**Classroom**

I manage to get to class without being late, but barely so, not allowing me any time to search for Prim. Which might not be too bad, considering how I still don’t know what to say to her, but regardless it feels like I’m already behind.

By lunch I’ve made no further progress, but knowing that I’ll have to see her sooner or later I steel my nerves and head outside.

Lilith (waving neutral): Um…

Realizing that I’ve completely missed Lilith, I do a double take and turn right back around.

Lilith (neutral neutral):

Pro: Hey, Lilith. What’s up?

Lilith: About tomorrow’s test…

Lilith (neutral curious): Ours is last period. What time is yours?

Pro: Ours? Uh…

I’m pretty sure it’s a math test, and we usually have math in the morning…

Lilith (neutral confused):

Teacher (neutral neutral): It’s last period as well. I changed it.

Pro: Huh? When?

Lilith (neutral curious):

Teacher: I just did. I’ll go talk it over with your last period teacher.

Pro: Can you do that…?

Teacher (neutral curious): Of course I can. I’m sure it’ll work out, especially because classes will start being cancelled next week for the culture festival.

Pro: I see.

Teacher (exit):

Ms. Tran abruptly exits the conversation, leaving me a little confused.

Pro: So there you have it.

Lilith (neutral thinking): I see. Then…

Lilith (neutral smiling\_slightly): Tomorrow, do you wanna go over everything again at lunch?

Pro: Huh? Are you sure?

Lilith: Yeah.

Lilith (neutral curious):

Pro: Wouldn’t it take away from your own studying, though?

Lilith (neutral neutral): Not really.

Lilith (neutral curious): Teaching others what you already know is a really good way to reinforce learning.

Pro: Actually? I didn’t know that.

Pro: I’ll take you up on your offer then. Thanks.

Lilith (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): No problem.

Lilith (neutral smiling): Meet me in the library, then?

Pro: Yeah, sure.

Lilith (neutral hehe): Alright. I’ll see you there.

Pro: Yeah. See you.

Lilith (exit):

After a small wave, Lilith leaves, and I stand there in peaceful bliss for a few moments before remembering that I have things I need to do.

**Hallway 2**

I head over to Prim’s class and stick my head inside, scanning the room for her small figure.

However, I’m unable to find her, and instead get spooked by Petra approaching me from behind.

Petra (neutral curious): Why are you so jumpy?

Pro: Dunno…

Petra (neutral thinking): …

Petra (neutral smiling\_nervous): Ah well. If you’re looking for Prim, she’s not here.

Pro: She’s not? Did she stay home again?

Petra (neutral worried\_slightly): Oh, she’s at school, but she’s not here right now.

Petra: She left at the beginning of lunch, saying that she had something to do.

Pro: Oh. I see.

Petra (neutral neutral):

Disappointed but also a little relieved, I let out a sigh.

Pro: Alright. I guess I’ll come back later.

Petra (neutral curious): I’ll text you if she comes back before lunch ends.

Pro: Oh, really? Thanks.

Pro: Has she, um, said anything?

Petra (neutral worried\_slightly): Not really. Whenever I bring you up, she always tries to change the topic.

Petra (neutral down): She’s usually so timid, too, but she becomes so adamant when you come up…

Petra (neutral sigh):

Pro: That doesn’t sound promising…

Petra (neutral disappointed): It doesn’t. But it’s better than nothing.

Petra (neutral worried\_slightly): Especially when it comes to people, bad news is better than no news at all. It shows that you’re on their mind.

Pro: Does it work that way?

Petra (neutral thinking): Sometimes. Maybe 30% of the time.

Well that’s not very promising either…

Petra (neutral expressionless): But my point it…

Petra (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Don’t worry, I think you’ll be fine. Just talk to her when you can.

Petra (neutral curious):

Pro: You’re pretty cheeky for a first-year, you know that? Encouraging your senior like he’s younger than you.

Petra: You don’t feel older, though. You kinda do, but not really.

Pro: I see…

Petra (neutral smiling): And besides…

Pro: Besides?

Petra (neutral neutral): Never mind. It’s nothing.

Petra (neutral smiling): Well, I wanna eat so I’ll be heading inside. You should probably head back to your own class too…

Petra (neutral smirk): …unless you wanna eat with your cheeky junior.

Pro: No, not really.

Petra (neutral smiling):

Pro: I’ll see you later then.

Petra (waving smiling): Yeah, see you.