

LOVE & NORAEBANG

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY YOU LOVE ME

EPISODE 5

MUA x SONORO

Written by

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EXT. ANA'S CAR - EARLY MORNING - MOVING

Ana drives through LA's streets. Light traffic. Hear her car signal blink.

LOS ANGELES

1 Although it's only one trip around 1
the sun, a lot can happen in a
year. Birthdays, weddings,
graduations. But as we look
forward to these joyous occasions,
we tend to forget about the
potholes in between them.
Heartbreak, sadness, depression.
And these were fast approaching for
Ana. Potholes she couldn't avoid
even on her morning commute to the
restaurant.

INT. ANA'S CAR - EARLY MORNING - MOVING

Ana listens to the radio. Show host, RYSSDAL, speaks.

RYSSDAL

2 This is Marketplace. In Los 2
Angeles, I'm Kai Ryssdal.

Her phone pings with a TEXT NOTIFICATION.

ANA

3 (sighs)
Leave me alone, people. 3

RYSSDAL

4 We direct your attention today to a 4
national story come home. The
threats faced by some of our
favorite small business owners here
in Los Angeles are nearly
insurmountable. Rising real estate
prices, the ongoing encroachment of
national retailers, and

Her phone pings again.

RYSSDAL (CONT'D)

5 rising commodities and fuel prices 5
are threatening the livelihood of
entrepreneurs that have helped
build some of our the city's most
vibrant neighborhoods.

Then again.

RYSSDAL (CONT'D)

6 Take Koreatown for example. What 6
we're seeing there is similar to
what we saw in Echo Park some
twenty years ago.

Then a flurry of pings.

ANA

7 (sighs) 7
What do you all want?

Ana's phone rings.

RYSSDAL

8 Marketplace spoke with several 8
business owners, including Ana
Campos, owner of the Mexican
restaurant, Don Dago's, an icon in
the neighborhood. If you grew up in
Koreatown, you know Don Dago's for
their *pozole*. I personally love
their *chiles relleños*. Ms. Campos
told me that a year ago, they were
preparing to venture into consumer
packaged goods and that they had
been approved for a bank loan. But
after being opened for decades,
their new landlord brought their
rent beyond even market value, ten
times what they currently pay.
Needless to say, the restaurant
quickly fell behind on rent.

Rings again.

RYSSDAL (CONT'D)

9 (pause) 9
Whether it was the business
expansion that hurt them or the
increase in rent, either way,
they've been hit hard, and Ms.
Campos is trying to find a way to
keep her family's multigenerational
business alive.

Ana sighs.

RYSSDAL

10 It makes you wonder what the future 10
for small businesses will look like
in L.A.

Ana SMASHES the button on her car radio. She changes stations. A SPANISH COMMERCIAL plays.

11 LETICIA
 ¿Tienes dolor? 11
 (Do you experience pain?)

12 ANA
 Sí. 12

13 LETICIA
 ¿No puedes dormir por la noche? 13
 (Can you not sleep at
 night?)

14 ANA
 No. No puedo. 14
 (No. I can't.)

15 LETICIA
 ¿Te sientes solo? 15
 (Do you feel lonely?)

16 ANA
 (now suspicious)
 Yes... 16

17 LETICIA
 (switches to a brighter
 tone)
 (in Spanish)
 Then you need HEAD AWAY! The 17
 rubbing stick that takes away all
 your headache. Simply apply
 directly to the forehead--

Ana IMPATIENTLY TAPS her radio preset button. It changes to the song Ana and Jaesun sang at noraebang.

18 SINGER
 (placeholder) 18
 Underneath the lights of the city
 19 I can see it clearly 19
 20 I could be anywhere with you 20

21 ANA
 Nope. Nope! Nope! Nope! 21

Ana TAPS her radio off. She PULLS her car into Don Dago's back parking lot. Puts it in park.

22 ANA (CONT'D)
 Ugh, I don't want to go inside yet. 22

She gently bangs her head on the steering wheel.

	ANA (CONT'D)	
23	What am I going to do?	23
	(sighs)	
24	Hey, Siri.	24

Siri dings.

	ANA (CONT'D)	
25	Open my Relaxation Meditation app.	25

We hear the voice coming from her RELAXATION APP.

	RELAXTION APP	
26	Hi, it's Andy. And welcome to the Breathe Deep Meditation app. Life can sometimes come at us in all sorts of directions. But just like on a cloudy day, remind yourself that behind those dark clouds there will always be a clear blue sky. So, sitting comfortably, eyes closed, feet planted firmly on the ground, I want you to take a deep breath in...	26

ANA
(inhaling)

	RELAXTION APP	
27	And out.	27

	ANA (exhaling)	
28	Ahhhhhh....	28

	RELAXTION APP	
29	And a deep breath in...	29

ANA
(inhaling)

	RELAXTION APP	
30	And out.	30

	ANA (exhaling)	
31	Ahhh--	31

A KNOCK on Ana's window.

ANA (CONT'D)
 (startled)
 32 Ahhh! 32

RELAXTION APP
 33 Deep breath in... 33

Ana CLICKS her phone off.

ANA
 34 Mark!!! 34

Ana's car window ROLLS down.

ANA (CONT'D)
 35 I was trying to meditate. 35

MARK
 36 Great. You look very zen to me. 36
 Come on.

Mark OPENS Ana's door. The car-key-in-ignition CHIMES.

ANA
 37 No, what are you doing? 37

MARK
 38 Opening your door. 38

ANA
 39 You're not my valet, Mark. What is 39
 up with you?

MARK
 40 I've been trying to get a hold of 40
 you all morning. Did you know this
 was going to happen?

ANA
 41 What? 41

MARK
 42 The eviction notice. 42

Ana RUSHES inside the restaurant.

INT. DON DAGO'S - EARLY MORNING

The DOOR OPENS. The BELL CHIMES.

Valentina hands Ana a paper. We hear the DISGRUNTLED GRUMBLES from Ana's staff, including Federica.

43 VALENTINA 43
We've been trying to reach you.

44 ANA 44
I know. I'm sorry.

45 FEDERICA 45
So it's true then?

Ana stuffs the notice back into the envelope.

46 ANA 46
Yes. Unless we can come up with all this back rent in two months, we're getting evicted.

47 FEDERICA 47
Ana! I have been with this restaurant since your parents took it over from your *abuelitos*. I asked you to be honest with me.

48 ANA 48
(chipper; brave face)
We're going to figure it out.
Right, Mark?

49 MARK 49
Absolutely.

50 ANA 50
I know this is a lot to take in right now, but we can't let this discourage us. We still have customers coming in today, eviction or no eviction. *Hagamos lo que hacemos, cocinar*. Everyone in the kitchen.

The kitchen staff TRUDGES back into the kitchen. The kitchen doors swinging back and forth. Valentina and Mark stay behind. Valentina bursts into tears.

51 VALENTINA 51
It's all my fault. If I hadn't talked you into the salsa line, we wouldn't have gotten that bank loan, and we would've been able to keep up with rent and--

52 ANA 52
Hey, hey! Vale, stop. None of this is your fault. Do you understand?

53 VALENTINA
But it is my fault-- 53

54 ANA
It was Mami and Papi's dream to 54
expand. You were the one brave
enough to take it over. I'm not
going to let you bail on this now.

55 VALENTINA
(sniffling)
Ok. 55

56 MARK
Why don't you get some water and 56
sit down?

57 VALENTINA
(trying to calm down) 57
58 Ok. 58

Valentina exits. The kitchen doors swing back and forth. Mark
waits until she's out of earshot before turning to Ana.

59 MARK
So what's the plan? 59

60 ANA
(detached)
I don't have one. 60

61 MARK
What? 61

62 ANA
There's nothing we can do. 62

63 MARK
Ana, you're not thinking straight. 63

64 ANA
I am. 64

65 MARK
We can figure it out toge-- 65

66 ANA
There's nothing to figure out. 66

A beat.

67 MARK
Well... 67

68 ANA Don't. 68

69 MARK It makes sense! Drop the salsa line and use what we have left of the loan to save the restaurant. 69

70 ANA How many times do I have to tell you? No! 70

71 MARK It'd buy us a few months-- 71

72 ANA We're doing the salsa line, and that's final. 72

73 MARK So that's it? You're giving up? 73

74 ANA What else is there? 74

75 MARK Look, this is a lot to take in at once. Why don't you go home and-- 75

76 you knew this was coming, didn't you? 76

77 ANA Yes. 77

78 MARK When? 78

79 ANA A few months ago when we were going through our expenses. The only time I've ever seen that look on your face was when my parents died. 79

80 (pause) There's nothing else we can do. We've tapped our savings, cut back on hours, worked ourselves to the bone. It's over. 80

Ana starts taking the chairs off the restaurant tables.

81 ANA (CONT'D) I thought I could handle all of this, but I can't. 81

Mark stops her.

82	MARK	Ana, you don't have to set up the chairs right now. Just take a moment. C'mere.	82
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Mark takes her in his arms.

83	ANA (breaks down)	I'm just so tired.	83
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Mark takes her chin.

84	MARK	I love you.	84
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85	ANA	I love you too.	85
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86	LOS ANGELES	And then there was a kiss. Call it love, longing, loneliness, whatever it was... It was a long time coming for Ana and Mark. Who knows what could have happened next between them? Guess we'll never know because of their unexpected guest.	86
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87	ANA	(sad, a little bit regretful)	87
88		Mark--	88

89	CHLOE	What're you doing?	89
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90	ANA	Chloe?	90
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91	CHLOE	What the hell was that?	91
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92	ANA	I... Mark and I were talking and... I don't know what that was.	92
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93	CHLOE	Uh, it looked a lot like kissing to me.	93
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94 ANA 94
No, that was an accident. There's
been a lot going on with the
restaurant and--Mark, help me out
here.

95 MARK 95
I can't keep lying to myself. I
love you, Ana.

96 ANA 96
What are you saying right now?

97 CHLOE 97
(scoffs)
Wow. To think I came here to help
you.

98 ANA 98
Help us?

99 CHLOE 99
I heard the story on the radio. I
came to see how me and Jaesun could
help. What the fuck! How long have
you two been together?

100 ANA 100
It's not what you think.

101 CHLOE 101
I heard you say "I love you" to
him. How could you cheat on Jaesun
like this?

102 MARK 102
Ana would never.

103 ANA 103
See?!

104 MARK 104
But she deserves to be with someone
who's going to be there for her.

105 ANA 105
Mark! You're not helping.
(turns to Chloe)

106 106
We just got some really bad news
and--

107 CHLOE 107
I don't care. I don't have time for
cheaters.

She turns to leave, **her heels clicking. Ana GRABS her.**

108 ANA
Chloe, you have to believe me. 108

Chloe wrestles her arm away from Ana.

109 CHLOE
Don't fucking touch me. I need to
tell Jaesun what you've really been
up to. 109

110 ANA
There's nothing to tell him because
there's nothing going on between
us. 110

111 CHLOE
Between you and Jaesun? Oh you're
absolutely right. And that goes for
you and me as well. I thought we
were friends. I thought you were
smart, and funny, and *trustworthy*.
Well, I guess the joke's on me. 111

Her Balenciagas click as she walks off. Stops.

112 CHLOE (CONT'D)
I don't let just anyone date my
cousin, Ana. I thought you were
different. But turns out, you're
just like the rest of them. 112

**DOOR SLAMS. MUSIC PLAYS, something with big sweeping
orchestration. (Think Dusty Springfield's "You Don't Have To
Say You Love Me")**

113 END OF EPISODE 5 113