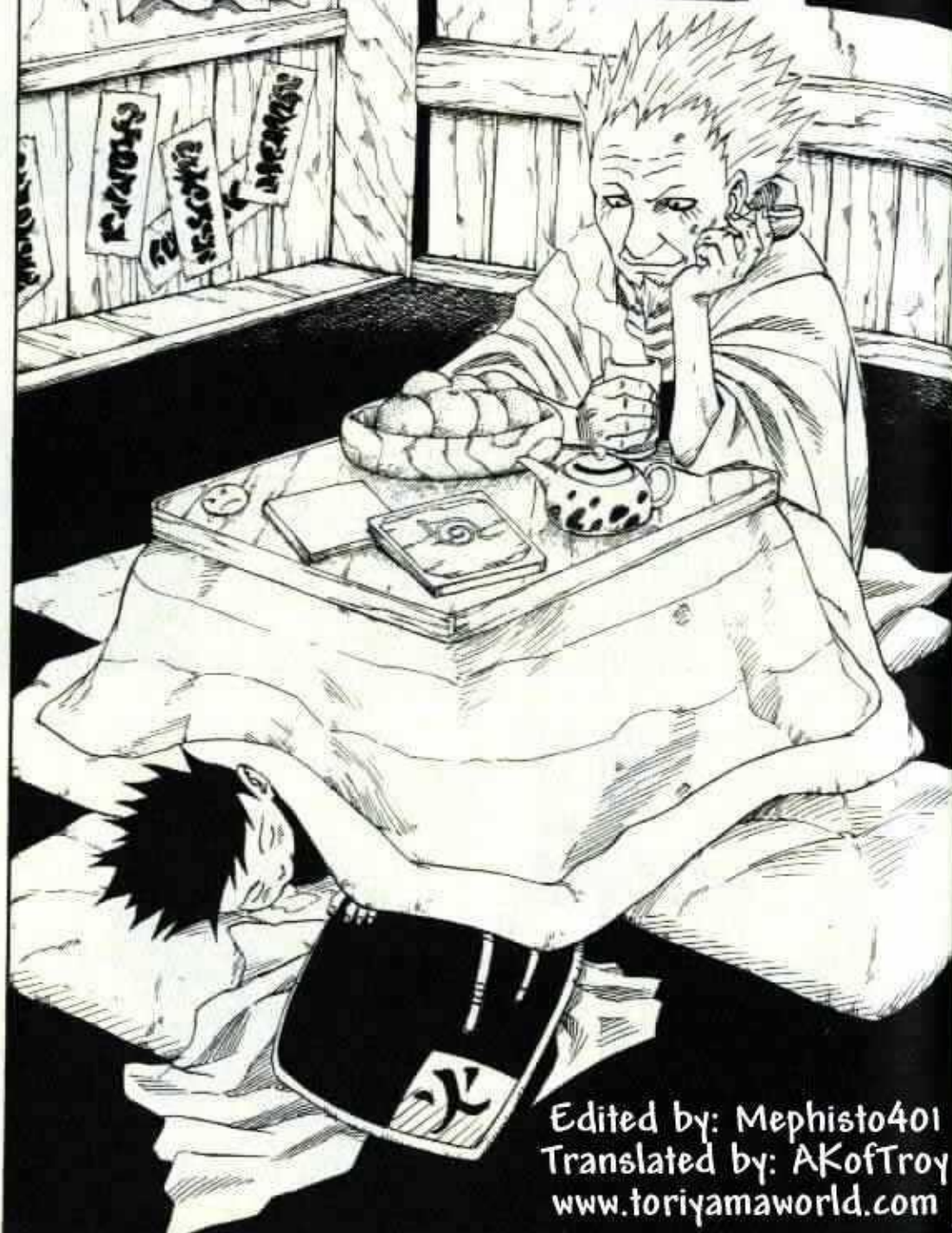


ナンバー



# 61 : The Path You Should Take...



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[www.toriyamaworld.com](http://www.toriyamaworld.com)



FIGHT...!?

.....



YOU IDIOT!!  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
SAYING?!!

SA...  
SASUKE  
-KUN...!!



WE DON'T  
HAVE  
ANY TIME  
LEFT...

.....  
SORRY



YOU'RE  
SERIOUS  
.....

.....



A black and white manga panel showing Naruto and Sasuke in a forest. Naruto is in the foreground, seen from behind, wearing his headband and a dark shirt with a circular emblem. Sasuke is behind him, looking towards the right. The background consists of large, gnarled tree trunks.

SHUT  
UP...!!

HEY  
SASUKE  
!!!


SA... SASUKE  
-KUN...  
I DON'T  
KNOW ABOUT  
THIS...

KABUTO  
-SAN  
HELPED  
US!!

A black and white manga panel showing Naruto with his mouth wide open, shouting. His arms are raised in the air. He is wearing his headband and a dark shirt.

WHAT A  
JERK!!!

SASUKE  
-KUN...

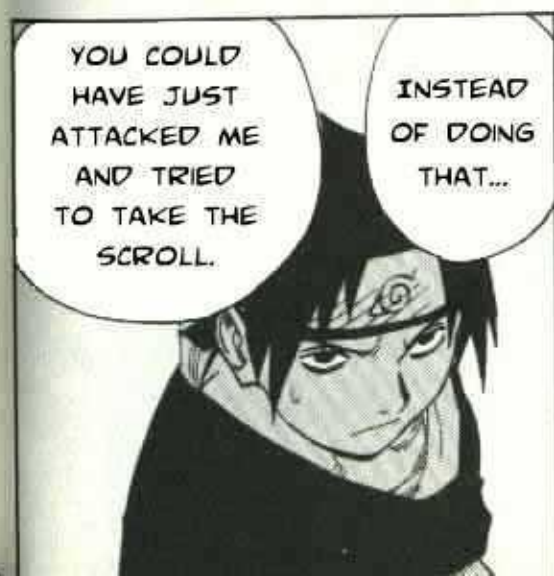
A black and white manga panel showing Sasuke from the chest up, facing right. He is wearing a dark shirt and has a serious expression. His right hand is raised, with his index finger pointing forward.

THIS IS  
THE ONLY  
WAY FOR US  
TO SURVIVE  
IN THIS  
FOREST.

I  
SAID IT  
BEFORE...

A black and white manga panel showing Naruto and Sasuke walking away from the viewer. Naruto is in the foreground, wearing his headband and a dark shirt. Sasuke is behind him, also wearing a dark shirt. They are walking on a path through a forest.

WE DON'T  
HAVE A  
CHOICE...











JUST THINK  
ABOUT  
IT...

!



ARE THERE  
REALLY  
ENEMIES  
LEFT?

YES,  
NO DOUBT  
ABOUT  
IT.



THE  
GOAL  
TO THIS  
TEST...

IS THE  
TOWER,  
RIGHT?



H M M ...



IN A  
LARGE AREA  
LIKE THIS  
JUNGLE?

DO YOU  
KNOW THE  
SMARTEST  
FIGHTING  
TACTIC...



I SEE..  
AN  
AMBUSH  
!!

OH  
!!

NEAR  
THE  
TOWER.

SO, WHEN  
THERE IS ONLY  
1 DAY LEFT,  
THE EASIEST  
PLACE TO GET  
A SCROLL IS...

GO AFTER A TEAM  
THAT HAS ASSEMBLED  
BOTH THE HEAVEN  
AND EARTH SCROLLS  
AND IS HEADING  
FOR THE TOWER...!

SO  
BASIC-  
ALLY,  
WE...

OH!  
I GET IT!  
I GET IT!

.....  
?

.....

IMI

HUH  
?

YOU'RE  
ONE  
-THIRD  
CORRECT



THERE  
SHOULD BE  
OTHERS IN  
YOUR SITUATION  
ALREADY  
WAITING AT THE  
TOWER WITH  
TRAPS SET.



I MEAN THAT  
YOU GUYS  
AREN'T THE  
ONLY ONES  
THINKING THAT.



HAH!!  
IT'S MORE  
EXCITING  
WITH THE  
HANDICAP!!



I SEE!!!  
SO THERE  
ARE ALREADY  
TONS OF  
ENEMIES  
NEAR THE  
TOWER...

JUST  
WAITING TO  
AMBUSH  
US!!

KABUTO  
-SAN,  
WHAT'S THE  
REMAINING  
ONE-THIRD?



WE ALL  
PASS  
THE  
SECOND  
TEST!!

BRING IT ON!!  
IF WE KICK  
ALL THEIR  
ASSES AND  
GET THE  
HEAVEN  
SCROLL..



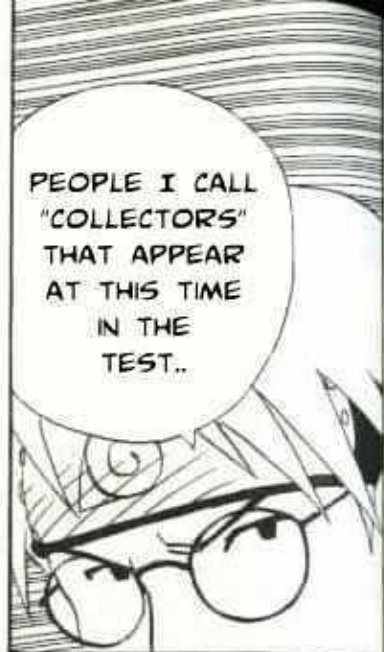




THE  
DIFFICULT TEST  
IN THIS FOREST  
OF DEATH....  
THAT SPECIAL  
SITUATION  
GIVES BIRTH  
TO THEM...

EVEN  
THOUGH  
THE TOWER  
IS RIGHT  
IN FRONT  
OF THEIR  
EYES...

COLLECT-  
ORS?



PEOPLE I CALL  
"COLLECTORS"  
THAT APPEAR  
AT THIS TIME  
IN THE  
TEST..



..IN CASE THEY  
RUN INTO A  
STRONG ENEMY  
AND NEED A GIFT  
TO ENSURE  
THEIR ESCAPE.

BASICALLY...  
THOSE  
WHO COLLECT  
EXTRA  
SCROLLS...



BY DELIVERING  
AN EXTRA SCROLL  
TO A TEAM  
FROM THEIR  
OWN VILLAGE.

OR THOSE  
THAT TRY  
TO RECEIVE  
FAVOR AND  
INFORMATION...



TO ENSURE  
AN EASIER TIME  
DURING THE  
THIRD TEST...

OR, THOSE  
THAT DESIRE  
TO PICK OFF  
MORE TEAMS  
WHILE AT AN  
ADVANTAGE...



THE  
WORST  
POSSIBLE  
ENEMIES  
...!!







WE MUST  
BE CAREFUL  
FROM HERE  
ON OUT.

NOW,  
WE CAN  
FINALLY  
SEE THE  
TOWER.



AN  
ENEMY  
ALREADY  
...!?



ALRIGHT!!!  
LET'S GO!!!



THERE  
!!!







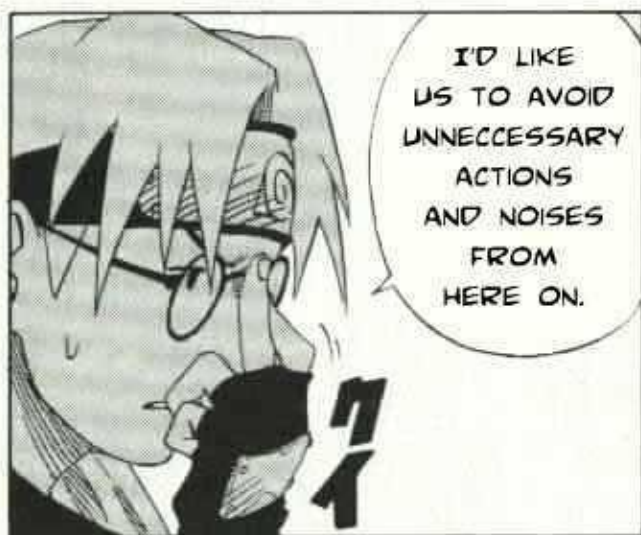


THAT'S  
NASTY... LOOK  
AT ALL  
THOSE LEGS.

EWW...  
SO BIG...

P  
H  
E  
W  
...

OH...  
IT WAS  
JUST A  
CENTIPEDE..



I'D LIKE  
US TO AVOID  
UNNECESSARY  
ACTIONS  
AND NOISES  
FROM  
HERE ON.



NARUTO  
-KUN....

N  
N



LET'S MOVE  
AS SLOWLY  
AND SAFELY  
AS TIME  
ALLOWS.

FROM  
THIS  
POINT  
ON...



WILL ONLY  
TIP OFF  
OUR  
ENEMIES...

AND THEY DO  
NOT HAVE  
A FUN WELCOME  
PARTY PLANNED  
FOR US.

MOVING  
THROUGH  
THE FOREST  
LIKE AN  
ELEPHANT...







HOW LONG  
HAVE WE  
BEEN  
WALKING...?

SAKURA  
-CHAN  
...?!

WE AREN'T  
GETTING  
CLOSER TO  
THE TOWER  
AT ALL...

WE'VE ALREADY  
ARRIVED AT  
OUR  
WELCOMING  
PARTY...

SEEMS  
LIKE...

IT SEEMS  
RIGHT IN FRONT  
OF US...  
THIS IS WEIRD...

...THAT'S  
TRUE...



THAT'S...  
NO WAY  
!!!



SEE...  
LOOK RIGHT  
THERE...





GENJUTSU

.....?

NO  
WAY  
!!!

WH.. WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
?!!!

THEY ARE  
WATCHING  
US...

SEEMS LIKE  
THEY TOOK  
ADVANTAGE  
OF OUR  
WORRIES...

AND  
MADE US  
WALK  
AROUND IN  
CIRCLES.

LOOKS  
LIKE  
IT...

WE HAVE  
TOTALLY  
FALLEN INTO  
A TRAP...





AND  
USE THAT  
OPPORTUNITY  
TO GET  
US....

THEY  
PROBABLY  
PLAN TO  
TIRE US OUT  
AND...



SO THEY  
SHOULD BE  
ABOUT READY  
TO ATTACK....



THEN IT'S GOING  
JUST AS THEY  
PLANNED...



YEAH...





