**Home Station**

Mara doesn’t feel like walking all the way back, so we decide to take the bus to the station instead. She doesn’t say much during the ride, and I realize that she hasn’t brought up Prim once today.

Mara (neutral thinking):

As we get off the bus, she takes a deep breath and notices a certain scent in the air.

Mara: Hmm…

Mara (neutral neutral): Coffee?

Mara looks around and eventually spots a small coffee shop hidden by its much larger neighbours. Strangely, I don’t think I’ve ever noticed it before.

Mara: Has that always been there?

Pro: I’m not sure.

Mara (neutral smiling): Wanna check it out?

Guess a drink would be nice.

Pro: Sure, let’s go.

**Coffee Shop**

The first thing I notice as we enter the shop is its warmth, which permeates my body as I look at the menu. The second thing I notice is that the customer picking up her drink looks familiar…

Mara (neutral neutral): Hey, isn’t that…

Pro: Shh!

I try to back out of the shop, but it’s too late.

Lilith (neutral neutral): …

Lilith (exit):

After a brief nod, Lilith walks past me and outside, drink in hand. Mara stares as she leaves.

Mara (neutral nervous): That was kinda cold…

Pro: Yeah…

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly): …

Mara (neutral nervous): Ah well. That’s that.

Mara (neutral neutral):

We look at the menu, and Mara decides to get a coffee with whipped cream. Unlike her, I want to be able to sleep tonight, so I order an herbal tea. As they make our drinks, I look around – the shop is small and has a homely atmosphere, but right now it’s completely empty.

A few minutes later, the barista hands us our beverages, and we head back outside, where the sun has already started to set.

**Intersection 2**

We walk home in silence, with Mara seemingly deep in thought the entire way. Did Lilith’s reaction to seeing me bother her?

Mara (neutral worried):

Before we part ways, she stops me, a worried look in her eyes.

Mara (neutral nervous): I guess you really messed up with those two, huh.

Pro: Yeah…

Pro: Sorry. After all your efforts…

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): It’s fine, don’t worry about it.

Mara (neutral neutral): Seems like we’ll be hanging out a lot more, huh?

Pro: Yeah, seems so.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): If that’s the case, then I don’t mind so much.

Mara takes a few steps forward before turning to face me.

Mara (waving smiling): Well, I’ll see you tomorrow then!

Mara (exit):

And she dashes off.