









AND NOW
WE'LL HAVE
TO RISK
OUR LIVES...
I JUST...



I'M SORRY,
NARUTO-KUN...
BUT MY
BODY IS ALL
BEAT UP.

ACTUALLY,
I HAVEN'T BEEN
ABLE TO HEAR
OUT OF MY
LEFT EAR FROM
THE TIME WHEN
I GOT ATTACKED
BY THE SOUND
NINS BEFORE
THE FIRST TEST...



WHAT
KIND OF
RECORD
IS THAT?



WHAT'S
HE
THINKING?

DIDN'T HE
QUIT DURING
THE FINAL
TEST LAST
YEAR?

I'VE
SEEN
HIM
BEFORE.

YAKUSHI
KABUTO'S
DATA....

HE'S
FAILED 6
STRAIGHT
TIMES.





HIS COMPLETED
MISSION ARE
C-RANK TWICE,
D-RANK 14 TIMES.

SINCE HIS
ACADEMY DAYS
HE WAS A
STUDENT WHO
DIDN'T STAND
OUT MUCH,

NO SPECTACULAR
BATTLE HISTORY
HERE.

HIS GRADES
WERE AVERAGE.
HE FINALLY
GRADUATED ON
HIS THIRD TRY.




IT'S
ABOUT
BEFORE
HE
ENTERED
THE
ACADEMY.

BUT?



BUT...



AS I
REMEMBER,
A JOUNIN
MEMBER OF
THE MEDICAL
TEAM BROUGHT
BACK A CHILD

OF THE
ENEMY
WHO HAD
SURVIVED
THE BATTLE.

I
DO...

THAT
YOUNG
BOY
BROUGHT
BACK
FROM
THE
BATTLE AT
BELL-
FLOWER
PASS.

DO
YOU
REME-
MBER?



SO HE
IS THAT
CHILD...







JOB
OF
GATHERING
INFORMATION
IS DONE.

HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN
OROCHI-
SAMA'S
ORDERS?

YOU'VE BEEN
A SPY, HIDING
IN YOUR FAKE
SELF SINCE YOU
WERE A CHILD...

THIS IS
YOUR
CHANCE
TO SHOW
YOUR
STRENGTH.

OROCHI-SAMA'S
FAVORITE...
DON'T GET
TOO
CONFIDENT
KID...

ESPECIALLY
YOU YOROI-
SAN. WITH
YOUR ABILITY
THERE SHOULD
BE NO
PROBLEMS.

I'LL
LET
YOU
GUYS
HANDLE
IT.



SENPAI—TERM FOR SOMEONE
OLDER OR MORE EXPERIENCED



AND
YOU
TOO,
NARUTO-
KUN...

I'LL SAVE
THE FUN
FOR SOME
OTHER TIME,
SASUKE-KUN!!



MEH,
THIS YOROI
WILL LEAVE
NO FUN
FOR YOU.



THERE
ARE NO
MORE
RETIRING,
RIGHT?

UMM...
NOW...

COUGH...



SASUKE-
KUN...
KNEW IT.

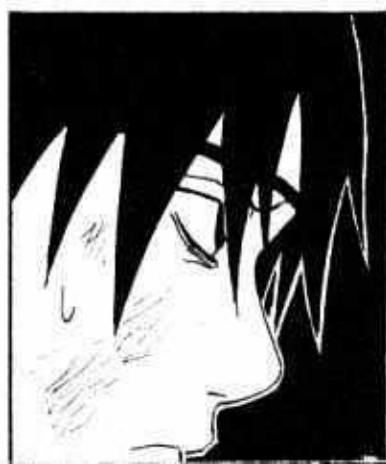


THE WAVES
OF PAIN ARE
BECOMING
MORE
FREQUENT.



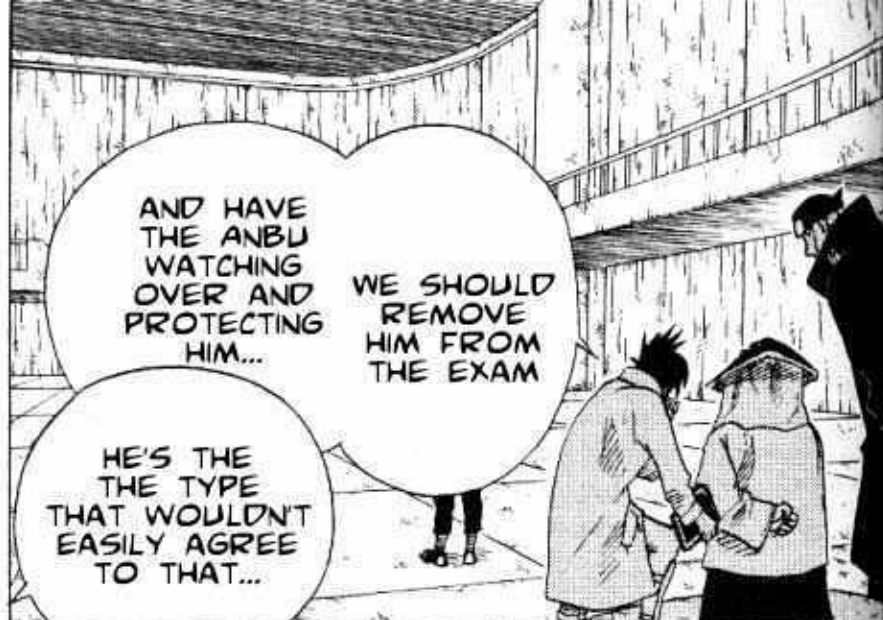








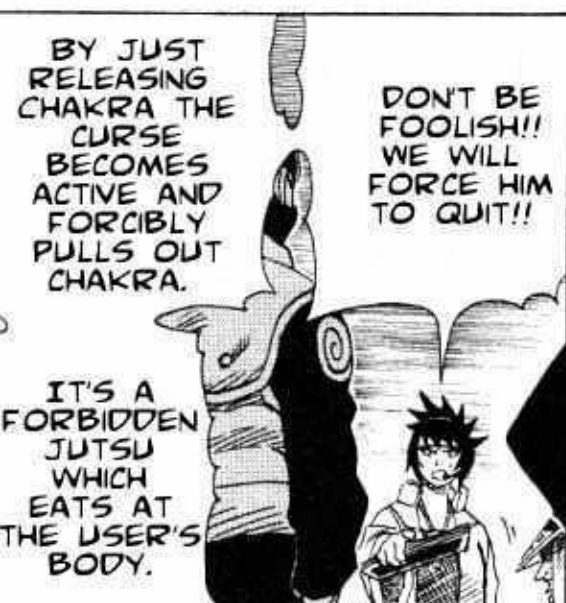




AND HAVE
THE ANBU
WATCHING
OVER AND
PROTECTING
HIM...

WE SHOULD
REMOVE
HIM FROM
THE EXAM

HE'S THE
THE TYPE
THAT WOULDN'T
EASILY AGREE
TO THAT...



BY JUST
RELEASING
CHAKRA THE
CURSE
BECOMES
ACTIVE AND
FORCIBLY
PULLS OUT
CHAKRA.

IT'S A
FORBIDDEN
JUTSU
WHICH
EATS AT
THE USER'S
BODY.

DON'T BE
FOOLISH!!
WE WILL
FORCE HIM
TO QUIT!!



FROM
THAT
UCHIHA
CLAN
AFTER
ALL.

SINCE
HE'S...



HO..
HOKAGE-
SAMA...!!

WHAT
OROCHIMARU
SAID IS ON
MY MIND.

LET'S LET
SASUKE
CONTINUE
AND WATCH
OVER THE
SITUATION.



HE
SHOULD
BE DEAD.

IT'S
AMAZING
THAT THIS
CHILD
IS STILL
STANDING.



SIGH —

HO-
KAGE-
SAMA
?!!



YES

BUT IF THE CURSE BEGINS OPENING AND RELEASING POWER, THEN JUMP IN AND STOP HIM.



THIS PRELIMINARY WILL CONSIST OF ONE ON ONE FIGHTING. YOU WILL BASICALLY FIGHT AS IF IN A REAL LIFE CONFRONTATION.

UM... NOW...

LET'S BEGIN THE PRELIMINARY.



UMM.. THE WINNERS WILL ADVANCE TO THE THIRD TEST.

SINCE WE NOW HAVE EXACTLY 20 ENTRANTS, WE WILL CONDUCT 10 MATCHES AND...

