

Good afternoon.

I would like to begin by offering my congratulations to everyone graduating today. These last four years have been trying for many of us, and the fact that you are here today is a testament to your resilience and an indication that you have a great future to look forward to.

Every single person to have ever graced this Earth shares two things with every other person: we are all born, and we all will die. Between these two points is something we call life.

As I stand in front of you today, I'm going to make each and every one of you a promise. As I make my way to that final point, every breath that I take, every step that I manage, and every word that crosses my lips will all be with the intention of making this world a better place.

I'm telling you this because I want this speech to be an invitation. Today, I challenge each and every one of you to strive to make this world a better one - with every breath you take, with every step that you have, and with every word that crosses your lips.

As I look out at you all, I know that some of you will make more money than me, some of you will live longer lives, and some of you will have better stories to tell. But one thing I am sure of is that if I can - in any way, shape, or form - create a better world, I will be just as successful as any other person who can say the same. I hope that as you look up at me, each of you can feel just as assured of this fact as I am.

Before I wrap up here, I want to take a moment to issue a special thank you. When I learned that I might be giving a speech today, my parents told me that they didn't want to be singled out. It is precisely for this reason that I want to say thank you to you guys for all of the sacrifices that you have made to get me here today. I would not be here without your dedication to me, so from the bottom of my heart, thank you. On this day, about 200 Taconic students will be graduating and entering adulthood. Each and every one of these students has had at least one person behind them who has helped them get across this stage. So, I say to my peers, let's show our people how much we appreciate them.

That's all I have for you. It's been a privilege,

Rock on, Taconic. (the crowd goes wild)