buried under the cave and retreated from the Land of Hot Water. The high losses forced them to call off their operations in that country.

While the Kiri ninjas were retreating, Fujin was wrecking his mind trying to find a solution to an issue he had realized. He analyzed, 'Though my plans for creating a Wind Domain are excellent, I overlooked one important aspect. That is ninjas who can absorb chakra. If I just emit chakra and let it form a domain around me so that I can control winds, doesn't that mean someone like Kisame can just absorb it?

Granted that there aren't many ninjas with this ability, but the ones who do are absolutely broken. Pain, Madara and later Obito and Sasuke would all be able to directly absorb the chakra I emit. If I can't use my main fighting style against them, then my chances of victory would drop hard. How do I counter that?

The only thing I can think of so far is to directly convert all the chakra I emit into wind. This way, they can't absorb wind. Hmm, no, Rinnegan might still be able to absorb it, but there is nothing I can do about that.

Regardless, I won't be able to make the winds sharper or concentrate them in one place without chakra. Though I could create sharp winds out of their absorption range, it will lose effect as they will have sufficient time to dodge.'

Fujin thought for several hours, but he couldn't come up with any ideas he could implement at that time. He sighed internally and thought, 'The only way I could stop them or make them pay is if the chakra I emit is Nature Chakra. But I haven't learnt Senjutsu yet...

Sigh, there is no other way I can think of currently. If I can't think of a good way, I'll have to be very careful while fighting any of them. Without the Wind Domain, I won't have much of an advantage against them.

Fortunately, Madara is dead while Obito and Sasuke won't have that ability for quite some time. Nagato won't expose himself and I can escape from Kisame. Not to mention, I still have a long time before I master my Wind Domain. If I can learn the Flying Thunder God by then, then I can escape easily even if I encounter Nagato and create an alternative fighting style that is equally dangerous.'

While Fujin was wrecking his brain and the Kiri ninjas were returning to Kirigakure, a meeting between 8 rank S ninjas was taking place!

In a cave, the illusionary bodies of the Akatsuki members appeared. As soon as they did, Orochimaru joked, "We seem to be missing some members."

No one joined in his joke. Pain informed the group, "Biwa Juzo is dead. In the last 3 days, we have lost 2 members."

Everyone's attention was immediately drawn to Kakuzu, whose partner was missing as well. Sasori asked, "How did they die?"

Zetsu answered, "Juzo was killed by Konoha's Spectral Swordsman during a mission. The other one died in friendly fire."

Once again, everyone stared at Kakuzu who replied unapologetically, "He was too slow."

Orochimaru asked, "You attacked him, didn't you?"

Kakuzu didn't bother replying. Orochimaru turned his attention to Itachi and asked, "Juzo was your partner, wasn't he? I wonder who you would team up with next?"

Itachi didn't respond. Pain offered Kakuzu and Itachi to team up, however, both refused. So, Pain announced that they would begin looking for new members.

Kakuzu looked at Zetsu and asked, "Spectral Swordsman is on my hit list for his bounty. How strong is he and what are his abilities?"

Quite a few Akatsuki members were interested in the answer. Though Fujin had gained a lot of fame recently, none of them expected him to kill an Akatsuki member.

White Zetsu answered, "He is very strong and dangerous. His Vacuum jutsus are far more lethal than what the Bingo book mentions. His sensor skills are top-notch as well. He nearly killed us a couple of times."

Black Zetsu added, "He is a Fuinjutsu Grandmaster and can apply explosive and paralysis seals stealthily. Juzo died because he wasn't aware of those seals being applied on his body. In addition, his chakra reserves and speed can be categorized as rank S. More importantly, he is very cunning and schemes continuously. Even Kisame fell into a tough spot due to him. Don't underestimate him or you might lose a few hearts."

Zetsu's words weren't too much of a surprise for the Akatsuki members. After all, Fujin wouldn't have been able to kill Juzo had he been weak. Still, no one was too alarmed as Juzo was one of the weakest members of Akatsuki.

Since no one had anything else to add, Pain said, "We will be taking the first step towards our goal soon. Our target is Han, the Jinchuriki of Five Tails."

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Chapter 392: A Sense of Freedom

Fujin was unaware of the developments taking place inside Akatsuki. But he wasn't very concerned about them as Akatsuki didn't have any record of taking revenge for their fallen comrades. He kept thinking about more ways to counter ninjas who could absorb ninjutsu until Konoha appeared in their sight.

Fujin looked at the village and thought, 'Leave it, I'll think about it after I develop it completely. Anyway, this mission wasn't bad. I kind of expected things to go south when Akatsuki got involved. Fortunately, everything went well.

I managed to collect some information on Zetsu and Kisame and got to see Kisame and Mangetsu in action. And the only loss I suffered was that my Fuinjutsu mastery was revealed to them. But that is fine. Even if they are aware of it, Fuinjutsu will be a big pain in their ass.

Though I also used the Wind Style Genjutsu, I doubt they would be aware of it. Zetsu had probably gone to call Kisame and we were covered by Mist. But, even if that stays a secret, it won't be very effective against rank S ninjas. All of them are too sensitive towards such chakra.

More importantly, I got an opportunity to fight two very strong ninjas. It showed me a lot of my weaknesses. The new range of Vacuum jutsus that I developed, though effective, won't have any chance of killing a rank S ninja or ninjas close to that level.

But, it's fine. I created them to cut through Jounins who were trained to counter my previous fighting style. And if killing rank S was so easy, then they would have already been dead.

Besides, even if they can dodge them, it will create a lot of pressure on them. Especially when I use them along with Wind Style Genjutsu and Fuinjutsu. Hehe, they will be incredibly annoyed to face me when I go all out. One small mistake will cost them their lives.'

A glint appeared in Fujin's eyes as he thought, 'Of course, my biggest gain was Juzo's death. Though he wasn't a rank S ninja, Juzo was very close to that level. To be able to kill such a ninja, especially in the presence of another rank S ninja, I can be considered as a rank S ninja!

A 15-year-old rank S ninja, hehehe. Who would have thought that the thing that would help me breach the gap between rank A and rank S level would be Fuinjutsu?

When I first arrived in this world, this was the step I wanted to reach. At this level, killing me would be incredibly difficult. I no longer have to worry about offending anyone or being targeted by someone with malicious intentions.'

A smile appeared behind Fujin's mask. Though he had long gained the ability to face and escape from rank S ninjas, finally reaching that level gave him an entirely different feeling. It was as if he was no longer bound by anything. As he stepped into Konoha, he felt a sense of freedom like never before. It was a feeling he hadn't experienced in either of his lifetimes.

Fujin looked at his teammates and said, "I will report to Lord Hokage. You guys can go back home if you want but meet me in our room in half an hour for a meeting."

Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro were a bit surprised by the sudden meeting. They nodded and went their separate ways.

Fujin continued forward to Hiruzen's office. He flickered directly outside Hiruzen's office. Hiruzen, who was busy with paperwork, looked above and noticed Fujin. A bit of confusion appeared in his eyes as he thought, 'He feels a bit different.'

He said, "Come in."

At the same time, he looked at the ceiling at the hidden Anbu Guards. They immediately left the room and closed all doors and windows.

Hiruzen made a hand seal, activated the seals and said, "You are back early. Eagle informed me that you took the rank S mission to the Land of Hot Water. Was the mission successful?"

Fujin nodded and said, "Yes. It was as you calculated. They were ninjas from Kirigakure who were creating trouble. All were eliminated."

Hiruzen said, "Good. Send me the report later."

Thanks to his previous record, Hiruzen wasn't surprised that Fujin managed to complete the mission with just his squad. Unfortunately, Hiruzen was completely oblivious to the several shocks he would receive very soon. He went through his drawers and grabbed a scroll.

He tossed it to Fujin and said with a gentle smile on his face and a hint of tiredness, "I copied all the details regarding the Flying Thunder God jutsu in this scroll. It has insights from both the Second and Fourth Hokage. The rest will be on you. I hope you learn this jutsu."

Fujin grabbed the scroll and looked at it. A smile appeared on his face as he thought, 'Sweet! Even though he fakes a smile and tiredness to invoke sympathy, he is truly magnanimous! Now, how do I break the news to him?'

Fujin stored the scroll and looked at Hiruzen. He said, "The missions had a few complications. You might still need to send a couple of squads led by Elite Jounins to sweep that place."

Hiruzen raised an eyebrow and wondered, 'You couldn't say that before I gave you the scroll? Why does it feel like I was baited into giving him this scroll? Also, what is this different feeling I am getting from Fujin? It's as if something about him has changed.'

He asked, "What complications?"

Fujin said, "I didn't do the mission and left it to my subordinates to complete it. Yugao acted as the leader. They encountered 25 Kiri ninjas, 5 Jounins and 20 Chunins. All were eliminated by the three of them."

Hiruzen was surprised to hear that. He had thought that Fujin was the one to cut down most of the Kiri ninjas. He thought, 'I didn't expect Yugao and the rest to kill 5 Jounins and 20 Chunins by themselves. Such efficiency... They have already exceeded the requirements of becoming an Anbu Captain.'

Fujin continued, "Unfortunately, while they were fighting, Yugao was ambushed by Biwa Juzo, one of the Seven Ninja Swordsmen of the Mist."

Hiruzen's eyes widened. He asked, "Has he also gone rogue just in name? And is Yugao fine?"

At the same time, he wondered, 'Why was Akatsuki there? Did he encounter Itachi as well?'

Fujin answered, "I had thought the same as well. But that wasn't the case. Yugao and others are fine. I confronted Juzo while they eliminated the Kiri ninjas. I asked his intentions of fighting us several times. But he only said one thing. He said that he wanted the bounty on my head. From his actions, that seems to be the case."

Hiruzen knew that Akatsuki was looking for funds. So he wasn't surprised by what Fujin said. He asked, "Alright. How did you manage to get away from him? Also, did he have any allies?"



Hiruzen hadn't heard about Itachi in a long while. So he was curious as to how he was doing. At the same time, there was some sorrow inside him due to what they had forced Itachi to do.

Fujin nodded and said, "Yeah, he had two allies. While we clashed, I sensed a being hiding in the forest and later underground. When I attacked it, it escaped. Some time later, Hoshigaki Kisame arrived to reinforce Juzo.

That being who escaped showed itself later. I am not sure what it was. It looked like a Venus Flytrap plant. It had a humanoid body inside, one half of it was white while the other half was completely black. It certainly didn't look like a human."

Hiruzen analyzed, 'That sounds like the Akatsuki member called Zetsu.'

To Hiruzen's surprise, Fujin tossed him a scroll. Hiruzen caught it and asked, "What is this?"

Fujin answered, "It contains Juzo's headless body. I tried to seal his head as well, but it was some distance away from me and Kisame destroyed it."

Hiruzen's eyes widened. He instantly realized, 'I understand why I am getting this feeling from Fujin.'

Fujin continued, "I managed to catch Juzo off guard thanks to Fuinjutsu. He wasn't aware of my expertise in it. Unfortunately, that is leaked now. I clashed with Kisame as well. Our information regarding him is incorrect. This guy is incredibly strong. His chakra is insanely high. He was in a whole different league as compared to Juzo. I didn't see any way of defeating him.

Thankfully, I received some aid and managed to escape. Hozuki Mangetsu arrived with 24 Hunter ninjas. I am not sure who informed him or why they were there. Anyways, in the fight, Kisame managed to kill 7 Hunter ninjas before escaping.

I am not sure what Mangetsu did later. But considering that we killed 25 Kiri ninjas and Kisame killed 7 more, they should have retreated from the Land of Hot Water. The squads you send will just have to confirm that they did."

Hiruzen nodded and said, "The mission was indeed very complicated. It's good that everything went well."

Fujin handed him a few scrolls and said, "These scrolls have the dead bodies of the ninjas my teammates killed. Their memories can still be checked to understand what their mission was."

Hiruzen nodded and replied, "Alright. Anything else?"

Fujin nodded and replied, "Yes. Seeing the performance of Uzuki Yugao and Yamanaka Fumito in this mission, I recommend both of them be promoted to the Anbu Captain ranks. Handa Bunjiro is growing strong as well, but he still needs some time before he is ready to be promoted to the Anbu Captain rank. I will send a report later highlighting their performance in this mission."

Hiruzen had expected Fujin to say that as he had made them complete the mission by themselves. He nodded and replied, "I will have them take an Anbu Promotion mission. Good work in ensuring that they become capable enough to reach this level."

Fujin replied, "I didn't do much. All three of them are highly motivated. They have grown stronger rapidly and are very well-versed in Anbu's strategies and tactics. I'm sure they will become capable Captains in the future."

As he spoke, Fujin removed his mask. He looked into Hiruzen's eyes and said with a smile on his face, "Just one more thing. I'm retiring from Anbu."

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Chapter 393: Hiruzen's Headache!

Hiruzen was stunned! His eyes widened. In the last few minutes, Fujin had given him one surprise after another. Be it the unfamiliar feeling, his team's performance or the involvement of Akatsuki. Juzo's death had shocked him the most, but he had still managed to hold it together. However, the sudden announcement of retirement completely shocked him!

It was important to remember that Fujin had just turned 15. It was the age when most joined the Anbu. In all the decades that Hiruzen had been the Hokage, this was the first time anyone asked to retire from Anbu at such a young age. No, Fujin didn't even ask him!

Fujin chuckled internally and thought, 'I don't know why, but seeing Hiruzen rattled is so exciting and satisfying.'

Hiruzen finally composed himself and asked, "What do you mean?"

Fujin tilted his head and asked in a confused tone, "What else can it mean?"

Hiruzen shook his head and asked, "No. I mean, why do you want to retire?"

Fujin was an integral part of Hiruzen's plans. He wanted Fujin to take over the Root or even become the Hokage depending on the situation. But for that to happen, Fujin needed a lot of accomplishments. And the Anbu was the perfect place to gain such achievements and to prove himself. Hiruzen even planned to replace his eldest son with Fujin as the commander of the Anbu to give him more exposure and experience. So Hiruzen didn't want Fujin to leave the Anbu.

Taking inspiration from Hiruzen, Fujin faked a sigh full of tiredness and exhaustion and answered, "For the last three years, I have been running around the elemental nations killing one guy after another. During this time, I have frequently encountered ninjas who were far stronger than me and would kill me had I made just one mistake.

I am exhausted from all this killing and fighting on the edge. My recent clashes, be it with Roshi, Iwa or Kisame, all show me that I need to work on my jutsus a lot. But I barely have any time to train to make myself stronger while the enemies I face keep getting stronger. And between my training and missions, my schedule has become very hectic leaving me little or no time to rest.

So, I want to retire from the Anbu and take a long break to learn new techniques and rest my mind."

Hiruzen was speechless. He thought, 'Hectic? He is the only Anbu who regularly asks for vacations. I just gave him a 3-month long vacation! And I rarely gave him a mission that required killing in the last year.

Don't tell me he is complaining about not getting enough time to meditate in the training rooms. After nearly emptying all our Wind Crystal reserves, he is complaining about it?'

Hiruzen said, "If you quit, you won't be able to train in the Anbu Training Facility."

Fujin asked in a pleading tone, "Not even for a little while, Grandpa?"

Hiruzen said in a strict tone, "No."

The tactics he could use as a kid had long lost their effect on Hiruzen. Fujin sighed and said, "That's unfortunate, but I expected as much."

He thought, 'The Wind Crystals don't have any effect on me anymore. As for Fire and Earth, my affinity for them isn't very impressive. So the absorption speed is too slow for it to be of much help. So the Elemental crystals are no longer of any help to me.'

Hiruzen was surprised. He analyzed, 'So it wasn't because he wanted more crystals. But why does he want to retire? It can't be because of exhaustion. Kakashi took missions non-stop for years without needing a break. So did I when I was younger. In fact, there has never been an Elite Jounin in Konoha who retired due to the workload!'

He asked, "Why don't you just take training breaks and continue being in the Anbu?"

Hiruzen sighed internally and thought, 'Why does everyone keep giving me headaches? This kid barely ever socializes with anyone! He has almost no connections. I was planning to give him Anbu ninjas who are already ready to become Anbu Captains and increase his influence through them. But he wants to quit after influencing just two? How will I even increase his reputation enough to make him a possible candidate for Hokage?'

Hiruzen couldn't directly tell Fujin that he wanted to raise him to become the next Hokage. After all, he couldn't guarantee that Fujin would become the Hokage. Not to mention, telling something like that or even hinting it would create various complications.

So, Fujin was unaware of Hiruzen's plans to make him the Hokage. In fact, the thought of competing for the Hokage position didn't even cross his mind. Despite his impressive talent, Fujin had no connection to any of the Hokage.

The First and Second Hokage were brothers. The Third Hokage was a student of the Second Hokage. The Fourth Hokage was Jiraiya's student who was the Third Hokage's student. In the future, the Fifth Hokage would be the student of the Third Hokage, the Sixth Hokage would be a student of the Fourth Hokage. While the Seventh Hokage would be the student of the Sixth Hokage and the son of the Fourth Hokage.

Fujin didn't have any such connections. Though he took advantage of Hiruzen's weird obsession to become every kid's Grandpa, he was well aware that their relationship wasn't as deep as Hiruzen's relations with his students.

Of course, the most important factor was that Fujin was aware of the future. Had Hiruzen known how strong Naruto and Sasuke would grow in the future, he wouldn't have bothered spending so much effort on nurturing Fujin.

So Fujin was in a weird spot. At the present time, due to his young age, he had no way of becoming the Hokage. If anything were to happen to Hiruzen, both the Sannins and Kakashi had a much higher chance of becoming Hokage than him. His name might not even be brought up by the council and even Shikaku would be preferred over him despite being weaker than him. Even if he kept becoming stronger and gained a lot of achievements, six years later, Naruto's reputation would reach a level far beyond any other ninja in history.

So Fujin didn't see much hope of becoming the Hokage. Even if he did, he wasn't particularly interested in the post. Though he did see some benefits of becoming the Hokage, such as getting access to all the forbidden jutsus, holding on to that post for a long time was something he wasn't interested in.

Being a Hokage was a selfless and thankless job. While he did enjoy playing mind games, he wasn't particularly interested in doing that all the time. After all, it was fun to do so when Hiruzen and Shikaku had to deal with all the consequences. It won't be the same when he would have to deal with such situations on a regular basis and clear up messes that others create.

So, on this topic, Fujin and Hiruzen weren't on the same page and both were completely unaware of each other's thoughts.

Fujin didn't think much and replied, "No, I think I am done with the Anbu. Sorry Grandpa."

Hiruzen was lost for words. His last offer would have allowed Fujin to use the training rooms as much as he wanted. And still, Fujin rejected him. He understood that Fujin had already made up his mind. He sighed and said, "Alright. Let me know if you change your mind."

Fujin nodded and said, "I will. Thank you, Grandpa."

He left the room and shut the door behind him. Hiruzen let out another sigh and muttered, "They are all the same."

He thought, 'The weird feeling I got from Fujin earlier is the same one I got from Jiraiya, Tsunade, Orochimaru and Minato. By killing Juzo, he should have understood that he is a rank S ninja. This realization brings about a change in mindset that is hard to determine.'

When Jiraiya reached this level, he left Konoha and began touring around the world to fulfil his prophecy. When Orochimaru did, he began doing experiments. Tsunade didn't change much on the surface, but she became wilful enough to try to forcefully revamp Konoha's medical ninjas in the middle of a war. By comparison, Minato didn't change much other than becoming very confident in himself.

I never imagined that Fujin would reach this level at such a young age and the changes he would experience would lead him to quitting Anbu. According to my estimates, I had thought that he would have needed at least 4 to 5 more years before reaching this level. That would have been enough for me to increase his reputation by several levels in Konoha. But now...'

Hiruzen had a massive headache.

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Chapter 394: A New Chapter in Fujin's Life

Hiruzen grabbed his smoking pipe and got up from his seat. He looked outside the window, staring at the Hokage faces as he thought, 'This brat is indeed good at giving headaches. No wonder Shikaku was so annoyed by him. So many plans I had made... All are useless now.'

His mind rapidly calculated what he could do next. After a few minutes, he concluded, 'Without him being in the Anbu, I can't increase his influence among the younger generation. And from his words, it

looks like he doesn't intend to take missions unless they are compulsory to take. The only way I can increase his reputation now is if I tell everyone what his achievements are. But...'

A frown appeared on Hiruzen's face as he continued thinking, 'But he wants to keep all his achievements a secret. Exposing them could make him resent me. And I can't casually say that he is the Spectral Swordsman without facing a diplomatic disaster.'

Even though everyone knew and believed that Fujin was the Spectral Swordsman, the smaller countries around Konoha didn't act against Konoha. They were already facing threats from other major villages and if they offended Konoha as well, they would face a lot of problems. So they wanted to bury the whole thing as much as Konoha did. As long as 'The Spectral Swordsman' didn't act openly against them, they wouldn't say a word.

But, if Hiruzen was to openly admit that Fujin was the Spectral Swordsman, then those smaller countries would have no choice but to act against Konoha and restrict their ties with Konoha due to pressure from their own nobles and ninjas. So Hiruzen couldn't do that.

He sighed again and muttered, "The only way for him to become popular quickly now would be a war. As long as he kills several ninjas at Juzo's level in a war or kills hundreds of enemy ninjas in an open battle, his reputation would increase in no time at all. But until such a war happens, he won't be able to compete with Kakashi for my seat even if he becomes stronger than Kakashi.

Leave it. Until a few years ago, I hadn't expected Fujin to become so strong. By killing Juzo, he has pretty much announced that he is a rank S ninja. As long as he doesn't completely slack off, he will reach around my level by the time he grows up.

Having such a ninja is very beneficial for Konoha, irrespective of how reputed he is or which post he has. And with his strength, gaining reputation won't take a long time once he decides to build some.'

Hiruzen decided to stop worrying about Fujin. He knew that strength was far more important than reputation. Though Fujin foiled his plans by quitting Anbu, Hiruzen could still make use of his strength when needed. In fact, he had already thought of one method to increase Fujin's fame within Konoha immediately. He deactivated the seals and got back to work.

As for the person who had just given Hiruzen a lot of headaches, he was chilling in his Anbu room, waiting for his teammates. Since he had nothing to do, he wondered, 'Why was Hiruzen so desperate to keep me in the Anbu? My first guess was that he just wanted someone who could keep taking missions non-stop like how I was doing and how Kakashi was doing before me.'

But that last offer gave me a lot of advantages. To take long training breaks while in Anbu would have allowed me to go through the reserves of Elemental Crystals. Did he have any other intentions?'

Fujin thought for a bit, but couldn't think of any good reason. So he just kept thinking while waiting for his subordinates to arrive. In a few minutes, Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro arrived and saw Fujin sitting without his mask and in deep thought.

Fujin looked up and noticed them. He smiled and said, "You guys are finally here. Sit down. I have a few important announcements."

Yugao and Fumito immediately guessed what it would have been about. After all, their last mission was a bit strange. They immediately sat down.

As they expected, Fujin said, "We have been working as a team for the last year. During this time, I have carefully observed your progress. And, I am very impressed by it.

Especially you, Bunjiro. Your abilities and mission awareness have improved several times over the last year. You are now a full-fledged Anbu ninja. However, you still need more experience and still need to improve the speed and scale of your Wind and Water jutsus."

Bunjiro nodded and replied, "Thank you, Captain. I will keep working on it."

Fujin looked at Yugao and Fumito and said, "Both of you were already very close to the Anbu Captain level a year ago. I have judged that both of you are ready to be the Anbu Captain right now. I have already talked with Lord Hokage. Both of you will be given Anbu Promotion missions soon."

Yugao and Fumito were immediately excited by the news. They said in unison, "Thank you, Captain."



Fujin nodded, looked at Bunjiro and said, "Don't be discouraged. I'm sure you'll be able to take this mission in less than 2 years."

Bunjiro replied, "I understand, Captain. Don't worry, I will keep training under you."

However, Fujin shook his head and said, "Our team will be disbanded. I am quitting Anbu. Eagle will assign you a new squad."

Fujin's words shocked his three subordinates. Just like Hiruzen, they didn't see any signs of Fujin retiring from the Anbu. In fact, they had the front row seats as they saw Fujin fight with opponents who were famed throughout the world and create one trouble after another. So this sudden announcement caught them off guard.

Bunjiro asked, "Why?"

Fujin shrugged and replied, "I had some time to think about what I wanted to do during our training break. After thinking for a while, I decided to quit."

All three were left speechless and looked at Fujin with a deadpan expression. Though Fujin had answered, it was equivalent to not saying anything.

Fujin chuckled and said, "Don't worry. Take care of yourselves. Next time, I won't be around to back you up."

Everyone nodded. Knowing that they won't be meeting very frequently in the future, Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro asked all the queries they had. Fujin answered all of them patiently. Around half an hour later, no one had anything more to say.

Fujin said, "Though we won't meet up much in the future, you all know where I live. Feel free to visit if you need anything. Good luck with your future missions."

Yugao, Fumito and Bunjiro said their farewells and thanked Fujin once again. All three took their leave. As he left, Bunjiro thought, 'I was dreaming about becoming Anbu Captain before I turned 16. To think that Fujin would quit Anbu at my age. Did he quit because the Anbu missions weren't challenging him?'

Bunjiro had a lot of excitement in following Fujin's footsteps and becoming an Anbu Captain. But he wasn't sure about it anymore. However, he still had the determination to become as strong as Fujin.

Fujin packed up all his stuff from the room and thought, '3 years... I spent 3 years in the Anbu. During this period, my strength has increased from Jounin level to rank S. Though fighting other rank S ninjas will be fun, I have some things to do before that..'

Fujin left the Anbu Headquarters and walked on the streets as he decided, 'Now that I am rank S and have also become a Fuinjutsu Grandmaster, I can start implementing my ideas one by one. How successful I am in implementing them will indicate how much farther I can go.

Once I am successful, I can begin taking advantage of the future events that I know will happen. Even though I did mess up with Suna badly, which could have some effect on Konoha crush, the events regarding Akatsuki shouldn't be influenced much.

Though I did kill Juzo, he was supposed to die anyway. Kisame should join up with Itachi. Unless the one who killed Juzo can also kill Kisame, it won't have any effect on their activities.

Anyways, for now...'

Fujin looked at the Ichiraku ramen stall and entered. He thought, 'Though I don't need to eat due to the soldier pill, there is no harm in eating to treat myself.'

As soon as he entered, Ayame noticed him and said, "Fujin, come in. What do you want to eat?"

Fujin sat down and replied, "Just the usual 3 bowls."

Ayame said, "Coming right up."

She immediately went to assist her father in making the Ramen.

Within a few minutes, the first bowl was ready. Ayame delivered it and Fujin began eating. Fujin ate, enjoying the delicious taste and the peace and tranquillity.

Suddenly, a certain someone came running into the stall and sat on the stool next to Fujin's and shouted, "2 Miso Ramens for me!"

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 395: Easy Mode

Ayame heard Naruto's shout and said, "Wait for a few minutes, Naruto. I'll prepare it right away."

She and Teuchi got to work while Fujin enjoyed his meal and Naruto impatiently waited for his. A few minutes later, Ayame brought out two bowls and placed them in front of Naruto and Fujin.

Naruto immediately said loudly, "Thank you!" and dived into his bowl.

Despite sounding happy, Ayame could clearly make out the annoyance in Naruto's voice. She asked, "Did something happen in the academy, Naruto?"

Naruto replied, "Hmph, Iruka sensei failed me once again. I have to keep studying until next year."

Ayame consoled him and said, "Oh, don't worry Naruto. I am sure you will pass with flying colors next year."

Naruto replied enthusiastically, "Of course I will! I will become the Hokage. Believe it!"

Ayame smiled noticing that Naruto wasn't depressed. Suddenly, she remembered that Fujin was sitting next to Naruto and realized, 'Now that I think about it, I don't think Fujin and Naruto have ever met. That's weird. Both of them come here so frequently. It is strange that they never showed up at the same time.'

Despite finding it odd, Ayame didn't dwell on it for long. After all, her mind couldn't comprehend the fact that Fujin purposefully avoided Naruto until that day. She cheerfully said, "Fujin, you haven't met with Naruto yet, right?"

Fujin looked up at her and asked in a questioning tone, "Naruto?"

He looked at Naruto sitting beside him and asked, "Him?"

Naruto, who was busy eating, immediately looked up as he realized that Ayame was talking about him. He looked back at Fujin who was looking at him.

Ayame introduced Fujin by saying, "Naruto, he is Fujin. He is a very strong ninja."

Though Ayame didn't know much about Fujin, she knew that he graduated at 10 and became a Chunin at 11. Though there were a few other ninjas who became chunin at that age, their number was very low. So despite not knowing Fujin's real strength, her words were spot on.

Hearing that Fujin was very strong from Ayame's mouth, Naruto was surprised. He looked back at Fujin to see that he was still staring at him without saying anything. He introduced himself, "I am Uzumaki Naruto. I will become the Hokage. Believe it!"

Fujin replied, "The Hokage, huh?"

Naruto looked into Fujin's eyes. Ayame noticed it and suddenly became nervous. She thought, 'Ugh! I forgot that most villagers avoid Naruto for some reason. I hope Fujin isn't one of them.'

Teuchi also looked at Fujin. Though he liked Fujin, he didn't want anyone to mistreat Naruto.

Fujin stared at Naruto just like the rest of the villagers. However, Naruto noticed some differences. The most important difference was that Fujin's gaze wasn't cold. Naruto was surprised and wondered, 'Though he is staring at me, it doesn't feel like he hates me or wants me to disappear. But what is this look?'

Naruto had never seen someone looking at him in this manner. So he didn't understand that Fujin's gaze was full of curiosity and amusement. As someone who had seen Naruto several times, it was natural for Fujin to be curious towards him. Though he has observed Naruto several times, this was the first time he was interacting with him. This curiosity was something that no other person in Konoha had.

As for the amusement part, Fujin couldn't help but think, 'In my previous world, we debated several times about who was the best manipulator in Naruto. The normal choices for the same would be Danzo, Orochimaru or even Black Zetsu at times. But, they don't come anywhere close to Hiruzen!

How the hell does someone, whose existence is not acknowledged, who has to hear things terrible enough to leave mental trauma on a daily basis for years, and who is pretty much hated by everyone, want to do nothing but look after and care for the very people who put him through such torture and be willing to give up his life for them?'

Fujin couldn't make any sense of it. He could only marvel at how capable Hiruzen was. He even wondered whether the reason Hiruzen kept Naruto in such circumstances was to fuel his dream of becoming the Hokage even further. However, even if that was the case, Fujin didn't agree with the method.

He chuckled and said, "Sure. And I will become the God of this world. Believe it!"

Fujin's reply left Ayame, Teuchi and Naruto speechless. None of them had expected such a reply. Soon, a smile appeared on Teuchi's face and Ayame began giggling.

Naruto's face immediately became red in embarrassment. He immediately jumped from his stool and shouted, "Don't mock me! I will become the Hokage, believe it!"

Fujin chuckled and asked, "Do you know of a Hokage that failed the graduation exam?"

Naruto immediately became a bit nervous and argued back, "No. But I only failed in the Clone jutsu. I can perform the Substitution and the Transformation jutsu perfectly."

Fujin still maintained a sly smile and asked, "Do you know of any Hokage that know only two jutsus? Lord Third is said to know every single jutsu in Konoha."

Getting constantly berated by Fujin annoyed Naruto. He slammed his hand on the table while claiming, "I will learn even more jutsus than..."

Suddenly, his eyes moved towards the table. His hand hit his ramen bowl causing it to move and fall. His eyes widened in horror as he saw the ramen bowl turnover and his precious ramen falling towards the ground.

However, suddenly, it felt like a miracle took place. The ramen, which was falling towards the ground, suddenly stopped. Winds flowed around the falling ramen and the bowl. Naruto, Ayame and Teuchi saw in astonishment as all the falling ramen went back into the bowl and the bowl moved back to the table and floated around an inch above the table.

Slowly, the bowl landed on the table and the winds moving around it dispersed. The entire room was quiet due to the sudden display. None of them had ever seen something like that.

Naruto turned his attention towards Fujin and thought, 'How did he do that? I haven't even seen Iruka sensei do something like this!'

To see someone, who just said his dream was impossible, do something so crazy shocked him. However, his shock soon turned into excitement. His eyes almost sparkled as he said in excitement, "That was so cool! How did you do that?"

Fujin replied, "It's a basic application of Wind nature manipulation."

Naruto exclaimed, "Wind nature manipulation? That sounds cool! Can you teach it to me?"

Fujin raised an eyebrow and asked, "Teach you?"

He continued eating noodles as he said, "It might be basic, but it is still very complicated. To learn, you will have to train for hours daily for months. Do you think you can focus on training that long?"

Naruto was surprised. This wasn't the first time he had asked anyone to teach him jutsus. He had asked nearly all teachers in the academy and had also bugged Hiruzen when he met him. But this was the first time his request wasn't denied right away.

Naruto said, "Of course I can. I will train non-stop until I learn it. Believe it!"

Fujin asked, "Do you know where Training Ground 23 is?"

Naruto replied, "No, but I can find it in no time, believe it!"

Fujin said, "Alright. Show up there at 5 in the morning tomorrow. If you can learn how to control the wind as I can, then I'll believe that you can become the Hokage."

Naruto was immediately elated. It was the first time anyone had agreed to teach him. He immediately shouted in excitement, "I will be there and learn it in no time. Believe it!"

Naruto's reactions were completely like Fujin expected. All his words to Naruto were well-measured. He first made Naruto agitated by saying that his dream was impossible, then blew his mind with the sudden display and finally agreed to Naruto's request of teaching him and gave him a way of making him 'convince' Fujin that he could become the Hokage. As a result, Fujin's impression in Naruto's eyes skyrocketed.

Considering how few people treated Naruto well, Fujin's favorability immediately rose near the top in Naruto's eyes. Fujin sighed internally and thought, 'This is too easy. After engaging in mind games with Hiruzen, trying to manipulate Naruto is like going from Insane difficulty mode to Baby mode. He is lucky that I have no ill intentions.'

Fujin couldn't help but wonder, 'Now that I think about it, doesn't Hiruzen always target little kids? Most of his Will of Fire speeches are given in the academy. He has influenced Naruto since he was young. The same could be said about Itachi. If Naruto and Itachi were older like me, would they have fallen for his manipulations?'

Teuchi and Ayame weren't aware of what was going through Fujin's mind. They just smiled. Though neither were ninjas, both were happy to see Naruto being treated well. Having interacted with Fujin for so long, they knew that he wouldn't harm Naruto or leave him hanging.

Teuchi said, "Your ramen is getting cold, Naruto. Eat it quickly."

Naruto immediately began eating while Teuchi brought out the last two bowls of ramen.

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 396: Confrontation

Fujin finished up his bowls of ramen before Naruto. He got up and said, "I'll be waiting for you tomorrow morning. Don't be late."

Naruto quickly swallowed the noodles and said, "I will be there on time. Believe it!"

Fujin nodded and left. As he left, he heard Naruto talking to Ayame in excitement claiming that he would be able to control winds like Fujin in no time. Naruto seemed to have already forgotten about failing the graduation exam. Fujin ignored it and began walking home.

He sighed and thought, 'I forgot how much of a punk Naruto was. Even though it's understandable considering his situation, It'll be rather annoying to deal with all the time. Should I curtail it?'

Fujin thought for a bit before deciding, 'Leave it. It's a thankless job and will require a lot of time and effort. I'll just have him act properly in front of me and compensate for that by filling his head with more prank ideas. As long as I'm not the one he annoys, I don't care. Besides, considering the amount of trauma he has, it will be better for him to let some of it out through pranks rather than bottling it all up.'

Fujin then began thinking about what to train Naruto in. Since Hiruzen had handed him the Flying Thunder God peacefully, he didn't intend to create much trouble for him. He thought, 'Training Naruto... It is something I have contemplated for a long time.'

He recalled his analysis, 'The advantage of doing so is very simple. Naruto's stocks are set to explode in the future. And no one, including Naruto himself, knows about this. Investing in him at this time, when



very few others have, will make him feel indebted to me and make him take my side or support me as long as I don't do anything that is totally against his morals. No, even if I do something evil, he will still fight for my forgiveness.

So, if some of my future plans go horribly wrong and put me in a dangerous situation or make me an enemy of the elemental nations, I will always have a path of retreating.

Regardless, if things happen just as in the canon, there are only benefits in doing this. Even if things don't pan out the same, having a rank S ninja that I can easily influence is something invaluable.

However, there is a big problem with this... If I train Naruto, and if that helps him become stronger quicker than the canon timeline, then the story could change in ways that I might not be able to calculate, costing my advantage of future knowledge.

And the changes start at a very basic level. For instance, if my training somehow makes him competent enough to learn the Clone jutsu, then he will graduate and Mizuki won't be able to make him steal the scroll.

That would mean that Naruto wouldn't learn the Multi Shadow Clone jutsu until the Sun rises from the West and Kakashi or Jiraiya decides to teach him the jutsu that is tailormade for him. And I have no idea how much that would impact his ability to fight or even survive in his future fights.

Luckily, this change is easy to see and fix. I can just teach him the Multi Shadow Clone jutsu myself as a gift for graduating. Though I will lose my chance to sneak a peek at the contents of the forbidden scroll, I doubt the scroll he stole was the actual forbidden scroll. There's no way the Hiruzen I know would be this careless.

But regardless, such changes will happen in the future. At least the events during the Chunin Exams will change. Fortunately, the major events, like Akatsuki's movements, shouldn't be affected by the increase in his strength. Suna and Oto's invasion might be affected, but that's more due to me rather than Naruto.'

Fujin let out a sigh and muttered, "So many complications. What do you want?"

As Fujin walked, he reached a street that was completely deserted. In an instant, a masked ninja, wearing the Anbu outfit, appeared behind Fujin. The masked ninja heard Fujin's question and said in a monotonous tone, "Stay away from Uzumaki Naruto."

Without turning around to face him, Fujin asked in a plain tone, "Why?"

The ninja answered, "Lord Hokage's orders."

Fujin replied, "That's funny. I don't recall him passing such orders. So why don't you stop beating around the bush and say the real reason."

The ninja was surprised. He didn't expect someone to actually question him back. After all, very few ever questioned the Anbu. He said, "You ca..."

However, Fujin cut him off and said, "I thought Root was dissolved. What are you doing keeping an eye on the citizens of Konoha?"

Fujin was very well aware of Anbu's operating style. During the last three years, he had gone on combined missions with several teams. So it was very easy for him to realize that the ninja behind him wasn't from Anbu.

The Root ninja was shocked once again. Not only did the youngster in front of him not obey him, but he also revealed his identity. Not knowing how to handle the situation, he released a bit of his killing intent at Fujin and said, "Do as you are told."

For the first time, Fujin turned his head and looked into the eyes of the Root ninja. In the next second, the Root ninja immediately jumped away. His eyes widened in shock and disbelief as sweat appeared behind his mask. He wondered, 'Who is he? And how many people did he kill?'

Instead of backing out, Fujin had unleashed his own killing intent at the Root ninja. As someone who had spent the better part of the last 3 years killing a large number of ninjas and Nobles, the amount of people he killed far exceeded what the Root ninja had.

Though Fujin couldn't compare to Juzo in this regard, a Root ninja, who wasn't even at the Jounin level, wasn't his match. Since the entire killing intent was focused on him, the Root ninja couldn't endure it. He felt that he would lose his life if he didn't move away from Fujin.

Fujin muttered, "The next time you or any other Root ninja sneaks up on me, I won't be polite."

Without looking back, Fujin walked away. The Root ninja was still in shock. It was his first time seeing someone from Konoha who had no regard for either the Anbu or the Root. He wondered, 'Who is that guy? All ninjas are very polite towards the Anbu. If they know that I am from Root, they become even more polite and slightly fearful. But he directly threatened me and other Root ninjas?'

He quickly retreated and rushed towards the underground Root base.

Fujin ignored him and continued walking home. He thought, 'That's weird. I thought all Root ninjas would be aware of me. Even if Danzo didn't tell them, do they not read the Bingo book? That said, he felt quite weak and was probably only at the Chunin level. Maybe Danzo kept him busy for some mission.

Regardless, Danzo has gone completely silent. I had expected him to do something after spying on me. Though I didn't sense anyone later, I am sure that he still kept an eye on me. But it's been nearly 3 months. And I also went out on a mission. It is strange that he hasn't tried anything.

The main reason why I was so provocative in this little interaction is to see what Danzo would do now. If he has some malicious intentions, then this would provide him a good excuse to take action. Even if he doesn't take any action, I'll be able to get some clues on his intentions.'

Fujin was very interested in seeing Danzo's schemes. If Danzo hadn't tried spying on him, Fujin would have ignored his existence until it was the right time. But since Danzo displayed some intentions against him, Fujin knew that just waiting passively would give all initiative to Danzo. Once he ascertained Danzo's intentions, he would have a better idea of how to proceed forward.

Fujin reached his home and entered the basement. He finally took out the scroll and opened it as he muttered in excitement, "Flying Thunder God jutsu... Finally, I can learn it!"

He immediately began reading all the information regarding it.

While Fujin began studying, a figure appeared in the underground base of Root. He was the same Root ninja who tried warning Fujin. He went straight to Danzo and after getting permission, entered it.

He bowed respectfully and said in a hurry, "Danzo-sama, there is an issue. A Shinobi interacted with Uzumaki Naruto and promised to train him. I warned him and asked him to stay away from Naruto, but he refused to do so."

Danzo was surprised. He asked, "Didn't you threaten him?"

Sweat gathered behind the Root ninja's mask as he recalled how his threat went.

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 397: Flying Thunder God

The Root ninja nervously reported, "I tried, but he arrogantly claimed that the Hokage didn't tell him to stay away from Uzumaki Naruto. Then he somehow recognized that I was from the Root and asked what I was doing keeping an eye on the citizens of Konoha. When I tried to threaten him, he unleashed his killing intent and forced me to retreat. I'm not sure who it was, but that ninja has killed a lot of ninjas."

Danzo was surprised. He wondered, 'Who did he encounter? And since when did someone start threatening Root ninjas?'

He asked, "Who was it?"

The Root ninja replied, "I didn't identify him but when he was inside the Ichiraku Ramen shop, I overheard that he was called Fujin."

Danzo's eyes immediately widened before going back to their usual size. He wondered, 'Suzuki Fujin? Hasn't he gone to the Land of Waterfall? The two squads I sent to the Land of Earth even made Iwagakure send Kitsuchi and a few dozen Jounins to set a trap for him there. Why is he still here?'

The Root ninja was surprised to not receive any response from Danzo. He looked up and asked, "Danzo-sama?"

Danzo replied, "I will look into it. For now, stay away from him. Continue spying on Uzumaki Naruto, but maintain distance."

The Root ninja nodded and left. Unlike his steady voice, Danzo's mind was in a mess. He calmed himself down and analyzed, 'Did Tiger make a mistake in identifying him? No, that's unlikely. So why is Suzuki Fujin back in Konoha? Or could it be possible that he never left?'

Danzo analyzed for a few minutes and concluded, 'No, he should have left the village. Otherwise, Torune would have informed me. The mistake I made should be in assuming the mission he took. He should have taken a different mission that allowed him to return so quickly. But which mission did he take?'

While Danzo was aware of the mission issued by the Daimyo of the Land of Hot Water, he wasn't informed that Fujin's squad had taken that mission. Hiruzen and Eagle didn't have any reason to inform him and they continued creating a strong squad to send to that mission in spite of the fact that Fujin's squad had taken the mission. So Danzo was completely clueless.

He continued thinking, 'I will find that out later. For now, the important question is why he wants to teach the Nine Tails Jinchuriki?'

Naruto was someone who Danzo wanted to control. Unfortunately, Hiruzen never allowed him that. However, Danzo used the political situation in Konoha and Hiruzen's worries perfectly to ensure that no one else managed to gain control over Naruto either. For Fujin to suddenly take an interest in Naruto baffled Danzo.

He analyzed, 'That ramen shop. Torune said that Fujin visits it frequently. And so does Uzumaki Naruto. That is the only common point between the two of them. But if that's the case, why did he wait for so long before taking an interest in him? And what gives him the confidence to offend Root for that boy?'

He realized, 'It feels like I am missing something. Something important should have happened in these last 3-4 days. I need to gather sufficient information to understand what the situation is. Only then I can decide what move to make.'

Danzo immediately understood that he was missing a lot of information. So despite Fujin's provocation, he decided to not respond and decided to wait until he had a better picture of the situation.

Inside his basement, Fujin had gone through all the information inside the scroll. He thought, 'Of all the scrolls I have seen in this world, this one is the most detailed one. It contains the optimal method of learning this jutsu. It contains a ridiculous amount of theory on Space-Time Ninjutsu.

It also contains Tobirama's research leading to the creation of this jutsu and how Minato improved upon it. And despite saying that he doesn't have any talent in this field, Hiruzen has still added his thoughts and tips in this scroll.'

Fujin took a deep breath and recalled the method of learning the Flying Thunder God. He summarized, 'The process of learning the Flying Thunder God jutsu is divided into several steps. And each of these steps is extremely difficult.

The first step is learning to make the seal required for this jutsu. In terms of complexity, this seal can be considered to be at a higher level than the Four Symbols Seal. This means that if the ninja isn't a Grandmaster in Fuinjutsu or close to that level, it will be impossible to even complete the first step of this jutsu.

However, there is one shortcut Minato created so that SealMasters who show some Affinity to Space-Time Ninjutsu could learn this seal as well. Of course, its effect isn't as good as learning the seal yourself. Regardless, for me, this step should be the easiest.

The second step is sensing the space coordinates of the seals I create. Sensing space coordinates is different from normal sensing. I can't use my chakra field. Instead, I will have to use a Space-Time Sensing Technique to sense its location.

This step is very difficult. According to what Hiruzen wrote, he failed at this step. Almost everyone who tried learning the Flying Thunder God jutsu fails at this stage. This step shows whether you have an affinity for Space-Time Ninjutsu or not.

I suspect that the reason why Genma and the other two were selected by Minato is that they should have shown some talent in this step. Though they aren't Grandmasters in Fuinjutsu, the scroll states that Minato developed a simpler version of this jutsu.

The Thunder God Formation Technique. I suspect that he somehow created the seals himself for the three of them to sense. It's likely that Minato tested every eligible ninja and found just the 3 of them. Or perhaps there were more but they couldn't complete the last step. Sigh, I hope I am able to complete this step.

Fortunately, Minato made this step a bit simpler by improving the structure of the seal slightly. It decreases the time needed to sense the seals and makes sensing over longer distances easier. According to what Hiruzen added, it was only due to these improvements done by Minato that Konoha began discovering more ninjas who have talent for Space-Time Ninjutsu.

The third and final step is the main step. After sensing the seal, I have to move to that location. It sounds a bit similar to the summoning jutsu, or rather, the reverse summoning jutsu. Basically, I have to be summoned to the location of the seal.

Only, there is one big issue. During reverse summoning, the one who does the reverse summoning uses his or her chakra to do so. But here, there is no one to do that at the seal.

Another issue is that reverse summoning needs a lot of chakra. To do that a few times will be fine. But doing that hundreds or even thousands of times repeatedly like how Minato would do, would use up all the chakra in an instant.

The initial form of this jutsu that Tobirama created actually used this concept. Minato's Thunder God Formation Technique also uses this principle. So, the initial form of this jutsu couldn't actually be considered Teleportation. It was a long-distance movement jutsu that Tobirama created by using numerous existing concepts and techniques.

Though it was still remarkable, it wasn't very usable in battle. Understanding the drawbacks, Tobirama improved this step to actually moving through Space-Time and arriving at the location of the seal in an instant.

This consumes far less chakra and is much faster, making it viable to use in combat. However, it is far more difficult to learn. Regardless, as long as I succeed in step two, even if I fail in this step, I could still copy the Reverse Summoning trick and use this jutsu for travelling long distances. Of course, if I manage to master step 3 as well...'

A wide grin appeared on Fujin's face. His speed was already ridiculously high. Apart from the top-tier ninjas, no one could keep up with him at his current level. His Vacuum jutsus and Fuinjutsu further restricted his opponents. However, if he were to add the Flying Thunder God jutsu to his arsenal, he would become the fastest ninja alive in a heartbeat! Even the Fourth Raikage and Obito would struggle to keep up with him.

Fujin calmed himself and muttered, "I need to learn this first. I can get excited later."

In an instant, a hundred Shadow Clones appeared in the basement. Everyone began learning the Flying Thunder God seal.

While Fujin occupied himself in learning the Flying Thunder God Seal, Shikaku entered Hiruzen's office and asked, "What is the matter this time?"

Hiruzen looked at Shikaku and said seriously, "Fujin took the mission in the Land of Hot Water with his squad. He returned some time ago."

Shikaku immediately had a dark expression. He sighed and thought, 'I will miss my next few month's sleep.'

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 398: A Seat on the Council

Hiruzen noticed Shikaku's expressions. Though he was amused, his mind was still occupied by Fujin's resignation. He thought, 'Without Fujin creating trouble, Shikaku will become lazy again. I need to think of something to keep him busy now.'

Shikaku muttered, "Say it. What upheaval did that boy cause this time?"

Sorrow could be heard in Shikaku's tone. It was as if someone was about to steal his most precious belongings and he could do nothing but see it happening with his eyes.



Hiruzen looked at his Anbu Guards, who immediately left the room and locked all the doors and windows. Hiruzen activated the seals and said, "He encountered the Akatsuki organization as well as the Mizukage faction during the mission."

Shikaku was puzzled. He asked, "What was that mercenary organization doing there? Aren't they active in the West?"

Hiruzen replied, "Fujin couldn't figure that out. Our only guess right now is that they received a mission in the Land of Hot Water and encountered them fighting. Regardless, Biwa Juzo wanted to collect his bounty and was killed by Fujin."

Shikaku was shocked. He asked, "He killed Juzo?"

Hiruzen nodded. Shikaku immediately became serious as he analyzed the implications. He said, "Killing Juzo will imply that Fujin is a rank S ninja. And he is merely 15 years old."

Shikaku was stunned. Knowing all the shit Fujin pulled over the last year, Shikaku expected Fujin to reach that stage. But he didn't expect him to reach it so quickly.

Hiruzen nodded and said, "His victory wasn't a fluke. He also found out more information."

Hiruzen informed Shikaku about Fujin's analysis of Kisame and mentioned Zetsu's abilities. He even told him about the actions of the Mizukage faction.

Shikaku analyzed everything thoroughly and said, "The Mizukage faction is getting desperate. If the Fourth Mizukage falls, then their faction will collapse in no time. Kisame's power is a surprise. But we didn't hear much about him after the end of the last war. For his strength to rise significantly over the last decade, though difficult, isn't impossible.

That plant-like creature sounds like it will be good at spying and infiltration. We may need to upgrade our barriers considering that it was able to hide within Fujin's chakra field. The more important question is, would the mercenary organization retaliate?"

Hiruzen shook his head and answered, "Unlikely. It's not a hidden village. So they don't have the same sense of comradery. And this isn't the first time one of them has been killed. So it is very unlikely."

Shikaku didn't have much information about Akatsuki's movements and actions. He was worried about such high-level ninjas ambushing Konoha ninjas on the field. But since Hiruzen wasn't worried, Shikaku stopped thinking about it. However, he was puzzled.

He asked, "Everything sounds well. Why did you call me?"

Shikaku thought, 'I was expecting a lot of work, but so far, he has only given me good news. The Mizukage faction will retreat from the Land of Hot Water. One deadly rogue ninja is dead and no one will avenge him. And, Konoha has a new and young rank S ninja. This would make the village's position very stable. Did he call me here to just give me good news?'

Hiruzen sighed and said, "Fujin resigned from the Anbu. He will be taking a long break to train and rest."

Shikaku's eyes widened. He exclaimed in shock, "He resigned?"

Almost immediately, his shock changed into delight. He thought, 'Fujin retired from Anbu and will take a long break? Unbelievable! He indeed called me to give me good news!'

Fujin had been a huge headache for Shikaku. In fact, Suna was still sending ninjas to the Fire Capital occasionally. In addition, the situation with Iwagakure was continuously getting tense ever since Fujin and Roshi clashed.

Though nothing happened on the ground, the tensions always existed. So Shikaku was always very busy. He had to move around Konoha ninjas several times and had to recalibrate Konoha's strategy very frequently.

Considering Fujin's age, Shikaku had mentally prepared himself to be continuously tortured for at least a decade. This sudden news was like an unexpected blessing for him. With Fujin no longer taking missions actively, Shikaku felt like a large amount of pressure was lifted from his shoulders!

Hiruzen said, "You could at least act to not be so pleased."

Shikaku coughed and said, "I am just happy that our village has a new rank S ninja. It will make planning much simpler in the future. Kakashi and Guy should be close to or at the same level as Fujin as well. In a few more years, Konoha will regain the influence lost due to Minato's death and Orochimaru's betrayal."

Hiruzen nodded. What Shikaku said was completely true. He had increased the number of Konoha ninjas as well as the number of Jounins aggressively in the last few years. Once Konoha gained 3 new rank S ninjas, it would bring them closer to the strength they had during the previous war. However, he clearly knew that it wasn't the reason for Shikaku's happiness.

Hiruzen said, "I called you here because I need your opinion on a matter."

Shikaku became serious and asked, "What is it?"

Hiruzen said, "With Fujin no longer a part of Anbu, I can't use my previous method to increase his reputation."

Shikaku recalled the conversation he had with Hiruzen a year ago. He nodded. Hiruzen continued, "So I have decided to do that using two methods. The first one is promoting him to Elite Jounin officially. That shouldn't be an issue. However, I'm not sure what the impact would be of the second method. I want your opinion on it."

Shikaku listened carefully. Despite his intelligence, Hiruzen's next words surprised him. Hiruzen said, "I am planning to create a new seat in the Council. A council member who will represent the Civilian ninjas. And I want to give that to Fujin."

Shikaku hadn't expected Hiruzen to think of such a thing. He immediately began analyzing if it was feasible. After some time, he said, "Until now, civilian ninjas don't have a seat on the council. Though Jiraiya and Orochimaru participated at times, it was due to their status as the Sannins.

Fujin doesn't have the same reputation and influence as they did. But if you create a new seat, that won't be an issue. Creating a new seat should be fine as well as there are already a few non-ninja civilians on the council to handle the civilian matters.

The only issue is Fujin himself. He is still too young. And, we clan leaders represent our clans. But, can Fujin really represent all the civilian ninjas? Currently, the number of civilian ninjas far exceeds that of any clan.

Since he doesn't have any fame here apart from his bounty and his title, it will raise a lot of questions and perhaps some dissatisfaction from the civilian ninjas. Do you need to give him that post so impatiently? There is no harm in waiting for a few more years."

Hiruzen replied, "I have been sending him on almost all negotiations. If I don't give him a seat on the council, then other countries will think that I am sending the Spectral Swordsman to intimidate them during negotiations. But if he is an official council member, then it sends an entirely different message. At the same time, it gives him the authority to close deals.

As for his reputation and dissatisfaction from others, it isn't an issue. With time, as his strength gets slowly exposed, his reputation will grow by itself and the voices of dissatisfaction will disappear as well."

Shikaku nodded and said, "That's true. Alright, go ahead. I'll ask Inoichi and Choza to support your proposal. The civilians will support you easily as well. So there shouldn't be any trouble in passing the proposal to create a new seat even if some Clan Leaders or Elders oppose that.

Though Fujin's appointment might face some opposition, it can be easily resolved by informing the Clan Leaders about Juzo's death. None of the Clan Leaders would oppose him in that case."

Hiruzen nodded. He discussed a bit more with Shikaku before letting him go. As Shikaku appeared back in his office, a smile appeared on his face. He thought, 'That troublemaker finally quit. This was a good surprise. I can finally sleep no...'

Suddenly Shikaku's eyes widened as he realized something. He thought, 'Wait a minute! Why did Hiruzen allow Fujin to retire? Does that mean anyone can retire? Why does he keep blocking my retirement plans then? I need to know how Fujin convinced Hiruzen to let him go!'

Fujin was unaware of Hiruzen's plans. He was more concerned about Hiruzen's friend instead. He worked on the seal all night until an alarm rang. Fujin shut the alarm and thought, 'I lost track of time. It is 4:45 in the morning. Naruto should arrive soon.'

## Naruto: The Wind Calamity

### Chapter 399: Indiscipline

Fujin freshened up and went to the training ground opposite his house while his Shadow Clones continued working on the seal. As he walked, Fujin analyzed, 'Though the seal is quite complicated, I should be able to learn it faster than the Four Symbols Seal. Without having to worry about any missions, I can keep training this non-stop alongside my Wind Domain.'

He soon saw Naruto who was waiting restlessly inside the training ground. As soon as Naruto saw Fujin, he immediately became excited. He thought, 'He came!'

Fujin noticed his restlessness and excitement and realized, 'He was worried that I wouldn't show up. Sigh, so much mental trauma. I wonder whether Minato would have given up his life if he knew how Naruto would be treated...'

Even though the answer seemed simple, Fujin wasn't sure. The Will of Fire burned intensely within some ninjas. Those ninjas would still choose to serve the village even if the village harmed their friends and family. Their decisions were difficult for someone like Fujin, who gave the highest priority to himself, to comprehend.

He asked, "How long have you been waiting here?"

Naruto replied, "Only 25 minutes."

Fujin said, "You don't need to show up too early. Just come at the exact moment. If I'm ever late, just knock on the house opposite the training ground."

Naruto asked, "That large house is yours?"

Fujin nodded and said, "Let's start. Before we begin, show me the jutsus you can perform."

Naruto nodded and immediately showed Fujin the three basic Ninjutsus. While he performed the jutsus, Fujin's chakra field spread out and covered the entire Training Ground. Immediately, two figures escaped from the training ground and flickered outside. Both had a frown behind their masks.

One of the two was the same Root ninja whom Fujin had threatened the day before. Due to Danzo's instructions, he obediently left and stood outside the Training Ground.

The other one was an Anbu assigned by Hiruzen to keep an eye on Naruto. After leaving the training ground, he wondered, 'Anbu Captain Suzuki Fujin... Though he met up with Naruto yesterday, I didn't think that he would actually show up today. But is he doing it by himself or did Lord Hokage ask him to?'

He thought for a bit and decided, 'Lord Hokage should have told me if he assigned him this job. I should inform him to be safe.'

He created Shadow Clone which immediately flickered away. Unlike the Root ninja, he didn't bother confronting Fujin. He was aware of Fujin's Anbu Captain rank and knew that he couldn't command him. So he decided to stay back and wait for Hiruzen's response.

Fujin analyzed Naruto's jutsus, 'Hmm, not bad. His Substitution jutsu and Transformation jutsu are very well mastered. The clones are horrible though. But, it's not exactly his fault.'

Failing at the Clone jutsu wasn't uncommon. However, in almost every case, that would happen because the academy student couldn't infuse enough chakra to create a good clone. However, with Naruto, it was the complete opposite. The chakra he infused into the clones was too high. In addition, his chakra control was terrible.

Fujin thought, 'Even if his chakra control becomes very good, it is unlikely that he can create a Clone. Unless he decided to create something like a hundred thousand clones, but that has its own set of challenges.'

Fujin wasn't particularly interested in helping Naruto learn the Clone jutsu. While he wanted Naruto to view him favorably, he wanted to do so while minimizing the impact on future events. Though some changes would invariably happen, as long as they weren't too drastic, Fujin could take advantage of his knowledge.

Seeing Fujin in thought, Naruto asked, "What do you think?"

Fujin nodded and said, "Except for the Clone jutsu, you can perform the remaining two well. So you might have some chance to learn what I am planning to teach you."

Naruto immediately became excited and asked, "Will you teach me the jutsu to control ramen using the wind like you did?"

Fujin shook his head and answered, "That wasn't a jutsu. It was just the application of a few jutsus."

Naruto became confused. He interrupted Fujin and asked, "What does that mean?"

Fujin explained patiently, "The method of using a jutsu isn't limited to one. Once you properly master a jutsu, you can use it in several different ways. It is only restricted by your creativity. You will understand it soon.

For now, I will teach you 4 jutsus that will help you control the wind."

Naruto's eyes immediately sparkled. He exclaimed, "Four jutsus?"

Fujin ignored his excitement, extended his palm in another direction and said, "Watch carefully. This jutsu is called the Gale jutsu."

Naruto focused his attention on Fujin's hand. Soon, a small amount of wind was released from Fujin's palm. It created a small wind flow and blew away all the fallen leaves and some soil in its path.

Fujin explained, "This is the most basic jutsu in Wind nature manipulation. Once you learn this, I will teach you three more jutsus."

Fujin taught Naruto the hand seals for the jutsu and explained the inner workings of the jutsu in a language that Naruto could understand. He asked, "Did you understand?"

Naruto nodded his head repeatedly and said, "I got it! I will create the strongest wind, believe it!"

Naruto weaved hand signs and shouted, "Gale jutsu!"

As he shouted, he moved his right palm forward forcefully as if he was pushing the air and then maintained that form. Unfortunately for Naruto, no wind flowed from his palm. As he stood, a gentle breeze flowed in the opposite direction and blew a leaf into his face, making him look incredibly stupid.

Fujin watched with a deadpan expression, 'This kid. His ability to manipulate chakra is horrible! No, even horrible is too kind of a word!'

Had it been someone else watching, they would have questioned Naruto's talent. Not being able to do something so basic usually showed that the ninja had little to no talent in Ninjutsu, something that was for a ninja like Rock Lee. In fact, every teacher in the Academy believed that to be the case for Naruto.

Had Fujin not known about Naruto's future achievements, he might have thought the same as well. But Fujin was very clear about how monstrous Naruto's talent was. What he was seeing was just a result of the indiscipline of the highest grade.

Naruto asked in an awkward voice, "Why didn't any wind blow?"

He looked at Fujin nervously and said, "Don't worry, I will do it this time."

He quickly weaved his hand signs, shouted the name of the jutsu and pushed his palm out again. Obviously, the result wasn't any different. Of course, Naruto wouldn't quit. He continued trying the jutsu again and again non-stop.

Fujin didn't say anything and just observed Naruto. He analyzed, 'Though he has a massive amount of chakra, he is barely even able to manipulate him. The reason why he is able to perform the Substitution and Transformation jutsu so well should be due to working on them for an extremely long time.'



But if he has to learn a new jutsu, especially one that needs the user to knead chakra inside his body, he will struggle a lot. The reason for this is very simple. He just has rarely trained in this aspect. Unlike me, who went systematically, he is directly trying to learn the jutsus despite not having the basics down.'

Fujin observed Naruto, who was getting more desperate, and wondered, 'It has only been 5 years since I left the academy. How did the quality of teachers drop so much? Or rather, why did the Academy stop being strict?

Even if I assume that Naruto was the only one being ignored, why didn't Hiruzen assign him a teacher who could ensure that Naruto had the basics right? After all, even if I ignore his parents, he is the Jinchuriki. How can a Jinchuriki be allowed to be so terrible at basics?'

Fujin couldn't make any sense of it. Though he normally marvelled at Hiruzen's schemes, his decisions in regard to Naruto confused him. Had he been in his place, raising the Jinchuriki to be strong and creating more bonds for him in the village had been his first move. He didn't understand why Hiruzen didn't do that and why no one, be it the Elders or the Clan Leaders, pushed him to do it.

After trying unsuccessfully a few hundred times, Naruto walked back to Fujin with his head down. He said, 'I'm sorry, I couldn't do it. But I promise that I will learn it quickly. Believe it!'

Fujin sighed and raised his arm. Naruto was fearful but didn't move. In the next moment, a karate chop landed on Naruto's head. Naruto immediately held his head but quickly realized, 'That didn't hurt?'

Of course, Fujin didn't intend to hurt Naruto. That was just an action to calm him down and stop Naruto from being too fidgety. Fujin asked, 'Did you forget what I said yesterday?'

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 400: Temptation

Naruto looked up and asked, 'What did you say?'

Fujin replied, 'I said that you will have to work for hours daily for a few months to learn that. Why are you thinking that you will learn it in 15 minutes? And what are you so upset about? I needed more than a month to learn this jutsu perfectly. Others need around 3 months to learn it.

I will ask you again. Can you put in the hard work needed to learn this jutsu? If not, you can quit now and save yourself from a lot of trouble."

Naruto immediately responded, "I will train until I learn the jutsu."

Fujin nodded and said, "Good. For the next three hours, keep practicing seriously. Even if it seems like you aren't making any progress, in truth, you will be. So don't get restless."

Naruto nodded and started his practice again. He was very grateful that Fujin continued teaching him and didn't abandon him because he was slow at learning.

As for Fujin, he just observed while thinking, 'Though my words were a lie, it will give him some hope. If he knew that I learnt it within a few days, he would be very discouraged. That said, I am not sure if that's a bad thing considering his never-give-up attitude.

Still, I should give him some tips slowly. That chakra control needs to improve, even if just slightly. However, asking him to meditate would likely lead nowhere. I recall him saying to had never taken that seriously. Guess I'll have to make up some bullshit.

And maybe I should introduce him to the leaf-cutting exercise as well. Though training Wind Affinity isn't needed for a low-level jutsu like this one, it won't be any harm. And, it will give him something to do to spend time.'

Fujin sat down with his back against a tree while Naruto practised. Though he kept an eye on Naruto, his mind began thinking about the Frying Thunder God seal. He had a hundred Shadow Clones working on it, so he didn't need to practice it himself. Instead, he recalled the various theories in the scroll. Though practising the seal was important, studying and analyzing it was equally important in Fujin's eyes.

Unlike Fujin, whose day was going as planned, a certain someone had a strange start to his day. Hiruzen had just reached his office when he saw an Anbu waiting for him. He immediately informed him about Fujin's actions.

With a confused expression, Hiruzen sat on his chair and grabbed his crystal ball. He thought, 'First he leaves the Anbu and then he suddenly takes an interest in Naruto? What is Fujin up to?'

He began watching in the crystal ball. Soon, the scene of Naruto practicing Gale's jutsu and Fujin monitoring him appeared in the crystal ball. Hiruzen observed for a few minutes, but nothing else happened. That confused Hiruzen even more.

He wondered, 'Why is Fujin teaching Naruto rank E wind jutsus? Does he intend to guide him like he did for those 5 orphans? But why Naruto? And, he should know that Naruto has Nine Tails sealed inside him.'

Hiruzen analyzed and had a few guesses, but he had a feeling that none of his guesses were right. He decided, 'I'll need to keep an eye on him. Fujin seems to have a soft spot for orphans, so he won't harm Naruto. On the contrary, this might be good for him. But I need to monitor him. He rarely does things that are completely selfless. Besides...'

A smile formed on Hiruzen's face as he realized, 'I doubt Danzo would want someone to gain influence on Naruto. Fujin's current actions might force him out. It will be interesting to see a confrontation between these two. Regardless, if he crosses any lines, I will get a reasonable excuse to take away the kids he recruited from the Land of Water.

Though it would result in him pulling the Root out of the Land of Water, it won't be a loss. Both Rebels and the Mizukage factions have realized that their next generation is being kidnapped and have started taking action. Getting any more kids out of that country will be very difficult.

However, this will spoil my idea of having Danzo rebuild Root and handing it over to Fujin or Kakashi.'

Hiruzen thought for a bit before letting out a sigh. He decided, 'Leave it. Becoming the Shinobi of Darkness isn't easy. And there is always the possibility of losing yourself to the darkness like Danzo has. I have a feeling that the next generation might not need the darkness that we needed. If they do, they can always recreate it.'

Hiruzen grabbed a few files and thought, 'I was planning to do this after a few days, but now I want to talk with Fujin to see if I can understand his intentions behind training Naruto.'

He immediately began working on the paperwork needed to promote Fujin to the Elite Jounin rank officially.

Naruto trained for 3 hours straight. He hadn't made any progress but still had the same enthusiasm as earlier. He finally started getting tired. However, Fujin couldn't help but feel a tiny bit of envy after observing Naruto properly.

He observed, 'He isn't tired because his chakra is getting depleted. Instead, he is tired due to thrusting his palm forward again and again for 3 hours straight. Sigh, what insane chakra reserves...'

Fujin couldn't help but think, 'I began training at the age of 5. After joining the Academy at 6, I created proper training plans and followed them rigorously without taking a day off for years. It still took me more than 5 years to go from the level of an Academy student to Jounin. And, it took me two more years from there to reach the level of Elite Jounin and another two years to reach the rank S.'

But Naruto... If I were to teach him seriously, I could easily raise him from his current weak self to a Jounin even before he graduates. Heck, he might even reach the Elite Jounin level by then.

I will just need to teach him the Shadow Clone jutsu, then improve his Chakra control to an acceptable level and let the magic happen. He can easily master the Wind element within a few weeks and learn most of my Wind jutsus thanks to the broken combination of Shadow Clone jutsu and insane chakra reserves.

Once he learns to supercharge jutsus, he will have a stronger offense than most Jounins. And with his chakra, he can keep spamming them until the other side runs dry and escapes or dies.

Going to rank S from there won't be very difficult either. Perhaps in just one more year, he could reach that.'

Fujin couldn't help but sigh at the unfairness. At the same time, he had a temptation in his heart. A temptation to teach Naruto seriously and make him ridiculously overpowered.

However, after a few minutes, Fujin shook his head and decided, 'Unfortunately, doing that has the potential to completely ruin any knowledge of the future I have.'

Would Hiruzen put Naruto on the same squad as Sasuke and under Kakashi if he is already close to the Elite Jounin level?

If he does, how would it impact their clash with Zabuza?

How will his relationship with Sasuke be if he is so much stronger than him even before graduating?

And, if Naruto reaches close to rank S by the time the Chunin exams take place, his encounter with Orochimaru will turn out to be very different. With his unpredictability, he might even prevent Orochimaru from putting the cursed seal on Sasuke.

And, it is possible that Akatsuki might take him very seriously and attack preemptively. After all, unlike the rest of the ninjas, rank S would merely be a starting point for Naruto. As he continuously keeps growing stronger, even Obito and Nagato, despite their arrogance, might not want to risk seeing Naruto getting stronger.

Irrespective of what happens, my advantage will be completely ruined. Though I would still be a rank S ninja and my life won't be threatened easily, I'll lose out on a lot of critical opportunities.'

Fujin could only shake his head and give up on that idea. Though he pitied Naruto's situation and could fully explore his potential, Fujin's gains just didn't match up with the horrendous losses he would incur due to the opportunities he would have given up.

Naruto was oblivious to the opportunity he just lost. Of course, even without Fujin's help, his future would still be very bright. Though Fujin decided against helping Naruto too much, he didn't intend to block his path to rank S and even planned on assisting him a bit and making his path slightly easier.

As he trained, Naruto's breathing became rougher. He wanted to stop but thought, 'I have to keep going. I have to show that I am serious about learning this jutsu.'

He weaved hand signs, thrust his palm forward and once again shouted, "Gale jutsu."