

# E1 - The World of Swords

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

**SIGN** In 2022, humanity has finally

**SIGN** created a complete virtual environment.

**[00:17] VoiceOverGirl**

It's time for this week's MMO Stream.

**[00:21] VoiceOverGirl**

We began with a promotional video.

**[00:23] VoiceOverGirl**

Was this the day of last week's launch?

**SIGN** End of Line

**[00:25] VoiceOverGirl**

What were all these people waiting in line for?

**[00:27] VoiceOverGirl**

Sword Art Online.

**[00:30] VoiceOverGirl**

The one at the front of the line waited for three days prior to launch.

**[00:32] VoiceOverGirl**

Amazing!

**[00:33] VoiceOverGirl**

Or is this just what any real gamer would do?

**SIGN** Sword Art Online Project Director Kayaba Akihiko

**[00:36] VoiceOverGirl**

On today's MMO Stream, we'll be covering the

**[00:39] VoiceOverGirl**

internationally famous Sword Art Online, AKA SAO!

**[00:43] VoiceOverGirl**

To be honest,

**[00:45] VoiceOverGirl**

none of the NerveGear software released so far

**[00:47] VoiceOverGirl**

has really taken advantage of the hardware.

**[00:49] Sister**

Brother...

**[00:50] VOGirl2**

Yeah, it's all sucked.

**[00:51] VOGirl**

But SAO was made by the NerveGear inventor,

**[00:51] Sister**

I'm off to practice.

**[00:55] VOGirl**

Kayaba Akihiko,

**[00:57] VOGirl**

and it's a long-awaited VR MMORPG.

**[00:59] VOGirl**

I can't wait!

**[01:00] VOGirl**

The beta testers all said it was incredible.

**[01:03] VOGirl**

I wanted a copy...

**[01:04] VOGirl2**

Only ten thousand copies were  
sold in its first printing.

**[01:06] VOGirl2**

It sold out online in seconds.

**[01:08] VOGirl2**

And as you saw,

**[01:09] VOGirl2**

hardcore fans bought all the store copies.

**[01:27] K**

Link start!

**SIGN** Character Creation

Beta test data still available.

Would you like to use it?

**[02:01] K**

I'm back in this world!

**SIGN** The World of Swords

**SIGN** Floor 1: Town of Beginnings

**[02:32] Players**

So like I told him...

**[02:34] Players**

Hey, let's make a party.

**[02:36] Players**

Hmm, maybe...

**[02:38] Players**

Oh, come on!

**[02:44] KI**

Hey, you there!

**[02:49] K**

Me?

**[02:54] KI**

You move like you've been here before.

**[02:56] KI**

You were in the beta test, right?

**[02:58] K**

Y-Yeah.

**[02:59] KI**

Today's my first day.

**[03:02] KI**

Show me the basics, okay?

**[03:04] K**

U-Uh...

**[03:06] KI**

I'm begging you!

**[03:08] KI**

My name's Klein.

Nice to meet you.

**[03:12] K**

I'm Kirito.

**SIGN** Floor 1: Town of Beginnings, West Field

**[03:18] KI**

Right in the crotch...

**[03:22] K**

Give me a break.

**[03:23] K**

You don't feel any pain, right?

**[03:26] KI**

Oh, yeah.

**[03:27] KI**

Just habit, I guess.

**[03:29] K**

I told you.

**[03:30] K**

What's important is your  
initial motion input.

**[03:32] KI**

Sure, I get that...

**[03:35] KI**

But he keeps moving around.

**[03:38] K**

If you do the motion input right,

**[03:41] K**

and activate a sword skill,

**[03:50] K**

the system will ensure that  
the technique connects.

**[03:53] KI**

Motion input... Motion input...

**[03:57] K**

How should I put it?

**[04:01] K**

Add a slight pause, and when you feel the skill begin to activate,

**[04:05] K**

let it explode.

**[04:07] KI**

Explode?

**[04:32] KI**

All right!

**[04:36] K**

Congrats.

**[04:40] K**

However...

**[04:42] K**

That boar's about as weak as slimes in other games.

**[04:45] KI**

Seriously?

**[04:47] KI**

I thought it was a mid-level boss or something.

**[04:50] K**

Of course not.

**[04:55] K**

Pretty exciting, isn't it?

**[04:56] KI**

Yeah!

**[05:00] KI**

There are lots of skills, right?

**[05:01] KI**

Like blacksmithing and stuff?

**[05:04] K**

Yeah.

**[05:06] K**

I've heard there are an unlimited number of skills.

**[05:09] K**

However, there's no magic.

**[05:12] KI**

An RPG without magic?

**[05:14] KI**

That's a pretty bold decision.

**[05:21] K**

Isn't it more fun to move your body as you fight?

**[05:26] KI**

You're right!

**[05:29] K**

Okay, let's head to the next one.

**[05:31] KI**

Yeah, let's keep going!

**[05:41] KI**

I still can't believe it, no matter  
how many times I see it...

**[05:44] KI**

That we're in a game.

**[05:47] KI**

Whoever made it is a genius.

**[05:51] KI**

It's really amazing...

**[05:53] KI**

Seriously, I'm glad I was born in this time.

**[05:55] K**

You make a big deal out of everything.

**[05:57] KI**

It's my first full dive!

**[06:00] K**

Then this is your first time  
playing a game with NerveGear?

**[06:05] KI**

I rushed out and bought the  
hardware to play SAO.

**[06:10] KI**

I was really lucky to get one of  
the ten thousand copies.

**[06:15] KI**

Well, you were ten times as lucky,  
getting into the beta test.

**[06:20] KI**

Only a thousand people got to do it.

**[06:23] K**

I guess so.

**[06:25] KI**

How far did you get in the beta?

**[06:29] K**

Over a couple months, only to Floor 8.

**[06:33] K**

This time, it'll only take a month.

**[06:37] KI**

You're really into this.

**[06:39] K**

To be honest, during the beta test,

**[06:42] K**

SAO was all I thought about, day and night.

**[06:47] K**

In this world, a single blade can take you anywhere you want to go.

**[06:51] K**

It's a virtual world,

**[06:54] K**

but I still feel more alive here than I do in the real one.

**[07:00] K**

Now then, want to hunt some more?

**[07:04] KI**

Of course!

**[07:05] KI**

I'd love to,

**[07:08] KI**

but I'm really hungry...

**[07:09] KI**

I'm logging out.

**[07:11] K**

Eating food here only makes you think you're not hungry.

**[07:15] KI**

I already ordered a hot pizza for 5:30.

**[07:18] K**

You're so prepared.

**[07:19] KI**

Yup!

**[07:20] KI**

Well, once I've eaten, I'll be back.

**[07:24] K**

I see.

**[07:25] KI**

Hey,

**[07:26] KI**

after this, I'm meeting up with some people I know from another game.

**[07:32] KI**

Want to friend them, too?

**[07:38] KI**

Of course, if you don't want to, that's okay.

**[07:41] KI**

I'll introduce you another time.

**[07:43] K**

Yeah, sorry.

**[07:46] K**

Thanks.

**[07:47] KI**

Hey, that's my line.

**[07:50] KI**

I'll repay you for this sometime...

**[07:53] KI**

Mentally.

**[07:56] KI**

Thanks so much, man.

**[07:59] KI**

I'll see you around.

**[08:01] K**

If there's anything else you want to know, just tell me.

**[08:05] KI**

Yeah, I'll do that!

**[08:14] KI**

Huh?

**[08:16] KI**

There's no button to log out.

**[08:18] K**

Look closer.

**[08:21] KI**

No, it's not there.

**[08:24] K**

At the bottom of the main menu...

**[08:30] KI**

See? Not there.

**[08:31] K**

No, it isn't.

**[08:34] KI**

Well, it's the first day out of beta.

**[08:37] KI**

There are bound to be some bugs.

**[08:39] KI**

I'm sure the server people are freaking out...

**[08:42] K**

In a second, you will be, too.

**[08:44] It's 5**

It's 5:25.

**[08:48] KI**

My teriyaki mayo pizza and ginger ale!

**[08:51] K**

Just hurry and call the game master.

**[08:55] KI**

I tried, but nothing's happening.

**[08:58] KI**

Is there any other way to log out?

**[09:04] K**

No, if a player wants to log themselves out,  
**[09:07] K**  
they have to go through the menu.  
**[09:10] KI**  
That's nuts.  
**[09:11] KI**  
There's gotta be some way.  
**[09:13] KI**  
Return!  
**[09:14] KI**  
Log out!  
**[09:15] KI**  
Escape!  
**[09:22] K**  
I told you...  
**[09:24] K**  
There wasn't an emergency logout  
in the manual, either.  
**[09:28] KI**  
You're kidding, right?  
**[09:30] KI**  
I know.  
**[09:31] KI**  
I'll just rip the NerveGear off my head...  
**[09:33] K**  
You can't.  
**[09:34] K**  
We can't move our real bodies.  
**[09:38] K**  
The NerveGear intercepts anything  
**[09:42] K**  
we tell our bodies to do here.  
**[09:45] KI**  
Seriously?  
**[09:47] KI**  
So we have to wait for them to fix the bug?  
**[09:50] K**  
Or for someone in the real world  
**[09:53] K**  
to remove the NerveGear from us.  
**[09:56] KI**  
But I live alone.  
**[09:58] KI**  
What about you?  
**[10:00] K**  
I have a mom and a sister.  
**[10:02] K**

So I think they'll notice by dinnertime...

**[10:06] KI**

H-How old's your little sister?

**[10:09] K**

She's on a sports team,

**[10:12] K**

and she hates games.

**[10:13] K**

She has nothing to do with people like us.

**[10:15] KI**

That doesn't ma—

**[10:20] KI**

Right, it doesn't hurt.

**[10:21] K**

More importantly, don't you find this weird?

**[10:24] KI**

Sure, I do.

**[10:26] KI**

It's a bug.

**[10:27] K**

It isn't just a bug.

**[10:29] K**

If we can't log out,

**[10:31] K**

that'll pose a serious problem  
for the game's future.

**[10:35] KI**

Come to think of it, you're right.

**[10:37] K**

If they wanted to,

**[10:40] K**

they could just shut down the  
server and log everyone out.

**[10:43] K**

But there isn't even an announcement...

**[11:16] Players**

What's going on?

**[11:18] Players**

I don't know.

**[11:19] K**

A forced teleport?

**[11:29] Player**

Up there.

**[11:35] K**

That's...

**[11:53] KI**

What is that?

**[12:01] Player**

A game master?

**[12:02] Player**

Why doesn't he have a face?

**[12:04] Player**

Is this an event?

**[12:05] Player**

I'm scared...

**[12:06] Player**

It's fine.

**[12:07] Player**

It's just another part of  
the opening ceremony.

**[12:10] BigSpooky**

Attention, players.

**[12:12] BigSpooky**

Welcome to my world.

**[12:15] K**

"My world"?

**[12:17] BS**

My name is Kayaba Akihiko.

**[12:19] BS**

As of this moment, I am the sole person  
who can control this world.

**[12:26] Players**

Is that really him?

**[12:27] Players**

He must've spent a lot of time on this.

**[12:29] K**

I'm sure you've already noticed

**[12:31] K**

that the logout button is  
missing from the main menu.

**[12:36] K**

But this is not a defect in the game.

**[12:40] K**

I repeat...

**[12:41] K**

This is not a defect in the game.

**[12:43] K**

It is a feature of Sword Art Online.

**[12:46] K**

A-A feature?

**[12:48] BS**

You cannot log out of SAO yourselves.

**[12:51] BS**

And no one on the outside

**[12:54] BS**

can shut down or remove the NerveGear.

**[12:58] BS**

Should this be attempted,

**[13:00] BS**

the transmitter inside the NerveGear  
will emit a powerful microwave,

**[13:04] BS**

destroying your brain and  
thus ending your life.

**[13:07] Players**

What?

**[13:10] Players**

Come on, enough already.

**[13:12] Players**

Let's go.

**[13:14] Players**

Hey, I can't get out!

**[13:17] KI**

What's he talking about?

**[13:19] KI**

He's gotta be nuts.

**[13:21] KI**

Right, Kirito?

**[13:22] K**

He's right that the transmitter's signals  
work just like microwaves.

**[13:27] K**

If the safety were disabled,  
it could fry a brain.

**[13:29] KI**

Then, if we cut the power...

**[13:32] K**

No, the NerveGear has an internal battery.

**[13:38] KI**

But this is crazy.

**[13:39] KI**

What's going on?!

**[13:41] BS**

Unfortunately, several players'  
friends and families

**[13:44] BS**

have ignored this warning,

**[13:46] BS**

and have attempted to remove the NerveGear.

**[13:50] BS**

As a result, two hundred and thirteen players

**[13:55] BS**

are gone forever, from both  
Aincrad and the real world.

**[13:59] K**

Two hundred and thirteen?

**[14:01] KI**

I don't believe it...

**[14:02] KI**

I don't believe it!

**[14:03] K**

As you can see, news organizations  
across the world

**[14:07] K**

are reporting all of this, including the deaths.

**[14:11] K**

Thus, you can assume that the danger

**SIGN** Multiple Victims in Online Game Incident

**[14:15] K**

of a NerveGear being removed is now minimal.

**[14:18] K**

I hope you will relax and  
attempt to clear the game.

**[14:24] K**

But I want you to remember this clearly.

**[14:27] K**

There is no longer any method to  
revive someone within the game.

**[14:31] K**

If your HP drops to zero,

**[14:33] K**

your avatar will be forever lost.

**[14:36] K**

And simultaneously,

**[14:38] K**

the NerveGear will destroy your brain.

**[14:58] ---**

There is only one means of escape.

**[15:01] ---**

To complete the game.

**[15:04] ---**

You are presently on the  
lowest floor of Aincrad,

**[15:07] ---**

Floor 1.

**[15:09] ---**

If you make your way through the dungeon

**[15:11] ---**

and defeat the Floor Boss,  
you may advance to the next level.

**[15:14] ---**

Defeat the final boss on Floor 100,  
and you will clear the game.

**[15:18] Players**

Clear?

**[15:19] Players**

What's he talking about?

**[15:20] Players**

Y-You're just making that up!

**[15:23] KI**

Clear all hundred floors?

**[15:26] KI**

That's impossible.

**[15:28] KI**

The beta testers never made  
it anywhere near that high!

**[15:32] BS**

Finally,

**[15:34] BS**

I've added a present from me  
to your item storage.

**[15:38] BS**

Please see for yourselves.

**SIGN** Mirror

**[15:44] K**

Mirror?

**[15:51] K**

Klein?

**[16:04] KI**

You okay, Kirito?

**[16:05] K**

Y-Yeah...

**[16:08] K**

Who are you?

**[16:09] KI**

And who are you?

**[16:15] Players**

You're a guy?

**[16:16] Players**

You were lying about being seventeen?

**[16:18] K**

Which means...

**[16:20] K**

You're Kirito? You're Klein?

**[16:23] KI**

How?

**[16:24] K**

That scan...

**[16:26] K**

The NerveGear covers your entire head with a high-density signaling device.

**[16:30] K**

So it can see what your face looks like.

**[16:33] K**

But our height and body shape...

**[16:35] KI**

When we first used the NerveGear, it had us calibrate it, right?

**[16:39] KI**

You had to touch your body all over.

**[16:43] K**

O-Oh, right...

**[16:44] K**

That must be where it got the data.

**[16:46] KI**

But... But...

**[16:49] KI**

Why?

**[16:50] KI**

Why do all this, anyway?

**[16:53] K**

I'm sure he'll tell us.

**[16:55] BS**

Right now, you're probably wondering, "Why?"

**[16:59] BS**

Why would Kayaba Akihiko,

**[17:01] BS**

developer of Sword Art Online and the NerveGear, do all this?

**[17:06] BS**

My goal has already been achieved.

**[17:09] ---**

I created Sword Art Online for one reason...

**[17:13] ---**

To create this world and intervene in it.

**[17:17] K**

Kayaba...

**[17:18] BS**

And now, it is complete.

**[17:24] BS**

This ends the tutorial for the

official Sword Art Online launch.

**[17:31] BS**

Good luck, players.

**[18:08] K**

*This is real...*

**[18:12] K**

*The genius who created the NerveGear*

**[18:15] K**

*and created a completely virtual space,*

**[18:18] K**

*Kayaba Akihiko.*

**[18:20] K**

*I admired him, so I can tell...*

**[18:24] K**

*Everything he just said*

**[18:26] K**

*is true.*

**SIGN** This is a game, but it isn't something you play. —Sword Art Online Programmer Kayaba Akihiko

**[18:28] K**

*If I'll die in the game,*

**[18:30] K**

*I will die in real life!*

**[18:36] Girl**

No!

**[18:40] Players**

Screw you!

**[18:41] Players**

Let me out! Let me out of here!

**[18:43] Players**

I can't stay here...

I have a meeting after this!

**[18:45] Players**

What are you thinking?

**[18:49] Players**

Let us go!

**[18:51] Players**

Tell us it's a lie!

**[18:53] Players**

Someone!

**[18:54] Players**

Can't anyone do something?

**[18:57] K**

Come with me, Klein.

**[19:01] K**

Listen to me.

**[19:02] K**

I'm heading to the next village right now.

**[19:05] K**

Come with me.

**[19:07] K**

If what he said is true,

**[19:10] K**

the only way to survive in this world is by making yourself as strong as possible.

**[19:14] K**

The resources within a virtual MMORPG,

**[19:18] K**

in other words, the money and EXP we can earn, are limited.

**[19:22] K**

The fields surrounding the Town of Beginnings will soon be hunted clean.

**[19:27] K**

To do this efficiently,

**[19:28] K**

we should head to the next village now.

**[19:31] K**

I know all the paths and dangerous areas.

**[19:34] K**

Even at level 1, I can get there safely.

**[19:37] KI**

But... But you know...

**[19:41] KI**

I spent a whole night in line to buy this with my friends from the other game.

**[19:48] KI**

They're out there, in the plaza.

**[19:51] KI**

I can't leave them.

**[19:58] K**

*If it were just Klein...*

**[19:59] K**

*But two more...*

**[20:01] K**

*Or even one more...*

**[20:03] KI**

Sorry.

**[20:05] KI**

I can hardly ask you for anything else, can I?

**[20:09] KI**

So don't worry about it.

Go to the next village.

**[20:14] KI**

I used to run a guild in my last game.

**[20:18] KI**

I can use what you taught me to get by!

**[20:22] K**

All right.

**[20:24] K**

Then let's say goodbye here.

**[20:27] K**

If something happens, send me a message.

**[20:29] KI**

Will do.

**[20:31] K**

Okay, goodbye, Klein.

**[20:33] KI**

Kirito!

**[20:40] KI**

Hey...

**[20:41] KI**

Kirito.

**[20:43] KI**

You were actually pretty cute.

**[20:48] KI**

That's my type.

**[20:52] K**

And that unkempt face of yours  
suits you ten times better.

**[21:29] K**

*I'm... I'm...*

**[21:32] K**

*I'm going to survive...*

**[21:39] K**

*In this world!*

**SIGN** In the game's first month, 2000 died.

**SIGN** Floor 1 has yet to be cleared.

12/02/2022

**SIGN** Next Time: Beater

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