

**LOVE & NORAEBANG**

WE BELONG TOGETHER

EPISODE 4

MUA x SONORO

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**\*Bold text indicates sound design or foley.**

EXT. KOREAN MILITARY BASE - DAY

**The sound of tanks rolling and jets soaring.**

LOS ANGELES

1

When one thinks of serving one's country, images of large rolling tanks, deep-diving submarines, and high-flying jets come hand in hand with the feelings of patriotism. There's even a kind of glory to digging trenches. Unfortunately for Jaesun, his patriotism would be limited to tedious office work. You see, once recruits of the Korean military finish their five weeks of basic training, they're assigned jobs for the duration of their conscription based on their skill set. If you had a truck driving license, you might drive trucks for two years. If you were a sous chef in civilian life, you might be a cook in the mess hall. You can guess why Jaesun ended up where he did. It was as if he couldn't escape the corporate world, only this time, there'd be no real opportunities for growth or getting out of his comfort zone.

1

INT. MILITARY BASE - OFFICE - DAY

**As Jaesun types on a keyboard, the phone rings.**

JAESUN

(salutes into the phone)

2

*Chungseong!*

2

3

(Loyalty, 충성.)

3

(in English)

4

Yes, sir. I will let the colonel know.

4

**He hangs up. CHUNG, the recruit from before, noisily enters.**

CHUNG

(mockingly bows)

5

*Jeonha.*

5

6

(Your highness, 전하.)

6

**The Korean crossfades into English.**

	CHUNG (CONT'D)	
	(in translated English)	
7	Oh, Your Highness. Of course you're in here, soaking up all the good AC, while the rest of us bottomfeeders break our backs in the sun.	7
	JAESUN	
	(in translated English)	
8	Good to see you too, Chung.	8
	CHUNG	
	(poor English)	
9	"Good to see you too, Chung." You're not the only who speak English.	9
	JAESUN	
10	Happy to teach you if you want.	10
	<b>Chung grabs Jaesun's collar.</b>	
	CHUNG	
11	You might be better than me off base, but in here? Your money ain't shit.	11
	JAESUN	
12	Is there something you wanted?	12
	CHUNG	
13	Captain wants to see you, bootlicker.	13
	He spits.	
	CHUNG (CONT'D)	
14	Your office is filthy. You better clean up before he finds out.	14
	<b>Chung knocks over a stack of papers.</b>	
	CHUNG (CONT'D)	
15	Bitch.	15
	<b>He slams the door on his way out. Jaesun sighs as he picks up the papers and stacks them neatly.</b>	
	JAESUN	
16	I just organized those.	16

INT. MILITARY BASE - ADMIN OFFICE - DAY

Jaesun enters.

	JAESUN	
	(salutes)	
17	<i>Chungseong!</i>	17
18	(Loyalty, 충성.)	18

CAPTAIN PARK (early-20s, Korean) exhales his cigarette. His voice is shrill and strident, like a bossy chihuahua's. It's obvious he's younger than Jaesun.

	CAPTAIN PARK	
19	<i>Swieo.</i>	19
20	(At ease, 쉬어)	20

**The Korean crossfades into translated English.**

	CAPTAIN PARK (CONT'D)	
	(in translated English)	
21	Smoke?	21

	JAESUN	
	(in translated English)	
22	I don't--	22

**Captain Park tosses Jaesun a Zippo lighter and a pack of cigarettes.**

	JAESUN (CONT'D)	
23	Thank you, sir.	23

**Jaesun lights a cigarette. Coughs.**

	CAPTAIN PARK	
24	How's it feel, kid? Halfway through.	24

Jaesun exhales cigarette smoke. Less coughing this time.

	CAPTAIN PARK (CONT'D)	
25	Your quartermaster tells me you're still not getting along with your unit.	25

	JAESUN	
26	Working on it.	26

	CAPTAIN PARK	
27	Don't take it personal. Not everyone is as rich and lucky as you.	27



**The Korean crossfades into translated English.**

QUARTERMASTER (CONT'D)  
 (in translated English)  
 41 I want your phones signed back in 41  
 at 8 p.m. sharp or that's extra  
 toilet scrubbing duties. I'm  
 talking to you, Choi.

SOLDIERS  
 (mocking)  
 42 *Jeonha.* 42  
 43 (Your highness, 전하.) 43

**Voice memo app beeps.**

JAESUN  
 (into phone)  
 44 Hellooooo? You there? It's not like 44  
 I've been waiting for you--

**Chung SNATCHES Jaesun's phone away.**

JAESUN (CONT'D)  
 45 Hey! Give that back. 45

CHUNG  
 (poor English; into phone)  
 46 Oh, hello, how are you? This is 46  
*Jeonha* (your highness, 전하). I love  
 you so much, girlfriend. ABC.

**The other soldiers laugh.**

JAESUN  
 47 Like, I said, if you want my help, 47  
 I can teach you English.

CHUNG  
 48 You hear that, boys? He thinks we 48  
 need his help.

**The other soldiers boo and blow raspberries.**

CHUNG (CONT'D)  
 49 We don't need your help, rich kid. 49  
 You ain't shit. Your money ain't  
 shit. And your daddy ain't shit.

**Chung walks away as he high-fives the unit as they clap him on the back.**

50 JAESUN 50  
 You're right. Who I am and what I  
 have don't matter. None of it saved  
 me from coming here.

**Jaesun begins dumping out his military gear and the few  
 belongings he has from his cubby.**

51 JAESUN (CONT'D) 51  
 Here. You want my stuff? You can  
 have it. None of this shit changes  
 anything. We're still stuck here,  
 and it fucking sucks. You guys ever  
 wonder what we're doing here? Why  
 we're doing all this?

Deathly silent until--**the entire unit ERUPTS into howls as  
 they rib Jaesun.**

52 CHUNG 52  
 Oh snap. *Jeonha's* lost it.  
**The soldiers hoot.**

53 SOLDIERS 53  
 Aww, come on! // Actually, uour  
 shit is awesome! // You're not such  
 an asshole after all.

54 CHUNG 54  
 All right, all right. How about  
 them English lessons, *Jeonha*? You  
 still down to teach us bottom  
 feeders?

55 JAESUN 55  
 Fuck no. (but with some relief) You  
 can kiss my ass.

56 CHUNG 56  
 The ass *is* nice.

57 JAESUN 57  
 (in spite of himself, laughter in  
 his voice)  
 58 Get outta here. 58

The unit rolls with laughter.

INT. COMMISSARY - NIGHT - LATER

**Jaesun's footsteps approach the Quartermaster, who is reading  
 a newspaper.**

59 QUARtermaster  
Oh, Jaesun. Is it eight already? 59

He checks his watch.

60 QUARtermaster (CONT'D)  
You've only had your phone for an 60  
hour.

61 JAESUN  
Just checking my phone in early. 61

62 QUARtermaster  
(surprise)  
What gives? 62

63 JAESUN  
It's distracting. 63

64 QUARtermaster  
(smiling)  
About time, soldier. 64

INT. CAMPOS' HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

**Dinnerware clinks as Ana and Valentina eat dinner. Ana scrolls through her phone.**

65 VALENTINA  
Wow, Ana. How many voice memos is 65  
that from Jaesun? Have you listened  
to any of them?

66 ANA  
(lying)  
I've listened to them. Some. 66

67 VALENTINA  
What if it's urgent? 67

68 ANA  
Then he would've called and left a 68  
voicemail.

69 VALENTINA  
What'd he say when you told him 69  
about the rent hike?

70 ANA  
*Ya basta.* 70



71 VALENTINA 71  
Wow, I can't believe you haven't  
told him. That's why you're  
avoiding him.

72 ANA 72  
He's in a warzone, Vale. These are  
champagne problems.

73 VALENTINA 73  
Pretty sure neither Korea has  
attacked in decades?

74 ANA 74  
That's not the point.

75 VALENTINA 75  
I still think he'd want to know.

**Ana slams down her fork.**

76 ANA 76  
Don't you have mid-terms to study  
for?

**She gets up and grabs her plate. Slams it in the sink before  
stalking off.**

77 VALENTINA 77  
Don't slam your plates. Steven Yeun  
hates it.

INT. DON DAGO'S RESTAURANT - BACK OFFICE - DAY

Mark and Ana look over some files.

78 MARK 78  
I don't know, Ana. It just feels  
really risky.

79 ANA 79  
My grandparents opening this  
restaurant was risk--

**A knock on the door.**

80 VALENTINA 80  
Ana? Federica wants to speak with  
you.

81 ANA 81  
Come in, come in. What is it?

82 FEDERICA 82  
*¿Es verdad, Ana?*  
 (Is it true, Ana?)

83 ANA 83  
 Of course we're not shutting down.

84 FEDERICA 84  
*¿Qué le pasó a Nico? ¿Por qué Mark  
 ahora trabaja en la cocina?*  
 (So what happened to Nico?  
 And why's Mark working in  
 the kitchen now?)

MARK ANA  
 (good liar) (bad liar)  
 We had to let him go. He's on maternity leave.

MARK (CONT'D)  
 (turning to Ana)  
 85 We let him go while Domonique's 85  
 pregnant?!

86 ANA 86  
 No, we're obviously...

MARK  
 87 What? 87  
 (finally gets it)  
 88 Ohhh, we're lying. 88

ANA  
 89 No, we're just cutting back. But I 89  
 promise you, Don Dago's is not  
 closing. This is our home. You and  
 the staff are my family. I'm not  
 gonna let you down.

FEDERICA  
 90 *Solo dime la verdad cuando estés 90*  
*lista.*  
 (Tell me the truth when  
 you're ready.)

ANA  
 91 Federica... 91

FEDERICA  
 92 *Mira, solo quiero la verdad. El 92*  
*personal y yo nos la merecemos.*  
 (I just want honesty. The  
 staff and I deserve it.)

93 ANA  
Of course. 93

**Federica exits.**

94 VALENTINA  
I guess now'd be a good time to  
tell them. 94

95 ANA  
(warning)  
Vale. 95

96 VALENTINA  
Or sell your watch. You're not even  
listening to his voice memos. 96

97 ANA  
Valentina Christina Carolina-- 97

98 MARK  
Don't let her finish your name. 98

99 VALENTINA  
She's so close, why not? 99

100 MARK  
Why don't you go downstairs and  
help Federica jar the rest of the  
salsa? 100

101 VALENTINA  
But-- 101

102 MARK  
(gentle)  
Please. 102

**Valentina huffs but marches out.**

103 ANA  
That girl... 103

104 MARK  
Is this really the right time for  
the salsa line? 104

105 ANA  
What choice do we have? We have to  
keep pushing forward until we  
can't. 105

106 MARK 106  
 Since the bank isn't going to give  
 us an extension on the loan, let's  
 use that money to pay back rent.  
 It'd buy us time to raise revenue.  
 Maybe we could crowdfund--

107 ANA 107  
 My parents came from nothing, Mark.  
 I'm not gonna ask for handouts when  
 I know there are other people who  
 need it more than I do. Besides,  
 this is Valentina's vision for my  
 parents' dream. I can't not do  
 this.

(then)  
 108 Crap. Her tuition. 108

109 MARK 109  
 Don't worry about it.

110 ANA 110  
 (freaking out)  
 I have to go to the financial aid  
 office--

111 111

**Ana grabs her keys and purse.**

112 ANA (CONT'D) 112  
 They're not gonna accept, "Hey, we  
 suddenly can't pay this anymore" as  
 an excuse. What am I gonna say?

113 MARK 113  
 I paid it.

114 ANA 114  
 (stunned)  
 What?

115 MARK 115  
 We're in this together. I got you.

INT. ANA AND VALENTINA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

**A movie plays on an old TV.**

116 VALENTINA 116  
 Man, LA Story did not age well as a  
 movie.

117 MARK I'm definitely Team S-a-n-D-e-E. 117

118 VALENTINA *¿Pero que?* They have nothing in common together! He barely knows her. 118

119 ANA (laughing) Guys, it's just a movie. 119

120 VALENTINA He's frickin' getting advice from a freeway sign. 120

121 ANA Sometimes you just need to listen to the sign. 121

122 MARK Thank you! 122

123 VALENTINA You always take his side. Well, I don't care how this movie ends. 123

124 (yawn) I'm going to bed. Don't stay up too late. Good night, Mark. 124

**She shuffles away, leaving Ana and Mark alone with the movie playing.**

A beat.

125 MARK Guess it's time to hit the sack. 125

**Mark's keys jingle lightly as he puts on his jacket.**

126 MARK (CONT'D) Try to get some rest okay? 126

127 ANA Yeah. 127

128 MARK We're gonna get through this. Like the last time. 128

129 ANA Thanks. I know. 129

Another beat.

MARK  
130 I know the circumstances aren't 130  
ideal, but I missed this. You. Us.  
The late nights together.

A lingering silence.

ANA  
131 Good night, Mark. 131

MARK  
132 Yeah, okay. Good night. 132

**The door quietly shuts.**

**Ana flops onto the couch. Pulls up the voice memo app. It beeps, starts recording.** Her voice sounds taut, like it's about to snap.

ANA  
133 Hey, Jaesun. I think you're on your 133  
afternoon shift right now. By the  
time you get this, I'll probably be  
asleep.

(pushes on)  
134 Sorry I've been hard to reach 134  
lately. Things at the restaurant  
took a hard left turn, and it's  
been really stressful. We got a new  
landlord, and they jacked up the  
rent on us.

(breaking)  
135 I don't know what to do. I really 135  
wish I could see you right now.

She takes in a deep breath, pausing the recording.

**The voice memo app beeps.**

MACHINE VOICE  
136 Delete this message? 136

ANA  
137 I can't send this. I sound crazy. 137

**The app chirps.**

MACHINE VOICE  
138 Message deleted. 138

**The app beeps again.**

ANA

(with a forced smile)

139 Hey, Jaesun. Sorry I haven't been 139  
able to talk much this week. The  
salsa line's been keeping me busy,  
and...

**A neighborhood dog barks in the distance. Crickets chirr.**

ANA (VOICE MEMO) (CONT'D)

140 All good though, can't complain. 140  
Okay, gonna go to sleep now. Miss  
you.

**She clicks off her phone. Silence as her watch ticks,  
counting down the seconds.**

LOS ANGELES

141 Loneliness has a way of isolating 141  
you. You start to believe that no  
one understands you. And if no one  
understands you, why would you  
reach out? Once you've bought into  
that lie, there's no escape. It  
just spins you around and around  
until you believe, of the millions  
and millions of people living on  
this planet, you truly are alone.

**Ambient bedtime noise. Clocks ticking. Covers rustling. Maybe  
an owl hoots.**

JAESUN

142 (whispers; lying in bed) 142  
*¿Oye?*

ANA

143 (whispers; lying in bed) 143  
*¿Cómo está usted?*

**END OF EPISODE 4**