**Library**

Once we finish our meal, we head back to the library, hoping to get at least a little more done before we call it a day.

Lunch has given me a bit more energy, and once I sit down at the desk I find it’s easier to concentrate than before. I resume working on my worksheet, looking up only when Mara whispers excitedly.

Mara (excited excited): Pro!

She’s standing in the manga section, with a volume in her hands.

Mara: Look, look! The latest volume of my favourite series is here!

Pro: Oh, nice.

Pro: ...

Pro: Wait, what happened to studying?

Mara (neutral satisfaction):

Bringing the manga with her, she returns to our desk and takes a seat.

Mara (neutral hehe): I’m gonna take a quick break.

Pro: Quick, huh...

Mara: Yup.

Mara (neutral earnest):

With a shrug, I turn back to the worksheet, but find that my desire to work has suddenly been replaced with a desire to give up and read manga too. Nonetheless, I steel my heart and push on.

Mara (neutral sigh):

I manage to focus for an hour or so, until Mara suddenly slumps back into her chair and lets out a small groan.

Mara: No...

Pro: What? What is it?

Mara (neutral disappointed):

Mara looks up at me, devastated.

Mara: It ended on a cliffhanger...

Mara (neutral expressionless): And the next volume isn’t coming out for at least another month.

At this, I can’t help but let out a quiet chuckle.

Pro: That’s it?

Mara (neutral pout): Hey! Don’t laugh at my pain!

Mara (excited ouch): Imagine having to wait over a month just to find out whether or not your favourite character survives.

Pro: I don’t follow your series, but I’d bet that the character’s gonna survive.

Pro: Plot armour.

Mara (neutral sigh): But she’s a side character.

Mara (neutral disappointed): And besides, this story barely has any plot armour at all. The main character’s best friend is already dead.

Pro: Wow. That’s rough, dude.

Mara (neutral skeptical): ...

Mara: Dude...?

Mara (neutral expressionless): I can’t really say that I feel happy about being called a “dude” but… whatever, I guess.

I put down my pencil and stretch.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: Well, the only thing you can do is wait it out.

Mara (neutral pout): But I don’t wanna…

Pro: How tragic.

I return back to my worksheet, but after staring at it for a few minutes I realize that I’m not gonna get anything else done. Well, it’s not like I finished much anyways.

Ah well. Quality over quantity.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: Wanna call it a day? I’m getting tired of studying.

Mara: Yeah, sure.

Mara (neutral thinking): Hmm...

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I think you ended up studying more than me.

Pro: Maybe because you spent the past hour reading manga.

Mara (neutral hehe): Hehe. It was worth it, though.

Mara (neutral surprise):

I pack my bags and, to Mara’s surprise, walk over to the manga section and pick something out to read.

Mara: Huh?

Mara (neutral curious): I thought we were going?

Pro: Definitely not. I just endured watching you read manga for an hour while studying.

Mara (neutral neutral): …

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): True.

Mara (exit):

Following suit, she returns the volume she took and picks out a new one as well.