**Classroom**

When the dismissal bell rings I get up and start to pack up my bag, but I’m interrupted by Asher.

Asher (neutral smiling): Hey.

Pro: …

Asher (neutral neutral):

Pro: I’m not helping you clean the classroom again.

Asher: ...

Asher (neutral disappointed): But this time I really have something to do…

Asher (neutral laughing):

I roll my eyes, and Asher laughs and pats me on the shoulder.

Asher (neutral smiling): Kidding, kidding.

Asher: You should’ve seen the disappointment on your face. It was priceless.

Pro: I’m still disappointed.

Pro: With you.

Asher (neutral laughing): Yeah, sorry, sorry. My bad.

Asher (neutral smiling): Next time I ask for your help, I won’t ditch you.

Pro: Alright…

I resume packing up, waiting for him to continue. But he doesn’t for some reason.

Asher (neutral neutral):

Pro: So anyways, what’s up?

Asher (neutral curious): So...

Asher (neutral smiling): At lunch today, you were hanging out with Lilith.

Pro: Um, yeah.

Asher (neutral smirk):

A smirk starts creeping up on his face.

Asher: Was it planned?

Pro: Nope. We just happened to eat lunch at the same spot.

Asher (arms\_crossed skeptical): Just happened, huh?

Pro: It’s true...

Asher (neutral smirk): Right, right.

Asher (neutral skeptical): And Lilith just happened to be fine with you being around, because she loves talking to guys and totally doesn’t ignore them all the time.

Pro: Um, that’s right.

Asher (neutral sigh):

Asher sighs, thrilled by my obvious enthusiasm.

Asher (neutral smiling): You know, you should be careful. One day one of her admirers is gonna attack you or something.

A little spooked, I wait for him to elaborate, but unfortunately he doesn’t.

Asher (arms\_crossed smiling): So? What’s really going on between you two?

Pro: Literally nothing.

Pro: We just talked a few times. That’s it.

Asher (neutral skeptical): Sure...

Asher (neutral curious): But are you interested in her?

I stare at him blankly for a few seconds, trying to process what he just asked me.

Pro: Um, no.

Pro: How did you come to that conclusion?

Asher (neutral smiling): You know, when a guy “just happens” to run into a girl on several occasions, that usually means something’s up.

Asher (neutral thinking): But I don’t know if you guys would look good together…

Asher (neutral curious): Isn’t she taller than you?

Pro: …

My phone buzzes, saving me. I’ve never been so thankful for what’s probably a notification for some random game.

Pro: Oh, well, I gotta go now.

Pro: See you later, Asher.

Asher (neutral smirk): You don’t think you can get away, do you?

Pro: I have to go, though.

Asher (neutral neutral): ...

Asher (neutral sigh): Alright, alright.

Asher (waving smiling): See you later, then.

Pro: Yeah. Bye.

Asher (exit):

As I exit the classroom, I check my phone and see that the notification was actually a text from none other than Mara. I’ll have to thank her for rescuing me.

Mara: *Wanna do something?*

I think for a second before typing out my response.

“Yeah, sure.” **OR** “Maybe not today.”

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It wouldn’t hurt to hang out with her today, especially since I didn’t get to see her this morning.

Pro: *Yeah, sure.*

Time to get my daily dose of Mara, I guess.

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Pro: *Maybe not today.*

I’m pretty drained, and to be honest all I want to do is go home and sleep. Hope that she won’t be too mad at me tomorrow.

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