

HANDS TOGETHER

by

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A keyboard clicking

OPEN ON:

A dark screen with HTML codes. Gradually pulls into...

1 **INT. BEDROOM - DAY**

1

Computer Engineering student, Kurt(20) curly black hair, between a geek and a snack, sits in front his monitor.

Through his lenses you can see his swollen eyes. Looks like he's been up all night. His Iphone11 rings. A 360 degree movement round the student room as he talks on the phone. Excellence certificates on his wall, timetables, sticky notes...

KURT

Yeah bro...man I've been up coding all night...maza FET doesn't teach us much so I have to do all the practical's on my own... Nope sorry won't be able to. I have a website to build for one guy... No I'm not making excuses and you know outings isn't really my thing... Okay bro later.

(V.O) KURT

(V.O is in sync with his actions)

Yeah this is pretty much all about me, regular computer nerd, introvert, nothing interesting yes. But this isn't my story...okay technically it is, but its not just about me. It's about a people.

He hangs up. Scrolls through his phone and plays Kaki Mbere by Gasha through his Bluetooth woofer. Gets up from his chair, stretches. Dives to the bed and starts snoring.

FADE TO BLACK

The title appears in bold

- HANDS TOGETHER

2 **INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

2

Kurt is still asleep. His phone rings...

KURT

Yeah...I'll continue working on the website this night...

(MORE)

KURT (CONT'D)

Okay send me screenshots of the glitches... And you still have to complete my balance...

He hangs up. Reaches for his lenses and makes his way to the kitchen. All his pots are clean. Opens the fridge, bottles

Of juice and water, a few veggies. He stands conflicted.

Goes to the bathroom. His phone rings - **MR MVOGO**. He rejects the call

DISSOLVE TO:

3

INT. CITE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

3

Kurt steps out of his room and keys the door. He walks towards the exit

GIRL 1

Hmmm Kurt, you dey di cite so?

KURT

Hahaha yeah I'm here. I'm just always busy

GIRL 1

Finally there's no difference between you and those scammers...always on the computer. But they make more money than you

KURT

For real. I'll start charging them extra for websites...

His phone rings. He gives a quick glance and it reads MR MVOGO. He mutes the call

KURT (CONT'D)

I've not eaten all day. Let me go and get something to eat

GIRL 1

Nobi if you be get girlfriend now...

He laughs and hurries off as if he's avoiding the conversation.

4

EXT. STREETS OF DIRTY SOUTH - NIGHT

4

Kurt walks the streets with his air pods on. His phone rings - MR MVOGO. He ignores

(V.O) KURT

Okay, I know what you're thinking
and no, no, its not that. Its
someone who is trying to reconnect
with me after going ghost for
20years. I mean after all this
while, why bother again?

He walks into a local potato and egg restaurant

5

INT. P&E JOINT - NIGHT

5

To the lady cooking

KURT

Two plates, one potato, one dodo.
Much pepper in the eggs abeg

From his seat, he observes a taxi pullover in the crowded
street. Out comes two armed police officers. They do routine
searches and stop 3 young men(20s) whose looks scream
'scammer'

PERSPECTIVE CHANGES - TO THE GROUP

They ask for their IDs and check their phones

1 BOY

Chef wu nedi knack we keyboard

1 POLICE

No man for molyko di knack am...

They find something in one of their phones

1 POLICE (CONT'D)

Bitcoin wallet...

2 BOY

Na for ma crypto trading

POLICE

Okay. Send something for ma momo

2 BOY

I no get chef. De small way I get I
di go buy na chop now so

2 POLICE talks with the other boys

2 POLICE

We go carry ei go register ei name
for office...and da one bad. I di
see wuna like wise petit dem, jor
gerer we make ei end for here

1 BOY

Grand na say thing dem dey some way
now...jo put ya momo

2 POLICE

Confirm

They bump fists. 2 BOY is taken to the taxi. He sits between both officers in the back seat and they drive off...

PERSPECTIVE CHANGES - BACK TO P&E JOINT**LADY**

Even for quartier dey di worry
pikin dem...na which kind control
for night? We go well so? Hah! Boy
you di pay through MoMo or cash?

KURT

Give me your number...

6 **INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT**

6

The two plates of food are on the table. Kurt comes out of the kitchen with a bottle of juice and a large cup. Like a beast, he starts devouring the meal. A while after, a knock on the door. He wonders then opens up

KURT

Yes?

MAN

Your father sent me. He has been
trying to reach you, he wants me to
check if everything is fine.

KURT

Yes I'm good. I've just been busy.
I'll call him. Thanks.

He shuts his door.

7 **INT. OFFICE - NIGHT**

7

Mr Mvogo(40s), six star commissioner sits on his desk,
worried.

A knock on his door...

MR MVOGO

Entrez

Military fashion salute

MR MVOGO (CONT'D)

Repos

SERGEANT

La listes des officers au poste de
controle pour le mois

MR MVOGO

Bien. Il y a une bande des voyous
sur la route ces temps si. il faut
les corrige. Soyez assez stricte!
Qu'il reste chez eux, cest ce qu'il
voulait non.

SERGEANT

Oui mon commissaire

JUMP CUT TO:

8

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

8

Empty plates on the table. Kurt picks up his phone and dials
a number...

INTERCUT - PHONE CONVERSATION

KURT

Hello sir

MR MVOGO

(speaks with a french
accent)

Hello fils...I try calling you the
whole day

KURT

I was sleeping...

MR MVOGO

The whole day?

Kurt sighs.

MR MVOGO (CONT'D)

When are you coming to Douala?

KURT

I don't know yet...

MR MOGO

Tomorrow is Friday. I send you
money now. After school you come to
my office 17h

KURT

Okay sir

The police man examines all the IDs and calls the three boys to a corner

POLICE

(in a French accent)
 Make wu no waste time.wu do di
 thing directement,wuna enter motor
 continue.Wuna di press machine nor?

The two boys nod in affirmation. Kurt doesn't.

POLICE (CONT'D)

Good. Ei fine as wuna honest about
 am. Wuna gimme 50 - 50

BOY 1

Chef, we nova pick oh. We fit jo
 give you 50 now so. Ei bad

POLICE

50 comment? Add sep na 20 mil for
 dey.

BOY 2

Grand we di beg na beg. True true
 na all dat

He motions with his name requesting the money. Sends them away and turns his full attention to Kurt

POLICE

toi par ce que tu as l'ere petite
 ca ne veut pas dire que tu est
 innocent. Ta CNI?

Kurt pulls out his ID card from his bandolier bag. The officer examines it

POLICE (CONT'D)

We fit gerer the thing for here
 entre nous. If we go for back the
 money go double

KURT

Me I'm not a scammer

POLICE

Give me ya phone

Hands him his phone

POLICE (CONT'D)

You di even use na ll. We go for
 back

To the driver

POLICE (CONT'D)
Chauffeur you fit continue

Kurt stands perplexed as the car drives off.

12 **INT/EXT. POLICE BOX - DAY**

12

A different police officer scrolling through Kurts phone. Seemingly looking for something he is unable to find. While the other searches his bag and finds his school ID. He reads it out loud

POLICE
Computer Engineering. cest vous!!!

To his colleague Toi qui connait l'iphone ca te depasse?

To Kurt

POLICE (CONT'D)
Wuside ya calculator?

KURT
Mais c'est la-bas nor

POLICE
Tu pense que je suis bete? Vous avez l'autre ou vous chachez vos choses de scammer

POLICE 2
Gars il n'y a rien...

POLICE
Fouille bien les appli...

The police officer has found something. He shows it to his colleague who smiles

POLICE (CONT'D)
Voici ca nor

KURT
Bitcoin wallet?

POLICE 2
Vos choses de scammer

KURT
Non cest juste pour mes transactions de l'etranger

POLICE
Wow C'est bien. donne moi quelque chose

KURT

Je n'est pas d'argent. Et j'ai rien fait

POLICE

Tu veut trop parler? Don moi le code de ton mobile money. Tente de me donner un faux truc, je vais te tirer desus.

Kurt hesitates, but gives the code. They return his bag and phone. Send him out of the box

He checks his account balance. It's been emptied. Tears fill his eyes, he is raged. Turns back to the police officers

KURT

Now I have nothing left? How am I supposed to get to douala? And I didn't do anything

They burst into laughter

POLICE

Sort d'ici!!

KURT

You are supposed to protect the people but you are doing the exact opposite. Constantly stealing from us, even honest young people who have done nothing wrong. There's no difference between you and the others. All thieves...

The Police officer pulls out his pistol and fires twice at Kurt. One in the head, one in the chest.

13

EXT. CITE - NIGHT

13

Girl 1 is in getting her hair done by her friend. While manipulating her phone, she sees something and screams.

Gives the phone to her friend.

The article on a popular blog reads ;

YOUNG UNIVERSITY STUDENT, CARRYING BOMBS FROM BUEA TO DOUALA KILLED AFTER HE ATTACKED A MILITARY MAN AND TRIED TO ESCAPE.

Below it, is a picture of Kurt

(V.O)KURT

This is not just about me, its about a people.

END