

# 8 - Palm of the Hand

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**[00:05] Serizawa**

What's the matter, hero?

**[00:24] Rokuhei**

M-Monster!

**[00:25] Serizawa**

Weren't you gonna give me  
my "just deserts"?

**[00:31] Serizawa**

Maybe you'd like a demonstration.

**[00:34] Rokuhei**

W-Wait! Don't—

**[00:36] Taro**

N-No, sir! We need him *alive!*

**SIGN** Blue Miburo

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**[02:13] Fujita**

*We can't leave this matter to ronin alone.*

**[02:16] Fujita**

*Three enemies of Aizu remain,  
and I'll capture them myself.*

**[02:34] Taro**

C-Culprit secured!

**[02:36] Serizawa**

I missed.

**[02:38] Serizawa**

Must be drunker than I thought.

**[02:47] Kyoshiro**

*Every opening he had vanished when  
he switched to a left-handed stance.*

**[02:54] Kyoshiro**

*That said, I can't just up  
and abandon a job.*

**[03:05] Hajime**

You sure one's enough?

**[03:07] Kyoshiro**

This'll be over in one clash either way.

**[03:10] Kyoshiro**

Drawing both wouldn't make a difference.

**[03:15] Kyoshiro**

*I'll make it!*

**[03:25] Kyoshiro**

Kill me.

**[03:26] Kyoshiro**

Screwups die.

**[03:29] Kyoshiro**

That's shinobi law.

**[03:37] Hajime**

"Shinobi law," my ass.

**[03:39] Hajime**

You're not cut out for this.

**[03:45] Sosuke**

*No one came to our meeting spot.*

**[03:47] Sosuke**

*No pigeons bringing info, either,  
and the inn's staked out.*

**[03:51] Sosuke**

*Don't tell me they got Kyoshiro,  
Old Man Gonzo, and Rokuhei, too?*

**[03:57] Sosuke**

*Jutaro's been killed.*

**[03:59] Sosuke**

*I need to flee the city before—*

**[04:09] Kondo**

Ah. The old man who served us tea  
mentioned a man missing his right eye.

**[04:14] Sosuke**

They found me!

**[04:17] Sosuke**

*But he's alone. Maybe I can...*

**[04:25] Sosuke**

There's no way in hell I can take that freak!

**[04:27] Harada**

Whoa there.

**[04:30] Harada**

That's as far as you go.

**[04:38] Okita**

What a letdown.

**[04:40] Okita**

I wish he'd at least had  
the spine to fight it out.

**[04:44] Hijikata**

Don't grumble, Soji. Few men amount to more.

**[04:48] Todo**

This is it for you.

**[04:51] Todo**

We're gonna make you pay  
for all the evil you've done.

**[05:00] Serizawa**

What'll it be? Cut him down  
and get it over with?

**[05:05] Sosuke**

*Wh-What's wrong with these guys?  
These are the Miburo?*

**[05:10] Hajime**

You've got nowhere left to run.

**[05:11] Taro**

I wouldn't want any part  
of what you've got coming.

**[05:15] Sosuke**

They brought kids with them?!

**[05:17] Hijikata**

Surrender. You've lost.

**[05:22] Sosuke**

Ganging up on me's a dirty trick!

**[05:26] Sosuke**

Not one of you could beat me man-to-man!

**[05:30] Hijikata**

Pathetic.

**[05:32] Sosuke**

What was that?

**[05:33] Hijikata**

You won't even risk your life  
to stand by what you've done.

**[05:40] Sosuke**

And you expect me

to believe all of *you* would?

**[05:44] Serizawa**

'Course we would.

**[05:49] Kondo**

You wouldn't even best this pup.

**[05:54] Sosuke**

What?

**[05:56] Sosuke**

Gimme a break!

**[05:57] Sosuke**

Like I'd ever seriously duel a little kid—

**[05:59] Nio**

I'll fight you.

**[06:02] Nio**

If you don't mind.

**[06:04] Sosuke**

A wooden sword?

**[06:07] Sosuke**

What a riot! Wanna play swordsman, huh?

**[06:10] Nio**

I have a suggestion.

**[06:12] Nio**

If I win, you'll come with us quietly.

**[06:15] Nio**

If you win, we'll let you go.

**[06:21] Sosuke**

Are you serious?

**[06:22] Sosuke**

Your buddies will never go along with that.

**[06:26] Okita**

One bet on Nio to win.

**[06:27] Sosuke**

What?

**[06:28] Nagakura**

Make that two.

**[06:30] Harada**

I'm in.

**[06:30] Yamanami**

So am I.

**[06:33] Sosuke**

I've killed two men already.

**[06:35] Sosuke**

And I've only got a real sword.

If you come at me...

**[06:39] Sosuke**

you'd better not whine when I kill you.

**[06:44] Nio**

Fine by me.

**[06:55] Sosuke**

You had me going for a second there,  
but you're all bark, no bite.

**[06:58] Hajime**

*No. That wasn't bad.*

**[07:11] Sosuke**

*What's with this kid?*

**[07:15] Sosuke**

Whoa, wait a—

**[07:17] Nio**

You won't whine when  
I crack your skull, will you?

**[07:21] Sosuke**

W-Wait! Hold on!

**[07:28] Okita**

There. We've got you now.

**[07:30] Hirayama; HIRAMA**

Culprit secured!

**[07:35] Sosuke**

*So they're all fearless? Even the kids?*

**[07:41] Hijikata**

Luck wasn't on your side.

**[07:43] Hijikata**

The city of Kyoto has the Miburo.

**[07:46] Okita**

Nicely done, Nio-kun!

**[07:48] Nagakura**

Splendid work.

**[07:49] Nio**

Th-Thank you.

**[07:51] Taro**

Y-You did it.

**[07:53] Taro**

You did it!

**[07:55] Taro**

Wait, did you go weak at the knees?  
After all that tough talk?

**[08:01] Hajime**

He probably figured showing weakness  
would get him killed. That's just like him.

**[08:05] Nio**

No, I'm just not good enough  
to have won any other way.

**[08:10] Taro**

I-I don't believe you.

**[08:12] Taro**

By the way, how long are you  
gonna hold onto that sword?

**[08:15] Nio**

Oh, right. I'm so stiff that I can't let go.

**[08:19] Nio**

Kondo-san.

**[08:20] Kondo**

You froze up because you're too tense.

**[08:25] Nio**

Um, why did you trust me, sir?

**[08:29] Kondo**

You've done your sword swings every day.

**[08:33] Kondo**

I set great store by spirit, attitude,  
and other things that can't be seen.

**[08:38] Kondo**

But not today.

**[08:40] Kondo**

I trusted these hands of yours.

**[08:43] Kondo**

They prove you've been working hard.

**[08:50] Kondo**

Keep at it.

**[08:52] Nio**

Yes, sir!

**[08:53] Harada**

That makes all of 'em!

**[08:53] Hirayama**

Taro, go buy some dried squid!

**[08:54] Todo**

Time to cut loose!

**[08:55] Hajime**

As if any place is open now!

**SIGN** Commissioner of Kyoto

Lord Matsudaira Higo-no-Kami of Aizu

Konkai-Komyoji Head Temple

**[09:03] Aizu Samurai A**

They're here!

**[09:03] Gatekeeper A**

What? Again?

**[09:05] Aizu Samurai A**

Right. They're all coming  
because they caught the last killer.

**[09:10] Gatekeeper**

I don't believe it.

**[09:11] Gatekeeper**

We've been hunting those men for

three months with nothing to show for it,

**[09:16] Gatekeeper**

and it only took them two days?

**[09:24] Serizawa**

Working hard, I see.

**[09:29] Taro**

I'm so damn tired.

Why's it gotta be up in the mountains?

**[09:32] Nio**

Hang in there, Taro-kun. We're almost there.

**[09:36] Hajime**

What a wimp.

**[09:37] Gatekeeper**

*They have kids with them?*

**[09:43] Gatekeeper**

Fujita?

**[09:44] Aizu Samurai A**

Sorry. They beat you to it.

**[09:50] Fujita**

Those are the Miburo.

**[09:59] Katamori**

I commend you on your magnificent service.

**[10:01] Katamori**

I am most pleased.

**[10:03] Miburo**

Thank you, sir.

**[10:05] Nio**

*So this is the lord of Aizu.*

**[10:08] Nio**

Doesn't he seem a bit weird to you?

**[10:09] Taro**

Shh!

**[10:09] Hajime**

Very.

**[10:11] Hirosawa**

My lord.

**[10:12] Katamori**

Right.

**[10:16] Katamori**

I wish you to continue doing  
your utmost for the people.

**[10:21] Katamori**

I promise to formally enlist the Mibu  
Roshigumi and provide further support.

**[10:30] Todo**

All right!

**[10:32] Nagakura**

Oh, happy day!

**[10:34] Aizu Samurai B**

M-Mind your manners!

His Lordship is watching!

**[10:39] Katamori**

Let them be.

**[10:40] Katamori**

Still, you fellows must be awfully strong.

**[10:44] Serizawa**

To show you just how strong,

let us demonstrate our swordsmanship.

**[10:48] Serizawa**

Hirama. Hirayama.

**[10:50] Hirama; Hirayama**

Yes, sir.

**[10:56] Hajime**

Why are you more excited than they are?

**[10:59] Nagakura**

All right, I'm ready.

**[11:01] Okita**

Let's do this.

**[11:02] Harada**

We'll show 'em what we can do.

**[11:04] Todo**

Let's blow His Lordship's mind.

**[11:07] Hajime**

Haven't you had enough?

**[11:08] Hijikata**

Kondo-san!

**[11:09] Okita**

What a nice garden!

**[11:09] Aizu Samurai B**

Fujita. Don't just stand there. Earn your pay.

**[11:11] Harada**

We can really go at it here!

**[11:12] Nagakura**

A sword! Bring me a sword!

**[11:14] Hirama**

Hey, I oughta go first!

**[11:31] Fujita**

Miburo, I take it?

**[11:33] Fujita**

What are you doing?

**[11:35] Nio**

I asked where the men who died are buried.

**[11:38] Nio**

I'm saying a prayer for them.

**[11:41] Nio**

Um, what's your name, sir?

**[11:43] Fujita**

I'm called Fujita.

**[11:44] Nio**

Oh, I forgot to introduce myself. I'm Nio.

**[11:47] Nio**

What were the names of  
the deceased gentlemen?

**[11:52] Fujita**

Why do you want to know?

**[11:53] Nio**

Oh, no real reason. I just thought it'd be nice  
to know a little about the men I'm praying for.

**[12:01] Nio**

I-Is that strange?

**[12:04] Fujita**

No.

**[12:07] Fujita**

One of the murdered men, Kushibe,  
grew up in the same village as me.

**[12:13] Nio**

Kushibe-san.

**[12:15] Fujita**

We often trained together.  
I loved the way he used a blade.

**[12:21] Fujita**

We came to serve in Kyoto together,

**[12:24] Fujita**

but he died before  
he could achieve anything.

**[12:27] Nio**

Did Kushibe-san have, um, a favorite food?

**[12:32] Fujita**

I'm not sure.

**[12:33] Fujita**

Thinking about it, he *did* love  
the sea bream at his sister's wedding.

**[12:39] Nio**

Sea bream? Thank you very much.

**[12:52] Fujita**

We should get back soon.

**[12:54] Nio**

Yes, sir.

**[12:58] Nio**

What a gorgeous view. I didn't realize.

**[13:02] Fujita**

His Lordship wanted their graves  
to command a view of the city.

**[13:07] Fujita**

He may act above it all,  
but our lord knows how to show he cares.

**[13:13] Fujita**

Don't misunderstand him.

**[13:19] Nio**

Is Kushibe-san up in heaven  
with the Buddhas now?

**[13:23] Fujita**

No. He was a sore loser  
with a jealous streak.

**[13:26] Fujita**

He gave as good as he got.

**[13:29] Fujita**

Kushibe is walking the streets  
of Kyoto as we speak,

**[13:32] Fujita**

even if only his grudges live on.

**[13:37] Fujita**

I made up my mind to do  
enough work for the both of us.

**[13:43] Nio**

That makes one more thing  
I know about Kushibe-san.

**[13:47] Fujita**

Oh, I left out the most important thing.

**[13:52] Fujita**

You have my sincere  
gratitude for this matter.

**[13:56] Nio**

O-Oh, no, I barely did anything.

**[14:00] Nio**

The men down below did it all—

**[14:01] Fujita**

No.

**[14:02] Fujita**

I'm truly glad that his avengers  
were not merely strong,

**[14:06] Fujita**

but willing to show compassion  
to us men of Aizu like you have.

**[14:12] Fujita**

I was wrong to view  
the Miburo as mere outlaws.

**[14:22] Nio**

N-No...

**[14:26] Nio**

Thank *you* very much.

**[14:28] Nio**

Now I'm *certain* we did the right thing.

**[14:35] Nio**

Next time, I'll bring a sea bream *this* big,  
with the head and tail and all.

**[14:41] Fujita**

I'll ask around about the other three  
before your next visit.

**[14:44] Nio**

Please do.

**[14:59] Todo**

Nio! Show off your swordsmanship, too!

**[15:02] Nio**

I can only do practice swings.

**[15:04] Hijikata**

It doesn't matter! Just do it!

**[15:06] Hijikata**

His Lordship won't let us stop  
until he sees *all* of us!

**[15:08] Nio**

I-In that case, I'll show my practice swings.

**[15:14] Nio**

One, two, three, four, five...

**[15:26] Nio**

*The Mibuuro serve Aizu now.*

**[15:29] Nio**

*I asked what would change, but...*

**[15:31] (Flashback) Kondo**

What's more samurai than serving a lord?

**[15:34] Nio**

*I didn't get a very clear answer.*

**[15:37] Nio**

*Still, our hosts, the Yagis,  
were all overjoyed,*

**[15:40] Nio**

*and some of us never stopped partying,*

**[15:43] Nio**

*so I'm sure it'll be great for us.*

**[15:47] Todo**

I'm back.

**[15:49] Nio**

You must be tired from patrolling, Todo-san—

**[15:54] Todo**

All the cherry blossoms have fallen.

**[15:58] Nio**

Those are autumn leaves.

**[16:00] Nio**

Anyway, what's the matter?

**[16:01] Nio**

You seem awfully blue.

**[16:05] Todo**

Nio! You've got to help me!

**[16:12] Soba Waitress**

Welcome.

**[16:13] Todo**

What do you think, Nio?

**[16:15] Nio**

You're right. She seems wonderful.

**[16:17] Nio**

She's cheerful, considerate,  
and she livens up the whole restaurant.

**[16:21] Todo**

You *know* that's not what I mean!

**[16:23] Nio**

Ow!

**[16:24] Nagakura**

What he wants to know is,  
would she make a good wife?

**[16:27] Harada**

Like Heisuke has a chance.

**[16:29] Hijikata**

He's got no sex appeal.

**[16:30] Okita**

Compared to my collection  
of erotic prints...

**[16:34] Todo**

Shut up!

**[16:36] Todo**

What are you even doing here?

**[16:39] Harada**

We can read you like a book!

**[16:42] Todo**

Man, the nerve of those idiots.

**[16:45] Nio**

So what do you want my help with?

**[16:49] Todo**

I'm in love.

**[16:50] Nio**

Really? I'm rooting for you.

**[16:53] Todo**

They say you can charm anyone

with a pulse, so I came to you.

**[16:58] Nio**

I'm not sure I like how you put that.

**[17:01] Soba Waitress**

Thank you for waiting.

**[17:03] Soba Waitress**

You must really love soba.

**[17:06] Soba Waitress**

This is your fifth visit today.

**[17:09] Nio**

What?

**[17:10] Todo**

Oh, yes. Absolutely.

**[17:13] Todo**

I-I can never get enough soba.

**[17:20] Todo**

It just tastes so good!

**[17:24] Nio**

Stop torturing yourself, Todo-san!

**[17:28] Todo**

What else can I do?

**[17:30] Townsperson A**

Those're Miburo.

**[17:31] Townsperson B**

Don't make eye contact.

**[17:33] Todo**

We *do* serve Aizu now, right?

**[17:36] Nio**

It seems the townsfolk  
haven't heard the news.

**[17:39] Todo**

Oh, of course! Clothes!

**[17:41] Nio**

Yes, I see. People might trust us more  
if we all wore matching coats.

**[17:47] Todo**

No! Nice clothes and fine swords will  
make her look at me like a whole new man!

**[17:52] Nio**

*Seriously?*

**[18:01] Todo**

He'd never just lend me some, would he?

**[18:04] Serizawa**

A sword is a samurai's soul.

**[18:07] Serizawa**

Out of the question.

**[18:08] Todo**

Right you are, sir.

**[18:10] Nio**

Serizawa-san.

**[18:12] Nio**

This is an affair of the heart.

**[18:17] Serizawa**

Borrow away.

**[18:18] Serizawa**

And take my coat, too!

**[18:21] Nio**

Thank you so much, sir.

**[18:23] Soba Waitress**

Welcome.

**[18:26] Todo**

Sh-She laughed at me.

**[18:30] Nio**

It *is* a little too big for you.

**[18:32] Todo**

Damn it. I'm down to my last resort.

**[18:35] Todo**

Come with us!

**[18:41] Todo**

When she rounds the next corner,  
Sanosuke will start hassling her.

**[18:45] Todo**

Then I'll come to the rescue.

**[18:47] Todo**

It's the perfect plan.

**[18:48] Nio**

It's the *scummiest* plan.

**[18:57] Nio**

Um, why did you join the Miburo, Todo-san?

**[19:01] Todo**

Huh?

**[19:02] Nio**

I heard you trained at  
Kondo-san's dojo in Edo.

**[19:09] Nio**

But not all of his students  
followed him here, right?

**[19:11] Todo**

I was on the fence. You see...

**[19:14] Todo**

I'm actually pretty tough.

**[19:17] Nio**

I know.

**[19:18] Todo**

And I figured I'd get more women  
if I got even tougher.

**[19:22] Todo**

Not much of a motive, huh?

**[19:24] Nio**

No, I think it's natural  
for any living creature.

**[19:28] Todo**

You're one weird kid.

**[19:31] Todo**

When no one was listening,  
my mom used to tell me,

**[19:35] Todo**

"You're Lord Izumi-no-kami's bastard son,  
so live up to that legacy."

**[19:41] Nio**

That's amazing.

**[19:43] Nio**

Your father's an important man.

**[19:45] Todo**

I don't believe a word of it.

**[19:47] Todo**

Still, I want to do something  
to make a name for myself.

**[19:50] Todo**

It'll make my mom happy.

**[19:54] Soba Waitress**

Shinsuke-san!

**[19:56] Shinsuke**

Hey. Been waiting long?

**[20:00] Soba Waitress**

Oh, you.

**[20:06] Todo**

Let's go home, Nio.

**[20:08] Nio**

Th-That might be a good idea.

**[20:10] Ruffian A**

What have we here? You're gettin'  
awful frisky out here on a public street.

**[20:15] Ruffian B**

Let us get in on the fun.

**[20:17] Ruffian C**

Or hand over your money.

**[20:19] Nio**

What? That's not Sanosuke-san.

**[20:22] Nio**

Todo-san, we've got trouble.

**[20:23] Nio**

Huh?

**[20:25] Ruffian B**

Ow, ow, ow!

**[20:27] Nio**

Huh?

**[20:28] Todo**

Okay, give it a rest.

The lady's not interested.

**[20:31] Ruffian B**

Stop! You're gonna break my arm!

**[20:35] Ruffian B**

Damn it.

**[20:36] Ruffian A**

Who the hell are you?

**[20:38] Todo**

A Miburo. And don't you forget it.

**[20:42] Ruffian A**

Damn it!

**[20:43] Soba Waitress**

Th-Thank you so much.

**[20:51] Nio**

Todo-san!

**[20:52] Todo**

What a drag.

**[20:54] Nio**

Todo-san. Todo-san!

**[20:56] Todo**

What?

**[20:58] Nio**

You were incredible!

**[21:02] Todo**

Nio, I like you!

**SIGN** Barber

**SIGN** Open

**[21:08] Todo**

Nio, my mind's made up.

**[21:14] Nio**

I'm gonna turn over a new leaf.

**[21:16] Nio**

From this day on,

I live for the people of Kyoto!

**[21:20] Nio**

Right!

**[21:22] Nio**

*What will serving Aizu change?*

**[21:25] Nio**

*We'll work harder than ever  
for the people of this city.*

**[21:30] Nio**

*That's good enough.*

**[21:32] Townswoman**

Come on. Let's go.

**[21:33] Townswoman**

I guess.

**[21:35] Todo**

There's plenty more girls out there!

**[21:38] Nio**

L-Let's try harder next time.

**[21:40] Todo**

I want to meet more of 'em.

**[21:42] Nio**

You will.

**SIGN** Palm of the Hand

**SIGN** Next time

**[23:21] Old Nagakura**

The Lord of Aizu's offer turns  
the Miburo from just a pack of ronin

**[23:27] Old Nagakura**

into agents carrying out the will of  
Aizu Domain, and through it, the Shogunate.

**[23:34] Old Nagakura**

And so, little by little,  
the times start changing.

**[23:39] Old Nagakura**

But the Miburo themselves  
spend their days in youthful fervor.

**[23:46] Old Nagakura**

Next time: "Treasure."

**SIGN** Treasure

**[23:48] Old Nagakura**

It won't disappoint.

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Revision #1

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