

# I Can't Do It

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*Dedicated to Narufan. A Zaku/Dosu fanfic...this couple is ok i guess...but since there are hardly any Zaku/Dosu fanwork...Narufan wanted me to write some. And so I did! I hope you like it, Narufan-San!!!*

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# 1 - The Predator and the Prey

Zaku...the name echoed around in Dosu Kinuta's head. He shook his head hard, trying to clear his mind. He wasn't supposed to be thinking about the person he was about to track down and/or kill. He was a tracker now...so was Kin. And Zaku would've been one too, if only he hadn't broken away from Sound. Now all the trackers from Sound were after Zaku. He sighed slowly. He had a flashback.

Dosu: You don't have to leave just yet. Stay a little longer.

Zaku: I can't. I don't want to stay in this baka backwater country any longer.

Dosu: No wait!!!! Don't leave!!! Stay a little more!!!!

End Flashback

Zaku had walked right off without saying a word, not even a word of farewell. But Dosu switched his focus back to the task at hand. Zaku was a missing nin now. There was no changing that. And he was the tracker. Dosu was the predator, and Zaku was the prey. As Dosu leapt through the overgrown forest, he found signs of a struggle. Maybe the other trackers had found Zaku already! But no. As he stopped to rest on an ash tree branch, his sensitive hearing heard a commotion a few yards away. He leapt to the source, but as soon as he got there, the commotion had stopped. He had heard right. The commotion was the trackers from Sound and Zaku. They had obviously battled. And by the looks of it, Zaku had put up a good fight. But the trackers outnumbered him 12 to 1. There was no way Zaku could've fought that many people at once.

Dosu surveyed the sad scene from his perch in the tree. There was a lot of blood. But it wasn't the trackers' blood. It was Zaku's. He leapt down from the tree onto the ground, as light as a feather. As he walked into the next clearing where the trees weren't so thick, he came upon the triumphant trackers. They had tied Zaku to a tree stump in the middle of the clearing, where he was sitting with his head down. They had also tied his hands behind his back because they were scared of the Zankuha he possessed. When the trackers saw Dosu, they all backed away politely. Dosu was the head tracker, and no one wanted to cross him. Dosu ordered that on all missions he would be the one to kill, and that

the others would go back to the village. The other trackers always followed his law, but not tonight. They wanted to watch what would happen between the tracker and his "friend". But Dosu barked, "Get out of here, you worthless scum. I'm the one who kills." And with that order, they all ran off back to Sound to report the mission successful. Dosu gazed at Zaku's slouched body. He said, in a tone which betrayed neither love or hatred, "Well Zaku, now it's just you and me."

## 2 - Hugs and Tears

Dosu untied Zaku's body from the tree trunk and rubbed some life into Zaku's sore limbs. He gently placed his hand under Zaku's chin and lifted his head up to look eye to eye with him. Black eyes clashed with brown ones. Zaku smiled a weak smile, something he almost never did, and Dosu remembered the good old days when they had fun together as little kid, running and hiding around the village of Sound. But all that had changed. Dosu couldn't bring himself to hurt his teammate, but he also couldn't bring Zaku back alive. Then again, he said, Orochimaru had never said that he couldn't take the missing nin to another place. Maybe he would do that. He just couldn't decide. He absentlymindedly pushed a loose strand of hair away from Zaku's face. Then he felt something fall lightly against his shoulder. Zaku's body had fallen forward onto Dosu's body. The feeling was good, but Dosu knew it could not last. The trackers had put up a very good fight, and Zaku wouldn't be able to stay alive much longer. And he had to

tell something very important to Zaku before Zaku went away. Hurriedly he pulled down his bandages that covered the rest of his face. It was difficult, considering it wrapped his whole head, except for the one eye. As the bandages fluttered down to the ground, Dosu lifted Zaku's head up again and pushed him against a nearby rock. "Zaku..." he said in a soft voice.

"What?"

"I need to tell you something very important."

"Just get it out already," he said in an arrogant tone.

Dosu smiled. Zaku was always proud and arrogant, even if he was dying. "Zaku...I love you," he whispered into the other Otonin's ear. Zaku's black eyes widened considerably, especially when Dosu's lips touched his. He opened his mouth into the kiss, allowing Dosu entrance to all of the warm caverns of his mouth. His pale hands, somewhat glowing in the moonlight, pulled Dosu's head closer, his sharp nose breathing in all of the lovely scents Dosu had. Dosu broke away for air, and Zaku leaned further into the rock, hoping for more support. It wouldn't come. He just slid down the smooth rock face. That was perfectly fine with Dosu. He pinned Zaku on the soft grass, and lowered his face for another kiss. As their lips met once again, Dosu closed his eyes, savoring the lovely feelings and taste of Zaku. It didn't last long. As Dosu broke away and opened his eyes, he found that Zaku's brown eyes had started to mist over. "D...don't leave me, Dosu," he said in a voice that left Dosu's ears ringing. "Don't leave me now..." Dosu's arms just tightened a bit more around Zaku's body. "Zaku...please...don't go yet. Stay a little longer."

"I...I can't, Dosu." Teardrops fell onto the brown-eyed shinobi's face. "Zaku...my Zaku..."

"Dosu...but I do want you to know one more thing..."

"What might that be?" asked Dosu, his voice choked up.

"I...love you too," said Zaku, his eyes misted over all the way. "W...why did you break away from Sound, Zaku? If you hadn't, it would've never come to this," Dosu whispered in a painful tone that shattered Zaku's heart into a million pieces. With his sharp ears, Dosu picked up two words. "Love...you..." were the words that Zaku said before his brown eyes closed. Even in death, Zaku could feel the warm arms of Dosu embracing him and the soft plitter of tears as Dosu's tears fell on his cheeks.

Finish~