**Front of House**

After around 10 minutes or so, I arrive home to find Mara waiting for me.

Mara (waving smiling\_eyes\_closed): Hey.

Mara (neutral fufu): How’d it go?

Pro: Well…

Pro: Not very well.

Mara (neutral neutral): Oh, I see.

Pro: Yeah.

We stand there for a moment as Mara searches for the words to say.

Mara (neutral nervous): Well, sometimes it’s like that I guess.

Mara: You tried, at least.

Mara (patting\_head smiling\_eyes\_closed):

Mara reaches up and pats my head.

Mara (neutral smiling): So anyways…

Mara (neutral nervous): Could you hurry up and open the door? I kinda need to use the washroom…

Pro: Oh, okay.

Mara (exit):

I hurriedly unlock the door, and Mara shuffles in. I wait by the door as she uses the bathroom, and a few minutes later she re-emerges.

Mara (neutral sigh): Phew.

Mara (neutral smiling): Well, thanks for getting ice cream with me. It was fun.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I’ll see you tomorrow, okay?

Pro: See you.

Mara (exit):

Mara leaves, and I lock the door behind her. Even though I usually come home to find nobody here, once she’s gone it feels just a little bit emptier than usual.