

Calamity 531

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 531: Complicated Topics

Naruto asked, "Do you know why the Nine Tailed Beast attacked our village?"

Fujin answered, "I don't know for sure. The Tailed Beasts, though strong, don't have a history of randomly attacking humans. Perhaps someone provoked it to attack us. There is also some speculation that it was controlled by someone to attack us.

So though everyone blames it, it is possible that the fox was a victim as well. Unfortunately, I'm not sure of what was the exact case."

Naruto was surprised. He asked, "Can a demon like it also be controlled?"

Fujin replied, "There are various mysterious techniques and jutsus, Naruto. Don't underestimate anyone. Also, don't judge someone too quickly. Though I don't have proof, I believe that Nine Tails was indeed controlled. Otherwise, why would it attack a strong village like ours?

Regardless, if that is the case or not, I hope you won't treat it the same way the misinformed people in the village treated you."

Fujin's words surprised Naruto even more, forcing him to think, which wasn't a very common occurrence. Fujin chuckled internally on seeing Naruto trying to think hard. Of course, there was another entity that fell into a thought. It was the tailed beast sealed inside Naruto. He never imagined that a human would defend him and sympathize with his situation!

Naruto said, "Alright. Thank you for telling me, Fujin."

Fujin smiled and said, "Of course, that doesn't mean that you should treat it as a harmless being. Regardless of whether it was innocent or not, it is currently sealed inside you. It would want nothing less than to tear you apart and become free once again. It is still scarily strong. Is that understood?"

Naruto shivered while picturing the Nine Tailed Beast ripping his body and coming out. He immediately nodded repeatedly and said, "Understood."

The two continued eating. After some time, Naruto asked, "If the Nine Tailed Beast was controlled, wouldn't that mean that everyone in the village is wrong in hating it?"

Fujin nodded. Naruto asked, "But why would people hate when they aren't sure about the truth?"

Naruto had suffered a lot due to the hate. So he had to ask that question. Fujin said, "People are complicated. They direct their hatred where they can to vent their sorrow. Since Nine Tails was the one who attacked and did the job, they hate it."

Naruto tried thinking but it was too complicated. His expression became comical as he complained, "Your statements today are too complicated, Fujin!"

Fujin chuckled and said, "The topic is as such. Here's another complicated topic. This will be a test for you. Do you remember my challenge to you and Mizuki?"

Naruto nodded. That challenge had allowed him to graduate. Fujin asked, "Do you think that it was a fair challenge?"

Naruto thought and said with uncertainty, "Well, I failed the exam. So it is fair I guess."

Fujin said, "But, your opponent was a Chunin. On beating him, you only became a Genin. Why is it fair that I made you fight a Chunin to only become a Genin?"

Naruto was stumped. He never thought about it. He just thought that Fujin was giving him an opportunity. He became confused and thought, 'Man, that sounds totally unfair! But why is big bro telling that to me? Why would he tell me that he was unfair towards me?'

Fujin chuckled on seeing his expression and asked again, "Well?"

Naruto answered, "If you put it that way, then it sounds totally unfair."

Fujin chuckled again and asked, "I told Mizuki that if he killed you, he could take the scroll and leave. What do you think I would have done if he was about to kill you?"

Naruto hadn't thought about this either. He merely thought that Fujin was helping him. He didn't think in such depth. He looked at Fujin and replied after a while, "I guess you would have saved me and then let him go."

Fujin smirked and replied, "Nope. If you were about to lose, I'd have hit him from the back and killed or captured him myself."

Naruto's eyes widened. He never imagined Fujin would do something like that. He asked, "Bu... But, wouldn't that be unfair? Didn't you say you would let him go?"

Fujin answered, "I did. But why do I have to stick to my words?"

Naruto, whose ninja way was to never go back on his word, asked in a confused tone, "What do you mean?"

Fujin answered, "Mizuki was a teacher. He is supposed to guide students. Yet, he set you up, tried to kill you and tried to betray our village. Why do I have to keep my word against such a scum?"

Naruto was speechless. Fujin's words were extremely absurd for him. However, somehow they made complete sense. It felt like his head was spinning. Suddenly, he had a thought. He asked, "Would you still pass me if I had lost?"

Fujin replied, "Of course. You are ready to graduate. I'd just have to work harder to convince Grandpa Hokage, but I'm sure I would have managed that. By winning, you made it much easier for me to convince him."

Naruto was surprised. However, it was a good surprise this time. Still, he couldn't help but complain in his mind, 'So, my life was never at risk and I was set to graduate as well? I went through all that tension for no reason at all! Hmph, he knows how to keep me on my toes all the time.'

A pout formed on Naruto's face. Fujin asked, "What's up?"

Naruto replied in a childish tone, "Nothing."

He immediately followed up, "I don't care if you keep your word against Mizuki. But you are keeping your word for me! I have graduated, so teach me the jutsu."

"Which jutsu?" Fujin became confused and wondered, 'When did I promise to teach him when he graduates? I'm just planning to make him eat Kakashi's head. Though his past is traumatic, that bastard has been having it easy for too long.'

Naruto's expression became very annoyed as he pointed at Fujin and said, "Hey! You promised to teach me that jutsu that allows you to disappear!"

Naruto's words made Fujin recall. He said, "Ah, the Body Flicker jutsu. I almost forgot. Sure. Wanna train after we are done eating?"

Naruto nodded. He began eating and asked again, "While we are at it, could you also teach me a stronger Wind jutsu?"

Fujin replied, "You are now a Genin, Naruto. You'll be assigned a Jounin Sensei in a few days. Until you become a Chunin, he or she will be the one responsible for training you. If I interfere, then you'll end up confused."

Naruto asked in a surprised tone, "I'll get my own Sensei?"

Fujin looked at him with a deadpan expression and said, "I thought you promised that you will pay attention in class. I even 'believed' you."

Naruto immediately laughed nervously and said softly, "Well, I tried to. But Iruka sensei was just too boring."

Fujin just continued staring at Naruto who quietly focused on the food. Fujin chuckled internally while thinking, 'Good. He'll be a Genin for who knows how long. I'll just throw him at Kakashi until that bastard diverts him back to me. Thankfully, he knows almost every jutsu out there. Sending Naruto back to annoy him wouldn't be much of a challenge.'

After dinner, Fujin took Naruto to the training ground opposite his house and began teaching him the basics of the Body Flicker jutsu.

After explaining the basics of the jutsu, Fujin said, "This jutsu isn't very complicated in terms of Chakra molding as it only requires the Tiger Seal. The difficult part is chakra control. You have to concentrate a lot of chakra at your feet.

If you had tried it earlier, you would have failed. Luckily for you, your chakra control has improved a lot thanks to Tree Climbing and Water Walking exercises. So try it."

Naruto immediately began trying. Needless to say, the first few tries were all a failure. Only after a couple of hours of trying continuously did he manage to flicker for a few meters for the first time.

Fujin sighed as he watched, 'Having such a high chakra is a boon. When I was trying to learn it, I could barely practice it for some time before I ran out of chakra. Meanwhile, he can practice for two hours straight despite having spent last night and early morning training the Multi Shadow Clone Jutsu and escaping from Mizuki for another hour and still is able to practice continuously...

Fortunately, my chakra has become quite high as well thanks to training continuously for so long. Otherwise, I'd be tempted to go catch a Tailed Beast irrespective of the dangers involved!'

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Chapter 532: Another Mission to Sunagakure???

Naruto excitedly shouted, "I did it!"

He quickly made the Tiger seal and shouted, "Body Flicker jutsu!"

However, nothing happened this time. He kept standing in the same place. He tried it a few more times.

"Body Flicker jutsu!"

"Body Flicker jutsu!"

"Body Flicker jutsu!"

Unfortunately, he failed every time. Suddenly, he heard a chuckle. He turned around to see Fujin who said, "That's enough for today, Naruto. You did good work by managing to do it successfully once within just 2 hours."

Naruto immediately said, "Just a few more minutes. I'll completely master it!"

Fujin shook his head and said, "No. You are tired. And, this jutsu will take a long time to master. Right now you only managed to flicker by a couple of meters. That isn't very helpful in the battle. You will need to practice sincerely for a few weeks until you can flicker for at least a few dozen meters and can do so continuously."

Naruto unwillingly nodded and left. Fujin went to sleep as well. While he hadn't stayed up all night like Naruto, he did wake up absurdly early even by his standards.

The next day, Fujin returned to his training, while Naruto had a rather eventful day. He met Konohamaru and later in the day created his legendary Harem jutsu.

The day after, Fujin had just begun training when he had an unexpected visitor. One of Hiruzen's Anbu Guards visited Fujin and called him to visit Hiruzen's office. Fujin wondered, 'Hmm, did something happen?'

He flickered along with the Anbu Guard and reached Hiruzen's office. When he entered, Hiruzen sent everyone out and activated the seals. Fujin became serious and waited for Hiruzen to start speaking.

Hiruzen asked, "Fujin, you were planning to go out for some missions, right?"

Fujin nodded. He had asked to go out of the village a couple of weeks ago but was asked to stay in the village by Hiruzen. He replied, "Yeah, training all the time becomes boring and stale. I find it more helpful to go out for a week or two for a change. It helps me relax and increases my efficiency in training."

Hiruzen said, "Good. We have a couple of situations. I'll let you handle it. Suna has been acting strangely for the past few months. From the reports from our spies, it almost looks like they are preparing their forces for something. They have raised their security so much that even the spies have been unable to send messages out for the last two weeks."

Fujin realized, 'I see. They are starting to prepare for an attack on Konoha... But shouldn't there still be some time? Or is Rasa more serious than in the original story? Hmm, yeah, that should be the case due to my interference. He'll be hating Konoha even more and at the same time will be preparing even more.'

Fujin asked, "Do you want me to go to Sunagakure and investigate what exactly is happening?"

Hiruzen immediately shook his head and said, "No, that will be very risky. While you could infiltrate with the help of merchants, if you were discovered, then you'd be surrounded by thousands of enemy ninjas. Though you have a flying summon, you will still have a difficult time escaping if the Fourth Kazekage finds you. There is no reason to take such a risk."

Though Hiruzen's words were full of concern for Fujin, his thoughts were the exact opposite, 'The last time I sent him to Suna, he almost created another country! The Western area of the Land of Wind is still very unstable, forcing Rasa to deploy more than 1500 ninjas there despite there being no external danger. The Wind Daimyo transferred a lot of funds that were meant for Sunagakure to those affected areas, making Rasa even more desperate.'

Right now, we only have suspicions that Rasa is up to something. We don't know who Rasa plans to target or if this is just an exercise to ensure the preparedness of Suna's forces. However, if I send Fujin...'

Hiruzen strongly believed that Konoha and Suna would be at war if he sent Fujin there. He didn't dare to do so! Not to mention, Shikaku had explicitly asked Hiruzen to not send Fujin there and threatened to go on a month-long vacation if Hiruzen did so.

Fujin wondered, 'Since when did he become so caring? Just say that you don't want to provoke Rasa.'

While entering Sunagakure would be risky, there wasn't much danger for Fujin. While he still couldn't use the Flying Thunder God jutsu to teleport a long distance away, he could just inform Ryu and his sons that he would be going to a dangerous place and be prepared to reverse summon him once he burnt the seal. As long as Fujin was aware of the danger, trapping him was very difficult. It was unexpected situations, like Roshi's Tailed Beast Bomb, that were a bigger threat to him.

Hiruzen continued, "We can't interfere much in Suna. What I want you to look into is the Land of Rivers. As you know, the Land of Rivers is supposed to be aligned with us. However, the Yamakawa family has been acting strangely for the last few months.

From what the Anbu observed, it looks like they have made a deal with Sunagakure. The Anbu squad was planning to act, but they discovered traces of Suna ninjas and decided to retreat. We believe that Suna has stationed an Elite Jounin and a few squads in their town.

I want you to look into their family. If there are indeed Suna ninjas hiding there, then eliminate all of them and eliminate all adults in the Yamakawa family. Bring back the bodies of their family head and the Suna ninjas with their brains intact."

Fujin nodded and asked, "What's the second situation?"

Hiruzen continued, "It is in the Land of Rivers as well. A couple of our Chunin squads disappeared in that country. I'm afraid something strange is happening there. We deployed some Anbu squads but they didn't find anything. My first thought was Sunagakure, but it is very strange for them to do something like this. If they are planning something, then they wouldn't alert us by doing something so small.

Once the Yamakawa family is dealt with, spend some time in that country to see if you can find any clues. If you can find and clear that issue, then the mission will be considered as complete. Otherwise,

just return in 2 weeks and report your findings. I'll just dispatch more forces to find out what happened to them."

Fujin nodded. Hiruzen asked, "Who do you want to go with you in your squad?"

Fujin replied, "There is no need for it. I'll just go by myself."

Fujin was planning to use this opportunity to meet up with his Phantom Haven Society subordinates and create another set of a few thousand Flying Thunder God marks in the Land of Fire. If he had teammates, then that would be difficult to do.

Hiruzen wasn't surprised as he understood that Fujin preferred working alone. He said, "Alright. Other than the bodies you bring back, make it seem like everyone in the Yamakawa family was killed by Sunagakure ninjas."

Fujin said, "Alright. Do we have any idea as to which Elite Jounin was sent?"

Hiruzen shook his head and said, "No. The squad couldn't gather much information as they would have been in danger if the information was true."

Killing an Elite Jounin wasn't an easy task. Only a few ninjas in Konoha could do so consistently. Hiruzen would have needed to dispatch Eagle along with a few squads of experienced Anbu ninjas to be able to ensure that Konoha wouldn't suffer needless losses. And that force couldn't guarantee that they would be able to complete the mission.

Since he had the option of sending Fujin, Hiruzen didn't need to go through other complicated alternatives.

Fujin replied, "Alright. I'll leave within a few hours then."

Hiruzen nodded as Fujin disappeared from the room. Fujin entered his house while thinking, 'It looks like Konoha crush will happen after all. Though I interfered, what I did should have infuriated Rasa even more. The attack might be more fierce than what I remember.'

Orochimaru and Rasa will also need to consider my existence and make arrangements to ensure that I don't cut through Suna and Oto ninjas or directly attack the barrier the Sound Four will erect. Hehe, I am looking forward to what they come up with.'

Fujin made preparations and left the village. Around the same time, Eagle entered Hiruzen's office.

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Chapter 533: First Kiss!

As Fujin left Konoha and headed towards the Land of Rivers, Eagle entered Hiruzen's office and asked, "Did you assign that mission to Fujin?"

Hiruzen nodded. Eagle sighed in relief. That mission fell under Anbu and Eagle had a major headache on how to handle it. The Anbu didn't have any other Elite Jounin. Not to mention, they were stretched extremely thin due to the mess Fujin created some time ago.

However, Fujin going on the mission meant one thing. Eagle asked, "So he declined to become a Jounin Sensei?"

Hiruzen answered, "Yeah, he wants to focus on training for now."

Behind his mask, Eagle smiled and said, "Yeah, he is only 15 now. It's not a bad thing. Besides, you could make him Konohamaru's sensei later."

A shiver passed through Hiruzen's spine. He had thought about it when Fujin rejected the offer. What he analyzed made him raise his guard several times!

Hiruzen thought, 'I didn't notice it until Fujin started guiding Naruto. He tends to double down on the existing characteristics of the ones he is guiding.'

Among the 5 kids he guided initially, 2 became very promising as that was their nature while 3 haven't shown much progress beyond their initial improvement. He didn't do anything to make those 3 orphans train harder and left them to their means.

It was the same story with his Anbu subordinates. It's just that they were very dedicated. I didn't notice this as it seemed normal. However, with Naruto...

Naruto's pranks have become a hundred times worse since he came in contact with Fujin. They increased in both intensity and frequency. The only explanation is that Fujin used this aspect and motivated Naruto to prank more so that Naruto would train harder. Though it was an annoyance to the village and I had to deal with several complaints, it was a very good method to train Naruto.

If I give Konohamaru to Fujin to train, then...'

Konohamaru challenged Hiruzen more than a dozen times daily to battle! Fortunately, he was extremely weak and was just a headache to Hiruzen rather than an actual problem. However, if Fujin trained Konohamaru and encouraged him to challenge Hiruzen more, Hiruzen's old age would become a complete nightmare! The very thought of that future made Hiruzen shiver.

"Father?" Eagle called out seeing that Hiruzen was lost in thoughts. Hiruzen replied, "Yeah. I will think about it when the time comes."

Eagle nodded and discussed some official matters before he left. Hiruzen stopped doing his paperwork and looked outside the window, staring at the statues of the Hokages while he smoked.

After some time, he decided, 'If that happens in the future, I'll just make Fujin or Kakashi the Hokage and retire. Let my Grandson challenge either of them instead of me.'

While Hiruzen was worrying about his future, another interesting change happened in the village. Even though Team 7 wasn't created yet, all but one of its members had their first kiss. The only one who still didn't was their soon-to-be 26-year-old Sensei.

Naruto and Sasuke kissed accidentally just like in the original story. However, Fujin's interference in Naruto's life brought one change that he didn't even consider. Fujin ensured that Naruto had access to good food and understood when food got spoiled. So, Naruto no longer drank milk that was a few weeks past its expiry date.

Hence, he wasn't interrupted when he disguised himself as Sasuke to kiss Sakura and managed to do it without any interruption. As a result, Sakura had her first kiss as well. Only, it was with Naruto who was disguised as Sasuke.

Having kissed her dear 'Sasuke', Sakura was on cloud nine! Unfortunately, that only lasted for a minute as she heard, "Naruto, what are you doing?"

Both Sakura and Naruto looked in the direction of the voice and saw the real Sasuke standing there. Sakura grew confused as she wondered aloud, "Two... two... Sasuke?"

Meanwhile, Naruto was shocked and exclaimed loudly, "What are you doing here?"

Sasuke replied, "A simple rope trick. Any good ninja can escape. Why are you disguised as me?"

Sakura, who heard their conversation immediately understood, 'I kissed Naruto?'

Her expression became a sight to see! It was a mixture of sadness, terror, disgust, heartbreak, and a lack of desire to continue living! She muttered, "Naruuuttooooo..."

Naruto turned around and saw Sakura's horrifying expression. A shiver passed through his spine as he immediately disappeared from the spot! Thankfully, Sakura was still in shock at losing her first kiss to Naruto instead of wanting to kill Naruto.

Sasuke looked at Sakura's state and muttered, "What did that jerk do?"

Sakura said, "He..."

She couldn't continue. How could she tell Sasuke that she kissed Naruto... Soon, all her feelings turned into rage as she clenched her fist and shouted, "Shannaro! I am going to kill Naruto!"

She immediately ran away to hunt Naruto down, leaving only a puzzled Sasuke who wondered, 'What the hell did Naruto do?'

Fortunately for Naruto, he managed to stay hidden until the break was over. Naruto sighed in relief and thought, 'I am safe! She won't hit me in front of Iruka sensei.'

Naruto sneakily entered his classroom at the same time as Iruka. Unfortunately for him, his squad was assigned to Kakashi, who showed up 3 hours late, giving plenty of time for Sakura to take out all her anger. When Kakashi finally showed up, he couldn't help but wonder what happened between the three of them.

Their introductions went just as in the original story. The only change was that Naruto spoke a bit about Fujin while Sasuke didn't have the burden of reviving his clan. He just wanted revenge on Itachi.

While having more kids survive gave Sasuke a sense of responsibility as he was the eldest among the survivors and their future clan leader, seeing all of them miss their families and suffer due to it also reminded him consistently of what Itachi had done. As a result, his desire to kill Itachi was even higher than what it would have been had he been the only survivor.

Fujin took a break in one of the patrol camps along the border with the Land of Rivers for the night. As he rested, he wondered, 'Tomorrow, Kakashi will be conducting the Bell test. I wonder how they will perform.'

After a few seconds, he chuckled and thought, 'Well, what does it matter whether you bring a needle or a pocket knife to a gunfight? Though Naruto is slightly stronger, Kakashi will still beat them with ease. I just wonder if he'll still use that legendary jutsu...'

The next morning, Kakashi once again made his Genins wait for several hours before showing up at the training ground. Just like the original story, Naruto tried attacking Kakashi on being taunted but was stopped easily. When Kakashi started the test, both Sasuke and Sakura hid themselves, while Naruto kept standing there.

Naruto grabbed his shurikens as he claimed loudly, "Fight me Kakashi Sensei. I'll take the bells in no time, believe it!"

Kakashi sighed as Naruto threw the shurikens. Naruto immediately weaved hand signs after throwing the shurikens and announced, "Wind Release: Projectile Control Jutsu"

The shurikens curved through the air and moved towards Kakashi from several directions, who still dodged them with ease while wondering, 'Lord Hokage said that Fujin guided Naruto for some time. But why didn't he tell Naruto to stop screaming the attack name? How is it supposed to hit an enemy when the enemy knows what is coming?'

Seeing that Kakashi dodged the shurikens, Naruto changed his hand seals and shouted, "Wind Release: Wind Retrieving jutsu"

The shurikens that were flying away suddenly stopped and began flowing back. At the same time, Naruto threw more shurikens towards Kakashi.

Sasuke and Sakura, who were observing the fight while hiding, had an annoyed expression when Naruto displayed his two jutsus. That said, they couldn't be faulted for it. While Naruto was initially hated for no reason, these two jutsus had given half of the village a reason to hate him!

Of course, since they already hated him, he couldn't see any difference. Fujin noticed it but he felt that it was justice in a weird way. So he didn't particularly care about it as it didn't affect him.

Hiruzen had received several complaints due to this, but he couldn't tell Naruto to stop pranking considering what his daily life was, and since he didn't actually hurt anyone. Not to mention, Fujin was the one who was teaching him the jutsu. That was another trouble he didn't want to poke needlessly.

Regardless of their annoyance, both Sasuke and Sakura were surprised to see Naruto surround Kakashi from all directions with shurikens.

Sasuke wondered, 'Since when did his control over the shurikens become this good?'

Meanwhile, Sakura muttered to herself, 'Since when did Naruto become so strong?'

The shurikens enclosed Kakashi and hit him moments later, covering his entire body with shurikens. A second later, a smoke cloud appeared and his body turned into a log. Naruto's eyes widened as he exclaimed, "When did he use the Substitution jutsu?"

He quickly looked around himself but couldn't see Kakashi. Suddenly, he heard a voice, "A ninja should always be aware of what is happening around him. Especially what is happening behind him."

Kakashi's hands were making the Tiger seal. Both Sakura and Sasuke immediately became tense on seeing that seal!

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Chapter 534: Who Attacked?

"Konoha's most secret and sacred jutsu! Thousand Years of Death!"

Kakashi hit Naruto with the hand seal and sent him flying. Naruto fell into the water while holding his backside. As he drowned, he thought, 'Not like this! I trained so much. I can't be defeated so easily. But how do I defeat him?'

Naruto made the Shadow Clone hand seal but stopped as his eyes widened. Naruto suddenly had an idea. He thought, 'Wait, I can only control a few Shurikens. What if all my clones control them as well? Also, I don't need to defeat him. I just need to...'

Immediately, he created several Shadow Clones inside the water and swam out. Naruto made small talk with Kakashi waiting for him to turn his back. As soon as he did, almost a hundred shurikens were launched from the water. At the same time, his clones jumped out as well, surprising his two teammates.

Kakashi turned around and noticed every Shadow Clone weaving hand signs. He muttered, "Hmm, impressive. However, it's still not enough."

Instead of dodging, Kakashi just grabbed the Shurikens one by one and threw them into the ground, ensuring that they stuck there. Naruto thought, 'Now!'

'Wind Release: Wind Retrieving jutsu'

He quickly weaved hand signs and used the jutsu on the bell. The bell was yanked from Kakashi and flew towards Naruto. Unfortunately, Kakashi disappeared and appeared next to the bell and grabbed it before it reached Naruto. He said, "Not bad, not bad. However, this isn't enough to be the Hokage."

Realizing that using Wind jutsus wouldn't help him much, Naruto shouted, "Let's just beat him up!"

Naruto and his clones engaged against Kakashi in Taijutsu. Kakashi easily dealt with him while observing his skills. He analyzed, 'Hmm, his Taijutsu is much better. It looks like Fujin sparred with him to give him some experience. And he has decent control over Wind as well even though he doesn't have any destructive jutsu. Fujin likely only wanted to improve his basics.'

Within a couple of minutes, all of Naruto's clones were dispelled while he too was beaten back. Kakashi asked, "Is that all you can do?"

Naruto wiped his face while thinking, 'I know Fujin asked me to not use them against an ally but he asked us to come at him with an intention to kill. Also, he is so strong, so it shouldn't be an issue, right?'

Naruto made another set of Shadow Clones who surrounded Kakashi and immediately jumped away, confusing Kakashi who wondered, 'What is he up to this time?'

His eyes widened as he saw every Shadow Clone grab a couple of Kunai that had explosive tags attached to them and throw them at him at close range. The Explosive tags all exploded at the same time, covering the area in dust and smoke!

Sakura watched with a dumbfounded expression as her eyes widened. She exclaimed, "Did Naruto blow up Sensei? And when did he become so powerful???"

Even Naruto was surprised by the degree of Explosion. He hadn't ever exploded so many explosive tags at the same spot. He thought, 'So that's why Fujin asked me to run away and to not use this tactic on an ally. How many dangerous techniques does big brother Fujin know? He casually told me about this idea while we were eating dinner!'

Kakashi, who hid some distance away, looked at the explosion with wide eyes as he complained, 'What the hell has Fujin been teaching him? If he used that against a fellow Genin or even a Chunin, they would likely end up dead! I was nearly caught off guard as well!'

For someone like Kakashi, dodging that wasn't a big deal. If he wasn't fighting newly promoted Genins, there was no way he'd be off guard. However, if Naruto used this tactic against an ordinary Chunin in this manner, very few would be able to stay unhurt.

It took some time for the dust and smoke to clear. Once it did, no one saw any signs of Kakashi.

Sakura thought in shock, 'Did Sensei really get blown up? Will I also be blamed?'

While Sasuke squinted his eyes and observed, 'There is no sign of blood. As expected, he got away. Still, when did Naruto become so strong? If he used that against me, I would have been injured.'

Naruto looked around while wondering where Kakashi was when his eyes landed on a bell lying on the ground next to a tree. He wondered, 'Did he drop it while escaping?'

He quickly went to pick it up. Unfortunately for Naruto, that was a trap and he hung upside down from the tree branch. Kakashi appeared and picked up the bell while lecturing Naruto again.

While Kakashi was having fun with his new students, Fujin reached Yamakawa town in the Land of Rivers. The Yamakawa family was one of the strongest families in the Land of Rivers. Their family Head ranked among the top 5 strongest ninjas in that country. In a major village, he'd be considered a veteran Jounin. As a result, they built an entire town away from the main village to strengthen their family further.

While the walls around the town were inscribed in several seals by a SealMaster, they weren't an obstacle for Fujin who entered the town easily. He used Transformation jutsu to disguise himself as an ordinary person and openly strolled through the town as he recalled all the information about this family.

As usual, he activated his Space Time Sensing Technique and his eyes widened momentarily. He looked towards the central mansion and thought, 'That's strange. 24 people are living underneath that

mansion. And it doesn't seem like a normal basement, rather they are a few floors underneath what would have been a normal basement...

Is Danzo spreading his wings or is someone taking inspiration from him?'

Fujin walked towards the castle without attracting any suspicion. When no one was looking at him, he suddenly disappeared underground and reached close to the underground base.

His eyes glowed as he noticed several seals covering that room and passageway to that location. He immediately became interested as he realized, 'It looks like Hiruzen's suspicions were on point. These seals have been inscribed by a Fuinjutsu Grandmaster! Sneaking inside will take a lot of time. If that Grandmaster is here, then that will be more or less impossible.

For Suna to put so much effort into this place, are they planning to create a secret outpost here? Hmm, yeah, the Yamakawa town is very close to the border with the Land of Fire. It will be the perfect place for them to rest after they travel through the vast deserts.

When they decide to attack Konoha, they can rest here until the time is right and then make a quick headway towards Konoha through the Land of Fire. They could sneak in small groups and later use Reverse Summoning to call a majority of their forces there. Alternatively, they could even cut through Konoha's Patrol squads. But that will be risky as messages could be sent.'

Fujin analyzed his observations for some time before sighing, 'For Hiruzen to send me here... It looks like Rasa is destined to suffer at my hands until his death... Still, I wonder how Hiruzen dealt with this in the original story. Kakashi will be teaching genins and Guy isn't a good option for a mission like this. Did he send Jiraiya? Or did Suna create a hidden base elsewhere because Konoha didn't destroy one of their bases earlier?

Oh well, it doesn't matter. I'll take this chance to study the seals for a bit.'

Coming across seals inscribed by a Grandmaster wasn't a regular occurrence. Every Grandmaster usually added their own twist to the seals. For someone like Fujin, who hadn't been a Grandmaster for long, studying them would help him improve much quicker.

Inside the room, there were 24 people. 22 were Suna ninjas while 2 were members of the Yamakawa family who the family head stationed for their convenience.

While Fujin was studying the seals, the Yamakawa family head appeared in the underground base and entered a room after knocking. Inside the room were a middle-aged man and an elderly man.

The middle-aged man, who was also an Elite Jounin, asked with a smile, "Hiromu-san, are the preparations complete?"

Yamakawa Hiromu smiled and answered, "Yes, Koichi-san. You can begin expanding this base in an hour. I have made all the preparations above. No one will suspect even if some disturbances happen as long as Okazaki-sama inscribes the seals quickly."

Okazaki was the old man who was also one of the few Grandmasters in Suna. Hiruzen never imagined that Suna would send one of their Grandmasters to this place. Grandmasters were something every village treasured. Sending them to a risky place was something they rarely did. If he knew, he would have sent Fujin much earlier and sent several Jounins to assist him.

Koichi said, "Good. We will get it done as soon as we can."

Hiromu said, "It has been a month since you started making this base. As per our deal, it is time for you to hand in the second scroll."

Koichi nodded and looked at Okazaki who handed a scroll to the Yamakawa family head. In order to make the Yamakawa family ally with them, Suna offered them a rank A jutsu for every month they stayed there. For a family with limited access to jutsus, this was a heavenly opportunity.

After thinking for some time and discussing the details with the Suna ninjas, Hiromu agreed to the deal. It was a win-win situation for both sides. The Yamakawa family got jutsus that could make them stronger and gain more influence in the Land of Rivers, while Suna got a safe base while only giving away jutsus that all the 5 Great Villages already knew how to perform.

Just as Koichi accepted the scroll, the faces of all three of them became serious as they looked above. In fact, they weren't the only ones who were surprised. Fujin was surprised as well as he wondered, 'What the hell? Who attacked the mansion before me?'

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 535: Wind Domain (1)

For the people living in the Yamakawa town, it had been a normal day like any other. Even though various schemes were operating underground, both figuratively and literally, they didn't affect the common citizens. Even in the Yamakawa family, very few were aware of the deal between Hiromu and Sunagakure.

Suddenly, several figures surrounded the central mansion and attacked it. At the same time, several figures appeared on the walls of the small town, completely surrounding it.

Yamakawa Hiromu immediately rushed out of the underground base. Koichi wondered aloud, "Who would attack them right now? Could it be Konoha?"

Okazaki shook his head and said, "That's unlikely. However, if they are the ones behind it, then this is a good thing for us. We could turn the entire Land of Rivers around them?"

Koichi nodded and replied, "Let's go and check out. If it is Konoha, then they might be after us as well."

Koichi passed some instructions to the remaining Suna ninjas and snuck out along with the Grandmaster.

Hiromu, who had rushed out without waiting, watched in shock as the majority of his family members had already been killed within a few seconds. His expression became extremely ugly as he noticed the culprit.

He thought, 'Puppets? It is Sunagakure's speciality. Don't tell me that those bastards double-crossed me. But why would they do that?'

The figures that attacked the mansion were all puppets! Fujin, who had exited the underground and was secretly watching the attack, was puzzled as well. He immediately activated his Space Time Sensing Technique. At the same time, his eyes glowed as he concentrated chakra in them.

He immediately noticed that all the chakra threads controlling the puppets seemed to be coming from just one place. And, there was only one disturbance in his field at that spot. Fujin wondered in surprise, 'To control so many puppets single-handedly... Sasori? Why is he here? Did someone pay Akatsuki to destroy this town?'

Fujin observed the area around the town more thoroughly and concluded, 'It looks like he arrived alone. Has Akatsuki still not recruited Deidara? There is just one other person hiding some distance away. It should be Zetsu or one of his clones...'

Standing outside the town, Sasori controlled all the puppets. The reason for the attack wasn't what Hiromu or Fujin speculated. While Sasori was locating Orochimaru, he discovered that some Oto ninjas visited the Yamakawa family secretly and repeatedly for some reason. He captured some Yamakawa family members but they didn't have any information.

It made him even more suspicious. He wanted to catch some Oto ninjas but they stopped showing up. As a result, Sasori decided to attack the Yamakawa family to provoke Orochimaru. If this town was important to Orochimaru, he would be able to lure Orochimaru out and kill him. If it wasn't, then he could just increase his puppet collection. Either way, it was a win for him.

Sasori never thought that this town wasn't important to Orochimaru and was instead important to Sunagakure who was his alliance partner. Nor did he think that Hiruzen also wanted the family destroyed.

The people in the town immediately began rushing to the bunkers for safety. In the castle, Hiromu destroyed a couple of puppets. A few others managed to destroy them as well, but all were stabbed by a few poisonous needles while doing so.

When Koichi arrived outside, he was shocked to see Puppets destroying the Yamakawa family! Koichi wondered, 'Did Lord Rasa change his min... No!'

Koichi recognized a couple of puppets and said, "Sasori of the Red Sand..."

Okazaki became serious as well. Neither of them understood why Sasori was the one attacking. Hiromu looked at the two of them and shouted, "You fucking bastards! I cooperated with you and this is how you repay me?"

Hiromu was about to attack the two of them preemptively when a few puppets attacked the two of them. Both immediately weaved hand signs.

'Wind Release: Blade of Wind jutsu'

'Earth Release: Earth Spikes jutsu'

Koichi launched several dozen blades of wind which cut through the incoming puppets and also deflected any needles they launched. At the same time, several spikes were launched from the ground and hit the puppets from below, ensuring that every one of them was dealt with.

Hiromu was surprised by the development. He didn't expect that the two of them would be attacked as well. Koichi and Okazaki had ugly expressions. Okazaki said, "It looks like he plans on killing everyone here."

Fujin observed as the chakra signatures in the castle kept disappearing. He wondered, 'Well, what do I do? He is doing my job for me... Should I just stay here and watch and collect the dead bodies after Sasori is done? The only issue is that Suna has poison that affects the brain. So, we won't be able to read any memories. There is also a chance that Sasori decides to take the bodies himself to make puppets... Hmm, should I just sneak attack Sasori when he comes to collect the bodies?'

Fujin thought for a few seconds before deciding, 'Sasori won't be a major headache for the future. There is no need to eliminate him now. Not to mention, killing him in one shot will be difficult and fighting him at close range will be tricky even with my Wind Domain. If I accidentally get poisoned, then it will almost be a death sentence...'

Fujin's eyes focused on a spot in the mansion as he continued thinking, 'It looks like Sasori can't kill everyone. At least not while he is staying outside the town. If the Suna ninjas run away, hunting them down will be a pain in the ass. Oh well, it's time to test this technique in an actual battle.'

Suddenly, Fujin started emitting chakra into the air. The chakra transformed seamlessly into the wind and mixed with the surrounding air. Despite being quite close to the mansion, no one detected Fujin's actions. It was as if nothing was happening there.

Sasori, who was still standing outside the town, realized, 'Hmm, there are a few strong ones. One of them should be the Yamakawa family head. The others might be related to Orochimaru. Since he doesn't want to show up, I'll add them to my collection!'

Sasori was about to move towards the mansion when his feet froze. He muttered, "What the hell is that chakra?"

He carefully observed and analyzed, 'This looks like Susumu's ability. Didn't he die a few years ago? Also, the amount of chakra Susumu used was pitiful compared to this. So who is it?'

Even though Sasori could sense the Wind Domain that was engulfing the mansion, he couldn't locate Fujin who was continuously emitting more chakra into the air.

Fujin's Wind Domain engulfed the mansion and even entered the underground base. Everyone was on alert due to the sudden attack and immediately realized the presence of a foreign chakra in the air. Koichi and Okazaki immediately disrupted their chakra flow to ensure that they didn't fall into a Genjutsu. In the base, a few veteran ninjas warned everyone to do the same as well.

Koichi cursed, "First Sasori and now Susumu? What is happening here?"

Hiromu heard his words and asked, "Isn't Sasori a rogue ninja from Suna? And isn't Susumu your Elite Jounin? Why the hell did they attack my family?"

Despite understanding that he was weaker, Hiromu was filled with rage and sorrow and couldn't think rationally. Sasori's puppets had killed everyone in the mansion! Unlike Hiruzen's order, Sasori saw no need to keep children alive. Other than the ones that had gone outside the mansion, every Yamakawa family member besides Hiromu was dead!

Okazaki answered, "We don't know either. This jutsu is used to cast Genjutsu. Prepare yourself against it. If you get influenced as well, then your family will disappear for good."

Hearing the word 'Genjutsu', Hiromu immediately disrupted his chakra. Sasori had stopped his attack as well due to the sudden change and was planning his next move when suddenly something happened that no one expected!

Blades of Wind appeared out of thin air without any sign or warning. Within the blink of an eye, all 20 Suna ninjas in the base were beheaded! Hiromu, who was disrupting his chakra, was caught off guard as well and died with his eyes wide open in disbelief!

Koichi and Okazaki managed to defend themselves, but were soon overwhelmed by dozens of Blades of Wind attacking them from every direction! They too died within a couple of seconds.

And they weren't the only casualty. Sasori watched in disbelief as several Blades of Wind suddenly appeared out of thin air and severed his chakra threads, disconnecting the Puppets in and around the mansion from Sasori's control! In an instant, Sasori lost control over most of his puppets!

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 536: Wind Domain (2)

Puppet Masters were generally known for having one weakness. That weakness was close combat. If someone good at Taijutsu got close to them, they could defeat them easily without letting the Puppet Master use their puppets.

However, there was another critical weakness that Puppet Masters had which wasn't generally mentioned due to the difficulty in exploiting it. That was the very chakra threads that they used to control the puppets. If those chakra threads were severed, they would lose control over the puppets and would be left vulnerable without their greatest strength.

Destroying the chakra threads wasn't very difficult either as it was just normal chakra and not some indestructible thread. While an experienced Puppet Master could ensure that the threads didn't break against an AoE attack, if the threads were specifically targeted, they would still break.

Of course, that was easier said than done as the puppets would be used to block such attempts. And even if you succeeded, the Puppet Master could just create new chakra threads and connect to the Puppet once more.

When Sasori's chakra threads were destroyed, he did the exact same thing. In less than a second, he created more chakra threads to connect to the puppets. Unfortunately for him, Fujin's Wind Domain was the perfect counter to chakra threads. Even before the chakra threads reached his puppets, they were severed by more blades of wind that appeared out of thin air.

Sasori cursed, 'What the hell is this ability? And who is the one controlling that chakra? Is it one of Orochimaru's subordinates or are some other forces present in this town?'

Despite not knowing the answer to those questions, Sasori didn't stop. There were more than 60 puppets trapped inside the Wind Domain. It was more than a fourth of his puppet collection that he had been working on for over a decade.

Sasori repeatedly attempted to take control of his puppets but failed each time. The Wind Domain, which was only around the mansion like a dome, began extending in Sasori's direction.

Sasori observed, 'It's like a branch extending from that dome. Whoever it is, should be inside that dome. Regardless, what does he want to achieve by extending that chakra here? Does he think that he can defeat me without even showing his face? Or is he up to something else?'

Sasori wasn't someone who'd lose control of his emotions just due to his opponents' words or actions. However, he hadn't ever been insulted to such a degree before. Even then, he patiently waited to see what his mysterious opponent was up to. In a minute, the Wind Domain had extended all the way from the mansion to Sasori who was standing outside the town.

Winds began moving at a rapid speed and took the form of a Dragon. Sasori wondered, 'The Wind Dragon jutsu? So this chakra can be used to create Wind jutsus other than Blades of Wind jutsu. Still, this Wind Dragon... As I thought...'

As Sasori observed the Wind Dragon, he realized that it wasn't a normal Wind Dragon. Instead, it contained several dozen blades of wind inside it. In a sense, it was a deadly combination of two Wind jutsus.

The Wind Dragon suddenly dived towards Sasori. Sasori immediately took a defensive posture and extended Hiroku's tail forward while thinking, 'Those wind blades might work against normal puppets. However, it is useless against Hiroku's defenses.'

Sasori was confident in his defense. The Wind Dragon hit him and all the wind blades were stopped. They weren't even able to scratch the shield on Hiroku's back. The remaining parts had some scratches, but they weren't fatal for the puppet. However, something happened that made Sasori feel a sense of dread!

He immediately flickered away along with the Hiroku puppet. He looked at the Wind Dragon, who had stopped attacking, with horror as he thought, 'It can cut chakra threads even when I am controlling the puppet while hiding inside it. If those wind blades accidentally enter my body...'

Sasori's entire body was a puppet. If the wind blades destroyed the chakra threads that were controlled by his core, then he could fall within the blink of an eye! Of course, Sasori doubted that the Wind Blades would be able to reach his core, which was indeed the case as Fujin couldn't create Vacuum blades with his Wind Domain yet, but he didn't dare to test it for no good reason.

Seeing that Sasori had moved away, the Wind Dragon stopped and extended its elongated neck in the sky. Unlike the normal Wind Dragon, which Fujin couldn't control much, he had complete control over the Wind Dragon in his Wind Domain. So it could do much more than just tackle or shoot a Wind Explosion Sphere.

It opened its mouth and exhaled a Wind Breath while moving its head slightly so that the Wind Breath would be able to affect a large area. Needless to say, the Wind Breath also consisted of several small wind blades.

While the Wind Dragon was keeping Sasori busy, Fujin created several clones. A few of them flickered into the mansion and sealed the dead bodies of Yamakawa Hiromu and the Suna ninjas.

A few others flickered around in the town to the ninjas whom Fujin had detected. They killed the ones who were from the Yamakawa family with Blades of Wind jutsu if they were alone. For the ones that weren't alone, they transformed into a random person wearing the Sunagakure outfit and headband and killed them in broad daylight, causing even more chaos in the town.

The remaining clones hid their identities and flickered next to Sasori's puppets that were lying around. One of the Shadow Clones observed the seals on the puppets properly and analyzed, 'I see. The puppets don't just have seals to strengthen their combat capabilities but also have several seals to help Sasori detect things happening around them. No wonder he can control them so well despite being such a long distance away.

He is probably aware that we are inspecting his puppets right now. And, this seal should allow him to detect the location of his puppets. However, this seal has quite a low range. Suppressing these seals and sealing the puppet up shouldn't be an issue. If I escape with these puppets, he shouldn't be able to track them unless I am missing something.

Oh well, I was always curious about using Puppets. I can't refuse such a generous gift, hehe.'

The other clones also noticed the same thing on the remaining puppets. Everyone immediately began working on suppressing the problematic seals so that they could store the puppets in storage scrolls.

Sasori noticed the incoming wind breath, grabbed a scroll and opened it. A puff of smoke appeared. A moment later, several iron particles rushed towards the Wind Breath and formed an iron wall!

Fujin looked in the direction of Sasori and thought, 'So he decided to use the Third Kazekage puppet? Annoying, but my Wind Domain can't be stopped so easily.'

Fujin emitted more chakra into the air. The wind dragon disappeared as the attack took the majority of the wind chakra in that area. The iron wall was able to withstand the assault and no wind blades reached Sasori. However, Sasori was still perplexed.

Instead of a new Dragon forming, the Wind Domain continuously extended in his direction. Sasori retreated while analyzing, 'If I enter that area, then he can form wind blades at will. I will lose control over the puppet once again. I need to attack the one who is controlling this wind.'

Sasori got out of the path of the wind domain that was extending like a branch and began moving towards the town at a fast speed. Fujin's Wind Domain didn't have any chance of catching up with him.

Fujin sensed his movements and a smile appeared on his face as he thought, 'In Akatsuki, Sasori is one of the most dangerous members. If I ignore the ones with Dojutsu, I'd say that Sasori is the most dangerous one even though Kisame and maybe Kakuzu are stronger. Unfortunately for him, my Wind Domain is the perfect counter for a Puppet Master. It makes him one of the easiest Akatsuki members to deal with for me!'

Immediately, another branch extended out of the Wind Domain. However, it wasn't moving towards Sasori but instead was quite far from him. While the first branch that had extended began cutting off Sasori's retreat. Instead of confronting Sasori directly, Fujin attempted to trap him inside the Wind Domain!

Understanding his intentions, Sasori immediately retreated once again. Fujin chuckled as he muttered to himself, 'What a shame. I thought that he wanted to gift me the Third Kazekage puppet as well.'

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 537: Second Strongest Puppet Collection!

Sasori, who had just entered the town, retreated once again and avoided getting trapped within the Wind Domain. He looked at the Wind Domain extending slowly towards him and muttered, "What a difficult opponent... How do I retrieve my puppets?"

Suddenly, Sasori became stunned. He sensed that his puppets were getting sealed! Within a few seconds, he became unable to sense any of his puppets that were trapped in the Wind Domain.

Sasori cursed, 'Which bastard wants to steal my puppets? What the hell has been happening in this town?'

Sasori was thoroughly confused. Everything was going well until the mysterious chakra appeared. After that, nothing made sense! He still hadn't seen who his opponent was and didn't know what his goal was. The only thing that he knew was that he was completely enraged!

Fujin saw a massive amount of iron floating in the air outside the town. He stored the scroll that his clone had just handed him while wondering, 'Does he want to destroy the town to force me out? Oh well, it doesn't matter. I already have what I want.'

Fujin had already gathered the dead bodies that Hiruzen had asked for and had also accepted Sasori's generous gift. He looked at the four Shadow Clones next to him and nodded. At the very next moment, Wind appeared around them and all 5 of them disappeared from the city.

Sasori immediately noticed the sudden movement and noted, '5 ninjas ran away using Wind Instantaneous Body jutsu. All are extremely good at it. I won't be able to chase them. However, the chakra is present in the town.'

Sasori felt in doubt once again. He analyzed, 'There are several possibilities. The ones who were controlling this chakra got afraid and ran away as they wouldn't be able to stop my attack. They left the chakra here as they can't take it back.

Another possibility is that the one controlling this chakra is still here and only his teammates ran away. Or perhaps the ones who escaped were just clones and the real one is still hiding here and wants to bait me. The opponent is so tricky that I can't even say which case it is... Even if I decide to chase, I can only chase after one and catching him will be difficult. And, if the puppets are still here or with one of the other 4, I'll lose my puppets!'

At the next moment, a rain of small iron balls showered towards the town. They pierced through every house in the path before reaching the mansion and wrecked it as well. The mansion collapsed within seconds. Everything within the Wind Domain was crushed.

Fortunately, the people had escaped into underground bunkers. Hence no one died other than a few who had heart attacks due to the sound of destruction above the ground and the tremors they felt. Sasori wasn't interested in killing common people. His attention was entirely focused on the Wind Domain.

Despite the destruction, the chakra was still present there. However, it no longer extended towards Sasori and just stayed in that location flying along the direction of the wind. The only strange thing was that despite all the winds, it still primarily stayed in the area around the mansion.

Sasori noticed it and analyzed, 'Something feels awfully fishy! It is almost like someone wants me to enter there...'

Sasori immediately controlled some of his other puppets and sent them into the Wind Domain. For the first time since the appearance of the Wind Domain, his chakra threads weren't severed. Yet, Sasori didn't lower his guard and only scouted the place with puppets that he could afford to lose.

Unsurprisingly, he didn't find any of his puppets. Sasori kept looking for around half an hour but his puppets didn't find anything. Since the chakra still existed, he didn't dare to enter inside. He turned around and stared at one of the White Zetsu's clones who was keeping an eye.

The White Zetsu immediately appeared next to Sasori who instructed, "You can absorb chakra, right? Clear out that Wind chakra at the center of the town. I want to study it."

White Zetsu nodded and got to work. A few meters under the place where the mansion stood until some time ago, Fujin's Shadow Clone let out a sigh and muttered, 'The experienced ninjas are too difficult to defeat. If it was Hidan or Deidara, neither would have been this careful. However, Sasori didn't even attempt to get close...'

Fujin's Shadow Clone had his Space Time Sensing Technique activated at all times. He could sense Sasori and Zetsu's movements without alerting either of them.

White Zetsu, who was absorbing some of the chakra from the Wind Domain into his body, was suddenly cut up into pieces as dozens of wind blades suddenly appeared around him.

Sasori looked at the White Zetsu's clone being dissected and thought grimly, 'As I expected! It was a trap to lure me inside!'

However, before he could do anything, Sasori was shocked once again. It was because wind blades kept forming around the Zetsu and kept cutting it up despite it already having been killed! It was as if the attacker wanted to separate every cell from its body!

Unknown to Sasori, that was exactly the case. While Fujin had sensed an existence and speculated that it was Zetsu, he didn't know whether it was the real Zetsu or just a clone. On the off chance that it was the real one, Fujin wanted to take the opportunity to kill Black Zetsu. Of course, he didn't think that normal wind blades would be enough to kill it. However, there was no reason to not try. As it is, there was nothing else he could do with that chakra.

Sasori just watched as all the chakra in that area was used up to brutally slice up Zetsu's clone. Within a few minutes, the entire chakra was consumed, leaving Sasori confused once again. He wondered, 'Why would anyone use up all the chakra to kill a mere clone?'

With the chakra gone, Sasori finally entered the central area of the town. He tried investigating but didn't find anyone. Fujin's clone had already dispersed himself. Sasori couldn't help but wonder, 'Who was controlling the chakra? Did the ones who ran away leave a mechanism for it to activate once when a living being entered it? Or is this some sort of weapon instead of a jutsu?'

Sasori didn't consider the prospect of a clone controlling it as it didn't make much sense for a clone to use up all chakra on just one intruder even after it was dead.

He became a bit perplexed as he muttered, "What of my puppets? I can't locate any of them!"

Sasori's puppets weren't ordinary puppets. They were human puppets and he had worked a lot on each of his puppets. Losing more than a quarter of them in one go was a substantial blow to him even though it wouldn't affect his fighting prowess much.

He thought, 'One of those 5 would have left with it. Finding them will be difficult normally as I don't have any information on them. Fortunately, the only information I have is a very unique one. I just have to find the appearance of this technique in other places and I will find clues to them. Once I find them, they will be good additions to my puppet collection!'

As for the one who had stolen Sasori's prized puppets in broad daylight, he was already a long distance away from the Yamakawa town. Fujin finally stopped moving as he received the memories of his Shadow Clone.

He thought, 'As expected, Sasori didn't chase after me. Well, even if he did, he wouldn't have been able to keep up with me. Now, what do I do about this?'

Fujin was looking at the scroll which held 64 human puppets. In less than an hour, Fujin had gone from having zero puppets to having the second-strongest collection of puppets in the entire ninja world!

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 538: Seeking the Serpent's Aid

Fujin looked at the scroll and analyzed, 'While I am quite fascinated with puppet mastery, trying to become a puppet master doesn't have much benefits for me. Though it is quite good, it is unlikely for me to raise my puppeteer skills to the level of my Wind jutsus. It also falls quite short of Flying Thunder God and Eight Inner Gates.

The only good thing is that learning it will be extremely easy for me. I can easily improve my control over chakra threads by spamming the Shadow Clone jutsu and I am already a Grandmaster in Fuinjutsu. More importantly, I have Sasori's puppets to study. I can easily learn the mechanisms of his puppets and raise my puppeteer skills to a very high level.

Within a few months, I can raise it to a level that would be below only Sasori and Chiyo's level. The only thing I lack is medical and poison knowledge. However, I am planning to study that as well. So I have everything I need to learn puppeteering.'

Fujin was in a strange situation. He didn't see much benefits to learning puppeteering. However, it was just too easy for him to master it with his current skills!

Fujin shook his head and decided, 'I will decide what to do after I improve my medical skills and learn more about poison. I have finally completed my training on Wind Domain and have mastered Flying Thunder God jutsu. Once I open the Fifth Gate, I'll ease up on training Eight Inner Gates as well. That will finally ease up my schedule. If I begin focusing on Puppeteering as well, then I'll be locked in another brutal training regimen for a few months!'

Fujin's time had been extremely tight for the last few years. He didn't want to go into such a tight schedule once again unless it was extremely critical for him.

Fujin analyzed, 'That said, there are some issues. For starters, the seals on these puppets... Even though I am a Grandmaster in Fuinjutsu, I can't look down on others. I can't even begin to imagine the seals needed to convert a dead human into a puppet and retain that human's skills and Kekkei Genkai.

Even if I don't learn puppeteering, I should spend the next few days learning the seals Sasori used. Of course, the bigger issue is if there are any seals in these puppets that allow Sasori to detect the location of his puppets over a long distance.

Though I suppressed the seals, I can't be too sure as there are too many freaks in Akatsuki. Who knows what else they know? In addition, Sasori made no effort to chase me at all. It's too big of a risk to leave these puppets in the Phantom Haven base...'

Fujin had the idea of giving these puppets to the Phantom Haven Society. If someone there had an interest in puppets and focused on it with dedication, the Fujin could raise an Elite Jounin in a very short time. However, if Sasori had any way of detecting the puppets and showed up there when Fujin wasn't present, the Phantom Haven Society would be history in no time.

Fujin didn't want to take such a risk. He decided, 'I guess there is no choice but to take them to Konoha. I'll give Hiruzen a few puppets and keep the rest to myself. Considering the level of these puppets, this might be a good opportunity to ask Hiruzen for another Forbidden jutsu. While I would like Edo Tensei, I doubt he will give it to me considering that he refused to share the Scroll of Forbidden Seals with me. However, getting that Forbidden jutsu might be doable.

Oh well, I'll do that. The only thing is that I will need to study the seals before handing the puppets to Hiruzen. That'll mean that I can't do the second mission that Hiruzen assigned me...'

Fujin thought for a few seconds before deciding, 'Oh well, that mission isn't compulsory. Hiruzen can just deploy some more Anbu squads and dig to the bottom of those incidents.'

Having made his decision, Fujin created several Shadow Clones. He created an underground base using the Earth Release Camp jutsu while his Shadow Clones inscribed several seals in the surrounding few kilometers to alert Fujin in case anyone came close to that spot.

In the base, Fujin created several Shadow Clones who immediately began studying Sasori's human puppets.

Fujin's concerns, though valid, were still unwarranted. Sasori had no way of tracking his puppets so far away from him. While Jashin might have seals that could do so, Hidan had no knowledge of it. And, Sasori won't let anyone else tag his puppets unless he had no choice. As a result, though Fujin was careful, he wasn't in any danger at all.

While Fujin was studying his puppets, Sasori returned to the Land of Rain and informed Konan and Pain about what he had encountered. Both Konan and Nagato were surprised to learn of such a technique.

Konan thought for a bit and asked, "Did your opponent use the Wind Vacuum Technique?"

Sasori answered, "No. If he did, I'd have connected the dots. Do you suspect that it is The Spectral Swordsman?"

Konan replied, "The way you described those 5 escaped is very similar to how Kakuzu described him escaping. Those 5 could have been his clones. Other than that, there is no other clue. However, he is still a suspect as he could have created that technique and used it for the first time. Anyway, I will ask Zetsu to keep an eye out for a ninja who can use such a technique."

Sasori nodded. He was about to leave when Nagato said, "You have been without a partner for a long time. Hunting Orochimaru alone is risky. We have found a new partner for you. Go along with Itachi and Kisame to the Land of Stone."

Five days later, Fujin stored the puppets back in the scrolls and exited the underground base as he thought, 'I guess I was worried for nothing. I didn't find any seals that could allow him to track me over long distances. That said, it'll be better to not take this scroll to the Phantom Haven base. Anyway...'

A smile appeared on Fujin's face. In order to create Human Puppets, Sasori had created several new seals that were probably unknown to anyone else. Thankfully, those seals weren't as advanced as the ones Jashin priests used and Fujin could study and learn those seals with some effort.

In addition, Sasori's utilization of the seals that Fujin knew was quite unique as well. It allowed Fujin to explore a completely different direction. While Fujin wasn't interested in walking down that path, it was still very helpful and gave Fujin several new ideas.

Fujin decided, 'After I visit the Phantom Haven Base, I need to find a few test subjects to test out the Eight Trigrams Divination Seal. Also, it is time to create Fuinjutsu Battlefields. I have been pushing it back for too long.'

Fujin began moving towards the location of the Phantom Haven base but suddenly stopped after a few minutes. He thought, 'Ugh, I nearly forgot! I have to bring some money along. I would have stolen from the Yamakawa family, but Sasori showed up!'

Fujin immediately changed his direction towards Tanigakure. Within a span of a few months, Tanigakure were in panic for the second time. A few months ago, Fujin and Shigeki had infiltrated the ninja village and killed a major family. The village had raised their defenses and made them several times more potent while the remaining powerful families were on alert.

Their situation was just like the situation in Konoha after Fujin destroyed the Root headquarters. Just when things had started to calm down, they received news of the destruction of the Yamakawa town!

Even though there weren't many civilian deaths, the Yamakawa family was wiped out! Apart from a few kids who weren't in the mansion, there were no survivors. The few ninjas who were present in the town informed them that they had seen Puppets attack the mansion and surround the town. A couple of them also reported that Sunagakure ninjas killed the Yamakawa ninjas and that the wounds on the Yamakawa family members were made by wind.

In a panic, Tanigakure sent several ninjas to the Yamakawa town and requested quick assistance from Konoha. When Hiruzen received the emergency request, he thought, 'Looks like Fujin did a great job. They are convinced that Sunagakure attacked them. But, how did he attack them with puppets? Did he practice puppeteering in secret? And, why did he kill the kids in the mansion?'

Hiruzen wasn't sure. Regardless, he quickly dispatched Guy and a couple dozen other ninjas to Yamakawa town to assist Tanigakure ninjas.

Unknown to Tanigakure, they had requested assistance from the very person who ordered the destruction of the Yamakawa family. And, the very person who carried out the destruction was leisurely strolling in their streets while muttering, "Now then, which are the three most corrupt Nobles here?"

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 539: A Sick Pervert

Despite raising their defense by several levels, Tanigakure would have never imagined that the culprit behind the previous massacre would still be able to infiltrate the village without alerting anyone. All the time, effort and money they spent improving the seals on their village wall was nothing impressive in Fujin's eyes. He only had to spend a couple of minutes more to be able to enter the village. If the leaders of Tanigakure knew that the culprit they were looking for in the Yamakawa town was roaming freely in their streets, who knew how much panic would spread among them?

It had been quite some time since Fujin was active in the Anbu. He needed a few minutes before he recalled the names of the most corrupt and scummiest Nobles in Tanigakure. In less than half an hour, Fujin entered their huge mansions and looted their treasuries without alerting anyone. While the Nobles were worried about what happened in the Yamakawa town spilling over to Tanigakure, they were oblivious to the fact that their treasuries had already been looted!

Fujin began moving in the direction of the Phantom Haven base while thinking, 'A little over 64 million Ryo... Not a bad howl from just 3 Nobles in a poor village like this one. If I had taken the jewellery and other ornaments, it could have been much higher. However, selling them could leave a trail. Not to mention, 64 million is plenty. I'll just loot more if more is needed. If there is one thing that no world lacks, it is corrupt scums sitting in the positions of authority. It's almost like an infinite source of money...'

Fujin chuckled while thinking how those 3 Nobles would react when they discovered that their treasuries no longer had any Ryo. Fujin continued moving while noting down the other corrupt nobles whom he had encountered during his time in the Anbu.

Other than the Land of Rain, where Nagato ruled, Fujin planned to loot Nobles from every other country, including the Land of Fire's Fire Capital if needed. Unless they made their Kage protect the scums among Nobles or hired Akatsuki for that job, Fujin didn't see any way they could stop or trace him.

This was the basic advantage that the strong enjoyed in such a world. It was also why Fujin never concerned himself much with money apart from the initial few years when he needed it for weapons and other basic necessities.

As Fujin reached closer to the Phantom Haven base, he took a slight detour and created a Shadow Clone with nearly 30% of his chakra and left the scroll containing puppets with him before continuing towards the Phantom Haven base.

Within a few hours, Fujin reached the valley. As he passed by the first Mini base, Fujin was surprised. His eyes glowed as he observed, 'Interesting. 8 people with Chunin level chakra, 1 with Jounin level and 26 with very low chakra in addition to the 3 whom I recognize. It looks like this organization has been growing well. However, it can also be because they used their contacts to recruit more. Regardless, this is good.'

Fujin was pleased. While it may seem like he put a lot of effort into the organization, in reality, he had put very little. Almost all the effort he put in was to create the philosophy of the organization. So, seeing the organization flourish without bothering him much was a good surprise.

Fujin moved past the mini base, reached the main base and entered it. The original members of the Phantom Haven Society were surprised to notice that the barrier was deactivated by itself! They immediately became very alert and relaxed only after seeing that it was Shiden. Shigeki, in particular, breathed a sigh of relief as he thought, 'Thankfully he returned quickly this time! I was worried he wouldn't show up for another couple of years!'

Fujin looked around the base. He could see that it looked much better now. In his absence, the infrastructure of the base had improved a lot. It was still very basic without any extravagant decorations, but it definitely was a major improvement.

Shigeki immediately went forward to welcome Fujin and said, "It's good to see you again, Shiden."

Fujin nodded and said, "It looks like you guys have been doing well."

Shigeki understood what he implied and asked, "Did you see the ones we recruited?"

Fujin nodded and said, "Yes. Tell me about them."

Shigeki informed Fujin about them. As Fujin had speculated, they were other ninjas from Tanigakure who had to face injustice and were close to some of the members of the Phantom Haven Society. Shigeki took advantage of the situation and recruited them.

Shigeki added, "However, after recruiting them, we don't have any leads on recruiting any more experienced ninjas. It'll be difficult to expand further in the future."

Fujin nodded. He knew that it wouldn't be easy to expand endlessly. Luckily, that wasn't his goal. He asked, "What about the kids?"

Shigeki answered, "While we were recruiting, we came across a small village that had been attacked by some rogue ninjas. Tanigakure didn't send any aid to them as they didn't have enough money to request a mission. We helped them to relocate to a nearby village and recruited 26 orphan kids."

Fujin said, "That's good. I know that we won't be able to recruit many experienced ninjas. However, we will train the kids with dedication. Ten years from now, we will have numerous capable ninjas to help us achieve our goals."

Shigeki and others who had arrived by then nodded. Having been in the Phantom Haven Society for the past few months, they understood that as long as they didn't face any external enemy, the Phantom Haven Society would soon grow very strong. Of course, once they grew to that size, they would inevitably gain the attention of some ninja villages. That's when they would be put to the test.

Fujin said, "You guys have done good work with the base. Have you been facing any difficulties?"

Hayato replied, "We have been running low on funds. Shigeki left the finances to me. I had been planning some more upgrades to the base, but we would have run out of money. In addition, we also have to take care of the kids."

Fujin asked, "How much will you be needing?"

Hayato answered, "We need another 20 million Ryo to complete the upgrades in the base. Once they are complete, the base won't have much expense. However, we had to spend nearly a couple of million Ryo while resettling the villagers. It will be better if we can have another 25 million Ryo. I will keep 5 million for any emergencies and the remaining will be used to resettle any villagers we rescue."

Fujin nodded and tossed Shigeki a couple of scrolls while saying, "These scrolls contain 50 million Ryo. Use it as you see fit. If you face a shortage while I am not present, you can take down any bandit groups and take their money. However, take care to not expose your movements to Tanigakure or any bounty hunters."

The former Tanigakure ninjas were surprised to see Fujin take out 50 million Ryo so easily. Hayato thought, 'It looks like he was planning to hand us this amount anyways. What does he do to be able to give us such a large budget? Unlike a ninja village, we don't have any businesses nor do we accept any missions or collect taxes.'

Though the money is good, being entirely dependent on the funds he gathers isn't a good thing. At some point, we will need to find our own streams of income. Otherwise, the Phantom Haven Society will have a very big weakness.'

What Hayato and others didn't know was that Fujin had directly stolen the money from 3 of Tanigakure's nobles. In fact, he had 14 million Ryo more. However, Fujin decided against handing the entire 64 million Ryo as the Phantom Haven Society needed to stick to a budget. If he kept giving an unlimited amount, then it would be inevitable for there to be a lot of splurging and no amount of money would be sufficient.

Shigeki said, "Thank you. We are facing another problem."

As he spoke, Shigeki's face displayed worry. He continued, "A formidable ninja arrived in the Land of Rivers around a month ago. His acts have been too evil. Wherever he goes, he captures people and buries them alive. Tanigakure decided to ignore all his actions as they didn't have anyone strong enough to deal with him.

I wanted to attack him with our forces, but it would be a close fight and even if we won, many of us would have died. Remembering your words, I decided against it and waited for you."

Fujin was surprised. He wondered, 'Burying people alive? Which sick pervert is that?'

He asked, "Who is it?"

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 540: Replacing Tanigakure?

Shigeki answered, "Raiga, one of the former members of the Seven Ninja Swordsmen of the Mist!"

Fujin was surprised. He wondered, 'What is he doing all the way here? If it's him, then could he also be the one behind those two missing Chunin squads that Hiruzen spoke about? Looks like I'll complete my second mission after all.'

Shigeki continued, "Raiga wields the thunderswords Kiba and is the boss of the Kurosuki family. From what we found out, he has several capable ninjas under him. So we won't be able to defeat him by outnumbering him."

Fujin nodded and said, "You made a good decision by deciding to not attack him. The members of the Seven Ninja Swordsmen of the Mist are generally much stronger than an average Elite Jounin. Tell me his location. I will look into him. No one else from Phantom Haven Society is allowed to attack him."

Shigeki nodded and informed Fujin about Raiga's location. Since the Kurosuki family was mining gold, finding Raiga was quite easy.

After noting down the information, Fujin said, "Alright. Let me meet the new members. I will apply the Phantom Seal on them so that they can enter this base as well. Others can wait here for us to return."

Fujin and Shigeki left. En route, Fujin asked, "How is your training progressing?"

Fujin was quite impressed with Shigeki the last time he sparred with him. As a result, he had given him some jutsus and a few tips. Shigeki answered, "It's going great thanks to you. I can now flicker without making hand seals though the distance is still quite short. I also learnt the Pressure Damage and the Blades of Wind jutsus. I am currently working on learning how to use the Blades of Wind jutsu without making hand seals. It will allow me to attack an enemy suddenly."

Fujin nodded and said, "Good work. Continue training your Body Flicker and Blades of Wind jutsu. Also, take a look at this book. It might help you become much stronger."

He handed Shigeki a book. Shigeki accepted and opened it. His eyes widened as Fujin said, "One of my colleagues had Wind and Water affinity as well. He spent several decades trying to fuse the two elements in order to create the Ice Release Kekkei Genkai.

Unfortunately, he didn't succeed. This book has all the information about what he did. You could use it to try and fuse the elements yourself. Perhaps, you might be lucky. However, do it only after you can't improve your Water and Wind Release anymore. After all, there is no guarantee that you'll be able to succeed in doing this."

Fujin had created a few copies of the book he had received from Konda Kunio in the Land of Frost. Since he didn't have a good Water affinity, the book hadn't been very useful for him. However, it was still a very valuable book. In the eyes of Shigeki, it was a treasure!

Shigeki immediately thanked Fujin and promised him to do his best to learn it. After receiving so much help from Fujin, he didn't expect to receive something so valuable. The two reached the mini base and Fujin applied the seal on everyone after a slight talk and explaining the Phantom Will to everyone. He paid special attention to ensuring that he made a lasting impression on the kids.

They transferred everyone to the main base. Fujin stayed for around half a day in the main base, ensuring that everything was functioning well. He inspected the newly constructed buildings and facilities and also checked out the library which had quite a few scrolls added as the members had added some jutsus that they knew but weren't in the library.

He also inquired about what they had come up with to collect information and gave some tips to improve and expand it rapidly. It was the aspect that he was the most interested in. The Phantom Haven Society already had created a small spy network.

However, it was very rudimentary and only existed in some rural parts of the Land of Rivers. Even then, this small spy network had already shown results! Shigeki and the others had obtained Raiga's information thanks to this rudimentary spy network. Even though the news made Phantom Haven members feel a headache, it was very beneficial information for Fujin.

After ensuring that everything was in order, Fujin left. He met up with his clone and took back the scroll before moving towards where Raiga was. En route, his appearance and physique changed, he changed his mask to a Demon mask and changed his cloak as well.

A smile appeared behind his mask as he thought, 'Raiga... Who'd have thought that he would come up here? I'm already receiving the benefits of having created the Phantom Haven Society. I wanted some solid swords for this identity. To think that I would receive two that would perfectly suit me. First the Blade of the Thunder Spirit and now the Kiba blades... Hehe, this identity is extremely lucky!'

Fujin began thinking about the Kiba blades, 'The Kiba blades are nearly the perfect blades for a Lightning user. In fact, it might be even better than the Blade of the Thunder Spirit. The Kiba blades are said to be able to control and manipulate natural lightning to an extent. They might be the perfect tools to create Kirin.

Just like the Blade of the Thunder Spirit, they also have an amplification aspect and hence require very little chakra. That said, I guess it will be inferior to the Blade of the Thunder Spirit in this regard. I guess using both swords together, the Blade of the Thunder Spirit for mid-range and the Kiba blades for close combat and long distance, would be optimal.

Oh well, let me get those blades first. Killing Raiga with my full strength wouldn't be an issue. In fact, it might be a bit too easy. Other than Kisame, none of the Seven Ninja Swordsmen of the Mist are my match. However, he will be a good opponent to test out my progress in Lightning. Since Akuro will be using those blades, it's best to take them using this identity.

That only leaves one issue... I don't remember properly, but I recall reading about Raiga having a kid with Kekkei Genkai just like how Zabuza had Haku. That said, I have no idea what that Kekkei Genkai actually is... Regardless, he could be worth recruiting to the Phantom Haven Society... But if I do that, the kid will be aware that Shiden and Akuro are one and the same...'

Fujin thought for a few minutes before deciding, 'Oh well, Shiden can't defeat someone like Raiga. I'll just need to apply several seals on the kid if I decide to recruit him. That way, he won't be able to tell anyone... Hmm?'

Fujin suddenly heard a scream. Fujin looked in the direction of the scream and his eyes glowed. He noticed several minute chakra signatures, meaning that they weren't ninjas. Fujin wondered, '44 chakra signatures... Is that a small village?'

Fujin flickered in that direction to check out what had happened. When he arrived, he was surprised. He muttered, 'Such a large bandit camp... I didn't pay any attention to it as I thought that it was a village!'

Fujin had sensed the camp from a long distance away. However, considering the number of people, he expected it to be a village and didn't pay any attention. It was only due to the scream that he paid attention to it.

Fujin couldn't help but think, 'Raiga and such huge bandit camps... Though my purpose for creating the Phantom Haven Society was extremely selfish, seeing the state of the Land of Rivers, it might be a very good thing for the people if Phantom Haven Society replaces Tanigakure.'

Despite the existence of a Rogue Elite Jounin, they didn't issue a mission to Konoha to eliminate him. And they are allowing such large bandit camps to thrive in their country. Even their leadership is extremely corrupt. In fact, it is probably the second most corrupt after Kusagakure.'

Fujin shook his head in disappointment. He muttered, "The next time I visit Tanigakure, I'll plunder it entirely."

Immediately, the Blade of the Thunder Spirit appeared in his hand. Several Lightning bolts moved towards the bandit camp. Before anyone understood what was happening, every bandit was knocked out due to being zapped by Lightning!

The 12 captive girls, who were being tortured were shocked to see the sudden change. It caused them to be even more afraid and become silent as something had knocked out the strong bandits that had been harassing their village for months.

Suddenly, a sound filled the air, "Get dressed and leave."

The girls didn't need to be told a second time. Everyone immediately got dressed and rushed out of the camp. They hurried towards their village. Fujin sent a Shadow Clone to take care of the few people he detected along the path the girls took in case they were bandits as well.

He looked at the bandits who were unconscious and muttered, "Looks like I have more than enough test subjects."