



four leaf studios - summer 2012

foreword

I got the idea of producing an art book when the KS Japanese translation team was selling the previous art books at Comiket and COMITIA in Japan. Since Katawa Shoujo is mostly well known in the west, I thought of making an artbook for the biggest convention near me, Anime Expo. Of course, many people have supported me. This book couldn't have become reality without the help of 4LS, guest artists, friends, and those who contributed to the Kickstarter.

Our previous two books were themed "Summer" and "Winter" after the conventions they were released in.With the release of Katawa Shoujo, this book's theme is "Future". I hope you enjoy the works done by fellow artists and the future they lead us to.

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Hanako Ikezawa











Shizune Hakamichi







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Rin Tezuka















Satou -









Ibarazaki

Emi

Rebuild Your Future. YAMAKU INDUSTRIES















Aura lapes VCR 4LS All guest artists All Kickstarter pledgers 3d12 AnOctopus Bj San Christopher D'Agostino CI David Spry derpius Doug Elliot Ervonymous ET3 Kris "Touchpad" Kippes Hurdur Joaquin Serrano (Hagi-Jes) **Kizest** KSG Lawls Manthai **McMaNGOS** Michael "Kaname" Sartori mtrx Pete Mason Sphie! Tom Adler Vyse

Katawa Shoujo does not have a future. Like with any fictional narrative, its reality starts and ends where the story starts and ends. There is nothing that can't be seen, no flow of time that pushes on and makes inevitable consequences of actions come to pass. The story stands as it is, frozen in time. Yet, time around it will keep moving forwards, endlessly towards the future.

Predicting the future of a fiction is even harder than predicting the actual future, not only because fiction does not have to adhere as much to logic as reality does, but fiction has the opportunity to stop, unlike actual time.

> In a way, Four Leaf Studios is in itself a fiction. So much of it seems unreal or unlikely, the characters seem unrealistic and over the top, the drama seems predictable and forced. But somehow, there is a difference. Somewhere out there there are people who have come into contact with us, or the story we told. Fiction comes from reality, and fiction can create reality.

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The world of Yamaku will never progress, but something will, and must, happen to the real world. It will certainly be a thing to watch for, and there will be stories, and maybe the stories will eventually even create new fiction. Nobody really knows what will happen from here on out. There may be other games like Katawa Shoujo, and may be other games by the people who made Katawa Shoujo.

Still, there never will be another Katawa Shoujo. But that's okay, because the original one already exists. And I really like it that way.

- delta

