

Calamity 561

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 561: Categorizing Kekkei Genkai

As Fujin had expected, there were kids from the Yuki clan among the orphans. In fact, more than half of the ones whose bloodlines had been identified were from the Yuki clan. 3 of the 5 kids with Kekkei Genkai were from the Yuki clan as well and had Ice Release. It was the other two Kekkei Genkai that surprised Fujin.

Neither were native to the Land of Water. One had the Storm Release while the other had the Scorch Release, the Kekkei Genkai Fujin felt that he was most likely to learn.

Fujin thought, 'Weird... Why did these two Kekkei Genkai appear in the Land of Water? On second thought, it isn't too strange. After all, no matter how much a clan tries to keep their bloodline in their clan, there will always be a few in every generation who'd sleep around. Actually, it is a surprise that the genes aren't that well spread despite existing for centuries.

Regardless, Danzo is undoubtedly extremely lucky to get his hands on these two. Or rather, was lucky. Guess I should be glad for his luck. It might just give me the inspiration I need. Anyway, there aren't any kids from the Sakai or the Terumi clan as I expected. After all, both their clans are still quite strong and are actively fighting against the Mizukage faction.

There aren't any from the Kaguya clan either. Though there are 3 from the Hozuki clan, that clan doesn't have a Kekkei Genkai. Their clan is famous for their secret technique, but these 3 kids don't know that secret technique. So that makes them no different from any other kid...'

While Fujin and Hiruzen were conversing, all the kids were assigned their rooms. Two kids were placed in each room. As a part of Root's training, Danzo had ensured that each kid had a 'best friend'. Hiruzen naturally knew what Danzo would have eventually done. However, even though the kids were no longer in Root, Hiruzen didn't see any harm in letting the friendships continue and become stronger. If anything, it was beneficial.

Seeing that everyone had settled, Hiruzen said, "Fujin, I'll leave the rest to you. If you have any doubts or require assistance, you can contact Homura and Koharu. Both have more experience than me in handling such matters."

Fujin looked at Hiruzen skeptically. While he didn't doubt their skills, there was no way Hiruzen would lose to either of them in these matters. Fortunately for Hiruzen, Fujin didn't mind bothering them as well. He nodded and asked, "What about Naruto?"

Hiruzen answered, "I talked with the clan leaders and the elders. They don't have an issue with him moving in here. However, as you said, only do so if he gets along with these kids."

Hiruzen sighed internally as he recalled, 'To think that after so many years of unsuccessfully trying to put Naruto in a better place, the answer was so simple. Without Danzo's influence, it is much easier to get things done. Though Fujin was a huge factor as well.'

Even though most clan leaders sympathized with Naruto's situation, no clan wanted to see any other clan get a huge advantage by gaining control of the Jinchuriki. Under such circumstances, he would have normally been placed with the Hokage.

However, the Sarutobi clan already had a very large influence in Konoha and the Land of Fire. Hiruzen occupied the Hokage seat, his elder son was the leader of Anbu and his younger son was one of the twelve guardians of the Daimyo. In addition, due to the consistent wars, the Anbu forces Hiruzen controlled had grown stronger than most clans. Not to mention, Hiruzen had a deep influence inside other clans as well due to leading the village for so long.

Even in such a case, they would have come up with some arrangement for Naruto. Unfortunately, with Danzo working in the background and fanning the flames, that became impossible. Without a strong ninja, like Jiraiya or Tsunade stepping in to break the impasse and taking the responsibility, the situation stayed the same despite none of the involved parties being satisfied.

Hiruzen continued thinking, 'Unlike me, Fujin doesn't have much influence. Even though he has these kids under him now and represents the highest number of ninjas in the council, his real influence isn't that high. After all, he isn't their leader and there is no blood relation between him and the others.'

Where his actual influence lies is his strength and abilities. Combined with the fact that the clan leaders were sympathetic about Naruto's situation, there was surprisingly no opposition from them.'

Hiruzen was happy with how easily this matter was resolved. He was expecting Fujin to be happy as well, but Fujin just plainly replied, "That's good. I'll introduce Naruto to them the next time he shows up."

Hiruzen was a bit surprised but what he didn't know was that Fujin was sighing internally. Fujin thought, 'What a bummer. I was hoping that someone would oppose it. I could have got some entertainment in making them change their decision in a 'non-violent' way.

Sigh, I need a good fight soon. Raiga, though decent, wasn't good enough. He couldn't even force me to use my Wind jutsus... It's a shame that it is so difficult to get a fair fight with any rank S ninja...'

Seeing that Fujin wasn't saying anything, Hiruzen said farewell and left. Fujin returned to his house as well. There wasn't much for him to do. Instead, his mind began thinking about Kekkei Genkai. Fujin had been thinking about creating a Kekkei Genkai for a long time.

As he grew increasingly stronger, he no longer felt a very strong desire towards them. However, it was still something he would love to have. Getting access to kids who knew these Kekkei Genkai was a good opportunity for him.

He analyzed, 'Scorch Release, Storm Release and Ice Release...

It's a shame that my talent in Water manipulation is too low. Both Ice and Storm Release require water manipulation. Even though I have great control over Wind and Lightning, these two will be extremely difficult to create, though I still have some hope towards the Storm Release.

On the contrary, Scorch Release fits me perfectly. My talent in Wind manipulation is exceptional while my Fire manipulation ain't bad either. What's more, it is also one of the simpler Kekkei Genkai.'

When he was studying about Kekkei Genkai, Fujin had categorized them according to their complexity and how easy or difficult they would be for a normal ninja to master.

The first category was the simple Kekkei Genkai. Fujin had put Scorch, Storm, Lava and Steam Release. All these Kekkei Genkai were very straightforward. In fact, Fujin already had a small degree of success in two of these Kekkei Genkai.

Scorch Release just involved using fire and winds to amplify each other. Considering how compatible the two elements were, Fujin felt that it was probably the easiest Kekkei Genkai. Fujin could heat up winds within his Wind Domain using Fire. Even without Wind Domain, he could create Wind Explosion spheres that were made of extremely hot winds. It was his attempt at copying Pakura's technique. Unfortunately, he fell short in a very important aspect.

On the other hand, Steam and Lava Release worked by using Fire to evaporate the water and melt the rocks respectively. As for Storm Release, it involved manipulating Lightning like it was Water. With his control and with the help of the Blade of the Thunder Spirit, Fujin could control his Lightning to an extent, though it wasn't as flexible as what Darui could achieve.

The second category had the slightly more sophisticated Kekkei Genkai. It included Ice, Explosion, Wood and Magnet Release. Fujin understood the basic concepts of these Kekkei Genkai and knew their properties. However, what he couldn't understand was how exactly the elements would mix to create the Kekkei Genkai.

For instance, Ice Release was a combination of water and wind. However, unlike Lava Release, where he could clearly explain the functions and interactions of the two elements, Fujin couldn't understand how exactly Water and Wind would need to interact to create Ice.

Similarly, it was difficult to calculate how Wind and Earth together could replicate the Magnetic effect or how Water and Earth together could create Wood. How Earth and Lightning, two very incompatible elements worked together to create Explosion Release was also something he couldn't figure out.

For these reasons, Fujin considered these 4 Kekkei Genkai as more sophisticated as he had no idea how to begin working on them. While he did have some help in studying Ice Release due to that book, all it did was help Fujin eliminate some guesses as none of the methods mentioned in the book ever worked!

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Chapter 562: Categorizing Kekkei Genkai (2)

The third category had the Kekkei Genkai which seemed even more complicated and somehow had an effect on the user's body, increasing their difficulty level exponentially. Fujin included Swift Release, Steel Release and Dark Release in this category.

For Fujin, whose highest talents were in Wind and Lightning Manipulation, Swift Release should have been the easiest Kekkei Genkai to learn. However, unlike the Scorch Release where Fujin had limited success, he didn't make any progress whatsoever towards Swift Release.

Fujin could use Wind as well as Lightning to increase his speed. Despite that fact, he didn't even manage to conceptualize how to merge those two elements and create Swift Release.

It was the same for Steel Release and Dark Release. Unlike the Swift Release, Fujin didn't even know which elements were involved in creating those two Kekkei Genkai. The Konoha Library wasn't much help either. Fujin did have his own estimates, but he wasn't sure.

The fourth category included the Kekkei Genkai which were impossible to replicate by anyone without the bloodline. Those included all the Sharingan and its forms, Byakugan and its forms, Ketsuryūgan and Shikotsu myaku.

There was no way for Fujin to learn or create these Kekkei Genkai. He could still use the Doujutsus by stealing and transplanting the eyes, but he didn't see any way to replicate Shikotsu myaku.

In addition to these four categories, there were still a few more Kekkei Genkai about which Fujin didn't have any clear information. In fact, most of the ninja world didn't have much information about it due to how rarely they appeared.

They included Typhoon Release, Mud Release, Ranmaru's Kekkei Genkai, Jugo's Kekkei Genkai, Sakon and Ukon's Kekkei Genkai, Kurama Clan's Kekkei Genkai, Crystal Release and perhaps a few others.

Some of these were relatively easier. For instance, Mud Release could have been placed in the first category if there was more information on it as it was very easy to explain how to create Mud by combining Water and Earth Release.

Typhoon Release would have been easier as well if Fujin knew which elements merged to form it. Fujin speculated that it was a combination of Wind and Yang Release but wasn't sure. In addition, the effects of Typhoon Release didn't seem too different from Wind Release. Fujin could already replicate its effects with his normal Wind Release.

Crystal Release would have possibly been in the second category if Fujin knew which elements were involved. By comparison, Ranmaru's Kekkei Genkai and Sakon and Ukon's Kekkei Genkai were much more complicated. Fujin would place them somewhere between the Third and Fourth Categories if he knew more about them.

On the other hand, Jugo's Kekkei Genkai and Kurama Clan's Kekkei Genkai were strange. Kurama Clan's Kekkei Genkai was an extreme stage of Genjutsu. Though extremely unlikely, Fujin felt that even a normal ninja who was extremely talented in Genjutsu could eventually reach that stage without needing the bloodline. Similarly, Jugo's Kekkei Genkai was just an inferior form of Senjutsu. Anyone who learnt Senjutsu would be able to exceed them. So, Fujin wasn't sure whether it would be appropriate to call them Kekkei Genkai.

Fujin thought, 'Even though I can merge Fire and Wind to an extent, I can only do so out of my body. It is more of a combination jutsu rather than a Kekkei Genkai even though I can replicate some features. A true Kekkei Genkai should merge the elements even before they are released from the body. Though it seems the same, doing so will cause a qualitative change.'

After all, Lava Release users directly spit out Lava from their mouths instead of first melting rocks and creating lava from it. If they had to do the latter, then they would be a laughing stock in the ninja world instead of being a terror for weaker ninjas.

Unfortunately, no matter how much I thought, I couldn't get that merger to happen inside my body. Luckily, I now can observe someone who can use the Scorch Release. It might just be what I needed for a breakthrough in this aspect.'

A smile appeared on Fujin's face. He muttered, "I need to meet those kids tomorrow. Let me see what those Kekkei Genkai look like from a close distance."

The next day, Fujin woke up early as usual and completed his morning training routine. He decided to not train Spirit Transformation jutsu that day. Instead, he created a few dozen clones who continued working on the Fuin Battlefield. Meanwhile, he walked towards the training facilities where the Anbu were training the kids and silently observed everyone. A few people saw him but no one disturbed him.

For the next half an hour, Fujin just observed them. A peculiar expression appeared on his face as he realized, 'Hmm, they aren't as emotionless as I expected them to be... or rather, many of them are just pretending to act like they are emotionless without actually being emotionless. In fact, they even have friends. Did Danzo grow soft?'

Fujin didn't need to think to know what the answer to that question was. He thought for a bit and soon realized what he was missing, 'I see. I nearly forgot about it. During the initial phase, Danzo promotes friendship between the Root trainees. Only after they kill their best friend would they be considered emotionless enough to be able to become a full-fledged Root ninja.

Since this step wasn't completed, these kids aren't completely emotionless. Of course, they aren't completely normal either. However, that should be the result of a messed up childhood along with spending a year or more in the Root. As for why they are pretending to be emotionless, that should be Root's teachings plus them trying to follow the examples of Root's instructors.

Sigh, I should sponsor some therapists and maybe create a business from that. There is little doubt that it'll be one of the most lucrative businesses in this bloody world. Though I guess it'll quickly be hijacked and used to increase brainwashing.

Anyway, this is rather good news. Since Root didn't completely break them, these kids should recover in time. It'll also make it easier for Naruto to influence them. I need my prankster ninja army soon to ease my boredom!

Fujin suddenly flickered and appeared behind an Anbu Captain who was in charge of training the kids who had Kekkei Genkai. The startled Anbu Captain, wearing a monkey mask, quickly turned around only to hear, "I'll take over these kids for now."

Seeing Fujin standing behind him, he nodded and moved away. The 5 kids looked at Fujin curiously. Though Hiruzen had informed them about Fujin several times and introduced him last night, they had never interacted with him. They all were curious about the person the Hokage spoke so highly about.

Fujin looked at them as well. Among the 5 kids, 2 were girls and the remaining 3 were boys. Their ages were in the 7 to 10 years range. Seeing them observing him, Fujin asked with a chuckle, "So, will you guys introduce yourself or should I guess your names?"

Hearing Fujin's questions, the kids immediately began introducing themselves.

"I am Hikari", said a 9-year-old girl with long, flowing black hair. Her eyes sparkled with curiosity, and she wore a cheerful smile while introducing herself.

"I am Takeshi", said a 9-year-old boy with messy blond hair and sun-tanned skin, radiating a calm demeanor, his blue eyes reflecting a sense of maturity beyond his years.

"I am Yuji", said a 9-year-old boy with spiky white hair and dark skin. He exuded boundless energy as he constantly fidgets, his eyes gleaming with a mischievous glint.

"I am Shoma", said a 7-year-old boy who looked reserved and shy. He had sleek black hair, and his fair skin hid beneath his quiet demeanor.

"I am Sayaka", said a 10-year-old girl who looked confident and prideful. She boasted shoulder-length black hair that framed her determined face, and her fair skin complemented her assertive personality.

Fujin heard their names and thought, 'Hmm, none of them mentioned their family names... I guess Hiruzen instructed them to do so to avoid attracting obvious suspicions. Oh well.'

Fujin smiled and said, "Good names. Lord Hokage spoke quite fondly of you 5. Follow me. I'll see what you have learnt so far."

Fujin turned around and began walking outside as the kids followed him with curiosity. They also attracted the attention of other kids. Seeing that Fujin was leaving the training facility, the Monkey-masked Anbu captain flickered next to him. He had heard what Fujin had said and became worried that Fujin might accidentally expose their abilities.

He said softly, "Lord Hokage advised against letting them fight in the open."

Fujin nodded and said, "I know, don't worry."

Fujin led the 5 kids out and entered the Training Ground opposite his house. Fujin had long placed seals throughout the training ground. So, there was no worry about anyone other than Hiruzen spying. In addition, since he became a Council Member, others stopped moving through that Training Ground as well.

The only one who would frequently visit the Training Ground was Naruto. However, Naruto was being put through the grinder by Kakashi. Kakashi gave his 'energetic' students no break and put them through training of similar intensity for the second day as well. Despite their bodies being extremely sore and aching everywhere, the three Genins dragged their feet afraid of the fearsome Thousand Years of Death jutsu!

So, there wasn't any chance of anyone intruding on the training ground unless Hiruzen sent a messenger. Fujin stood opposite the 5 kids and said, "Come at me with all you got. Don't hide anything, including your Kekkei Genkai."

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Chapter 563: Displaying Kekkei Genkai

"Come at me with all you got. Don't hide anything, including your Kekkei Genkai."

The eyes of the 5 kids widened slightly. They were under strict orders from Hokage to not expose their Kekkei Genkai to anyone except their trainers. They weren't sure if Fujin knew about it or not. To their surprise, he did.

Being the oldest among the 5 and being the unofficial leader, Sayaka said, "Lord Hokage told us to never expose our Kekkei Genkai. If we use it here, others might see."

Fujin replied, "It's fine. You can use them when I allow you to use them. No one will see it here when I am with you. Of course, you shouldn't use it if there is someone else along with us here but it's fine for now. Any more questions?"

The 5 kids shook their heads. Fujin said, "Good. Come at me with the intention to kill. We start NOW!"

As soon as they heard Fujin shout 'now', all 5 grabbed shurikens and threw at Fujin in one smooth action without any hesitation. Unlike the normal academy students and newly graduated Genins, they didn't have any qualms about trying to kill.

Fujin's right eye twitched at that sight as he muttered to himself, 'The time they spent in the Root wasn't entirely wasted.'

The shurikens ripped through Fujin, or rather his after image which dispersed moments later. Instead, they saw him standing a few steps to his right.

However, all the 5 kids had expected it. While they didn't know exactly how strong Fujin was, all of them knew that he was one of the few Elite Jounins in Konoha. Though they weren't sure how strong Elite Jounins were either, they knew that he would at least be stronger than their teachers.

Even before the Shurikens reached Fujin, four of them had grabbed their tanto and all 5 of them rushed towards Fujin. Sayaka was taking the lead. Just behind her were Yuji, Takeshi and Hikari who were moving together. Shoma was moving behind them. He was the only one not holding a tanto. Instead, he weaved hand seals which Fujin identified at a glance.

Sayaka reached Fujin and stabbed her tanto towards his heart. However, a sword appeared in Fujin's hand and blocked the tanto. Sayaka was about to follow up with a few kicks, but her eyes widened as she was suddenly flung backwards by a few dozen meters as Fujin swung his blade. She thought in disbelief, 'What strength!'

Fujin didn't have any time to check on her as the next wave of assault reached him. Yuji attacked Fujin's neck, Takeshi attacked his legs while Hikari moved around Fujin and tried to stab him in his back.

Fujin was impressed by their teamwork. He thought, 'Not bad. At least in terms of formations and teamwork, they are far ahead of the Academy kids. Even among Genins, very few would match them. That said, this isn't exactly what I wanted to see.'

Fujin stepped a few steps backwards, creating distance between him and the two boys and not letting Hikari move behind him. He used his sword to divert her tanto and slapped her away with the flat side of his sword.

In one smooth motion, he changed the direction of his sword and swung it at Yuji who had jumped in the air. In a panic, Yuji stopped his attack and tried to defend himself. Though he saved himself, he was sent flying just like Sayaka.

Despite sending Yuji flying, his sword continued its fluid motion and hit Takeshi's tanto, knocking it out of his hand. A moment later, a kick landed on Takeshi's abdomen, sending him flying for a few meters as well. At the same time, chakra began flowing through his sword.

'Wind Release: Air Bullet jutsu'

From a very close distance, Shoma shot 4 Air Bullets at Fujin. To Shoma's surprise, Fujin's blade cut through the Air Bullets and dispersed them! He questioned in disbelief, 'Air bullets can be cut with a sword???'

Suddenly, Fujin disappeared and appeared right in front of him. Shoma heard, "I guess it'll be unfair to the others if you are the only one who isn't sent flying. Sorry kiddo."

Before he could react, Fujin flicked his forehead, sending Shoma flying just like the others. The entire exchange was extremely quick. From the time Fujin sent Sayaka flying until he sent Shoma flying, not even a couple of seconds had passed. In fact, Sayaka landed on the ground after Shoma was sent flying.

Fujin analyzed, 'They lack in power... But that's understandable considering their young age and the relatively low training time. After all, it should have been just over a year since Danzo began training them. He did a damn good job for sure.'

Though they are lacking in power, their speed is decent. More importantly, they attacked me in a very tactical manner. A normal Chunin would have likely not survived unless he retreated immediately.'

While Fujin was analyzing them, the 5 kids got back to their feet. Though Fujin had sent them flying, none were injured as Fujin didn't intend to injure them. At most, there were some stinging sensations. Even so, all were shocked at how easily they were sent flying.

Sayaka thought, 'Even our instructors struggle a bit against this formation. How did he stop it so easily? Is this how strong an Elite Jounin is?'

Fujin could see the disbelief on the faces of the 5 kids. He smirked and taunted, "Is that all you can do? I have to admit, I expected more from you kids considering how impressed Lord Hokage was with you guys. But so far, I am disappointed."

Fujin's taunt immediately had the intended effect. All 5 kids were riled up. While Root ninjas generally had very good control over their emotions, these kids were trained for just a year and didn't have the same control as the veterans in Root. Sayaka weaved a hand seal while cursing, 'This arrogant asshole!'

'Ice Release: Ice Sword jutsu'

Two swords made of ice formed in her hands. She shouted, "Attack Formation 3!" and rushed towards Fujin. The others got into action as well. Fujin had sent everyone flying in different directions, which helped them use their formation.

Yuji and Takeshi weaved hand signs while getting in position. Meanwhile, Shoma and Hikari moved farther away from Fujin in opposite directions.

Fujin noticed their movements but his mind was more focused on observing the ice sword as he thought, 'Finally some Kekkei Genkai.'

He raised his sword to block the ice swords when he noticed small spikes forming on the ice swords.

'Ice Release: Ice Petals jutsu'

When she was a few meters away from Fujin, Sayaka swung her ice swords in his direction. Immediately, around a dozen ice darts were launched towards Fujin. Fujin instantly flickered a few meters away, dodging the ice darts.

Despite dodging by a comfortable distance, Fujin felt a cold breeze due to how cold the ice darts were. He analyzed, 'Impressive. If I had defended using Iron Skin jutsu, even though darts wouldn't have pierced my body, the cold itself would have damaged my body to an extent.'

Fujin's eyes turned from Sayaka to Yuji as Yuji fired a bolt of Lightning at Fujin. Fujin flickered again but the bolt of Lightning took a hard right turn and followed to his new location, forcing him to flicker again.

A grin appeared on Yuji's face as he thought, 'You can't escape from my Lightning! No one can move as fast as Lightning. I'll chase you until it hits you.'

Meanwhile, Fujin analyzed, 'So, this is the Storm Release. I did see Darui use it, but our fight was very brief. Though Yuji's power in the Lightning isn't very impressive, his control is very good. Even my control over Lightning is nowhere near as good as his.'

Fujin continued flickering. The smirks that had formed on the faces of the kids faded away. A frown formed on Sayaka's face as she wondered, 'I am supposed to assist Yuji with Ice Petals. But, how can I do so when I can't even follow his movements? We need to send him close to Takeshi!'

Yuji was stumped as well. He thought, 'Even though no one can move as fast as Lightning, I can't follow his movements. He flickers right when I change the direction of my Lightning bolt. I won't be able to hit him at this rate.'

Similarly, Shoma and Hikari were serious as well. According to their tactic, they would follow up if the initial attack failed. However, they couldn't even follow Fujin's movements!

Even so, the kids didn't give up. Yuji continued attacking Fujin while Sayaka launched a few rounds of Ice Petals by estimating Fujin's location. After dodging a few times, Fujin understood their intentions and thought, 'They want to divert me towards Takeshi. Let's see what they are planning.'

Since they were unable to divert him towards Takeshi, Fujin himself went towards him. As soon as Takeshi saw Fujin coming close, he grasped his chance.

'Scorch Release: Extremely Steaming Murder jutsu'

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Chapter 564: Should I train them?

As soon as Fujin stepped close to Takeshi, one flaming orb formed in his hand. He threw it at Fujin. Fujin immediately felt an intense heat. At the same time, Sayaka launched another round of Ice Petals and Yuji diverted the Lightning bolt towards Fujin once again.

Fujin nonchalantly observed the three attacks while analyzing, 'So the other two have Ice Kekkei Genkai. Can they perform Ice Release jutsus as well or can only that girl do so?'

Fujin's entire body suddenly became black as he used the Iron Skin jutsu. The flaming orb hit Fujin. He felt an intense heat from the orb. The grass and trees in the vicinity caught fire. Moments later, the Lightning bolt hit him. Having an advantage over the Earth Release, it pierced through the Iron Skin and hit him. A second later, a few Ice Darts hit his back and pierced into it as his Iron Skin jutsu was weakened due to the Lightning bolt.

The 5 kids were surprised. Takeshi, who was the closest, wondered, 'How did we manage to hit him? Also, why isn't he showing any pain on his face? Shouldn't he be getting burnt and frozen at the same time?'

He received the answer quickly as 'Fujin' disappeared in a cloud of smoke. Immediately, they thought, 'A Shadow Clone! When did he switch with a clone? Was it when he was moving rapidly?'

They immediately looked around but saw no sign of Fujin. Hiding among the trees, Fujin saw the 5 kids and analyzed, 'Hmm, not bad. Not bad at all. The Iron Skin jutsu isn't very effective against Kekkei Genkai. Though it can normally resist a Fire-Wind combination jutsu, my clone felt a burning sensation from inside his body. If it was my actual body, my insides would have probably been cooked.

Similarly, though it could've blocked the ice darts, it couldn't keep out the cold that my clone felt due to the ice. It would make movement difficult. Sigh, though their advantage isn't as broken as Naruto's, having a Kekkei Genkai is still a massive boost for any ninja. They'll have it much easier to become an Elite Jounin and will have an advantage over other Elite Jounins due to the Kekkei Genkai alone. That said, Rank S is a whole different game. It's tough to say whether they would reach that level.

Anyway, let me see whether they can do anything else.'

The 5 kids had gathered together since they couldn't find Fujin. Shoma was standing in the center with his eyes closed while the other 4 were standing with their backs to him and looking in every direction.

Shoma muttered, "I can't sense him at all. It's as if he isn't in this training ground at all!"

Yuji replied, "Why would he leave us here and escape? He might be hiding. Keep sensing. You might sense him when he makes a move."

Sayaka added, "He's right. Keep looking, Shoma. He might be staying just outside the range of your chakra field. Others be prepared to fight when he appears..."

Before she could complete her sentence, all 5 felt something and looked towards the ground. Their eyes widened as they saw two hands popping out of the ground. They grabbed Yuji and Shoma's legs.

'Earth Release: Headhunter jutsu'

Both Yuji and Shoma were forcefully dragged inside the ground, leaving only their heads above the ground. The other 3 jumped away instinctively as Fujin appeared right between them. Shoma looked shocked as he questioned, 'How did he appear under me without me detecting him?'

Fujin said, "Not bad, but is this all you can do?"

Seeing him standing right in between them without any worry, Sayaka shouted, "Hikari, let's do it!"

Both Hikari and Sayaka weaved hand signs. Takeshi moved back while weaving hand signs as well. However, he was constrained as Fujin was standing next to Shoma and Yuji who were buried helplessly. He couldn't use Scorch release as they would be hit as well.

'Ice Release: Ice Mirror jutsu'

Two ice mirrors formed simultaneously, one in front of Sayaka and another in front of Hikari. Both jumped into the ice mirror, causing some of Fujin's memories to resurface. He looked at the mirrors and thought, 'Hmm, just one mirror each. Haku can create enough ice mirrors to form a dome to trap others. Still, this is a good start. There is no reason why they can't train to reach that level. Though they will need to think of a way to prevent their enemies from escaping underground.'

Sayaka and Hikari looked at each other and nodded. An ice sword appeared in their right hand. At the same time, they exited the ice mirrors. In fact, they were jumping into each other's ice mirrors. More importantly, their speed was phenomenal! The two girls intended to slice Fujin with their swords while they were in between the jumps.

Unfortunately for them, Fujin was quite aware of the capabilities of the Yuki clan. Right when the girls jumped from the mirrors, a massive amount of wind blasted from his back. It hit Hikari and slowed her before blasting her behind for a hundred meters.

At the same time, Fujin moved forward at a speed that was considerably superior to the two girls. Sayaka didn't even see him and directly felt a hand on her throat. She was grabbed mid-jump and slammed into the ground.

The poor girl didn't even understand what had happened. She blanked out for a few seconds while wondering, 'What the hell happened? Who grabbed me in between my jump and slammed me to the ground?'

Less than a quarter of a second after Sayaka was slammed into the ground, Takeshi heard a voice behind him, "Are you planning on doing something or will you just spectate?"

Takeshi was startled. He immediately tried moving away and turning back, but he felt two fingers jab into the back of his neck as Fujin said in a monotonous tone, "Too slow, you are already dead."

The way Fujin said it scared Takeshi. As he felt the pain in his neck, he thought for a moment that Fujin was trying to kill him and immediately held that spot. Only after a couple of seconds, he realized that Fujin only meant it figuratively.

Seeing his reaction, Fujin chuckled and said, "That's plenty for today. Help your friends out and come and see me together."

Takeshi nodded and went to help others. Sayaka and Hikari were fine and were just stunned due to the sudden change while Shoma and Yuji were stuck in the ground.

Fujin observed them while thinking, 'Their talents are definitely very high. Little wonder considering that all of them have awakened their respective Kekkei Genkai. They are already stronger than a typical Genin. They could be considered as Low Chunin level, though they could win against stronger Chunins if they can surprise them with their Kekkei Genkai.'

Considering their age, this is very good. If I train them properly, most of them will reach the Elite Jounin level or at least close to it in three years. The only one doubtful is Shoma as he is much younger than the rest. Regardless, by the time of the Fourth Great Ninja War, there will be at least 4 Elite Jounins among them. Though very unlikely, even a rank S ninja can appear.

The important question is... Should I train them?'

Fujin was in a dilemma. Accepting students was a huge task and needed a lot of time. It was one of the main reasons why he refused to become a Jounin sensei when Hiruzen asked him. He just didn't have the time to watch after Genins.

However, it was different with these kids. They weren't Genins. He didn't need to take them to do missions. Fujin could train them as he wished and could delegate the training to his clone while he continued his own training. In addition, he could make use of the Anbu Hiruzen had sent to take care of the boring or time-consuming training sessions. So, it wouldn't take a significant amount of his time. The only question was whether he would benefit by taking them under his wings and how much.

Fujin kept thinking while Takeshi and the rest dug out Yuji and Shoma. After a couple of minutes, he sighed and thought, 'I had decided against getting into political conflicts after getting a seat on the Council as there isn't much benefit to gain in a short time. However, I have a feeling that I will be dragged into some political battles irrespective of whether I want to or not...'

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Chapter 565: Fujin's first official students!

Fujin recalled, 'Danzo already tried to drag me into a political battle once. Fortunately, I could make him pay dearly. It also allowed me to make the clan leaders owe me one.'

That said, I can't take all the credit as there is one big factor that has given me an unfair advantage. That factor is Hiruzen. Even though he didn't do anything on the surface, Hiruzen completely supports me right now. He was the one to add me to the council and also the one to generally support my ideas even if they aren't implemented yet.

Even if he doesn't say anything, there is little doubt that every council member can see that he backs me. It is the main reason why Danzo didn't go overboard and no one else is bothering me. It is also the main reason why no one else has tried to make a move against my seat or tried giving me a headache.

However, if Hiruzen dies and Tsunade replaces him, then I won't have that protection. Once that happens, I'll be dragged into politics slowly, one step at a time. With time, it'll only become intense.

Granted that I could just take a step back as I don't have much to gain politically, but that will create a situation where others think that I am easy to push around. Not something that I want to see as it'll just keep increasing my troubles until I decide to push back. The only way to deal with it would be to make the one who makes the first move pay dearly just like Danzo.

However, I can't rely on brute strength every time. After all, why would anyone engage against me in an actual fight when they know how strong I am? They will use schemes that don't involve fighting. If I use the Akuro identity again to flip the chessboard, then everyone will inevitably begin suspecting me even if they don't have any proof. After all, they aren't stupid and Danzo will connect the dots as well. So, I will have to do a political counterattack.

But to do that, I'll need more influence in the village. And, I need to start increasing it while Hiruzen is still alive so that I don't face heavy opposition while I try to do so.'

Fujin's eyes wandered on the 5 kids. He thought, 'Since Hiruzen has given me such a gift, then I might as well take complete advantage of it. I guess the reason why he put these kids under me is the same as well. He probably realized that I wouldn't have enough influence in the future once he gave up his hat or kicked the bucket and hence, he decided to take advantage of the Danzo's situation to strengthen my influence.'

The 5 kids finally began walking towards Fujin. All of them were covered in dust and soil. Fujin finally made up his mind, 'Alright, I will accept these 5 as my students. I'll also increase my influence over the other orphans. They can all believe in the Will of Fire as much as they want. However, as long as the village isn't at risk, they have to take my side and support me.'

Of course, this won't be enough. After all, it'll take years for these kids to mature. I'll need to increase my influence among Konoha's ninjas as well. Fortunately, I have just the thing to do so...'

The 5 kids finally reached Fujin and stood in front of him. To Fujin's surprise, there weren't any complaints in their eyes despite Fujin defeating them in such a manner. Instead, there was some admiration and respect as they understood how strong Fujin was to defeat them so comprehensively.

He quickly realized, 'Looks like having a terrible background followed by training in Root and brainwashing with Will of Fire diminishes one's sense of unfairness. Hmm, it's sort of the same as Naruto.'

Fujin said, "Not bad. I can see why Lord Hokage spoke highly about you five. That said, there is still a lot of room for improvement. I am sure our fight made you realize that."

The five kids nodded. Due to having Kekkei Genkai, they were always given priority in training. They also had a few attack formations which could keep a Jounin on his toes. However, getting wrecked by Fujin made them understand that they still had a very long way ahead.

Fujin said, "I already saw some of your skills during the fight. Tell me which other techniques and jutsus you know. If you have some special skills, tell me those as well."

Since Fujin was the one who would be responsible for them from here onwards, the five of them informed him about their abilities. They were pretty much in line with what Fujin had predicted. Fujin asked them several questions to get a better understanding of their abilities. His questions made them think a lot as well.

The youngest, Shoma, was a sensor. Though he could create Ice, he couldn't perform any Ice Release jutsus. However, he could use some Wind and Water Release jutsus.

Similarly, Sayaka and Hikari could use some Wind and Water Release jutsus as well. Both could create Ice Swords and one Ice Mirror. Sayaka could also use the Ice Petals jutsu which allowed her to fire Ice Darts from the Ice Sword or even without it. Hikari was still training that jutsu.

Takeshi could create just the flaming orbs with Scorch Release. If someone got hit by it, the flaming orb would burn their skin and evaporate all the water inside their body, burning them inside out. In addition, he knew some Fire and Wind Release jutsus.

Quite similar to Takeshi, Yuji could only control one Lightning Bolt with Storm Release. He was working on increasing the number of Lightning Bolts he could control. In addition, he knew some Lightning and Water jutsus.

In addition, all 5 kids knew the Body Flicker jutsu, though none of them could do so without using hand seals. They knew the three basic jutsus from the academy. They were decent with Shurikens and Kunai and could also use the Tanto effectively.

Despite their individual strengths, both Danzo and Hiruzen seemed to have given more importance to operating together. Due to that reason, they had a few more good formations and very good teamwork.

Fujin thought for a bit before muttering, "Your basics are good, but you guys are lacking in some aspects..."

He pretended to think very deeply. Seeing his serious expression, the 5 kids didn't disturb him. Instead, they just wondered where they were lacking.

Suddenly, Fujin looked into their eyes and asked, "Do the 5 of you want to be my students? I have a feeling that you can become much stronger than what you can think about."

The sudden question surprised the 5 kids. Neither of them had expected Fujin to suddenly say something like that. One moment he was discussing their abilities and pointing out their shortcomings, and the next moment he asked whether they wanted to be his students.'

The five of them exchanged glances. Even though they were initially in the Root under Danzo and later looked after by Hiruzen, neither Danzo nor Hiruzen had trained the kids themselves. The ones who taught them were considerably weaker than Fujin. Not to mention, Fujin was already pointing out the inefficiencies in their training which made them think further.

That said, their minds weren't thinking entirely logically. There was an emotional aspect as well. Not too long ago, they were living an extremely difficult life in the war-torn Land of Water. Three of them were orphans and had to fend off the scary world by themselves.

The remaining two were living in extreme poverty despite having parents. And, they still remember the deaths of their parents. Of course, they were unaware that Root was behind the death of their parents instead of Kirigakure whom they blamed. However, that memory was still fresh in their minds.

Even though they found a new home in Root which treated them well and later found a Grandfather-like figure in Hiruzen, it was the first time someone had tried to create a personal relationship with them.

Unlike Danzo, who categorically stated that they would become Root ninjas in the future, and Hiruzen, who said that they would join the Anbu in the future, Fujin didn't put any conditions or mention any expectations with his offer. Instead, he only specified that he could make them much stronger.

While their young minds weren't able to process this difference, they somehow instinctively felt it. As a result, the emotional impact of his words on them was far greater than Fujin had thought of.

So, be it emotionally or intellectually, accepting Fujin's offer made the most sense to them. Looking at each other, they nodded. In one voice, they answered while bowing slightly, "We will be honored to be your students."

A smile formed on Fujin's face. He replied, "Good."

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 566: This world still has some kindness!

A smile formed on Fujin's face as he just got 5 students who had a Kekkei Genkai. Fujin couldn't help but think, 'Until a little while ago, I didn't have contact with anyone who had a Kekkei Genkai other than Sharingan or Byakugan. And out of the blue, I now have 6 subordinates who have Kekkei Genkai, giving me an invaluable opportunity to observe them from a close distance.'

Fujin sat down on the ground with his back against a tree and said, "Sit down and make yourself comfortable. Since I am your Sensei, my first task for all of you is to tell me everything about yourselves. Tell me about your life before you entered Konoha. Tell me everything that happened after you entered Konoha. Tell me who all taught you, what they taught you and when."

The kids were surprised once again. Though Root 'rescued' them and provided them with a new life, this was again the first time when someone showed interest in their past. On the contrary, both Root and Hiruzen just asked them to forget about their past and only focus on their future in Konoha.

Fujin was the first one who showed interest in knowing who they were before they entered Konoha. As a result, they told him everything about their past. Fujin listened carefully without disturbing them.

Undoubtedly, every one of them had a tragic backstory. And, every one of them hated the Mizukage faction with passion. All their sufferings were rooted in the action the Mizukage faction took against Kekkei Genkai users. For the very same reason, they were also very grateful and loyal to Konoha.

Telling their pasts to each other made them feel much closer as a team and even made them feel closer to Fujin even though Fujin didn't say anything about his past.

After hearing everything, Fujin let out a long sigh. He said softly, "I never thought that all of you would have such a tragic past. Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do to change the past. However, I can promise that no student of mine will suffer like you did.

Always remember your past. Remember the pain and suffering you went through. Use that as fuel to train yourself. Become so strong that no one will even dare to look at you the same way those people did. Become so strong that when you become parents, your children will never suffer the same fate."

A smile appeared again on Fujin's face as he added, "And if there is something that you can't handle, always come to me."

The kids were touched by Fujin's words. For once, Fujin's words were genuine. Though Fujin didn't have much of an emotional attachment to them, they would be his students. If others bullied them for no reason, it wouldn't look good. In addition, if someone wanted to mess with him, they could target the five of them because Fujin would be too strong for them to target. Not to mention, Fujin had been wanting a good fight for quite some time. He didn't mind using such opportunities to flex his muscles a bit and create some chaos.

Fujin got up and said, "Take today off. Hang out with each other. No need to train today. Meet me here tomorrow at 6 in the morning. We will have our first training session."

The five of them immediately became excited, completely oblivious to the hell that awaited them in the upcoming days! While Fujin didn't intend to be as sadistic as Kakashi or as relentless as Guy, his training schedule wouldn't lose in intensity to either of them. With time, it would only become more intense! Thankfully, his students all had pasts that he could use as fuel to ensure that they didn't run out of gas.

After being dismissed, the kids returned to their rooms while Fujin stayed in the training ground. He raised his right hand and stretched his palm like he did while forming the Rasengan. Instead of Rasengan, winds began swirling in his palm, taking the shape of an orb. Soon after, the winds turned reddish. Fujin could feel the heat from them as some of the winds breezed past his body. The orb began taking a proper form.

If Takeshi witnessed this scene, he would have been shocked. The flaming orb in Fujin's palm looked exactly like the Extremely Steaming Murder jutsu! It was his Kekkei Genkai.

Fujin threw the orb at a nearby tree and it instantly caught fire. Fujin's eyes began glowing as he concentrated chakra in them to observe the damage. After observing for a few seconds, a sigh escaped his lips.

Winds suddenly began blowing around the tree at a high speed and doused the fire, ensuring that the tree could live on for some more time. Fujin analyzed, 'It's not the same. My combination jutsu can only cause external harm. Despite infusing more chakra, it doesn't have the same intensity as the Scorch Release which can directly cause the water inside the body to evaporate.

I'll need to observe Takeshi properly for some time to get clues on how he does it instinctively. Perhaps then I might be able to copy it. Sigh, this is still very difficult. No wonder even the likes of Hiruzen, Orochimaru and Kakashi never managed to copy a Kekkei Genkai... After all, all of them are much more talented than me in Ninjutsu.'

Fujin wasn't in the mood to keep trying without any hope of success. He began returning to his home while thinking about the other matter, that is, increasing his influence.

Fujin thought, 'It's time to increase my influence in Konoha. Normally, it would have been quite difficult to do so. Thankfully, I will have a couple of opportunities soon.

There are two ways of increasing my influence. The first is by displaying my martial might. This is the path the Sannins, White Fang, Minato, and Kakashi took. All have top-notch battle credentials. They are the pillars that create belief in the hearts of Konoha ninjas that our village is strong.

Though my record isn't bad either, I can't make my achievements public, unfortunately. So others aren't sure about my capabilities as they don't know which rumors to trust and which to ignore. Fortunately,

Suna and Oto's attack will give me just the opportunity to do something in the light. That will establish my martial might, putting me at least at the same level as Kakashi in terms of reputation.

The second way is by doing something that would benefit the ninjas in the village. One of the main reasons why Tsunade is so highly thought of in Konoha and throughout the ninja world is how much the Medical Ninjutsu in Konoha progressed due to her. For this reason, her influence in the village far exceeds that of Jiraiya. Had she been active inside the village, her influence might have been at the same level as Hiruzen.

Homura and Koharu have taken this path as well. After all, both are considerably behind Hiruzen and Danzo in terms of strength. However, they have an excellent reputation among the ninjas due to helping them out in one way or another. Of course, unlike Tsunade, they were able to achieve it due to decades of effort instead of brilliance in a particular field.

Normally, this method would have been difficult for me to achieve. The changes to the ninja academy could have given me that, but that seems to have been stuck for now. Fortunately, someone handed me the perfect proposal to take care of this matter. Hehehe.'

Fujin couldn't help but chuckle as he realized, 'When I entered this world, I was always very cautious and even fearful of Danzo. Once I became strong, I even took several steps to reduce his influence. However, I seem to have misjudged him. He is so kind and benevolent, just like Hiruzen. I wonder which one of them is more benevolent?'

Fujin humored himself and actually thought of the answer. After a few seconds, he concluded, 'No, Hiruzen is far more benevolent. He did teach me the Wind Vacuum Technique, provided a few thousand elemental crystals, got me on the Council, gave me scrolls of Flying Thunder God and Spirit Transformation jutsu and even taught me Fire and Earth jutsus along with other assistance that I keep asking him regularly.

Danzo, though very generous, doesn't compare with that. He only helped me improve my Wind Vacuum Technique, gave me over a hundred talented subordinates and gave me a proposal that I could use to build my influence.

Oh well, Danzo is the second most benevolent person then. He narrowly beats the Ame Jounin, who gifted me the Blade of the Thunder Spirit, and Sasori, who gifted me over 60 top-quality puppets. Sigh, I didn't know that so many people went out of their way to help me. I guess this world isn't entirely bad after all.'

Thankfully, Hiruzen, Danzo and Sasori couldn't hear Fujin's thoughts. If they could, they would have forgotten about their differences and enmities and ganged up on Fujin!

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 567: Confusing Naruto

Having dealt with all the issues, Fujin finally decided to start training the Spirit Transformation jutsu. He sent a Shadow Clone to Hiruzen to clear up some of the doubts he had while reading through the scroll. While waiting for the clone to send back the memories, he went through the scroll once again. Meanwhile, his remaining clones continued working on the Fuin Battlefield.

After the clone met with Hiruzen and discussed the doubts and sent memories back to Fujin, he began his training.

The next morning, Fujin sent a Shadow Clone with 5% of his chakra to train his new students while he continued his training.

As for their training, Fujin divided it into two parts for the time being. The first was the physical workout which would happen in the morning. The training made the five of them understand why Fujin was so much stronger than their previous instructors.

Fujin's clone replaced the training seals Danzo had given them with his own. As for the training intensity, it was slightly lower as Fujin wanted to make them get used to it. That said, it was still far more intense than what they had experienced so far.

The reason for such intensity was that Fujin intended to teach them the Strong Fist Style! Apart from its effectiveness, the main reason for it was this thought of Fujin, 'I could teach them either the Senju Taijutsu style or the Strong Fist Taijutsu style. That said, even though Renjiro said that anyone could learn it, teaching it liberally without their permission might cause some dissatisfaction.

They might agree if I take permission, but they will use it to show that I owe them a favor. By comparison, Guy will be ecstatic that I taught his fighting style to more kids who are full of youth. In addition, it is more practical in a fight than the Senju Taijutsu style. More importantly, I can just dump their Taijutsu training on him after they reach a certain level. Knowing him, he might see it as a gift rather than work.'

The second part of their training, which would happen in the afternoon, was Ninjutsu. The 5 of them were already very good at Ninjutsu for their age. Neither Fujin nor any of his classmates were that good. Despite that, Fujin stopped all their current training in Ninjutsu. Instead, he made them focus on just one jutsu. That was the forbidden Multi Shadow Clone jutsu!

Unlike Naruto, where Fujin was afraid that the future would change dramatically if Fujin made him abuse that training method, Fujin didn't have any such concerns with these kids. Their chakra was too low for them to abuse that training method beyond a certain limit, just like how it was for Fujin when he was younger.

And, considering their young age and significantly lower potential than Naruto, Fujin didn't see any of them going beyond the rank S level in merely 4 years. Even with his guidance, he couldn't guarantee that they would reach rank S, let alone surpass it. That's why, he decided to abuse this training tactic to its limits while training them.

Life continued for a few days in this manner without any external disturbances until Naruto finally visited Fujin's house. Kakashi had finally taken some pity on the trio and given them a day off. The three of them never appreciated a holiday as much as they did now.

Fujin opened his door to see an exhausted Naruto. He raised his eyebrow and wondered, 'Kakashi let them go last evening. Since when did this kid stop recovering in a day?'

Of course, he couldn't say that he had been spying on them. So Fujin asked in a peculiar tone, "What happened to you? You look like you have just run a marathon around the world without taking a break, almost as if you'd be killed if you stopped."

Naruto looked at Fujin with a look full of complaints. After all, it was his suggestions that had created this situation. He muttered, "You don't know how right you are!"

Fujin chuckled and said, "Oh really? Come on in. Tell me everything."

While Fujin had already seen most of the things that happened, there was no reason to refuse the amusement Naruto's ranting would bring.

Naruto listed out all of his complaints against Kakashi to Fujin. To his annoyance, Fujin just chuckled every time. Finally, he added while pointing towards Fujin, "You were totally wrong this time! Kakashi sensei wasn't testing us. Instead, he is punishing us because we tried those stunts. Hmph!"

Fujin raised an eyebrow and asked, "How am I wrong? Isn't he giving you your 'special' training right now?"

"Special my ass! All he did was torture us with physical workouts. He didn't teach us any jutsus. Instead, he keeps threatening us with the Thousand Years of Death jutsu! Do you know how painful that jutsu is? Sakura-chan blames me for our current situation!" Naruto complained in annoyance once again.

Even for someone who had great control over his emotions, Fujin had to work extremely hard to stifle his laughter. He barely managed to control himself and put up a thoughtful expression while muttering, "Hmm, let's see..."

Fujin pretended to think for a couple of minutes while Naruto waited for him with some curiosity. Finally, Fujin said, "I disagree. I wasn't wrong. The only point I miscalculated was that Kakashi would take training your bodies so seriously.

That said, he isn't wrong. Having a strong body is the most important thing for any Ninja. Without it, you'll never become strong, let alone have any chance of becoming the Hokage.

Had I been the teacher of your team, I would have started such training from day one. I guess he initially thought that you three wouldn't be able to endure such training. Your attempts to get his book and see his real face should have given him confidence that you are worthy of his training."

"..."

Naruto was left speechless by Fujin's words. He immediately fell into deep thought, 'Could it be as he said?'

This time, Fujin didn't disturb him. Instead, he just watched the comical expressions Naruto kept making with a smile on his face. Naruto thought hard for a few minutes before saying, "Man! I never thought of it in this manner!"

Fujin nodded and said, "See. Even though it might be difficult, it is better than just doing the boring formation exercises and rank D missions, right? In a few months, you'll notice the improvements in your physique, strength, stamina and speed."

Naruto agreed and said, "You are right. I didn't think of that. But, when will he teach us cool jutsus? You said he knows a thousand jutsus, right?"

Fujin put up a thoughtful expression again and said, "I am not too sure. I thought that he might teach that instead of focusing on physical training. I guess he thought that your physiques aren't good enough to depend heavily on Ninjutsu just yet. Considering what you said, he wouldn't be wrong to think that.

He might teach you jutsus once he thinks that your basics are strong enough. Unless..."

Fujin took a pause. Naruto impatiently asked, "Unless what?"

Fujin smiled mischievously and said, "Unless, this training is a test as well. If you are able to steal his book or unmask him despite undergoing such heavy training, then he might think that the three of you are ready to learn dozens of cool new special powerful jutsus!"

Naruto was immediately impressed. He asked excitedly, "Really?"

However, his excitement quickly waned as he remembered what training he had been undergoing. They barely had the energy to do the training. In fact, none of them could live up to Kakashi's 'standards' as none of them could actually complete the workouts. They had to do their level best to ensure that they didn't pass out.

He became dejected and said, "That's impossible!"

Fujin chuckled and asked, "Do you think that you can become the Hokage if such simple training makes you quit?"

That immediately hit Naruto's ego. He exclaimed loudly, "I will steal Kakashi sensei's book! Believe it!"

While Fujin was tricking Naruto into creating more trouble for Kakashi, both of them were unaware that someone was secretly spying on Fujin's house.

Some distance away from Fujin's house, Kakashi hid among the trees while watching Fujin's house even though he couldn't see anything inside it. He thought, 'As I expected. Someone was behind their change. That someone should be Fujin. However, why would he do something like that?'

Kakashi tried thinking but couldn't come up with any good reason for Fujin to do something like that. However, he had a strong hunch that Fujin was indeed the one who prompted Naruto and the rest to act.

Since he couldn't think of a reason, he turned his attention back to the house and wondered, 'That aside, why does his house give me a weird feeling? It's as if there are many seals around that house.'

Kakashi, though he wasn't a Fuinjutsu Grandmaster, still knew enough basics that he could be considered a SealMaster. He could see and identify most, if not all seals. He closed his right eye, opened his left eye and began observing Fujin's home. His eye immediately widened as much as it physically could!

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Chapter 568: 27569

'WHAT IN THE FUCKING HELL?' Even someone as calm and composed as Kakashi was completely flabbergasted by what he witnessed. The sight was just too absurd and too horrifying!

With his Sharingan, he could clearly see the seals that Fujin had placed. The entire compound was densely covered in seals. Fujin's house was the worst. It was so densely covered in seals that Kakashi's Sharingan couldn't even see the walls of his house!

He cursed, 'What is that? Why are there so many seals? Did he put seals on the house to protect it or did he build a house there to have something to put the seals on?'

Kakashi was astonished. Every top ninja's house would be covered in seals. Even Kakashi's house had several seals. After the Root was blown up, even the Jounins from the civilian background paid SealMasters to secure their houses with seals. However, it was the first time that Kakashi had seen such a dense collection of seals. Normally, it would be rare to see a house in Konoha with more than a hundred seals.

Kakashi wondered, 'How many seals are there exactly?'

Since he had nothing better to do and had a Sharingan, Kakashi began counting the seals. His eyes kept getting wider as the number kept rising! His throat became dry as he realized, '27569 seals! And a very high number of those seals are the ones that can hide other seals. So the actual number might be double that or even more!

More importantly, that is just the number of seals on his house! The entire compound has a similar number of seals as well. What in the world is Fujin planning? His house and compound are more of a fortress than a house!

Kakashi couldn't think of any good reason for Fujin to do something like that. He thought, 'Since Third hasn't done anything, it's safe to say that there isn't any ill intention behind his actions. That said, I need to be very careful if I ever have to enter that compound. Also, I still need to ask why he made my students do something like that... If I don't, then I have a feeling that my days will become far more chaotic!'

Kakashi had seen enough for a day. He decided to leave. Fujin was unaware that Kakashi had just checked his house and left as silently as he arrived. If he knew, he would have chuckled at his reactions.

By the time Kakashi left, Fujin was done talking with Naruto. He said, "Ah, I nearly forgot. The kids who were supposed to move into the compound did so a few days ago. I'll introduce you to a few of them. If you get along, then I'll arrange for you to move into one of the buildings next to the house?"

Naruto was immediately excited. All his exhaustion due to Kakashi's training suddenly disappeared as he exclaimed, "Really? You're the best, Fujin!"

Fujin chuckled and thought, 'Guess it was more of a mental fatigue than physical fatigue.'

He sent a Shadow Clone to call his 5 students, who arrived in a few minutes and entered his house. They immediately saw Fujin sitting with a blonde kid who looked a few years older than them.

Fujin smiled and said, "Come on in, make yourselves comfortable."

They entered the circular room and sat on the sofas in the room while curiously looking at Naruto. Yuji curiously asked, "Who is he?"

Naruto immediately introduced himself, "I am Uzumaki Naruto! I'll be the Hokage! Believe it!"

The 5 kids just stared at Naruto with a deadpan expression. None of them expected to hear something so absurd. Seeing their stares, even Naruto felt embarrassed.

Cough

Fujin suddenly coughed, attracting everyone's attention. He said, "Naruto, they are my official students. Get along well with them."

Naruto was surprised. He asked, "You accepted students?"

Fujin nodded. He looked at his students and said, "He is Naruto. Though he isn't my student, I did guide him a bit before he graduated. So I guess, in a sense he is your senpai. Right now, he is on Hatake Kakashi's team. You can hang out with him if you want to."

The kids were surprised. For starters, they didn't know that Fujin had guided others. However, what surprised them more was Naruto was being taught by Kakashi! Sayaka exclaimed, "Your sensei is Hatake Kakashi? The Copy Ninja? That's so cool!"

Her statement immediately earned a peculiar gaze from Fujin, which was felt by her. She looked at Fujin and quickly added, "You're cool as well, sensei."

Meanwhile, Naruto wondered, 'Copy Ninja?'

Fujin waved his palm dismissively as he said, "I don't care. I'll be busy for the rest of the day. So, we won't be having our afternoon training session today. You can enjoy the remaining day. Naruto, if you want to teach them your pranks, that's fine. Just don't go overboard. Now shoo shoo."

By the time Fujin was done speaking, all the 6 kids in his room suddenly felt a breeze. In the blink of an eye, the breeze suddenly became very strong, the doors automatically opened and all 6 were tossed out of his house. The doors shut tightly right after they were out.

Naruto fell to the ground and muttered, "That was new!"

Naruto was one of the few who had gotten a taste of Fujin's Wind Domain. Fujin's students had got it as well since Fujin used it to make their training considerably tougher at times.

Takeshi sighed and added, "Sensei's control over the wind is super scary!"

Sayaka muttered, "I still don't understand how someone can have such good control over an element."

When they saw it for the first time, the 5 of them wondered whether Fujin had a Kekkei Genkai. However, none of the existing Kekkei Genkai had such a feature.

Naruto didn't care about the winds and instead asked, "By the way, why did you call Kakashi sensei 'The Copy Ninja'?"

That earned another glare from the 5 kids. Yuji asked, "Is Hatake Kakashi really your teacher?"

Naruto nodded. Yuji looked at him like he was an idiot and asked, "So how do you not know that? It's like the most basic information available about him."

Naruto ignored his look and said, "Well I don't know. Would you guys tell me?"

Hikari giggled and answered, "He can copy any jutsu after looking at it once. Everyone says that he has copied more than a thousand jutsus in this manner. That is why he is called as the Copy Ninja Kakashi by enemy villages."

Naruto's eyes widened. He said, "I knew that he knows over a thousand jutsus. I didn't know he copied them. Still, that's a cool title! I want one too!"

Sayaka added, "Well, you're just a Genin. Generally, only Jounins get such titles. Sensei has a cool title as well."

Naruto was surprised again. He asked, "Big brother Fujin also has a title?"

Yuji teased him once again, "Dude, do you live under a rock?"

While training in the Root, they had been made to memorize the entire Bingo book. They expected that other ninjas would have done so as well. To their surprise, they were wrong.

Sayaka said, "Yuji, don't be mean. And yes. Sensei's title might be even cooler. He is called the Spectral Swordsman!"

Naruto exclaimed, "Damn! That's a cool title! What did big bro do to get such a cool title?"

Yuji grinned and answered, "No one knows for sure. Sensei's mission record is a top secret. I guess only Lord Hokage knows. Everyone else only knows some rumors."

Naruto asked, "What are the rumors?"

Yuji grinned even more and added, "They say that he appears and disappears like a spectre while harvesting the lives of his targets. He is so scary that the person doesn't realize that he is dead until sensei is long gone.

Some rumors say that there were two people who were walking and talking together and sensei killed one of them. The other person didn't realize that the one who he had been talking to was dead for several minutes!"

The way Yuji said it, made Naruto feel chills. He nervously said, "I knew Fujin was scary, but I didn't know that he was this scary..."

Sayaka nodded and added, "Apparently, he has killed a few hundred ninjas in this manner. It was why he was given that title. That said, until this day, no one knows whether he really is the Spectral Swordsman as there is no proof against him. As Yuji said, these are just rumors. The only thing that is true for sure is that those guys are dead!"

Naruto's face became slightly blue as he said, "That just makes him even more terrifying!"

The kids nodded. Yuji had gotten bored of teasing Naruto. He asked, "Anyway, Sensei has given us the rest of the day off. Do you know anything fun, Naruto? Sensei said something about pranks."

Immediately, a mischievous grin appeared on Naruto's face. That day, several people in Konoha had an extremely annoying day! A particular old man, who was peeping into a crystal ball, was experiencing a terrible headache. Once again, he was cursing his past self for the choices he made.

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Chapter 569: Spirit Transformation Technique

'Spirit Transformation jutsu'

Fujin was sitting at the center of his basement. Around him were his Shadow Clones, silently working on a seal that had never appeared in the Ninja world. Fujin's mind was focused on his own soul completely. He made the necessary hand seals and used the jutsu Dan created decades ago.

Suddenly, a white light slowly exited his body. It immediately attracted the attention of every Shadow Clone in the basement, who looked at their main body. The white light quickly took form and took Fujin's appearance.

Fujin observed himself while thinking, 'Hmm, interesting. My form is just like that of my body. There isn't even a hint of my previous life's appearance. In addition, even my soul has similar clothes as my main body, even though it's just my soul taking that form and not actual clothes.'

I wonder how the soul works... Does it just take the form of whatever body I am currently occupying? If so, how will it work for someone like Orochimaru who keeps changing his body? Does his soul's appearance keep changing every few years? Or has only my soul changed due to getting transmigrated? After all, how can I know what changes my soul underwent during transmigration? Sigh, so many new questions again...'

Fujin stopped thinking about those questions and instead focused on his soul. He thought, 'Anyway, time to test what all this technique can do. Now, who do I choose as a test subject?'

Fujin's first thought was one of the orphan kids. However, on second thought, he decided against it. If something went wrong, then the one he chose be crippled or worse, dead.

Fujin thought, 'Normally, I'd go out and choose some bandits. I have been training this jutsu for almost a couple of months, so it won't raise any eyebrows if I head out as it has been several months since my last trip. However, this technique isn't like others. I could test something like the Eight Trigrams Divination Seal without any worry.'

Unfortunately, Spirit Transformation jutsu has a huge chance of something going wrong. I should test it inside the village, where I can ask for Hiruzen's help quickly. Oh well, it's not like there aren't any test subjects here. That said, let me at least test the movements and other basic skills first.'

The most basic abilities of this form were invisibility and intangibility. Both were mentioned in the scroll. Fujin applied the techniques and his soul became invisible. He chuckled and wondered, 'It works. I don't understand why Jiraiya never learnt this jutsu! It's the perfect jutsu for his 'research'. I wonder if Tsunade and Hiruzen predicted that and decided to never give him that scroll. Hmm, that should be it. Otherwise, I don't see any reason for Jiraiya to not learn this jutsu.'

Fujin moved towards the ceiling of the basement and thought, 'Though I didn't know this jutsu earlier, some of my seals are effective against this jutsu. So, no spirit should be able to move in and out of my house. At least not with this technique.'

Fujin touched the ceiling. As he expected, his hand couldn't phase through. He deactivated the seals that stopped the Spirits temporarily and phased through the ceiling. He quickly phased through his house and began flying above his house.

A smile formed on his face as he thought, 'Hmm, not bad at all. This feeling is great. Other than a few seals and barriers, nothing can stop me. I can even fly in this form. Not to mention, my Flying speed is amazing!'

Fujin immediately flew around the village, while avoiding the sensitive places. No one could see his spirit. What was more impressive was the speed at which his soul could fly! It exceeded the speed of sound by several times!

Fujin thought, 'Such an incredible speed. It might even exceed Raikage's speed. And, unlike Raikage's speed, I have a feeling that I can sustain this speed for days. Only Flying Thunder God is faster as it is nearly instantaneous. Tsk, no wonder Dan could dream about the Hokage's seat. Though I don't think he was as strong as Sakumo or the Sannins, this technique is incredibly fearsome. Even the Third Raikage and Onoki would have been extremely wary of this jutsu. His lethality might have been just under that of Minato's lethality in the Third Great Ninja War.'

Having explored the speed and the intangibility, Fujin's soul returned to his body. The Shadow Clones sighed in relief seeing that nothing bad happened. Fujin got up and said, "That's enough training for the day. Unless you're close to some sort of breakthrough, dispel yourselves."

The seal Fujin was working on was extremely complicated. He didn't want to take the risk of forcefully dispelling a clone that might have a breakthrough and advance the seal further. Hearing his words, all but three of his Shadow Clones dispelled themselves. Fujin collated their memories before leaving his house. He went directly to Konoha's Torture and Interrogation department.

Ibiki was pleasantly surprised to see Fujin until he recalled the scenes when Fujin had visited him the previous time. He thought, 'Fortunately he isn't carrying a prisoner. If he did, I'd have directly diverted him towards the prisons. I don't want my office to stink of vomit and shit!'

Fujin was unaware of Ibiki's thoughts. He hadn't ever even thought about Mizuki after handing him to Ibiki. He warmly greeted, "Ibiki-san, how have you been?"

Ibiki smiled and said, "Have been well. How about you? To what do I owe the pleasure of your visit?"

Fujin replied, "Doing great as well. As for my visit, I wanted to borrow some of your prisoners to test a new jutsu I have been learning."

Ibiki was surprised. Though he would get such requests occasionally, they would be very rare. He asked, "To what degree the injuries could be? And, what would be the chances?"

Fujin replied casually, "If everything goes well, then there won't be any injury. If things don't go well, then that person would be crippled in the best case, dead in the worst case. I'd prefer a normal human though."

Ibiki thought a bit and said, "Alright. I have a prisoner who was arrested for raping a minor and is supposed to be executed in a few days. You can test your technique out on him. Knowing his past, feel free to cripple him further even if everything goes well."

Fujin nodded. Ibiki called a subordinate and asked him to lead Fujin to that prisoner's prison. Ibiki's subordinate led Fujin to the prison and allowed him to enter, leaving him alone with the prisoner.

The prisoner was a middle-aged man and in terrible shape. Fujin could see several scars all over his body. Several of his nails were missing. Instead, some of his fingers had 'nails' nailed in them instead of actual nails. His face was entirely swollen.

The man looked at Fujin. Terror was visible in his eyes. Yet, there was also resignation. He said, "Get on with it. You motherfuckers can't torture me anymore!"

Fujin chuckled and said, "As an ordinary human, you shouldn't try to estimate what a ninja can or cannot do."

Several Shadow Clones appeared around Fujin. Fujin sat on the ground and weaved hand seals.

'Spirit Transformation jutsu'

Fujin's soul exited his body. The prisoner watched with confusion as he didn't understand why his 'torturer' had begun meditating. He wondered, 'Is this some new style of torture?'

Suddenly, his eyes widened as he instinctively felt something enter his body. He felt a chill and fear like never before. Yet, he didn't understand what was happening!

What his eyes couldn't see was that Fujin's soul had already entered his body! Meanwhile, Fujin could clearly see the man's soul. He extended his arm towards the man's soul. Remembering the steps in the scroll, he began using his energy to affect the man's soul. Within a few seconds, his soul fell under Fujin's control.

Fujin analyzed, 'Hmm, not bad. By controlling his soul, I can control his entire body. Of course, it is this easy because his soul is too weak and has almost no willpower. A rank S ninja's soul will have tremendous willpower. I might not be able to control it so easily.'

Even more troublesome would be someone who actually trained or strengthened his soul or knows how to use his soul. I shouldn't rely on this technique against Orochimaru. Similarly, I can't use it against a Rinnegan wielder. I am not too sure about Obito and Zetsu either. Who knows what additional techniques they know? Oh well, time to test it.'

Fujin quickly took control of the prisoner's body and said in a calm voice, "Release his restraints."

One of the clones nodded and removed all the chains and cuffs. Fujin stretched the prisoner's body while analyzing, 'Hmm, my control isn't very smooth. It's more like controlling a puppet. However, I have a feeling that the Yamanaka's Secret Technique is better at controlling others than this jutsu. That said, this jutsu has other specialities which the Yamanaka technique can't match.'

Acting on his thoughts, Fujin began suppressing the prisoner's soul. The prisoner, who had lost control of his body, suddenly felt a pain like never before. A soul-wrenching scream exited his throat! If not for the silence seals in the prison, the entire T&I Department would have heard his scream!

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Chapter 570: Naruto's Outburst & Hidden Grass' Crisis

Fujin was satisfied with his scream. He thought, 'This is the main killing method of this jutsu. By suppressing and destroying the soul. The victim will fall dead without any signs of injury on his or her body. If that happens in the middle of the war, armies would be scared and demoralized to see their comrades dying mysteriously in such a manner.'

Apart from this, there is another technique that makes one of my hard-earned jutsus kind of redundant...'

Fujin placed his hand on the soul. In an instant, he began reading the memories of the prisoner's soul, seeing everything that he had done in his life.

He pulled his hand back while thinking, 'Hmm, memories of just this lifetime... Does it mean that this is his first life, or does it mean that ordinarily, a soul can only have the memories of just one lifetime? Perhaps something along the lines of memories getting eradicated during the process of reincarnation. Or perhaps the memories of other lifetimes have been hidden somewhere inside the soul to such a degree that this technique can't access them.'

Regardless, this method is far more efficient than the Yamanaka Mind Reading technique. The Yamanaka's technique targets the brain. The memories one can read are only the ones that are fresh in the target's brain. Reading older and suppressed memories or memories that the target has forgotten about is extremely difficult. In addition, damaging the brain could cause the memories to disappear as well.

By comparison, reading memories from the soul is extremely convenient. More importantly, it has another fearsome application. I understand why Tobirama developed the base version of this technique. It's to read the memories of the souls summoned with the Edo Tensei jutsu!'

Fujin's soul sighed as the amount of respect he had for Tobirama's research and inventing abilities increased once again. He had just found the perfect solution to a problem he would have to face in the future.

Having tested everything he wanted to, Fujin left the prisoner's body and returned to his own. He got up and dispelled his clones after they tied up the prisoner again. The prisoner gradually gained clarity as well. Suddenly, the prisoner felt an extreme pain coming right from his soul.

He shrieked and looked at Fujin, who was walking out of the cell, with terror and asked while breathing roughly, "What did you do?"

Fujin didn't turn around and disappeared from his line of sight. Only some words lingered in the air, "Just tried a new torture technique to keep you entertained. Enjoy your remaining life."

Since Fujin had read all his memories, he knew exactly the kind of scum the guy was and why Ibiki had asked Fujin to torture him even though he had already been tortured to such an extent. As Fujin shut the door, the screams of the prisoner filled the cell. It'd be several hours before someone would come to check on him and realize that he had been screaming continuously for hours!

Fujin analyzed, 'The pain he is experiencing is a little injury that I inflicted upon his soul. That said, souls are quite resilient. His injury will heal by itself in a couple of weeks. I suspect that even if I had destroyed his soul, only his physical body would die.

As for his soul, it should pass into the afterlife and reform. I guess this can be considered a form of immortality in itself. The only issue is being able to retain memories from one life to another. I should try this on someone after I go out of the village to get a better picture.'

Busy with his thoughts, Fujin reached Ibiki's office again and asked for a few ninja prisoners to test his jutsu on. Ibiki obliged and had his subordinate guide Fujin to the ninja prisoners. One of those unfortunate prisoners was Mizuki.

While Fujin was busy testing the Spirit Transformation jutsu, team 7 finally grew sick of the rank D missions! They had been quiet for some time as they barely had any energy left after Kakashi's brutal training regimen. However, after more than 2 months of such training, Naruto had begun getting used to it while Sasuke was managing to complete the training as well. Sakura improved rapidly too, though she still couldn't complete it.

Even so, all 3 Genins had grown sick of chasing cats and dogs, babysitting kids and pulling out weeds. The day Naruto's patience finally ended was the same day Tazuna was in Konoha. After Naruto's little outburst, Hiruzen decided to give them a rank C mission to protect Tazuna.

By the time Team 7 left Konoha, Fujin completed testing the Spirit Transformation jutsu on the ninjas as well. He didn't face any issue other than the fact that the ninjas had more willpower and he needed slightly more effort to suppress their souls. In addition, their suppressed souls tried taking back control of their bodies non-stop, so Fujin had to actively keep their souls suppressed.

Fujin also experimented by letting their souls 'overcome' the suppression to see whether it would have any adverse impact on him. Fortunately, that wasn't the case. At most, his soul felt a force pushing him outside their bodies, but Fujin could resist it with rather ease and suppress the soul once again.

Satisfied with his experiments, Fujin returned to his house. Sitting on his sofa, Fujin analyzed, 'The Spirit Transformation jutsu can be considered as mastered. I just need some live practice. Regardless, this is another top-tier jutsu mastered, along with Wind Domain, Eight Inner Gates and Flying Thunder God jutsu.

In the last couple of months, my teleporting range has increased significantly as well. I can now teleport up to a distance of 2.3 kilometers. And, it is improving at an extremely fast rate. By the time of the invasion, my range should increase to several dozen kilometers. Hopefully, it'll exceed a hundred kilometers! That would allow me to carry Karin all the way to Phantom Haven Base and return to Konoha within minutes.

In addition, I also had my clones work on improving the control over natural Lightning with the help of Kiba blades in Mount Muteki. The Fuin Battlefield seal has been created as well. While my clones worked on controlling Lightning, they also managed to infuse Lightning into the Rasengan, creating a jutsu just as destructive as Rasenshuriken.

With all this out of the way, I guess I can finally start studying Medical Ninjutsu and Poisons. Time to find Yoshi and Isamu. I'm sure they will be delighted to hear the news. I just wonder how long they will stay delighted, hehe.'

Fujin was about to leave his house once again when someone rang his bell. It was one of Hiruzen's Anbu Guards, calling Fujin to go to the Hokage's office immediately. Fujin immediately left while wondering what had happened.

The Anbu Guard stayed outside while only Fujin went inside. To his surprise, Shikaku and the two elders were in the room as well. He wondered, 'For these three to be here. Did something happen recently?'

Hiruzen pushed forward a scroll that was on his desk and said, "Fujin, read this and tell me your thoughts."

Puzzled, Fujin just nodded and picked up the scroll. The scroll was from Kusagakure, the hidden village in the Land of Grass. As he read the contents, Fujin understood why the four of them were together in the office.

In the scroll, Kusagakure stated that they are facing a grave crisis. They were facing a formidable group of rogue ninjas. Several of them were disgruntled Kusa ninjas themselves. And they were conducting attacks on Kusagakure ninjas and bases all over the Land of Grass.

As a result, the village was facing heavy losses. There was even a chance that the hidden village could be attacked. And the recent losses had made them very nervous.

As Fujin reached the end of the scroll, he squinted his eyes. A sly smile appeared on his face as he muttered, "Interesting."

His smile and the amusement in his voice were immediately noticed by everyone in the room. Koharu asked, "What did you find so amusing about the scroll?"

Fujin replied, "It's the demands they have put forth. They have asked us to eliminate the rogue group. However, they have also said that they don't have any money or resources to pay us. At the same time, they are saying that if we don't help them, they might have to take drastic actions to resolve the issue.

They are implying that it'll somehow negatively affect us. Considering their strength, the only thing they can do to negatively affect us is ally with Iwagakure. I didn't expect that a minor village would be so aggressive while negotiating with us."

Hiruzen nodded. Everyone in the room had realized the same. He said, "Kusagakure specializes in diplomacy. It is their greatest strength. So that threat isn't a baseless one. They do have the capability to ally with Iwa. Of course, there are obvious issues in doing so."

Hiruzen looked at Shikaku as finished speaking.