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Family Album, USA

Episode 11 “[A Place of Our Own](#)“

Act 1

Marilyn Ellen, I'd like your opinion

Ellen About what?

Marilyn Well, Richard and I feel that with a baby coming we need to have our own place to live.

Ellen Oh.

Marilyn Well, what do you think about Richard and me looking for a small house or an apartment at this point in our lives?

Ellen We love having you here, and there is room, and...and when the baby comes, the baby can stay in your room for a while.

Marilyn Richard feels we need to find a small house.

Ellen I remember when I was pregnant with Richard. Philip and I were living with Grandma and Grandpa. Philip was a young doctor, and he kept talking about having a house of our own. It's natural.

Marilyn What did you do ?

Ellen We looked at a lot of houses.

Marilyn Did you find one?

Ellen Oh, not at first. We couldn't afford it. Grandpa wanted to lend us the money to buy one, but Philip is too independent. He didn't want to borrow any money.

Marilyn Sounds like Richard.

Ellen They're all alike. Richard is a real Stewart. He's independent, and sometimes just stubborn.

Marilyn When did you buy a house?

Ellen After Richard was born. I was teaching music, and Philip was opening his first medical office.

Marilyn Where was the house?

Ellen Right here in Riverdale. Of course, it was a small house, but just right for us.

Marilyn It's funny. History repeats itself. Now Richard and I are having a baby, and we probably won't be able to afford a house right away, either.

Ellen Why don't you look at some houses, Marilyn?

Marilyn Good idea.

Ellen Look in the real-estate section of Sunday's Times. You'll learn a lot.

Marilyn Maybe we should speak to a real-estate agent about a house.

Ellen And a bank about a mortgage.

Marilyn I'll talk to Richard about it. I think it's a good idea, Ellen. We can learn a lot by asking.

Ellen And if I can be of any help, let me know. As a matter of fact, my friend Virginia Martinelli is a real-estate agent.

Marilyn Good.

Ellen You won't believe this, but she sold us our first house and this one.

Marilyn Well, I'll tell Richard, and we'll go to see her. Do you think the skirt length is right, Ellen? Do you think it's too long?

Ellen I think the skirt is just right. Are you planning to attach a train to it?

Marilyn No. No train. Just the dress. But I am going to make a headpiece of lace.

Ellen That dress is gorgeous.

Marilyn Thanks, Ellen. And thanks for the advice about the house. I'll talk to Richard about it the minute he comes home.

Ellen And remember, we love having you here. There's no need to rush.