

NARUTO

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story & Art by

Masashi Kishimoto

volume 38



岸本齊史

Many of my friends are getting married lately. It's too bad I'm too busy to attend their weddings... I do so enjoy receptions.

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2007

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.



NARUTO VOL. 38
The SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

Translation/Mari Morimoto

English Adaptation/Naomi Kokubo & Eric-Jon Rössel Waugh

Touch-up Art & Lettering/Sabrina Heep

Design/Sean Lee

Editor/Joel Enos

Editor in Chief, Books/Alvin Lu

Editor in Chief, Magazines/Marc Weidenbaum

VP, Publishing Licensing/Rika Inouye

VP, Sales & Product Marketing/Gonzalo Ferreyra

VP, Creative/Linda Espinosa

Publisher/Hyoe Narita

NARUTO © 1999 by Masashi Kishimoto. All rights reserved. First published in Japan in 1999 by SHUEISHA Inc., Tokyo. English translation rights arranged by SHUEISHA Inc. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

The rights of the author(s) of the work(s) in this publication to be so identified have been asserted in accordance with Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC

P.O. Box 77010

San Francisco, CA 94107

SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

First printing, March 2009



PARENTAL ADVISORY

NARUTO is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

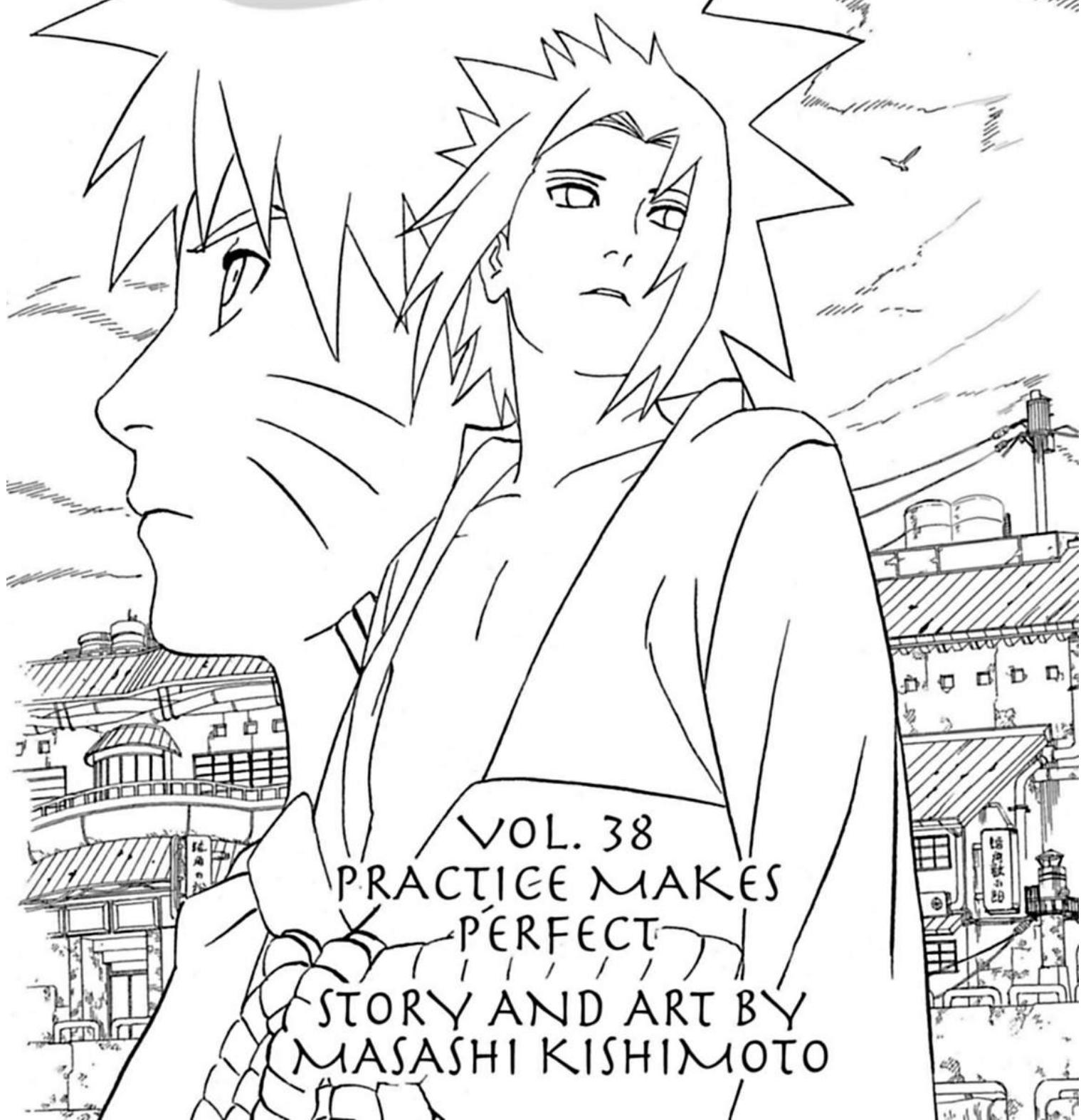
ratings.viz.com





SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

NARUTO



VOL. 38

PRACTICE MAKES
PERFECT

STORY AND ART BY
MASASHI KISHIMOTO

CHARACTERS





Naruto was once the bane of the Konohagakure Ninja Academy. Nevertheless, alongside his friends Sasuke and Sakura, he successfully joins the ranks of the ninja.

During the Chūnin Journeyman Ninja Selection Exam, Orochimaru launches *Operation Destroy Konoha*. Lord Hokage sacrifices his life to halt the attack; in the aftermath, Tsunade steps up to become the Fifth Hokage. Meanwhile, charmed by the power of Orochimaru, Sasuke defeats Naruto and departs Konoha; struggle as he will, Naruto can do nothing to stop him.

More than two years pass. Naruto and his friends undergo rigorous training. Yet when they finally catch up with Sasuke, his power overwhelms them.

Determined to best Sasuke, Naruto returns for another round of intense training. Meanwhile, Shikamaru and the others violently clash with the Akatsuki group. Though the scene looks grim, Naruto arrives just in time to deliver his lethal attack...

The Story So Far :



NARUTO

VOL. 38
PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

CONTENTS



NUMBER 340: THE PERILOUS BRIDGE	7
NUMBER 341: PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT...!!	24
NUMBER 342: THE BLACK KING...!!	45
NUMBER 343: MERCILESS...	65
NUMBER 344: THE SNAKE...	83
NUMBER 345: THE RITUAL...!!	101
NUMBER 346: THE SECRET OF THE NEW JUTSU!!	119
NUMBER 347: A DETOUR!!	137
NUMBER 348: AND ONE MAKES THREE!!	155
NUMBER 349: THE NORTHERN HIDEOUT	173

100

HERE
WE
GO!

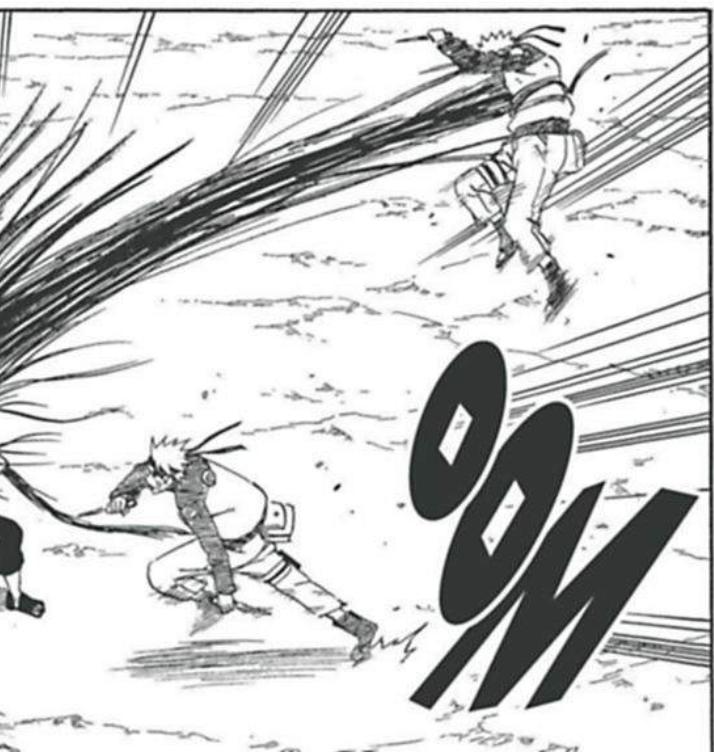
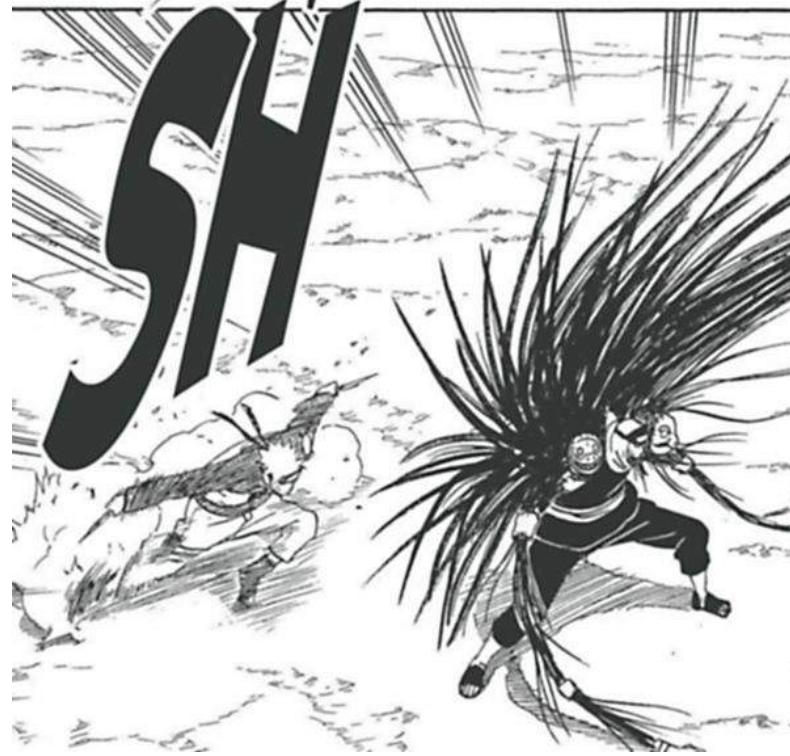
WIND
STYLE!
RASEN-
SHURI-
KEN!

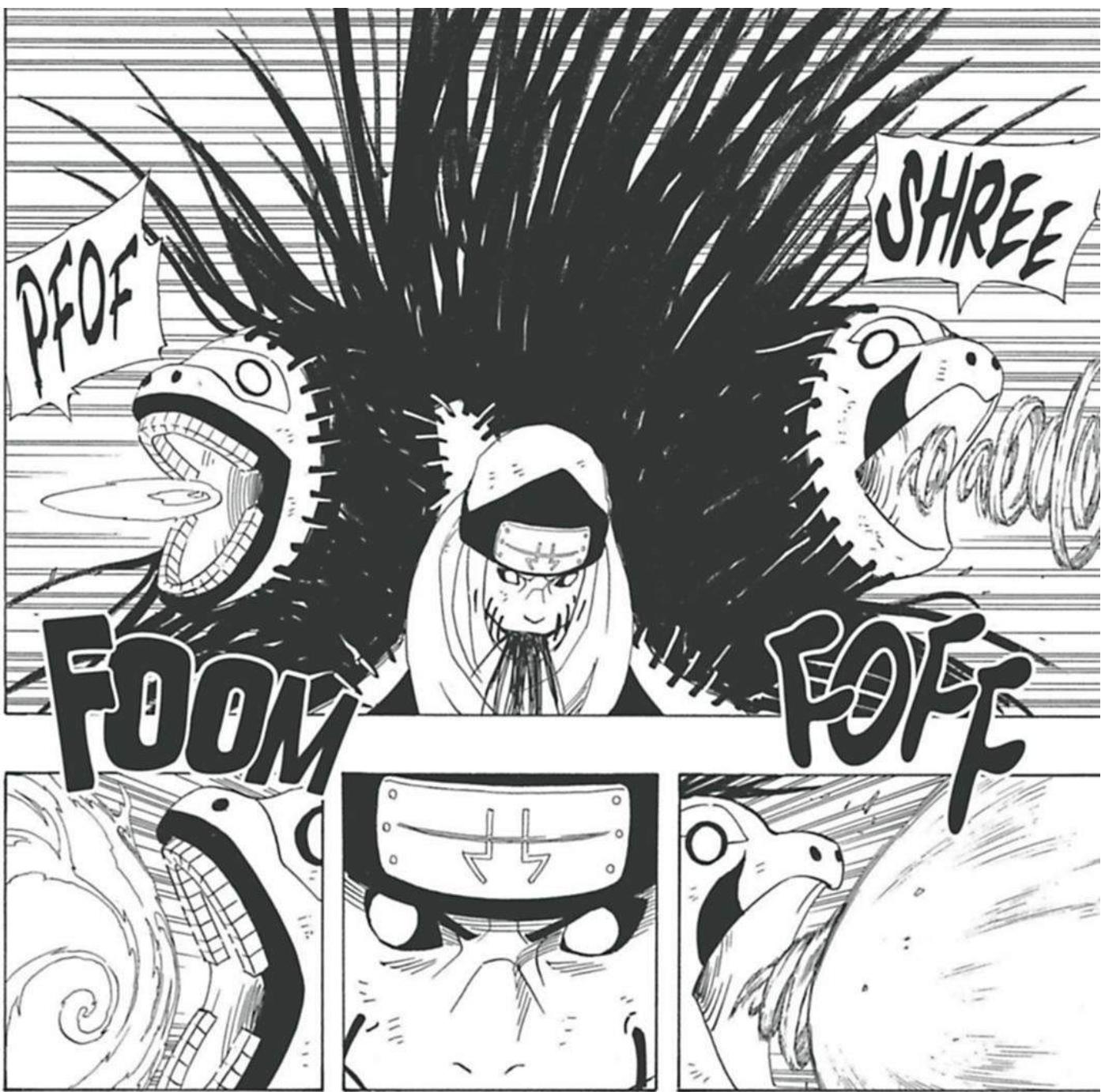
08H

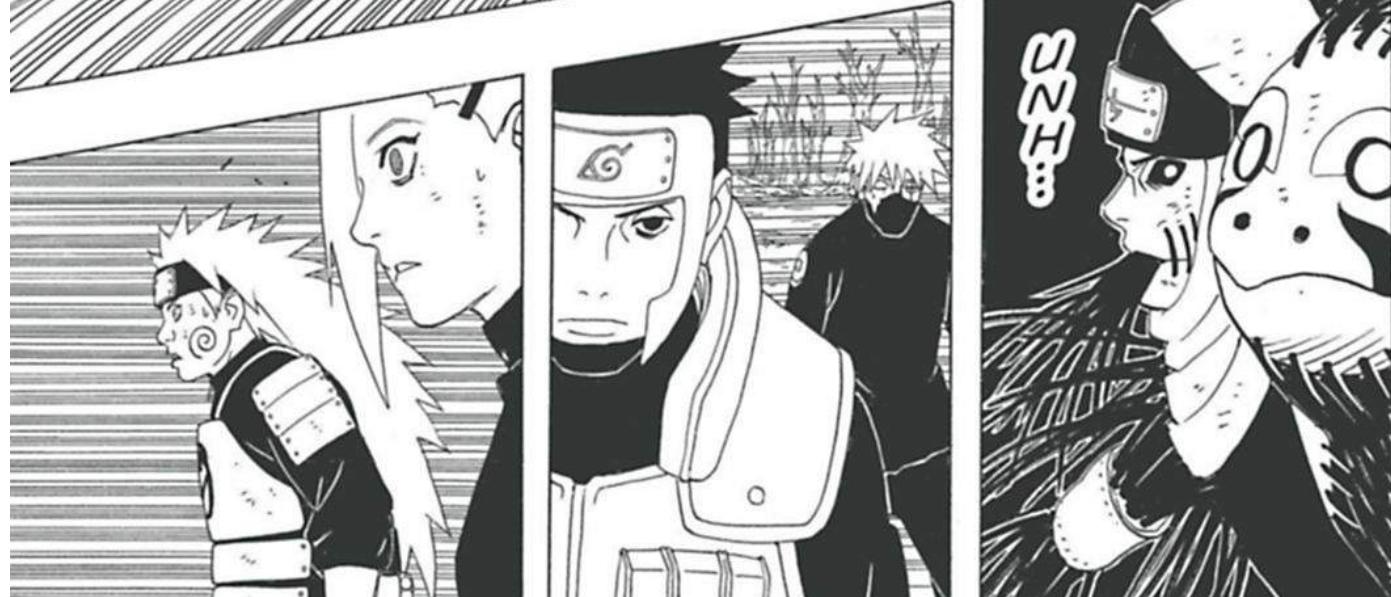
Number 340:
The Perilous Bridge

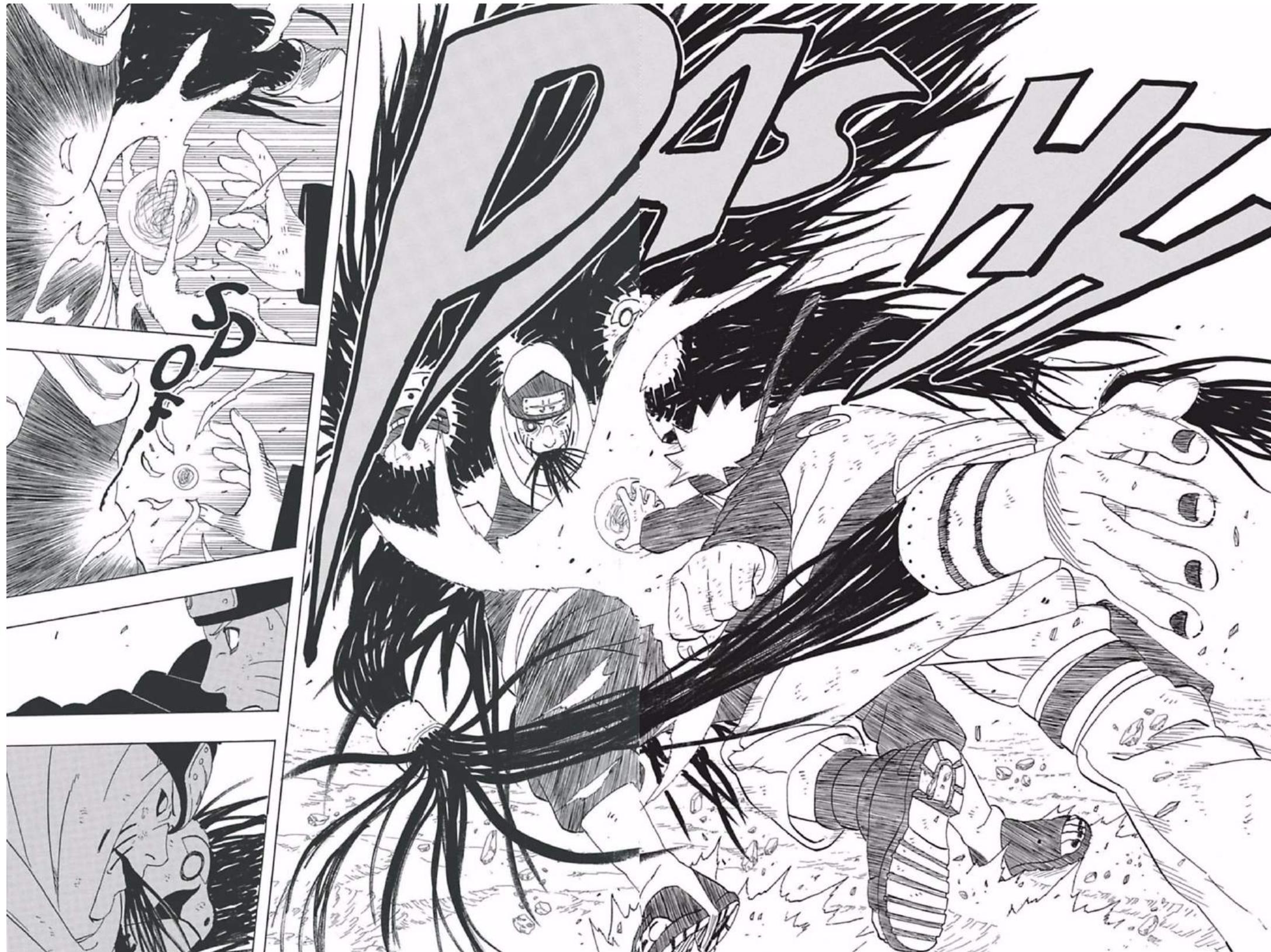


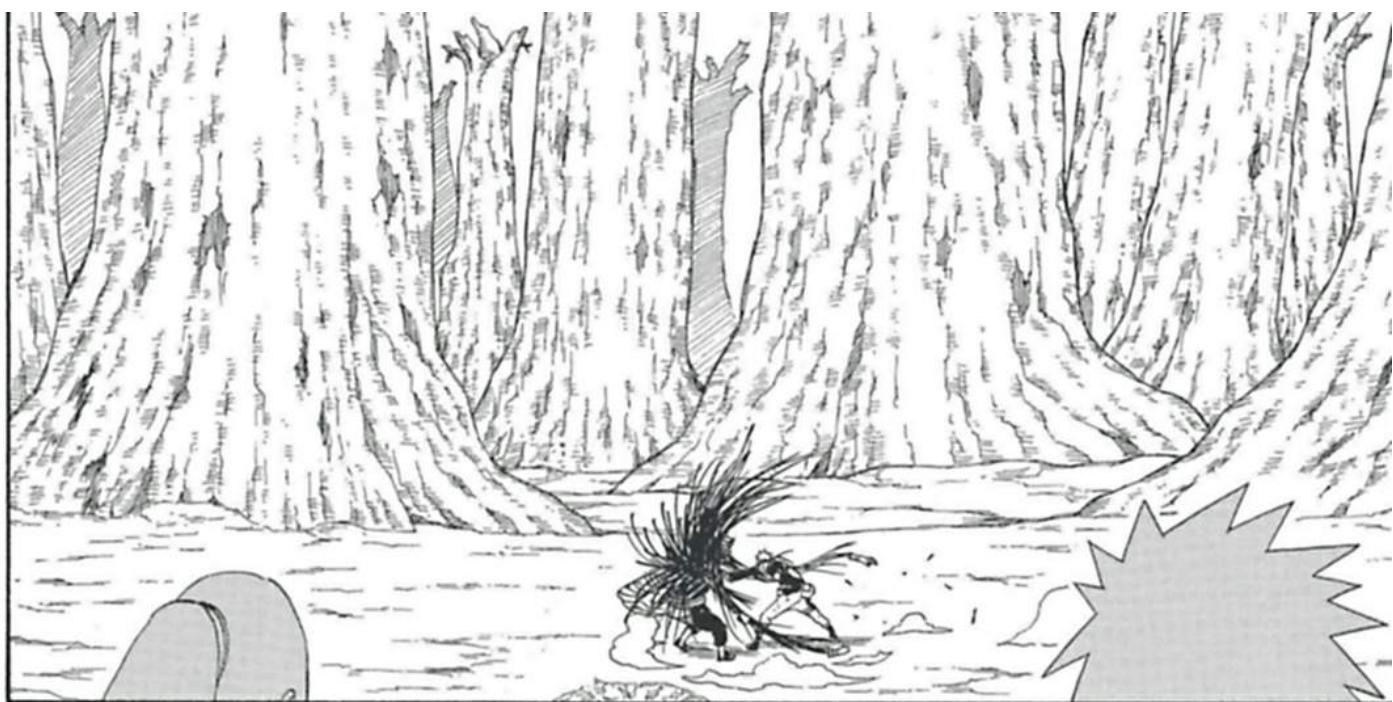






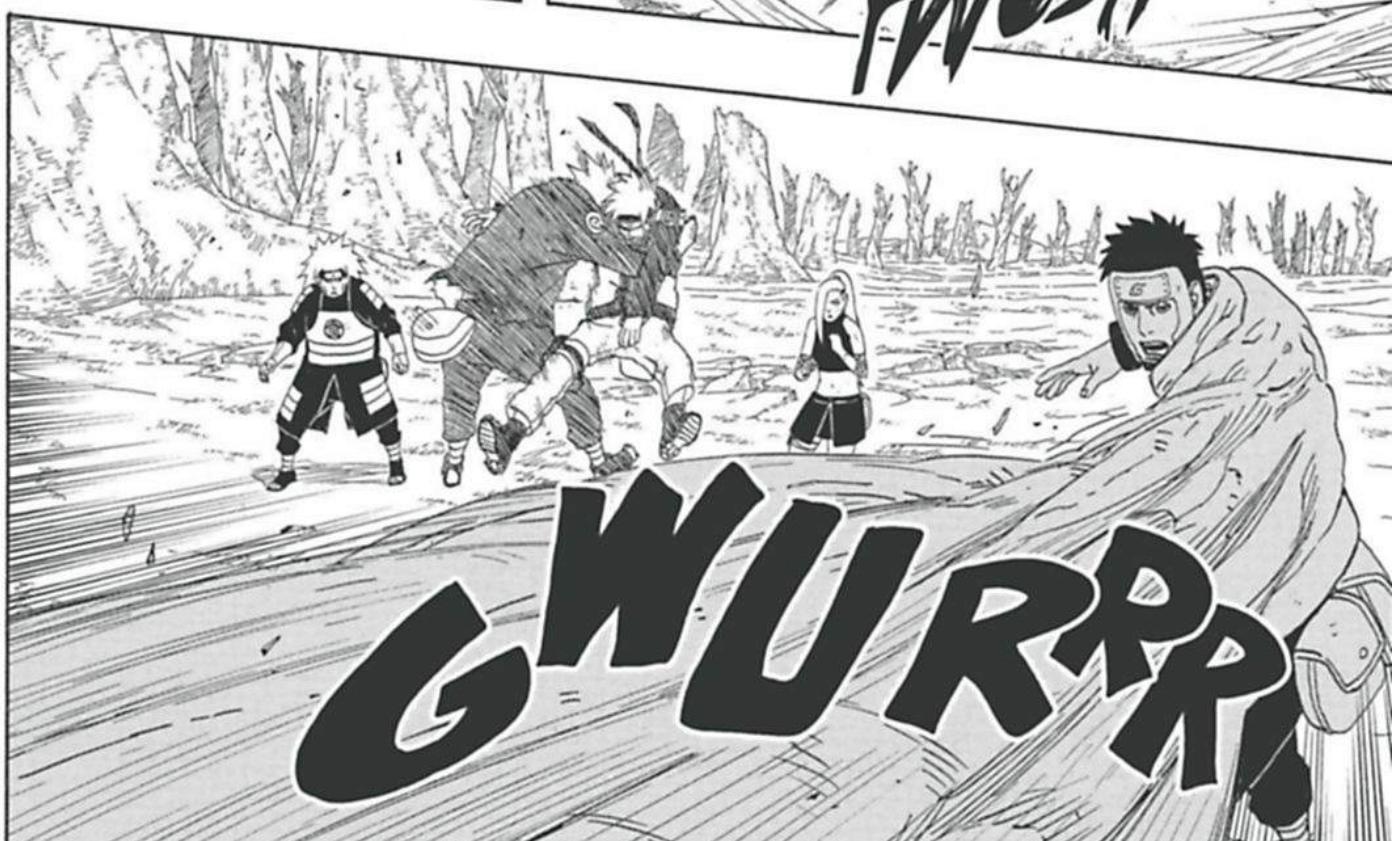






ALWAYS A
BUNDLE OF
SURPRISES,
THAT BOY...
ALL RIGHT.





ZWO 0000

TAK TAK RR

WASH FIIAMM





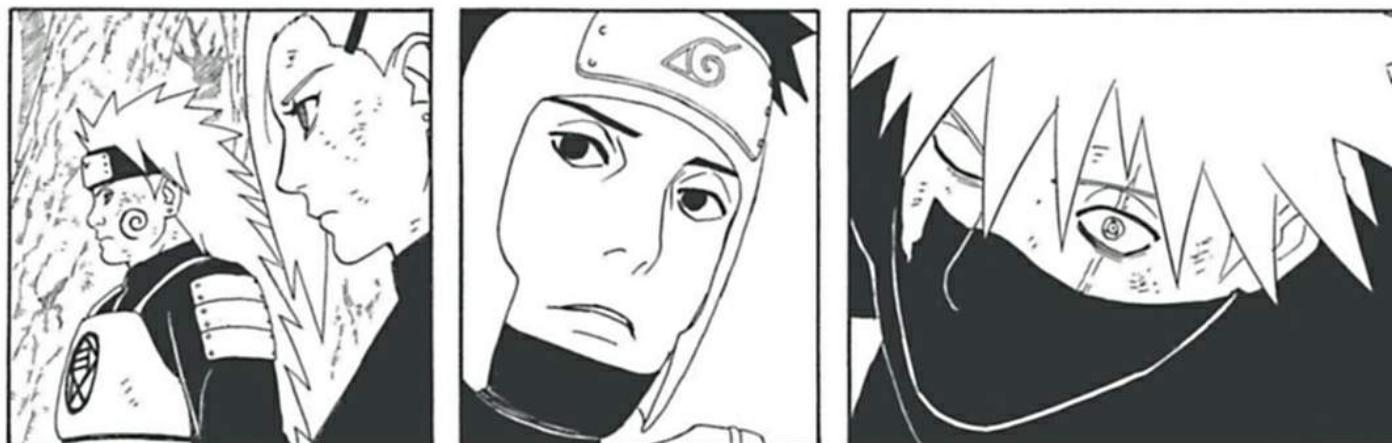


READ
THIS WAY



RIGHT
NOW,
WE'RE
FIVE
AGAINST
ONE.







Number 341: Practice Makes

Perfect...!!

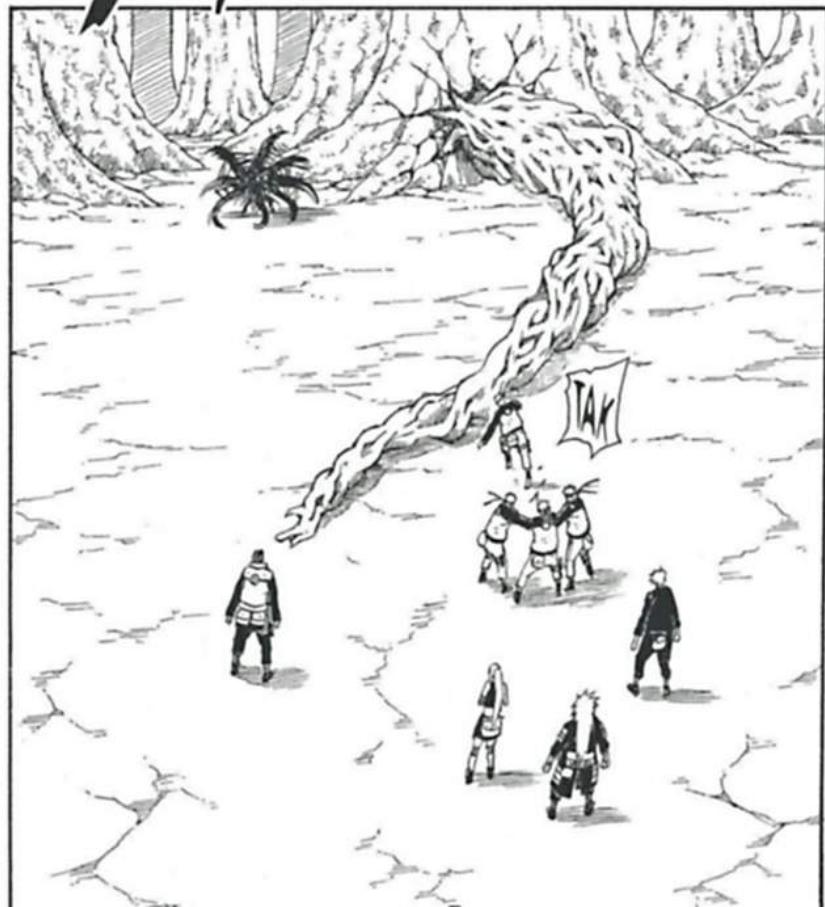


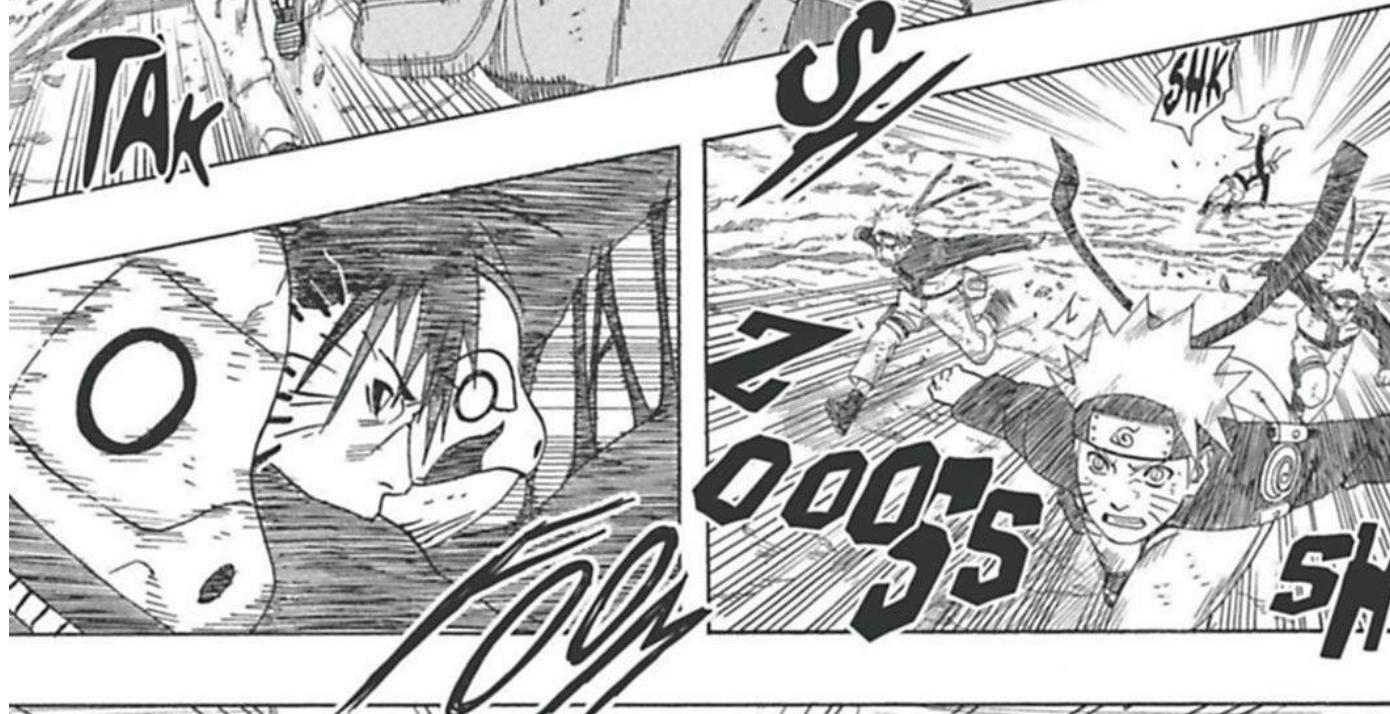


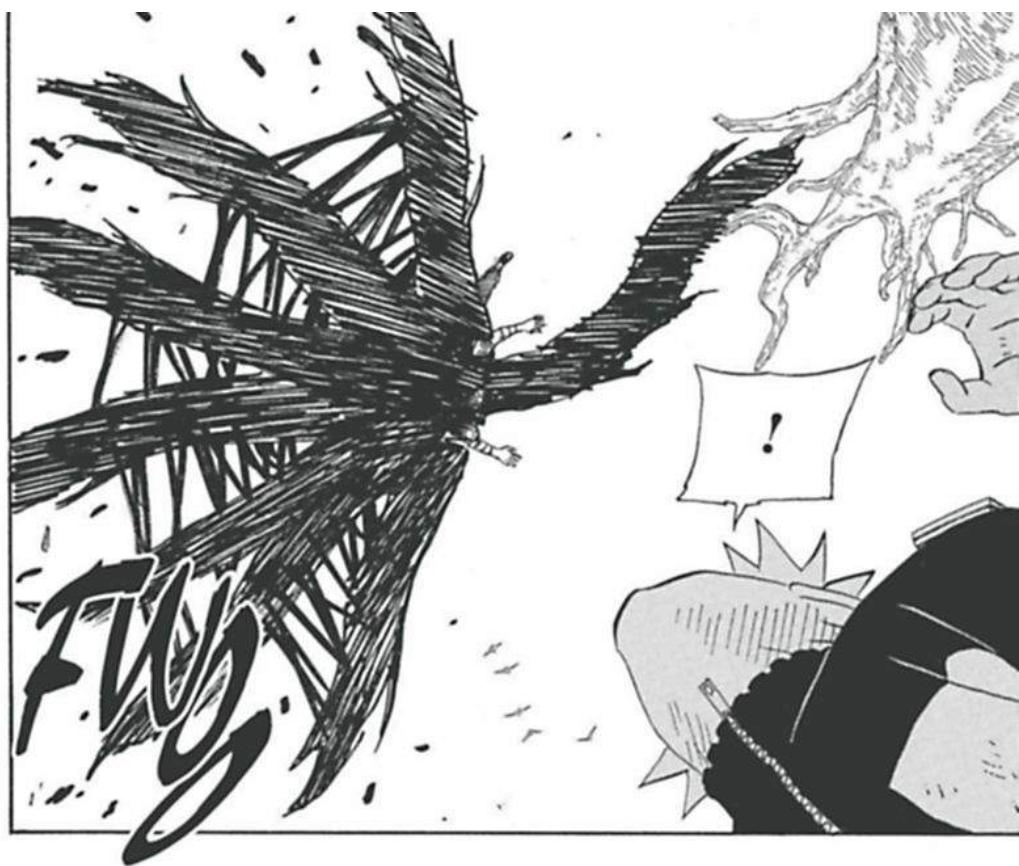
READ
THIS WAY



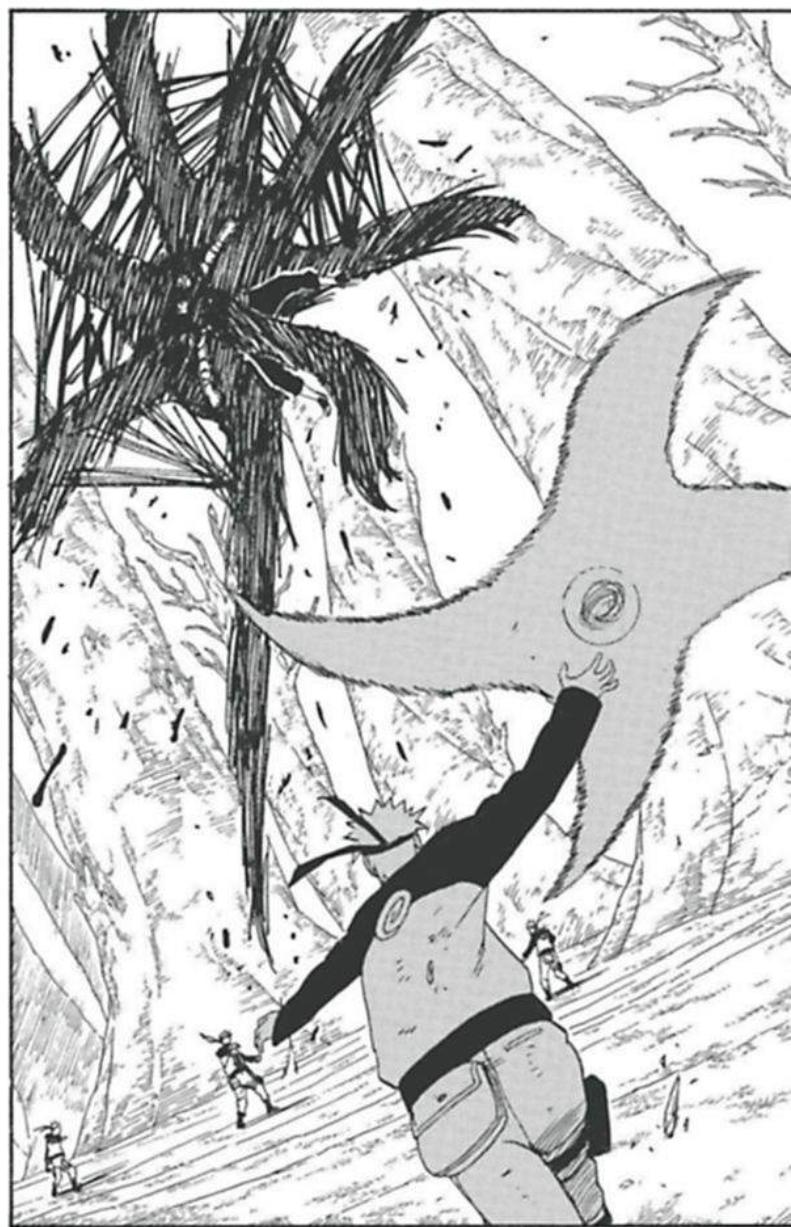






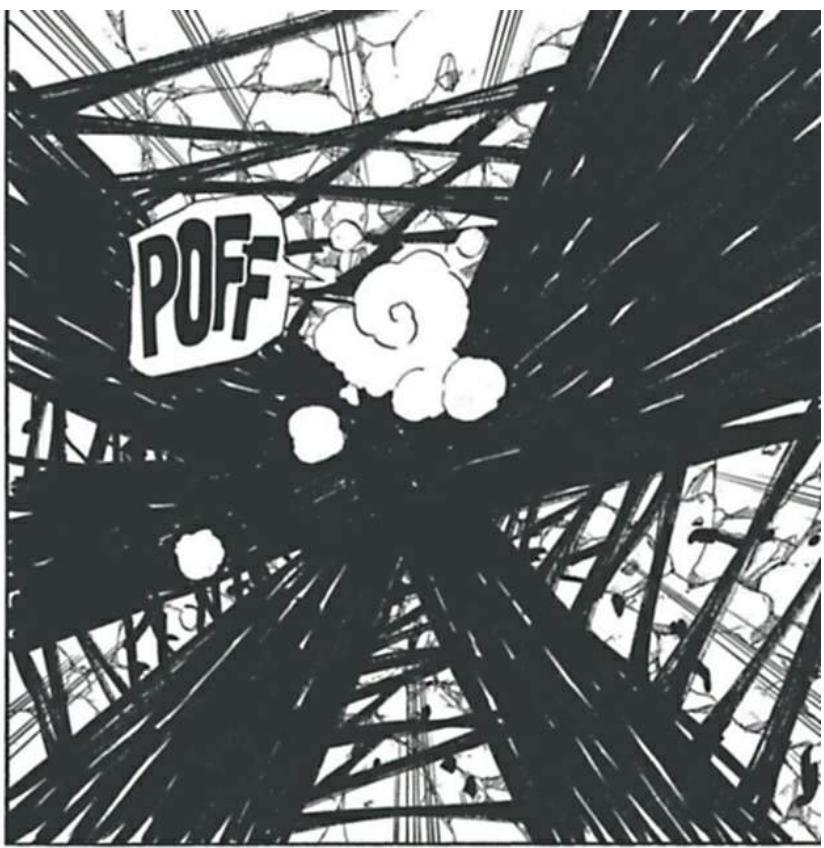


IGNORE
THE
DOPPEL-
GANGERS.
THEY'RE
JUST A
DISTRAC-
TION.



HE'S
READY,
JUST
LIKE I
SAID!





READ
THIS WAY





PAKOOSH

URGH.

WHEE

EE

RUMBLE



G GR

ACK!

R

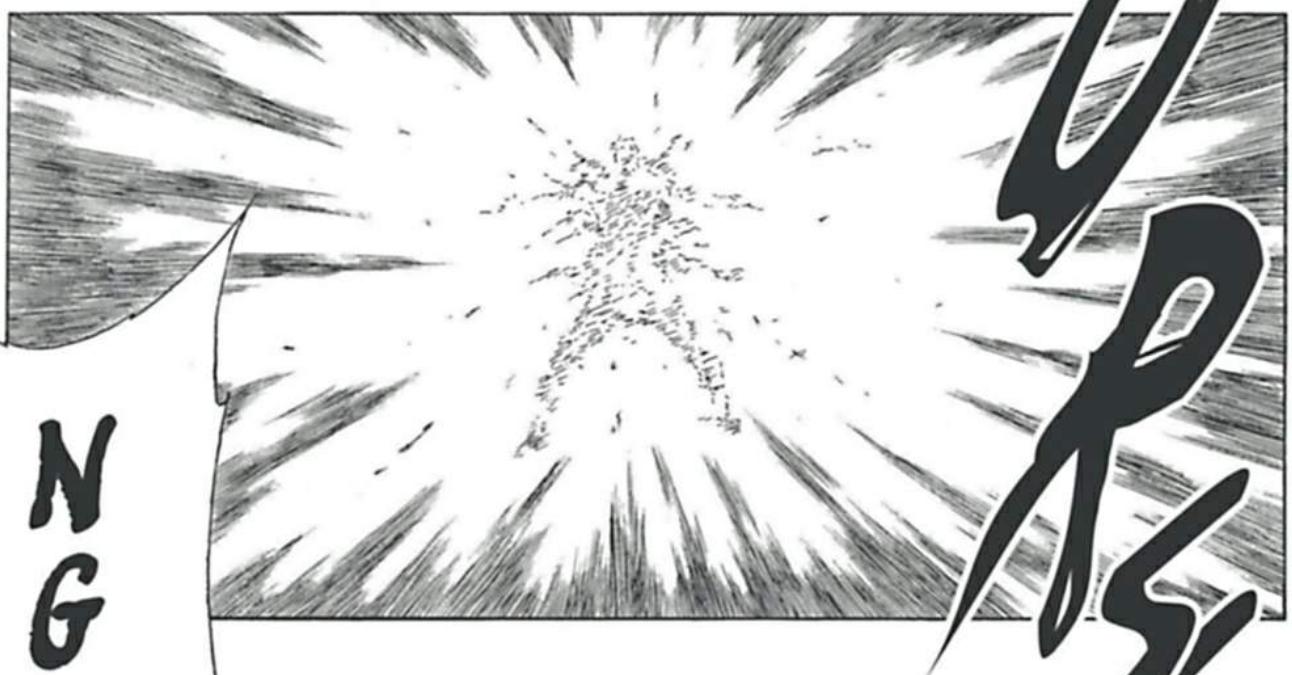
UP



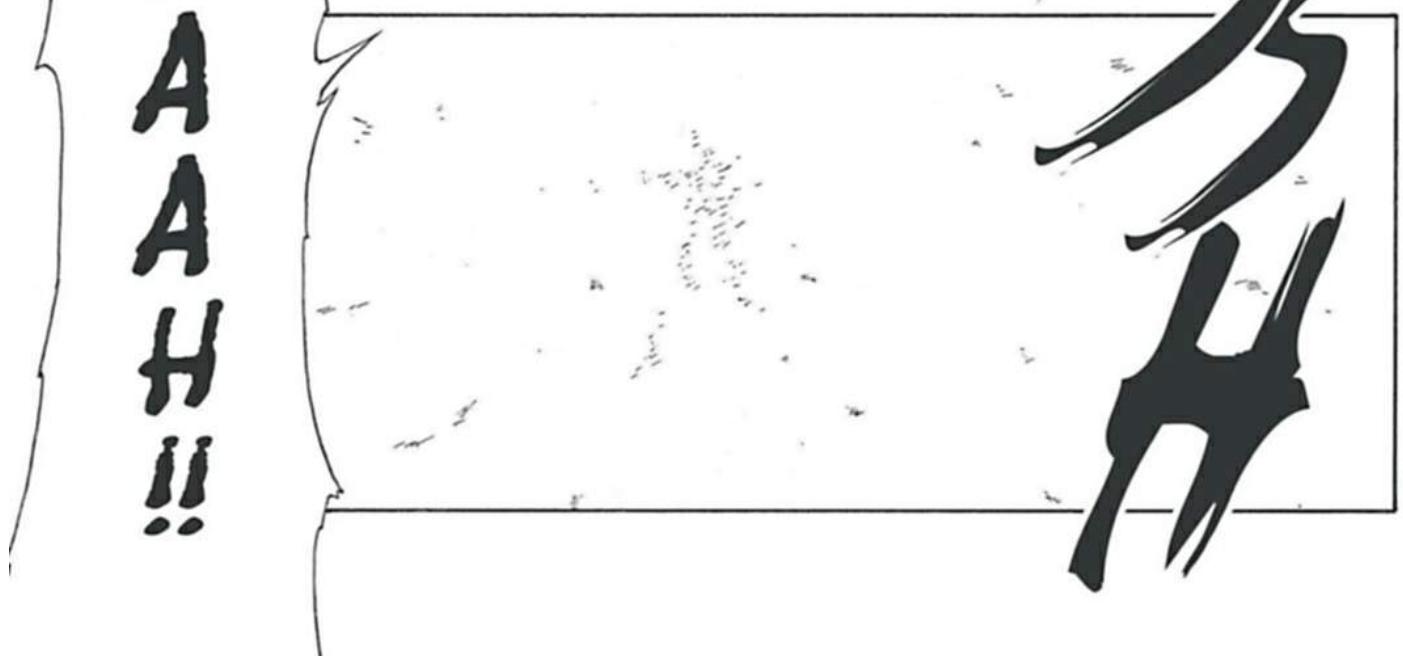
FIA P

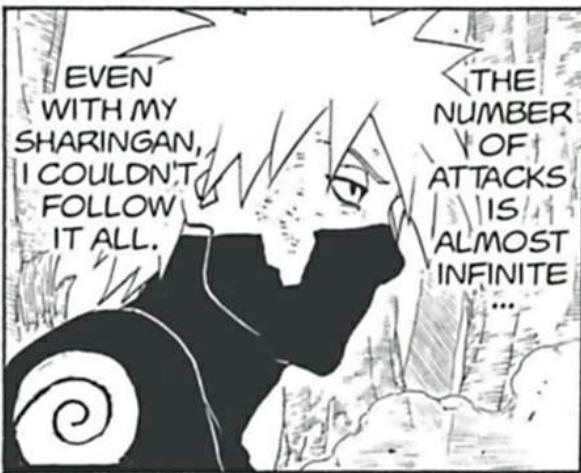
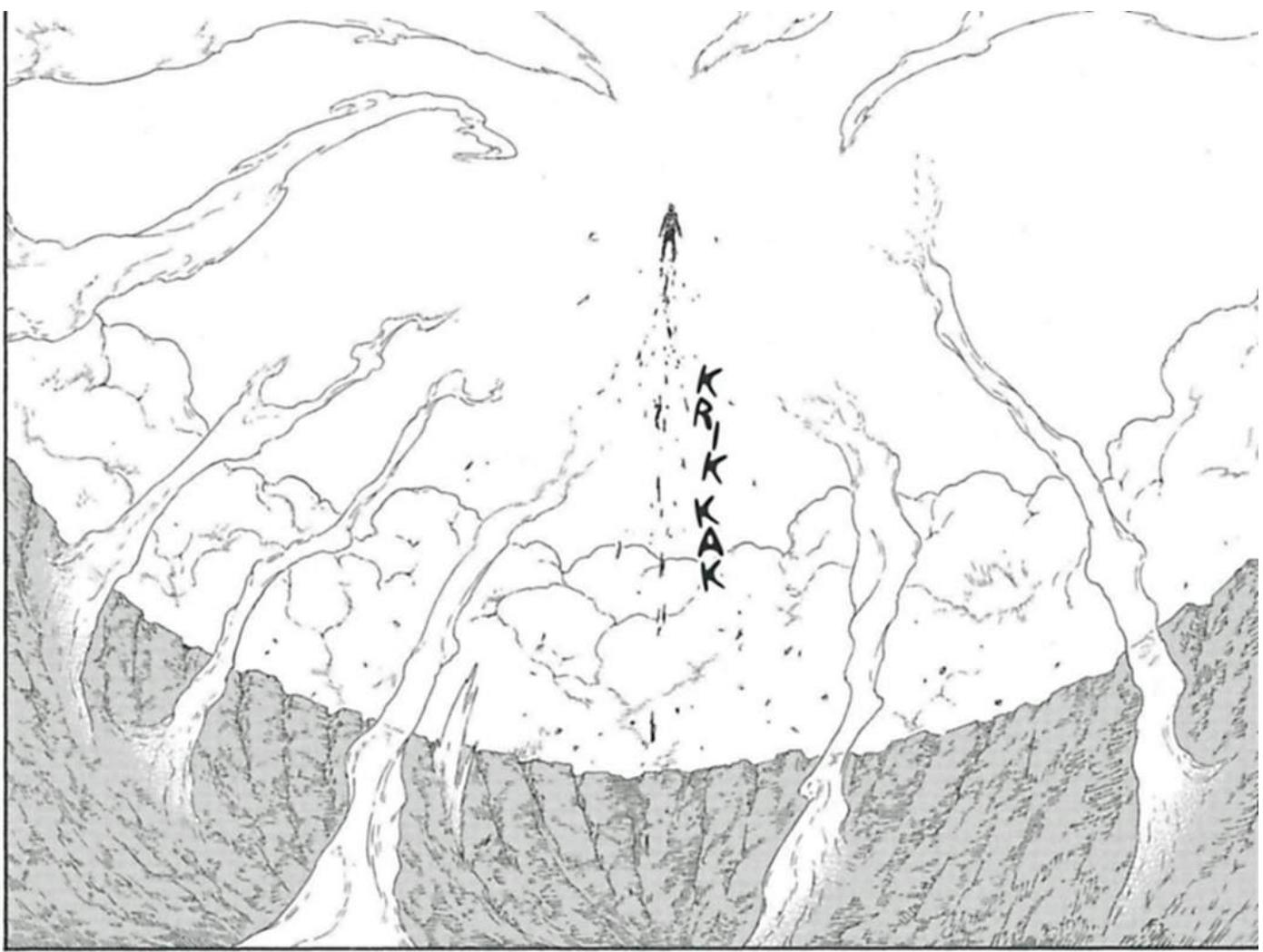


READ
THIS
WAY

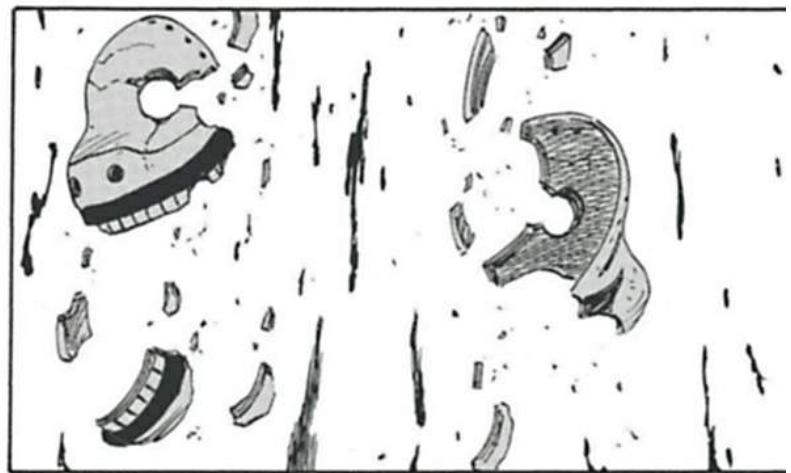


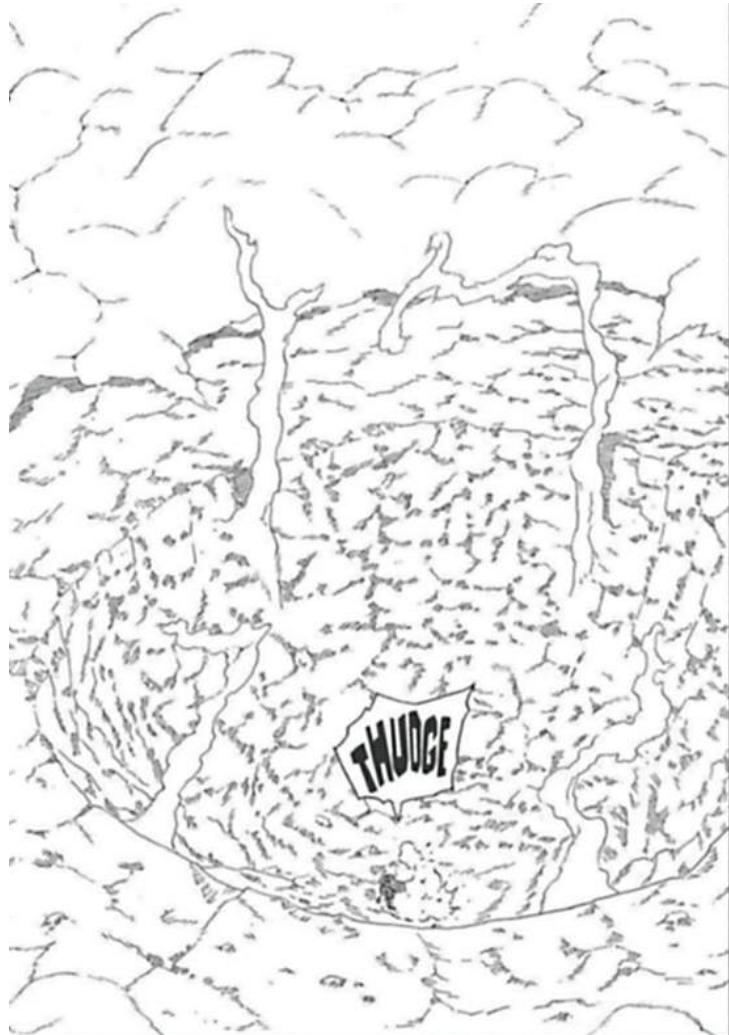
NGAAAH!!





THE
NUMBER
OF
ATTACKS
IS
ALMOST
INFINITE
..."





MEET KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S ASSISTANTS

○ PART 10 ASSISTANT NO. 10: SATÔ ATSUHIRO

[PROFILE]

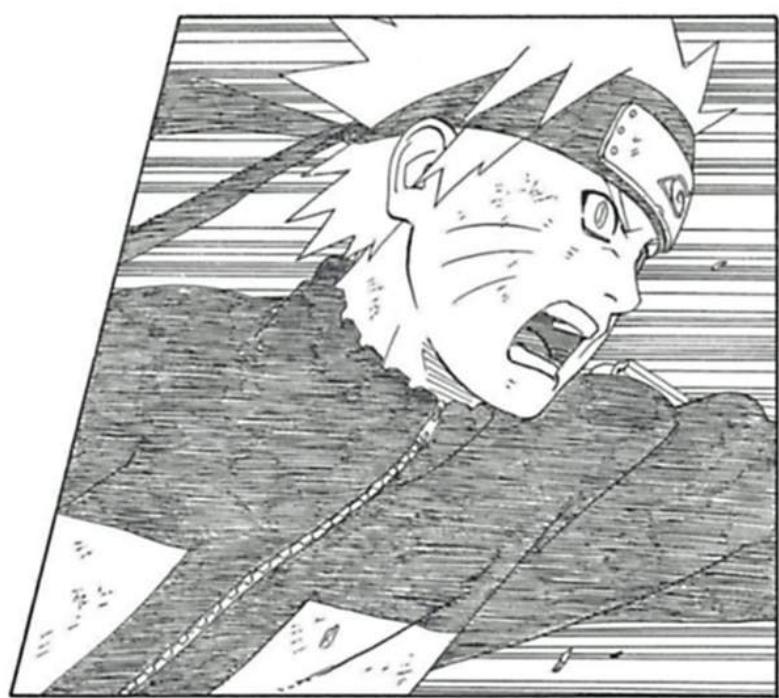
- A VETERAN OF ULTRA HIGH-PROFILE PROJECTS LIKE ROOKIES AND DEATH NOTE.
- ONE OF THE FIRST FIFTY PEOPLE EVER TO FINISH HUDSON'S BOMBER-MAN, AND HAS THE CERTIFICATE TO PROVE IT!
- LOVES VIDEO GAMES AND KNOWS A BUNCH ABOUT THEM. AN EXPERT AT STREET FIGHTER II.
- ZANGIEF - GIVE HIM AN OPENING AND HE'LL WHIRL YOU AROUND AND BEAT YOU IN AN INSTANT.
- BLANKA - GIVE HIM AN OPENING AND HE'LL ZOOM AT YOU LIKE A CORKSCREW AND KNOCK YOU OUT.
- WOLF - SHOW HIM A WEAKNESS AND HE'LL SPIN YOU AND SLAM YOU DOWN. BUT... WELL, HE'S STILL NEW AT VIRTUA FIGHTER.
- INCREDIBLY SKILLED AT ASSEMBLING PLASTIC MODELS (I.E., GUNDAM). HE'S JUST A DEXTEROUS GUY IN GENERAL!



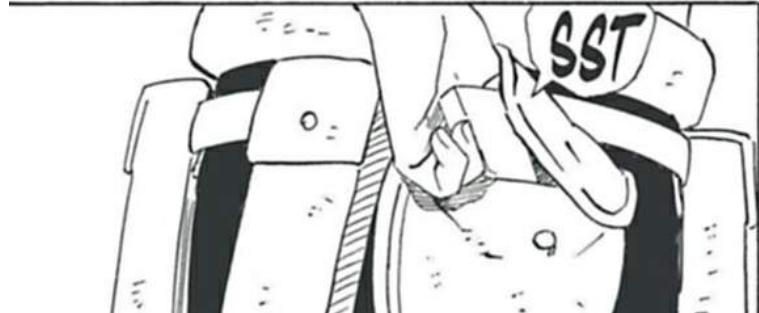
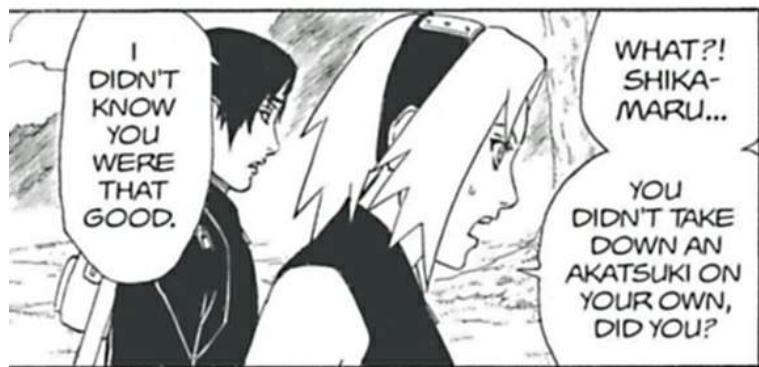
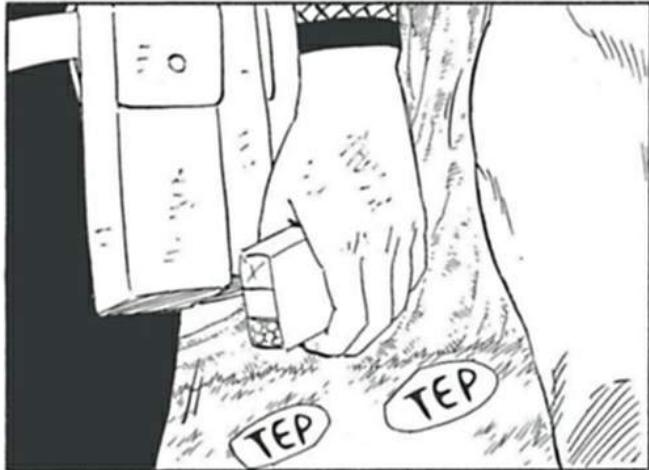


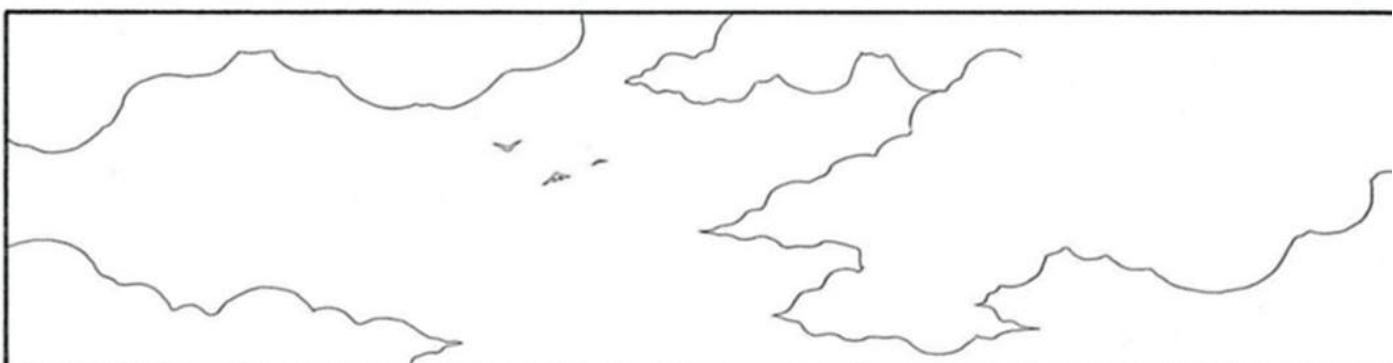
Number 342: The Black King...!



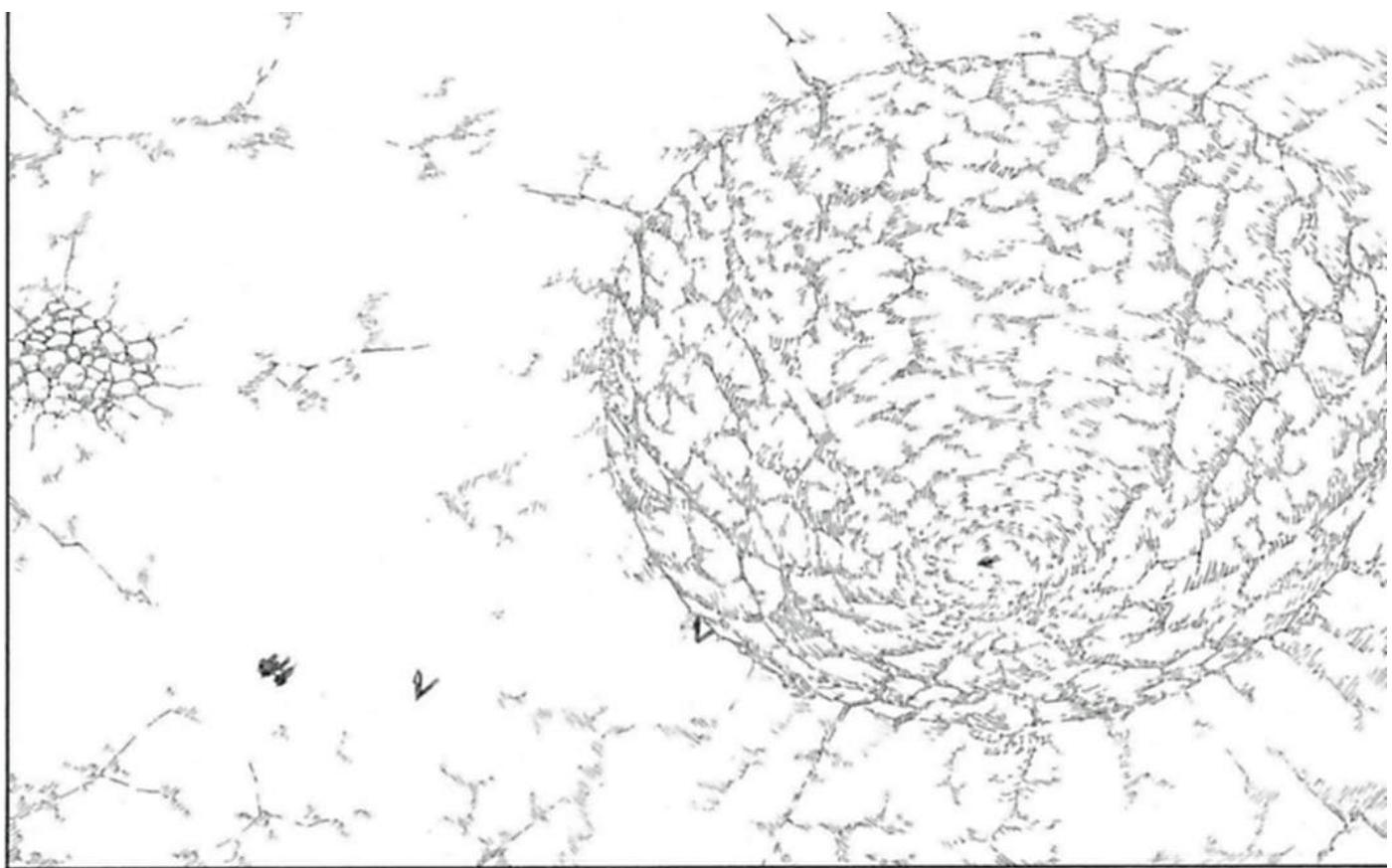


READ
THIS WAY

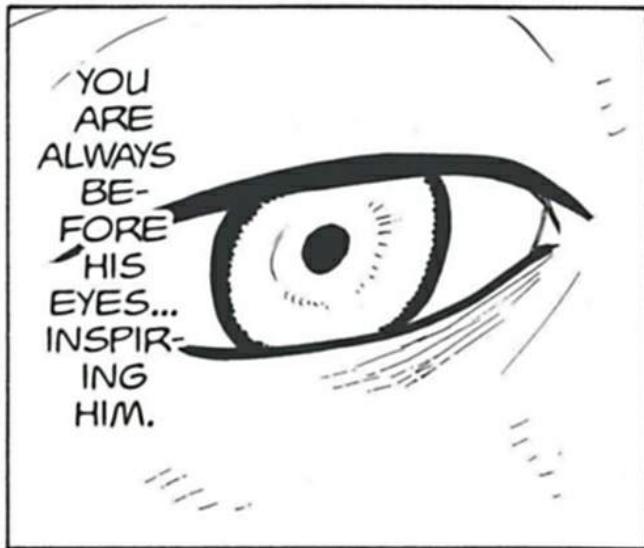
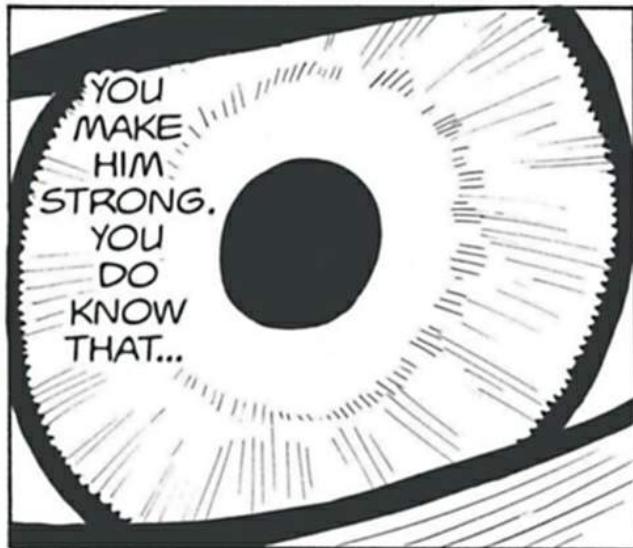


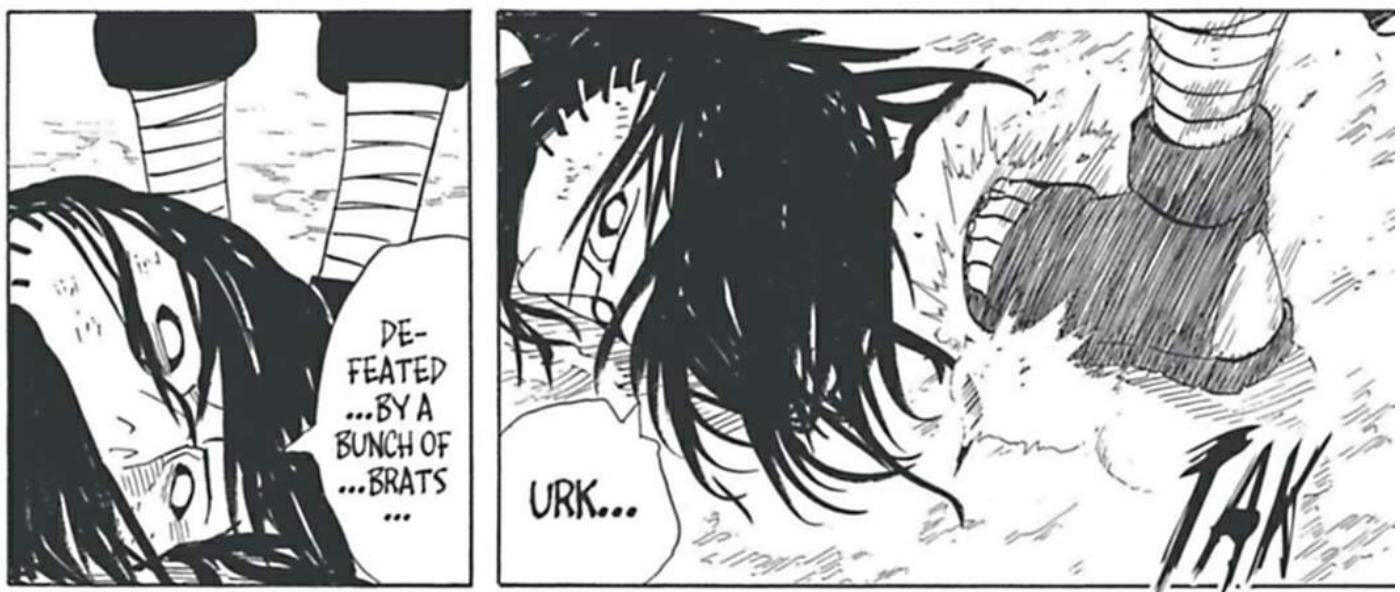




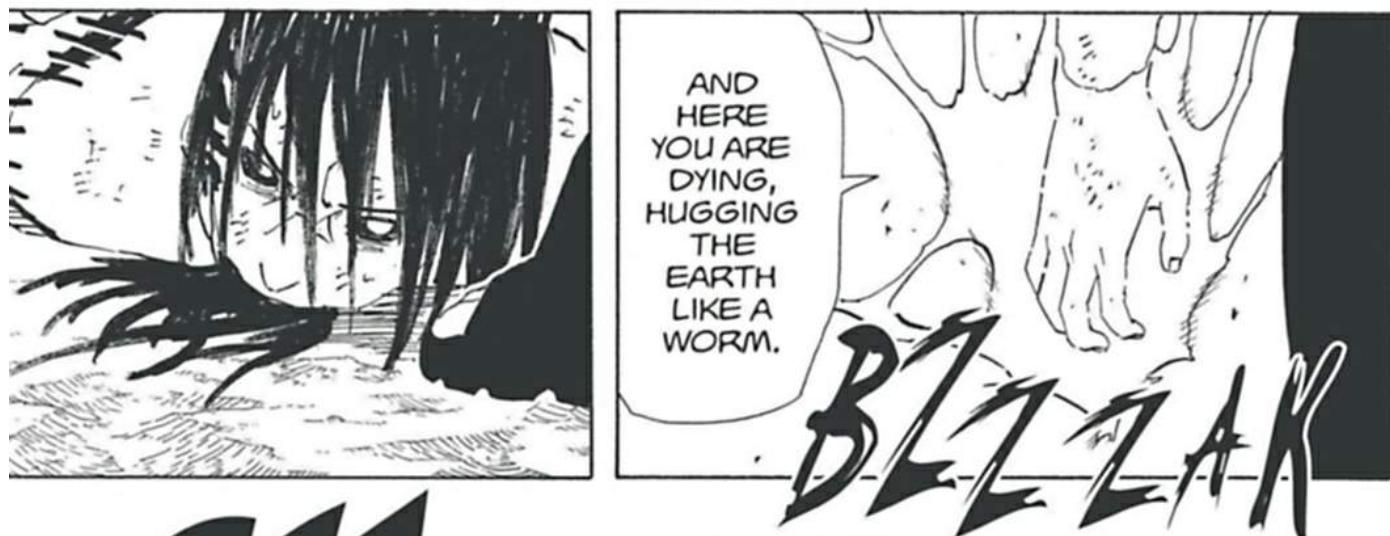


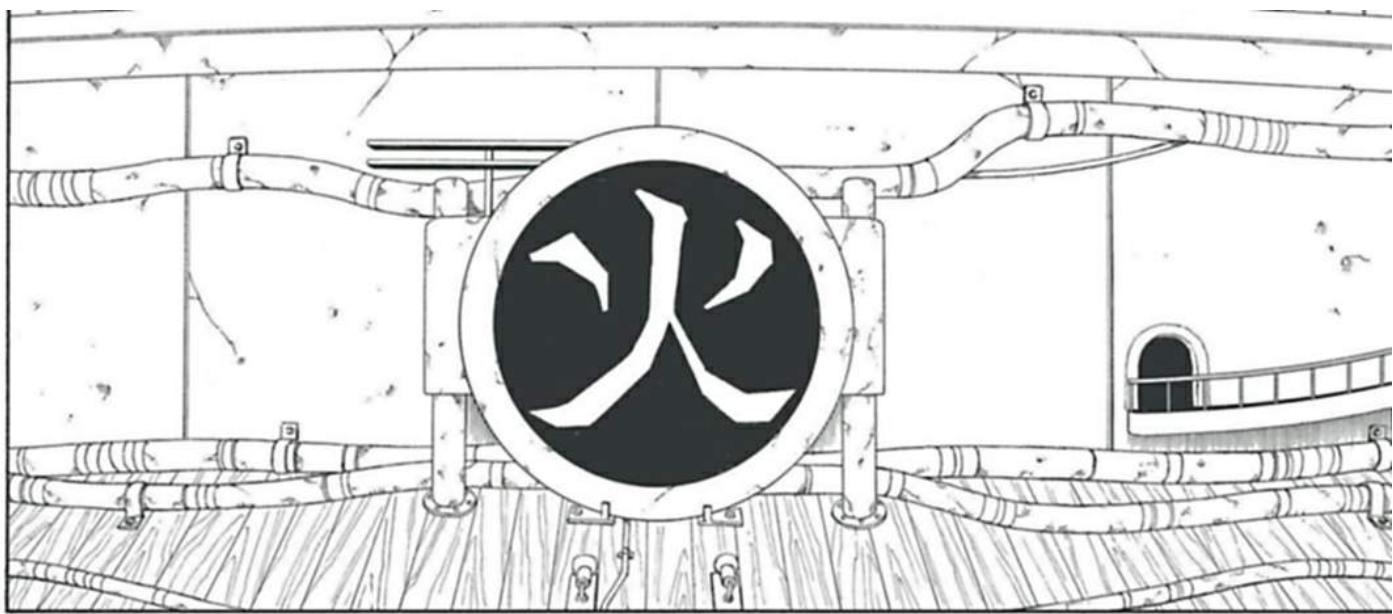
READ
THIS
WAY





READ
THIS WAY

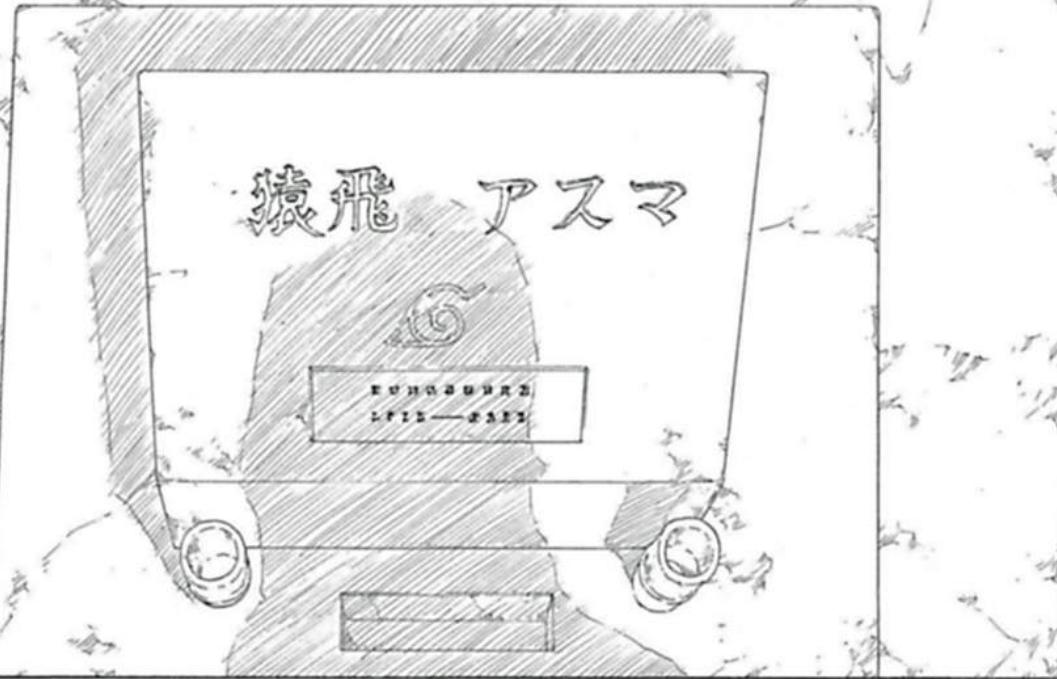




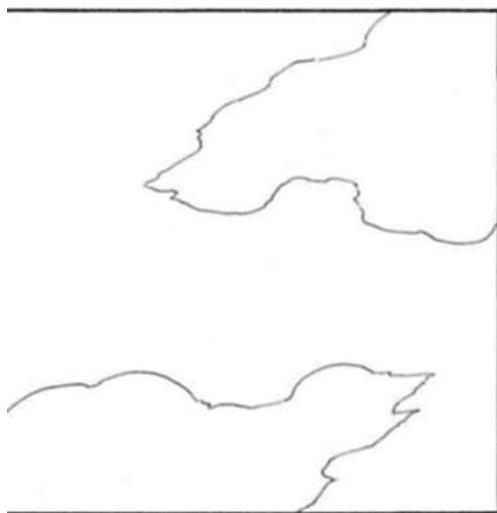
TEAM
TWO,
I GRANT
YOU
LEAVE.

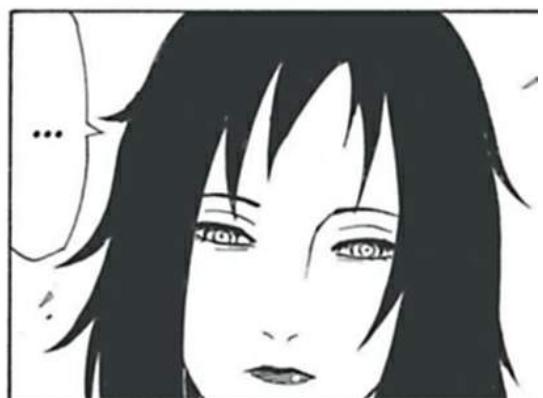
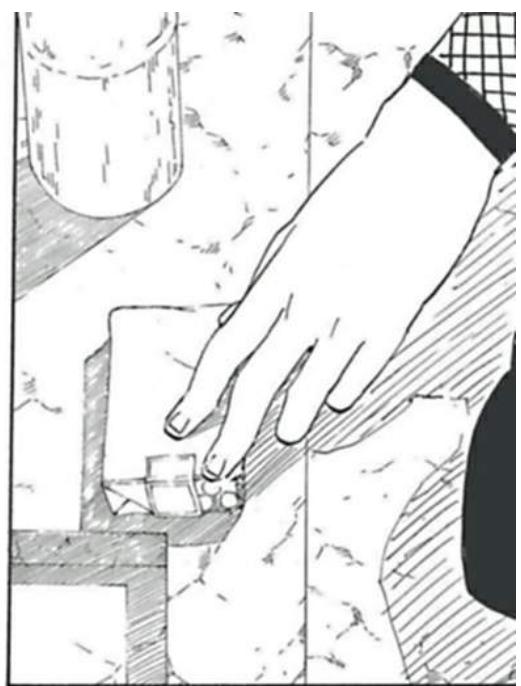


BUT
IT'S NOT
TIME TO
CELE-
BRATE
JUST
YET...

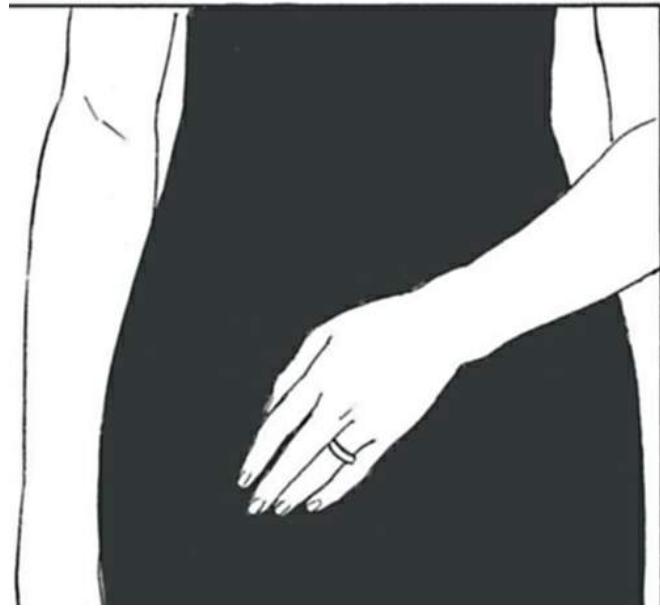
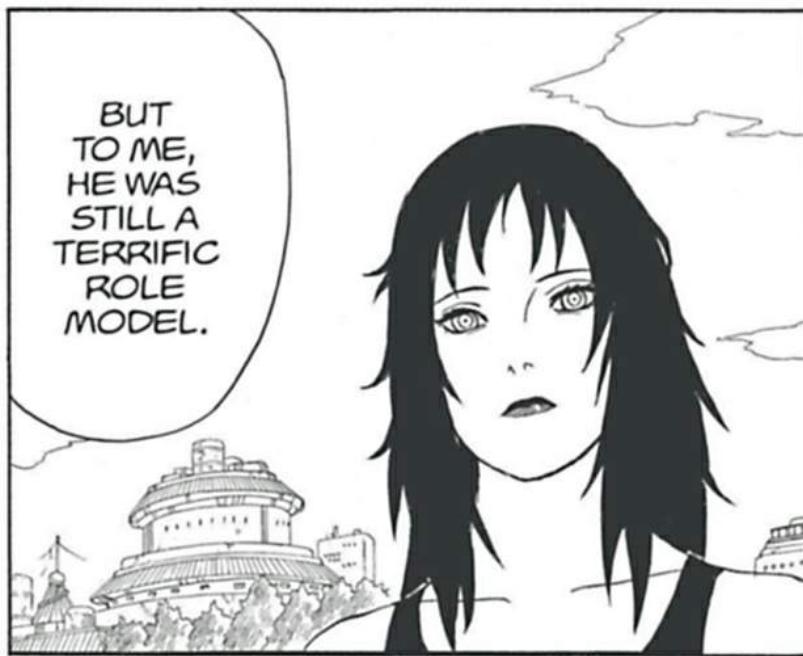


(SARUTOBI ASUMA)



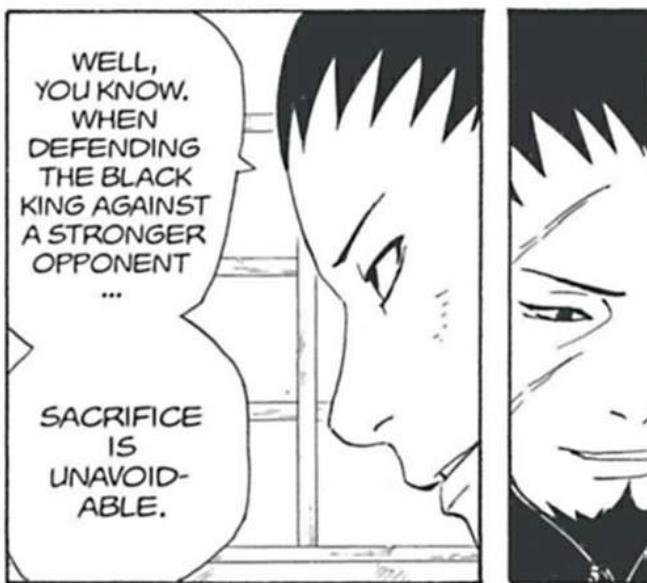


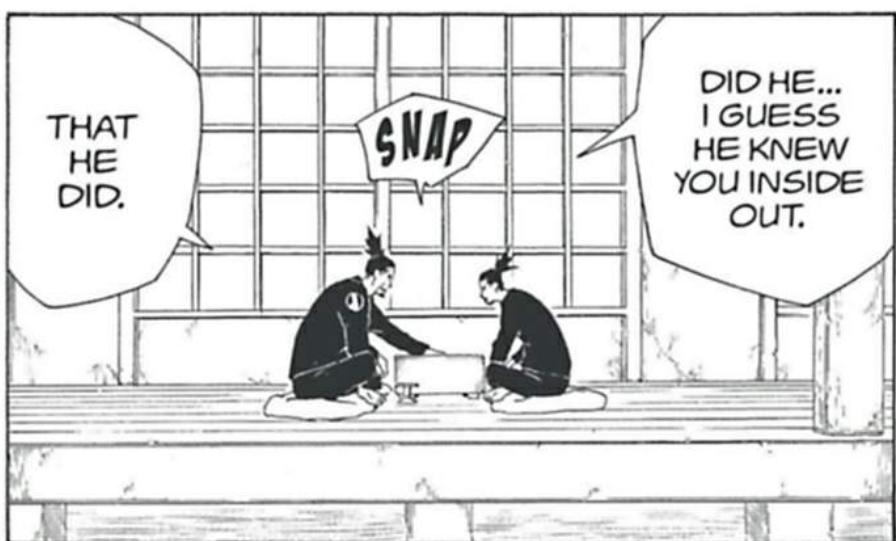
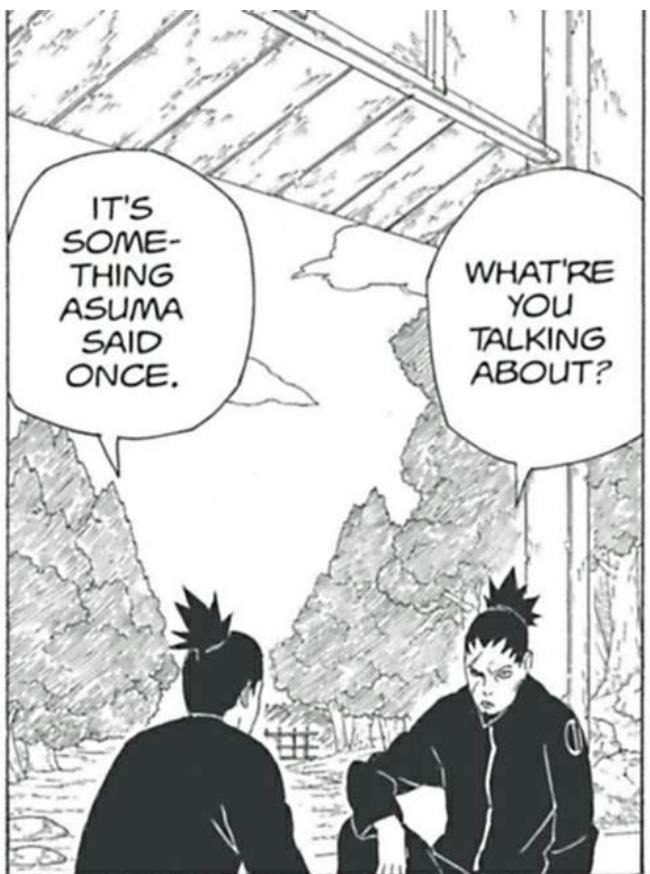
READ
THIS WAY





READ
THIS WAY





THEY'RE
THE
BLACK
KING.

THE
CHILDREN
WHO WILL
CARRY
KONOHA
ON THEIR
SHOUL-
DERS.

...

AH!

AND...
CHECK-
MATE.

YOU DO
GET IT,
DON'T
YOU.

ARGH!
YOU
NEED TO
WORK
HARDER!
YOU'RE
NOT YET
STRONG
ENOUGH TO
PROTECT
THE BLACK
KING!

OK

AND
NOT A
SINGLE
FATAL
BLOW.

YOU'RE
STILL
TOO
SOFT-
HEARTED.

THEY'RE
NOT THE
ONES I'M
SETTING
OUT TO
KILL.

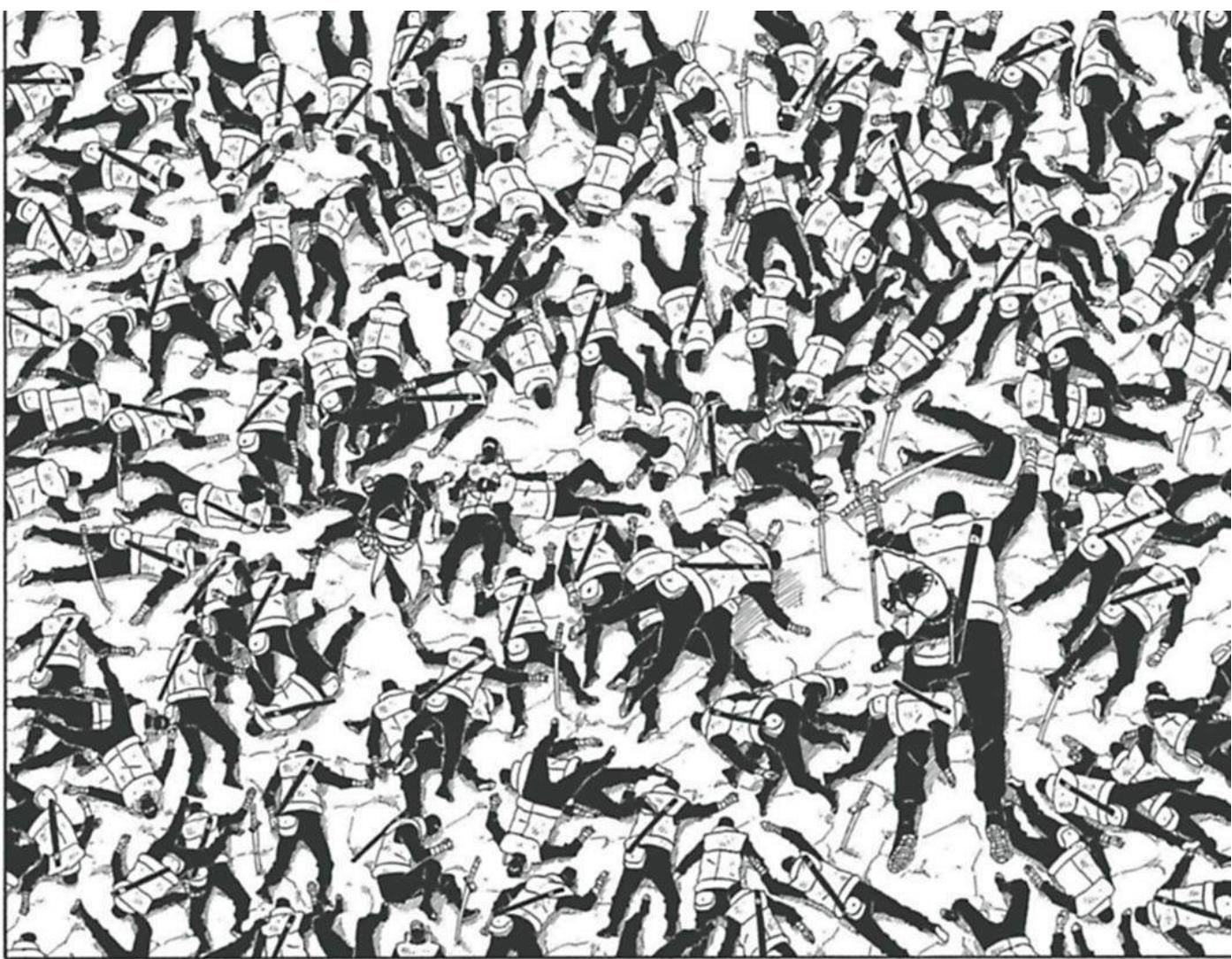
DID I
GET
THEM
ALL?

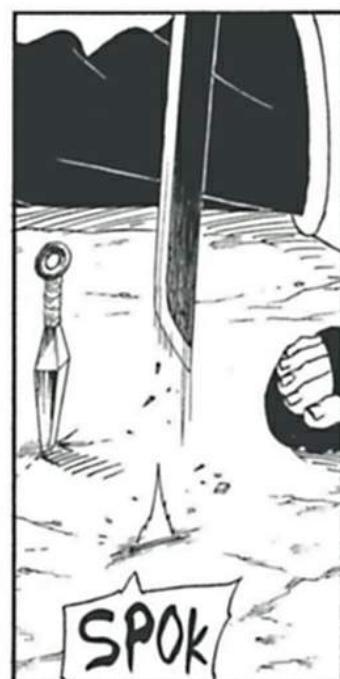


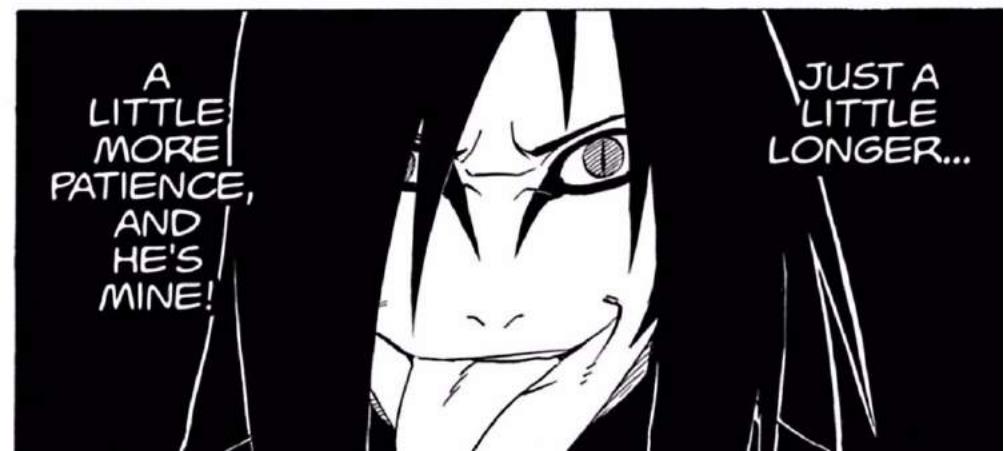


Number 343: Merciless...



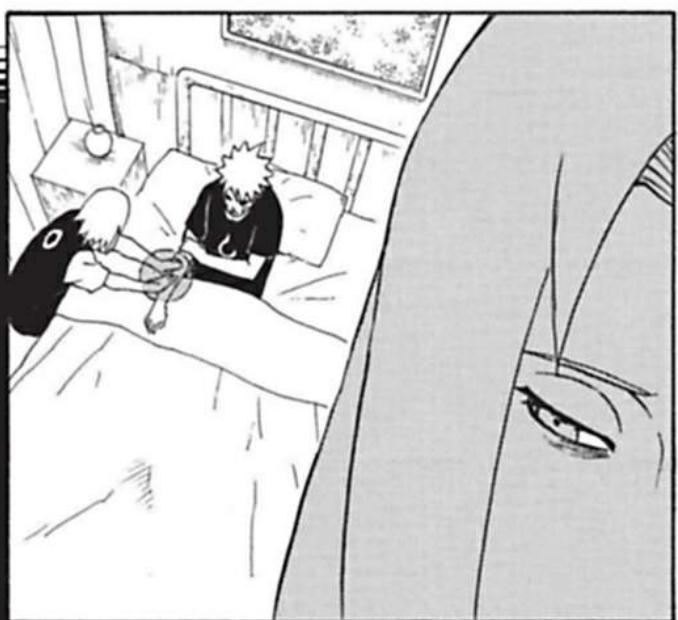




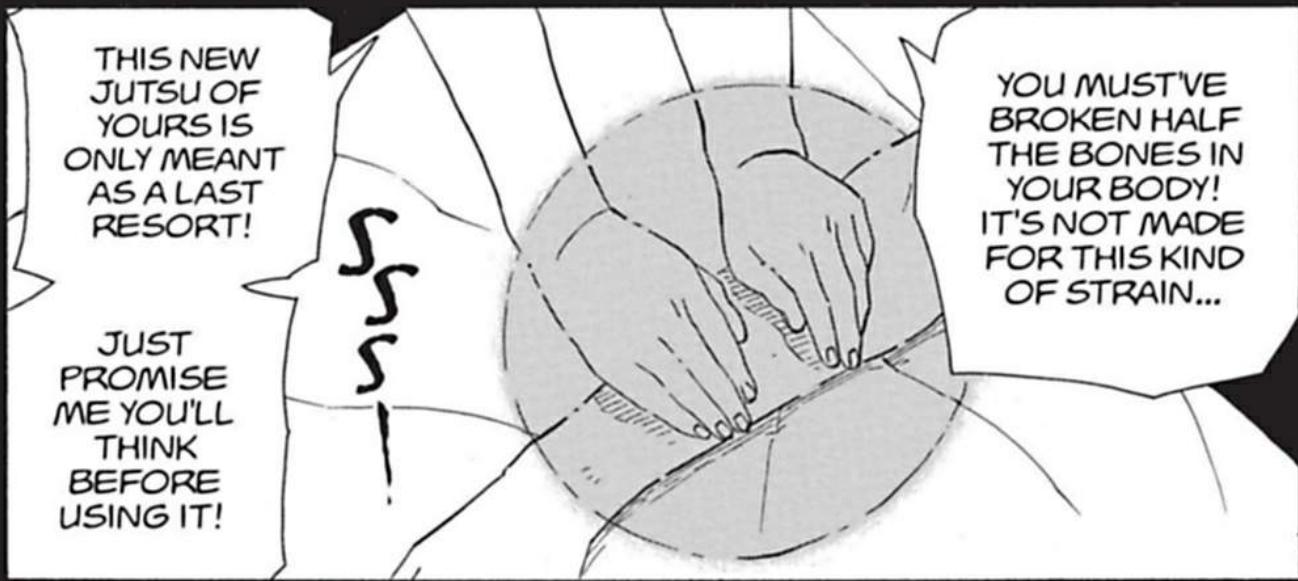


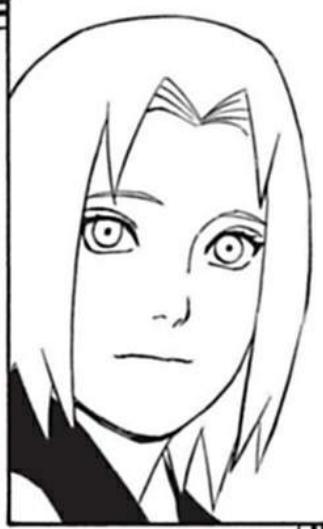
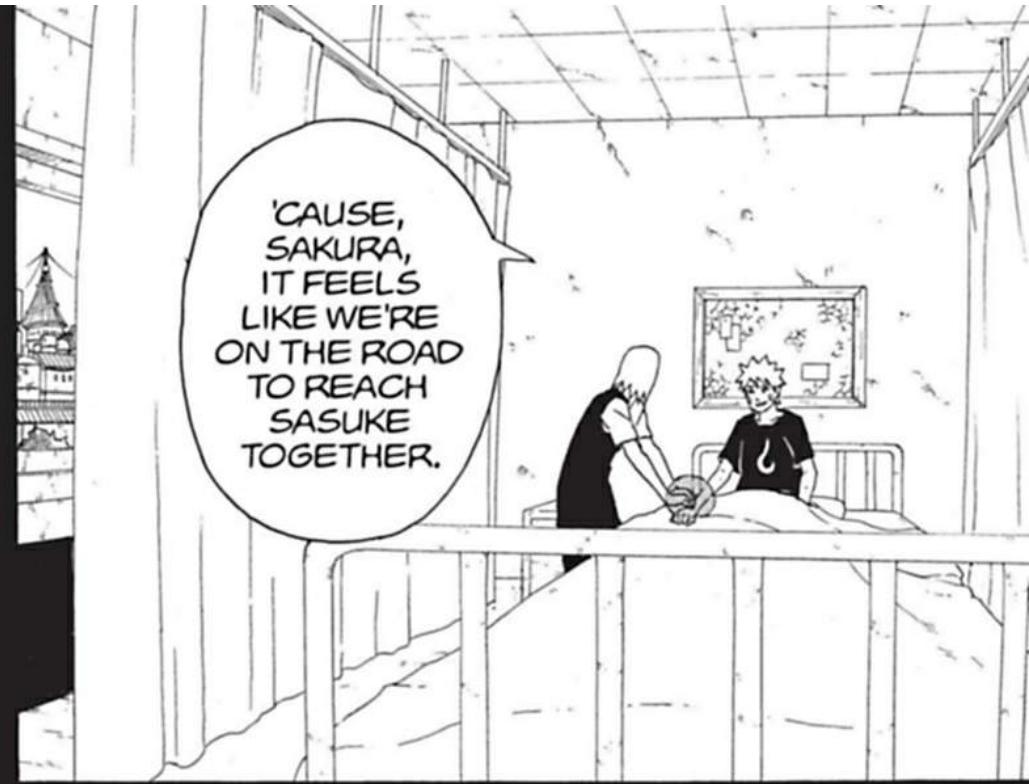


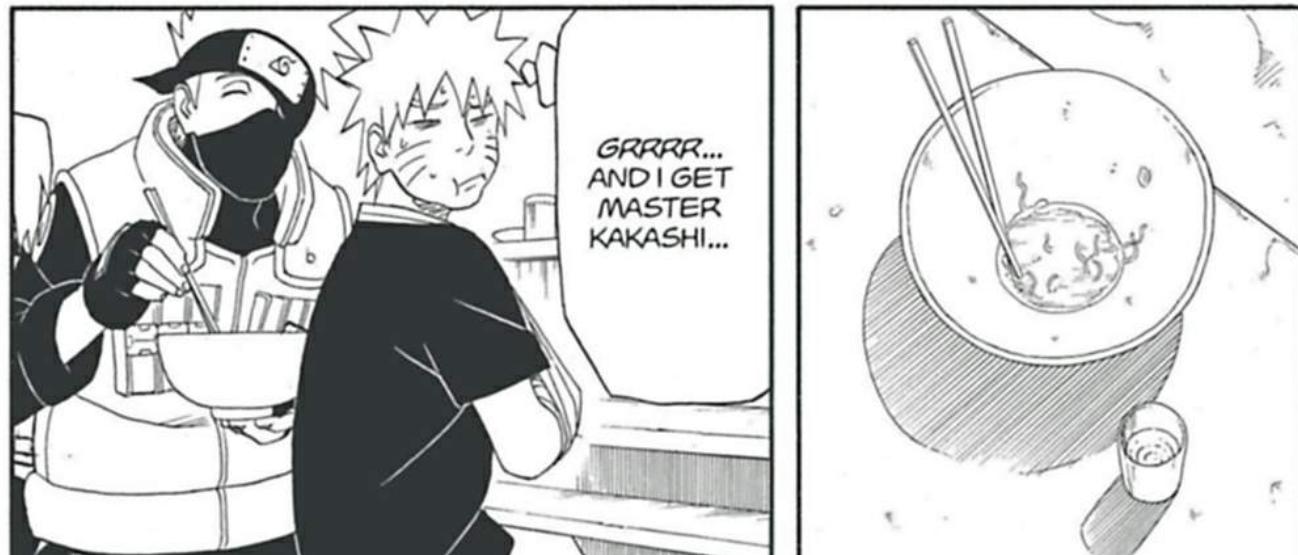
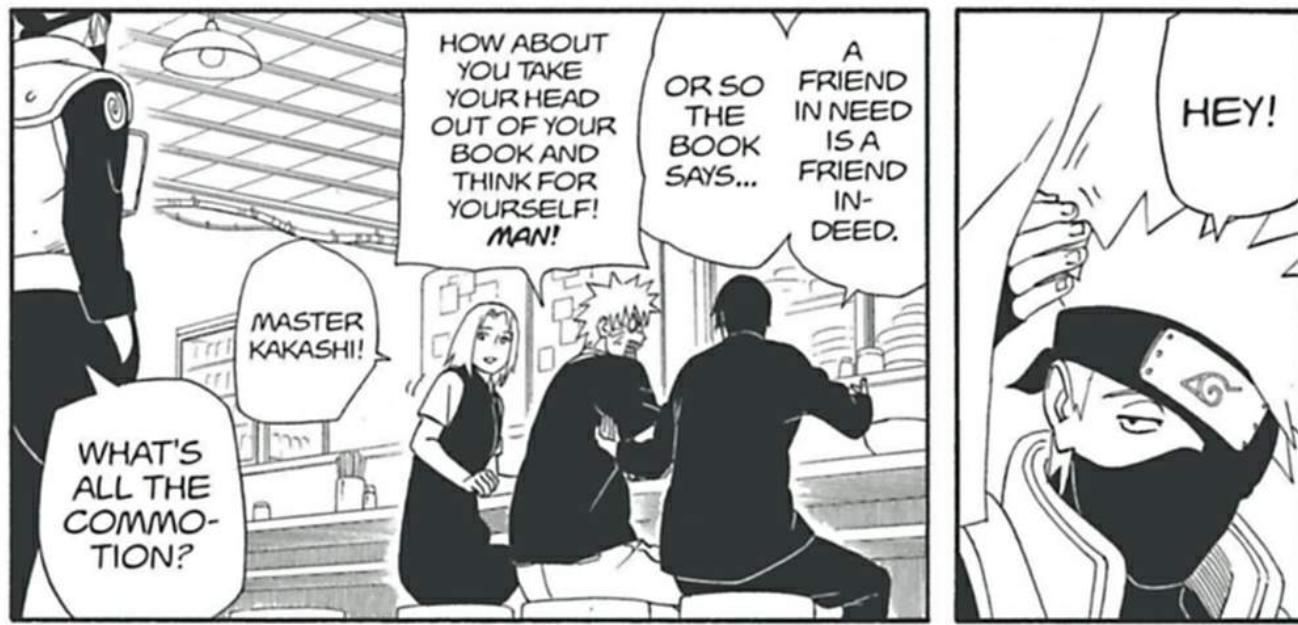
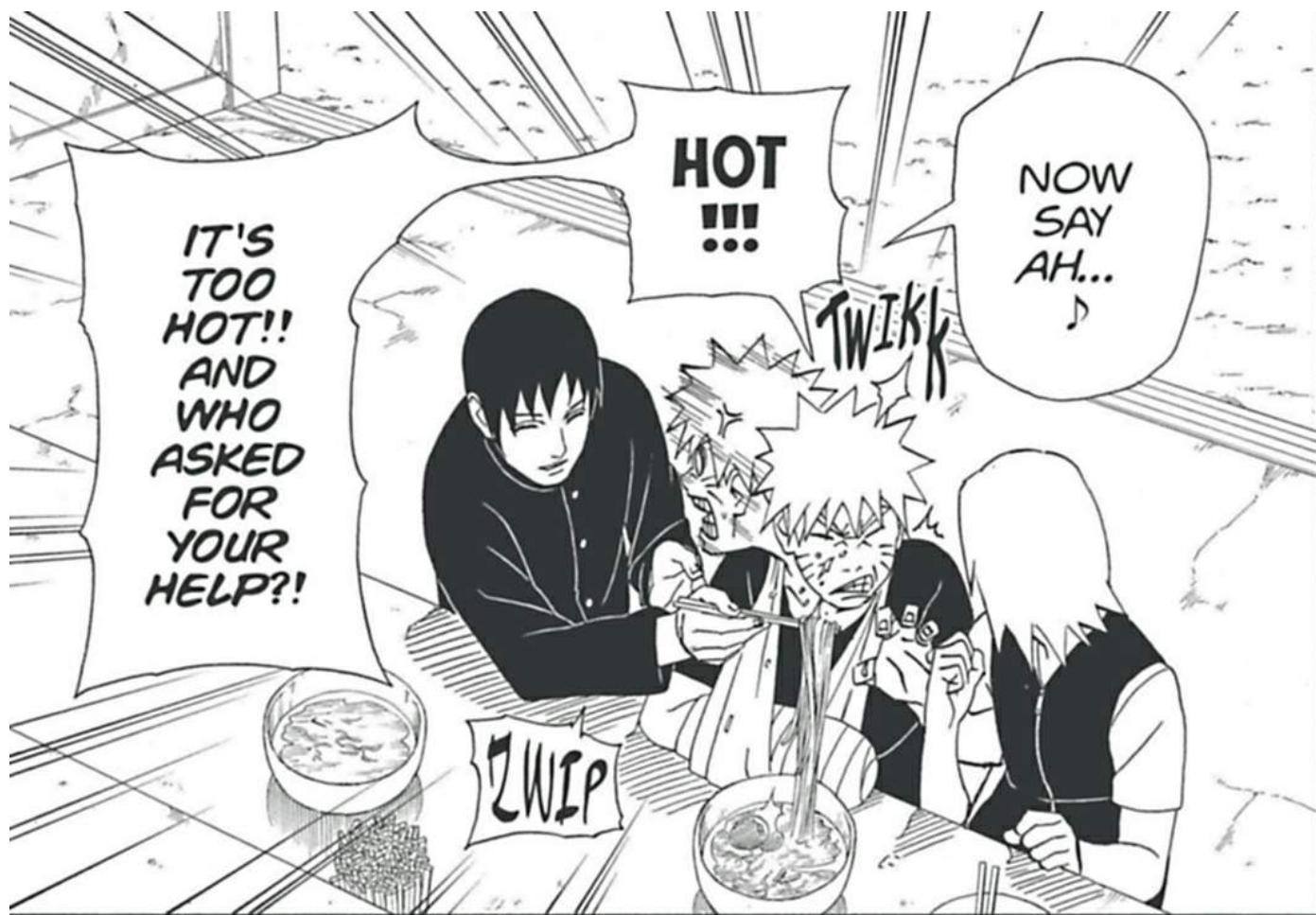
(ICHIRAKU)

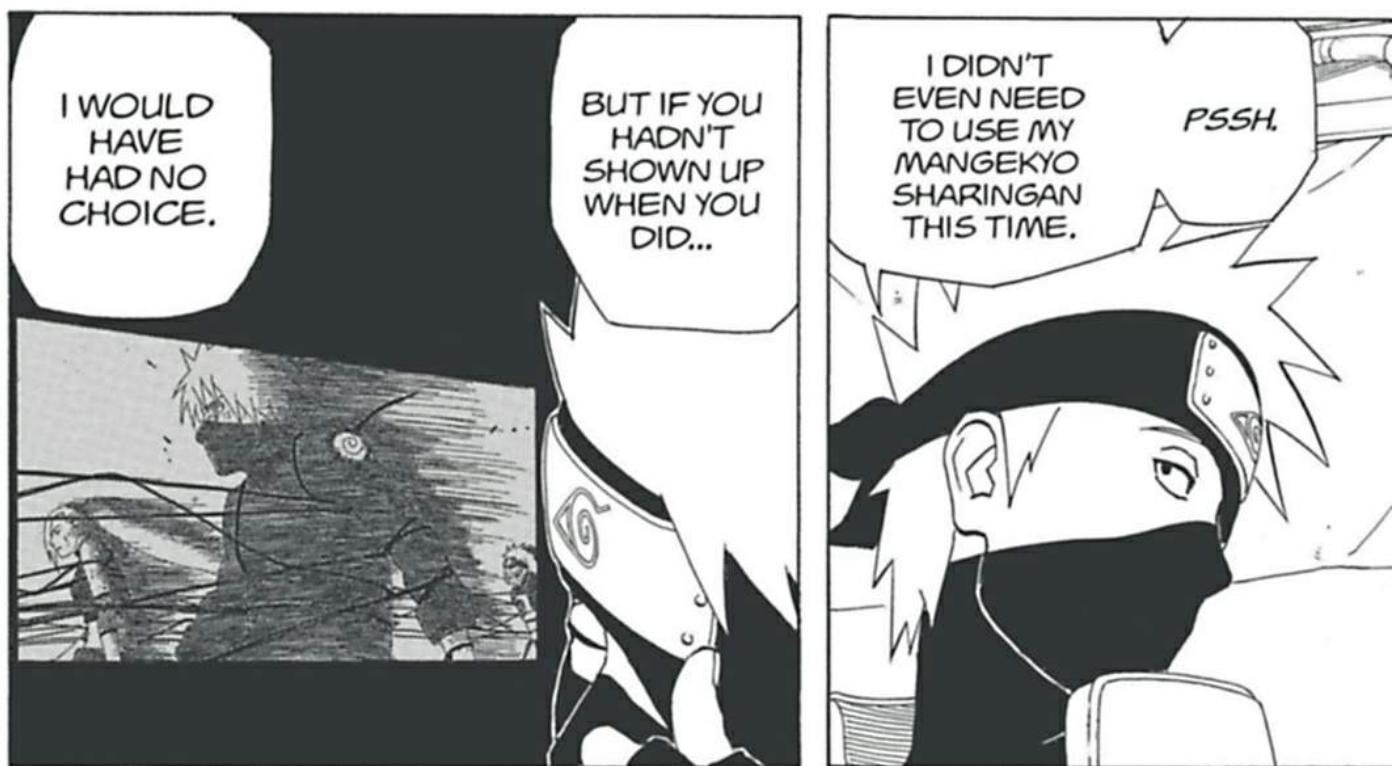


READ
THIS WAY

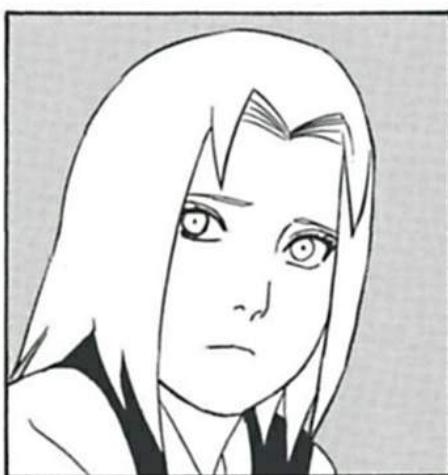


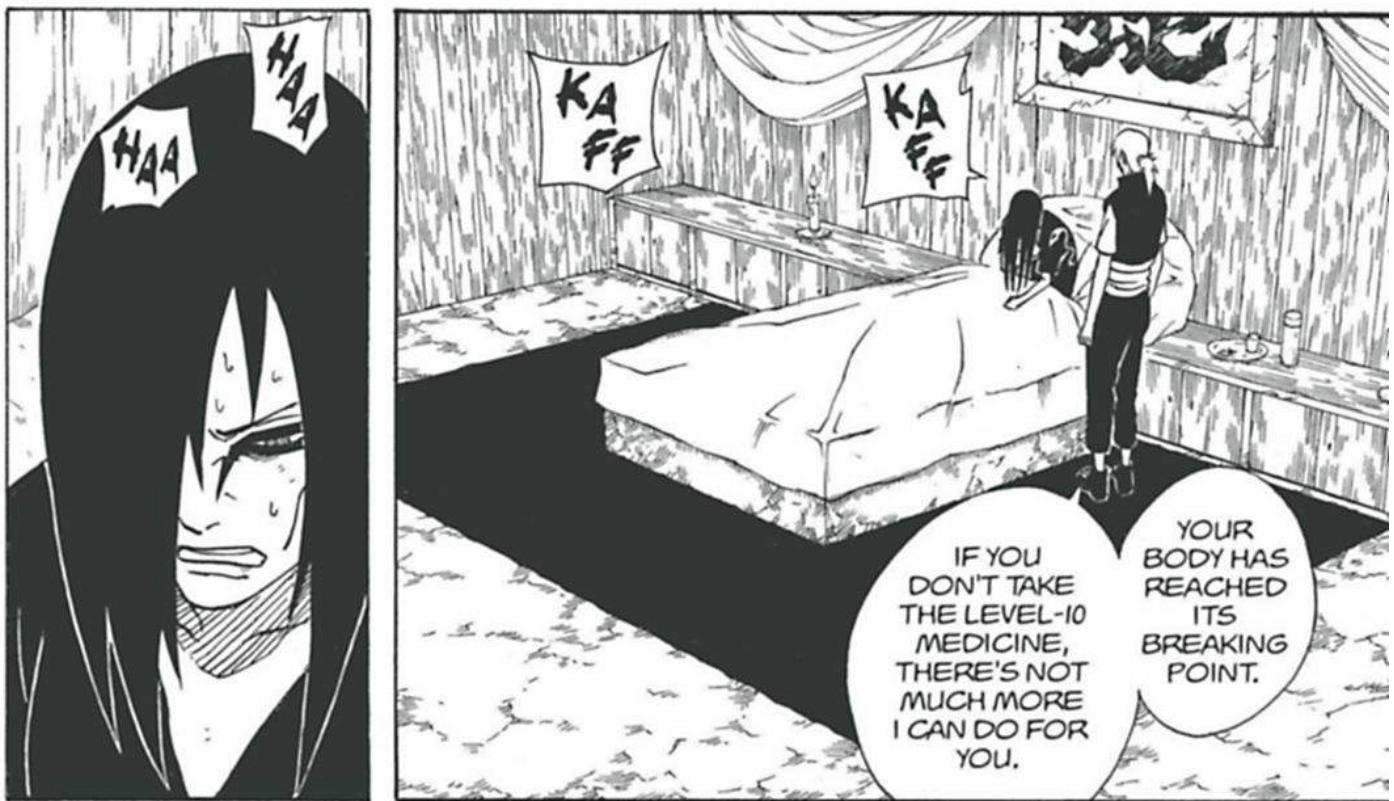
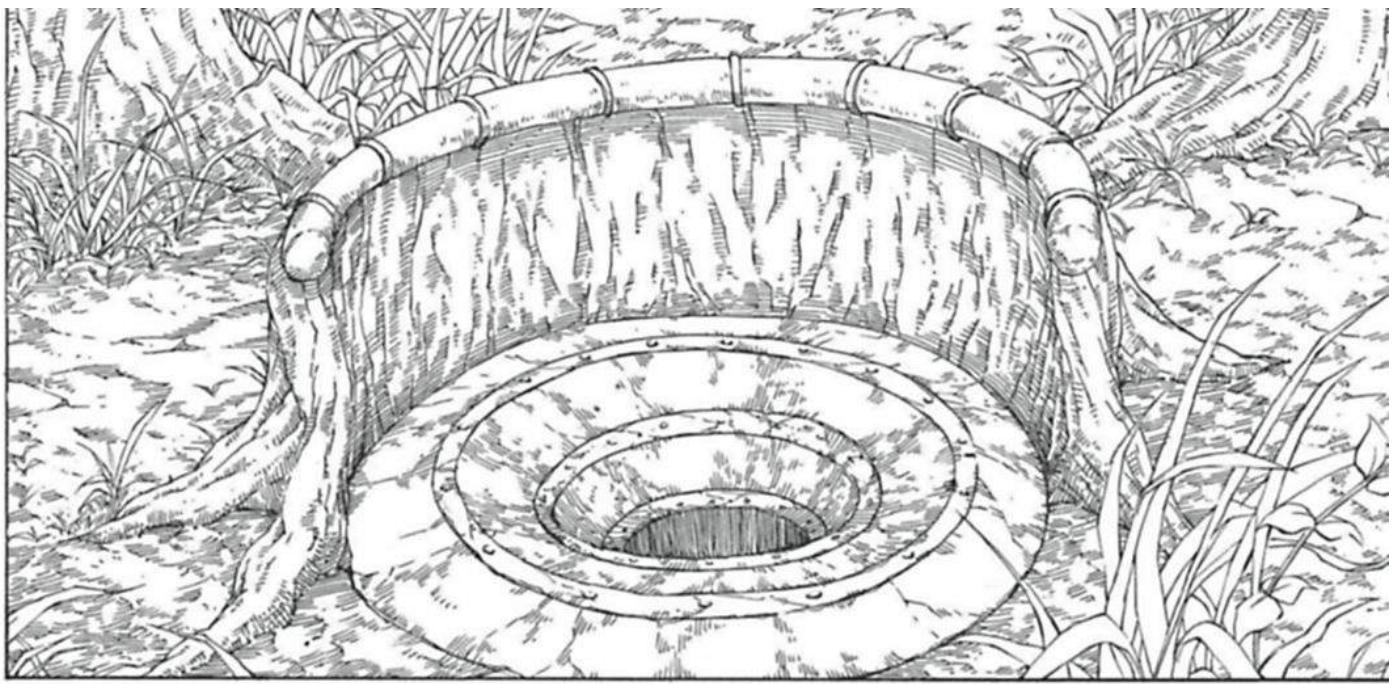




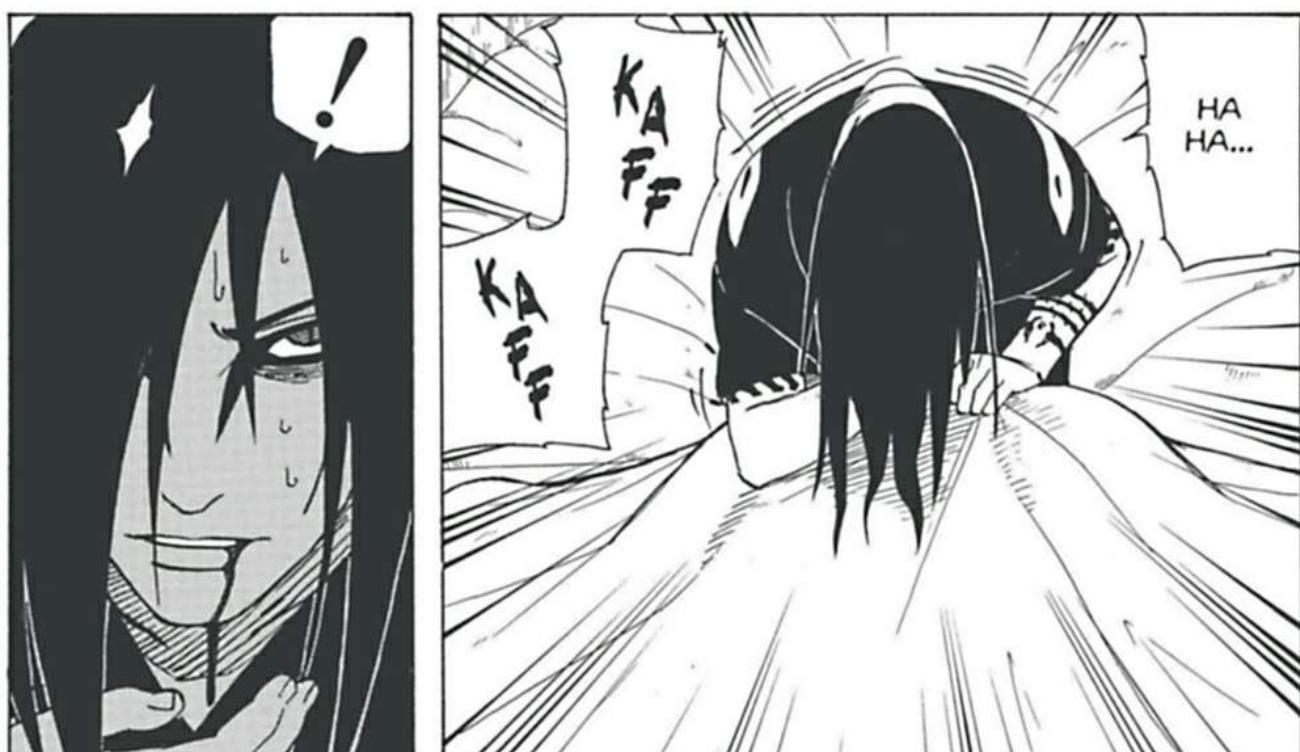


READ
THIS WAY



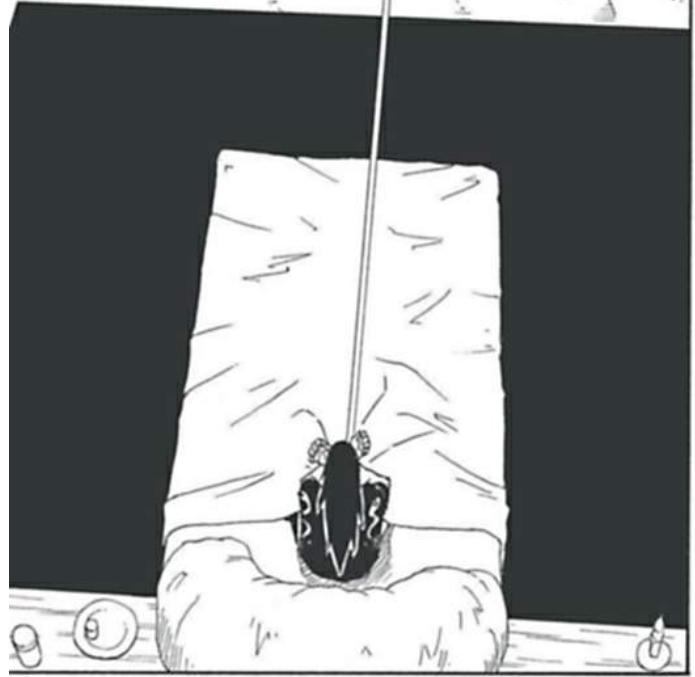
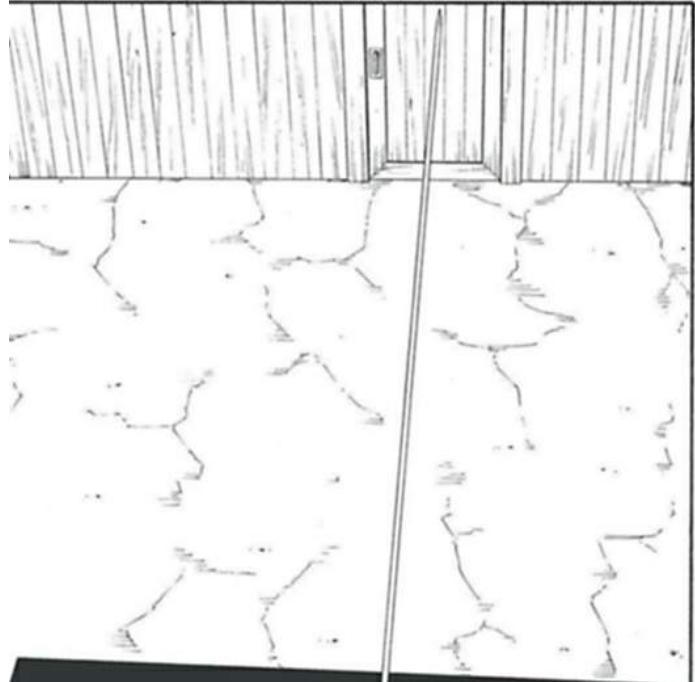


READ
THIS WAY



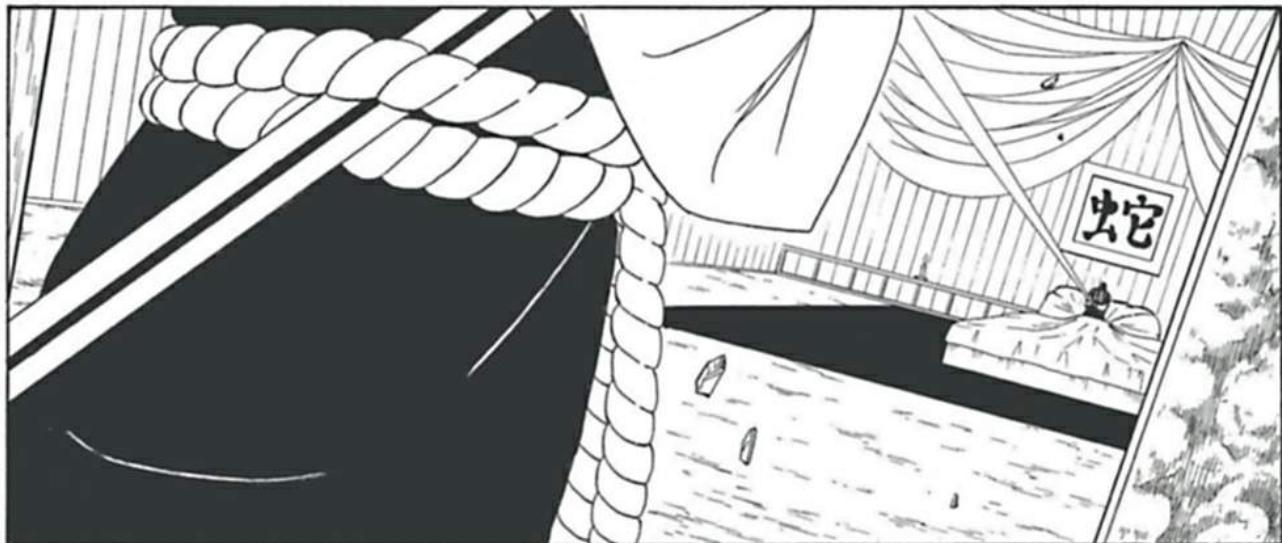


READ
THIS WAY

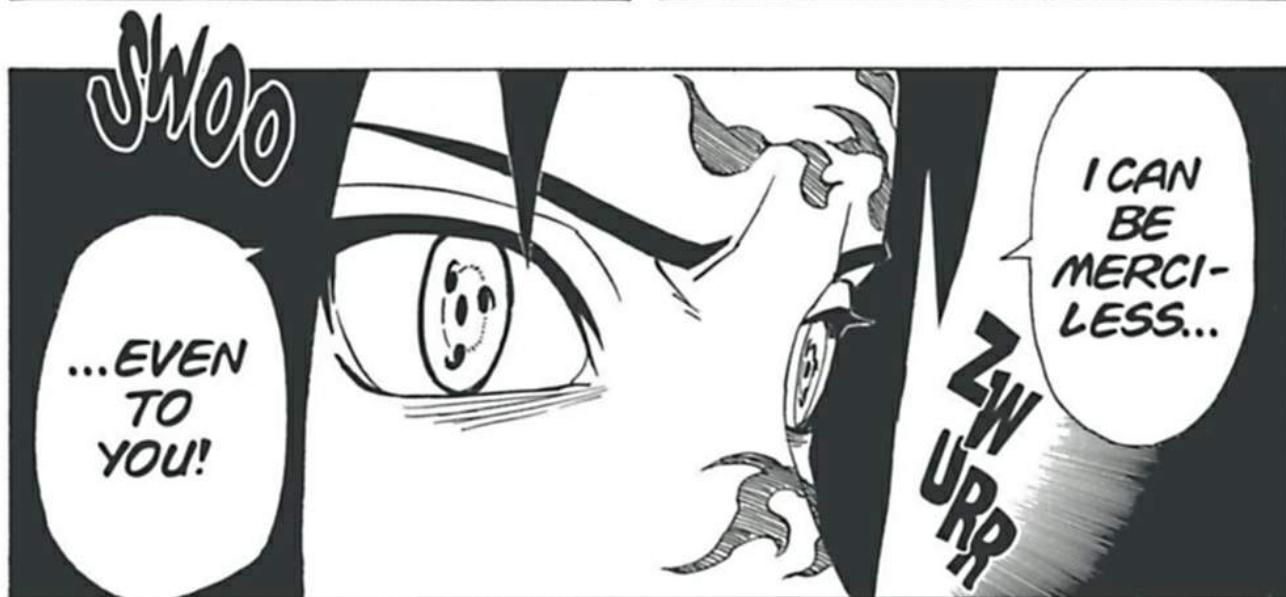
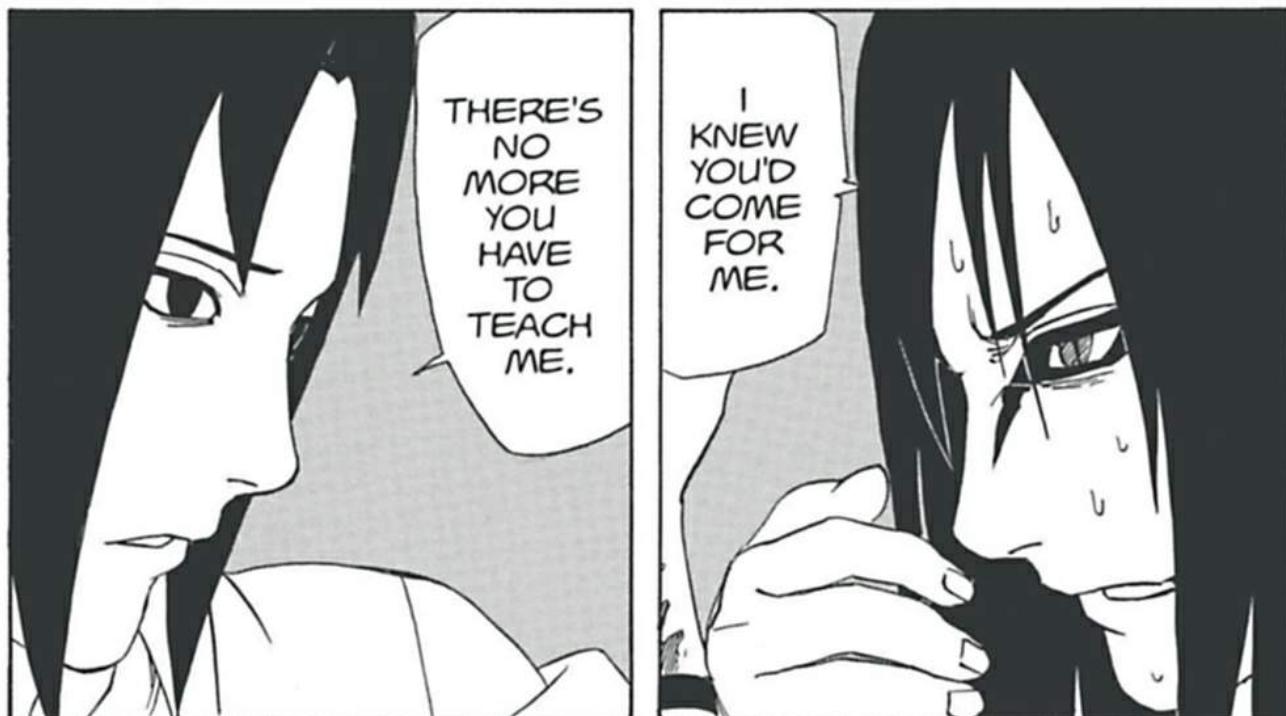




READ
THIS WAY

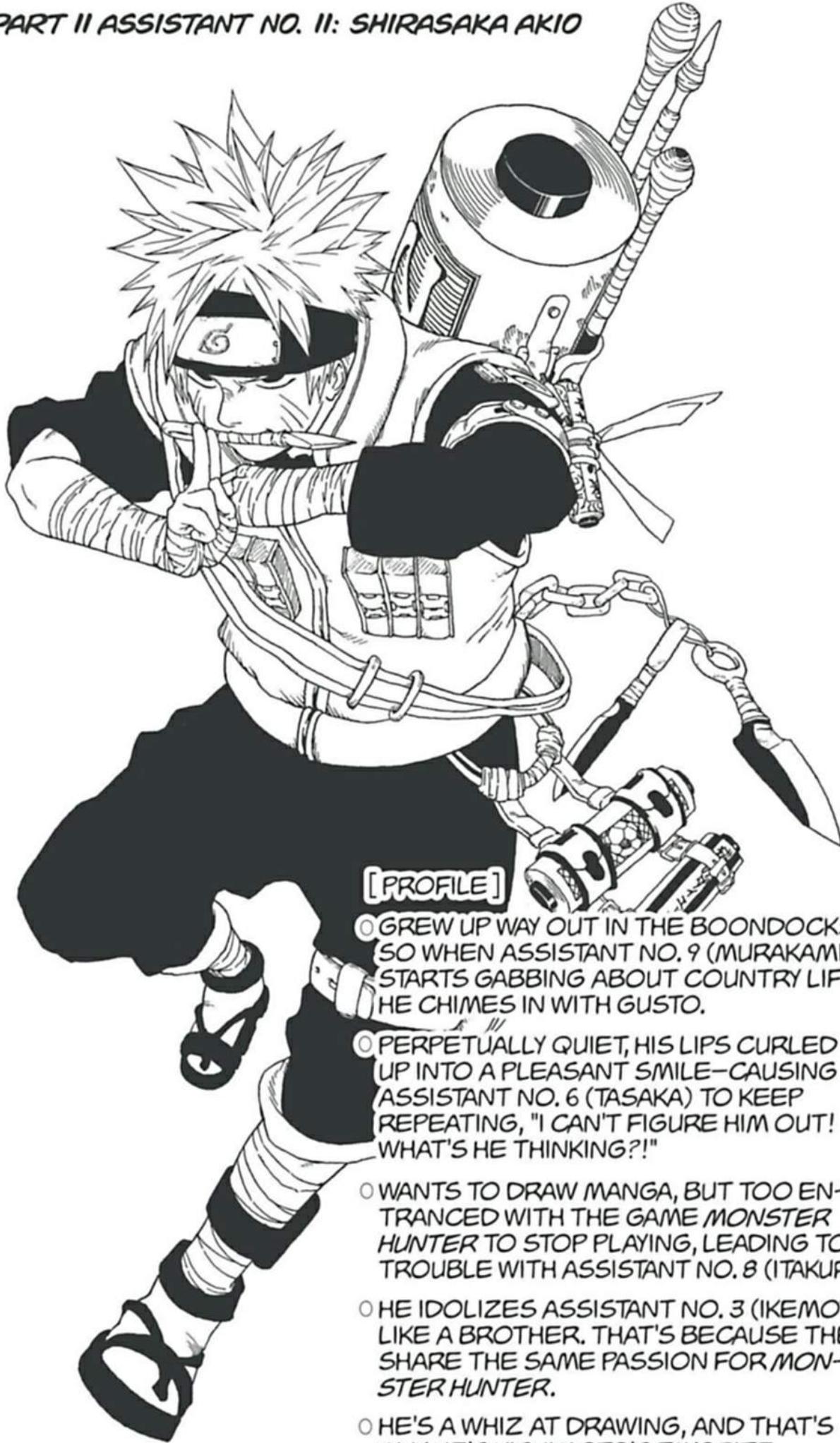


(SNAKE)



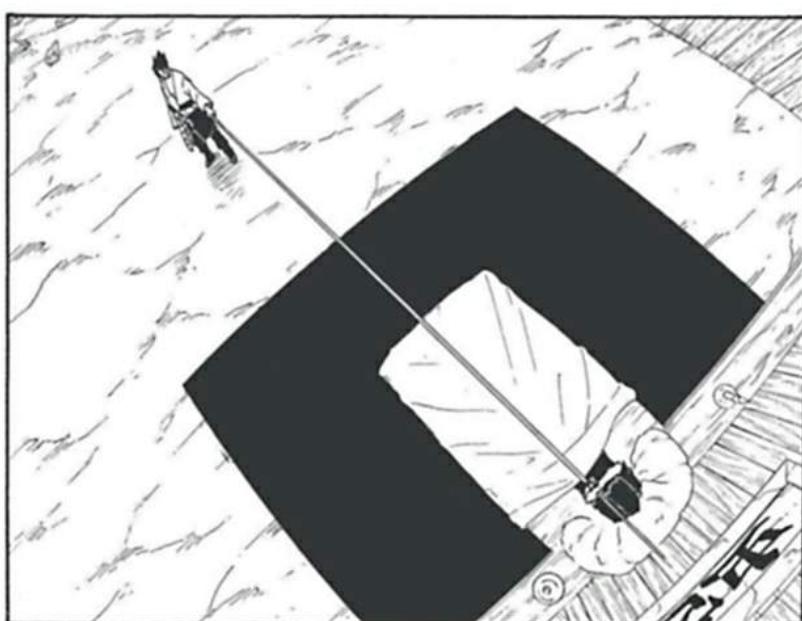
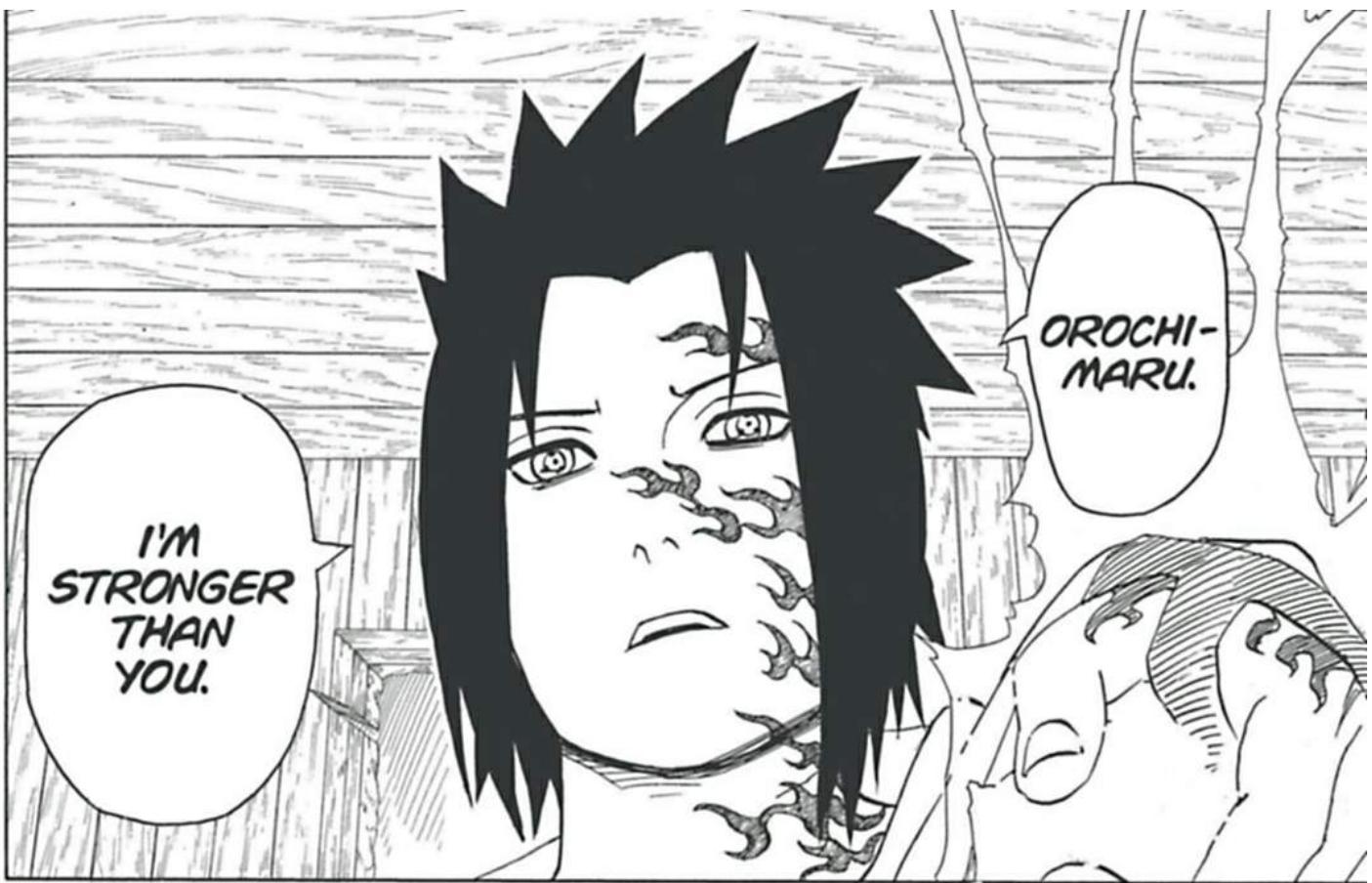
MEET KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S ASSISTANTS

○ PART II ASSISTANT NO. 11: SHIRASAKA AKIO

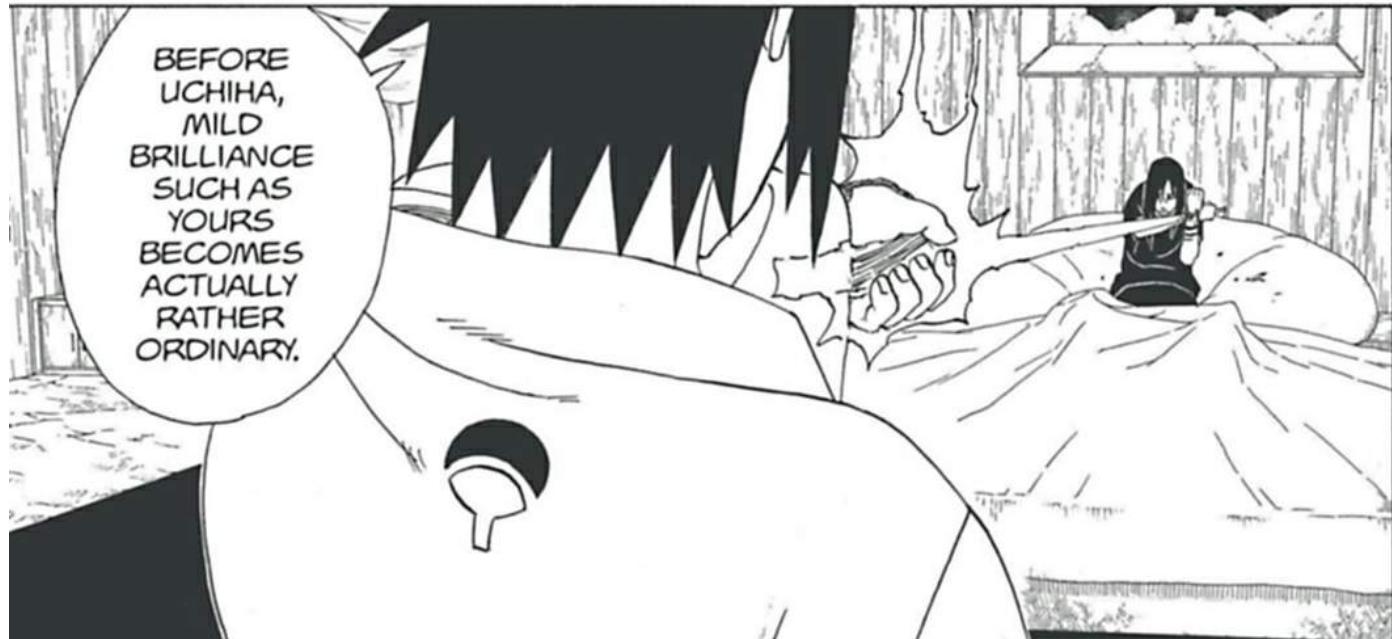
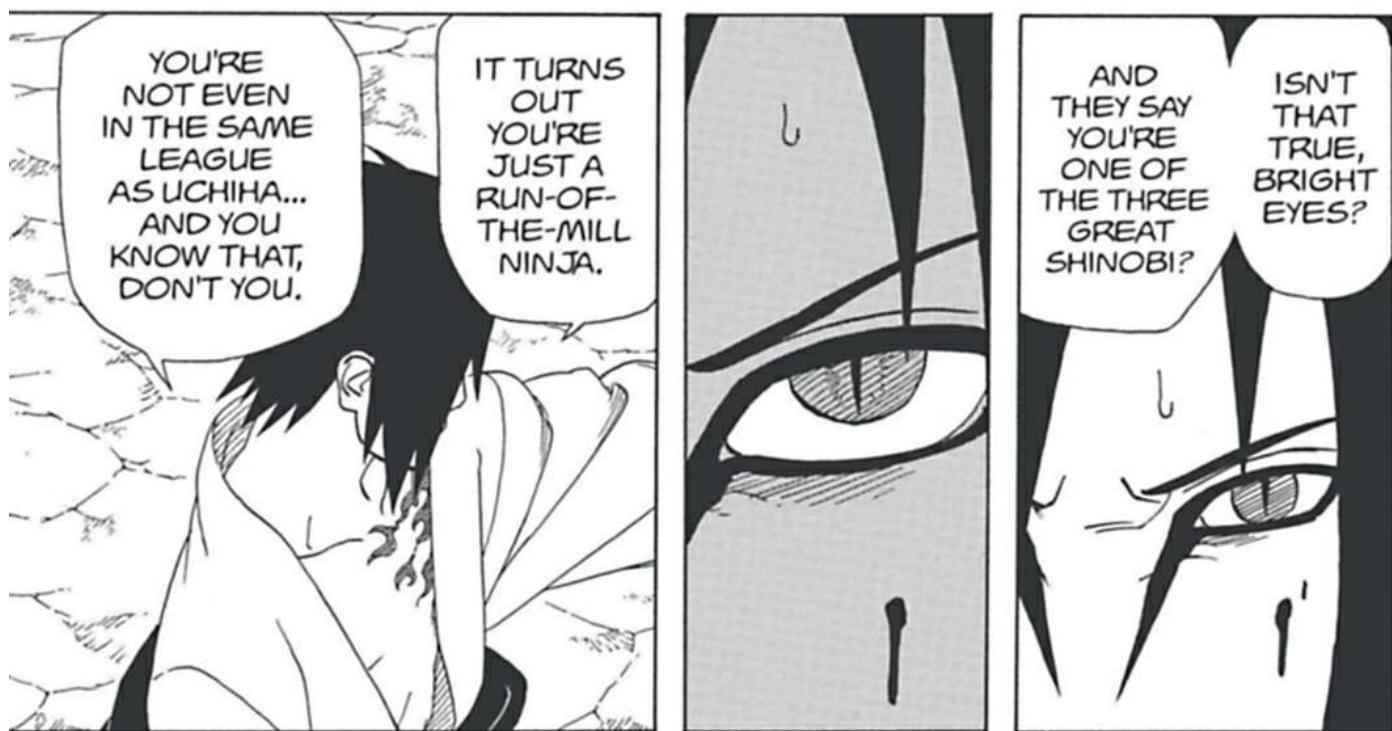


Number 344: The Snake...





READ
THIS WAY





AS AN
UCHIHA,
ALL I
SEE IS A
MISERABLE
WRETCH.



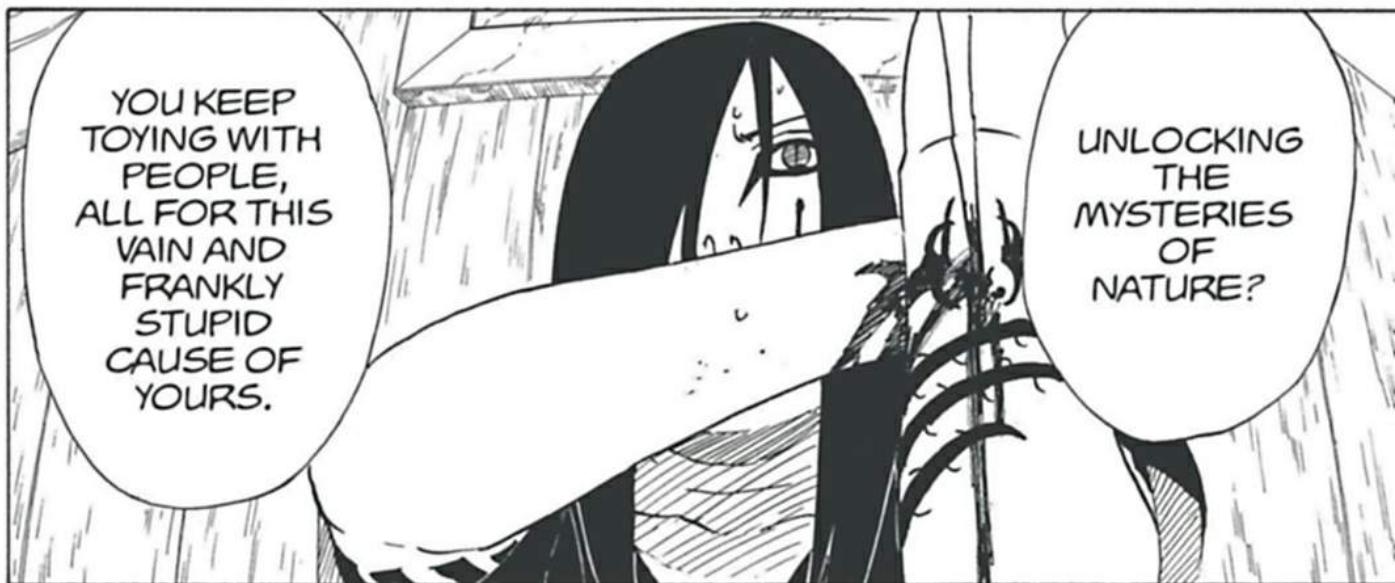
FILLING
YOURSELF
UP WITH
MEDICINES,
LEAPING
FROM BODY
TO BODY...

AND THE WAY
YOU COVET
THE POWER
OF UCHIHA
...IT'S
REVOLTING.



I MEAN,
WHAT
ARE YOU
AFTER?

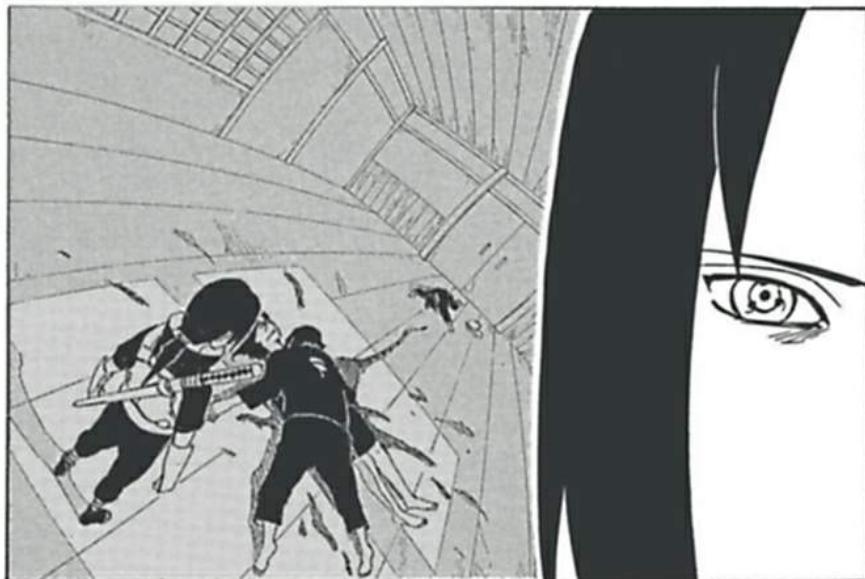
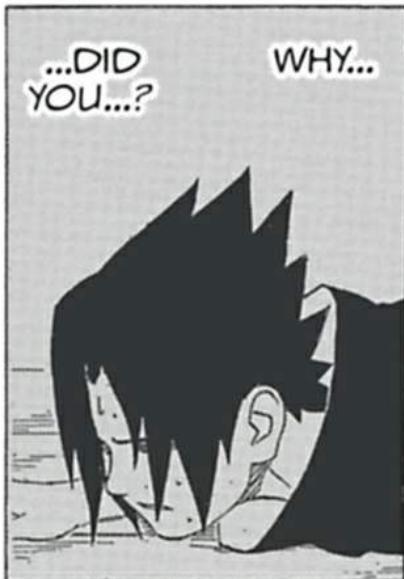
AND
ANYWAY,
I DON'T
LIKE
YOUR
STYLE.



YOU KEEP
TOYING WITH
PEOPLE,
ALL FOR THIS
VAIN AND
FRANKLY
STUPID
CAUSE OF
YOURS.

UNLOCKING
THE
MYSTERIES
OF
NATURE?

READ
THIS WAY



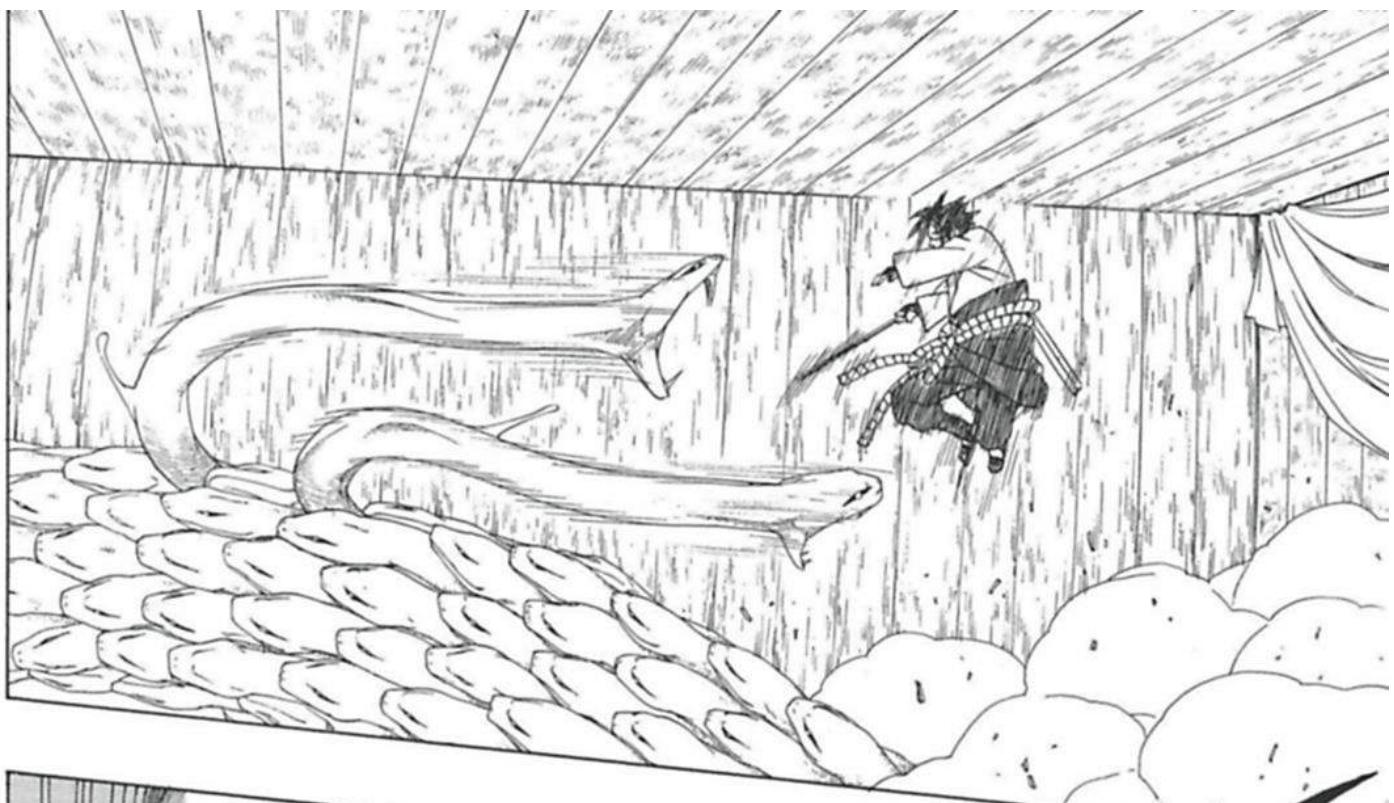


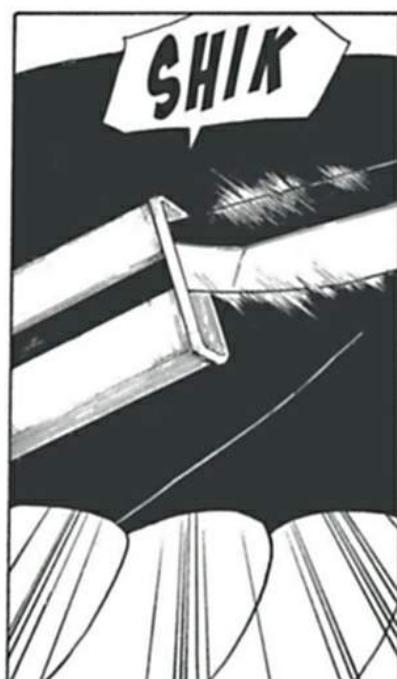




READ
THIS WAY





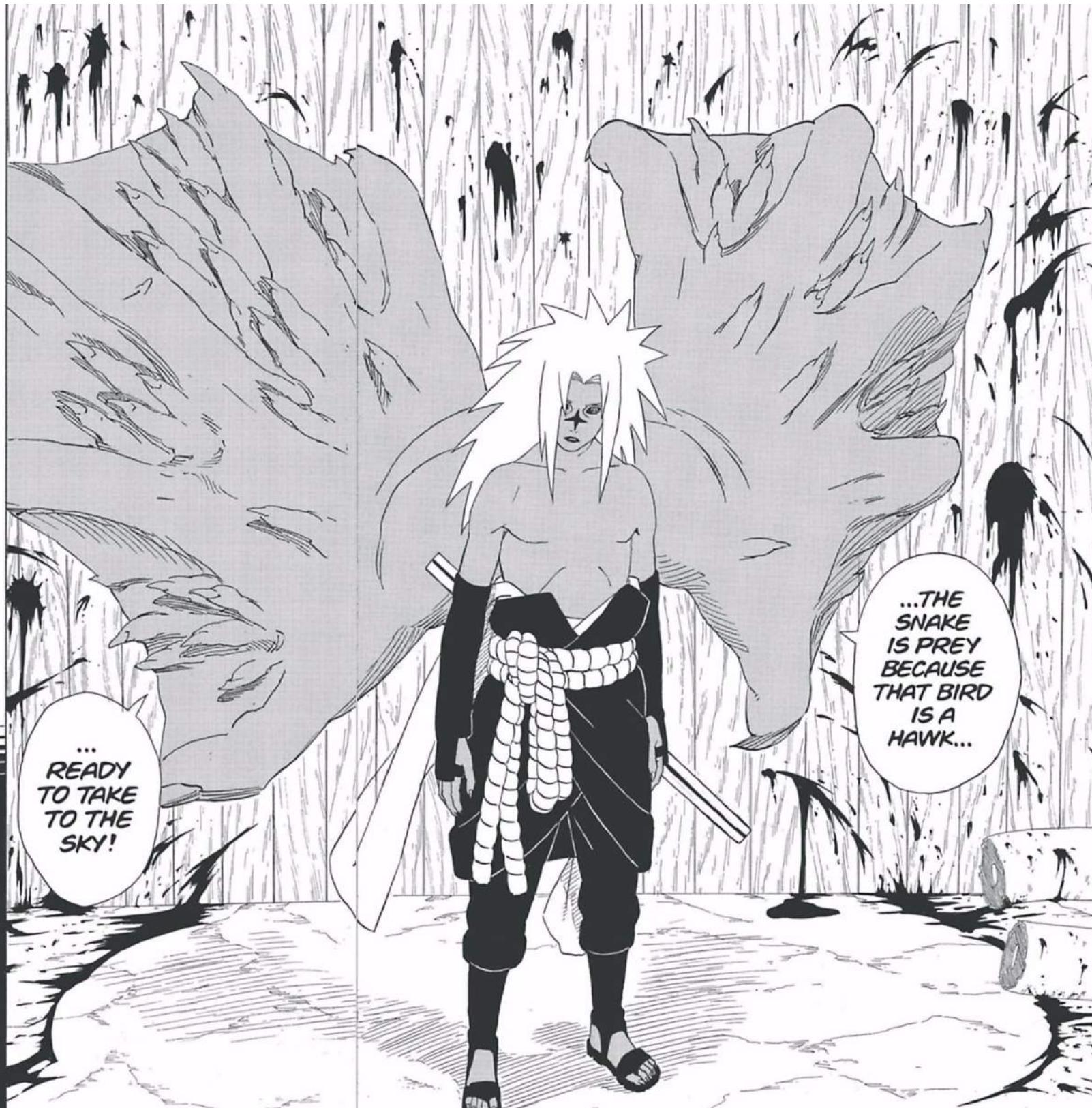
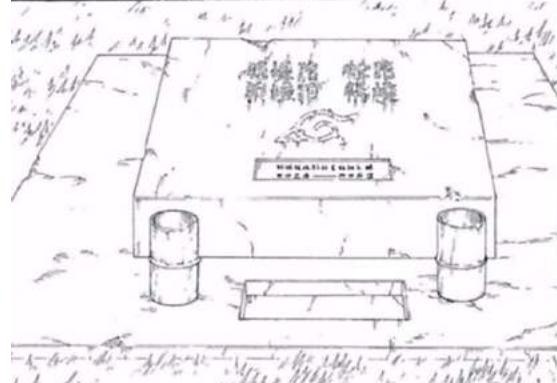


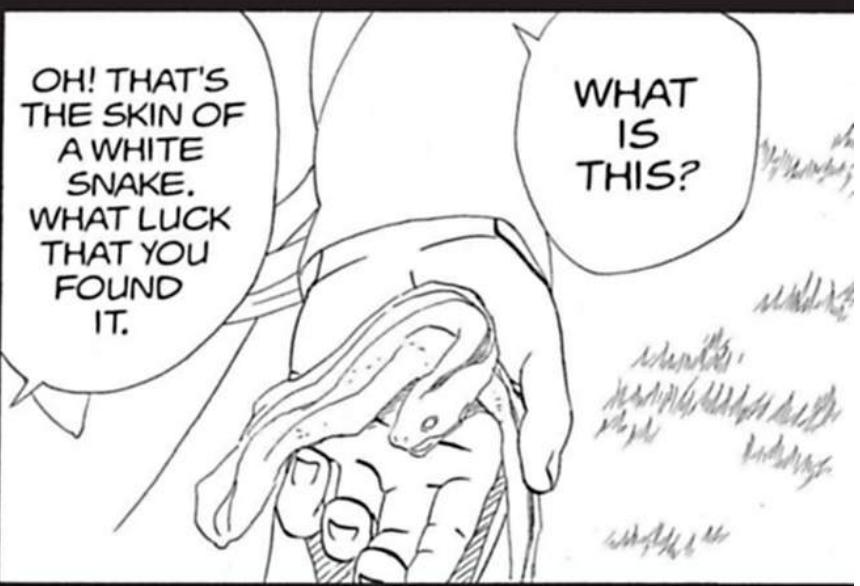
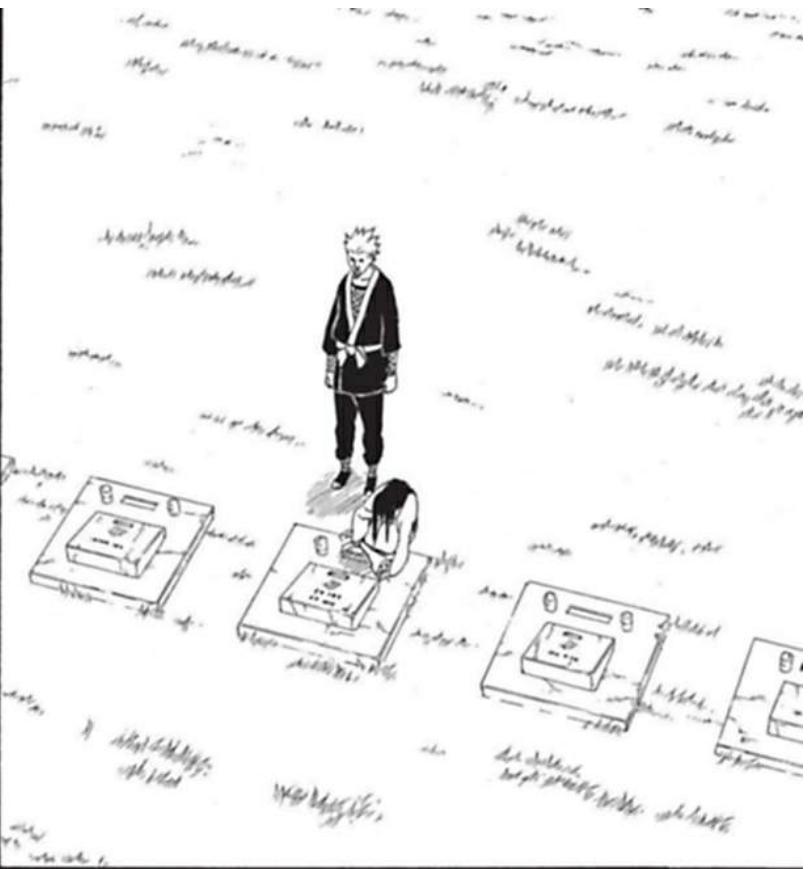


READ
THIS WAY



READ
THIS
WAY





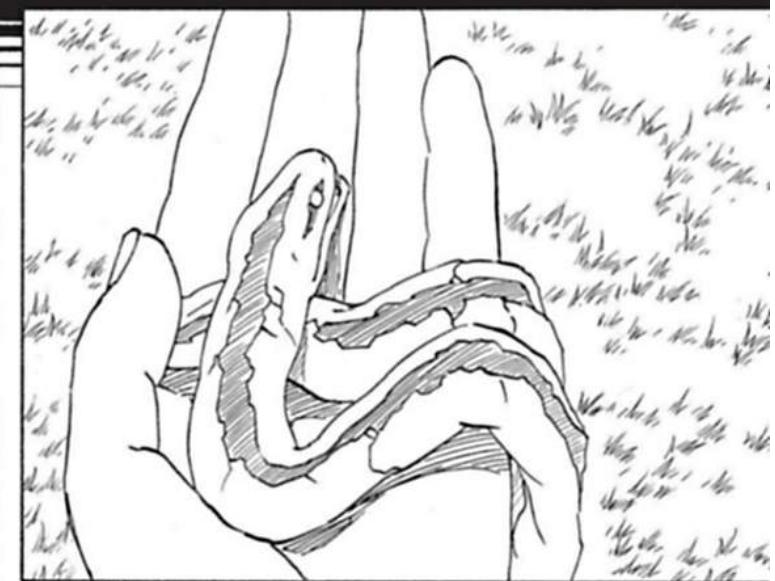
READ
THIS
WAY



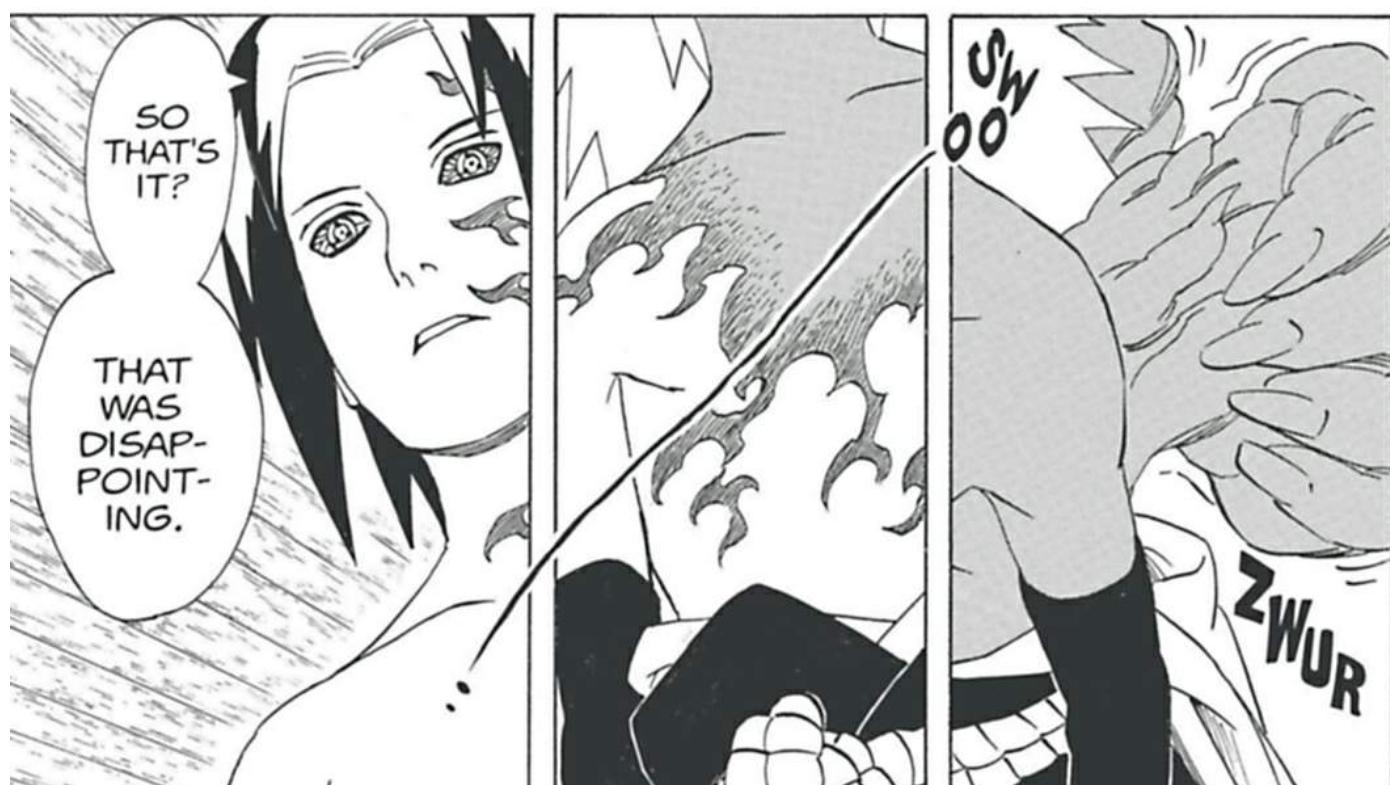
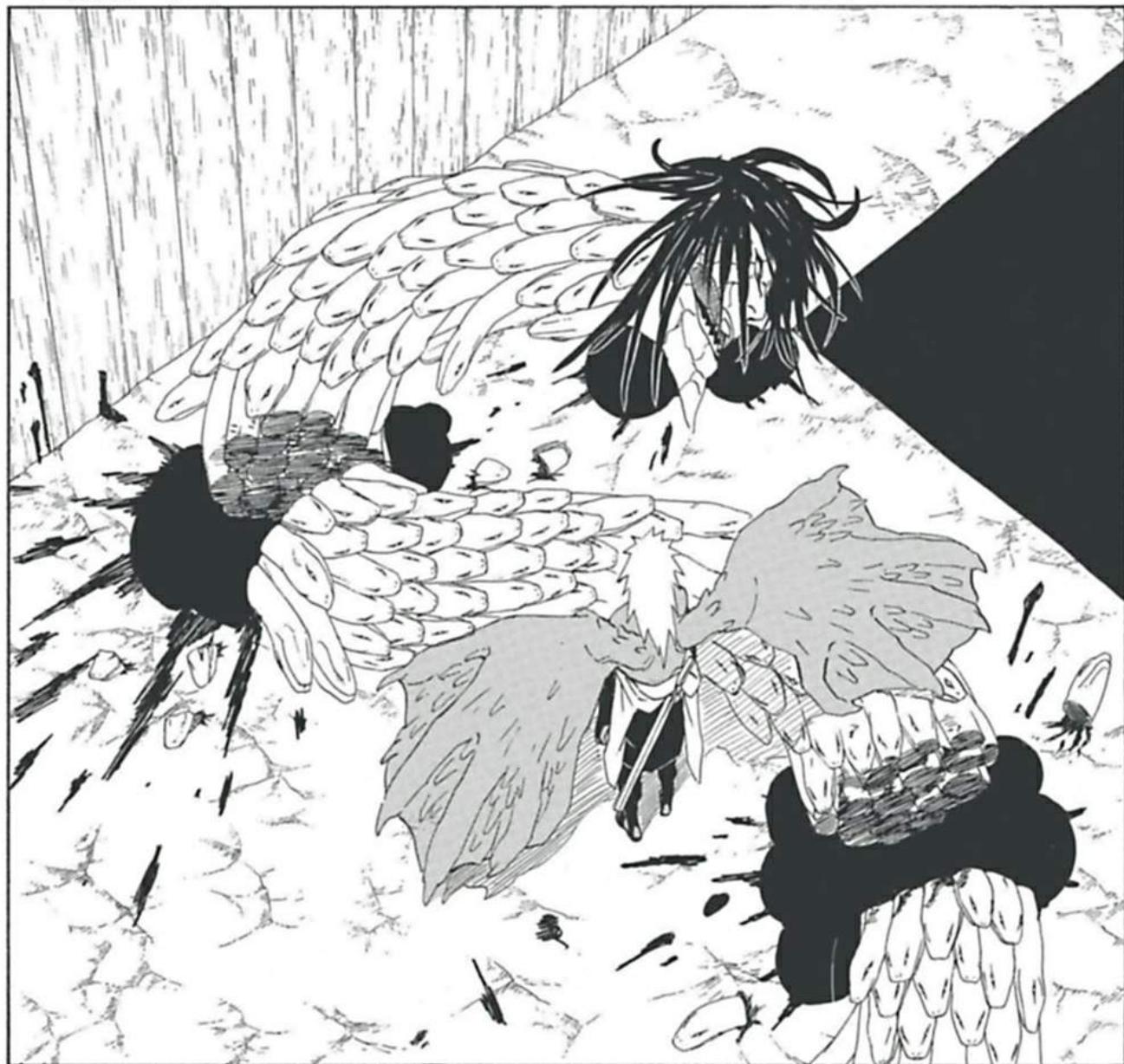
NARUTO

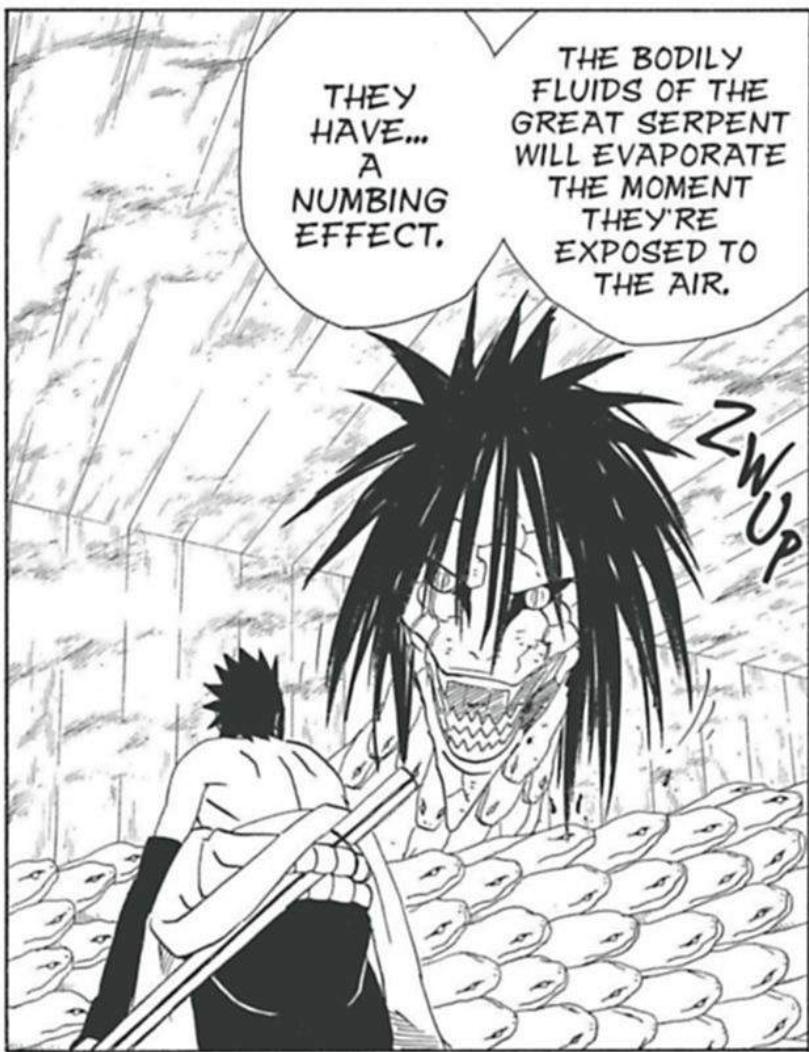
Number 345: The Ritual...!!



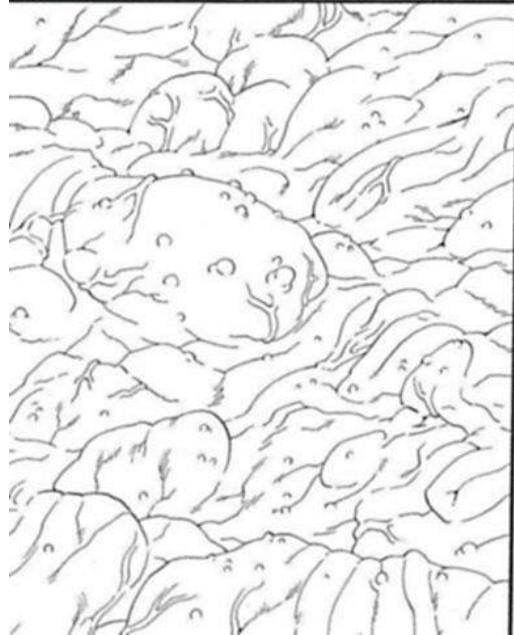
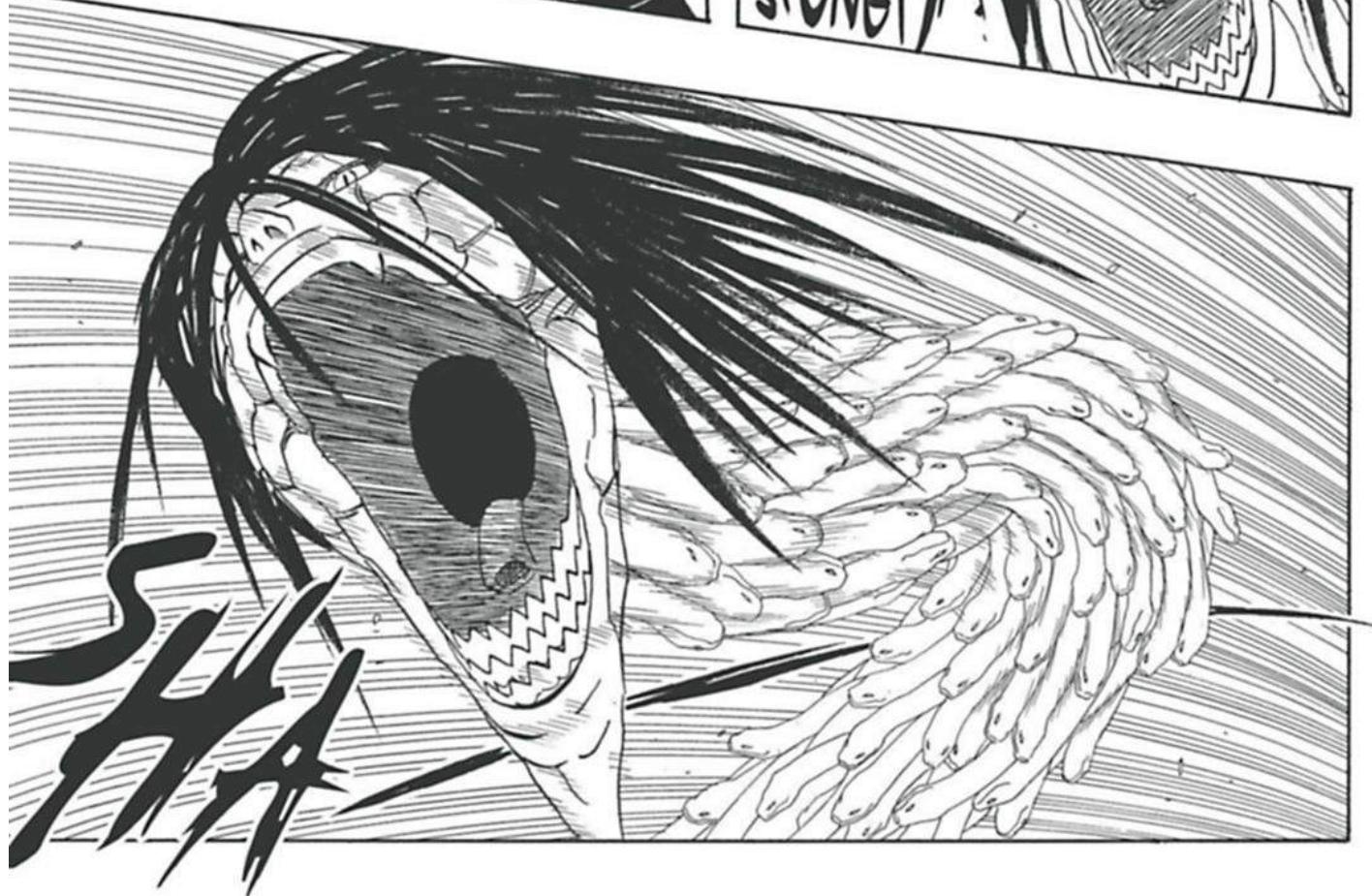
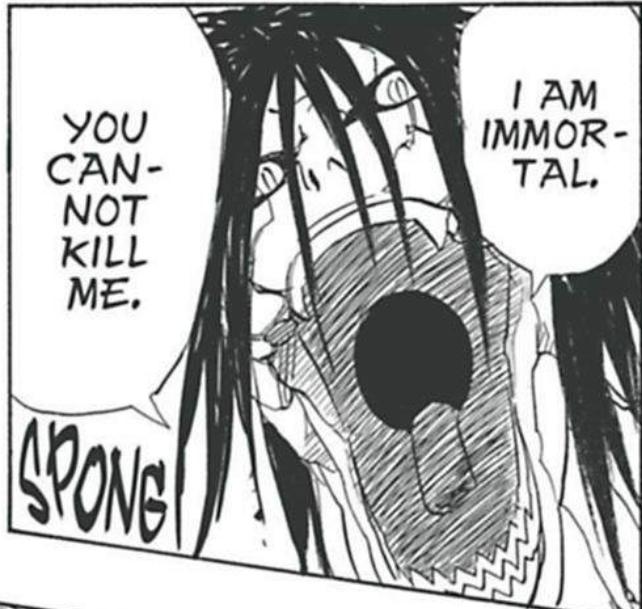


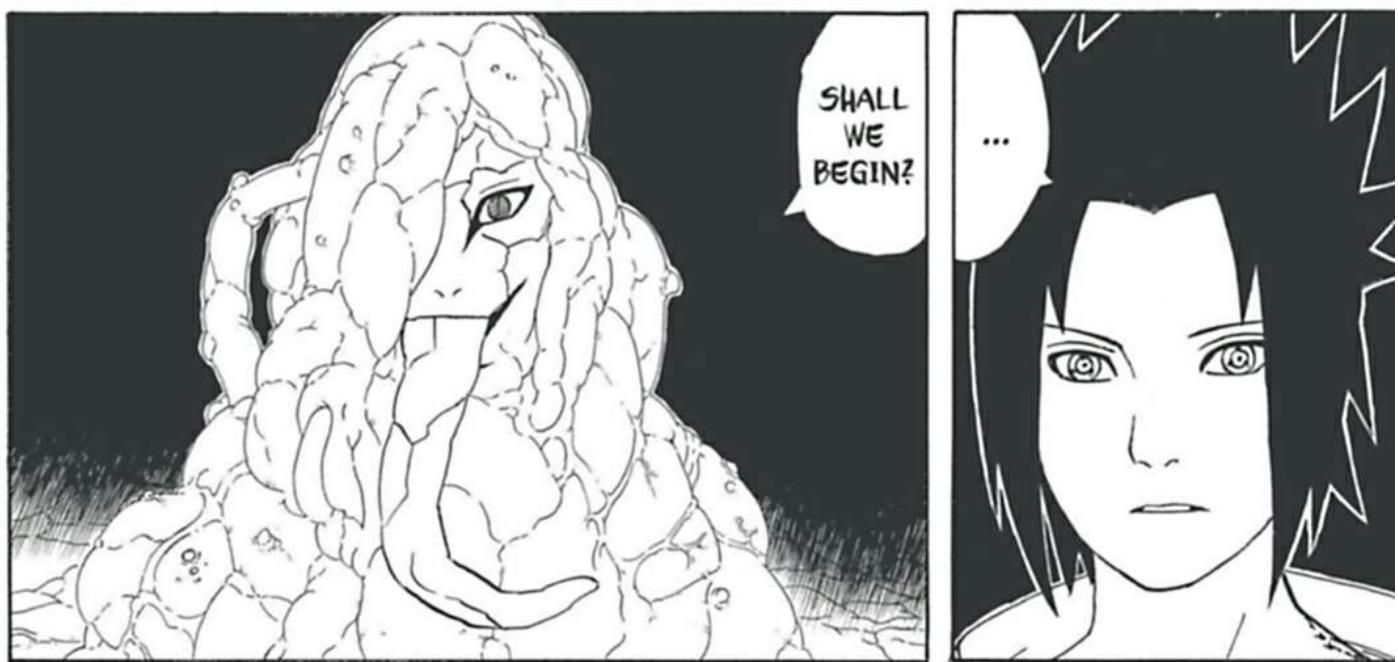
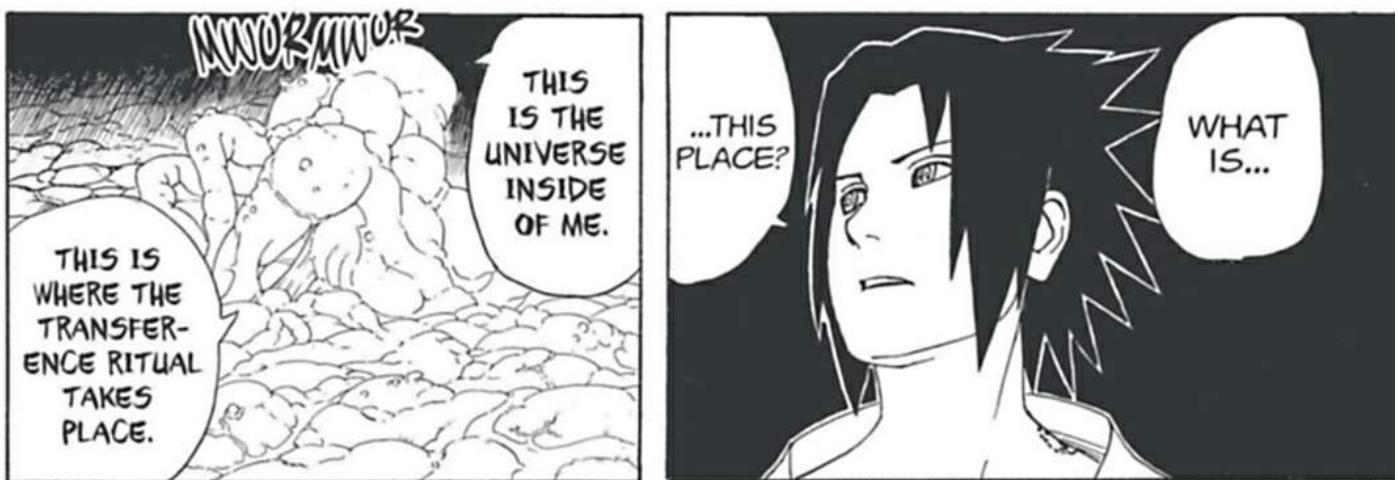
READ
THIS WAY



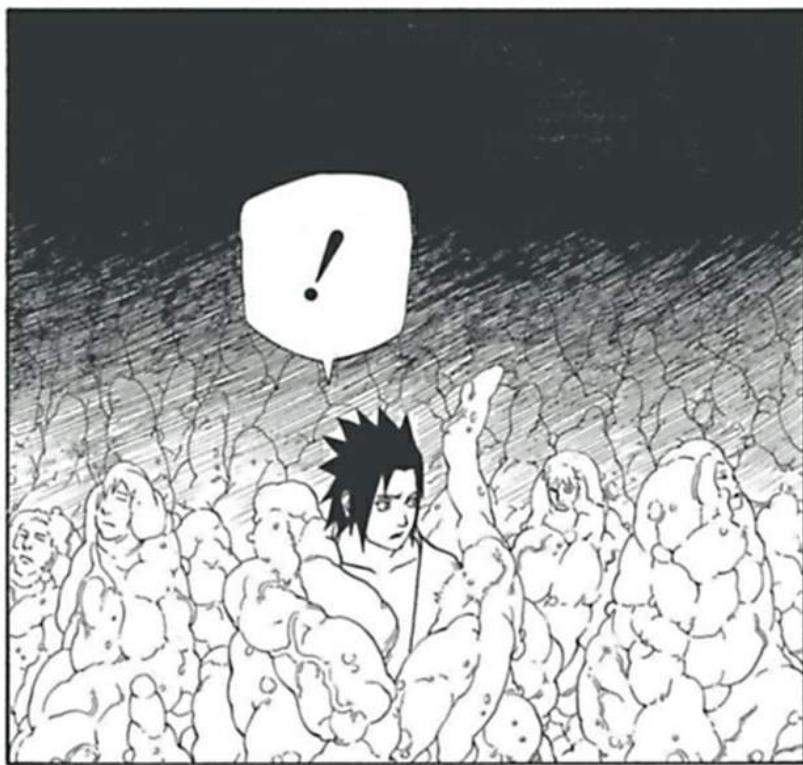


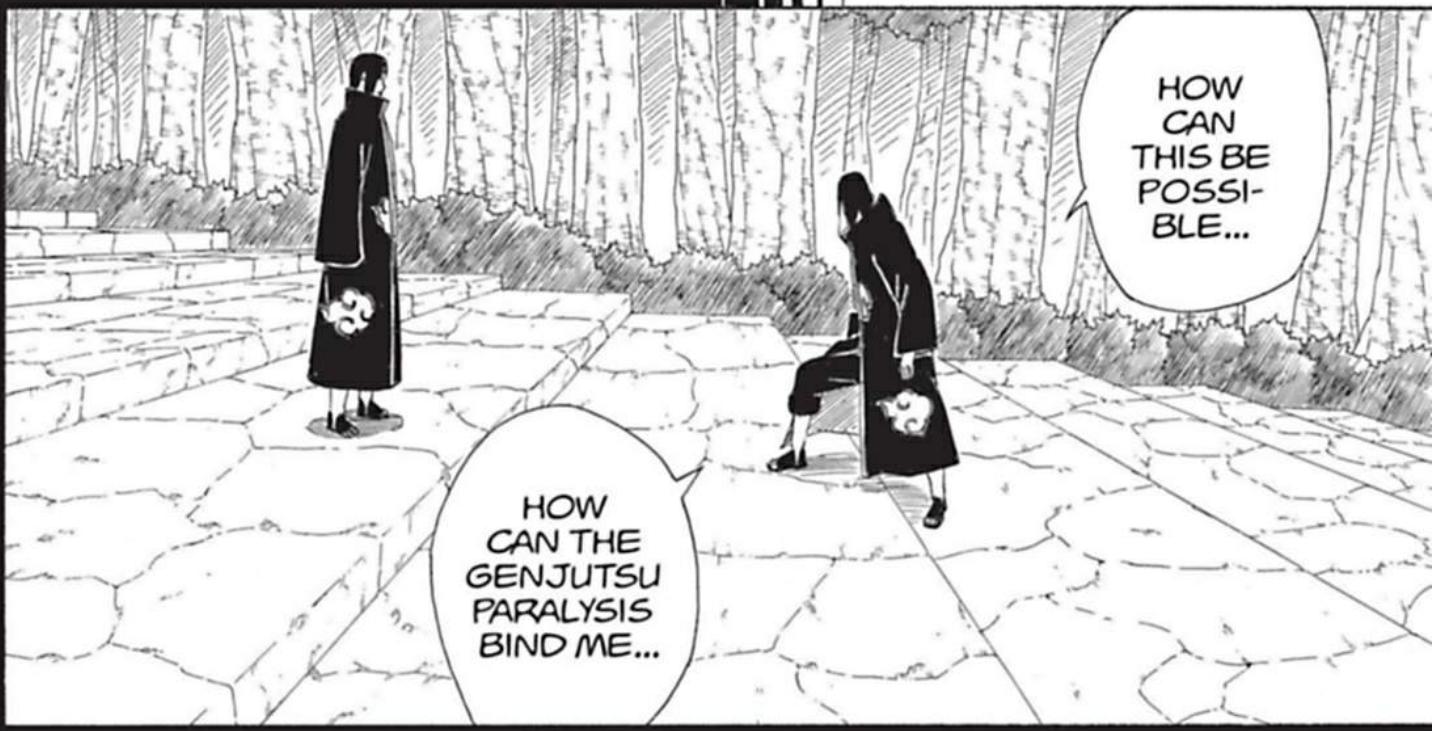
READ
THIS WAY





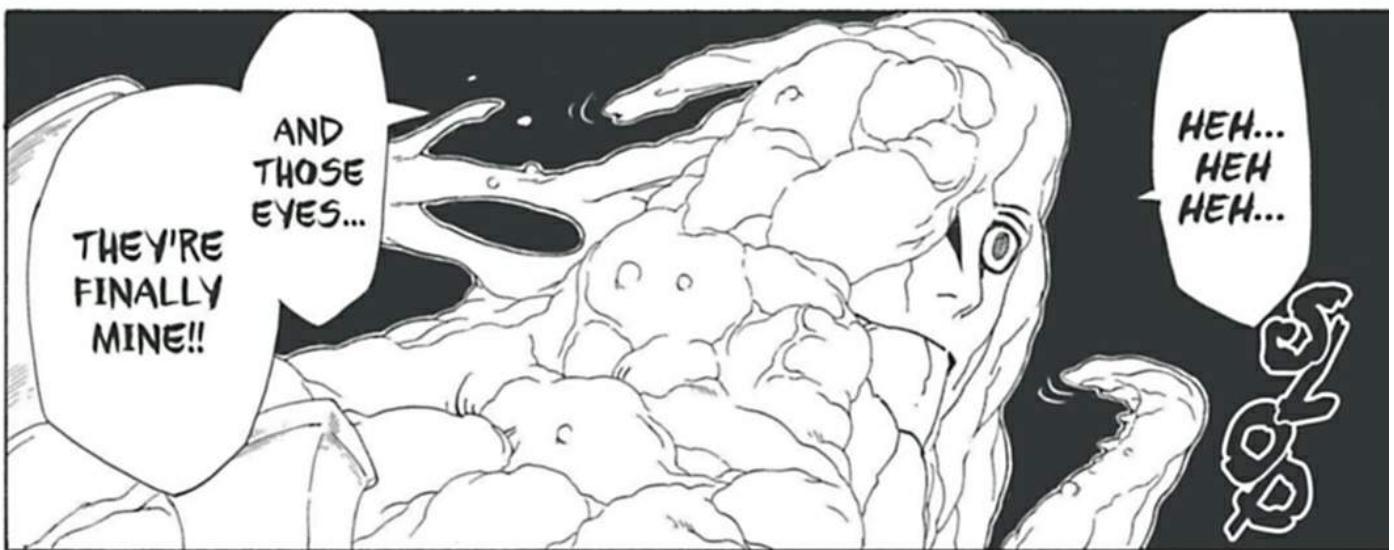
READ
THIS WAY

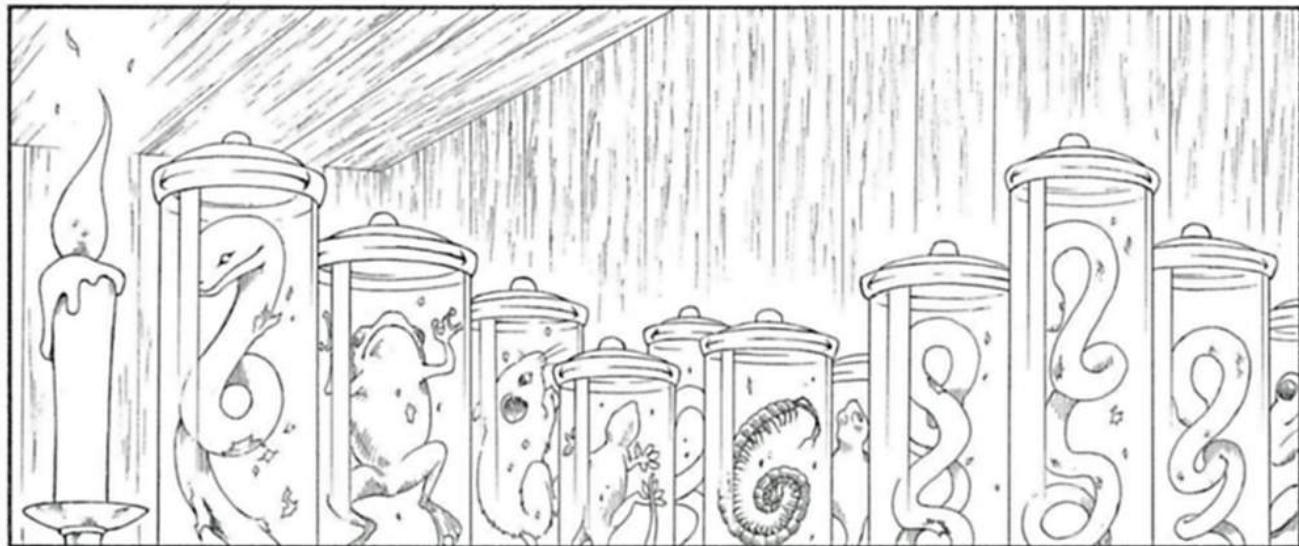


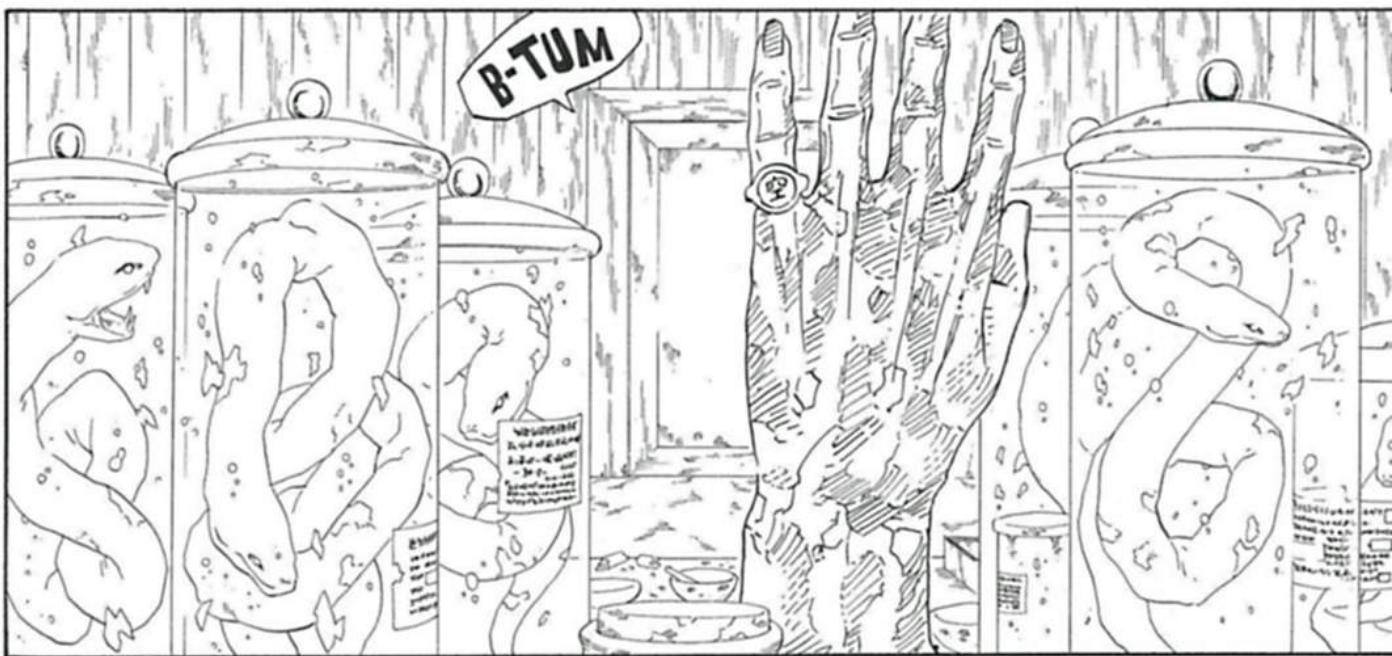


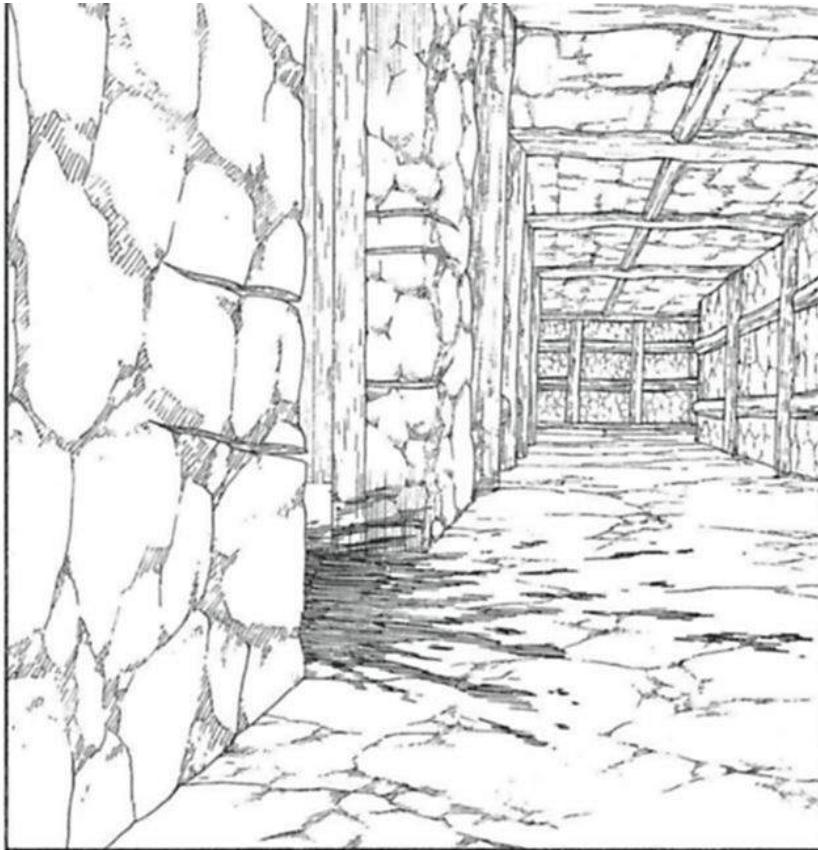
READ
THIS WAY





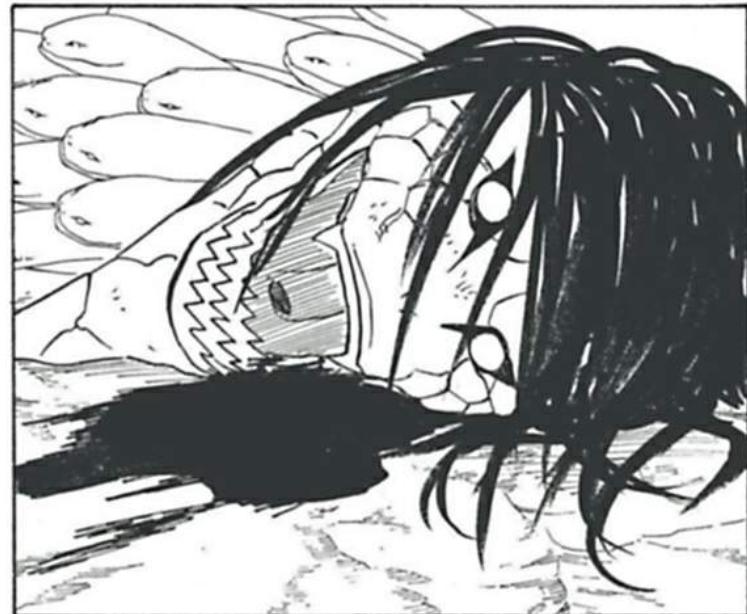


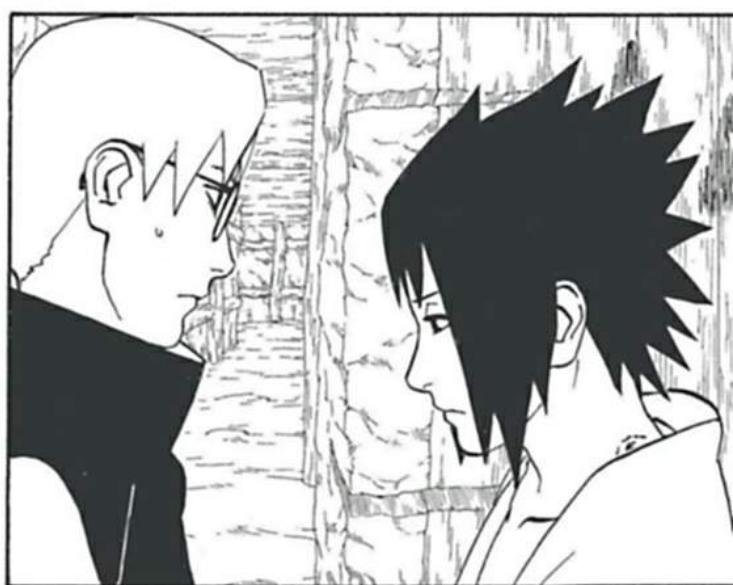


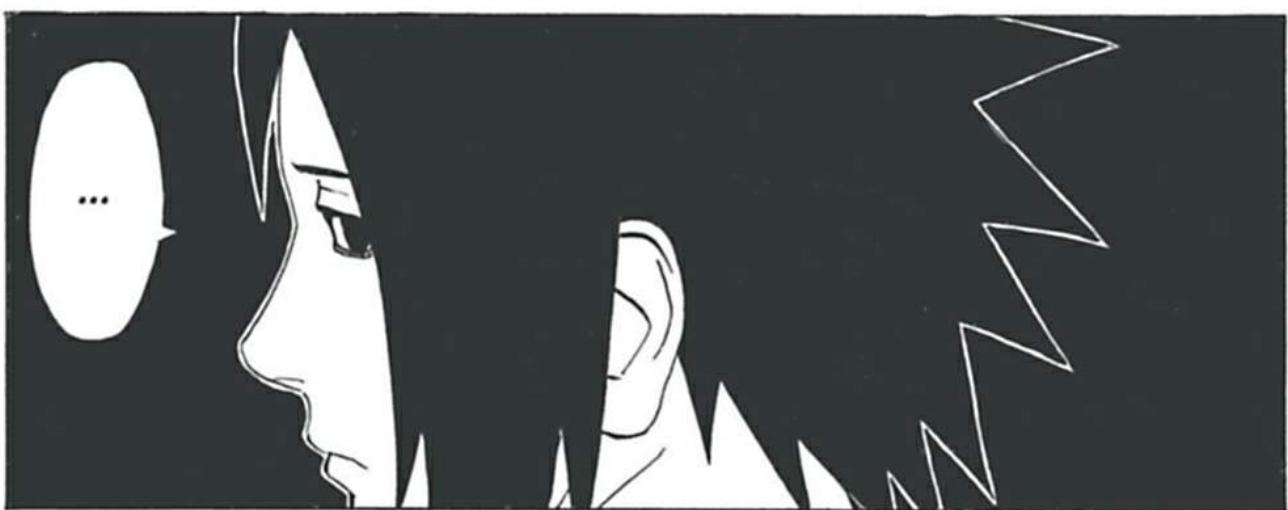
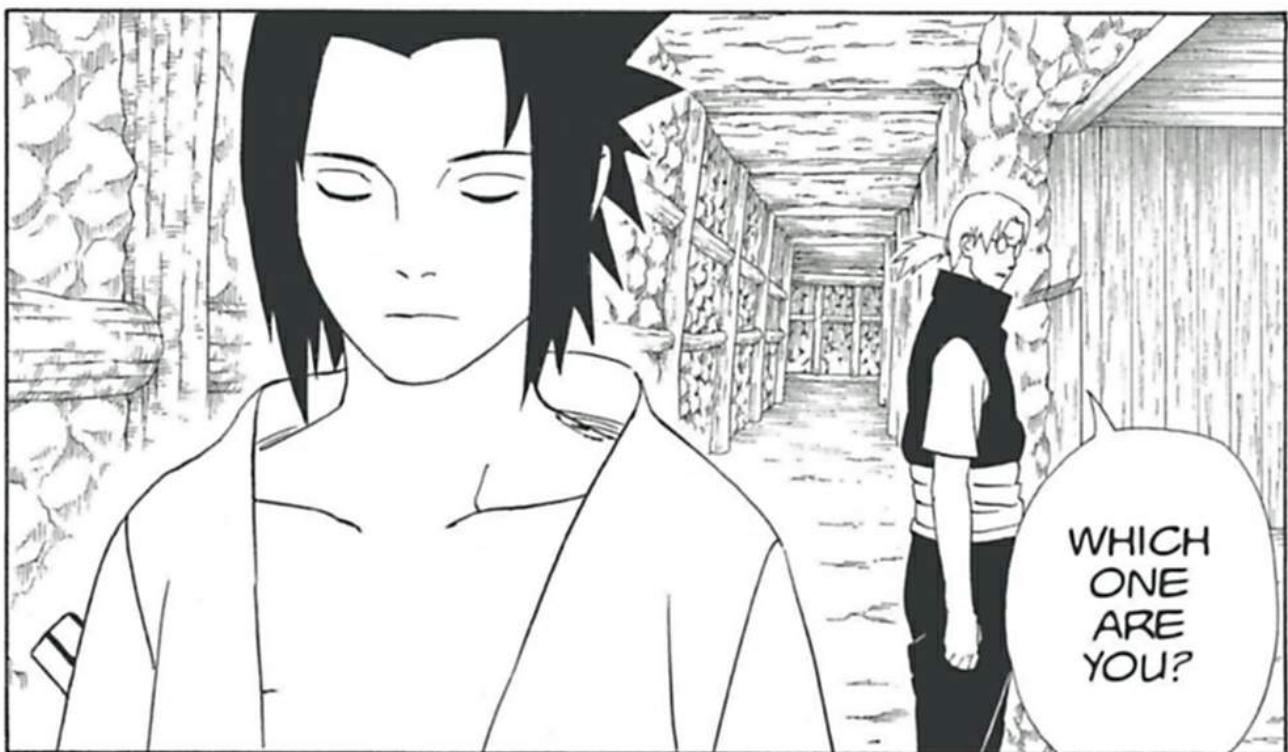




READ
THIS WAY



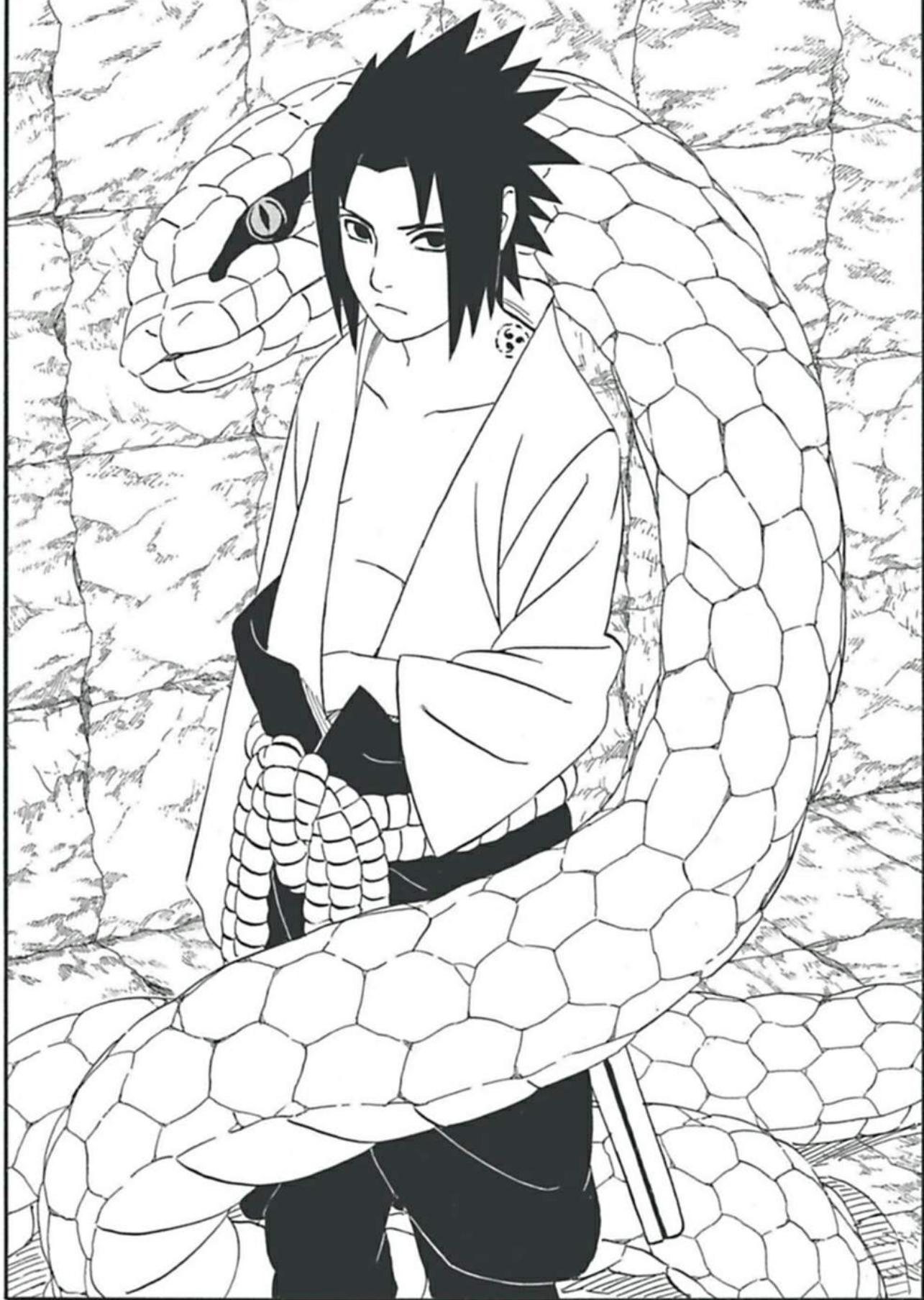


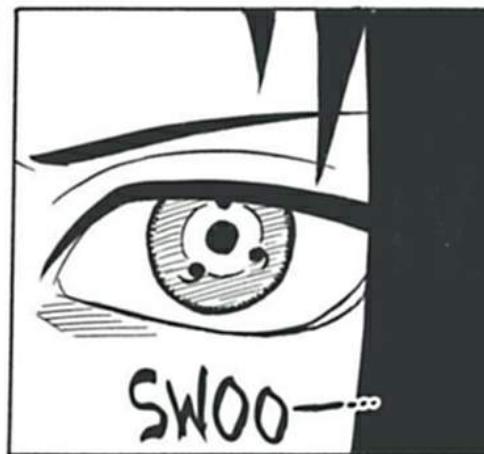
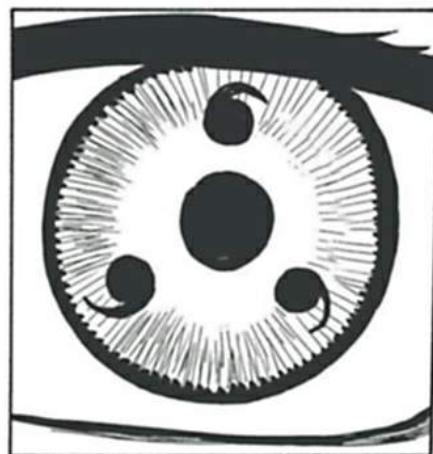
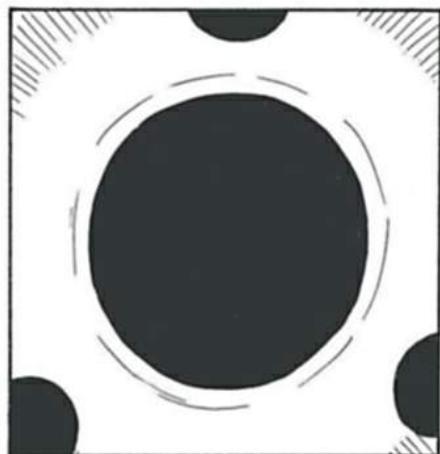


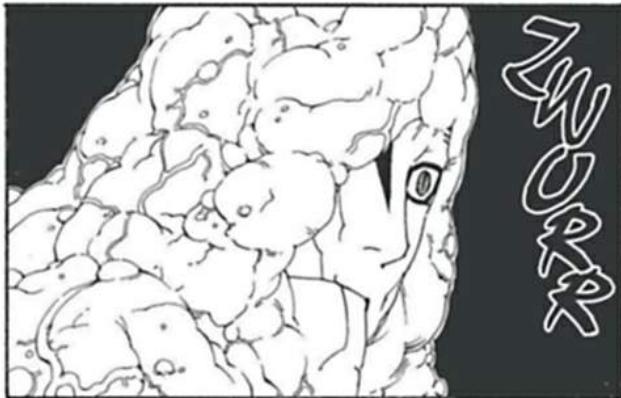
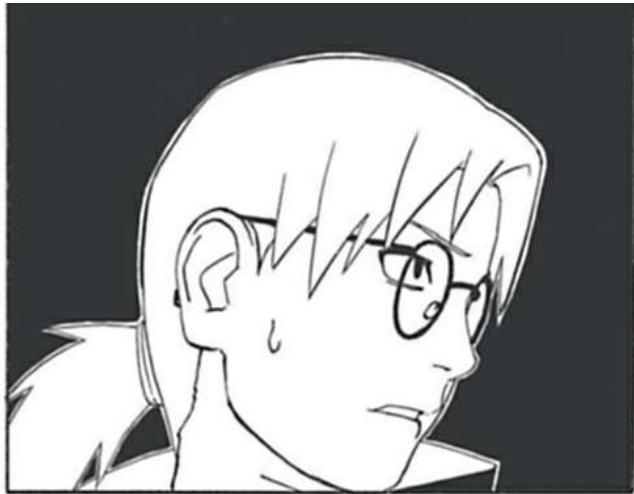
NARUTO

Number 346: The Secret

of the New Jutsu!!

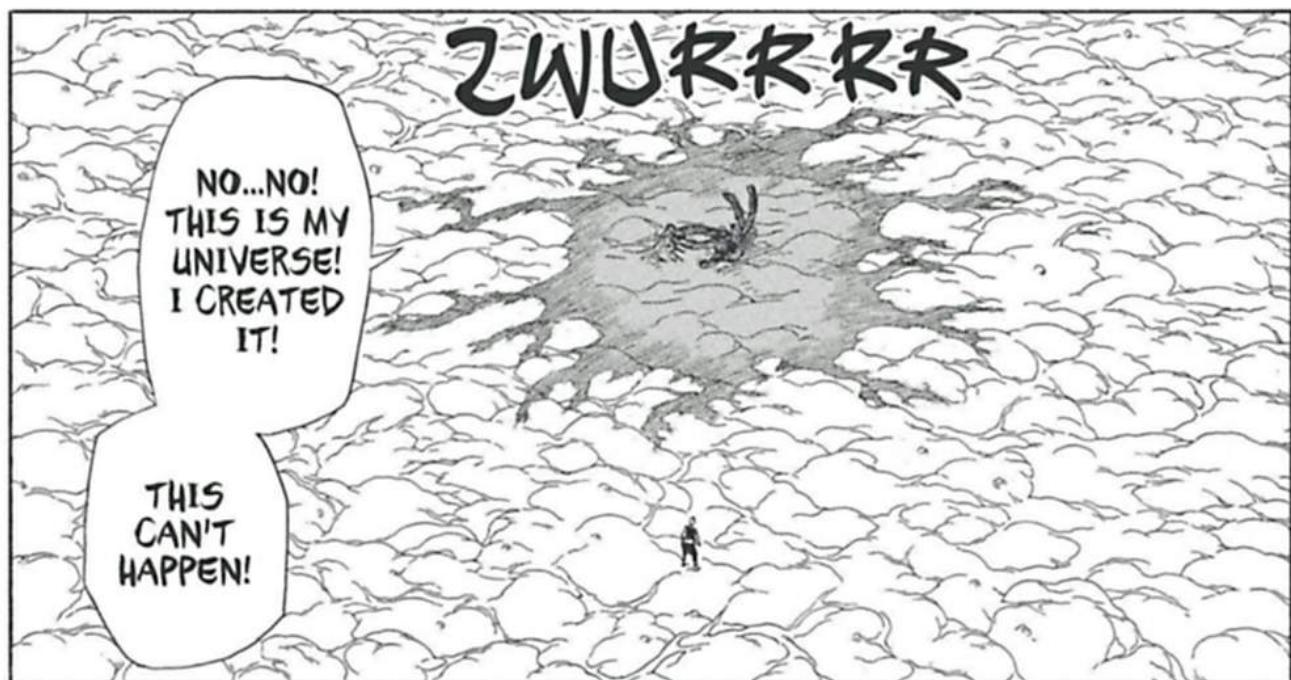
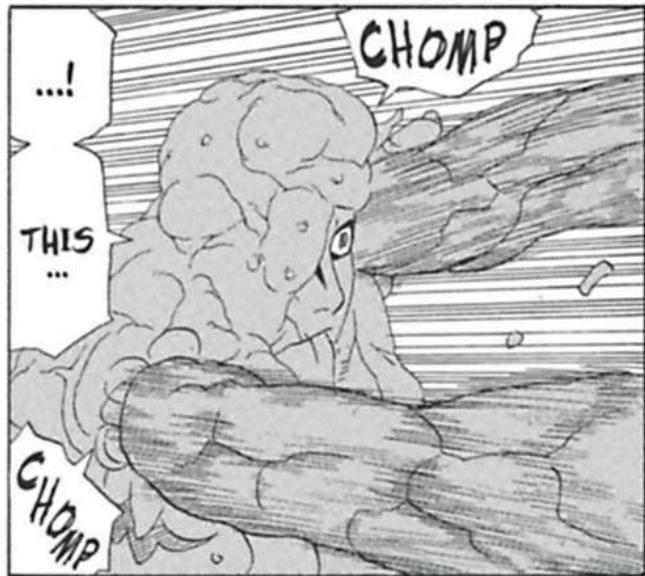
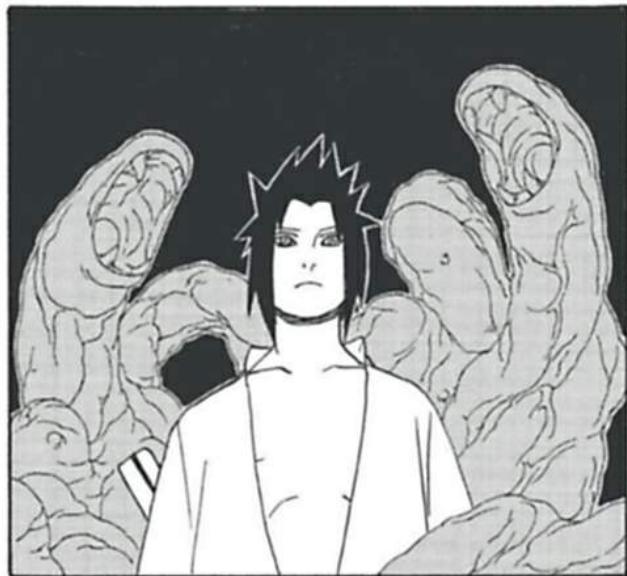


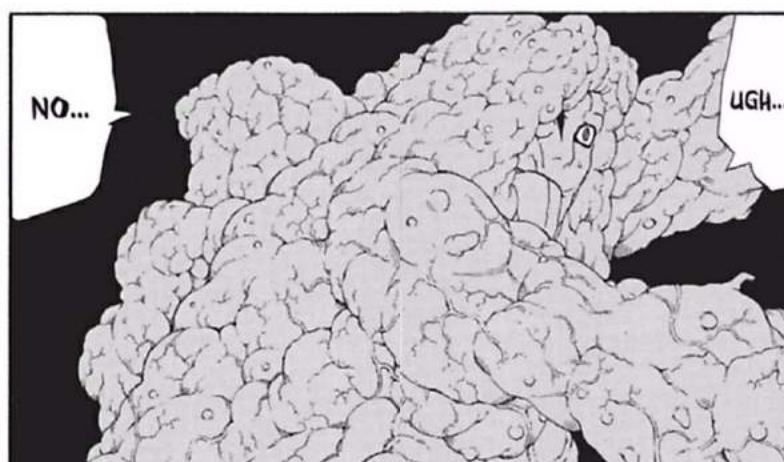
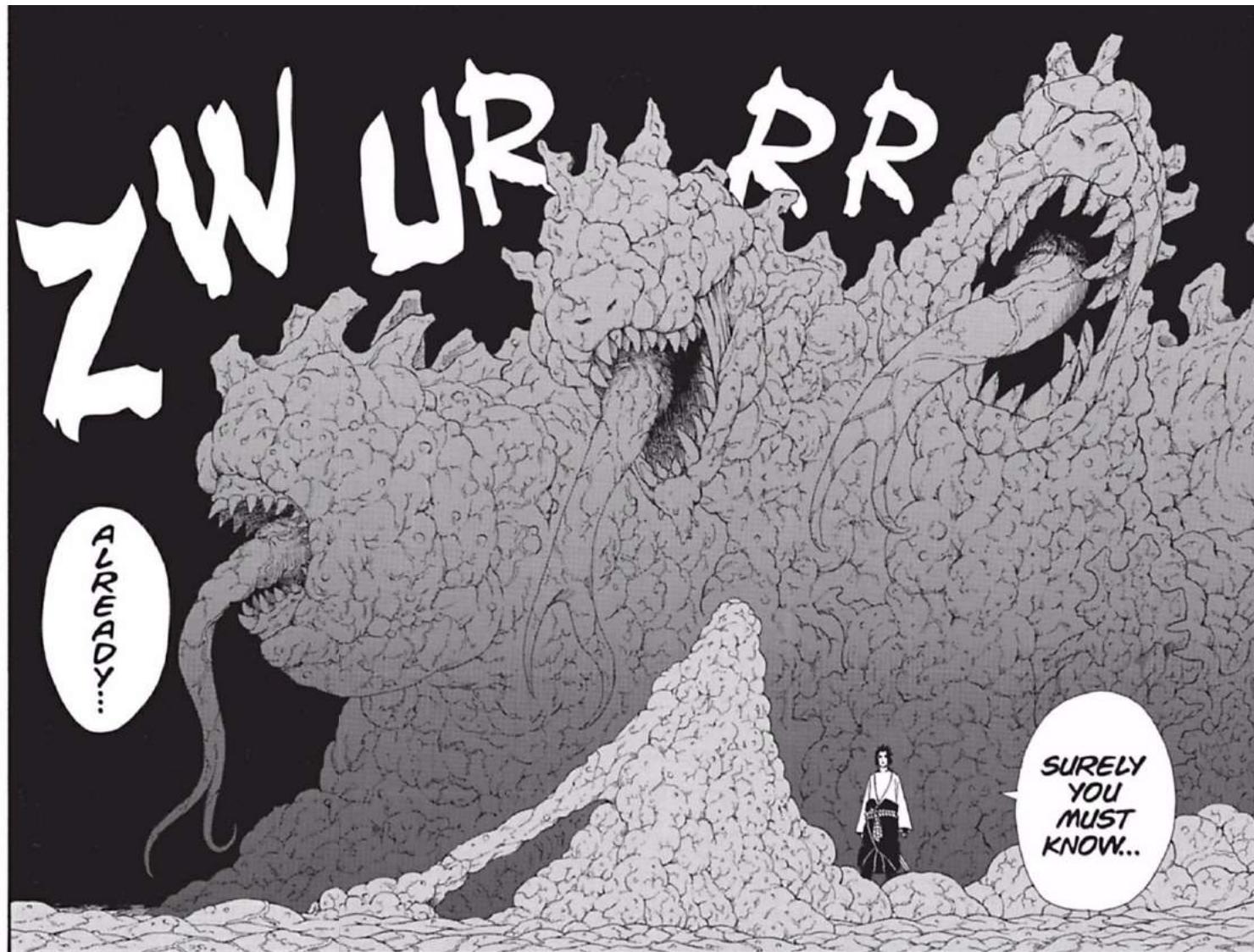


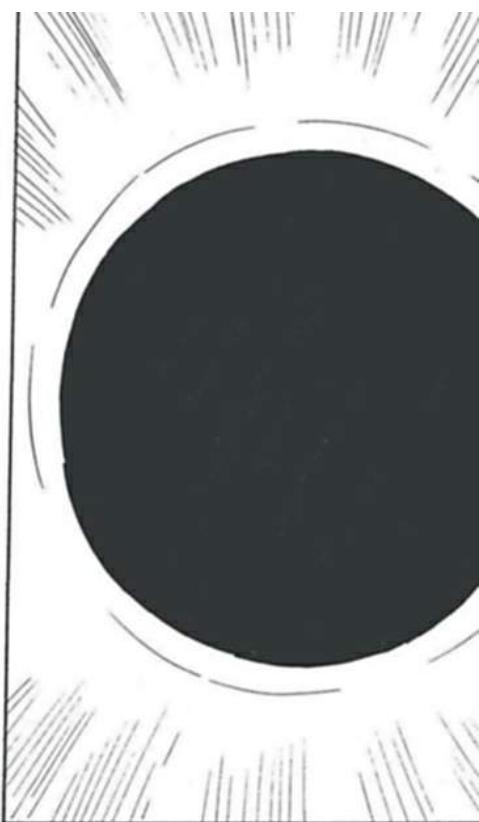
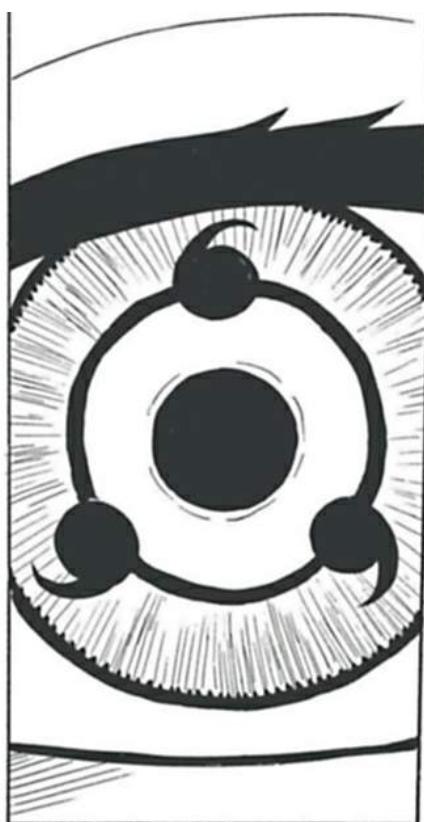




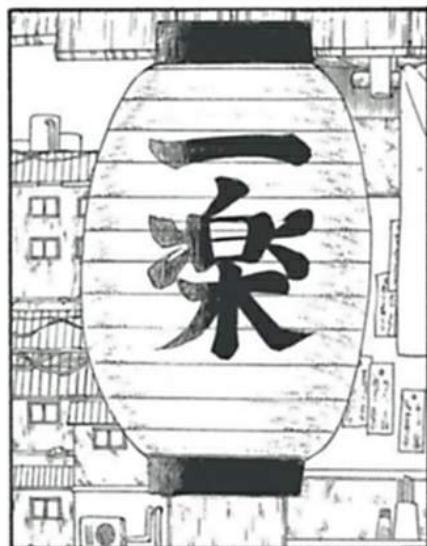
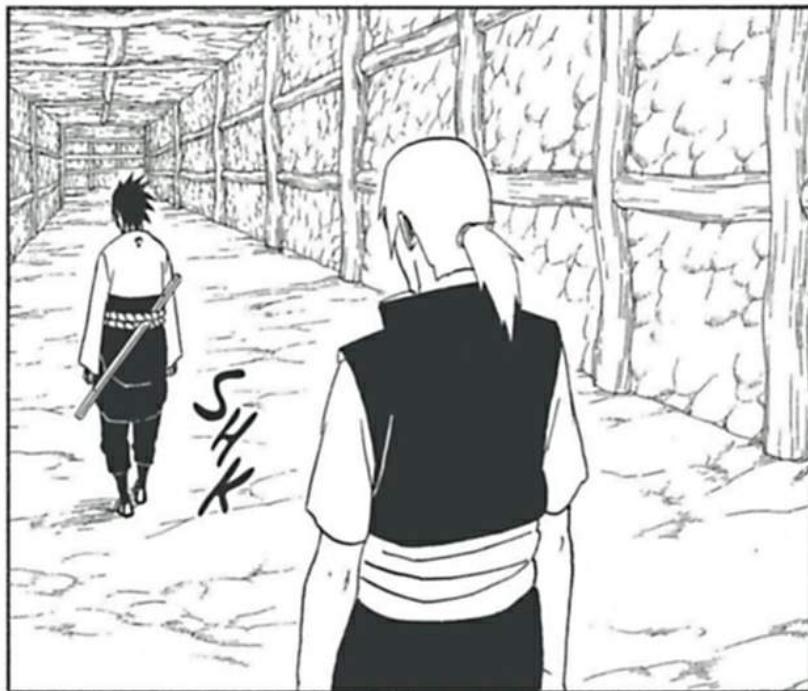
READ
THIS
WAY

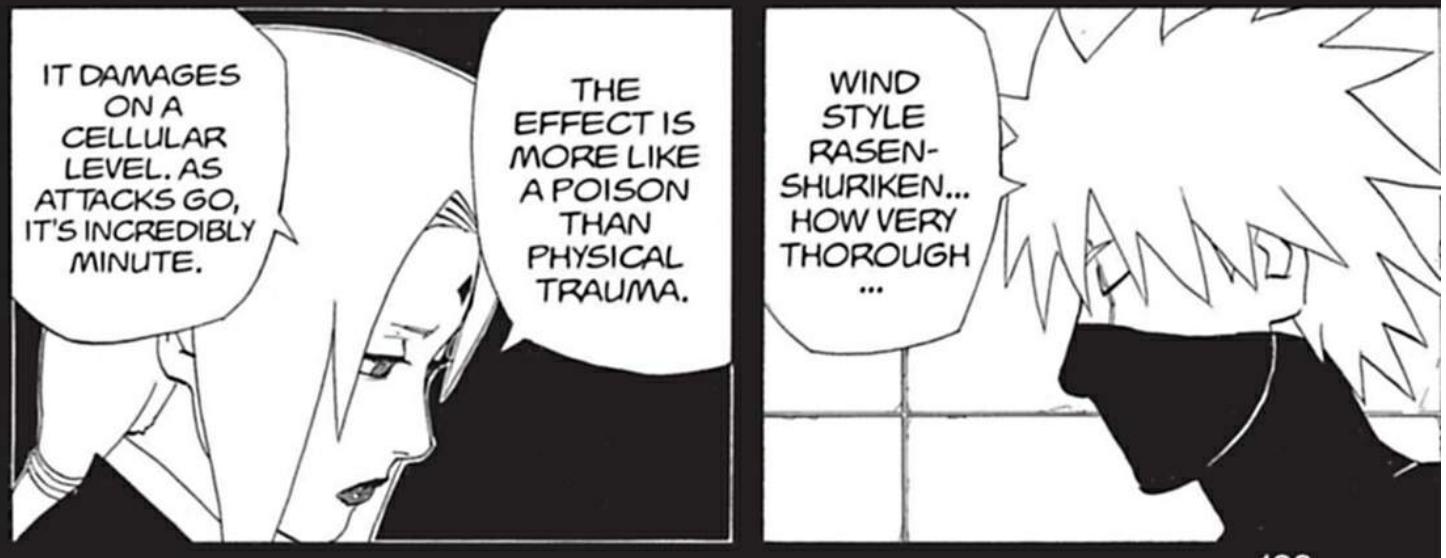
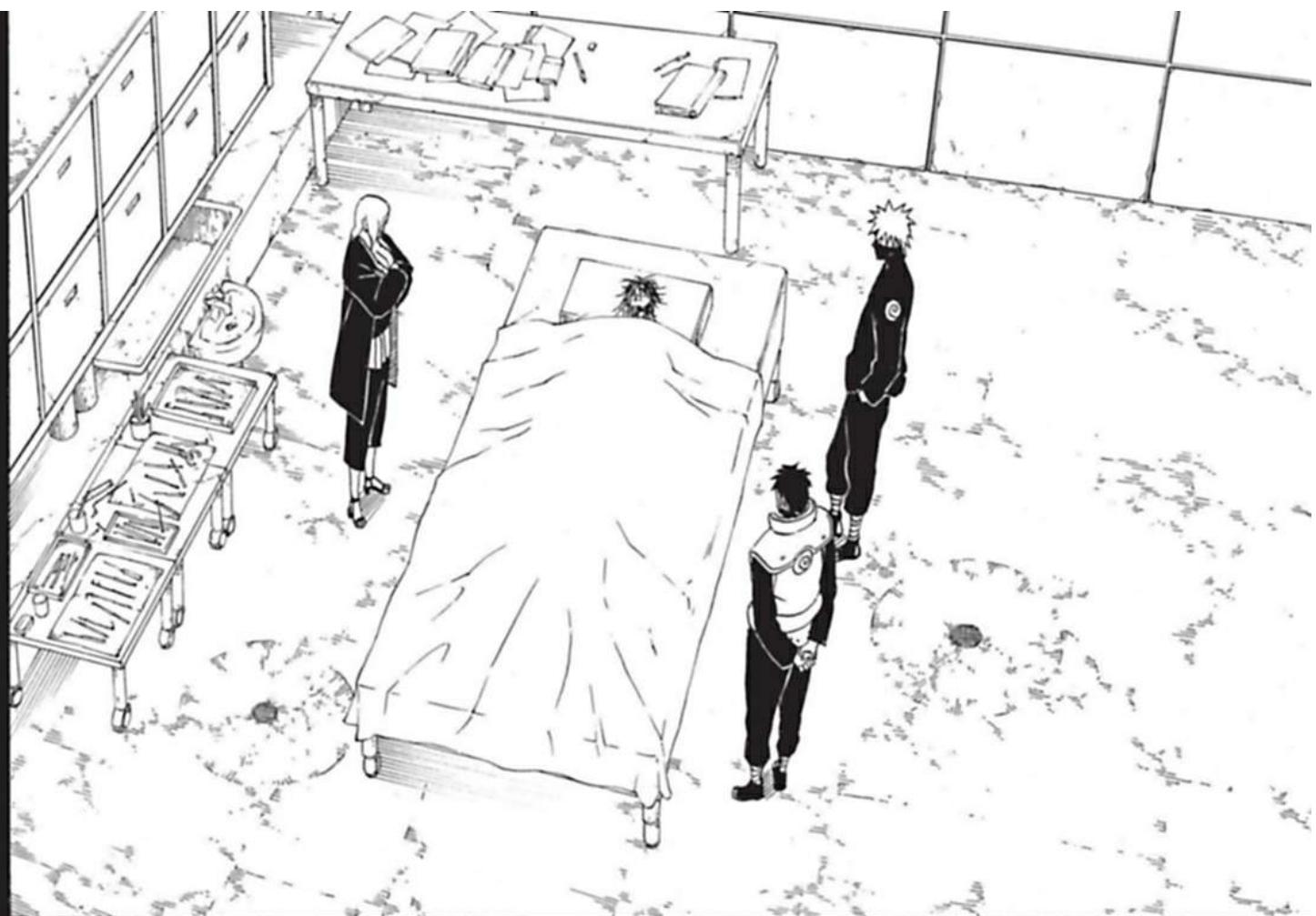




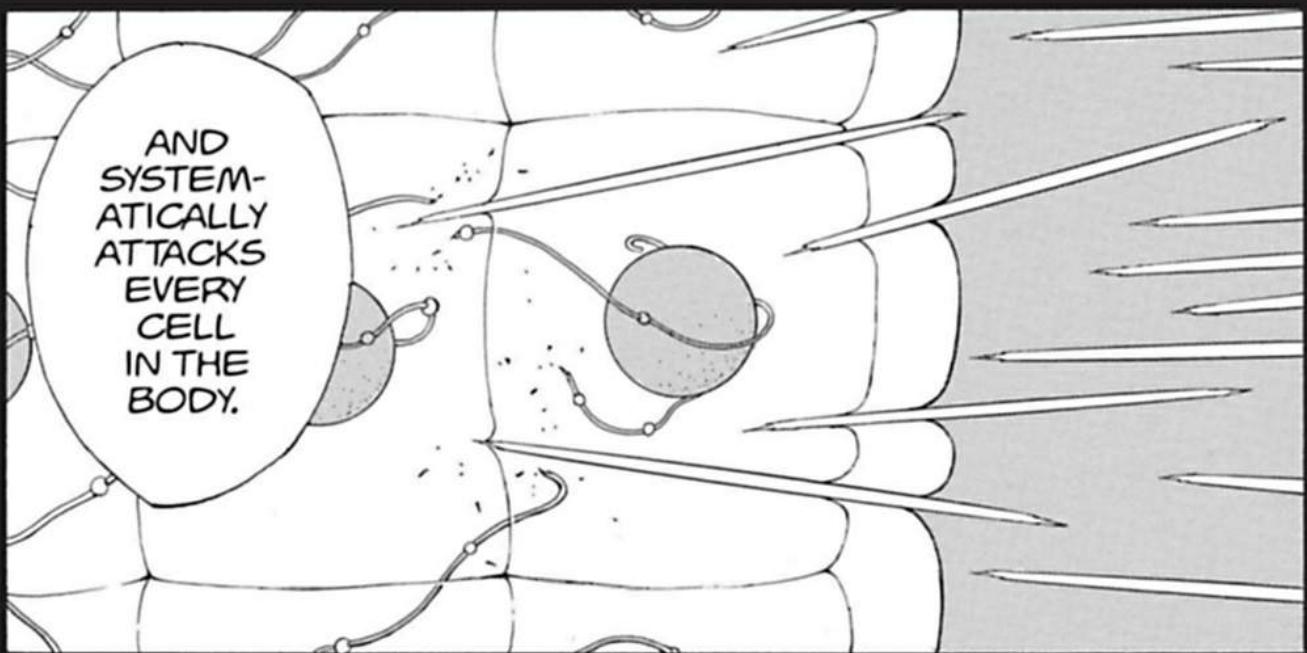
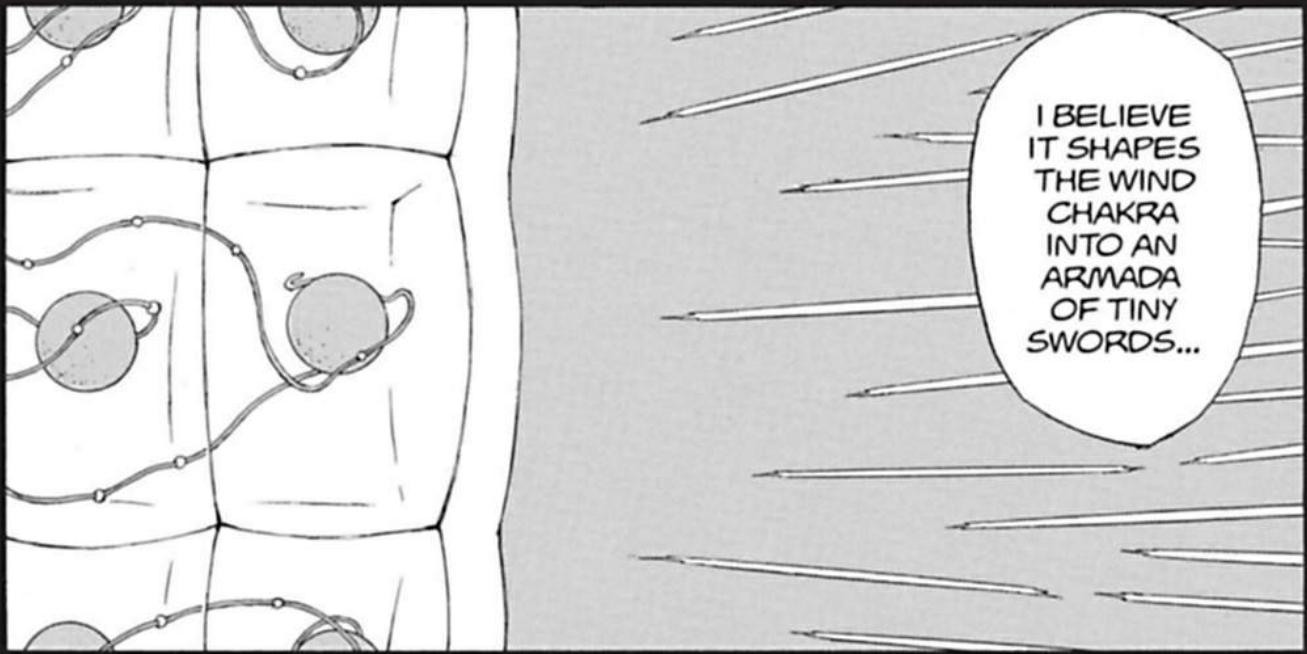


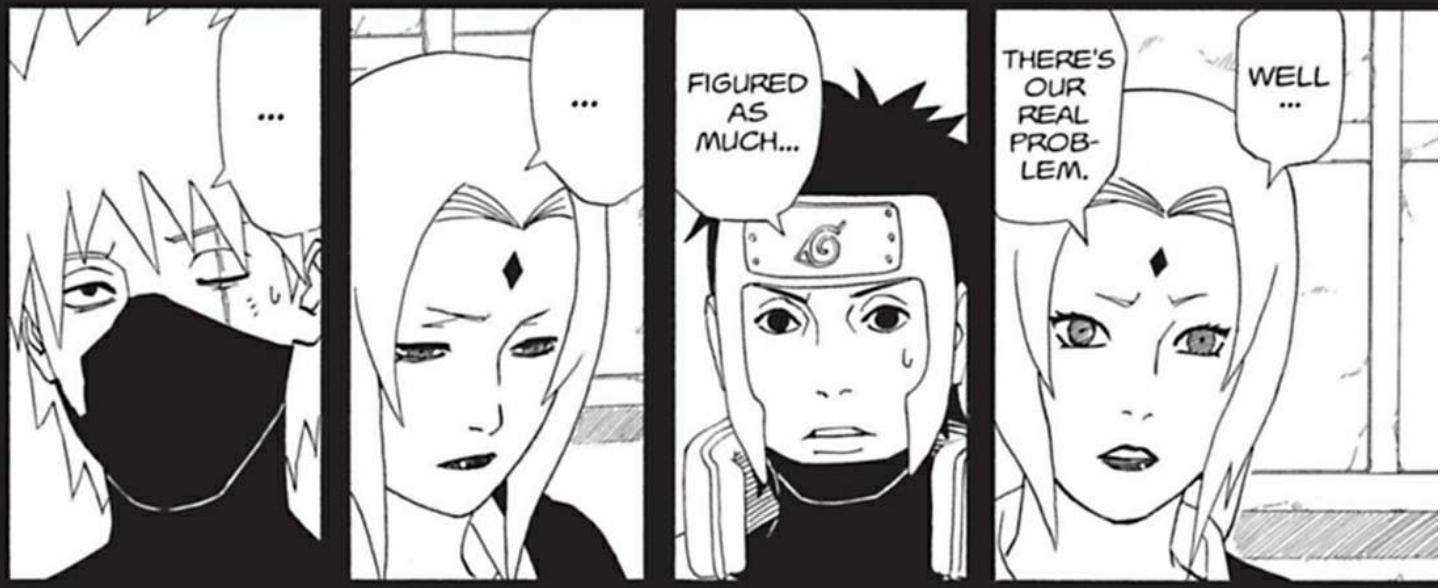
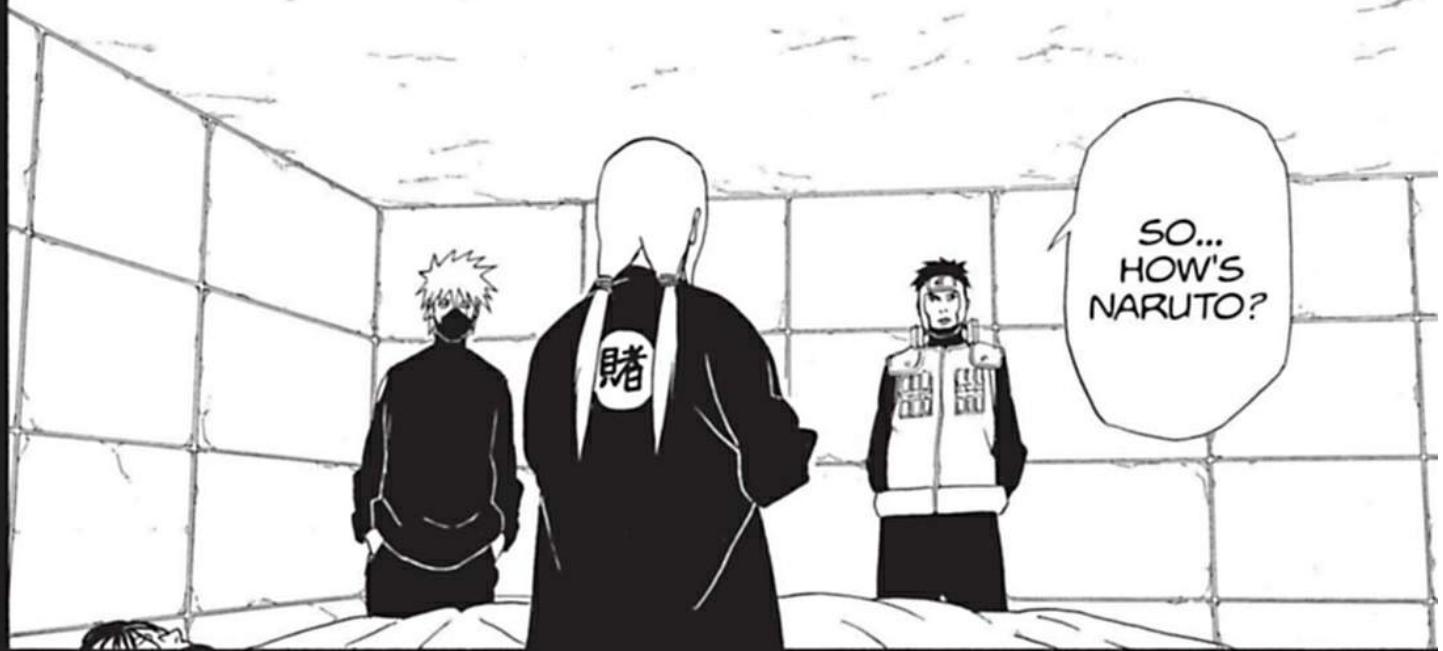
READ
THIS WAY





READ
THIS
WAY

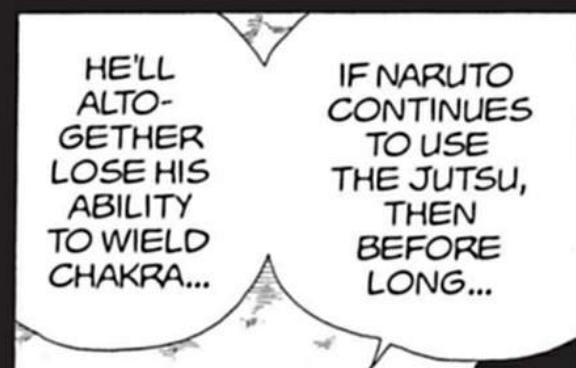
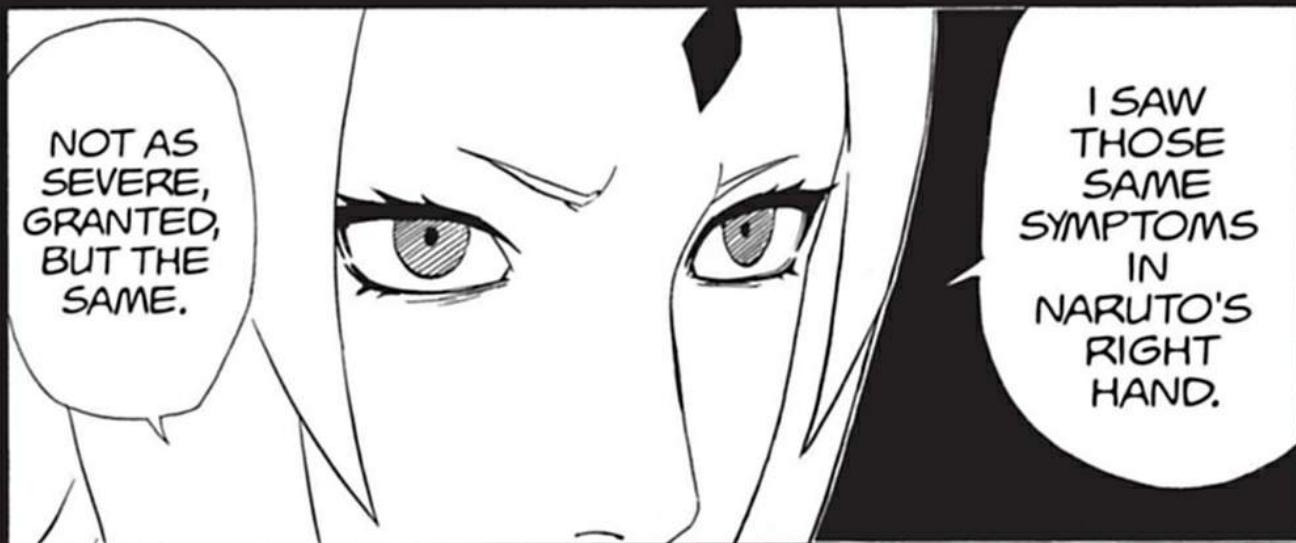
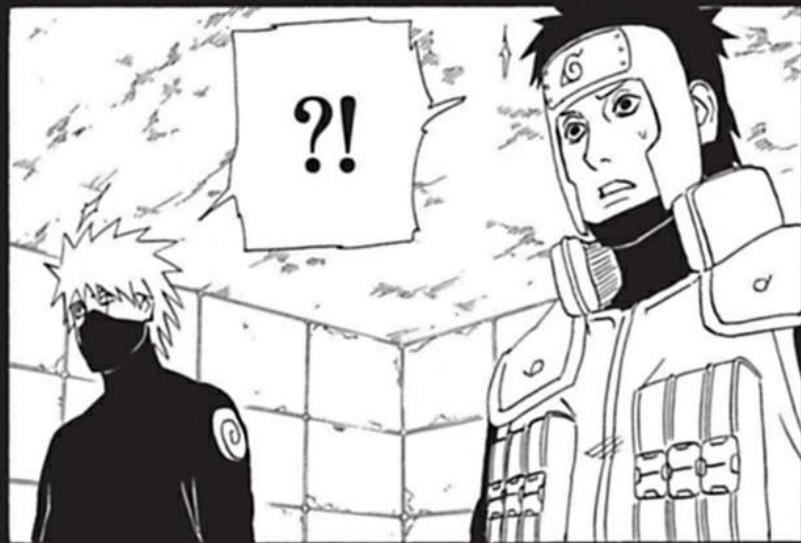


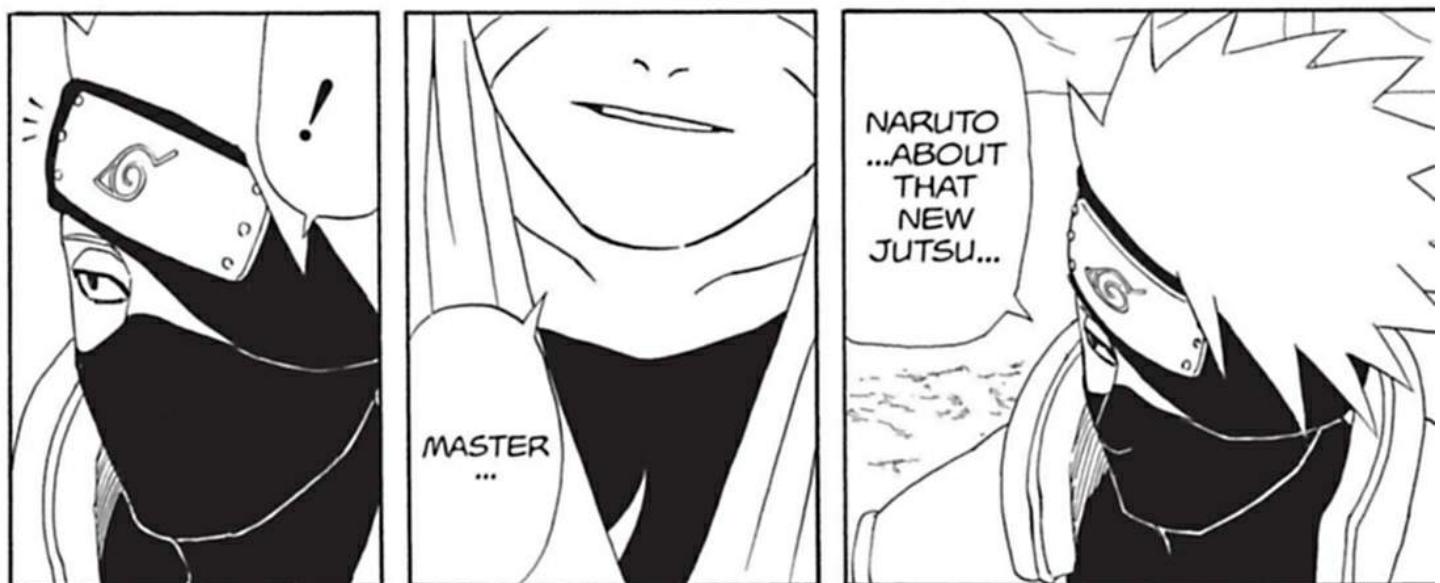
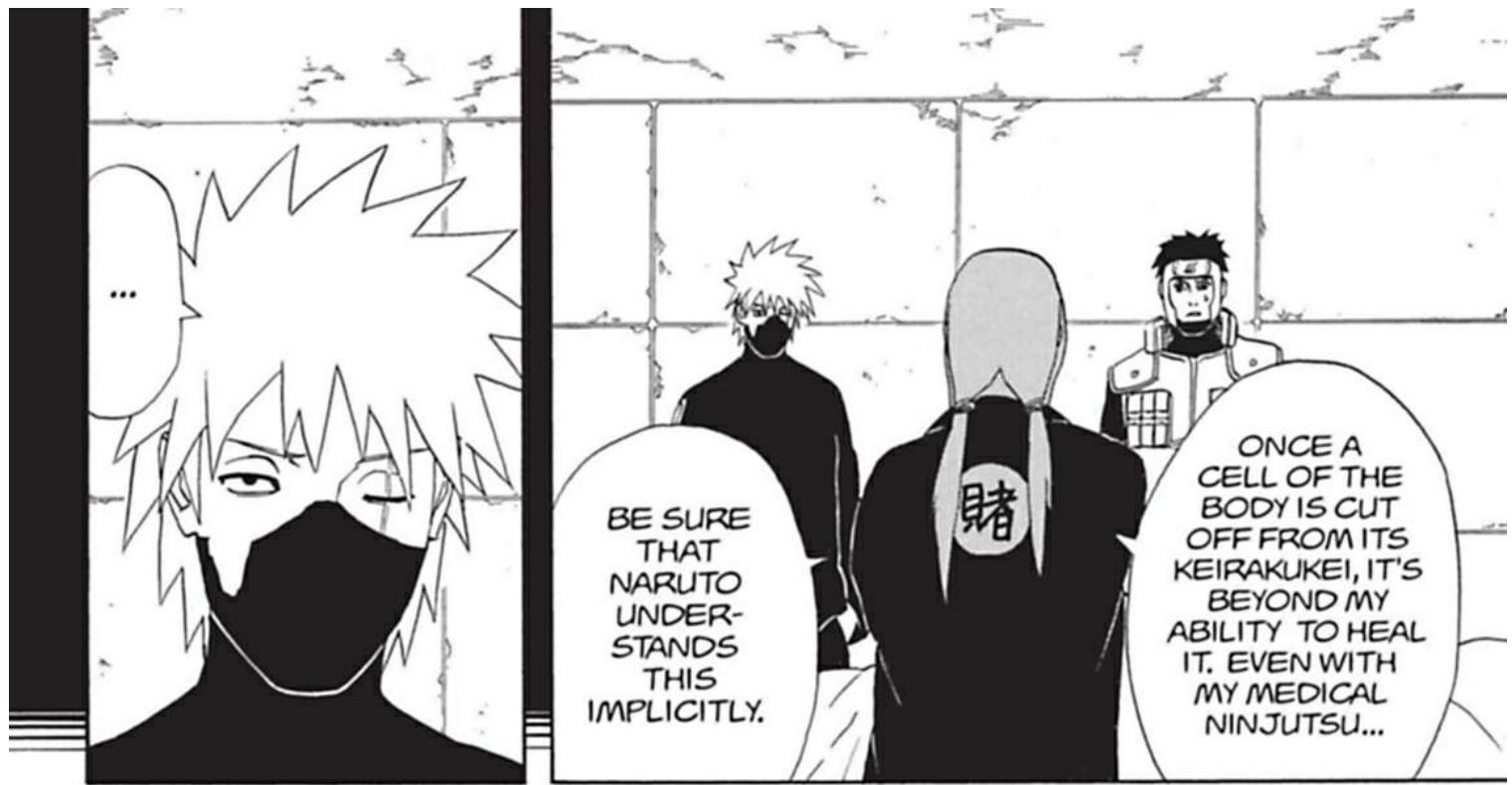


DON'T
ALLOW
NARUTO
TO USE
RASEN-
SHURIKEN.
EVER
AGAIN.

KAKASHI
...

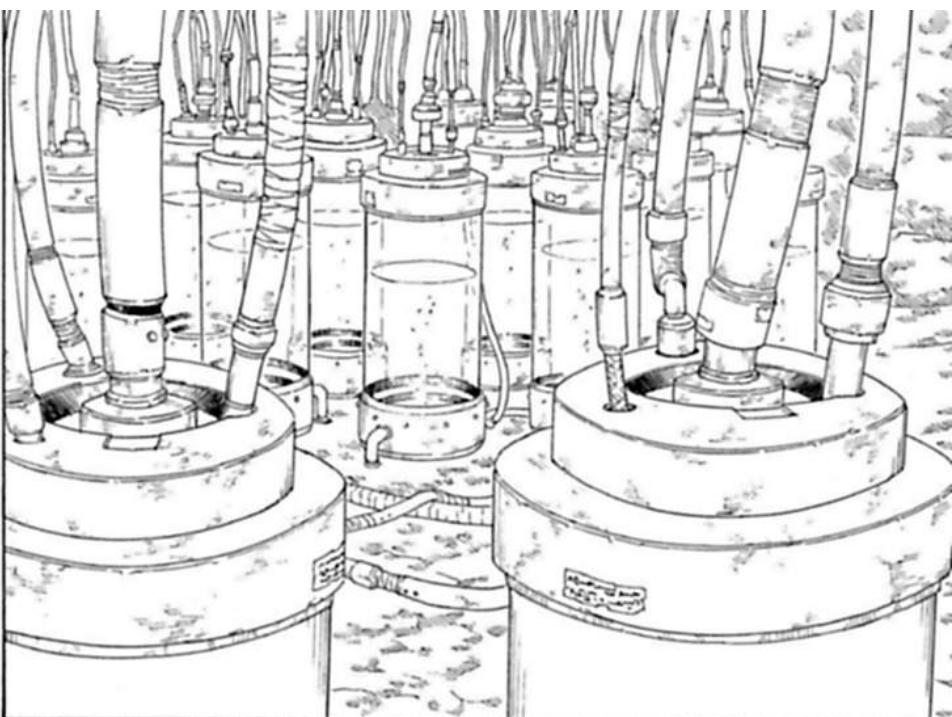
READ
THIS
WAY





READ
THIS WAY



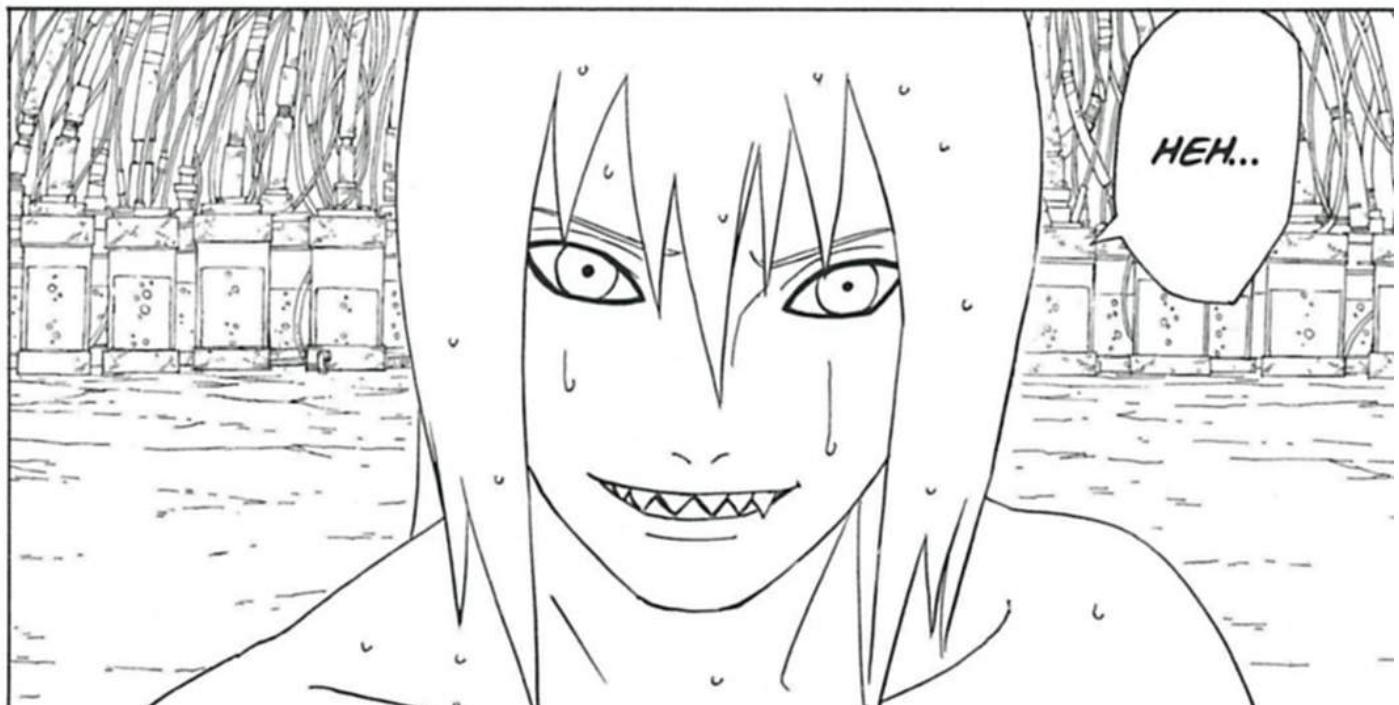


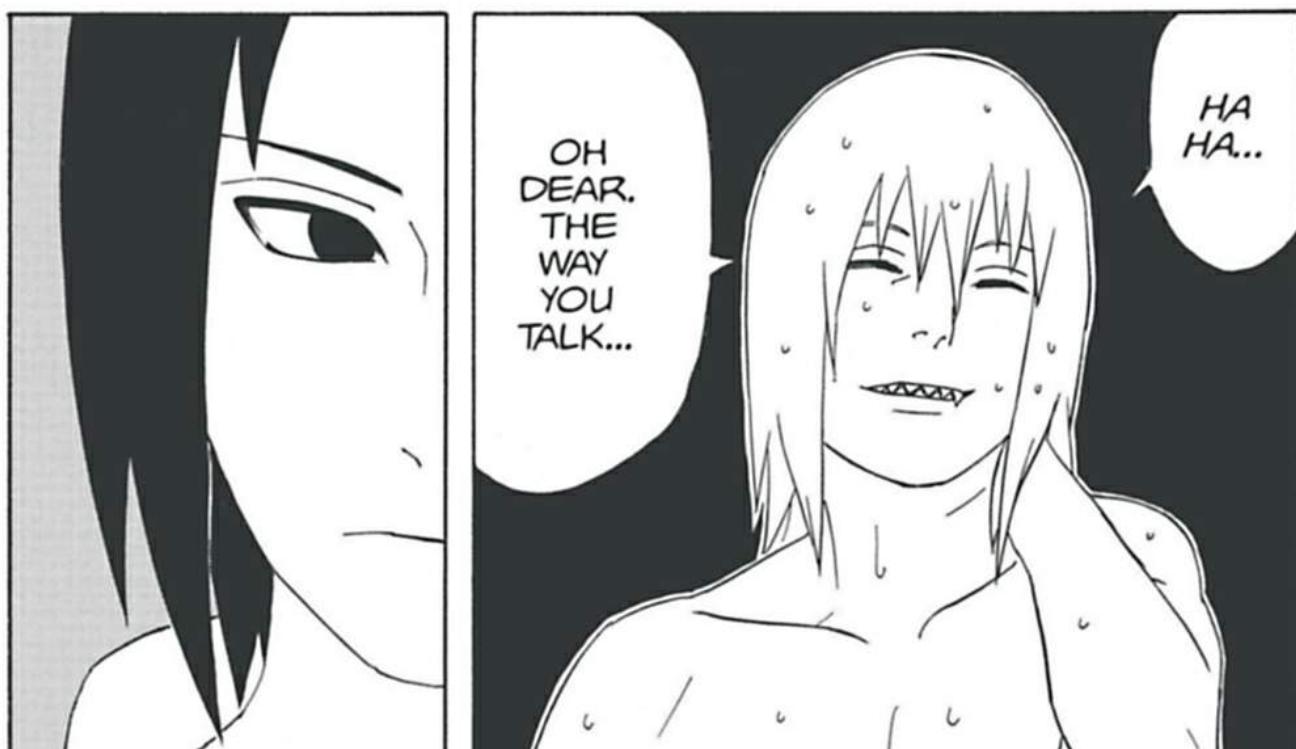
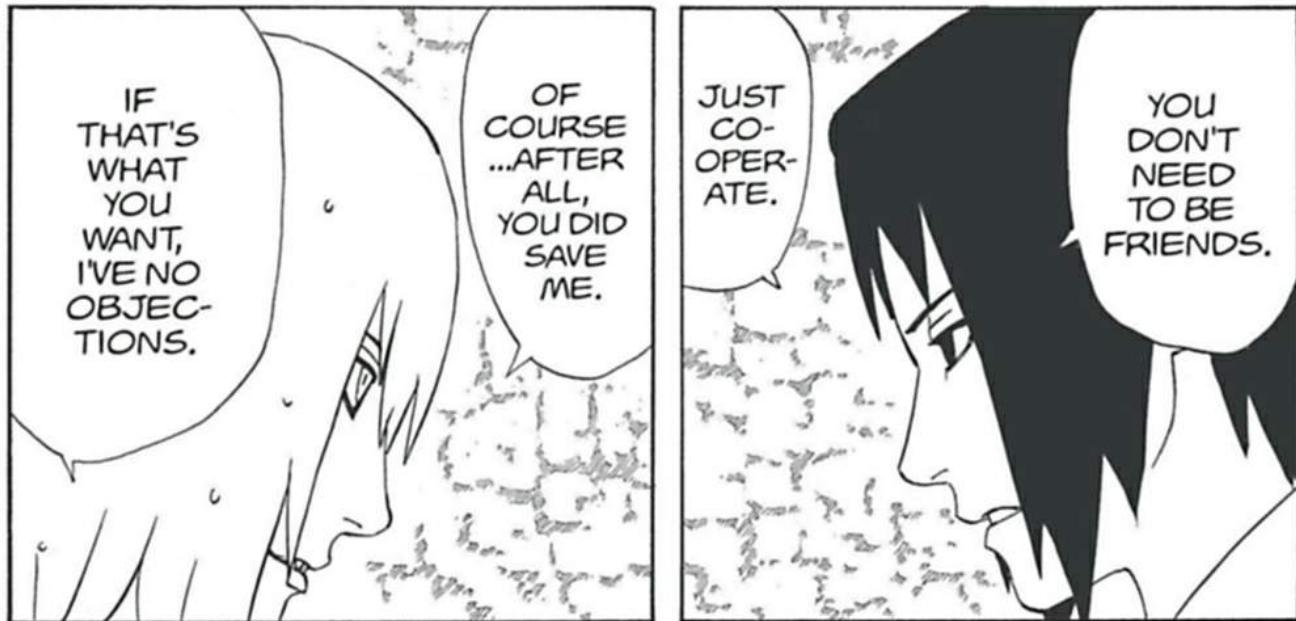


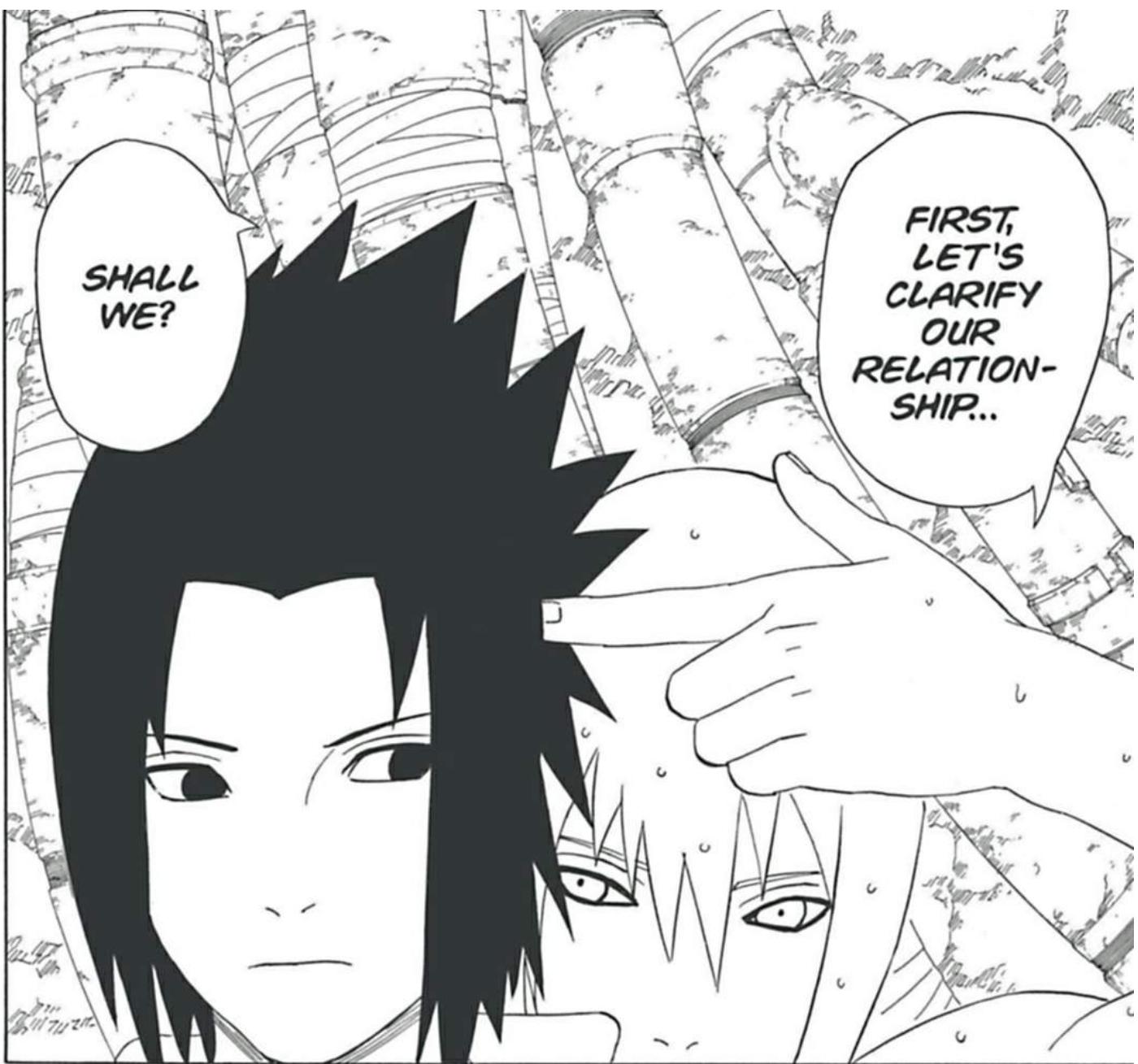


347: A Detour

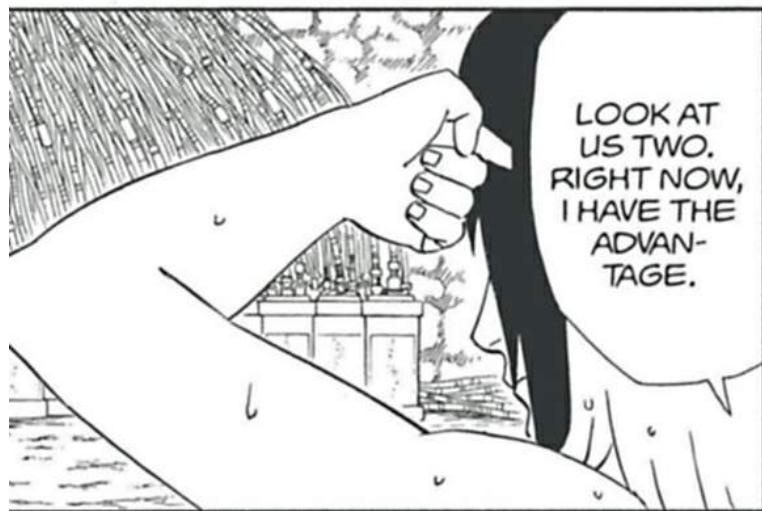


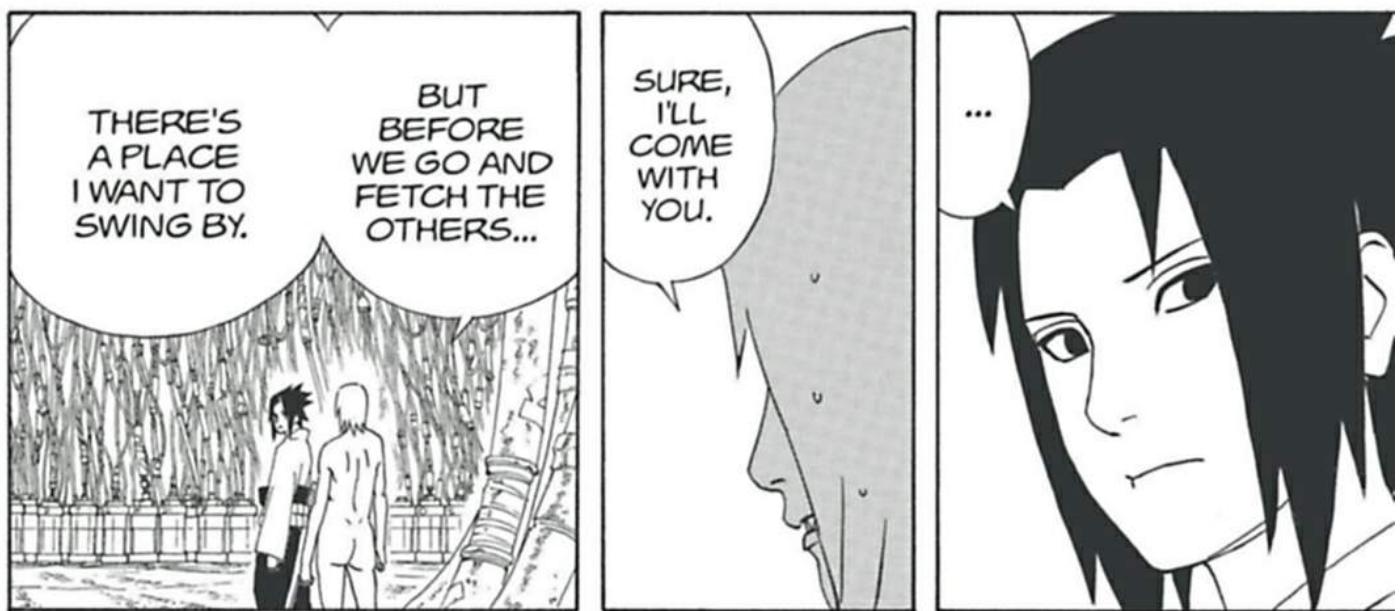
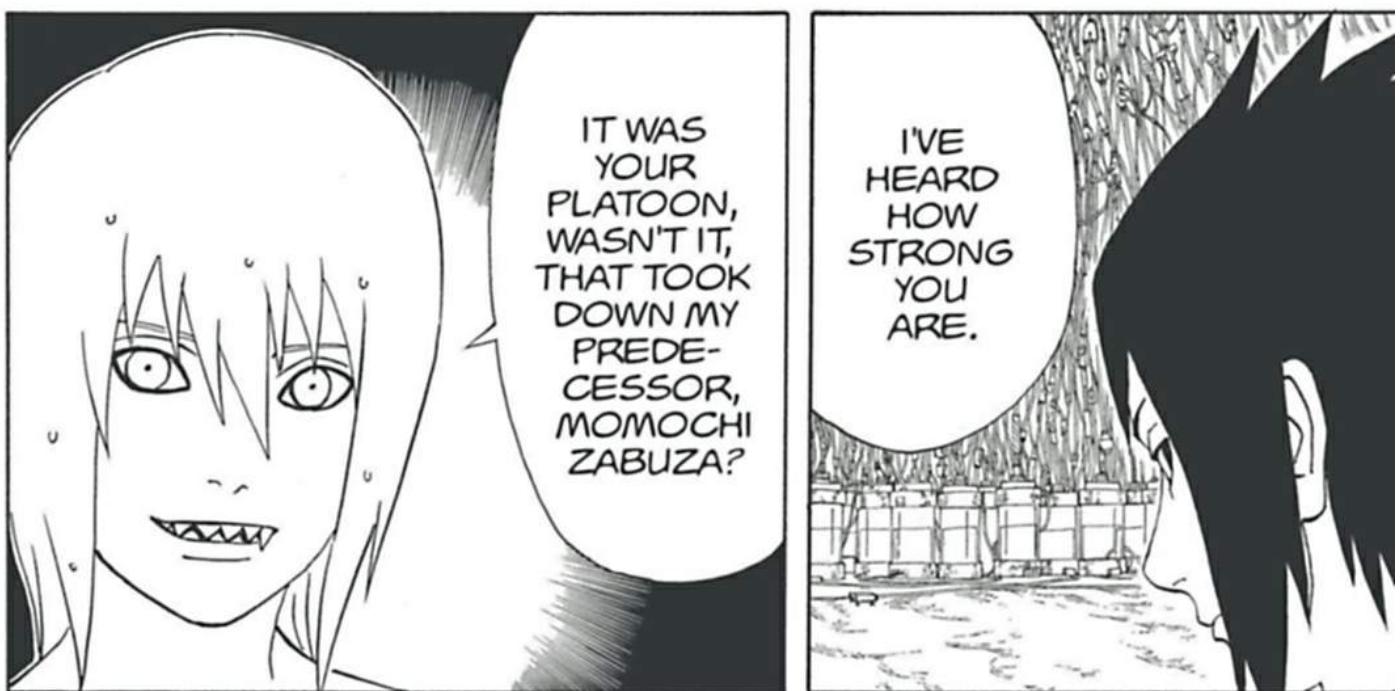






READ
THIS WAY

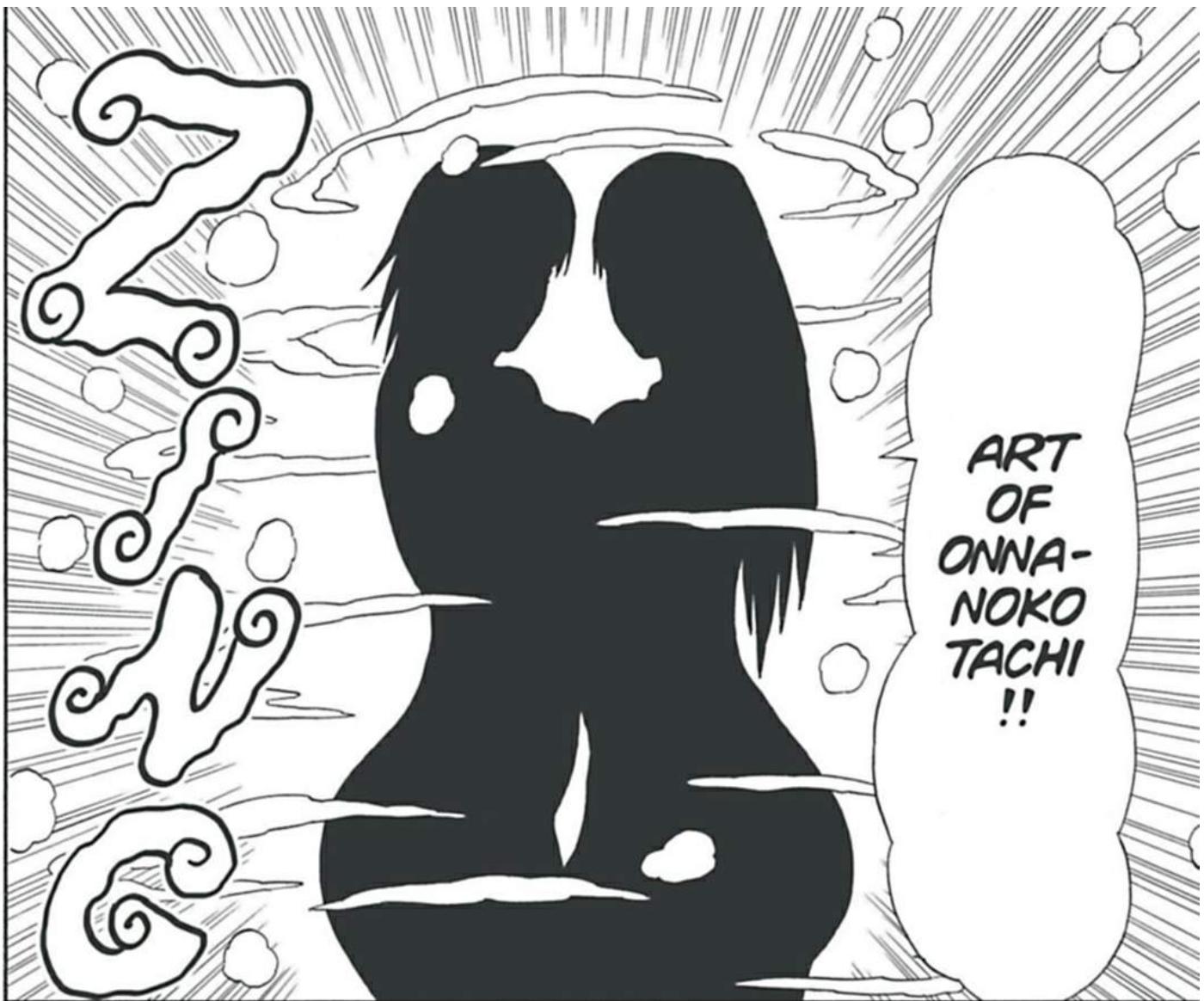




READ
THIS WAY

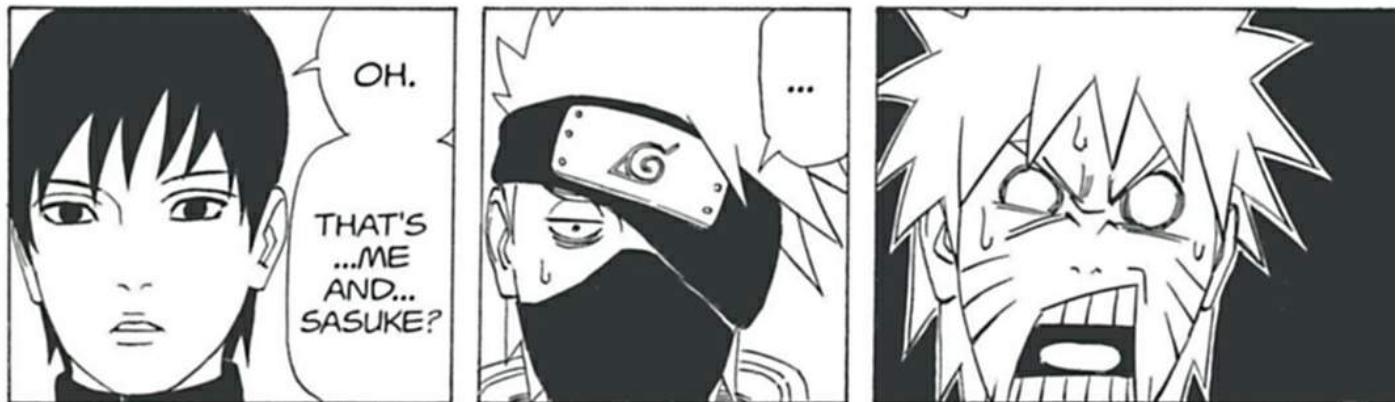


ALL
RIGHT.
COME
SHOW ME
HOW
YOU'VE
BEEN
TRAININ'.

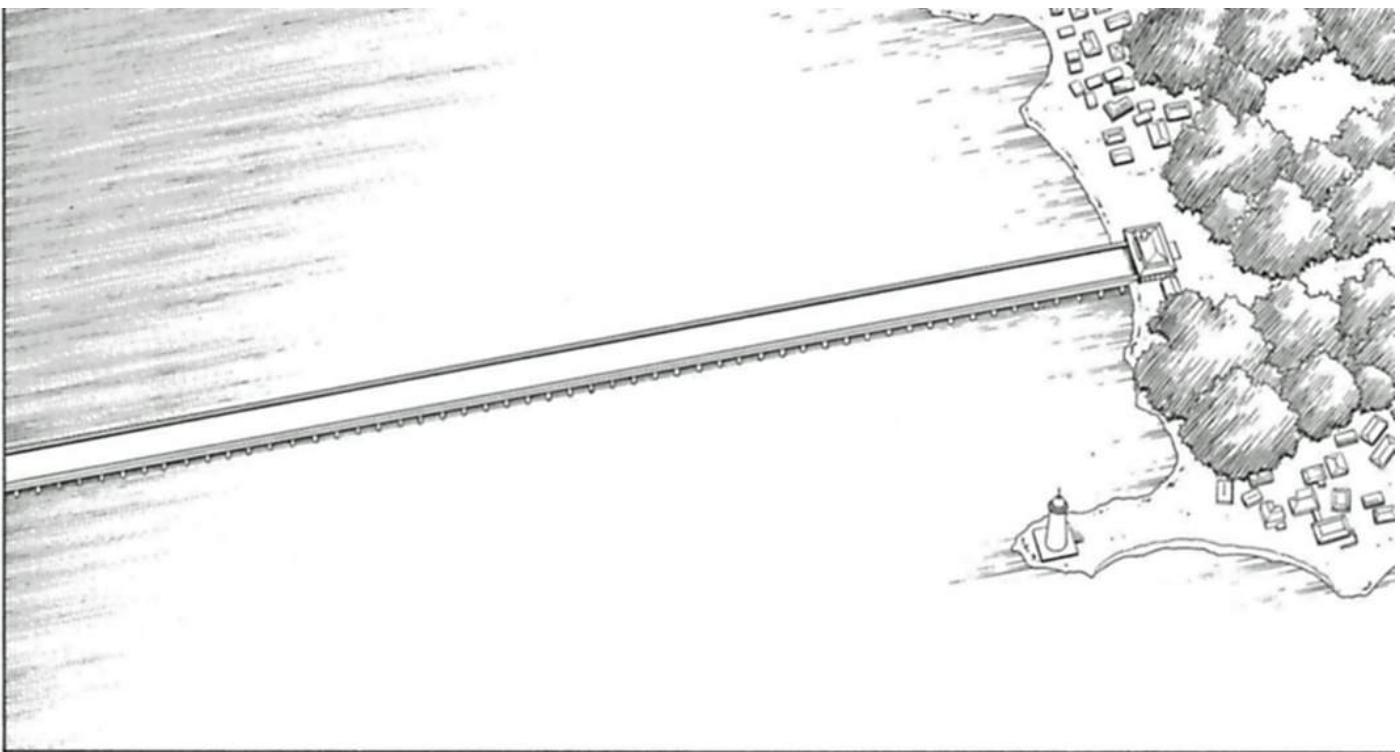


READ
THIS WAY





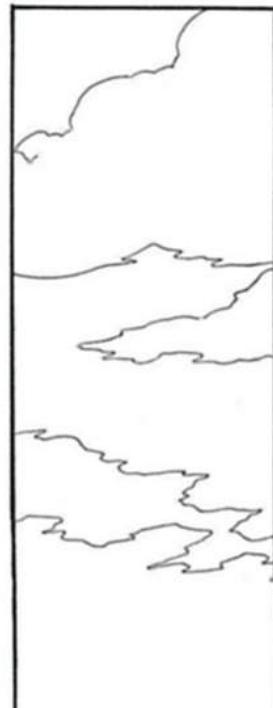
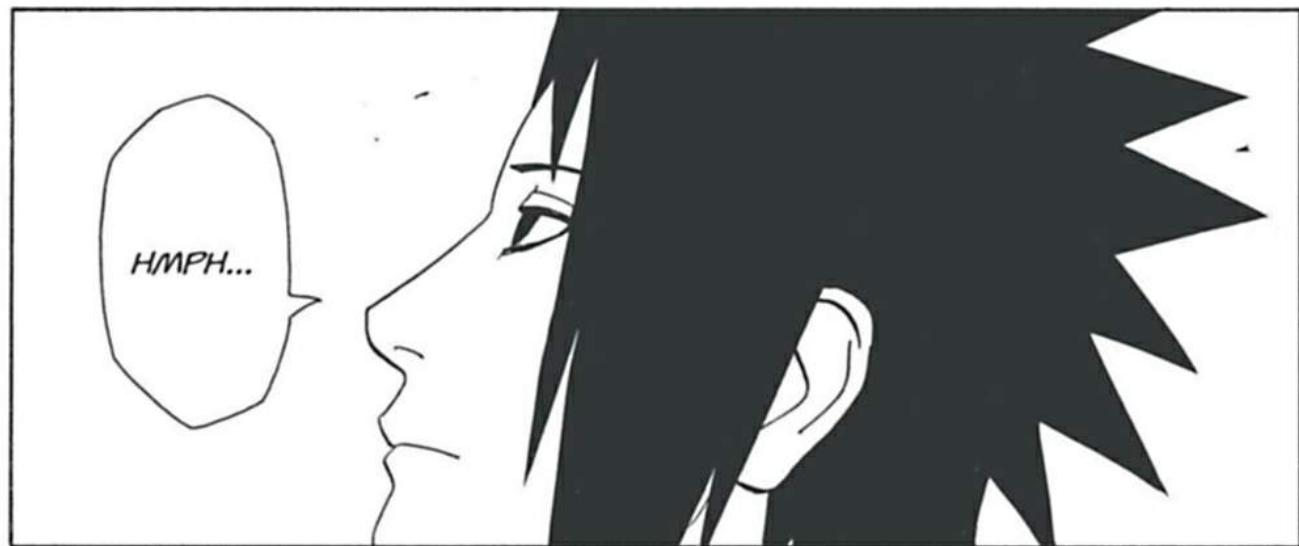


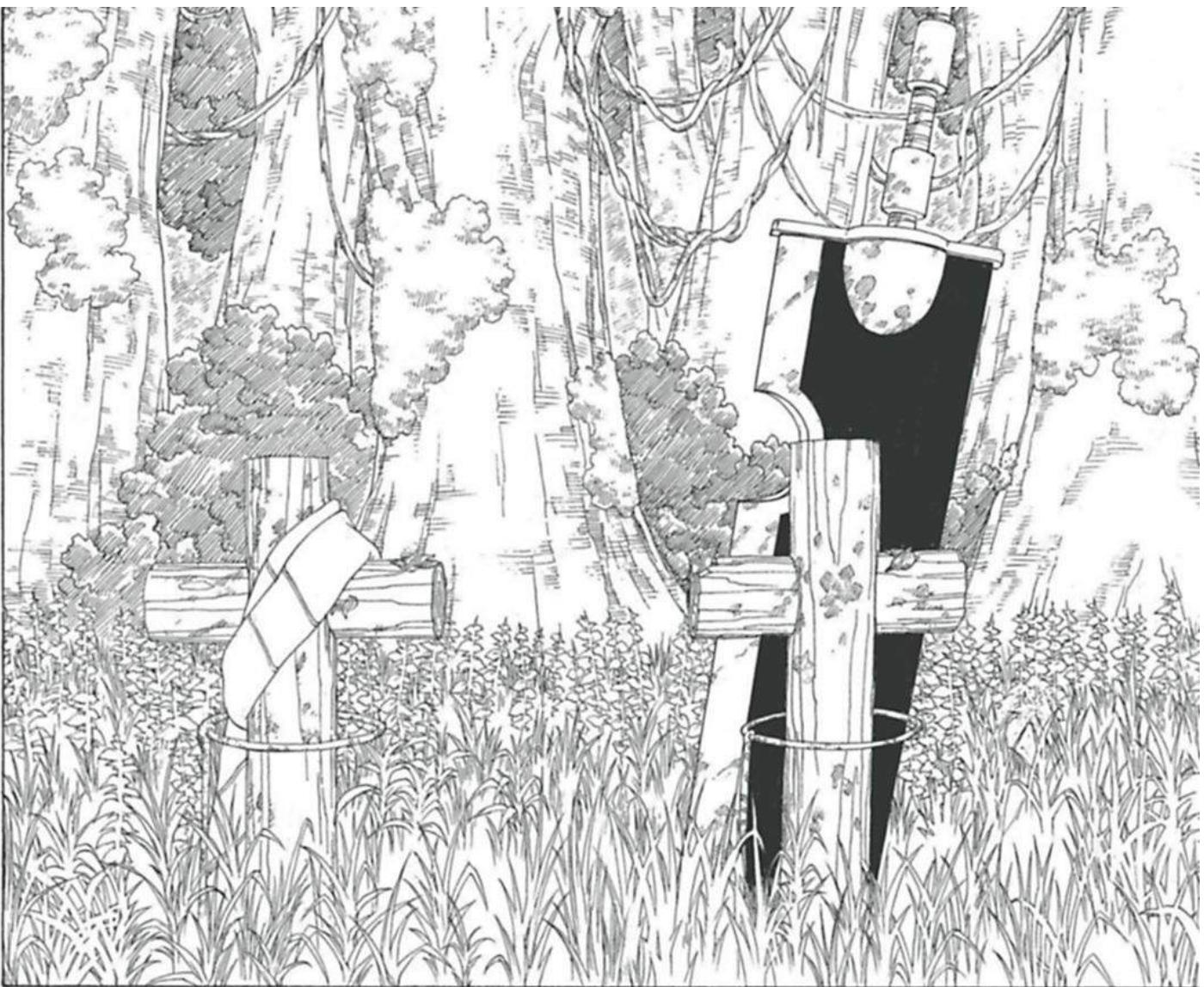


READ
THIS WAY



(THE GREAT NARUTO BRIDGE)

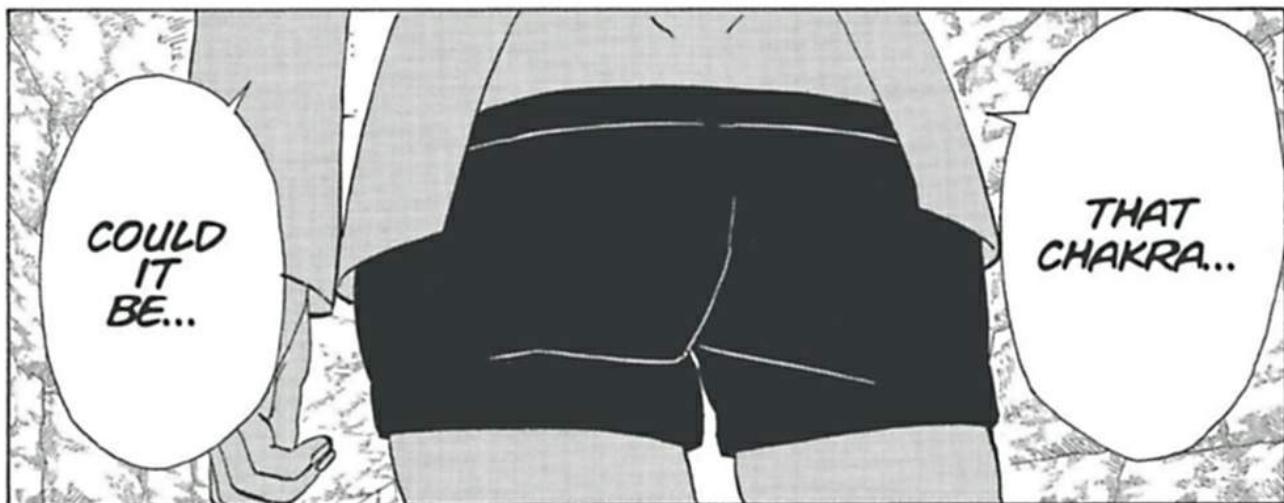
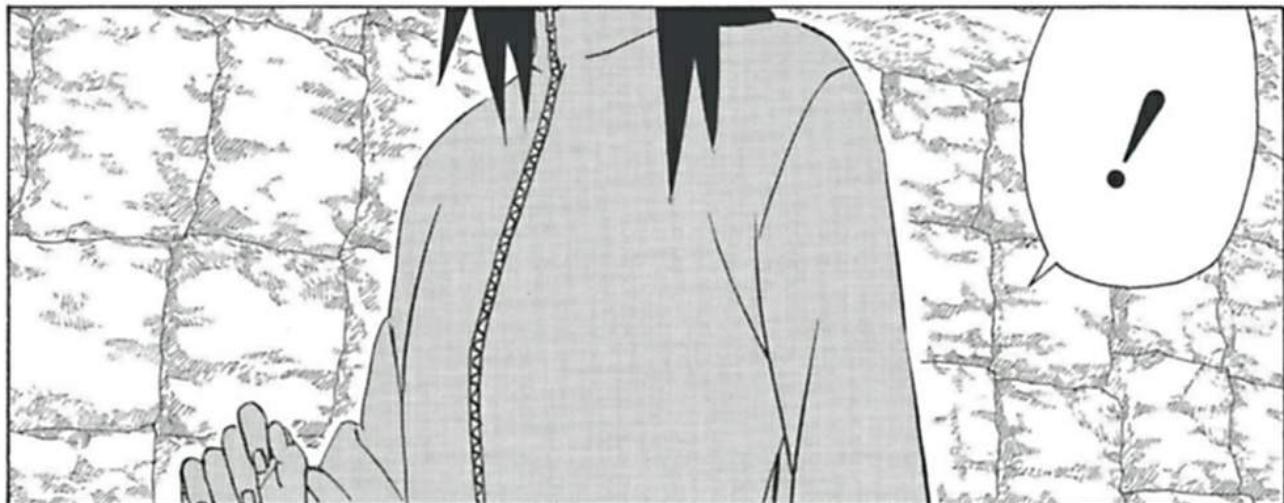




READ
THIS WAY



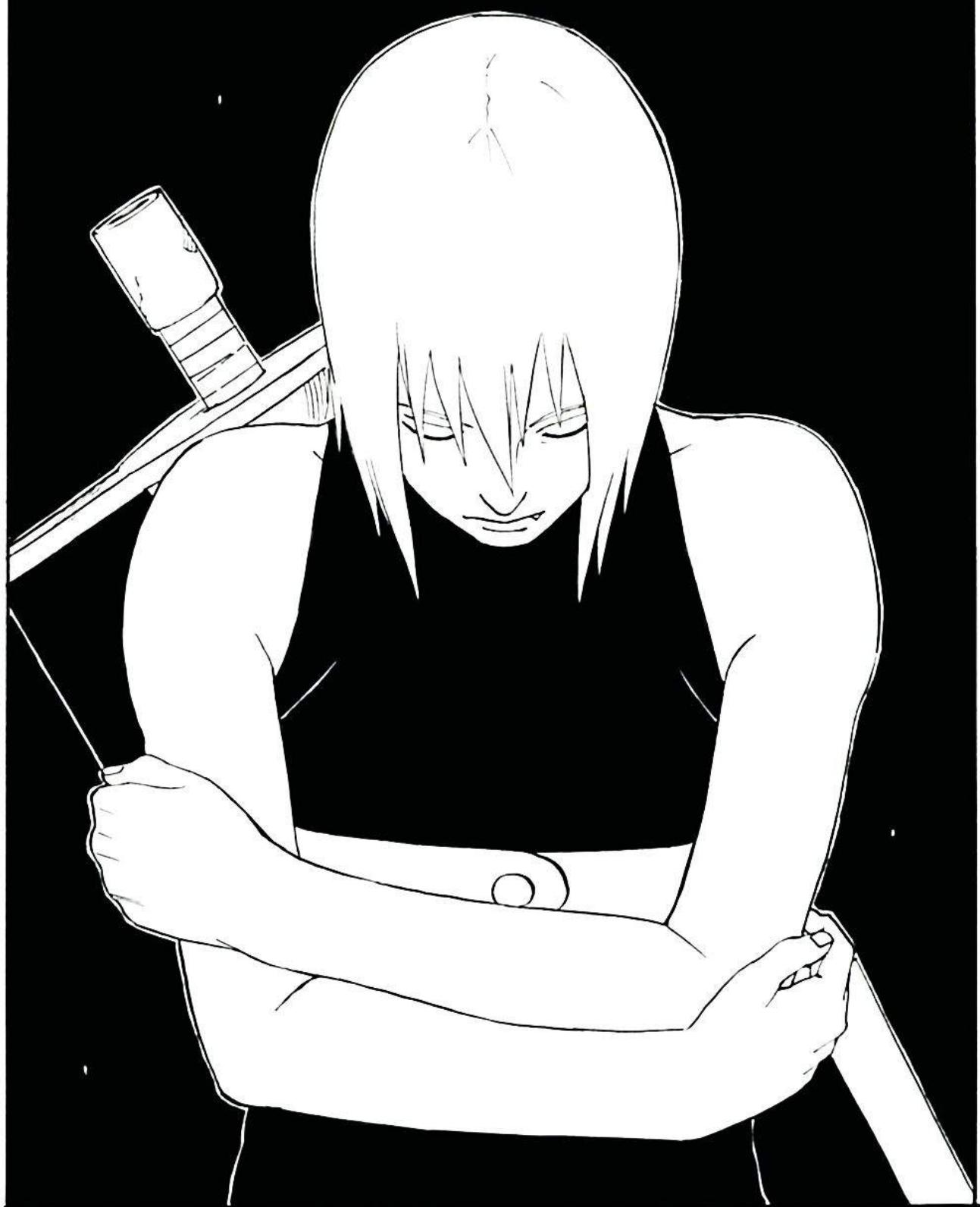


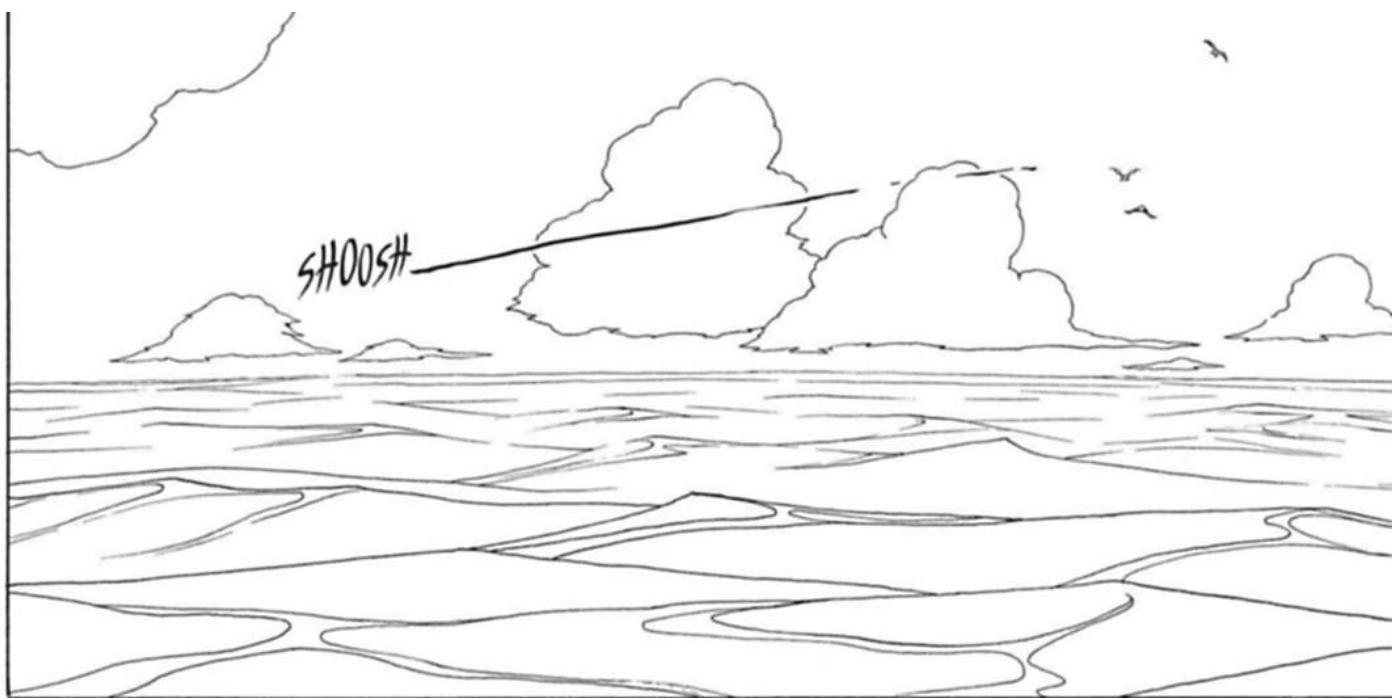


NARUTO

Number 348:

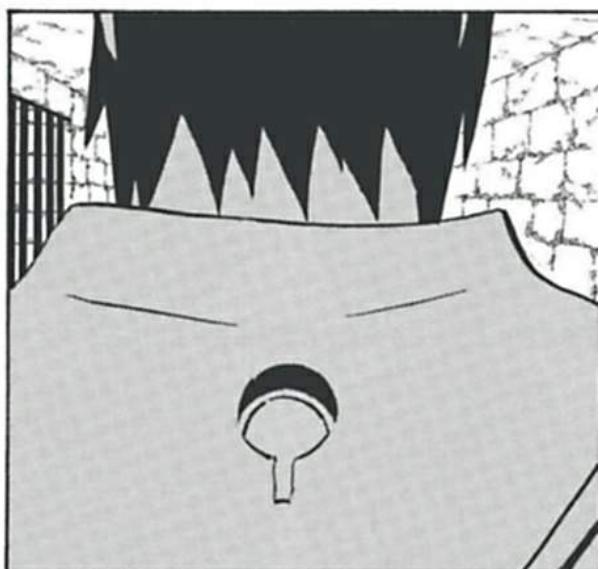
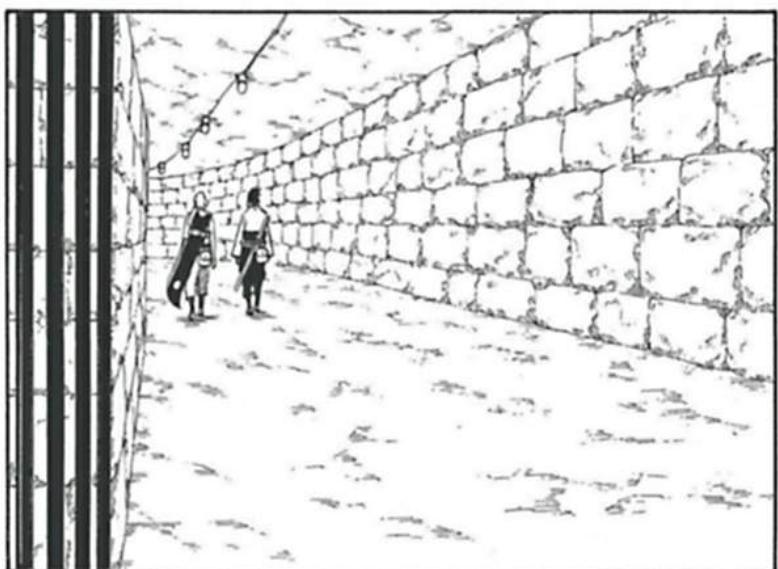
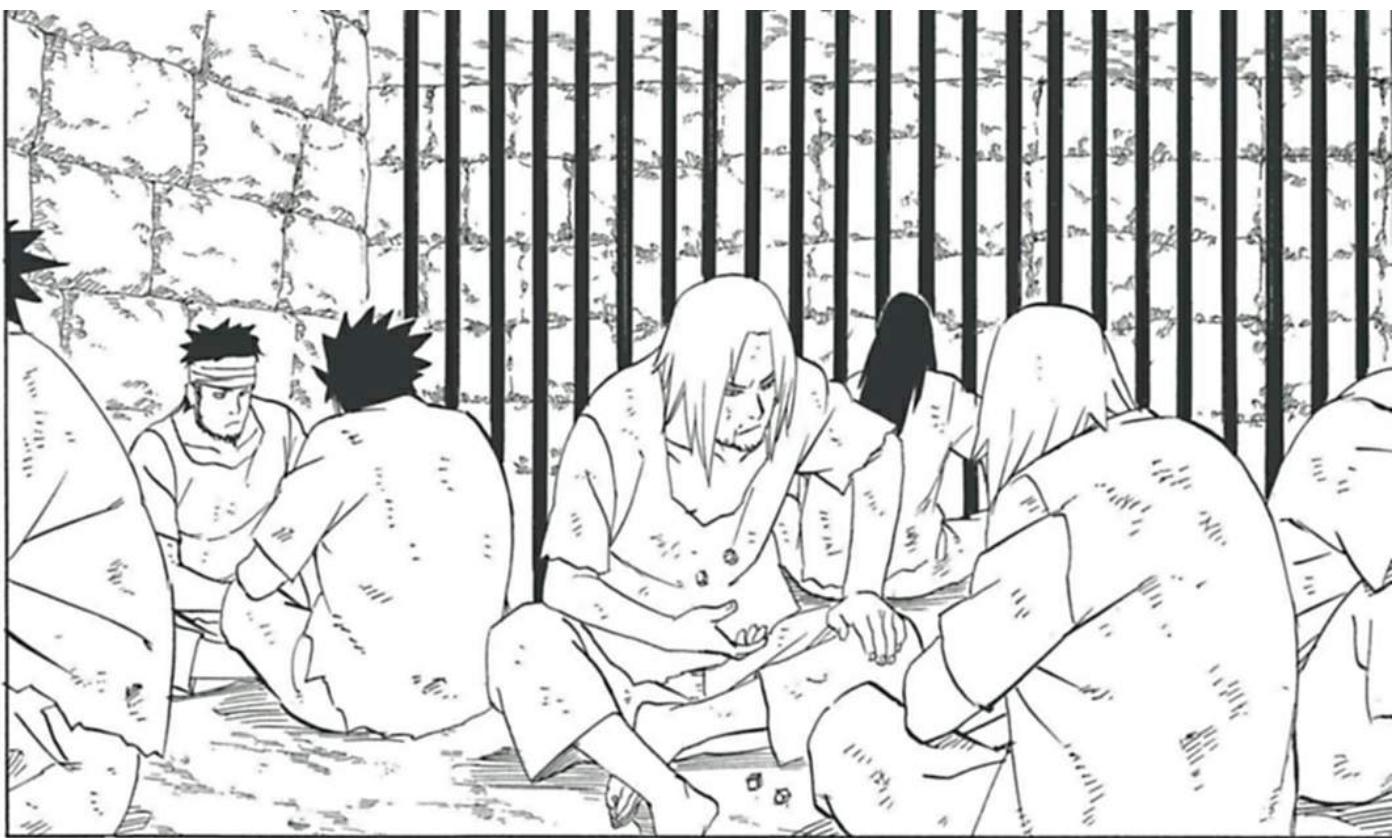
And One Makes Three!!



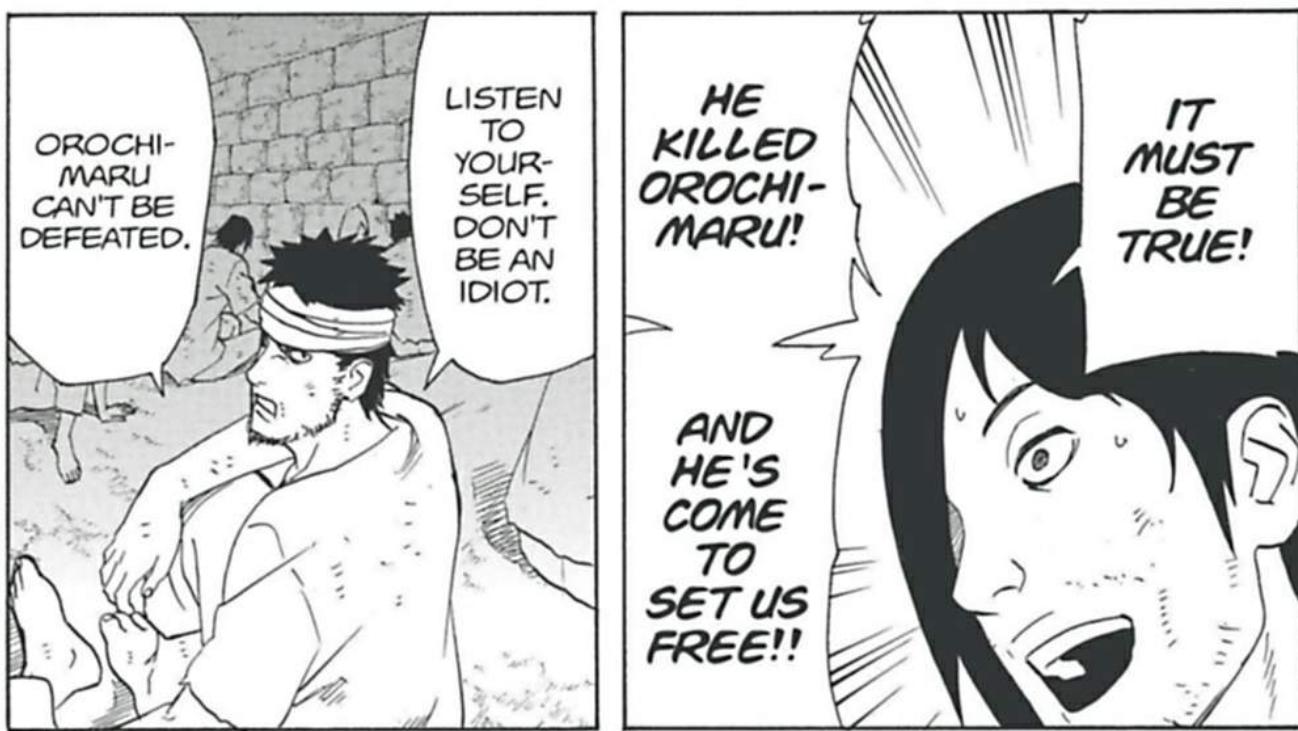


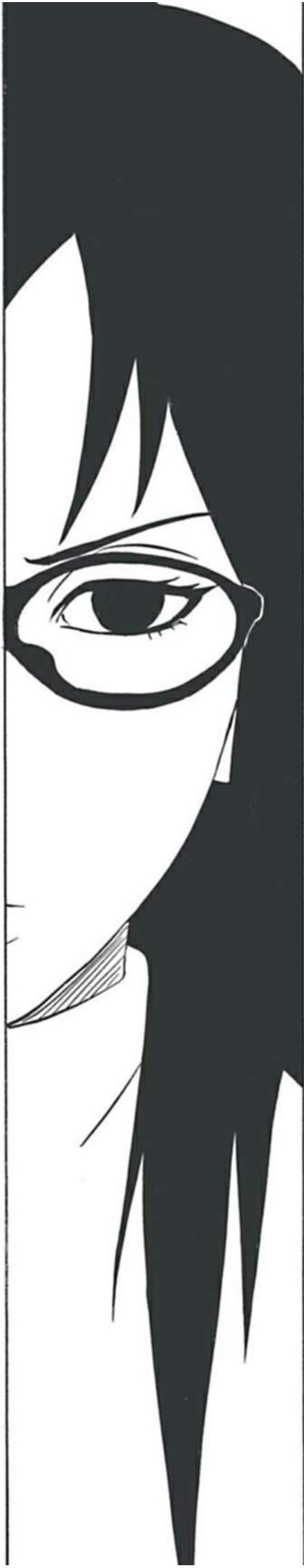


SURE, THERE
ARE PLENTY
OF OTHER
SHINOBI JUST
AS STRONG
YET FAR
EASIER TO
HANDLE.



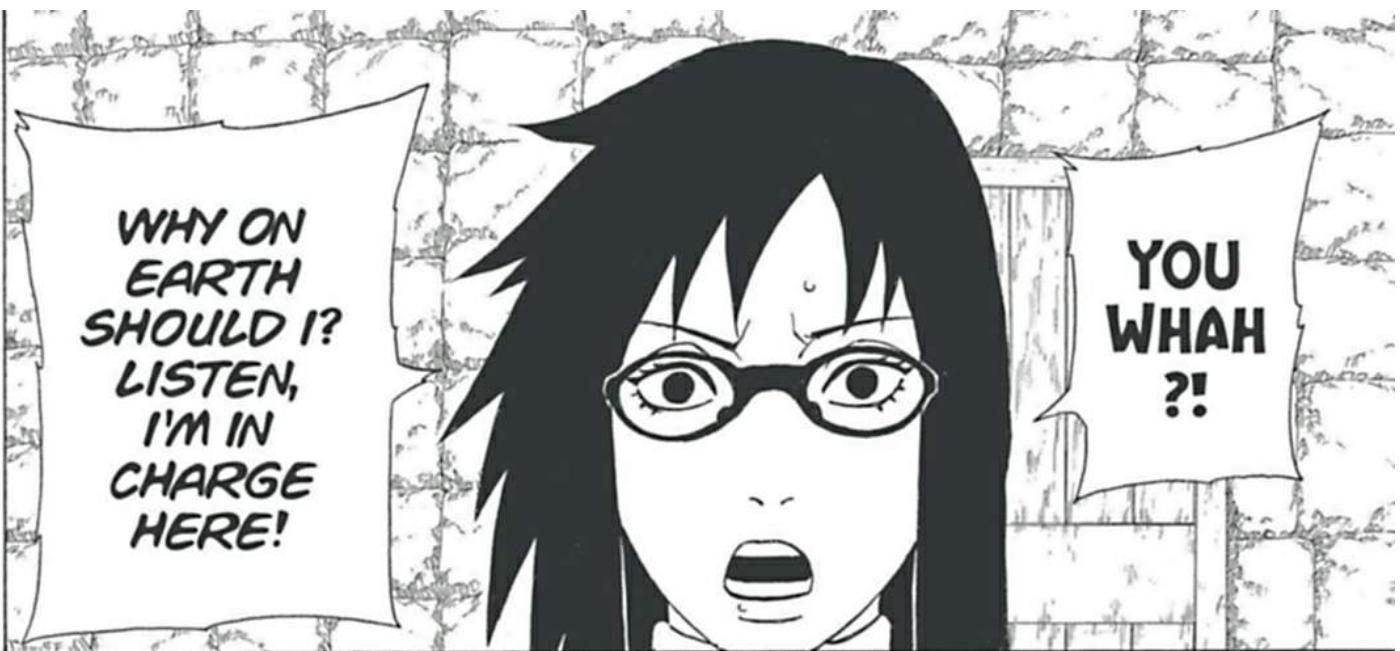
READ
THIS WAY





READ
THIS WAY



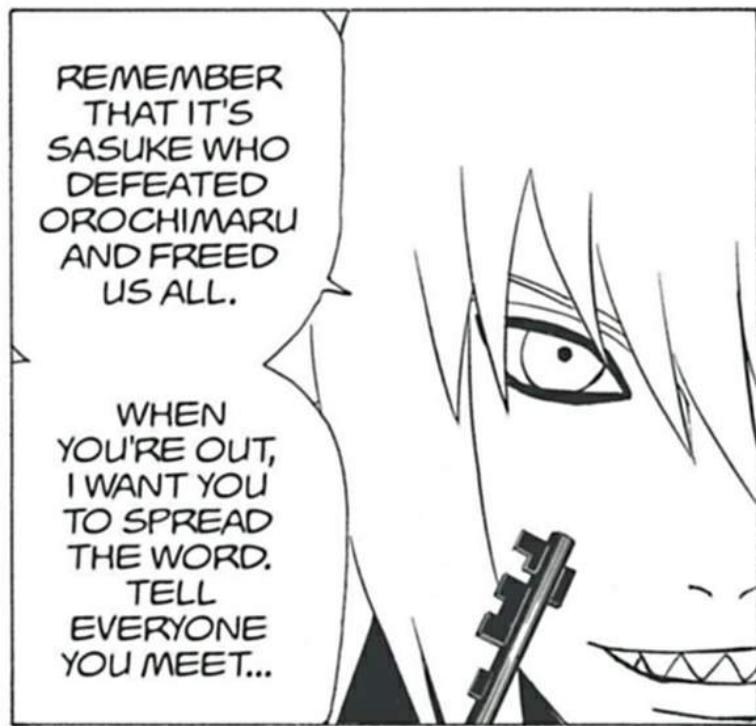
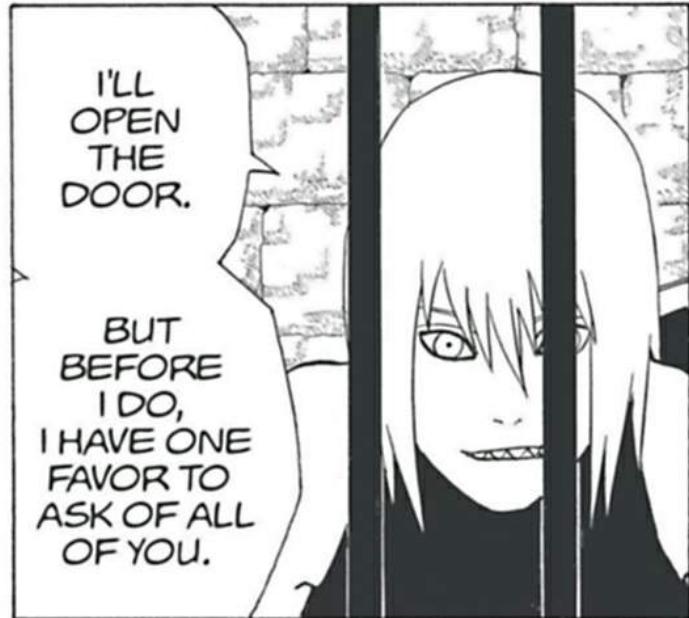


READ
THIS WAY



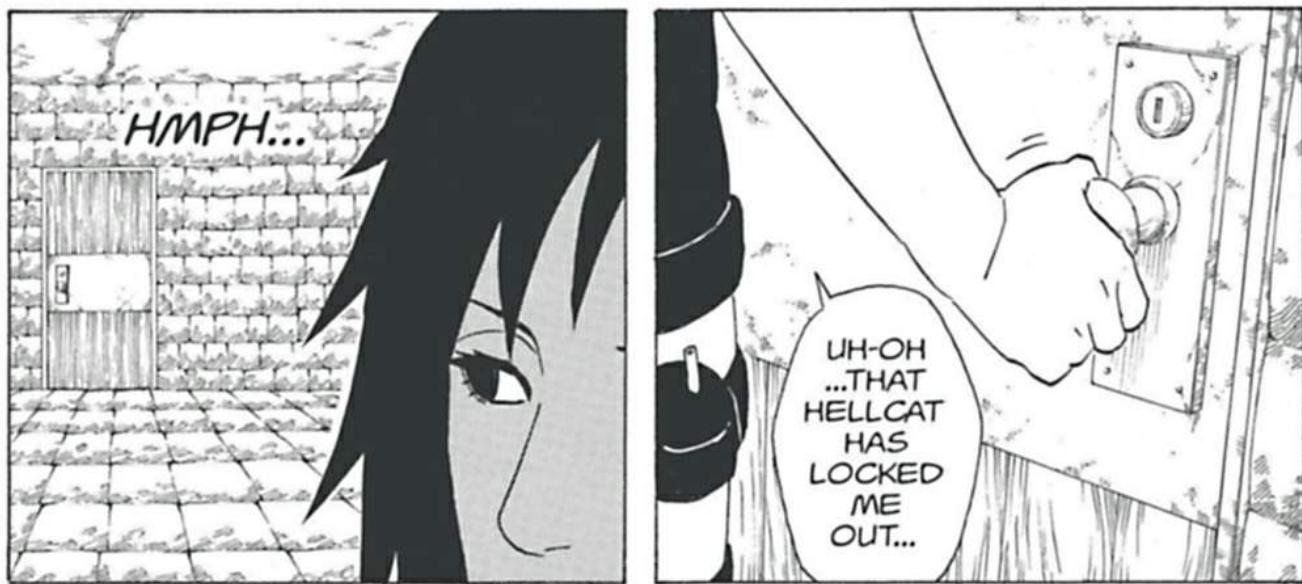


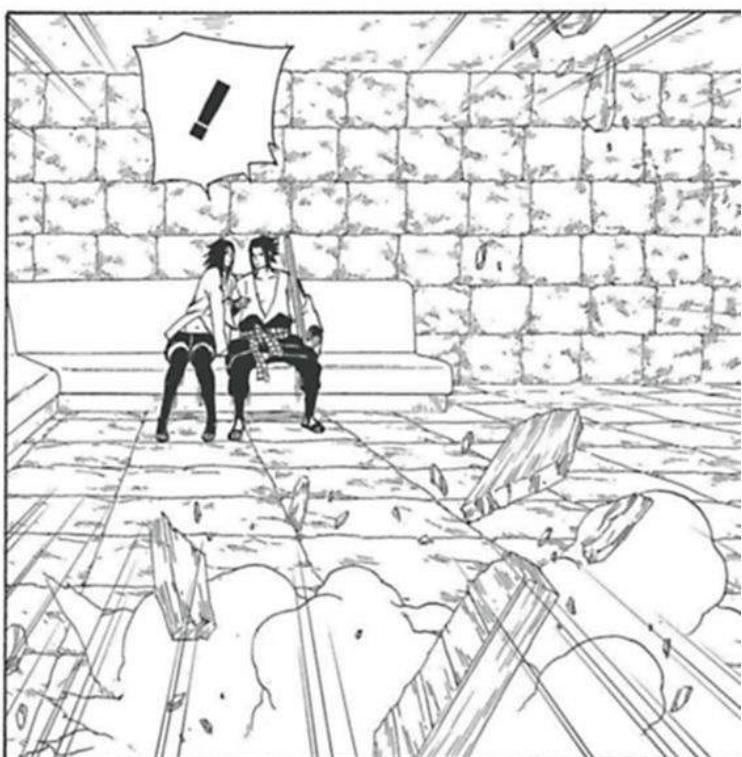
READ
THIS WAY





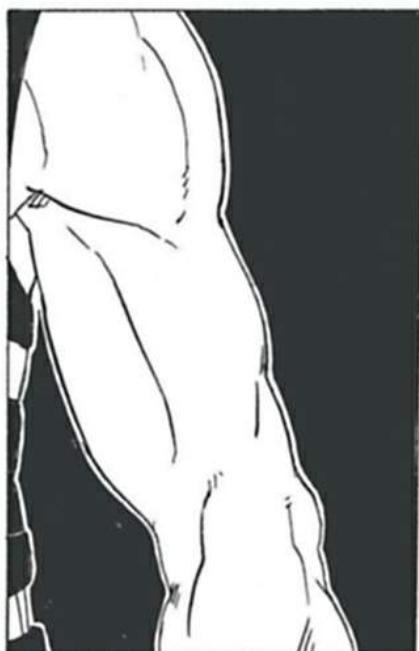
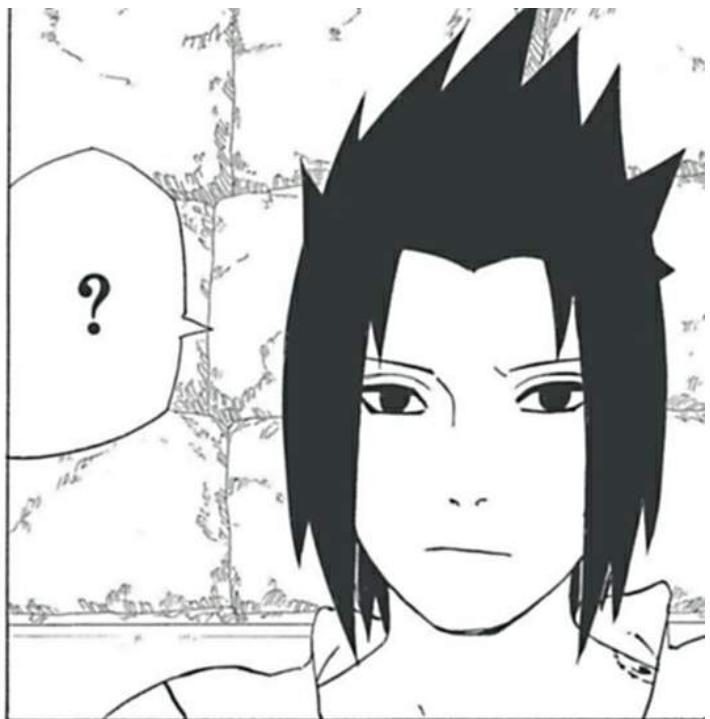
READ
THIS WAY





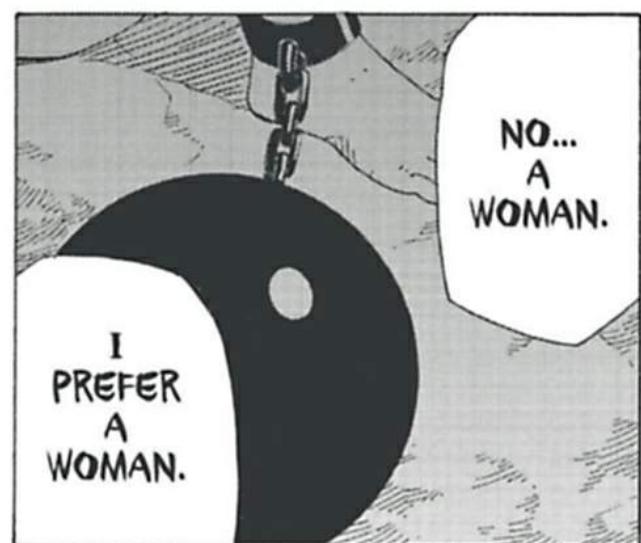
READ
THIS
WAY







BUT
WAIT...
WHY
NOT A
MAN?



NO...
A
WOMAN.



NARUTO

IF YOU CAN'T EVEN TAKE A LITTLE WALK, YOU'RE DEAD THE MOMENT WE ARRIVE.

GEEZ. YOU KNOW WE'RE GOING TO THE NORTHERN HIDEOUT.

**Number 349:
The Northern Hideout**

UGH, MORE WALKING? I'M AT THE END OF MY ROPE HERE...

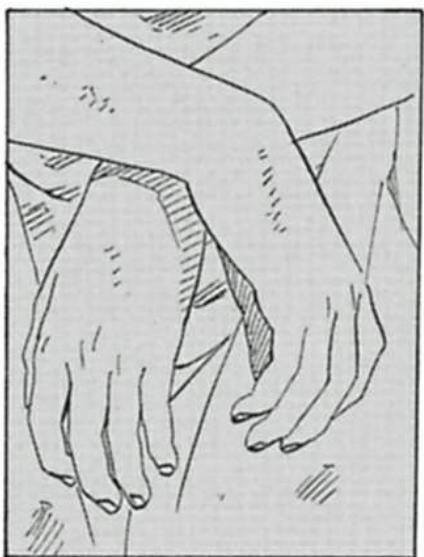
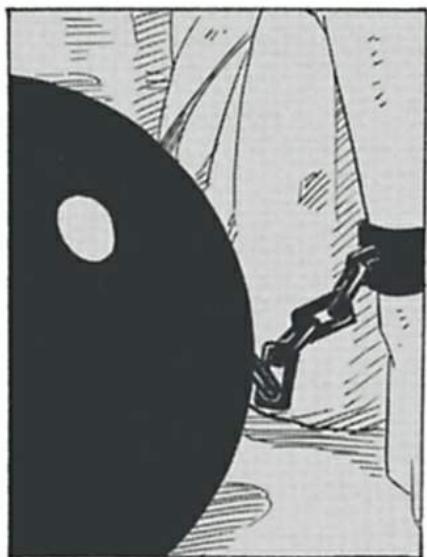
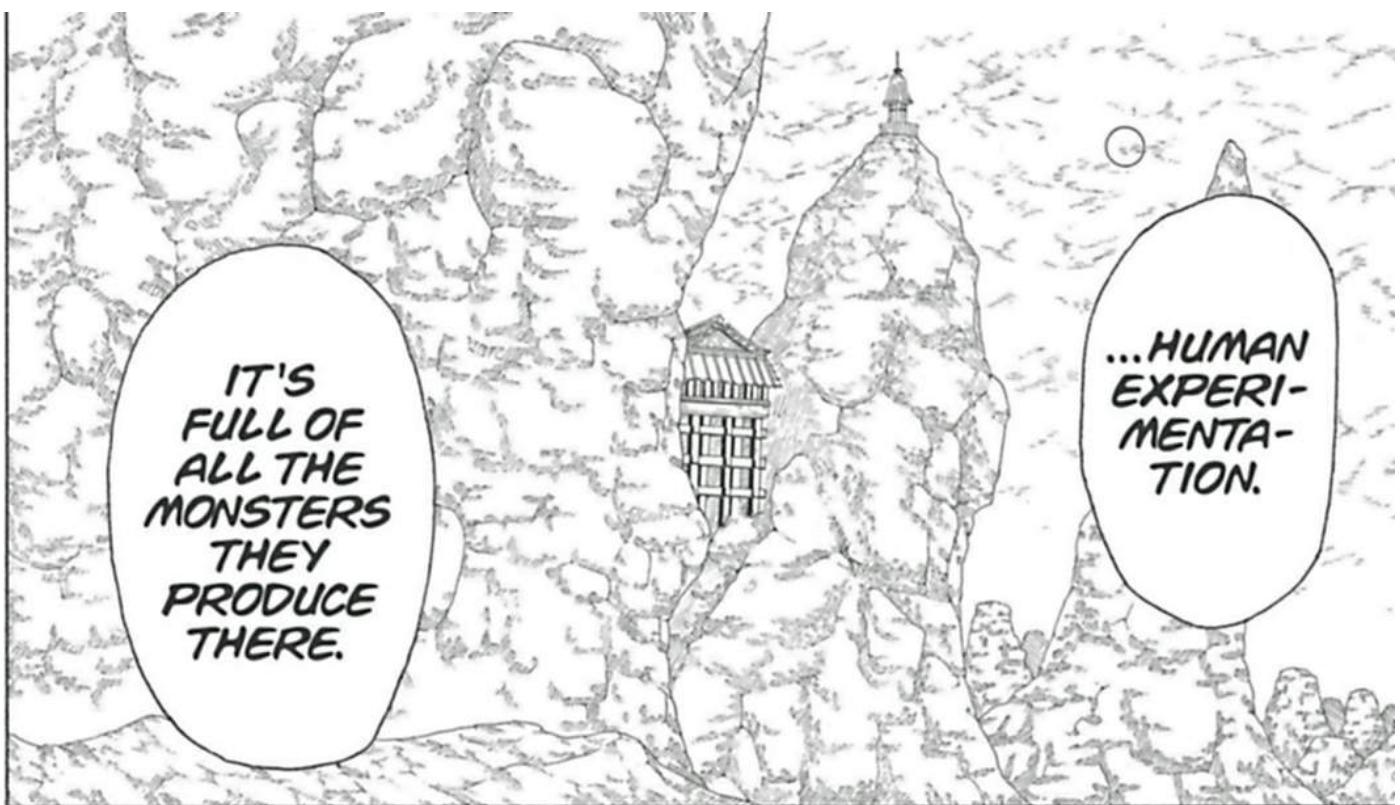
THE NORTHERN HIDEOUT ISN'T YOUR CONVENTIONAL STRONGHOLD.

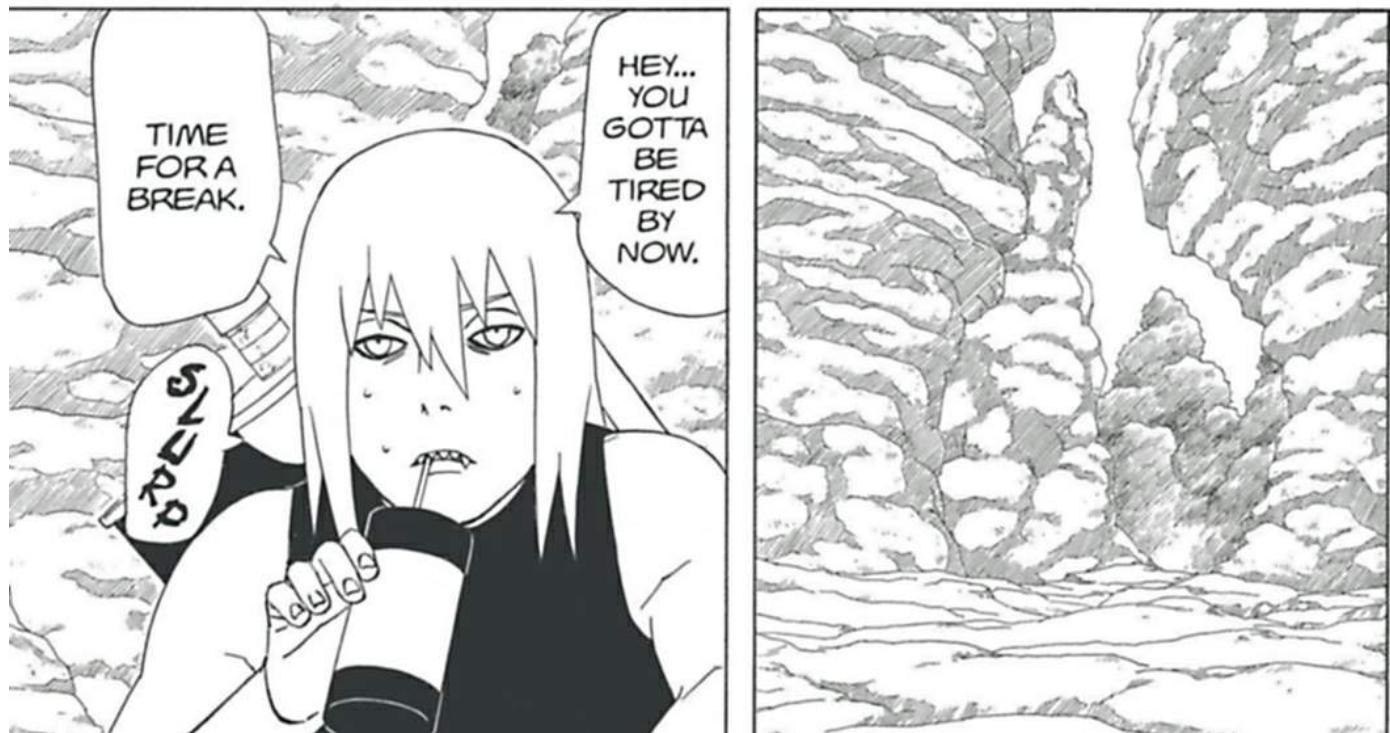
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THE PLACE WAS THAT DANGEROUS.

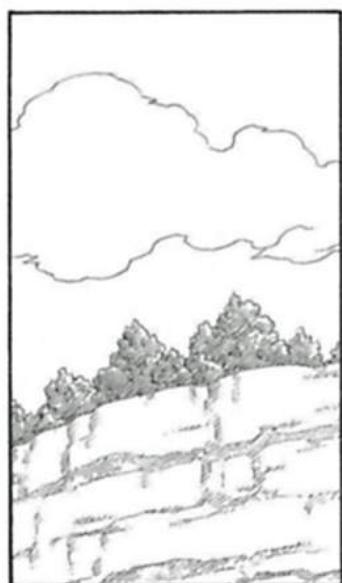
YEAH, I KNOW WHERE IT IS ON THE MAP...

IT'S FOR ... WELL ...

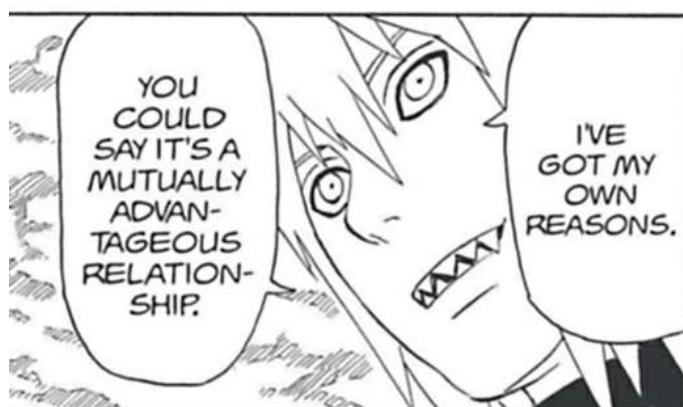
?

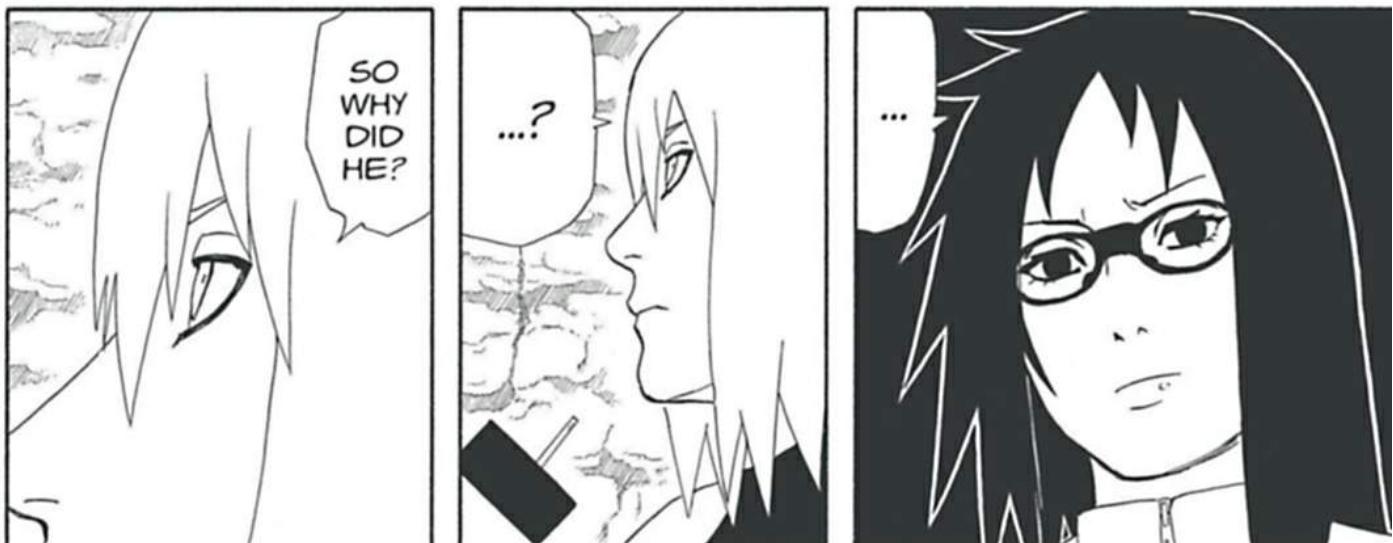
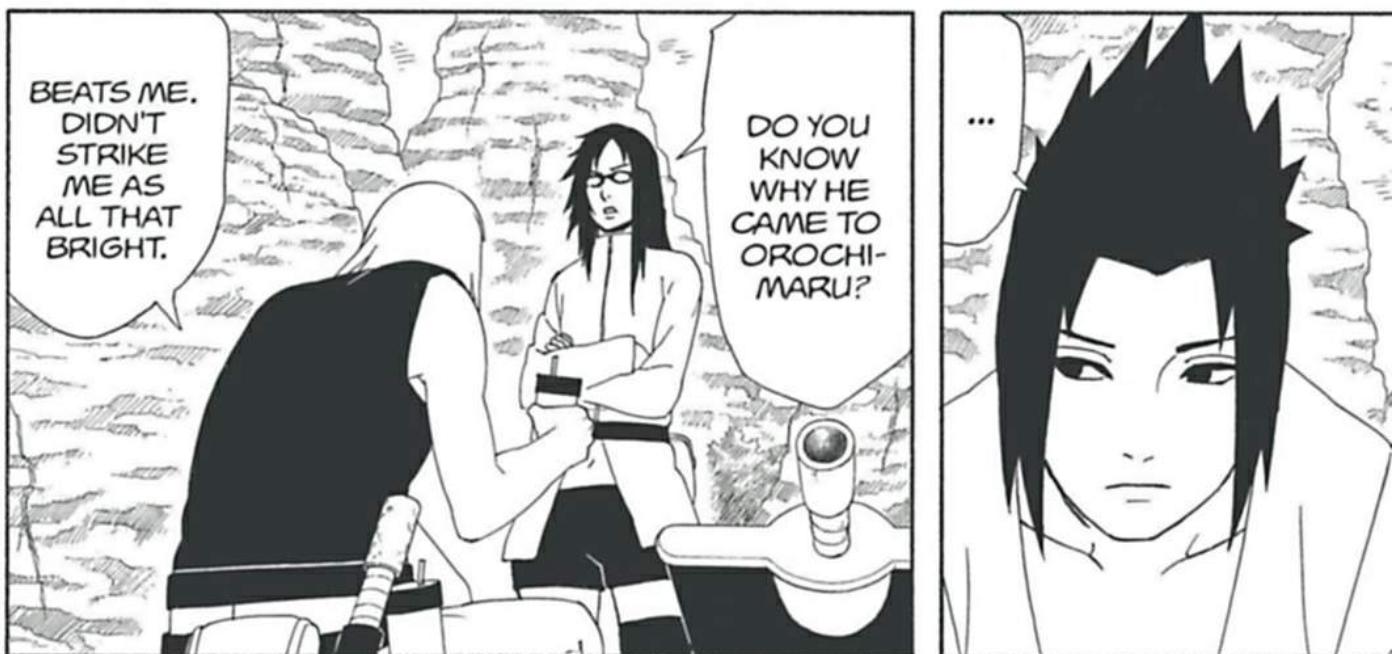


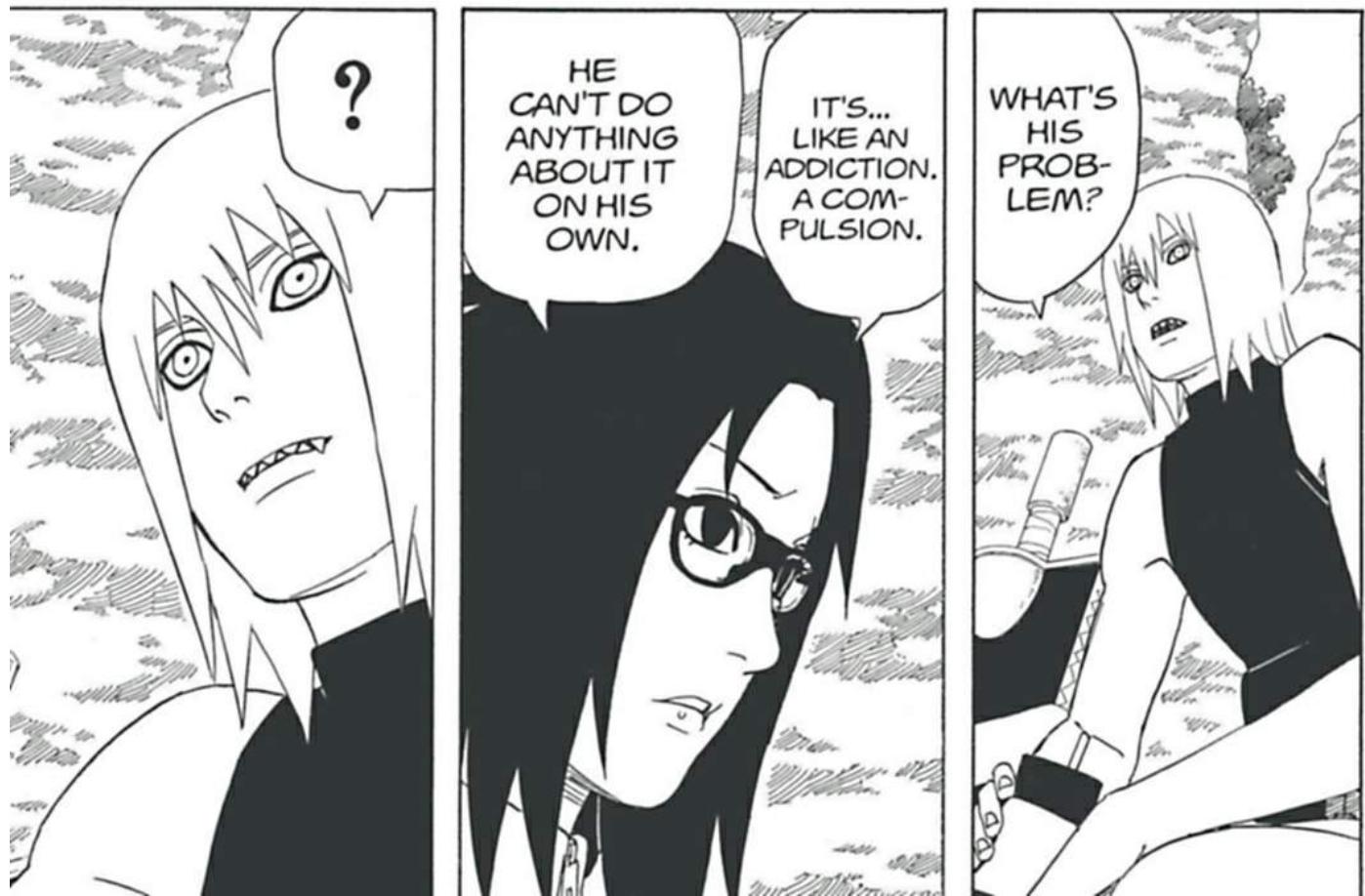
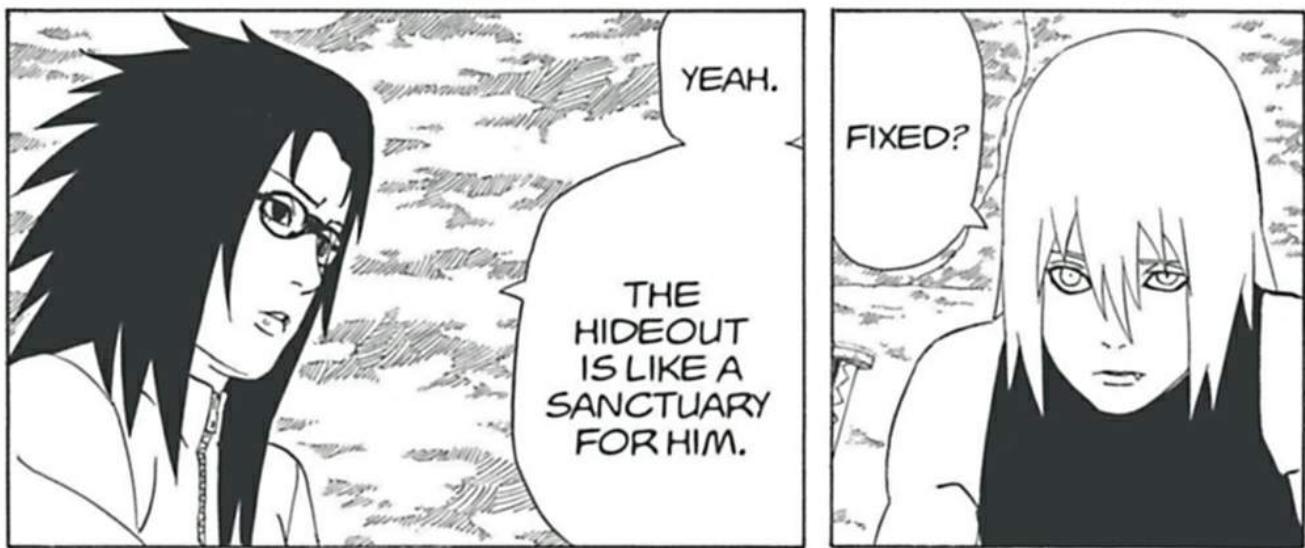
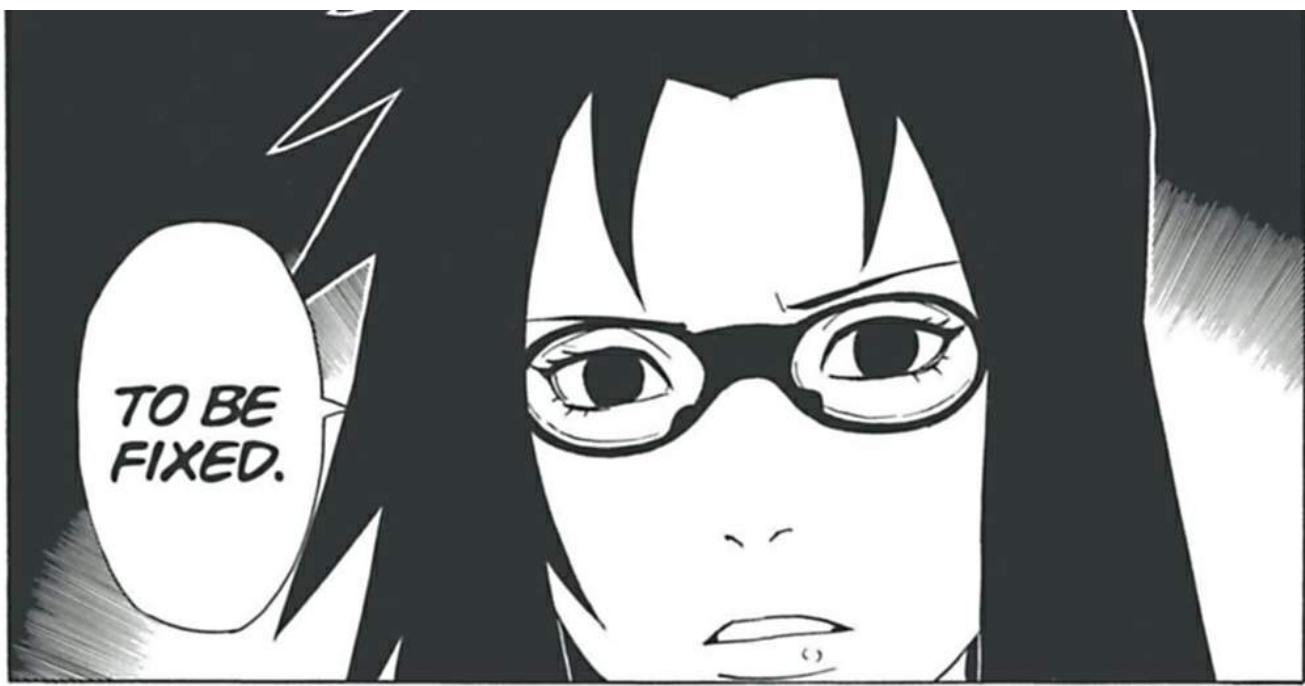


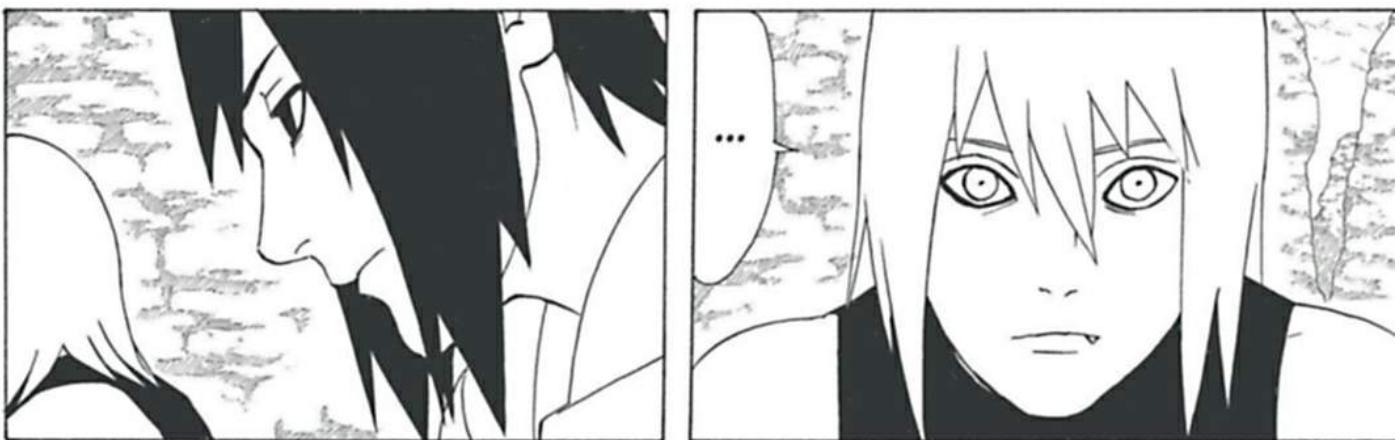


READ
THIS
WAY

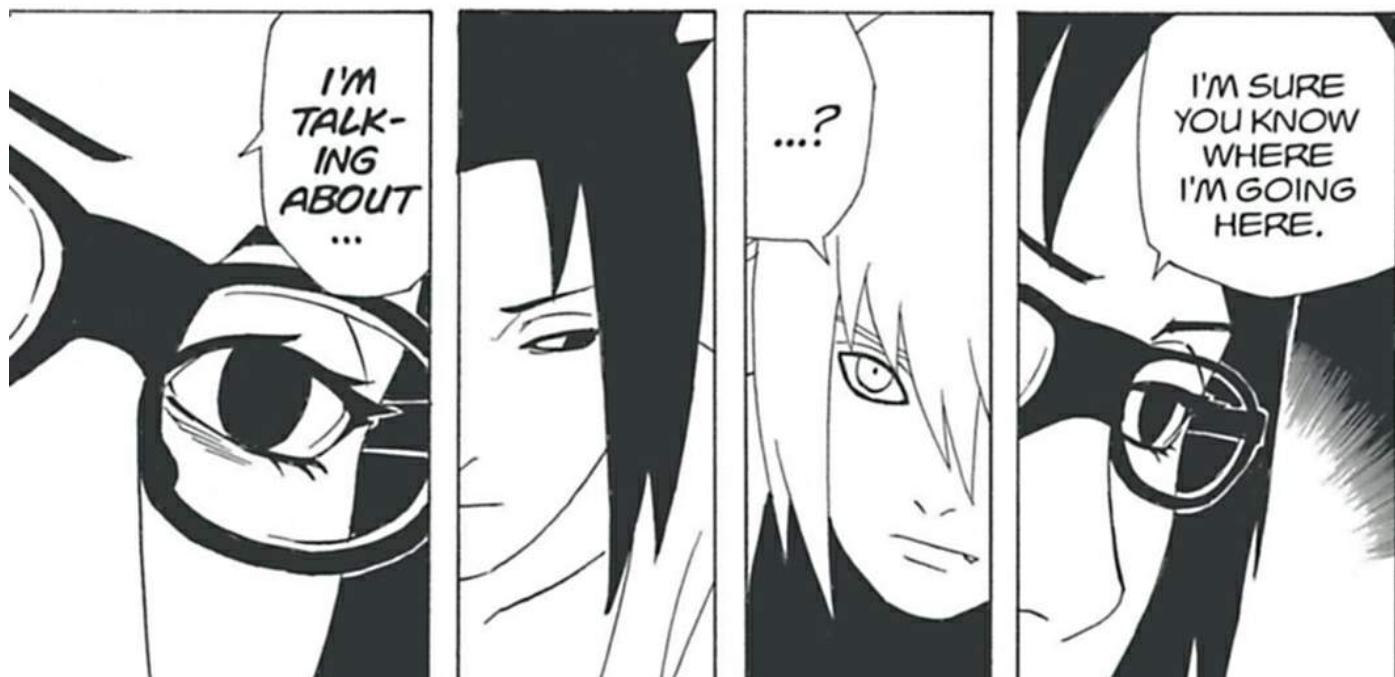


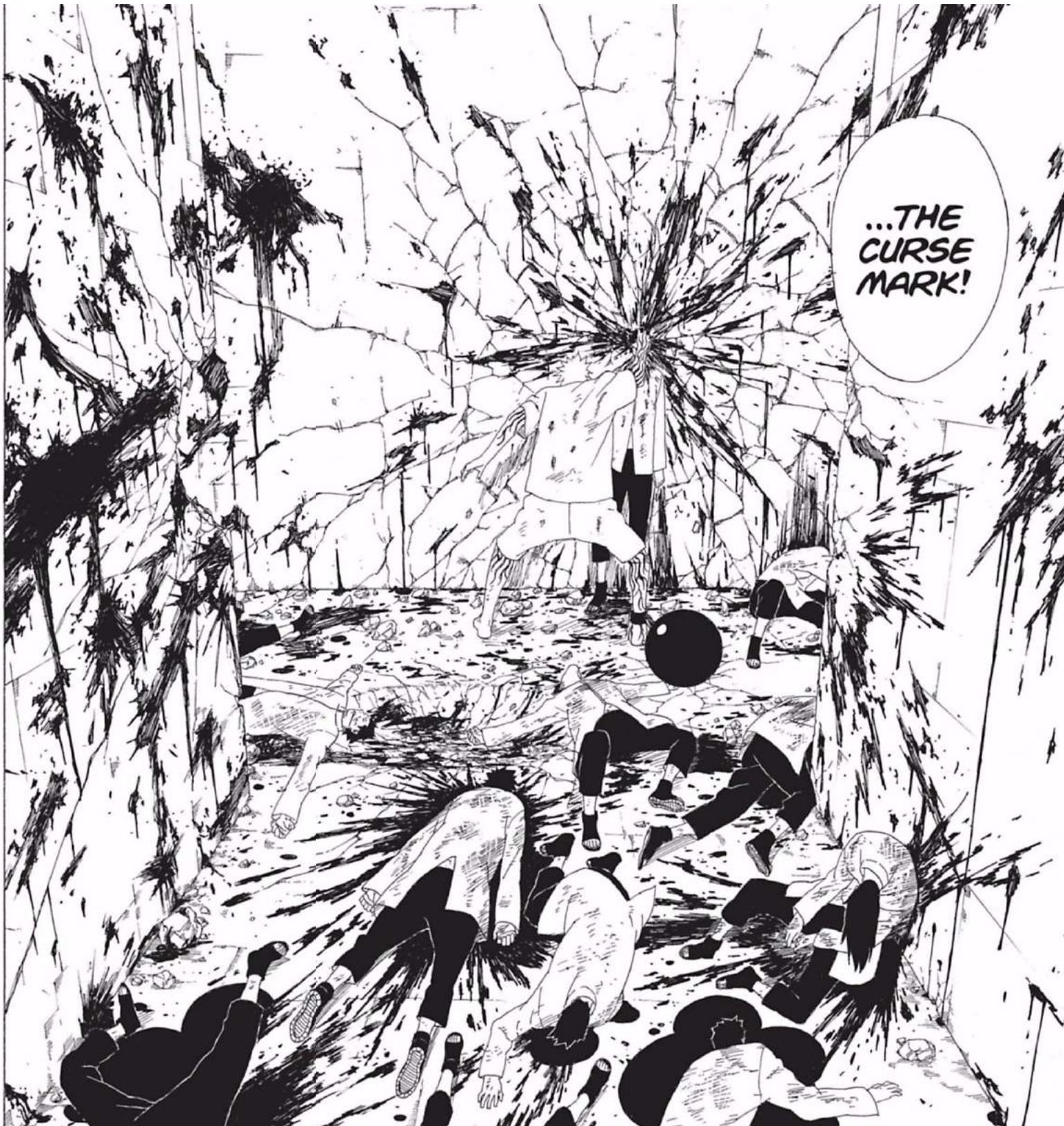
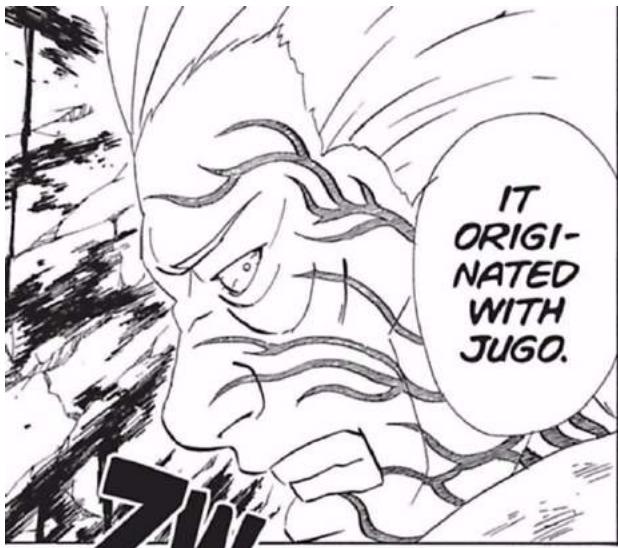


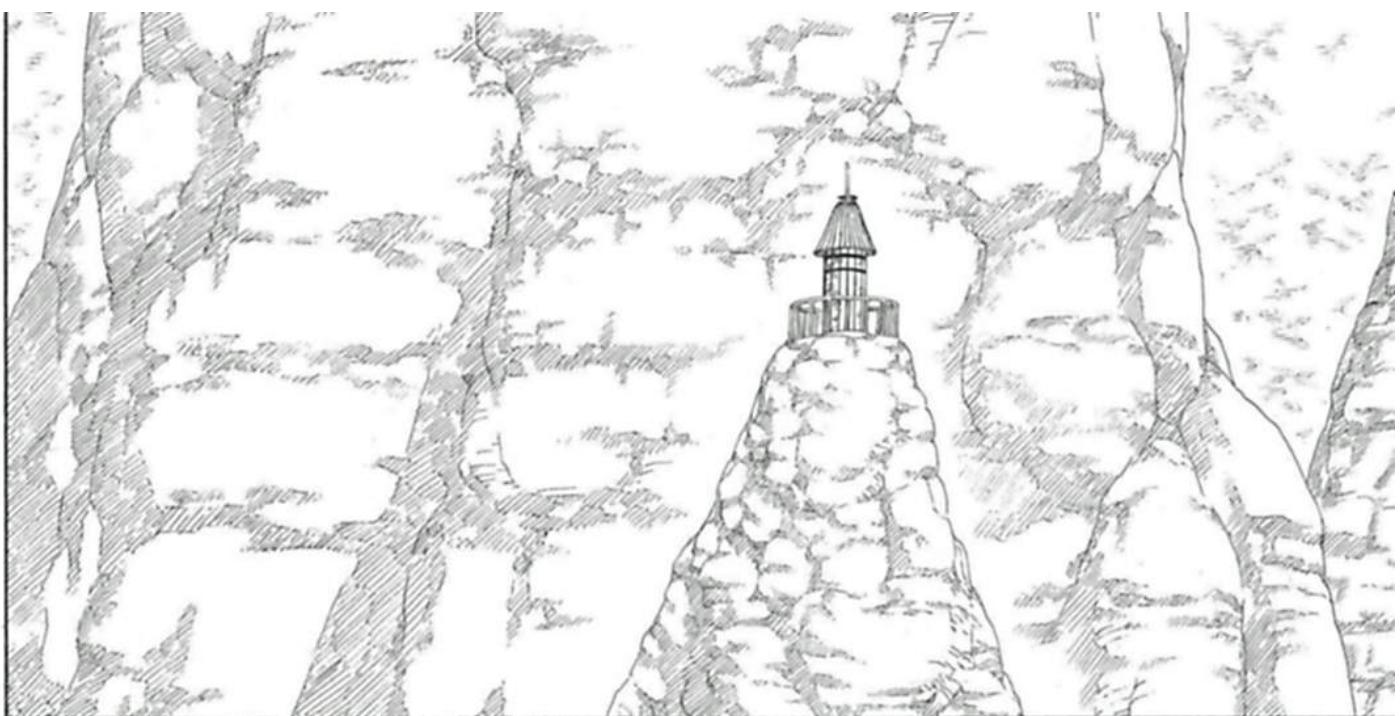


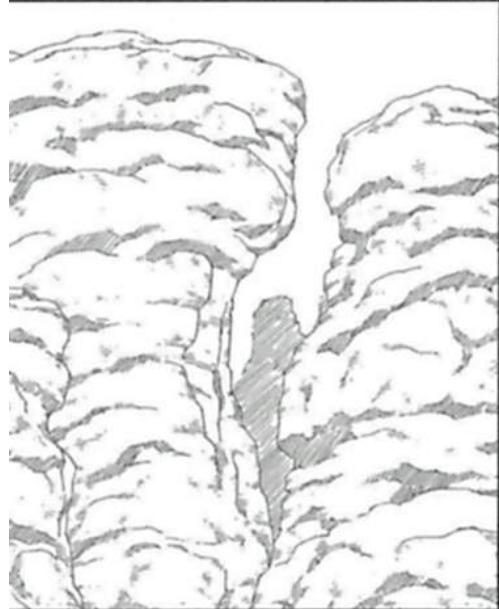


READ
THIS WAY





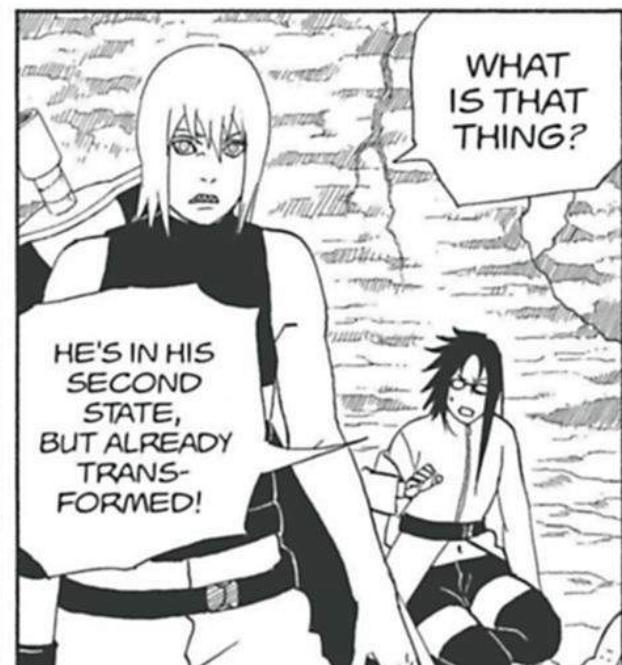
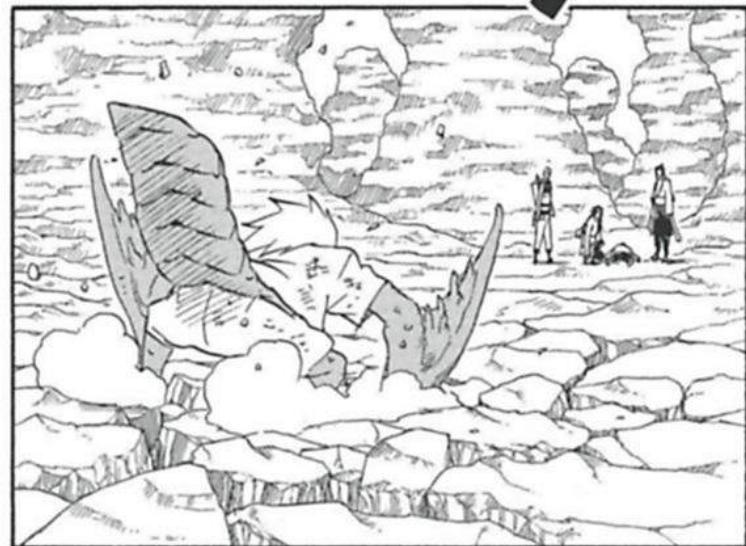


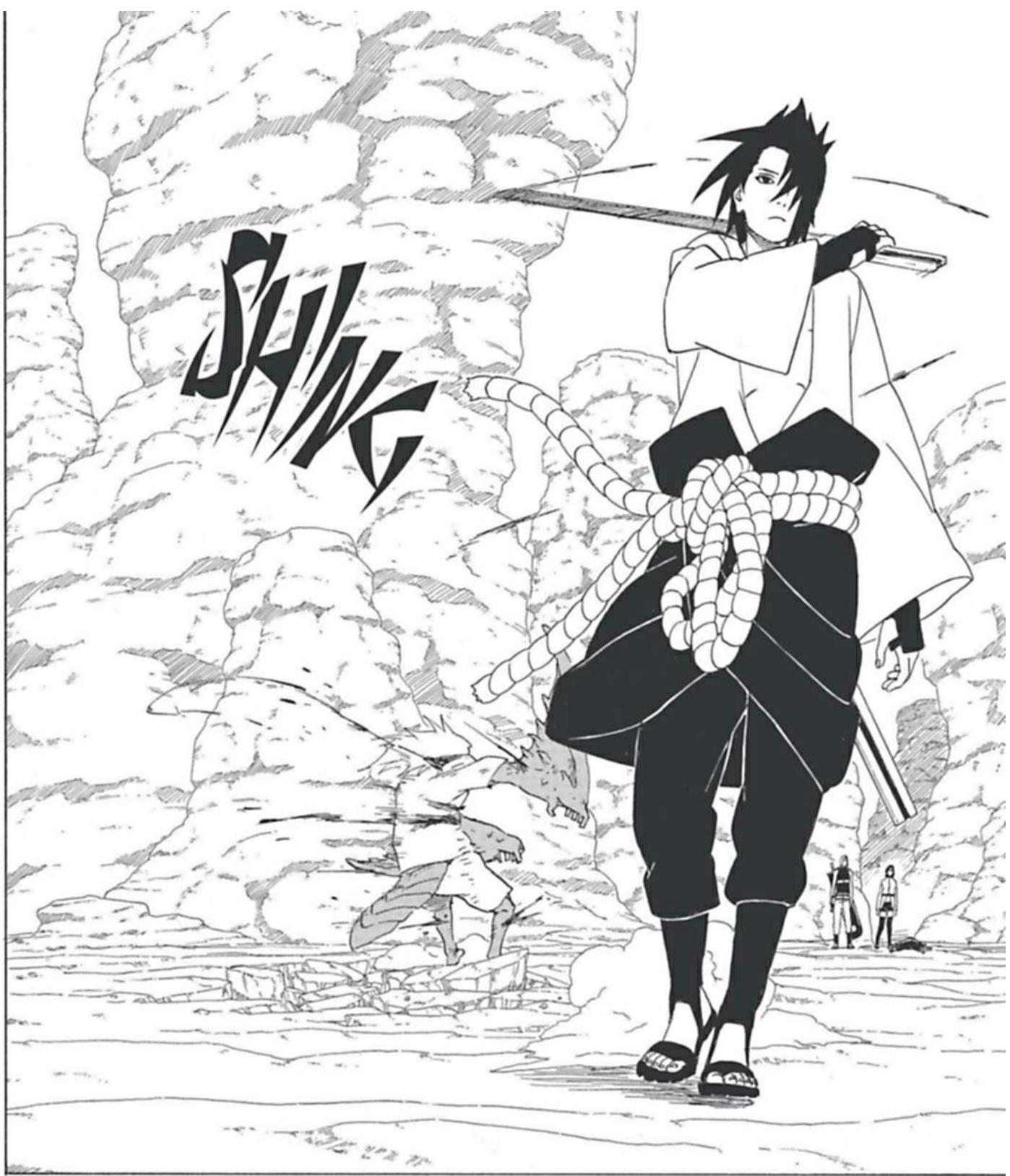


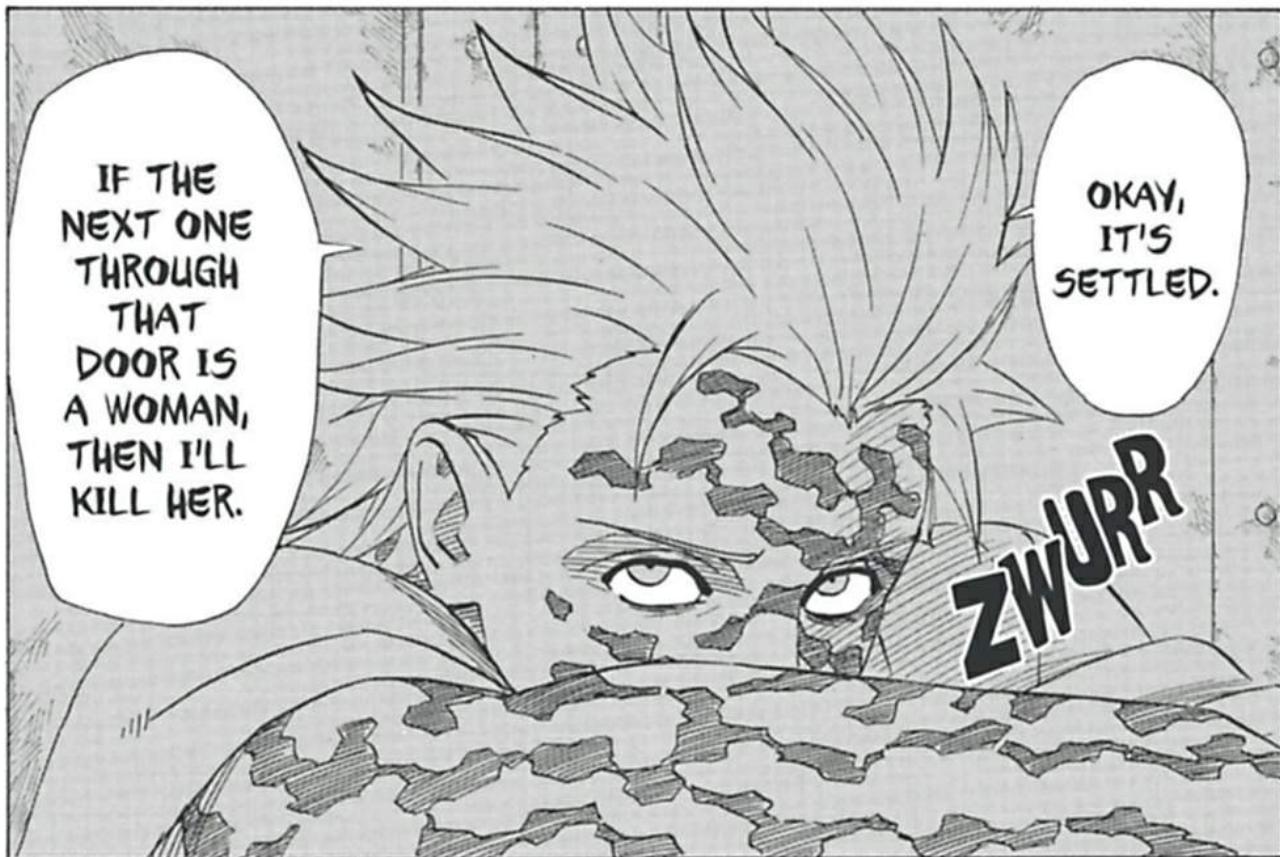
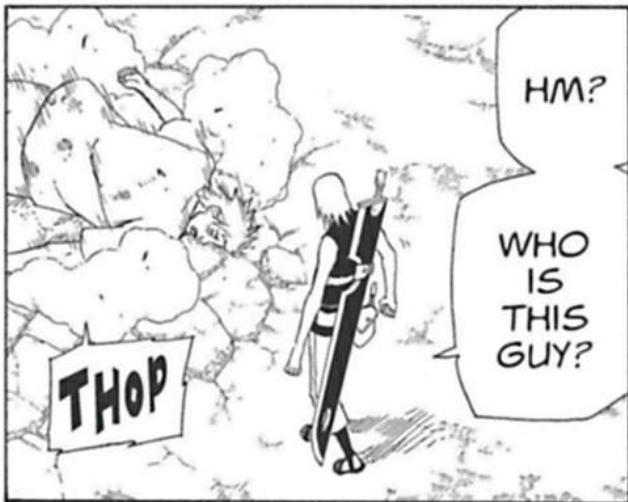
IT
STARTED
WITH...
A RUMOR
THAT...
OROCHI-
MARU
WAS
DEAD.











vizmanga

For more information, visit vizmanga.com