**Bedroom**

My fatigue returns by the time I reach my bedroom, so I crash onto my bed in an attempt to recover before dinner. I know that I should still continue to study by myself even if Lilith will be tutoring me, but right now school’s the last thing I want on my mind.

And then again, she’s only gonna tutor me for a week. Afterwards, I’ll be on my own again.

I roll onto my back with a sigh, grabbing my phone with a stiff, awkward motion.

2 missed calls from Mara. Oops.

A little worried, I call her back right away. She picks up almost instantly.

Mara: Hello?

Pro: Hey. Sorry I missed your calls.

Mara: Oh, it’s okay.

Mara: How was tutoring?

Pro: It was fine, I think. Lilith’s a pretty good teacher.

Mara: That’s good to hear.

Mara: You think you’ll be able to pass, now?

The teasing in her voice is undeniable, putting a wry smile on my face.

Pro: Maybe I’ll start doing better than you.

Mara: Impossible.

Pro: You never know. With the amount of manga you’ve been reading, I don’t think it’s that much of a stretch.

Mara: Geh…

Mara: Well, if you even get close I guess I’ll have to start putting in more effort.

Mara: So do your best. For both of our grades.

Pro: Huh…

She laughs lightly, amused at the thought of me working hard for her as well.

Well, at least she’s in a good mood.

Pro: So, why’d you call?

Mara: Hm? Oh, right.

Mara: How’s your throat?

Pro: Oh, um…

I touch the small bump in my throat with my fingers, rubbing it gently to see if it’ll hurt. It doesn’t though, which is probably why I completely forgot about it today.

Pro: I think it’s good. Doesn’t hurt at all.

Mara: Oh nice, nice.

Mara: Let’s get something to eat soon, then.

Pro: Sure. What do you want?

Mara: Mmm…

Mara: Something spicy.

Pro: Like what?

Mara: Like…

She trails off and stays silent for a few seconds, causing me to wonder if she accidentally hung up.

Mara: …

Mara: Ah, I dunno. We’ll figure something out.

Pro: Yeah.

Mara: I’m gonna go take a bath, so I’ll talk to you later I guess.

Mara: See you tomorrow!!

Pro: Yeah. See you tomorrow.

She hangs up for real, and I put down my phone and close my eyes, a strange feeling of calm blanketing the area.

“See you tomorrow”. Not “goodbye,” or “farewell.”

A promise to see each other again. A small, insignificant promise, but a promise nonetheless.

Guess I won’t be saying goodbye anytime soon.