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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.