**School Library**

Asher (neutral bored): And…

Asher (neutral satisfied): We’re done.

I let out a sigh and sit back into my chair. It’s probably not the best we could’ve done, but at this point we’re both too fed up with it to really care.

Pro: Finally…

Pro: You gonna go home?

Asher (neutral neutral satisfied): Yeah, probably. How about you?

Pro: Ah, I gotta wait.

Asher (neutral smiling): Oh, right.

Asher (exit smiling): Well, I’ll get going then. See you later.

Pro: Yeah, see you.

Prim (reading engrossed):

As Asher leaves I glance over at Prim, who’s engrossed in a book.

What kind of book is it? She seems like she’d be pretty studious, so maybe it’s something academically challenging…

Pro: What are you reading?

Prim (surprise eek\_blushing): …!

Prim (fidget down\_blushing): …

Prim: Your Lie in April.

Pro: No way.

I take a closer look, and find that she is indeed reading manga.

Prim (fidget shy\_blushing):

Pro: You read manga?

She nods shyly, and I let out a small laugh.

Prim (shy surprise):

Pro: I really like manga too.

Prim: …

Prim (shy curious): What’s your favourite?

I think back to all the manga I’ve read. For some reason recalling things about them comes a lot easier to me than remembering interactions with others…

Pro: I dunno, actually.

Pro: Typically I like romance comedy ones, though. Especially the ones with happy endings.

Prim (shy smiling\_eyes\_closed): Me too.

Pro: How about you?

Prim (hiding book):

She holds up the book in her hands, hiding her little smile behind its cover.

Pro: Oh, I really liked that series too. Is this the first time you’re reading it?

She shakes her head.

Prim (fidget down\_blushing) : I’ve read it many times.

Pro: For real? I could never…

Prim (fidget shy\_blushing):

Pro: I’d probably end up crying every time.

Prim (shy hehe):

I’m rewarded for my honesty with a small laugh.

Prim (shy smiling\_eyes\_closed): Me too. A little bit.

Prim (neutral shy):

We start talking about manga we’ve enjoyed, but our conversation is cut short by a sharp ring. Prim takes her phone out of her bag and answers it, suddenly nervous. After a brief exchange, she hangs up and blinks at me.

Prim: My parents...

Pro: Are they here?

Prim: Yeah.

Pro: Alright. Let’s go meet them, then.

**Parking Lot**

The walk to the parking lot is a long one, and as we reach our destination I start to wish that I was anywhere else. Why, exactly, did I agree to meet her parents? I technically know the answer to that question, but…

...

Man, this is gonna be so awkward…

Prim (shy shy):

I manage to resist the urge to run away though, and eventually we arrive, finding a couple I assume to be Prim’s parents waiting for us.

Prim: Hi, Dad. Hi, Mom.

Prim’s Dad: Hi, Prim.

Prim’s mom turns to face me..

Prim’s Mom: You must be Pro.

Pro: Um, yeah.

Both of Prim’s parents eye me with unreadable expressions, and I push down the twinge of nervousness that’s started to rise in me.

Then, unexpectedly, her mom smiles and gives me a small polite nod.

Prim’s Mom: We’d like to thank you for agreeing to go with Prim to practice from now on. We really appreciate it.

Prim’s Mom: We were really worried about her going downtown all alone.

Prim’s Mom: Apart from Mick, we didn’t know that she had any other trusted friends.

Prim’s Mom: So when we heard about you and that you agreed, we were relieved.

Pro: Oh, no problem.

Pro: Glad to help out.

Prim’s Mom: Still, are you sure? It’ll be a pretty large time commitment. Do you want some sort of compensation?

Compensation? Like pay? That doesn’t sound so bad…

Wait, hold on. Let’s not get ahead of ourselves.

Pro: I think I’ll be fine. I don’t do much after school anyways, so this’ll be a good way for me to get some exercise.

Prim’s mom smiles, and I start to see the resemblance between the two.

Prim (fidget down\_blushing):

Prim’s Mom: I’m glad Prim’s found herself such a good friend. Again, thank you so much.

A good friend, huh…?

Prim (fidget shy\_blushing):

Pro: Yeah, thanks. I mean, you’re welcome.

Prim’s mom nods appreciatively.

Prim’s Mom: Well, we’d better get going.

Prim’s Mom: Take care, Pro.

Pro: Yeah, you too.

Prim (fidget down\_blushing):

Prim’s parents turn and head back to their car, but Prim herself stays a little longer with me.

Prim (fidget shy\_blushing): Um...

Prim (fidget smiling\_blushing): Thank you.

Pro: No problem, no problem.

Pro: I’ll see you tomorrow after school then.

Prim: Yeah. See you.

Prim (exit):

After one last smile she turns around and follows her parents, and I watch as the three of them drive off. For some reason, seeing them leave makes me feel a little uneasy, as if I just got myself into something that might turn out to be troublesome later.

Hopefully it won’t, though. And if it does, well…

…

That’s a later problem. Right now it’s time to get home as soon as possible.