



NARUTO

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story & Art by

Masashi Kishimoto volume

65



岸本 齊史

I've recently started going out to eat with my assistants after work. Once we get our drinks I always end up leading the toast... but my assistants' eyes seem to be stating that simply saying "thanks for your hard work today" is somewhat insufficient... Ah, but there ain't much variation that can be had there!!!

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2013



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. 65
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, April 2014



www.viz.com



PARENTAL ADVISORY

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

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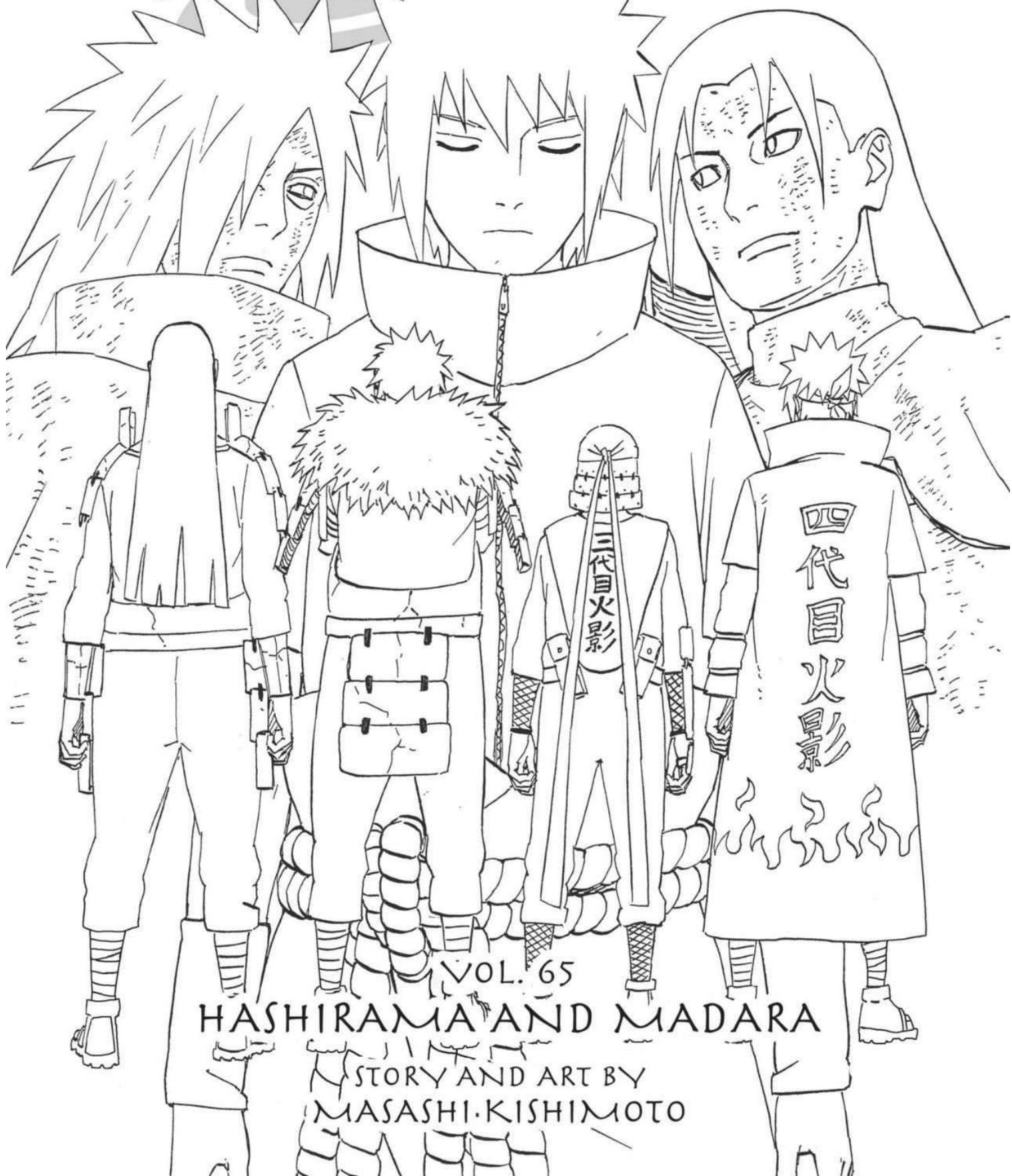


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SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

NARUTO



VOL. 65

HASHIRAMA AND MADARA

STORY AND ART BY
MASASHI KISHIMOTO

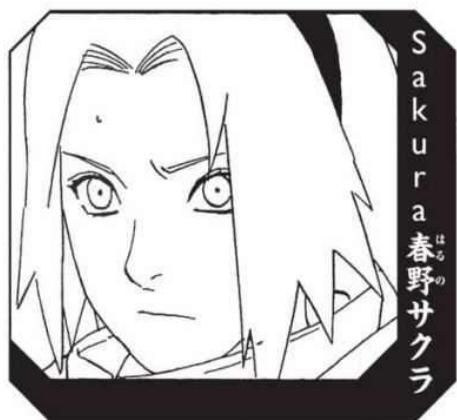
CHARACTERS



Sasuke うちはサスケ



Naruto うずまきナルト



Sakura 春野のサクラ



Kakashi はたけカカシ



Yamato ヤマト



Sai サイ



Obito うちはオビト



Kurama 九喇嘛



Tsuchikage 土影



Raikage 雷影



Gaara 我愛羅



Tsunade 綱手



Kabuto カブト



Eight-Tails 八尾



Killer Bee キラービー



Mizukage 水影



Jugo 重吾



Karin 香燐



Suigetsu 水月



Zetsu ゼツ



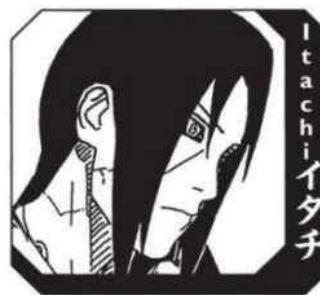
Orochimaru 大蛇丸



Might Guy ガイ



Madara マダラ



Itachi イタチ

THE STORY SO FAR...

Naruto, the biggest troublemaker at the Ninja Academy in the Village of Konohagakure, finally becomes a ninja along with his classmates Sasuke and Sakura. They grow and mature through countless trials and battles. However, Sasuke, unable to give up his quest for vengeance, leaves Konohagakure to seek Orochimaru and his power...

Two years pass. Naruto grows up and engages in fierce battles against the Tailed Beast-targeting Akatsuki. Elsewhere, after winning the heroic battle against Itachi and learning his older brother's true intentions, Sasuke allies with the Akatsuki and sets out to destroy Konoha.

The Fourth Great Ninja War against the Akatsuki begins. Having stopped the Edotensei jutsu with the help of his brother, Sasuke now heads off with Orochimaru to fulfil a new objective. Meanwhile, Naruto and his allies try to stop Obito and Madara from reviving Ten Tails. And what will Sasuke's next move be?!



NARUTO

VOL. 65
HASHIRAMA AND MADARA

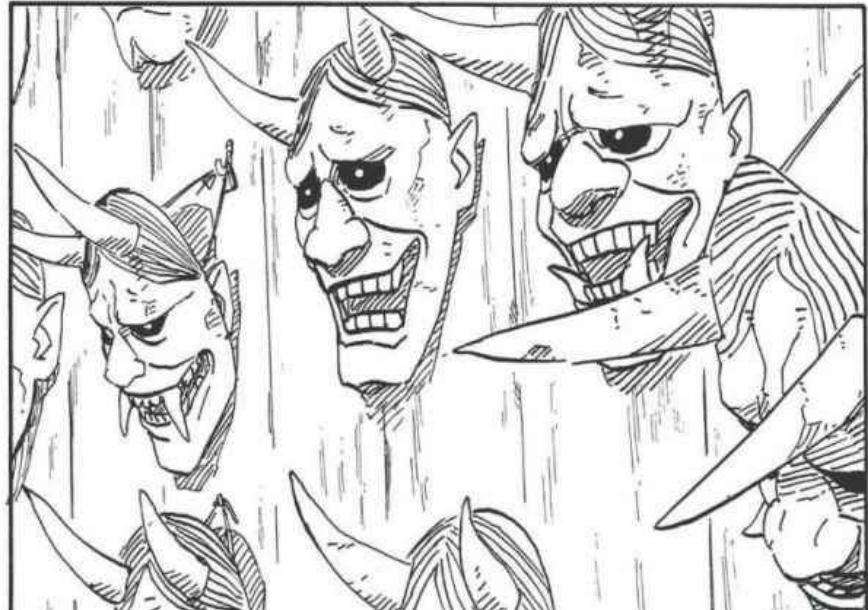
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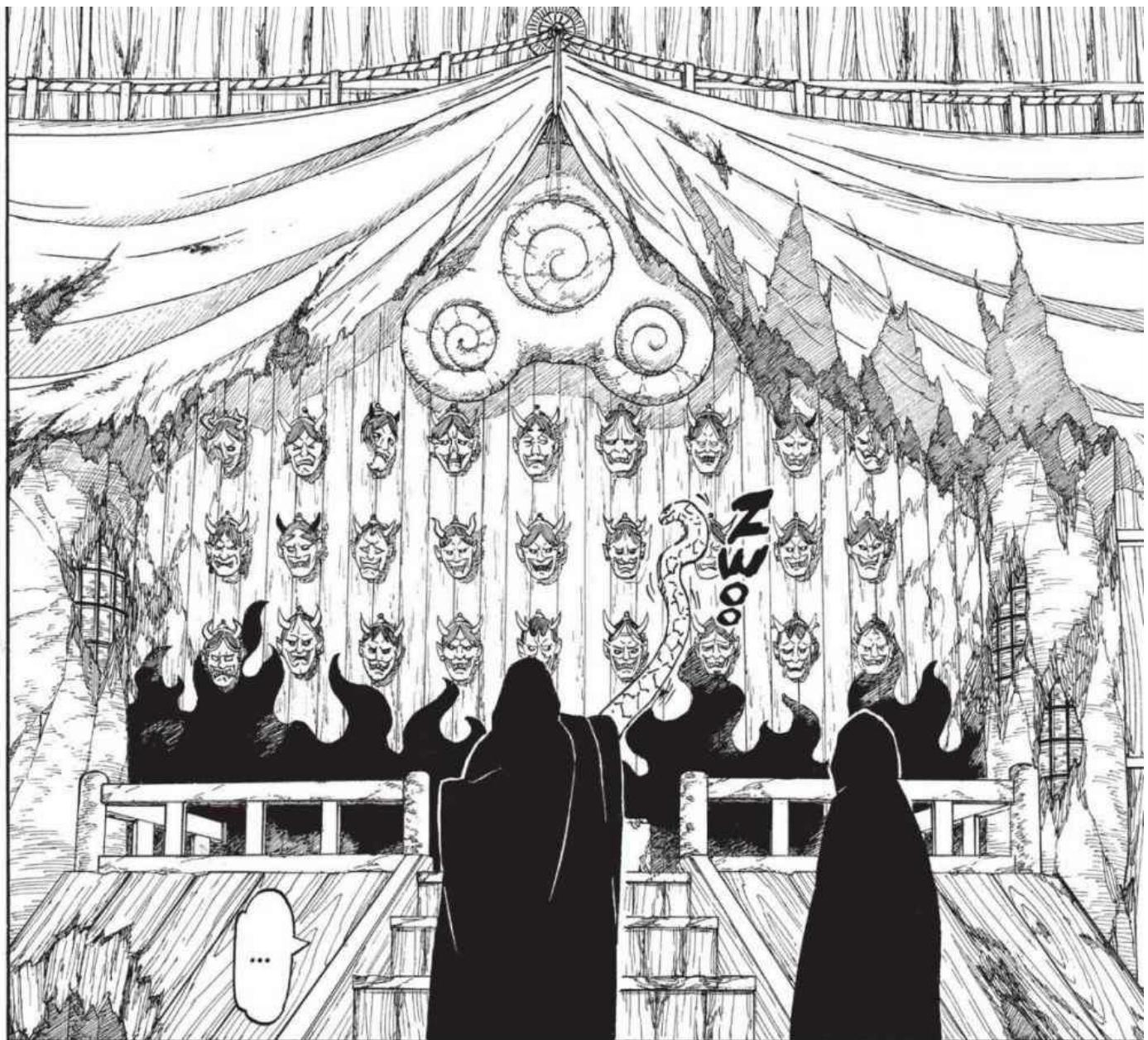


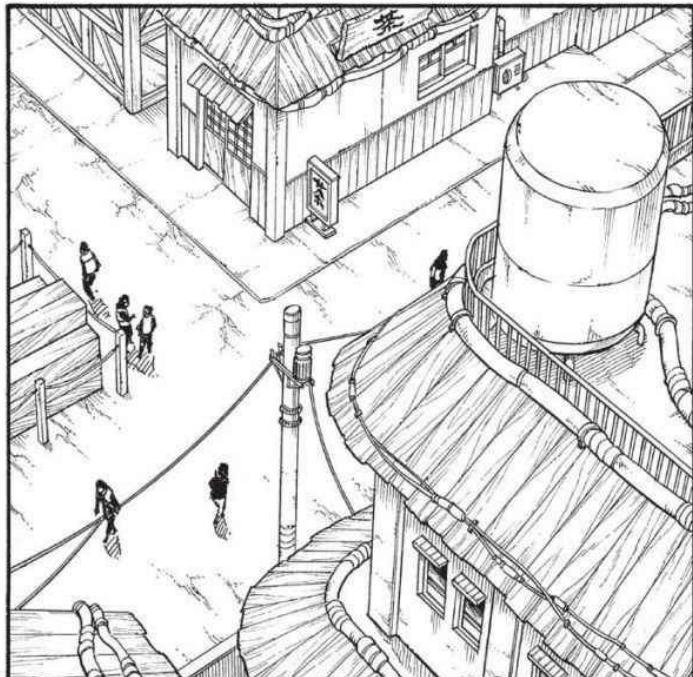
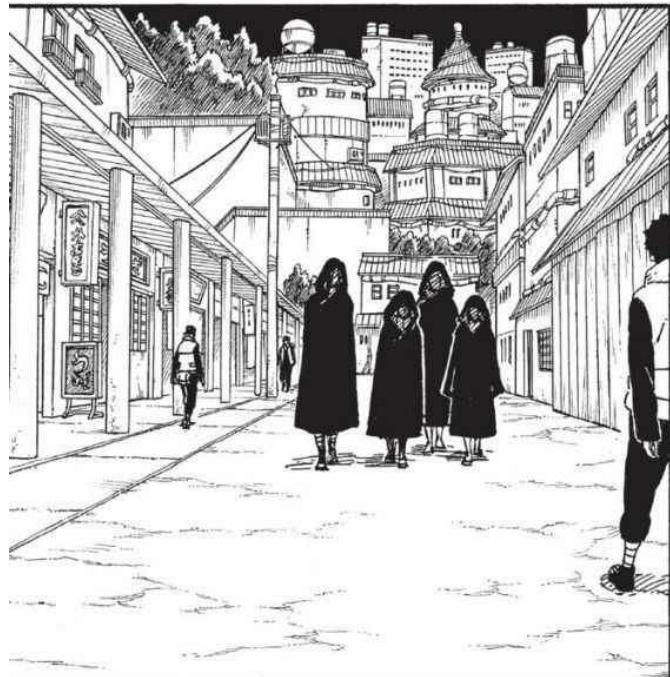
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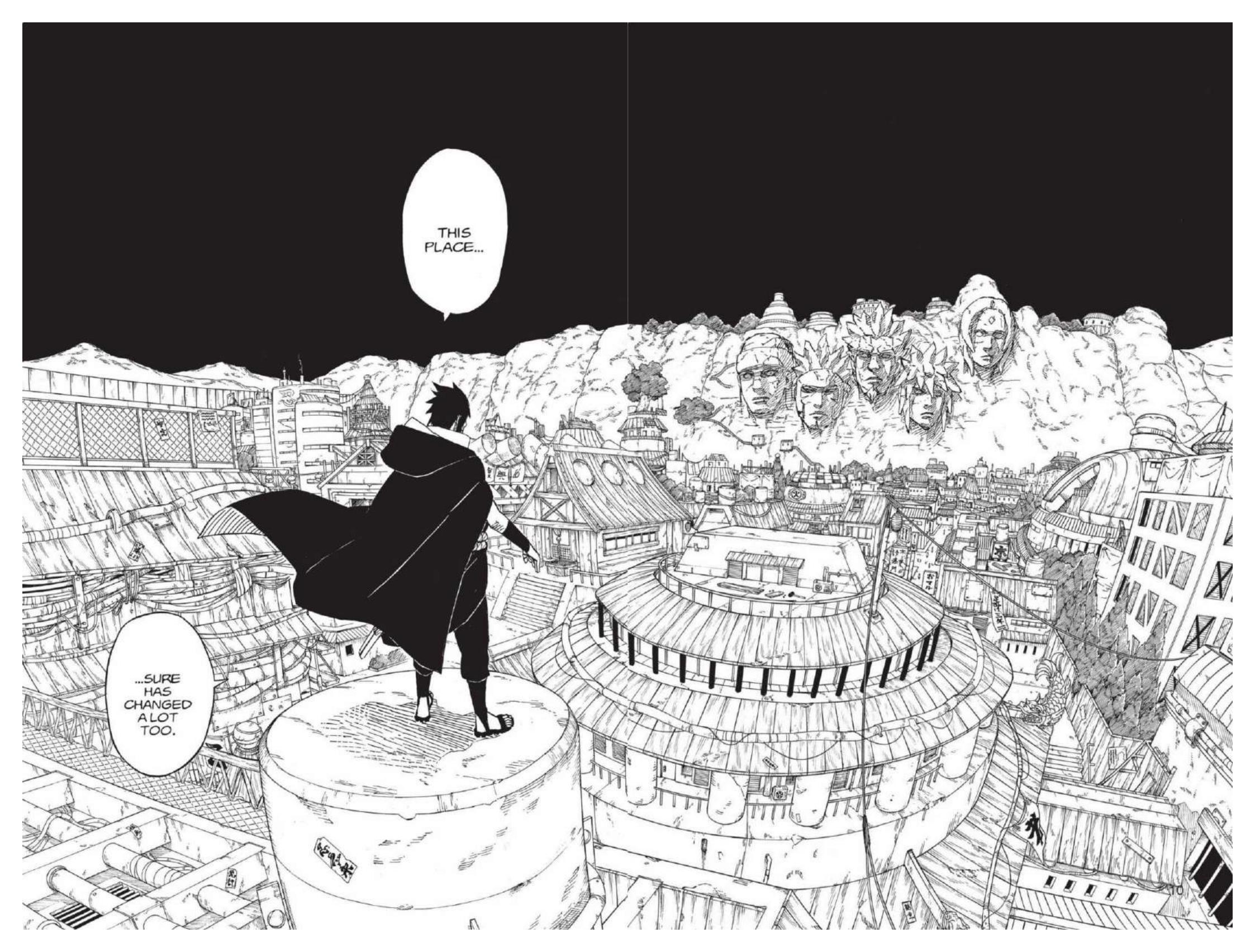


Number 618: The All-Knowing



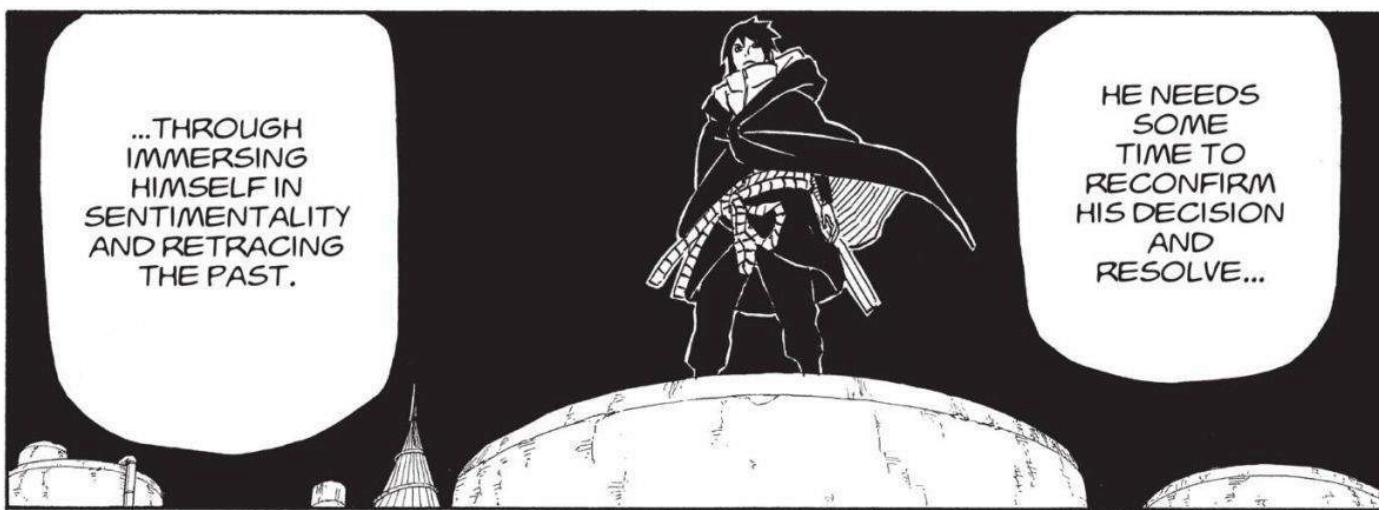
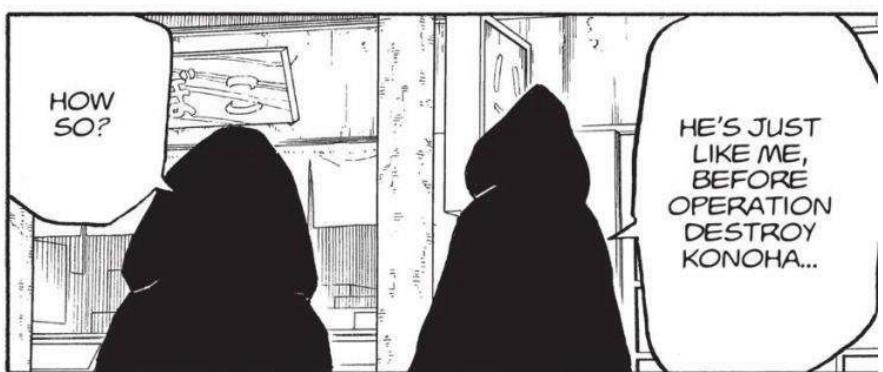






THIS
PLACE...

...SURE
HAS
CHANGED
ALOT
TOO.



AND RIGHT NOW... WE'RE HERE INSIDE KONOHA...

HEY, COME TO THINK OF IT, WE ALL WERE YOUR CREAM-OF-THE-CROP TOP SUBORDINATES, RIGHT?

THE WHOLE IMMERSIVE IN SENTIMENTALITY TO RECONFIRM YOUR RESOLVE TO DESTROY KONOHA THING?

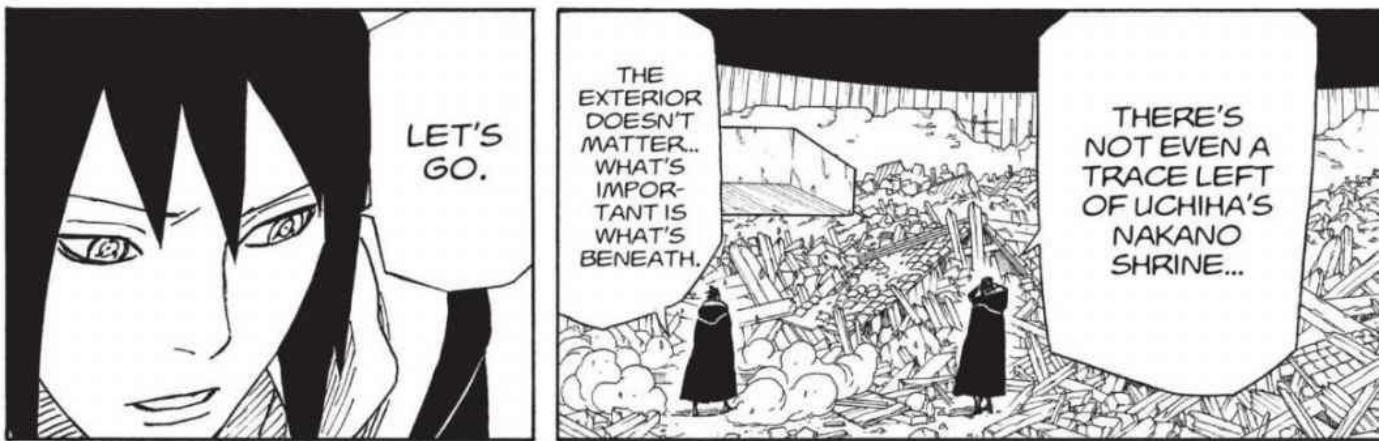
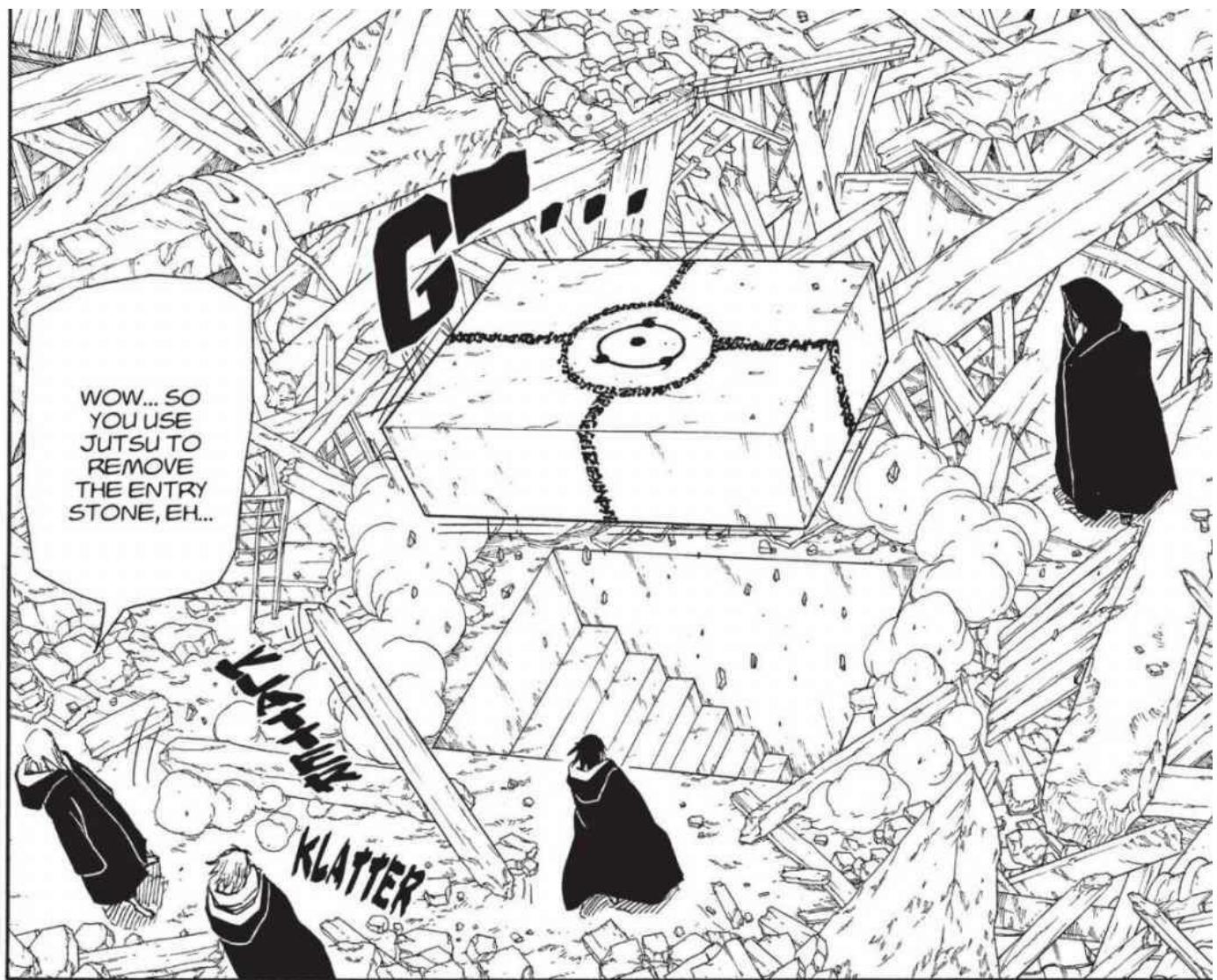
ISN'T THIS LIKE THE ABSOLUTELY PERFECT CHANCE FOR YOU?

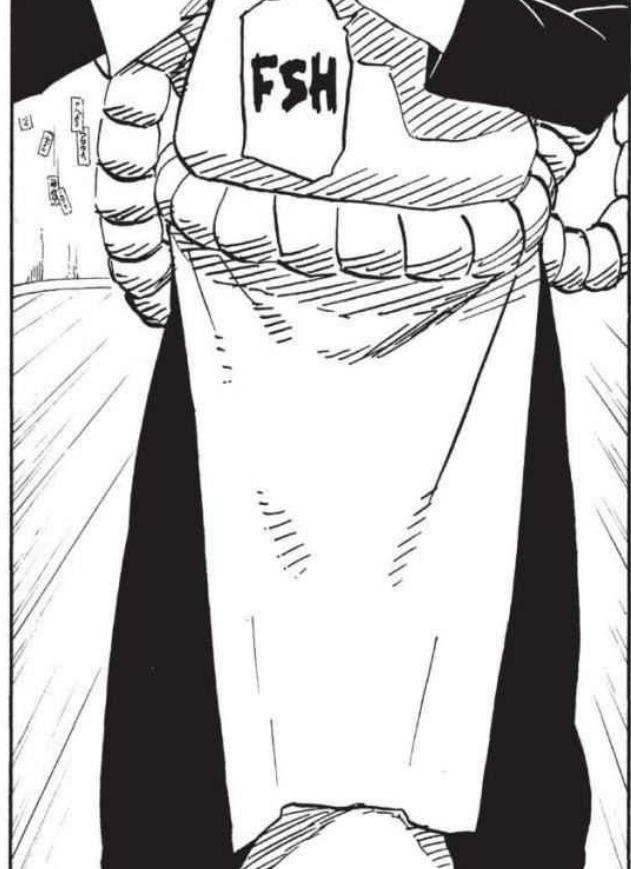
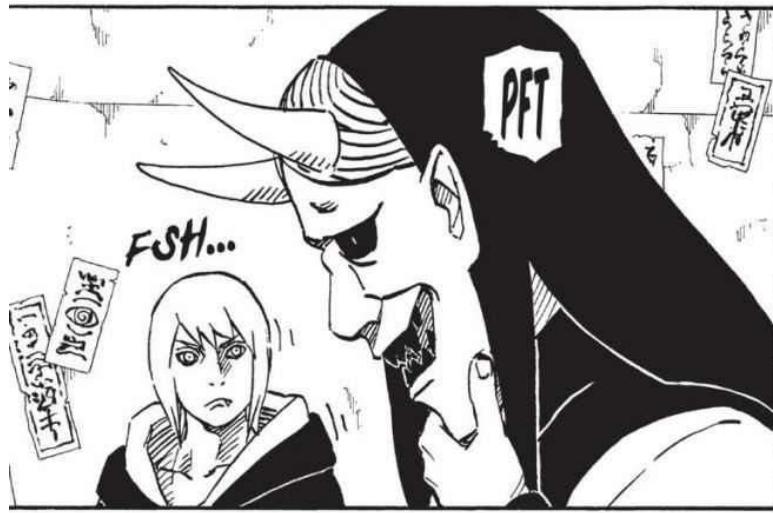
WITH ALL THE VILLAGE'S STRONG FOLK AWAY FIGHTING THE WAR.

EXCEPT FOR ONE THING.

HEH... PERHAPS INDEED...

YOU ALL AREN'T HEBI ANYMORE.







THEN, ONE
MUST ALLOW THE
DEATH GOD OF THE
REAPER DEATH
SEAL TO POSSESS
ONESELF, AND GUIDE
IT FORTH.



THAT IS
LOCATED IN
THE UZUMAKI
CLAN'S NOH
MASK HALL
ON THE
OUTSKIRTS OF
KONOHA.

IN ORDER TO
PERFORM
WHAT IS
WRITTEN IN
THAT SCROLL,
FIRST, THE
DEATH GOD'S
MASK IS
NECESSARY.



HOWEVER, IT WILL ALSO ALLOW ME TO GET BACK BOTH MY ARMS FROM INSIDE THE DEATH GOD'S BELLY.

JAB

ZLASH

THOUGH I SHALL THEN END UP A HUMAN SACRIFICE.

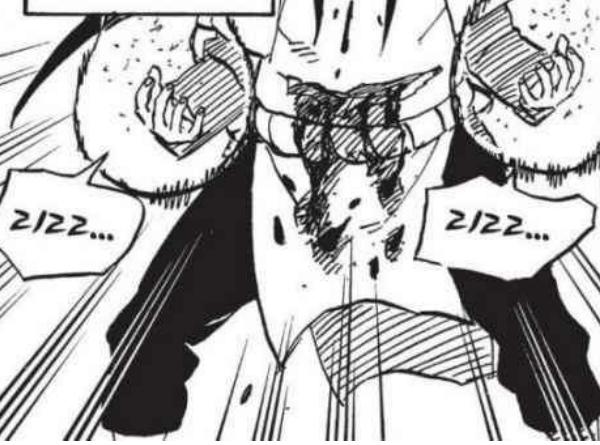
SLICE OPEN THE DEATH GOD'S ABDOMEN, AND THE SEAL WILL COME UNDONE.

FSH



AND IF I CAN REGAIN THE POWER THAT LIES IN THOSE ARMS, I CAN PERFORM THE EDOTENSEI... THAT'S RIGHT...

MINE AGAIN....!

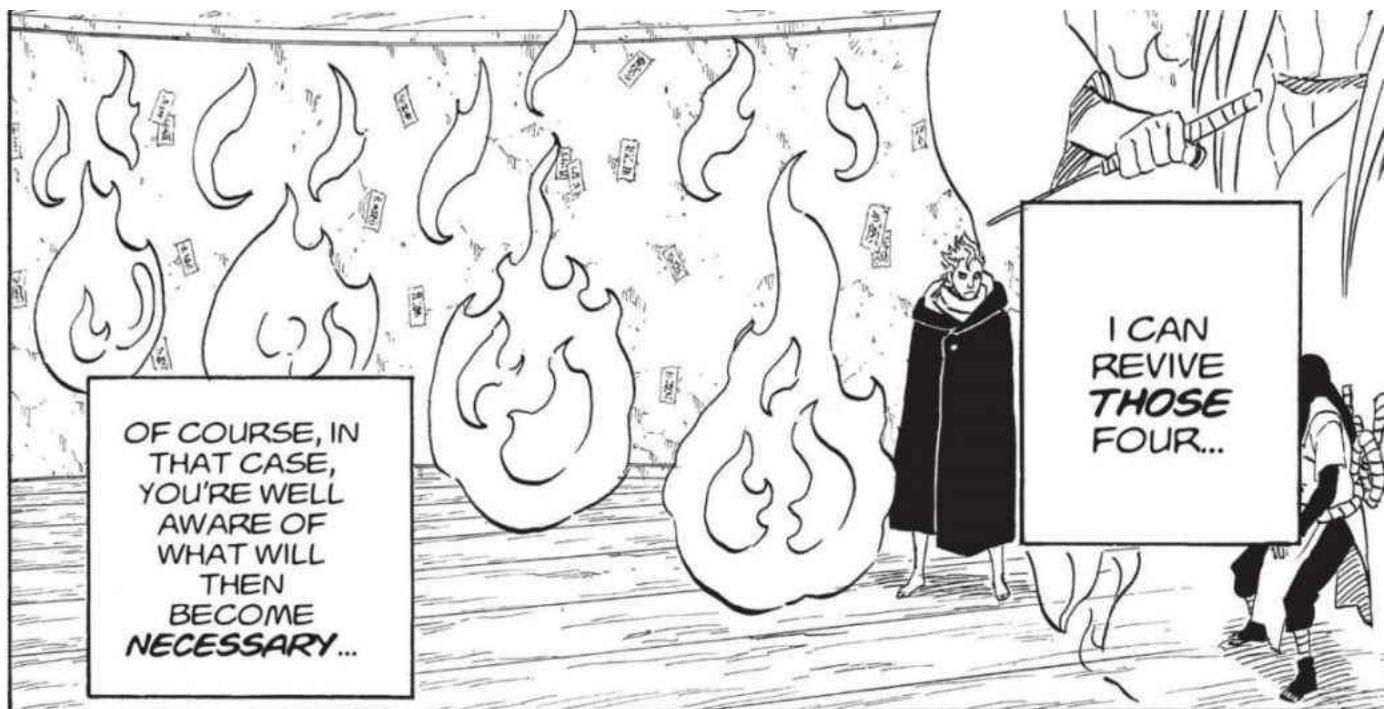


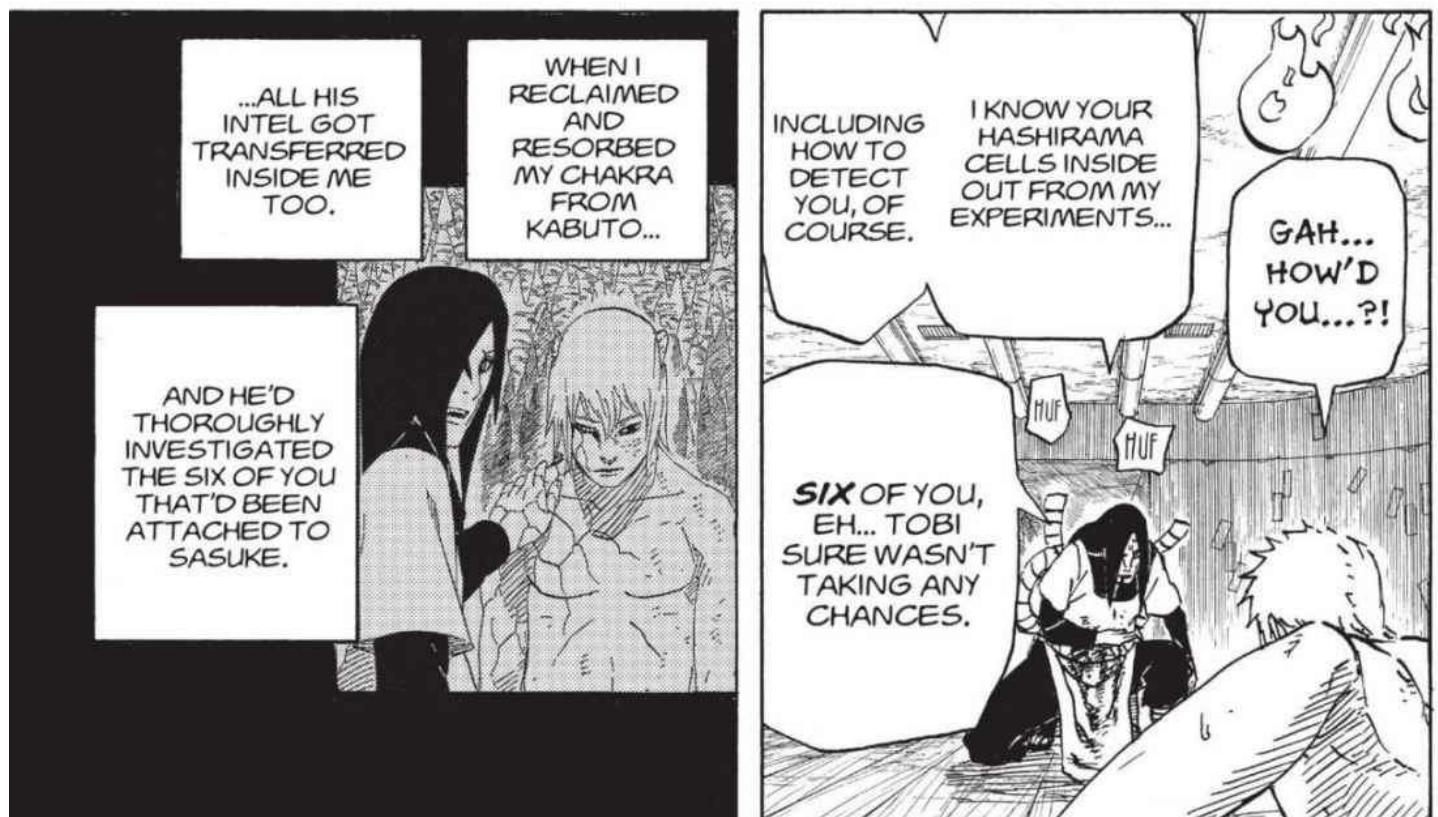
SWOO...

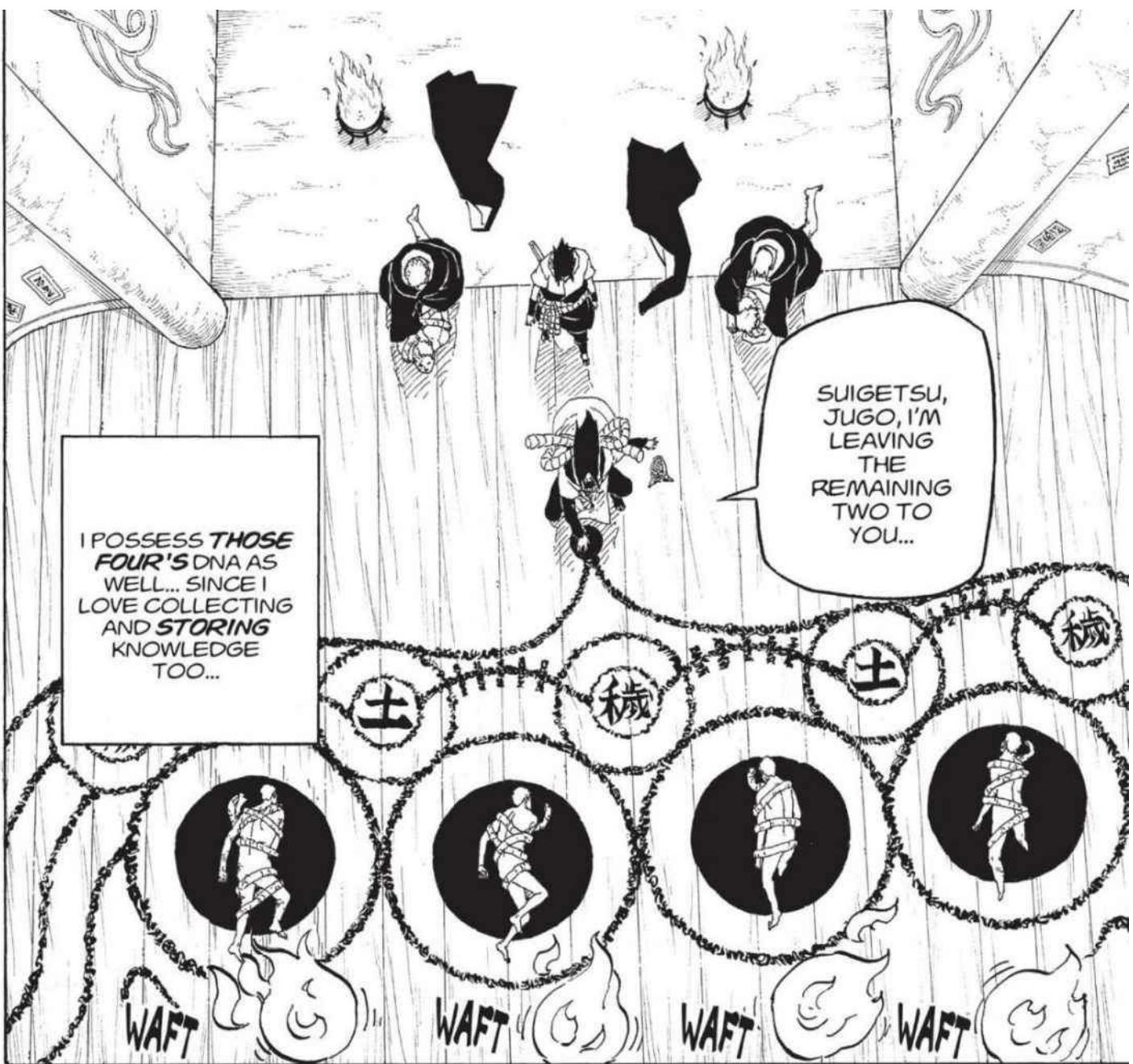
HACK !!

WOP

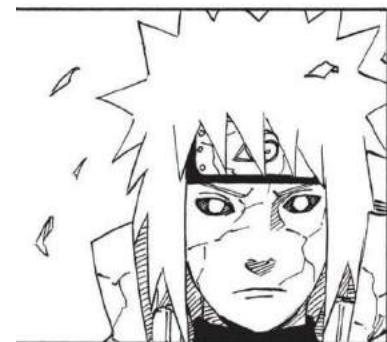




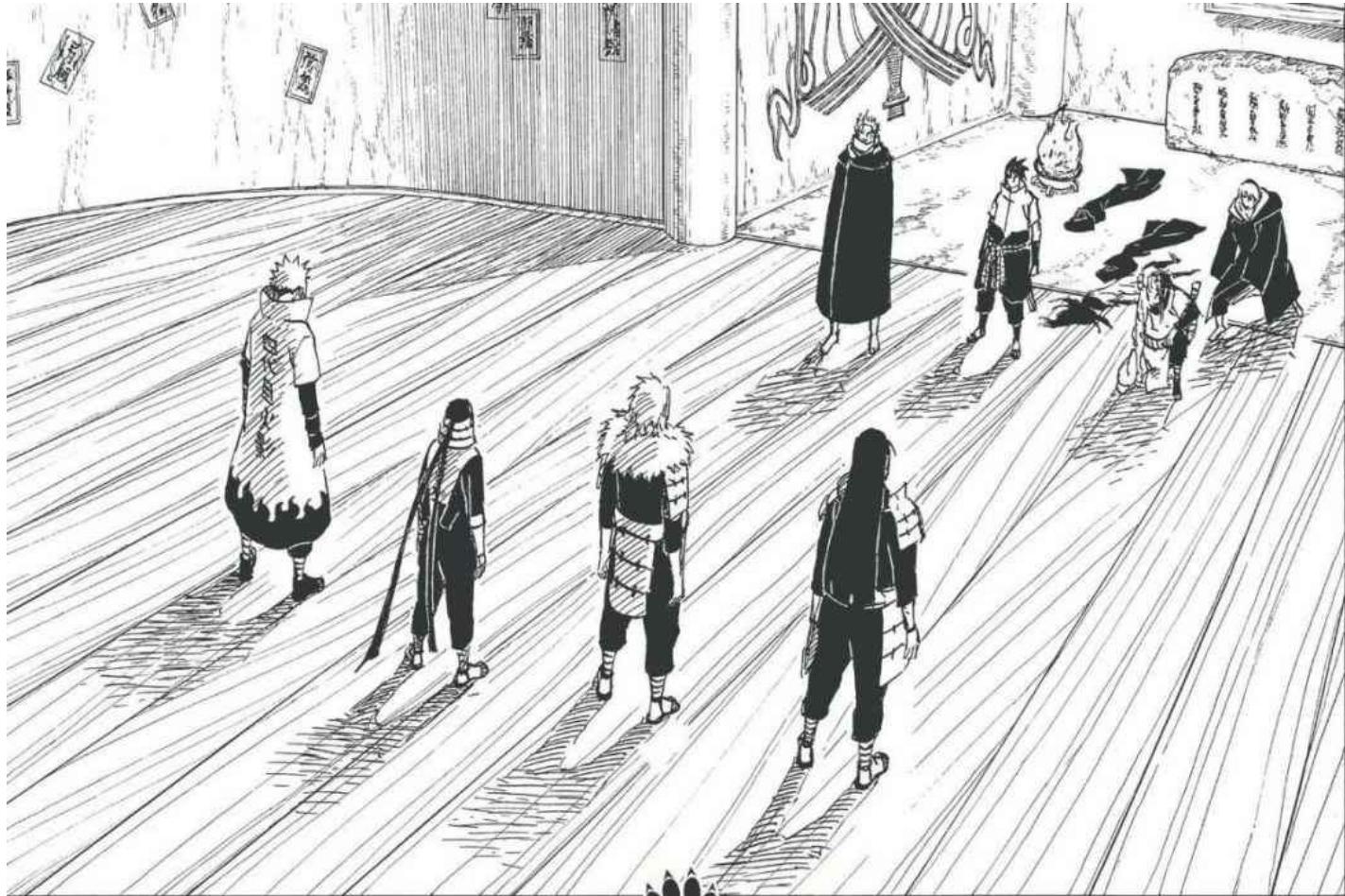






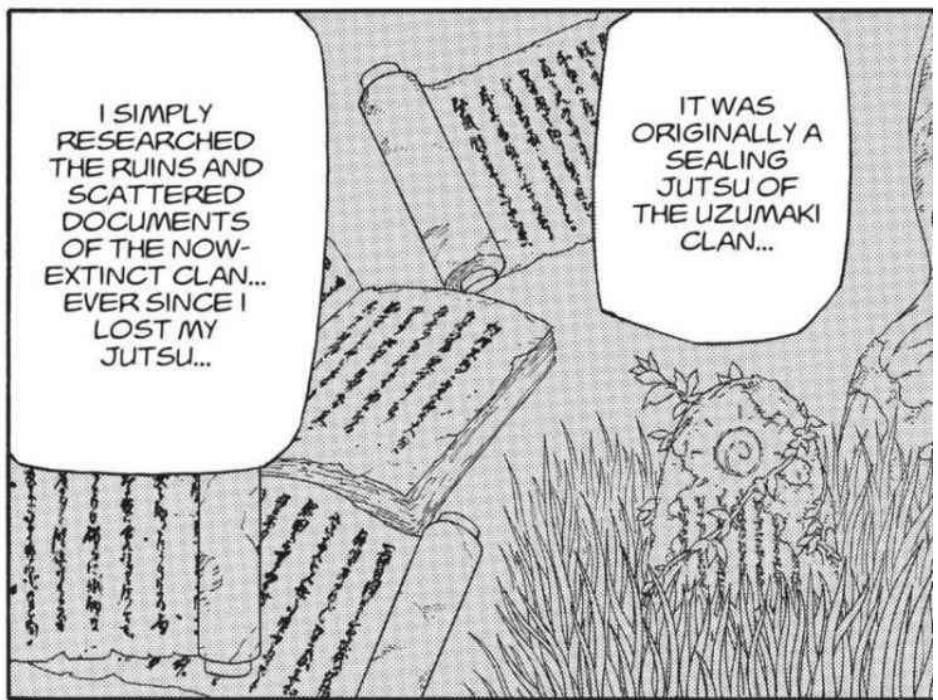






Number 619: A Clan Possessed by Evil









AND THIS TIME YOU EVEN REVIVED ME, YOUR FORMER TEACHER, TO PIT ME AGAINST KONOHA??!!

I TOOK AWAY YOUR JUTSU IN EXCHANGE FOR MY OWN LIFE.

EVEN CURRENT-LY...

SECOND HOKAGE... MANY OF YOUR POLICIES AND THE JUTSU YOU DEVELOPED ENDED UP CAUSING PROBLEMS LATER DOWN THE LINE.

YET YOU STILL...?! GAH!!!

ARE YOU PLANNING TO ATTACK KONOHA AGAIN?!

I AM TRYING TO SPEAK TO THIS STRIPLING.

HUSH, ELDER BROTHER.

TOBIRAMA... THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU THAT TIME TO--

SIGH... ALWAYS CONFLICT, NO MATTER WHAT THE ERA, EH.

SHUT UP!

BUT I...

FISH







HE WAS A SENSITIVE CHILD WHO UNDERSTOOD OUR VILLAGE'S PAST AND OUR SHINOBI...

FROM THE TIME HE WAS A SMALL CHILD, ITACHI PAID ATTENTION TO THE TEACHINGS AND SIGNS OF OUR PREDECESSORS THAT NO ONE ELSE GAVE HEED TO.



HE WAS ABLE TO THINK AHEAD, ABOUT THE FUTURE OF SHINOBI... AND OF THE VILLAGE...

AND CONSTANTLY HAD MISGIVINGS REGARDING THOSE FUTURES.

AND PERHAPS DUE TO THAT, ITACHI WAS NEVER BOUND BY THE TRAPPINGS OF CLAN...

AND HE EXECUTED HIS MISSIONS PERFECTLY.

WE LEFT EVERYTHING TO ITACHI, IN HIS HANDS ALONE...

AT ALL OF SEVEN YEARS OF AGE, HE THOUGHT QUITE LIKE A HOKAGE...





WHAT...?

BUT YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO
DROVE THE
UCHIHA TO IT,
SECOND
HOKAGE...

IT COULD BE
SAID THAT THE
SEEDS GOT
SOWN WITH
THE UCHIHA
POLICE FORCE
THAT YOU
CREATED.

...

...YOU
CONSPICUOUSLY
SHOVED THE
UCHIHA CLAN TO
THE MARGINS OF
THE VILLAGE.

BY BUILDING
THE POLICE
STATION NEXT
TO THE PRISON
UNDER THE
PRETEXT OF
FACILITATING
THE
MONITORING
OF CRIMINALS...

PLUS, THE
MORE
AUTHORITY
SUCH A GROUP
HAS, THE
MORE
CONCEITED IT
CAN GET.

THOSE WHO
CRACK DOWN
ON CRIME
TEND TO BE
EASILY
DISLIKED...

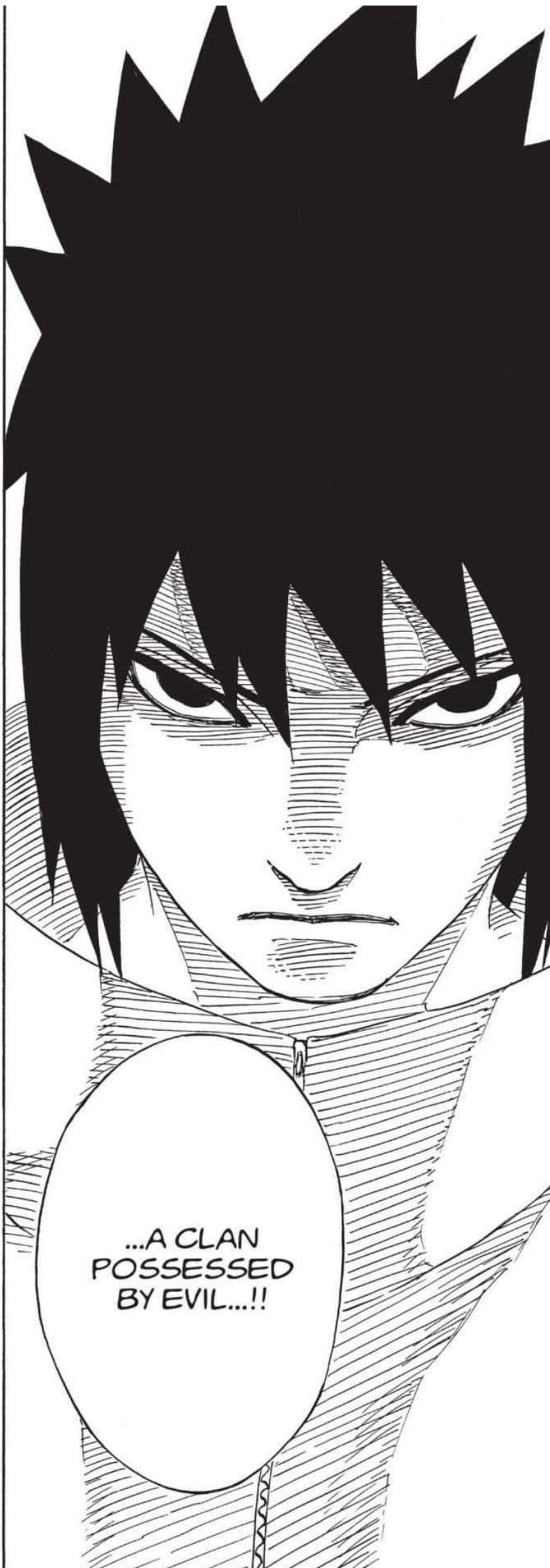
THAT HELPED
FOSTER THE
MADARA
ADHERENTS.

AS YOU
WELL
KNOW,
ELDER
BROTHER...
THE
UCHIHA
ARE...

BUT I GAVE
THEM
POSITIONS
THAT THEY
WERE
EMINENTLY
QUALIFIED
FOR!

AND I BELIEVED
THAT EVEN IF
ANOTHER
MADARA WERE
TO EMERGE, HE
COULD BE
DEALT WITH
RIGHT AWAY!

TOBIRAMA!
DID I NOT
EMPHASIZE
TO YOU
OVER AND
OVER AGAIN
NOT TO
SLIGHT THE
UCHIHA?!



WHAT DID YOU MEAN ABOUT THE UCHIHA BEING POSSESSED BY EVIL?!

I KNOW THAT MUCH...

IN FACT, THE TWO CLANS ORIGINALLY WERE ENEMIES.

THE UCHIHA CLAN AND OUR SENJU CLAN HAVE A LONG HISTORY OF BATTLING EACH OTHER.

...THE BASIS OF THE UCHIHA CLAN'S STRENGTH WAS THE POWER OF THEIR JUTSU.

THERE USED TO BE A THOUGHT THAT IN CONTRAST TO THE SENJU CLAN, WHO BASED THEIR STRENGTH IN LOVE AS OPPOSED TO JUTSU...

...

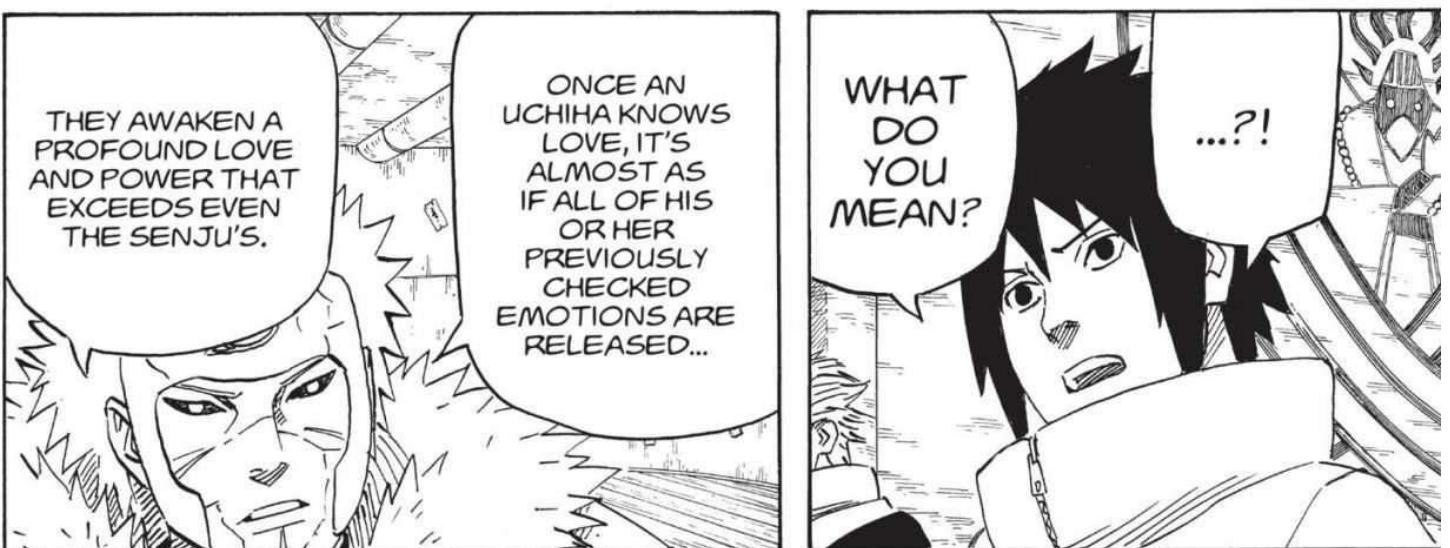
HOWEVER... THE TRUTH IS ACTUALLY DIFFERENT...

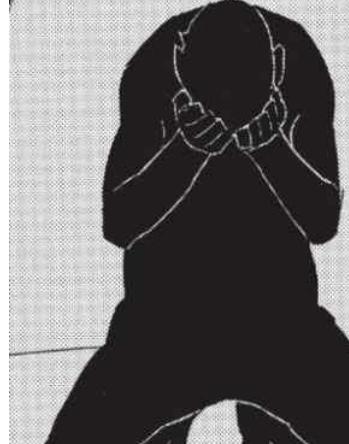
?

!?

!"





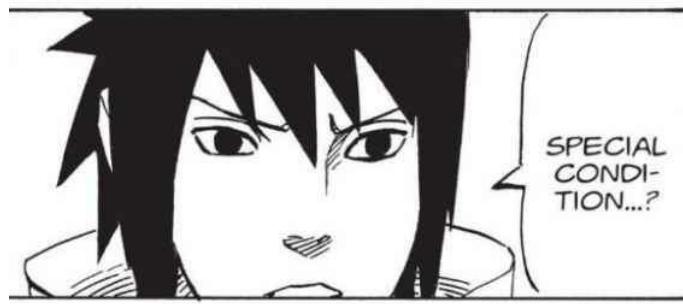


I HAVE
SEEN IT
HAPPEN
QUITE A
FEW
TIMES.

AND THAT'S
WHEN A
CERTAIN
SPECIAL
CONDITION
EMERGES.



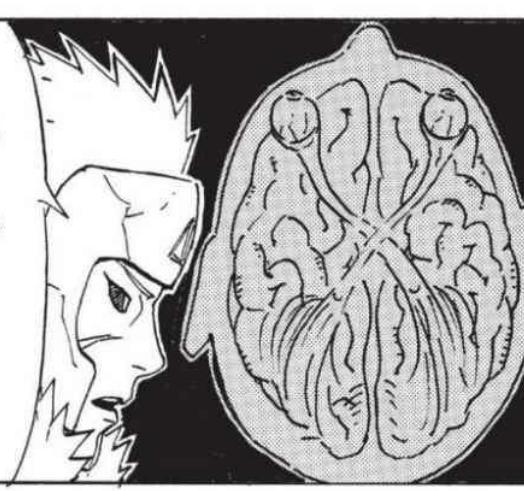
WHEN AN
UCHIHA WHO
HAS KNOWN
LOVE THEN
LOSES THAT
DEEP LOVE...



SPECIAL
CONDITI-
ON...?



...IT IS
REPLACED
BY AN EVEN
STRONGER
HATE THAT
CHANGES
THEM.

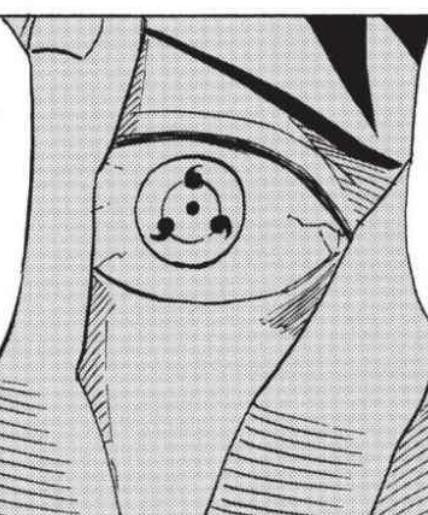


...A UNIQUE CHAKRA
GETS RELEASED
INSIDE HIS OR HER
BRAIN AND REACTS
WITH THE OPTIC
NERVES, AND
CHANGES APPEAR
IN THAT PERSON'S
EYES.

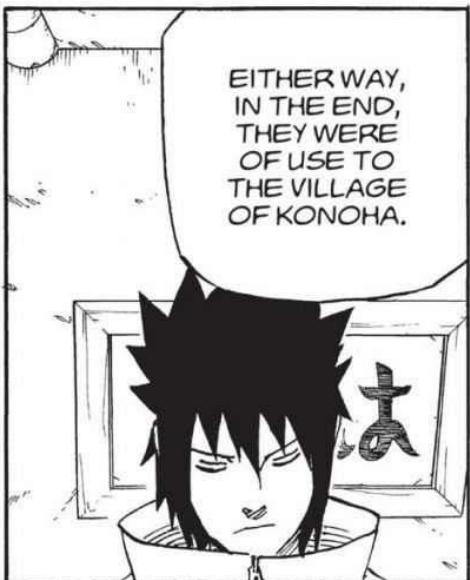
WHEN AN UCHIHA
INDIVIDUAL
WRITHES IN AGONY
OVER THE LOSS
OF A GREAT
LOVE OR
DISAPPOINTMENT
IN HIMSELF...

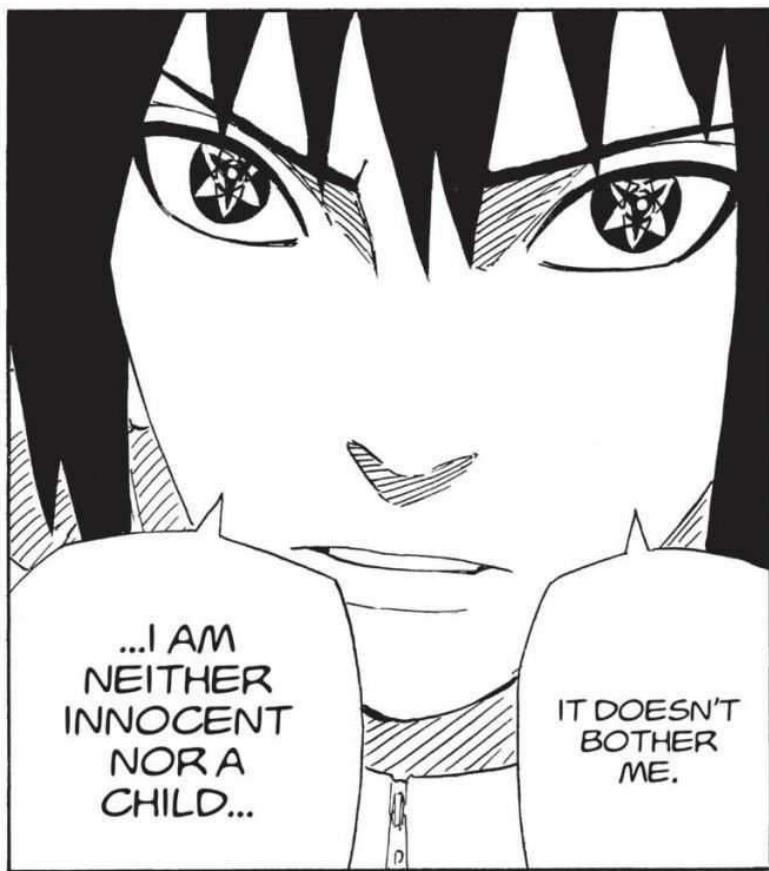


THE EYES
THAT
REFLECT
THE
HEART.



THIS IS THE
PHENOMENON
CALLED THE
SHARINGAN...

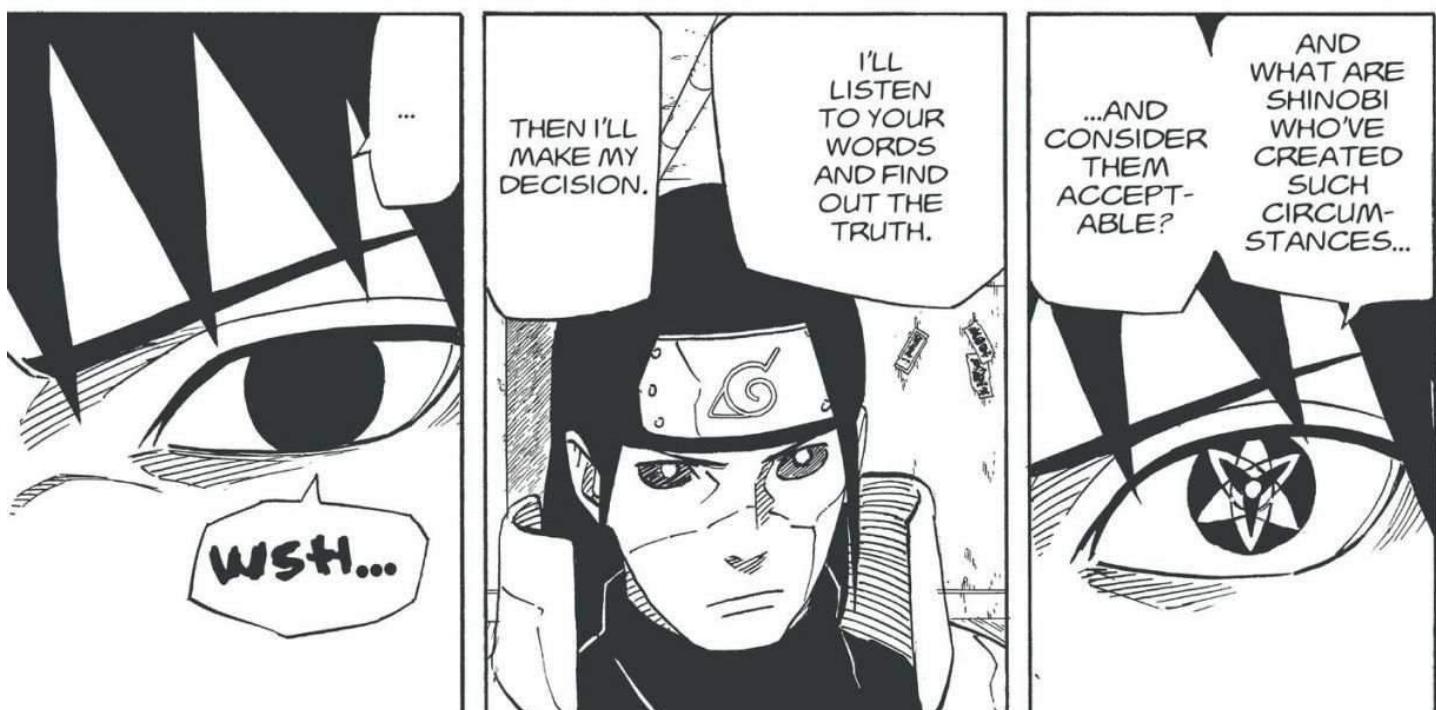


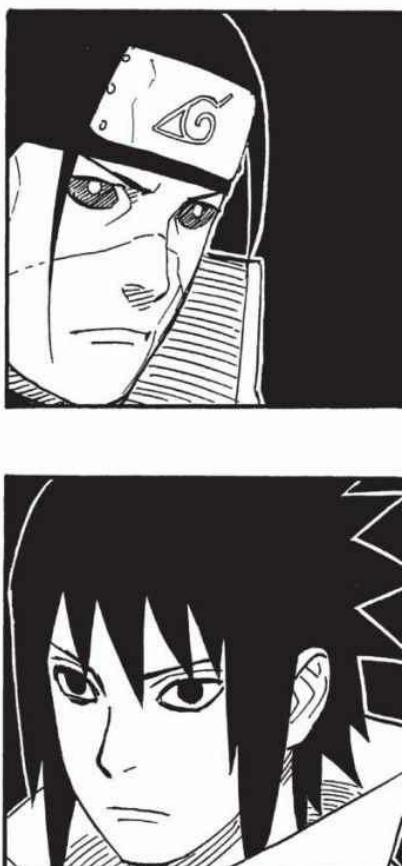
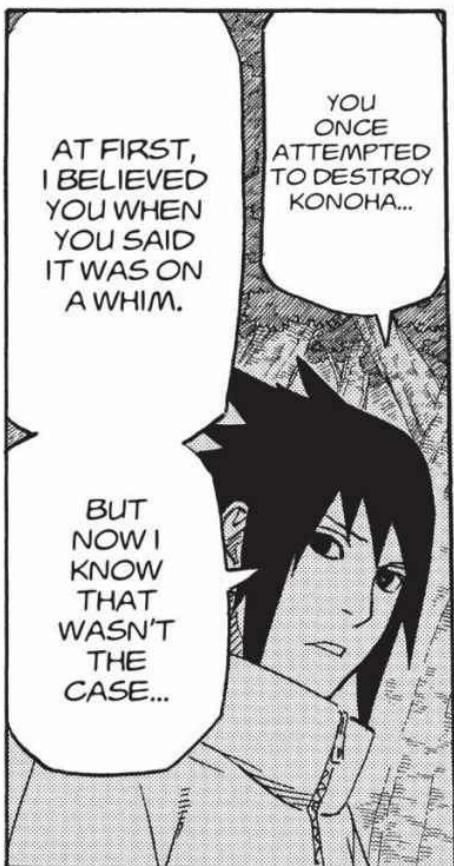


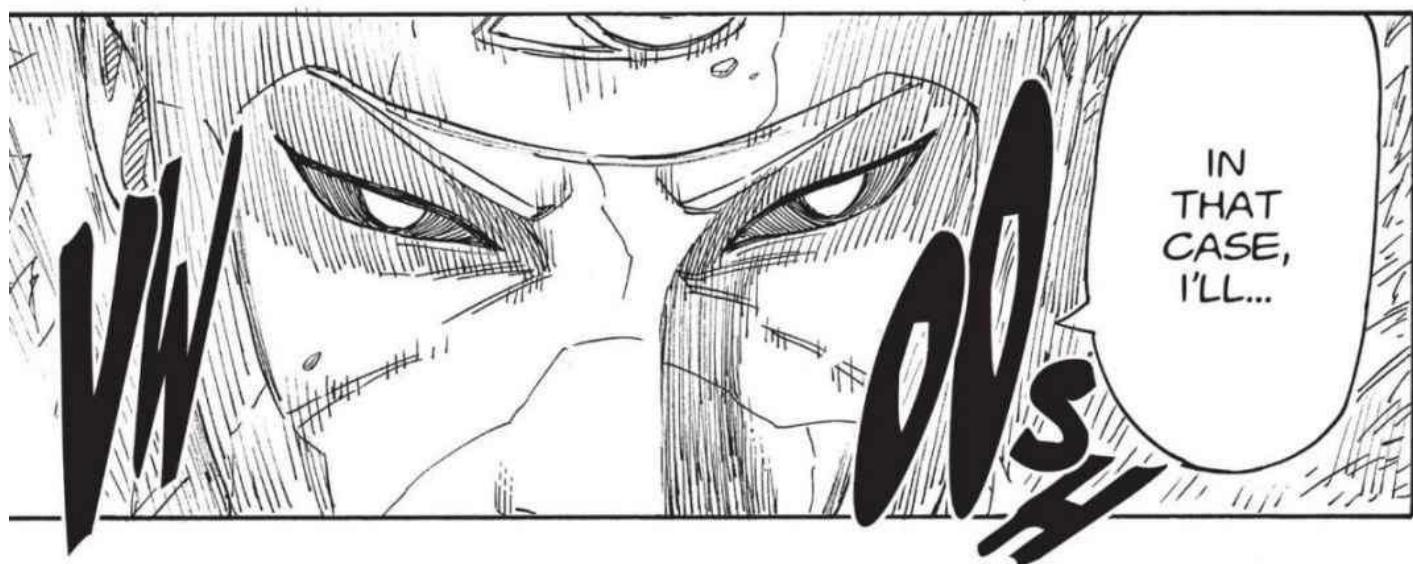
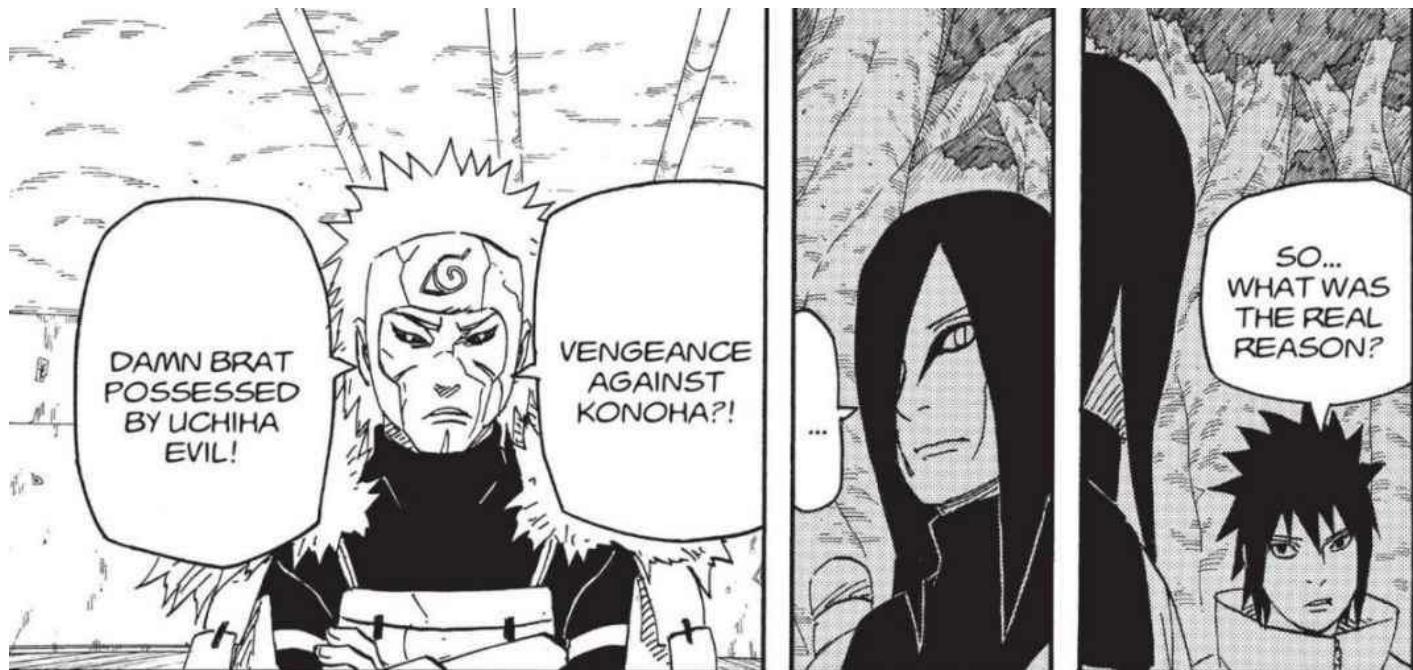




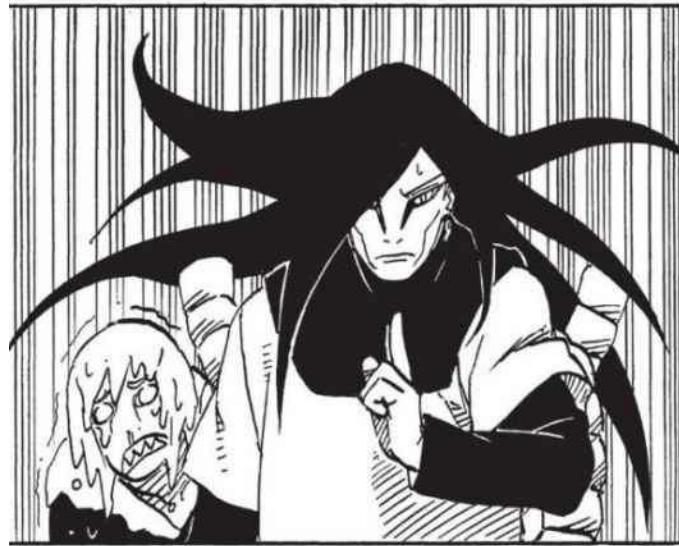
Number 620: Senju Hashirama



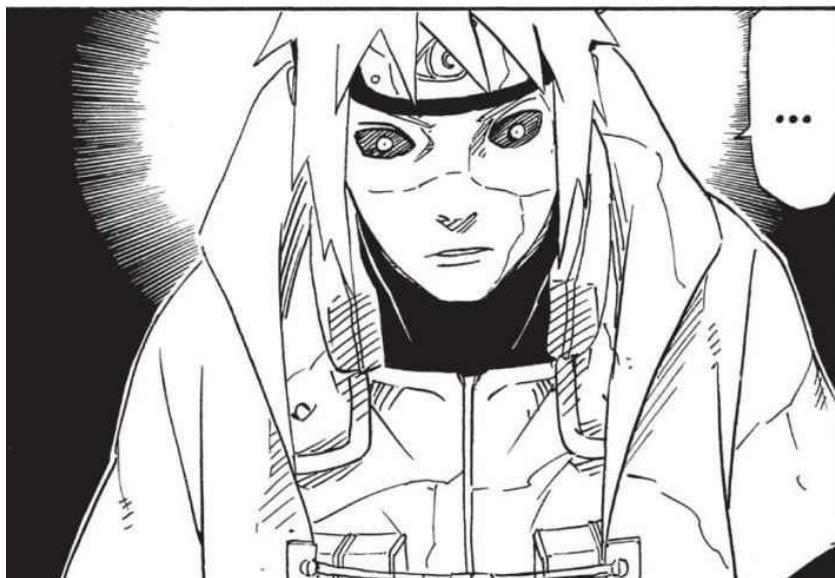


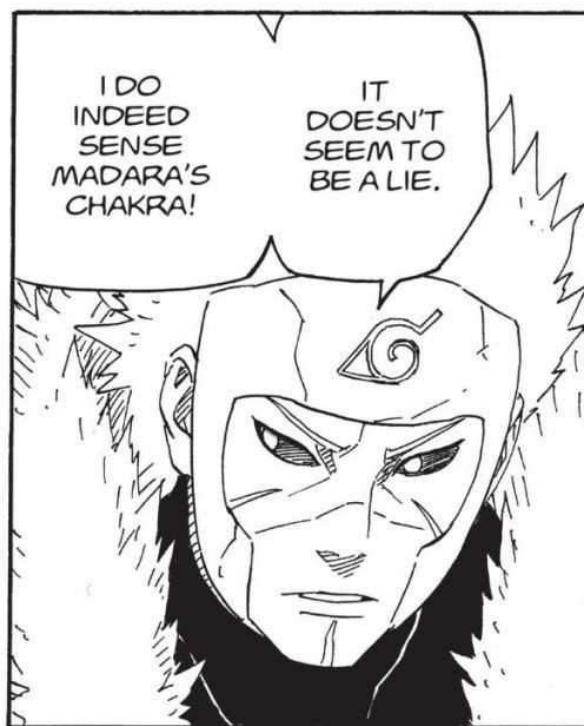
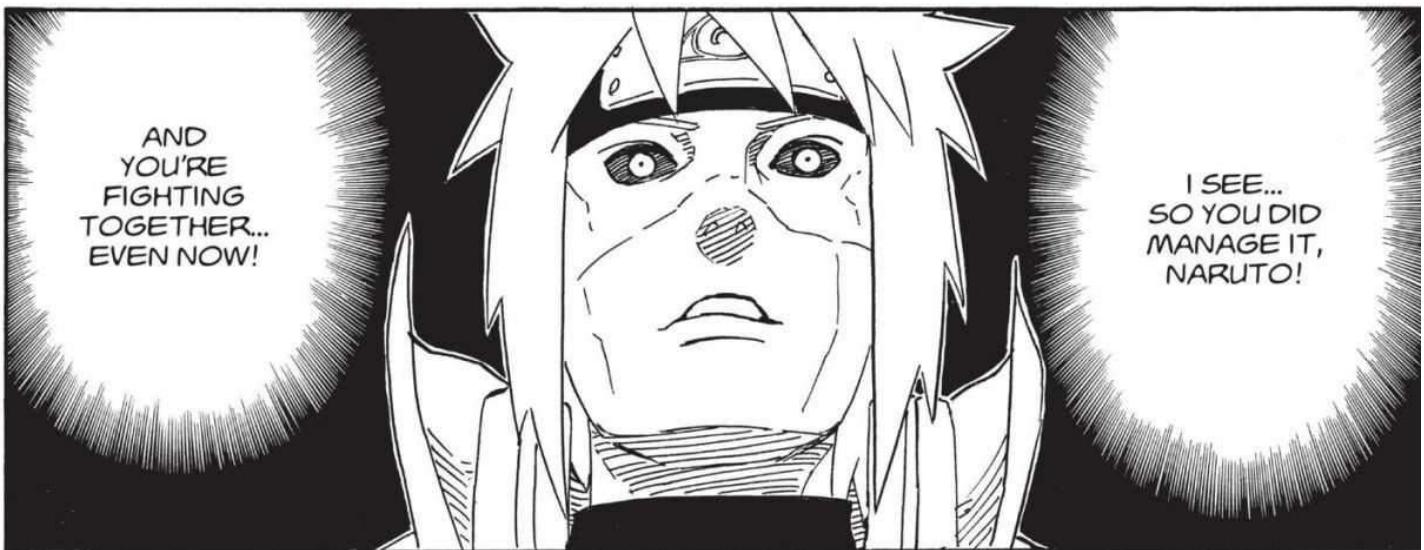


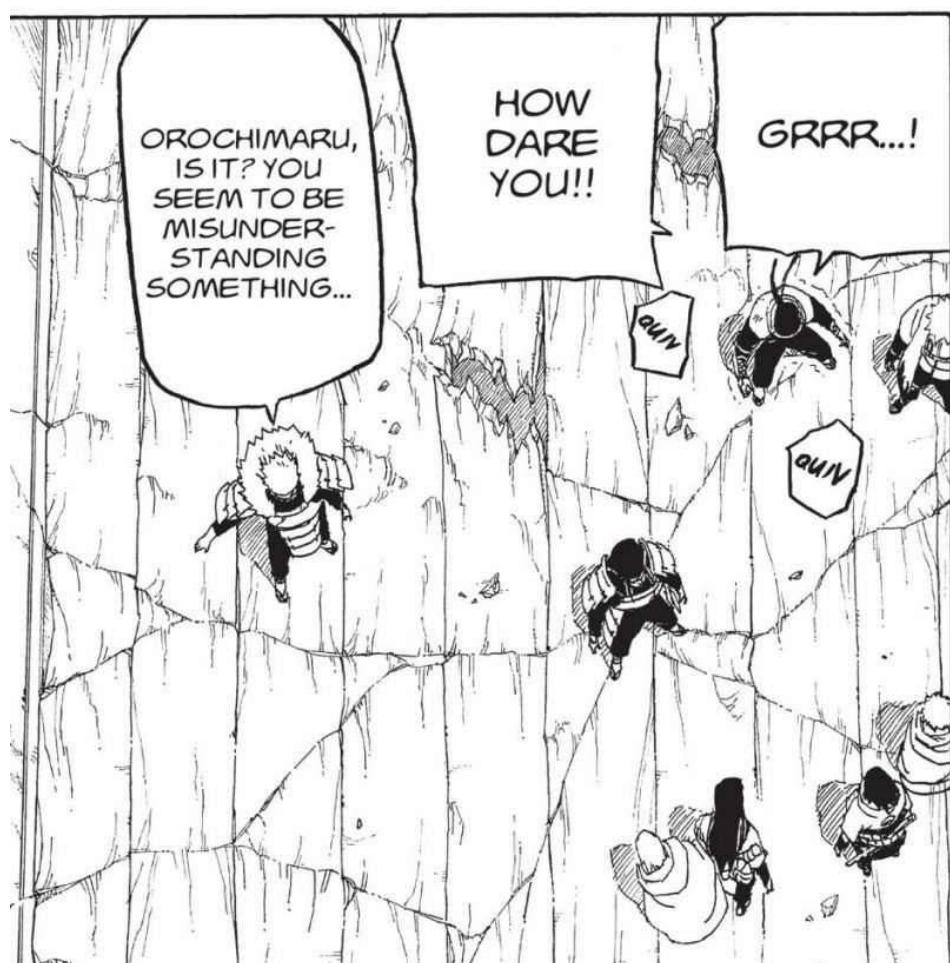
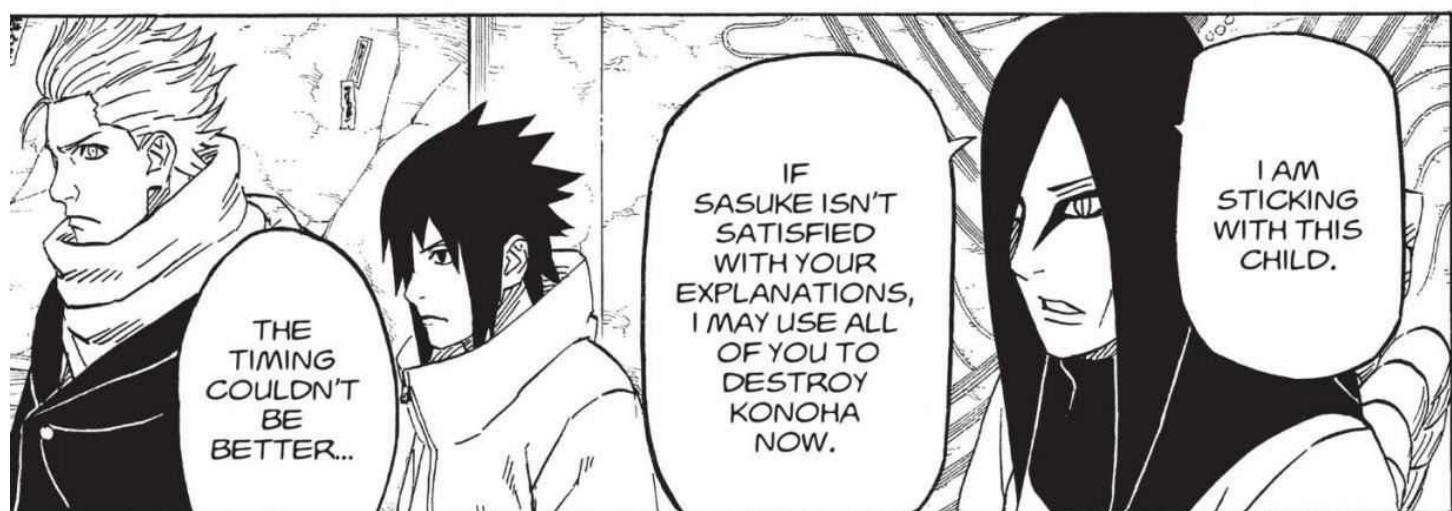




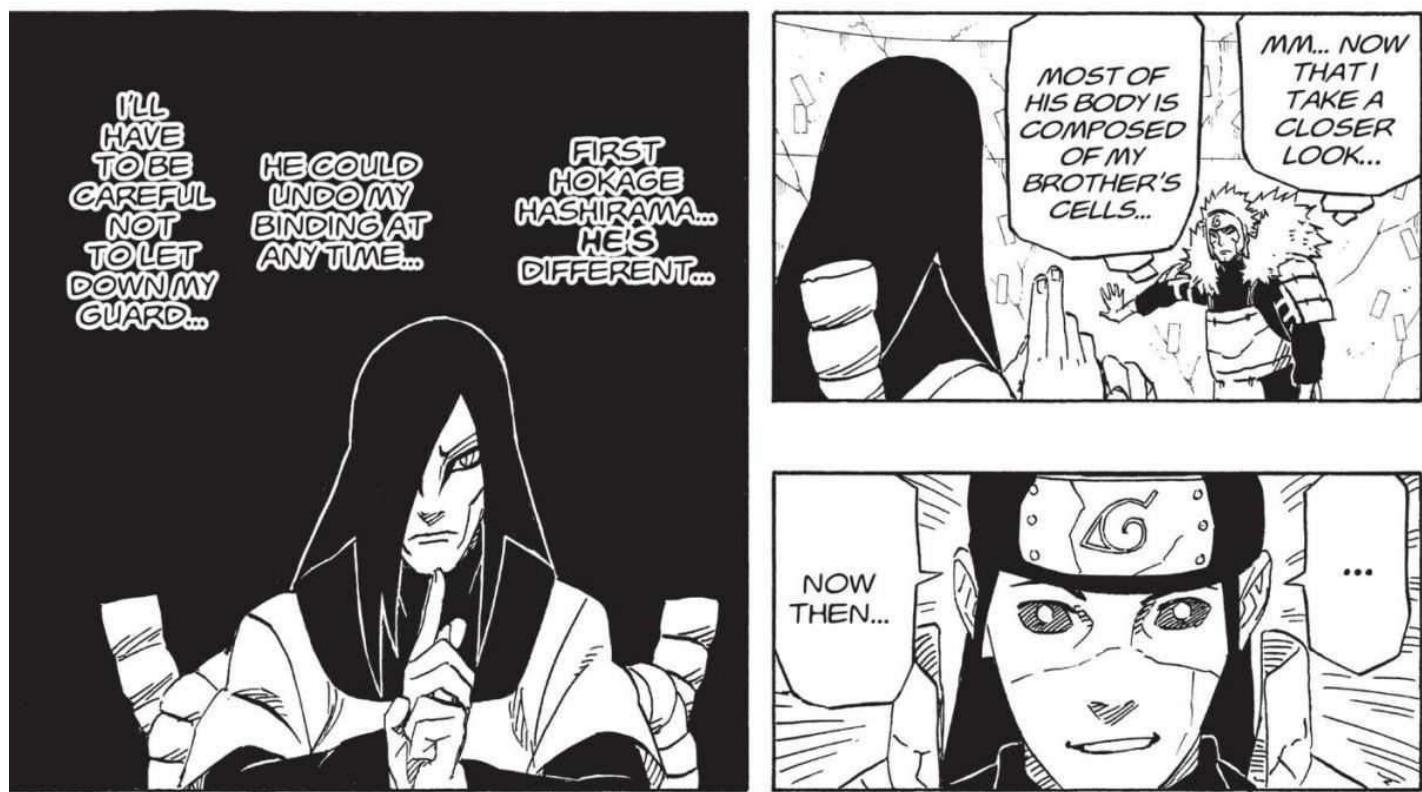
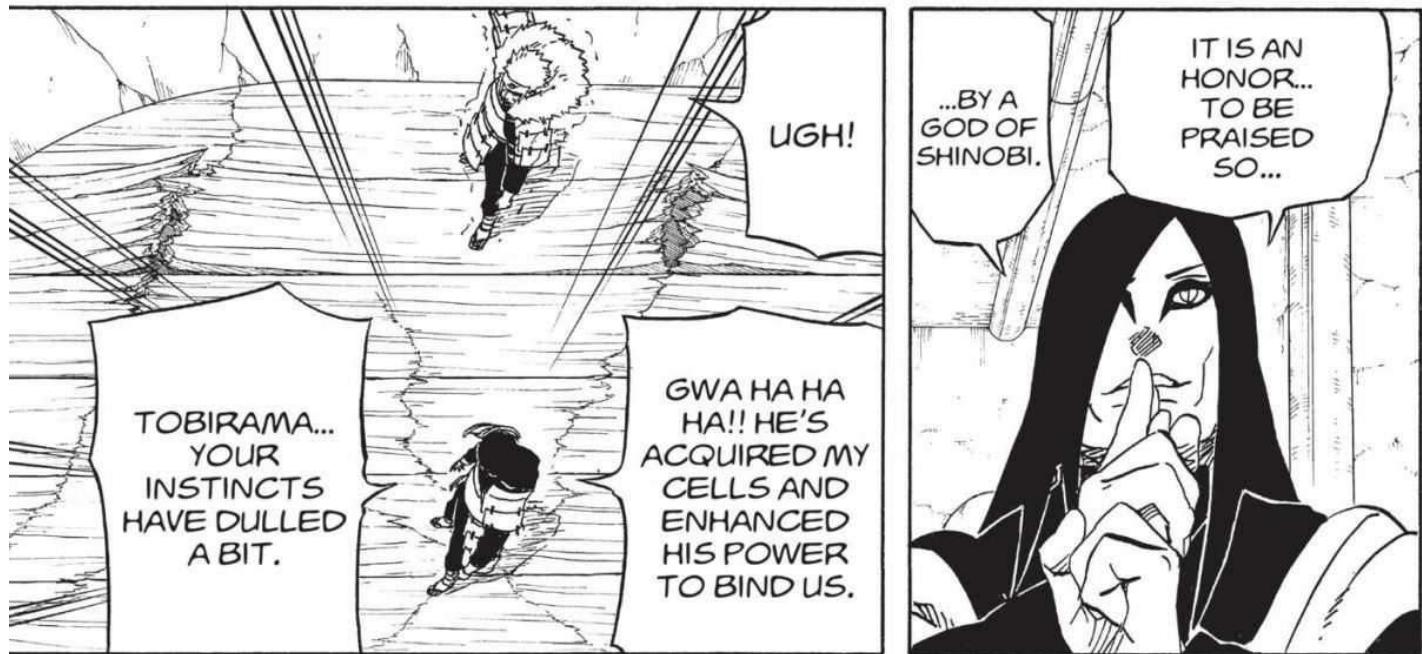






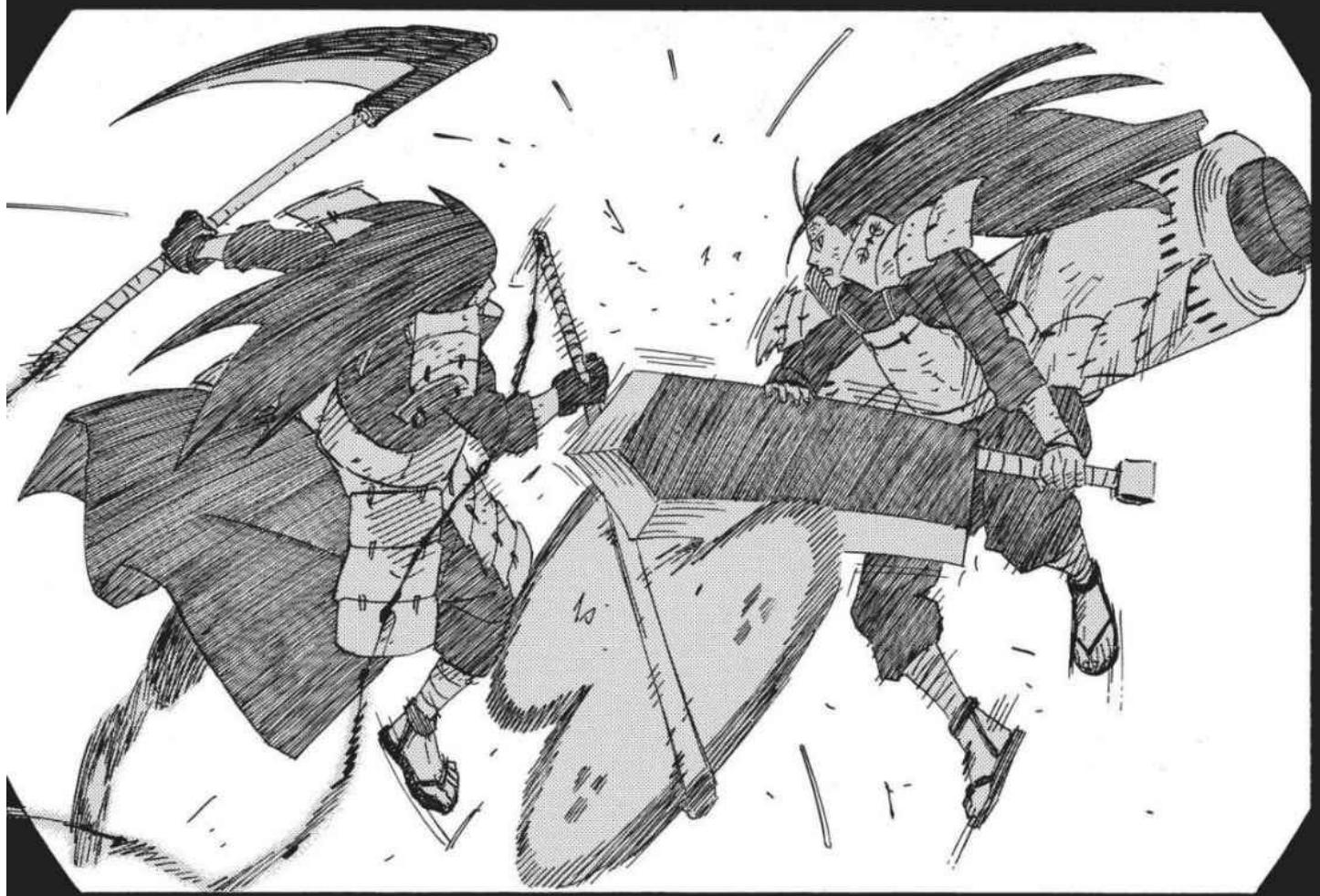






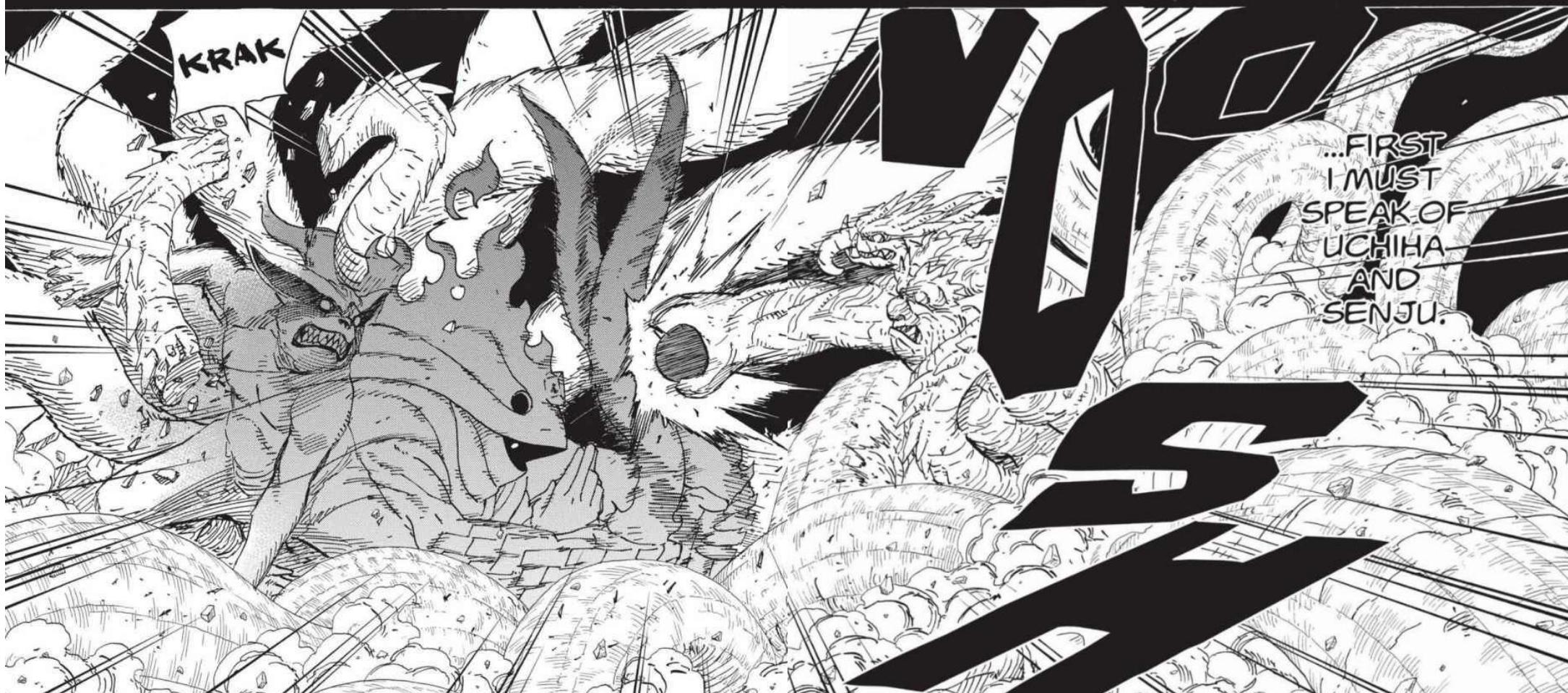


IN
ORDER
TO TELL
YOU ABOUT
VILLAGE AND
SHINOBI...





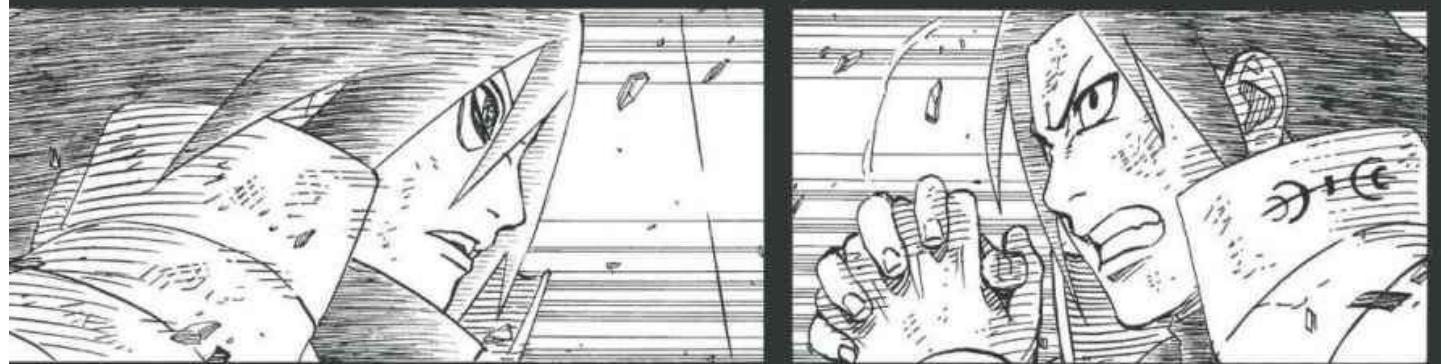






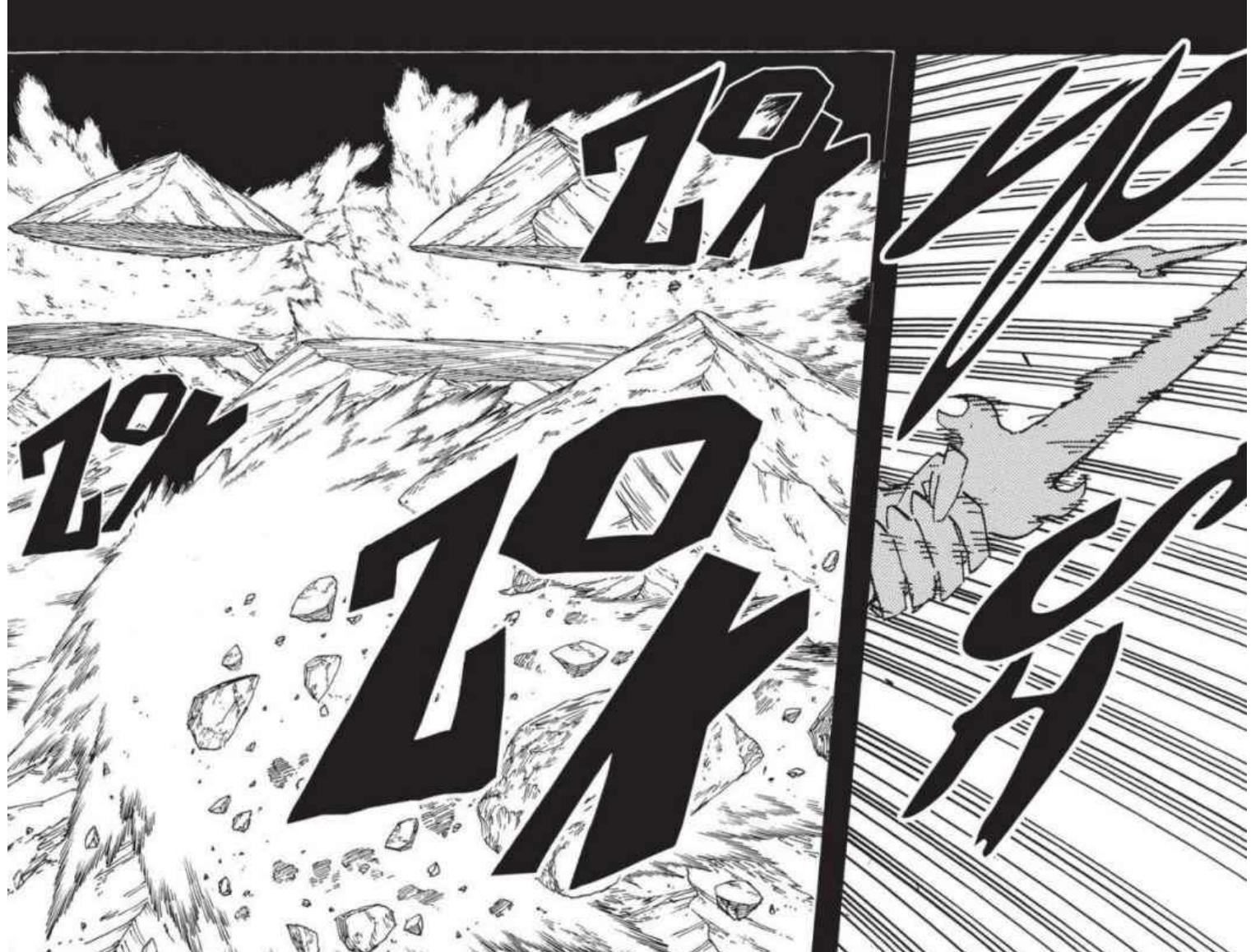


Number 621: Hashirama and Madara

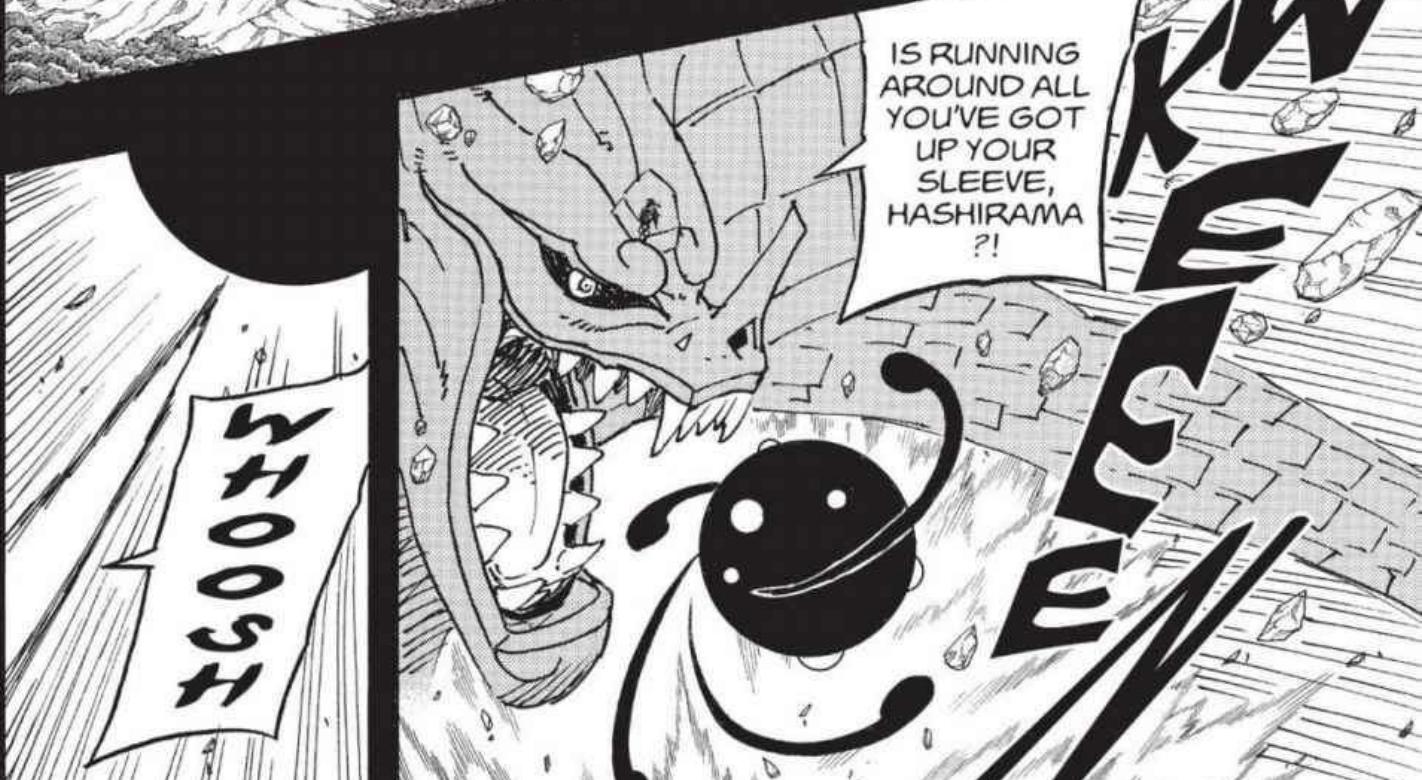
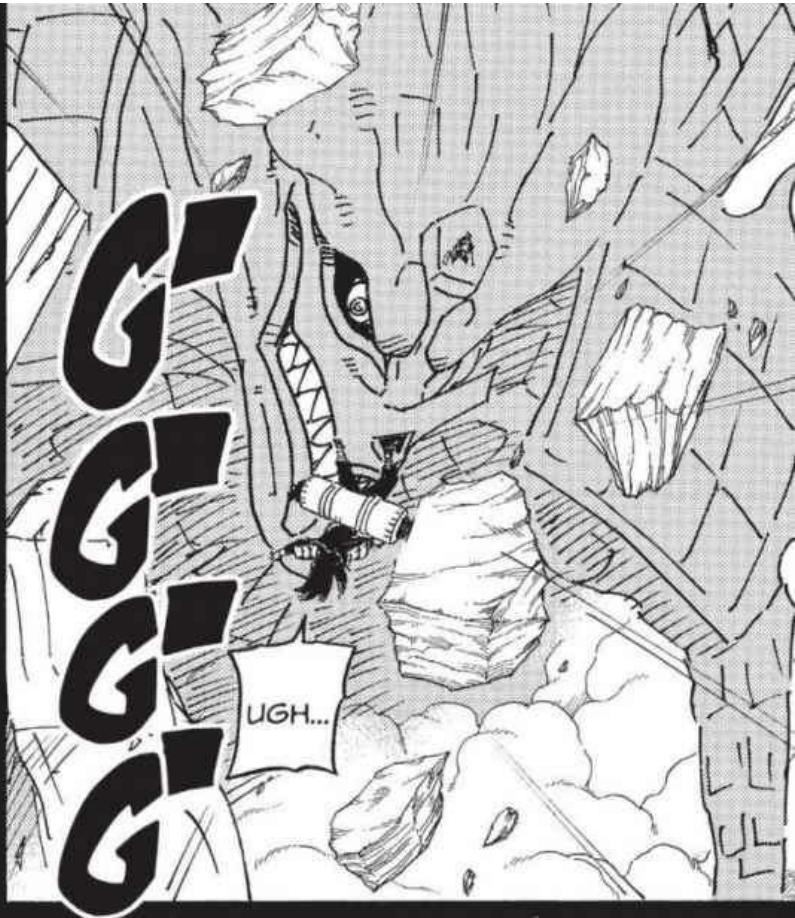
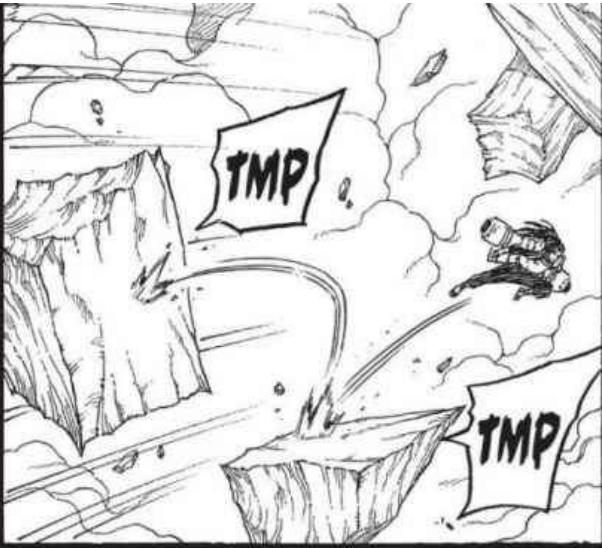








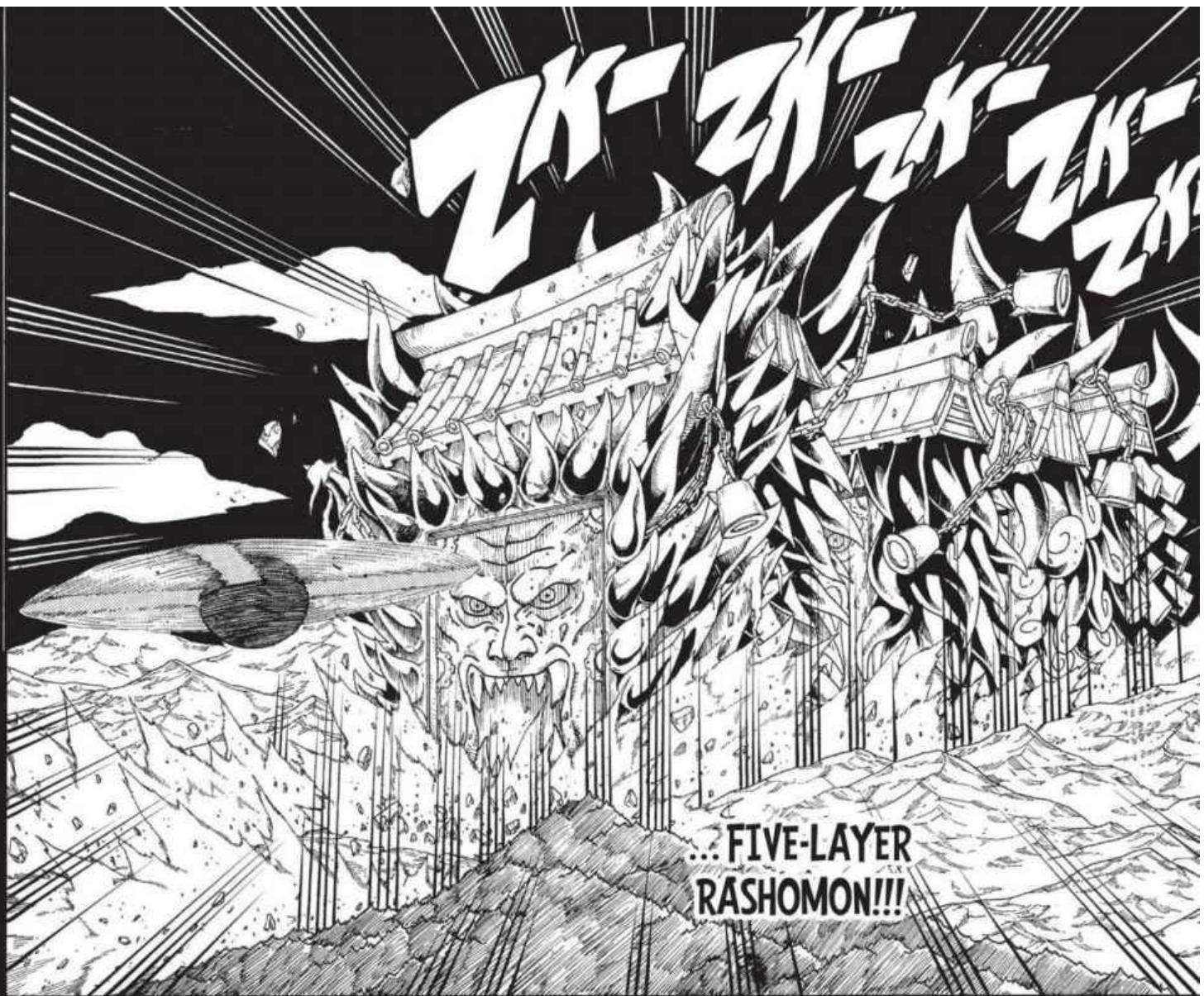






THERE!
TRY
GRABBING
THAT!

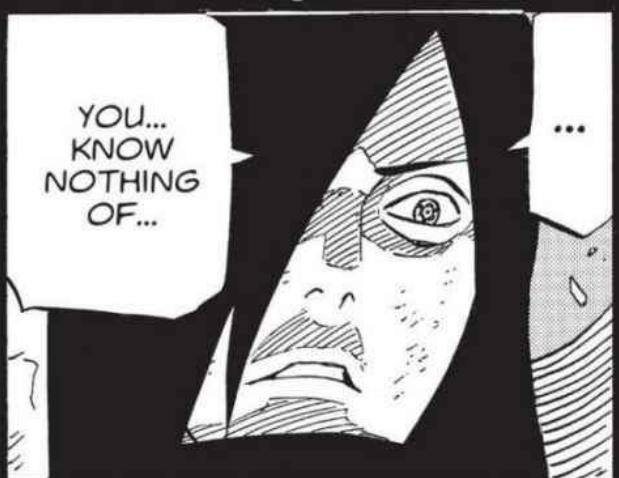
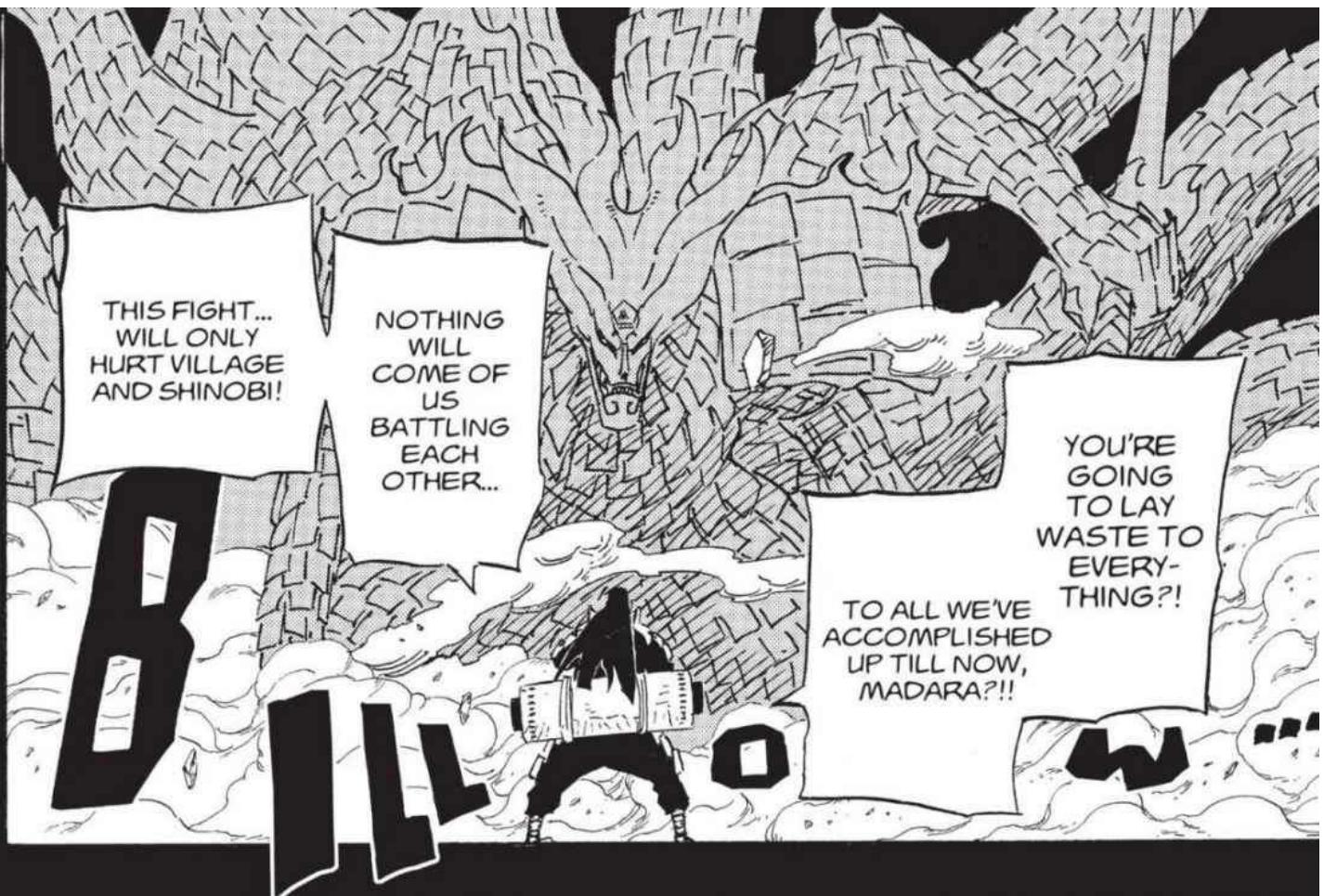






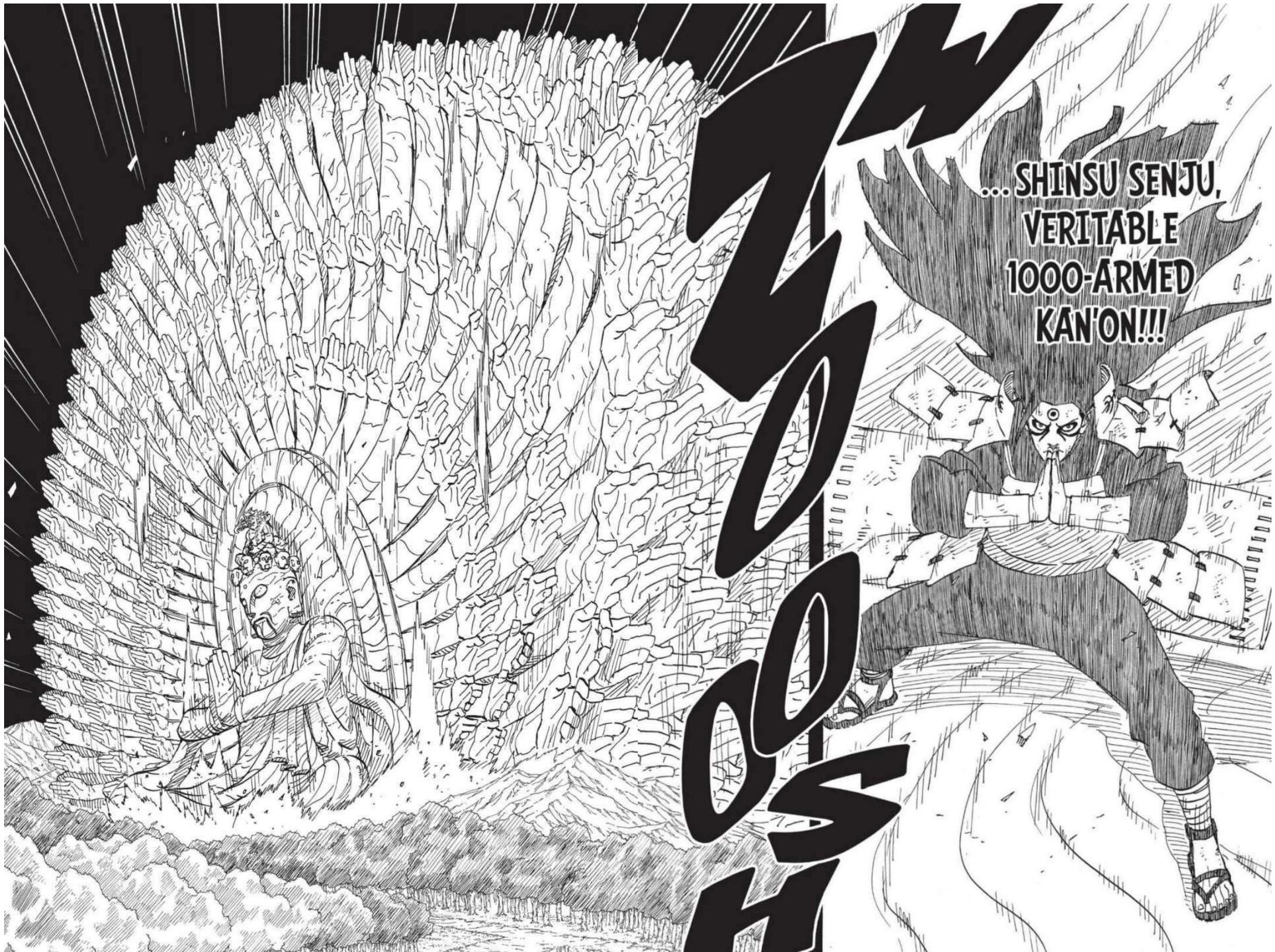
SPLOOOSH...

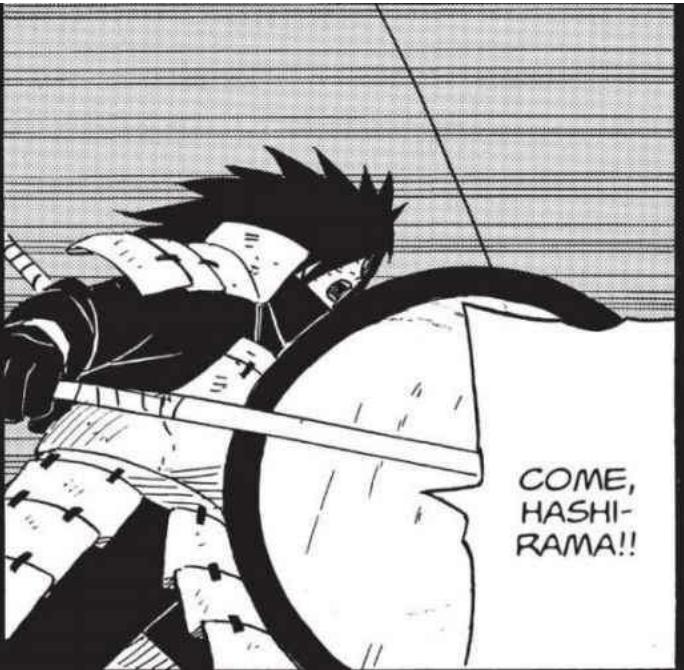


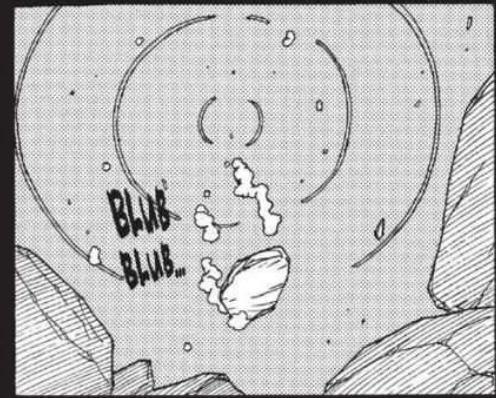
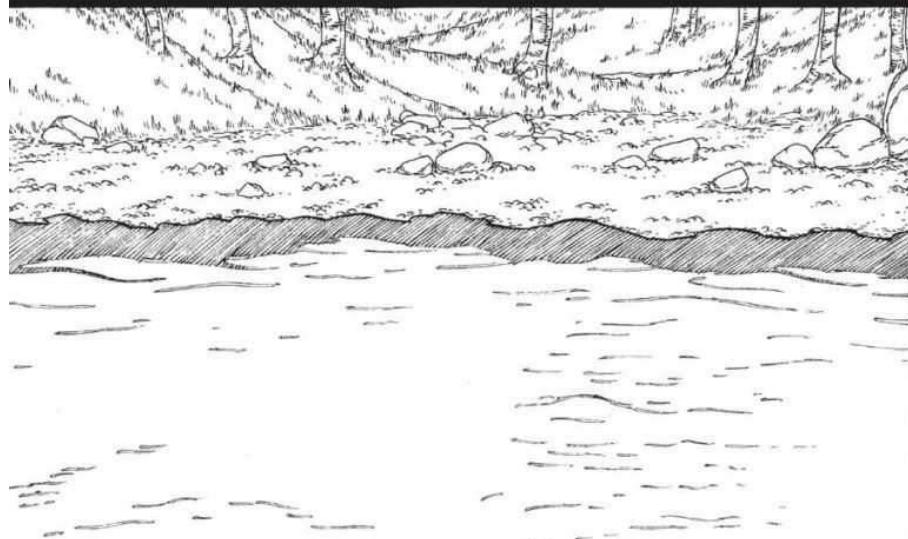
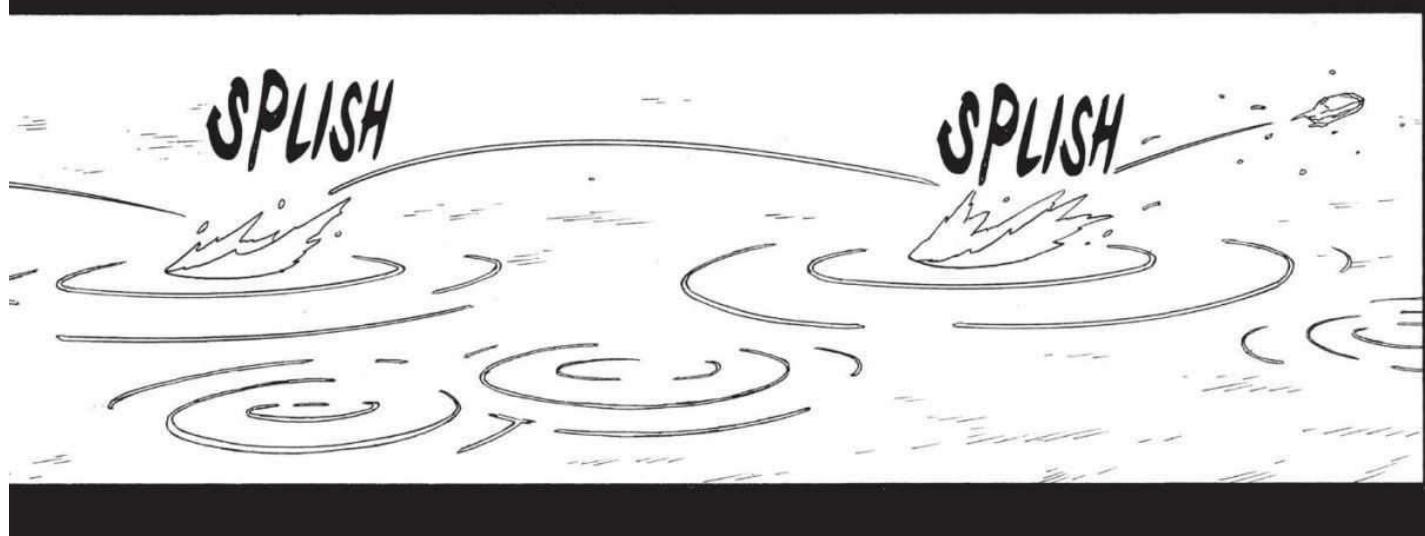


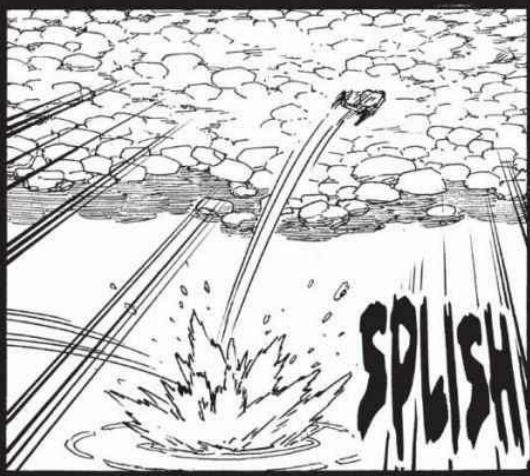


...SHINSU SENJU,
VERITABLE
1000-ARMED
KAN'ON!!!









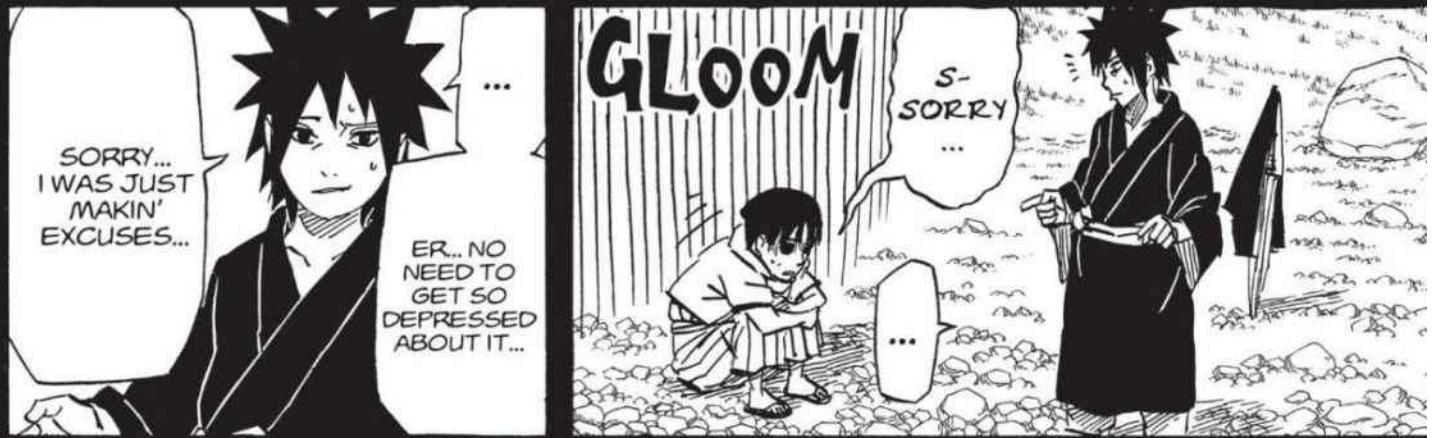


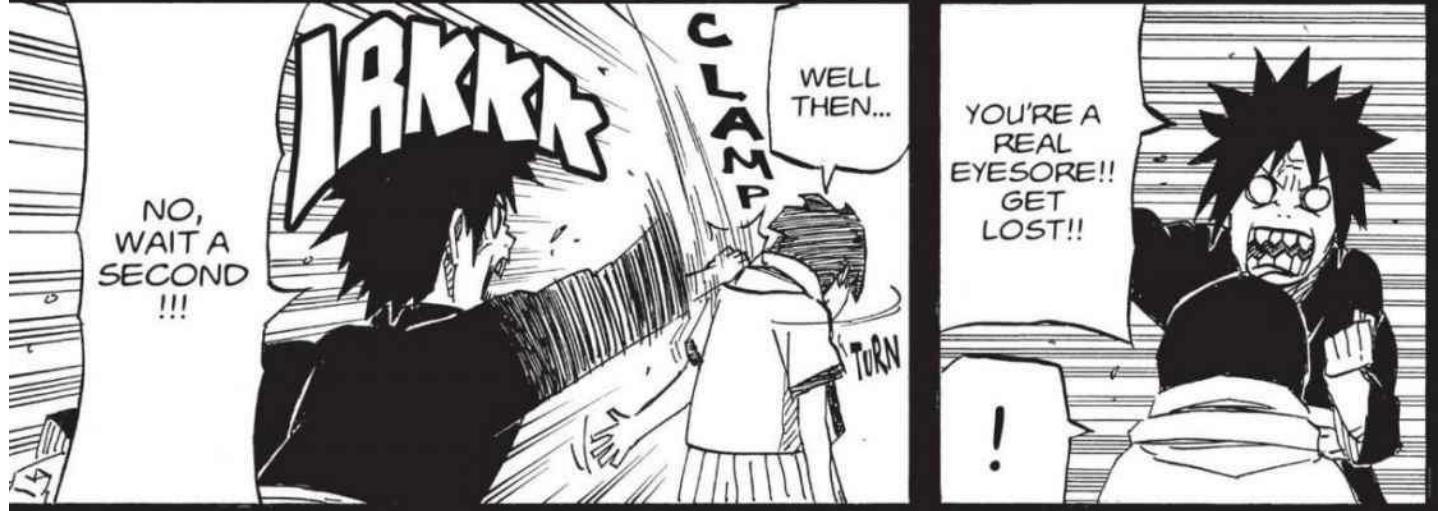


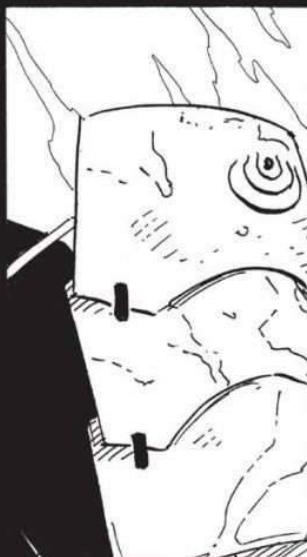
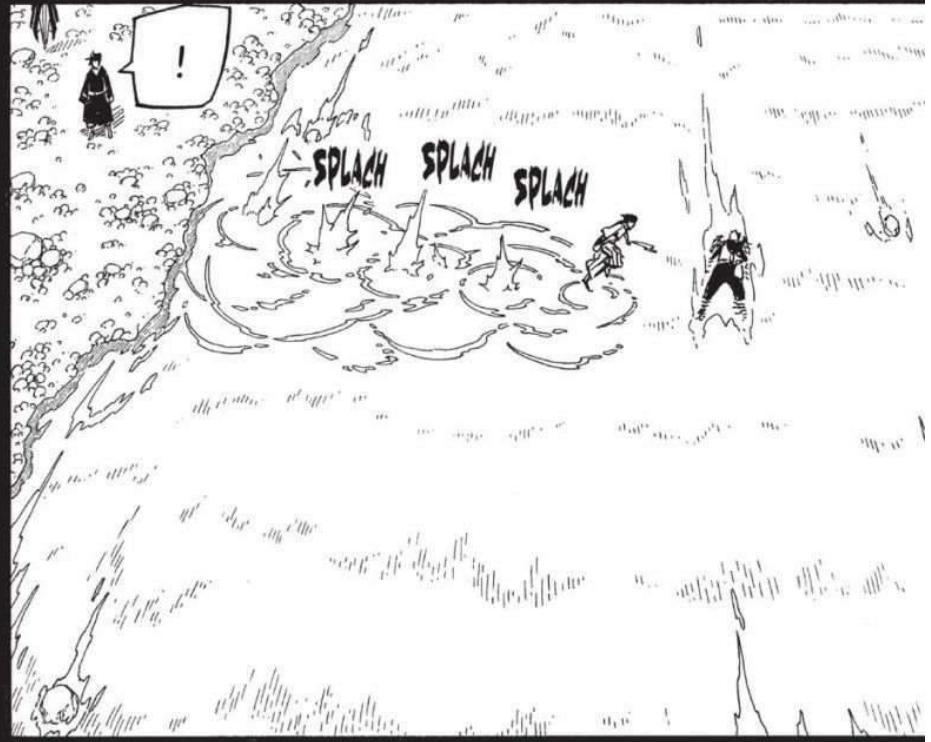


Number 622: It Reached









NOT
PROFFERING
ONE'S FAMILY
NAME
TO A
STRANGER...

FIRST
NAME'S
MADARA.

UH...

LATER...

SPLASH

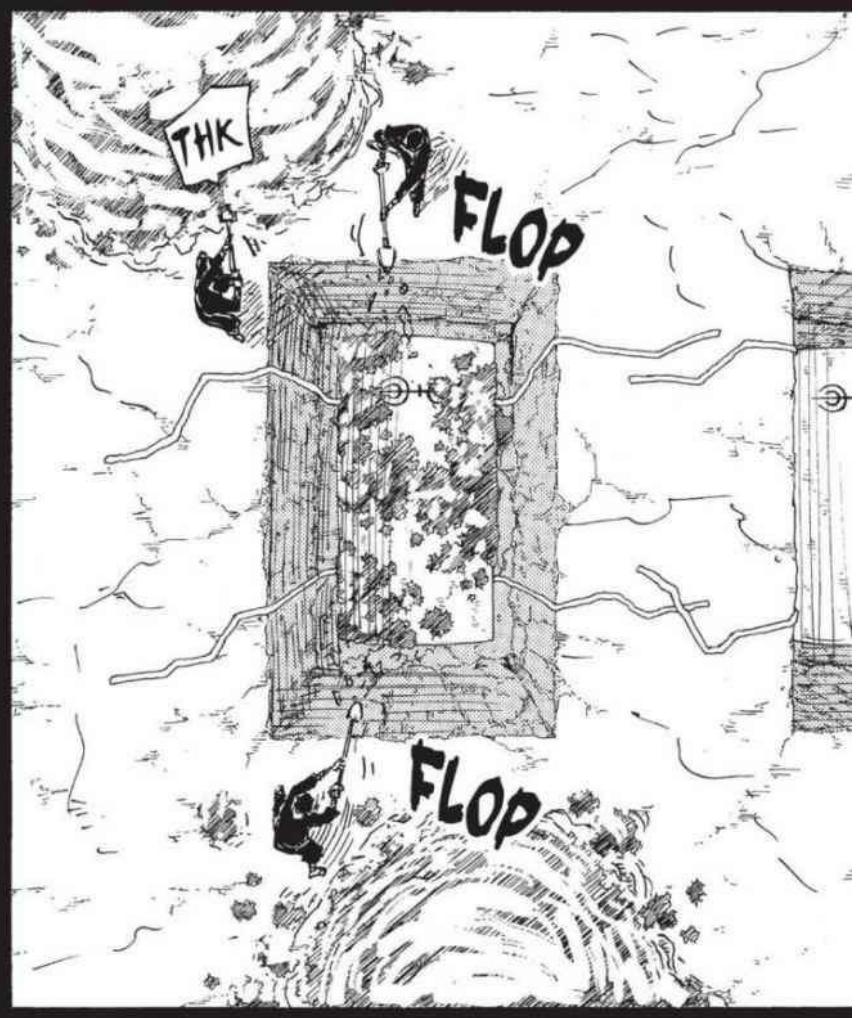
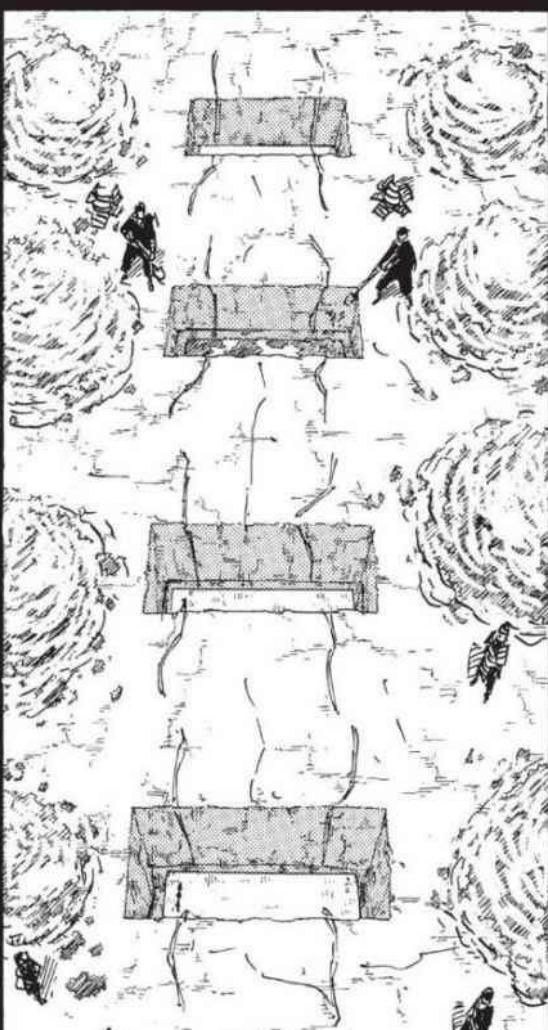
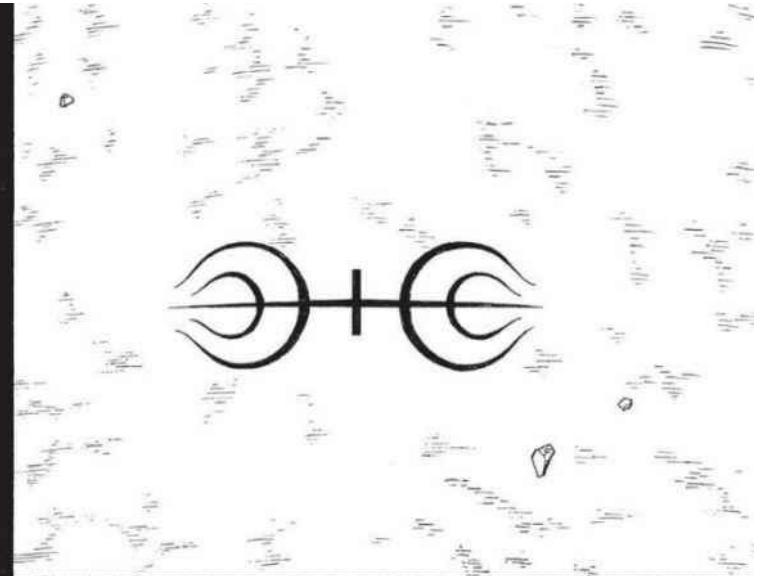
TMP

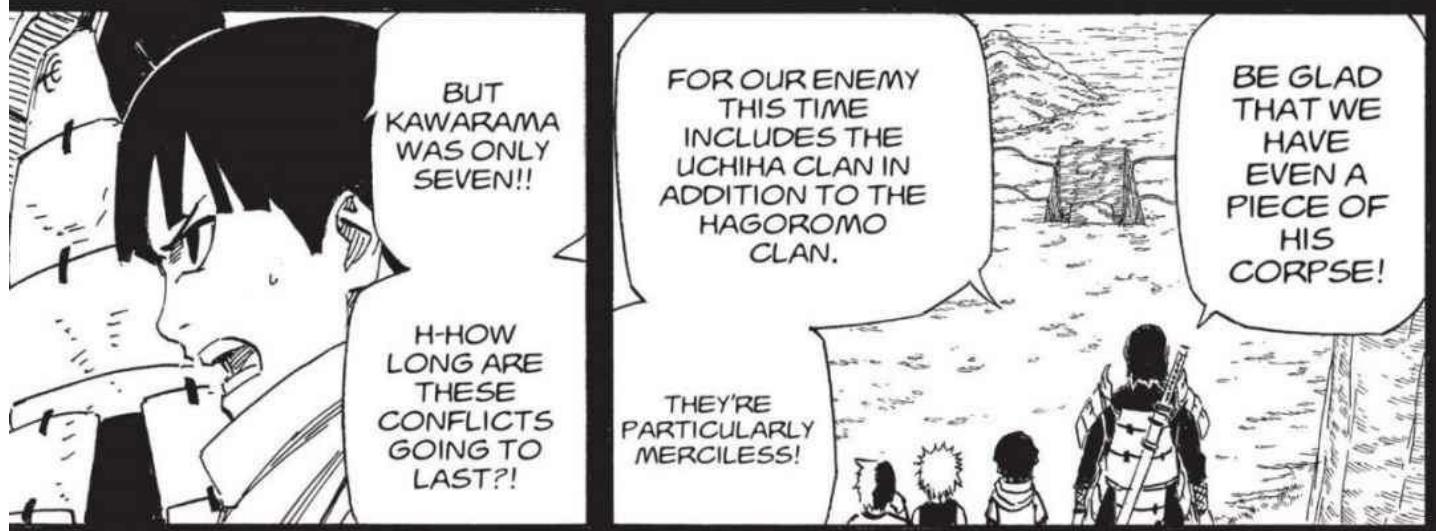
...IS
SHINOBI
LAW.

SO YOU
ARE A
SHINOBI
ALSO.

I FELT I
KNEW
WHY HE'D
COME
DOWN TO
THE
RIVER
TOO.

OUR
PERSONALITIES
DIFFERED... AND
YET I SENSED A
MYSTERIOUS
KINSHIP WITH
HIM...







FULL-FLEDGED SHINOBI, MY BUTT!!

SENJU, THE CLAN OF LOVE?! YEAH, RIGHT!!

...EITHER OF YOU TO DIE IN VAIN, ITAMA, TOBIRAMA...!

I DON'T WANT...

THAT IS HOW WE HONOR OUR OPPONENTS.

EVEN AN INFANT, IF WIELDING A WEAPON, IS DEEMED AN ENEMY!

I KNOW WE'RE DOING THE SAME THING TO THE UCHIHA CLAN!!

IT'S JUST ADULTS GANGING UP ON AND DRIVING KIDS TO THEIR DEATHS!!

IT'S SO DANGEROUS YOU CAN'T EVEN MENTION YOUR FAMILY NAME!

WE KILL AND ARE KILLED SO MUCH, YOU CAN'T EVEN KEEP TRACK OF ALL THE GRUDGES NOW!

YOU HAVE TO DIE TO BE FULL-FLEDGED?!

AND TO RAISE ONE'S CHILD TO BECOME FULL-FLEDGED...

...IS A PARENT'S LOVE!



...THEY OUGHT
TO JUST SIGN
PACTS AND
STOP FIGHTING.

IF THEY
WANNA GET
RID OF
WARS...

ADULTS
ARE
STUPID.

BOTH YOU
AND THE
ADULTS ARE
TOO HOT-
HEADED.

WHAT
ABOUT
OUR
FEELINGS
TOWARDS
OUR
FALLEN
COM-
RADES?

BUT THEN...
WHAT OF
OUR KILLED
PARENTS
AND
SIBLINGS...?

...SUPPRESS
THEIR
EMOTIONS,
CREATE
SUITABLE
RULES THAT
THEY THEN
FOLLOW, AND
AVOID
EXTRANEIOUS
CONFLICT.

FORTH-
COMING
SHINOBI
MUST...

KEEP
SAYING
THAT AND
YOU'LL
FIND
YOURSELF
DEAD AS
WELL.

?

...AN
ALLIANCE,
BE
ACHIEVED...?

CAN'T A
TRUE
PACT...

THE ERA OF
WARRING
STATES... WHEN
THE AVERAGE
LIFE
EXPECTANCY
OF BOTH
SHINOBI AND
CITIZENS WAS
AROUND 30
YEARS...

WHAT'S A
TRUE
ALLIANCE...?

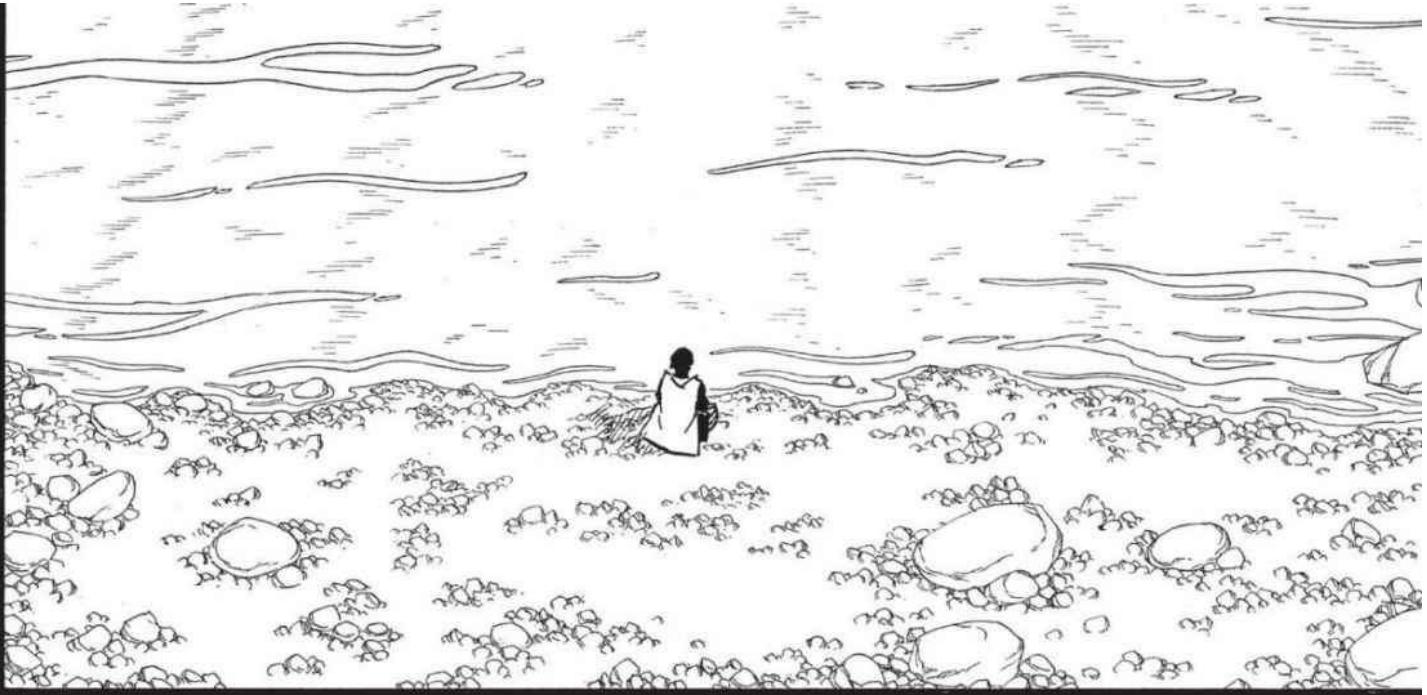
HM?

AND WHAT
WAS
KEEPING
THAT SO
LOW...

HUF

HUF





MY LITTLE
BROTHER
DIED...

OUT
WITH
IT!!!

IT
REALLY
ISN'T
MUCH...

...CUZ I FEEL
LIKE ALL THE
HAZINESS IN
MY HEART
GETS
WASHED
AWAY AS I
STARE AT
THE
WATER...

I COME
HERE
TO THE
RIVER...

...

I'M... ONE
OF FIVE
KIDS...

...HAVE
ANY
SIBLINGS?

DO
YOU...

...

COULD IT
BE THAT
WAY FOR
YOU
TOO?

MADARA,
RIGHT...?

FISH...



...TO SHOW
OUR GUTS
TO EACH
OTHER?

IS IT
NOT
POSSIBLE
...

SO ONE OR
BOTH
MIGHT
ACTUALLY
BE
SEETHING
INSIDE...

SW SH

TK

BUT I'M
ALWAYS
PUTTING OUT
A LITTLE
WISH WHEN
I'M HERE.

HOPING
TO FIND
THE WAY.

I
DUNNO...

SPLASH

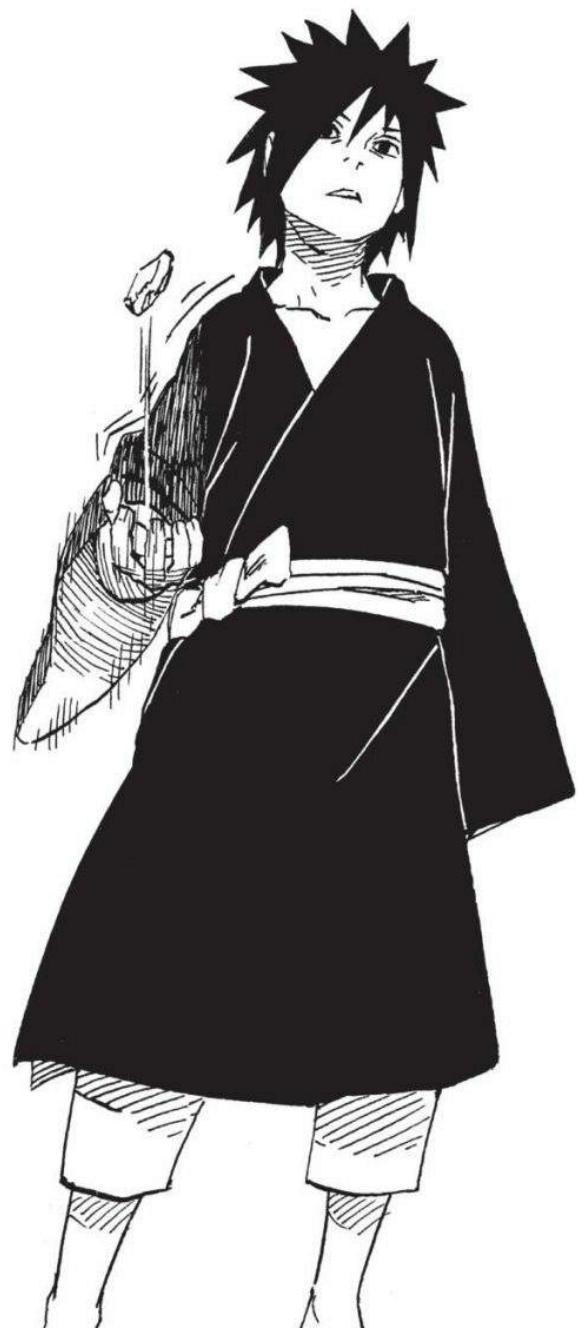
SPLASH

...REACHED
THE OTHER
SIDE.

IT'S NOT
JUST
YOURS.
MINE
ALSO...

LOOK
AT
THAT.

SEEMS
LIKE
THERE
FINALLY
WILL BE
AWAY,
THIS TIME.





Number 623: View

NOT THAT WE THOUGHT ALIKE IN EVERY RESPECT...

THAT YOUR HAIRDO AND YOUR OUTFIT ARE TOTALLY LAME!

RATHER THAN BEING SHOCKED, I CONSIDERED MADARA A GIFT FROM THE DIVINE.

SO THERE WAS ANOTHER FOOLISH KID WHO THOUGHT AS I DID... TO TRY TO CHANGE THIS WAR-TORN ERA.

GLOOM



THOUGH I GOTTA SAY, I DON'T NEED TO SEE YOUR GUTS AT ALL TO TELL...

WE'D SPAR AND COMPARE OUR SHINOBI MOVES, OR TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE.

STILL WITHOUT KNOWING EACH OTHER'S FAMILY NAME...

AFTER THAT, WE STARTED MEETING UP EVERY NOW AND THEN.





THE FIRST STEPS ARE FOR US TO NOT GIVE UP ON OUR IDEALS, AND TO GET A LOT STRONGER.

WE'VE GOT TO HAVE A VISION FOR THE FUTURE...

BUT THE QUESTION IS, HOW DO WE CHANGE THINGS CONCRETELY?

WEAK PUPS BARKING WON'T CHANGE A THING.

GULP GULP



TMP



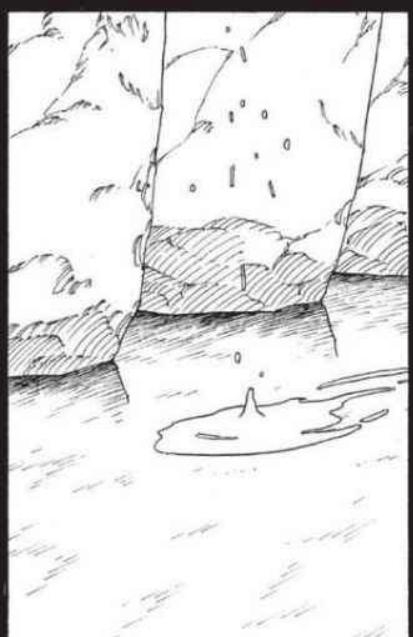
WE GOTTA MASTER MANY JUTSU AND COVER ANY WEAKNESSES...

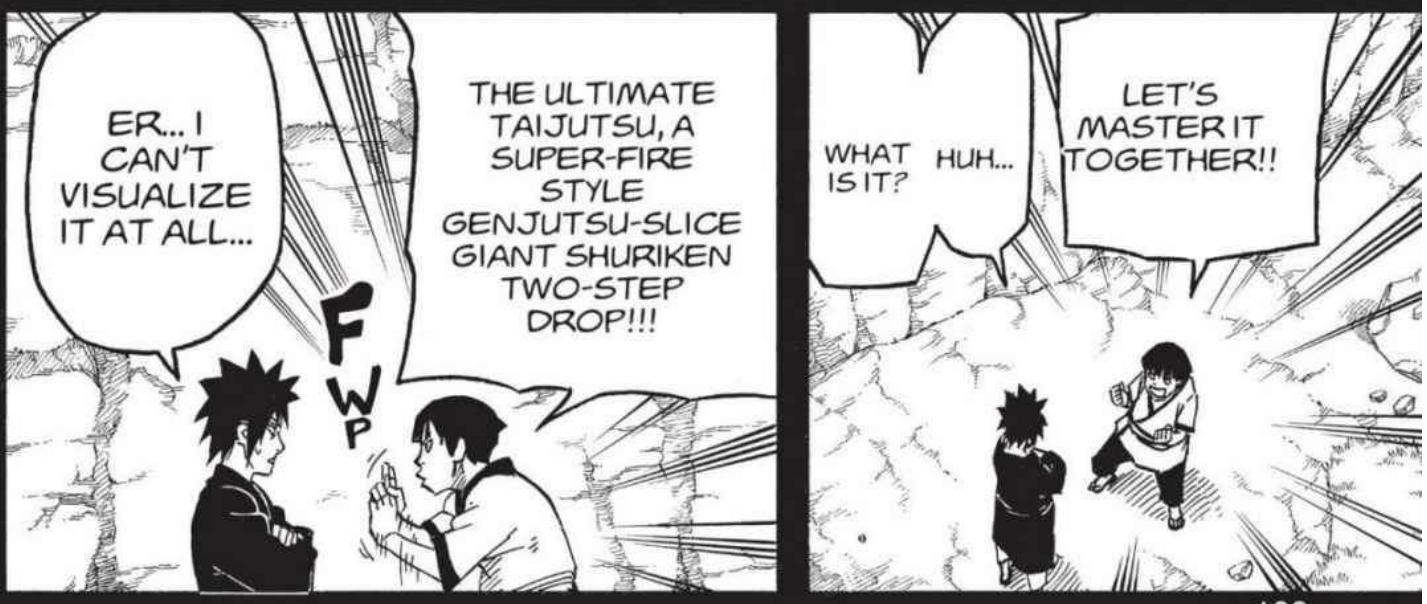
WELL, I AM STRONGER THAN MOST ADULTS AROUND ME ALREADY...

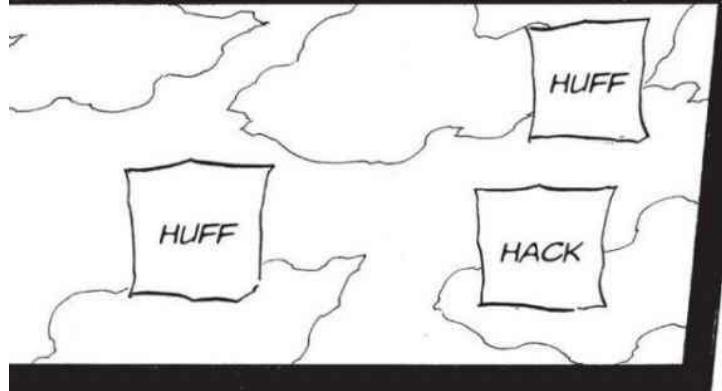
IF WE MASTER ALL SORTS OF JUTSU AND GET STRONGER ...

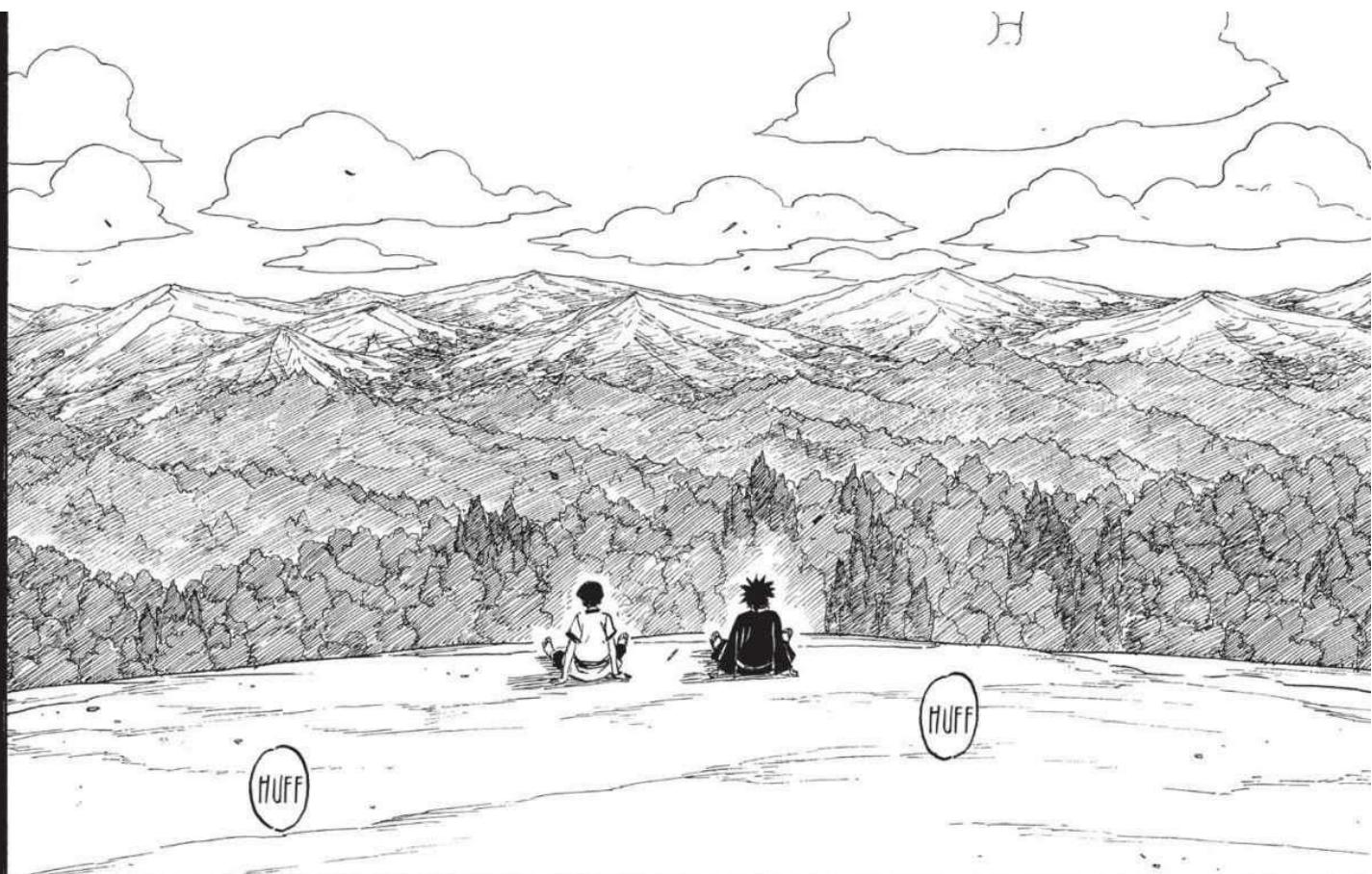
... THE ADULTS WON'T BE ABLE TO IGNORE OUR WORDS ANYMORE.

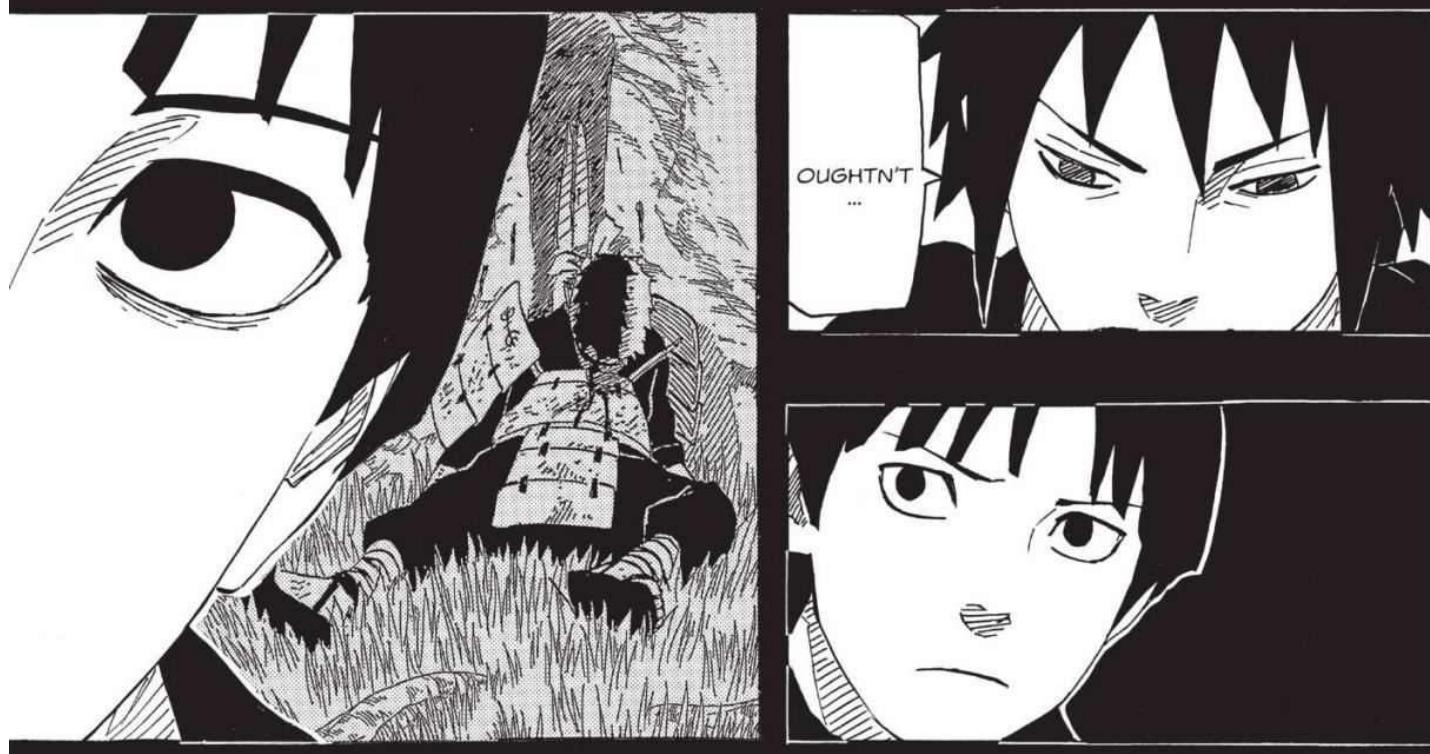
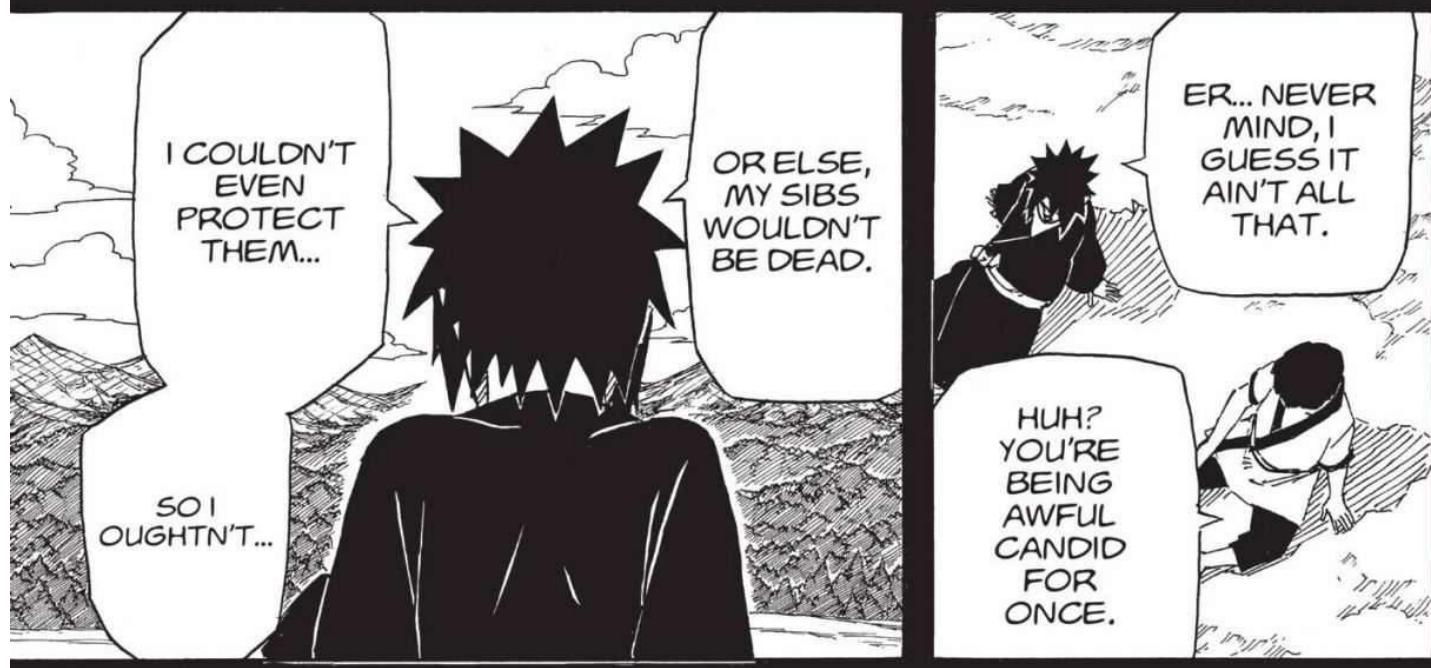
RIGHT...



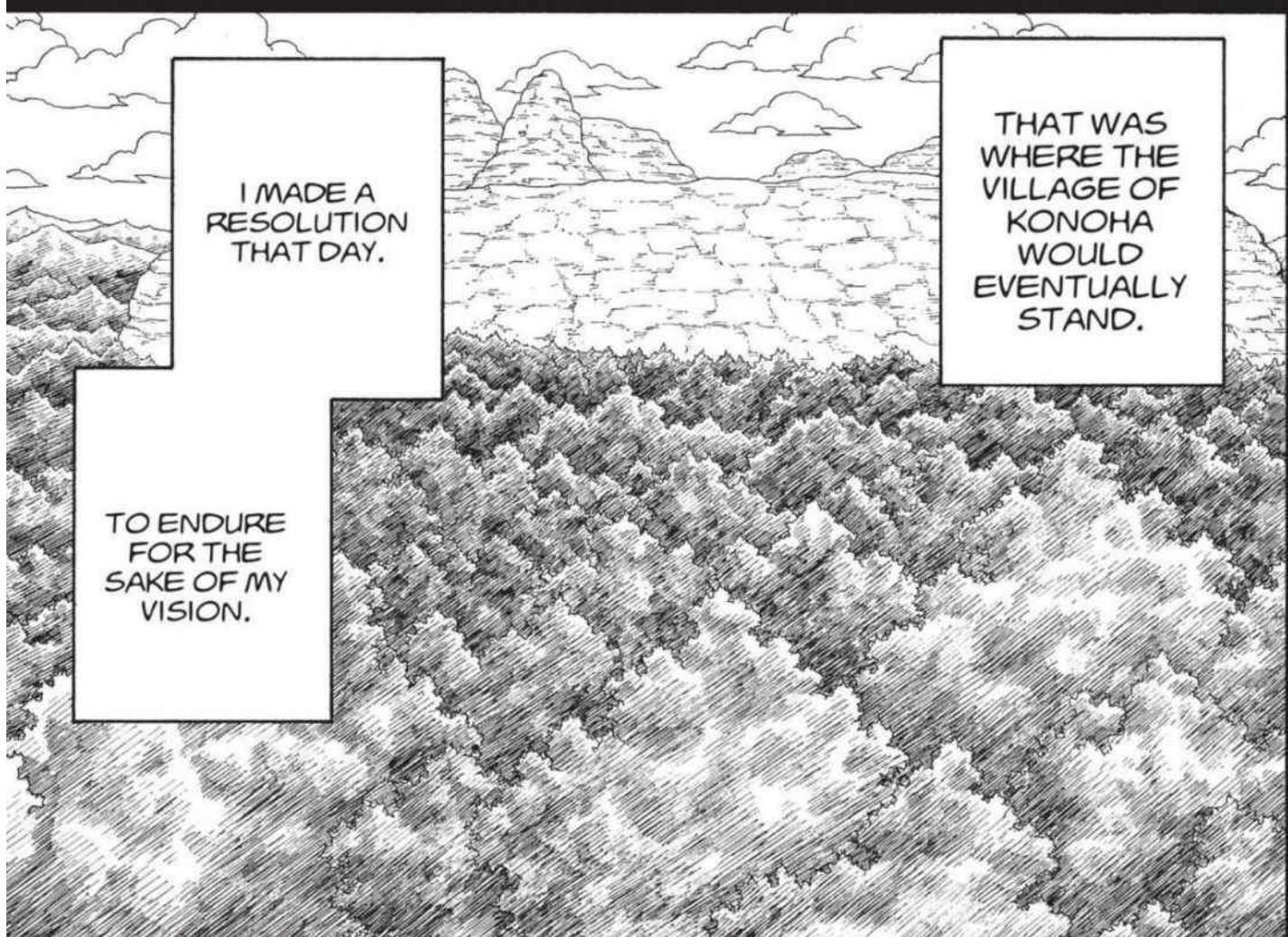












SPLASH

SPLASH

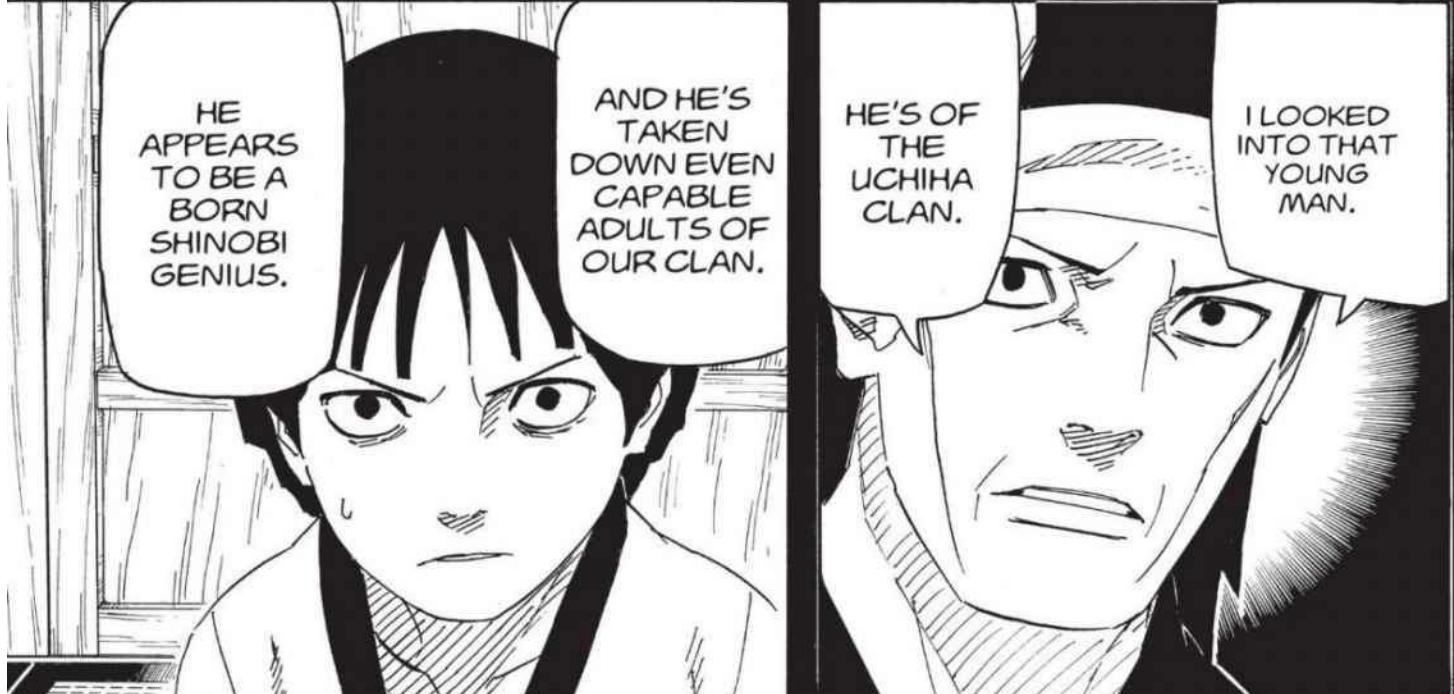


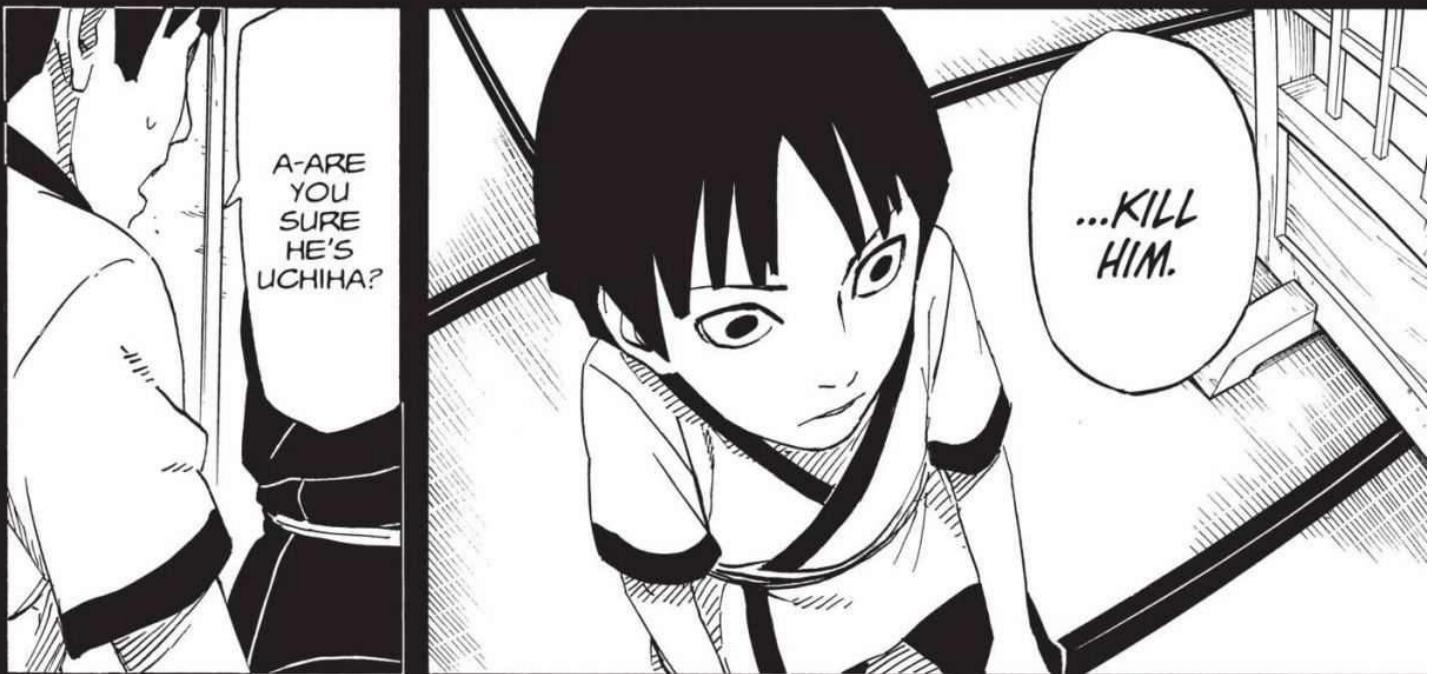
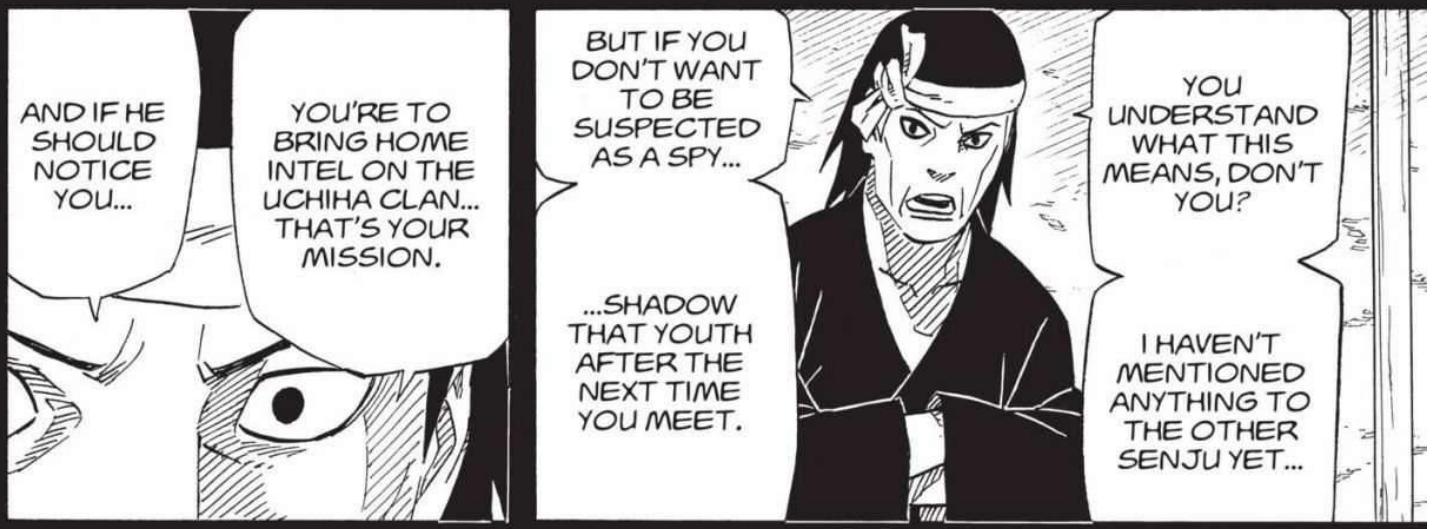
THAT'S A
GOOD
STONE
FOR
SKIPPING.

WE BOTH
REACH
THE
OTHER
SIDE NOW.

I'LL LET YOU
HOLD ON TO
IT UNTIL THE
NEXT TIME WE
MEET!







DO NOT
TRUST
HIM.

IF HE'S FOUND
OUT THAT
YOU'RE SENJU...
HE'LL PRETEND
TO LET HIS
GUARD DOWN
IN ORDER TO
STEAL INTEL
ON US.

YES...

GOT
THAT?!

JUST IN
CASE,
TOBIRAMA
AND I WILL
COME
ALONG...

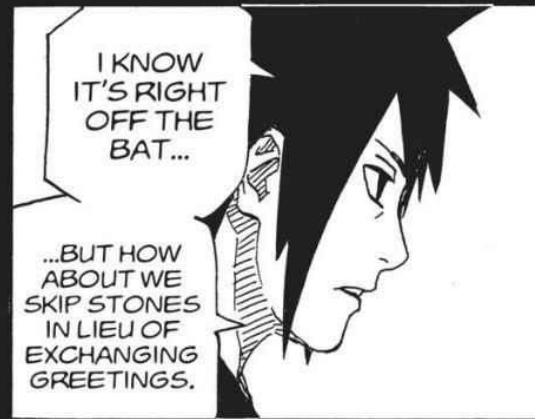
IF HE TRICKS
YOU, YOU'LL
BE PUTTING
EVERY
SENJU IN
DANGER!

NO, HE'S
NOT
LIKE
THAT...

YOU HAVE
NO IDEA
WHAT HE'S
THINKING
INSIDE HIS
GUT!

SWOOOO...





SPLASH

SPLASH

SNATCH

SNATCH

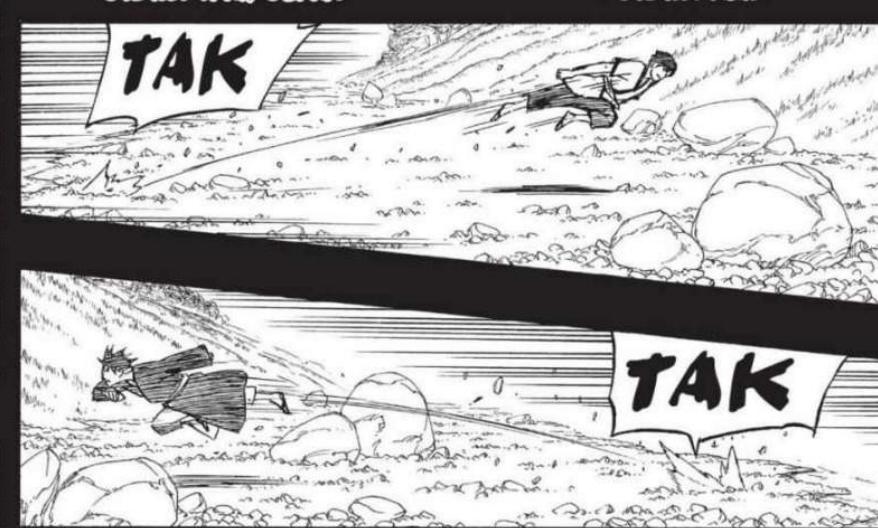
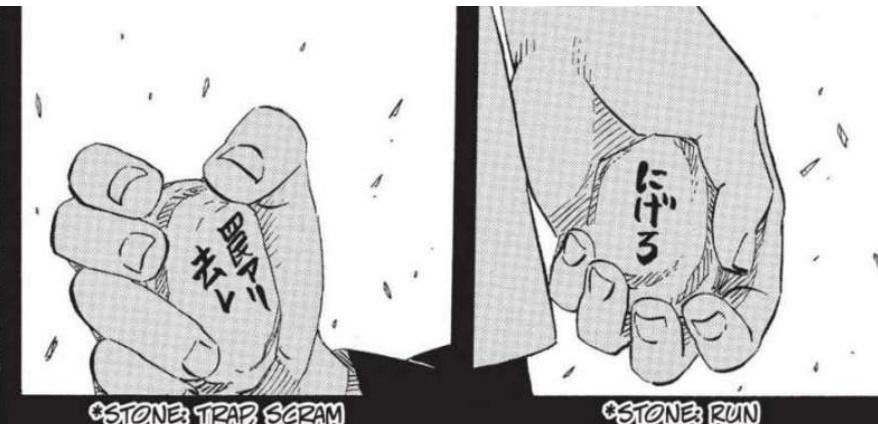
I'M GOING
TO HEAD
HOME TOO
THEN...
LATER!

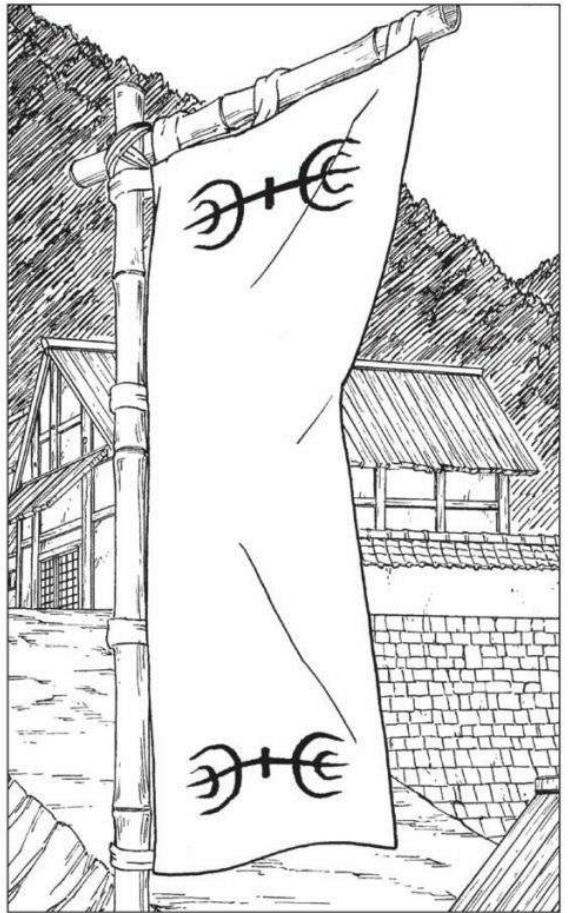
O-OH,
YEAH...?

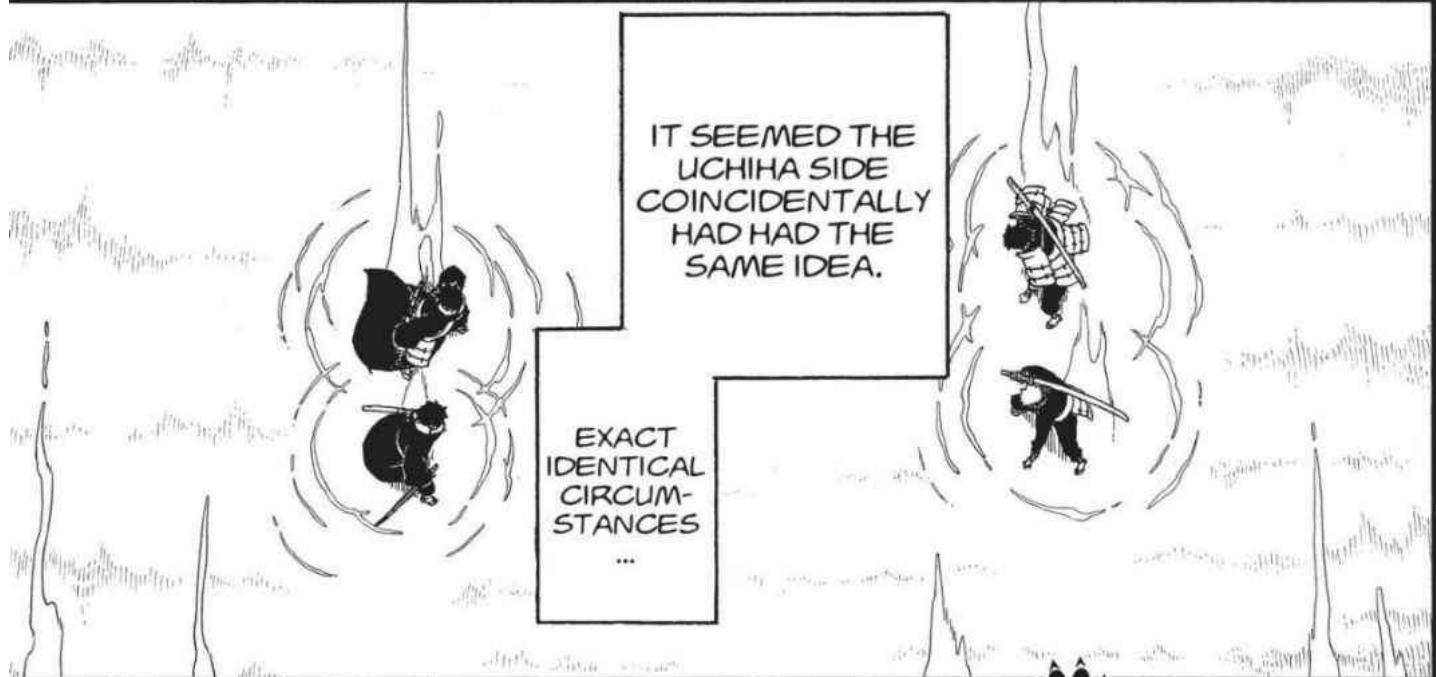
I JUST
REMEMBERED
SOMETHING I
HAFTA DO
TODAY... I
GOTTA GO.

HASHIRAMA...
SORRY...

...

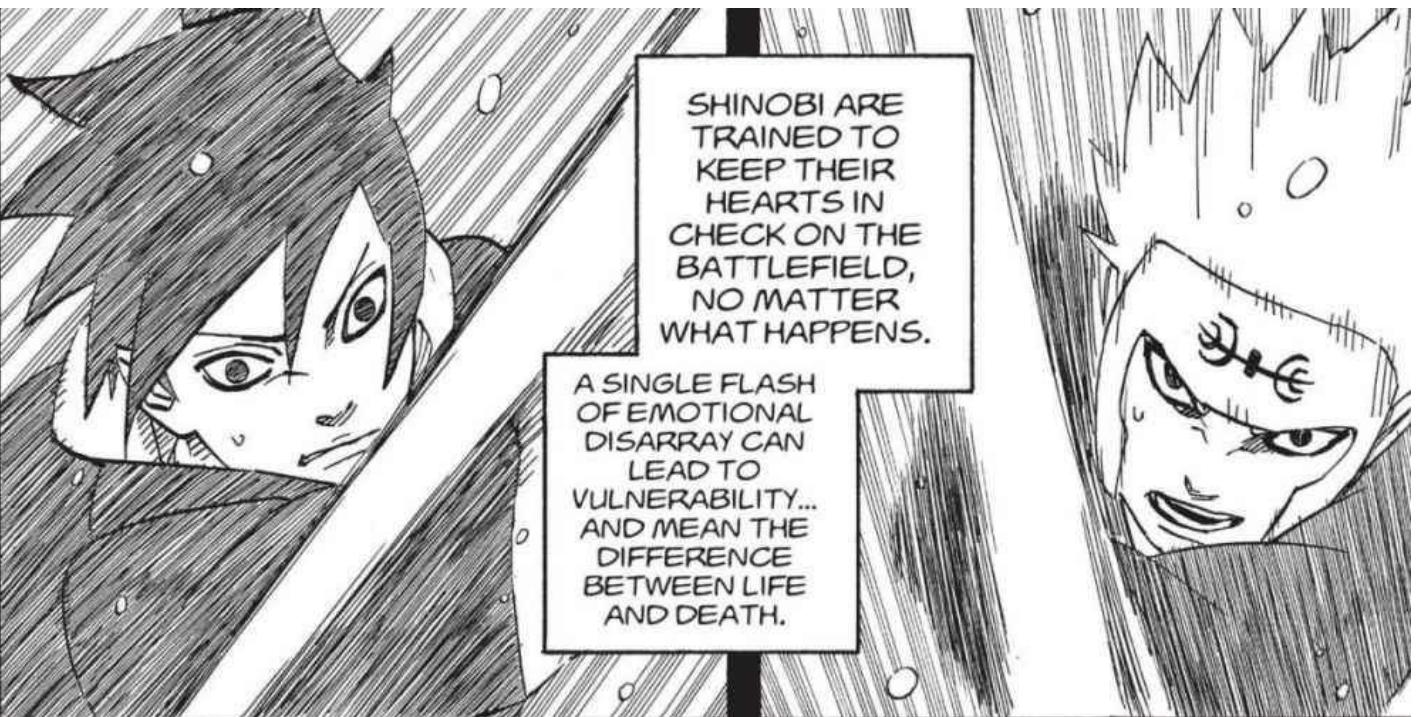


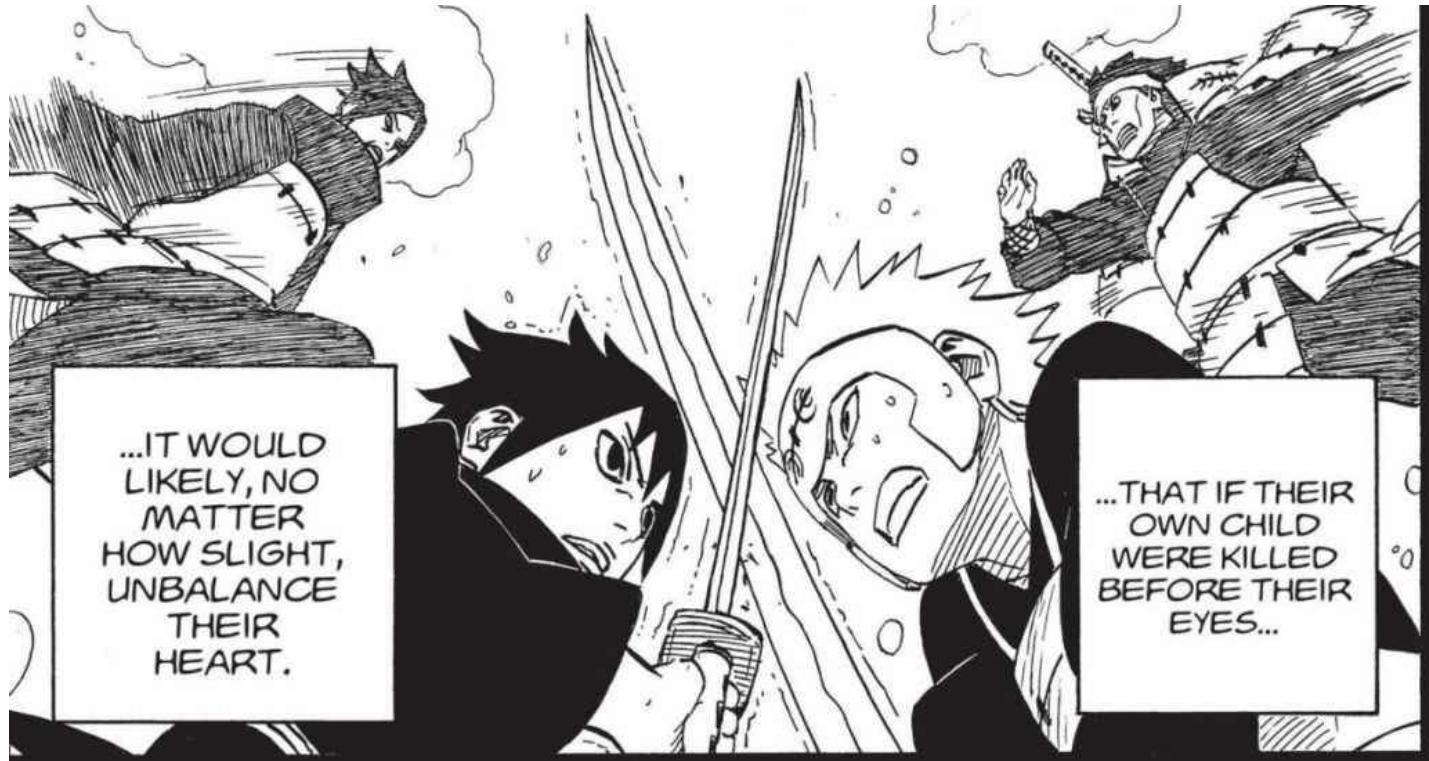




Number 624: Even







...IT WOULD
LIKELY, NO
MATTER
HOW SLIGHT,
UNBALANCE
THEIR
HEART.

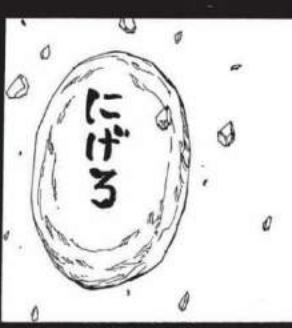
...THAT IF THEIR
OWN CHILD
WERE KILLED
BEFORE THEIR
EYES...



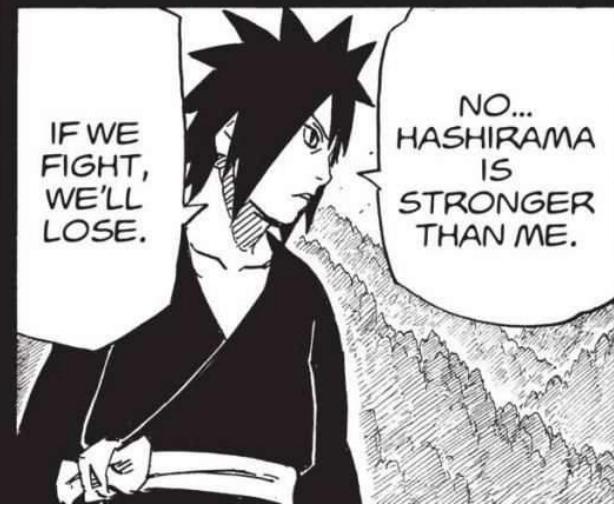
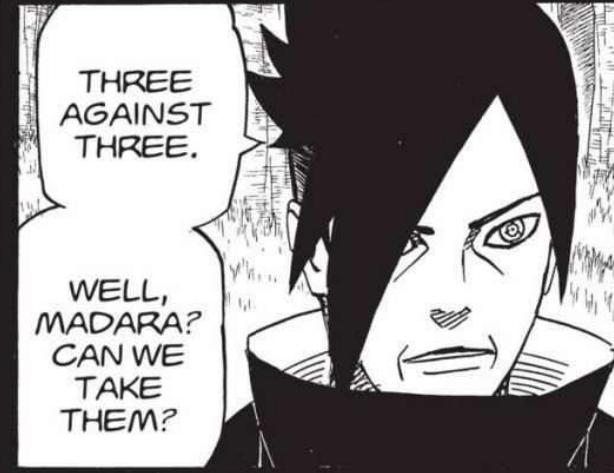
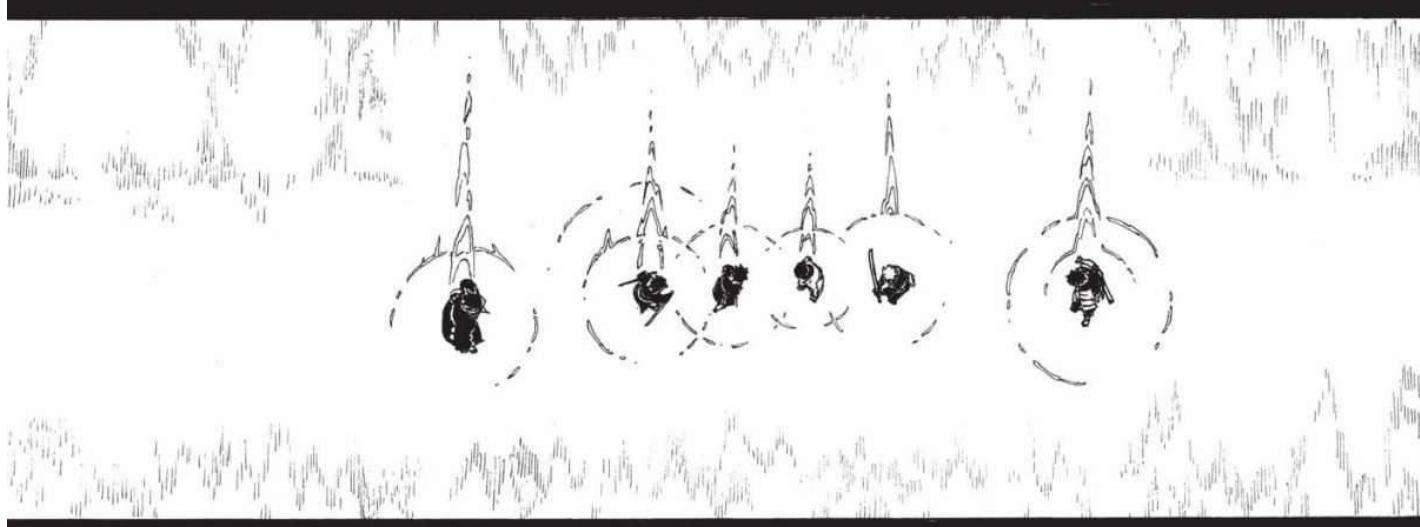
...COULD LAND
THE FIRST
STRIKE WOULD
DETERMINE THE
OUTCOME.

MEANING
THAT,
WHICHEVER
ONE...





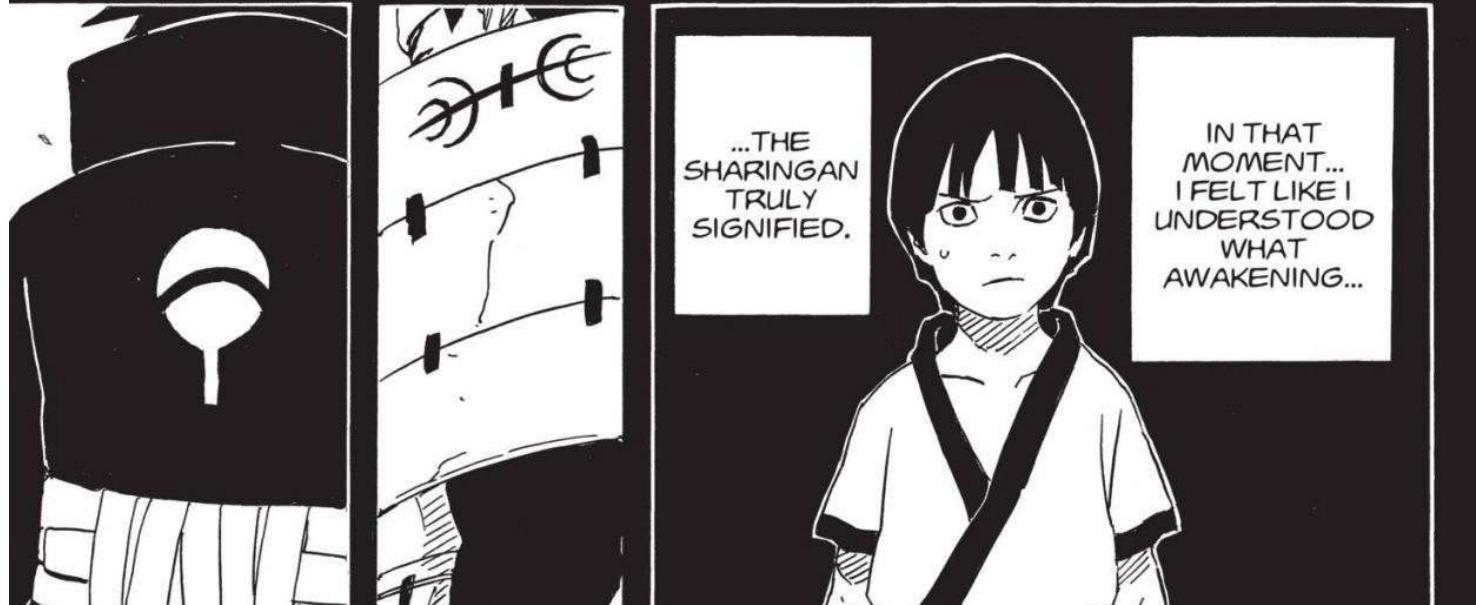
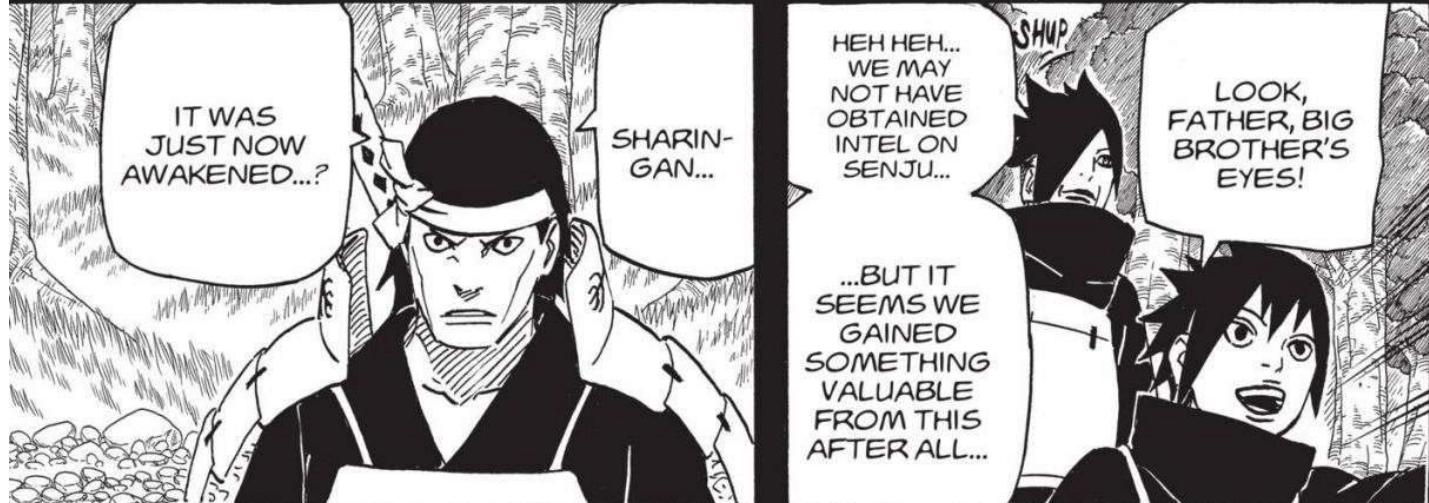








FOR I AM...
UCHIHA
MADARA.





WE WERE THE
FURTHEST
PLACE
POSSIBLE
FROM THE
DREAM I'D
WANTED TO
FULFILL.

FLYING
RAIJIN
SLICE
!!!

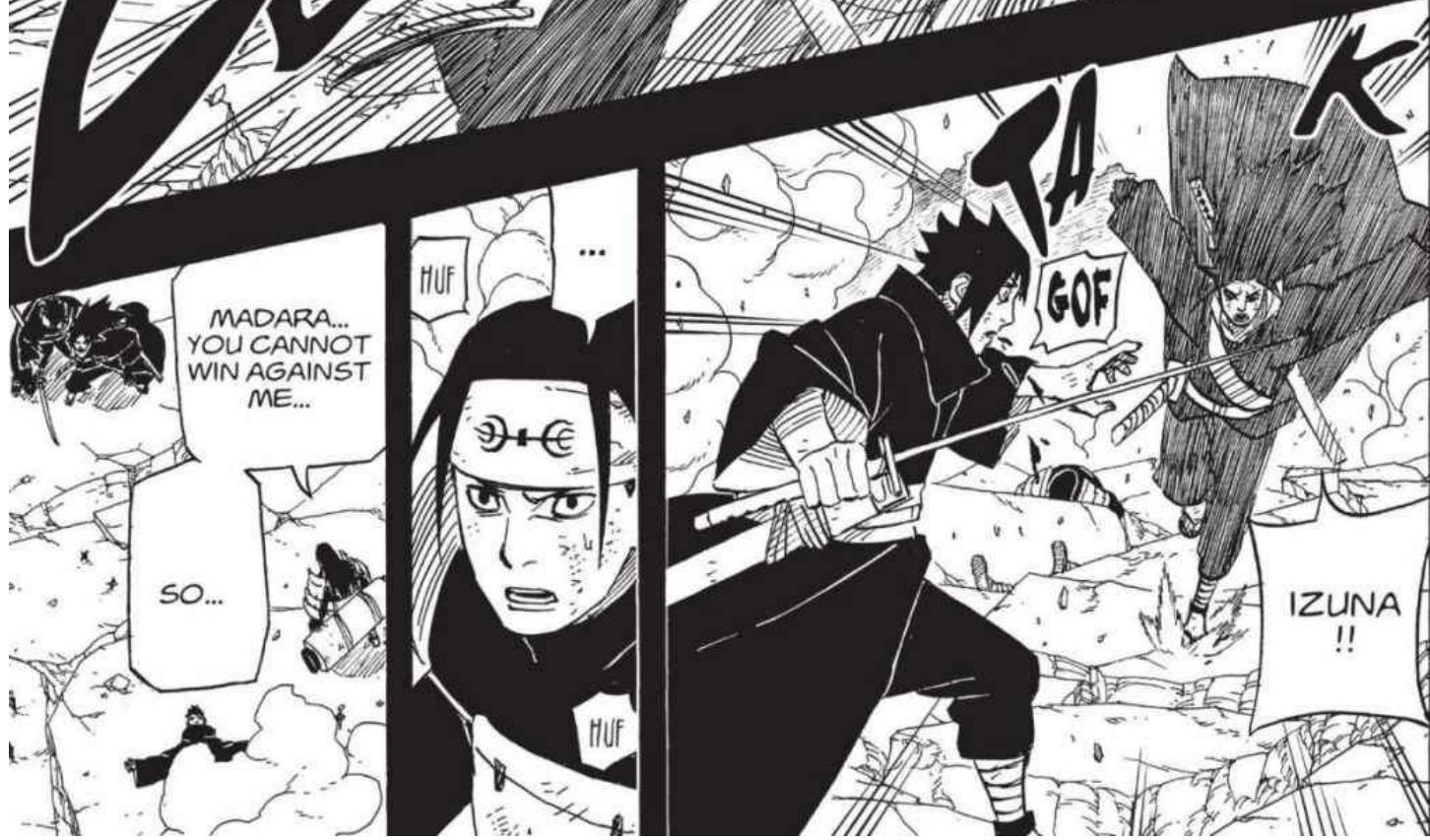
MADARA...
YOU CANNOT
WIN AGAINST
ME...

SO...

HUF

GOF

IZUNA
!!





WHY DON'T
WE END
THIS...?

BUT I HAD
NEVER
ABANDONED
OUR DREAM...



HERE...

IF THE TWO
STRONGEST
SHINOBI CLANS,
UCHIHA AND
SENJU, JOIN
FORCES...
NATIONS WILL
NOT BE ABLE TO
FIND OTHER
SHINOBI CLANS
THAT CAN STAND
AGAINST US...

THE
CONFLICT WILL
EVENTUALLY
START TO DIE
DOWN.

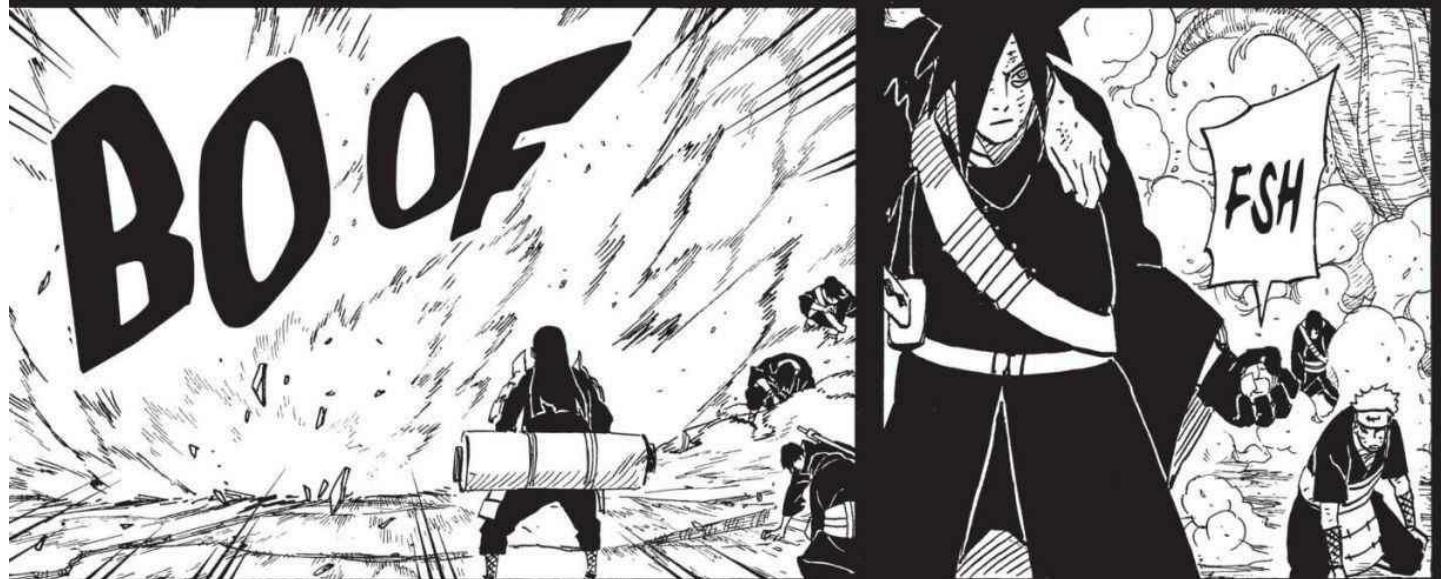


!

DO NOT BE
DECEIVED
BY THEM...

...NO, BIG
BROTHER...







HE HAD OBTAINED THE ETERNAL MANGEKYO SHARINGAN.

...LEAVING ME POWERS THAT WILL HELP PROTECT UCHIHA!

MY LITTLE BROTHER ENDED UP DYING FROM THAT DAY'S WOUNDS...



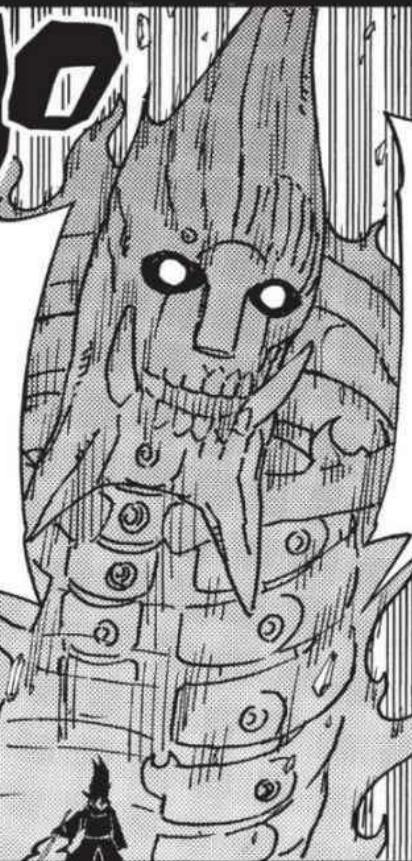
IF YOU TRULY WANT TO PROTECT UCHIHA, LET'S STOP FIGHTING!



I SENT YOU A CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT!



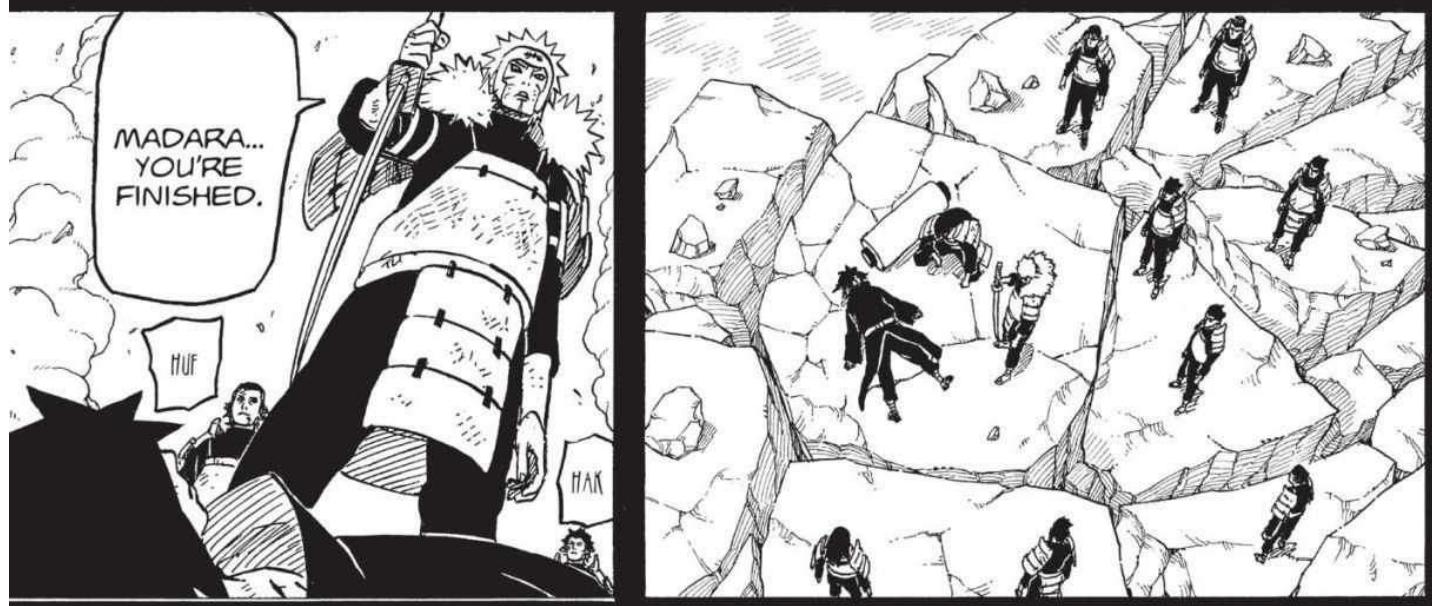
ZENO
IT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE TO SHOW OUR GUTS TO EACH OTHER. DON'T YOU GET IT?!

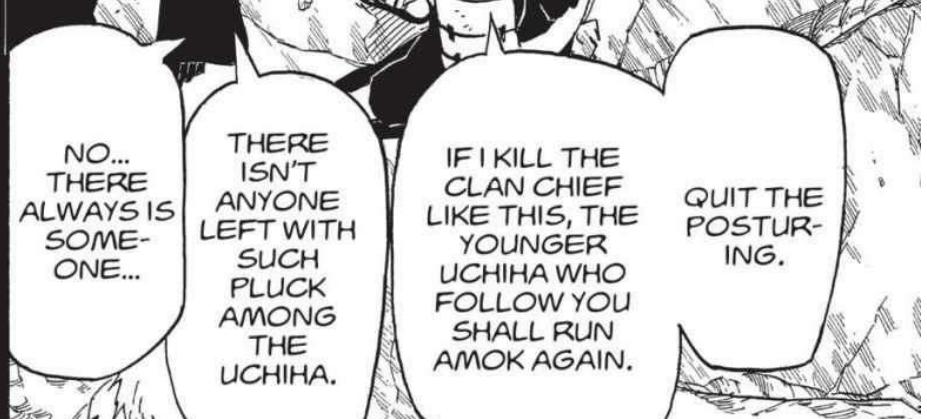


HASHIRAMA! HOW LONG WILL YOU KEEP SAYING SUCH JUVENILE THINGS?!



ZENO
OSH









HOW DARE
YOU SAY
SUCH AN
OUTLANDISH--

KILL YOUR
LITTLE
BROTHER
OR
YOURSELF?!

Number 625: My True Dream

THAT'S
IDIOTIC...
DON'T
LISTEN TO
HIM, ELDER
BROTHER!

OR ARE YOU
GOING TO
DIE ON
ACCOUNT
OF THIS
GUY'S
NONSENSE?

SO ELDER
BROTHER...

THAT'S
JUST
CRAZY
TALK!

...ARE YOU
GOING TO
KILL ME
NOW?!

FISH

!

YOU REALLY
ARE
KINDHEARTED.

THANK
YOU,
MADARA.

FISH...

MADARA HAD
GIVEN ME A
CHOICE... AN
OPTION
WHERE I
WOULDN'T
HAVE TO KILL
MY LITTLE
BROTHER...



I FORBID
ANY
FIGHTING
BETWEEN
UCHIHA AND
SENJU.

AFTER MY
DEATH, DO
NOT KILL
MADARA.

HE TOO KNEW
HOW AN OLDER
BROTHER
FEELS TOWARD
HIS YOUNGER
SIBLINGS...

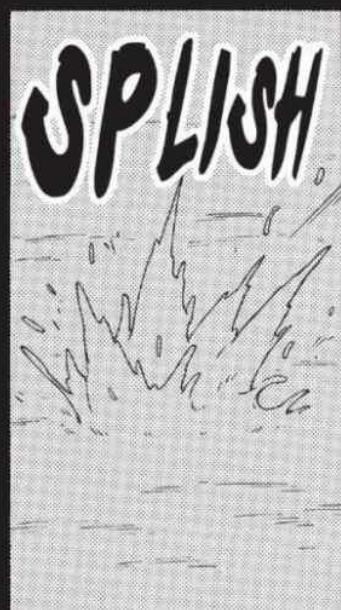
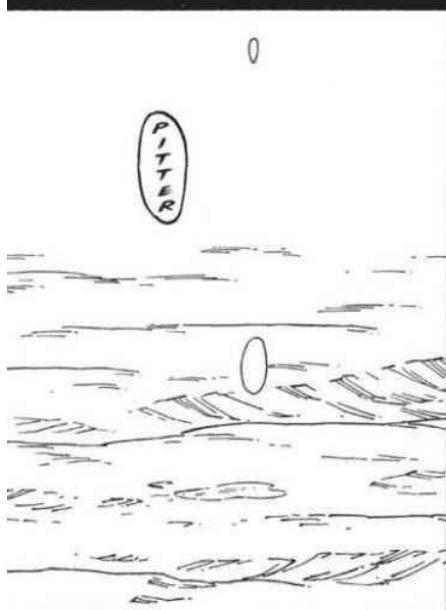


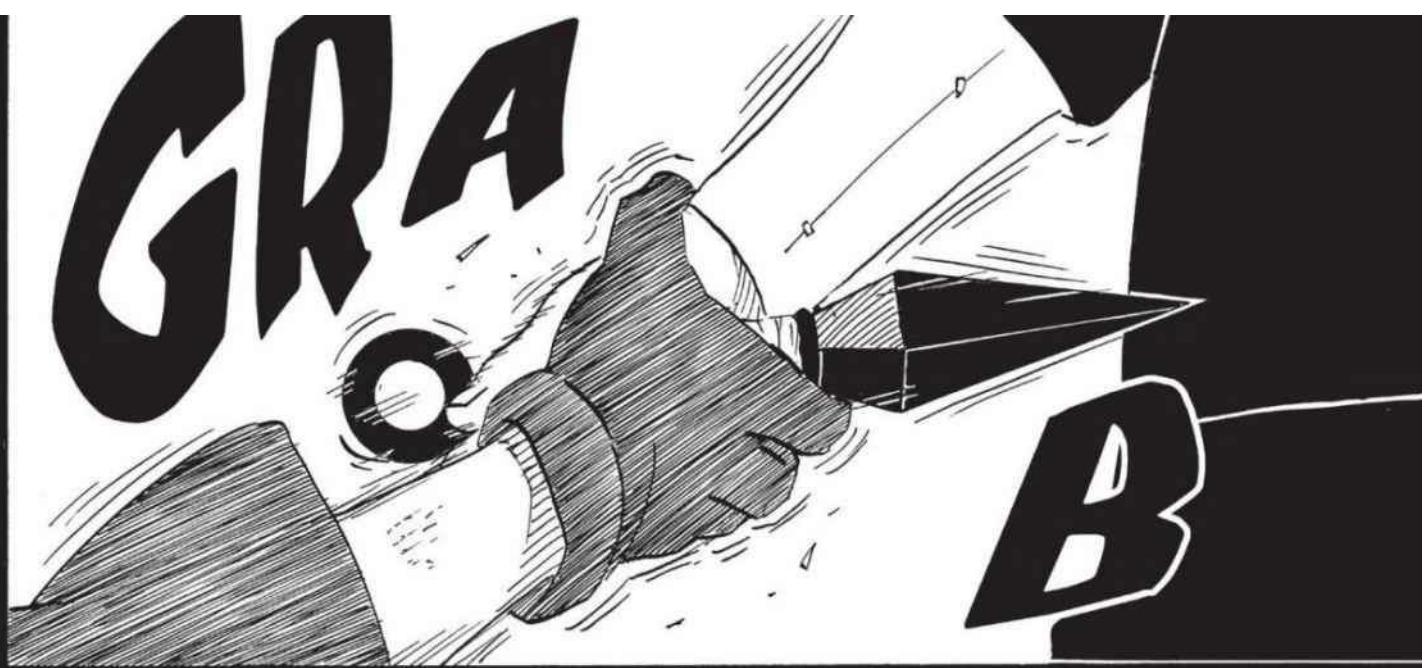
WORDS THAT
I SHALL BE
EXCHANGING
WITH MY LIFE.

YOU TOO,
MY FELLOW
CLAN
MEMBERS.

LISTEN,
TOBIRAMA...
CARVE INTO
YOUR HEART
THESE FINAL
WORDS OF
MINE...

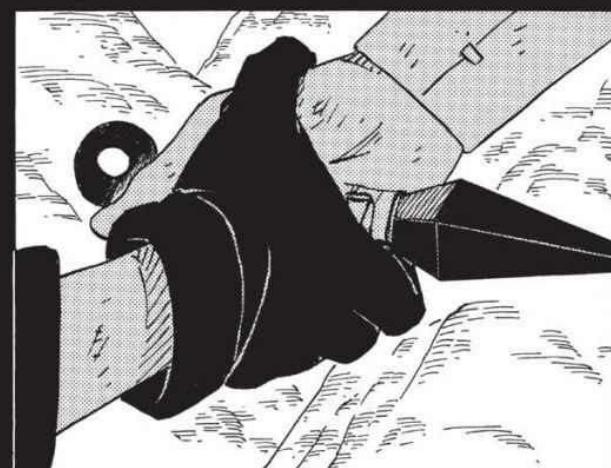
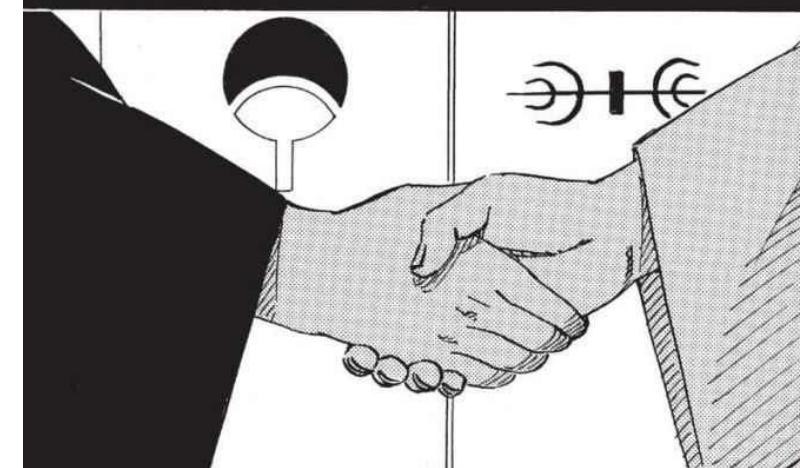






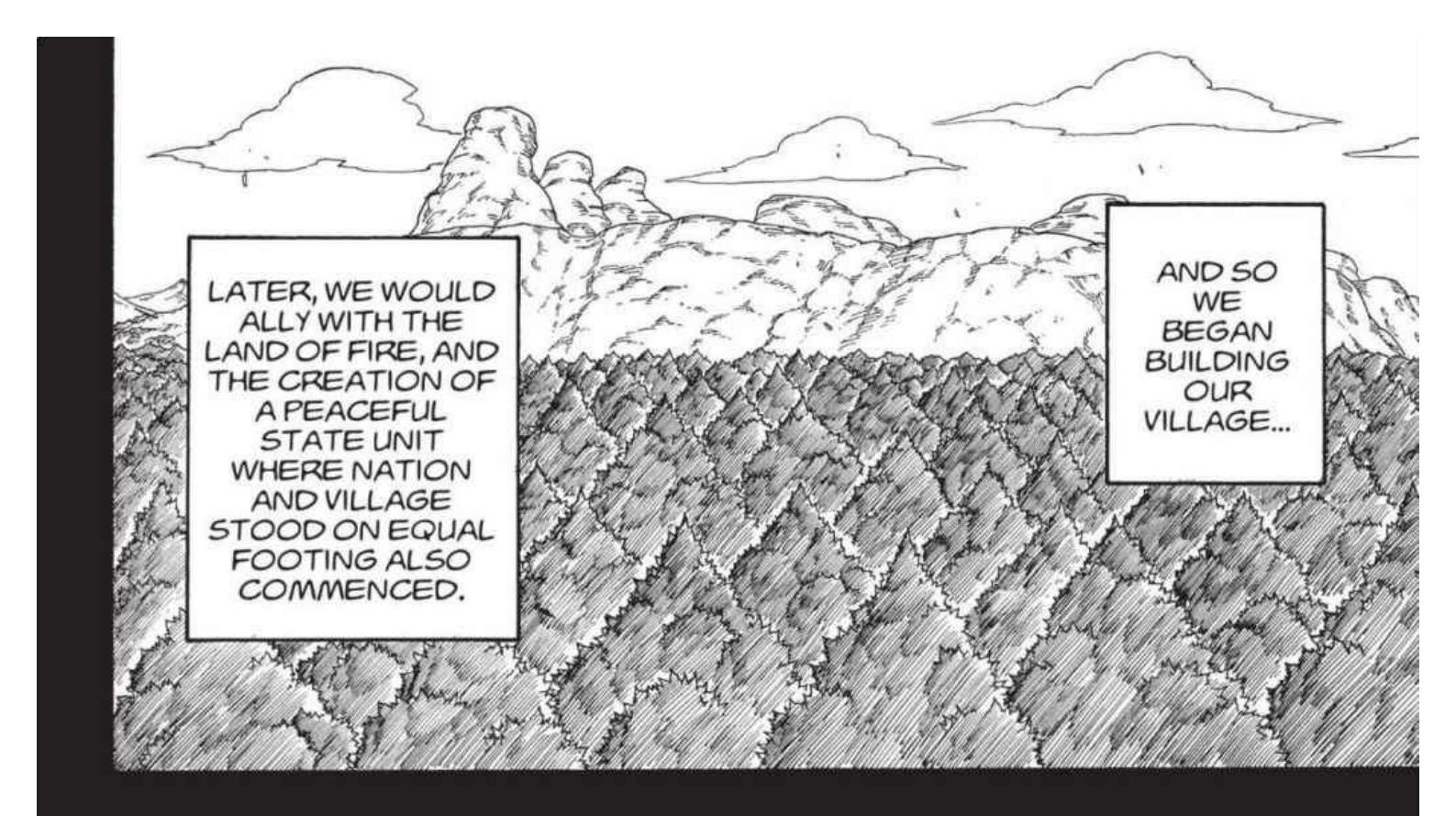
I...HAVE NOW
SEEN YOUR
GUTS.

ENOUGH



THERE WOULD
NO LONGER BE
MASS CASUALTIES.
NOR WOULD THE
DEATHS OF
COUNTLESS
CHILDREN BE
NECESSARY
ANYMORE.

IT WAS LIKE A
DREAM...
UCHIHA AND
SENJU HAD
JOINED
FORCES.



LATER, WE WOULD
ALLY WITH THE
LAND OF FIRE, AND
THE CREATION OF
A PEACEFUL
STATE UNIT
WHERE NATION
AND VILLAGE
STOOD ON EQUAL
FOOTING ALSO
COMMENCED.

AND SO
WE
BEGAN
BUILDING
OUR
VILLAGE...



IN ANY CASE,
IT WAS
DREAMLIKE...



HOW WE
USED TO
DO YOU
TALK HERE REMEMBER
WHEN WE
WERE
BRATS?

YEAH...

WELL?

THE LEADER
OF SHINOBI
WHO
PROTECTS
THE LAND
OF FIRE
FROM THE
SHADOWS...

THE FIRE
SHADOW, OR
HOKAGE.

EVEN THOUGH
THERE REALLY
WASN'T
ANYTHING
TRULY BEYOND
MY GRASP, I...

I THOUGHT
WE WERE
JUST
DREAMING...

THAT
DREAM IS
NOW
BECOMING
REALITY.

I'M
CONSIDERING
NAMING
YOU TO BE
OUR LEADER...

...THE
HOKAGE.

THE LAND OF
FIRE HAS
REQUESTED
THAT WE
SELECT
SOMEONE TO
REPRESENT
THE VILLAGE.

WHAT'S
THAT?

ME, WHO
COULDN'T
EVEN
PROTECT
MY OWN
BRETHREN
...?

YOU WILL
PROTECT
THEM
ALL.

I'D LIKE YOU
TO THINK OF
ALL OF THIS
VILLAGE'S
SHINOBI AS
YOUR
SIBLINGS.

YOU MAY
NOT HAVE
ANY BLOOD
SIBLINGS
LEFT, BUT...



GLOOM

AND YOU
STILL HAVE
THAT HABIT
OF GETTING
DEPRESSED
REALLY
EASILY?!!

HOW IS
THAT ANY
DIFFERENT
FROM
"HOKAGE,"
EH?!!

YOU CALLED
IT EXACTLY
AS YOU SAW
IT...

NO SPIN OR
INGENUITY
AT ALL...

...THAT'S SO
SIMPLISTIC...

SO YOU'RE
SAYING THE
ROLE OF
HOKAGE IS TO
STAY IN THE
VILLAGE AND
PROTECT
EVERYONE?

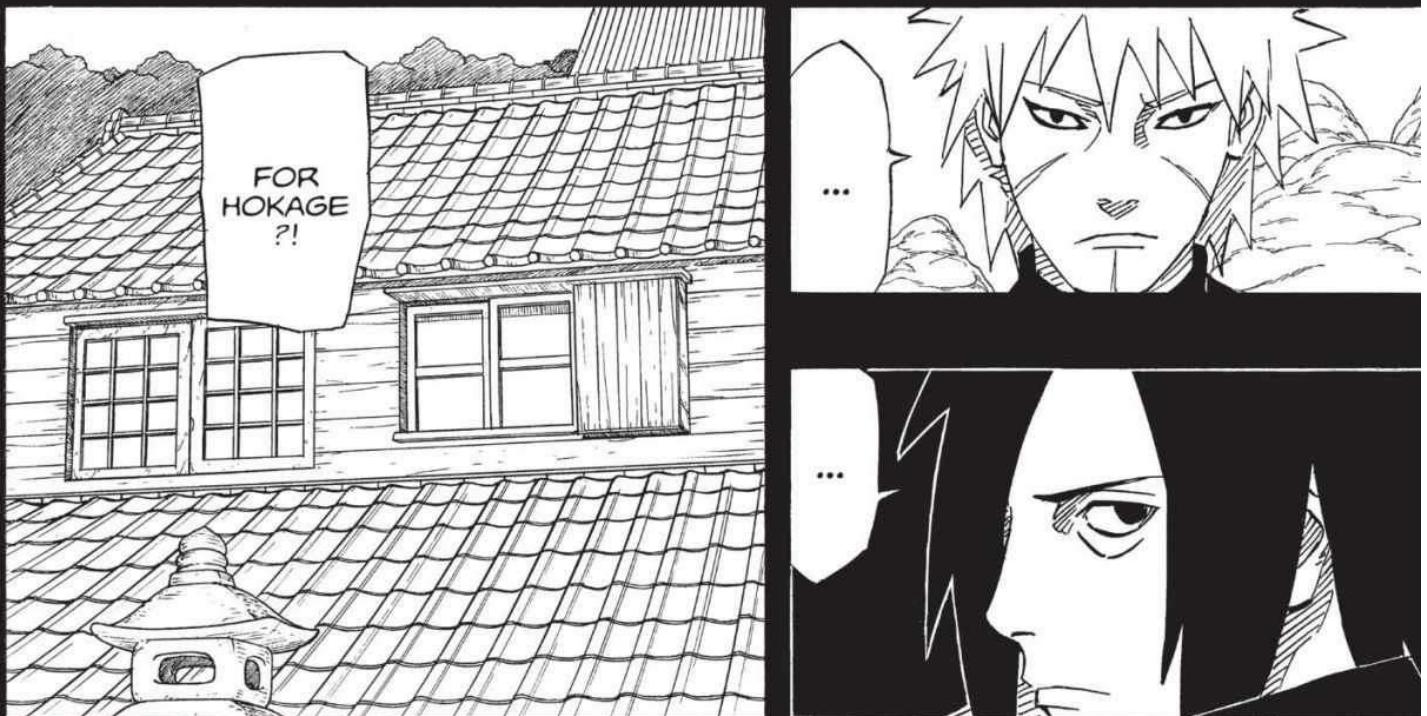
IT HAD TAKEN A
LONG TIME, BUT I
FELT LIKE WE'D
MANAGED TO
GET BACK TO
OUR OLD
CAMARADERIE.

AS A
SYMBOL
OF OUR
VILLAGE'S
PROTEC-
TOR!

THAT'S WHY I
WANT TO HAVE
YOUR LIKENESS
CARVED INTO
THIS CLIFF
FACE AT OUR
FEET.

AS OUR
VILLAGE-
BUILDING
PICKS UP
SPEED, THE
HOKAGE WILL
GET BUSIER
TOO...

YEAH, BUT
THAT'S ONLY
A SMALL
PART OF IT.



BUT THE FINAL DECISION SHOULD REST ON THE POPULAR OPINION OF BOTH THE LAND OF FIRE AND OUR VILLAGE, ALONG WITH DISCOURSE WITH SENIOR MEMBERS!

TO PROPOSE MADARA AS A LEADER CANDIDATE IS ONE THING.

THAT'S NOT YOUR CHOICE!

THESE ARE DIFFERENT TIMES COMPARED TO FATHER'S!

BESIDES WHICH... HAVE YOU NOT HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT THE UCHIHA?

EVERYONE KNOWS... THAT YOU'RE THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THIS VILLAGE...

EVEN THE UCHIHA ARE WILLING TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT.

PLUS... UCHIHA MADARA WOULD NEVER BE SELECTED TO LEAD US.

BUT...

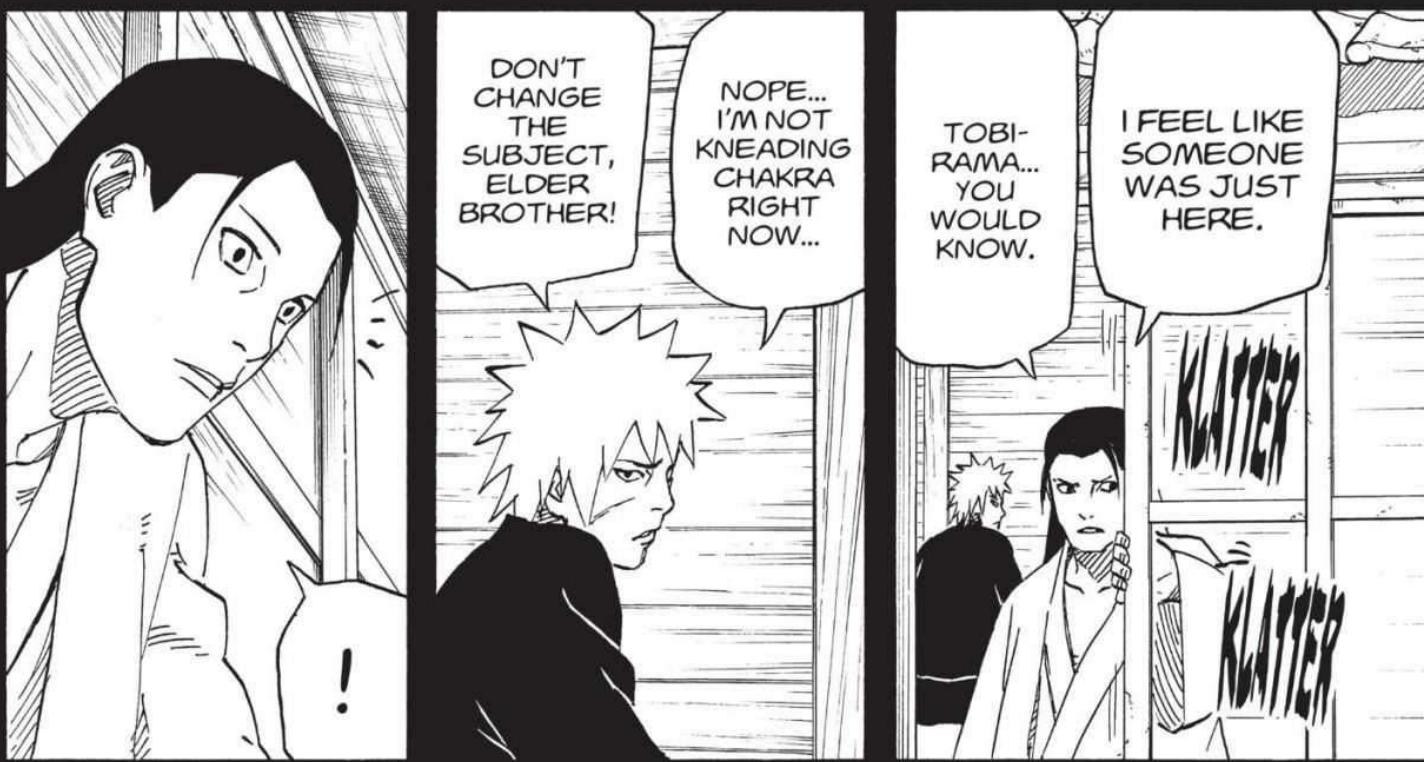
QUIT SAYING SUCH THINGS, TOBIRAMA!

YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHAT THEY MIGHT DO.

SO FOR THE SAKE OF THE VILLAGE'S FUTURE...

THAT THE STRONGER THEIR HATE, THE GREATER THEIR OCULAR POWERS.

THAT'S THE SECRET OF THE SHARINGAN.



ANY
DISAGREE-
MENT?

WE'RE
GOING TO
ADMINISTER
THINGS
DEMOCRAT-
ICALLY
FROM NOW
ON...

NO...
THAT'S
FINE.

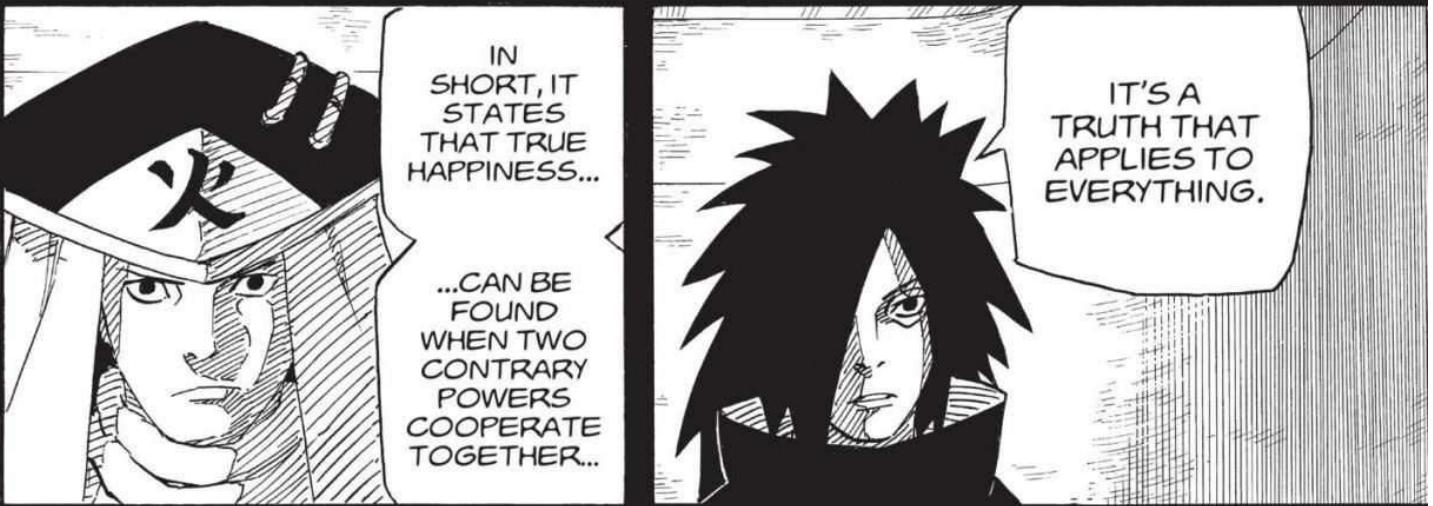
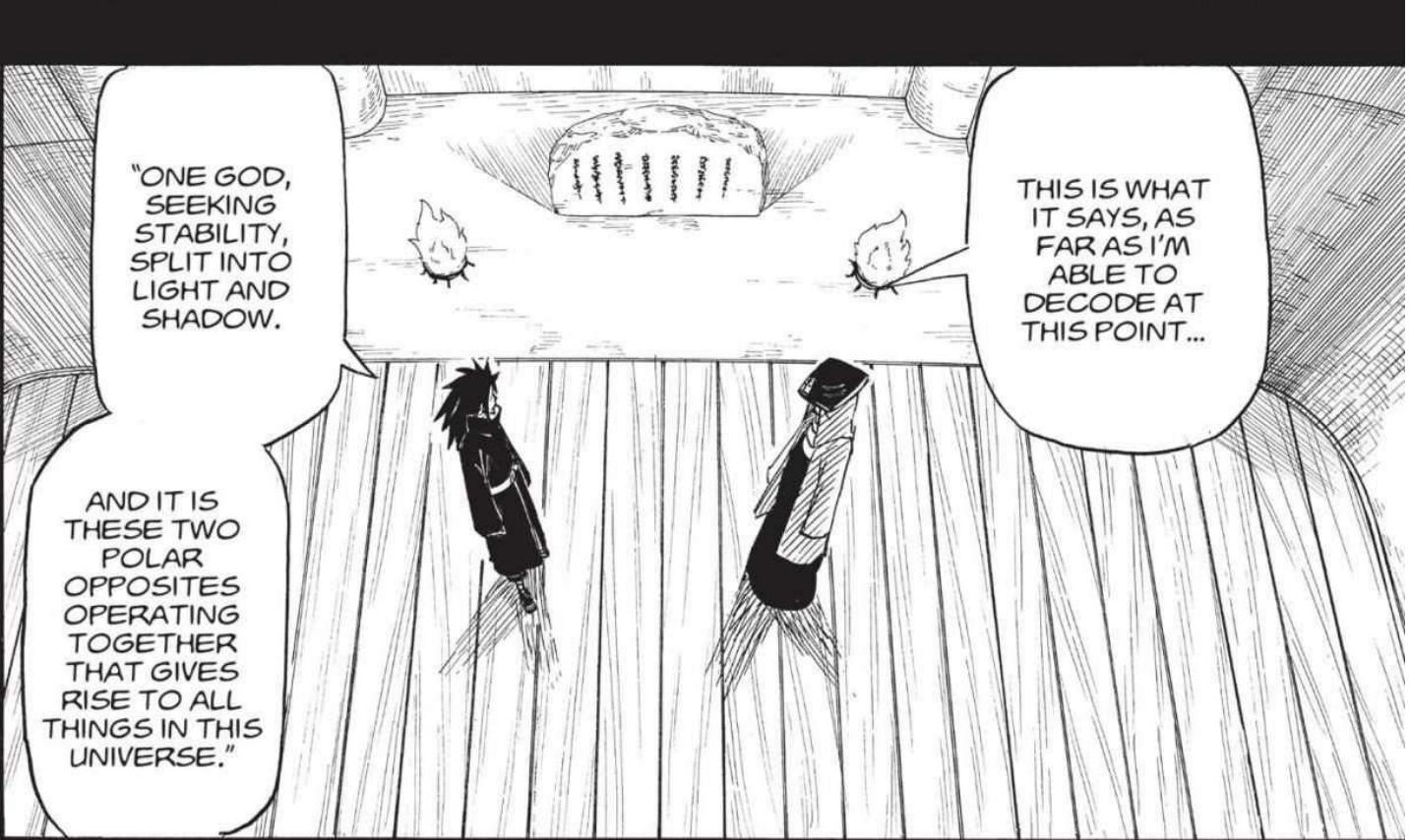
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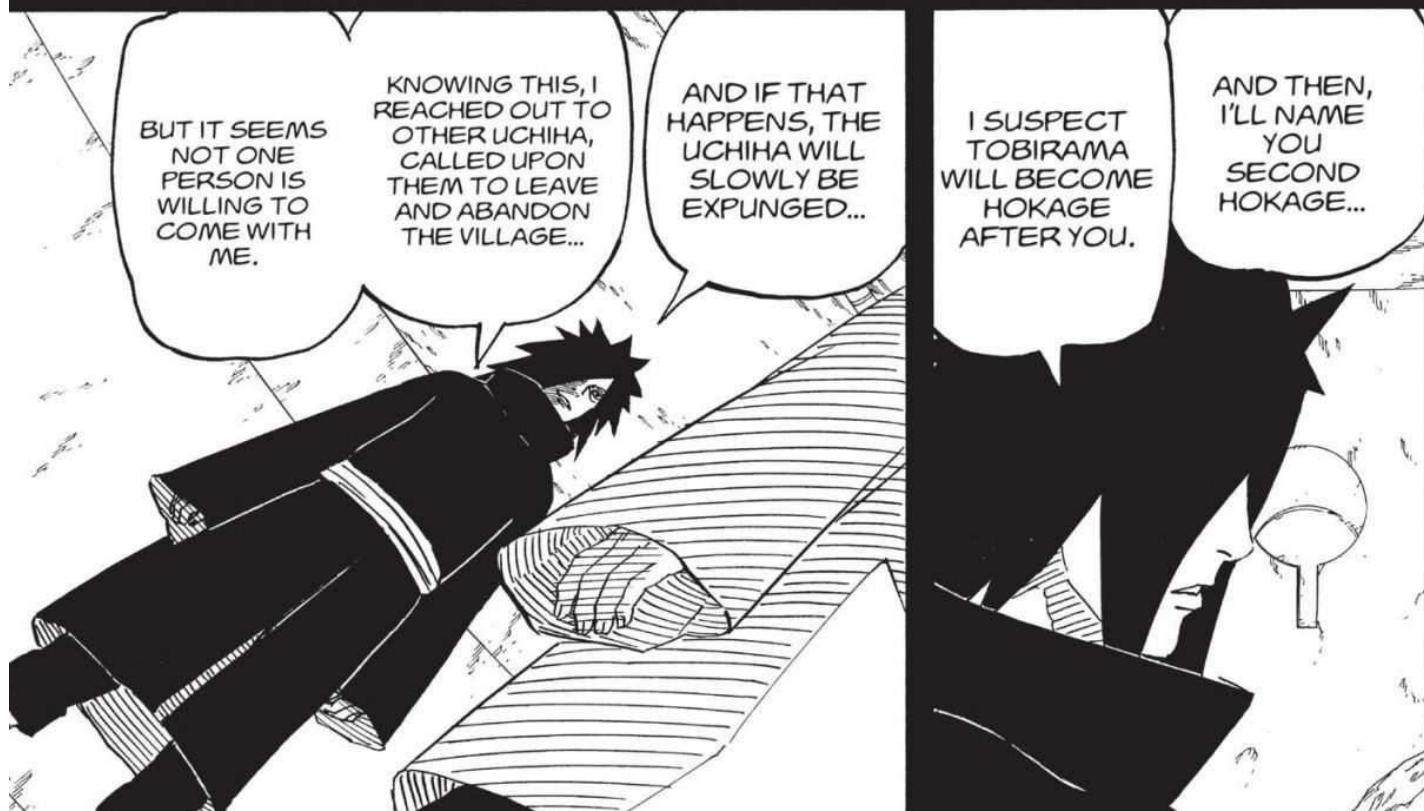
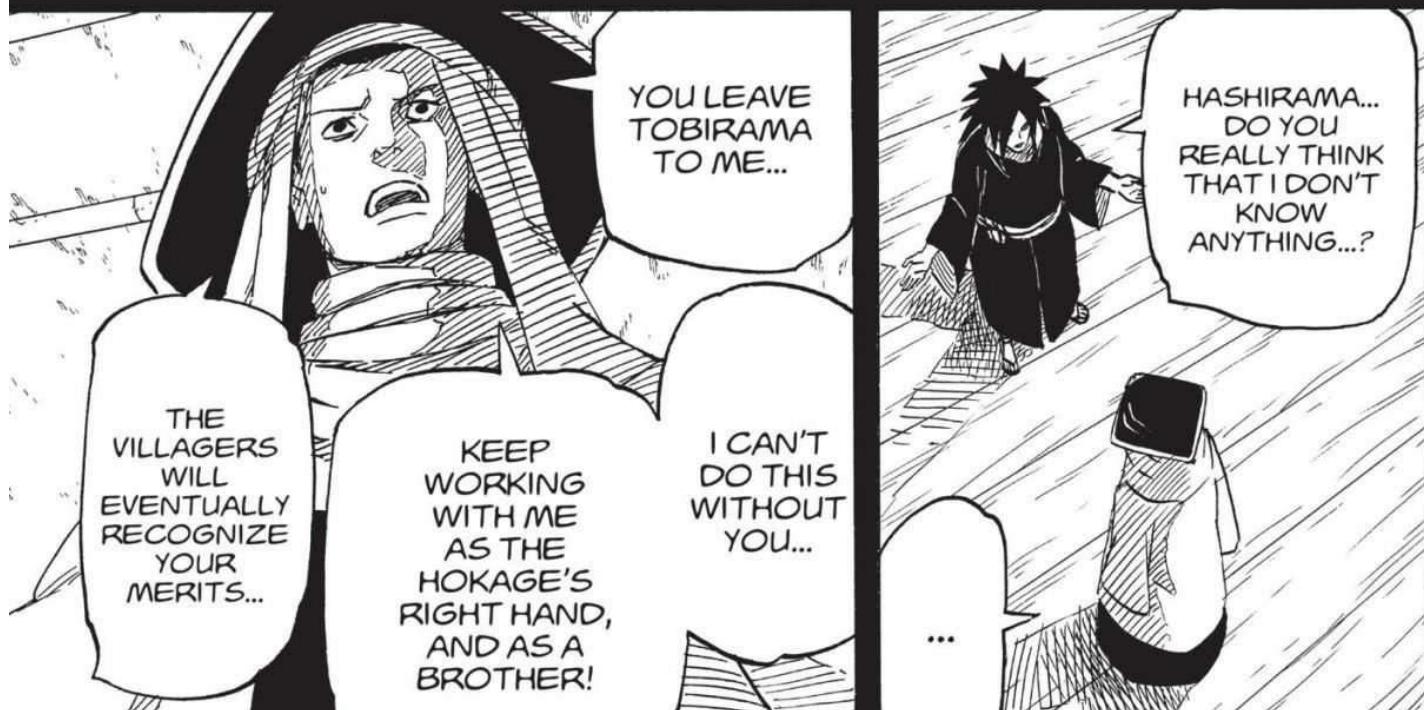
FLIT



...









IT'S ALL IN HOW YOU CONSTRUE REALITY, HASHIRAMA...

THAT'S NOT TRUE! I WON'T LET IT BE LIKE THAT!

COOPERATION IS MERELY A QUIETER FORM OF CONFLICT.

I CAN SEE IT NOW ONLY BECAUSE WE'VE SHOWN OUR GUTS TO EACH OTHER...

BUT LET'S AGREE NOT TO ARGUE TRIVIALITIES...

SHUP

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S AN EVEN MATCH FOR ME.

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME AT ALL, MADARA?!

IT'S MUCH SOUNDER TO JUST SEE THIS WORLD AS ENTERTAINMENT...

...UP UNTIL THE TIME I ACHIEVE MY TRUE DREAM.

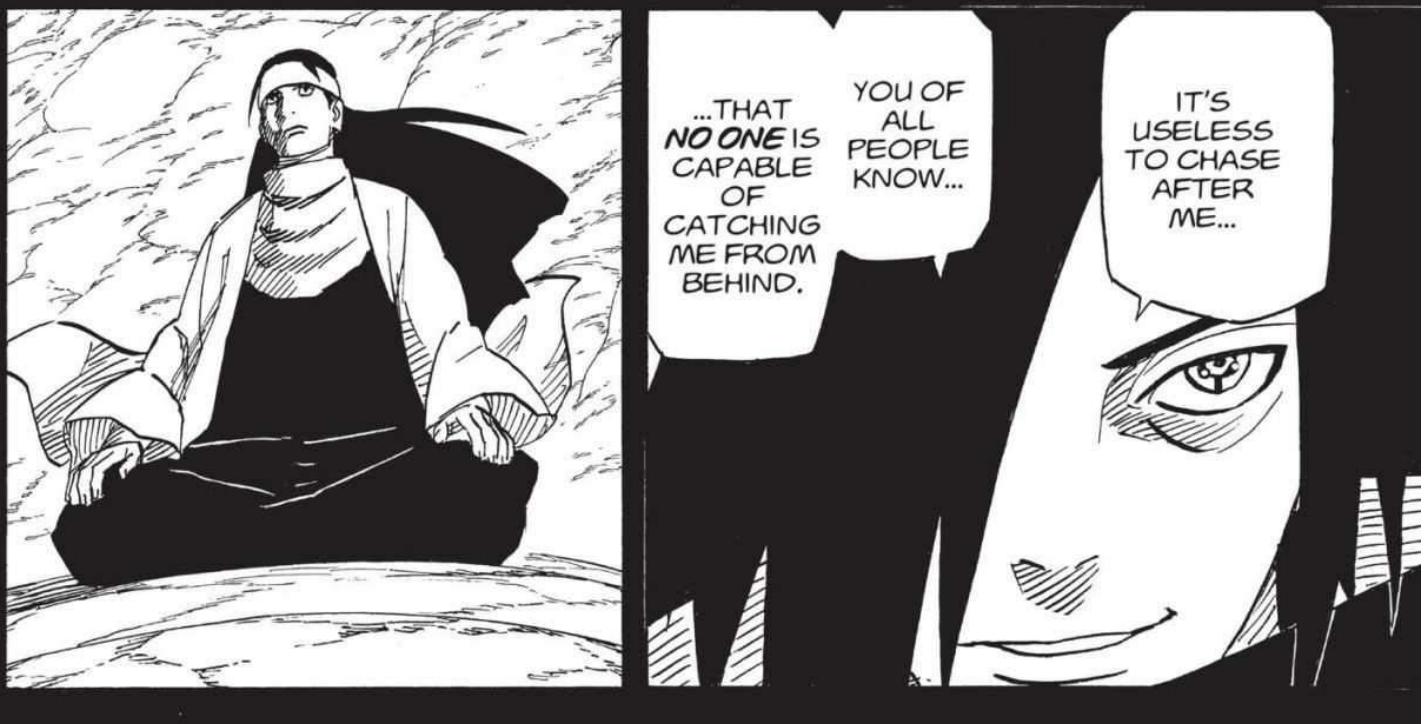
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE BATTLES WE'LL FIGHT...

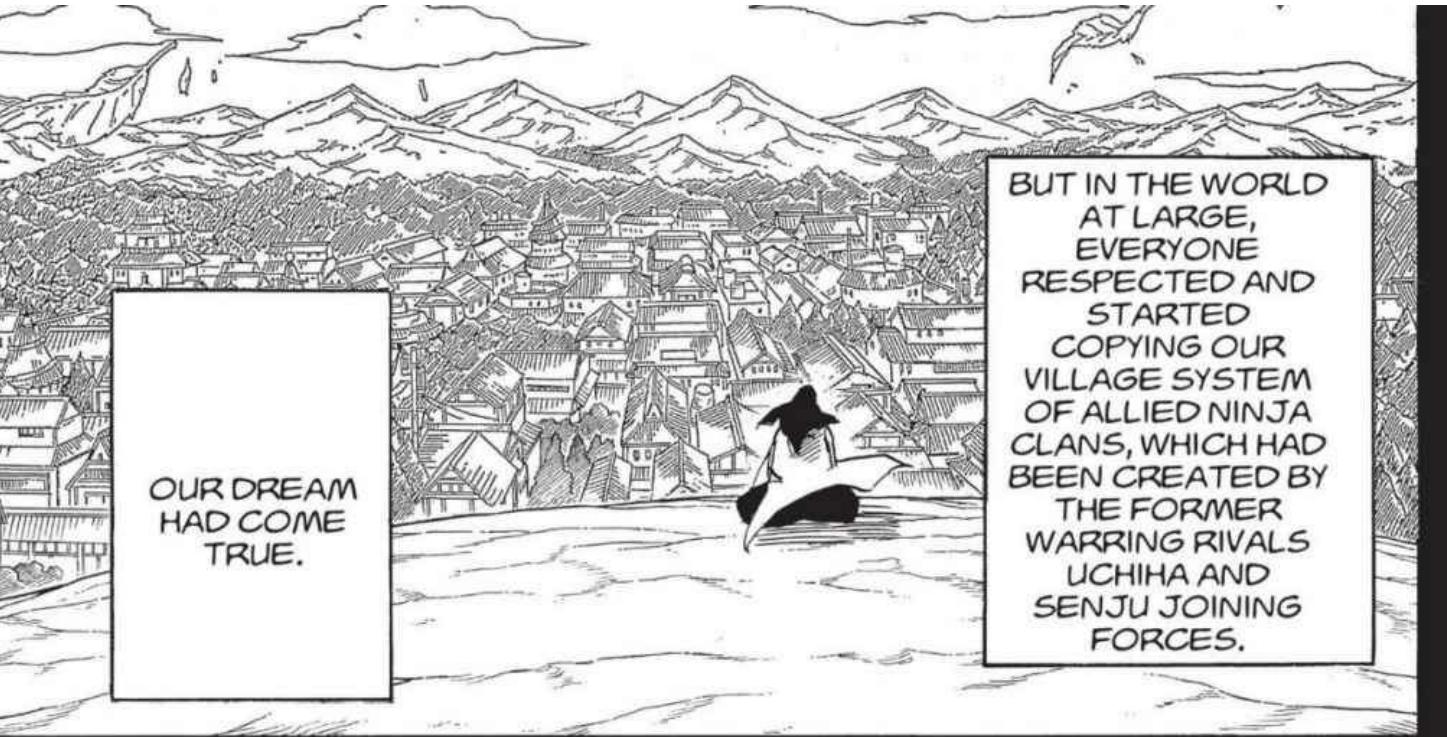




Number 626: Hashirama and Madara, Part 2







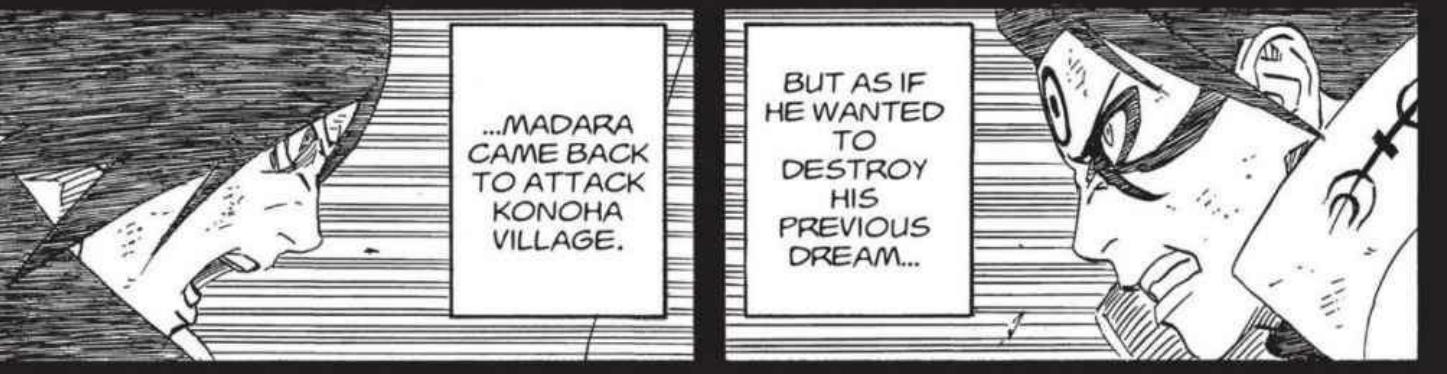
OUR DREAM
HAD COME
TRUE.

BUT IN THE WORLD
AT LARGE,
EVERYONE
RESPECTED AND
STARTED
COPYING OUR
VILLAGE SYSTEM
OF ALLIED NINJA
CLANS, WHICH HAD
BEEN CREATED BY
THE FORMER
WARRING RIVALS
UCHIHA AND
SENJU JOINING
FORCES.



...AND
STARTED
LIVING LONG
ENOUGH TO
EVEN KNOW
THE TASTE OF
ALCOHOL.

SHINOBI CHILDREN
GOT TO KNOW
ABOUT LEARNING
AND PLAYING
INSTEAD OF
BATTLE...

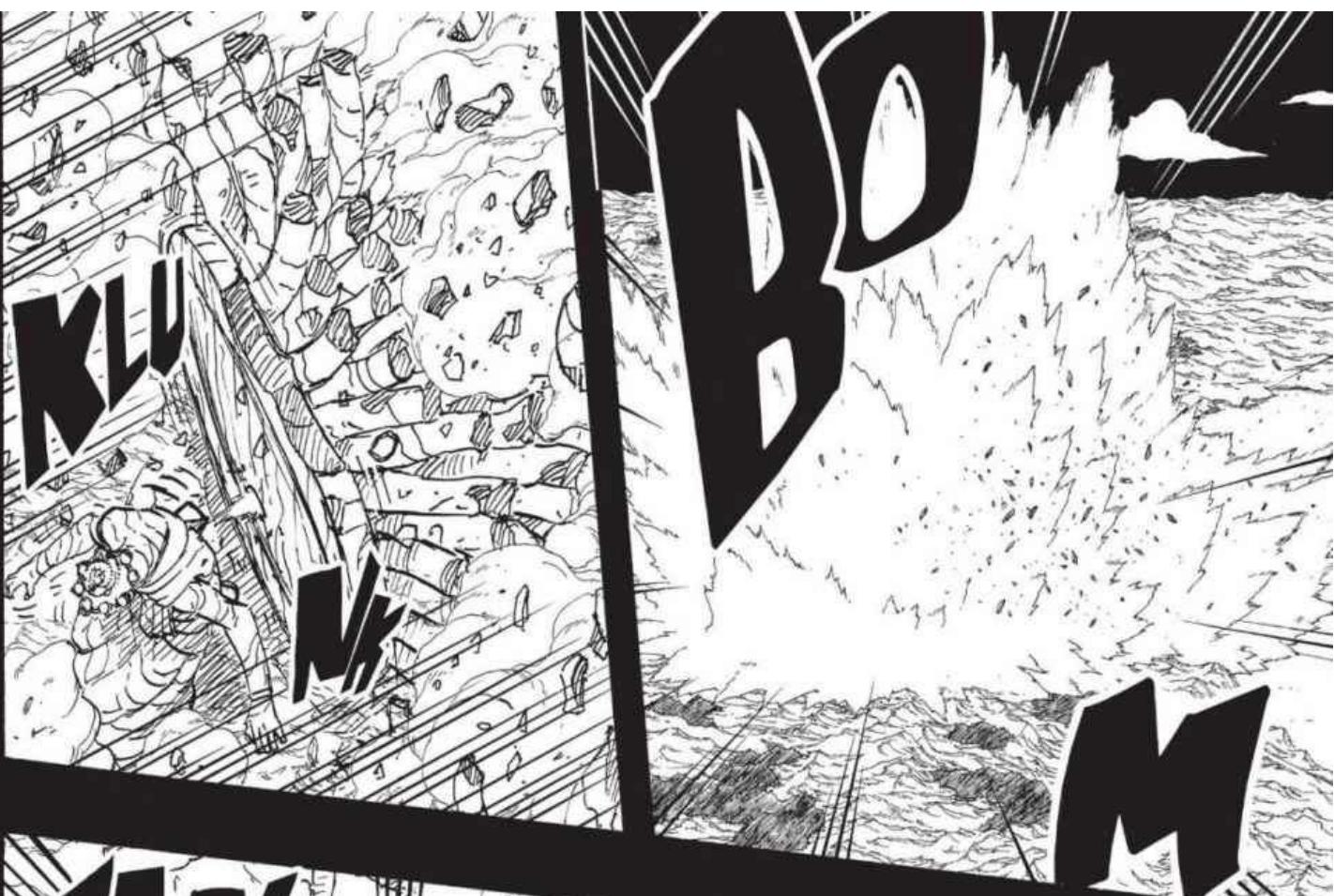


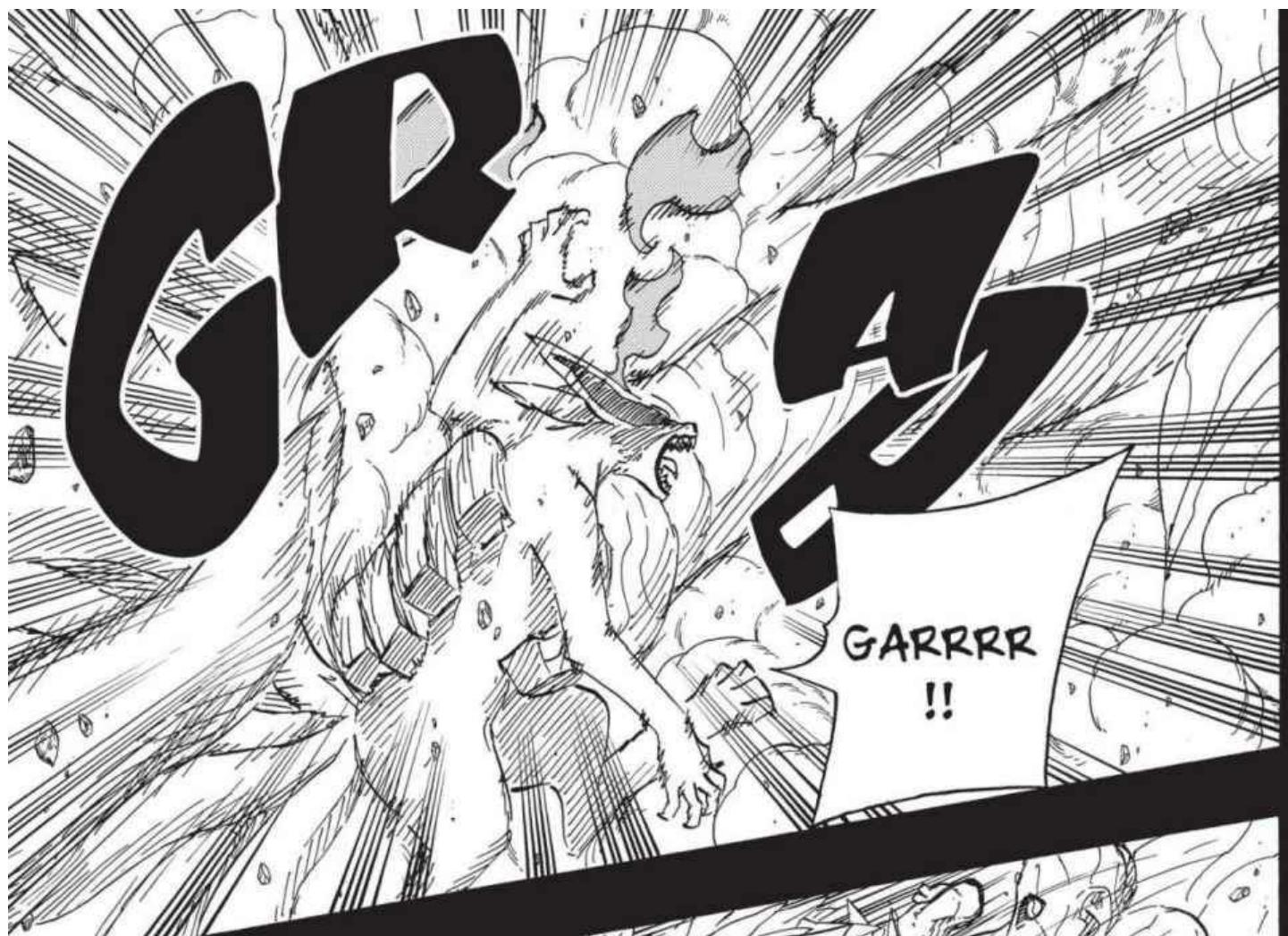
...MADARA
CAME BACK
TO ATTACK
KONOHA
VILLAGE.

BUT AS IF
HE WANTED
TO
DESTROY
HIS
PREVIOUS
DREAM...

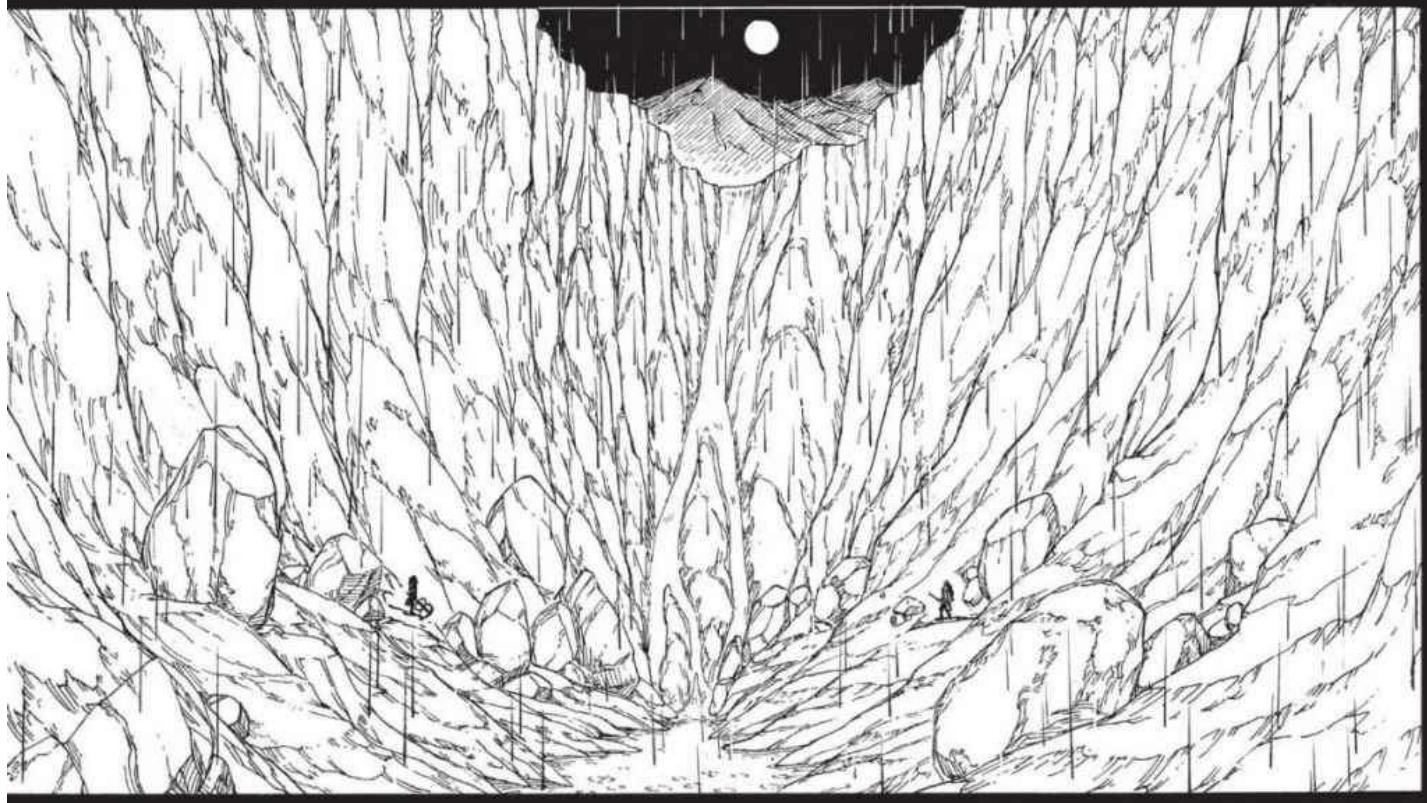


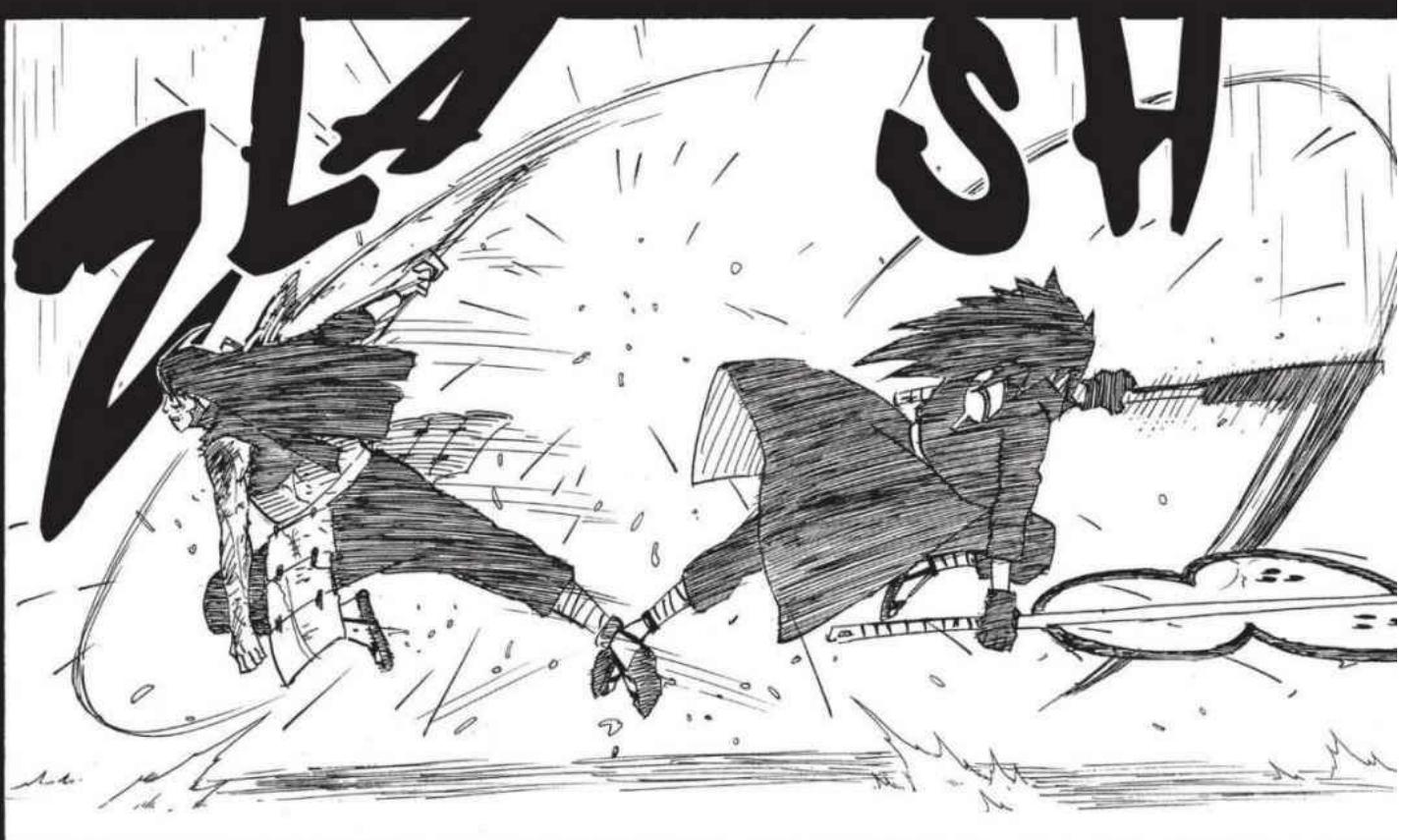
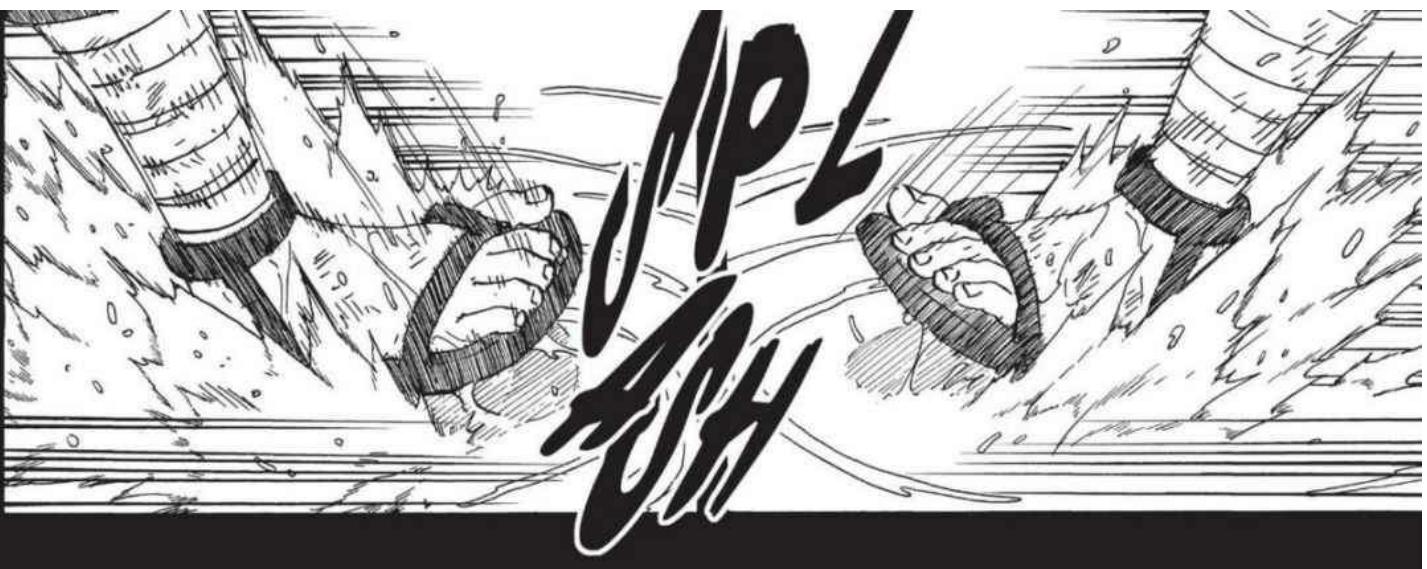
RAAA!!











CAN'T PERK BACK UP THIS TIME?

YOU LOOK PRETTY DEPRESSED... HASHIRAMA.

...I SIMPLY... WANT TO PROTECT... THE DREAM I FINALLY REALIZED.

UGH...

WE'VE FOUGHT ENOUGH...

THE FIRST STEPS ARE FOR US TO NOT GIVE UP ON OUR IDEALS AND TO GET A LOT STRONGER.

GULP GULP

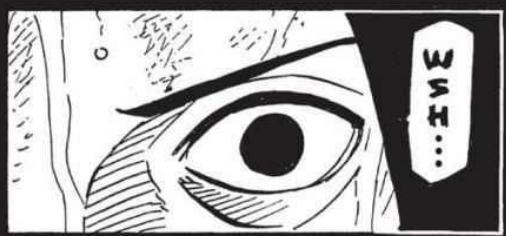
TK

...IS IT NOT POSSIBLE TO SHOW OUR GUTS TO EACH OTHER?

THAT DREAM IS NOW BECOMING REALITY.

EVEN THOUGH THERE REALLY WASN'T ANYTHING TRULY BEYOND MY GRASP...

LET'S BUILD OUR SETTLEMENT HERE!!



I STILL BELIEVE TO THIS DAY THAT PROTECTING...

...THE VILLAGE SHALL LEAD TO THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE, SHINOBI AND CHILDREN!

OR RATHER, MY VILLAGE.

NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES.

I AM GOING TO PROTECT OUR...

...OR EVEN MY VERY OWN CHILD.

I SHALL NOT TOLERATE ANYONE WHO SEEKS TO HARM THE VILLAGE, BE THEY FRIEND, BROTHER...

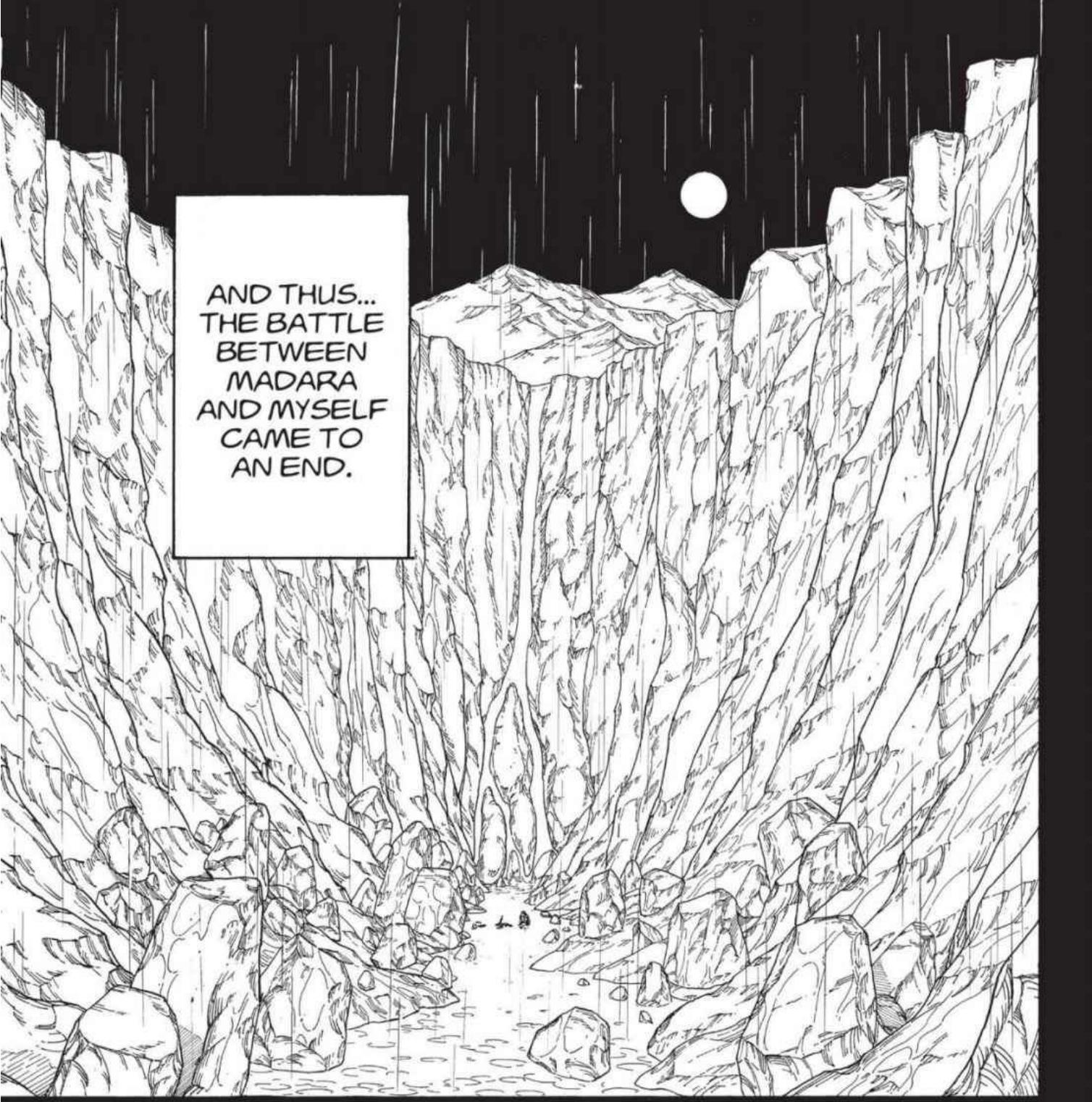
TO ENDURE IN ORDER TO WATCH OVER THE PRESENT.

I MADE A RESOLUTION THAT DAY.

YOU'VE CHANGED... HASHIRAMA...



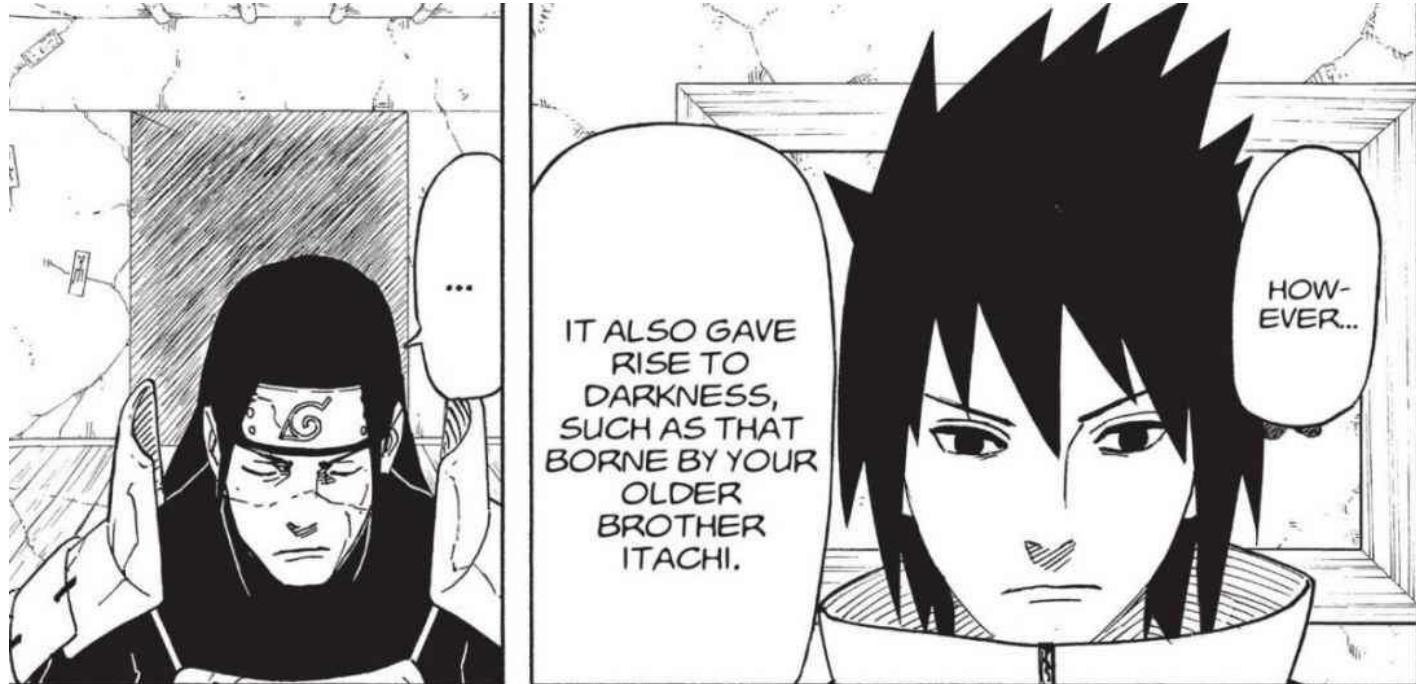




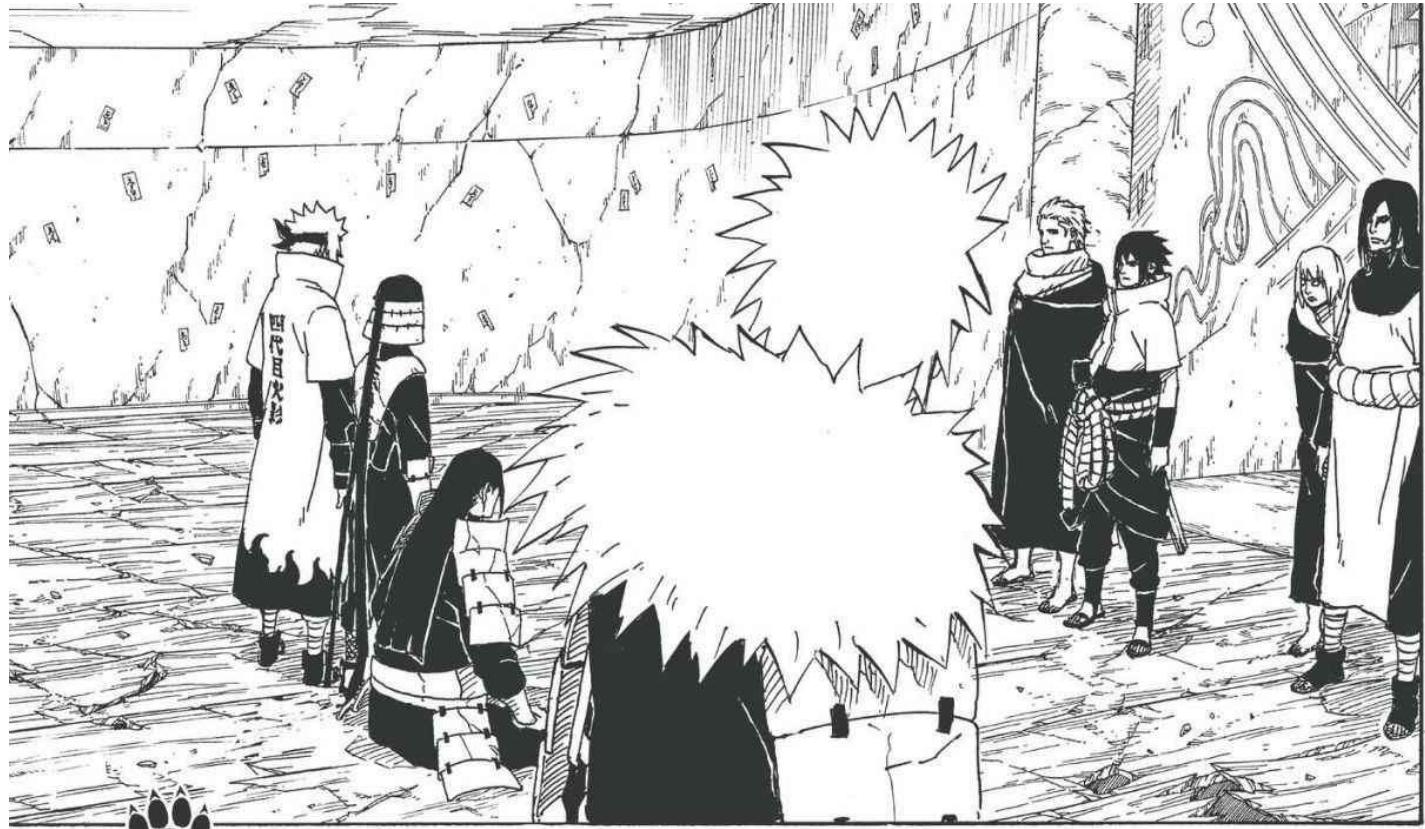
AND THUS...
THE BATTLE
BETWEEN
MADARA
AND MYSELF
CAME TO
AN END.





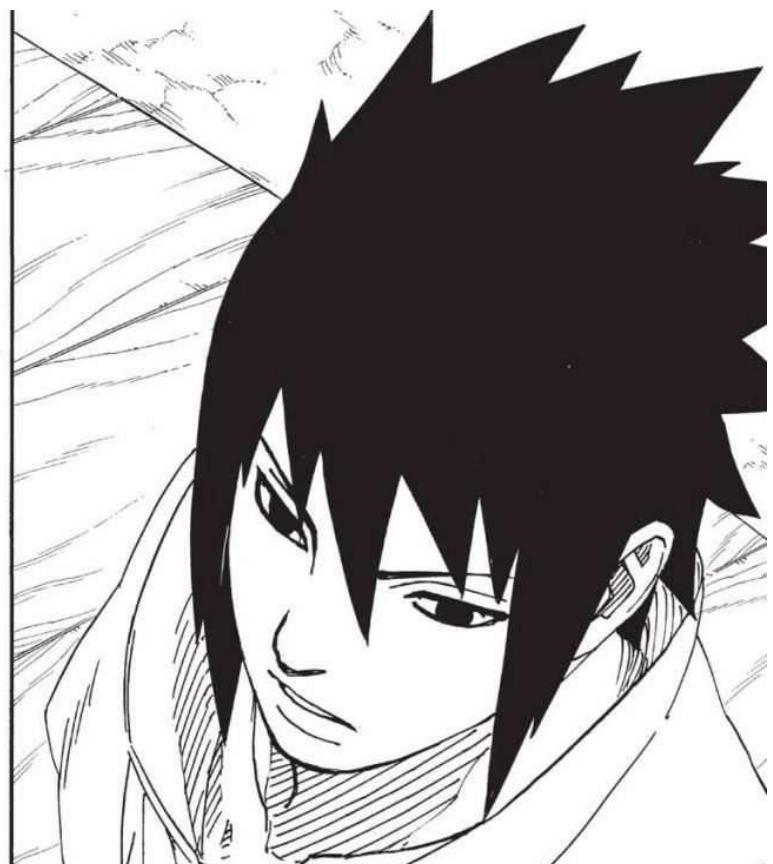
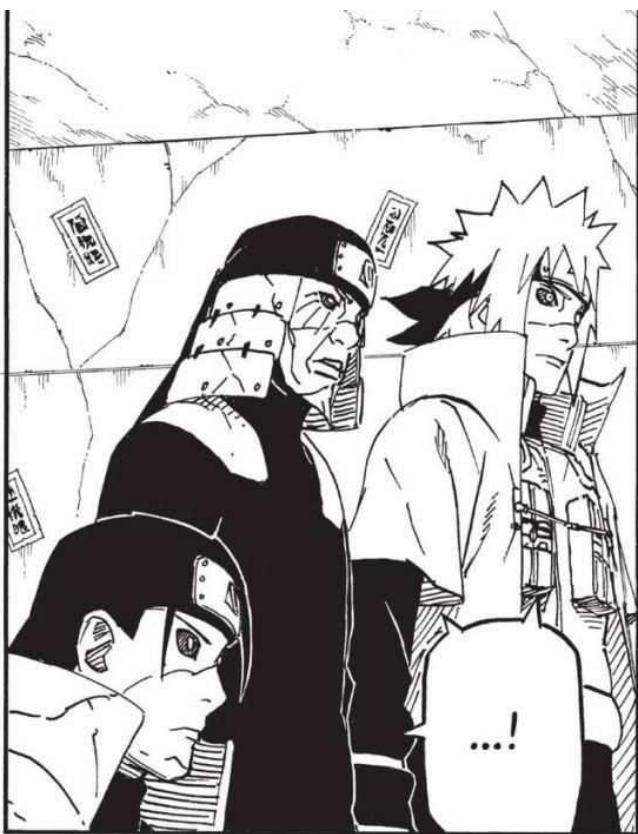






Number 627: Sasuke's Answer





...AND DIED
STATING HE
WAS PROUD
TO BE A
KONOHA
SHINOBI.

HE
ENDURED
LONGER
AND
HARDER
THAN
YOU...

HASHI-
RAMA...

IT TURNS OUT
MY BROTHER
INHERITED YOUR
WILL WITHOUT
YOU EVER
HAVING DIRECTLY
EXCHANGED
WORDS WITH
HIM...

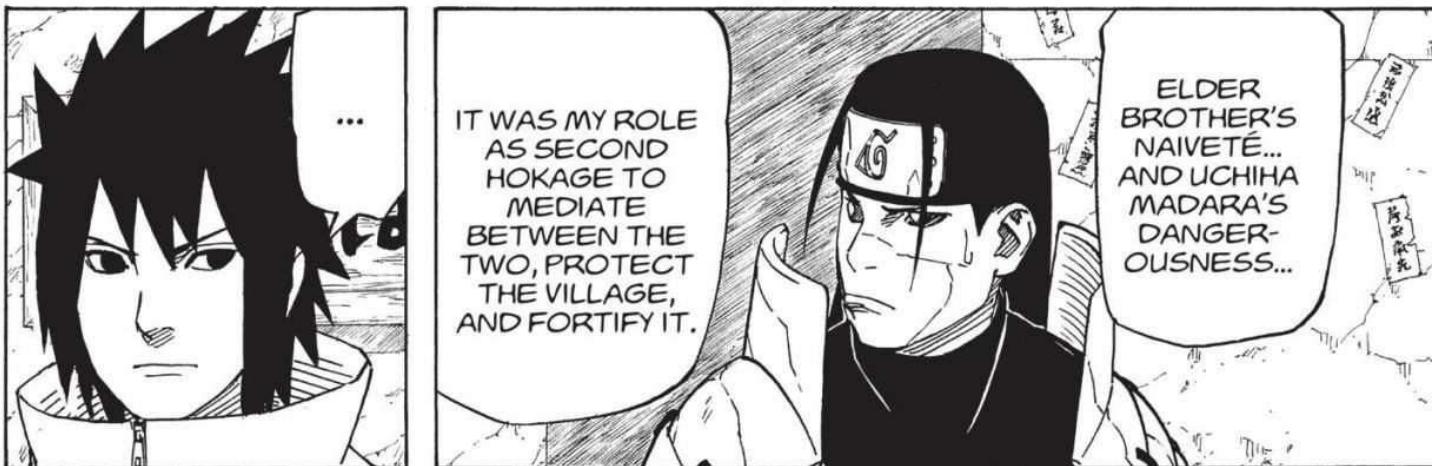
...WAS A
MEMBER
OF THE
UCHIHA
CLAN?

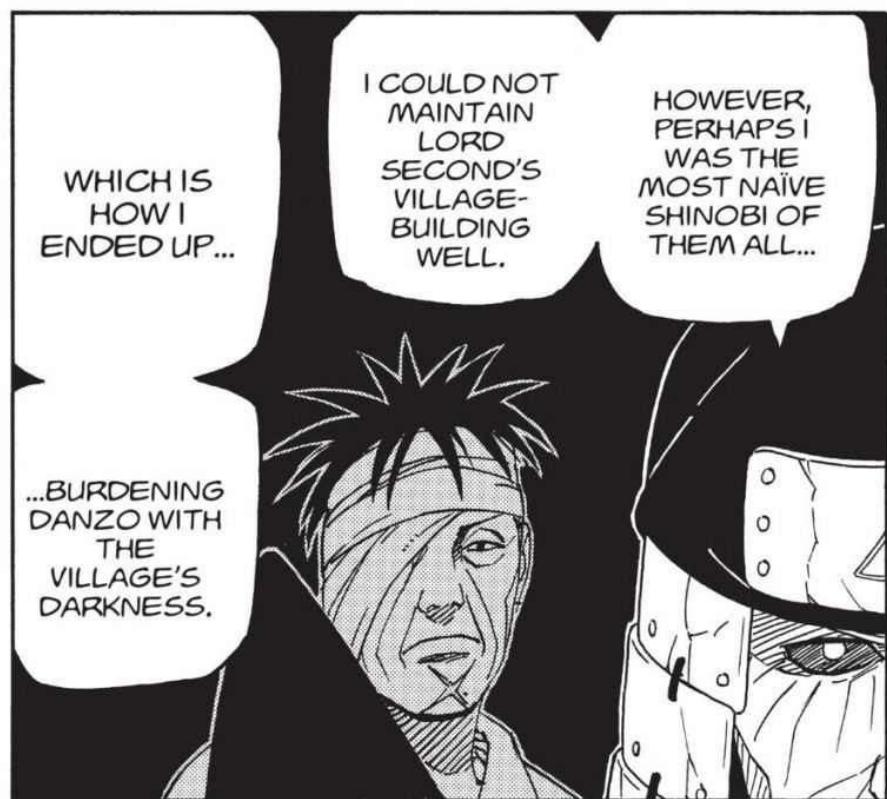
ISN'T IT IRONIC
THAT THE
SHINOBI WHO
UNDERSTOOD
YOU MOST...

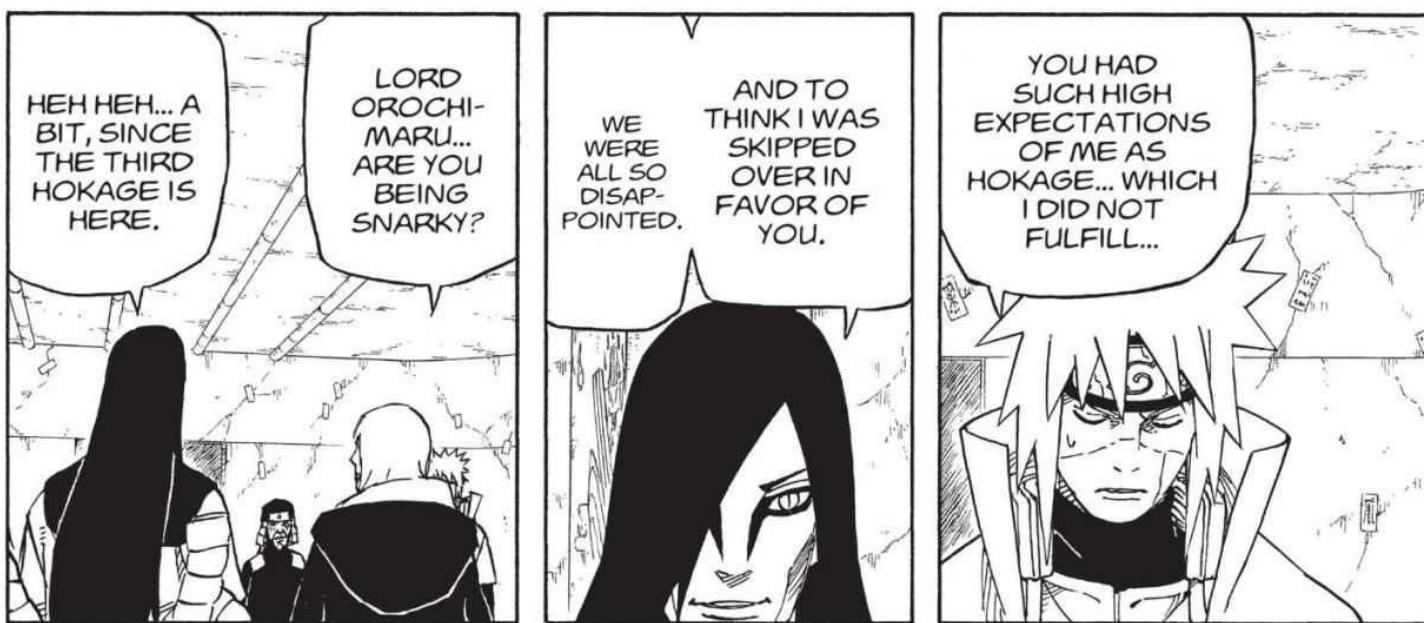
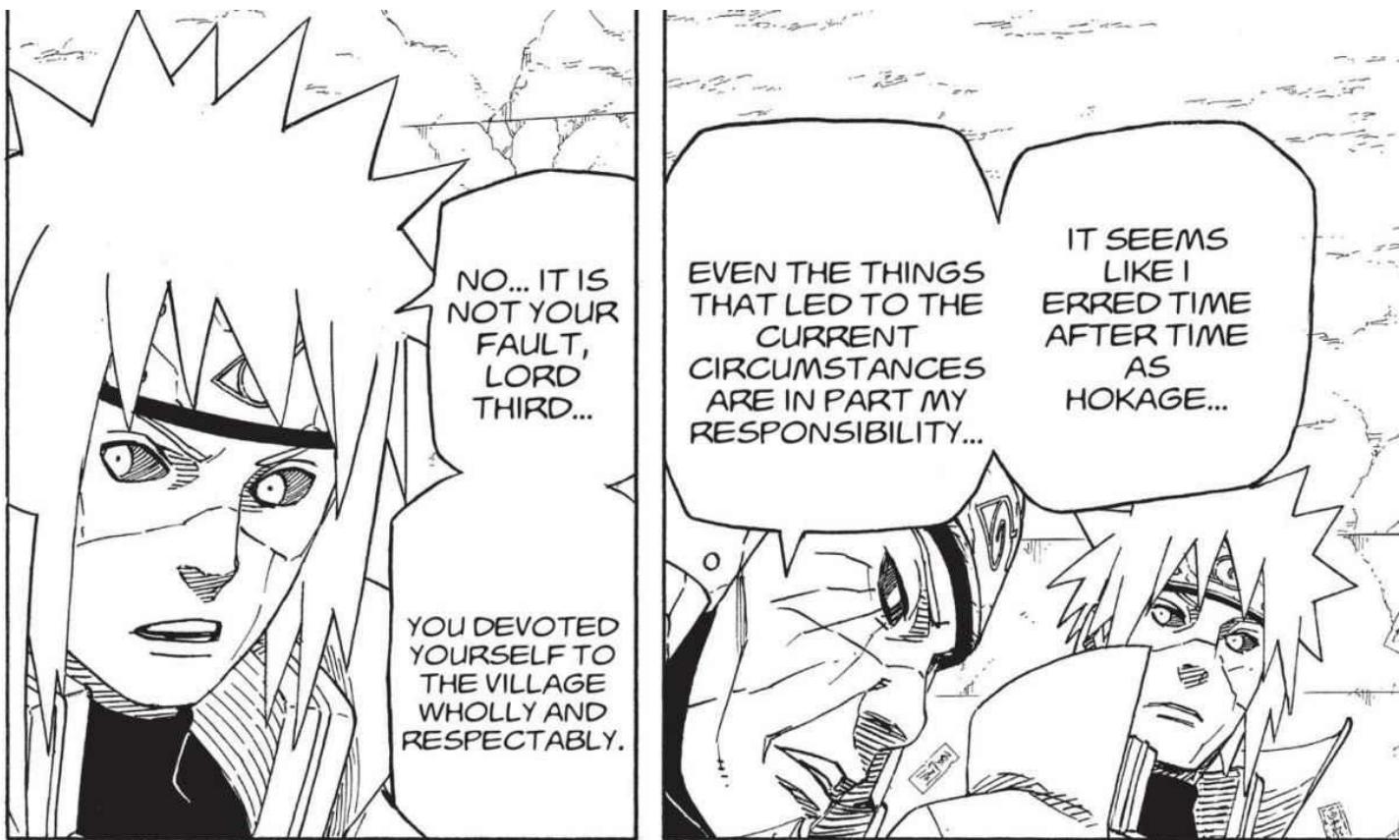
SECOND
HOKAGE... I
THOUGHT
YOU HATED
THE
UCHIHA?

ONE OF MY
SUBORD-
INATES
WAS UCHIHA
KAGAMI,
A MAN
A LOT LIKE
YOUR
BROTHER.

YOUR
BROTHER
WASN'T
THE ONLY
ONE.













YOU DON'T
EVER HAVE
TO FORGIVE
ME...



BUT I WANT
TO IMPART AT
LEAST THIS
MUCH TRUTH
TO YOU...



...AND NO
MATTER WHAT
YOU DO FROM
HERE OUT,
KNOW THIS...

I WILL
LOVE YOU
ALWAYS.



I WON'T LET
THE VILLAGE
AND ITACHI...
BECOME
NOTHING!

I'M GOING TO
HEAD TO THE
BATTLEFIELD.

