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Family Album, USA

Episode 9 [“It's Up to You“](#)

Act 1

Robbie Who is it?
Philip Dad.
Robbie Come on in, Dad.
Philip I thought you might be hungry. I brought you a chicken sandwich and a glass of milk.
Robbie I am hungry. Thanks, Dad. What time is it, anyway?
Philip Ten o'clock. What are you working on?
Robbie I'm writing a story for the high-school paper.
Philip Can't you finish it tomorrow?
Robbie No, I have to turn it in in the morning.
Philip What's it about?
Robbie I'm writing an article on the feelings about graduation.
Philip And...how do you feel?
Robbie Me? A little scared. And excited, too.
Philip I felt the same way.
Robbie The scary part's leaving home and moving to college.
Philip Oh, leaving home is part of growing up. Well, don't work all night.
Robbie I don't mind. I enjoy writing.
Philip Well, maybe you should think about becoming a writer.
Robbie Maybe I should.
Philip You have lots of time to decide.
Robbie That's the worst part-making decisions.
Philip You'll be OK. Good night, Son.
Robbie Good night, Dad.
Grandpa & “Hail to the victors valiant, Hail to the conquering heroes, Hail, Hail to Michigan,
Philip The champions of the West!”
Philip Ah, good morning Robbie.
Robbie Good morning, Dad.
Grandpa How's my grandson?
Robbie Fine, Grandpa. Fine! What's all the cheering about Did the University f Michigan another football game?
Grandpa Better than that. Tell him Philip.
Philip I just spoke with Charley Rafer.
Robbie Who's Charley Rafer?
Philip He's the Dean of Admission for the University of Michigan.
Grandpa And it turns out he's a classmate of Philip's.
Philip We were both on the tennis team.
Robbie Great!

Philip It is great. He's going to be in New York tomorrow to interview applicants for admission.

Grandpa And he's agreed to fit you into his schedule.

Robbie But I may not want to go to Michigan.

Philip It's one of the best schools in the country, Robbie. I studied medicine there. Your grandfather went to the Engineering School there.

Robbie I know that, but...

Grandpa You said you wanted to be a doctor like your father.

Robbie Not exactly.

Grandpa You couldn't pick a finer medical school than Michigan.

Robbie Yes, I know that.

Philip Let's meet with Charley at the university club. Ten o'clock tomorrow morning. It doesn't mean you're going Michigan.

Grandpa It doesn't mean you have to be a doctor. But the interview will be good experience for you.

Robbie In that case, it's OK. Dad, growing up means making my own decisions, doesn't it?

Philip You're right, Robbie. But, like your Grandpa suggested, have the interview.

Grandpa And then make your own decision.

Robbie That sounds fine.

Philip I know it's sudden, Robbie, but this is an important opportunity. We'll head down there first thing tomorrow morning. OK?

Robbie Sure, Dad.

Philip I want you to know something, Son. I'm...very proud of you.

Robbie Thanks, Dad.

Philip Well, I've got an appointment at the hospital. I'll see you all at dinnertime.

Robbie Bye, Dad.

Grandpa Is something still wrong, Robbie?

Robbie I'll be OK.

Grandpa Going away to college for the first time always makes one a little nervous.

Robbie I guess so. I'll be OK. I just need time to think.