JUMP COMICS

HUNTER×HUNTER

No. 20

富樫義博
Special Thanks:
Kenneth
Fullish
Albert
Musashi (nG)
Shebes
and all of our hosts
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WHAT ARE THESE?

THEM' ARE PLATES USED AS "WARIFU".

They're often used to verify the authenticity of documents, or to prove the identity of an ally.

They're usually made from bamboo or wood and are marked like this, and then broken in half.

I guess the point is to defeat them and retrieve the plates.

The two Hitmen probably hold the other two halves.

What about our case?
They must've confirmed the message.

Someone's been watching.

You must be Gon and Killua, am I right?
My name is Palm. Glad we've finally met.

Pleased to meet you.

The chairman only gave you general instructions, right?

Oh, stop it! You don't need to be so edgy.

I'll explain everything, over a cup of tea perhaps?
HE TOLD ME I'D ONLY GET IN HIS WAY BUT I INSISTED ON COMING.

I AM AN APPRENTICE OF MASTER NOVU.

BUT THIS IS ONLY OUT OF MY UTTERMOST RESPECT FOR HIM. TO THINK THAT I MAY HAVE ANY SPECIAL FEELINGS . . .

AH.

MASTER NOVU IS AN AMAZING PERSON. HE'S COOL AND INTELLIGENT AND COMPOSED AND... AH... COOL AND COMPOSED MEAN THE SAME THING... OOPS.

I THINK HE'S ONE OF THE GUYS WHO CAME WITH CHAIRMAN NETERO.

WHO?

YES, THE ONE IN THE BLACK SUIT.

OH! OF COURSE, MASTER NOVU KNOWS NOTHING OF THIS. I HAVEN'T SAID A WORD, AND I NEVER WILL...

........TOWARDS HIM... IS NOT OUT OF THE QUESTION. UH-HUH-HUH-HUH-HUH. BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS WHETHER YOU CAN HAVE RESPECT FOR THE OTHER PERSON OR NOT... WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE...
But... but... love can suddenly spark out of nowhere, right? Don't you think so?

.........but you never know what the future holds, right?

Um... sorry, but can I interrupt you for a sec?

Ah... stop it! I see, I apologize.

Eh?

We're supposed to fight, right?

Ah... but you wouldn't know that unless you spend a long time together with him.

My teacher may look like a cold person but he's actually very kind.

And just because I've been with him for a long time, do not misunderstand us to be...

Okay! Okay! I get it! So what is that condition?

I appealed for my passion with probably a whole lifetime's worth of words.

But I kept being stubborn and insisted I go.

The chairman and my teacher said that I could not accompany them any further than here.

So they finally agreed to let me come under one condition. Hu hu hu.
...TO DEFEAT KNUCKLE AND SHOOT...!!

Palm-San! Your Hatsu! Stop your Hatsu!!

You have to defeat them.

But I'm not the one who has to defeat Knuckle and shoot.

Knuckle and Shoot...? Not us?

She must be reinforcement.

I don't like it.
They have also been given a specific condition to meet.

Although I do not know what this condition is...

Are both apprentices of Moralsan.

Knuckle and shoot...

Only one group will be allowed to go...

I bet the ones that will be allowed to enter NSL will either be us or them.

One month!!
IT WAS FUN.

I FELT LIKE I WAS DREAMING.
I WANT TO DO IT AGAIN...

WITH YOU...

IT'S A SIMPLE MATTER.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AH!
I can just repair him!

And I will make this my power!
WE'RE NOT TO LET THESE PLATES LEAVE OUR POSSESSION.

FOR ONE MONTH...

I GUESS THAT MEANS SOMEONE WILL COME TO TAKE THEM.
Knuckle?

What should we do?

Preemptive strike!

Is there any question?

And kill them!

We will weed them out.
I REQUEST A DUEL WITH THE TWO SUPPRESSION TEAM CANDIDATES!

MY NAME IS KNUCKLE BINE! I AM A BEAST HUNTER!

LET'S FIGHT, FAIR AND SQUARE!

TONIGHT, AT EXACTLY MIDNIGHT!

IT WILL BE SIMPLY ME, NO STRINGS ATTACHED! THERE WON'T BE ANY CHEAP TRICKS INVOLVED!

I WILL NOT RUN, I WILL NOT HIDE! I WILL NOT BRING ANY WEAPONS, AND I WILL COME ALONE!

YOU'RE NOT SAYING WHERE.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE GONNA GO ANYWAY EVEN IF HE DID MENTION WHERE.

THERE'S PROBABLY ANOTHER ONE HIDING SOMEWHERE TO SEE IF ANYONE WILL BITE.

HE'S USING HIMSELF AS BAIT.

CONSIDERING WHAT PALM SAID, IT MAKES SENSE SINCE THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW OUR NAMES.

IT'S A STRATEGY WHERE ONE PERSON HIDES AND OBSERVES TO SEE IF ANYONE SHOWS ANY SUSPICIOUS MOVEMENTS OR ABNORMAL REACTIONS TO THE BAIT.

DID HE LOOK STRONG?

HE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE STUPID ENOUGH TO SERIOUSLY BE REQUESTING A DUEL LIKE THIS.

HE'S TRYING TO LURE US INTO A TRAP.

Yeah, pretty strong.
BUT IN A BATTLE INVOLVING NEN, THERE ARE NO CERTAINTIES.

THE GUY WITH THE CHAIRMAN MENTIONED THIS AS WELL...

I'M NOT REALLY SURE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT'LL TAKE TO DEFEAT HIM?

BUT I DO NOT AGREE WITH THAT.

HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT I'M WRONG TO PUT EMPHASIS ON THE "CHANCES OF WINNING"...

IT WILL BE POINTLESS TO FIGHT IF YOU CAN ONLY WIN MAYBE ONCE OR TWICE OUT OF A 100 TIMES.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE ABLE TO ACCURATELY MEASURE AND ASSESS THE CAPACITIES OF BOTH YOU AND YOUR OPPONENT.

INCREASING YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING IS ESSENTIAL IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE.

THEREFORE, THERE ARE TWO THINGS WE MUST ACCOMPLISH!!

AT LEAST A 50 PERCENT CHANCE IS NECESSARY, AND PREFERABLY A 70 PERCENT CHANCE OR ABOVE WOULD BE GOOD.

RIGHT.

AT THE LEAST, WE MUST IMPROVE OUR BASIC ABILITIES AND FIGURE OUT THE ABILITIES OF OUR OPPONENTS.
I half agree and half disagree.

I'll be able to come up with a plan like we did against Genshiru.

If we can figure out what their abilities are...

What do you mean?

Hm.

But I don't think it's necessary to try to figure out our opponent's abilities.

I agree with the part about having to improve our basic abilities.

But just like the fights in NGL.

Then we're just putting ourselves at a higher risk! What good is that?

Wha!? Why's that??

It's to become stronger so that we can go back to NGL and rescue Kaito!!

Our goal isn't to defeat Knuckle...
NO MATTER HOW WE GO ABOUT IT, WE NEED TO GET RESULTS WITHIN ONE MONTH.

AT THIS POINT, HAVING TO COME UP WITH A PLAN IN ORDER TO WIN IS MEANINGLESS.

YOU DO HAVE A POINT THERE...

BUT OUR PRIORITY IS TO COMPLETE THE IMMEDIATE TASK AT HAND...

WE NEED THE KIND OF STRENGTH THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE ABLE TO PREVAIL AGAINST AN ENEMY WITH UNKNOWN ABILITIES.

HUUH?

THAT'S TOO LATE.

WE WILL BECOME STRONG ENOUGH TO GO BACK TO NGL!!

IN ONE WEEK!

YOU'RE CRA...

WHAT?

ARE YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING?!
I called her here.

WHY ARE YOU HERE!?!

BISKE!?

We don't have much time... please get on with it.

Huhuhu! It's a simple matter if I use my ability.

But how!? With Biske, we only...

I just checked up on some information about you two.

No.

Huh? No way! You two know each other?

The plan to massacre the apprentices of Morau!
ARE YOU STUPID??
JUST PICKING UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF.

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?

WHEN THAT OLD GEEZER GIVES YOU ONE MONTH, IN REALITY IT COULD TAKE EVEN LONGER THAN A YEAR TO ACCOMPLISH! NEVERMIND DOING IT IN A WEEK!!

CHAIRMAN NETERO IS NOTORIOUS FOR BEING A TWISTED OLD MAN, YOU KNOW.

I SEE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BUT WE HAVE TO GO BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF WE WANT TO RESCUE KAITO!

DO YOU WANT TO GO BACK NOT FULLY PREPARED AND JUST REPEAT THE SAME MISTAKE AGAIN?

ERR.

THEN THAT'S EVEN MORE OF A REASON NOT TO RUSH THINGS!!

YOU IDIOT!
“REN”!!

Alright then, let's start the special training.

She sure can nag like an old woman.

That old hag...

Yes, ma'am...!

Do you understand?

Now maintain that status for three hours!

Do it as if your life depended on it.

If you guys can't do this, we can't move on to the next phase.

When I'm in good condition, maybe for about 65 minutes...

Killua, how long can you hold it for?
YES YES... CONTINUE PLEASE.

OH C'MON, IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN AN HOUR YET.

UHG...

YOU WON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO SLEEP.

NORMALLY, IT TAKES ABOUT A MONTH JUST TO INCREASE YOUR REN BY 10 MINUTES.

NOTE: THE MAGAZINE TITLE IS "MALE"
BASTARDS...

YOU'VE JUST DUG YOUR OWN GRAVES!!

DID YOU GET INTIMATED, YOU COWARDS?!

you have to keep the paws clean, you know.

YOU'VE GOT A COLLAR ON... WHERE'S YOUR OWNER?
TOMORROW WILL COMMENCE IN 30 MINUTES!

OKAY! THAT'S IT FOR TODAY. YOU MAY REST!

Piano Massage!! Magical Estee!!

OF COURSE, THIS WON'T BE FOR FREE...

SLEEP WELL.

WITH THIS, 30 MINUTES WILL BE EQUIVALENT TO EIGHT HOURS OF SLEEP.

EXCUSE ME...
Since you were the answer my ability gave me.

I will leave the training up to you...

I know I may be stepping out of line by saying this...

HMM?

I... do not have the confidence to restrain myself.

But... if these two fail to defeat Morali's apprentices within the given time of one month...

I will probably kill all of you...

But if I keep telling myself, be patient be patient be patient be patient be patient and they fail...

If I could, I'd go right this minute...!!

I want to go to NGL at any cost...

Out of concern...

No, I'm just warning you...

Is that a threat?

Tell the kids when they wake up.

Well, you're talking to the wrong person.

I can say that from experience, doing that will help reduce my anger and it'll eventually subside.

So if you think they won't succeed, it will be best for you guys to hurry and get away from here...
I WILL DEFINITELY TAKE YOU TO NGL!

DON'T WORRY! JUST LEAVE IT UP TO ME!!

THAT'S THE KIND OF KID HE IS. BELIEVE IN HIM.

WE'LL DO OUR BEST!

AND IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR US, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO TELL US!

WHAT ARE THE CHAIRMAN AND THE OTHERS PLANNING ON DOING FOR A MONTH?

BUT I'M ACTUALLY MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE ONES THAT WENT TO NGL.

DO YOU KNOW?

? ARA... STOP IT STOP IT.
SO THEY SAID THEY'LL MOVE ACCORDING TO THE SHORTEST ESTIMATE OF TWO MONTHS.
THE EXPERTS COULDN'T COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON HOW MUCH TIME WE HAVE UNTIL THE BIRTH OF THE KING...
THEY WILL FIRST ASSESS THE STRENGTH OF THE ENEMY, AND THEN REDUCE THEIR NUMBERS.
EH? AH... UM... THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO "INVESTIGATE" AND "REDUCE."

THIS ISN'T GOOD...

HMMM.

COULD THAT ONE BE STRONGER THAN ME...?
IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN THERE ISN'T A SINGLE HUNTER OUT THERE THAT STANDS A CHANCE.

NOW, I'M PROBABLY ABOUT THE SAME AS YOU TWO.

BUT WE WILL STILL PROCEED, YES?

There's no end to his complaining.

EVEN THOUGH I MAY NOT BE EVEN HALF AS STRONG AS I WAS IN MY PRIME, AGE REALLY IS AN ANNOYING THING.

THAT'S STILL QUITE STRONG, SO PLEASE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF.

SINCE OUR ONLY TARGET IS THE QUEEN.

NOTHING WOULD BE BETTER THAN TO PROCEED WITHOUT HAVING TO DEAL WITH ANY SORT OF CONFLICT...
I'm afraid fighting will be unavoidable.

But it will be next to impossible to sneak in under the range of that EN.
FROM THE MOMENT YOU CALLED THE TWO OF US, DIDN'T YOU ALREADY HAVE AN ANSWER?

YOU REALLY ARE A DEVIOUS OLD MAN...

IF YOU'VE GOT ANY GOOD IDEAS, NOW'S THE TIME TO SPEAK UP.

THE QUESTION IS, HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE?

WE WILL WIPE THEM OUT...

QUIETLY, ONE BY ONE...
SHALL WE TAKE IT SLOW?

IF WE HAVE TO DO IT ANYWAY, MIGHT AS WELL ENJOY IT, RIGHT?
WE SHOULD AT LEAST FIND OUT HOW MANY WE'RE DEALING WITH.

LET'S SEE NOW.

GO!
They don't seem to be living organisms.

There's a large number of... something approaching.

Nyah-what should I do?

Could this be the enemy's power?
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF WE JUST WAIT HERE.

WE CAN SIMPLY JUST ELIMINATE THEM THEN.

IF THEY INTRUDE ALL THE WAY IN,

NO.

HUU? WAS I THINKING OUT LOUD?

SINCE IT COULD ALSO BE A TRAP TO LU...

YOU DO HAVE A POINT THERE.

BUT WHO ARE YOU?

I SIMPLY THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS WHAT YOU WERE THINKING.

FROM THE WAY YOU LOOKED.
SHUAPAFAU.

I AM ONE OF THE QUEEN'S ROYAL GUARDS.

I CAN'T STOP YOU FROM THINKING ABOUT IT THOUGH.

WHAT COULD THEY BE?

AND... THAT IS ALL.

MONTUTUYUPI SHOULD AWAKEN SOON AS WELL.
FINALLY, YOU'VE MADE IT TO THREE HOURS!

Alright, OK!
I CAN'T MOVE ANYMORE...

WE DID IT... UGH.......

YOU HAVE TO GO RIGHT AWAY!!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? HEY, GET UP!!

TO WHERE KNUCKLE IS.

EH.... GO WHERE...?

SEE? YOU CAN STILL MOVE. NOW GO.

WHAAAAA... WHAT THE HELL?!!?

SIGH... DON'T ASK SUCH AN OBVIOUS QUESTION.

THAT'S NOT THE POINT! WHY THE HELL ARE WE GOING??
TO DUEL!

Let's go.

Wha...

You'll just go fight him again.

What if we lose?!

What the hell are you talking about? We still have time, don't we?

Huh?!

And then go back the next day for revenge!!

If you think you're gonna lose, just run away!!

Then just don't take them with you and everything'll be fine.

The condition of winning is to claim the plates, right?

!!?
THEN AFTERWARDS, YOU WILL GO CHALLENGE KNUCKLE!!

FROM NOW ON, YOU WILL DO "REN" FOR THREE HOURS EVERY DAY!!

AND OF COURSE, THIS IS UNTIL YOU DEFEAT HIM!

Your owner must be a really mean one.

Didn't come today either, huh?
I haven't been taken seriously.

Looks like...

You guys?

No way...
Has my power been underestimated this much?!

To think that I've been compared to these little kids...

So what do I have in front of me? You are about to pass out from exhaustion! On your way home from swimming practice? Huh?

When you fight, it is best to have a good night's sleep then start five hours later. Okay?!

Do you have any idea? Or are you punks really just messing with me?!!

A duel isn't a little game! It's a scramble over who takes who's life, you punks!

Even if I want to take the initiative, I can't move...!!

What intimidating pressure...!
When will it be our turn?
When will it be our turn?
YOU CAN NEVER DEFEAT ME. NOT IN THIS LIFETIME.

ARE YOU... CRYING?
This is something else! You know, that thing...like when you laugh too hard you cry, that's what it is!!

Don't you dare tell anyone about this or I'm going to kill you punks!!

Shut up, you idiot! I would never cry because I'm feeling mortified, no way!

Hit me!!

In other words, your punch is so weak I have no reason to dodge.

I'll show you that we are not even in the same class.

Such runts like you are 100 years too early to even dare to challenge me!!

This deal is more than you could ask for, you punks!

If I don't move one step from this spot, leave your plates and scram!!

Sheesh, you're the one that challenged us.

So I will let you hit me until you're satisfied... but in exchange....
I DON'T HAVE ANY GROUNDS TO SPEAK UP AGAINST HIM!!

BUT IT'S TRUE... RIGHT NOW WE ARE BELOW THE LEVEL OF KNUCKLE....

IS WHAT I WANT TO SAY RIGHT NOW....!!

THERE ARE THINGS THAT CAN'T BE OVERCOME WITH DETERMINATION ALONE...

IN REALITY....!

I CAN'T MAKE A RETORT!!
I DO NOT AGREE!!

HURRY UP AND DO IT ALREADY.

I DON'T NEED TO HEAR YOUR BIG TALK.

UNTIL YOU MOVE.

I WILL NOT STOP PUNCHING...

FIRST IS...

ROCK!!
Hey! Hey! Hey!

This is cheating, you know! (Plunge)

What is this, unreal aura all of a sudden?!

But where? If I guess wrong, then I might really die.

"Kyou"... No, if I don't use "you" to guard, this will be dangerous.

I believe in you, punk!!

Normally you aim for the gut, right? I mean it can only be the gut right? OK buddy, aim for the gut! The gut... The gut... The gut!
YOU DIDN'T LET ME DOWN...

I BELIEVED IN YOU...

ARE YOU OKAY?

KNUCKLE...SANI?

MUST BE A TOTAL IDIOT.

DUNNO.

WHAT IS WITH THIS GUY?

ARE YOU AWAKE?

OH.
I MAY HAVE UNDERESTIMATED YOU A LITTLE...

HEY, YOU'RE NOT AS WEAK AS I THOUGHT...

WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE IT?

YOU COULD HAVE JUST TAKEN IT FROM ME AND LEFT ME THERE. YOU KNOW.

THE PLATE.

WE WANT TO BECOME CAPABLE OF BEATING YOU IN A STRAIGHT-ON BATTLE, KNUCKLE-SAN.

RETRIEVING THE PLATES IS NOT OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE.

GO AHEAD, ASK ME ANYTHING, PUNK.

MIND IF I ASK YOU ONE THING?
ONE THAT I'D RATHER NOT REMEMBER.

THAT'S A LONG STORY.

WHY DID YOU BECOME A BEAST HUNTER?

THEN WHY DID YOU ENLIST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUPPRESSION TEAM?

ALTHOUGH MY TEACHER TELLS ME I'M BEING TOO OPTIMISTIC.

I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF DESTROYING THINGS YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND YET...

BECAUSE I DO NOT WANT TO "SUPPRESS."

SIMPLY PUT...

FIRST, I GOTTA EXPERIENCE THEM FIRST HAND WITH MY OWN FISTS.

BUT YOU CAN'T TRULY JUDGE SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN WITH YOUR OWN EYES, RIGHT?
When you fight someone, you learn about their character.

You're a good kid.

You will already be dead by then.

They say good hunters are loved by animals.

He never left your side the entire time.

Don't dare tell anyone, I'll kill you, stupid punks!

Don't be stupid, I'm not crying!
YOU CAN COME WHENEVER YOU LIKE.

SINCE THERE IS NO WAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BEAT ME IN LESS THAN 20 DAYS.

I WILL FIGHT AS MANY TIMES AS YOU NEED ME TO.
ONLY ONE POSSESSED WILL POWER AND DETERMINATION SO GREAT, THE QUEEN'S COMMANDS HAD NO IMPACT AND HE ACTED UPON HIS OWN WILL.

OUT OF THE COUNTLESS NUMBER OF SOLDIERS THAT WERE BORN, JUST ONE...

THE SHADOW DON OF NGL.

WHEN HE WAS A HUMAN, HIS NAME WAS JAIRO.

JAIRO WAS IN THE SAME TOWN AS GON AND COMPANY!!

FILLED WITH COUNTLESS MALICIOUS SCHEMES AND EVIL GOALS...
BESIDE HE WAS TAUGHT ANY WORDS, HE WAS TAUGHT HOW TO STACK BRICKS AND MAKE CONCRETE FOR NO PAY, UNTIL FINALLY HE BEAT HIS FATHER TO DEATH AND ESCAPED.

THE BED WAS MADE OF WOOD, AND WAS DETERIORATED TO THE POINT IT COULD COLLAPSE AT ANY TIME, THE SLIGHTEST STIR WOULD CREATE A NOISE THAT THE FATHER HATED.

TWO TIMES A DAY, AND NEVER AFTER 9 O'CLOCK AT NIGHT WAS THE RULE.

WHENEVER JAIRO RETURNED FROM WORK, HE WAS NOT PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE BED UNLESS IT WAS TO GO TO THE PUBLIC WASHROOM.

THE SITUATION WAS RETICENT. WHEN THE WORK WAS COMPLETED AND JAIRO RETURNED TO HIS SHARED ROOM, HIS FATHER DRANK HIMSELF TO SLEEP WITH CHEAP BOOZE. WHILE JAIRO SAT ATOP THE BUNKED, HARDLY EVER BEING 'SPOKEN TO.'

SINCE THEN, HE LEARNED TO SLEEP WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT.

ON ONE OCCASION, HE WAS FLOGGED VICIOUSLY DUE TO THIS SOUND.

HE KEPT AN EMPTY BOOZE BOTTLE BY HIS SIDE.

FOR NIGHTS THAT HE HAD TO GO TO THE WASHROOM, AND HE COULDN'T BEAR TO WAIT ANY LONGER...

No.204 ◆ ABOUT JAIRO
DO NOT BE A NUISANCE TO PEOPLE.

In the tiny world of this young boy, his father was equal to God. In spite of all the obstacles that Jairo had to overcome from his infancy, he always remembered this teaching. To Jairo, who was never given any toys to play with, this message was his treasure.

This is the one teaching his silent father taught him, and repeated it over and over.

There were two reasons for his faith...

His father watched over him all night without sleeping, and changed the towel on his forehead.

When Jairo was five years old, he had a severely high fever and almost died.

These two things kept the young boy secretly proud.

The other reason was because not once had his father ever asked him to leave.
Is cuz you're his money tree!!

You dumb shit, da reason why he ain't askin' you to leave...

Enraged, and having his pride destroyed, he threw himself at the guy in outrage.

With his most painful secret said aloud so bluntly, feelings of hatred and anger overflowed inside him.

He snapped when a young guy several years older than him so insensitively brought this up back up.

Deep within Jairo, he had bot-tled up this possibility.

With his foot on the boy's face, the final words to finish him were uttered as ruthlessly as the spit that he spat out along with it.

In the eyes of the guy, this young boy whom he had always been making fun of, Jairo, always obeyed the teaching of his father. So no matter what people said, or did to him, he never got into a fight. Suddenly, lashing out against him, he made him so mad that after beating him half to death, he still wasn't done.

Even then, yer old man just sat in his room, drinkin' himself stupid!!

When you were sick in bed, the one that looked over ya was the geezer next door!!
AND I'LL TELL YA WHAT YER OLD MAN SAID.

"WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF THE KID DIES?" HE ASKED.

THE GEEZER AND YER OLD MAN GOT IN A BIG FIGHT THAT NIGHT.

YOU WERE IN DREAM LAND, SO YA PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER, BUT...

IF HE DIES, THEN HE DIES. I DON'T CARE MUCH EITHER WAY.

NOTHING.

JAIRO SAW SOMETHING THAT HE COULD NOT BELIEVE.

BWA HA HA!

YOU HEAR THAT?

WHILE HE LISTENED TO WHAT THE GUY SAID...
SHOWING NO INTEREST OR EMPATHY WHATSOEVER, HIS DAD JUST WALKED AWAY.

AFTER MAKING DIRECT EYE CONTACT...

UNDERSTOOD EVERYTHING.

AT THAT MOMENT...

THE UNIVERSE...

HAS NO INTEREST IN ME.
That was all he was.

The reason he was taught this was so people would not find out about how badly he was treated, and cause his father legal problems.

"Do not be a nuisance to people."

People are...

Like father.

No.

That teaching was not to help his son...

It was 100% percent for his own sake.

Means humans.
DO NOT BE A NUISANCE TO "HUMANS."

I WAS NEVER A HUMAN.
He went up to his father who was drinking, and cracked the back of his skull open. Took all the money and left the commune.

Shortly afterwards, the boy got up and picked up a hammer nearby.

Nine years after that, it became a nation and he claimed leadership.

Nine years later, Jairo established NGL.

And today...

Jairo has completely discarded his human-self.
THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DRUG WAS SIMPLY JUST THE BEGINNING. THERE WERE STILL PLENTY OF SCHEMES TO CARRY OUT.

JAIRO'S WILL IS TO SPREAD EVIL THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WORLD.

I'M STARTING FROM NOTHING...

JAIRO DID NOT RUSH THINGS.

APPROPRIATE PREPARATIONS MUST BE MADE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS.

His determination for evil kept his memories from when he was a human intact. In a sense, he was reborn simply as Jairo.

HE WAS ABLE TO LEAVE THE QUEEN'S CONTROL MOST LIKELY DUE TO HIS OWN PRIDE OF BEING A KING HIMSELF.

GON AND JAIRO DID NOT END UP MEETING... AND JAIRO LEFT THIS TOWN AND DISAPPEARED SOMEWHERE.

Whether that was fortunate for the two of them or not, it will remain unknown until they eventually meet.
YEAH, LOOKS LIKE IT.

Perhaps the humans are striking back.

Yes.

Was it similar to what happened to Reiki's division?

And our food source has become rather dispersed.

Our forces have already been considerably depleted due to the "selection."

Shall we suggest to the Queen the possibility of relocating the nest?

What a nuisance.

Their strategy is to pick off the divisions that are venturing further away from the nest to seek out food.

I'd prefer not to...

Then shall we consult Neterpitou?

I do not wish for Her Majesty to have to worry about such matters.

No, we cannot.
We'll defend the inside of the castle.

Take care of whatever goes on outside.

Well, at least she didn't give us any weird orders on a whim.

Just as we expected.

Hm... Shall I increase the concentration a bit...?

Minus Chona, there are 28 left.

How many division leaders do we have left?

First, we should determine the strength of our own forces.

And each squad captain is in charge of around 10 to 15 soldiers.

Each division leader commands around four or five squad captains.
While there are those divisions who are centralized under the strong leadership of the division commander...

There are also divisions who lack any kind of cohesion and run rampant as they please.

Ever since they realized their new abilities, they've become especially difficult to control.

Yeah.

Even if we were to warn them, I highly doubt they would listen.

Among the 32 remaining divisions, more than half belong to this unrestricted kind.

Hm.

All four of the divisions that have disappeared so far belong to the latter category.

We will set up a trap.

In that case, we can just use them to our advantage.
DOESN'T MATTER. WE CAN STILL PROCEED WITH THE ORIGINAL PLAN.

...IS PROBABLY HOW THE ENEMY IS REACTING RIGHT NOW.

MY ASSUMPTION IS THAT FROM NOW ON, THEY WILL MOBILIZE TWO DIVISIONS PER GROUP, CONSISTING OF BOTH A CENTRALIZED DIVISION AND A SCATTERED DIVISION.

IF THE DIVISIONS WITH A STRONG LEADERSHIP CAN SOMEHOW COME TOGETHER WITH THE REMAINING SCATTERED FORCES, IT WILL BECOME A PROBLEM FOR US.

BUT I ALSO THINK WE SHOULD CAPTURE A FEW OF THOSE THAT BELONG TO THE "TRAP."

WITH THE COMBINATION OF ME AND NOVLI, WE CAN EASILY PICK OUT THE "BAIT" FROM THE "TRAP."

BY THE TIME THE ENEMY FIGURES OUT THEIR NEXT MOVE, WE WILL HAVE ALREADY ELIMINATED ANOTHER THREE OR FOUR DIVISIONS.

IF WE START ATTACKING BOTH TYPES OF DIVISIONS RANDOMLY, THEN WE CAN CAUSE A BIT OF CONFUSION.

WE MAY EVEN BE ABLE TO FINISH THIS BEFORE OUR REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE.

I HAVE A GENERAL IDEA ON WHAT THEIR NEXT MOVE WILL BE AS WELL...
They're already at their limit... the only thing keeping them going right now is their will power!!

They continue to exceed my expectations.

However, successfully achieving this training will mean my defeat!!

When they are able to successfully complete this rigorous training, their new confidence will probably allow them to grow exponentially.

No way in hell

Will I let that happen!
C'mon, is that all you've got, punk!!

I doubt he'd sell me out, but there's a high probability that he'll let something slip.

Considering Knuckle's personality, he's probably taken the enemy under his wing.

If I'm going to take the initiative, it will be on their way back...

Before that happens...
This isn't working... we don't stand a chance in these conditions.

Yeah...

But we've gotta keep trying...

Knuckle's definitely not even using half his strength yet, either.

This is the time to strike...!!

No sign of anyone around!!
THIS IS MY CHANCE, GO!!

GO NOW!!

WEAKNESS: TOO TIMID TO TAKE CHANCES.

SHOOT = McMAMON Age 28, Blood Type AB, Uma (Unidentified Mysterious Animal) Hunter
IF YOU LOOK AT HIS BASIC COMBAT SKILLS, HE SEEMS JUST AS STRONG AS KAITO.

HE SEEMS INCREDIBLY STRONG...

TO GO INTO NSL?

HMM? FOR WHAT?

MAYBE IT'S A PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTOR?

HE SHOWS TOO MUCH EMPATHY TOWARDS ANIMALS.

HIS POLICY DOESN'T FIT AT ALL WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS MISSION.

AND THOSE DOGS AROUND HIM... THEY HAVE INCREASED IN NUMBERS.

BEFORE WE EVEN REALIZED IT, HE'S BECOME A WILLING COOPERATOR.
IF THEY CAN
MAINTAIN THIS
FOR THREE
HOURS, I
MIGHT HAVE
THEM FIGHT IN
THEIR BEST
CONDITION.

NOW THEY
CAN EASILY
MAINTAIN 'REN'
FOR TWO HOURS
WITHOUT CONCENTRATING.
THIS IS GOOD
PROGRESS.

REALIZING
IT WILL
ONLY BE
THE HALF
OF IT...

BUT...

I HOPE
THEN
THEY WILL
REALIZE
WHAT THEY
NEED AND
WHAT THEY
LACK.

KNUCKLE
MAY EVEN
HAVE TO
FIGHT WITH
ALL HIS
STRENGTH
tO DEAL
WITH THEM.

WHICH MEANS
THAT THE
REMAINING
TIME AFTER
WOULD ONLY
BE ONE DAY...

AT THIS
RATE, IT'LL
TAKE AROUND
ten DAYS TO
REACH THAT
POINT...

DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
WE'LL
MAKE IT...
Ouch, she sure sees through everything.

It seems like you're trying to improve your basic abilities just to get Knuckle to fight at full strength...

But it feels like you've only made about 2/3 progress.

Huh? Is that true, Biske?

Your situation is only getting worse by the day...

How can you say that?

Well, don't worry. We'll definitely win before the time is up.

These days, I've caught myself staring into a kitchen knife. I try to tell myself to calm down... but I've reached the end of my patience. Run away before it's too late. I don't think I'd chase you down and kill you just yet.

Since you told me I could speak my mind, let me tell you one thing. There's no way you can defeat Knuckle. There just isn't enough time.

The food really is delicious too...

If only she wasn't like this...
THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN BEAT HIM LIKE THIS.
IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA RUN AWAY, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU SEVERAL TIMES.
WE'RE NOT GONNA RUN AWAY.

HERE, PINKY OATH.
WE'LL WIN!

OATH TAKEN.
C'MON, QUICKLY!

WE SEAL THE PROMISE BY STICKING OUR THUMBS TOGETHER LIKE THIS...
ON MY ISLAND, WE FINISH THE OATH LIKE THIS.

IF I'M LYING...
WE SWEAR TO DEFEAT KNUCKLE AND SHOOT IN TIME.

I'LL SWALLOW A 1000 NEEDLES.
WITH A THUMB KISS!

IT'S MADE OFFICIAL...

IT'S A PROMISE.

SHE SEEMS TO BE LEADING HIM ON THOUGH.

GON'S GOOD AT PUSHING THE RIGHT BUTTONS WITH PALM.

HUH? ALL THIS WAS MADE FROM CHICKEN BONES.

PALM-SAN, WHAT KIND OF BROTH DID YOU USE?

I BOILED A KUNAI CHICKEN AND LET IT SIMMER OVER NIGHT. THEN I LET IT SIT FOR ANOTHER DAY AND...

DON'T MAKE IT SOUND LIKE IT'S OUR EXECUTION.

JUST 10 DAYS LEFT...
IT'S THIS...!! THE FOG THAT'S COVERING THE ENTIRE FOREST....!!

Goran, report the situation!

Goran, report the situation now!

Could they have already been wiped out?!!

So trick...
ZEMU DIVISION, POKORO DIVISION, FOLLOW BAITAL DIVISION'S LEAD. PROCEED IN THE CRANE FORMATION!!

BAITAL DIVISION, FORWARD!! LOCATE AND CONVERGE FORCES WITH BORAN DIVISION!!

THE SIGNALS ARE ALL MUDDLED...

WE SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST ESTABLISHED A COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR WHEN THE DIVISION COMMANDER IS ABSENT.

THE SIGNALS FROM BORAN DIVISION ARE DYING ONE BY ONE!!

WHAT IN THE... WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!?
TWO CAPTURED.

WHAT IS?

YOU THINK THIS IS OKAY?
AND BESIDES, HE SEEMS TO WANT IT THIS WAY.

HE'S JUST BEING MODERATE. THE CHAIRMAN IS STILL STRONGER THAN US.

BUT IT'S FOOLPROOF.

WE'RE JUST SENDING THEM TO THE CHAIRMAN TO TAKE CARE OF. THIS IS A BIT TOO EASY.

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.

AH.

I THINK I'M FINALLY GETTING BACK INTO FORM.

YOU CAN CAPTURE A FEW MORE AND SEND 'EM OVER.

SHALL WE SEND HIM ANOTHER DIVISION?

THE OLD MAN'S ON CRUISE CONTROL.
There are 14 divisions remaining.

That means.

Baiatal and Kabutatsu's divisions have not returned.

Seven days left...

You want to come out quickly, don't you....?

Hu Hu Hu Hu....
FINISHED ALREADY?

OH...

OK!! THREE HOURS ARE UP!!

WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIGHT KNICKLE?

HUUH?

YEAH, YOU CAN REST FOR 30 MINUTES.

SO YOU CAN DEFEAT HIM.

YOU CAN GO AFTER YOU RESTORE YOUR BODY TO ITS BEST CONDITION.

THIS COULD BE OUR ONE AND ONLY REAL CHANCE.

THERE IS ONLY ONE DAY LEFT TILL THE DEADLINE.
THE KEY IS FOR THEM TO REALIZE WHAT THEY'RE LACKING. THAT'LL BE GOOD ENOUGH.

AS LONG AS THEY FIGHT WITH ALL OF THEIR STRENGTH, THEY'LL JUST HAVE TO ACCEPT THE RESULT.

THE PROBLEM IS, HOW WILL GON AND KILLUA RUN AWAY FROM HER?
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S FOR REAL TONIGHT.
Morning, Yuki.
Huh?

I want to ask you where Shoot is.

Before we fight...

I'm gonna be beating the crap out of you anyway.

Why do you wanna know?

How about you beat me first, punk? I'll tell you then.

You make me laugh.

Because we need two plates.

What if you pass out?

Well, what if we can't ask you after we beat you?
IT'S NOT FUNNY ANYMORE.

NOW YOU'VE CROSSED THE LINE.
Better be careful, Plunk.

It usually takes me four or five punches to get warmed up.

If I let go of "Ken", I'll be knocked out no matter where he hits me!

His blows are heavy!! Even my insides feel like they're going numb.

...will only get stronger!

Because I...
AS I EXPECTED, THEY HAVE DECIDED TO BARRICADE THEMSELVES IN.

IT'S ALMOST THE DEADLINE FOR THE APPRENTICES. LET'S ACT AFTER THEY ARRIVE.

IT'S JUST A WASTE OF TIME.

HE TOLD US TO WAIT FOR THE APPRENTICES, TOO.

THEY'LL NEED TO REPLENISH THEIR SUPPLIES IN ABOUT A WEEK.

JUDGING FROM THE NUMBER OF BODIES STORED INSIDE THEIR LAIR...

MAYBE WE CAN USE THEM AS A DIVERSION.

IT'S TOO RISKY TO CONSIDER THEM AS POSITIVE REINFORCEMENTS.

DURING THAT PERIOD, WE SHOULD ELIMINATE APPROXIMATELY TWO OR THREE GROUPS.
YOU KNOW THE CHAIRMAN ALWAYS LIKES TO GAMBLE.

WELL...

HECK, THEY'RE MORE LIKELY TO GET IN OUR WAY.

IF WE BOTH LOSE, WE GIVE THE MONEY TO THE CHAIRMAN.

I'LL BET A 100 THOUSAND JENIS ON KNUCKLE AND SHOOT.

LET'S SEE WHOSE APPRENTICES WILL COME TOMORROW.

YOU WANNA MAKE A SIDE BET?

YOU IN?

THEN I'LL BET ON...

IF THAT'S THE CASE...

YOU'RE JUST THROWING YOUR MONEY AWAY INTO THE SEWER!

THERE'S NO WAY THAT'LL HAPPEN!

...FOR 1 MILLION.

AND I ONLY GO FOR THE JACKPOT.

WHAT?!

I ALSO LIKE TO GAMBLE...
UNLESS SOMEONE IS SACRIFICED...

THIS MISSION... MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLETE...
No. 207 • Weakness ①

GAAH!!

Ugh...

Behind you, punk.
BUT KNUCKLE... COULD IT BE THAT HE'S...?

THAT "FIRST IS ROCK" THINGY?

HEH, I GUESS YOU REALLY CAN'T.

AND DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN USE IT IN A ONE-ON-ONE BATTLE EITHER, PUNK.

I'LL SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE. DON'T TRY USING THAT TECHNIQUE, I'LL BREAK IT IMMEDIATELY.
IN THAT TECHNIQUE!!!

I'VE FOUND TWO HUGE WEAKNESSES

BY THE WAY, GON...

I DON'T THINK I'VE DECIDED ON A NAME FOR IT YET.

DAMN.....!!

WHAT DO YOU CALL THAT TECHNIQUE?
Wow...
That's exactly what it is...

JANKEN...!!

JA...

I SEE.

JAJANKEN, HUH....?

I DIDN'T MEAN TO STUTTER OUT THE FIRST "JA"...

NO...

UH...

AND COMBINED IT WITH THE SOUND EFFECT "JAJAN" AS IF YOU WERE SAYING "JAJAN!" HERE'S MY SPECIAL TECHNIQUE!

YOU'VE TAKEN JANKEN...

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THAT...

YOU'RE REALLY OKAY WITH THAT?

YEAH.

AH...

HEH, THAT'S A PRETTY COOL NAME, PUNK!!

YOUR "JAJANKEN" HAS TWO HUGE WEAKNESSES!!

GON!!
IT TAKES TOO LONG TO CHARGE!!

FIRST!!

I KNOW THAT.

DON'T THINK YOU CAN USE IT THAT EASILY, PUNK!

IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT, TAKING A FEW SECONDS TO EXECUTE A TECHNIQUE IS JUST WAY TOO LONG.

IT'S WAY TOO RISKY!!

SECOND!!

THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN TRAINING THIS ENTIRE MONTH...

I'M AWARE OF THE RISKS.

JUST ONE BLOW WILL KNOCK YOU OUT, PUNK!!

THE MORE AURA YOU CONCENTRATE ON YOUR FIST, THE LESS AURA YOU HAVE TO PROTECT THE REST OF YOUR BODY.
TO COMPENSATE FOR THEM!!

THE SHEER SIZE IS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF A MIDDLE-CLASS CRO...!!

THE MORE I SEE IT, THE MORE AMAZED I AM AT THE SIZE OF HIS ALRA.

YOU'RE STILL IN NEED OF...

HOW UNFORTUNATE...
MORE EXPERIENCE!

TRUE-BATTLE EXPERIENCE!!

YOU SEVERELY LACK...
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU'VE HAD A FEW LIFE-OR-DEATH BATTLES BUT ALSO DUE TO NATURAL TALENT.

YOUR ABILITY TO IMPROVISE ISN'T BAD AT ALL.

YOUR FLOW OF AURA....

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS THROW IN A FEW FAKES AND ALTER MY TARGET A LITTLE...

AND WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO NEXT.

I CAN SEE WHICH PART OF YOUR BODY YOU'RE GOING TO DEFEND...

JUST BY READING THE MOVEMENT OF YOUR AURA.

I CAN SEE IT ALL....
AND THIS IS THE RESULT...!!!
DON'T HAVE ANY HARD FEELINGS EVEN IF I KILL YOU. PLUNK.

JUST TOO...

GENEROUS...!!

BUT HE'S BEEN TEACHING ME.

NOT ONLY THAT...

I COULD HAVE BEEN DEAD IN AN INSTANT.

IF HE HADN'T TOLD ME...
SO THAT I CAN BECOME...

EVEN STRONGER...

GUIDING ME THROUGHOUT...

GU

FIRST IS...

ROCK!!

HE'S TOO GENEROUS...!
GAH...

UGH...

DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME, PUNK!

I TOLD YOU I'D BREAK IT IF YOU TRIED IT.

YOUR FULL STRENGTH...? WAS THAT...
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT'S PLAYING GAMES WITH ME!

YOU SAID THIS WAS A REAL FIGHT, RIGHT?

KNUCKLE!!

TRY TO KILL ME THEN!!
ROCK!!

FIRST IS...

UGHH...
JAN!!

TAKE THIS!!!
OVER HERE.
HA!

ROCK!!

FIRST IS...

GAH

ARGH!!

JAN!!
AS A FAKE.

THIS LITTLE BRAT... HE'S USING JAJANKEN

HE WAS ABLE TO USE JAJANKEN'S WEAKNESS OF TAKING TOO LONG TO EXECUTE TO HIS ADVANTAGE...!

SO I WAS ABLE TO EASILY READ WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO THROW YOUR PUNCH.

I COULD CLEARLY SEE THAT YOU WERE COMING TO BREAK MY ATTACK.

HE'S USING THE OPPONENT'S PSYCHOLOGY AGAINST HIM!
"I CAN'T MISS MY CHANCE!" HE ANXIOUSLY WAITS FOR THE PERFECT PITCH RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE OF THE PLATE!!

TO KNUCKLE, SON'S JAJANKEN IS LIKE A PITCH A BATTER'S SITTING ON.

EVEN THE BEST PROFESSIONAL BALL PLAYERS MAKE THIS MISTAKE.

BECAUSE OF THIS, THE BATTER SIMPLY GROUNDS OUT.

AND THAT'S WHY HE TENSES UP THE MOMENT HE SEES THE PITCH.

THESE EAGER THOUGHTS TENSE UP THE MUSCLES TOO MUCH AND DISRUPT THE SWING.

HERE'S MY PITCH! SWING FOR THE FENCES!!

"HERE IT IS!" HE INADVER TENTLY PUTS TOO MUCH FORCE INTO HIS SWING.

THE AURA WILL BECOME CONCENTRATED ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF THE USER, AND WILL INCREASE EVEN MORE AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK.

THE SAME THING APPLIES TO AURA.
AN OPPONENT CAN READ THE FLOW OF THIS AURA AND BE PREPARED FOR THE MOMENT OF ATTACK...

IF THE USER IS INEXPERIENCED OR LOSES HIS CALM, THE FLOW OF AURA MAY BECOME AWKWARD, OR EVEN TOO HONEST.

WILL WORK BETTER AGAINST SOMEONE WHO'S SEEN JAJANKEN BEFORE.

THIS TACTIC MOST LIKELY

AN OPPONENT WHO'S SEEN THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF THE TECHNIQUE WILL IMMEDIATELY TENSE UP AND LOSE HIS CALM.

WHEN GON PREPARES TO EXECUTE THE TECHNIQUE...

I ALWAYS THOUGHT JAJANKEN WOULD BE USELESS IF AN OPPONENT KNEW IT WAS COMING... BUT

SHOULD THE OPPONENT PULL BACK, HE CAN CONTINUE WITH HIS SCISSORS AND PAPER ATTACKS!!

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HIS FAKE CAN BE INCREASED.
I WAS WRONG...!!

HERE I GO!

TO USE IT TO HIS ADVANTAGE!!

...NO.

HAHAHAHA! ALREADY COME UP WITH A WAY TO COMPENSATE FOR THIS WEAKNESS...?

ALL HE HAS TO DO IS INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF NEN ACCORDING TO HIS OPPONENT'S REACTION TO MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT'S A FAKE OR NOT...

ALTHOUGH HE GOT KICKED BY KNICKLE BECAUSE HE WAS FOCUSING ON THE TECHNIQUE DURING HIS SECOND ATTEMPT...

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF BATTLE...!!

HE CAME UP WITH IT JUST NOW...!!
HE'S GROWING!!

AT A FRIGHTENING PACE!

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

OF BATTLE!!
WE HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN FIGHTING FOR TWENTY MINUTES...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ALREADY GETTING DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN KEN.

I CAN ONLY MAINTAIN KEN FOR TEN MORE MINUTES!!!

IF ONE HOUR OF TRAINING IS EQUIVALENT TO TEN MINUTES IN BATTLE...

MY MOVEMENTS MUST BE DRAINING MY SEN QUICKLY...

I'LL HAVE TO FINISH THIS BEFORE THAT HAPPENS!!!

IF MY OFFENSE-DEFENSE POWER WEAKENS...

I'LL DEFINITELY LOSE.

WITH JAJANKEN...!!!
But Gon is gradually becoming able to handle it.

Knuckle definitely has the edge in hand-to-hand combat...
HE’S ALSO GETTING USED TO KNUCKLE’S SPEED...

AND HE HASN’T TAKEN ANY MORE SURPRISE HITS.

BUT

THERE’S NO TIME.

BY INCREASING THE AREA OF HIS AURA’S DEFENSE, HE’S REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE FROM HIS Miscalculations.

Before

Now

HIS AURA’S STAMINA...

IS REACHING ITS LIMIT....!!

HE HAS TO PREPARE BY SUMMONING A LARGE AMOUNT OF AURA.

BUT FOR GON TO USE JAJAKEN...

AND HE’S ONLY USING BASIC ATTACKS.

KNUCKLE IS STILL SAVING UP SOME OF HIS STRENGTH.
AND SON HAS TRIED TO USE THE TECHNIQUE THREE TIMES ALREADY!!

EVEN WHEN HE USES JAJANKEN AS A FAKE, HE CONSUMES A LARGE AMOUNT OF AURA.

THAT'S HOW LONG SON WILL BE ABLE TO FIGHT WITH ALL OF HIS STRENGTH...!!

BUT IT'LL HAVE TO BE WITHIN THE NEXT ONE OR TWO MINUTES.

HE'LL BE ABLE TO USE JAJANKEN ONE MORE TIME.

IT'S BEEN 30 MINUTES SINCE THEY BEGAN FIGHTING.
BUT YOU'RE STILL FAR FROM BEING A WORTHY OPPONENT!!

YOU TOLD ME TO FIGHT WITH ALL MY STRENGTH.

FIRST IS... YOU'RE
ROCK!!

WHY!!?

WH...!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
JAN!!

He'll just dodge any attack from that distance!!

I don't get it...? Knuckle is neither damaged nor showing any signs of weakness.

KEN!!

This will definitely be Son's final attack.

THIS WILL BE THE END!!
I DON'T GET IT...!? KNUCKLE IS NEITHER DAMAGED NOR SHOWING ANY SIGNS OF WEAKNESS.

THIS WILL DEFINITELY BE GON'S FINAL ATTACK.
HE'LL JUST DODGE ANY ATTACK FROM THAT DISTANCE!!

THIS WILL BE THE END!!
HOWEVER...

DON

AN

EMISSION
ATTACK!!

 vadood

\[\ldots\]

:::\[\ldots\]
IT'S MUCH WEAKER!!

COMPARSED TO THE LEVEL OF HIS ROCK ATTACK...

AT THIS LEVEL, THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY KIND OF TRICK IN THE ATTACK!!

NO SPEED!!
NO POWER!!

YOUR EMISSION ATTACK IS A HUGE DOWNGRADE IN POWER!! SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE A REINFORCEMENT USER.

AND IT WILL BE OVER!!

I JUST REPEL THIS...
ORAAA!!

AIKODE*...

*Aikode literally means "It's a tie"
SHIT!

He used the emission attack to draw my attention away from him so that he could sneak up behind me...!!

A JAJANKEN

Combination Attack!
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD ALREADY EXHAUSTED ALL OF YOUR ALPHA.

BEFORE THE ROCK ATTACK...
I WOULD HAVE LOST...!!

...IF THAT WASN'T THE CASE...

I'M GOING BACK.

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, PUNK?

I'VE STILL GOT PLENTY LEFT IN THE TANK.

YOU'RE NOT GONNA FIGHT?

I DOUBT IT'LL TURN OUT LIKE IT DID TODAY.

NO, GON WILL BE FIGHTING YOU AGAIN TOMORROW.

HEY, TELL GON THEN...

I'M GOING TO DEFEAT SHOOT.
SO COME PREPARED TO DIE!!

TOMORROW... I'M GOING TO BE FIGHTING FOR REAL.

YOU PUNK, OF COURSE I'M SURE!!

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

YOU SOUND AS IF YOU'RE TRYING TO CONVINCE YOURSELF.

...TOMORROW.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T FIGHT WITH YOUR FULL STRENGTH.

I WON'T MIND IF YOU WIN...

LOSE BECAUSE YOU DON'T USE YOUR FULL STRENGTH, I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.

BUT IF YOU
EVER FORGIVE YOU.

I WILL NEVER.

YOU'RE LENIANT AS ALWAYS.

SHOOT... IS THAT YOU?
IF YOU DON'T WANNA GO INTO NGL, WE MIGHT AS WELL JUST DELIVER THESE PLATES TO THEM.

IN THE END, YOU WERE EVEN CRITICIZED BY THEM FOR IT.

WHY ARE YOU HELPING THEM SO MUCH? WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

THEN AGAIN... I Doubted THEY'D ACCEPT THEM LIKE THIS ANYWAY.

YOU...

I'LL DO IT.

ALL YOU'VE BEEN DOING THIS PAST MONTH WAS STALKING THEM, PUNK!

WHEN YOU'RE NOT BEING QUIET, YOU JUST ACT ALL COCKY LIKE YOU KNOW EVERYTHING.

I WILL ALSO FIGHT...!

TOMORROW...
I've massaged him so that he can fight tomorrow in his best physical condition.

It was beyond my calculations that Killua wouldn't get a chance to fight against his opponent for the entire month.

But the problem is Killua.

Killua!

You and me!

Let's fight.
KILLUA!!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE!?

HUH? OH, IT'S SPECIAL TRAINING WITH BISKE.

YUP. ALL BETTER!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. HOW'S YOUR CONDITION? DO YOU FEEL OKAY?

SPECIAL TRAINING? LOOKS MORE LIKE YOU GOT BEATEN UP...

SINCE I'M GONNA FIGHT TOMORROW TOO.

WE OWE IT TO THAT GORIL... OLD HAG'S MASSAGES I GUESS.

I THOUGHT I'D BE EXHAUSTED SINCE I HAD USED UP ALL MY ALIARA BUT I'M FINE.

IF YOU TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS, I'LL MAKE YOUR FACE THREE TIMES AS BAD AS IT IS NOW, OKAY?

SHE WASN'T JOKEING ABOUT IT EITHER.

WHHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE.
So do you understand what your weakness is?

That you give up too quickly!!

When you confront an opponent that you consider stronger than you...

In your case...

I guess you could say that you underestimate yourself.

You're just too careful when it comes to battle! In other words...
YOU FIGHT WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF RUNNING AWAY!!

IT'S THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PERSON WHO TAUGHT YOU HOW TO FIGHT.

BUT BEFORE I SAY ANYTHING ELSE, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.

ONE...THING I WILL SAY IS...

ESTABLISHED HABITS ARE NOT THAT EASY TO GET RID OF.
ONE DAY, YOU WILL LEAVE GON TO DIE WITHOUT HELPING HIM....!

BUT IN COMPARISON...

AS LONG AS THE CONDITIONS ARE MET, A, B, AND C ALL HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO DEFEAT D.

IN YOUR CASE!

YOUR BATTLE POWER CAN VARY Depending ON YOUR CONDITION AND THE ENVIRONMENT YOU ARE IN.

FOR EXAMPLE, IF C IS IN HIS BEST CONDITION, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT HE'LL BE ABLE TO DEFEAT D WHEN D IS IN BAD CONDITION.
AND YOU ASSUME THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO BEFORE YOU EVEN BEGIN FIGHTING!!

YOU ALWAYS CONSIDER THE OPPONENT'S MAX POWER!!

YOU THINK TO YOURSELF "HE'S REALLY STRONG," OR "IT WILL BE DANGEROUS IF HE DOES THIS."

EVEN WHEN YOU FACE AN OPPONENT WITH EQUAL STRENGTH.

YOU ONLY CHOOSE HOW TO RUN AWAY.

YOUR MIND IS LIKE THAT OF A BEATEN DOG'S... BEYOND ANYTHING ELSE, YOU DON'T THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO WIN AT ALL.

IF THE OPPONENT IS EVEN SLIGHTLY STRONGER THAN YOU, YOU GIVE UP.

IF YOU CAN'T DEFEAT SHOOT...

AND TOMORROW... YOU WILL NEED THE STRENGTH AND DETERMINATION TO BE ABLE TO FIGHT OPPONENTS THAT ARE STRONGER THAN YOU.

FROM NOW ON, YOU HAVE TO TRY TO LOSE THAT HABIT.
YOU MUST LEAVE GON'S SIDE!!

OK!

SHALL WE GO?

WAS PROBABLY THE RESULT OF THE OVER-PROTECTIVE LOVE HE RECEIVED...

THE NATURE OF KILLUA'S BATTLE-UPBRINGING...

TWISTED KIND OF LOVE.

A DISTORTED, SELFISH...

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IT BECOMES EMBEDDED INTO THE RECIPIENT OF THAT LOVE
SO STRONG AND HEAVY...

CAN'T BE BROKEN WITHOUT A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT!
THOSE SHACKLES...

WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE...
I CAN'T TELL EITHER...

Perhaps I should escape.
THE LOSING SIDE

MUST HAND OVER THEIR PLATES!!
Just as I promised...

GON.

I'm gonna come at you with my full strength!
AND FACE HIM HEAD-ON!!

I MUST BE WILLING TO TAKE SOME DAMAGE...

I'LL BE HARD-PRESSED TO COMPETE WITH HIS SPEED.
I MUST FEEL HIS MOVEMENT...

I MUSN'T FOLLOW WITH MY SIGHT.

WITH MY AURA.
I was a bit slow.

But I was able to sense the attack!!

Overflowing!?

Why is my strength...

But what the heck is going on...!??
THE INTEREST IS PILING UP.

IT'S TIME.
WHAT IS THIS GUY!?  

WH...

MY AURA, THAT IS.

I'M LOANNING IT OUT.

TO YOU.

TEN PERCENT EVERY TEN SECONDS!!

JUST SO YOU KNOW, THE INTEREST IS "TOICHI".

*Toichi is an interest system that charges 10 percent every 10 days.

YOU'LL GO BANKRUPT...!

IF YOU DON'T PAY IT OFF QUICKLY,
THE INTEREST IS PILING UP.

IT'S TIME.

THE NAME OF THE ABILITY IS "HAKOWARE!!"

THAT LITTLE GUY IS THE MASCOT, POTCLEAN.

Hakoware means to break the safe, like when you break the piggy bank when you're out of money.
IT DIDN'T HURT AT ALL.

AGAIN...

THE INTEREST IS PILING UP.

IT'S TIME.

MY POWER IS OVERFLOWING!!

IT'S JUST THE OPPOSITE...
JUST LIKE THAT IT ALMOST DOUBLED!?

WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT NUMBER MEAN? FROM BEFORE, TOO.

180 AURA...!

AROUND 180 AURA.

IT'S BECAUSE I JUST LENT YOU SOME MORE...

180 AURA IS A NUMERICAL CONVERSION OF YOUR SPIRITUAL ENERGY.

I CAN TELL BY THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE THAT YOU'RE LOST, PUNK.

"The author spells "aura" with an "o".

YOU'LL BE AT AN ABSOLUTE DISADVANTAGE DURING A FIGHT, YOU UNDERSTAND PUNK?

SO EVEN IF YOU HAVE A HIGH POTENTIAL AURA POWER (POP), IF YOUR ACTUAL AURA POWER (AOP) IS SMALL DUE TO SOME STUPID REASON LIKE A LACK OF TRAINING...

AS YOU KNOW, YOUR AURA IS SOMETHING THAT'S STORED INSIDE YOUR BODY, AND SINCE YOU CAN TRAIN TO INCREASE YOUR MAXIMUM AURA POWER (MOP), IT DIFFERS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL.

SAME GOES WITH THE AMOUNT OF AURA YOU CAN EMIT AT ONE TIME! YOU CAN ALSO INCREASE THIS AMOUNT THROUGH TRAINING.
CONSIDERING THAT YOU'RE STILL A NOVICE IN CONTROLLING YOUR AURA, I CAN SIMPLY CALCULATE THAT YOU CONSUME ABOUT 10 AURA PER SECOND!! THAT MEANS YOU CONSUME ABOUT 600 AURA PER MINUTE!! AND SINCE YOU FELL FLAT AFTER 20 MINUTES YESTERDAY, THAT ADDS UP TO ABOUT 12000 AURA IN A NORMAL BATTLE!!

ONCE YOU ENTER INTO BATTLE MODE YOUR SPIRITUAL ENERGY IS CONSUMED AT A RATE OF ONE AURA PER SECOND. BUT ONCE YOU ACTUALLY START FIGHTING, YOU USE APPLICATIONS SUCH AS "GYO," "RYU," AND "KEN" SO THE SPEED IN WHICH YOU CONSUME YOUR AURA GENERAL- LY INCREASES BY SIX TO TEN TIMES THE NORMAL SPEED!! BASICALLY, WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT THE HIGHER THE LEVEL OF THE TECHNIQUE YOU USE, THE MORE AURA YOU NEED TO CONSUME. GOT IT, PUNK?!!

YOU USED JAJANKEN FOUR TIMES!!
IT'S THE SPECIAL EFFECT THAT'S THE TYPICAL RESULT OF THE RISKS INVOLVED IN SUCH A SPECIAL TECHNIQUE!!

THAT'S PROBABLY A RESULT OF THE LENGTH OF YOUR CHARGING TIME AND THE FACT THAT YOU SACRIFICE YOUR DEFENSIVE POWER AND CONCENTRATE YOUR AURA INTO YOUR FIST.

AND AT THE MOMENT YOU EXECUTE JAJANKEN AND SHOUT OUT "JAN!!"

THE AMOUNT OF NEN CONCENTRATED IN YOUR FIST EXCEEDS 2000!!

YOUR AOP IS APPROXIMATELY 1800 AURA.

THIS IS THE AMOUNT YOU SPENT USING JAJANKEN.

THE FIRST THREE ATTEMPTS CONSUMED 5500!!

AND BY THE FOURTH ATTEMPT, "AIKO," YOU COLLAPSED JUST BEFORE YOU ATTACKED...!!

THE TOTAL SO FAR IS 17500 AURA!!

[ALTHOUGH IT'S SCARY EVEN TO THINK ABOUT IT] THE CALCULATIONS COME OUT TO YOU HAVING CONSUMED 4000 AURA!!

IF YOU CONSIDER THE AMOUNT OF AURA NEEDED TO EXECUTE THAT TECHNIQUE AS DOUBLE OF WHAT IT WAS SO FAR...

THUS, YOUR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL AURA IS...

AND THE AMOUNT OF NEN CONSUMED DOES NOT MEAN YOUR ROCK AND PAPER ATTACKS HAVE THE SAME LEVEL OF EFFECTIVENESS!! BECAUSE IT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOUR NATURAL CATEGORY, AND ALSO BECAUSE OF A LACK OF TRAINING, YOUR PAPER ATTACK MAY CONSUME 4000 AURA BUT IT CAN'T PRODUCE AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT OF POWER (ONLY ABOUT THE LEVEL OF 500 UNITS). UNDERSTAND?!!
I didn't expect this kind of attack...!!!

Well, listen carefully, punk. I'm just getting to the good part!!!

Gyahaha! Guess you're pretty bad with numbers.

On the other hand, the interest just keeps increasing!!

Your aura is just like your bank balance! The more you spend, the more it'll decrease.

When the aura you borrowed from me (including the interest) exceeds the potential aura capacity you have left...

You've probably consumed around 2000 aura.

It's already been a few minutes since we've begun fighting.

You'll be bankrupt!!!
NO... THAT'S NOT THE POINT!

IT'S HUGE!!

CHECK IT OUT!

THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL A "SNOWBALLING INCREASE OF INTEREST."

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1586

THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!! IT'S ONLY BEEN TWO OR THREE MINUTES!?

HOW IS IT THREE TIMES WHAT IT WAS BEFORE!?

120 SECONDS TO BE EXACT!!
THE DEBT WILL CONTINUE TO PILE UP...

EVEN INCLUDING THE 980 I LENT YOU, YOUR AURA IS UNDER 20,000.

EVEN IF YOU WERE TO JUST STAND THERE AND DO NOTHING AT ALL.

THE INTEREST IS PILING UP.

1745

IT'S TIME.

UGH.

BANKRUPT!!

IN 260 SECONDS, THAT IS, IN 4 MINUTES AND 20 SECONDS, YOU WILL BE...

WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

1920

*Toritaten means "cannot pay back."

AND FOR 30 DAYS, HE WILL ATTACH HIMSELF TO THE INDEBTED.

POTCLEAN TRANSFORMS INTO TORITATEN!!*
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO USE YOUR NEN AT ALL!

DURING THAT PERIOD, YOU'LL BE IN "ZETSU" STATUS.

IT'S TOO LATE FOR ANY REGRETS, PUNK.

SO THAT'S WHY...

HE DIDN'T USE IT UNTIL NOW........

HERE I COME!!

THANK YOU.

FOR MY SAKE...

191
ABOUT 150... WAS IT?

YOUR PUNCH JUST NOW.

AFTER SORTING IT OUT, YOUR DEBT INCREASED BY 30. WHATCHA GONNA DO, HUH?

YOU PAID BACK ABOUT 150, BUT I ALSO LENT YOU 180 IN RETURN.

I WON'T BE DAMAGED AT ALL BY YOUR ATTACKS!

UNTIL YOU PAY OFF ALL YOUR DEBT...

IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING, YOU'LL BE BANKRUPT IN FOUR MINUTES ANYWAY!!

2356

THE INTEREST IS PILING UP.

2142

IT'S TIME.

THAT'S IT, COME AT ME, PUNK!!
AFTER SORTING IT OUT, YOU PAID BACK ABOUT 100, RIGHT?

THIS TIME, YOU GOT THE UPPERCUT HAND! THEREFORE...
At this rate, you won't even be able to pay off half, punk.

You're just pissing on a forest fire.

The interest is piling up.

2245

It's time.

2470

I'll definitely win if I can get the debt to increase beyond 10,000...!!

I won't let him use Jajanken on me.

2717

The interest is piling up.

It's time.
HE HAS NO IDEA ABOUT MY ABILITIES EITHER...!!

DON'T BE INTIMIDATED!!

THAT WAY, I WOULD ONLY FIGHT AGAINST OPPONENTS WHO I WOULDN'T REGRET HURTING...

I CHOSE AN ABILITY WHICH CANNOT BE INITIATED UNLESS I INFlict DAMAGE.

THAT'S WHY, IN CONTRAST...

I DON'T LIKE TO CAUSE PEOPLE HARM...

HOWEVER.

THAT THERE COMES A TIME IN WHICH OUT OF RESPECT FOR MY OPPONENT, I MUST FIGHT WITH ALL THAT I HAVE...!

YOU GUYS HAVE TAUGHT ME...