**Baseball Diamond**

We arrive a little bit before the game starts, much to my relief. Petra’s siblings, like Petra herself, seem to be quite energetic, and keeping up with them as they trotted the entire way here was pretty difficult.

When they see the diamond, they run towards it, and wanting to keep my eye on them I chase after them.

?Greta (neutral curious):

Petrov (popsicle eating):

Lilith (neutral neutral): It’s you…

I stop, having encountered a wild Lilith, who eyes my traveling companions curiously.

Pro: Ah, hey Lilith…

Lilith (neutral curious): Are they your siblings?

Pro: Hm? I don’t have siblings.

Lilith (neutral surprise): Then are they your…

Petra (surprise surprise): Pro?!?

Petra (surprise indignant): What are you doing with my siblings?

Lilith (neutral confused):

Petra (neutral skeptical):

Petra rushes over and stands in between me and them.

Petra: Did he hurt you?

?Greta (neutral embarrassed): Um…

Lilith (neutral curious):

Petra (neutral neutral):

?Greta (neutral neutral):

Petra’s sister explains what happens, of course omitting the part where she threw her shoe at me.

Petra: Oh, I see.

?Greta (neutral surprise):

Petra (neutral surprise): Wait, why does Petrov have a popsicle?

?Greta (pointing frustrated): It was him, not me!

Petra (neutral drained): Pro…

?Greta (neutral confused): Pro…?

Petra (neutral neutral): Oh, that’s his name.

?Greta (neutral neutral): Oh.

?Greta (neutral worried): Well, he was the one who bought Petrov ice cream, not me.

Petra (neutral frowning): Ah…

Petra: Why’d you buy him ice cream? He still needs to eat lunch…

Petra (neutral groan): Mom’s gonna kill me…

Petra (neutral drained):

Pro: I told him that, but then…

Petrov (popsicle neutral):

Petrov looks at me as if warning me not to snitch, so I hesitate before continuing on.

Pro: Um…

Petrov (popsicle eating):

Petra: Seriously…?

Petra (neutral sigh): You’re kinda a pushover.

Petra (neutral drained):

Pro: I’m sorry…

Petra (neutral neutral):

Lilith (neutral amused): Pro…

I turn to Lilith, who surprisingly looks a little amused.

Lilith: You’re sort of a pushover.

Pro: I’m really sorry…

Lilith (neutral smiling\_slightly): Well, being nice isn’t always a bad thing.

Lilith (neutral neutral):

Petra (neutral stern):

Petra turns to Petrov, a stern look on her face.

Petra: You’d better be able to eat a full meal today, alright?

Petra (neutral sigh):

He nods, and she sighs.

Petra (neutral neutral): Alright, you guys go sit over there. When’s Mom coming?

?Greta (neutral thinking): In about half an hour.

Petra: Alright, alright. Make sure Petrov doesn’t wander off, okay?

?Greta (neutral neutral): Okay.

?Greta (exit):

Petrov (exit):

Petra (neutral sigh):

As Petra’s siblings head to the stands, Petra lets out another sigh and turns to me.

Petra (neutral smiling\_nervous): Ah, I’m really sorry about them. Thanks for helping them out.

Pro: Don’t worry about it.

Pro: You seem like an entirely different person when it comes to your siblings, though.

Petra (neutral neutral): Yeah, well…

Petra (neutral sigh): It’s up to the oldest sibling to be the responsible one.

Petra (neutral neutral):

Lilith (neutral curious): Is that so?

Petra (neutral surprise):

Lilith (neutral thinking): You don’t really seem like the older sister type, though.

She said it.

Petra (neutral annoyed): Ah, bite me.

Lilith (neutral neutral):

Petra (neutral drained): Anyways, I’m glad they got here safely. They insisted on watching our last game of the year, and then my mom made it into a family thing. It’s a good thing that my dad’s at work, or otherwise I’d die from the embarrassment.

A third year calls for Petra from outside the dugout.

Petra (neutral neutral): Oh, sorry, I gotta go help out.

Petra (neutral smiling): Thanks again, Pro.

Petra (exit):

And with that, Petra shifts away, leaving me and Lilith sort of alone, but not really. A quick glance around the dugout tells me that a few others are watching us, and I find myself tensing up just a little bit.

Lilith: So?

Pro: Hm?

Lilith (neutral curious): Why’d you change your mind?

Pro: Oh, um…

Pro: It turns out that I didn’t have anything to do today after all.

Lilith (neutral neutral): Oh, I see.

I pause before continuing on, wondering if that was the right thing to say. Well, too late now.

Pro: How do you think the game’s gonna go?

Lilith (neutral thinking): Um…

Lilith (neutral neutral): I’m not sure.

Pro: Oh, I see.

Lilith: I think we’ll be fine, though.

Pro: That’s good. Are you nervous?

Lilith: No, not really.

Lilith (neutral expressionless): Well, actually maybe a little.

Pro: Ah, so you are.

Lilith (neutral curious): Isn’t it normal for people to be nervous before things like these?

Pro: Well, I wouldn’t know.

Lilith (neutral smiling\_slightly): Oh, that’s right.

Lilith (neutral worried\_slightly):

Someone calls for Lilith too, and after responding she turns back to me apologetically.

Lilith: Sorry, it looks like we’re starting.

Lilith (neutral neutral): I’ll talk to you later.

Pro: Oh, no problem. Good luck.

Lilith (exit):

I head over to the stands while Lilith heads on to the field. It seems like there are actually a few others from our school here to watch, although I don’t know anyone specifically.

The game starts off a little slowly. It turns out that there’s a lot of waiting in baseball, and while I don’t really mind it, about twenty minutes in a bored Petrov makes his way over and tugs on my sleeve before being recaptured and taken away by his older sister.

Things start to pick up near the end though, and by the last inning I’m on the edge of my seat. Our school’s team is up by one run with the other school up to bat, and things look grim when the center fielder misses a ball hit to the outfield…

**Cutscene - Outfielder Lilith**

…but the game is saved by Lilith, who makes the throw back home.

I stand up and cheer as she jogs back to the dugout, amazed that she managed to make that play.

She seems as collected as ever, but her eyes are sparkling with a vibrancy rarely seen. Although she doesn’t even smile while her teammates congratulate her, for some reason I can tell that in this moment she’s truly happy.

And being able to see that makes me pretty happy as well.