

Date: September 11, 2019

Gender: Male

Name: M. Rami Mardini

Country of Origin: Syria

Year of Immigration: Born in the United States in 1999

Abstract:

Rami Mardini is a 19 year old college student at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

He was born in the United States; his mother migrated to the U.S. and when Rami was born,

they shortly moved back to Syria to reunite with the rest of their family. He identifies as a

Syrian-American with strong ties to his homeland of Syria, where a lot of his family still resides.

With the war in Syria, Rami experienced many hardships that exist hand in hand with conflict,

and had immense fear growing up in a country torn by war. Rami experienced bombings

outside of his high school, and explains how terror became a normal part of his everyday life.

He came to the United States with his triplet sisters, his grandmother, and his grandfather in

order to advance his education with the intent of attending medical school and becoming a

doctor. His parents stayed in Syria, and later joined him in the U.S. two years later.

I: Can you state your name and age?

R: Uh, My name is M. Rami Mardini and I'm 19 years old, I'm gonna be 20 in like two weeks.

I: Happy early birthday.

R: Thank you.

I: So where would you consider your homeland to be?

R: So I was technically born in the United States but I moved to Syria early in my childhood cause my parents used to work there and I spent like most of my childhood over there so I would say Syria.

I: Syria? So your parents were born in Syria then?

R: Yes.

I: And then did they move to the United States, um, earlier in their lives or did they work here, or did they come here for school or jobs?

R: They just came here to visit and it's just like happened. My mom was pregnant with me and she had like an early birth so.

I: Okay. And then where was your, um, city or town or village in Syria?

R: I used to live in Damascus which is the capital of Syria, and like it's like probably the safest area right now the whole country over there.

I: Um, so tell me about the places and buildings you spent a lot of time during your childhood or if you want to focus more on your teenage years cause that's probably what you remember talk about that.

R: Yeah, so I spent most of like my all childhood and like teenage years at like one house. We had like one big house that my mom, uh, spent her childhood in and then we spend our childhood in--me and my sisters--I have triplets, So it's like we used to live as if I was just want to like give an example of like Damascus it would be like Chicago or like New York.

I: Okay.

R: So like it's just like it's not like it used to be, but like there's just like the center of the city. We didn't live in like far areas away from the center, so I was like just like the huge buildings around us like all the time. We like, we don't even have to use cars if we like don't want we can like walk anywhere we want to, and it will probably take less time then like using our cars.

I: Um, so other than the United States you said you were born here technically, but don't consider that to your homeland per se, have you lived in any other country?

R: I lived in Jordan for like a year, not even.

I: How old were you?

R: It was before I came to the United States like, like, the year before that.

I: Oh, okay. So you came to the United States from Jordan?

R: Yeah. I had spent some time over there because we have like some paperwork issue for my grandma and like, we we were planning on leaving Syria to Jordan and then come right here to the United States, but you can't just like take one plane from Syria to United States. You have to go like to Jordan, or like Lebanon, and we had like, Syria had some problems with Lebanon so Jordan was like it was like the best option for us to go to.

I: Who did you travel with when you immigrated to the US?

R: So all of my sisters--the triplets--they also were born here so we are all like, American citizens. And my my Grandma had a visa, like a green card, to come in here so I left Syria with my triplet sisters who who are like 22 I guess, or like 23, and my grandma and my grandfather as well.

I: Did your parents come separately?

R: Yes.

I: After?

R: After after like 2 years.

I: 2 years? Oh my goodness.

R: So like we technically left Syria by ourselves and we left my mom and dad over there. We spent like almost a year in Jordan but we had some problems with the papers, then we moved to the United States and, uh, we were actually...my sisters were not 21 at that time, they were like 20. Cause like we were trying to get my mom and dad here by applying for the green card, but you can't apply for it unless one of your, uh, childrens are, or is, 20-21 years old.

I: Okay.

R: If he's younger than that, he can't apply for anything for you to come here.

I: What were your parents jobs in Syria?

R: My father, he's a lawyer, and my mom is an english supervisor, so that's what's helped me a lot with the language. I did struggle a little bit in the beginning, but then like it's still helped me a lot to just like, understand like what's going on around me.

I: So, to be a lawyer in Syria, you have to go to university.

R: Yeah.

I: And I'm assuming your mom also had to go to a university.

R: Mhmm.

I: Um, where did they go to school?

R: It was all in Damascus. It's similar to here but we don't have college, we only have universities. Which is like, different I guess. But, it still one of like, the hardest schools to go into

and like study in Syria because like our high school is like completely different than here. It's just like, super hard. Our four years of high school is like the four years of college here.

I: So it would--I'm just guessing--it's to, almost like weed people out so if they can't make it through high school they're probably not going to go to university.

R: Or they can't get into the higher majors.

I: Okay.

R: Or like higher, uh, colleges. Or universities actually, not colleges yeah.

I: If you were to have stayed in Syria what would have been your options, say, what what do you think you would have been doing right now?

R: I would, I can't, like there's nothing guaranteed. Like I can't be 100% sure of what would be happening because like I have a lot of friends who are like planning on doing stuff, and then other stuff happened to them.

I: Yeah.

R: So it's either two options: You're either going to be recruited in the army, or like, you're either gonna go to college and pay the military to just like, give you more time till you finish your study, and then you can recruit in the army, or they can, if they just like want you so badly they just like take you without even caring about your studying or anything. Or maybe, who knows, maybe I will be dead because it's like any bombs or any other stuff going on over there.

I: So, that's very true. Um, one thing that I was thinking of is if you're a male in Syria you basically have a straight line to serve in the military and that's just how it goes?

R: It wasn't like that in the beginning. Like when we didn't have all the war and stuff, you only go to the military when you turn 18 if you have a brother. If you don't have a brother, so you are technically the only boy in the family, so you don't have to serve.

I: Wow.

R: So you can just like stay with your mom and dad and just like--and they can't recruit you even if they wanted to.

I: Do you have any brothers?

R: I do not. I only have triplets sisters.

I: So, in that case you would have been in the position to support your family.

R: Exactly. And not go to the military. But after the war and stuff, no one cares about the laws or like anything going on and then everything changed and they can literally take you without even like questioning anything.

I: Wow. Do you have any family members in Syria right now?

R: I do, I do have a lot.

I: A lot? So, aunts, uncles, cousins--

R: I have aunts, uncles--no I don't have uncles. Yeah I do have a few uncles over there. I have a lot of cousins. Yeah, and like we don't even have like, we can't contact them at all times like there's like years, come then we can't like even talk to them or wonder if they are doing fine, or if they like if they're still alive.

I: Why is that? Why can't you, um, be in communication with them?

R: Because just like, all the electricity stuff that like, when I was in Syria we had like one month during winter when we only had ours for 2 hours on, and then for the rest like 22 hours the rest of the day was off.

I: Oh my gosh.

R: So we only had electricity on for technically 2 hours a day for a whole month.

I: Oh my gosh.

R: And it was awful. We couldn't like save any food, like anything. Our fridge was like empty. Cause like everything will be--

I: Spoiled!

R: Yep.

I: Oh my gosh, wow. Um, now I'm going to ask you some questions about Arab culture as a whole. So, um, are you married?

R: No I'm not.

I: You're not married? Um, is it, in the Arab culture, and maybe even specifically Syrian culture, have your parents talked about that idea with you? You said you're 19, um, I don't know what the normal age is for Syrian families or Syrian men and women to get married but have they talked about that with you?

R: Culture changed actually.

I: Really?

R: Yeah, like a lot. So, like when my dad--when my dad used to be a teenager, they used to like, to get married early. So like, the women would be like 16-17, and then like the boy or like the male would be like 20 around that, so he would be, like, at least going to the University and like

he will be able to know what he's going to do in the future or like what his career would be. But now it's like all changed, but we still, like, in our culture, we still have like--you don't have to, but like it's recommended or like it's in the culture stuff that you marry someone who's like from the same culture, from your same religion. But you are also still allowed to marry someone who's not. It's just like, you know, traditional things.

I: Yeah. So in your personal opinion or preference, would you ever be open to marrying a non-Muslim woman? Would that not matter or is it really ingrained in your values?

R: I mean, because I was like I was born in a Muslim country and I was raised in like Muslim community, and like I have all these thoughts and like values and like do I want to raise my childrens and everything, in like specific ways, and in like specific Muslim ways, I mean I would say I would see myself in the future marrying someone who is Muslim, but you know now I'm not in a Muslim country, and like, it's still hard to find someone who's like Muslim, and like the one who you actually want to. And like, in the United States. But I would still see myself like searching for like a Muslim lady. Cause like, just like except my values. Like she agrees with everything I have.

I: That makes sense. Um, do you have a job?

R: I do. I do have a lot of jobs actually.

I: Really? What jobs are they?

R: I'm a lifeguard, and I'm a barista, and I used to be a medical assistant during summer, but I don't do it anymore. I think that's it, yeah.

I: So the medical assistant--do you want to go to medical school?

R: Yes.



I: Okay.

R: So that's like my main focus right now, just getting through college and then getting into med school, or like, actually just med school for now.

I: Yeah?

R: Yeah, let's keep it that way. So like, saving lives was like my passion since I was a child. That's why I like, I started swimming cause like I knew that I wanted to do lifeguarding. And then it took me awhile till I get there but, I finally did it. And I've been doing it now for 3 years. I: Oh wow, congratulations!

R: Thank you.

I: Um, as far as medical school goes, was that always in your plan even when you lived in Syria were you set on going to medical school or did that change once you came to the US?

R: It was always the plan. And technically it's everyone's plans in Syria because like we don't have a lot of opportunities like here, so, and they don't like look at your grades or like your class grades depending on what you want to be in the future. You have to do well always sciences, math, physics, chemistry...stuff like that. All the science classes you have to be like, you have to be doing so well in them, and you must take all of these classes whether you want to go to med school, law school, business school, art school, any of these schools, like, requires all of these classes. You can't even take the classes that you want to take, there's like specific classes all the students must take, so we can't choose any of our classes.

I: Wow. So you were talking about how school in Syria is way different than school here. So what else was really different when you first came to the US?

R: College! College is super super super different from Syria because like over there, as soon as you graduate from high school and you have like your GPA, for example, and like this is one of the more different points is they only care about your GPA in your senior year. So we do like to whole big exam during our senior year by the end of it, and that's the only thing they care about like they don't care about like anything you've done freshman year, sophomore year, junior year. They don't care about these studies. Just like about senior year. And then you can start applying for any school you want to. And you just get like accepted or not, and we don't have any kind of like applications of stuff. We just have to meet the requirements of the GPA. So if you got 92% you can apply to any medical school you want to. Or any other schools so like it's the top top schools is like med school, and then engineering, and then law school, and then art, then business, then like other stuff so, you just have to get like a very high GPA and then you can apply. You can actually just like join whatever school want to you. You don't need to send any applications, any essays, any exams like ACT SAT. You don't have to do any of that stuff. You just go to university, you pay the fee that you need to pay, and then you just start. That's it.

I: Um, ahh, I had a question...oh, did you, um, did you go to your last year of high school in the United States?

R: I did.

I: What school did you go to?

R: Uhh, I went to Brookfield East High School.

I: Okay.

R: So I technically didn't have to finish my senior year, but I wanted to because like I thought it would like help my language and help me like, just like, be able to like know what's going on around me. You know? Different culture, different city, different country...everything is different here and just like jumping into college, I feel like it would be like so difficult for me cause like college is huge, and like I want to start like small, and then like just, like go bigger and bigger. I: Um, what do you remember the most about your first year in America like when you're at high school were there any like moments you'll never forget that we're just so different that you didn't even know how to navigate them?

R: Not really. School uniform was like one of the most things like I got surprised cause like in Syria we have like, we have to wear uniform to the school, like any school you go to you have to wear a uniform to. So like, you can wear whatever you want, I was like, okay like, that's interesting. Yeah, but I think picking up the classes that you want, that was was like different for me, and like was exciting cause like I can actually just like pick the science classes I want to. I don't have to take like any art classes or like any history classes. I don't have to take any of that. I just, if I just like love science I can only take bio, chem, and then just like graduate.

I: Yeah.

R: I found like this is like very very nice, but at the same time, after I see like the other students like picking their own classes, and you don't have to take any higher level math or like higher level biology, chemistry, I feel like this is like essentials like everyone needs to take these classes and then they can pick whatever they want to. Like I have some friends who didn't even like take statistics or didn't take like, even like, Algebra 2. I felt like, wow, like you're going to need these in your like, daily life. So that was different for me but, you know, it is what it is.

I: It is. So when you were in high school, how did your classmates receive you? How did they incorporate you into their friendships and things like that?

R: It was like 1-year thing so I feel like it was like way less than that. Cause like, it took me awhile, just like, I was just like so overwhelmed with like the whole thing. And like, I didn't have my mom with me, I didn't have my dad with me, like I'd be spending 16 years of my life with them. I've never left them for more like for more than a week. So like, now I was doing everything by myself. I have to figure out classes, I have to figure out ACT, essays, what colleges I want to go to, how does the college work and I don't know, I try to ask questions to students, but like the ones I asked probably did not care about like college that much. So I had like, to search myself or like go to my counselor or like someone who knows the stuff. So I didn't have actually time to like, build off like friendships or like relationships with the others because like, I was so focused on college, and I, I was like so so much stress that I'm not going to be able to make it to college. It was like seeing like all these people who are like not going to college like, "gosh, I'm going to be like one of them, I'm, I'm not going to be able make it. Like they've been here their whole life, and they can't make it, like, and like I just came here and like how the heck I'm gonna do that?"

I: Well here you are. You did it!

R: Oh gosh, it was like very stressful period of my life, and my mom as well actually. She would like to stay up till 5 a.m. just like talk to me make sure like I got like, good grades or like I got like all my essays done and everything done before college. It was, it was an interesting period of time.

I: I bet that was super overwhelming. That sounds incredibly overwhelming.

R: Yeah.

I: I also remember senior--junior--senior year trying to go through all that whole process. I can't even imagine it being your shoes so I applaud you for that. Ending up here, pretty good school, so.

R: Thank you.

I: Um, was there a language barrier in any of that? You said your mom was a English advisor, and your English was good, but when you first came to America were you like "Ah, I don't know the language that well".

I: It was, so like I was able to understand everything the teacher says, like most...like I would say like 80%. But like when I go to the cafeteria at lunchtime, oh my God, I'd be like "what are they talking about! Like what is this language?" I couldn't like understand anything and I just like sit there be like "yeah yeah". I was like, like, oh my God, like I'm not going to be able to understand like any of these like accents, like any of these like--

I: Slang words?

R: Yeah. It just like was just like overwhelming. Like I literally studied English for like 16 years, and look at me here now, I can't even have like the conversation with them.

I: They probably don't speak very proper English.

R: Yeah exactly that's why. Like whenever I had a conversation with the teacher I would like just like talk to them, and like everything was like good. And I didn't even have to be in the ESS program in high school. I didn't even have to do that because like I already did my interview with the English teacher and she was like "yeah, you're pretty good like for like just like coming here. You don't even need our help like as the English Department".

I: Wow.

R: Just like the students language was like overwhelming for me.

I: Wow. Yeah understandably, because they usually don't talk probably how you learned English.

R: Exactly.

I: That was probably impossible. So when you were in Syria, especially towards the end right before you left for Jordan, are there any instances you remember where you were like scared or something that, like, like me as someone who's born here and grew up in the age that we have grew up in, when I think of Syria all I think of is conflict, especially in recent years. So can you talk a little bit about like the conflict and any point you were scared?

R: It was, it was scary like all the time. Like even if you just like want to go to a store and pick something up, you can't be like sure that you're going to be back. Like one time I was just like with my friends, just like playing soccer, because we have like these big parks around the areas. And like suddenly everything, like everything I can remember that we only heard like a huge, huge just like bomb sound. Like I can't even describe the sound cause it was just like so loud. Like, we like, "oh my gosh this is probably the end of the world". Like you can't even like, process it. And we just like start running, and like one of my friends he technically couldn't run cause like he never ran in his life, he just like, he doesn't play sports. And he was like the fastest one! I was like "oh my God". Like the adrenaline rush that we had was like, crazy. And like it turns out that was like car, like, it has like bomb attached to it and just like exploded. And like, and in the neighborhood we just left. Like 5 minutes ago. And the only thing we could like think about was like what if we didn't leave? Like what if we stay for another 5 minutes? What if we

like, picked something up from the store and just like we were five minutes late, we would literally be dead now. It's just like so scary like, you can't even think about it be like like I would literally be dead right now if I didn't leave like 5 minutes earlier. But like it didn't stop us from like, living our life. You know, like you got to live.

I: Exactly.

R: I still spent a lot of time with my friends outside of my house even though like, I'm not sure if I'm going to be back but, I can't just like stay home for like 24 hours and just like doing nothing. Going to school is like the scariest part. During like a specific period of time, we had a lot of like explosions happening, and one time we had like literally like three explosions happening around my school. Like a circle of explosions like around my school. And it was like terrifying, like all the glasses were broken. Three--four--students got injured. Like everyone was just like terrified like "what are we going to do?". When we were, like, in like high school, it was just like at least--I would say like 2,000 students--it was just like, it was a huge high school. We had elementary school attached to it, so we have like two building--two huge buildings--attached to each other, or like connected to each other. And it was like terrifying. Like you can't leave the school, you can't call your parents, cause like all the networks were down. Like three explosions in the middle of the capital of Syria, in the middle of Damascus. Like Damascus like should be the safest area in the country. Like no one knew what to do, even the principal, even the counselors. They just like, what are they, what are they going to say to you? Like, you can't call your mom and dad, you can't leave the school, and you can't take classes right now. Like okay, so what, what technically can I do right now? There's like literally nothing I can do. Like everyone was crying, like we had seniors who are crying, we had like anyone everyone was

crying. And everyone was just like terrifying, but I was just like scary moment for me. My dad almost got killed that day cause like, he was trying to get to school, and a lot of like the military people were like just like so anxious, and just like, they...they need to just like check everyone just to make sure that we were not going to have like, another explosion. And it was just like crazy day for me. And like, after 2 days we went back to school and everything was normal. So you gotta live with whatever you have, like, that's what we learned and that's what like surprised me the most. That...how did we survive? Like how people are still able to survive over there? Like with everything going on? Like not having electricity for like 20 hours a day...like I can't even imagine that right now. Like I have electricity 24/7, I have everything. I have fast Internet, like everything. I just like thinking about like the old times. We didn't have water for like a week. We had like to save like water or like just like was crazy, crazy. It's still crazy over there.

I: That is crazy. I, I mean I hear about in the news "Oh, bombing in Syria, war in Syria" this and that. But never once have I thought about an actual like, high school or elementary school with kids who are like trying to live a normal life, and the people who are trying to keep them safe like the counselors, the teachers, being there like "what do I do? Like how do I even keep these kids safe?". There's no way to when literally there's bombs going off right outside.

R: And it's literally true, like when you hear like "Bombing in Syria happening", like that's like literally happening over there, like they are not kidding, or like it's not just like a small explosion, or like...It's literally a bomb over there. It's like technically war zone right now.

I: Yeah.

R: It's just like crazy.



I: That is crazy. Um, when you were in Syria, what was your perception of the U.S.? Do you remember?

R: I always have the idea of like moving here, like having a future in Syria is like, that's not gonna happen. Cause like even if you, even if you are a doctor, you're not going to get like a lot of money. You still going to be like, average person in the community. Like, and it's so hard to live over there. Like everything is hard. Like I told you, like, we've barely have some opportunities to like, students or like jobs to get like, paid well. Cause like, you gotta help your family. You need, you need money to be able to help them. And like, all the Middle Eastern people are so attached to their parents, and like, to the whole family. We don't leave our parents when we get like 18 or when were going to leave to college. We leave them when we're going to get married, or anything else. Like I told you, like everything was so close to each other. It's like we literally--like my aunt was like married, and it literally took her like 15 minutes to get to my grandma's house. So like they're in touch like all year round. Like all the time. So like when we grow up and we have a career, like, it's our responsibility to help our parents cause they did help us when we were young. And over there like, you can, you can barely help yourself. You can barely live, even if you are like a doctor, like even if you are a surgeon. You can barely help like two other members of your family members, that's it. So I always have the idea of moving here, but it was always funny because my mom always was like "you are not going to leave before you finish University. I can't send you there before you finish your actually Medical School. Like you can, you can go there after med school, do the exams, stage 1, stage 2, all that stuff, and then become a doctor over there, but before that don't even think about it." Like like, okay as you like, it is what it is. I don't have a problem with that, because I knew it was

hard. But my mom was like, she just like, couldn't imagine sending a 16 years old boy by himself. And like, I'm the only boy in the family. Sending him here by himself like, just like to study and do everything and you know, it just like so different. Like a boy can be lost here, or like even a girl like can be lost like super fast, you know? It's a lot of stuff different here, like we don't have any of these stuff over there. So, it's always easy to get off track or just like getting distracted with what's going on around you.

I: It is.

R: Like over there is just like school. You just like go to school, go back home. We don't even have like sports during High School. It's just like study. It's just like to study the whole freaking time. That's, that's what it is like. I'm being completely honest with you.

I: Wow.

R: So, and then when the time came, and she was like "we're gonna send you to the United States", I was like "wow, who could have imagined". We literally, like, had that discussion like millions of times, and she'd be like "you're not going there before you finish your medical school" and it happened! And to this day my mom be like "I can't believe I did that". It just like, wow.

I: Well, now you can fulfill her, and your own dreams, in the United States.

R: True, true.

I: And everyone will be happy. Um, what is her job now here? And your my dad?

R: My dad is just trying to get a job right now. He doesn't speak English that well. My mom works in a...she had a small medical background, so she works in a clinic. She do like some kind

of like...it's not like a medical assistant, it is higher than that. But I'm not completely sure. But she works in a clinic with patients a little bit.

I: That was an off topic question then the way I was going in, but now fast forward to now. Your time in America. And with the political stuff that's going on, um, especially with, like we were here, I think it was last year or the year before, with the Muslim ban, the travel ban, and just the nature of Donald Trump and even being on campus with people who have different political views, how do you feel about everything in regard to that? And like what how is it affected you personally if it has it has?

R: It was hard, to be honest. When like the Muslim ban happen, that was literally the day when my parents were going to leave Syria and come to the United States. So we were just like stressed out, and like everyone was like, so anxious. So like are they going to make it? Are they not going to make it? Are they going to stop them at like the border, like you can't come in, you're gonna have to go back? We were waiting like a year-and-a-half for this moment, and the timing was insane. Like it literally happened at the same day. And like when they went to the--they went to Jordan to get their papers, and like the person who gave them their passport and Visa he was like "you need to leave now, otherwise you're not going to be able to". Their plane was like literally a week after that. They cancel that ticket they--didn't have any clothes or like anything with them cause they were planning to go back to Syria and get everything, all the stuff and everything, cause like it was not guarantee that they will get the visa, but they did. And they were planning to go back to Syria and get their stuff and leave to the United States, like in a week or like two. They literally canceled all the tickets and they book tickets like, at that day to leave Jordan at like 3 a.m. And like everyone is like anxious. And like are they going to

make it? Are they not going to make it? Like it was a crazy day for like everyone, even the ones who were like living here already. Like my uncle was stressed out, and he was like he's, he's been living here for like 30 plus years, and he was like "Gosh, like, we're not going to know what's going to happen". It's crazy cause like, no one knew what was going to happen, like maybe they would ask all the Muslims here to like move back, or like do other stuff. No one knew. So it was very hard time for us.

I: Your parents made it though?

R: They made it, thanks God. And that's like, that's the point where I was like "I don't care anymore". Like what's, what's going to happen is going to happen. I don't even follow news anymore. I mean, I do, but like not as much as I used to before. Cause like, now we are all together, so like.

I: Yeah.

R: And it's not going to be worse than what we've been through in Syria. I think that's like the worst stuff can ever happen like to anyone. And I really wish no one ever, like, going to need to like, been like, through these stuff cause it was like insane. It's gonna like stick with you till the day you die. It's like crazy so. Like I told you, I don't think it's gonna be any worse than Syria, so I don't actually care anymore. I live my life. I live my life the way I want to. They live their life the way they want to. I don't have problem with them, but they have problem with me, like, feel free to come talk to me. And so far, no one ever, like, did that so I think they don't have problem with that.

I: That's good, that's a good way to live your life, and not really care like, what others think and I admire that. Last but not least, is there anything else you want to add from your own personal history or current history, or anything that you want to leave me with?

R: I just wanna say like, you're going to survive no matter what. If you're alive, like, you're going to be able to survive. Like, maybe like you're going through some stuff right now in college, and be like like "man, I'm not going to be able to survive this, I'm not going to be able to survive this course". Trust me, I've been through like, harder and harder stuff, like you can't even imagine that.

I: You've been through a literal bombing. And you're here to tell the story.

R: Yeah, and like we're all gonna survive, just like, be patient. And like everything will get better, hopefully. But it will.

I: Inshallah.

R: Inshallah.

I: Inshallah. Okay, well Rami, thank you so much.

R: Thank you.

I: This was very informative and I got a lot of good material about your history that was super interesting. I know we talked briefly last year, and I just thought your story was, like, so cool and so amazing. And on top of it you're incredibly smart, and you're studying biomedical sciences here, and want to go to med school, so you're definitely someone who's, like, got his stuff together and so thank you again.

R: Thank you.

