



SAMURAI
KUSHUU

DO YOU HAIKU?



Samurai Kushuu is in the process of becoming a graphic novel!
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KAZUO

Glances are telling
the wind to be frightening
Tell it to hurry



SHIN

The weapon is made
by the person who wields it
Powerful challenge



HAYU

Cherry blossom day
though your beauty is fleeting
hearts do not forget



EIJI

Music enlightens
when mind becomes free of thought
Body can listen



KEI

Illumination
you turn on a light to see
your own self waiting

Samurai Kushuu is a series of five samurai illustrations and corresponding haiku poems. The name is directly inspired by the Japanese word "Kushuu," which means "a collection of haiku." A haiku is a short poem of 5, 7 and 5 syllables that is meant to capture a moment in time, a passing scene or emotion.

The Haiku for this series are composed in English, but the words have been abstracted to look like Japanese Kanji characters. In most cases, the letters are stacked vertically to try to fit into the "box" area that Japanese and Chinese characters conform to. (The artist apologizes for any over-abstractation that makes translating the word impossible).

The subjects of the haiku range from the traditional, with themes such as cherry blossoms and the warrior, to simple references to the individual and ideas of "self." In each case, the poetry is meant to hint at the personalities or personal struggles of the character being portrayed. Look, read, contemplate and enjoy!



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