At the beginning of the 2000s, the "Chocola Saurs" series of toys sold with sweets was a huge craze at the Naruto studio. Each box contained sweets plus one dinosaur surprise figure. Among the 24 different ones was an ape-man called "Australopithecus boisei" that somehow found myself strangely drawn to. With a sidelong glance at everyone else who was keen on collecting all 24, I alone decided on the eccentric path of single-mindedly amassing as many Boiseis as I could. When I line up the 11 that I received from acquaintances or bought on Yahoo! Auctions, it makes quite a spectacle. Even now, though the boom itself has passed, their bizarre aura shows no sign of decline. I think I want a few more. Maybe I'll hunt down a 12th.

-Mikio Ikemoto, 2020

Thank you so much for all of your thoughts and opinions. I have been getting feedback from all over the world and reading it thanks to dictionary and translation software. (And also tons from all you Japanese fans as well!). I am constantly amazed by the number of Naruto and Boruto fans in the world. I preciously read each and every one of your thoughts, and I use all of them as reference. My sincerest apologies that I haven't sent any replies, but please consider the manga itself as my reply! However, the great number of fans makes me wonder if there might be aliens among you too. If there are, please quietly let me know!

-Ukyo Kodachi, 2020
Volume 10

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He's Bad News
The Great Ninja War that shook the world and shed much blood is now history. Naruto has become the Seventh Hokage, and the people of Konohagakure Village are enjoying peace. Yet Naruto’s son Uzumaki Boruto has a glum life, perhaps due to his father’s too-great influence.

Rebelling against Naruto while simultaneously craving his praise, Boruto decides to enter the Chunin Exam along with his teammates Sarada and Mitsuki. However, Boruto ends up secretly using a prohibited Scientific Ninja Tool and is stripped of his shinobi status by his father.

Just then, members of the Ohtsutsuki Clan attack the arena! Boruto faces off against them alongside Naruto, Sasuke, and others, and they achieve victory with a Rasengan that father and son combine together. However, a strange mark appears on Boruto’s right palm...

Afterward, Boruto happens upon a young man named Kawaki who bears the same Karma as himself. And it is he who is proven to be what Kara has been calling the Vessel.

In order to protect Kawaki, Naruto moves him into his own home. Kara member Delta shows up and battles Naruto. Kawaki loses his right hand protecting Naruto and his daughter Himawari. However, he is given one of Naruto’s prosthetic hands and starts feeling at ease with life in the Village...
Boruto
—Naruto Next Generations—

Volume 10
He's Bad News

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Number 36: Surprise Attack
GAH 
!!!

Aww ...!!

OW !!!

THD

...

TMP
MY BODY SUDDENLY FROZE UP.

UNUSUAL? THAT NEVER HAPPENS TO ME.

IT'S UNUSUAL FOR YOU TO MISS YOUR STEP LIKE THAT.

UGH ...

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE I BECAME A NINJA!

BORUTO

YOUR RIGHT HAND...
IS THAT WHY I SLIPPED OFF THE TREE?

IT'S SPREAD...

THE KARMA!

NOPE.

YOU DIDN'T CAUSE IT TO SPREAD?

I CAN'T DELIBERATELY USE THE KARMA YET.

KAWAKI, HUH.

...IT JUST ACTIVATES IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE...

LORD SEVENTH IS WITH HIM, SO HE SHOULD BE OKAY, BUT...

COULD SOMETHING HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM?

...OR WHEN I'M AROUND KAWAKI.
A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

I'VE GOT...

...A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

VWOOOOO
HINATA CLEANS EVERY DAY.

I'M SEARCHING FOR A SHARD.

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING?

I'M MISSING ONE.

KAWAKI.

HINATA CLEANS EVERY DAY.

I DOUBT YOU'RE GOING TO FIND IT AT THIS POINT.

YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LET IT GO UNLESS I CHECK FOR MYSELF.

Yeah, right. What's fixed...

It's pretty much completely fixed.

Besides...

You did well.

About a vase that leaks water?

...I won't be able to let it go unless I check for myself.
AND SAYING CARELESS THINGS LIKE THAT IS WHAT MAKES BORUTO YELL AT YOU, Y'KNOW.

WHO? WHICH HIM?

HUH?

SO WHADDAYA THINK?

ABOUT HIM.
SHOULD WE REALLY TRUST HIM SO EASILY?

MY CAD'S IN BLACK OPS, IT'S SO HE'S ALWAYS NORMAL KEEPING A FOR ANY SUSPICIOUS PARENT EYE ON TO FEEL THINGS...

HEH HEH HEH.

DON'T MESS WITH MY COMMON DECK.

DAMMIT, I LOST AGAIN!!

WELL...

I SUPPOSE IT'S NORMAL FOR ANY PARENT TO FEEL THAT WAY.

MY DAD'S LIKE YOUR MOM.

OR MAYBE EVEN MORE ON GUARD.

MOM TOLD ME TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN DISTANCE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, MOM TOLD ME TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN DISTANCE.

HE'S ALWAYS KEEPING A SUSPICIOUS EYE ON THINGS...

...BUT HE SEEMS TO TRUST HIM ON A PERSONAL FRONT.

AND HEH, HEH.
I hope you're right.

I think he's a straight shooter.

Anyways...

Personally, I like Kawaki.

You're here to buy flowers? Let me guess.

Y'know.

Y'know.

You're here to buy flowers?

Sasuke's...

Tee hee...

Yeah.

... Coming home?
...it's plenty enough now...

...that he comes home safe and sound, no matter how infrequently.

I do get lonely at times, but...

I'm also a bit envious of you being able to...

...stay a girl in love forever.

...I wouldn't stand for a husband who's almost never home, but...

Hello, Master Ino!

KLAHK

Sarada!

Oh! Welcome.

I could never do it.

Tell me about the mitotic regeneration jutsu.

Your forehead mark.

There's something I want to ask you.

I've been looking for you, mom.
SO WHAT'RE THE DEATHS UP TO?

THROUGH DELTA, HE ALSO HAS TO KNOW ABOUT BORUTO HAVING THE KARMA.

I GUESS IT'S REALLY GONE FOR GOOD.

ANTICIPATED, JIGEN MAKING SOME SORT OF MOVE RIGHT AWAY BUT...

IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE DELTA'S DEFEAT.

...JIGEN!

GAH.

CAN'T FIND IT.

STILL NO SIGHT OR SOUND FROM HIM.
I GUESS I’LL FILL THE HOLE WITH GLUE.

SEE YOU LATER!

NA-RUTO?

OOF.

CALL IT QUITS, KAWAKI.

YOU’VE DONE ENOUGH.
ACCORDING TO MASTER TSUNADE-- LORD FIFTH, THAT IS...

WHAT'S CURIOUS IS THAT THE MITOTIC REGENERATION MARK LOOKS SIMILAR TO KARMA.

SO I WAS WONDERING IF THEY MIGHT BE RELATED SOMEHOW?

LORD SEVENTH TOLD ME THAT PART ALREADY.

...IN SHORT, IT'S A JUTSU WHERE IN AN EMERGENCY, YOU CAN PULL OUT INCREDIBLE POWER...

...BY RELEASING ALL OF THE CHAKRA YOU'VE BEEN StORING IN THE MARK BIT BY BIT EVERY DAY.

HUH.

ACCORDING TO MASTER TSUNADE-- LORD FIFTH, THAT IS...
...IT'S A JUTSU THAT'S EXISTED FOR A REALLY LONG TIME, FROM THE AGE OF THE SAGE OF SIX PATHS.

THE SAGE OF SIX PATHS?

FLOWERS? YOU MEAN...

...DO YOU MIND TAKING THESE FLOWERS HOME WITH YOU?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!

I HAVE TO GO GROCERY SHOPPING AFTER THIS, SO...

...DAD'S COMING HOME?!

GTUNK

HEE!
Incredibly sinister chakra?!
WHAT THE?!
MY KARMA'S...

WHAT'S WRONG?!
KA-WAKI?!

UGH ...

...
VWOOSH

?!?!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
!!!

WHAT?!!

KLAK
JIGEN !!!!!

YOU ....!!
GLANCE

NO WAY! IF THIS WAS POSSIBLE ALL ALONG...

SO WHY DID HE ORDER ONE?

...THEN THERE WAS NO NEED FOR A VESSEL RETRIEVAL MISSION!

HE SHOWED UP DIRECTLY VIA KAWAKI'S KARMA!?!?

UGH!

...
IT MUST BE THE ENEMY WHO'S AFTER KAKASHI!!

IT'S RIGHT NEAR NARUTO!

THIS CHAKRA THAT SUDDENLY APPEARED...

YEAH! ONLY ONE FOE, RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

NARUTO! ARE YOU OKAY?!

I WANT TO DEAL WITH HIM MYSELF, JUST LIKE LAST TIME.

GRRR!! I THOUGHT I WAS PROBING JIGEN'S TRUE INTENTIONS THROUGH HIS MOVEMENTS, BUT...

YEAH! ONLY ONE FOE, RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

NARUTO! ARE YOU OKAY?!

I WANT TO DEAL WITH HIM MYSELF, JUST LIKE LAST TIME.

ROGER!

I'LL PUT THE POLICE FORCE ON STANDBY FOR YOU.

SURE! THANKS.
I apologize, Uzumaki Naruto.

I didn't mean to enter your residence without removing my shoes.

...I'm in your living room...

 Aren't I?

I have no intention of starting trouble with you.

I simply came to take home my wayward son. That's all.

We'll leave right away.

You're Jigen, right?!

I've wanted to meet you!!
OK TAK

YOU'RE NOT MAKING THE DEMANDS HERE!

BAM
UGH!

HE'S FAST!!

ZSH ZSH ZSH
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY WITH YOU.

SO JUST STAY PUT THERE FOR A WHILE.

ARGH!

I AM NOT YOUR SON!!

FINE. JUST GET UP, OR DO YOU...

...WANT TO GET HURT AGAIN?

THOUGHT OF YOU AS MY FATHER!!

AND I'VE NEVER...

NOW, MY DEAR REBELLIOUS SON.

YOUR VACATION IS OVER. WE'RE LEAVING.
LOR.

SEVENTH!

WHAT?

I CAN'T JUST SIT BACK AND DO NOTHING!!

OH, OKAY.

YOU BE CAREFUL, SARADA!

SO, MOM?

I'M GONNA HEAD HOME.

JUST FOLLOW PROTOCOL.

THAT'S RIGHT.

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO, BUT...

...I CAN'T JUST SIT BACK AND DO NOTHING!!

LORD SEVENTH! KAWAKI!
YOU BASTARD!!!

YOU DON'T CARE FOR THE KARMA?

GRRP

THIS ANNOYING MARK YOU PUT ON ME!

GRRP

TELL ME HOW TO GET RID OF IT!!

WHY?
YOU'RE SHAMING THE TITLE OF ALREADY, WILL VA!

SHUT UP, KURAMA!

GGH...

THEY'RE SUCKING MY CHAKRA OUT OF ME!

WHAT'S WITH THESE RODS?

YOU'RE SHAMING THE TITLE OF HOKAGE!

PITIFUL!

GET UP ALREADY, WILL YA!

YOU LIKE THAT TOY RIGHT HAND...

...MORE THAN THE KARMA I BESTOWED ON YOU?

SO YOU LIKE THAT TOY RIGHT HAND...

IN WHICH CASE, THERE'S REALLY NO DIFFERENCE...

THINK ABOUT IT... HOW CAN YOU SAY FOR SURE THAT IT'S NOT A DEVICE TO MONITOR AN OUTSIDER LIKE YOU?

... BETWEEN IT AND THE KARMA.
THE HOKAGE...

LOLord SEVENTH IS NOTHING LIKE YOU!!!!

SHUT UP!!

I'M SICK OF YOUR IDIOCY.

WAKE UP ALREADY.

UNH!

KRIK KRIK

THERE'S NO PLACE FOR YOU HERE.

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT YOU'RE JUST BEING USED?

ARGH !!!
SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY HAPPENED TO KAWAKI!

THE KARMA'S SPREADING MORE!

WE GOTTA HURRY!

SHOOM

Looks like they're in a rush. I wonder what's up?

If it isn't Boruto and Mitsuki.

Huh?

Hey...
LISTEN CLOSELY, KAWAKI.

I’M THE ONLY ONE WHO DOES ANYTHING THAT’S TRULY FOR YOUR SAKE!

AHH!!! ARRGH!!

ALL HE’S CONCERNED ABOUT IS THE PEACE OF HIS VILLAGE.

I’M NO COWARDLY PEACE-OBSESSED IDIOT LIKE THE HOKAGE.
LEAVING IT BEHIND:

HERE.

FIX THAT UNSIGHTLY ARM WHEN WE GET HOME.

Hey!

Baldy!!

We're leaving it behind here.

Grik

Grik Grik Grik

You're nothing...

But a nauseating...

...worthless rat bastard...
DON'T YOU DARE...

...DISRESPECT LORD SEVENTH !!!!!

WHEN DID HE ADVANCE THIS MUCH...?

THIS IS...

...
THWAK

KAWAK!!

ARE YOU OKAY?!!

KRASH
...appropriate discipline to me!

What you're doing doesn't look like...

VERY WELL.

FSH

Hmph...

You plan to interfere, no matter what?
UZUMAKI NARUTO!

I SHALL ELIMINATE YOU...
Shinobi Hiden Column 5: Daimyo and Shinobi

Shinobi are in contractual relationships with nations. While each Hidden Village is, in theory at least, a vassal of the daimyo who is its sovereign ruler, in actuality they are in a contractual relationship of equals, where the Village executes the daimyo’s will through accepting missions. Each Hidden Village is its nation’s largest military force. However, it is not its only military force. In actuality, ordinary soldiers armed with spears, katana, bows and so forth, carry out “safer” missions such as border patrol and maintaining public order. Not all daimyo possess enough funds to continuously contract with a Village. Military actions involving ninja cost an immense amount of money. Short-term subversive activities are one thing, but a lengthy war where only ninja are employed would incur a sum huge enough to ruin a nation. That is why small states that do not contain Hidden Villages, such as the former Land of Waves (which is currently making great advances as an economic superpower), must hold to a policy of relying on ordinary soldiers for day-to-day armaments, and only hiring shinobi in times of need. Only ninja can counter ninja.

However, during this long peace, every daimyo has started wanting to reduce their massive military spending. This is only natural, as they are in the business of collecting taxes from their citizens and then (re)distributing it. The chain of events that led to Operation: Demolish Konoha, where Sunagakure (Hidden Sand) Village felt forced into demonstrating the threat of Konoha in reaction to the Land of Wind’s disarmament, is still a fresh memory. That’s right; daimyo do not consider the perpetual existence of shinobi to be necessary. The cases of Ohtsutsuki Kaguya, and then Momoshiki, were sufficient to remind daimyo of the importance of shinobi. The current Land of Fire daimyo, Ikkyu, holds Naruto in high esteem, and supports him in all possible ways, but his own political power is not rock-solid either. Members of the council of elders who wish to remove the too-heroic Uzumaki Naruto appear to be seeking to oust Ikkyu along with Naruto. Among them are quite a few individuals who are under Kara’s control through Outers. The reason why Kara is able to not-so-secretly move squads inside the Land of Fire is due to the actions of politicians and merchants opposed to the Ikkyu-Naruto administration.

Text: Ukyo Kodachi
I'LL DO AS YOU SAY, JIGEN!

HURRY UP AND TAKE ME BACK!

ALL RIGHT, I GIVE IN!!

SO STOP IT!!

... 

JUST PROMISE ME ONE THING!!

WHAT THE-- KAWAKI?

HEY NOW, WAIT A MINUTE!

WHERE'S ALL THIS COMING FROM?!

THAT YOU WON'T LAY A FINGER ON LORD SEVENTH!!

YOU WON'T ESCAPE WITH ONLY MINOR WOUNDS IF YOU FIGHT HIM!!

HE'S WAY MORE POWERFUL THAN DELTA!!
I'd rather be his prisoner again than lose you!!

KAWAKI...

Very well. Hmph.

Now come here, Kawaii.

As long as you're cooperative, there's no problem.
I'VE GOT A HUGE PROBLEM WITH THIS, YOU PIECE OF CRAP!!

NO PROBLEM?!

I'VE GOT A HUGE PROBLEM WITH THIS, YOU PIECE OF CRAP!!

SHUP

THIS WASN'T ORIGINALY YOUR BUSINESS!!

DON'T, LORD SEVENTH!

NO, I INSIST!

I CAN'T ALLOW SUCH A THING!

BUTT OUT!!

NO CAN DO!!

...WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

IT'S THE HOKAGE'S JOB TO PROTECT EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE...

AND THAT INCLUDES YOU, KAWAKI!!
DWOOSH

JIGEN, NO!!
SO LET'S DECIDE THIS THE EASY WAY.

STOP !!!

COMpromise SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE.

GRGH!
UNH!!

WHERE IS THIS?!
A DIFFERENT DIMENSION THAN WHERE YOU WERE.

A WORLD WHERE KONOHA DOESN'T EXIST.

I'LL BE LEAVING YOU HERE.

NOW, FAREWELL, UZUMAKI NARUTO.

W... 

WAIT A SEC, YOU BASTARD!!

...LORD SEVENTH.

TAKE CARE...

WHAT?!
YOU MUST BE UCHIHA SASUKE.

YOU MUST BE UCHIHA SASUKE.

I WAS ABOUT TO BE LEFT BEHIND IN THIS WHO-KNOWS-WHERE PLACE!

YOU OKAY, NARUTO?

YEAH, THANKS TO YOU!
WELL, IT DEPENDS ON HOW YOU THINK ABOUT IT...

WHAT LOUSY TIMING THOUGH. IF YOU'D ARRIVED A FEW MINUTES LATER...

...YOU COULD'VE TAKEN HIM HOME WITHOUT HAVING TO FIGHT A FUTILE BATTLE.

...IT WILL HAVE BEEN WORTH GETTING HERE EARLY, NO?

YOU TRACKED THE HOKAGE'S CHAKRA HERE?

HA!

HEH HEH HEH...

HERE WE CAN GO WILD WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT ANYTHING!

THAT'S RIGHT!

THIS IS PERFECT.

YOU CRACK ME UP.
BLOOD! BUT WHOSE?
Swoo

The Karma stopped acting up.

What the hecks going on...

...Kawaki?!!
THE KARMA! DAMMIT!
SO HE CAN ABSORB JUTSU TOO!!

GRRp

WHAM
UGGH!!
AND HE'S
GOT...

...INCREDIBLE
STRENGTH!!!
DAMMIT!!

TAk

GAH!!

ZWISH

FWISH

TMP
SHADOW DOPPELGÄNGER JUTSU!!!

B B B BOOF
AH, SO THAT'S HIS DEAL...

WHAT?!

B-B-BOOF

TMP

...THAT HE CAN SHRINK OBJECTS.

I SUSPECT...

THE ABILITY ITSELF IS REALLY SIMPLE.

YOU FIGURE SOMETHING OUT, SASUKE?!

YEAH...
Shrink...

That's it?

Yup.

That's it.

And it might seem like he suddenly disappears, but...

He's actually just shrinking himself really small.

Take those rods... They start out small enough that you don't even realize you've been stabbed.

But they inflict mortal wounds when he instantly restores them to their original size.

A simple but very annoying ability!

You're right.
...ARE EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN YOUR SHARINGAN'S KINETIC VISION.

AND COMBINED WITH YOUR RINNEGAN-BASED JUTSU...

YOUR COOL-HEADEDNESS AND SHARP PERCEPTION...

THAT'S NOT HIS ONLY SECRET.

...IS ACTUALLY YOU, UCHIHA SASUKE.

THE ONE I SHOULD ELIMINATE FIRST...
WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY?!

SO HIS OTHER SECRETS...
NOT RIGHT NOW!

HE'S ABOUT TO ATTACK AGAIN!!
NEUTRALIZING MY ATTACK BY USING A WIDER ONE OF YOUR OWN?

HMPH!

GIANT RASENGAN!!!
BEHIND YOU, TO THE RIGHT!

BY YOUR FEET!!

SASUKE!! WHERE'D HE GO?!!

GIANT RASENGAN!!...

OSH

GOT IT!!
THANKS TO THAT, WE CAN...

SORRY!

I CAN STILL ABSORB JUTSU, EVEN AT THIS SIZE.

THANKS TO THAT, WE CAN TELL...

CUZ NOW...

EXACTLY WHERE YOU ARE!!

GOOD!

THAT'S WHAT I WAS HOPING FOR!!
WHAT?!!

GAH!

ZWOOOO

WHILE I'M ABSORBING JUTSU...

I CAN'T MOVE SWIFTLY!!!
**Fwoosh**

... HE ESCAPED BY TELEPORTING!

TCH.
And in return, I'll let you know...

...all abilities have weaknesses.

I've learned something today.

It's natural, but...

...as lucky as you were just now.

You'll never again be...

What is that?
Shinobi Hiden Column 6: Shinobi Crime

Only shinobi are able to crack down on shinobi crime. It's the only process that is practical, because no matter how many Village police officers are deployed, they would likely be unable to capture a shinobi. Thus, it has recently become practice for each Village to establish a unit called the Police Force and task them with cracking down on internal crime. Previously in Konoha Village, the Uchiha clan, which was on the losing side of political strife, was essentially forcibly assigned this task, but it is currently undertaken by the distantly related Fuuma clan (whose members do not possess sharingan). The Police Force's authority falls short of that wielded by the undercover Black Ops unit, and thus there exists tension between the two squads. Those who commit major crimes such as killing daimyo and overthrowing governments get put on wanted lists distributed across nations by the network of daimyo and are treated as international criminals. While they retain the right to a court trial, in many instances the shinobi's discretion to pronounce summary judgment on the scene is recognized.

Having said that, in instances of even greater crimes (such as coups d'état), there are cases where peremptory orders are issued by the perpetrators' homeland or Village to have them brought back by any means necessary and subjected to interrogation under the label of a trial. Hefty monetary rewards are offered for such international criminals, and they are pursued irrespective of Village. Most are shinobi, and those chasing after these underworld villains who grace Bingo Book pages are also shinobi. At the same time, the underworld constantly requires the abilities of shinobi. Drug cartels and human trafficking rings that cannot commission Villages utilize international criminals via under-the-table commissions and monetary awards. For example, Akatsuki had strong connections with the underworld. No matter the type of shinobi, they cannot operate independently of society. In order to differentiate them from rogue ninja, ninja who forsake their Village to be active in the underworld are sometimes referred to as "brigands." For example, Mujina, who were involved in the kidnapping of Tento, are representative of brigands. In addition, Uchiha Sasuke, who is a rogue ninja rather than a genin of his Village, could be considered a "brigand" as well, in terms of the big picture. The superiority of such freelance shinobi is acknowledged due to their freedom. The fact that they can survive as such is proof of their remarkable abilities.
Number 38: He's Bad News
SO YOU GREW A HORN-BIG DEAL!

YOU BASTARD.

...MY INVESTIGATION TOOK ME TO A CURIOUS PLACE...
...WHERE I FOUND CERTAIN TRACES...

NA-RUTO...

A LITTLE WHILE BEFORE I TRACKED YOU HERE...

?!

OHTSUTSU-KI? YOU'RE SURE?!

...AND A NEW, TOTALLY DIFFERENT OHTSUTSU-KI...

THAT'S WHAT THE EVIDENCE POINTED TO.

...OF OHTSUTSU-KI MOMOSHIKI, KINSHIKI...

...KAGUYA...
IT LOOKS A LOT LIKE THE ONE I SAW ON THE NEW OHTSU-TSUKI.

SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

THIS GUY’S HORN...

...WENT TO THAT PLACE?

UCHIHA SASUKE.

HOW DID YOU KNOW OF IT?

YOU...

HEY, I’M COMPLETELY LOST!

TEN TAILS?!

A JUVENILE TEN TAILS-LIKE BIJU.

I KNOW ABOUT YOUR MISBE-GOTTEN PET TOO.

Am I wrong?

NOT JUST THE TWO OF US.

YOU’RE PLANNING...

OHTSU-TSUKI PLUS TEN TAIL

I COULDN’T BELIEVE MY EYES AT FIRST.
IN SHORT, YOU'RE BAD NEWS. WE NEED TO TAKE YOU DOWN...

HERE AND NOW, NO MATTER WHAT!!

...OUR JOB'S STILL THE SAME!!

GAH.

WHICH MEANS...
Fine, show me what you've got...

...for my own enlightenment.

So this is the two of you going all out?
SPEED ISN'T ALL THAT IMPRESSIVE.

WHAT ABOUT ITS DEFENSE?

ITS SPEED ISN'T ALL THAT IMPRESSIVE.

THE LEGENDARY UCHIHA SUSANO'O.
YOU DARE MOCK IT?!!
KRAKK

WHAT?

ZSHHH

HE EASILY PENE
TRATED SUSANOCO'S DEFENSE!!
SHKEEN
DAMN RINNEGAN!

HE SWAPPED OUR POSITIONS!
KING

DARK NATION

!!

COMMIT!!

BOF

THESE RODS AGAIN?!!
DWOOSH

NARUTO

HMPH!

WOOSH

RASENGAN!!

STUBBORN FOOLS!!
GOTCHA!!
BASTARD!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

ARE YOU DONE WASTING YOUR CHAKRA?

SHUP

SHUP

SHUP

SHUP
ZSHHHH

WH

AKK

BOOF

...TOO STRONG!!

HE'S...

...!

AMATERASU!!
NOT THAT THAT APPLIES TO ME.

WELL.

AH, THE AMA-TERASU.

BLACK FLAMES THAT WON'T EXTINGUISH UNTIL THEY BURN UP THEIR TARGET.

DAWNIT! IF I EXPEND ANY MORE CHAKRA...

...I WON'T BE ABLE TO USE SPACE-TIME NINJUTSU.

GAAH! SO IT DOESN'T WORK ON HIM...

SPLICH

YOU'VE REACHED THE END OF YOUR ROPE.

HEH HEH HEH, I LIKE THE EXPRESSIONS ON YOUR FACES.
GAH, I'M AT MY LIMIT TOO?

JIGEN'S BODY CAN'T KEEP PACE WITH THE POWER...

PIK PIK PIK

VV

THIS VESSEL'S DONE FOR.

I REALLY DON'T NEED KAWAKI.
DON'T TELL ME HE S...  

WHAT THE? WHAT'S WITH THAT CRACK?

THANKS, IT WAS FUN!  

OKAY, TIME TO WRAP THINGS UP.

TH-BTH-BTH-
...is seriously bad!

UGH! This amount of damage...

Goff!

Sasuke!!

G-G-G-G-G-G-G

Ewsh
...I suspect it'll take too much work to kill you and it.

With that nine tails inside you...

Uzumaki Naruto.

G-G-G-G

G-G-G-G

?! WHAT THE?!

By closing the lid on this coffin...

Instead, I'll just seal you two away.

G-G-G-G

G-G-G-G

Now.

That were standing inside right now.

In space-time ninjutsu.

Since you could escape using space-time ninjutsu.

Shh!

Shh!

Shh!

Not you, Uchiha Sasuke.

Shh!

Shh!

Seal away?!

Shh!

Shh!

But of course...
THOUGH YOU'RE WELCOME TO GO ON AND ESCAPE BY YOURSELF.

IF YOU'RE CAPABLE OF LEAVING THE HOKAGE BEHIND.

FWD

YOU BAS-TARD!!

BBOOF
FWUP FWUP

WHIP

ARE YOU CRAZY ?!

NOW !!!!

GET OUTTA HERE, SASUKE !!!!
AND AT THIS RATE, WE'LL BOTH GET TAKEN DOWN!!

ONE OF US NEEDS TO ESCAPE-- THAT'S YOU!!

WE AREN'T CAPABLE OF DEFEATING HIM RIGHT NOW!!

...!!

THERE HAS TO BE A WAY TO DEFEAT HIM, BUT...

...IT'S GOING TO BE PRETTY HOPELESS WITHOUT YOU!!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, I WON'T GO DOWN SO EASILY!

SO GO!!! NOW!!!

YEAH, WELL, RIGHT BACK AT YOU, SASUKE!!!
HUH?

ZWOOM

?!

SASUKE ?!!

WUOOOO

DON'T YOU DIE...

...NARUTO...
BUT, BACK TO ME.

AWW, TOO BAD.

YOU CAN TRACK KAWAKI USING THE KARMA, BUT NOT SASUKE, RIGHT?

WHY NOT JUST KILL ME OUT RIGHT?

WHY ARE YOU BOTHERING WITH SEALING ME AWAY?
Don't rile him up further.

Stop that, Naruto.

Don't give him an excuse to change his mind and slaughter you.

So he doesn't want to waste chakra...

He never had any business with you.

Kurama!!

Boruto, wasn't it? I was sad not to see him at your house, but...

Is he coming along nicely?

Though your son is a different story.

Your beast seems the smarter half.

It's right... I have no interest in you.
HE'S GOT ONE, DOESN'T HE?

SOMEBHERE ON HIS BODY?

THE KARMA.

DON'T PLAY DUMB.

HUH?!

HOLD IT IN, NARUTO!!

STAY AWAY FROM BORUTO!!

YOU!!!

WHAT'S BORUTO GOT TO DO WITH ANYTHING?!!

Cuz I'M GONNA...

ENJOY THIS LITTLE EXTENSION OF YOUR LIFE IN THE PITCH-DARK I'LL LEAVE YOU IN.

YOU MUST'VE BEEN SO BUSY UNTIL NOW, LORD SEVENTH.

IF YOU'RE STILL ALIVE, THAT IS.

IT'LL BE YOUR END WHEN WE NEXT MEET.

YOU BETTER REMEMBER THOSE WORDS!!!

FEED 'EM RIGHT BACK TO YOU!!!
SWOOOO...

FWAP

OOSH...

TMP
I've expended more than I thought...

Gah...

...
YOU'RE NOT WORTHY OF BEING OHTSUTSUJI ISSHIKI'S VESSEL...

...YOU DEFECTIVE FAILURE.
KAWAKI?

HE ISN'T WITH YOU?
WHERE'S LORD SEVENTH?

SARA-DA...

BZIP...
Shinobi Hiden Column 7: Science
Shinobi can be outstanding scientists as well. Orochimaru, Yakushi Kabuto and Katasuke are representative examples, but even otherwise, all frontline shinobi (excluding exceptions such as Naruto) possess well-rounded scientific knowledge. This can be said to be a byproduct of them trying to understand all things in nature in order to hone their jutsu. Because being a ninja involves using jutsu, they must grasp all the interlaced factors that make up the world, plus many are genuinely curious as well. One cannot use jutsu that one does not understand. One can use Raikiri (Lightning Blade) because one knows what lightning is, and one is able to use genjutsu because one fathoms how people perceive the world. Every time something about the world is revealed through science, new jutsu are born. In the near future, ninjutsu that meddle with computer networks and ninja who can manipulate electronic devices will likely emerge. Or perhaps they already exist. Such science and technology is spreading across the Villagers’ world in addition to the shinobi world. In past wartime eras, it was not unusual for shinobi to clandestinely attend Villager academic conferences, as well as vice versa. Every Hidden Village listens carefully to the words of brilliant scientists, whether they are shinobi or not.

To rephrase, the number of outstanding scientists possessed by a Hidden Village relates directly to its rating. Extraction maneuvers in order to secure researchers (including coarse tactics like kidnapping) are commonplace occurrences in the shinobi world. For if one can scientifically elucidate an enemy’s jutsu, it could lead to unilateral victory. In addition, shinobi science and technology extend to the medical field as well. These past ten years, knowledge of the human body revealed by medical ninja (much of it gained by slicing and dicing the bodies of both enemies and allies on the battlefield) has started to be widely shared with the medical community at large. Thus, even regular doctors who do not use medical ninjutsu can currently perform advanced medical procedures. However, such strides have not all been positive. Technology regarding potent drugs being kept under wraps by Hidden Villages came to be leaked, leading to evil drug dealers selling those substances. Such drug lords have wealth on the scale of small nations, like the old Gato Company, and are expanding their influence by hiring rogue ninja. It is rumored that there even exist Hidden Villages built by such drug dealers in remote regions. Part of the reason Naruto and the others are so busy is they are battling such scoundrels, the darkness that was birthed by peace, every day.
Number 39: Proof
WHERE'S LORD SEVENTH?!

WHAT HAPPENED, KAWAKI?!

HEY!

...
I'm saying, Ino! That enemy attacked.

Sarada?!

DID LORD SEVENTH GO OFF SOMEWHERE WITH THEM?!

Oh, phew! Kawaki's safe!

But, Boruto...

He's missing!

Lord Seventh...

Huh?!

You got me worried!

My karma suddenly started acting up, so I thought something had happened!
THIS IS...!

UGH...!

SHADOW PARALYSIS JUTSU!

THIS IS THE SECOND TIME I'M USING IT ON YOU, KAWAKI.
THIS IS TURNING INTO A BIG DEAL.

MASTER SHIKAMARU?!

YOU WERE PRESENT, WEREN'T YOU, KAWAKI? I'LL HAVE YOU EXPLAIN TO US...

...WHAT WENT DOWN!

ACCORDING TO THE SENSORY UNIT, THE ENEMY SUDDENLY APPEARED HERE...

...AND THEN DISAPPEARED ALONG WITH LORD SEVENTH.

YESSIR!

TASUKI!
Looks like we've all been sealed inside.

It's a barrier.

What the--?!
...it will also thwart any enemy reinforcements.

while it's meant...

...to prevent Kawaki from fleeing...

That's right. I had them put up a barrier.

That's right. I had them put up a barrier.

search inside and outside the house, in pairs.

GRRP.

None of you can come or go now without my say-so.

search inside and outside the house, in pairs.

look for any traces of Lord Seventh and the enemy.

Roger!

none of you can come or go now without my say-so.

now then...

...as long as you don't try anything stupid.

you can move around as you like in here...

I'll respect Lord Seventh's treatment of you and not restrain you.

sssS

...as long as you don't try anything stupid.
Suddenly appeared.

He's the de facto leader of Kara.

He suddenly appeared in front of me.

Now tell me what happened...

The enemy was Jigen.

Ka-waki.

So is this a special ability that's unique to Jigen?

The sensory unit reported the same thing to me.

Whaddaya mean?

Suddenly appeared...?!

Sounds like space-time ninjutsu. Dammit!

...there was a crack or something in the air...

What a bother.

...and it seemed like he emerged from it.

I dunno, but my karma...

...started hurting and formed a pattern I'd never seen before.

And then...
IT'S SIMPLE. JIGEN TOOK HIM AWAY...

CUZ LORD SEVENTH INTERFERED.

WHY TAKE LORD SEVENTH?

BUT I THOUGHT THE ENEMY WAS AFTER YOU, KAWAKI.

LORD SEVENTH SHOULD BE A TOUGH OPPONENT EVEN FOR JIGEN, BUT...

IF JIGEN WERE JUST PLANNING TO DUMP HIM IN ANOTHER DIMENSION, IT SHOULD ONLY TAKE A MINUTE.

JIGEN HAVE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY TO COME AFTER KAWAKI?

HOWEVER, IN THAT CASE, SHOULDN'T...

DAD!

NO WAY...

IF WE'RE LUCKY, NARUTO HAS TAKEN DOWN JIGEN...

AND HE DOESN'T HAVE A WAY TO RETURN HERE ON HIS OWN.

Indeed... and since he hasn't...

...they're still fighting somewhere, or...

WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM SINCE HE LEFT ON HIS MOST RECENT MISSION.

THAT'S OUR ONLY HOPE. IT'S JUST THAT...

HE CAN GO FIND DAD USING SPACE-TIME NINJUTSU, RIGHT?!

OH! BUT WHAT ABOUT UNCLE SASUKE?!

SO WE CAN ONLY PRAY HE'S OKAY AND WAIT FOR HIM TO RETURN.

IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO REPORT?

KAWAKI.

NO WAY...

MASTER SHIKAMARU?

I'M ASKING IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU'RE HIDING.

WHAT ARE YOU...

LIKE... YOU'RE DECEIVING US, FOR EXAMPLE.
I DON'T TRUST YOU AT ALL. NEVER HAVE.

RIGHT FROM THE GET-GO.

YOU'RE JUST A MEMBER OF KARA...

...AND A SPY THAT WAS SENT INTO KONOHA IN ORDER TO DESTROY IT.

AND WITH LORD SEVENTH SUDDENLY GONE...

...MY MISGIVINGS ONLY GROW DEEPER.

I CAN'T HELP THINKING THAT...

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT...

...MASTER SHIKAMARU?!

SURE, I COULD COME UP WITH COUNTLESS CONSPIRACY THEORIES, BUT...

...IT'S ALSO TRUE THAT THERE'S NO CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY.
House arrest within this barrier should be enough for now.

With the Hokage absent...

The decision of what to do with you falls to me, his advisor.

I can't fault your logic. It does make sense.

So, what do you want me to do?

At least until we obtain proof that you're not a spy.

...The precision of what to do with you falls to me, his advisor.

So, what do you want me to do?

With the Hokage absent...

I can't fault your logic. It does make sense.

So, what do you want me to do?

I'm okay with it.

That's way too extreme!!

House arrest?!

Bo-Ruto.

And it's better than incarceration.

I mean, it really is my fault that all this happened.

I'm okay with it.
THANKS FOR BEING COOPERATIVE.

YOU SURE?

IT'S FOR THE GOOD OF EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE, IT'S NOT PERSONAL.

...KAWAKI...

...
BUT THIS IS ODD, EVEN IF THEY'D ENDED UP FIGHTING OVER THERE, IT SHOULD'VE CONCLUDED LONG AGO.

AND YET, HE HASN'T RETURNED, MEANING...?
...they still have minimal chances of winning. And even if Uchiha Sasuke happened to show up...

No, there's not even a sliver of a chance of that. Did Naruto defeat Jigen?

He expended too much Chakra, so he went back to the base instead?

Maybe he can't...?

Hm...

Nevertheless, considering that Jigen hasn't come back for Kain...

I might actually be able to take Jigen down myself.

It's worth me heading back, at least.

It's not completely impossible.

In which case, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity...
IT'LL TAKE TWO WHOLE DAYS TO REACH FULL TANK AGAIN.

YOU HAVE ALMOST ZERO CHAKRA LEFT.

I GOT HAPPY, AND ENDED UP GETTING CARRIED AWAY...

IT'S A BAD HABIT OF MINE...
KARMA IS RIPENING AT AN ASTONISHING PACE.

HE'S NO LONGER JUST A SIMPLE, INCOMPLETE VESSEL.

THE STRONG RESONANCE FROM UZUMAKI BORUTO'S KARMA?

THAT'S GREAT. IS IT DUE TO...

KAWAKI'S HAS PROGRESSED SO MUCH.

BORUTO'S MUST BE DEVELOPING QUITE A BIT AS WELL.

HE SHALL AWAKEN AS A PERFECT OHTSUKI.
HEH HEH... A GIGANTIC DIVINE TREE SHALL GROW...

THEY'LL LIKELY BOTH BECOME POWERFUL OHTSU-TSUKI...

HUGE ENOUGH TO DEVOUR ALL LIFE ON THIS PLANET...

EVERYONE'S WISHES WILL BE GRANTED...

INCLUDING YOURS, OF COURSE.

DON'T WORRY, AMADO.
WHAT'RE YOU STARING AT, GEEZER?

I'M COUNTING ON IT...

WHAT'RE YOU STARING AT, GEEZER?

HUH?

YOU'RE CREEPING ME OUT.

JIGEN.
BUT SINCE WE CAN'T DISPROVE IT EITHER, I CAN'T JUST LET HIM RUN AROUND FREE.

SHADDUP.

I NEVER SAID I'D DECIDED HE WAS.

NO, I REFUSE TO BELIEVE...

HE COULD'VE DIED IF IT HAD GONE WRONG!

HE EVEN SACRIFICED HIS RIGHT ARM TO SAVE HIMAWARI AND DAD!

WOULD A SPY DO SUCH A THING?!

...THAT KAWAKI'S A SPY!!
Plus if he were one of the enemy and it was part of the plan, they wouldn't kill him.

It'd be a good ploy to win our trust.

I heard Kara's scientist might have the ability to fix it.

...So long as we don't find definitive proof otherwise, this is my call.

But...

Well, Naruto will be the one to make the final decision, if he returns safely, but...
I'm what's called the Hokage...

My name is Uzumaki Naruto.

The leader of this village.
YOU HAVE NOTHING.

YOU ARE EMPTY...

...IS THAT IT'S A BINDING FORCE.

THE REAL ESSENCE OF CHAKRA.

...THROUGH CHAKRA.

WE'RE ALL LINKED, IN NO SMALL MEASURE...

nothing you gain can ever fill it.

there is a hole in your heart.

I'LL JUST SPILL RIGHT OUT OF THAT HOLE.
YOU'RE SAFE NOW!

RELAX, KAWAKI.

...WHY?! KAWAKI?

WHY IS HE WILLING...

...TO LOOK ME STRAIGHT IN THE EYE?

...BEEN SO KIND TO ME?

WHY HAS LORD SEVENTH...
You remind me a lot of me as a kid, and...

That makes me wanna take care of you.

Okay?

As if you're actual family, right?

Yeah.

...If Lord Seventh were my dad.

There've been times I wondered for real, how much better my life might be...
...AT HIS CONSTANT GRIPING...

I WAS SO JEALOUS OF BORUTO, AND ANNOYED...

HIS IGNORANCE OF BEING SO BLESSED.

EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS FAMILY.

BUT YOU SEE...

...TO LORD SEVENTH...

...EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS FAMILY.

AND YOU JUST FEEL SAFE IN HIS PRESENCE...

UTTERLY SAFE.

THAT'S WHO HE IS.
I FOUND SOMETHING ODD UPSTAIRS...

MASTER SHIKAMARU?

YEESH, YOU'RE THE BOTHER.

NEVER MIND!!

YOU BLOCKHEAD, OLD MAN SHIKAMARU!!

OH!

SOMETHING ODD?

THIS SIDE OF YOU IS JUST LIKE NARUTO AS A BRAT.

IT WAS DISPLAYED PROMINENTLY ON LORD SEVENTH'S DESK.

THAT'S...

IT APPEARS TO BE A VASE... FULL OF CRACKS?

TAK

COULD IT BE A NINJA TOOL FOR CURSE JUTSU?
You're a Jonin! How did you come up with something so stupid?!

It's nothing like that at all!!

It's completely fixed! Ha!!

Who would go to such lengths?!

WOW! Are you serious?!

Besides, it's not perfect.

There's still a tiny hole.

You're the one who told me to fix it.

Feh.
KAWAKI LABORIOUSLY PUT THIS SHATTERED THING BACK TOGETHER!!

YOU SEE THIS, OLD MAN SHIKAMARU?!!

I SEE.

AND YOU STILL WANNA TREAT HIM LIKE A SPY?!!

LABORIOUSLY he NS SHATTERED = THING BACK TOGETHER!!

CON'T MAKE THINGS WORSE.

YOU SEE THIS, OLD MAN SHIKAMARU?!!

SO THIS IS THE INFAMOUS...

VASE, HUH?

EXACTLY HOW HARDHEADED ARE YOU??!

GAH!

BUT JUST LIKE HIM LOSING HIS RIGHT ARM...

LOOK, I HEAR YOU, BORUTO.

DON'T MAKE THINGS WORSE.

GIVE IT UP ALREADY, BORUTO.

...IT DOESN'T SERVE AS PROOF THAT HE'S NOT A SPY.

HUH?

WHAT?!
...IS EMITTING LIGHT?

LORD SEVENTH'S PROSTHESIS...

I CAN SENSE LORD SEVENTH'S CHAKRA!

IT'S CHAKRA!

WHAT?

KSHNK

DAD?!
Jigen must have knocked him unconscious, and he was just out for a while.

Which means Lord Seventh wasn't killed!

It's functioning!

But he's still alive!!

Yes!!

Yeah, no mistake.

Kawaki! Do you mean...?

So where is Naruto?!

Hey, what's going on?!

Lord Seventh's alive!

Through a chakra link!

I sense him, Lord Seventh.
BORUTO! WORK WITH ME!
WHAT THE?!

GWOOOO O

ZOOO

WAHH!!
NO WAY!!

SPACE-TIME NINJUTSU?!

BY BORUTO AND KAWAKI...
FINALLY STARTING TO UNDERSTAND.

I’VE GOT THE ABILITY TO DO TOO!

IN THE END, I’M LIKE HIM. IT’S THE WHOLE...

...WANT TO ADMIT IT, BUT...

...JIGEN CHOSE ME. I DIDN’T...

...WHATSOEVER HE CAN DO...

EXCEPT... IT’S NAUSEATING, BUT I CAN’T DENY IT.

...CUZ OF THAT...

KA-WAKI!!

...I’VE GOT THE ABILITY TO DO TOO!
TO RESCUE LORD SEVENTH.

C'MON, LET'S GO.

YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE JIGEN, KAWAKI!

I'M SURE OF IT!
I'm just as worried about Lord Seventh as you are!

Who gave you permission to run off on your own?!

But calm yourselves and think!

Shadow paralysis?!

Ugh!
I can move again!

The rift is gonna close.

Hurry up and go.

Ugh!!
Huh? Wait a sec...

Hold...

Let's go, you two.

HOLD...

Kawaki!

Wah!

Hey!

Shut up.

You...

You just need proof, right?

Fine. I'll get it for you.
Fwooo...

HMM, NONE OF YOU SEEM TO BE UCHIHA SASUKE.

HUH?

ALL I SEE ARE ROCKS...

WHERE'S DAD?

MM?!

YOU!

?!

WHERE'RE YOU?!
OH, JOY!

TO GET TO RUN INTO YOU HERE!

IF IT ISN'T KAWAKI!

AND IN SOME WAYS, HE'S EVEN WORSE NEWS THAN JIGEN!!

NOPE. HE'S...

ANOTHER INNER MEMBER OF KARA.

IS THAT JIGEN?

BORO!!

KA-WAKI...