# Audio file

[Interview With Bhan Riek 5/4/2024](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

# [Transcript](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[All right, we're about ready to start. Hi, guys. My name is Nyameer Puok. I am a student of Doctor Barbara Robbins and her field research studies class. And we are, I am currently work designed. I designed this page of the OER. On refuge. Please and I thought I would get more interviews for you to listen to and get a better perspective on the effects of war. In the podcast we have the experiences of war directly and the experiences of war indirectly, so I thought I'd get the viewpoint of someone who has both sides. Who has went through both sides of that with parents and experiencing war in a different country, sitting here with my brother Bhan Riek. He's 39 years old. So yeah, let's get started. If you wanted to do an introduction, say a little bit about yourself.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hello everybody I'm Bhan Riek. Nyameer’s eldest brother, as she mentioned already, I'm 39 years old. Thanks for having me.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Alright, awesome. So why don't you tell us a little bit about your experiences before you felt the effects of war and where that area was from? I know, as your sister from South Sudan, but can you tell us what life was like before war started there?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Uh, yes. Let me go back to my earliest memory. It was one of my core memories. It was the Nile River. Back then and some people still practice it now. Of course, the country was Sudan then, but it's since split into Sudan and South Sudan anyway, so there was a tradition where if you wanted your child to learn how to swim. You take them to a body of water. Usually it's the Nile river, because that's the largest one we had over there. There are several other ones like the Sobat River, but the Nile is where we live by then you take your child and you just place them in the water and they learn how to swim. Sometimes the parents would use tough love to get them to learn quickly, so they would.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Throw the child in the river. Obviously not too far, but just enough to where they figure out how to swim real quick, long enough to be able. To swim, make it to. So that's my earliest one being thrown. I remember hitting the water. I held my breath. I opened my eyes and I remembered the murky water, and I just kind of sat there for. A minute like. Wow. You know my wonder of the world as a child, if you will. And then of course, my dad grabbed me out of the water. And I remember him laughing about it. Those were the more peaceful times I remember. And then of course. There was moments where there would be a lot of chaos, but at that age you don't really understand what's going on. One minute there you're with adults and next minute you're moving somewhere. And just like in that show with the dog Snoopy, Charlie Brown.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[There's always this scene where there's the adults are just long legs and they're going ‘wah, wah, wah, wah’. So imagine that, except instead of saying wow, it's like frantic ‘Wah Wah Wah’ and legs running everywhere and being scooped up and gone.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[So was this. Before the war started, or was it?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[This was like the progression of realizing that there was war happening because, you know at that.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Oh.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Age. What is war? You know what? I mean so then. We moved to. I remember it was Khartoum. That's when I started realizing there was something very wrong and that there actually was war. Khartoum was the capital of Sudan when it was still a united country and of course, Sudan. Is a Muslim country, so we being Christians.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Mm-hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[We moved over there. We were ostracized and persecuted still. So I remember I was kind of like an outcast child, if you will. My family, at least my siblings and my mother included, were half and half on both sides of the conflict. So beginning with my granddad. One granddad was Muslim, the other was Christian. My father's side was Christian. Mother side was Muslim. But we lived in the Muslim community. Sorry. We lived in a Christian community. I said that right, Granddad on one side, Christian the other. OK, is that which is so Long story short, even though we were within the Christian community because of the conflict.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Were still ostracized. As a result, I didn't really have playmates, if you will. You know, parents kept their children away, like, oh, we don't talk to you, but he's he's he's, he's, he's and he's still their father is a Muslim or their grandfather is a Muslim, you know, just horrible things you would expect of war. And my adjustment was I just. I had a puppy.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[A Christian.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[He would always play with this. He was my best friend. My sister was my best friend. But. She was being taught how to be a woman from a young age.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Which and things like that. So I'd often find myself alone. And so it just be me and my puppy relaxing, walking the dusty streets of cartoon, watching people go by, looking at cars, wondering how how those things work. So then one day I was cornered by. This one girl, she had a hijab on. And when our siblings so they there's a game kids playing in Africa where you roll a tire. So they took the tire and they thought it'd be funny to roll over my puppy. And so as soon as I heard my puppy squeak. Oh, I lost it. So I pounced on her. I.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Oh.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Give her a few shots. You know I don't condone violence, but you know, as a kid, you know, it's your best friend. Her brother jumps in. I gave them these hands too, if you will. The other sibling came in. I gave him peace of my mind as. Well. Their father stepped in and their father was a police officer, Muslim police officer from the North mine, just so he knew of who all was in the area. He grabbed me by the collar, picks me up and you?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Mm-hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[And I I remember looking at his face. I still remember the mustache he had in his, like, 5:00 Shadow. And I was like, ohh, there's no way I'll be able to take this guy on and he throws me inside the gate. He gets the big one of the biggest picks I've ever seen. And he says let me show you what we do to Christians. And then he never.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Needs to yes, he proceeds to beat. The living mess out of my shin. It's like. And I was I wanted to cry so bad. You know my child. But the anger took over me. I was like, you're doing this to me because I was helping my puppy. And I'm a. Christian. And that's at that moment, I think that's when I realized that, yes, we this is what war is, if you will.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[OK. So was this. Conflict about Christianity and Islam, OK?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah. Yeah, it was a. It was a religious war. Quick historical background. During the colonial times, the British Empire favored the north for many. Reasons part of it is because it was relatively easy to develop very dry land grasslands. At worse, you know, it doesn't really rain too much, had a big river, you know, it had deep history because Sudan actually has the most amount of pyramids. People think of Egypt when they think pyramids. I don't know. Sudan is where they're at. So anyways, it was easy to administer. The British Empire had a history. The with the Muslim empires from the past, you know, go back, look at. The Crusades, some of the negotiations that they were made by the European countries and Muslim powers, so all of that factored in. Luck was favoring the north, the South at the time we were converting to Christianity, but some people still held on to animaist beliefs. Of course, there we were, pastoral, so we didn't stay in one spot, which is very difficult for anybody trying to administer a a city. People kept keep moving. You can't get the census and taxation. Forget it. They can't get any workers. And then the the the weather was just very, very. As one Colonel told me back in the day. Very terrible. And this is season veteran. He hated it. For one, it always rained. You never know when it's going to stop. It flooded when they wanted to.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[You have the wild animals to contend with and then on top of it there are the area we lived in or historically lived in is 200 miles of swampland. So imagine moving.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Lots of people and equipment, it's it's a nightmare. So the British just didn't want to mess with it. Naturally, the north, who are Muslims developed faster. Obviously they've had their, they had their conflict with the British because British were Christians. So after the Brits left. All of that. You know, it's pretty much a powder kit, you know, waiting to be ignited. And that's what happened. So the north tried to go to through a process of arabizing the South and turning them into Muslims. And of course, that's where the content. Turn it started. Yeah, you can say right? When the Brits left, but it was something that was off and on for hundreds of years. Probably even well before Islam and Christianity was established. It's just it had a snowball effect.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)** [So when our family went, where were they staying before they went to Khartoum?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Ohh, before they went to Khartoum we were staying in Nasir. Which is where. Mama and Baba, our parents, they met our grandparents on baby's. I'd met in Nasir](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[And actually on Mama's side, the grandfather, he was a high-ranking officer who was Muslim. And he I'll tell you this real quick, he was given an order to go destroy.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[A village that's not converting to Islam. That was what he was supposed to do. So he shows. Up. Sees my grandmother. They fall in love, and here we are today. So. So that's we've always been around not set area. Except of course, for Grandpa and Momma's side. He's from the north. I want to say they go by the Bogata tribe. They're they're new.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Here we are today!](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[They're called Luba, but they're some of them consider themselves Arabs, so we call. Them Arabs as. Well, so then from Nasir to Malakal. Malakai is right at the border of of the North and South, very. Very strategic location for the military and also for for business and trade. It's a big trade route. The river is right there. It's right when it's transforming from. Terrible weather land into dry land, so the land is very forgiving and that's actually where I was born. It was on one of the military outposts by the Nile River. Yep. So we lived? Yep. So we lived there for a little bit.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Ohh I didn't even know that. That's really interesting.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[You know, of course, as the war, everybody was. Was a freedom fighter or guerrilla or everybody contributed to the war. There was no. There was no way nobody could do it. You know, you had to. That was his survival at that point. So Baba.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Took us from Malakal. It was a military post. Granted it was secure, but still it kept getting attacked and he needed to go to school. Also. Investment in school is always a good thing. It's kind of where we get it from too so.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Right, right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

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[Baba would. Travel. Then one day he actually. He travelled. He gave up his plane plane seat to somebody when the plane crashed. Yeah. So he took that as a cue to leave. Malakal. And then this this from from what I've been able to get from the aunties because I'm I want to know our history too. So from there then Khartoum and then that's where. That incident occurred where I understood. Oh, we're at war yet? That was the first one. And then.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Their first insistence of war, OK. Yeah. So I mean with even with these experiences where you? Woke up to war. Basically. Did mom and baby try to explain their reasoning behind moving the family from Malakal to Khartoum or what was going around? Was there any type of explanation to you and Buk about what was happening at the time?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[The the way they explained it because you know you you got to explain it to a child and the way the child understands it. Is they would always. Presented from. The religious point of view.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Like God is going to help us through this, which ended up being true. Or. Things will get better. That's what Baba would always say. And his word always delivered, no matter how tough he it gets. I remember. He'd always say. You know things will be. I remember one time we were going there was by the river and the water was just murky and we didn't want to touch it where kids were like, oh, that's nasty. And then I was like, well, you need to drink water. He's like, how about this? Why don't you pretend that it's a tea with milk, a very popular drink?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[So and then you know where kids were like, whoa, mind blown tea with milk? Of course. So. So just little things like that. Their their narrative was they would, they wouldn't. It's not that they would shelter us from it, but they would use the language that made it. Less traumatic if that makes sense. So that's that's kind of how they guided us. And then of course, just because we're children. Didn't mean we. Couldn't help out matter of fact, the young boys were expected normally around the age of five. You go through some sort of military.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Training so you get taught things.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Like how to toughen up like one. One thing to do is they'd be food cooked and they'd be hot and you expect it to down a quick not because there's not because you know you're in particular danger at that moment. But it teaches you, like, hey, when it's good time, you got to even go. It is also very common practice. When I found out years later. When I joined the military, you down your food quick. And focus on the mission. And then then then as you get stronger, you get top weapons. You start with a knife.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[How to wield it? How to sharpen it and then after a knife, you move up to bigger things, and if you're strong enough, you get a firearm. I remember my very first one. It was.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Mm-hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[A pistol.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Oh, wow. How old were you there?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yes. Oh my gosh. This was in Khartoum, so it would have to be what? From ‘85. Between 5 and 6.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[You had five and six and you were issued.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Between 5 and 6? Yes, because 91 to 90s. When we started going to Egypt, this was in cartoon. So it was before before that time. So it put me at about what? So it was.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[A pistol. Wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah, about 5 and 6. So between 1990 and 1991, I hated it. Oh, my gosh. I hate it. It was.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[5 and 6, Goodness.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Heavy and we're in the desert, so it's hot. It burned my hand. Then I try to pull it. It's like a bang.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[And did Mama and Baba sort of like, have this expectation that? You would be.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah. Yep, Yep, Yep.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Trained with your peers. And so I mean, what were mama's reservations about you having a pistol?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[They everybody was contributing like right now. If you go, yes, if you go right now in South Sudan this 2024, right. At any given moment in time, from the conflict that ended in what, 2005 from for that particular conflict, you would have that you'd be surrounded by at least the. At least the the whoever the group that surrounds you, would be composed of at least 88% war veterans, no matter the age.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Oh wow. OK.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Obviously the babies. Yeah, but so everybody had to contribute. I remember one uncle. His training for me, if you. Will. Was he was like. He wasn't a witch doctor, but he knew local medicine and he kept skulls and the skeletons of, you know, people, victims, whatever it was. And that used to scare me to death. If I saw the skull, I would run away. And they're like, don't be scared. You know, I'm a kid. I'm shaking. Like, is this normal?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM. MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[But anyway, yeah, so. That was their expectation, not because, you know, I had to do it, but because it's a matter of survival. We have to survive at that.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[That's fair.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[That's. So that's why. And it was it was bad.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[What? Years. What? What? What year was this? Like so, when you moved to Khartoum, what year was that?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Khartoum would have been what? Between. Before 91, 92, for sure. Yeah. So it put me at late 80s, yeah.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Before 91,92. Late 80s, OK. And then you we went to ,or the family went to Egypt.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Several times, several times. The first time I remember. And of course it might have been. It might have been. Maybe after the first few times, but we were we took a boat.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[I think it was Port Sudan. Though is it the Red Sea?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[I think so. I'm not very good with the geography.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[I I want to say it's the.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Red Sea.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Let's look it up real quick, yeah.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[In fact, check myself, hold on one second. I want to say it's the Red Sea. But you know I. Don't really look it up too much. Yes, Red Sea. So we took a book from Red Sea and along the way we pick up stragglers, soldiers that will have their units destroyed. And I mean, these were young teenage boys looking back now and they'd be like one or two. Some would be injured and they'd enter the boat.And Mama was like the equivalent of the nurse because there wasn't any doctors around like that. And she treated them. And not always, you know, they'd always.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Try to encourage us and stuff like hey kid you. Know. Don't don't let don't you know. We kind of lost this little battle. It's OK. We're going to win. And they were like they were all about it. I mean, they were injured. Some of them are bandages that like, don't.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Worry kid, we. Got you. You know, so we took that, then we came back several times from what I remember to Khartoum.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Uhm, and I remember one time. We somehow got split up. I don't know. I don't know the the exact details about how it happened, but I remember it was Mama, Baba, Nyanchiew, Me and Guamar. By this time, Guamar was. Born. And somehow Baba was able to find taxis first. I remember there was a train we were taking.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Then we were in the Sahara desert and we would take taxis, so we'd go to a town, get another taxi, another town. Looking back, that was really risky, even by today's standards. If you try some because some people still use that method, oftentimes what will happen is you can get robbed, all your documents get taken, your money, or some people, for whatever reason, sometimes racism, sometimes frustration that immigrants, the narrative, all immigrants.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm. Mm-hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[All taking the jobs, yes, that actually exists outside the US to xenophobia. Is. Unfortunately, a reality many. People lived through. But somehow Bob was able to pull it off and we ended up in Egypt. Before you know it.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Oh, wow. So and then that was 91.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah. Yep. That would have been what, 91? Nyaduar was born when.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[91 and she's her birth is May 15th, 91.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yep, Yep. That would have been it 91. Yep. So yeah, round 91.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[From my recollections of Obama tells us about the experiences that you guys had before we went to the refugee camps where I was born, naira.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Mm-hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[He was that him and Mama were separated at the time. The time that you were stayed in Egypt. Where was he? Like I. What? What was he doing? Was he fighting the war or was he incarcerated or?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yes. Baba was part of the war effort like everybody. Same with Mama. So.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK. MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Ideally, when when you're with the your soul mate, the person you love, you always want to stay together, but because of war and also because of cultural and traditional limitations, oftentimes the only way that they could be the most effective to for their family and community was to split. Mama was very knowledgeable and you probably know she has all of these quirky remedies. Like what? How did you? How does that work? You know? So she was the go to person and she has a she. She doesn't back down. She was not scared of anybody. So people would always go to her because she was very. Very charismatic, had a lot of technical expertise and she was good with, you know, keeping the spirit. So. Babo was highly educated. He knew the law. He somehow knew how to get around like I just gave the example so he would go. Help out in the war effort and he was the most effective. In a role that wasn't limited to being a regimented following ranked soldier, that's the initial route he wanted.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[But you know, they say behind every great man, is he even greater a woman? Mama advised him and she said, you know what she's like. OK, you can go. But what are you going to do with me and our daughter at the time? This was before I was born. So you. Know. Baba being, I imagine the romantic nine years. Like I'll stay for my wife and daughter and it turns out that's actually where he was most effective at, so he would contribute. He didn't get into details, but I do remember one time him and his his group of fellows, they got arrested. For. They were fighting the Muslim Brotherhood. They were part of the mix. Obviously Islam, Muslim Brotherhood. So they somehow got him arrested, got him convicted on the wrong charges and they were detained for, Oh my goodness. We don't. I don't remember. I just remember Mama was always stressed about it. Then one day they were released. Just like that. Just randomly they got.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Oh wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[The wrong people.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Ohh wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[So that's kind of why they were always split up is the war was. Their roles in the war, had they had to split up. Oftentimes they didn't want to, but they.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Had to so I'm getting a clearer picture of kind of what your childhood was shaped like by the effects of the religious conflict in Sudan. Can you paint, What it was when you first came to America, ones. I mean, technically, you were labeled as a refugee. Yeah. What was that feeling like going coming out of a place where there was all the trauma, a lot of fighting, a lot of horrors and things like that.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[You know, for I can't speak for everyone, and maybe it's because of my background.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Can you explain your background a little bit more?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[It was. OK, so going back to the two grandfathers that has always been a narrative of mine to this very day. If I choose one side or the other, that automatically meant I'm fighting the other side that's composed of family. If if I wanted to blend in, I couldn't. Somebody would always call me out. All you're Christian or you're Muslim? It almost. It was almost guaranteed. So every so often I'd have memorable childhood friends that I that I'd hang out with. My earliest one was this one guy from the North. Wanna say Yusuf? He used to stop by at the house. He. Knew. Where? Christian, he'd stop by at the house and he'd be like, hey, if if I like to mom in urban and we plan we talk, you know, like little children. And he'd always tell me like. Excuse me? He'd always say don't. Don't worry, brother. You know everything is good. I didn't think. I didn't think that memory would hit me.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[No, it's fine. No, that's fine.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Like that but. I still remember. And one game we'd play is we'd always try to like. Catch the because you know they've farmed doves and pigeons over there, so we'd always try to catch them and take them back to their owners. And, you know, they'd give us candy or whatever. But that's that's one. And then in the refugee camps. Same thing happened. So one of my friends was he was an actual child soldier who got caught. He the reason he got caught is he was really young man. This guy couldn't have been 6-7 years old.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Ohh wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Small kid and I'd never get picked for. I already knew it. I already knew what I'd show up to the game. I'm probably going to get picked last or not at all, so I'd always like, yeah, I'll just watch them play. Maybe I'll kick. The ball when? It goes out of. Bounds. So then there's this kid and he's smelled bad. His shirt was torn. So I'd hang out with them, and at the time. When you have to use the bathroom, you have to go out in the woods far. We always stress cleanliness, but in the wild there's animals, so you always go in pairs. You can't go by yourself. Is too risky if if one of y'all get caught, the other can go get help.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK. MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[So. Looking back and pardon the graphic nature. Of this but. You know when we go use the restroom out in the wild, I always notice like. When he's pooping. Like. It's almost like some of his entrails would come out. So I was like, hey, you know, I'm a child. I didn't understand. Again, part of the graphic feature I'd be like.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[No, no, that's fine.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[You know, I'm a child. Like what the heck? Like? Ohh, cool. Like, how do you do that? You know, you children can't process these things. Come to find out he actually got caught and raped.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm. Oh wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah. And he had a it's, I think …Yeah. And the rectal prolapse and you.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Prolapse.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Being in a refugee camp, no surgeons matter. Of fact, it wasn't even a refugee camp. Now it's now as a city, a bustling cities. It's called the dog. At the time it's Efo, we're just throwing in the wilderness like, hey, figure it out.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[And what country was in?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[This is it was right on the border of Kenya and Somalia and you know, you have, bless their heart. They did all they could, but we're just kind of there you go, guys figure it out. Of course we figured it out. But, you know, things like that. No surgeon. You know, I don't know what became of him. There was fighting that broke out. That's spilled over from the events that have been popularized by that movie Black Hawk Down.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Mission didn't go as planned for the UN and Mogadishu. Now you have all these armed groups jostling for power, some getting bold and crossing over to Kenya to get resources because they don't have any money, so they get it from village folks who don't have weapons. And, well, we were right there.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[So it got to a point where we had to leave the. Area and you and had to step. So that's kind of been my unique experience, if you will. I always wondered like hey, what can we do to help out? Like there's always fighting somewhere, you know, like, what the heck? So no, no, no. Go ahead.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM. Right. So like sorry to cut. You. Off so from what I'm understanding, that experience of coming to America and kind of sitting with your experiences. And wondering like where can I help out? What can I do in terms of conflicts with war and just people in general? I mean I know about your background, you do have military experience of military service. Is this was this a motivator for you?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Oh, absolutely, that's all. I mean, going back to the time I was tortured for my puppy in front of those kids and humiliated, I remember going outside. I didn't tell anyone. I was so upset. I was like this. Has to be. This is. And not we're not having this. This enough. I'm not having this. So when we left Africa. It just so happened to be right after a little fighting happened.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[When we were in the US, I. Was like man. It's nice here, but. Matter of fact, the fighting. I'll tell you about. It real quick.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHMM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Itas a the local. The locals were hired to be gate guards. When you come in and it was this second refugee camp that we got moved to because the first one got.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[And what was the name of that?](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[The the Langata I don't know if it's still around. Langata now is a a name of a nice name like we live so well. Last time I went to Kenya, I went to go check it out. I was like, what the? I don't remember this so anyway. And I got there. There'd be these gates. There's only like 2 gates you can enter from. And so the locals that were hired you. They they were young and reckless, if you will. So they like to cheat the the the refugees. They take money, whatever. Under the threat, they'll take documents. Your documents are gone. That's a wrap. I mean, how? You prove you are who you are. This back then is hard now, so imagine so. Of course they would.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Hmm.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Concede sometimes they would if a if a guy's walking with a female be a daughter or wife, mother, whatever, they'd actually try and rape her. Sometimes they would do it.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Ohh wow.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah. So that day just so happened, Baba with was with Mama. And one of the guards tried it. So Baba took the biggest mad flashlights, those ancient relic ones. Pop popped him right in the head. Got a bunch of the young guys. He's like these guys are starting a conflict before you know, the whole place erupted in fighting. Yeah. They said the second one. I still remember the training I had. I went and took the Penn State. I've been.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[This was other refugee camp.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**[: We were in the tent. You. You were still little. My model was young. He could walk, but he was still small. And Mama. Mama was out there too, doing her thing.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[And so I was in my head. I was like, they come in here, I'm ready looking back. Of course. There's, I mean, come on. A kick to the face lights out. But you know, that's what we were trained to do at that time.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Next day, no next couple of days actually. Our names came up to come to the states.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[And so as we were leaving, there is a formation of UN troops coming in. And they were I I want to say they were. They were going to do a policing role. They didn't have military gear. They had the parade. And like, what would look like something an African policeman would wear in the office. Even Google search and you'll see the uniform style. And they were marching in. And I still that moment.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[I'm like. Man, we're seriously gonna leave again. There's like, come on. Like US is. I'm sure US is nice. I heard great things. Streets of gold.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[But. Dude, my cousins here, one of my good friends Tydoar. He was like a mentor almost because he he had completed all his child soldier training and how they would do it is. Because, you know, children don't think like adults, you would have a mentor.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[MHM.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[He was my mentor, so he taught me all the ropes. OK, this how this group behaves if an attack happens here. This is where you find like he taught me all of that stuff. Like how to ambush Coca-Cola truck. Oh, it was. Yeah. He he one time. He's like, alright this guy, there's a schedule we're going. To. We're going to take over that. Truck. We're going to drink some Coca-Cola and enjoy it. And we did. That was one of my favorite memories there at that. So leaving them behind was heartbreaking because I was like ohh my friend is better like dude can can you wait? Two weeks maybe.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Right. Yeah, right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[So. So it was it was a relief, but it brought sadness. And of course I ended up joining the military, which.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah, right.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[It wasn't exactly the best idea. Not that there's anything wrong with the military. But you know, there was a few underlying. You know, traumatic events I did not. A dress? I mean, even now almost broke down remembering one of my friends. You know? So it didn't. It didn't pan out, but so yeah, that was that was the feelings. It was like. Relief but sadness.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK, OK. So just to wrap up this interview here. I wish we could go on. I mean, we could probably talk some more after this, but what would you if there is something that you want to share to whoever is listening to this recording the audience, what would you say? About war as a refugee, like as a whole, just rounding it out.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[War. It's an unfortunate series of events that, for one reason or another, human beings have learned to either rely on or can continue. Almost purely by tradition, it doesn't really have. A good justification and. If you want to look into it more, why the actual technical aspects of it? Look no further than the farewell address. Of President Eisenhower, the commander of the European Leader in World War 2, he will break it down. In a way that you'll understand more than if it was coming from me, as somebody who's a refugee who might sound like. They've been what? What is it? Disheartened, disgruntled veteran? No, no, no. This guy explained exactly why these things have been. Outdated for a while. So that's what I would say about. War. Our real strength that all human beings share is like dude, we're human beings. We can create anything we should like. You want? You want a strong God. OK, let's think of what you know. You know, you you want automated robots. You got it, buddy. That's our strength. So.Unfortunately, an event series of events we have, but everything in the end actually works out, so that is what I would.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Say. All right, well, thank you.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Thanks. Yeah, thanks. Thanks for coming to my Ted talk. Is that what do people say that anymore? Yeah, I appreciate that. Thank you.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Yeah, no problem.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Was refreshing. I actually needed that.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[OK. Well, thank you so much for spending some time with me. These stories hearing these stories of war from our family members and coming from you as well. It affects me in a way to where it's just like we need more peace in the world. And it also explains some of. My own little quirks, you know, and. Our family dynamics and everything like that. Uh, you know, uh, I feel like sharing about these experiences helps us heal us, helps us heal. All right, well.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[It does, it does. It does. I'm I'm going to go through memory lane. There's some memories. I thought I'd address, but I guess not. So no worries.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[All right, so self-care self-care.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[With self-care, right? Yeah. So.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Nyameer Puok:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[Alright. Well thank you so much.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)

**[Bhan Riek:](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)**

[You are welcome.](https://unomail-my.sharepoint.com/personal/npuok_unomaha_edu/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Lilee%20Ln%202%201.m4a)