

***Songs of the Dragon, Flying to Heaven***

Korean-American- Call Back Side 1

**Korean -American** Grandma, you're dying!  
**Korean 2** (*Tenderly* ) Oh, Myung Bean.  
**Korean -American** I don't want you to die, Grandma!  
**Korean 2** I know.  
**Korean -American** I just, I can't stand the idea of you not existing in the world. It makes me think of all the ways that I was a bad granddaughter to you.  
**Korean 2** Don't worry, Myung Bean. I'm so excited I going to Jeejus house. Myung Bean.  
**Korean -American** Yes, Grandma?  
**Korean 2** There is something I have say to you before I die.  
**Korean -American** Grandma, don't...  
**Korean 2** No, Myung Bean, this very important. Too important for me not to say.  
**Korean -American** Okay, Grandma, I'm listening.  
**Korean 2** Myung Bean, I see a big pain inside you.  
**Korean -American** It's not...Grandma, don't worry. That's just my act that I put on so that people will think I'm interesting. In reality I'm really happy. I get to do whatever I want and be totally irresponsible and selfish all the time. I love it.  
**Korean 2** Myung Bean, you can't fool Grandma.  
**Korean -American** I'm not trying to fool you, I swear. I'm really happy.  
*Pause.*  
**Korean 2** Then why do you make such a video?  
**Korean -American** What video?  
**Korean 2** (*Gesturing toward the back wall of the set*) Bad video for your new play.  
**Korean -American** How do you even know about that?  
**Korean 2** Why you ask your friend hit you in face? And then make video?  
**Korean -American** I don't know.  
*Korean 2 makes Korean hissing sound of disapproval.*  
**Korean -American** I was trying to be political.  
**Korean 2** Myung Bean, this is not a true things you are saying. You don't caring about political something. You don't even read newspaper.  
**Korean -American** I do care!  
**Korean 2** Myung Bean, you know Grandma love you?  
**Korean -American** Of course!  
**Korean 2** I needing talk to you about serious matter.  
**Korean -American** Okay, Grandma.  
**Korean 2** I needing talk about Jeejus.  
**Korean -American** Grandma, please...

**Korean 2** Myung Bean, try to thinking this way. Living in world is very difficult, so people working out system of happiness for thousand and thousand of years. Young people trying live whatever they like, figuring out their own way. But look what happen! No money, stress-out, health problem, disaster! Who are you think you are to figuring out by yourself like super-genius? You are not! And being Christian has all solution handing down from generation to generation. Young people think you can drink wine, beer with your friend and it is casual, just normal thing, everybody living that way. But beer has chemical, a bad chemical that going in your brain and make it sick. When you go to hell, your arm and leg twisted with fire that is burning, and you scream but nobody hears. *Pause.*

**Korean 2** Myung Bean, are you happy?

**Korean –American** No.

**Korean 2** Do you want to be good artist?

**Korean -American** Yes.

**Korean 2** Then give up your pride, be humble. Jeejus will help you. This is my dying wish.

*Silence.*

**Korean 2** Okay, Myung Bean?

*Pause.*

**Korean –American** Okay, Grandma. I love you.

**Korean 2** I love you, too. Dear Jeejus, here is my granddaughter who I drove to 15 stores to look for Cabbage Patch Kid because she wanted so badly. And here is what she say to you today.

**Korean –American** Dear Lord, for some reason I've always really disliked the idea of Jesus. *(Korean 2 gives her a sharp look)* But I'm completely miserable. *(Korean 2 smiles approvingly)* I walk around all day feeling like I have no idea what I'm doing and am messing everything up, and I'm constantly tortured by the thought that other people can see what an idiot I am and hate me for it.

**Korean 2** Amen.

*Korean-American looks at Korean 2, then continues.*

**Korean –American** I always thought I could somehow fix things by figuring out an intellectual system for how to live with the maximum possible benefit to myself. But I give up. I give up. Dear Lord, I give my heart unto you.

**Korean 2** Good girl. You are a good girl, Myung Bean. I love you.

*Korean 2 dies.*

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Korean-American- Call Back Side 2

**Korean –American** Hey guys, I mean girls.

*She laughs. The Koreans laugh politely.*

**Korean -American** I'm glad you could all make it out today.

*Pause.*

**Korean -American** Before we start, I want to ask you a question. Has anyone here ever experienced stress?

*The Koreans raise their hands.*

*White Person 1 raises her hand and White Person 2 makes her put it down.*

*Long, awkward pause.*

*Korean-American slumps over, depressed.*

*Pause.*

**Korean 2** What's wrong?

**Korean -American** I give up.

**Korean 3** What do you give up?

**Korean –American** I give up on being a Christian. Also on being Korean.

*Pause. The Koreans are confused.*

**Korean –American** I'm just kidding! I wanted to loosen you guys up a little.

*She cracks up. The Koreans try to laugh but are weirded-out.*

**Korean -American** Okay, so the thing that I want to talk about today is stress. Everyone feels it, everyone knows it. In Ecclesiastes, chapter 1, the Bible says:

Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities, all is vanity.

What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?

The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? It hath been already of old time, which was before us.

I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceived that this also is vexation of spirit.

For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow.

Now, this is pretty good stuff. You are schoolgirls, right? And in

school you must learn all kinds of things. What kinds of things do you learn in school?

**Korean 1** I want to be an artist!

**Korean -American** Okay, perfect example. What does King David mean when he says, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity"?

**Korean 2** He means that nothing is good and there is no hope in anything.

**Korean -American** That's exactly right. You think that you can work hard and be an artist and that you can create something good and new, but in reality, all is vanity because everything we try has already been done ages ago and was worthless to begin with. Don't you see? Everything is fucked-up. And it doesn't even do any good to know any of this because as King David says, "He that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow."

*The Koreans are freaked-out that she said "fuck."*

**Korean 2** Why do you swear?

**Korean -American** Because I forgot to tell you something. This is reverse Bible study! We are studying the Bible, but what it leads us to is my own personal teachings. I have formed a new theory. The first step of my theory is that I don't know what I'm doing. The next step is that I'm scared. The third step is not believing in Jesus. The fourth step is...I don't know what the fourth step is. The fourth step is giving up. Because vanity vanity, all is vanity.

*Korean-American breaks down crying.*

**Korean 3** Is Jesus bad?

**Korean 2** He's not. Jesus is good because he gives you something to live for once you realize that every other road you try is going to lead to disappointment. The reason why there are so many Christians is that believing in Jesus works.

**Korean -American** But Christians are evil. They're homophobic and anti-sex and racist and misogynistic and pro-life Republicans and have all the power in America.

**Korean 1** Those are white Christians, Dong-Dong. White Christians. Korean Christians are different. We are even more evil, because we add on top of the evilness of Christians the evilness of being Korean, and Koreans are the most evil nation in the world. Koreans are conservative and apolitical (except for not wanting to pay taxes) and they are greedy and anti-sex and anti-gay and racist and smell bad and talk funny and our streets smells like kimchee!

**Every one** *(Evilly)* Ha ha ha ha ha!

**Korean 2** *(Standing and shouting)* Koreans, unite!

**Korean 1** *(Making a cross with her forearms and shouting)* Go, Christians!

**Korean 3** *(Looking slyly at the White People)* They have no idea what the fuck we're doing.