**Classroom**

Perhaps because I went to bed and woke up early, I end up falling asleep as soon as class starts. Which, of course, Ms. Tran didn’t find the least bit amusing, and much to Asher’s delight she assigns me detention before she leaves the room for lunch.

Asher: It’s a little refreshing, seeing you asleep in class again. Recently you’ve paying more and more attention, so I honestly thought you were reformed.

Pro: Well...

Pro: I woke up really early today. Before 5:00.

Asher: Really? For what?

Pro: Nothing in particular.

Asher: Huh.

After a moment, his mildly confused expression turns into a cheeky grin.

Asher: Well, I hope it was worth it. I’m gonna tell Lilith-sensei about your little nap.

Pro: Don’t you dare.

Asher: Don’t you think she deserves to know, though? She puts in so much effort to get you to pass, but despite all her hard work...

Pro: ...

Asher: I’m just joking, don’t worry.

He’s not wrong, though. I shouldn’t be sleeping in class now that I’ve resolved to do better in school, and especially since I’ve been getting free tutoring...

Pro: It was a one-time incident.

Asher: A bold declaration. But how are you gonna make sure it doesn’t happen again?

Pro: I’ll, uh...

Pro: ...

Pro: Wake me up if I ever all asleep. Please.

Asher: ...

Asher: Alright, will do.

Asher: On an unrelated topic, isn’t it Prim’s birthday today?

Pro: It is...

And I still don’t have a gift for her. Right.

Pro: How did you know?

Asher: Petra told me. And, well...

He glances towards the door, pointing my attention to the petite figure waiting outside.

Asher: She’s probably here for you.

**Hallway 1**

I slip outside as inconspicuously as I can, a strange warmth building inside of me as I slide the classroom door shut.

Prim: Hey.

Because of everything that has happened these past couple of weeks I’ve somewhat forgotten, but Prim really is cute. Her eyes are large and puppy-like, and the way she tries to hold a dignified posture but still is undeniably shy is adorable.

Pro: Hey. Happy birthday.

Regrets about not being able to find a gift start to creep into my mind and I stick my hands in my pockets, finding that they’re a tiny bit damp. Now that I think about it, I should’ve gone over to her to wish her a happy birthday instead of having her come to me...

Prim: Oh. Thanks.

Prim: Um...

Prim: Are you doing anything right now?

Pro: Not really. What’s up?

Prim: Then...

Prim: Would you like to have lunch with me?

My heart soars and then plummets to the ground once I see the small bag she’s holding behind her back, remembering the bento from last time. But I can’t refuse, especially not on her birthday...

Pro: Sure. Just let me grab the remains of my lunch...

But when I look back inside, I find a suspiciously satisfied-looking Asher sitting beside my lunch. Or at least what used to be my lunch, because it’s empty now.

...

Pro: Never mind. Let’s go.