

**LOVE & NORAEBANG**

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

EPISODE 7

MUA x SONORO

Written by

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

EXT. KOREATOWN - MORNING

**Hear deep rumbling.**

LOS ANGELES

1 San Andreas, you stop! Now's not a 1  
good time. I'm doing a podcast. A  
podcast! No, I'm not seeing another  
natural phenomena.

**Green parrots squawk.**

LOS ANGELES (CONT'D)

2 You're upsetting the parrots. 2

**The rumbling subsides.**

LOS ANGELES (CONT'D)

3 Thank you! Good morning from 3  
beautiful Koreatown, Los Angeles,  
where you'll wake up to the  
demanding squawks of what are now  
called California wild parrots, set  
free from the former Busch Gardens  
theme park in Van Nuys and the '61  
Bel Air brush fire. I'm more than a  
city you know. I'm a sanctuary.  
These birds were poached illegally  
in the '70s and '80s from their  
home in northeastern Mexico.

(then)

4 When you mess with the natural 4  
order of things, sooner or later,  
the tremors of repercussion will  
eventually find you.

**The parrots flutter, taking air and screeching like they're  
in agreement.**

EXT. CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM - DAY

**Light museum foot traffic entering/exiting.**

As Chloe talks to an artist, BRYN (20s, Black, a grounded  
lilt in their voice), we hear a different kind of mama bear.  
Still no bullshit but very present and supportive.

CHLOE

5 So, Bryn, what did you think of 5  
Cameron? Isn't she amazing?



17 CHLOE  
 No, no, no. The meeting ran long,  
 which is good, and I don't want to  
 keep you any longer. Rule number  
 one, your time is important. Don't  
 let people take it for free. I'll  
 have Anthony set up a proper  
 meeting, so I can hear your ideas. 17

18 BRYN  
 Thanks, Chlo. 18

**Bryn's footsteps recede. Quiet. Maybe some birds chirping.**

19 ANA  
 What's rule number two? 19

20 CHLOE  
 (steely)  
 Ana. What're you doing here? 20

21 ANA  
 Not a Fight Club fan, huh? 21

22 CHLOE  
 Rule number two is the same as rule  
 number one. 22

**Chloe walks away. Ana holds up a bulky reusable bag.**

23 ANA  
 (calls out)  
 What do you say to a truce? I  
 brought *pozole*. 23

A beat.

24 CHLOE  
 Fine. 24

**The two approach a huge babbling fountain.**

25 ANA  
 Wanna sit here? 25

26 CHLOE  
 Sure. 26

**Ana takes out Tupperware. Hands one to Chloe.**

27 ANA  
 Was that the artist from your  
 Instagram? 27

28 CHLOE 28  
Yeah, Bryn. There's an immediacy to their work that I haven't seen in a long time.

29 ANA 29  
Well, for what it's worth, their murals remind me of the Sergio Robleto piece in Boyle Heights. Limes?

**They open the Tupperware.**

30 CHLOE 30  
Isn't *pozole* red?

31 ANA 31  
This is *pozole blanco*. It's what I make when Valentina and I fight.

32 CHLOE 32  
My mom would buy me *kimchi jjigae* (kimchi stew, 김치찌개) whenever I got mad at her. She wasn't much of a cook.

33 ANA 33  
Well, I hope it's not too spicy.

34 CHLOE 34  
Girl, I'm Korean. It's never too spicy.

**They laugh, polite.**

**Awkward silence.**

35 ANA 35  
So is this what you do? Art?

36 CHLOE 36  
I oversee programming and philanthropy for Choi Enterprises as the Culture Curator. Ok. Truce over. Why are you here?

Ana takes a deep breath.

37 ANA 37  
Thank you for meeting with me.

CHLOE  
 (scoffs)  
 38 Didn't really have a choice. 38

ANA  
 39 I wanted to straighten things out 39  
 with you. Until a few weeks ago, I  
 had no idea Mark was in love with  
 me.

CHLOE  
 40 Women always know. 40

ANA  
 41 Chloe, he's my best friend. It's 41  
 complicated.

CHLOE  
 42 Thank you for the meal. 42

**The sound of Chloe grabbing her stuff.**

ANA  
 43 (rushing) 43  
 44 I'd never hurt Jaesun. 44

CHLOE  
 45 But you did. You lied to him. You 45  
 even lied to him about Don Dago's!  
 He found out about the eviction  
 through me! Shouldn't he have heard  
 that from you?

ANA  
 46 Don Dago's is family-run and family- 46  
 operated. And Mark's family.

**The water fountain babbles in the quiet.**

ANA (CONT'D)  
 47 When we lost our mom to cancer, we 47  
 didn't know Papi was going to go  
 too. His heart stopped four days  
 later. I was twenty-two. Valentina  
 was nineteen. There was so much I  
 didn't know. The only thing I did  
 know was to roll up my sleeves and  
 keep my head down because that's  
 what my parents and *abuelos* had  
 done.

CHLOE  
 48 And Mark? 48

ANA

49 We grew up next door. His parents 49  
 were never home, so he was always  
 over. We'd been inseparable since  
 we were kids. We even made a pact  
 not to go to prom because we  
 thought it was lame, but I was  
 really hoping he'd ask me. When he  
 didn't and Manny Torres did, I said  
 yes. We never talked about it or  
 all the other guys I dated, but he  
 was always there to pick up the  
 pieces. He was there when the  
 restaurant almost went under the  
 first time. He was there when I  
 needed help with Valentina's  
 tuition. And he was especially  
 there when my parents died.

(beat)

50 The truth of the matter is, I took 50  
 him for granted, and I hurt him by  
 never setting any boundaries with  
 him, even when I knew I didn't love  
 him the same way.

CHLOE

51 I don't mean to be a buzzkill, but 51  
 what does this have to do with  
 Jaesun?

**Something like "How Deep Is Your Love" by Bee Gees plays.**

ANA

52 With Jaesun, I just wanted to be 52  
 the amazing person he saw in me. I  
 never wanted him to see me as  
 anything but successful and  
 together. And when that started  
 crumbling, I sort of shut down.  
 That was the last thing I should've  
 done.

(pause)

53 He can be so idealistic sometimes, 53  
 you know? But I love him. Even  
 though waiting for him has sucked,  
 losing him hurts more. I hate that  
 it took that to figure out how much  
 I love him.

A beat.

54 CHLOE  
 Okay. Let's say I believe you, and I'm open to giving you a second chance. Now what? 54

55 ANA  
 Well, I obviously owe you an apology. 55

56 CHLOE  
 Me? 56

57 ANA  
 Jaesun's not the only one who saw something in me. You brought me into your family and introduced me to Jaesun. I'm sorry for breaking that trust. 57

58 CHLOE  
 What're you going to do about Mark? 58

59 ANA  
 I asked him to give me some space. But we'll have to hash things out eventually. 59

60 CHLOE  
 Well, let me know how that goes. 60  
 (then)  
 61 I should get back. 61

62 ANA  
 Oh, right. I'm keeping you. 62

**The girls start to pack up and gather their belongings.**

63 CHLOE  
 Wait, so did you figure things out with the restaurant? 63

64 ANA  
 Oh. 64

**Ana rummages through her purse. Shows Chloe a letter.**

65 ANA (CONT'D)  
 It's on to greener pastures for us. 65

66 CHLOE  
 (taking the letter)  
 Ana. This is an eviction notice. 66



67 ANA 67  
Yeah. Thank god for Valentina or we  
wouldn't have anything.

68 CHLOE 68  
What do you mean?

69 ANA 69  
Even though the restaurant's  
closing, we already have preorders  
for the salsa.

70 CHLOE 70  
Wait... This is... The fuck?

71 ANA 71  
What?

72 CHLOE 72  
Nothing.

73 ANA 73  
You seem really pissed off.

74 CHLOE 74  
Paper cut. They make me mad. Can I  
take a picture of this?

75 ANA 75  
Sure.

**Chloe takes a photo.**

76 ANA (CONT'D) 76  
It's less overhead anyways.  
Everyone's online now, right?

**Ana packs up her stuff.**

77 CHLOE 77  
Thanks for sharing.

**Chloe clacks her Tupperware shut. Hands it to Ana.**

78 ANA 78  
I'm trying.

**Ana shoulders her bag.**

79 ANA (CONT'D) 79  
I think I'm learning that being  
strong doesn't mean having to  
survive everything on your own.  
(MORE)

ANA (CONT'D)

It's also about letting people in,  
even if they can't change anything.

CHLOE

80	(distracted, but determined)	80
81	Well. Some people have the power to change everything.	81

SONG CROSSFADES

TO:

INT. CHLOE'S BENTLEY - DAY

**Chloe's driver weaves her Bentley in and out of traffic as  
she makes a phone call. Sookmin picks up.**

SOOKMIN

82	<i>A, keulloia</i> (Oh, Chloe. 아, 클로이아).	82
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CHLOE

83	<i>Samchon</i> (uncle, 삼촌), I need to talk to you--	83
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IN-N-OUT EMPLOYEE

84	Number eighty-seven.	84
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CHLOE

85	Where are you?	85
----	----------------	----

SOOKMIN

86	I'm at In-N-Out.	86
----	------------------	----

CHLOE

87	Why?	87
----	------	----

SOOKMIN

88	Why not? It's the happiest place on Earth.	88
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CHLOE

89	<i>Samchon</i> (uncle, 삼촌).	89
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SOOKMIN

90	I'm here to approve the commercial lease for the new LA headquarters in Downtown for Jaesun.	90
----	--	----

CHLOE

91	Don't move. I'll be right there.	91
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**He pats her down.**

99 CHLOE This isn't LaGuardia. 99

100 HYUN I'm sorry, Miss Chloe, being TSA for Mr. Choi is my job. 100

101 CHLOE I wish my dating life was as annoyingly consistent as you. 101

102 HYUN Thank you. 102

103 SOOKMIN (calls out) Gwaenchanh-a, anhaedodoe. 103

104 (It's all right, Hyun. 괜찮아, 안해도되.) 104

**Footsteps hurriedly approach.**

105 CHLOE Samchon (uncle, 삼촌), you know you can go to Mastro's anytime, right? I'm besties with the owners. 105

106 SOOKMIN Maseuteulo jillyeoss-eo. 106  
107 (I've been to Mastro's too many times. 마스트로 질렸어.) 107

**The Korean crossfades into translated English.**

108 SOOKMIN (CONT'D) (in translated English) But In-N-Out? They're what a hamburger is all about. Take a bite, sip a coke, and you're American. 108

**He takes a sip of his soda.**

109 SOOKMIN (CONT'D) Like their slogan says, "You can taste quality." 109

110 CHLOE It's "quality you can taste." 110

111 SOOKMIN  
They should change it to that! 111

**Sookmin unwraps his burger.**

112 SOOKMIN (CONT'D)  
All this delicious food for eight 112  
dollars! How can anyone say no? And  
their secret menu! It's a menu  
that's secret. Americans know how  
to create...

113 (in Konglish)  
*Hy-peuh* (hype). 113

114 CHLOE  
They also don't know how to keep 114  
secrets. Their secret menu is the  
worst-kept secret in America. Well  
... after racism.

**Takes out his wallet and hands her a credit card.**

115 SOOKMIN  
Here. Join me and eat delicious In- 115  
N-Out or go to Shake Shack, far  
away from here.

116 CHLOE  
(laughing) 116  
117 I don't need you to buy me lunch, 117  
*samchon* (uncle, 삼촌).

118 SOOKMIN  
Then why are you here? 118

**Chloe shows him something.**

119 CHLOE  
Here. Look at this. 119

120 SOOKMIN  
Let me see. 120

**Sookmin wipes his hands on some napkins. Then--he SLAMS the table with his fist.**

121 SOOKMIN (CONT'D)  
*Geu michin saekki!* 121  
(That son of a bitch! 그 미친 새끼!)

122 CHLOE  
You know the person behind this? 122  
Really? How?

SOOKMIN  
 (sighs)  
 123 I thought perhaps I was being 123  
 overly cautious, but I suppose a  
 boil is a boil until it's lanced.

CHLOE  
 124 Wait, now you've lost me. 124

SOOKMIN  
 (shaking his head)  
 125 The unspoken rule in business is 125  
 that it's conducted among men.  
 Children are off limits. But this,  
 this crosses the line.

**He CRUSHES his burger wrapper.**


CHLOE  
 126 So what're you going to do? 126

SOOKMIN  
 127 Make some phone calls. Get Hyun and 127  
 a team on the ground.

CHLOE  
 128 Fuuuuck. 128

SOOKMIN  
 129 When I move, I move. 129

CHLOE  
 130 Just like that? 130

SOOKMIN  
 131 *Eung* (Mm. ) 131

**A slight rumble, like a baby tremor, sets off green parrots flying over head, squawking.**

LOS ANGELES  
 132 Ooh, looks like someone stirred up 132  
 a pot of trouble for Sookmin. What  
 did I say about natural order? Life  
 has a way of catching up and  
 cleaning house.

**Cue something like Mel Tormé's "Games People Play."**

**END OF EPISODE 7**