**Coffee Shop**

The trip to our destination is a silent one, and I can’t help but feel a tinge of relief when we arrive at the small hole in the wall we were turned away from last time.

Thankfully, it’s open today.

The first thing I notice when we walk in is the rich aroma of coffee that permeates the air. It’s strong but at the same time quite pleasant, and by the time we sit down I find myself craving a large dose of caffeine.

Pro: They’re open today, huh?

Lilith: Yeah.

Lilith: Um…

Lilith glances at Prim a little apprehensively, causing her to start.

Lilith: I, uh…

Lilith: I don’t bite.

Prim: Oh, um…

Prim: Okay.

Lilith bites her lip, probably a bit frustrated with the way things are going. At least she’s making an effort to get Prim to warm up to her, but unfortunately it doesn’t seem to be working to well…

Maybe I should intervene.

Pro: Um…

Pro: You’re a regular here, right Lilith? What’s good?

Lilith: Hm? The coffee.

I blink twice, pausing for an awkwardly long moment before trying again. I turn to Prim instead this time, who starts a tiny bit when we make eye contact.

Pro: What do you feel like?

Prim: Me?!?!? Um…

Prim: …

Prim: Something sweet.

Lilith: Um, if you want something sweet, then…

Apparently catching on, Lilith stops to think up a recommendation.

Lilith: Maybe something with taro? Like a taro latte, or a taro milk.

Lilith: I think they use fresh taro, so it’s pretty good.

She tries to hide it, but Prim’s eyes light up at the mention of fresh taro. Lilith notices it too, and, not wanting to let this opportunity go to waste, continues to push on.

Lilith: It’s pretty expensive though, but if you’d like, well…

Lilith: …

Lilith: I wouldn’t mind treating you. Just for today.

Prim: H-H-Huh?!? I c-couldn’t…

But the battle’s already over, and a few minutes later the waiter arrives with taro latte with an unusually aesthetic drawing of a kitten on top.

Lilith: Go ahead, no need to wait for ours.

Prim: Huh? Okay…

Prim: …

Pro: Is something wrong?

Prim: Oh, um…

Prim: The art is really pretty, and I’d feel bad if I were to ruin it…

Lilith: Then…

Lilith quickly pulls out her phone and snaps a few photos of Prim’s drink.

Lilith: I’ll send these to Petra, and she can send them to you.

Prim: Oh, um…

Prim: …

Prim: Thank you.

Lilith: You’re welcome.

Prim happily starts indulging in her drink, and we begin our study session. As always, Lilith proves to be an adept tutor, capable of pushing us to work but also encouraging enough to keep us motivated.

She’s a lot gentler with Prim than she is with me, though. Whenever her junior has a question, she lowers her voice and speaks softly as if speaking to a baby deer, taking utmost care to appear as harmless as possible.

Prim: Um, Lilith…

Prim: How do I solve this one?

Lilith: Let me see.

Lilith: …

Lilith: For this one you can factor out…

Lilith: …

Lilith: What are you looking at?

It takes me a moment to realize that she’s talking to me, and another one to realize that I’ve been staring at the two of them.

Pro: Um…

Pro: Nothing really.

Pro: You guys are getting along pretty well.

Lilith: …

Lilith: Yeah. I guess.

Prim gives a small nod of confirmation, and the two return back to her math problem. Lilith’s reaction was a surprise to me – despite being a cool, stoic beauty, I guess she can be pretty bashful as well.

Lilith: …

Lilith: What?

Pro: Huh? Oh, um…

Realizing that I’ve been staring at them again, I decide to put my head down and get back to work.