**Bedroom**

I’m awakened by a faint buzzing noise, indicating that someone sent me a message. After a brief moment to shake off my grogginess, I grab my phone, finding it’s from Mara.

Mara: Won’t be able to walk with you today.

Mara: Good luck!!!

Now that I think about it, Mara didn’t walk to school with me a couple days ago either, the morning after she fell asleep on my shoulder…

Maybe she’s embarrassed.

A faint smile makes its way onto my face as I sit up and stretch, painfully aware of my heart threatening to beat out of my chest. Saying things with resolve is one thing, but actually carrying them out is a whole new level entirely.

I know I said I’d come up with a plan, but even after spending the rest of last night thinking I still couldn’t come up with something concrete. Every solution led to more problems, and…

No, that’s not how I should be thinking.

For now, I should get up and go to school, and then maybe I could try to see Lilith at least one more time…