

April 4, 2019

Kodansha Comics announces digital release of Hikaru Nakamura's highly anticipated manga series *Saint Young Men*

Volume 1 of legendary manga about two friends—who happen to be Jesus Christ and Gautama Buddha—living in contemporary Tokyo goes on sale April 23

San Francisco, Calif. (April 4, 2019)—For the past two years, readers of Kodansha Comics's "digital-firsts" have gotten the jump on everything from the brand-new translation of *Battle Angel Alita* to new volumes of never-finished classics like *BECK* to the first appearance of current hits like *Tokyo Tarareba Girls* and *Grand Blue Dreaming*. Now "digital-first" debuts are back—and April will see the debut of one of the most talked-about and highly anticipated manga of recent years, Hikaru Nakamura's *Saint Young Men*.

Nakamura's sly comedy documents the everyday life of two not-so-ordinary young men sharing an apartment in modern-day Tokyo: Jesus Christ and Gautama Buddha. Long rumored for an official English-language release, the wait is now over: *Saint Young Men* is finally here in English.

Published in 16 volumes (and still ongoing) under the Japanese title *Seinto oniisan* in Japan, *Saint Young Men* goes on sale April 23, starting with Volume 1, and with subsequent volumes to be released monthly thereafter.

Volume 1 also features a specially-penned afterword by British Museum curator Nicole Coolidge Rousmaniere, who helped acquire pages from *Saint Young Men* for the British Museum's nascent *genga* collection.

"The success of our digital-firsts program allows us to continue building a rapidly expanding English-language manga library based on diversity of content, regular and quick releases, and commitment to completing series," said Alvin Lu, General Manager of Kodansha Advanced Media, the digital distribution arm of Kodansha Comics. "With our new debuts, each series will see one new volume published per month, until the series is completed or we catch up to the latest Japanese release."

Media interested in a digital Advance Reading Copy of Volume 1 of *Saint Young Men* for review or coverage purposes should contact Misaki Kido at pr@kodanshacomics.com.

Saint Young Men will be available on April 23 on all of Kodansha Comics's partner digital platforms, including Amazon Kindle, Apple Books, BookWalker, comiXology, Google Play, Kobo, MyAnimeList, and nook.

[More information about Kodansha Comics's "digital-first" initiative can be found here.](#)



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ABOUT KODANSHA

Kodansha Ltd. is Japan's leading publishing house, based in Tokyo, Japan. Founded in 1909, Kodansha Ltd. continues to this day to play a dominant role in media, producing books and magazines in a wide variety of genres including literature, fiction, nonfiction, children's, business, lifestyle, art, manga, fashion, and journalism. Recently, Kodansha Ltd. has focused on creating and developing a wide range of digital businesses.

Kodansha Comics is the English-language manga-publishing imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, which was established in New York City in 2008, with the publications of two of the most groundbreaking comics of all time: Katsuhiro Otomo's *Akira* and Shirow Masamune's *The Ghost in the Shell*. Other major manga hits from Kodansha Comics include *Sailor Moon*, *Attack on Titan*, and *Fairy Tail*. Kodansha Advanced Media is a digital-content distributor and producer established in San Francisco in 2015. More about Kodansha Comics at kodanshacomics.com.



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