

**The God Place "EP. 101: HOME UNDER THE DOME" [101]**

**COLD OPEN**

1 INT. WAITING ROOM - DAY

ELENA SCOTT, a college freshman, opens her eyes. She sits on a couch facing a wall that reads:

**Welcome to your Home Under the Dome.**

She smiles. FATHER JENKINS (65) emerges.

FATHER JENKINS

Elena, come on in.

2 INT. JENKINS'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Elena and Father Jenkins sit across from each other at Jenkins's desk. Elena is eager to hear the official news of her college placement. Jenkins smiles warmly.

ELENA

Am I where I think I am?

FATHER JENKINS

If you're thinking that you're at the University of Notre Dame, then you're right. You're in the God Place.

ELENA

(confused)

The God Place?

FATHER JENKINS

Oh, right, it's just a little nickname I've been trying to get started around here. You know, with us being God's team, God's school, God's country, you get it.

Elena chuckles.

ELENA

Right.

FATHER JENKINS

There's so much to teach you about this place, let's get going and I'll show you around. Right this way.

Jenkins stands up and heads to exit, and Elena follows.

FATHER JENKINS (CONT'D)  
 (pointing to a bowl by the door)  
 Oh, and don't forget to grab one of  
 those on the way out.

Elena reaches into the bowl, picks up a yellow button with navy words "**MUCK FICHIGAN**" on it, and begins fastening it to her shirt as she exits.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

3 EXT. NORTH QUAD - DAY

Elena and Father Jenkins walk through a beautiful green quad lined with collegiate gothic buildings. From one side of the quad echoes pop music from dorm, from the other side echoes bagpipers playing traditional music.

ELENA  
 So you're in charge around here?

FATHER JENKINS  
 There are countless people who keep this place running, but, yes, I am the president of the university.

ELENA  
 Are you the one who decides who ends up here?

FATHER JENKINS  
 No, there are admissions directors assigned to different regions. They look at GPA, test scores, essays, extracurriculars to see who would be a good fit here.

ELENA  
 Notre Dame has a really good reputation though. How do they choose who gets to come?

FATHER JENKINS  
 Well, first, the directors choose the best of the best students to narrow down the pool. From there, they choose those of you who want to be here.

Elena is looking around, taking in the magic of the campus.

FATHER JENKINS (CONT'D)

In that way, it's almost like everything here is designed to be loved by our students because no matter *what* we put here, you all *want* to be here.

ELENA

(looking around)  
There's a lot of squirrels.

FATHER JENKINS

Notre Dame students love thinking that their campus squirrels are special, I don't know what to tell you. Look, there's much more to learn, but we have a presentation that should help with that.

(guiding her towards their next location)

Let's head over, it's starting any minute.

4 EXT. NOTRE DAME STADIUM - DAY

The INCOMING CLASS OF FRESHMAN are seated on the football field, facing the Jumbotron. Elena finds an empty picnic blanket, and the video begins.

FATHER JENKINS (ON JUMBOTRON)

Hello, everyone. Welcome to your first day of college here at the University of Notre Dame. You were all, simply put, great students. Though you didn't know where you'd end up for college, you spent four years working hard to achieve excellence in and out of the classroom. Only the top students get to come here. What are you paying to be here? Don't worry about it. You'll walk out of here with a degree from an elite institution that will make people either *really* love you or *really* hate you. And, you won't be spending these four years alone. Someone we think you'll get along with is here, and you've been paired together as roommates. So, welcome to the beginning of the rest of your

(MORE)

FATHER JENKINS (ON JUMBOTRON) (CONT'D)  
life. Welcome to The God Place.  
Sponsored by: the new dorm access  
policy. You know the way you feel when  
you're going through Okta multi-factor  
authentication just to check your  
email? That's the way you'll feel  
trying to get into your friend's dorm  
every day.

The new students look confused but clap anyways. They do not  
have time to dwell on the weird ending to the video, however,  
because a football hype video quickly replaces the  
introduction.