

SUSPECT CHILD EXPLOITATION? REPORT IT.

A21.ORG/CANYOUSEEME

08000 121 700
MODERN SLAVERY HELPLINE
OR CALL THE POLICE ON 999

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION HAPPENS ONLINE TOO.

THERE'S HELP IF YOU NEED IT.

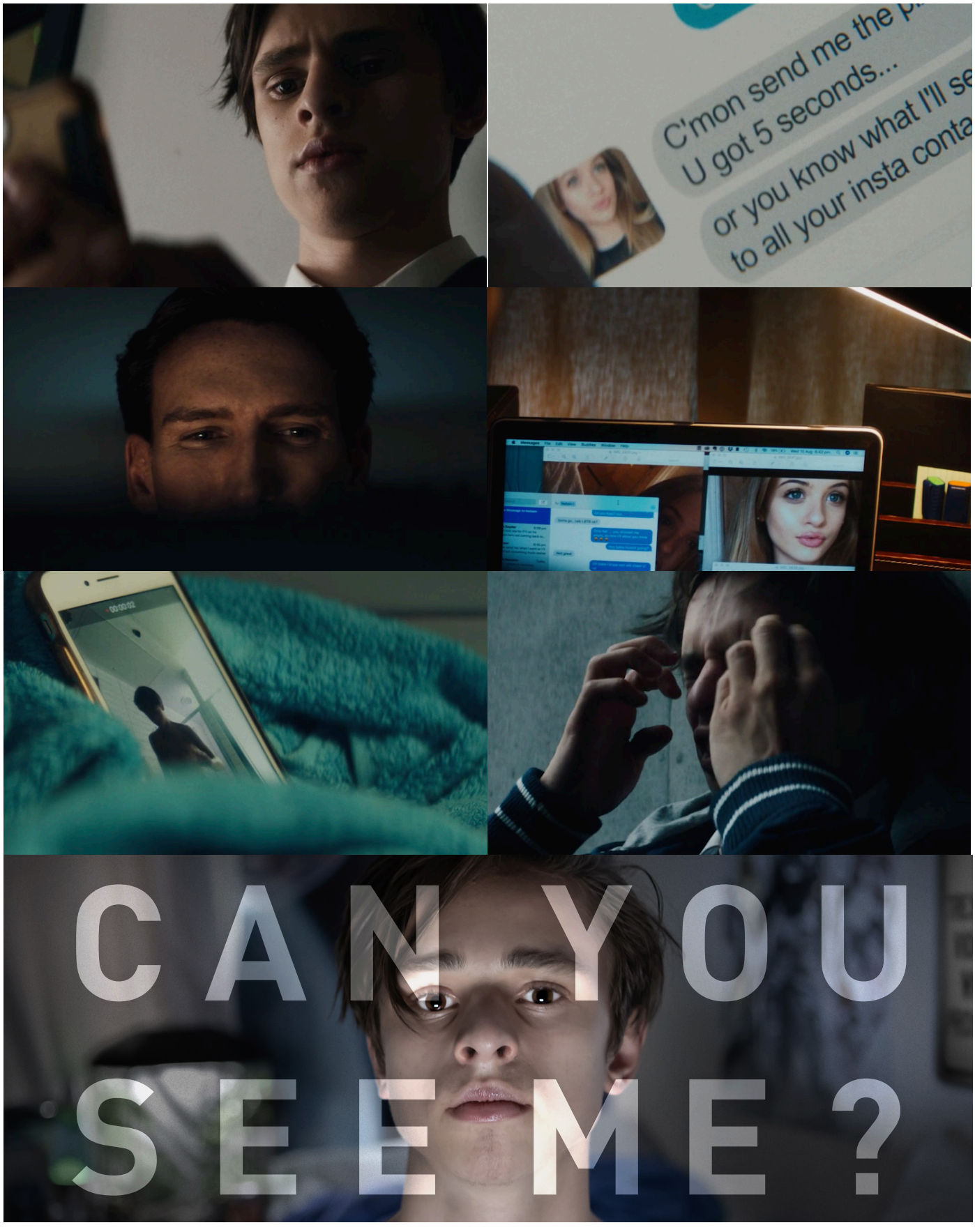
THE STORY

His first year at secondary school wasn't what he thought it would be. He felt like an outsider. No matter how hard he tried, he just didn't fit in. But when he was online and gaming he felt confident and relaxed. He was only 15 years old when he met Samantha (Sam) on the online game he was playing. They had loads in common and soon started chatting with her all the time. They exchanged numbers and soon were 'dating' online. Sam sent him some sexy photos and kept asking him to do the same. When Sam asked him to send a naked video, he didn't feel comfortable but he didn't want her to think he was lame - so he did. When Sam asked him for more pictures, he said no. That's when she started being really aggressive to him. She said he'd hurt her feelings and that if he didn't apologise and send more photos, she would send that video to his family and everyone at school. Sam sounded so different than before. He felt scared and so he just ignored her. But then she shared that video with his friends. Sam threatened that it would get worse unless he did exactly as she said. He felt so embarrassed and scared but he didn't know what to do or who could help him. He feels like it's all his own fault and just wants to disappear.

STOP. This is not your fault. Every day, children are being harassed and manipulated online here in the UK and throughout the world. Even if you get on really well with your online 'friend' and they seem really cool - remember you don't actually know who they are. They might not be telling you the truth.

If anyone asks you to do something you're uncomfortable with or starts threatening you online, **you do not have to do what they say.** Instead you should immediately ask for help from your family, teacher or someone you trust in real life. There are organisations who can help and support you in this situation. Even if you have already sent an image or video, there are people who can help.

info.uk@a21.org
@A21UK
/A21Campaign



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SAFETY TIPS

- When creating a username, avoid using your real name or even parts of your real name.
- Keep personal information private - never give out any private information such as the name of your school, sports team, address or phone number.
- Make sure your posts do not include any information that could be used to find where you live, where you go to school or who your family is.
- Learn how to block and report any account or person who makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Only accept online friends who you know in real life.
- Tell your parents (guardian or trusted person) about anything that makes you feel uncomfortable or suspicious.
- You can always speak to a teacher or you can even make a report online to CEOP through the CEOP safety centre. Search for 'CEOP make a report'.
- Remember, pictures are forever. So be careful about the type of picture you share online, even with your boyfriend/girlfriend. Think whether you would want that photo to be shared.
- Remember, once you give someone a private picture or video of yourself, you lose all control of where that picture or video goes.
- Even your 'hidden' and private photos and screenshots can easily be saved and shared, so make sure you understand all of the features on the apps you use.
- Tell someone if you have received a photo that includes inappropriate content or if someone is threatening you.
- Be careful of someone who wants to chat to you online who you don't know in real life - especially if they ask you personal questions. They may not be who they say they are.
- Don't engage in video chats or webcam activity with anyone you don't know in real life.
- Remember that the picture of that online friend can be fake and they could be lying about everything that they have told you.

REPORTING

If this or something similar to this has ever happened to you, do NOT be ashamed. This kind of exploitation is illegal and it is NOT your fault. You haven't done anything wrong. This person has likely done this to other people so reporting this can help stop this for you and for others.

- Report the person and the incident to the police by calling **999.**
- If you need to talk, you can call Childline on **0800 1111.** You can call for free and can remain anonymous.
- You can also make a report online through the CEOP Safety Centre. Search for 'CEOP make a report'.
- You can also contact the NSPCC by calling **0808 800 5000.**
- Only accept online friends who you know in real life.

Do not delete any texts, emails or pictures - give them to the police after reporting.

If you want more advice you can go to Thinkuknow.co.uk to find out more information.

While the online world can be a fun and exciting place, we need to be aware of the risks and dangers out there so we can protect ourselves and our friends.

Remember, you are not alone. There are many different organisations and professionals there to help.

To watch the Can You See Me? Video in full please go to **A21.ORG/CANYOUSEEME**

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