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Jiaying

大家好，欢迎收听 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目。With you, Neil...

Neil

... and you, Jiaying. And today, Jiaying, as it's your birthday, I'm going to make the coffee...

Jiaying

But...

Neil

No, I insist. And I'm going to buy the biscuits – not the cheap ones this time...

Jiaying

真的吗？ Hmm, promises, promises!

Neil

That's right – two promises – make the coffee and buy nice biscuits – it is your birthday after all.

Jiaying

When I said 'promises, promises', I was being sarcastic!

Neil

Oh!

Jiaying

当我们连着说“promises, promises”的时候，意思是某人“只会信口开河地作出保证”，以讽刺地表达不相信这个人承诺的事情。不好意思，Neil，我刚才是用“promises, promises”来表示不相信你会给我买咖啡和饼干。Let's hear some examples...

Examples

Promises, promises! The plumber said he'd be here at 8am – but he isn't.

A: Next time, I will remember to bring some money to pay for dinner.

B: Promises, promises!

My boyfriend says he'll take me to Venice for a mini break. Promises, promises!

Jiaying

你正在收听的是 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目。我们在介绍表达“promises, promises”，用来讽刺地说某人“信口开河地作出保证”，表达不相信这个人许下的承诺。So, Neil, what about this coffee and biscuits you're getting – are they ready yet?

Neil

Well, I haven't got much time at the moment, and I need to borrow some money to buy the biscuits.

Jiaying

Like I said, promises, promises! But it doesn't matter, I've been trying to tell you that it's not my birthday today.

Neil

Oh! Why didn't you say! Well, when it is your birthday, I will make the coffee and buy the biscuits.

Jiaying

Not the cheap ones?

Neil

No, the expensive ones. I promise!

Jiaying

Really?

Neil

Yep, I never break a promise.

Jiaying

OK, Neil. I believe you. Bye for now.

Neil

Bye!