**Classroom**

I was considering walking Mara all the way to school, but when we arrived at our parting place she smiled and, after bidding me goodbye, dashed off, not leaving me much of a choice.

However, Mara leaving me turned out to be a good thing, since today Ms. Tran seems to be in an especially sullen mood, and I don’t want to think about what would’ve happened if I showed up late. Once morning classes end, she silently trudges out of the room, presumably to “eat and smoke.”

**Hallway 1**

Asher didn’t show up today, so after barely making it through class, I make my way to the stairwell at the end of school, a small part of me hoping that Lilith will be there. However, she isn’t, and in embarrassment I quickly leave, resolving to eat in the classroom.

?Petra: What are you doing here?

I spin around and come face to face with Petra.

Petra (neutral curious): It’s a little odd to see someone walking around like that.

Pro: Oh, um…

Pro: Just getting a drink.

Petra (neutral neutral): Is that so…

Petra (neutral curious): But the vending machines aren’t around here?

Pro: Heh…

Prm (shy shy):

Petra eyes me curiously, and while avoiding her gaze I realize that she’s not alone.

Petra (neutral grinning): Ah well. Oh yeah, Pro, this is Prim. And Prim, this is Pro.

Prim (shy embarrassed): Um, Petra…

Petra (neutral thinking): Wait, your names sound the same.

Petra (laughing laughing):

Petra bursts out laughing without restrain, causing me to smile wryly despite myself.

Pro: Hey there, Prim.

Prim (shy smiling\_eyes\_closed): Hey.

Petra (laughing recovering):

We share a brief smile while Petra recovers, oblivious to the fact that we already know each other.

Prim (shy neutral):

Petra (neutral grinning): Well anyways, we should get going or our teacher will be mad. See you tomorrow!

Pro: Yeah, see you guys.

Prim: See you.

Petra (exit):

Prim (exit):

Petra trots off, and Prim tries to keep up with her, a little flustered. They make an odd pair, especially because they’re polar opposites, and as I turn around and head to the vending machines I chuckle to myself, wondering just how their friendship started.