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*Speaker 1:* Important for me to get outside of the house and to see that White House lit up because I needed to feel some positive energy, because we had attended too many shootings and we had mourned too many lives and there was too little being done. So we were at a very I always say it's sort of like when a toddler is is is learning to conferences and Barack would come you he came in the presidential motorcade. I remember that one of the first times we went, we were crossing the courtyard where kids were outside. Playing in the sandbox is always sort of an optics since on the West Wing side and I tell the story about optics, it's like even when we wanted to do the first Halloween party, you'd have people on the West Wing who would say, should we really be celebrating Halloween when there is an economic crisis, when you're the first of anything, the bar member that at the end that that last flight that we took out when I was leaving from the Capitol and we waved we got on Air Force One the last time I forgot about this because I didn't put it in the book. But a friend of mine reminded me that I cried for about 30 minutes and it was just the release of eight years of feeling like we had to do everything perfectly, that there wasn't. But it was also the bar that we always set for ourselves, thinking that as the first people will measure every one of our race, of our gender by what we do that. So that's how we carried ourselves and that had to trickle down to all of our staff. So the pressure was on everyone. We couldn't afford to make a mistake. We couldn't afford to look cavalier. We had to watch our language. And we also knew that everything we said, we thought about how it would be viewed by talking about it from the day I watched it happen itself. What do we want? What is the bar that we're setting for ourselves? It doesn't matter what you or I think at this point, it's up to the voters now to figure out what do we what kind of moral leadership do we demand in the White House, regardless of party, regardless of race, regardless of gender, regardless of where you are, what do we want or need it to sleep on that and pray that? Maybe. And and then we went about the task as I wrote, to try and and quell the nerves of a lot of young people that were on our staff because our staff was a diverse staff. We had people who are same sex partners and people who once and then the moral compass for the country, for those who were shaken by the results. So we had to steady ourselves and be clear and to keep people positive. Because the truth is, is that this is, as we told people, this is how democracy works. You know, people who vote get to determine the direction of the country. And, you know, as we talked about, when people sit on the sidelines, especially young people, which were the case in that election, the people who vote get to determine the direction of the country they're going to live in. And we have to live with this now. So the question is, what do we do next? Those were the conversations that we were having. We learned about our country not through pundits and television and news talk shows, but we learned about it from meeting people. And what we learned is that we in this country, there are decent people of all persuasions. And whether they agreed with us or not, when you were in their face, in their community, people were kind and gracious and generous. They reflected the values that I grew up with. One of the reasons why I tell these stories about my life is that everybody can resonate with the story of my upbringing because that's how everybody's grown up with a little hardship and a little, you know, with a little pain and a little little hope and a little joy. The problem is we don't know each other. We don't let each other in. And I said in this book, it is hard to hate up close when you were when you're hating a person through a filter and the filter was gone for me and Barack for our nation. And so we got to see the truth. And that's what I try to pass on to people. You know, don't let what's happening now be the filter filter through which we see one another. It is not a clear or clean or accurate filter. We saw the country as a whole. We've seen the world as a whole for bringing hope to young people because in the end, that's who we're counting on. People ask, is it do you still believe in going high? Absolutely. Because what's the choice? What what do we want to model for our kids? You know, we want them to believe in the possibility of more and better, and we owe it to them because kids don't come to this earth jaded and racist and cynical and misogynists. They come here pure and open. We teach them all of that stuff. We owe them better. So, yeah, I want to.