**Front of House**

However, my plans to go home and relax for the rest of the day are interrupted by a certain figure comfortably perched on the doormat, blocking the front door. When she sees me, she stands up and waves.

Mara (waving happy): Hi hi!

Mara (waving smiling):

Pro: Mara…?

Pro: What are you doing here?

Mara (arms\_crossed pensive): That’s kinda cold…

Mara: Not gonna say hi back?

Mara (arms\_crossed neutral):

Pro: Oh, right. Hey.

Mara (neutral smiling): There you go.

Mara (neutral hehe):

She chuckles, strangely amused.

Mara (neutral neutral): Now, I will answer any of your inquiries.

Pro: So…

Pro: Why are you here?

Mara (neutral bashful): I…

Mara (neutral embarrassed): ...just wanted to see you. Is that bad?

Pro: Seriously…?

Mara: …

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Just kidding, just kidding!

Mara (excited excited): Your heart skip a beat?

Mara (excited neutral):

Pro: Not a single one.

Mara (neutral pout): Boo.

Mara (neutral expressionless): But anyways, what took you so long? I waited for almost half an hour, you know.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: Couldn’t you have just let yourself in? You’ve done it before…

Mara (neutral smiling\_nervous): Oh, right. I forgot.

Mara (neutral smiling): It’s alright though, I was pretty comfortable.

Pro: I see.

Pro: Well, you see…

Mara (laughing laughing):

I explain everything to Mara, who, after soaking it in, bursts out laughing.

Pro: Huh…?

Mara (laughing recovering): It’s like you got engaged and went to see your fiancée’s parents…

Pro: Not really, but okay.

Mara (laughing holding\_back): Pfft.

Mara: How’d it go? Did they give you their blessing?

Mara (laughing recovering):

I let out a sigh and wait for her to calm down a bit.

Mara (neutral satisfaction): Ah…

Mara (neutral smiling): The actual reason I came today was because I was wondering when your next outing with Prim is.

Pro: Oh yeah, about that…

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: I talked to her earlier today. Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays after school.

Mara (neutral sigh): So tomorrow’s taken, huh?

Mara (neutral expressionless): That’s too bad.

Pro: Sorry…

Mara (neutral neutral): Oh, it’s okay. Don’t worry.

Mara (neutral fufu): I’d rather you enjoy your date.

Pro: I mean, it’s not a date, but…

Mara: That’s what you think. But before you know it, one thing leads to another, and then…

Pro: You’ve been reading too much manga.

Mara (neutral neutral): …

Mara (neutral smiling\_nervous): Probably.

Mara (neutral neutral): Well, anyways I’m gonna go home now.

Mara (neutral fufu):

She gives me a playful grin.

Mara: Don’t want your mom learning about our little secret, right?

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: I’m pretty sure you can come over any time and it’d be fine...

Mara: Ah…

Mara (neutral smiling\_nervous): I haven’t seen her in a while, so I feel like it’d be pretty awkward..

Pro: I guess.

Mara (neutral neutral):

She starts to walk towards the sidewalk, but stops and turns around midway.

Mara: Oh yeah, I almost forgot.

Mara: I won’t be able to walk to school with you tomorrow.

Pro: Ah, alright. Thanks for letting me know.

Mara (neutral curious): …

Mara: You know, sometimes I wonder what would happen if I just didn’t show up one morning without telling you.

Pro: …

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: That’d be evil. I’d probably end up waiting instead of going to school.

Mara (neutral hehe): That wouldn’t be good…

Mara (neutral smiling): Don’t want you to be late for school.

Pro: That’s right.

Mara (neutral neutral):

She takes a few steps out of the door before turning back to face me.

Mara: Well, I’ll try to accompany you when I can, then.

Mara (waving smiling\_eyes\_closed): See you later!

Pro: Yeah, see you.