**Classroom**

Today’s classes are a lot less intense than yesterday’s, which is a relief since otherwise I don’t think I would’ve survived. Regardless though, making sure to pay attention in class is tiring for someone who usually sleeps, and by the time lunch arrives I already feel drained.

Asher (neutral curious): Did you decide to turn over a new leaf, or something? Don’t think I’ve ever seen you this focused.

Pro: Something like that.

Asher pulls his chair and sits down.

Pro: Um…

Pro: You look kinda out of it today.

Asher (neutral sincere): Ah, is it that obvious?

Pro: Asking that makes it feel like you wanted me to notice.

Asher (downcast sincere): I didn’t though.

Pro: I know, I’m just kidding. So?

Asher (neutral sincere): So yesterday I went to a mixer-

Pro: Wait.

Pro: You don’t have a girlfriend?

Asher (neutral sincere): I don’t.

I blink twice, stunned. I’ve always assumed that popular people like Asher just have significant others, just like how unsociable people like me usually don’t.

Pro: So you went to the mixer because you’ve been feeling lonely.

Asher (neutral skeptical): How did you come to that conclusion…?

Asher (neutral defensive)): I was just doing a friend a favour.

I smirk, enjoying the sudden shift in power.

Pro: RIght, a favour.

Asher (neutral defensive): That’s right.

Asher looks at me with a tired look in his eyes, so I decide to let him continue on.

Pro: What happened?

Asher (neutral thinking): Well…

Asher (neutral concerned): Everything was going well at first, but then one of the guys somehow managed to make one of the girls angry, and then…

Yeah, even I can imagine what happened next…

Pro: That’s pretty rough…

Asher (neutral sigh): Yup.

We pause for a moment to pay our respects.

Asher (neutral neutral): Well, what’s in the past is in the past I guess. No point in moping over it now.

Asher (neutral curious): Anyways, you and Prim went to her practice again yesterday, right? How was it?

Pro: It was good.

Asher (neutral playful): Made any progress?

Pro: Don’t know what you mean.

It’s Asher’s turn to smirk.

Asher (neutral grinning): Alright. Whatever you say.

I spend the rest of lunch dodging Asher’s questions, a little annoyed that I was only able to enjoy poking fun at him for a minute or so.

A mixer, huh? I wonder what actually happened.