

Sword Art Online – abec's (Illustrator) Comments

8th April 2009

Sword Art Online 1

{SAO Vol. 1 cover}

I was given the opportunity to draw the illustrations.

Please allow it some of your time if you spot it at any of the various bookstores around with it in stock.

The contents are on the other side of the link, if you please.

You'll find the comments and excuses for the illustrations after clicking on the Read More.

Please read them after reading the actual book.

Also, I received some Hey, it's not your first job! comments through web clap *. (^ q ^) What could they be referring to, I wonder

It's the first job. abec's first job. (^ q ^) It's true, you know? First experience, first experience

What could they possibly be using as a basis for that claim! (^ q ^) The internet's such a scaryyyy place

Men who ask girls if they've done it are the worst! (^ q ^) I'm a dude though!

[>> Read More](#)

Character Design

This work was originally released to the public on the net, with the author being someone who could draw as well, so drawings were usually displayed back then, and the main pair were done according to the pictures drawn by the author while it was released on the net that I received as data... or rather, it didn't differ much from the image I got when I read through it.

So I figured there was no need for any drastic changes for the sake of it and kept it relatively the same.

Hence, I believe fans of the work from back when it was released on the net shouldn't feel too much discomfort with them.

Aah, I did receive many comments through web clap about how Kirito was too girlish and various other things, though. ((° w °)) I-I'm sorry

Well, it's going to be a long series, so I wanted there to be more room for growth and all, not to mention how there's loads of descriptions about how girlish he looked in the text and he's the main character too; this is where I ended up while thinking through all that.

I plan to basically continue drawing with my own impression on things, creating them over discussions with the editor and author and steadily churn out these conflicting images from now on too.

Fans of the original will have no choice but to give up.

Front Cover

The editor praised me, saying that it was nice how it gives off the same impression as Kirito-kun (haha)

Just that when speaking about the illustration in general, it lacked catchiness. Agagah.

Frontispiece

I only had enough time to draw 7 pages for the front illustrations and handed them over to the editor, but I spewed blood when the illustration from the character roughs got used.

Also, they're practically all plain, aren't they.

I think drawing them at a size that could be printed with ease, even at B5 *, backfired. Snug and compact.

The somewhat-erotic facing pages are for that. The editor told me to draw it! (Pushing the bla-

The usual illustrations were of monsters, it was really fun. (^ q ^ *)

I will keep at it alongside the author and editor, fully prepared to see it to the end, so please do give us your support.

We can't see it to the end if it doesn't sell, huh. It's tough breaking through in this trade, huh. When you look at the entire scope, the work stretches from SAO 1 to 4, but personally, I want to hurry up and draw Sinon from SAO 3. The image of her in my mind suits my tastes in characters the most (^ q ^) But I can't draw guns

Rather, almost the entire manuscript was set onto paper and sent over, but I burst out in laughter with how the cardboard box it was sent in was entirely flooded with writing paper *, lol.

Just how much... just how much!!

Maybe I'll take a picture next time, lol. It was hilarious, after all, lol.

28th June 2009

SAO 1 Character Roughs

Eek, I totally ended up abandoning this with how busy I was, didn't I.

This off-peak period is kind of unusually hectic, so I'll be continuing to leave this alone for a while more. Seriously sorry here.

Anyway, I don't have anything to talk about, and I did get permission, so here's the SAO character roughs.

By the way, volume 2 will be published without any problem.

The focal point for the front cover this time is, "midriff-baring". Please look for to it (haha- Incidentally, the previous time was armpits and zettai ryouiki *.

The sales won't rise unless we show enough fanservice, right! No idea if that's true, though!

The quantity dropped when compared to the first volume. The deadline. The deadline.

I'll put up the character roughs for those who appeared in the second volume when I'm lacking material for an update after it goes on sale (haha-

{character roughs for Kirito, Asuna, Klein, Agil and Heathcliff}

Kirito and Asuna had a chance of being used as publicity materials on magazines and such, so I coloured them in.

I don't usually colour my character roughs, though. Even if I do, it's certainly not to this extent, lol.

It's a bother inserting the copyright names, so let's not bother with Kuradeel and the rest, yea. P.S. I got retorted with vehement cries going Agil's name became Adil! and all.

Yea, it really did, lol. Who the heck is Adil, lolol. I did call him Agil during the meetings too, lol. Well, stuff like this happens a lot!

I believe slight mistakes like this will happen from now on too!

Notes

Web Clap: A system that allows you to thank the owner of the (usually Japanese) site, usually through clicking on a link of some kind and writing an optional comment. Think of it as an antiqued version of Facebook's Like button with comments. If you want to give him one, click the "web 拍手ボタン" button on the right of his site.

B5: A paper size that is the average between A4 and A5.

Writing paper: Here's a summary of what it looks like, spanning thousands of words.

Zettai ryouiki: "Zettai Ryōiki (絶対領域) (lit. Absolute Area/Domain/Region/Territory) is an anime/manga related term for describing the area of bare skin exposed on the thighs between the skirt and socks for female characters" - Wikipedia

5th August 2009

Sword Art Online 2

{SAO Vol. 2 cover}

It might have already been sold ahead of time, but it should be released on the 10th of August. I hope for your support.

Comments after the Read More. Be sure to read them after getting the book, alright.

[>> Read More](#)

And so, for the moment, first up would be...

The hairstyles for Yui and Sachi are absolutely identical...

Not to mention they're beside each other among the frontispieces...!! (spews blood)

Geez, I was shocked when the sample got here.

How did I not notice... Well, the design phase for Silica, Liz and Yui was at the same time as SAO 1's roughs, while Sachi's was while I was totally freaking out right before the manuscript, though.

No, I have no qualms at all over it by itself, so if I just ignore the frontispieces...

Aside from that, I did receive jabs going, "Silica's way too cute, isn't she, lol", from those who read it beforehand, but well, while I personally love plain girls and such too, let's not get this out in the wild:

Cute ones would obviously be more accepted among those who haven't read it, right? In terms of sales (^ q ^)y --

And that's how it is! It's not that you can't sell art and works of a plain girl like that, with simplicity as her selling point.

I simply want to make her cute and cool instead, since I can do that.

It's true that my parental love's (but I'm just the illustrator) at work too, though.

Look, even if it were to get attacked by the weakass indoor clique, or even if there's a certain other kind of fear lying around, it's not poorly done as an illustration, right, lol?

Other than that, what I think I did well on were the dragon, or the small dragon, or the skeleton shinigami *, I guess! (it's all monsters-

3rd October 2009

Dengeki Fes, SAO 2 Character Roughs, etc

Now I'm left with a whole lot of spare time.

There will be an autograph session with Kawahara-san on the second day of the Dengeki Character Festival 2009 that will be held today and tomorrow, but if I were to go all abec beside Kawahara-san and scribble, the travelling expenses will be covered.

Or so I was told, so it's a free trip to Tokyo. And I agreed without a second thought.

Work's at Tokyo tomorrow, going all abec and drawing.

But I certainly am busy, being an active female high school student, not to mention a net idol in permanent hibernation; if this abec were to reveal her face, there'll definitely be a huge outbreak in cyberstalkers, oh my, how scary.

That's what came to mind, so I got a hold of a middle-aged guy in the neighbourhood and made him go in my place.

Treat him well!

...It's just your imagination if you thought that I sounded increasingly lifeless while I said that out myself...

It's been so frantic, I couldn't get my hair cut or buy clothes. I haven't bought any clothes recently.

Ah, I did a piece for the Dengeki Fes's calender, a new drawing of Asuna-san.

Also, I completely forgot about the autograph paperboards I was asked to bring, so they won't be there in time. I'm sorry.

Also, at the end of the Accel World 3 book which will be out in ten days (I think?), there's an advance notice for SAO 3.

The original plan was to place the character roughs there, but it ended up being an illustration instead.

I just doodled in a part of an illustration meant for one of the frontispieces.

Looking back on it now, the facial expression wasn't done very well. I'll do it properly on the frontispiece.

I barely made it in time, but wouldn't this work better?

That's what I said, but maybe the character roughs would have done the job better.

Also, I laughed at the illustration in the author's recent portrait section in Accel World 3, lol.

SAO 2's character roughs after the Read More.

[>> Read More](#)

{character roughs for Yui, Silica and Lisbeth}

The designs kept changing subtly as I continued drawing them.
Like how I ended up designing Silica to reveal more and more of her sides.
And I didn't colour it in, so it seems I got Pino's eye colour and stuff wrong *.
I certainly screwed up-ZE
I did Sachi's rough during a truly deranged situation, and it's a mess, so please wait for it.
I was told that it's fine to expose the rough of an illustration intended as one of the opening frontispieces that got scrapped due to time constraints, maybe I'll upload them as a set around the start of the next month.
I really should mention this, I rarely ever draw character roughs with this much detail.
I just happened to have the time when I did the character designs these days, so I made them look good.
It's been said that people have a limited amount of potential, though.
I wonder if I can keep this up from now on too.

Notes

Shinigami: Death god.
Pino: I'm translating, not editing.

29th December 2009
Sword Art Online 3 Fairy Dance

{SAO Vol. 3 cover}

I apologise for being late with this advertisement.
For the contents, refer to the Read More.
Also, there'll be a book, BUNBEC WORKS from Bundochi., at the Winter Comiket, Shi-52b *,
with roughs from my work on it.
It's by BUNBUN-kun who's treated as if he's the same person as me on Wikipedia!
That's wrong! That's really wrong!
Lil' old me's an active female high school student illustrator, after all!
It's true!

It'll be starting in just 1 more day, but for those who are going, do support me.
Also, free feel to give comments and web claps * even on New Year's Day > < Thank you for your opinions!

[>> Read More](#)

Anecdotes on the illustrations below.

To be honest, I thought to maybe change the designs to make it look like a different game or something, but it ended up having the same feel due to time constraints.

I'm rather pleased with the character design for Suguha.

Slightly plain girls like that are nice, aren't they.

I was pretty lost with what to do for Leafa's design, but I basically tried following the Web version.

Also, what I meddled with the most was

Suguha-san's breasts swelled by quite a bit, but it's not like I'm taking advantage of the fact that I can do it or anything, lol.

The illustrations were... I was panicking for various reasons, so it does appear that I might have made them just a little bigger than they were in the roughs... Tehe-

Well, it seems popular, so it's all good.

Everyone likes breasts, don't they! I personally totally love them, regardless of whether they're small or big! (no one's asking-

I wonder if I made Spriggan Kirito look too much like the original Kirito-kun.

It's pretty hard having the same character with different outwards appearances.

The opening frontispiece illustration... is a rough once again, but I really didn't have the time to draw. Hmph-

I had a considerably strict schedule for the illustrations too, but I got the lords in.

I was under no duty to do it in the first place,

but I drew up character roughs on my own accord,

and selfishly wanted to draw them! And that's what I voiced out, with it officially ending up as the 11th illustration (haha-

They seemed delighted with it, so my efforts weren't in waste, lol.

Notes

Shi-52b: Sections in Comiket are named in a "kana-number" format; in this case, it would be written as しー52b.

Web Clap: A system that allows you to thank the owner of the (usually Japanese) site, usually through clicking on a link of some kind and writing an optional comment. Think of it as an

antiqued version of Facebook's Like button with comments. If you want to give him one, click the "web 拍手ボタン" button on the right of his site.

30th April 2010

Sword Art Online 4 Fairy Dance

{SAO Vol. 4 cover}

About how it's already for sale!

No. That's not it.

Actually, for some reason, the one in charge of SAO said

"That person's a pervert." when talking about me.

(link fixed)

When talking about an active female high school illustrator of such beauty that it would put even flowers to shame,

he just naturally called me a pervert.

That is such a ridiculous case of sexual harassment...!

And so, the shock from that made unable to deliver any updates...

It's all that person's fau... ahh- oww- what are you d-... oww, I'm sorry.

Don't hit mee, I'm sorry, I lied.

I simply couldn't update since the deadline for something else was closing in, and I just forgot about it as time went past-

Eek, eek-

Oh, and there were various other matters as well, but I'll update on them next time.

For the time being, although it's nowhere near fresh anymore, refer to the Read More for the SAO 4 illustrations matter.

[>> Read More](#)

Cover

The navel- The navel under the logo-

And I even went to the extent of breaking apart Kirito's wings to show the navel!

(everyone has wings on, but it becomes quite the hindrance in scenes with several characters)

Oh, and you might think that I'm resorting to armpits again, but I couldn't think of much else in

terms of ideas for poses.

I should say that this will probably be the time I put a stop to armpits. Probably.

As for the opening frontispiece, I didn't even have the time for a rough this time.

I definitely want to draw something there for the next volume, though...!

And I thought it would be easy since one of those with adjacent pages was already drawn for the advance notice in Accel's volume 4.

As for why there were 11 illustrations this time again.

Well, I got an extension for the deadline, so it really was a piece of cake, lol.

I did design Tonkii, but it ended up in a chrysalis(?) state, so it's not obvious at all, huh.

When I had the chance to go drinking with Kawahara-san, Touka-san, the one in-charge of the turning it into a manga, and the person in-charge of SAO,

(sorry about talking about that with all of you back then, lol)

I was asked to show the roughs, so I'll upload them sooner or later, alright.

Or rather, I have still yet to release the character roughs from the Fairy Dance arc, huh.

Nah, it's just a real bother to insert the copyright names in, lol. (it really is a bother)

It feels like someone will get mad if I don't upload the design for Asuna's back that was requested, lol.

Also, it was fun drawing the dragons this time!

Following that, drawing offline Silica and Liz was a piece of cake. It's nice how cute these two are, huh.

I made sure to design the uniform properly too, so I want to show it off. It was mentioned, so there's a blazer.

~~There's no setting for Suguha, so I just made it a sailor uniform with my own judgement, but I didn't draw any illustrations of her in an uniform, so I drew it in the chibi characters on the 4th's cover.~~

It looks like she was described as wearing a sailor uniform in volume 3. They happened to match. Safe, safe! (haha)

Also, even though he worked so hard, Recon-kun, who didn't even appear once in the illustrations, did not even get a character rou... cough-cough!

The world of light novels is just a little severe on males! (but Kirito is an exception)

10th August 2010

Sword Art Online 5 Phantom Bullet

{SAO Vol. 5 cover}

I made it in time for the release date somehow! It already started selling long ago, though!

I've been busy with my main occupation at a certain school. It's true. Club activities. I've been

busy with my club activities.

It's true. It's true, you know? Really now, really.

And so, have you bought it yet, everybody?

Sinon-san, who I unhesitatingly declared to be my bride last time, appears here.

Hmm-mmm! Ah! But I like the other heroines (including Klein) too! Hmm-mmm!

Also, in Dengeki Bunko Vol. 15 which was released on the same date,

I tried to do an illustration course, along with an interview.

The illustration was of the Aincrad arc, where everyone went hunting... or at least, that's how I tried to draw it.

Also, I praised for being exceptionally on the ball when talking despite being a female high school student. Tehe-

Oh, and while I was taking my beloved dog, an Irish wolfhound, on a walk on a certain morning, I couldn't restrain it as it started running and pulled me along before getting helped out by a middle-aged guy, BUNBUN-sensei, who just happened to be there retrieving the morning newspaper, and so as thanks, I provided 2 pages worth of roughs for his doujinshi. If you're ever so kind, please take a look → BUN+BUN

For the time being, in regards to the illustrations, they would be in the read more. There are spoilers, so do so after reading.

[>> Read More](#)

- Character Design

I worked really hard on both Kirito and Sinon.

After getting an OK in terms of their outfits, I re-did them and stuff on my own.

I went through various things, the initial rough was atrocious, though.

I do think I managed to reach a good point in the end, didn't I?

Regarding Shino, what I did was to sneakily conceal a version with glasses within the roughs for the normal version,

finishing it off by leaving behind a "there aren't any girls with glasses around, so I wondered how she would be with glasses on", and it ended up a complete success (´—`*)

As expected of my bride, Shinonon. Her guard is flawless even when offline.

Even if it angers the fans of the original, I have no regrets (glasses-love)

- Cover

An astonishing solo front cover. Even in this world of light novel packaging images with a preference for females, Kirito can go at it solo. Bring it on, beauties. Just as expected. Kirito-

san's unbelievable!

But sure enough, I really was doubtful whether I managed to draw him to look enough like a girl, it was tough.

Of course, perhaps due to how I knew what he used to look like as well, but I just couldn't draw it well while thinking of him as a male and so, the laborious idea,

"I'll draw breasts on first to destroy the preconception of him being male, then flatten them back later on,"

came to me. In other words, the Kirito-san on the cover had breasts until it was accepted.

(haha)

It's an imagine breaker with the name of boobs. First is to destroy that illusion of being male!

- Frontispiece

I drew the opening frontispiece I always wanted!

I drew it with barely any thought to the consequences. Sinon was calling out to me!

- Illustrations

I worked pretty hard. Page 90 and such are some of my favourites. The shading doesn't turn out too pretty on the paperback's paper, though.

There were quite a lot of battle scenes.

Of course, I wanted to draw that seductive nurse, Aki-san,

but it's not quite something I could approach this time, so I gave up.

I wanna draw illustrations of the lords, I wanna draw them! It's fine even if it gets too much!

And I insisted on that and ended up doing 11 pages.

Just as I thought, I had to send them off after six in the morning. Thank you so much, editor. >

< ;

- Guns

Anyway, they were terrible. In the first place, there was no data for Hecate II itself, none. There weren't model guns either.

There were quite a lot of customisation too, I was told that it was to be in an old style with wood used in the stock and such, so there weren't many photos and there were supposed to be minor customisations, making it really difficult to be subtly different from the photos.

As for Kirito-san's FN Five-seven, I just bought the model gun myself. (haha)

13th December 2010

Sword Art Online 6 Phantom Bullet

{SAO Vol. 6 cover}

It's been a long time since it started being sold.

I blame my lack of free time for not updating, I'm very sorry.

I haven't even uploaded any character roughs since the Fairy Dance arc, huh > < ;
I want to make it in time for the end of the year somehow... but it'll probably be hard.
For the time being, here's the 6th volume that I believe many have already read!
It's a volume full of rewrites... no, newly written text, so those who already read the web version, as well as those who haven't, please enjoy it!
More about the illustrations at the read more.

[>> Read More](#)

Cover

As expected, the focus is on Kirito-san this time as well!
I had other ideas for Sinon, but there stands Kirito-san. Defending his spot to his last.
Also, armpits were impossible, but it was fun drawing Sinon's ass. (what are-

Frontispiece

The instructions for the opening frontispiece are always "If you have time, colour in the character roughs. We'll handle it after that from over here," but I always go "No, please let me draw something new" and get my way.

But I rarely have the time, so up till now, there have been many times when I've just drawn the roughs, or not even that, but somehow, I drew them for both of those in the Phantom Bullet arc (´—`)=3 It was pretty impossible. I tried hard.

Also, there was that group picture of Asuna, Liz, Leafa, Yui, Silica and Klein.
(I totally forgot to write Silica's name in, lol. 3 web claps pointing it out in just that short period.
How scary, lol.)

I made sure to write in the characters' settings properly. It was way too hard!
There are way too many visual changes in this series, so it's extremely difficult!
But Asuna's clothes aren't cute enough, so I think I'll draw them again.

Also, the guns were terrible.

From this volume onwards, I switched all of the colouring work to SAI and Photoshop, so the colouring style and such changed.

It would be nice if you could appreciate that as well.

The final page among the frontispieces is by Midori Foo-san. It's too gorgeous! High quality!

Illustrations

Actually, all of them were darker than what abec expected.

I always make colour samples for the RGB reversion and send that off with them, but I forgot. I'm reflecting over it.

As a result, I'm rather depressed with parts that I worked hard to draw getting destroyed.

I believe I put my spirit into the battle scenes, but how were they?

Nearly all of the scenes were serious, huh, lol.

Also, partially due to opening frontispiece as well, but actually, I couldn't make the first deadline and caused various troubles for the editor.

Thank you very much. It has been hard on you.

I really did want to draw the nurse, Aki-san, as well, if I had the time, I believe I would have gone "please let me draw her!", though > <

15th April 2011

Sword Art Online 7 Mother's Rosario

{SAO Vol. 7 cover}

Good day. It's been a while, abec here.

And so, it's started selling long ago!

It's an late update as always. I'm sorry.

In the first place, the updates are now for the sake of publicity for my work, huh.

It seems there are already many who have bought it, so thank you very much for your thoughts.

I haven't replied, but I've been able to read all of it.

At any rate, refer to the read more for the notes on the illustrations; spoilers included.

[>> Read More](#)

As expected of Kirito-san! Calmly pulling off what all other male protagonists there couldn't.

That's where he excites! I'm tingling!

And so, Kirito-san cunningly appears on the 7th volume cover as well.

Actually, Kirito-san wasn't in the specifications,

and the plan was to have a packaging without Kirito-san at first.

But I was told that I might as well get him in, so here's his obstinate appearance.

The rough for the other two received an OK earlier on, so I just had to figure out how to insert Kirito-san in.

After grunting while sticking him into various places, it ended up like this.

And so, there's plenty of new characters this time, along with minor changes for the others! I had no allowance in terms of time left anymore and the roughs turned out quite messy. In the first place, I haven't been uploading any of the character roughs, huh. I'm sorry. The illustrations this time were full of difficult battle scenes, those with many characters and such, so it was pretty terrible. Like on P149, I didn't draw anything aside from Kirito-san in the initial rough, so it was planned to be an easy page, but he really did seem lonely, so I increased the extras at the back, added that cut-in, and before I noticed, it became an amazingly strenuous job. Also, the last illustration was from one drawn by Kawahara-san that was inserted at the end, back when it was published on the Web, that I was given the opportunity to remake. It seems to have been regarded as a plus from the feedback I've seen, so I'm glad. By the way, when reading the manuscript, abec was rendered to tears from the text alone. And I also cried at the Accel World advance notice. Kuroyuki-senpai... abec's place supports girls with small breasts.

Also, as extra service, I'll put up the discarded roughs for the cover and a rough image.

Discarded cover concept. (it's messy)

{Discarded cover concept}

Yuuki rough image.

{Yuuki rough}

9th August 2011

Sword Art Online 8 Early and Late Sold on 10th August.

{SAO Vol. 8 cover}

Good day. abec, the manager of the Sword Art Online new volumes' information blog, "abec's place", here.

It turned out being a blog deserving of that name, hasn't it.

I do wish to draw yuriyuri art again sooner or later.

Putting that aside, here's the new volume!

This time's a collection of short stories from SAO and ALO.

For a summary, check out the link above.

There's spoilers in the comments on the illustrations, so please look from the Read More.

Also, I'll be doing a autograph session with Kawahara-sensei on the 20th of August this time, at Osaka.

(Refer to the link above for details. Tickets will be distributed from the 10th onwards.)

My health deteriorated right before those every single time, so I always had to get the middle-aged guy living nearby who's coming along to stand in as my guardian to stand in for me in a hurry.

Those strange occurrences might have happened,

(due to that, there are rumours floating about, of us being the same person, or me being a self-styled high school girl and such, how vexing!)

but I really wanted to meet everyone this time. I will be staying at the hotel for the whole of the day before just to make sure, but abec, who can't sleep with a different pillow, might get weak due to lack of sleep, leading to a need to hurriedly call down that middle-aged guy from Kyoto. I worry that such a thing might happen.

Well, putting such foolish thoughts aside, for those who have already read through it, the stories on the illustrations are after the Read More.

[>> Read More](#)

Cover:

This time is surprisingly enough, Heathcliff-san, along with the usual Kirito-san.

I've been taking too much notice of the colour blending recently, without variation, so I kept wondering if something was off and tried blending the colours in a way similar to the 2nd or 3rd volume, but how did it turn out?

That said, it's two males, so there might be a lack of flowers about, lol.

Frontispiece

I went with an slightly amended illustration that I drew for a booklet from Dengeki Bunko MAGAJINE for the frontispiece.

The size is a little small, so it was tedious, but I like it.

And page 4 and 5 was a Everyone Gather! thing, so it was really difficult, but I hoped that the bustling feeling was expressed well

Also, Sinon's armpits- by the character introduction- (that's-
Monochrome

I tried to insert as many characters as I could, so the amount of cut-ins might have been too high.

There's a steep transition between the serious and comical scenes, but I've been thinking about drawing various kinds of expressions lately, I would be glad if that got through.
Anyway, Klein's cute, he really is.
Also, Sinon's cute as expected, she really is.
And next, Asuna-san from her scarce tsundere period. What a tsundere! I want to get scolded!
Also, about the character designs
The appearance of that person whose name appears here and there, and the visual appearance of that character back in the SAO era.
Aside from that, I was really pretty pleased with Yoruko, but how was she. She had a surprised face on in all of them, though, lol.
She's a girl with cute trousers. I do wish to upload a full body image if I get the chance. (and as per usual)

19th February 2012
SAO 9 Now On Sale!

{SAO Vol. 9 cover}

It's now on sale~ You've probably bought it already, but all the same, I ask for your support.

And the drama CD preceding the anime is being released.

For details, refer to the address below.

[Accel World] + [Sword Art Online] Drama CD

The last day to reserve it is tomorrow, the 20th of February...!

Note it down! (just like what happened with Yoshii Hotori-sensei)

Anyway, more about the new book with spoilers in the [READ MORE](#).

[>> Read More](#)

>>Character Design

As Alice and Eugeo are key characters of the 4th part from now on,

I figured the web edition readers should have a rather fixed image of them.

Honestly, I've never seen those two in the web editions, so I don't know whether I'm close or far, though.

Just how was it? Especially Alice; there were various difficult points about her, so I was really

troubled.

I would be glad if they suit the tastes of both the old and new readers.

>>Cover

There was the idea of making it a 3-person cover with Alice included, but it ended up with these two. I thought about uploading that rough too, but I forgot to get permission, so if I feel like it next time.

But it's 2 rascals for 2 volumes in a row. As expected of Kirito-san!

The outfits for both of these two are plain in this volume, but they should become more cool from the next time onwards, so!

>>Frontispiece

The illustration in the middle of the text was based on an illustration from the time it was published on the web as well.

The original was in a portrait orientation, probably showing the text and 3 characters as the page was scrolled,

but as expected, that wouldn't be possible for a book, so I made it landscape, but it seems well-received, so that's good.

>Illustrations

Selka ended up cuter than I thought, or rather, it ended up looking erotic due to the illustration.

(*´ ̀)

I love these sort of plain girls, so I drew with gusto.

Bonus

{coloured scribble with those 3}

That's right, I thought that I didn't draw Alice in colour, so here's a scribble (tentatively, she was drawn among the book's frontispieces, though)

Perhaps that's what I was aiming for.

20th July 2012

Sword Art Online 10 Alicization Running

{SAO Vol. 10 cover}

Even episode 2 of the anime's been aired, it's already been 10 days since the release of the latest book. Sorry.

And so, the new book is now on sale!

For details about the contents, please check the official page.

Next, for more about the usual illustrations and spoilers, refer to the READMORE.

[>> Read More](#)

The front cover's Rina-senpai and Kirito-san.

Of course, Kirito-san's in the center.

I'm not even bothering to submit the rough with the idea for a version with Rina-senpai as the center anymore.

After all, Kirito-san will definitely end up as the center.

Now, about Rina-senpai who also appeared on the front cover this time, when it was published on the web, her name appeared, but she was a character that wasn't actually described,

so there's a drastic amount of new text from Kawahara-sensei this time.

I believe those who buy AW as well would know,

but AW always has an advance preview page for SAO every volume,

and that ended up as the art for a frontispiece in the new book (the colour pages at the front), the opposing pages of 6 and 7.

Kirito and Eugeo, who have become elite swordsman trainees. Along with their valets, the swordsman trainees, Ronie and Teiza.

And, the corresponding page is on page 328... by the way, the book ends on page 330, eh.

There's a drastic amount of new text from Kawahara-sensei this time.

Ah, I really didn't think that it would end with the scene from the advance preview page that should be acting as an advance preview.

I was shocked when the manuscript got here. (haha)

Also, I worked hard to try and draw the townscape used in the paired pages in the frontispieces, but thanks to my magnificent lack of ability, it ended up as a drawing that couldn't convey the amount of effort spent on it.

I'll work hard on the backgrounds too, next time.

And as for the back cover... they were so pitiful, even getting left out from the Kirito Investigation Meeting (?), so...

that said, I feel that the colour combination with these two around makes for a picturesque image.

They don't get appearances, though.. (sniff

I got a look at the anime Silica, she was super cute.

☹️☹️Silica fans around the country, please look forward to it!

Next, there really were a lot of new characters this time round, huh.

It was terrible having so much more than usual, but how was it?

Please look forward to their activities in the future.

Also, I stealthily changed my profile column which was the single word, "abec!".

An anime adaption... I can't believe it... really? I changed it with those feelings in mind.

Please take another look at it ^^

Also due to the anime adaption, I'm drawing new art for magazine covers and the storage box for volume 1 of the limited edition BD version.

I'm drawing various other things,

but I'm thinking about creating another post to organise all of those together.

There's this design here and that design there, so please look forward to them. I hope for your support.