

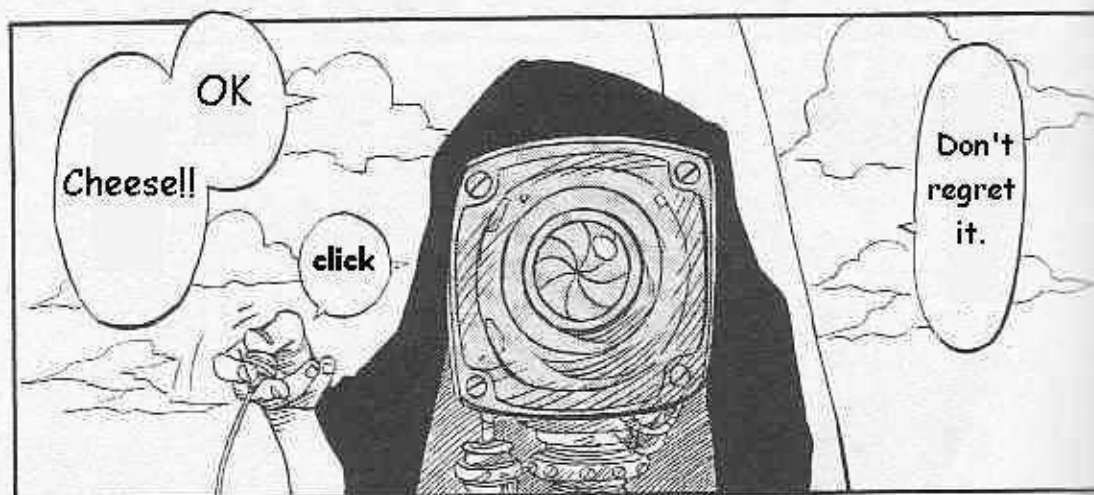


This above picture is the first Naruto I drew. This one wore boots instead of sandals and was shown as a one-shot in *Aka Maru Jump*. In this one-shot, Naruto was not a ninja manga at all but about demonic magic. The plot was also totally different. For my first manga, I really liked this Naruto character so I decided to use him in my new series. But drawing those goggles every week is a pain!! So I thought up the ninja head protector plate.

The
Village
of the
Hidden
Leaf

Right now, a
young man is
starting a new
life to become
a Ninja...

2: 木ノ葉丸!!

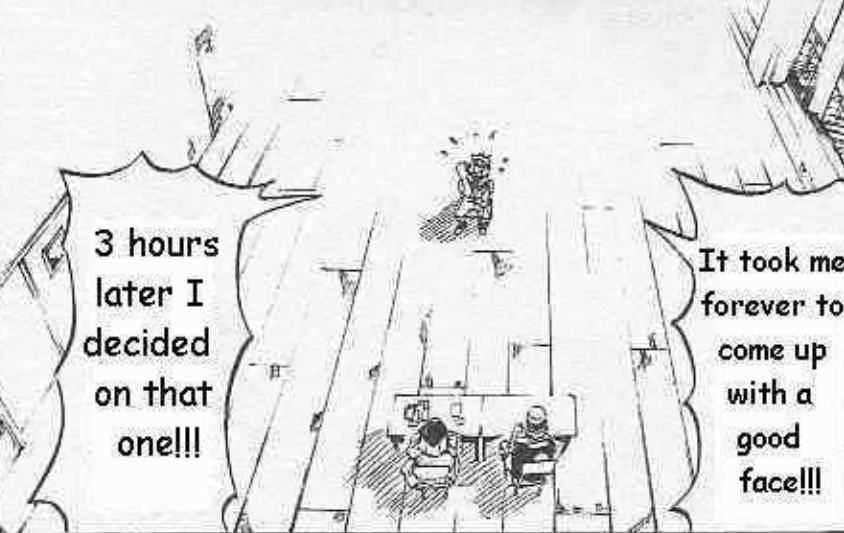


Ko no Ha Maru!!



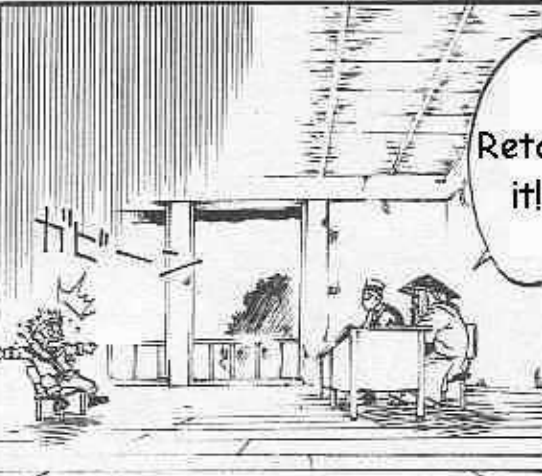
Profile-"My hobby is trouble making, favorite food is ramen, especially Miso."





3 hours later I decided on that one!!!

It took me forever to come up with a good face!!!



Retake it!!

It's pretty artistic eh?!!

Yeah, but, but...!!




kreek

Well... This Ninja Registration book lists all those in the village with high ability... This should be an important document to you, yet... What's with this face?!!

Where's your head plate?

I'm saving it for tomorrow's ceremony, I don't want to damage it.



Well!!! I don't understand stuff like that!!!

Old man!!
Fight me!!



sigh...

Does
it ever
end..?



Ah!!

bam

Owww!!

Oh!!
Not
again!!





Owwch!!

You
think
I give a
damn,
moron
?!!!!



Now
that
he
knows
who I
am,
he
can't
do
it..

Go
ahead
and
punch
me!!



めかね教師やみんな
同じに決まってるんだ

Pft.. He's
just the
same as
my tutor
and
everyone
else..

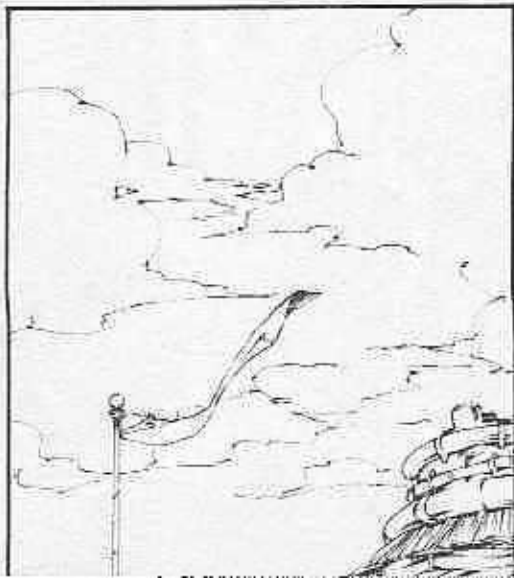
Geez..

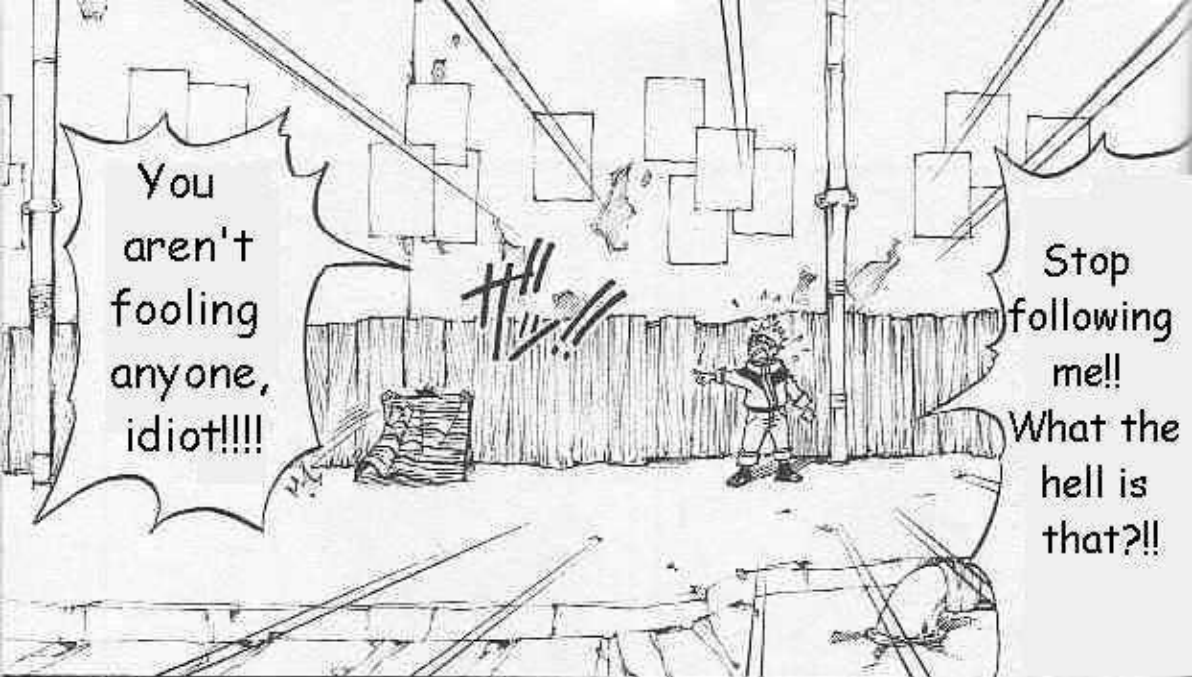


What?!!



Hn?

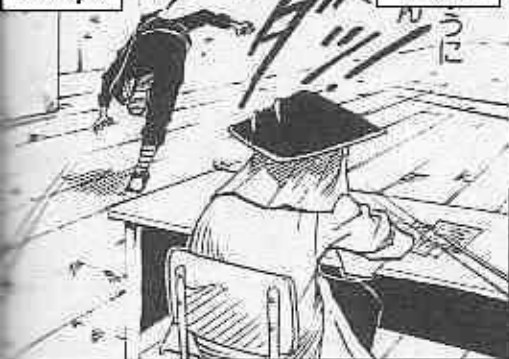




Was
that the
20th
surprise
today?

What?!!
That's
bad!!

sigh..
Why did
he turn
out like
that..



Looks
like he
followed
Naruto.

Huh?!!
Damn!!
He got
away
again!!



Hopefully
he won't
pick up
anything
stupid...

The fact
that he's
with
Naruto
is a bit
worri-
some..



Yes
Boss!!

OK!! The
basics are
"Bon,
Kyu, Bon"!!!
Now
do it!!!!

Trans-
form!!





Grandpa gave
me the name
Konohamaru.

I'm
named
after the
Village.

*Konoha=Leaf



When
everyone
sees me or
calls me...

..all they
see is
Hokage's
grandson.

..nobody
ever calls
me that.

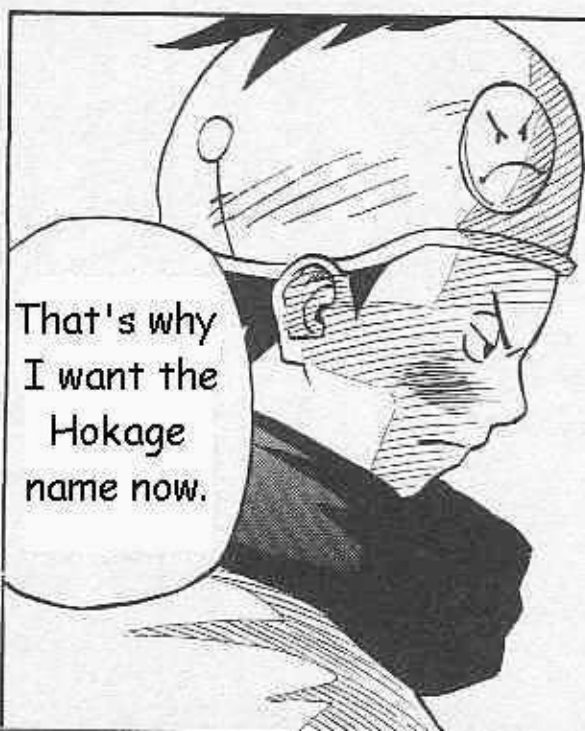
But even though
everyone is used
to that name
here..

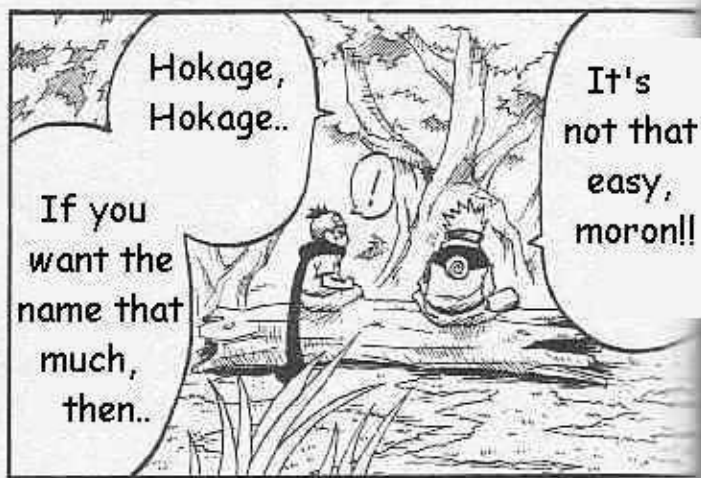
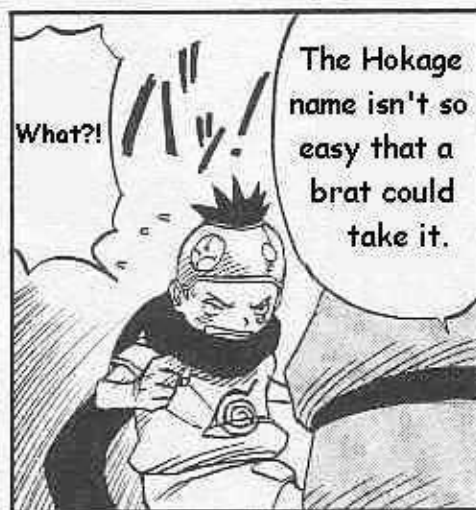


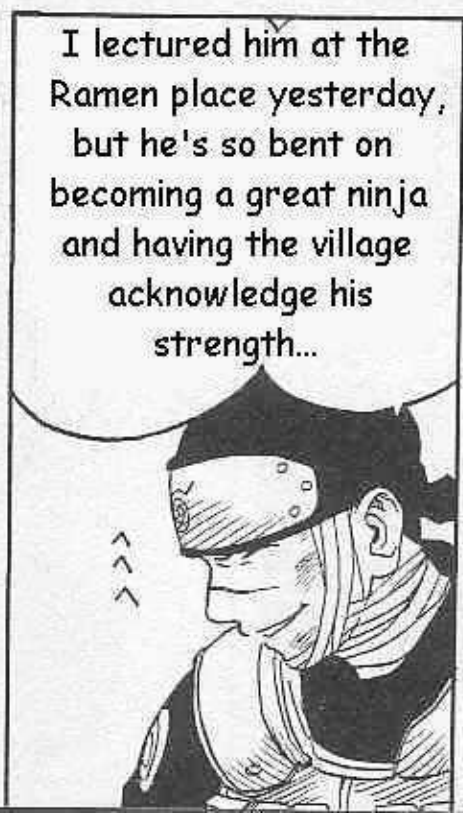
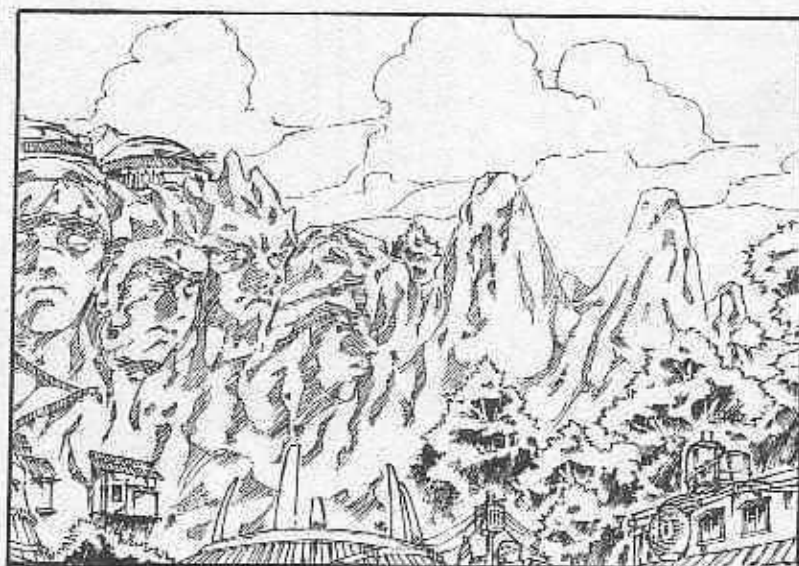
That's why
I want the
Hokage
name now.

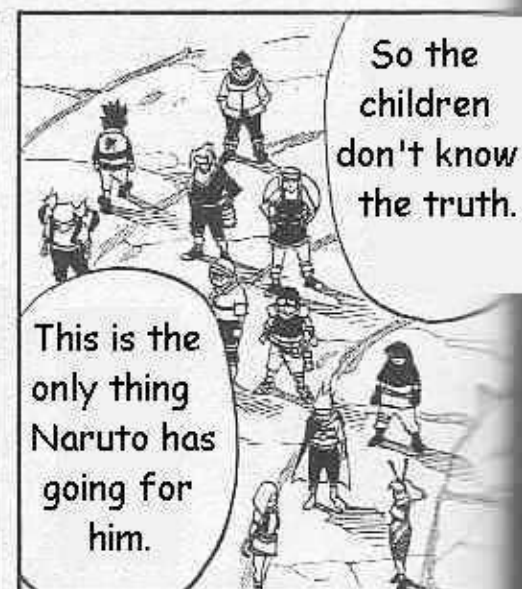
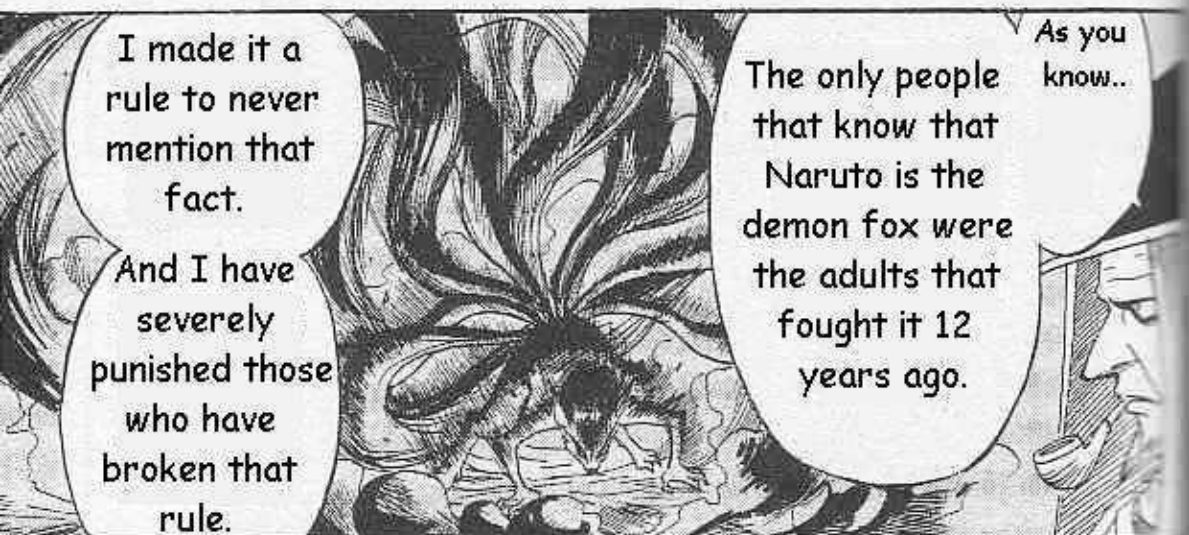
Nobody
sees me
as me.

I'm sick
of that.





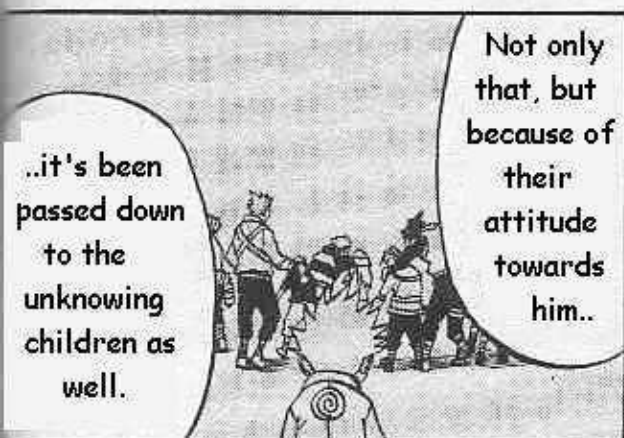






Naruto became the container of the Nine Tails for the Village.

The 4th sealed the Nine Tails into the belly button on a new born baby.



...it's been passed down to the unknowing children as well.

Not only that, but because of their attitude towards him..



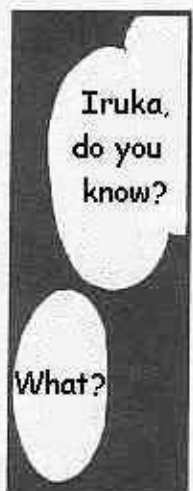
But the adults of the village don't see Naruto in this way.



Are frighteningly cold...

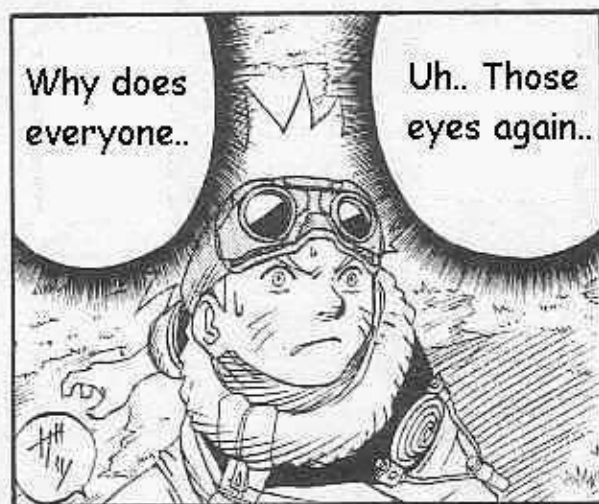


When a person hates and doesn't acknowledge another's existence...
The eyes that they use when looking at him..



Iruka, do you know?

What?



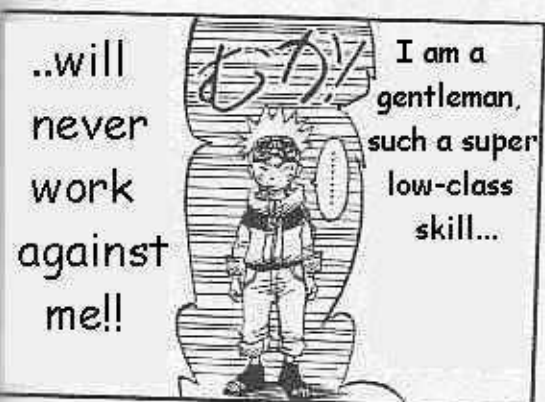


Huh?
Didn't
work..



What a
vulger
skill!!

W..
Wh..



..will
never
work
against
me!!

I am a
gentleman,
such a super
low-class
skill...



Take
this!!
Sexy
no
Jutsu!!



Kage
Bunshin
no
Jutsu!!

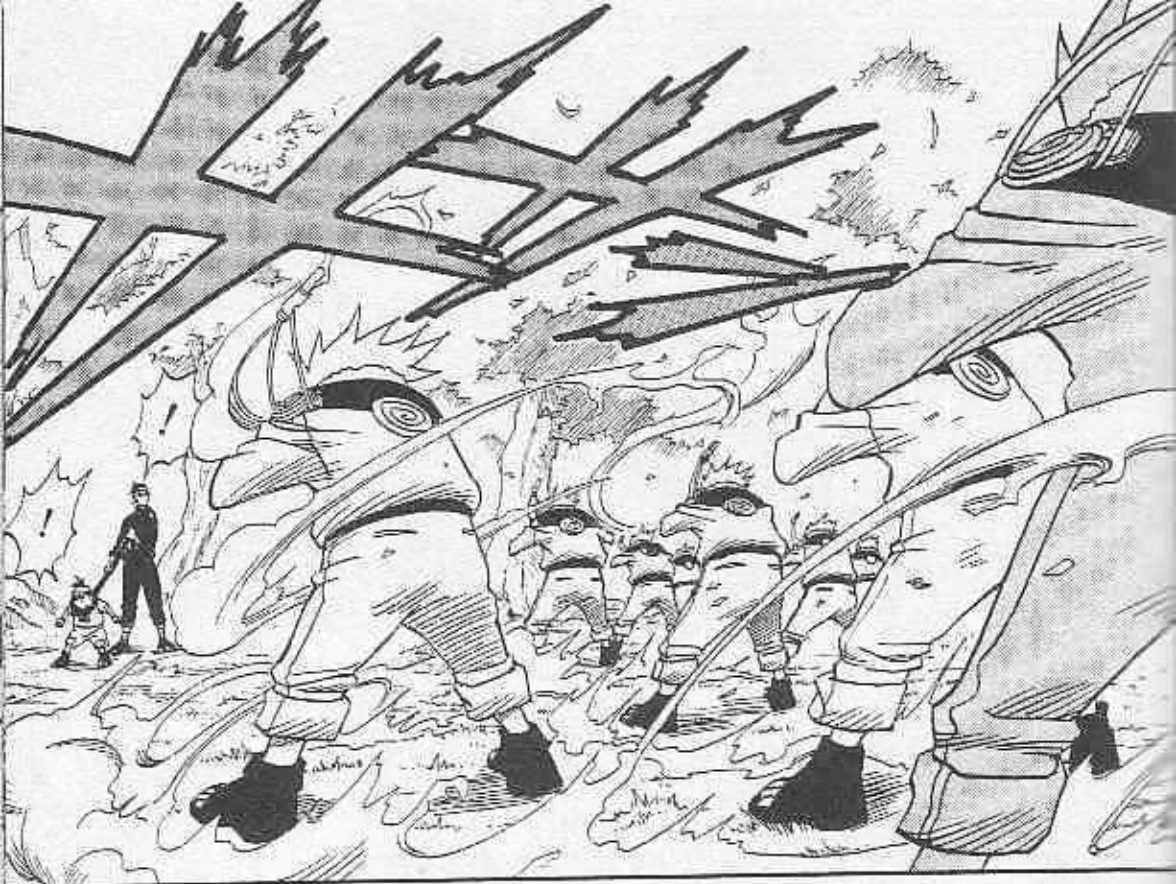


Just do what I say. I am
your easiest short-cut to
becoming Hokage.
Now let's go home!!

No!!!

Young
Master,
if you hang
out with
the likes
of him...

You'll
just turn
stupid!!!



I'm not
Mizuki.

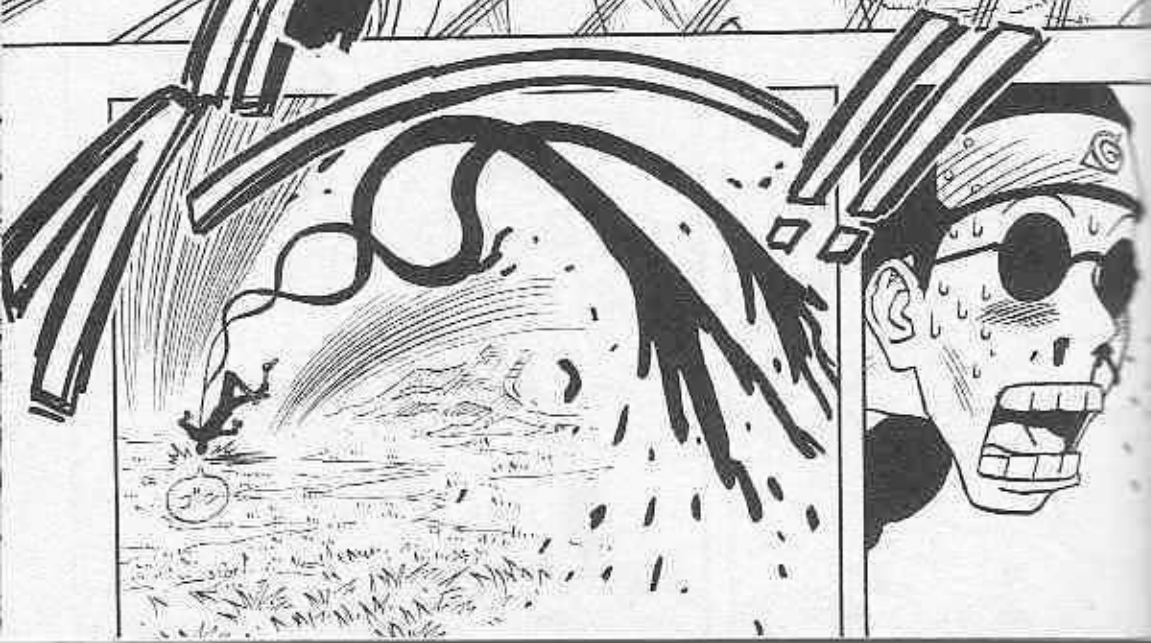
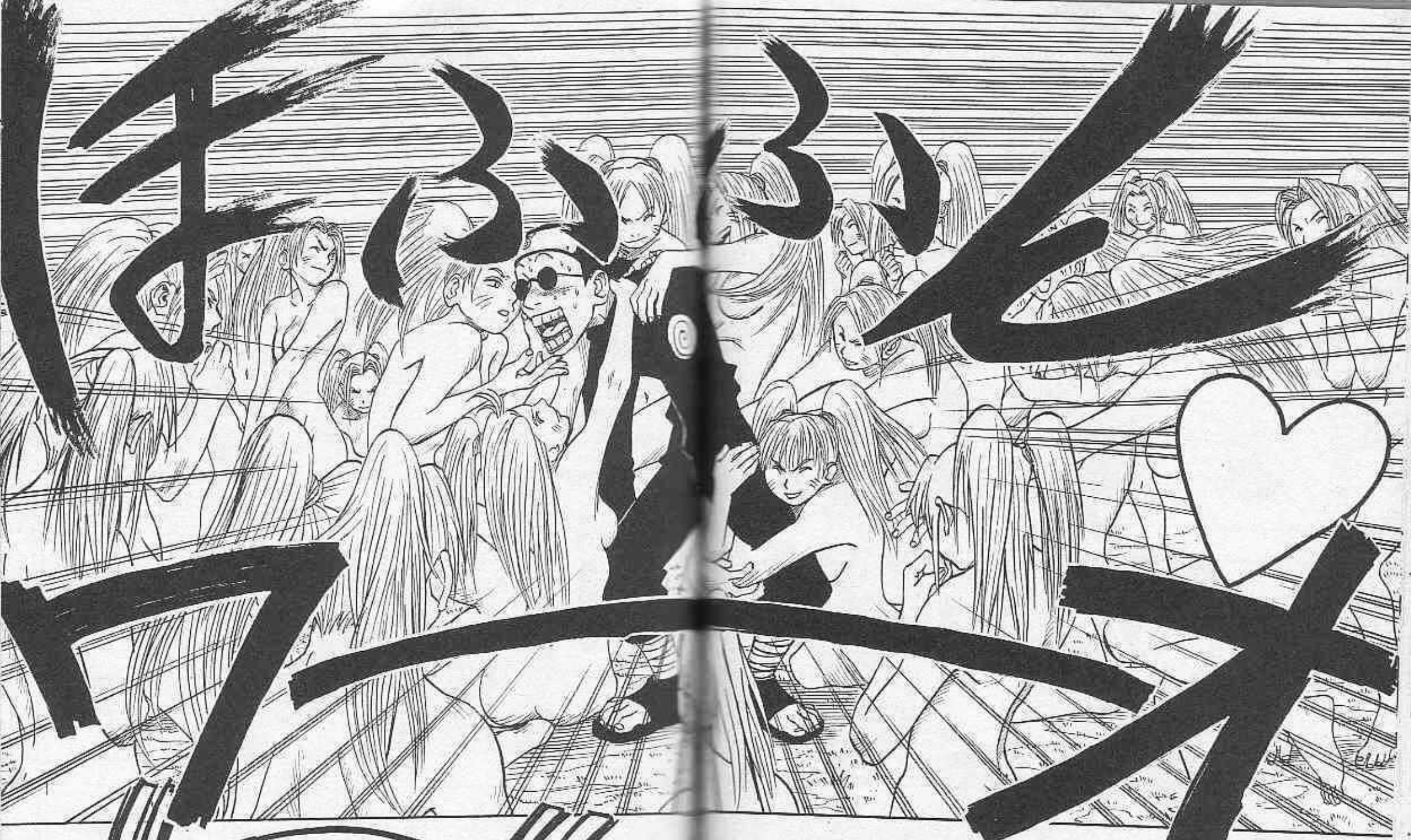
Heh
How
foolish,
I am
an elite
tutor.

That's
incred-
ible!!

Wow!!

Huh?

Trans-
form!!



Harem
no
Jutsu!!

I call
that
one...

Damn it!!!
I couldn't
even
defeat my
tutor!!!

He's created
another stupid
skill.. I'd fall
for this one
too. Probably..

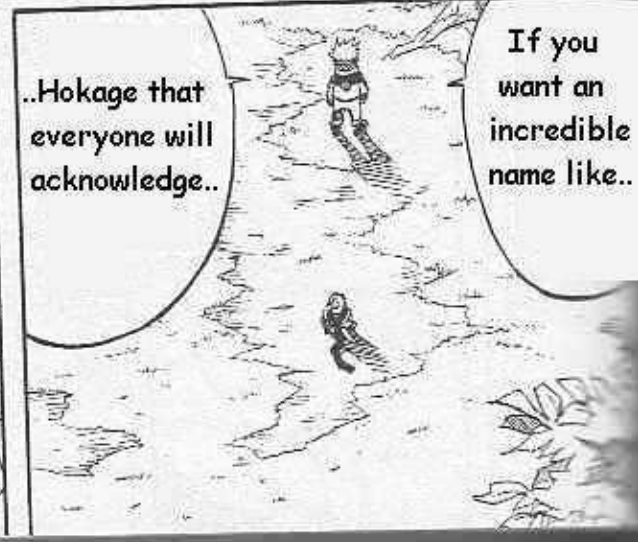
He
combined
the Shadow
Clone and
the Sexy
no Jutsu..

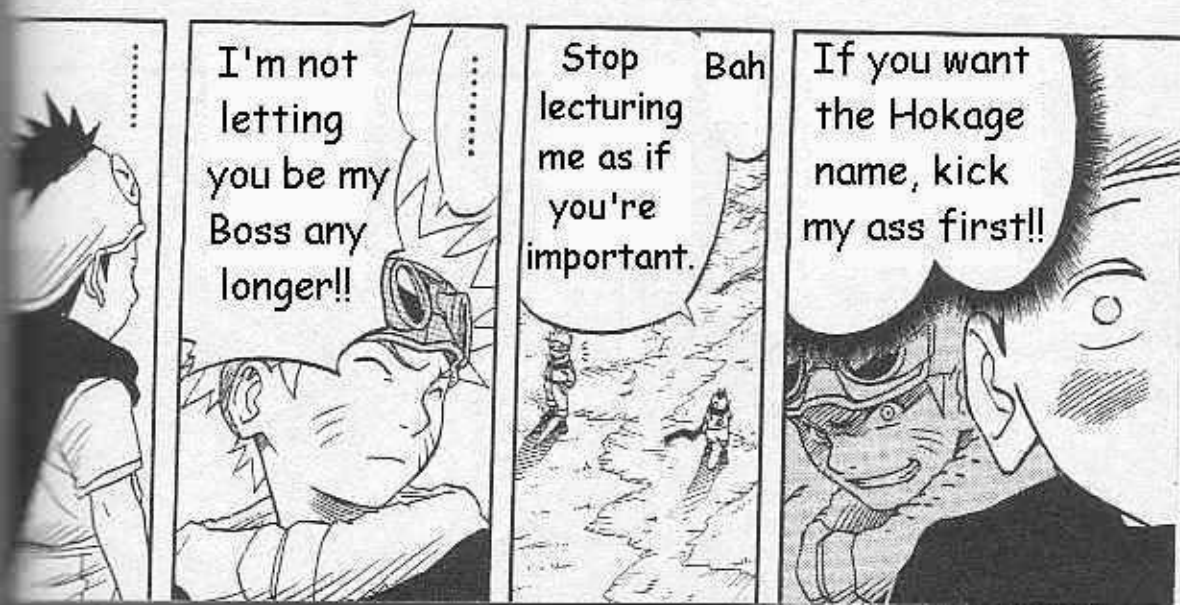
This is the Hokage
name, the name of
the greatest ninja
in the Village.

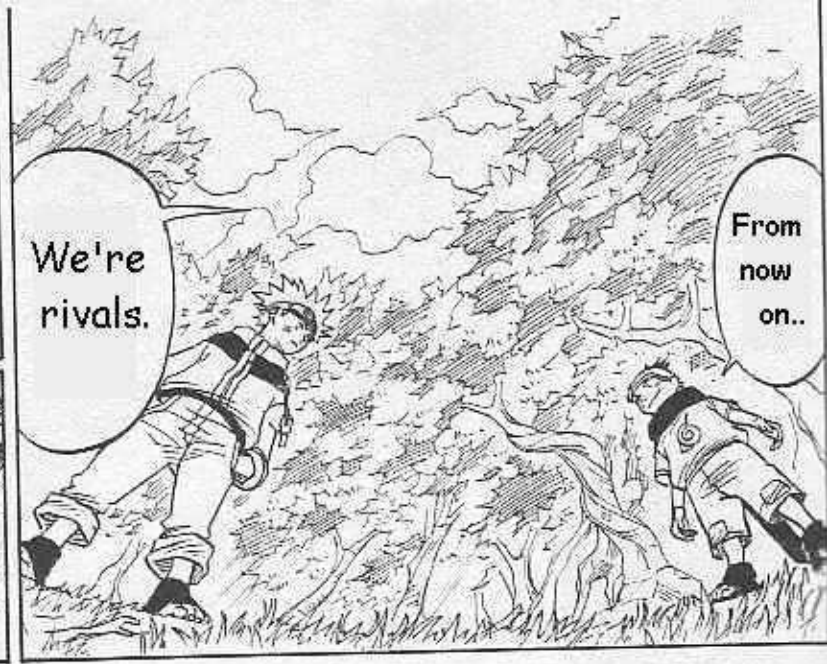
It's
not that
easy,
dummy!!

I really want
a name that
people will
acknowledge!!
Yet why?!!!

bam







We're
rivals.

From
now
on..

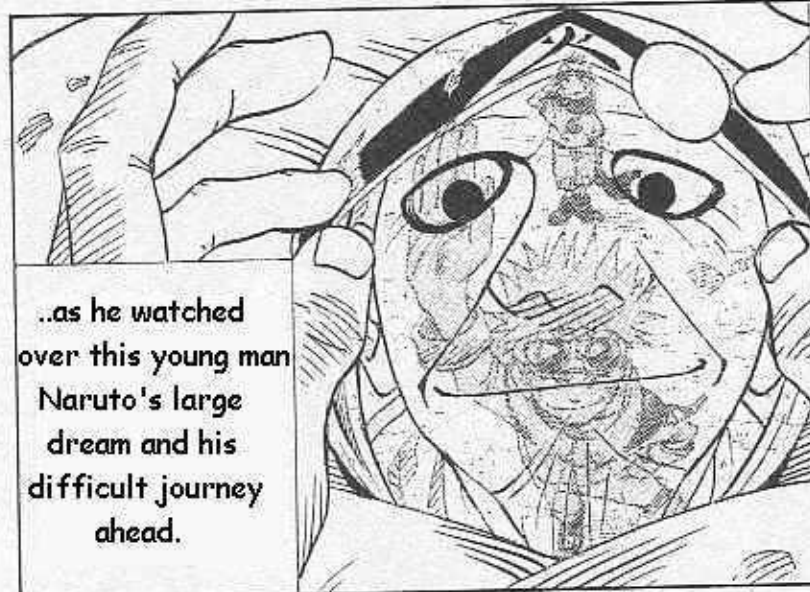


Konoha
-maru.

I'll be
looking
forward
to it...



Sorry, but starting
tomorrow I'm taking my
first step as a ninja. But
hey, one day I'll fight
you for that Hokage
name..



..as he watched
over this young man
Naruto's large
dream and his
difficult journey
ahead.

The way to the
true ninja is still
far away..
Though knowing
this, Hokage
smiled kindly...