

# Naruto: The Wind Calamity

## Chapter 31: Graduation Exam (1)

Only a week was now left for 4th year's exams. Genki followed the same procedure as last year and asked the students interested in participating in the Graduation Exam to meet him after class. Fujin thought, 'I guess it's time to finally become a ninja. There's not much that I can learn in the academy anymore. At best I could learn another element or a few more Genjutsu. If I don't attempt the exam this year, the teachers and maybe even Hiruzen could grow suspicious. And I definitely won't receive much help from them in the future. As for tanking the exam, I am not confident that I could fake my performance convincingly enough for someone who has decades of experience. Either way, I believe I am ready now.' After the class, Fujin visited Genki and confirmed his participation. Genki smiled and wished him good luck.

With just a week left for the exams, Fujin started to focus on the syllabus for written exams. The syllabus was actually quite surprising. He recalled back when Genki started teaching this in the academy. He was teaching Trigonometry. Fujin's first thoughts when he saw that was, 'Trigo? For fucking 9 year old kids? What's next? Differentiation and Integration?' As annoyed as he was by it, he was extremely surprised when Hana was able to solve them perfectly. He mentally screamed, 'How the fuck can 9 year old kids learn Trigo so easily?' He sighed at how much smarter the kids here were and continued with his studies.

He also wanted to be perfectly prepared while going on missions. He stopped learning new seals, and instead had his clones focus on making a few essential objects for him. He bought 2 ninja waist bags, 2 ninja leg pouches and a couple of metallic wristbands. He then had his clones make storage seals on these items.

The Fuinjutsu scroll in section D of the library expanded a bit on the storage seal. It explained ways to increase or decrease the size of the storage space, as well as manipulating its shape. It wasn't very difficult as it only increased or decreased the number of space symbols involved. So the seal itself was still very basic. However, this was very useful for Fujin.

In the interior of the ninja waist bags, Fujin managed to draw 7 storage seals. For ninja leg pouch, he was able to draw 4 seals. These had a lot less space as compared to the seals he made on scrolls, however, considering that their purpose was to enhance the capacity of the bags and pouches, it was very handy!

For the leg pouch, 2 seals could store 6 kunais each, and other 2 seals could store 24 shurikens each. He then created various triggers to refill the pouch from weapons in the storage seals. This way, his weapon supply would be much larger.

For the waist bag, the seals could store a lot more. But he hadn't yet decided how to fill them all. He did have some ideas like a First-aid kit, ninja ropes, scrolls, seals that stored elements, more weapons, explosion tags, soldier pills, ration bars and so on.

For the wristbands, he made one small seal, on each of them. When he wears the wristbands, these seals will be directly under his palms. The seals created a cuboidal storage seal which was around 15cm\*15cm\*100cm. Both these seals were made to store swords. This way, he could quickly access his swords whenever he wanted to. Other than this seal, he planned on drawing 3 more seals on each wristband. For the seals on the opposite side to the current one, Fujin planned on buying huge sturdy shields and storing them there. If he ever gets in an awkward position where he can't defend himself with the rock shield, he'll depend on this shield to provide cover to himself. However, since he wasn't sure about the size of shield he'd buy, he didn't draw that seal. Other than these 2, he planned on inscribing 2 more storage seals on the wristband, but for now he didn't have any idea what to store in there. So he left it for the future.

[A/N : Ideas for the above are welcomed]

On the day before the exam, Fujin, under a disguise, bought a lot of weapons. He bought 96 shurikens and 24 kunais to fill both the leg pouches. He also bought 12 explosion tags to attach them to 6 kunais in each of the pouches. In all it cost 65k Ryo. He bargained and got them for 55k Ryo under the false promise of buying again in the future.

Next day, the final exam began. Since he intended to pass, and wanted to be rank 1, he aced the written exam. He was sure that he'd score full. With the absence of Teru, Nobu and Yori, he also did the best in the shuriken throwing competition. In Taijutsu, he still ranked 2 behind Hoka. While in the Ninjutsu

exam, he made sure to perform only as good as Hana. There wasn't any chakra control exercise in the exam. But Fujin wasn't very surprised as nearly everyone in his class had very good chakra control and could do both tree climbing and water walking as Genki had held a lot of sessions on it this year. The exam also tested the students on the various basic skills that were taught in the previous year. Fujin again ensured that he'd be ranked near the top in this exam.

After the results were out, Fujin ranked 1st, Hana ranked 2nd and Hoka surprisingly ranked 5th. He had improved his written exam scores a lot to be able to get such a high rank.

A week later, the Graduation Exam was conducted. Fujin noticed that there were students from 3 different batches. His own, his senior batch and the batch one year junior to him. 23 students from his class were participating.

Unknown to Fujin, the exam was held by Nara Kisho. He looked at the list of students participating. There were 68 participants from the 5th year, 35 from the 4th year and 8 from the 3rd year. He sighed thinking 'What a drag' this exam would be and instructed to begin the exam.

The first exam was a written test. Fujin looked at the paper expecting some more theory questions. However he was surprised when he read them. They weren't any theory questions, but instead scenarios were mentioned and the students had to write in what they would do. After reading all the scenarios, Fujin sighed, 'Just basic ninja protocols and confirming that the students are brainwashed. To think that I actually expected something good.' He answered as any, ready to graduate, academy student would answer.

The exam was an hour long. Once the hour was up, the papers were collected and sent to Nara Kisho. He had 6 academy teachers check the answers and decide whether the student is ready to graduate or not. It took half an hour to completely check them and then they provided the results to Kisho. One of the teachers said, "Sir, we've completed checking. Out of 111 students, 79 have provided satisfactory answers. Rest aren't ready yet." Kisho nodded and said, "Dismiss them."

Those 32 students were asked to go back home, and prepare well for the next year. Fujin was surprised by this, 'Wow, they just asked the kids to leave? Won't that be demotivating? Or are they just trying to reduce the number of participants for the next exam?'

Fujin wasn't alone with those thoughts. One of the teachers, who taught a normal class, asked Kisho, "Kisho senpai, won't this demotivate the students? The ones who participated in the exam are among the brightest students in the academy." Kisho looked at the teacher. He was 2 years junior to Kisho in the academy, but he wasn't very talented and had barely become a chuunin during the war.

Kisho shook his head and said, "If they get demotivated by such a small failure, then there's no hope for them. They would be better off in the Genin reserve force and we'll save the resources needed to raise someone more worthy to chuunin rank." The teacher wasn't very convinced with the answer, but didn't say anything as this wasn't the first time Kisho had supervised the graduation exam.

After the written exams, the students were tested on various parameters like shurikens, stealth, camping, chakra control, etc. It was similar to the tests conducted for Fujin's class a week back. Since the tests for elite classes were already conducted, they weren't tested again and their scores from a week back were carried forward.

The academy teachers observed everyone's performance, and failed another 15 students over these exams. On getting the reports, Kisho thought, 'Wow! That's so convenient. Now the Taijutsu tournament will be so much simpler to conduct.'

Right before the Taijutsu tournament began, Hokage arrived to watch the exam. He was followed by a character that Fujin recognized very easily, Hatake Kakashi. Fujin was very surprised to see him. He thought, 'Why is Kakashi here? Hiruzen wouldn't force him to start training kids right now, would he? I really hope not. Canon timeline will be fucked up if Hiruzen assigns my squad to him! I am not sure how strong I'd be in another 6-7 years, so for now I really hope something doesn't change due to me.'

Next was a Taijutsu tournament between the 64 remaining students. Kisho arranged for a knockout tournament. So one student could fight for a maximum of 6 times. Fujin breezed through to the semifinals. In the semifinals, he had to fight with a Hyuga who was a year older than him. Fujin fought very hard against him, but was still at a lot of disadvantage. While he did get a few critical hits in with one strong punch on his right rib, another on his nose and a strong kick under his left rib, in the end, he still lost the fight.

Fujin was initially a bit irritated at the loss, 'Damn, how exactly do these guys train? I lost despite the amount of progress I made over the past couple of months!'

He then calmed himself and analyzed the fight better, 'On other hand, it's probably reasonable. I'm guessing the elders from the Hyuga clan regularly spar with them. I, on the other hand, could only spar with my clone. Also, the Hyuga fighting style is entirely Taijutsu. I, on the other hand, was a lot more dependent on Wind Propelling jutsu, Body Flicker jutsu and Earth Military Movement jutsu during my spars. Removing them does reduce my fighting ability considerably. Perhaps if Ninjutsu and Kenjutsu were allowed, I'd have won this fight. Not to mention, I didn't even use chakra to enhance my punches and kicks in the fight.'

He then watched the finals between Hoka and that guy. Due to the injuries he suffered against Fujin, he lost after struggling for a bit. However, having fought both of them, Fujin knew that even without those injuries, Hoka would have still won the match. Hoka ranked first, however Fujin wasn't worried much, 'My points in the normal exam were much higher than Hoka's. So this difference won't affect much, I should still rank first in my class.'

Fujin noticed that no one was eliminated in the Taijutsu tournament.

## Chapter 32: Graduation Exam (2)

For the next test, a few academy teachers brought the kids to a part of the training grounds. On reaching there, the students noticed a long white line drawn on the ground and a bunch of obstacles placed ahead of it. Fujin thought, 'Is this an obstacle race?' However he soon shook his head denying that thought, 'No way, this is too simple.'

All the 64 students were made to stand behind the white line. Genki then appeared and announced, "This will be the next phase of your exam. This is an obstacle race, and you have to run 500 metres straight to the white line that is drawn there."

This announcement excited all the students. They thought, 'Finally an easy exam!' The ones who had taken the graduation exam previously thought, 'Why wasn't this exam there the previous year?'

Fujin was confused by such an easy exam. However, he noticed that there was another man standing behind Genki. And when Genki finished his announcement, he looked at him and nodded.

Kisho looked at the excited kids and chuckled, he thought, 'This should be fun. Sadly the kids don't know that the guy standing there is an experienced Jounin from the Kurama clan. He is Kurama Illumi. In the previous war, hundreds of enemies fell prey to him and his bag of tricks.'

Genki then announced, 'On your mark, Get set, GO!' However, while he was announcing, Kurama Illumi was making some hand signs. And when he heard 'GO', he casted his jutsu, 'Demonic Illusion : Heaven and Earth Reversal'.

As soon as he launched his jutsu, all the 64 students were shaken! It was as if someone grabbed the ground and the sky and reversed them! The gravity felt upside down! Most of the students were incredibly frightened and tightly hugged the ground underneath them.

There were only 4 exceptions. A young girl from the 3rd year, who was from the Uchiha clan. She activated her Sharingan as soon as she felt the changes. 2 students from the 5th year, who were from the Kurama clan and aware of this jutsu. And Fujin, who kept an eye on Illumi and saw him performing the hand signs. He also felt someone trying to influence his nervous system, which let him know that it was a Genjutsu. He was planning to disrupt the Genjutsu, however when he noticed that others were being affected too, he didn't disrupt it so as to not attract any attention. Even though Fujin noticed the Genjutsu, he was extremely impressed at the guy's ability to cast a Genjutsu on 64 students at the same time!

Kurama Illumi, smirked looking at the reactions of all the students. He had used rank B Genjutsu on them. He had used this Genjutsu many times to disrupt his enemies enough for his allies to kill them in the 3rd Great Ninja War. Kisho observed the students attentively. He thought, 'This test will test the willpower of the students. If they don't complete the race, then there's no way I'll pass them.'

While all the students were struggling, Fujin was trying to find his balance. He thought quickly about what this test is about. He quickly figured out that there were 3 possibilities which were, 'Either they are testing our ability to break the Genjutsu, or test our willpower or perhaps our capability to react in an unexpected situation. Either way, this is just a Genjutsu. I should just look downwards and try to move along. If others break the Genjutsu, I'll do so too.'

With those thoughts, he took his first step. Apart from him, only the 2 students from the Kurama clan were moving. Soon a few others took their first step. The girl from the Uchiha clan resisted the Genjutsu, and after 15 seconds, was able to break through it. She then ran the obstacle race with absolute ease.

Fujin sensed someone moving along at a very rapid speed and observed the girl. He was incredibly surprised, 'Sharingan? At this young age?'

He continued his race. After the first few steps, he tried jogging along the race. The other students too slowly managed to get a hang of the conditions and increased their speed. Fujin ranked 4th in the test. In all, only 41 students passed. Of the remaining 23, a few fell unconscious, and many didn't dare to take even a single step! Kisho dismissed them and asked them to leave.

Immediately after the test, the Ninjustu test was started. Kisho's thoughts were, 'The previous Genjutsu would have shaken these kids. So they won't be at their full potential while performing the Ninjustu. Which is how it should be as they won't get normal conditions to perform Ninjustu in a real fight.'

6 Academy teachers observed one student each. To improve the effect of the previous test, Kisho arranged the tests in such a manner that the ones who completed the previous test last, had to attempt the Ninjutsu exam first.

The requirement to pass the Ninjutsu exam was pretty lax. Just the 3 basic Ninjutsu and any one other Ninjutsu. Though the kids in the start struggled a bit, they didn't have any issue in completing the minimum requirements. What surprised Fujin though, is that 16 students displayed Fire Release : One jutsu, and another 7 displayed Fire Release : Two jutsu.

Fujin's thoughts were, 'Land of Fire indeed. Most probably all of them have fire affinity. Also seeing how everyone has practiced it, I guess most of Konoha's jounins with fire affinity can use the most advanced form of this jutsu. Considering that, I guess all the other villages should have their own counters for this jutsu. But since they are still asking the kids to focus on this jutsu, I suppose it still is very useful.'

Apart from it, the majority of the kids displayed the jutsus their clan specialized in. When Fujin's turn came. He performed the 3 basic Ninjutsu. Then performed Wind Clone jutsu and created 8 clones. He then showed his Wind Explosion jutsu and finally displayed Great Breakthrough jutsu. Of course he



only displayed one fourth of their power, used hand signs and performed them a bit slowly. While not too outstanding, he still outperformed his classmates.

What surprised Fujin the most is the performance of the Uchiha girl. She announced that she'll first perform Fire Release : Three jutsu. Fujin became very interested when she announced it as he wasn't aware of what this stage of the jutsu could do. Right after she announced it, 2 academy teachers stepped forwards and held a metallic string between their hands. Fujin was a bit puzzled, 'Isn't this the same thing they did for Fire Release : Two jutsu? Just that instead of one teacher, 2 stepped up.' After making the hand signs, she raised both her arms and pointed her index and middle finger out. Heat rays were released from both her fingers from both hands and in a few seconds, they cut both the metallic strings.

Fujin thought, 'That's it? It's the same as Fire Release : Two jutsu. Just that in that, they could release the heat ray through only 1 hand. There's basically no increase in the power of the jutsu, just the quantity. Still very weak for a rank C jutsu. Strange! Does the jutsu suddenly get much stronger in the later stages?'

She continued her test by displaying Fireball jutsu and Fire Dragon jutsu. Her performance was very good. In Fujin's opinion, in terms of Ninjutsu, her performance was only second to a student from the Hatake clan from the 5th year.

After the exam was over, the teachers began tallying the score. Nara Kisho passed this work to his subordinates. His job was over when he decided to pass these 41 students. Kisho then reported to Hiruzen, "Lord Hokage, all these 41 kids have passed my exam. Overall there is 1 from the 3rd year, 9 from the 4th year and 31 from the 5th year. They should make splendid shinobi. Combined with the 94 that passed from the senior most batch, this year's results have been very good for us." Hiruzen nodded and said some kind words to the Nara shinobi.

After tallying the scores, they were displayed for all the students to see. Fujin was still ranked 1st in his class. He was followed by Hana and then Hoka, who's rank increased due to superior performance in the graduation exam.

After that, all the 41 students were gathered before Hiruzen. Hiruzen smiled and began giving another speech on the 'Will of Fire'. Only this time, he was much more passionate, spoke with more fervor and his speech was more intense than any of his earlier speeches! Even Fujin was a bit dumbfounded



on how someone can brainwash little kids so openly, with such vigor and be extremely proud about it!

However as the speech ended, Fujin smirked internally thinking, 'Will of Fire, Will of Fire, Will of Fire! Let me now see how much Will of Fire you actually have. Hahahaha'

After the speech, Hiruzen said, "Hatake Rei, Suzuki Fujin, Uchiha Mieko step forward."

All the 3 kids stepped forward and stood in front of Hiruzen. He said, "All three of you have worked very hard and performed splendidly. Speak, what reward would you like for your performance?"

As soon as he said that, Hatake Rei stepped forward. It was seen as rude by many, including Fujin and Mieko. While Fujin didn't mind it, Mieko did pout. However, Rei's next words made everyone understand why he stepped so hurriedly. He said, "Lord Hokage, my mother is very sick and the doctors we visited couldn't cure her. Could you please arrange a good medical ninja to treat her?"

While everyone now understood why he was so restless, it did pop another question in their mind. Fujin's thoughts were, 'Isn't he from the Hatake clan? Sure Sakumo is long dead, but their condition shouldn't be that desperate, should it? Also, shouldn't they have enough money to arrange it anyways? Unless it requires someone like Tsunade to deal with it, then I can understand. But even then, I don't think Hiruzen can call Tsunade back anyways.' Kakashi too was visibly confused.

Only a few teachers and Hiruzen knew the truth. Hiruzen thought, 'Sigh, the Hatake clan has really deteriorated after Sakumo's death. Sadly Kakashi hasn't paid much attention to the clan. This kid suddenly began performing really well this year, and hence I had looked into his background. His father died in the 3rd ninja war, and his mother was only a civilian who wasn't even from the Hatake clan. Therefore she hasn't been paid any attention by the clan. She fell sick half year back, and became the motivation for this lad to work hard. Though I do want Kakashi to lead a squad of genins, this was my main purpose to bring him here today. For him to take reins of the Hatake clan and bring it back to prosperity.'

Hiruzen nodded and said, "I'll arrange the best medics to treat your mother." He then smiled and said, "Keep training hard. Ensure that the Will of Fire in

you burns brighter than ever." Hatake excitedly said yes and promised to keep training hard. Kakashi observed the young kid and decided, 'I need to take a proper look at what's going on in the clan.'

Hiruzen secretly paid attention to Kakashi's reaction, and was very satisfied with it. He could see the Hatake clan making a comeback soon.

