\*$falling\_dream

**Bedroom**

Again, huh…

It’s strange. Before last week, I’ve never had that dream, but now it’s become almost a common recurrence.

My heart rate slows down as I fumble around for my phone, wanting to check whether or not I can sneak a few extra minutes of sleep in.

Ah. If I don’t get up now, I’ll most likely be late for school. Unfortunate.

I guess I probably wouldn’t have been able to fall asleep again anyways. Not after that.

**Kitchen**

Mom (neutral smiling): Oh, I was just about to go and wake you up. Good morning.

Pro: Morning.

Mom (neutral neutral):

I sit down at the table, where, as always, breakfast waits for me.

Mom (neutral worried\_slightly): You look tired. Did you sleep alright?

Pro: Oh, uh…

Pro: Kinda.

Mom (neutral thinking): You went to bed really early last night, too.

Mom (neutral worried):

Pro: Yeah, I was pretty tired.

Mom looks at me concernedly for a few moments.

Mom (neutral smiling\_worried): Don’t push yourself too hard, okay?

Pro: Okay.

Mom (neutral frown): Actually…

Mom (neutral smiling\_nervous): When it comes to school you could probably push yourself a bit harder.

Pro: Ah…

Mom (neutral sigh): Who’s gonna support me when I retire?

Mom (neutral smiling):

Pro: Uh…

Mom (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I’m just kidding. Just do your best.

Pro: I’ll try.

Mom (neutral smiling): Alright.

**Front of House**

After I finish eating, I hurriedly get ready for school and head outside, where, as per usual, Mara is waiting.

Mara (waving happy): Good morning!

As cheerful as ever, I see. I smile in spite of myself.

Mara (neutral smiling):

Pro: Hey.

Pro: It still surprises me how energetic you are every morning.

Mara (neutral hehe): Hehe.

Mara: Early to bed, early to rise.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: I go to bed pretty early too, you know.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Not early enough, apparently.

Pro: Yeah, I guess.

Mara (neutral thinking):

Mara eyes my hair, deciding whether or not it requires any attention today.

Mara: Mmm…

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I think it’s fine.

Mara: Let’s get going, then.

**Neighbourhood Road 1**

As we walk to school, I find that I’m still both emotionally and mentally drained from yesterday, even after a night’s worth of rest.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Mara glances at me while I yawn.

Pro: Oh yeah, I texted you last night. Did you get it?

Mara: Oh, um…

Mara (neutral smiling\_nervous): Yeah, I did. Sorry, I didn’t reply though.

Pro: It’s fine, don’t worry.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: A lot of things happened, though.

Mara: Yeah.

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly): You doing alright?

I pause for a moment. Am I doing alright? I’m not too sure.

Pro: Yeah, I guess. Just a little tired.

Mara: I see.

We continue to walk, making small talk here and there but avoiding the topic that’s on both of our minds.

Mara (neutral curious): You mentioned something about Lilith yesterday, right?

Pro: Yeah, I ran into her at this coffee shop. By the station.

Mara: Something happen?

Pro: Well, we talked for a bit and then afterwards…

Mara: Afterwards?

Pro: Um…

Pro: She invited me to hang out again, I guess. And she gave me her number.

Mara (neutral neutral): Oh, good for you.

Mara: …

Mara (surprise surprise): HUH!?!?

Mara (neutral earnest):

Before I can react, Mara swiftly grabs my phone and enters in my password.

Mara: …

Mara: You’re right…

Mara (neutral pensive): Maybe I should save her number, too.

Pro: What? Why?

Mara (neutral wink): That’s a secret.

Pro: Huh…?

Mara (neutral neutral): Anyways…

Mara (neutral pensive): I’m so proud. Pro, getting a girl’s number? *Our* Pro? And a really good looking one too?

Pro: …

Mara: I never thought I’d see the day…

Mara (neutral neutral): Well...

Mara (neutral smiling\_nervous): Actually I expected it to happen, I just didn’t expect it to be Lilith’s number.

Pro: Oh. I see.

Mara: Yeah…

Mara (neutral neutral):

Mara stares at my phone for a few more seconds before handing it back.

Mara: Here you go, sir. I’ll let you have this.

Pro: Thank you. Although it was mine in the first place.

Mara (neutral curious): What do you mean? Everything you own belongs to me.

Mara: Your phone, your house, and especially your wallet…

Mara: Right?

Pro: …

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I’m just kidding. Kinda.

Mara: Come on, we’re gonna be late at this rate.

**Intersection 1**

We continue to talk as we head to school, and before we know it we arrive at the intersection that we usually part ways at.

Mara (neutral neutral): Well, we’re here again.

Mara (neutral smiling):

Mara skips a few meters away before turning back to face me.

Mara: Hey, Pro.

Pro: What’s up?

Mara: Let’s do stuff again this week.

Pro: Sure. When?

Mara (neutral thinking): Mmm…

Mara (neutral neutral): I’m not sure. We’ll see, I guess.

Pro: Alright. Let me know then.

Mara (neutral happy): Will do!

Mara (waving happy): See you, Pro!

Mara (exit):

And with that, she spins around and trots off. What a lively girl.