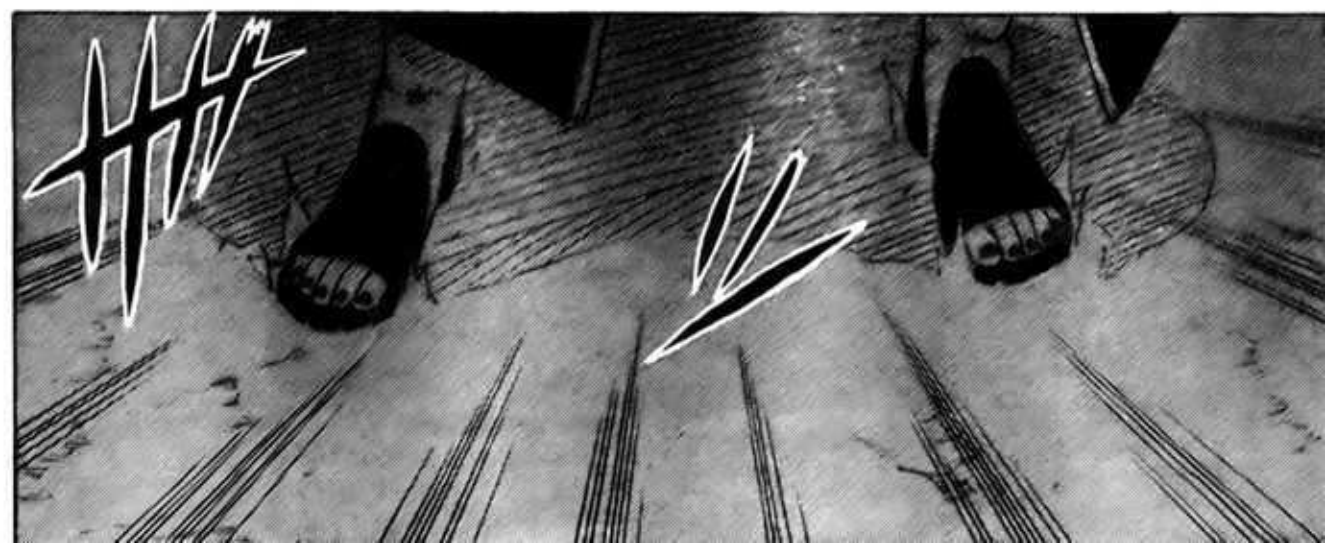
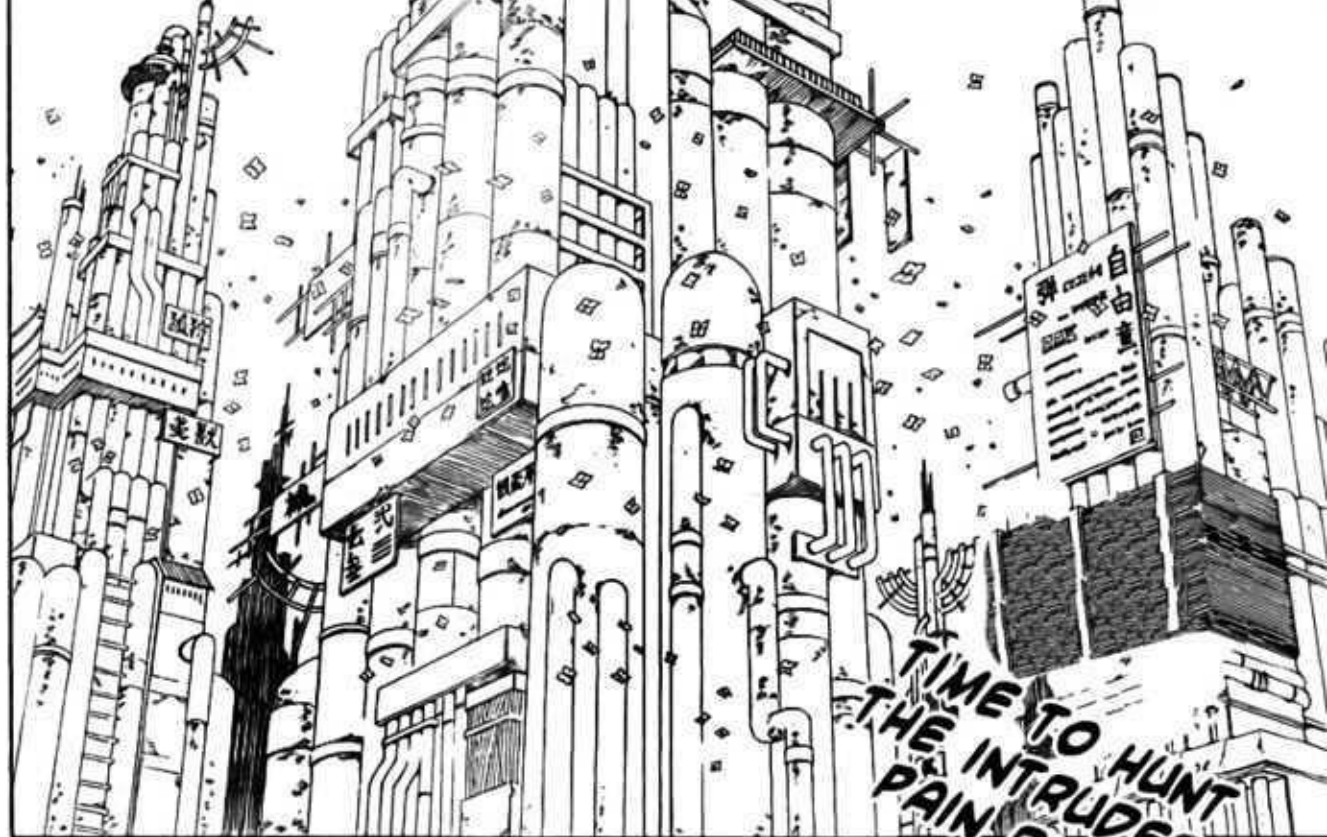


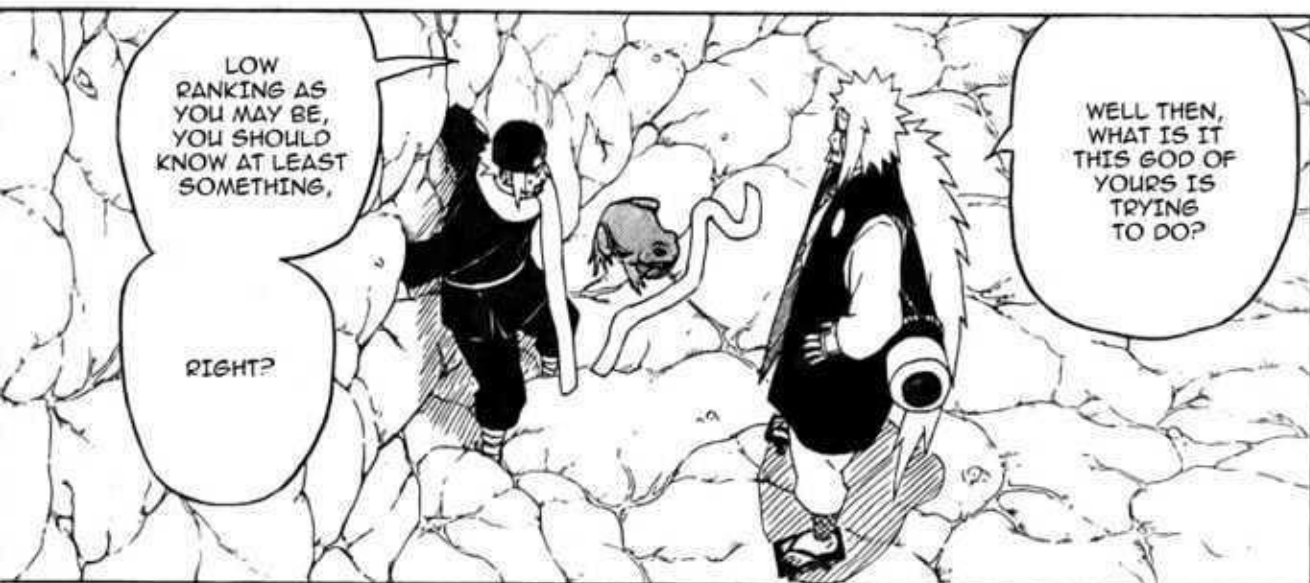
THIS BEAUTY OF A KUNOICHI FLUTTERS ABOUT TROUBLED TIMES.  
AKATSUKI'S KONAN SPRINGS TO ACTION ALONGSIDE PAIN.



SCANLATION BY MANGASHARE  
CLEANED BY KYLARA + BLUD  
RAW PROVIDED BY KYLARA  
TRANSLATION BY NIHONGAERI

岸本 斉史  
きしもと さいし

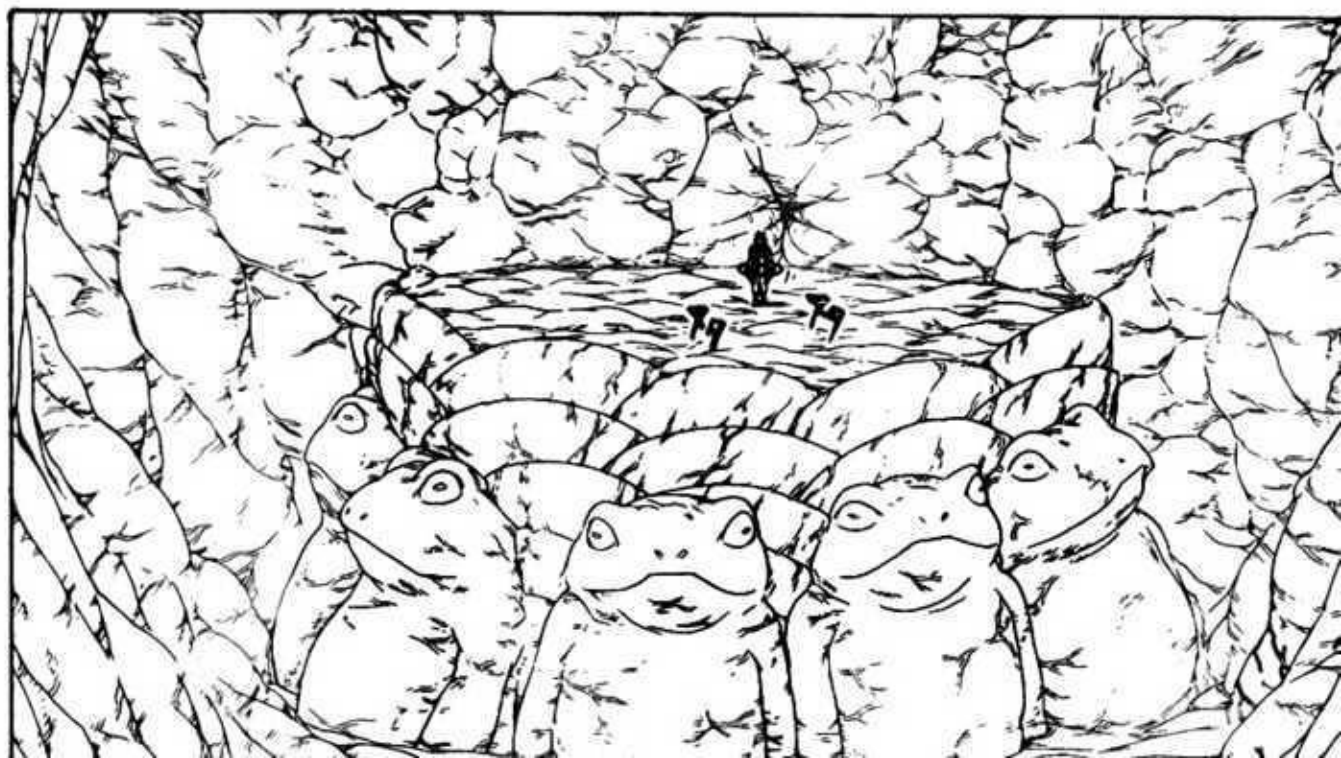














CERTAIN  
CIRCUMSTANCES  
HAVE ME WANTING  
YOU TO STAY OUT  
HERE FOR THE  
TIME BEING.

OH NO,  
I'M NOT  
PLANNING  
ON MORE  
TRAINING.

YOU KNOW  
QUITE WELL  
ABOUT  
"NARUTO'S  
KEY"

JIRAIYA!  
WHAT THE HELL  
DO YOU THINK  
YOU'RE DOING,  
BRINGING ME  
OUT HERE!







THIS IS  
JUST IN  
CASE...

BUT ANYWAY,  
I NEED TO  
BE STAMPING  
THE STORAGE  
RELEASE  
ORDER NOW



HEH...  
SOMEONE  
SO STRONG  
THAT YOU  
NEED TO LET  
ME GET AWAY  
BEFOREHAND?

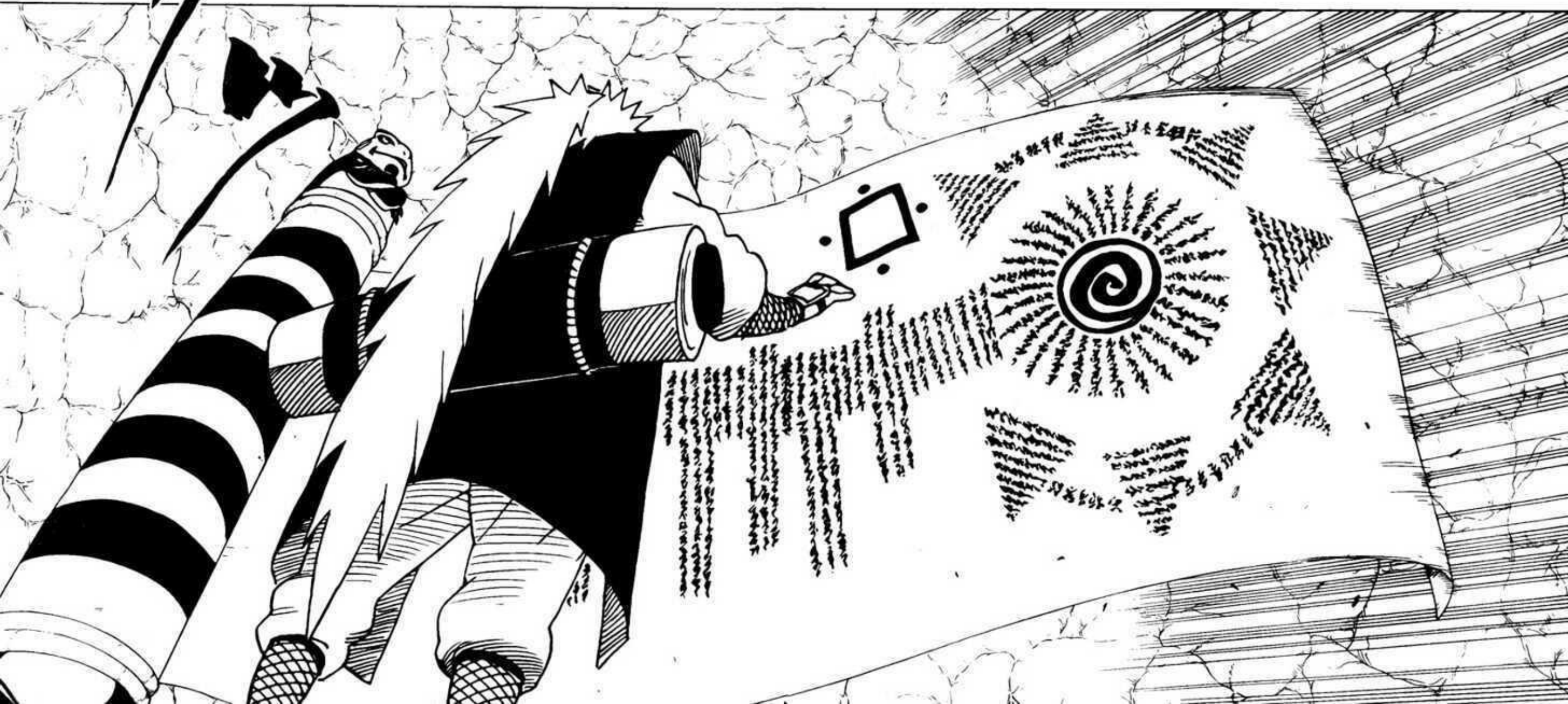


I'LL BE  
FIGHTING A  
SLIGHTLY  
TOUGH  
OPPONENT,  
SO...



WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?

STAY OUT,  
YOU SAY?







AND HOW LONG WILL YOU BE?



ALRIGHT!



BUT JUST IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME, STORE YOURSELF WITH NARUTO.

I SHOULDN'T BE TOO LONG...



HOW COULD YOU THINK OF PUTTING SUCH AN IMPORTANT KEY ON THE VERY SAFE IT MATCHES ...!!

AND WITH EACH YEAR THE FOURTH'S SEAL WEAKENS! THIS KEY WAS LEFT SO THAT THE SEAL COULD BE REINFORCED SHOULD THE NEED PRESENT ITSELF!



IT'S MY BELLY THAT HAS THE KEY MATCHING NARUTO'S HAKKE SEAL DRAWN ON IT!

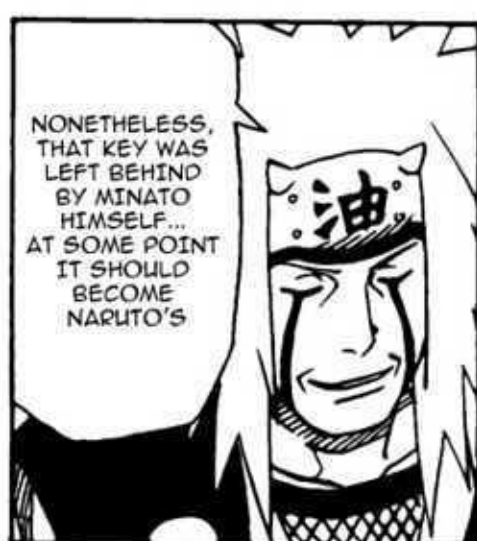
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING!!?



SURELY YOU HAVEN'T  
FORGOTTEN WHAT  
HAPPENED BEFORE  
WHEN YOU CONVINCED  
ME TO TWIST THE  
SHISHOU SEAL  
JUST A BIT...

BECAUSE I  
CAN'T IMAGINE  
YOU HAVE!

HE ISN'T  
READY YET!



NONETHELESS,  
THAT KEY WAS  
LEFT BEHIND  
BY MINATO  
HIMSELF...  
AT SOME POINT  
IT SHOULD  
BECOME  
NARUTO'S



NO, I HAVEN'T...  
BUT MINATO'S  
CHOICE TO  
ENTRUST THE  
KEY'S JUTSU  
DESIGN IS,  
FOR ME...



BUT DOES NARUTO  
HAVE ANY NEED FOR  
THAT IN THE FIRST  
PLACE!?



... A CLEAR  
SIGN THAT  
HE INTENDED  
NARUTO TO  
ONE DAY  
COMPLETE  
"THAT" JUTSU



NARUTO'S  
CHAKRA  
WAS PUSHED  
ASIDE, THE  
NINE-TAIL'S  
CHAKRA GUSHED  
OUT, AND  
NARUTO WAS  
TAKEN OVER  
BY IT.

FROM JUST  
OPENING THE  
SEAL A CRACK,



HE ISN'T EVEN CAPABLE OF  
CONTROLLING THE  
NINE-TAIL'S CHAKRA!



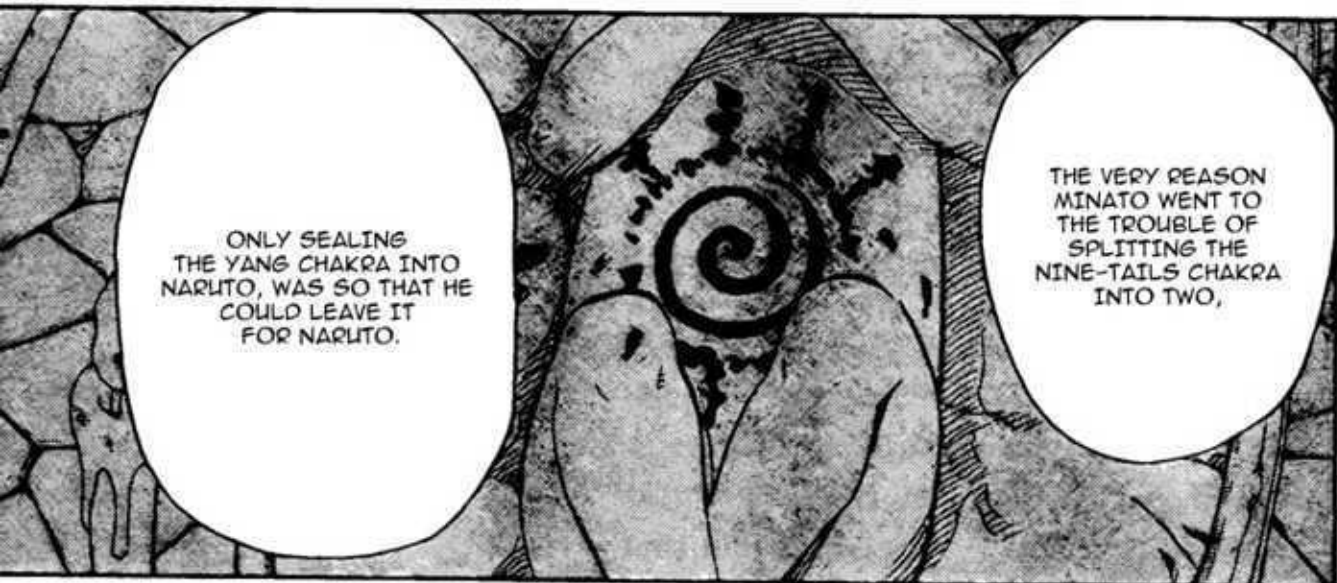
MINATO ONLY  
SEALED THE  
NINE-TAILS  
YIN CHAKRA  
USING THE  
SHIKI FUJIN



IT'S SAFE TO SAY  
THAT OPENING THE  
SEAL MORE AND  
CAUSING NARUTO  
TO FULLY BECOME  
THE NINE-TAILS  
WOULD BE STRICTLY  
AGAINST THEM!

SPEAKING  
OF THE FOURTH'S  
INTENTIONS,





ONLY SEALING  
THE YANG CHAKRA INTO  
NARUTO, WAS SO THAT HE  
COULD LEAVE IT  
FOR NARUTO.

THE VERY REASON  
MINATO WENT TO  
THE TROUBLE OF  
SPLITTING THE  
NINE-TAILS CHAKRA  
INTO TWO,



OR IF NOT, SURELY  
WANTING TO LEAVE  
POWER BEHIND FOR  
ONE'S CHILDO IS  
THE VERY DEFINITION  
OF PARENTAL LOVE

WHO KNOWS?  
PERHAPS NARUTO  
HAPPENED TO  
BE HIS MOST OR  
ONLY VIABLE  
OPTION FOR  
THE JUTSU...



STILL,

WHY WOULD  
ONE SEAL  
THE NINE-TAILS  
CHAKRA IN HIS  
VERY OWN CHILD?



HE'S NOT THE  
TYPE TO DO THINGS  
WITHOUT REASON,  
YOU SEE...



?



I WAS  
MINATO'S  
MASTER, SO  
I KNOW HIM  
QUITE WELL...



... YOU'RE  
JUST  
THINKING  
TOO DEEP



MINATO KNEW  
OF SOMETHING,  
SOMETHING  
OF GRAVE  
IMPORTANCE,

AND IF  
BECAUSE  
OF THAT  
SOMETHING  
HE CHOSE TO  
ENTRUST THE  
NINE-TAILS  
TO HIS OWN  
SON...



IT'S SAID  
THAT THE  
NINE-TAILS  
WAS A  
NATURALLY  
OCCURRING  
DISASTER  
THAT JUST  
HAPPENED TO  
STRIKE  
KONOHA...



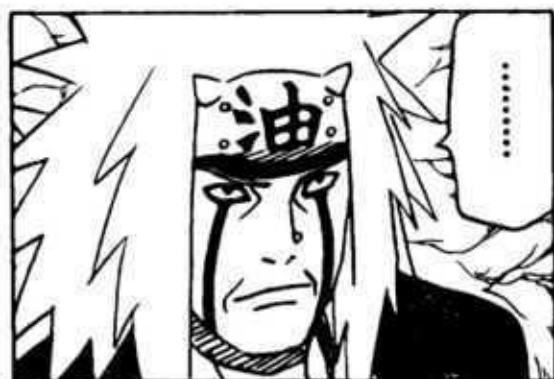
HUH?

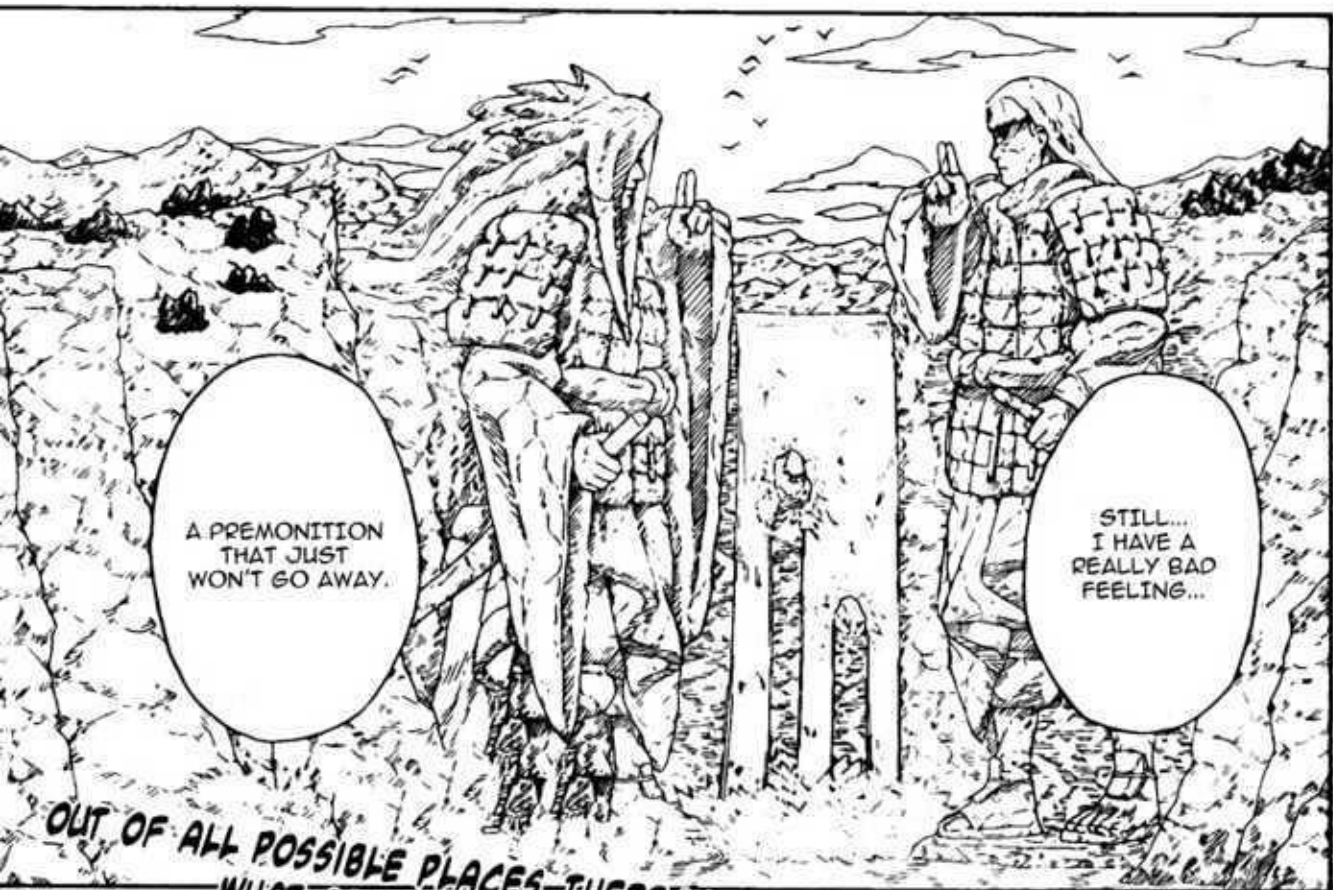


BUT RECENTLY  
I'VE BEGUN TO  
DOUBT WHETHER  
THAT TRULY IS  
THE CASE...





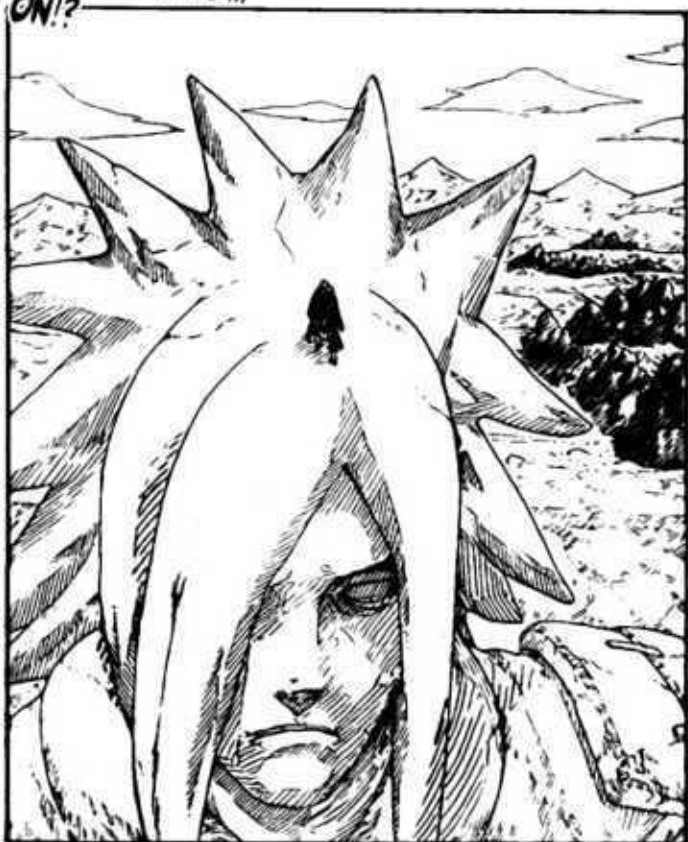




A PREMONITION  
THAT JUST  
WON'T GO AWAY.

STILL...  
I HAVE A  
REALLY BAD  
FEELING...

OUT OF ALL POSSIBLE PLACES, THERE "HE" STANDS...  
WHAT ARE HIS SIGHTS SET ON?!



**NARUTO** ナルト

... NO. 370 /  
おわり

"THE PAST KNOWN" ...!!