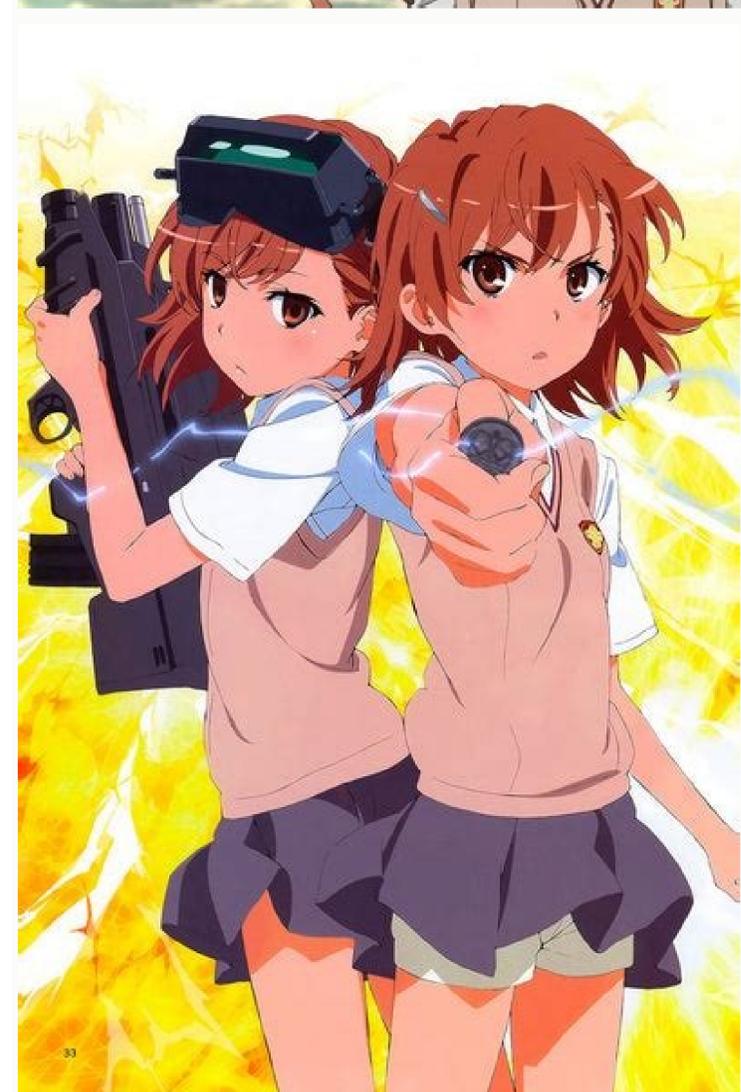


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Episode 3), when Touma meets Shokohu Misaki, he can't help but stare at her assets. Mikoto: Just now...I felt his gaze dropping thirty centimeters for a moment!! The anime really likes to point the camera straight at the female characters' assets. This even applies to serious, dark situations, such as during the Sisters Arc, where during Mikoto's attack on the facility that received data from the Tree Diagram, the camera is still pointed straight at Mikoto's posterior instead of showing what she's actually seeing (unlike the manga that actually showed the monitors she was looking at). Mama Bear: Kiyama Harumi, Professor Kiyama Harumi: I will do anything to save those children! Even if it involves making this entire city my enemy, I WON'T STOP!! Meaningful Name: Shirai Kuroko's name literally translates as "White-Well Black-Girl", a nice contrast that reflects her outwardly cute but inwardly perverted persona. Mikoto even points this out in Episode 2 before beating her senseless, shouting "I'm gonna fry you as black as your name!" Meido: Episode 19 has several, including a rather uncomfortable looking Mikoto and reveals that Academy City has a school dedicated to training them. Metallicar Syndrome: Averted, the fact that Harumi Kiyama drives a very distinct Lamborghini Gallardo helps considerably when they're trying to find her on traffic cameras since they recognize it immediately. Mirror Character: Kiyama and Mikoto. Both of them are good people who became cynical due to the fact those they loved were screwed by the corrupt Academy City administration (for Kiyama is was her students, for Mikoto her clone sisters) and both of them could not fight them as they were powerless against the administration. Though as shown in the "sequel" Index, Mikoto eventually grows out of said-bitterness. And thankfully both of them got their Happy Ending. Mission Control: Uiharu puts her computer skills to good use in Episode 3, watching the action through an extensive web of surveillance cameras and giving directions to the other three girls through their earpieces. Modesty Shorts: One of Mikoto's signature traits, much to Kuroko's dismay. This is also one of the ways Touma is able to tell if he's talking to Mikoto or one of the Sisters - by peeking up their skirt. Averted with Uiharu, despite Saten constantly flipping her skirt up. Mood Whiplash: Mikoto's side of the Sisters arc. Oh look, Mikoto is playing with some kids! Cut to her clone cleaning up a room filled with another dozen murdered MISAKAs. Isn't it adorable, seeing Mikoto and her clone behaving like real sisters? Then Misaka 9982 gets brutally murdered by Accelerator. The anime is more than the manga in this regard, since in addition to Mikoto's cute scenes, the plot also cuts to Saten, Uiharu, and Kuroko's Slice of Life antics in the middle of otherwise dramatic episodes. Actually averted in one specific instance: Episode 5 of Season 2 ends on a very dark cliffhanger, which would jar with the fun and upbeat ending theme. They solved that problem by simply not having an ending theme that episode. More Dakka: Episode 24 is filled with this trope. Kongou shoots down two armed helicopters by blasting a truck into them. Kuroko arms herself with an ammo belt of needles and spams them into the MAR mechs Grenade launchers. Mikoto fights against Therestina's Giant Mech. When coins can't penetrate the mech's armor, she summons Kuroko to send one of the mech's fist to her and use it to blow the mech to smithereens. Mikoto's Railgun versus Therestina's portable Railgun. When both blast their railguns which are equal in power, Mikoto overcomes Therestina by firing in full power and blasting her into a wall. Mundane Utility: My God, What Have I Done?: Two big examples: Dr. Harumi in Episode 11, when she realizes that the kids were just guinea pigs for Dr. Kihara's brutal experiments. Misaka in Episode 23, after she realizes that Therestina tricked her into giving the location of the children. Mikoto again in Episode 6 of Season 2, when she learns that the scientists who used her DNA simply cloned copies of her to die in battle against Accelerator, instead of helping others as they originally led her to believe. Mundanger: What made the tragedy of Professor Kiyama Harumi so easy to relate to for adult audiences is the very human fear in every mother that society would hurt, betray and take their beloved children away from them. This infuses her quest to save her students, extreme measures notwithstanding, with a sad and admirable nobility that you can't help but root for. N - Z Naked on Arrival: Misaka 9982, a perfect clone of Misaka Mikoto, is first seen when she emerges from the tank in which she was created, completely naked. Nice Job Breaking It, Hero: Mikoto gives some advice to Saten telling her that levels aren't important in life yet she is quietly offended by this since Mikoto's a Level 5 while she's a Level 0. Mikoto realizes the consequence of what she said when she learns Saten fell into a coma using Level Upper and the AIM Burst begins broadcasting the collective thoughts of all 10,000 Level Upper users: I just Want to Be Special. Mikoto led Therestina Kihara Lifeline straight to Harumi's lab and the Child Errors who are indirectly responsible for the Poltergeist incidents. As luck would have it, she takes after her grandfather just like his son did. Nobody Can Die: Subverted. While it seems ridiculous how many characters, even lowly mooks or extremely unethical mad scientists who are just begging for a Karmic Death, manage to get away with only being put in a coma for a few weeks, the series does show several innocent bystanders (and obviously the 10,031 Sisters killed by Accelerator) not managing to walk away with only a few cuts and bruises. No-Sell: The first Misaka sister seen fighting Accelerator onscreen in Episode 5 of Season 2 tries an experiment in which she sets off a landmine in an attempt to get through his barrier. While it does blow up, a few moments later he walks through unharmed. Mikoto attacks him shortly after the first sister battle in Episode 6 of Season 2. Like the sister, virtually all of her attacks have no effect on him, and its likely he would have just killed her right there were it not for her Plot Armor as well as the arrival of multiple sisters intervening and telling him not to attack her which would disrupt the experiment. Kamijou's Imagine Breaker stops coins traveling at 13000m/s, lightning bolts, remotely controlled iron sand shaped into the shape of a chainsaw-whip and even highly concentrated energy beams (as in essentially lasers) fired at him by Misaka Mikoto. It also negates any other supernatural ability, as seen when he's the only person who can punch the crap out of Accelerator, by negating his vector manipulation, or when Kuroko tries to teleport Kamijou out of the dorm but can't, because she can't teleport his hand, and she can only teleport entire people or objects. "Not So Different" Remark: During the Level Upper arc, Ruiko mentions that she can relate to those people using the level upper program to obtain Esper powers, since none of them have any natural ability to do it, just like her. Misaka gets a glimpse of their pain while fighting the AIM Burst creature. Obviously Evil: The researchers in charge of the Sisters program are implied to be fairly normal people who simply don't see the Sisters as being human. The analogy used is like sacrificing guinea pigs to cure cancer: You can do it because you don't believe you're committing murder, but rather making a small sacrifice for a greater good. A few of the researchers have better moral compasses, but they're outnumbered and powerless. It doesn't help the reason why they are trying to make a Level 6 in the first place is to further the plans of Aleister Crowley, the ultimate Big Bad of the entire Raildex verse. Offscreen Moment of Awesome: We don't get to see Kongou Mitsuko's rescue of Mikoto from the power armored MAR goon after Therestina knocks her out. But it's subverted in the next episode where we do see her powers and it was awesome! Oh, Crap!: Several characters have that look on their face, usually Kuroko or one of the Misaka sisters when fighting Accelerator. One-Man Army: Several characters attempt to take out various opponents by themselves, such as Shirai and especially Mikoto. Only Sane Woman: Yoshikawa berates her fellow scientists over wasting their time figuring out what type of panties Mikoto wear so they could make the Sister clones wear the same panties when they only need the cheap discount panties she bought for them. Even the Supercomputer Tree Diagram thought their idea was stupid. On a similar note Chapter 43 of the Railgun manga Lampshades Mikoto as "the only sane Level 5". Ojou: Most, if not all, of the Tokiwadai students are Ojous. Origins Episode: The arc following the "Jailbreaker" arc doesn't continue down the series timeline, but instead is set a year prior featuring Mikoto's first days at Tokiwadai Middle School. Our Dragons Are Different: When Touma's right arm is torn off by a Mikoto gradually transforming into a Level 6, eight dragons emerge and proceed to devour Mikoto's power, turning her back into a Level 5. Readers of Index will know about Touma having one dragon that emerges upon the loss of his right hand or right arm, apparently being sealed by Imagine Breaker, but this scene takes that further. Kimi, an esper, apparently has the power to manifest and control a dragon from her right arm. Said dragon appears to be one of the eight that emerged from Touma in the above incident, leading to speculation that she somehow trapped and controlled it. Power Perversion Potential: Kuroko has used her ability to spy on, take pictures of, cop a feel of, and even strip Misaka of her underwear. Yeah, the potential for teleportation's misuse has been touched upon. There is also Kuroko's reaction to being electrocuted by Misaka, but that is more to do with Kuroko than some of the uses of electricity. Konori uses her X-ray vision to peek under Kuroko's clothes while the latter is hospitalized in the third season. Granted, she's (ostensibly) only checking out Kuroko's injuries, but Kuroko's embarrassed reaction suggests the latter sees it as this trope. Konori's teasing smirk doesn't help. Psycho Lesbian: Fondling Mikoto in the shower? Yup. Taking stalker picture albums of her? Sure. Lacing her drinks with aphrodisiacs "Computer parts"? You bet! Punctuated! Fort! Emphasis!: "IT JUST SO HAPPENED! TO BE OUTSIDE!! THE PANEL!!!" Reading the Stage Directions Out Loud: The clones of Misaka from season two are talking this way.Sister 10031: "Your next partner for the experiment is me, Misaka 10031, reports to you." "Real-Place Background: Academy City is based on the towns of Tama Center and Tachikawa near Tokyo. The monorail that runs between them appears throughout, and many other landmarks are clearly recognizable. Re-Cut: The final episode of the third season will have an extended epilogue that will be released on Christmas Day on the 8th BD Volumes of the season. Red Shirt Army: The Misaka Sisters are treated like this. Made worse for Mikoto by how nonchalantly they accept their fate after she witnesses one of their gruesome deaths in Episodes 5 and 6. Required Spinoff Crossover: Mikoto running into Touma, which happens time to time before and during the events of the first and third novels. Since the Sisters arc is included in the manga, Accelerator also makes an appearance. Rescue Romance: Subverted. Touma's and Mikoto's first meeting has Touma trying to safely lead her away from another gang and unintentionally pissing her off with repeated references to her being just a brat while talking to the guys. Electricity ensues. Retcon: The events of the Level Upper arc in the anime took place two weeks before the 1st Index novel which the latest manga chapters confirms. In the 12th novel of Index Mikoto greets Uiharu with "You are Uiharu Kazari, right?" as if they had only met once or twice before. Odd considering that they spent the whole summer solving cases together. This was of course before the Railgun manga (and their adventures together) was published. In an omake in the 4th Volume of Railgun this is explained as Mikoto just having forgotten Uiharu's first name. The omake is even called "My friend's right consistency." Lampshaded. A Certain Scientific Railgun ch 56.5, in regards to the movie and the Endymion Space Elevator. Uiharu: The titular Endymion is the world's first space elevatior! It has been under construction since 3 years ago without the city revealing what its purpose is! It is a bridge connecting Earth to space! Saten: Oh, Hey, Uiharu. If it's been under construction for three years, then that ridiculously huge tower was already there when this manga began, right? Has it really been here all that time? Uiharu: What are you saying, of course it has. Did Mental Out mess with your memories? Saten: But it's never been drawn in the background before... Uiharu: It just so happened to be outside the panel. Saten: Don't you call this a retco -- Uiharu: IT JUST SO HAPPENED! TO BE OUTSIDE!!! THE PANEL!!! The Panel!!! O-Okay. Revision: More details are given about certain people in the novels without changing the plot much like how did Last Order gain human emotions, what lead to Amai's bankruptcy in the first place, the rivalry between Mugino and Mikoto, where Amata's behavior came from and the original creator of Capacity Down. Roaring Rampage of Revenge: In Episode 7 of season 2, while it takes place largely offscreen, and Misaka takes great stride not to actually kill anyone, she starts attacking labs that are responsible for the Sisters project, vowing to put an end to the apparent atrocities they've caused. Rubber Face: Kuroko does this to Uiharu in Episode 7 of Railgun S. Running Gag: Several including: Kuroko trying to get kinky with Mikoto and getting a beating by her. Saten flipping Uiharu's skirt to show her panties. Kuroko's punishments from the Dorm Supervisor. Mitsuko trying to be serious only to get Butt Monkeyed. Dr. Kiyama stripping in public. Uiharu gets two in the manga; being a semi-III girl who periodically wears a cough mask, and almost getting to enjoy a tasty treat (like a cake) before something comes up. Misaki teasing Mikoto every time she is with her, resulting in a petty fight between the two. While the first instance of this is not comedic, later ones are, especially after the Daihaseisai Arc. Scary Shiny Glasses: The Dorm Supervisor of Tokiwadai Dormitories. Also Mii Konori in the manga, especially around Kuroko's. Scissors Cuts Rock: During the Sisters Arc, Frenda Seivelun makes the mistake of underestimating Level 5 Electromaster Mikoto by using ceramic, the strongest insulator of electricity, against her. Unfortunately, however, ceramic doesn't take heat very well. School Festival: Episode 19. School Idol: Mikoto at Tokiwadai Middle School. Almost all the other girls at the school dress her as "Misaka-sama" and she's known as "Tokiwadai's Ace", Schrödinger's Cat: Used to explain why Espers are able to use their abilities. Screw the Rules, I'm Doing What's Right!: Misaka tends to do this a lot. Ruiko also utilizes this trope on Yomikawa after a Chekhov's Classroom lecture in Episode 14 about not giving up when the latter is hesitant to help and claims they need approval to do anything. Senseless Violins: Played straight by one of the Misaka clones in the manga. In the anime, all the Misaka clones heading to their respective "experiment" carry a cello-case containing a fully automatic rifle. Serious Business: In Railgun, a team of top scientists spending an entire omake chapter speculating on what kind of panties Mikoto wears under her shorts, even sending a special ops team in a (thwarted) attempt to steal them. In Episode 4 of season two, Misaka spends quite a bit of money to get a label pin of Gekota. 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