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Simba *and* Dembi



My
YALI
FAMILY

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I am a "frizzy hair", not a "Flat nose"...

fighting against stigmatisations and the hate speech amongst the youth

Simba and Dembi are two long-time friends. They live together in a quiet village called DIMAKOUE. They attend the same school, play together and are inseparable.



One evening, Simba returns home from school late and his elder brother, Kankoue, worries to know the reason. He answers that he went to lunch at his friend's house. Kankoue asks him for the name of this friend.

-Kankoue: Dembi??! Ooh my boy you are gone! That friend of yours is of the "frizzy hair" ethnic group. Weh, you're gone.

Simba believes his elder brother and panics; he recalls the attitudes of his friend, who in his opinion are mystical strategies to take possession of his means to finally seize the entire country.

-Simba: I knew that his kindness to me was hiding something. Each time he shares his bread with me when I am hungry; plays football with me; lends me his pen when I lose mine; stays by my side when I have problems; aaah I now understand, he is trying to entice me. Fortunately we have understood their plan. They will not get us! We the "flat noses" as the superior ethnic group, are the most cunning!



Simba's mistrust now created a distance between the two boys. Dembi is confused because he does not understand the reason for the sudden distance kept between him and his friend. Any attempt to get closer to Simba is considered as an attempt to invade. Tired of trying in vain and desperate, Dembi decides to stay calm in his corner;



But Simba regards his friend's silence as a new form of threat against him and his tribe, the "flat noses";

This is too much !!!!

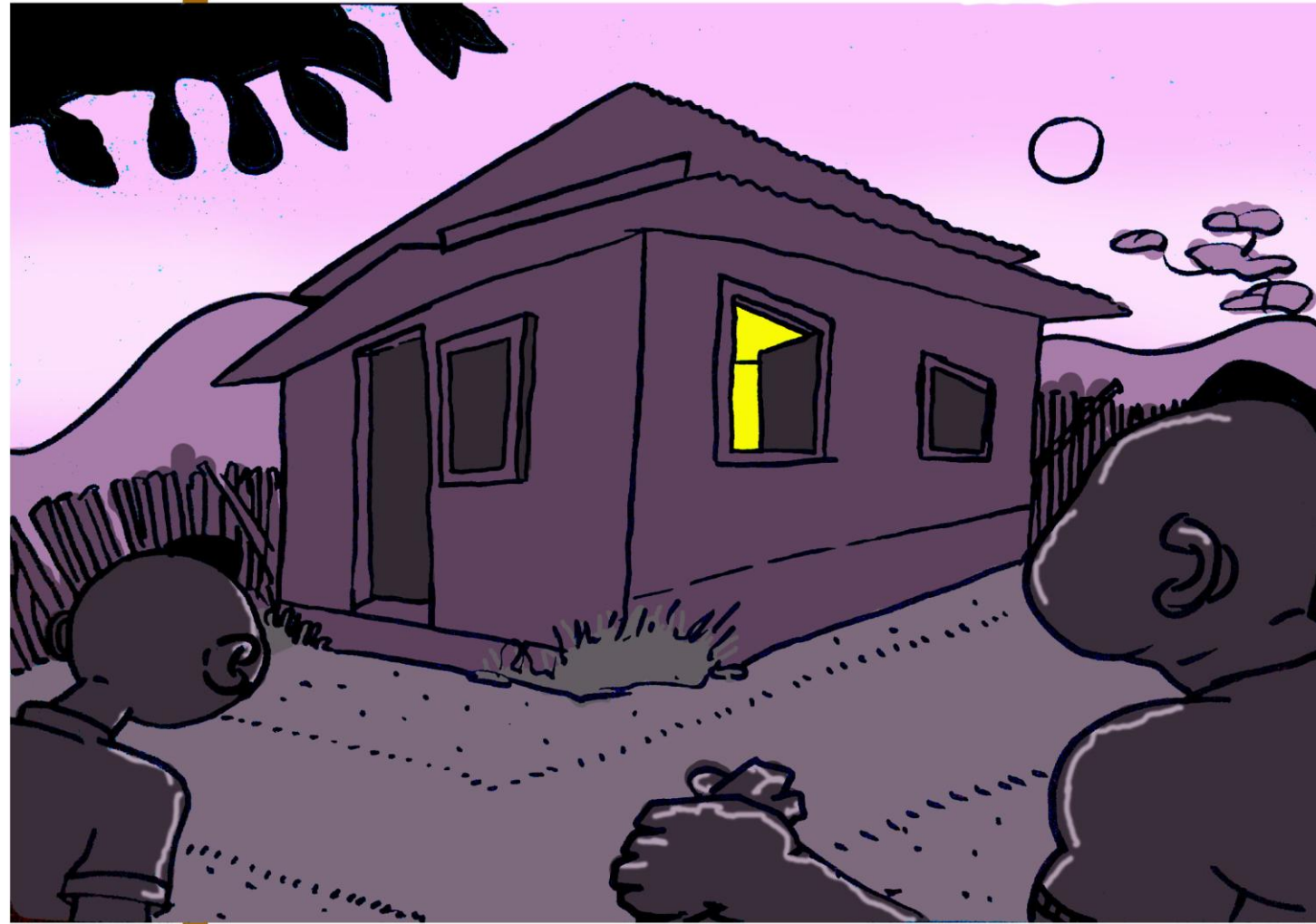
Mad with anger, Simba and his elder brother Kankoue decide to take the offensive side.



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he evening arrives. In the shadows, two figures slip into the courtyard of Dembi's house. They are close to one of the open windows of the house. They have something in their hands about to throw it into the house through the window when they immediately hear voices coming from inside the house. Kankoue freezes: he has just realized that the voices inside express themselves in a language that is familiar to him: it is his dialect, the language of the "Flat Noses". Sacrilege!

Exasperated, Simba's elder brother suspends his action and decides to enter the house to meet face-to-face with these invaders who allow themselves to speak his dialect. Simba tries to dissuade him, arguing that it might be another trap of these damn "frizzy hair" ethnic group to attract and charm them. Too late, Kankoue has already knocked on the door.



A few minutes later, the door opens and behold, a divinely beautiful face appears, the most beautiful in DIMAKOUE: it is Fadi, the elder sister of Dembi. In a singing voice, she greets Simba, whom she knows well and who has just appeared from the shadows behind his elder brother; with an angelic smile and in the dialect, she invites them to enter; what Kankoue did without hesitation, followed by Simba. Inside, Dembi's seated father invites them to join him. The two brothers sit down hesitantly. That's when the father informs them that he has heard their conversation behind the wall. He informs them that he is not of the "frizzy hair" ethnic group, but rather of the "flat nose", just like the two of them. Simba and Kankoue open their eyes wide in amazement. The father continues by stating that he gave the surname Dembi to his son in tribute to a benefactor of the "frizzy hair" ethnic group who adopted, raise and educated him in his youth. Simba and her elder Brother feel ashamed to have been carried away by prejudices. Head down and sheepish, Kankoue tries to explain:

S-imba's Father: my son, all ethnic groups in the world have in them good and less good virtues. However, the most important of all is our human condition that must prevail above all, and the solidarity, the love and the respect that we must have for each other in order to preserve social harmony and peace. Now, let's share this roasted corn, my children.



A few months later, Kankoue, Simba's elder brother, marries Fadi, Dembi's adopted big sister, from the "frizzy hair" ethnic group because she is the daughter of the father's benefactor.
The End





Cedric KENFACK TIOGO JOYA is a young Cameroonian Artist, Cartoonist and Creative Designer, Social Entrepreneur for Peace. Since 2008, Cedric KENFACK is using Cartoons to educate against the hate speech, intolerance, radicalization and violence among the youths in Africa.