**School Roof**

We make our way to, predictably, the school roof, which is thankfully empty and devoid of flirty couples today. Given what happened earlier today, I’m not sure if my heart would be able to take it.

Petra: So, how was tennis yesterday? I heard all about it.

Pro: You did, huh…?

Petra: I was told that you were “a dead fish in the middle of the desert.”

Pro: By who, exactly?

Petra: That’s classified information.

She bursts out laughing, much to my chagrin. It was Mick, wasn’t it.

Pro: Well, your informant wasn’t exactly wrong…

Petra: Man, I wish I could’ve seen it. Maybe I’ll join you guys next time.

Petra: So, when’s next time?

Pro: Dunno.

Petra: Hmm…

Petra: Well, let me know. If I don’t have practice I’ll join you guys.

Definitely gonna try to schedule our next visit during one of Petra’s practices.

Pro: Is that all you brought me up here for?

Petra: Nope. There’s something else.

Petra: Do you know when Prim’s birthday is?

Pro: No idea. Why?

Petra: It was yesterday.

Pro: …

Pro: Wait, actually?!?!?

Petra: Just kidding, just kidding. It’s on Friday.

Petra: And with that in mind, what are you getting her as a present?

Pro: Huh? A present?

She looks at me confusedly, as if I just said something odd.

Petra: When it’s your friend’s birthday, you give them a present. Don’t you know that?

Pro: I mean, of course I know that, but-

Petra: Are you not her friend?

Pro: Yeah, but-

Petra: Is it not her birthday on Friday?

Pro: Apparently it is, but-

Petra: So get her a present. Easy as that.

Pro: But wouldn’t it be a little weird? I haven’t known her for very long.

Petra: I mean, maybe a little…

Petra: But it’ll really only be awkward if you make it awkward. If you hand it over regularly, like a *normal* person would, then I’m sure it’ll be fine.

Yikes.

Pro: Alright, alright, you’ve made your point.

Pro: What are you getting her?

Petra: I dunno yet. Finding the perfect gift is hard, you know.

Petra: I want it to be something she can enjoy, but also something that’s thoughtful and memorable, you know?

Pro: That’s a pretty tall order…

Petra: Yeah…

Petra: It’s like this every time there’s a birthday.

Pro: Every time?

Petra: Every time. Maybe once every month, or so.

Pro: Once every month…?

Being popular sounds pretty difficult.

Pro: How do you have the money for all that?

Petra: I mean, gifts don’t always have to be expensive. And if I’m buying for someone my family knows, then I can usually get some funding from my parents.

Pro: I guess that makes sense…

Pro: Maybe I’ll get her a gift card, or something.

Petra: …

Petra: I guess that’s good enough for you.

Pro: For me…?

Petra: Yup. For you.

Petra: Anyways, I’m hungry, so I’m gonna head back to class.

Petra: Let me know when you pick something out, okay?

After a cheeky grin and a wave, she skips towards the roof exit, knowing full well that I’ll now struggle to choose something.

What’s wrong with a gift card…?