**Bedroom**

After a somewhat sleepless night, I wake up wishing that I could skip school and sleep in. However, if I did do that, not only would I suffer the wrath of Ms. Tran tomorrow, but I would also incur the scolding of a certain pink-haired friend.

Thus, I reluctantly push myself out of bed, and after flopping onto the floor I drag myself to my feet and into my uniform before going downstairs.

**Front of House**

After quickly eating my breakfast and grabbing my lunch I go outside, where Mara is already waiting. However, as soon as I see her, I know something’s off…

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly):

Pro: Hey there.

Mara: Hey.

We stand there for a moment, not saying anything.

Mara (neutral smiling\_forced): Well, let’s get going I guess.

Pro: Oh, yeah. Let’s go.

**Neighbourhood Road 1**

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly):

We don’t talk much on the way to school either, and instead of skipping, humming, or looking around, Mara instead stares off into the distance. When you hang out with someone for long enough, there’s bound to be some quiet times, but something’s different today.

I glance over at Mara, and this time she doesn’t even notice. We pass by a vibrant flowerbed, but she doesn’t even notice. It’s a beautiful day today, maybe the last one we’ll have for a while, but she doesn’t even notice.

Damn. You really worry me sometimes, you know?

**Intersection 1**

We continue on this way until we reach the place we part at, and, unable to ignore the twisting in my stomach, I decide to ask about it.

Pro: Hey, um…

Mara (neutral neutral):

Mara starts and looks at me.

Pro: You doing okay?

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly): …

Mara (neutral smiling\_forced): Yeah, I’m fine. Don’t worry about me.

Pro: Are you sure?

Mara: I’m sure, I’m sure.

I let out a sigh.

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly):

Pro: Alright. You can talk to me though, you know.

Mara (neutral smiling\_forced): I know.

Mara (neutral worried\_slightly):

Mara takes a few steps off to the right before turning around again to face me.

Mara (neutral smiling\_forced): See you after school, okay?

Pro: Yeah, see you.