

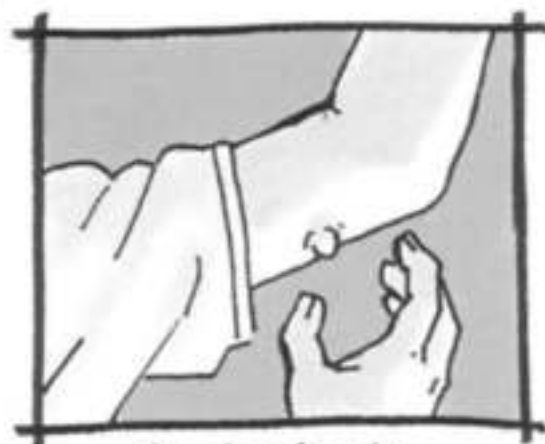
SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story & Art by

**Masashi Kishimoto**

volume

**31**



岸本 齊史

Recently I carelessly plucked a wart off of my upper arm. Gouging it out left that part of my skin damaged with a depression in it. The whole thing left me with a different kind of depression.

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2005



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. 31**  
**The SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition**

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**STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO**

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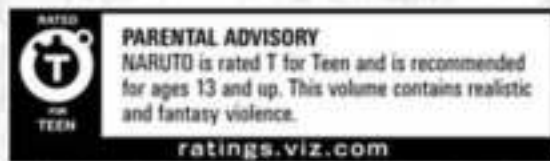
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SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

# NARUTO



VOL. 31  
FINAL  
BATTLE

STORY AND ART BY  
MASASHI KISHIMOTO



# CHARACTERS

Sakura  
サクラ

Naruto  
ナルト





Naruto, the biggest troublemaker at the Ninja Academy in the village of Konohagakure, finally becomes a ninja along with his classmates, Sasuke and Sakura. During the Chûnin Selection Exams, Orochimaru and his henchmen launch *Operation Destroy Konoha*. Naruto's mentor, the Third Hokage, sacrifices his own life to stop the attack, and Tsunade becomes the Fifth Hokage. Lured by Orochimaru, Sasuke leaves Konohagakure. Naruto fights valiantly against Sasuke, but cannot stop his friend from following the path of darkness...

Two years pass, and Naruto and his comrades grow up and undergo separate training programs, until Gaara falls into the hands of the Akatsuki. Naruto charges into the enemy's lair to rescue Gaara, but Deidara stops him. Sakura and Granny Chiyo remain in the cave locked in battle with Sasori!!

THE STORY SO FAR...





# NARUTO

VOL. 31  
FINAL BATTLE

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Number 272:

Granny Chiyo vs.

Sasori...!!







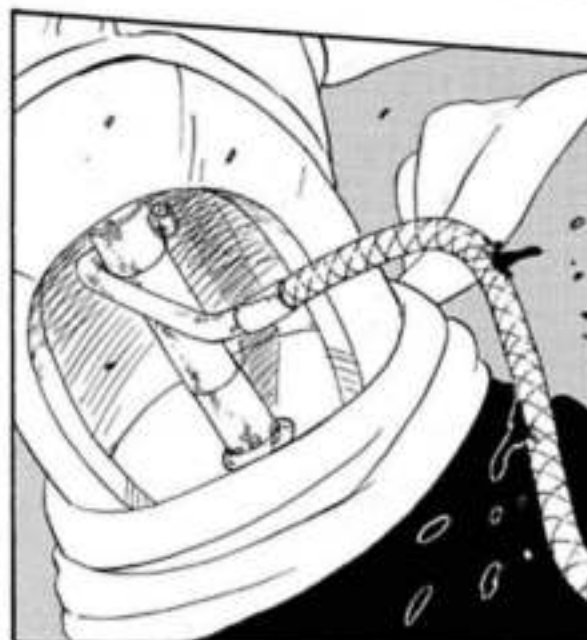
**KASHAK**



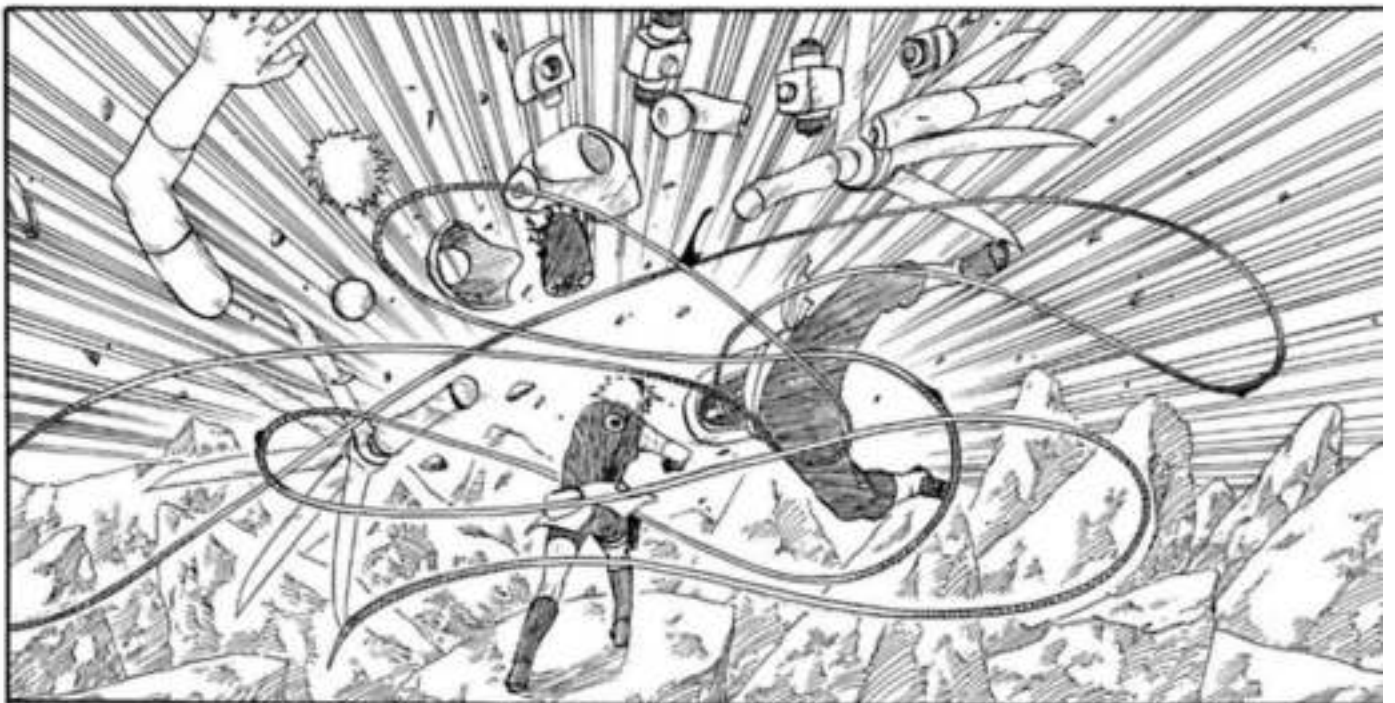
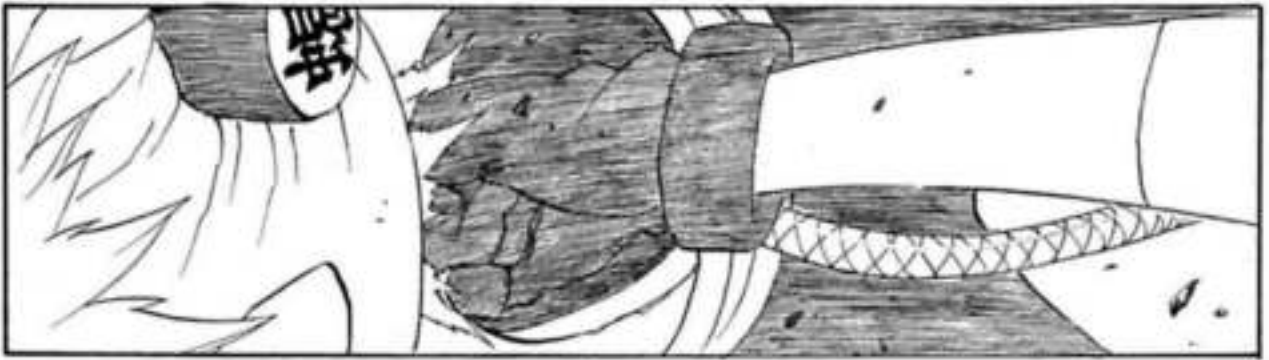
GRANNY  
CHIYO...!!!

















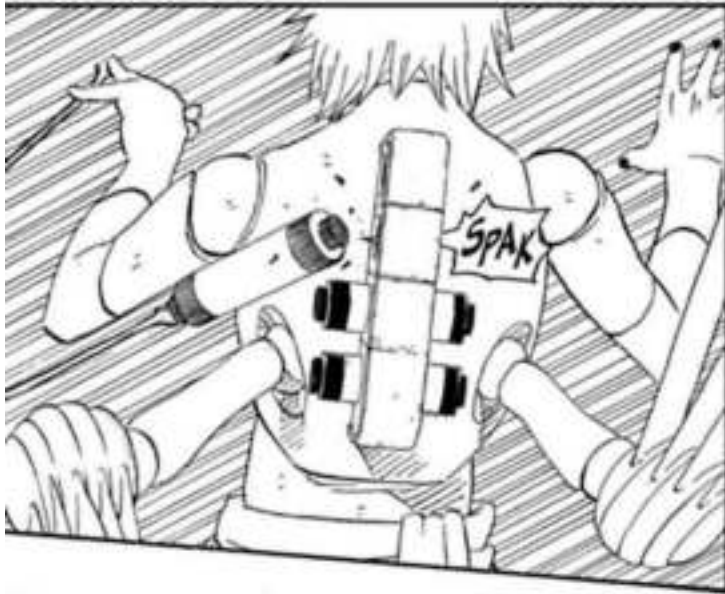




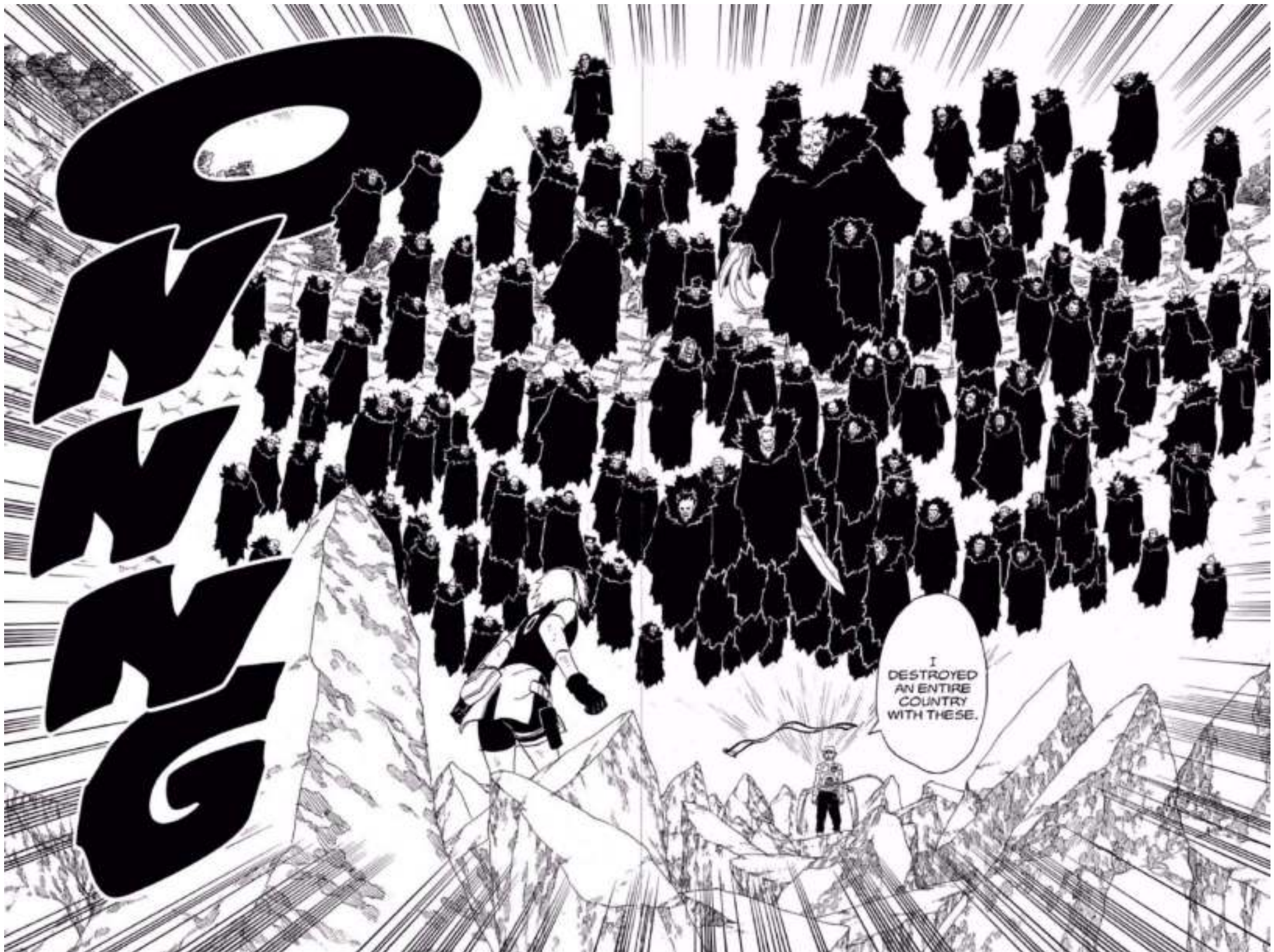












NO

I DESTROYED AN ENTIRE COUNTRY WITH THESE.













**NARUTO**



Number 273:

# Final Battle...!!











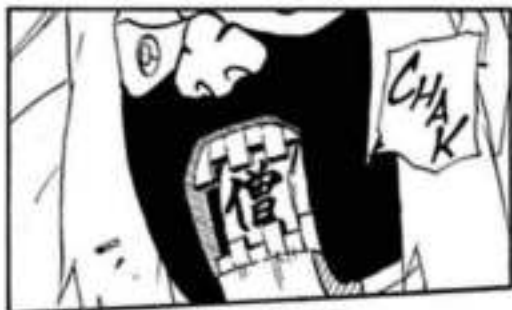




(Butsu: Buddha)



(Pou: Dharma)

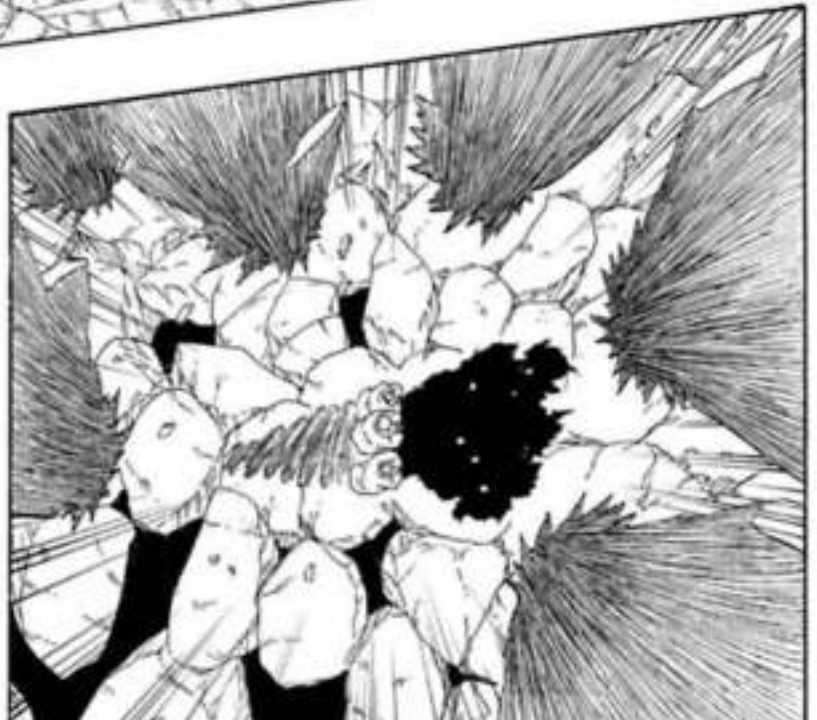


(Sou: Monk)



SANPO  
KYUKAI!  
THREE  
TREA-  
SURES  
VACUUM!!









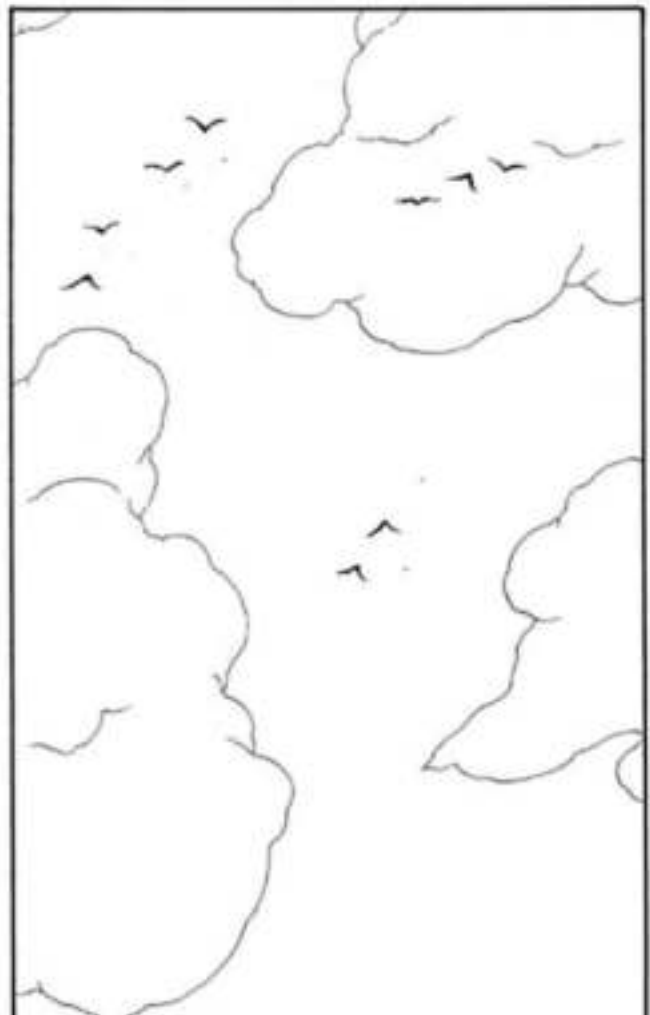


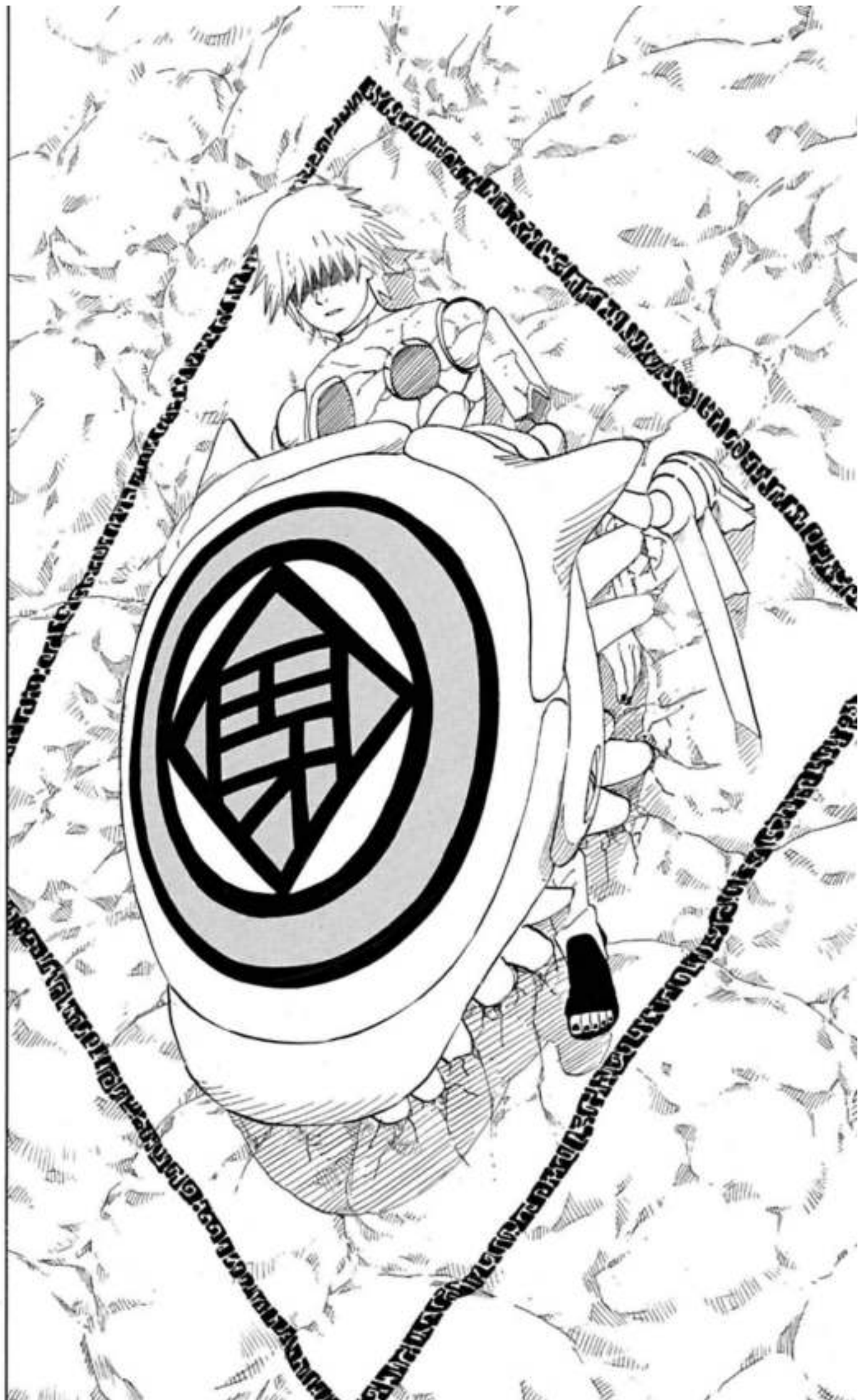


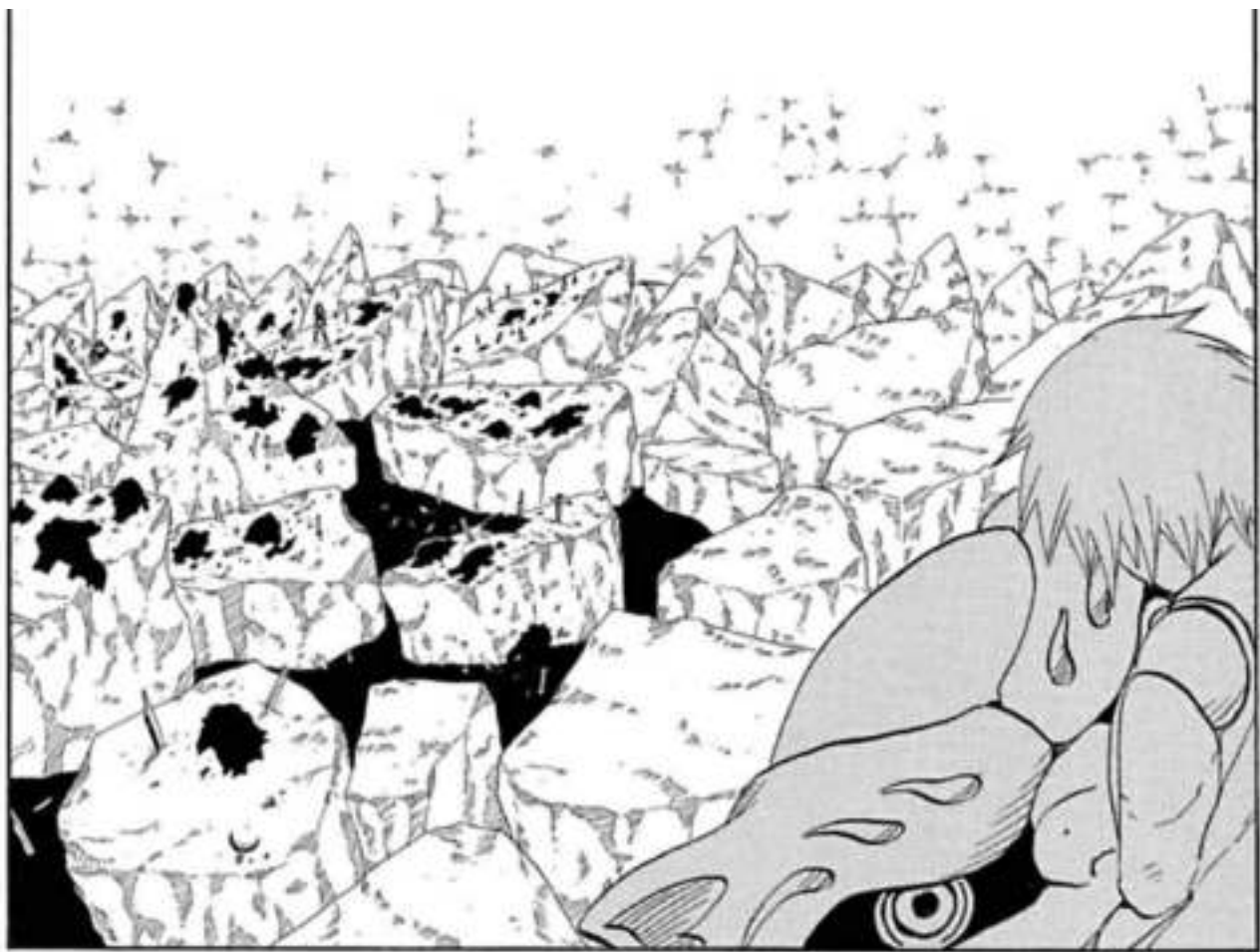










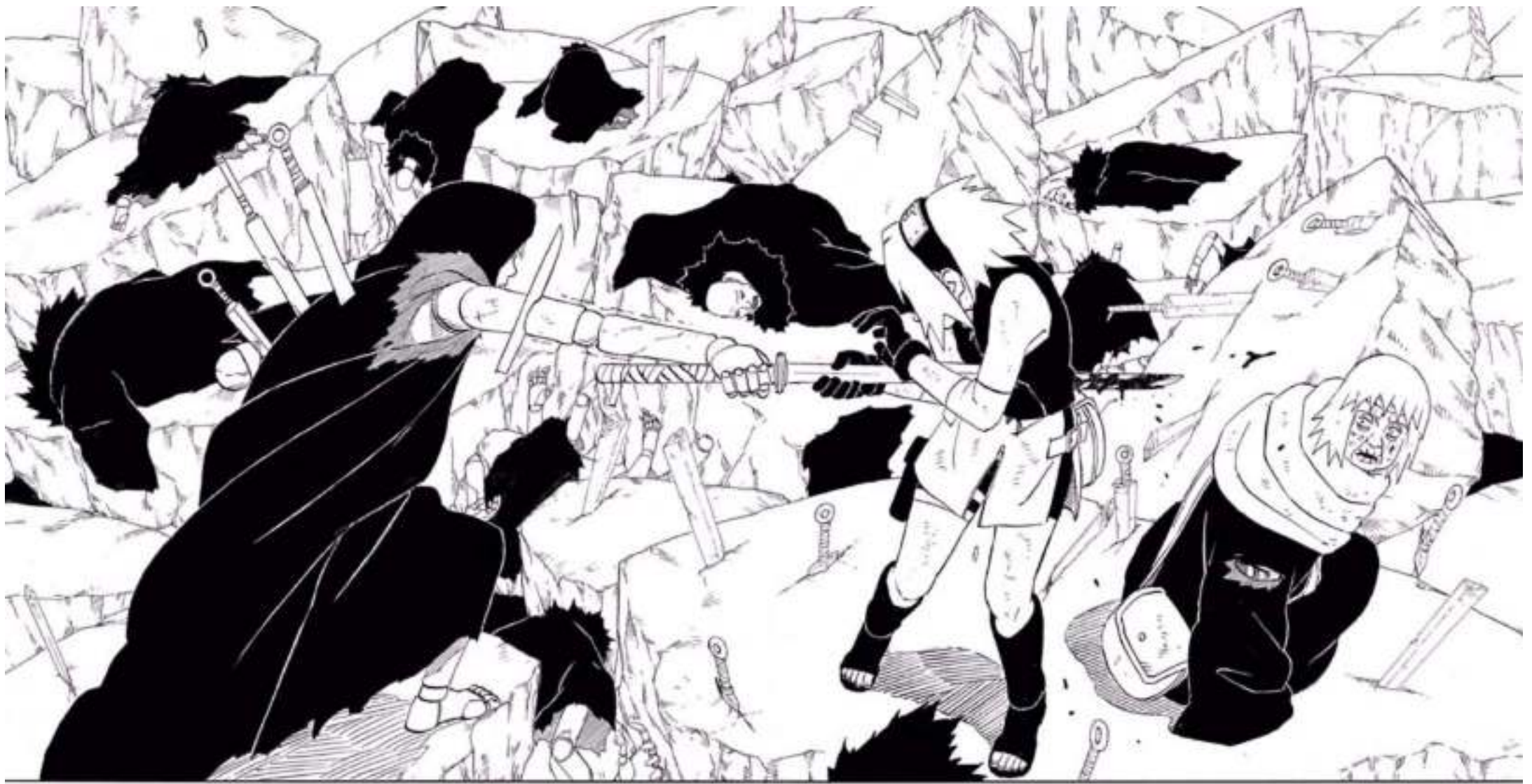












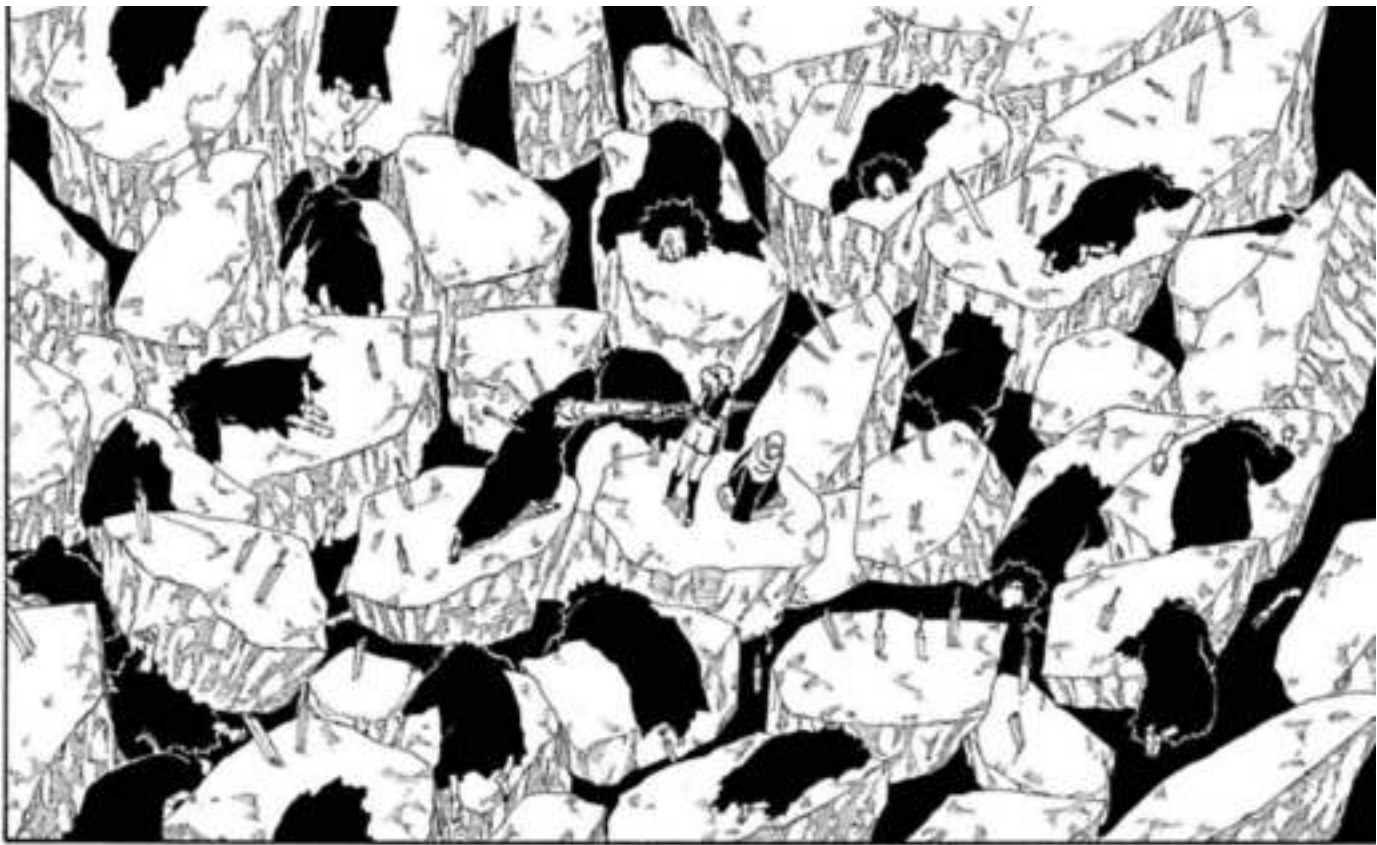


**NARUTO**



# Number 274: Impossible Dream

















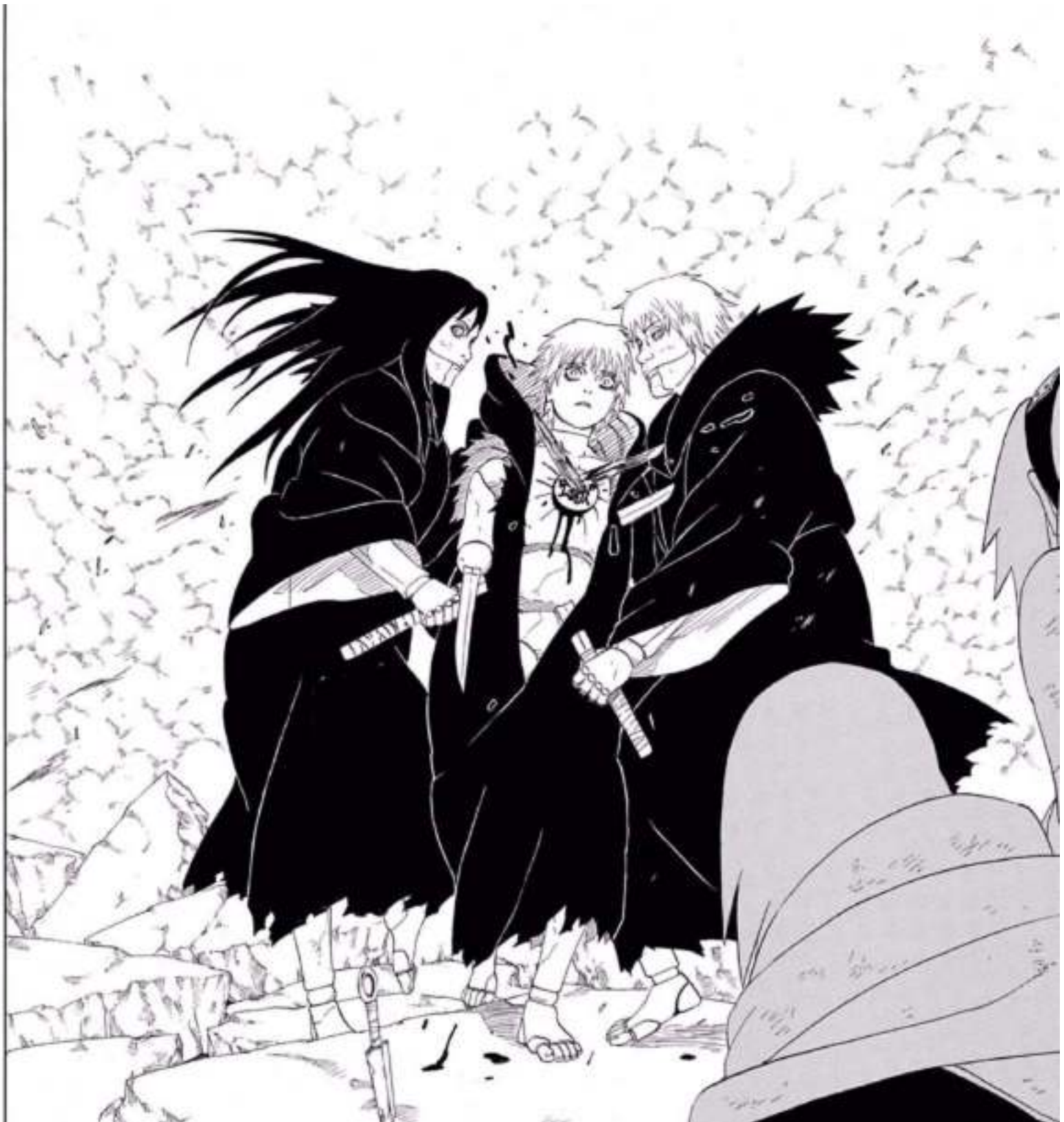




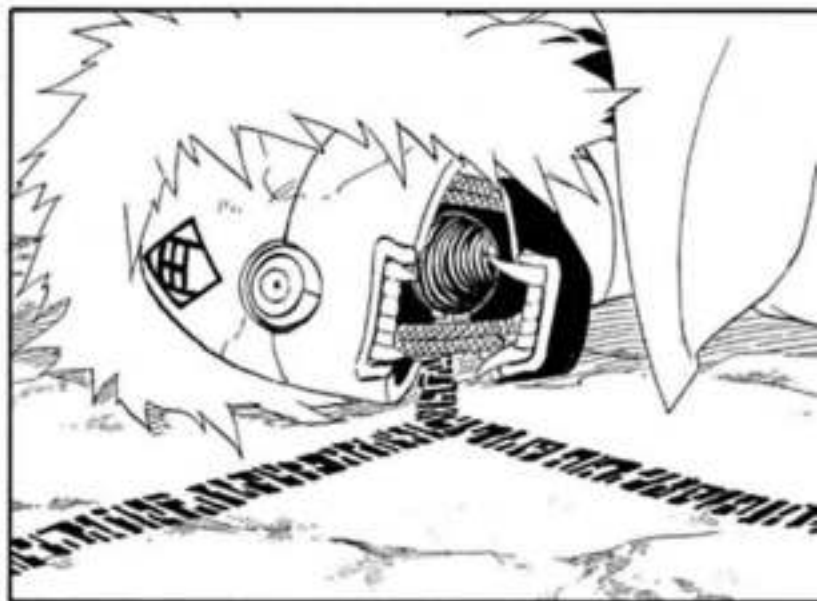




READ THIS WAY

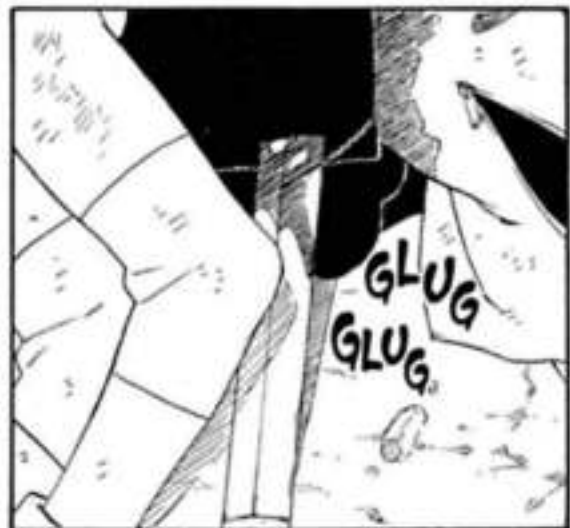


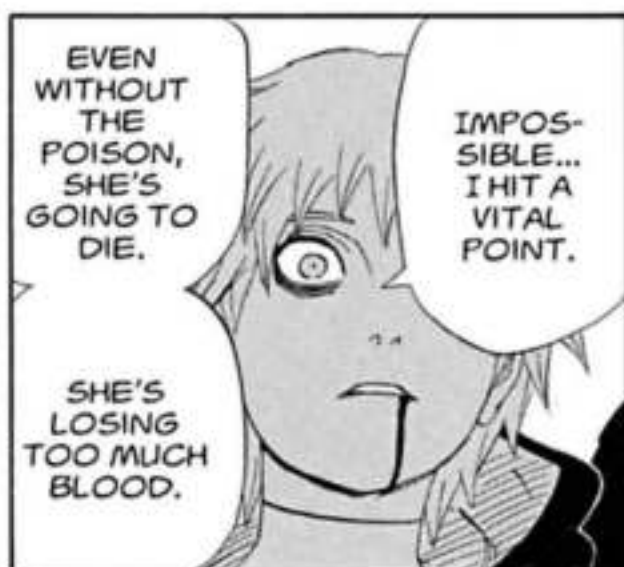




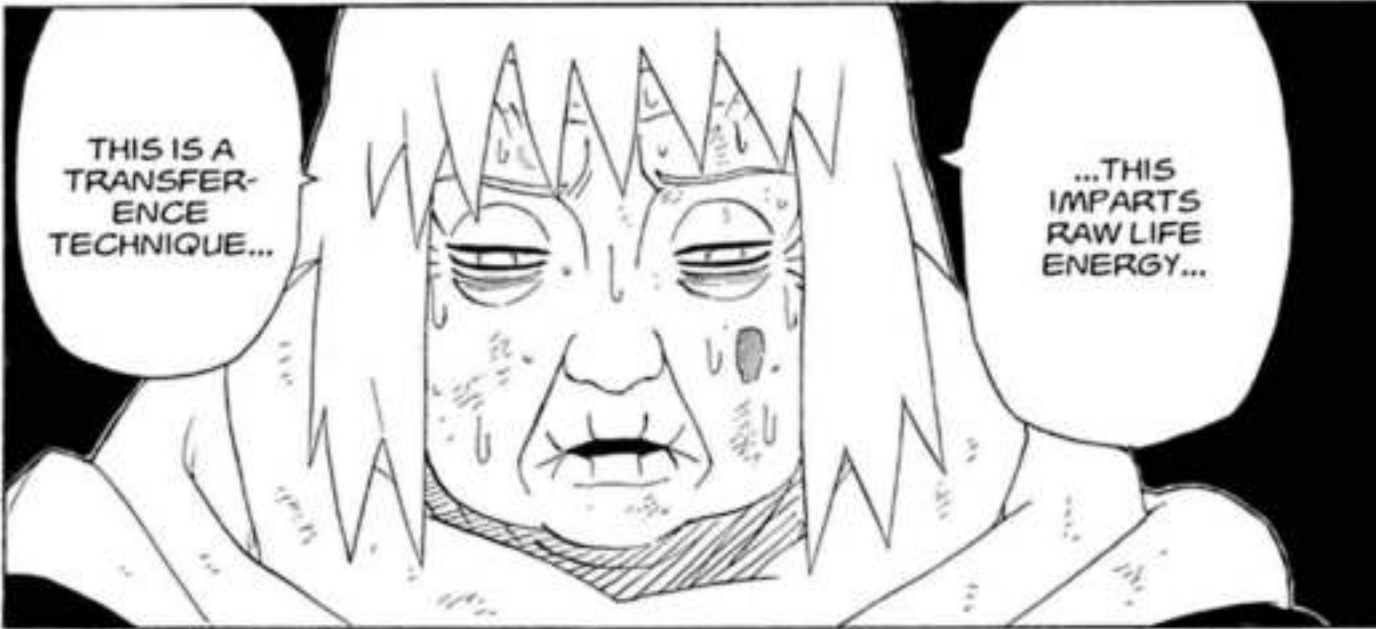


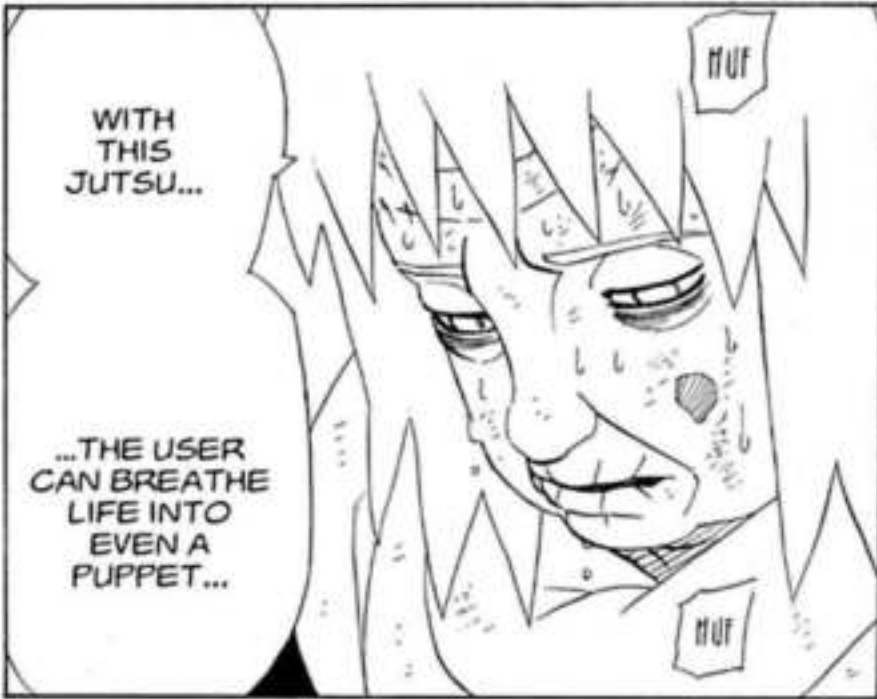





















 Number 275:  
Reward...!!  
zz







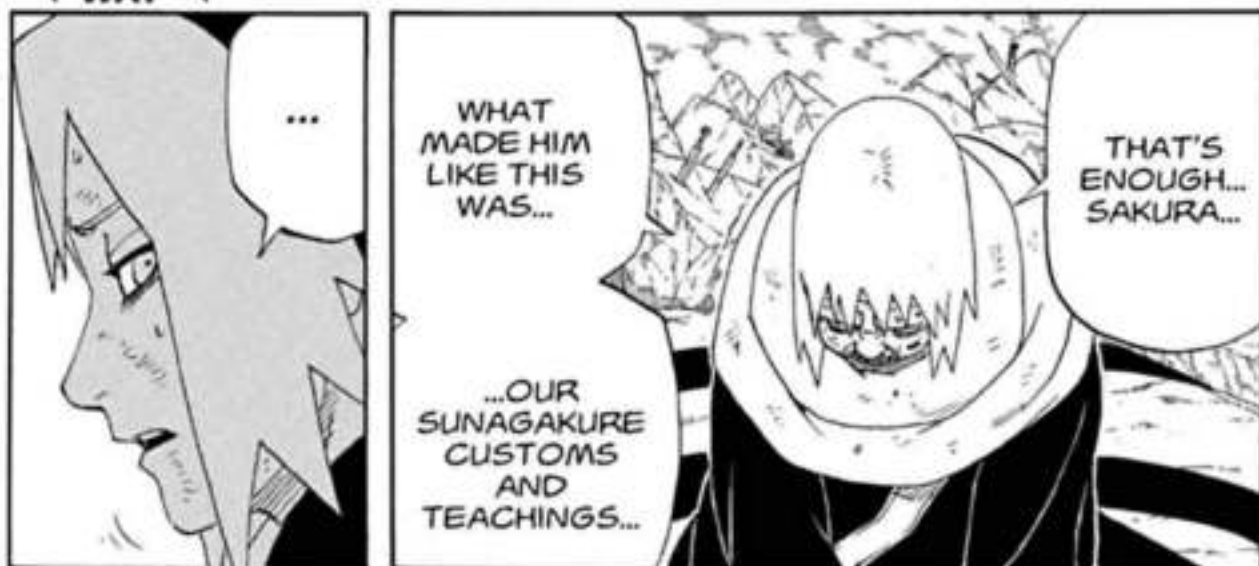














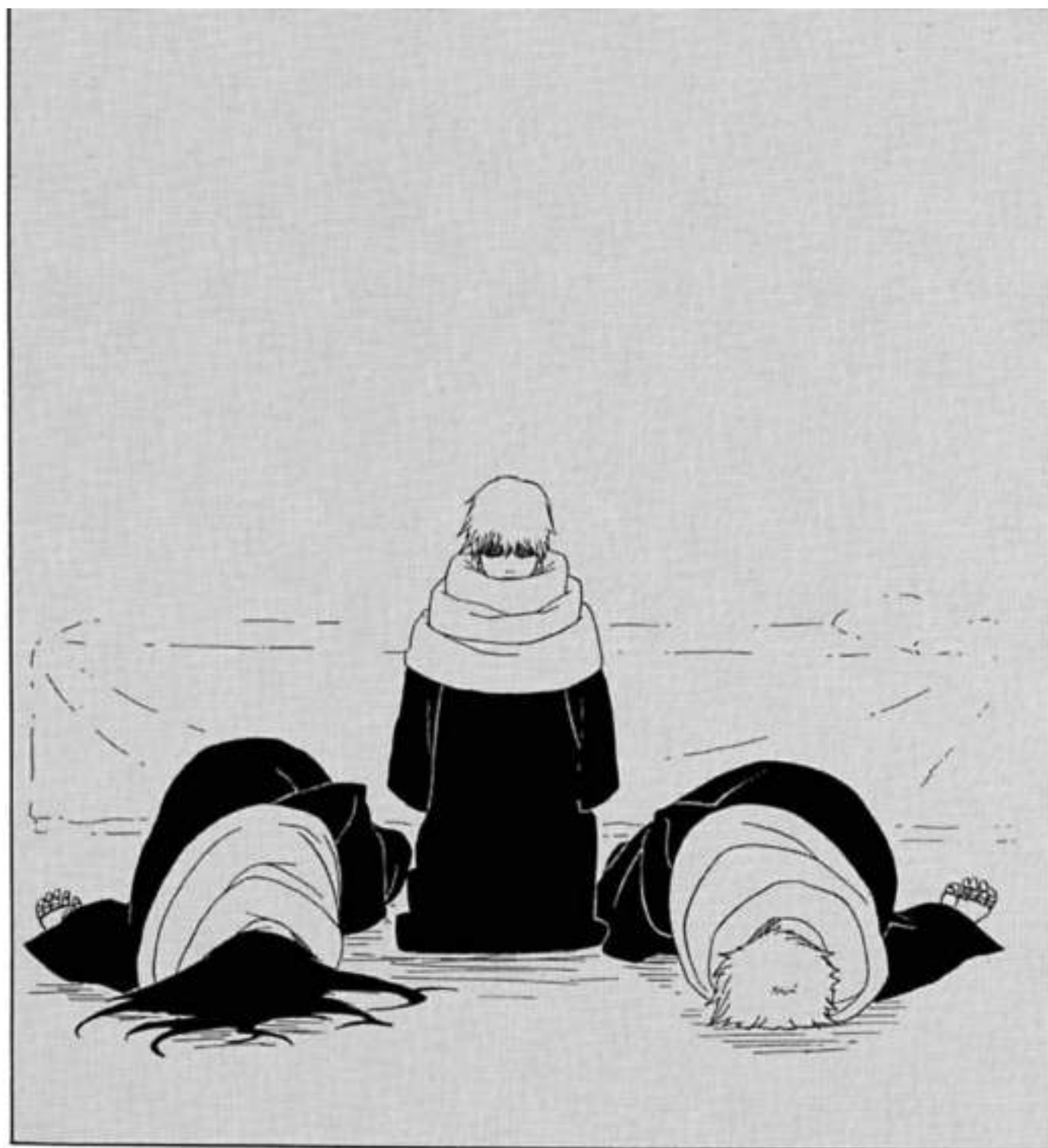


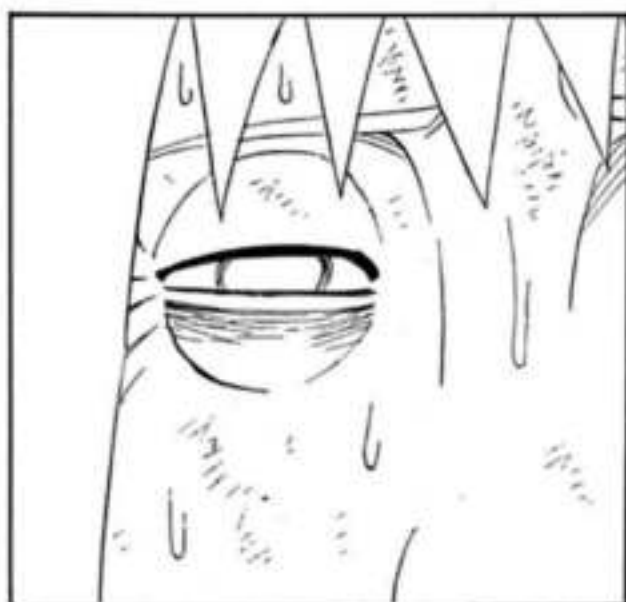




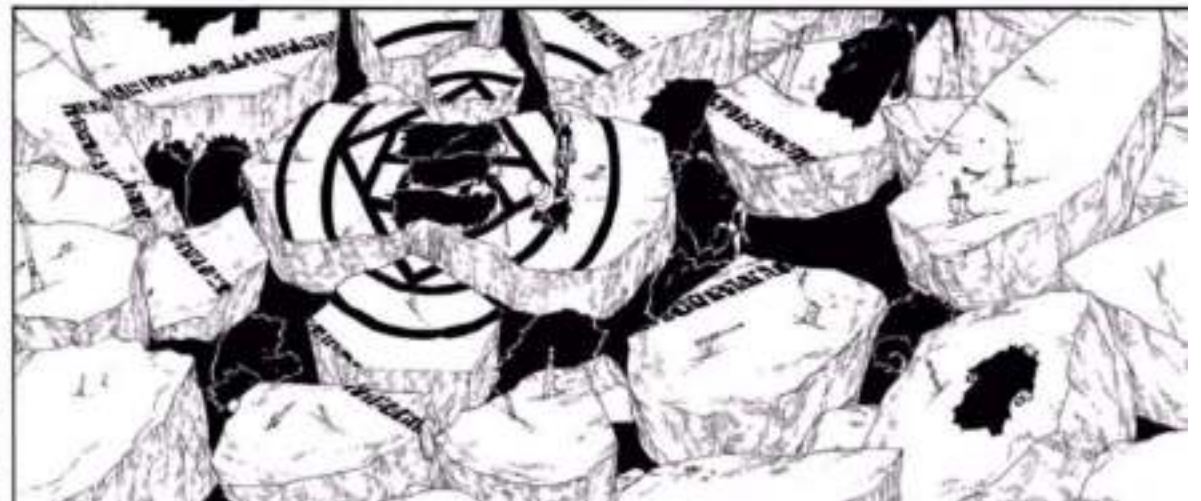
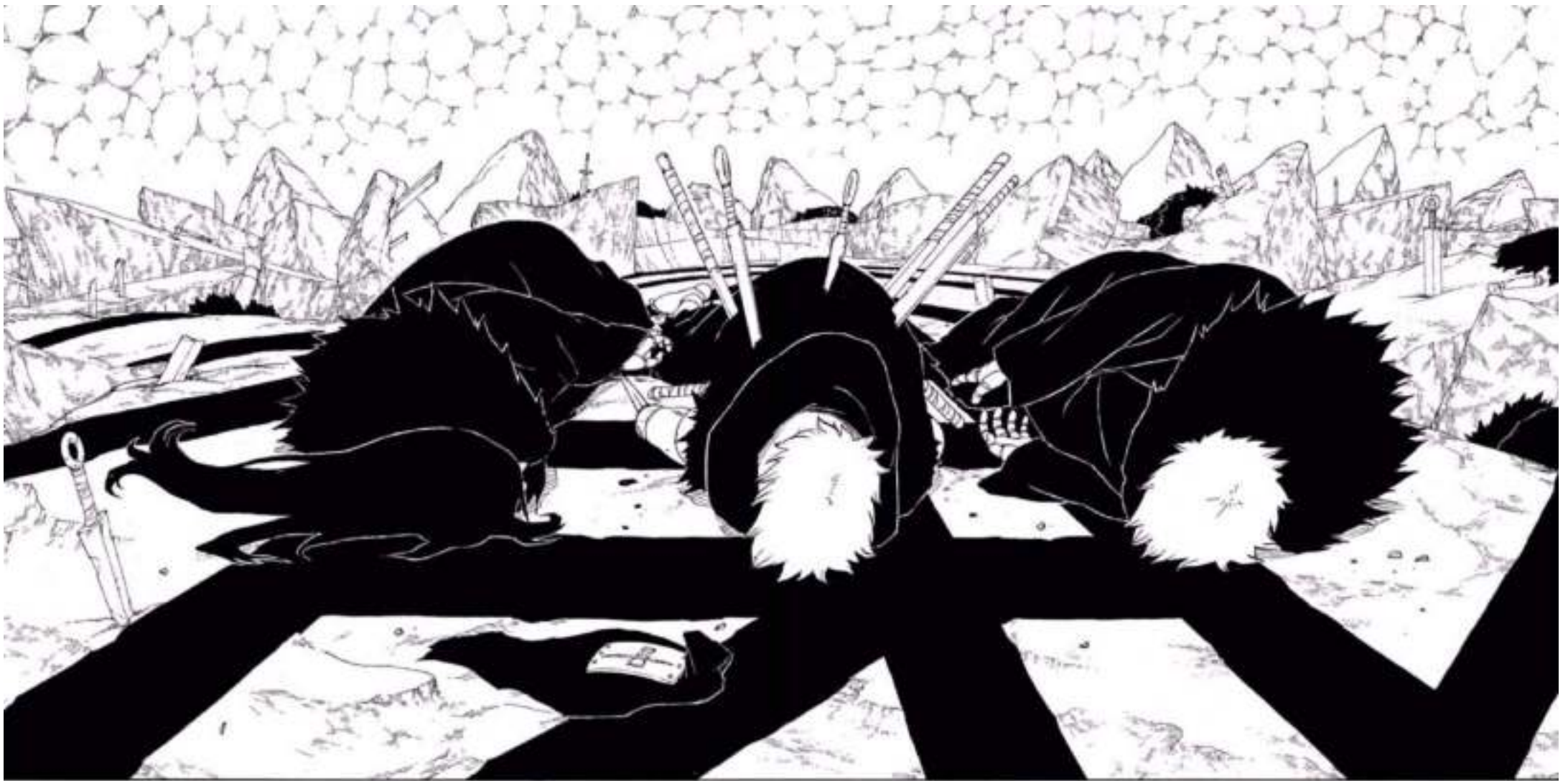








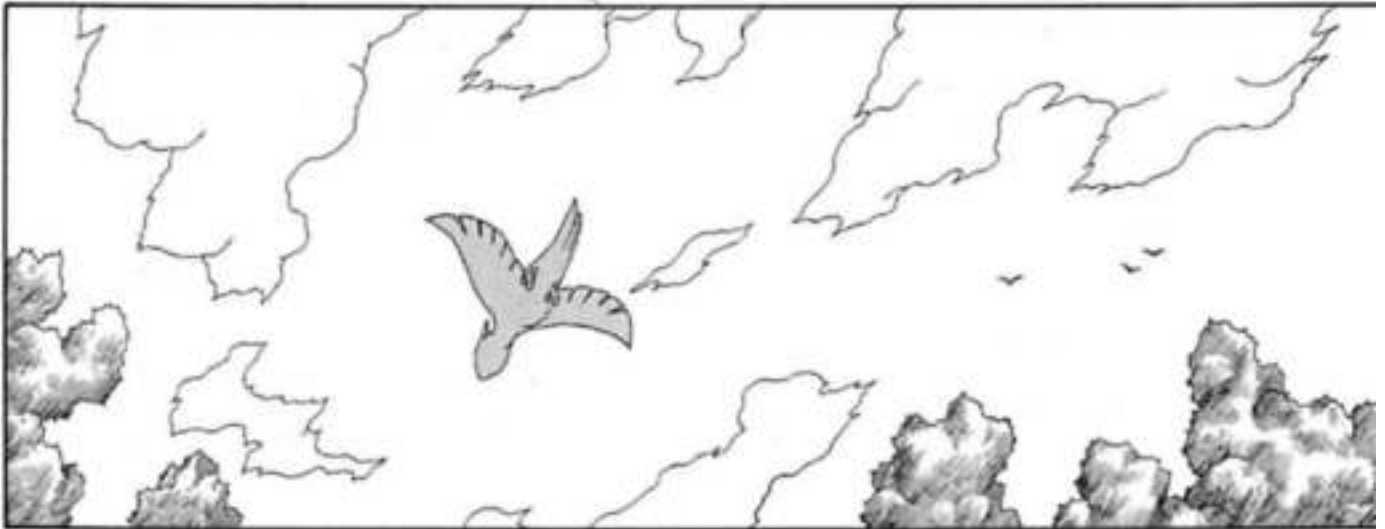














**NARUTO**

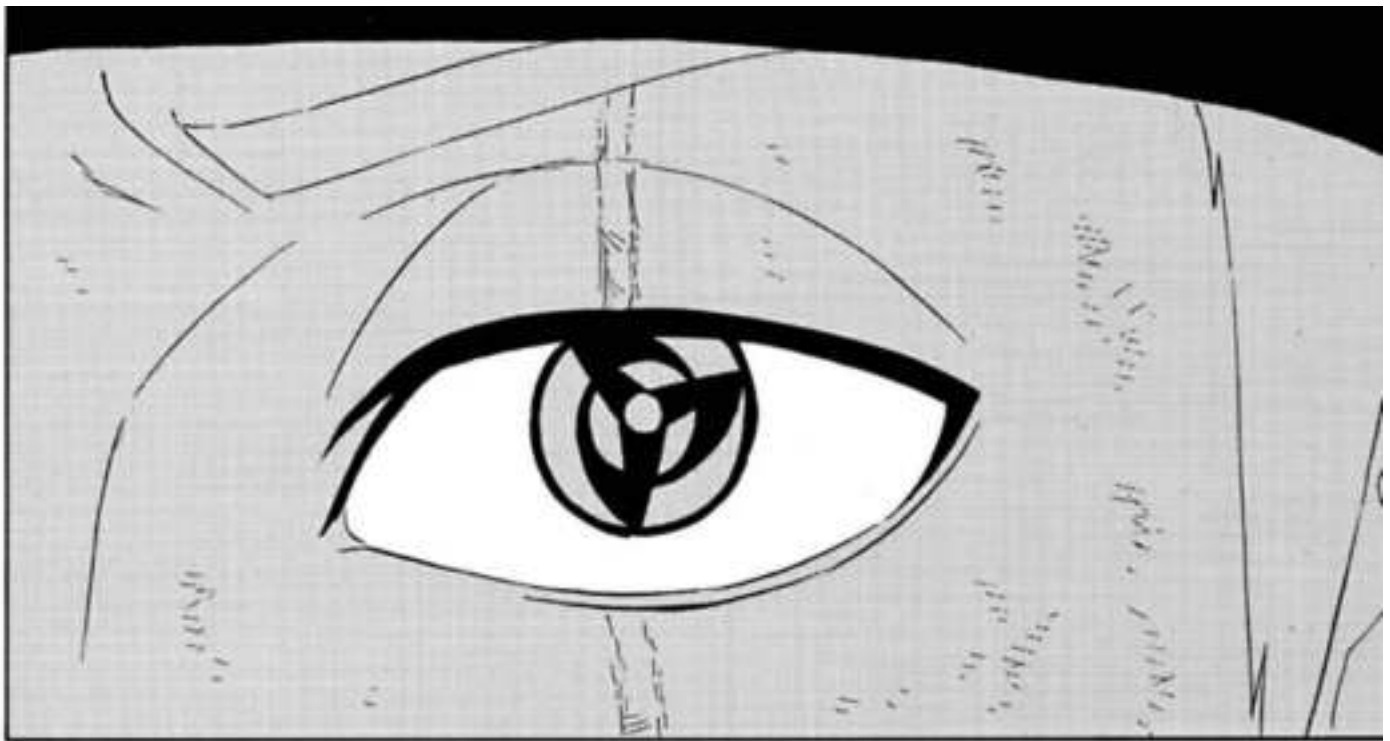




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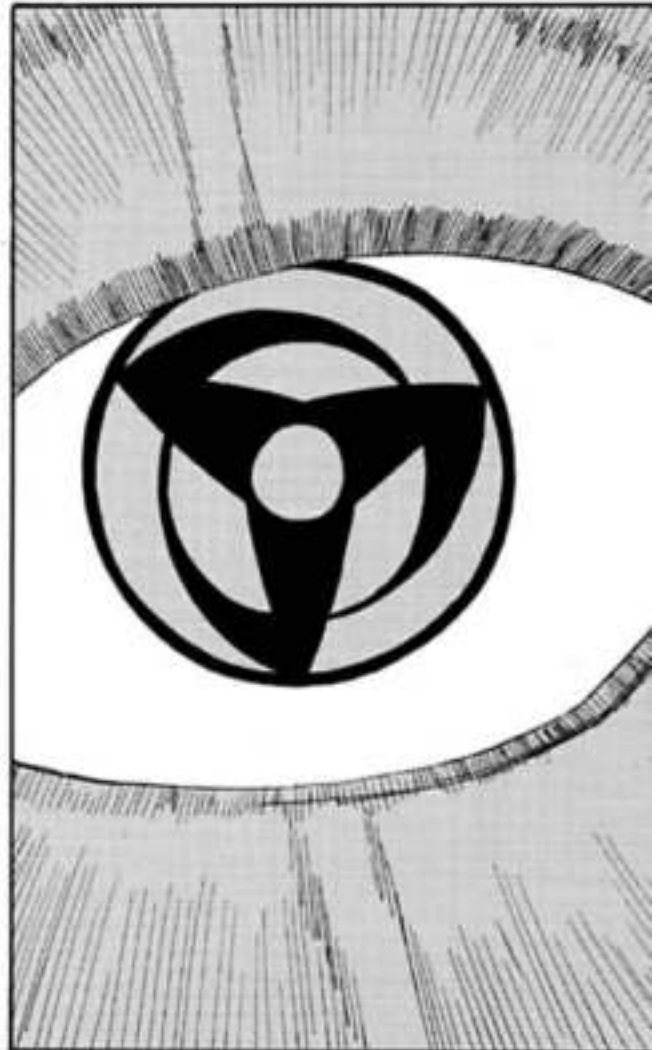
# New Sharingan!!













**ZZZH ZZZH**

WHAT...  
IS  
THIS?!

?!

















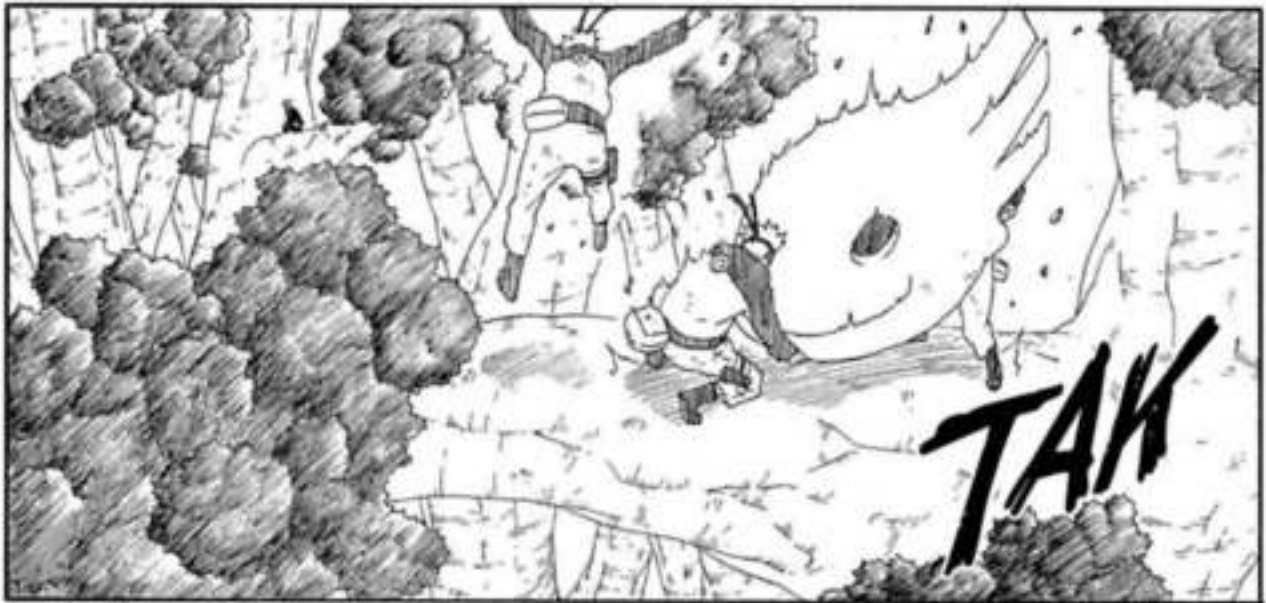




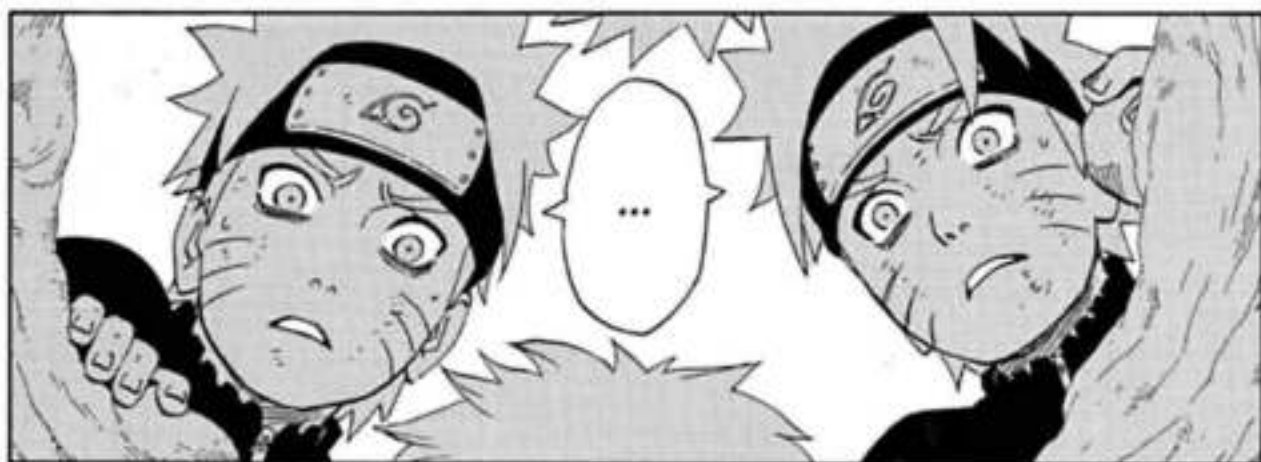


















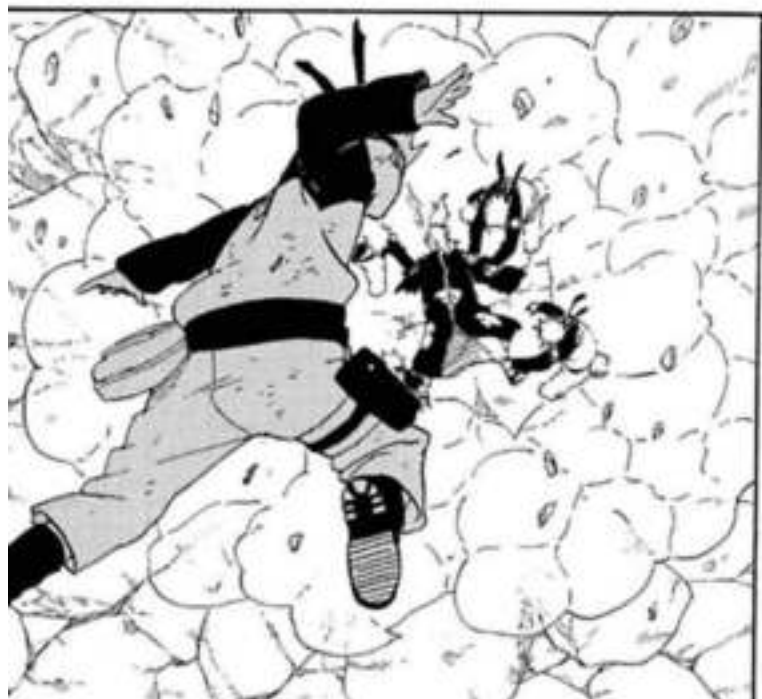
Number  
277:

The  
Ultimate  
Art...!!





READ THIS WAY













**BOOF BOOF BOOF**



CLAY...!



A SUBSTITUTION...?

**GUB GUB GUB GUB**



IS THAT THE JINCHŪRIKI...?

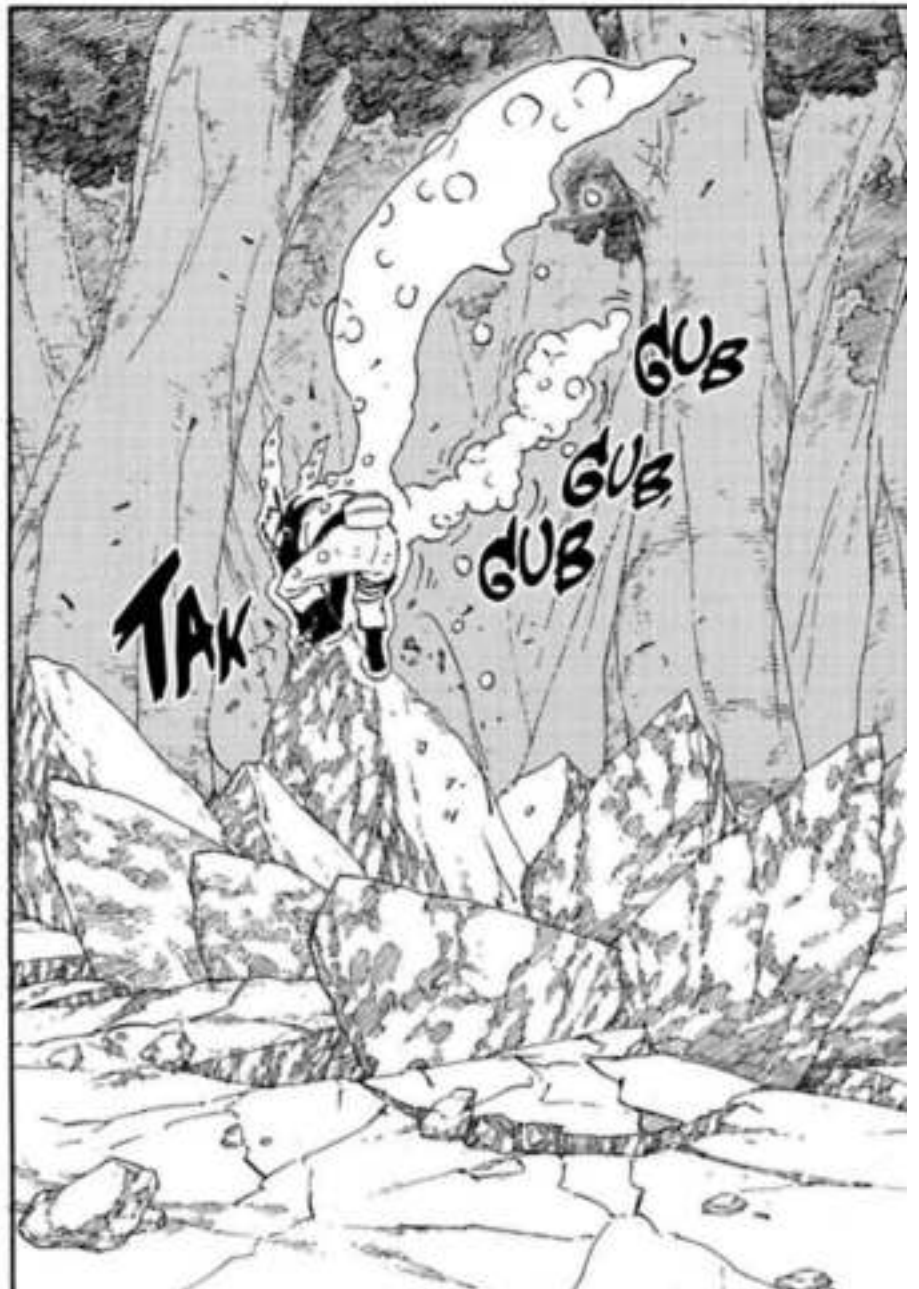
WHAT'S THAT...?

...!

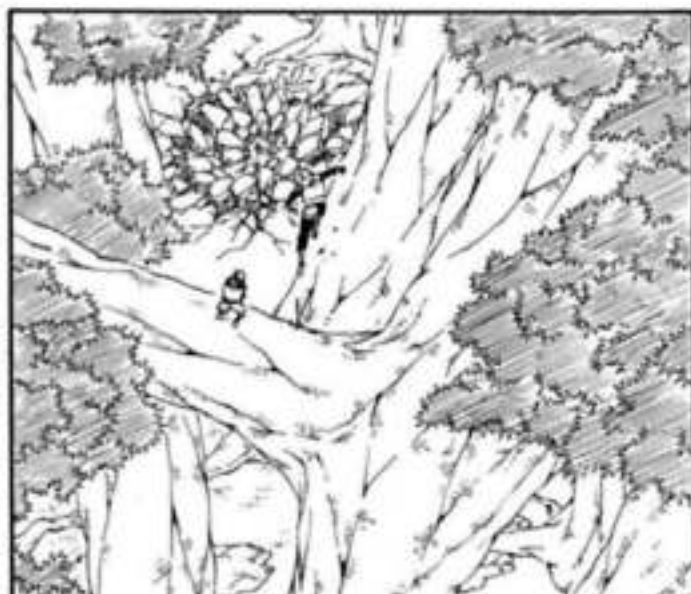


THAT'S... WHAT JIRAIYA WAS TALKING ABOUT...!

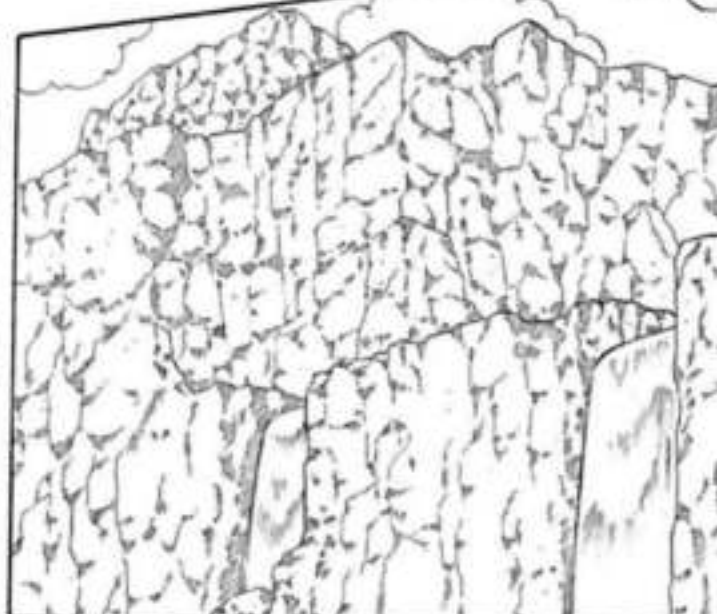








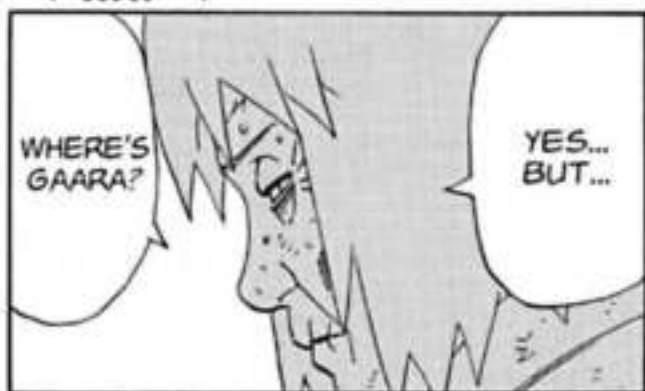














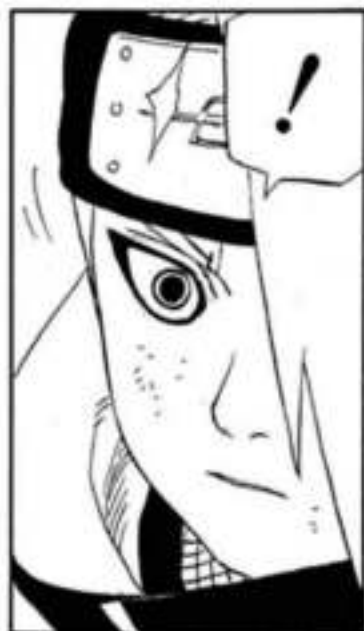
SASORI GOT  
TAKEN OUT  
BY THAT  
BRAT GIRL  
AND THE  
OLD BAT...

I CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
IT...



HE WAS  
OVERCONFIDENT  
ABOUT THAT  
PUPPET MODEL,  
EVEN THOUGH IT  
FULLY EXPOSED  
HIS WEAKNESS...

LEAVING A THING  
OF ETERNAL  
BEAUTY FOR THE  
FUTURE...?  
YEAH, RIGHT.  
ALL HE DID WAS  
GET KILLED...  
HMMM?



...HE  
DIED AN  
ARTIST'S  
DEATH...  
VANITY  
KILLS...  
HMMM?

WELL,  
IN ANY  
CASE...













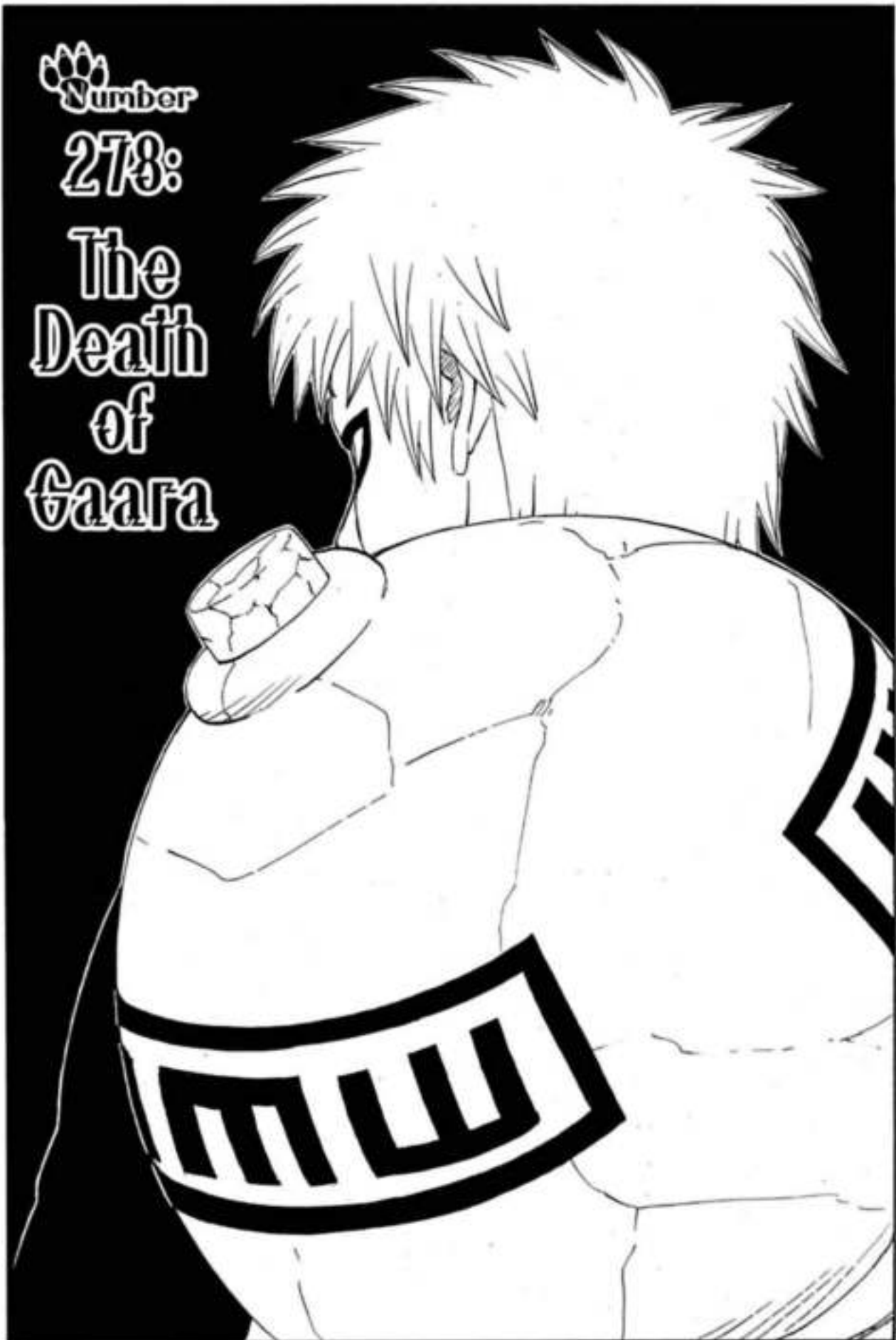


**NARUTO**

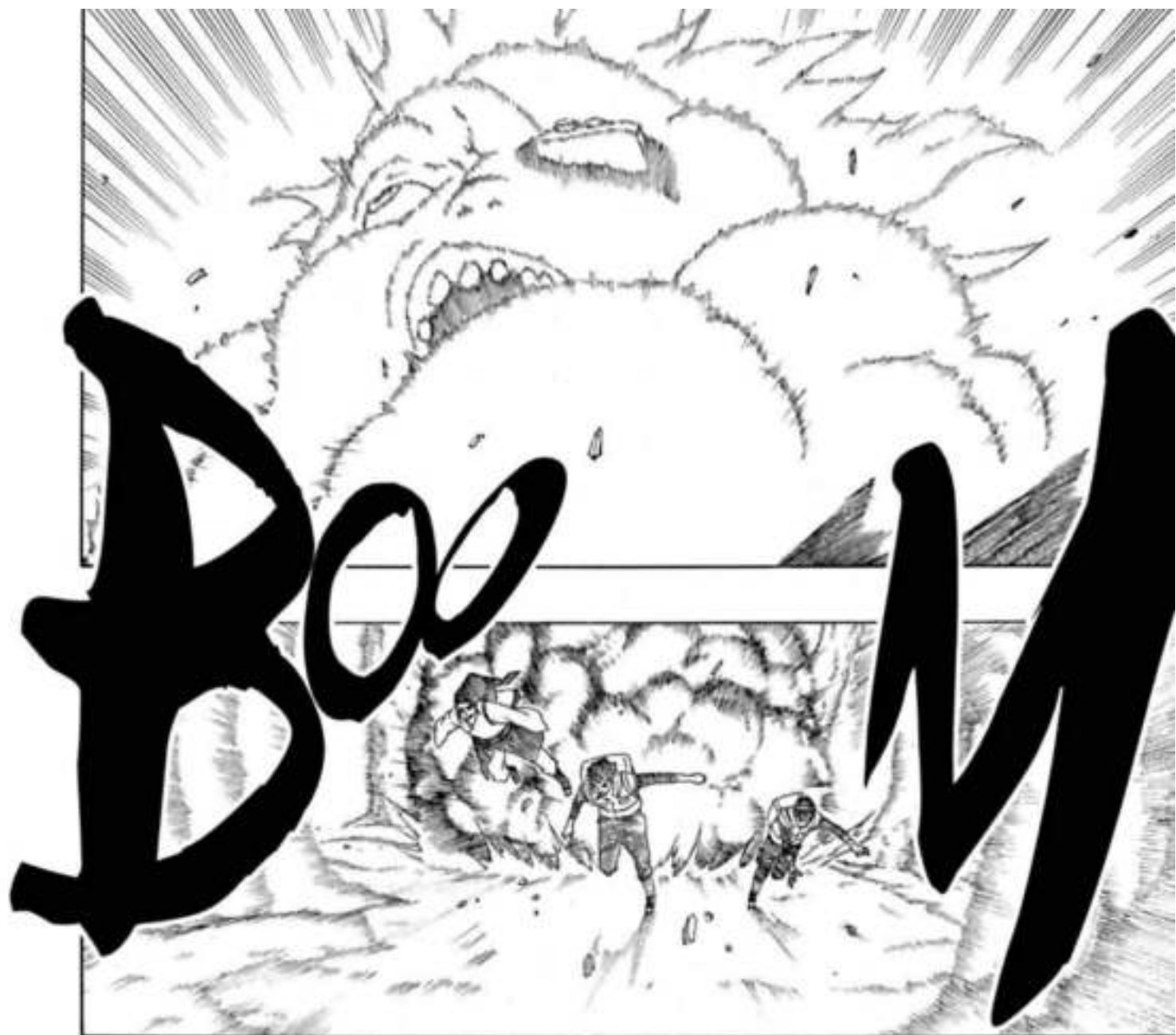
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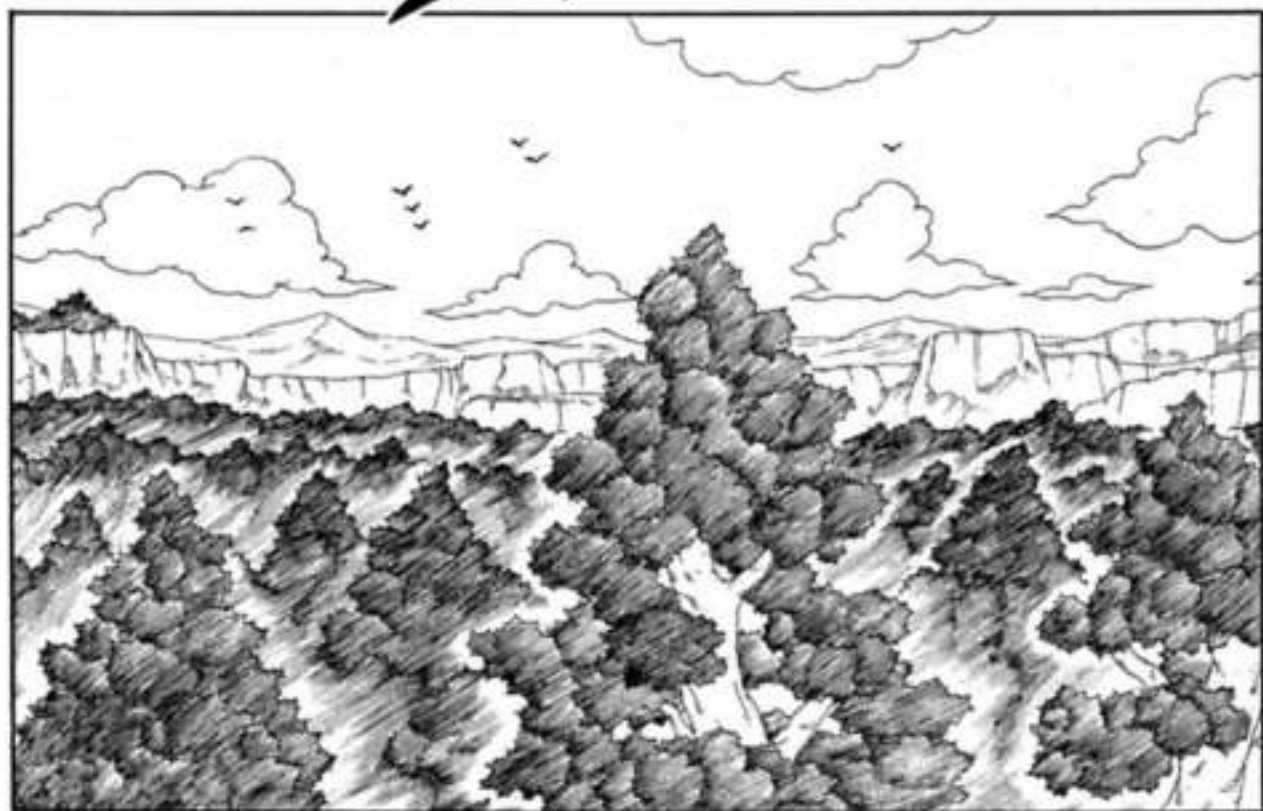
278:

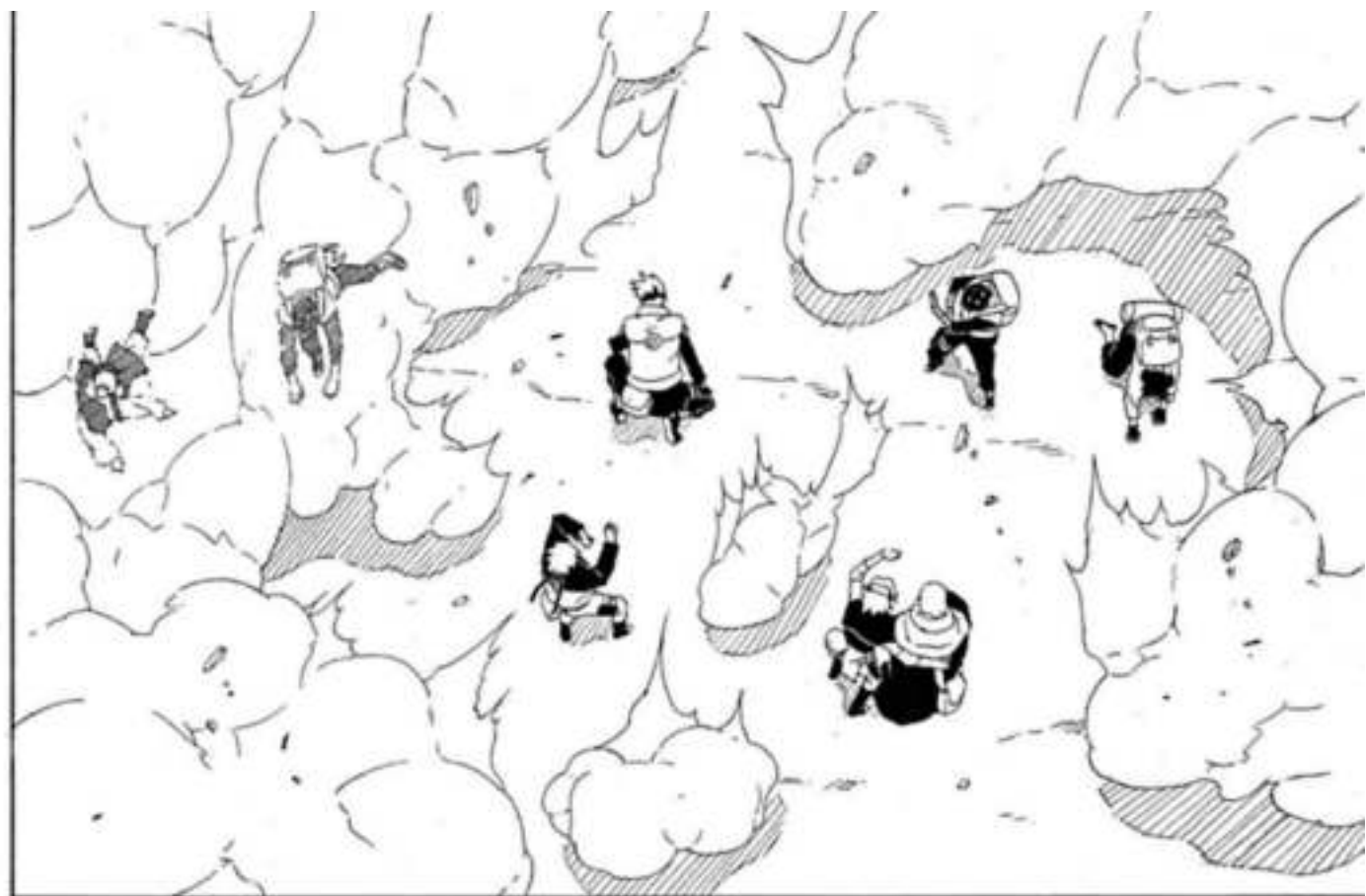
The  
Death  
of  
Gaara





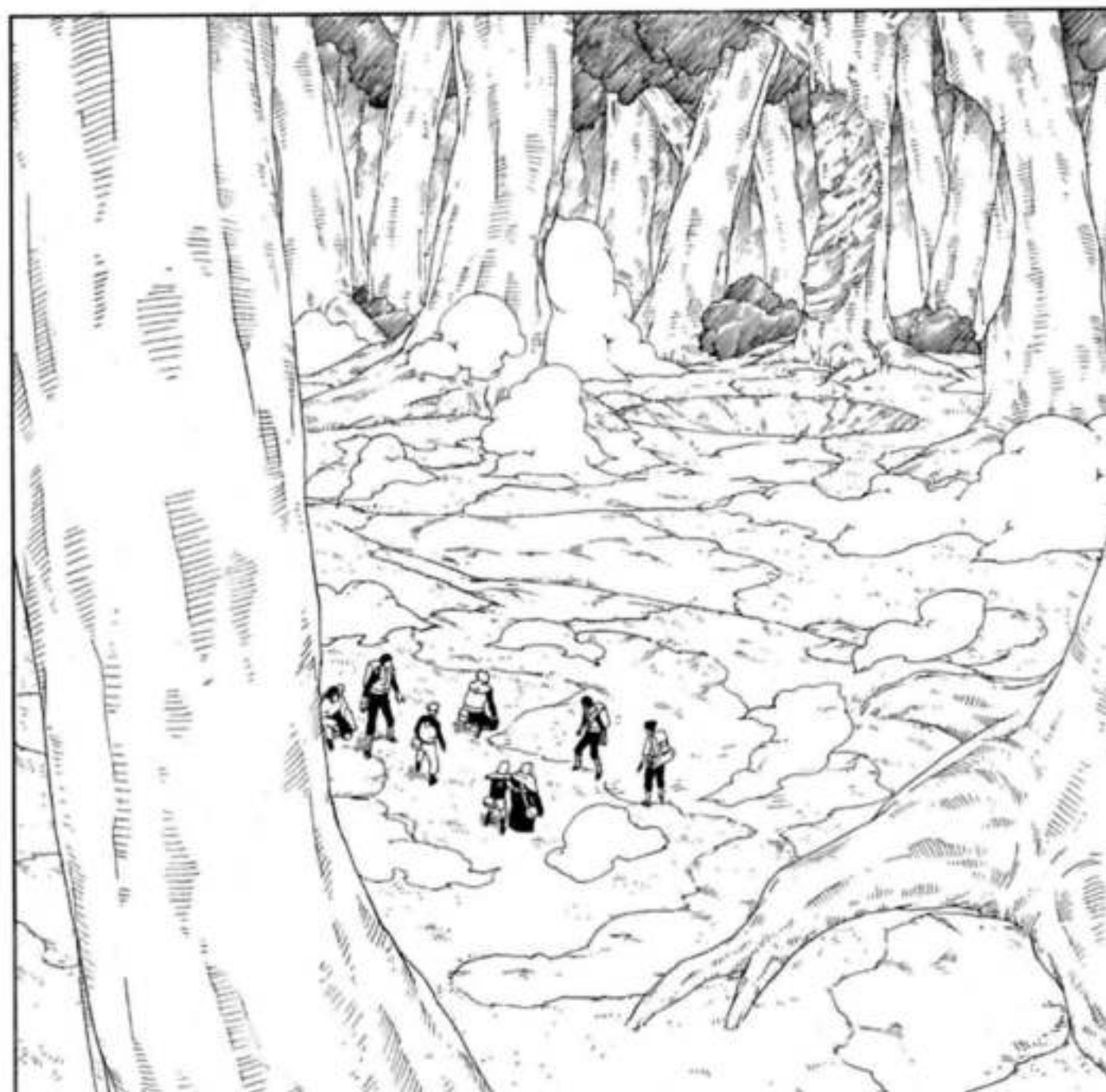






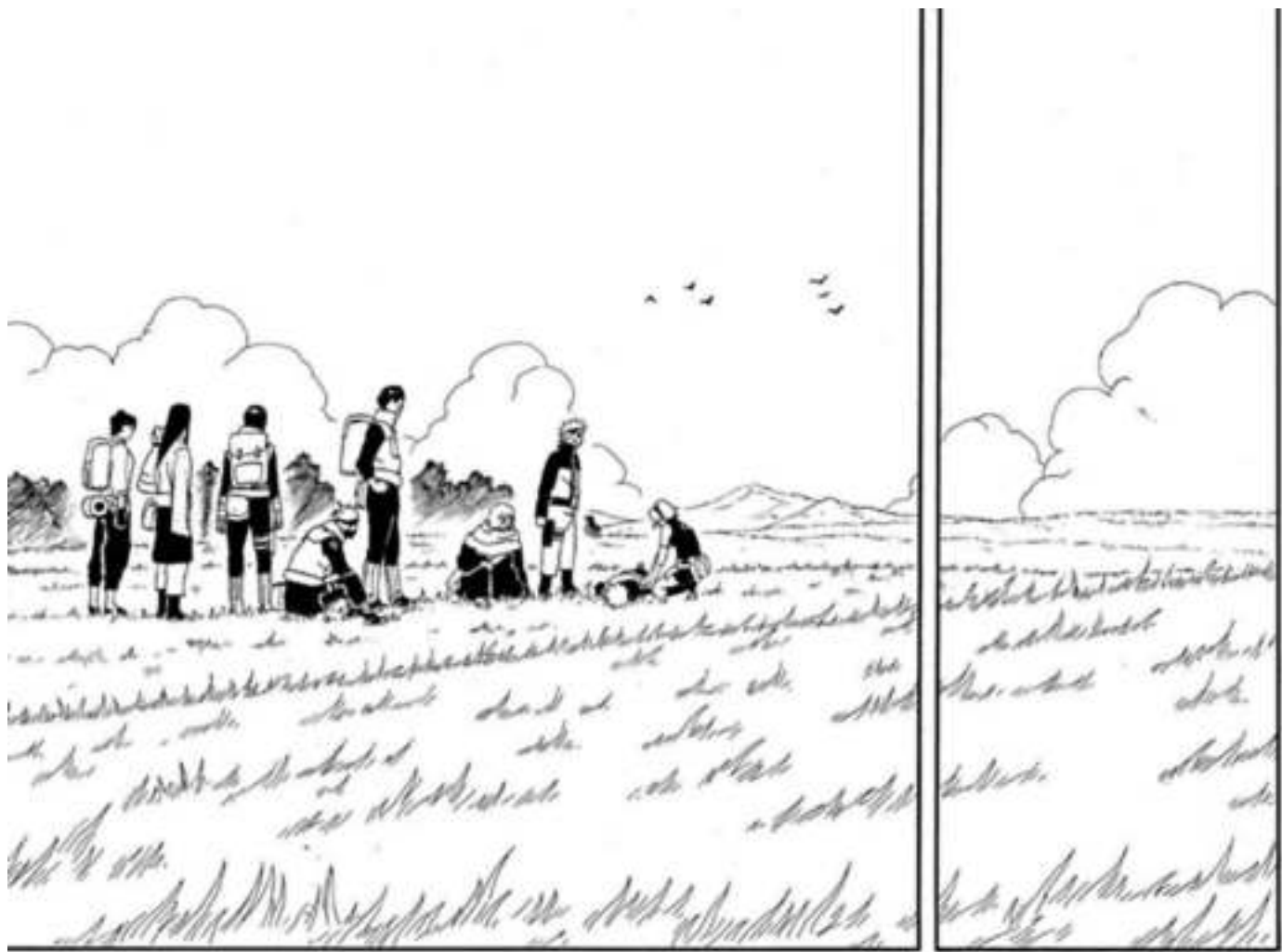




















**SHUT  
UP!!!**





...NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED!!!

IF YOU SAND NINJA...

...HADN'T PUT THAT MONSTER IN GAARA...



...



DID YOU EVER EVEN ASK?!!

DID YOU EVER EVEN CONSIDER WHAT GAARA THOUGHT?!



WHO ARE YOU TO DECIDE THAT FATE FOR SOMEONE ELSE?!!



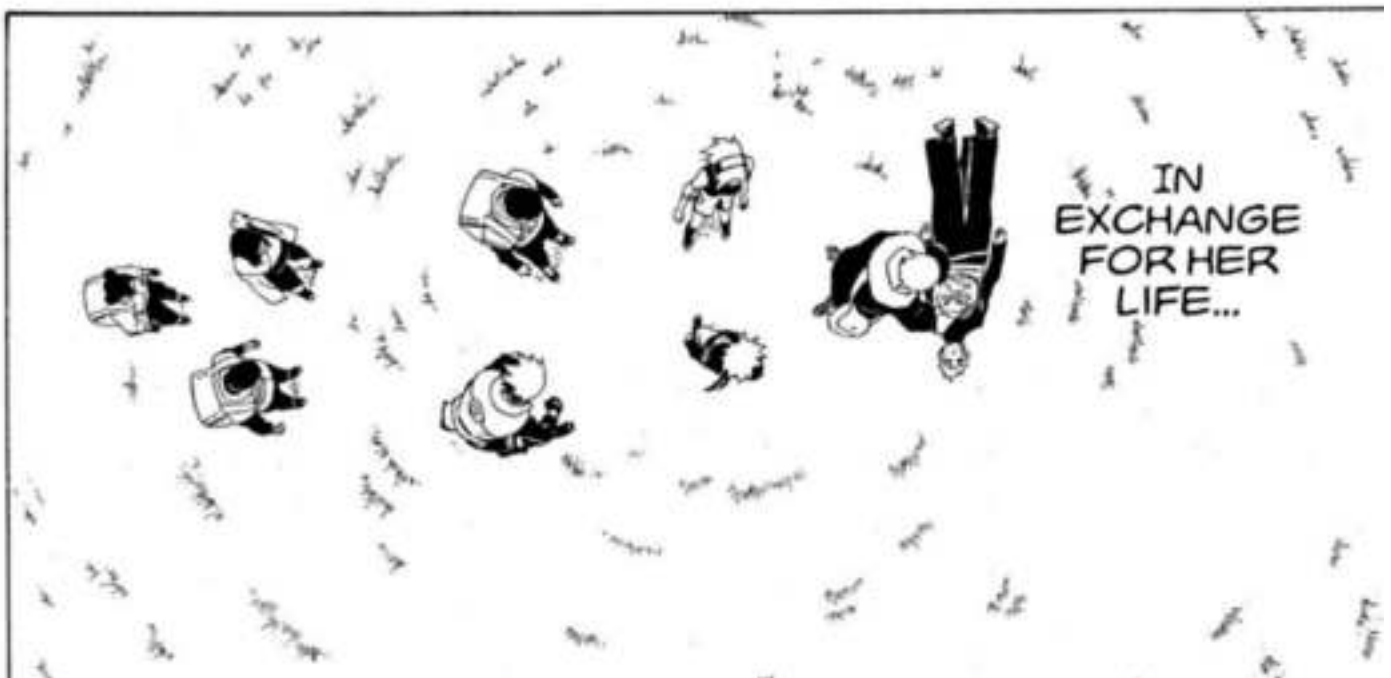
...YOU CALL HIM A JINCHŪRIKI HOST?!!















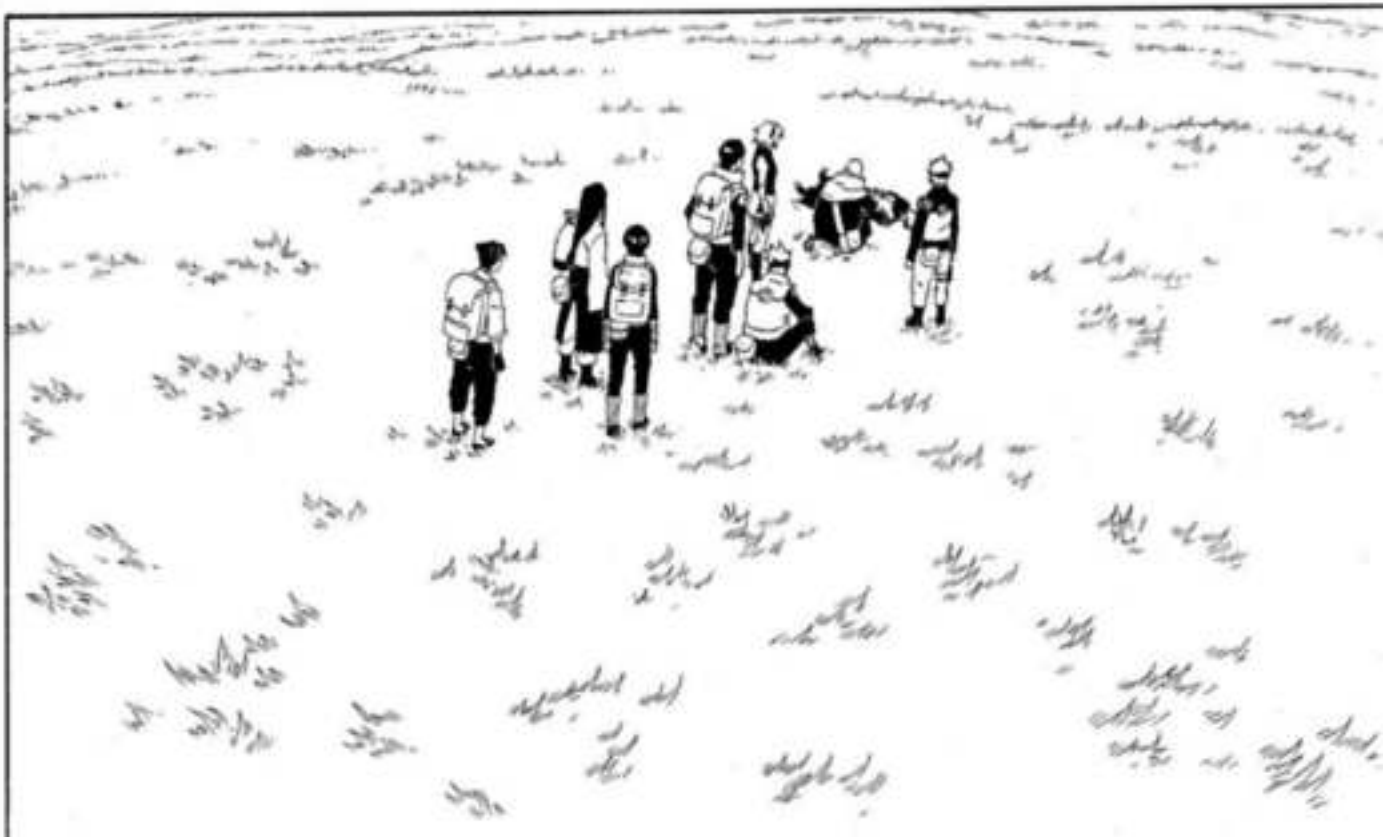
**NARUTO**



Number 279:

# Power & Miracles...!!





















...I'M GLAD  
NEW SOULS  
LIKE YOU  
HAVE COME  
ALONG...

IN THIS  
SHINOBI  
WORLD  
CREATED BY  
FRIVOLOUS  
OLD PEOPLE...



...EVERYTHING  
I'VE DONE  
HAS BEEN  
WRONG...

UP 'TIL  
NOW...



...!



SUNA  
AND...

...I THINK  
I MIGHT  
FINALLY BE  
ABLE TO DO  
SOMETHING  
RIGHT.

...BUT... AT  
THE VERY  
END...



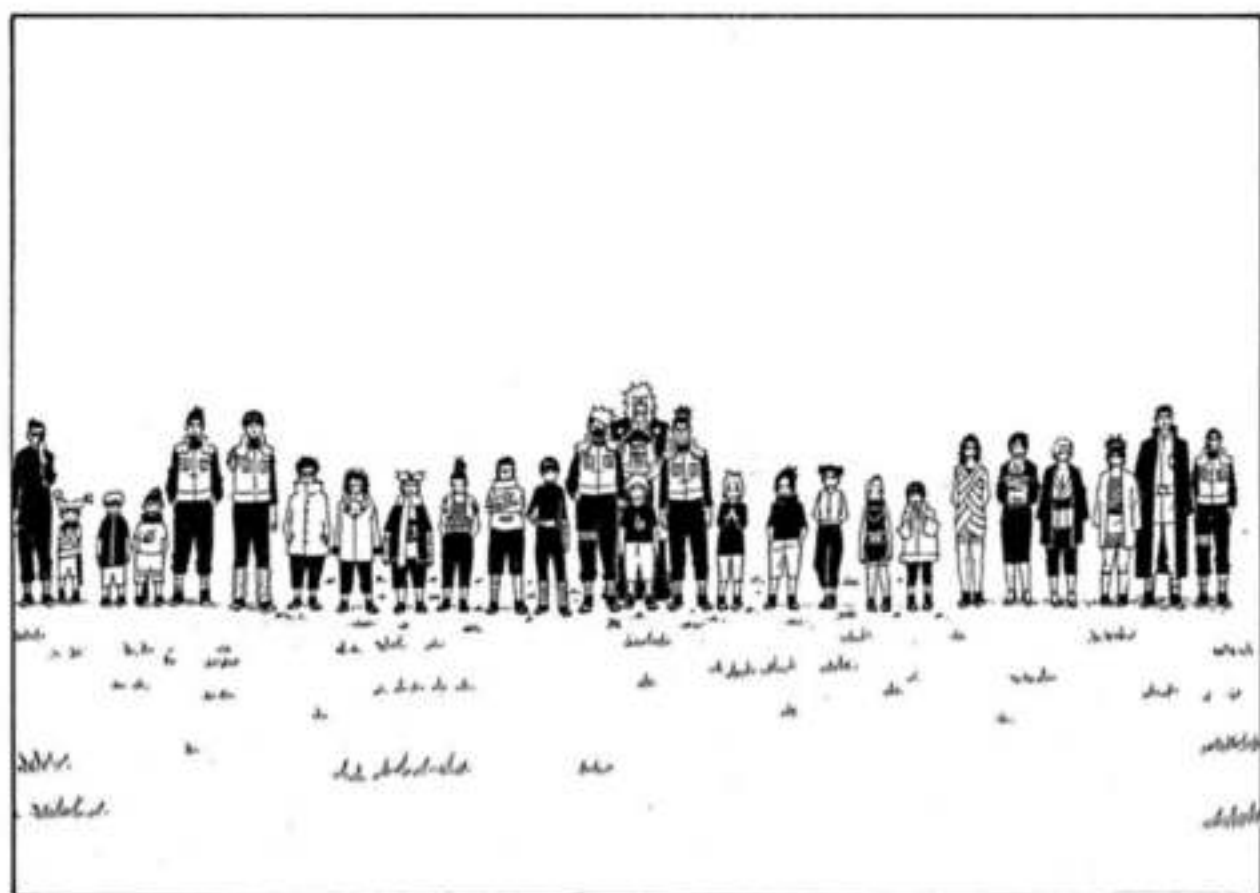
KONOHA...

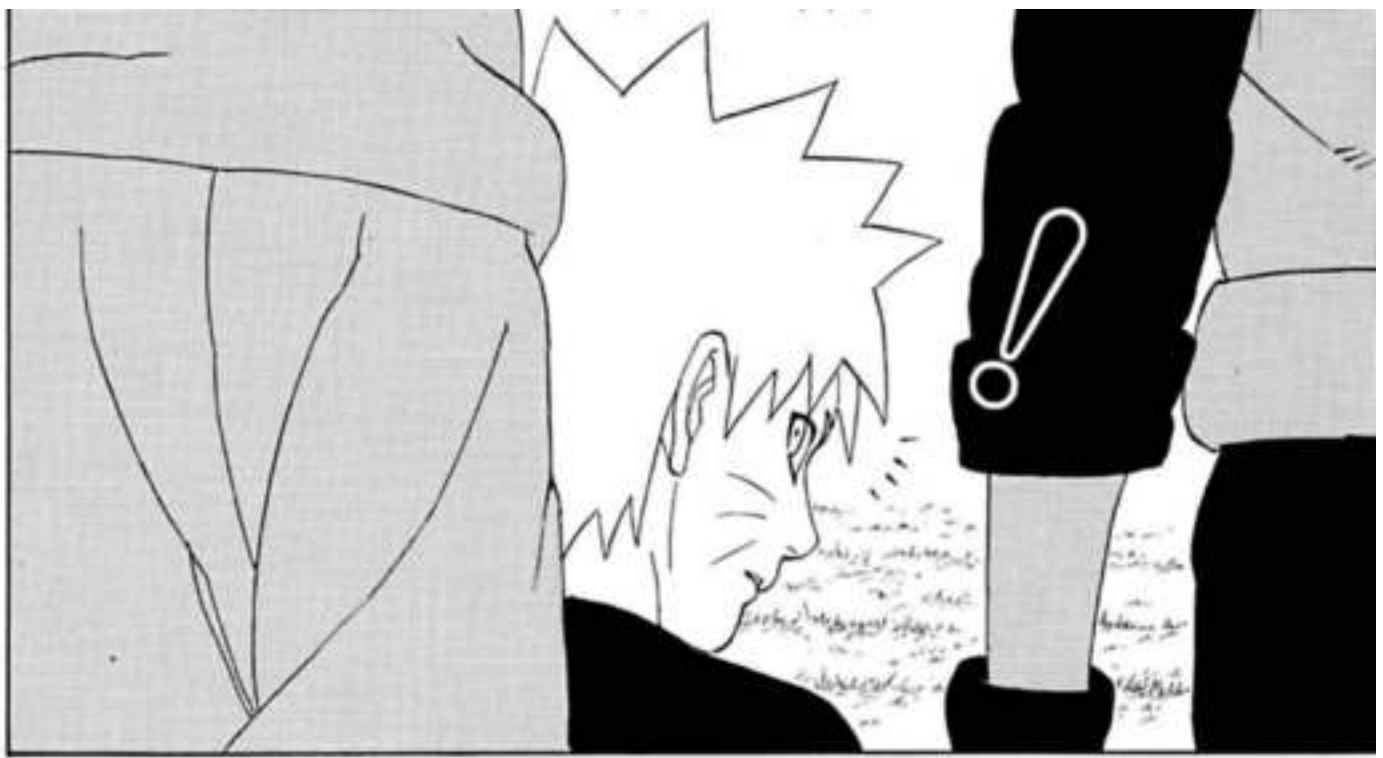


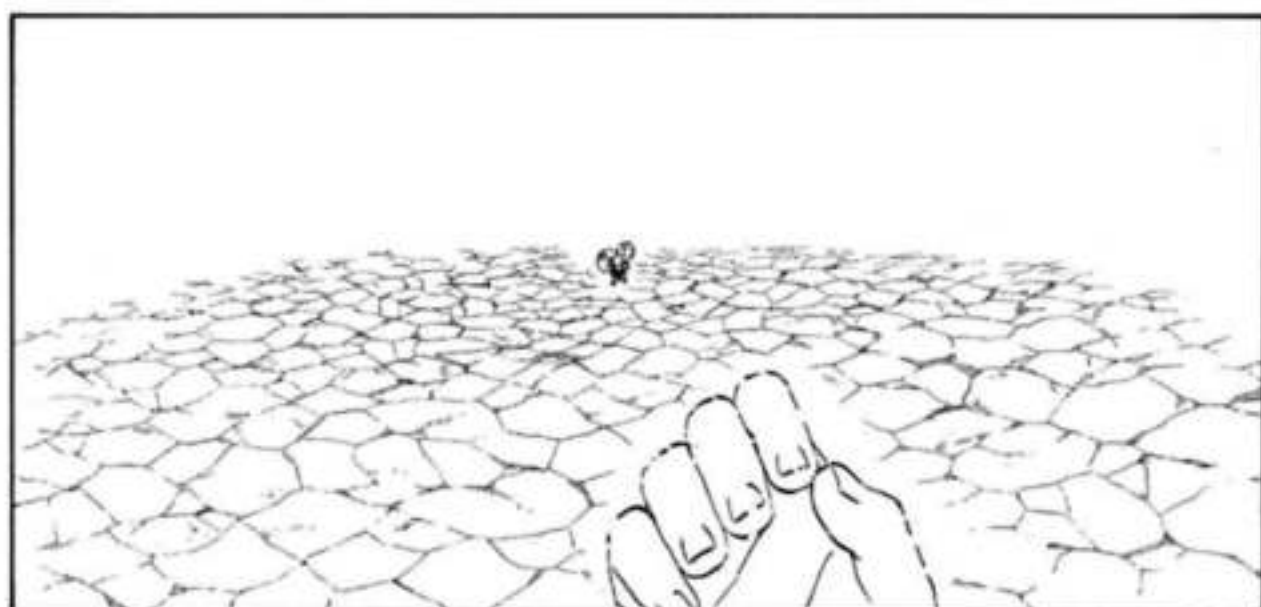


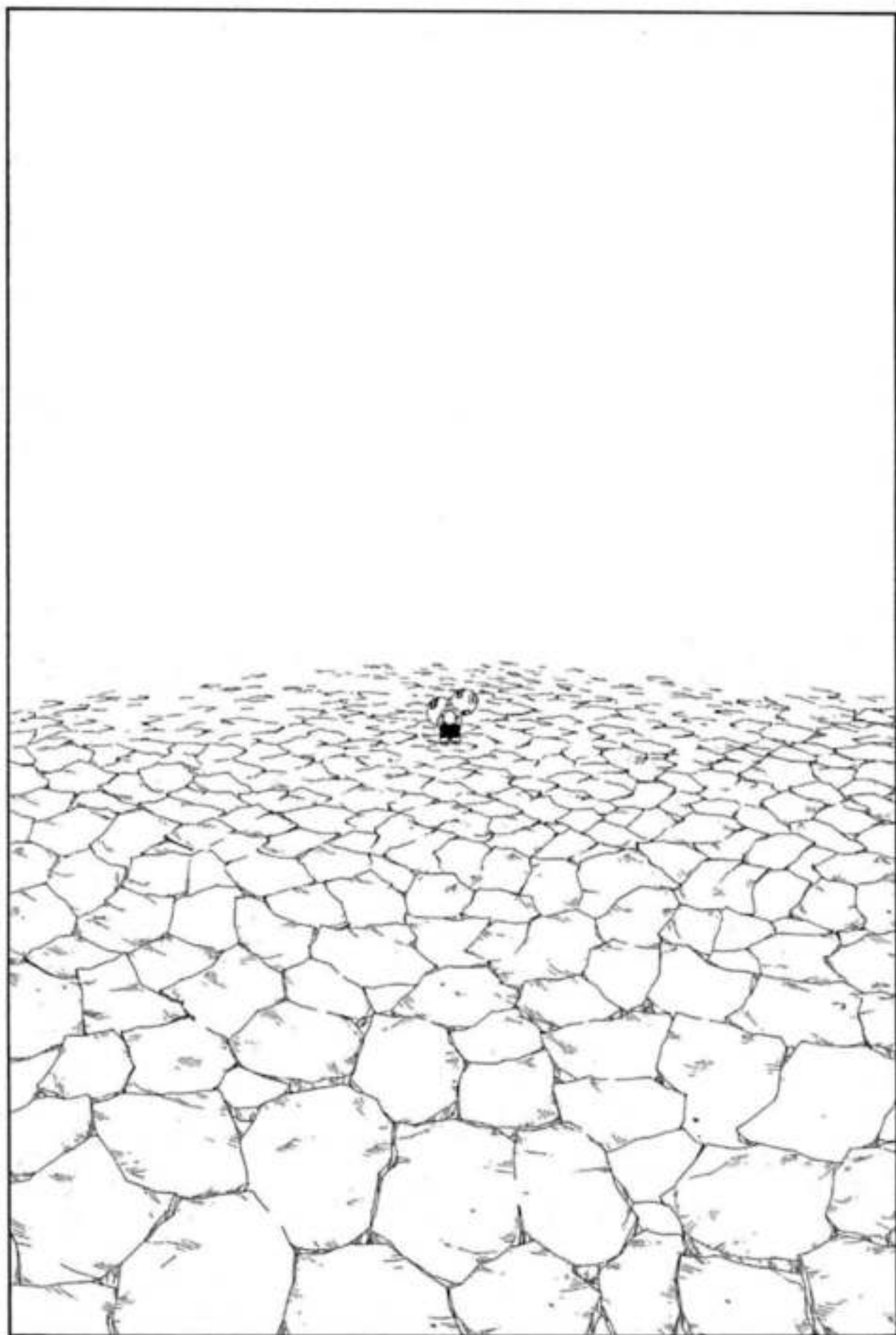












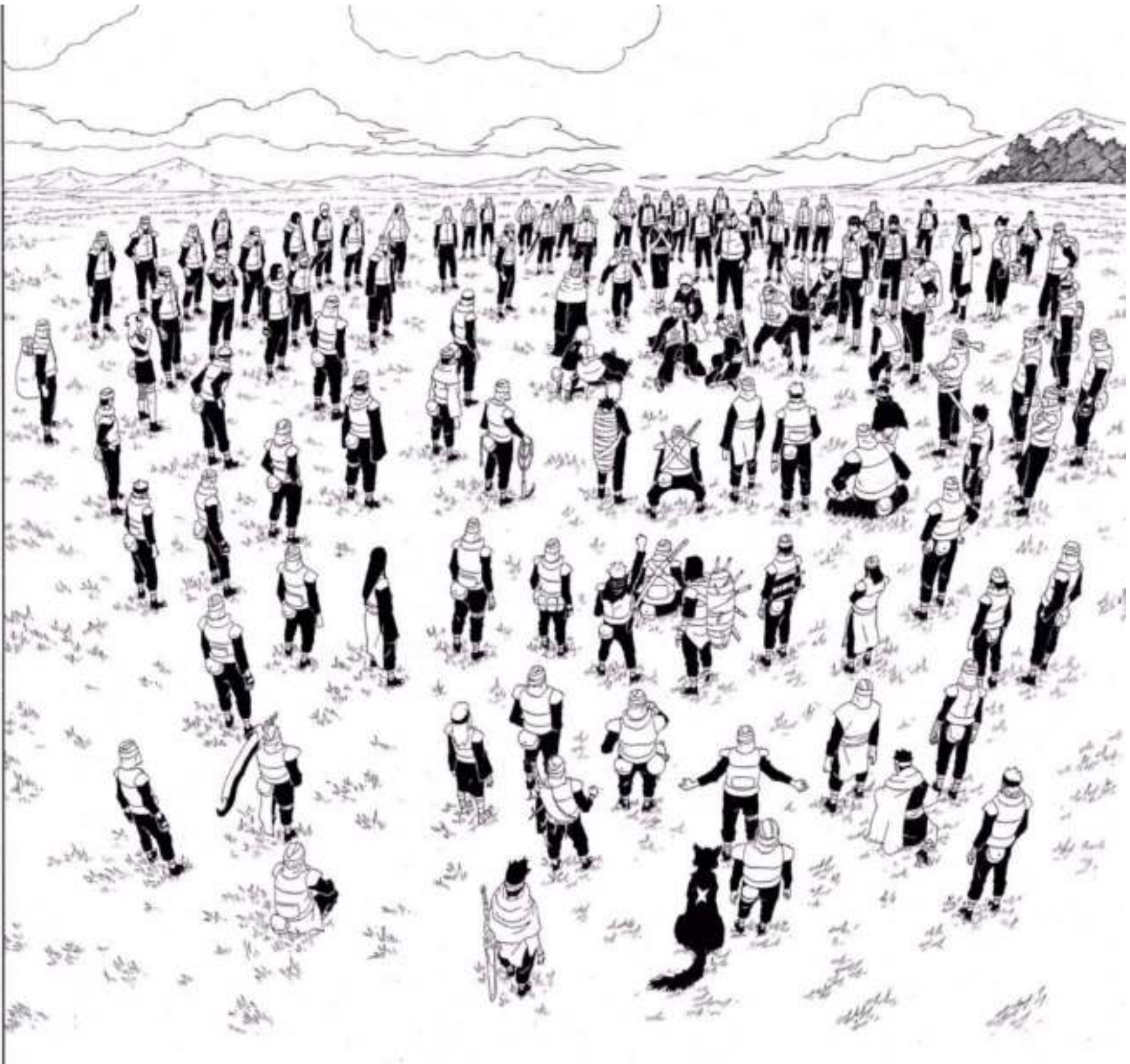















## GRATITUDE FOR FAN MAIL

THANKS, EVERYONE, VERY MUCH FOR ALL YOUR FAN MAIL. I ALWAYS CREATE MY MANGA IN MY ROOM, NEVER KNOWING HOW READERS FEEL ABOUT IT. SO, BECAUSE FAN MAIL IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN COMMUNICATE WITH MY READERS, I'M REALLY HAPPY TO RECEIVE YOUR LETTERS. I READ YOUR LETTERS WHENEVER I HAVE TIME. SOME PEOPLE DOUBT WHETHER I REALLY READ THEM OR NOT, AND WANT ME TO PROVE THAT I DO. BUT DON'T WORRY. I REALLY AM READING THEM. I WISH I COULD WRITE BACK. HOWEVER, I RECEIVE SO MUCH THAT IF I WROTE BACK, I WOULDN'T HAVE TIME LEFT TO DO MY MANGA. THAT'S NOT THE WAY I'D LIKE IT, BUT I WANT TO MAKE UP FOR NOT REPLYING AND SHOW MY GRATITUDE BY CREATING MORE AND MORE INTERESTING MANGA. AFTER ALL, IF MY MANGA ISN'T INTERESTING, YOU'LL STOP SENDING FAN MAIL (LAUGH). FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WROTE TO ME, I'LL KEEP TRYING TO CREATE MANGA THAT YOU'LL ENJOY!

I HOPE YOU'LL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT  
NARUTO!

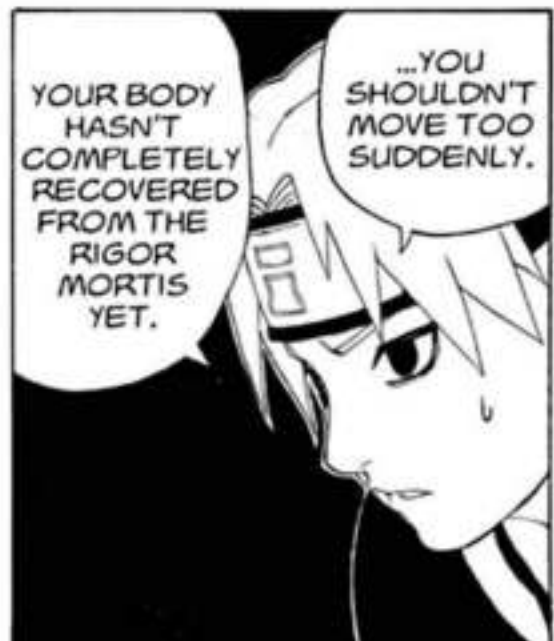
MASASHI KISHIMOTO (シ)

 Number 280:

Trust!!  
zz





















GRANNY  
CHIYO IS  
DEAD.



IT WASN'T  
MEDICAL  
NINJUTSU.  
IT WAS A  
TRANSFER-  
ENCE  
TECHNIQUE...



IT'S A  
JUTSU TO  
RESUR-  
RECT  
SOME-  
ONE...

...IN  
EXCHANGE  
FOR YOUR  
OWN LIFE...



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?





IN THIS SHINOBI  
WORLD CREATED  
BY FRIVOLOUS  
OLD PEOPLE...  
I'M GLAD NEW  
SOULS LIKE YOU  
HAVE COME  
ALONG...



MAY THEIR  
FUTURE BE...  
SOMETHING  
DIFFERENT  
FROM OUR  
TIME...

SUNA  
AND...  
KONOHA...



...BUT...AT  
THE VERY  
END... I THINK  
I MIGHT  
FINALLY BE  
ABLE TO DO  
SOMETHING  
RIGHT.

UP UNTIL  
NOW...EVERY-  
THING I'VE  
DONE HAS  
BEEN  
WRONG...



BECOME  
A  
HOKAGE  
THE LIKE  
OF  
WHICH  
HAS  
NEVER  
BEEN  
SEEN!



THAT  
POWER  
WILL  
CHANGE  
THE  
FUTURE  
DRAMATI-  
CALLY...

THIS  
SPECIAL  
POWER OF  
YOURS...  
KAKASHI  
SPOKE OF  
IT...

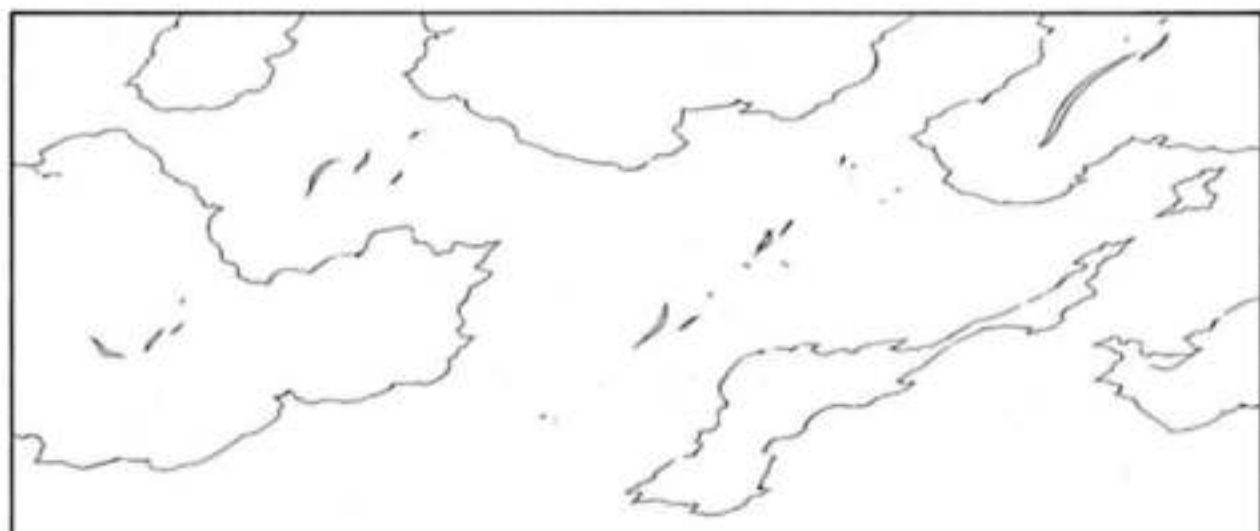




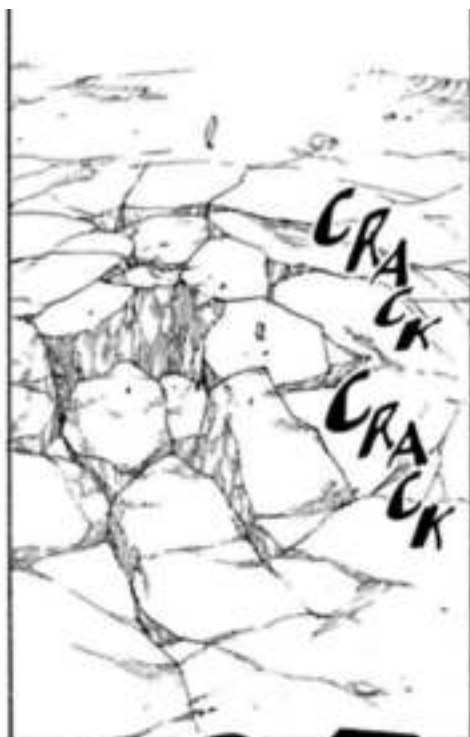


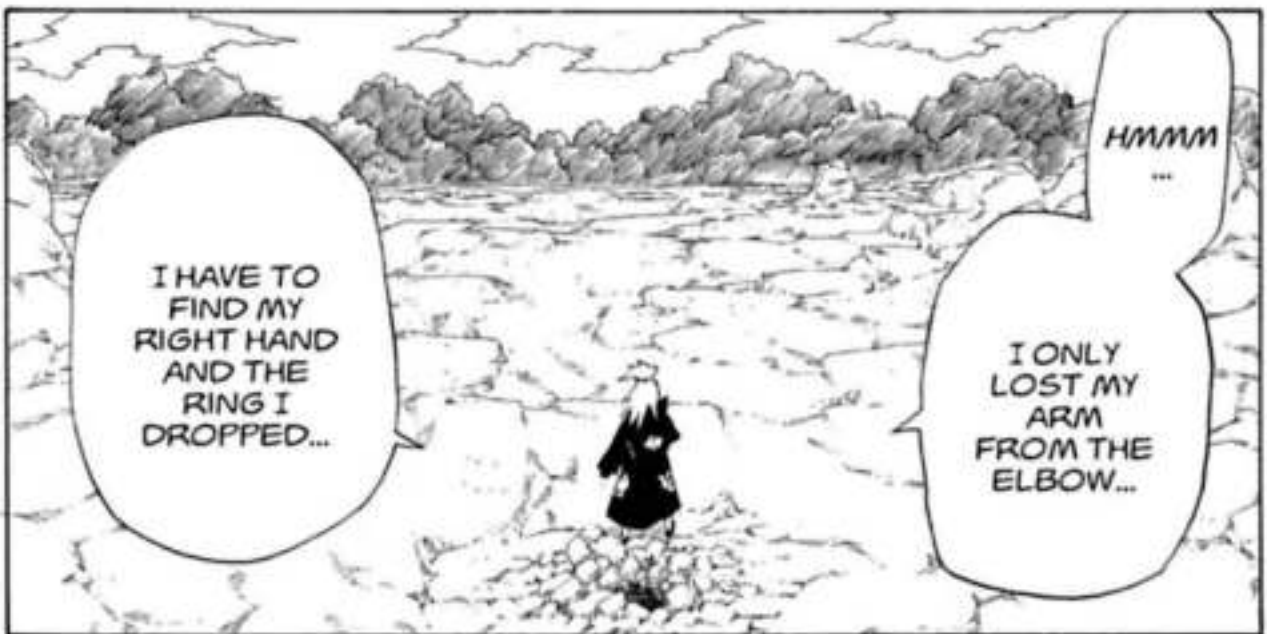
















WHY NOT...?  
LET HIM JOIN...

FOOL...  
IT'S NOT THAT EASY...



WHOOOPS ...

TOBI'S A GOOD BOY...



WILL THIS BE ENOUGH FOR ME TO JOIN THE AKATSUKI...?

FLIP

THERE'S NOW AN OPENING FOR ONE...

TO BE CONTINUED IN NARUTO VOL.32!



**vizMANGA**

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