

Claud with the Fraud

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Main characters:

Claud, a 15-year-old middle school boy

Maosn, a professional online scammer

Supporting character:

Olympia, a 15-year-old middle school girl, Claud's classmate

Setting:

Mainly in Claud's home, Hong Kong

CHAPTER 1. All that begins...

Claud had just finished his schoolwork and was surfing on a local online shopping website, Buyyy. Yet, that was a scam created by Maosn, a scammer who wanted to make Claud suffer from losses.

'Let me buy some new stationary from Buyyy!' Claud said. He then searched 'Cheap high-quality pens' and soon found a product saying '\$5 for 5 made-in-Japan pens!'. He was astonished by such a discount, and without a doubt, he bought 5 pens.

After he had received the pens for him, the bank statement arrived. Shockingly, a sum of \$55 was debited to his supplementary card account. After he dug in the statement, he found the pens actually cost him \$55. He immediately phoned the Customer Services of Buyyy for making a complaint. It turned out that, out of the sum of \$55, \$50 was for the transport fee. He then learnt that he should always pay attention to fees charged.



Buyyy

Made In Japan High Quality Pens!!!

Price: \$5

Free Delivery after \$500! Or else \$50 delivery fare.

(The words about delivery fare is too small so that Claud missed it)

CHAPTER 2. The Clownery

Now Claud knew how to avoid paying high transportation fees and so on. A few days later, he found out that a high-end headphone was being sold at \$73.5 on Buyyy. Though that was a pretty expensive one, he still bought it for its quality, because that headphone claimed to be a professional one used by the gamers. He then again bought it merrily.



Buyyy

Maison Headphones© Black High-End Headphone

Price \$73.50 (Free Delivery)

(The page Claud saw before purchasing)

A week later the headphone arrived. Yet it was now selling at \$39, which is like 50% off. Oof! He felt humiliated by the sellers and hence made a complaint to them again. Yet, the sellers told him he complained after the cool-down period and hence that was not successful. He had now realized that he should complain within the cool-down period, or he would result in loss of money. Staring at the ceiling, he sighed that he had been tricked again.



Buyyy

Maison Headphones© Black High-End Headphone

Price \$39.50 (\$5 Delivery)

(The page Claud saw when the headphone has arrived)

(The price is half of the original price)

CHAPTER 3. The Mask under 'Officially Verified'

After this incident, Claud knew the basics of how to prevent being defrauded. A few weeks later, he decided to buy a mouse for his Simpsang computer, and he went to another shopping website called 'Mason's Shop' (which was in fact another website created by the scammer) and found a perfect mouse. He then bought the mouse by only looking at the picture, without reading the product description at all.



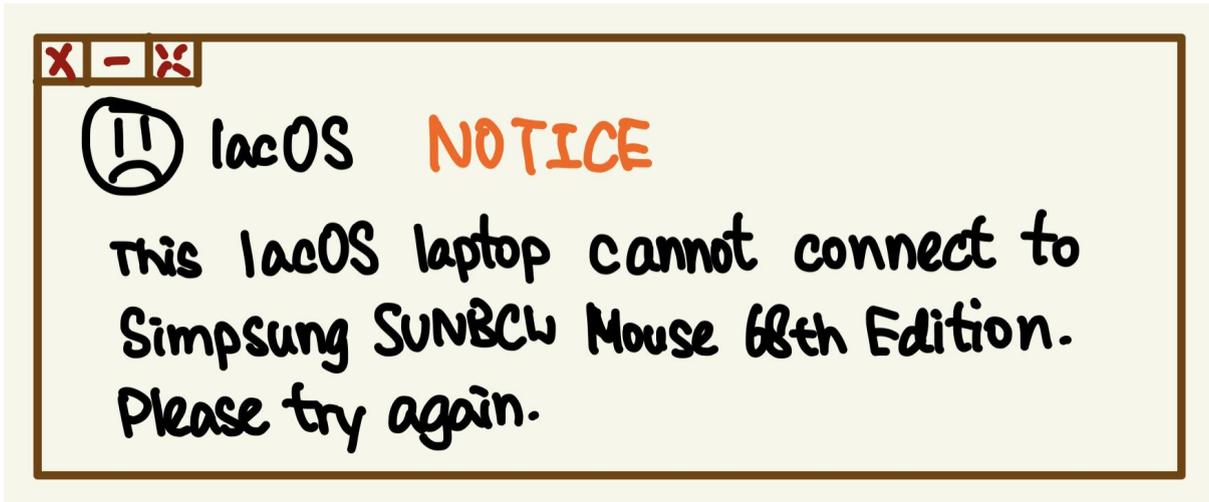
Simpasang® Super Useful Nice Beautiful Cool Wow Mouse

Price: \$420

(The Beautiful Simpsung Mouse that Claud saw)

A few days later, his mouse was delivered. Claud immediately charged the mouse and was looking forward to using it. 'Ding!' The mouse has completely charged. Yet, Claud soon found out that the mouse cannot be connected to his computer via Bluetooth! He was very angry and contacted the after-sales service.

'Hey why I cannot connect my mouse to my computer? It costs me more than two hundred dollars and I cannot use it??' Claud yelled furiously. The Helper then replied, 'What Operating System your computer is running? If it's lacOS, sorry our mouse can only be used with Windows devices!'



(The notice that pops out from Claud's computer shows that his laptop cannot connect to the mouse)

Claud found out that he had been tricked for the third time. He just smashed the mouse and burst into tears but others thought he was a psycho.

(Chat Record between Claud and his classmate Olympia after Claud found out that



he has been scammed again)

Chapter 4. The Great Fraud

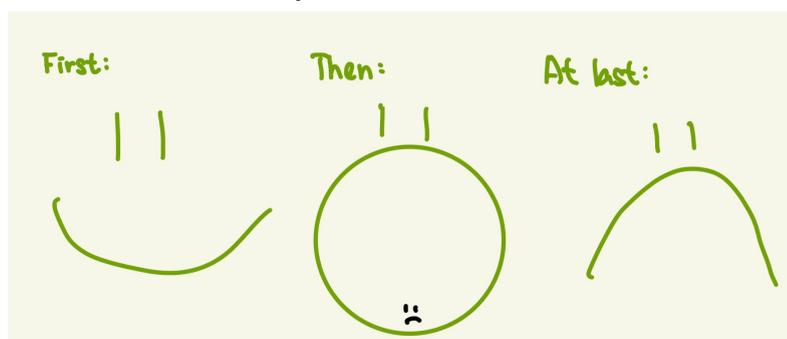
After the previous three incidents, Claud became much more cautious than before when in online shopping. However, a great fraud was prepared for him...

Maosn, the professional hacker, noticed that Claud became more cautious after being cheated in the three successful frauds. Yet, he had proposed a great plan to get a great fortune from Claud. Therefore, he prepared a counterfeit Orange website to make Claud take the bait.

Claud needed to buy a new Orange laptop so he clicked into the Orange website (which was counterfeit). However, it looked so real that he couldn't distinguish the real and the counterfeit one. All things were almost identical! Therefore, without a doubt, he entered and decided to buy the latest lacBook Ground.

All of a sudden, his best friend, Olympia, just boisapped him, 'Hey are you going to shop online 🤦🏻‍♂️ Be careful ah 😞', but he ignored her advices as he thought he was not likely to be cheated through the 'real' Orange website. He happily bought one lacBook Ground.

A week later, he still could not receive his delivery. He then dialled to the real Orange Customers Services, but soon know that his 'confirmation number' was fake and realized he was cheated again. He should have paid more attention to websites.



(The emotional change of Claud after being scammed again and again)

Chapter 5. Aftermath

After the great scam, Claud had now learned many methods to avoid being scammed:

- Pay attention to the fees charged
- Read product description carefully
- Refund (if necessary) within the cool-down period
- Notice the capability of the product you are buying
- Check whether the website is trustworthy (even it seems to be official one)

Overall, Claud has learnt many things from these scams recently, he promised that he must be really careful while purchasing items. Also he won't purchase things from the website which is not official because it is likely to be a scam.

Years after the great scam, Claud had not been scammed by any company, and he was working for an Information Security Company. His nickname was then not 'Claud with the Fraud'!

-END-

Thanks for reading our story!