

"Tonho from the Future"

The Feature Short Challenge  
Newcastle Film Club  
written by

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INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

ANTONIO, male, mid 30's, dark short hair and with a moustache walks in the living room while a government announcement plays on TV.

TV ANNOUNCER

... and after all this time we  
discussed within the United Nations  
and decided to switch the internet  
back on, for the sake of...

ANTONIO interrupts the announcement by turning his video game on to play and sits concentrated in front of the TV. He plays for a while and gets stuck into a specific part of the video game he can't overcome to progress with the game.

EXT. BALCONY - NIGHT

ANTONIO is still playing inside, stuck in the same part of the video game. On the outside of his apartment an oval shaped and colorful portal opens, making a sudden drone sound and a constant buzzing after opening. ANTONIO is not much distracted by the sound, and the portal remains open.

EXT. BALCONY - EARLY MORNING

The portal is still there. ANTONIO comes out at the balcony and stares at the portal while sipping his *yerba mate*. His mom and dad are also not bothered by the portal appearance and go on with their lives sharing the *yerba mate*.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

ANTONIO is still stuck in the same part of the video game. The portal makes an increasingly higher pitched sound until TONHO, a person almost identical to ANTONIO, comes out of the portal. TONHO sits in the floor, trying to catch his breath and ANTONIO walks towards his direction.

EXT. BALCONY - MOMENTS LATER

TONHO slowly stand up to face ANTONIO.

ANTONIO

(in Brazilian Portuguese)  
Are you okay? Who are you?

TONHO  
(in English, harshly and  
in shock)  
The internet must not come back.

The two of them stare at each other and circle around a bit, studying each other. They slowly touch their index fingers.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

ANTONIO and TONHO are playing the video game together now. TONHO plays slightly better and is able overcome the part of the video game that ANTONIO was struggling before. They high-five each other and eat popcorn in the sofa. ANTONIO's parents stare in disbelief.

ANTONIO  
(in Brazilian Portuguese)  
Do you want some popcorn?

TONHO  
(confused)  
Huh?

ANTONIO  
(in English, with an  
accent)  
Popcorn??

TONHO smiles as he feel accepted by his new family.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

ANTONIO, in his pajamas, gets ready to sleep. He says good night to TONHO, who is now sleeping with him, and turns off the night lamp.

The bedroom door is slightly open and ANTONIO's mom looks inside surprised to see them sleeping together.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EARLY MORNING

TONHO is already awake, still in pajamas, standing, and staring very concentrated at the television. He is slowly shaking his head to the sides and murmuring a few words.

TONHO  
No, no, no, no.  
The internet must not...

ANTONIO, also still in his pajamas, is awake now too, walks behind TONHO ignoring him, walks outside to the balcony.

TONHO keeps staring at the television, which shows a bearded politician, in a suit, being interviewed.

POLITICIAN  
(in Brazilian Portuguese)  
... and we will not accept any  
interference with Brazil's  
sovereignty...

EXT. BALCONY - MOMENTS LATER

TONHO asks for ANTONIO's help. ANTONIO stops sipping his *yerba mate* to listen to him, but do not take it seriously.

TONHO  
We must stop the internet coming  
back on.

ANTONIO  
Stop, we stop? Internet is stop. No  
internet.

TONHO  
(annoyed)  
It cannot come back

ANTONIO  
(enthusiastically, in poor  
english)  
Yes, come back, internet come back!  
Zap zap, Youtube, Feicibook.

TONHO  
(desperate)  
No no no no...

ANTONIO  
(in Brazilian Portuguese)  
Ouch, whats the problem buddy?

TONHO breathes in and out and regains his confidence.

TONHO  
(in Brazilian Portuguese,  
with an English Accent)  
Internet não poder voltar,  
acreditar.

ANTONIO pats TONHO in the shoulder to calm him down.

ANTONIO  
 (in poor english)  
 I help, I help.

INT./EXT. CAR - DAY

ANTONIO drives TONHO to the local government office and they drive along a wall with a big "Errorist" graffiti. They are both wearing suits. TONHO is training his portuguese.

TONHO  
 (in poor portuguese)  
*The internet no come back.  
 Dangerosly very dangerously.*

ANTONIO  
 (in portuguese)  
 Very good. Very good.  
 Must not come back. Must not.

ANTONIO reflects a bit on what TONHO had just said.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)  
 Why? Why should the internet not  
 come back?

TONHO gets quiet for a moment, and his eyes become distant, like he is remembering a traumatic episode of his life. He closes his eyes.

BLACK SCREEN

A montage of notorius and iconic misinformation cases in Brazil, escalating into a civil war and an atomic bomb explosion.

BLACK SCREEN

TONHO comes back to himself, and very seriously explains the situation to ANTONIO.

TONHO  
 In the future, nothing grows, the  
 water is poisonous and our leaders  
 are mercenaries.

INT. GOVERNMENT BUILDING - DAY

ANTONIO and TONHO enter a wide, tall and lifeless government building. There are a few scupltures around, and some citizens waiting to have an audience with the governor.

After waiting for a few minutes watching the local news on a television on the waiting room their names are called.

CLERK  
(in portuguese)  
Antonio Augusto Pedroso, please,  
this way.

INT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE - DAY

TONHO sits in front of the GOVERNOR's table, while ANTONIO stands behind him. The GOVERNOR is finishing a phone call.

GOVERNOR  
(in portuguese)  
... you have to let the baby shit  
itself my friend, then you clean  
the shit, or buy a diaper, I don't  
know... ok... bye.

The GOVERNOR now stares at TONHO and signals with his head that he can now speak.

GOVERNOR (CONT'D)  
(in portuguese)  
Come on! Speak up. I don't have all  
day.

TONHO  
(in poor portuguese)  
*The internet not come back.*

ANTONIO  
(in portuguese,  
whispering)  
Must not, must not

TONHO  
(in portuguese, with an  
accent)  
The internet must not. Must not  
come back.

GOVERNOR  
(with sarcasm, in  
English)  
And why? Why my friend?  
(angry)  
Get the fuck out of my office.

TONHO

(switch to english)

Fake news and corruption will cause a war. A terrible war and we will all die. The lucky ones will die. The rest will suffer.

GOVERNOR

(angry, in portuguese)

Fuck off!

ANTONIO leaves first and looks back to see if TONHO is coming. TONHO is frustrated and hesitates, he tries to speak something else but the GOVERNOR is already in the phone again. TONHO leaves and the GOVERNOR talks on the phone again.

GOVERNOR (CONT'D)

(in plain english)

It happened again.

(...)

Yes Mr. President. Probably from the future.

(...)

Tonho. Tonho, from the future.

(...)

Yes Mr. President, I will send an Offline Police Squad.

(...)

Thank you Mr. President.

The GOVERNOR immediately start watching illegal TikToks on his phone after the call.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

ANTONIO and TONHO, in their pajamas, play video games together again in the couch. They are unworried.

Sudenly, a scream comes from the other side of the house. Police is here. TONHO quickly jumps from the couch to the balcony.

EXT. BALCONY - NIGHT

TONHO opens his portal, making a loud drone sound, followed by a constant buzz. He enters the portal, vanishing.

Police investigate the area where the portal was and leave.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

ANTONIO lies in bed alone, missing his buddy.

EXT. BALCONY - MORNING

ANTONIO sips his mate while crowds cheering and a lot of phone notification sounds and videos playing can be heard in a distance. ANTONIO stares at where the portal was.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

ANTONIO's parents are watching the news while ANTONIO, in his pajamas, yawning, hovers behind the couch standing to watch.

The GOVERNOR, on TV, announces that the internet is back. Immediately, ANTONIO's parents pick up their phones and a annoying combination of phone notifications play.

ANTONIO picks up the video game controller and turns the video game on to interrupt the announcement on TV, hopeful that his frind might come back to play with him.

END