

Perfect Stranger(s)

No matter how early they went, the Karaoke room was always a swarming battlefield. Lilah desperately looked for her squad amidst the crowd, before finally spotting Bea and Stella waving at her.

“Hi girls, sorry I’m late,” Lilah made her usual apologetic entrance.

“It’s about time! Were you thinking of ditching us again?” Stella gave her an earful.

“I wouldn’t dare!” Lilah winked, “But I might in the upcoming days.”

“Spill the beans.” Bea and Stella unanimously cupped their faces and placed themselves in front of her, waiting for the announcement.

“Well, remember how I’m having a really tough time falling asleep these days? I kind of found me an antidote.”

“Are you finally going to listen to me and take a puff?” Bea snickered.

“Close enough,” Lilah playfully replied, “Actually, I downloaded this app called KEEFF. I figured I could blow off some steam while I’m still around this week. Anyways, it’s nothing serious.”

“Yet.” Stella added, “You never know, you can meet a lot of good fellas out there.”

“Is that why you refused to meet your longtime online friends the minute you set foot in Seoul and stopped talking to them altogether?” Lilah teased her.

“My social anxiety is at its peak as it is, I don’t need any more pressure, thank you.” Stella stuck her tongue out.

“Anyways,” Bea intervened before their argument got any more heated, “Did you find someone?”

“Well ...” Lilah took a second before she reprised, “I kind of found someones. Seven, to be precise.”

Dumbfounded, her friends could only look at her both in awe and confusion. “S-Seven?”

“It’s weird, right? I didn’t expect it either. And the crazy part was that they were all eager to meet, especially when I told them that I don’t have much time left in Korea.”

“I don’t know about this ...” Stella shared her concern, “I mean, meeting one stranger is already a lot to take in, but meeting seven? And aren’t you afraid you’ll come across some pervert?”

“Yeah well, it won’t hurt to try I guess. Plus, we already came across perverts in the subway, I’m kind of immune at this point,” Lilah joked.

“Remember our conversation a while back?” Bea intercepted.

“Which one of the two?” Lilah teased.

“Both of them,” Bea winked. “Just keep both of them in mind, and follow your instinct.”

“Alrighty then, how are you planning to do this?” Stella asked.

“Well,” Lilah pouted “I’ll just browse for the perfect stranger. It all starts with a hello, right?”