**Library**

Surprisingly, both of us manage to retain a functional level of focus for the next hour or so. The silence between us is only interrupted by the sound of flipping pages or me asking Mara for help.

Mara (stretching yawn):

Despite this, I still make very little progress, only solving six problems by the time Mara gets bored. She sighs and stretches her arms.

Mara (neutral neutral): Hey, Pro.

Pro: Hm?

Mara: I’m kinda hungry.

Mara (neutral fufu): You said you’d buy food today, right?

Pro: That’s right.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Wanna get lunch now?

I look back at my worksheet, a little disheartened by how much is left. Ah well. Not like I’ll get anything done on an empty stomach.

Pro: Sure, let’s go.

Mara (excited excited): Yay! Let’s go, go, go!

Mara (neutral smiling):

We pack up our belongings and head towards the exit.

Pro: Do you already have a place in mind?

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Yup.

Mara (neutral neutral): You remember that family restaurant that our moms used to take us when we were little? The one with pancakes?

Pro: Oh yeah, that one. Haven’t been there for a long time.

Pro: Wait, is that around here?

Mara (excited earnest): Yup!

Pro: For real?

Mara (excited excited): Yup, yup!

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I found out yesterday.

For the first time in a while I feel myself getting a little excited about Mara’s food selection.

Pro: Well, lead the way then.

Mara (neutral smiling): Yes sir!

**Pancake House**

We arrive at the restaurant, and after taking our seats I take a look around. It looks exactly the same as it did years ago, and I find myself feeling a little nostalgic as the waiter brings us menus.

Mara (holding\_something neutral): Are you getting blueberry pancakes again?

Pro: Yeah, probably. How about you?

Mara (neutral thinking): Mmm…

Mara: I was gonna get blueberry too, but if you’re getting it…

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): I think I’ll get raspberry, then.

Mara (neutral smiling):

The waiter arrives and takes our orders, before returning with glasses of water for the two of us.

Mara (neutral disappointed): Oh, they don’t give milk anymore, huh? I guess water will do.

Pro: You probably have to pay extra for milk.

Mara (neutral neutral): Oh, that’s fine then.

Pro: For you, maybe…

Mara (neutral hehe): Hehe.

Mara (neutral neutral):

Mara takes a sip of water while looking around.

Mara: This place hasn’t changed much, huh?

Pro: Yeah.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Makes you feel kinda nostalgic, huh?

Pro: Yeah.

We look around, silently reminiscing about our childhoods when the waiter brings us our food. I thank him and watch as Mara happily inspects her dish.

Mara (excited excited): Wow, it looks so good!

Mara: Thanks for the food!

Mara (eating happy):

Mara starts to dig in, and with a content smile I begin to eat as well, glad to find out that the pancakes haven’t changed at all either.