**Hallway 2**

However, Mara quickly disappears from my thoughts shortly after I head inside, with Prim replacing her. Throughout the entire morning I find myself checking my phone for any information from Petra, Asher, or even Prim herself, but each time I sneak a glance I find nothing but disappointment.

A trend that persists even throughout lunch.

Petra: Prim? She’s not here.

Pro: Did she have something to do again?

Petra: No, like, she’s not here today. Absent.

Pro: Oh, I see.

Petra: Did something happen? You seem different.

Pro: Do I?

Pro: Yeah, I guess something di-

Pro: Why are you smiling?

Petra: Huh? What do you mean…?

However, unable to hold back any longer, Petra bursts out in laughter, clutching her sides to keep them from shaking.

Petra: I just so happened to be cleaning our classroom yesterday, and…

Petra: And I may have overheard a certain conversation.

Pro: …

Pro: That was a pretty serious conversation, you know.

Petra: I know, I know, but…

Petra: But those things just felt so wrong coming out of your mouth, you know?

I let out a sigh, secretly finding Petra’s lack of concern a tiny bit alarming.

Pro: Aren’t you a little too carefree, though? If you heard our conversation then you know what’s been going on.

Petra: Yeah, um…

Suddenly sober, she pauses to think for a second.

Petra: I think you’ll be fine.

Pro: And how do you know that?

Petra: Trust me.

Lilith: What are you guys talking about?

Lilith appears out of nowhere, and I realize in terror that I totally forgot that I was supposed to meet her in the library today…

Petra: Just a bit of banter. About Pro’s second favourite junior.

Lilith: Second favourite? Prim? Who’s your favourite, then?

Pro: I have no idea. Definitely not Petra, though.

Petra: Hey!!

Shocked at my betrayal, Petra turns to Lilith hopefully.

Petra: I’m your favourite though, right?

Lilith: Mmm…

Lilith: You’re probably second or third.

Petra: …

Petra: So that’s how it is, huh? Life can really be cruel sometimes, I guess.

Petra: If you’ll excuse me, I need to go rethink my existence, so I’ll be leaving now.

Pro: Right…

A dejected Petra heads back into her classroom, leaving Lilith and I alone.

Lilith: So…

Lilith: Are we still studying?

Pro: Yeah. Sorry, I forgot.

Lilith: It’s alright.

Lilith: Do you need to get your stuff, though?

Pro: Yeah, I do. Sorry.

Lilith: Don’t worry about it. I’ll meet you in the library, then.