

# [Fortissimo] Kara no Kyoukai FAQ

## Do I need to read this FAQ?

Probably not! If you want to know *exactly* what you're watching, this FAQ is here for you.

## Is this a fan cut?

No. Although I am also involved in Fancutfags and the names of the projects are related through the FF acronym, they are different projects.

## What is this?

A complete collection of every Kara no Kyoukai movie with the following features:

- The best available translations/typesetting for each movie
- Karaoke subs for ED themes
- -19.5 LUFS-I 2.0 audio, as well as the BD 2.0 audio

## What is the difference between -19.5 LUFS and BD audio?

The BD audio is simply the untouched official 2.0 audio from the BDs. On average, it is much louder than your typical anime BDs, but much of the dialogue in it is a lot quieter, which is not an ideal combination.

The -19.5 LUFS audio is Fortissimo's fan remaster which makes the volume levels more consistent. It's mostly a subtle difference, but it makes it a little bit easier to find a volume setting where the dialogue is audible and the loudest scenes and ending theme songs won't give you tinnitus. In technical terms, the movies are all mastered to at most -19.5 LUFS-I (hence the name), which is a completely arbitrary standard based on the volume level I got after I did the first one by ear, but it is incidentally pretty close to typical anime BD loudness.

Before watching the movies using the -19.5 LUFS mix, I recommend adjusting your volume setting while listening to the ED from movie 1 so that it's at a nice level that you'd use for listening to music normally. The audio during the movies gets both louder and quieter than that.

## What about the 5.1 audio, which is optional to download?

That's the untouched official 5.1 mix from the BDs. It's not as bizarrely loud as the official 2.0 mix.

If you don't have a 5.1 setup, you should use a 2.0 mix, either the official one or the -19.5 LUFS Fortissimo one, since the 5.1 only sounds better if you have the appropriate number of channels and otherwise your media player downmixes it in unpredictable ways into something that probably has a weird stereo image and might have other problems like clipping.

## What encodes are these?

The videos are Prof's h265 encodes. I couldn't find the settings they used for KnK but most of their movie encodes use "visually lossless" settings, presumably these ones do too; and they do look great for the file size in my subjective opinion. All of the audio tracks are Fortissimo's encodes and they're 16-bit 48 kHz FLAC encoded from lossless sources using compression level 8.

### **Whose translations/typesetting/styling/karaoke are these?**

The translations and typesetting are by UTW (movies 9 and 9.5), Pretentious (movies 1, 2, 3 and 6), gg-TakaJun (movies 4, 5, 7 and 8) and Coalgirls/retail (movie 6.5). There are some slight typesetting edits by Fortissimo in movies 1-7, mostly to improve blurs and fades.

The main subtitle styling is by Pretentious; the same style is used in all of the movies. ED subtitle stylings and karaoke are by Fortissimo, except for movie 9.5, which is basically just UTW's exact ED styling with an added karaoke effect.

### **Why not just pick a single translation group and stick with them?**

UTW is the only group who did movies 9-9.5, and those are the only movies UTW did, so at least that much combination of different TL groups was necessary no matter what. Additionally, I decided to trust ANE's judgment in combining Pretentious and gg-TakaJun instead of using gg-TakaJun where possible, since ANE was clearly around and paying attention at the time, so I am assuming they had a reason to prefer the Pretentious release enough to warrant mixing different TL groups.

### **Will there be a v2?**

Probably. Although the v1 -19.5 LUFs 2.0 audio mix definitely does its job, it was put together on the fastest possible schedule and hasn't yet been extensively quality controlled. I would also like to make sure there aren't any terminology inconsistencies between the different translation groups, which I likewise don't have the time to do right now.