

Alaa Shehada

Hold On

Bush Theatre Protest Series

Hello

Hello dad, good morning

What do you mean good morning? It's the evening here

No it's still early here. What's going on? Any news? Any work? Where are you?

At home. Guess where? In bed!

Where is my mother? Is she still wandering around?

No she is here

Yes son, hello

Good morning

Good evening

How about my father? Is he still getting angry?

No not these days

I told him to stay away from you

Of course. You're the one who fears him.

So you stay away from him and he stays away from you. Deal?

Okay

Has my father found any job?

What? In the golden days, he didn't. you think he will go now?! At the end of the day we say 'may god be with the people in Gaza'.

Tell me, is the army still in Jenin, or have they gone?

Sometimes they do.

Salam Hanna

Bro Alaa, how is it going?

All good how are you?

What do you want from me? Why do you pretend that you don't know what's happening here?

I mean, do you do anything? Any shows? Any activities? Do you perform?

Yes, I perform my problems to my partner, and she performs for me her problems

Do you want to immigrate?

Oh yes man

What will you do, working in London?

I don't know. Maybe be a postman? The land is very flat there. I don't know. I can also clean the cemeteries. The cemeteries there are much cleaner. No like ours.

Hello

Yes

Why didn't you answer my phone call?

I'm busy today

I call you every day and you never answer!

Of course I won't answer you. when will you make time for me? I'll make time for you. You are in London. I'm here alone and it's war. I don't know what will happen. And you don't care. Why shall I answer you?

Listen, calm down and let's talk wisely about it.

Talk wisely? On the phone!

Take a breath and let's solve this problem.

Take a breath! 'Take a breath' and 'yoga'! You're becoming like the Europeans. That's not how we solve the problem.

Calm down.

I want to go to sleep. Get out of my head.

What do you mean? Hello? Hello?

Salam Khalil.

Hello Alaa. How is it going?

Why don't you check on me?

Are you serious! You are living in London and I'm here! Oh, it's too painful to live here. May god keep you away from this pain. Okay hold on.

Where are you?

I'm on my way driving to my family.

Where?

In Hebron. Hold on, there are settlers all over the streets and they are stopping every car. Just hold on.

Where are the settlers? Where are they?

They are everywhere. They are taking people out of their cars. Just hold on!

Why don't you just go back?

What do you mean? I'm already stuck here. I can't go back

Go back to Ramallah

I can't! Hold on, hold on

Go back to Ramallah

Oh Alaa! You don't know where I am. You are not aware of where I am. I'm in the middle of...

[Gunshots]

Excuse me, sorry I've lost my dog have you seen him? Archie, little black – oh there he is, sorry, sorry. Archie! Archie

[Gunshots]

Credits:

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Video by: Alaa Aliabdallah 'Regash'

End slide reads:

Bush Theatre Protest Series

We believe the connection between art and protest is vital.

The Bush Theatre's Protest series is a platform for artists to shed light on injustices that persist in our world.
bushtheatre.co.uk/protest