

Civil Peace Chapter Summary

"Civil Peace" by Chinua Achebe is a short story that takes place in Eastern Nigeria after the Nigerian Civil War. The story follows the main character, Jonathan Lwegbu, who considers himself lucky to have survived the war along with his wife and three of his four children. He also has a bicycle that he saved from being taken by a corrupt army officer during the war, which he now uses as a taxi to earn money.

After repairing his house, Jonathan and his family work hard to restore their lives. They face hardships but eventually receive a bonus from the government. However, their newfound wealth attracts thieves who demand £100 from Jonathan. He tells them he only has 20 pounds, which they accept and then leave. Despite the loss, Jonathan remains optimistic and grateful for his family, home, and job. The story's theme is about resilience, hope, and the ability to adapt and rebuild after a traumatic experience like war.

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