

**LOVE & NORAEBANG**

YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT

EPISODE 3

MUA x SONORO

Written by

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INT. CHOI ENTERPRISES HQ - LOBBY - DAY

**Ambient lobby noise, like an Apple store on a quiet day.**

**A keycard beeps. An elevator politely dings and silently opens. Wordlessly whooshes up. Then shuts.**

**The sound of Jaesun's expensive Testoni dress shoes walking down an even more expensive marble hallway.**

**He opens the heavy cherry wood doors, which noiselessly open.**

INT. CHOI ENTERPRISES HQ - SOOKMIN'S OFFICE SUITE - DAY

**Classical music plays. Probably something like Saint-Saens.**

	SOOKMIN	
9	<i>Eo wass-eo, yeohaeng-eun eottyaess- eo?</i>	9
10	(Ah, Jaesun. You're here. How was the flight?) (어 왔어, 여행은 어땠어?)	10
	JAESUN	
11	<i>Eo appa, joh-ass-eo.</i> (Father. Good.) (어 아빠, 좋았어.)	11

**As the classical music quiets, the Korean crossfades into translated English.**

	SOOKMIN	
12	(in translated English) You're early.	12
	JAESUN	
13	(in translated English) Learned from the best.	13
	SOOKMIN	
14	Come. Sit. Hyun? Some tea please.	14

As they sit, the **fine leather seats creak** underneath them.  
HYUN (50s, Korean) **pours them hot tea** from an expensive cerulean tea set.

	JAESUN	
15	Thank you, Hyun.	15
	HYUN	
16	My pleasure, sir.	16

17 SOOKMIN  
Hyun, could you please hand me the  
file for the American expansion  
project? 17

**A leather dossier exchanging hands.**

18 SOOKMIN (CONT'D)  
The rest of the board is very  
pleased. Any doubts about your  
leadership abilities have been  
quelled. 18

**Papers being flipped.**

19 SOOKMIN (CONT'D)  
Let's talk about your  
extemporaneous but successful  
stratagem at the meeting. 19

20 JAESUN  
I improvised. I sensed that hard-  
balling the offer wasn't going to  
work. 20

21 SOOKMIN  
Your quick wit saved you this time,  
but you mustn't be afraid to go  
after what you want. Unequivocally. 21

**Sookmin taps the folder as he flips through the dossier.**

22 SOOKMIN (CONT'D)  
Something to work on. 22

23 JAESUN  
Yes, *appa* (father, 아빠). 23

24 SOOKMIN  
Good. I'll hand this over to Mr.  
Ro, and he'll oversee this project  
while you're serving. 24

25 JAESUN  
I'd like to stay involved. 25

A beat.

26 SOOKMIN  
Hyun, could you please excuse us? 26

27 HYUN  
Of course, sir. 27

**Hyun's footsteps recede** as Sookmin waits until he's out of earshot to ask--

28	SOOKMIN How is my favorite son?	28
29	JAESUN I'm your only son.	29
30	SOOKMIN (a smile in his voice) Oh, I change my mind then.	30
31	(then) Kunwoo tells me Ana dropped you off at the airport. Is she the reason why you want to stay involved?	31
32	JAESUN Yes and no.	32
33	SOOKMIN I thought this was just a "wet hot American summer" fling.	33
34	JAESUN Appa (father, 아빠), gross.	34
35	SOOKMIN (takes a sip of tea) You spent an entire month with a girl you barely know, then took her to Mexico City on our company jet. Textbook wet hot American sum--	35
36	JAESUN Please stop saying that.	36
37	SOOKMIN She must've been very sad to see you go.	37
38	JAESUN It's not like that. She's more than just a fling. She's special.	38
39	SOOKMIN (scoffs) You fall with your heart too easily. If you must fall, fall with your head.	39

40 JAESUN In laymen's terms, please? I don't speak "Dad." 40

41 SOOKMIN When you fall with your head, you learn your lesson. Chloe does this, and she never has to learn the same mistake twice. 41

42 JAESUN (ribs him) She definitely hasn't told you about Tanya then. 42

43 SOOKMIN I thought she was dating a doctor who had a dreamboat. 43

44 JAESUN No, Jichul doesn't own a dreamboat. He is the dreamboat. 44

SOOKMIN  
(grumbles)

45 JAESUN Continue. Please. 45

46 SOOKMIN You, though, my favorite *adeul* (son, 아들), you learn with your heart, and that gets you in trouble. 46

**Jaesun sets down his teacup with a CLACK, frustrated.**

47 JAESUN In high school, Mr. Jang asked to meet with you because I wasn't getting into enough trouble. 47

48 SOOKMIN When it comes to the matters of the heart, it's hard to tell what's real and what's not. 48

49 JAESUN Ana's different, *appa* (father, 아빠). 49

50 SOOKMIN How do you know? 50

JAESUN  
(gather his thoughts)  
51 All my life, I've been surrounded 51  
by the same faces. Everyone looks  
at me, like, I'm the answer to all  
their problems. But when Ana looks  
at me, it's like I'm just a person.  
Not Mr. Choi's son, not a VP. I'm  
just Jaesun. It's like the  
pressure's off. And she sees me.  
And when I look at her, it's like  
seeing an answer to a question I  
never knew to ask.

SOOKMIN  
52 And what answer is that? 52

JAESUN  
53 I don't know, but I'm okay with 53  
that. I have the rest of my life to  
figure it out.

SOOKMIN  
(raised eyebrow)  
54 Rest of your life? 54

JAESUN  
55 You would like her. She has a 55  
different kind of ambition. She's  
building upon her grandparents'  
vision while keeping her parents'  
spirit alive.

SOOKMIN  
56 The restaurant is a family 56  
business.

JAESUN  
57 It's more than that. It's a home, a 57  
place where people can celebrate  
and commune. And I'm realizing, we  
can do that with our business, too.  
In fact, it's our responsibility.

SOOKMIN  
(nodding)  
58 As a conglomerate, we have many 58  
responsibilities. To our  
shareholders, our employees. We are  
helping to build the infrastructure  
of our country.

JAESUN

59                    *Appa* (father, *아빠*), we need to stop                    59  
                          looking at what we do as a singular  
                          development project. We have the  
                          power to do good for people. That's  
                          why I want to go back. I want to  
                          bring to our company the same  
                          spirit Ana has for her restaurant.

Silence. Sookmin sips his tea.

JAESUN (CONT'D)

60                    Aren't you going to say something?                    60

**Sookmin's teacup clinks as he sets it down.**

SOOKMIN

61                    I've never heard you speak like                    61  
                          this before.

JAESUN

62                    No one's made me feel this way                    62  
                          before.

(then)

63                    Let me take the American expansion                    63  
                          when I'm done, and I'll show you.

SOOKMIN

(sighs)

64                    If only time were a resource that                    64  
                          we could harness like the wind.

JAESUN

65                    Well, then let me run like the wind                    65  
                          on this project, *appa* (father,  
                          *아빠*). I can do this.

SOOKMIN

66                    Your conscription is two years.                    66

JAESUN

67                    You're always telling me these                    67  
                          things take time.

SOOKMIN

68                    You won't have the support you have                    68  
                          here.

JAESUN

69                    *Hal-abeoji* (grandpa, *할아버지*) didn't                    69  
                          either when he started.

70 SOOKMIN Grandpa got his start on the docks in Busan as an errand boy. 70

71 JAESUN I've never been more sure of anything in my life. 71

A beat.

72 SOOKMIN I'll have Kunwoo attend all the meetings in LA while you're gone. He's been asking for more responsibilities. He'll brief you when you get back. 72

73 JAESUN Thanks, appa (dad, 아빠). I'll make you proud. You'll see. 73

Jaesun gets up to go, the **leather seats creaking**.

74 SOOKMIN Jaeseon-a (Jaesun, 재선아), this promotion to Senior Vice President isn't just in title. It comes with its own set of complications. 74

75 JAESUN (rolls his eyes) You worry too much. 75

76 SOOKMIN Our adversaries are watching. 76

77 JAESUN You and the Chairman of MJ Group have known each other since prep school. That one bid he lost was so long ago! Can't you guys squash it? 77

78 SOOKMIN It was fourteen contracts, his college girlfriend, and now my son's nabbing deals from under his son. A kicked dog never forgets. 78

**The leather seats squeak as Jaesun gets up.**

79 JAESUN See you at dinner. 79

SOOKMIN

80 I told *ajumeoni* (aunitue, 아주머니) 80  
to make *japchae* (glass noodles,  
잡채) and *galbi* (short ribs, 갈비),  
your favorite.

JAESUN

81 Chloe Noona's going to be jealous. 81

SOOKMIN

82 She really does love *ajumeoni's* 82  
food. So tell me about this ...  
Tanya. Are she and Chloe dating?

JAESUN

83 How much time you got? 83

**PRE-LAP: a town car driving.**

INT. TOWN CAR - DAY - MOVING

LOS ANGELES

84 But this sweet catch up between 84  
father and son could only last so  
long. Because Jaesun left Ana and  
came back to Seoul for one reason.

**The car slows to a stop** as Kunwoo pulls into base with  
Jaesun.

KUNWOO

85 We're here. Dongsan Army Training 85  
Camp.

JAESUN

86 What's with that ridiculously huge 86  
clock at the camp's entrance?

KUNWOO

87 Counting down the minutes you have 87  
left to finish bootcamp.

JAESUN

88 Subtle. 88

KUNWOO

89 With focus, it'll be at zero before 89  
you know it. That's how I got  
through it. No distractions.

90                                   JAESUN                                   90  
 Thanks but you didn't have someone  
 waiting for you halfway around the  
 world.

                                  KUNWOO  
                                   (like he's talking to a  
                                   child)  
 91                                   You have an obligation to your                                   91  
 shareholders, your business  
 partners, and most importantly,  
 your father.

                                  JAESUN                                   92  
 92                                   What's the point of all that if you                                   92  
 can't be with the one you love?

                                  KUNWOO  
                                   (evenly)  
 93                                   I think this service will be good                                   93  
 for you. To clear your head of Ana  
 and figure out what you need to do  
 as heir apparent to Choi  
 Enterprises.

                                  JAESUN                                   94  
 94                                   Oh-kayy, Kunwoo. (deep breath) I'll                                   94  
 see you soon.

**The car door opens and shuts as Jaesun steps out.**

                                  LOS ANGELES                                   95  
 95                                   For the next five weeks, Jaesun                                   95  
 would be in basic training with  
 young men, some of them college  
 kids almost a decade younger than  
 him. But he hoped that the shared  
 experience would bring them  
 together.

**PRE-LAP: boots marching, soldiers counting off, drill sergeants calling out exercises and commands.**

                                  LOS ANGELES (CONT'D)                                   96  
 96                                   Jaesun turned in his tailored                                   96  
 Berluti suits for fatigues, his Off-  
 Whites for combat boots, and his  
 luxurious conditioned hair for the  
 standard army buzzcut.

**The buzz of clippers.**



RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
 (whispers)  
 106 It's "sir" to you, you rich prick. 106

JAESUN  
 107 Yes, sir. 107

**He shoves Jaesun's head away.**

RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
 108 Give him the number two. 108

JAESUN  
 109 What's a number two? 109

RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
 110 The shit haircut. 110

**The buzzing clippers draw closer to Jaesun, ominous.**

EXT. DONGSAN ARMY TRAINING CAMP - A FEW WEEKS LATER

Jaesun and his fellow recruits, exhausted but still pushing, count out loud as they do their push-up drills.

JAESUN/RECRUITS  
 111 Forty-eight... 111

RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
 112 This ain't sleepaway camp. Louder. 112

JAESUN/RECRUITS  
 (louder)  
 113 Forty-nine! 113

RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
 114 What're you, nuns in church? I want 114  
 those North Korean bitches to hear  
 us coming for their ass.

JAESUN/RECRUITS  
 115 Fifty. 115

**They collapse, spent.**

RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
 116 You call yourself soldiers? Another 116  
 fifty. You should be ashamed of  
 yourselves.

**Jaesun and the soldiers struggle to get up.**

117 RASPY DRILL SERGEANT (CONT'D)  
Rich prick's looking at me funny. 117  
Add another fifty.

118 JAESUN  
I didn't-- 118

119 RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
Another fifty. 119

120 JAESUN  
But-- 120

121 RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
Another fifty! 121

CHUNG, another recruit (20s, Korean), yells at Jaesun, ire in his voice in spite of his dissipated energy.

122 CHUNG  
Yo, shut the fuck up, rich prick! 122

123 RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
Couldn't have said it better 123  
myself, Chung. Now, gentlemen, we  
don't got all day...

**The recruits grumble as they get into push-up formation.**

124 JAESUN/RECRUITS  
One... 124

125 RASPY DRILL SERGEANT  
Louder. 125

126 JAESUN/RECRUITS  
Two! 126

CROSSFADE TO:

INT. ANA'S CAR - DAY - FIVE WEEKS LATER

**Ana puts her car in park. She grabs her phone out of her purse. The voice memo app beeps as she records a message.**

127 ANA  
(into app)  
Hi. 127

128 (calls out the window)  
Valet's only two dollars, but 128  
there's street parking in the back.

129 (back to the memo)  
Sorry, Jaesun, just got to work. 129  
(MORE)

ANA (CONT'D)

Also, have you gotten any of my other voice memos?

(sighs)

130 Can't believe you've been in bootcamp with no phone for five weeks. But you'll have access to it once you get placed, right? 130

(pauses)

131 Does this mean you're now even more shredded? You know Shang-Chi is my favorite superhero. Just kidding. You're my fave. 131

(sighs)

132 Okay, hope you're making a lot of friends and getting all the character building you wanted out of it. Say hi to all your new friends for me, Jaesun. *Hwaiting* (you got this, 화이팅)! I'm rooting for you. 132

**The voice memo beeps as Ana stops recording. She sighs. Turns on the radio.**

KOST DJ

133 Let's go back to our KOST line. Amy from Pomona wants to dedicate a song to her partner Rebecca in Glendale. She says, "There's no place like home when we're together." Rebecca, this song goes out to you. 133

**Ana and Jaesun's song comes on the radio.**

ANA

134 Aww, that's our *noraebang* song. 134

(sings along)

135 *Stuck in your eyes* 135

136 *Time falls apart* 136

137 *Forever is not that far* 137

138 *You're the one I can wait for* 138

139 139

**Her phone rings.**

ANA (CONT'D)

140 What the hell? A "+82" area code? 140

She gasps.

**The volume on Ana and Jaesun's song lowering but still playing in the background.**

141 ANA (CONT'D) 141  
Jaesun?!

142 JAESUN 142  
Wow, hearing your voice is better  
than I had imagined.

**A lot of background activity noise. He sounds far away and crackly on the phone.** There's a weariness in his voice that wasn't there before.

143 ANA 143  
It's even better in person.

Jaesun laughs.

144 ANA (CONT'D) 144  
How was bootcamp? Did you survive?

145 JAESUN 145  
(saluting)  
*Chungseong* (yes, sir, 충성)!

146 ANA 146  
Is that... is that a yes?

147 JAESUN 147  
*Chungseong* (yes, sir. 충성). Listen,  
we just had our graduation  
ceremony, and I only get two  
minutes before they cut the line.  
And Kunwoo's gonna be here any  
minute now to pick me up.

148 ANA 148  
So this is a speed date.

149 JAESUN 149  
Yes.

150 ANA 150  
Okay, top five things you learned  
during bootcamp.

151 JAESUN 151  
(hesitates)  
Oh. What if we talk about that--

152 ANA 152  
Please? It's been five weeks. I'm  
dying to know everything.

153 JAESUN Okay. I'm the oldest guy here. 153

154 ANA One. 154

155 JAESUN My drill sergeant knows all of Blackpink's music. 155

156 ANA Sounds like Valentina's type of guy. Two. 156

157 JAESUN The food sucks. 157

158 ANA Three. 158

159 JAESUN I miss happy hour at Don Dago's. 159

160 ANA Aww, four. 160

161 JAESUN I miss you. I miss your smile. I miss hugging you. I miss your laugh and-- 161

162 ANA (laughs) Okay, that's more than five. 162

163 JAESUN Your turn. Top five things you saw today. 163

164 ANA The back of my eyelids. 164

165 JAESUN One. 165

166 ANA Pastries from Paris Baguette. 166

167 JAESUN Mmm, two. 167

168 ANA Dog shit. 168



181 VALENTINA Marketing 101: drive profitable customer action. 181

182 MARK And unlike your class, if we fail to see that this rent hike notice is real, we'd get an F for eviction. 182

The two squabble amongst themselves.

VALENTINA MARK (CONT'D)  
That doesn't make any sense. You don't make any sense.  
Just throw it away. They're teaching me to not get scammed. What are they teaching you?

Ana enters. Valentina and Mark immediately zip it.

183 ANA What's up? 183

VALENTINA MARK  
Nothing. Nothing.

184 ANA You two never agree on anything. Tell me. 184

185 VALENTINA (can't help it) Someone's trying to scam us. 185

186 MARK First of all, we have to send money to get scammed. 186

187 (turns to Ana) We got this in the mail today. 187

**Mark hands Ana a letter. She opens it.**

188 VALENTINA (under her breath) I said tried, not that it happened. I just want my life to be like a Korean drama, *tonto*. 188

189 ANA What? How? They can't do this. Can they? 189

190 MARK I don't know. 190

191 ANA  
Did you try calling them? 191

192 MARK  
We were just about to. 192

**Ana makes a call on a landline. Hear the dial tone.**

193 ANA  
(phone in her ear; to  
Mark)  
I don't know why Helen wouldn't 193  
tell us. She's practically family.

194 MARK  
Not anymore. 194

195 ANA  
Don't they need to give us notice? 195

196 MARK  
I think this is the notice. 196

A BUBBLY AGENT (40s, wears too much hairspray) **picks up.** Ana  
puts the call on speaker phone.

197 BUBBLY AGENT  
Omni Realty. 197

198 ANA  
Omni Realty? Where's Helen? 198

199 BUBBLY AGENT  
I'm sorry. Do you have a last name 199  
and a property number?

200 ANA  
Helen McDowell. She's our landlord. 200  
Property #8589063.

**The Bubbly Agent clacks on a keyboard.**

201 BUBBLY AGENT  
Oh. Mrs. McDowell sold the lease to 201  
us a few weeks ago.

202 ANA  
Is that why our rent went up? 202

203 MARK  
(mouths to her)  
Ten times. 203

204 ANA  
Ten times. 204

205 BUBBLY AGENT  
It sounds like your lease was up  
for renewal, and the terms of your  
lease were updated to reflect the  
median rate in the area. 205

206 ANA  
But isn't that something we  
negotiate together? 206

207 BUBBLY AGENT  
That's discretionary. If you have  
any more questions, don't hesitate  
to call. Rent is due the first of  
every month. No exceptions. 207

**The call disconnects. The phone beeps until Ana hangs up. A pencil scratches as Mark does the math on paper.**

208 MARK  
If we have to pay this new rent  
we're going to be at a huge deficit  
in a year. 208

209 VALENTINA  
Isn't that when we have to start  
paying back the loan? 209

210 MARK  
Yep. 210

211 ANA  
I don't understand. We've been in  
this building for forty years. How  
could Helen do this to us? 211

212 MARK  
Maybe she got bought out. Real  
estate in Koreatown's selling like  
hotcakes. 212

213 VALENTINA  
Now's not a good time for your  
outdated references, Mark. 213  
(to Ana)

214  
If this scam is real, maybe we  
should use the loan towards paying  
rent instead of the salsa line. We  
can always launch it later. 214

215 MARK  
This isn't a scam. 215

216 VALENTINA  
It feels like it! How can they just  
increase the rent ten times without  
giving us time to prepare? We can't  
pay for the loan and this rent-scam  
and my tuition! 216

217 ANA  
What do we say? If you can't handle  
the heat in the kitchen... 217

**Ana nudges Valentina.**

218 VALENTINA  
(obliges)  
Get out. 218

219 ANA  
*Necesitas trabajar hacia algún  
objetivo.*  
(we should always be  
working towards  
something) 219

220 This is a new restaurant goal we  
can work towards. We've been  
talking about growing, right? 220

221 VALENTINA  
(grumbling)  
Yeah, but if we grow too fast, we  
might get stretch marks. 221

EXT. DONGSAN ARMY TRAINING CAMP - BARRACKS - DAY - SAME

**Hear soldiers milling about. A black car pulls to a stop, its  
window rolls down.**

222 KUNWOO  
*Buhoejangnim (sir, 부회장님)?* 222

**A car door clacks open as Jaesun gets in.**

223 JAESUN  
Hey, Kunwoo. Thanks for picking me  
up. 223

224 CHUNG  
(calls out)  
Hey, rich prick, don't mind us.  
(MORE) 224

CHUNG (CONT'D)

We're just taking the shitty bus home.

JAESUN

(to Kunwoo)

225 Can you please roll up the window? 225

**The taunting quiets as the car window rolls up.**

KUNWOO

(hands Jaesun his phone)

226 Your phone. They've already texted your military placement. 226

**Jaesun taps open his phone.**

JAESUN

227 This department was the last place I wanted to be. I requested to be in the field. 227

KUNWOO

228 They've must've assigned you to the military headquarters because of your fluency in English. 228

(beat)

229 Something the matter? 229

JAESUN

230 It's fine. 230

KUNWOO

231 I spent my two years in the infantry digging trenches along the DMZ. I often lost the feeling in my arms from the work. One of our guys snapped and almost beat another man to death. Many soldiers would covet your placement, sir. Appreciate what you have. You'll thank me at the end. 231

**Jaesun's watch ticks.**

JAESUN

232 Only time will tell. 232

Something like The Rolling Stones' "You Can't Always Get What You Want" plays.

233

## LOS ANGELES

It's true what they say, "You can't always get what you want." Nobody wants to live in uncertainty about the future. Who can live with constant pressure and scrutiny? So I guess I'm not so sure about the next part ... "But you get what you need." Are these challenges what Ana and Jaesun need so they can grow on their own and come back together stronger? Or will life tear them apart? Only time will tell.

233

**END OF EPISODE 3**

MUA x SONORO