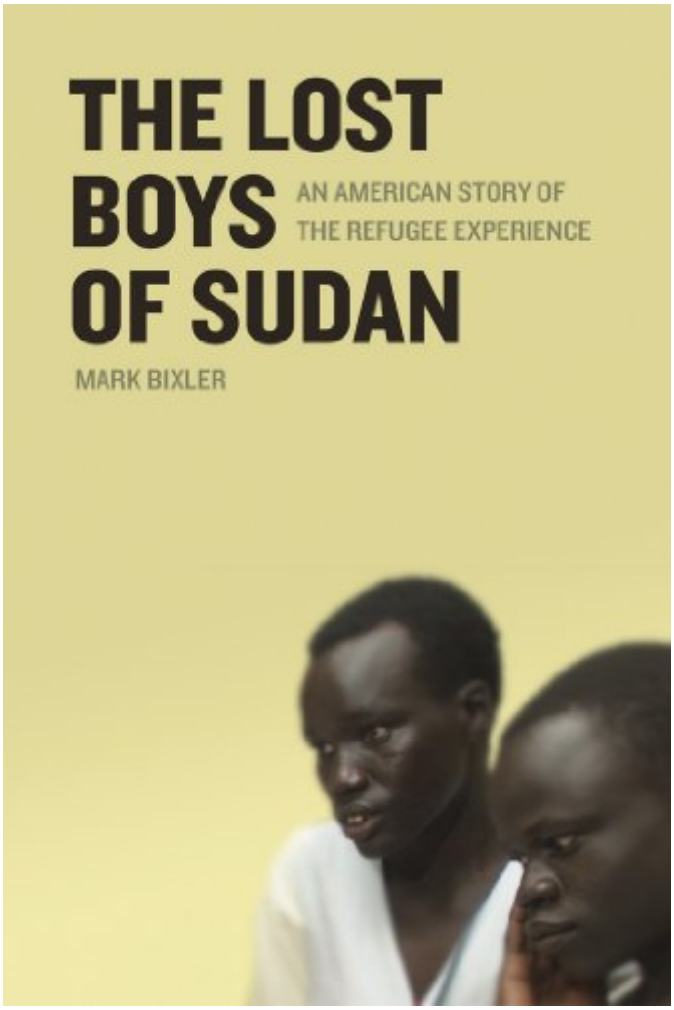
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Lost Boys Of Sudan: An American Story Of The Refugee Experience



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Synopsis

In 2000 the United States began accepting 3,800 refugees from one of AfricaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s longest civil wars. They were just some of the thousands of young men, known as Ã¢â ¬Å“Lost Boys,Ã¢â ¬Â• who had been orphaned or otherwise separated from their families in the chaos of a brutal conflict that has ravaged Sudan since 1983. The Lost Boys of Sudan focuses on four of these refugees. Theirs, however, is a typical story, one that repeated itself wherever the Lost Boys could be found across America.Jacob Magot, Peter Anyang, Daniel Khoch, and Marko Ayii were among 150 or so Lost Boys who were resettled in Atlanta. Like most of their fellow refugees, they had never before turned on a light switch, used a kitchen appliance, or ridden in a car or subway trainÃ¢â ¬â •much less held a job or balanced a checkbook. We relive their early excitement and disorientation, their growing despondency over fruitless job searches, adjustments they faced upon finally entering the workforce, their experiences of post-9/11 xenophobia, and their undying dreams of acquiring an education.As we immerse ourselves in the Lost BoysÃ¢â ¬â„¢ daily lives, we also get to know the social services professionals and volunteers, celebrities, community leaders, and others who guided themÃ¢â ¬â •with occasional detoursÃ¢â ¬â •toward self-sufficiency. Along the way author Mark Bixler looks closely at the ins and outs of U.S. refugee policy, the politics of international aid, the history of Sudan, and the radical Islamist underpinnings of its government. America is home to more foreign-born residents than ever before; the Lost Boys have repaid that gift in full through their example of unflagging resolve, hope, and faith.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A beautiful story of these men of Sudan. So moving! I Highly recommend this book! Five more words two one.

I will refrain from giving a summary of the book, as a couple of other reviewers did a nice job of that previously. I will offer a few brief impressions of this work.Having obtained a degree in African studies in the 1990s, I was well aware of the issues facing Sudan and the history of the civil wars in the country. Many times material I read about Africa is erroneous to some degree in its reporting of events. Bixler gets things right in "The Lost Boys of Sudan." Additionally, he does a nice job of weaving historical context into the story he tells of the young men from Sudan. I was expecting a couple of introductory chapters that would serve as a mini history lesson, but Bixler chose not to go that route. Instead, he took the time to skillfully give historical context as it was merited in the story of the "Lost Boys."The actual story of the four young men is compelling enough on the surface, but Bixler doesn't try to glorify the subjects of the book, rather he tells it like he observes it. He writes in a manner that makes for an easy read, and allows the reader to get a good picture of the lives of these men.There are now quite a few films and books about the Lost Boys, and I strongly recommend viewing one of the DVDs on this topic either before or after you read this book. While Bixler paints a really colorful picture with his words, nothing can take the place of actually viewing the camp from which they came and the people themselves.Of all the books I have read on this subject, Bixler's is the one I recommend the most for a person interested in the "Lost Boys." It does a great job of giving the reader a lucid account of the story of the Lost Boys in America and the circumstances from which they came.

bixler has written a great, informative book; while i was aware of all the terrible things that were going on in sudan & the horn of africa in general, i was unaware of the efforts made in the US to relocate many of these refugees; it is an incredible story, not only of the horrors they went through, that is better know atleast to me, but the efforts to relocate & all that entailed not only for the

refugees but the many volunteers in the US who worked so hard to help them; obviously some of the refugees worked out better than others but a great story none the less

I have followed the periodicals about the lost boys of Sudan for a few years. It is an engaging story. This more up to date accounting of their time here in the United States is definitely eye opening. Once again, we must look at fund raising and administration carefully when trying to meet human needs. These are very courageous young men. This is not written to be dramatic, but the daily lives of these boys/men is captivating.

Having a friend among the Lost Boys of Sudan clearly helps to understand the journey these young men have made. I recommend this book to everyone who desires a deeper understanding of the life experiences of these young men who ran for their lives from a war torn country in search of a better life. The power of the desire for knowledge and change is clearly illustrated in Mark Bixter's book.

Without giving away anything about this book. I originally became aware of The lost Boys of Sudan from watching an episode of 7th Heaven and was intrigued. These men wen through unimaginable trials to be upheavaled into a life and a world so strange and foreign to them its mind blowing. They truly were dumped onto a strange soil and left to their own devices. Fortunately they were able to use their faith and past experience to not become a statistic and be Lost in America. I highly recommend it for most ages I would say 13 and up, I think teens would be able to identify and hopefully appreciate what they went through just to be free.

I was really surprised that the book is very interesting and hard to put down. Amazing how much I didn't know about the true conditions in Sudan. Such appreciation to all the people who help all the refugees.

Good book to gain an understanding of the problems faced by refugees and assimilation into American society. I found the text to be quite a challenging read.

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