**Practice Diamond**

Lilith (worried downcast): And that’s the story. Yesterday it happened again, and that’s how I got this bruise.

Pro: I-

I try to say something, but I can’t. How can I, after what she just told me? I know I have to do something, anything, but I can’t move…

Lilith (worried smiling\_worried): Don’t worry about me, alright? I’ll be fine.

Why…

Lilith: I’ve dealt with it all this time, and I’m used to it by now…

Why…

Lilith (worried smiling\_eyes\_closed): And it’s not like it’ll last forever…

Why are you smiling like that?

Pro: Lilith, let me-

Lilith (worried gentle): No.

She cuts me off, knowing what I want to say.

Lilith: I think it’d be best if you didn’t do anything.

Lilith (worried downcast): In fact…

Lilith (worried gentle): I think it’d be best if you forgot about me. For both of us.

Lilith (worried smiling\_eyes\_closed): These past few weeks have been the happiest I’ve been in a long time, and you’ve been a big part of that.

Lilith (worried smiling\_worried): Even today, seeing how much you care makes me really happy.

Lilith (worried gentle): But because of that, I can’t let you do anything.

Lilith (worried disappointed): I can’t make you shoulder my burden for me, to suffer for me. I shouldn’t have even told you about all of this in the first place.

Lilith (worried gentle): So forget about me. Go on and live your life. Love, be loved, do your utmost to be happy…

Lilith: That’s what I want you to do for me.

Pro: But-

Lilith: No buts.

She stands up, taking one last look at the diamond before turning back to me.

Lilith (worried gentle): Well, I should probably get going. Make sure you don’t tell Petra or the others, alright?

Lilith (worried smiling\_crying): Thanks again for everything.

Lilith: Bye, Pro.

Lilith (exit):

Even though every cell in my body screams at me to stop her, to tell her to wait, to do anything…

I can’t.

All I can do is watch.

Watch as she shuffles out of the stands, slipping her headband back on.

Watch as she leaves, not looking back.

Be happy?

How?